

# JTA

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### M. M. USSISHKIN, VETERAN ZIONIST LEADER, DIES IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Oct. 2. (JTA)-- Menehem Mendel Ussishkin, veteran Zionist leader and President of the Jewish National Fund, died here today at the age of 78. He was recuperating from an operation which he underwent a fortnight ago in the Hadassah-Rothschild-University hospital in Jerusalem.

The news of Ussishkin's death came as a severe shock to the Yishub since Ussishkin was one of the most popular figures in the Zionist movement. Only last week he addressed a stirring call to the Jews of Russia over the Jerusalem radio station talking directly to the Jews of Russia for the first time in the 22 years since he left Russia for Palestine.

As soon as the news of his death became known, delegations from various settlements began to pour into Jerusalem to participate in the preparations for the funeral which is expected to be the largest ever witnessed in Palestine. As President of the Jewish National Fund, Ussishkin was instrumental in the establishment of numerous Jewish settlements in Palestine and the acquisition of large tracts of land as national Jewish holdings.

Born in 1865 in Dubrovna, Russia, Ussishkin resided in his boyhood in Moscow and received his engineering degree there in 1889. He has been identified with Zionist effort in Palestine since his boyhood and was one of the founders of the Bilu, and an organizer of the student Zionist bodies. In 1890 he organized the Odessa Committee which took the lead as the practical exponent of the Chovevei Zion movement in the settlement of Jews as agriculturists in Palestine.

On the advent of Dr. Herzl, he joined the political Zionist movement but as an opponent of Dr. Herzl and his policies. Ussishkin raised the initial fund by which the Hebrew University was started, as a gift of the Jewish National Fund. He was one of the Zionist delegates to the Paris Peace Conference. In 1920 he was appointed chief of the Zionist Commission in Palestine, and in that capacity he effected the purchase of the Emek Jezreel lands. Later, when he became President of the Jewish National Fund, he devoted all his efforts to the policy of redeeming Palestine through agricultural colonization.

Ussishkin toured the United States and Canada in 1921 in the interest of the National Fund, but these were the only brief excursions from his home in Jerusalem where he settled in 1920.

When in 1937 Britain offered the Jews the establishment of a Jewish State through the partition of Palestine, Ussishkin led a vigorous fight against the partition scheme. He believed that a Jewish State must embrace all the territory "from Dan to Beer-Sheba."

## JEWISH PROBLEM MUST BE SOLVED WITHOUT SENTIMENTALITY, SAYS NAZI PRESS

LISBON, Oct. 2. (JTA)-- A wave of intensified anti-Jewish propaganda reminiscent of the early days of the Nazi regime, is now sweeping Germany, it can be noted from the German newspapers reaching here today.

Led by the Voelkischer Beobachter, Hitler's personal organ, the Berlin press demands that "the Jewish problem should be solved without any sentimentality." The Nazi newspapers predict that "further measures" are in store for the Jews in the Reich.

Parallel with articles in the press, the Nazi propaganda machine is also flooding the country with special anti-Jewish pamphlets. A pamphlet written by Wolfgang Diewerge, author of many anti-Jewish books, has been published by the Nazi party in an edition of more than a million copies and is being distributed "as a reply to Theodore Kaufman's book 'Germany Must Perish' published in America." The Voelkischer Beobachter, the Berliner Boerzen Zeitung and other Nazi newspapers, in extensively reviewing Diewerge's pamphlet take the opportunity to bitterly attack not only the Jews but also the American government.

## EXEMPTIONS FROM WEARING MOGEN DAVID ANNOUNCED IN SLOVAKIA

ZURICH, Oct. 2. (JTA)-- A decree exempting certain categories of Jews in Slovakia from wearing the yellow Mogen David, is published in the Nazi-dominated newspaper "Slovak," reaching here today, while other sections of the Slovak press score the corruption that has arisen in connection with the "nationalization," "aryanization," and outright confiscation of Jewish property.

Under the new decree, announced by Minister of the Interior Samo Mach, the following groups of Jews need not wear the yellow badges: Children under six; Jewish wives or husbands of non-Jews and their children if the latter are not of the Jewish religion; Jews still employed by the State or by public institutions; Jews to whom the Central Economic Office has granted working permits; and Jews who are members of a Christian church recognized by the Government, provided that they were baptized before September 10, 1941.

It is assumed that these exemptions are a result of a compromise between the Nazi officials and Catholic circles in Slovakia, which opposed the introduction of the Nuremberg laws into the country.

Meanwhile Dr. Josef Tiso, Slovak president, in an address at Banovce blamed the Jews for spreading alarming reports concerning the Slovak army fighting in Russia, while in Bratislava the Police Commissioner ordered all Jews to surrender, without any compensation, pictures, busts or statues of Slovak patriots, flags, phonograph records of national songs, cameras, telescopes, passports and radio sets. Radios must also be surrendered by non-Aryan members of Jewish households.

The newspaper "Gardista," organ of the Fascist Hlinka Guard, publishes a warning against swindlers who visit Jewish homes and threaten the inhabitants with expulsion, under the newest anti-Jewish law, unless they pay a certain sum. At the same time the "Slovak" publishes an announcement that the Land Reform Office has already begun "nationalization" of Jewish real estate under the new code promulgated recently. This will greatly increase opportunities for Slovak peasants to obtain land, the paper states.

SENATE MAY INVESTIGATE ANTI-SEMITIC PROPAGANDA OF AXIS AGENTS IN AMERICA

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2. (JTA)-- The anti-Semitic phases of Axis propaganda in the United States may form a part of the Senate's special investigation proposed by Sen. Guy Gillette of Iowa, it was stated today by the Senator who disclosed that his proposal had the approval of the Justice Department as well as of the Army and Navy Intelligence divisions.

Indicating that Japanese organizational activities among the Japanese population in this country would be the focal point of the Senate's inquiry, Sen. Gillette said that it was entirely possible that efforts to stimulate anti-Semitism in this country by foreign agents would also be investigated.

Officials of the Department of Justice, it was learned here today, are anxious to bring before the public, among other things, the results of studies of the foreign language press in America.

POLISH JEWS RELEASED FROM INTERNMENT IN RUSSIA JOIN POLISH ARMY THERE

LONDON, Oct. 2. (JTA)-- Jews are second only to Catholics in the number of soldiers in the Polish army which is now being formed in Soviet Russia under the command of the Polish General Wladyslaw Anders, official Polish sources reported here today.

Simultaneously, it was announced here today by Dr. Ignacy Schwartzbart, Jewish member of the Polish National Council, that he has submitted to the Polish government in London sixteen lists containing more than 2,000 names of Polish Jews known to have been held in Russia either as war prisoners or as interned refugees from Poland. "All these lists are already in the possession of the Polish embassy in Moscow and a number of the people mentioned therein have already been traced and released from internment," Dr. Schwartzbart said, adding that more lists are reaching his office from all parts of the world.

The Polish authorities here, today, accepted a proposal which reached them from the Central Union of Polish Jews in Argentina suggesting the collection by the Union of clothing and other commodities for Polish refugees in Soviet Russia.

JEWS IN UNOCCUPIED FRANCE FEAR BLOCKING OF ALL ACCOUNTS

VICHY, Oct. 2. (JTA)-- The blocking of all Jewish accounts in the banks of unoccupied France was predicted here today following the appointment this week by the Vichy government of "Aryan" managers for numerous Jewish enterprises in all larger cities in the unoccupied part of France.

At the same time the French press in Paris today carried reports that 700 Jews have received permission from DeGaulle and from the British authorities to settle in Syria and Lebanon. The reports aim to stir up anti-Jewish feelings among the French population.

SOUTH AFRICAN JEWISH DOCTOR HONORED FOR "GALLANTRY IN ACTION"

JOHANNESBURG, Oct. 2. (JTA)-- Captain Hayman Harold Samson, a volunteer in the South African Medical Corps attached to the South African Air Force unit on the African front, was today made a member of the British Empire Military Division for "gallantry in action." Dr. Samson is a well-known Capetown physician and a former Rugby player.

ANONYMITY CLOAKING JEWISH WAR EFFORT SCORED BY BRODETSKY

LONDON, Oct. 2. (JTA)-- A continued fight against the anonymity which has cloaked the Jewish war contributions was pledged by Professor Selig Brodetsky, President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews at a luncheon tendered today to Mrs. Rebecca Sieff, President of the Women's International Zionist Organization. ✓

"I do not wish to question the wisdom of those conducting world affairs today," Professor Brodetsky declared, "but it must be said that we might have been remembered when the victims were counted. The unknown soldier was a Jewish invention and now we are suffering from this. We are the unknown soldiers on many fronts. The deeds of Palestine Jews at Tobruk, Keren and elsewhere represent the deeds of all Palestinians. We think this secrecy is morally and politically wrong. We who fight for justice and liberty cannot conceive of the idea of justice and liberty for everybody except the Jews. We will fight until this 'except the Jews' disappears."

GLADSTEIN, REGELSON, JEWISH AUTHORS AWARDED LITERARY PRIZES

NEW YORK, Oct. 2. (JTA)-- Jacob Gladstein, a Yiddish author, and Abraham Regelson, A Hebrew essayist, were the recipients today of \$250 each as the first prize winners for the best works written in Yiddish and Hebrew during 1940.

The prizes are awarded annually by the Louis Lamed Fund which has been established to encourage Jewish authors. Two second prizes of \$100 each were awarded to Ephraim Auerbach, Yiddish writer, and to Dr. Israel Efros, Hebrew poet.

The first prize to Mr. Gladstein was given in recognition of his book "When Jash Came" written in Yiddish. The prize to Mr. Regelson was awarded for his book of Hebrew essays. Mr. Auerbach received the second prize for his book of Yiddish poems "Clear is the Old Well," and Dr. Efros - for a Hebrew poem "Gold" which is still in manuscript. Dr. Efros is chairman of the Hebrew Department at Hunter College, here.

PALESTINE JEWISH SOLDIERS REPORTED MISSING IN SYRIA

LONDON, Oct. 2. (JTA)-- Captain David Margesson, Secretary of State for War, announced in Commons today that so far he has been unable to verify the reports that Jewish soldiers from Palestine were captured or are missing in the Syrian campaign. Further inquiries are being made, however, from the Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in the Middle East, Margesson stated.

The Secretary of War's statement came in reply to a question by Col. Josiah Wedgwood concerning 220 Palestine Jews reported missing in Syria. Wedgwood asked how many of them had been released and how they had come to surrender, if they were armed and under British officers.

MOST PATRIA SURVIVORS RELEASED FROM INTERNMENT CAMPS

LONDON, Oct. 2. (JTA)-- Under-Secretary for Colonies George Hall today disclosed that 1,045 of the 1,698 Patria survivors have been released from internment camps in Palestine. In a letter to Col. Josiah Wedgwood, pro-Zionist M.P. who had queried the Ministry concerning the Patria refugees, Hall stated that further groups will be released as soon as their various identification papers and other documents are checked. All Jewish men who have been released, Hall said, are given the opportunity of joining the armed forces and up to date 51 have enlisted in the British army and 77 with the Czech forces.