PALESTINE SAFE, OFFICIALS HOLD; TURKEY SEEN FIRM ON NAZI TROOP TRANSIT

JERUSALEM, May 7. (JTA) -- Leading Government officials and Jewish leaders today expressed confidence that Palestine was safe, despite the situation on Mediterranean battlefronts and in the Middle East. A survey of official opinion was made in interviews by this correspondent.

The belief is that there is not the slightest danger of an Italo-German break-through in Egypt. The general impression is that Turkey will not permit transit of German troops for a drive towards Suez through Syria and Palestine. The situation arising from the fighting in Iraq is not considered serious.

Despite Axis reports of Arab rioting in Palestine, the fact is that the Arabs of the Holy Land are not interested in the outbreaks in Iraq. The handful of agitators remaining in Palestine will not change the situation, it is held.

Nevertheless, defense preparations are being speeded. The call of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Jewish National Council for enlistment of unmarried men between the ages of 20 and 50 has been well received. It is understood that recruiting for the Royal Artillery will be concluded this weekend. Central Jewish institutions and local Jewish communities have opened recruiting offices which are thronged with candidates.

The Palestine Zionist General Council met today to consider further measures for defense. Moshe Shertok, head of the Jewish Agency's political department, reported on recent negotiations with the Palestine Government for enlargement of Jewish participation in the war effort.

(In London, Lord Samuel declared in the House of Lords that the threat in the Middle East was serious and expressed hope that the Government had organized and armed the Arab and Jewish populations for their own defense. Reuters news agency reported that "the people of Nablus, the old Moslem town of central Palestine, yesterday turned out en masse and widely applauded a parade of Arab recruits for the British army.")

In Tel Aviv, there was announced establishment of the Tel Aviv Mayor's Fund for Military Ambulance. The ambulances, to be paid for by voluntary donations, will bear inscriptions in English and Hebrew.

Meanwhile, 80 Jewish refugees stranded at Mersina, Turkey, for the past three months cabled an appeal to Jerusalem for transfer to Palestine.

(Continued on reverse side)
FREE FRENCH PLEDGE OVERTHROW OF ANTI-JEWISH LAWS

LONDON, May 7. (JTA) -- In connection with the intensification of anti-Jewish laws in France and the declarations of Vichy's Commissar for Jewish Affairs, Xavier Vallat, the J.T.A. has sought the reaction of leaders of Gen. Charles de Gaulle's Free French movement. Prof. Rene Cassin, permanent secretary of the council, and Maurice de Jeun, director of the Free French movement, stated today:

"De Gaulle himself has several times stated that not only the Jewish laws but all Vichy laws are not recognized by the Free French movement. For us Free Frenchmen the Jewish question falls into two parts--firstly, the question as affecting the French Jews; secondly the world Jewish question.

"Firstly, we consider all Frenchmen, whether Catholics, Protestants or Jews, as equal. We fought for centuries and more than once have arisen in revolt to obtain the Declaration of the Rights of Man. The spirit of Abbe Gregoire, Mirabeau, Clermont and Tonerre is unchanged in us, but, not going as far back as the Revolution, in our days Cardinal Verdier, the pride of Catholicism, until the moment of his death preached most bitterly against all racial doctrines.

"Frenchmen of the Jewish religion for centuries, and particularly during this and the last war, have given the best proof of their loyalty and patriotism, both on the firing line and elsewhere. Many foreign Jews living in France volunteered and have given ample proof of their devotion and heroism. The Jews of Alsace-Lorraine, despite the greatest sacrifices, have always demonstrated their attachment to France. We should not forget that in 1870 the majority of Jews in Alsace opted for French nationality and those remained in Alsace and always stood for the French spirit in that country. During this war it is the same. Hence the first people singled out in Alsace were the Jews.

"Anti-Semitism always has been, still is and always will be foreign to the French spirit, despite the Vichy 'collaborators.' We are firmly convinced that as soon as victory comes, the present sufferings and discriminations against the Jews will cease. All the news we receive from France proves that in this respect, as in many others, it is we who express the sincere and real feelings of the French people. With the victory of the Allies and the liberation of France the motto, 'Liberty, Equality, Fraternity,' will be reestablished.

"Secondly, as to the general Jewish question, we are hoping for the liberation of oppressed peoples so that they may regain their rights as human beings and citizens of their own countries. Therefore, we certainly fight for the right of the Jews to their self-determination wherever they may be."

France May Oust 300,000 Foreign Jews

GENEVA, May 7. (JTA) -- The authorities in France are considering expulsion of 300,000 foreign Jews, it was reported here today. Plans under discussion in Paris call for ousting of the 125,000 Jews in the Paris area and later the remaining 175,000 in occupied and unoccupied France.

Fernand de Brinon, Vichy's ambassador to Paris, was quoted as saying: "Under the reorganization of the new Europe, Jews must leave France. If they cannot, we may establish special camps for them in their own districts."

Meanwhile, a decree was published in Vichy barring Jews from serving in the new French national police force.
AMERICA CALLED BULWARK OF HOPE FOR WAR VICTIMS IN UJA BROADCAST

NEW YORK, May 7. (JTA) -- The entire civilized world looks to the United States to hold aloft the banner of human compassion and help preserve the hope of the peoples who have borne the brunt of the Nazi assault upon democracy and freedom, it was asserted by speakers in a nationwide broadcast of the United Jewish Appeal tonight on the NBC Red network. Chief Rabbi I. H. Herzog of Palestine, Pierre Van Paasen, the author, Jascha Heifetz, the violinist, and Paul Lukas and Raymond Massey, the actors, participated in the program.

Rabbi Herzog said the Jews in Palestine were prepared to fight the menace of Hitlerism to their homeland and to uphold the principles of justice and freedom which the prophets of Israel preached thousands of years ago and the principles on which American democracy is based.

Massey praised U.J.A.'s humanitarian work and declared that "no group, no people can be abandoned in this critical hour without serious injury to humanity as a whole." Lukas read Emma Lazarus' poem, "The New Colossus," which is inscribed on the base of the Statue of Liberty.

Speaking yesterday at a meeting of the Women's Division of the United Jewish Appeal, Governor Lehman declared that "just as it is our government's destined role to help save friendly nations, so it is our role to help oppressed and relentlessly persecuted individuals, bringing them relief, helping them to emigrate, keeping hope alive in their hearts."

"We defend and strengthen our own democracy," the Governor asserted, "by the very act of saving the lives of people who are the victims of anti-democratic forces. In helping these people, we revitalize ourselves--reinforce the foundations of our own democracy and, by example, inspire a doubting and frightened world to see it through."

WEIZMANN CALLS DOROTHY THOMPSON "MODERN DEBORAH" AT DINNER HERE

NEW YORK, May 7. (JTA) -- "Modern Deborah" is the title which Dr. Chaim Weizmann gave last night to Dorothy Thompson, noted columnist, in a brief address at a dinner given in Miss Thompson's honor at the Hotel Astor at which 2,500 persons were present. The dinner was sponsored by a committee of 1,000 including Gov. Lehman, Mayor La Guardia, Prof. Einstein and Marshall Field.

Dr. Weizmann emphasized Miss Thompson's interest in protecting small nations and what she had done for the Jewish people, who constituted the weakest nation in the world.

Dr. Frank Kingdon, chairman of the dinner, read a letter from a Belgian Jewish refugee, Isidore Lifshitz, in which he expressed his gratitude to America for the freedom he has found here and attached a $5,000 check as appreciation for Miss Thompson's fight for democracy, appealing to others to follow his example and establish a "Dorothy Thompson Fund" to be used for fighting Nazism.

Miss Thompson, in an impressive address, offered ten articles of her "personal and social faith" as the basis of a new defense and reconstruction movement to which she asked the audience to subscribe and emphasized that one of her articles of faith was her "belief in basic equality of all persons, nations and races." To each person accepting these articles of faith, Miss Thompson offered a duplicate of a ring which she wore on her finger designed, she said, as a symbol of hope and brotherhood. She asked each subscriber to find two other persons who would accept the creed and the ring.

(Continued on the reverse side)
RABBIS' PARLEY CLOSES; BRITAIN URGED TO SANCTION JEWISH ARMY

PHILADELPHIA, May 7. (JTA) -- The 41st annual convention of the Rabbinical Assembly of America closed this afternoon at Mikveh Israel Synagogue with adoption of resolutions and election of officers. (The results were not available at time of publication of this bulletin.)

Resolutions calling upon Britain to make use of the Jewish "homeland" army in Palestine to defend democracy and urging Jews to contribute generously to British war relief were submitted to the convention. Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Jewish National Fund, requested that two days be set aside for prayer for a democratic victory.

Action was delayed on a report of the assembly's Social Justice Commission, submitted by Rabbi Eugene Kolm of New York, which would commit the 500 Conservative rabbis to seek elimination of "corruption and abuse by private economic interests." The report reiterated that Judaism was "historically against war," but asserted that "to fail to resist military aggression serves only to encourage irresponsible recourse to war and to perpetuate the sins of mankind."

FRIEDLANDER PARK STARTED IN JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM, May 7. (JTA) -- A park in memory of Israel Friedlander, who was killed in the Ukraine while heading a Joint Distribution Committee mission in 1922, was planted today on Mt. Scopus, paid for with funds contributed to the Jewish National Fund by students in the Friedlander classes of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.

Dr. Judah L. Magnes, president of the Hebrew University, paid tribute to Prof. Friedlander's profound influence on American Jewish education. Dr. Friedlander's widow and Menachem M. Ussishkin, president of the J.N.F., also spoke. Friedlander's seven-year-old grandson planted the first of seven trees. The park is situated near the Students' Hostel overlooking Jerusalem.

HEBREW U. SCHOLARSHIP HONORS HEAD OF WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR PALESTINE

NEW YORK, May 7. (JTA) -- Establishment of a scholarship at the Hebrew University in honor of Mrs. William Prince, president of the Women's League for Palestine, was announced today at a meeting of the league at Temple Emmanu-El. The scholarship will be given annually to "a girl of unusual abilities whose education would otherwise be curtailed."

WICسمتزر REPORTS FINDING NEW MATERIAL ON DOMINICAN JEWISH SETTLEMENT

NEW YORK, May 7. (JTA) -- Discovery of historical material dealing with Jewish settlement projects in the Dominican Republic during the 1890's was reported today by Dr. Mark Wischnitzer, former director of the German Jewish Hilfsverein, following his return from the Republic, where he spent several months lecturing in behalf of the Dominican Republic Settlement Association and aided in organization of Jewish communal affairs in Ciudad Trujillo.

ROTHSCHILD LEAVES $420,000 FOR CHARITY

CHICAGO, May 7. (JTA) -- Maurice Rothschild, department store owner and philanthropist, who died April 25, bequeathed $420,000 to charity, his probated will revealed today. Bequests included $100,000 to the Chicago Jewish Charities and $20,000 to the Chicago Jewish People's Institute.