

JTA

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41ST STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. VIII. NO. 290

Sunday, November 30, 1941

240 JEWS EXECUTED BY NAZIS IN YUGOSLAVIA; JEWISH LEADERS ARRESTED

LONDON, Nov. 28. (JTA)-- The execution of 240 Jews in Nazi-occupied Yugoslavia, including 18 Jewish women, and the arrest of thirteen Jewish leaders in Belgrade and 36 prominent Jews in Vincovici, was reported here today by Yugoslav circles on the basis of information reaching them from the occupied territory.

The report stated that Nazi authorities in Yugoslavia admit that during the last four months they executed 212 Jewish men and 18 Jewish women. The thirteen Jews arrested by them in Belgrade are all members of the executive of the Jewish community there. They will be tried for allegedly furnishing financial and other assistance to the Serbian guerrilla bands that are harassing the Nazi troops. Similar charges are leveled by the Nazis against the Jewish leaders arrested in Vincovici, the report said.

JEWISH REFUGEES IN SHANGHAI FEAR JAPANESE COMPLICATIONS; SEEK EMIGRATION

SHANGHAI, Nov. 28. (JTA)-- The eyes of thousands of Jewish refugees marooned here are now directed towards Washington where the result of Japanese-American negotiations may indirectly decide their fate.

The fear that further international complications may lead to serious consequences for the 20,000 refugees herded in Shanghai is developing among the Polish and German Jews here, since it is believed that Japan may take full control of Shanghai and treat the refugees as undesirable elements.

Many Polish Jews are trying to find their way from here into Soviet Russia from where they hope they can proceed to Palestine. Others have sent urgent cables to the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem asking it to facilitate their departure from Shanghai through the Palestine Office which has recently been established here.

PROPERTY OF EXILED JEWS DISTRIBUTED AMONG HLINKA GUARDS IN SLOVAKIA

LONDON, Nov. 28. (JTA)-- All property of the Slovak Jews who have been deported from Bratislava to remote parts of Slovakia, including the furniture and clothing which they were compelled to leave behind, is now being distributed among the local Hlinka Guards, the Slovak storm-troop organization, according to reports reaching here today.

Selected groups of the Hlinka Guards will be sent to Germany to attend courses there in so-called "Jewish ghetto management," the report discloses. They will then return to Slovakia to administer the Jewish labor camps, the segregated Jewish sections of Trnava, Zilina, and other townships to where the Jews from Bratislava have been exiled, and eventually will be used as guards in the isolation camps which are being constructed to take care of the Jews who are temporarily confined in the provincial towns.

SATURDAY EVENING POST ANALYZES DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "AMERICAN JEWS" AND "JEWS IN AMERICA"

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 28. (JTA)-- Those who claim that American Jews, as a group, have helped to build up interventionist sentiment in America "are using a red herring, or, rather, a red, white and blue herring," Judge Jerome Frank, of the United Circuit Court of Appeals, will declare in an article in the next issue of the Saturday Evening Post.

"There is no such thing as a cohesive American Jewish group with a common body of opinion," Judge Frank adds. "Among the Americans who are classified as Jews there are as many kinds of opinion on any subject affecting America as among Americans generally. And that was, and is, true with respect to World War II."

Pointing out that he was a strong isolationist who wrote a book on the subject until Hitler's victories, Judge Frank says the same change occurred in the thinking of many Americans including many Jews, and many now regret earlier opposition to "collective security."

"Most American Jews, like most German-Americans, are thoroughly devoted to America's interests" the article says. "Unhappily, there is a small, unrepresentative minority who should not be described as American Jews but as Jews in America. And, as they are played up as typical, it is important to take a look at those hyphenates."

"There are Jews in America who are Communists, or fellow travelers. They are, emotionally, merely sojourners in America. Their major interest is Russia. They do not think of themselves as Jews. They have as little regard for Jewish as for American welfare. These Communist Jews recognize that the majority of American Jews, at whom they sneer as 'hopelessly middle class' are their enemies. The total number of Communists and fellow-traveler Jews is but a small fraction of the total American Jewish population. To play them up as typical is to mislead."

Zionists are Termed as "Jewish Sojourners in America"

Judge Frank adds that there is a small group of what he calls "fanatic Jewish nationalists" who have identified themselves completely with Palestine and that these, too, he says are "Jewish sojourners in America." In addition, he lists "a group of wealthy Fascist Jews in America" which he says is not large in number and has escaped public attention. They want America to appease Hitler, according to Judge Frank who says "most of them would welcome some kind of American dictatorship, which, they are confident, would be no menace to them."

"Those minorities are out of step with the great majority of American Jews," the article says.

"The erroneous belief that American Jews think and act and vote as a bloc, and are primarily interested in matters Jewish in America and throughout the world, gains plausibility because a majority of American Jews have adopted a 'hush policy.' They have been understandably sensitive to criticism and have feared that any discussion of 'the Jewish question' would activate anti-Jewish feelings."

Judge Frank says he favors a policy of speaking out and charges "some persons deliberately, and others innocently, are siding Nazi efforts to promote violent American anti-Semitism of the concentration camp variety. If ever any Americans go to a concentration camp, American democracy will go with them."

JEWISH AGENCY REVIEWS NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRITISH GOVERNMENT FOR JEWISH ARMY

LONDON, Nov. 2 (JTA)-- Political rather than military considerations were the moving factors in the British government's refusal to establish a Jewish Army in Palestine, it is charged in a survey of the correspondence between the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Colonial and War offices which the Agency started distributing to-day to members of Parliament.

Under the title of "The War Effort and War Potentialities of Palestine Jewry," the pamphlet, which is part of an intensified campaign by the Jewish Agency to compel the government to allow the establishment of a Jewish division, reveals that discussions were so far advanced by December, 1940 that a commanding officer of the Jewish forces, Brigadier L. A. Hawes, had already been chosen. Hawes was acceptable to the Agency and he and Brigadier A. W. Lee, liaison officer between the War Office and the Agency, met with Dr. Weizmann for an introductory discussion. Detailed plans for a fighting force were then drawn up by Hawes with the collaboration of the War Office and the Agency.

Weizmann's Appeal to Churchill Elicits No Reply

On August 1, 1941, Lord Moyne, the Colonial Secretary, told Weizmann he saw no political objections to the formation of a Jewish force as far as his office was concerned. Shortly afterward Brigadier Lee suggested that the political questions be definitely settled before the War Office embarked on technical preparations. Weizmann then proposed to Lord Moyne that a public announcement of the plan for a Jewish Army be made. A week later Moyne replied that technical difficulties had arisen, although he did not touch on the political aspect of the situation.

Finally, after some delay, Weizmann sent an appeal to Prime Minister Churchill which, however, elicited no more than a formal acknowledgment from Churchill's secretary. Weizmann in his letter reviewed the repeated offers by the Jewish Agency to form a Jewish Army and voiced his disappointment that the offers had not yet been accepted. He stressed the eagerness of American Jews to play their part in the fight against Hitler, and warned against hurting "the most elementary feelings of self-respect by rebuffs and humiliations." "American Jewry awaits a call from His Majesty's Government. Formation of a Jewish fighting force will be that call," he said in his letter, dismissing the argument that lack of equipment was the reason for the government's refusal.

ANTI-JEWISH PROPAGANDA IN FRANCE HAS LITTLE EFFECT, REPORT REVEALS

BERNE, Nov. 28. (JTA)-- The vigorous efforts which the Nazi propaganda machine is making to inculcate the French people with anti-Jewish feelings are having less and less effect with every month, according to a reliable report reaching here today.

The report states that despite the anti-Jewish laws proclaimed by the Vichy Government and the various anti-Jewish exhibitions and pamphlets in the occupied part of France, the population pays little attention to the argument that Jews are responsible for the collapse of France. Many French leaders, the report states, resent the anti-Jewish laws as a shameful act which will remain a black spot in the history of modern France.

In the medical school of the University of Montpellier, which was founded by Jews in the 12th century, the report reveals, students recently indicated their resentment of the anti-Jewish laws by openly demonstrating their sympathies with a professor who was dismissed under these laws.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT MODIFIES REGULATIONS FOR FROZEN REFUGEE FUNDS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28. (JTA)-- In order to aid refugees who have their funds frozen in America, the Treasury Department today modified the general licensing provisions affecting funds of foreign nationals frozen under Federal regulations.

The measure will alleviate complications for refugees who are unable to meet domicile requirements of General License 42, issued in June, 1940. A special study had disclosed that many refugees were barred from the privileges of General License 42 because of difficulties in obtaining immigration visas.

VICE-PRESIDENT WALLACE RECEIVES DELEGATION FROM INTER-AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28. (JTA)-- Vice-President Wallace received a delegation of representatives to the Inter-American Jewish Conference, which completed its sessions in Baltimore last Wednesday, it was announced here today.

Speaking in Spanish, Wallace expressed the hope that the days of good peace would soon come. Amplifying his remarks later in English, the Vice-President lauded the work of the Jewish pioneers in rebuilding Palestine and recalled the discussions concerning Palestine which he had had with the late Justice Louis D. Brandeis, whom he characterized as one of his close friends. The delegation was presented to Vice-President Wallace by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, and Dr. Nahum Goldmann.

"LAND FOR VICTORY" CONFERENCE TODAY TO CONSIDER PALESTINE DEFENSE PROBLEMS

NEW YORK, Nov. 28. (JTA)-- Problems relating to the development and defense of the Jewish National Home in Palestine, "as a part of the free peoples' task to assure victory over the totalitarian aggressors," will be considered at an all day "Land for Victory" conference which will be held on Sunday in the Hotel Roosevelt, here.

U. S. Senator Claude Pepper of Florida; Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland, national chairman of the United Palestine Appeal; Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Jewish National Fund of America; Dr. Stephen S. Wise; Judge Louis E. Levinthal, president of the Zionist Organization of America; Mrs. David de Sola Pool, president of Hadesseh; and Judge Morris Rothenberg, a member of the Administrative Committee of the Jewish Agency for Palestine; and other prominent leaders will address the sessions in which delegates of approximately 1,000 organizations and groups will participate.

JEWISH NAVAL OFFICER RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER

LONDON, Nov. 28. (JTA)-- Commander A. R. Rosenthal of the Royal Australian Navy, who is the commanding officer of H.M.S. Nestor, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Order for the "courage and resolution of his operations in the Mediterranean," it was announced today by the Admiralty.

BERNARD SHELVIN, ZIONIST JOURNALIST, DEAD

NEW YORK, Nov. 28. (JTA)-- Bernard Shelvin, one of the first members of the editorial staff of the Jewish Morning Journal, died today of a heart attack at his home here. He was 59 years old.

Shelvin came to the United States in 1908 from London where he lived for about ten years after leaving Russia where he was born. While working for the Morning Journal he also took an active part in the Zionist movement and was at one time a member of the executive of the ZOA and of the Zionist Actions Committee. He was also active in the Bies as a member of its Board of Directors.