

JTA

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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Monday, December 15, 1941

FRENCH JEWS EXECUTED IN PARIS; OTHERS DEPORTED TO POLAND; FINED BILLION FRANCS

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In Paris, the Vichy radio said, General Von Stuepnagel, commander of the Nazi occupation forces in France, ordered the execution of 100 hostages, charging that attacks on German soldiers in occupied France were the work of "an organized Jewish, anarchist, Anglo-Saxon plot" to ruin France.

He also announced that "a large number of criminal Judeo-Bolshevik elements will be deported to hard labor in the eastern territories (probably Poland). Other deportations of still greater numbers will follow immediately should there be further attacks, and this independently of any other measures that may be taken." Up until now French Jews had escaped the mass deportations which have been going on in Germany, the Czech Protectorate, Slovakia, Holland and other Nazi-occupied territory. The billion franc fine, Stuepnagel declared, must be paid exclusively by Jews in the occupied area.

Free French solidarity with the hostages executed by Stuepnagel was immediately voiced here today on a B.B.C. broadcast to France. "Neither Stuepnagel nor any other German general has the right to declare that any people are not Frenchmen because they are Jews or because they hold any particular political view," the broadcaster stated.

In Vichy the members of Jacques Doriot's "Popular Party" who admitted the bombing of a synagogue today received very light sentences, it was also reported.

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The Prime Minister's statement came in reply to an appeal by the Vaad Leumi to him and to President Roosevelt asking for public condemnation of the Rumanian atrocities.

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BILL OF RIGHTS SESQUI-CENTENNIAL MARKED THROUGHOUT NATION TODAY

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- Led by President Franklin D. Roosevelt who will make a nation-wide address over the Columbia Broadcasting System, the American people tomorrow will observe the 150th anniversary of the adoption of the Bill of Rights. Under the auspices of the Sesqui-Centennial Committee, whose honorary chairman is the President and whose national chairman is Herbert Bayard Swope, communities will stage celebrations, schools will observe the Day, and civic and patriotic organizations will hold appropriate exercises.

In New York over 1,000 people will assemble at the Hotel Commodore for a Bill of Rights Defense Rally and luncheon. Fifty-four civic and patriotic organizations will be represented and the original manuscript of the Bill of Rights, loaned for the occasion by Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach, will be read by Miss Ethel Barrymore.

Speakers will be: Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, Hon. Josephus Daniels, Hon. George Gordon Battle and Professor James T. Shotwell. Mr. Swope will be toast-master.

Monument to Haym Salomon to be Dedicated in Chicago Today

CHICAGO, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- Dedication of the monument on which stands the figure of Haym Salomon with those of George Washington and Robert Morris, as symbols of American unity, will be the occasion of a great patriotic demonstration in this city tomorrow. A huge throng of citizens, representing all races and creeds, is expected to attend the unveiling ceremony as part of the national observance of Bill of Rights Day.

Patriotic groups, the Army and the Navy and civilians will participate in the event, which has the sponsorship of the Chicago Commission on National Defense, official civilian defense agency of the city of Chicago. Spiritual leaders of three major faiths will take part in the dedication, it is announced by the Patriotic Foundation of Chicago through Barnet Hodes, co-chairman.

N.R.S. CONFERS WITH WASHINGTON CONCERNING REFUGEE PROBLEMS

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- Since war was declared against Japan on December 8, the National Refugee Service has held regular conferences and has been in constant communication with Washington authorities on vital refugee matters, it was announced today by Albert Abrahamson, Executive Director.

Mr. Abrahamson also announced that the NRS has been informed that a system of civilian trial boards will be set up immediately to investigate each alien arrested and to make recommendations to the Attorney General. "This is a fair system," he said. "It will protect both the interests of our country in this period of grave emergency and the welfare of aliens who sincerely wish to aid America's war effort." He called attention to the fact that Attorney General Biddle has given important reassurances to the effect that the government is determined to protect loyal aliens against discrimination and persecution, and that these should be noted by leaders and refugees who may be fearful of war-time measures.

While making the new procedure public, Mr. Abrahamson further stated that the NRS is continuing all of its services of relief, employment, retraining and emigre adjustment, as well as adapting itself to its new tasks. He advised refugees that no unnecessary travel be undertaken and that when a change of address is necessary, the Alien Registration Authorities should be informed.

12/15/41

JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS IN BELGIUM DISSOLVED; PLACED UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- All Jewish organizations in Belgium have been ordered to dissolve and establish one central organization to be known as the "Communaute Juive," according to a decree published in the Nazi-controlled *Brusseler Zeitung* reaching here today. This central organization will have its headquarters in Brussels and will be under the control of the Minister of the Interior, the paper reports.

A provision of this decree also orders the central Jewish organization to establish ghetto schools for students at kindergartens, elementary and secondary schools and at technical academies. "Only Jewish teachers will be allowed in these schools. Jewish children will no longer be permitted to attend public schools after December 31, it was announced by the German authorities.

The new organization will also be entrusted with "organizing the regular emigration of Belgian Jews," the Nazi paper states. Similar action with regard to French Jewish organizations was taken by the Vichy government last month.

JEWS BEING RAPIDLY PURGED FROM BULGARIAN ECONOMIC LIFE

LONDON, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- Anti-Jewish measures aimed at ousting the Jews from Bulgarian economic life are rapidly being put into effect, it was learned here today. Jewish-owned commercial and industrial establishments not included within the small percentage that are still allowed to remain open have been "Aryanized." All Jews have been ordered to immediately renew their identification cards on pain of severe punishment.

It was also learned here today that Leon Joseph Tadjer, a youth from a well known Jewish family, was executed on November 16 for allegedly having blown up gasoline stores and killing a Nazi soldier in an undisclosed Bulgarian city.

ROMANIAN JEWS ORDERED TO SURRENDER SKIS TO ARMY HEADQUARTERS

ZURICH, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- Jews in Rumania have been ordered to surrender to army headquarters all skis and skiing accessories in their possession, according to the *Donau Zeitung* reaching here today. Severe penalties have been threatened for any Jew who does not immediately comply with the order. It is reported that the Rumanian high command will use the skis to equip Rumanian soldiers stationed in occupied Russian territory.

JUDAH MAGNES OFFERS SERVICES TO ROOSEVELT IN WAR AGAINST AXIS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- Judah L. Magnes, American-born president of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, has cabled to President Roosevelt offering his services in America's fight against the Axis, it was disclosed here today. The day after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor Dr. Magnes cabled the White House: "I and my three sons put ourselves in your service and at your disposal."

ROME ASKS ARABS TO HELP "BREAK ANGLO-JEWISH TYRANNY"

LONDON, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- Arabic broadcasts emanating from Rome today renewed their violent attacks on the United States and Britain and called upon the Arabs to help the Axis "break Anglo-Jewish tyranny in the Mediterranean and the East."

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ONLY 469 JEWS STILL EMPLOYED BY ALGERIAN ADMINISTRATION

GENEVA, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- Only 469 of the more than 3,000 Jews who were formerly employed by the Algerian administration have been retained, it is reported in the Echo de Alger, reaching here today. The other employees have been dismissed as a result of Vichy's introduction of the anti-Jewish laws in her North African possessions.

BRITISH JEWS DISCUSS LEVY TO FINANCE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

LONDON, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- A levy on services rendered by the Jewish community in Britain in order to finance religious education, was proposed here today at the Communal Conference on the Position of Religious Education.

A committee was appointed to study the levy scheme which would replace the present system of voluntary contributions. Chief Rabbi Hertz proposed that "we must have religious education not only Hebrew teaching as such. No matter what the difficulties we must achieve the aim of training Jews by Jews for Judaism." Col. Charles Waley Cohen, prominent Jewish leader, seconded Rabbi Hertz's proposal, pointing out that the future of the community was doomed if no proper religious education was provided for the children.

JNF DINNER IN LOS ANGELES HELD DURING BLACKOUT

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- The first Zionist function in America to take place under blackout conditions was held here today when members of the Los Angeles Council of the Jewish National Fund convened here at a dinner to raise funds for the J.N.F.'s "Land for Victory" campaign, which marks the 40th anniversary of the organization. A message from Jerusalem greeting the conference was received from the three directors of the Keren Kayemeth, Dr. Abraham Granovsky, Berl Katznelson and Rabbi Meir Berlin.

LT. GOVERNOR POLETTI AND NEWBOLD MORRIS ADDRESS HIAS CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- The HIAS Council of Organizations, affiliated and cooperating with the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society of America, held its annual conference here today. Delegates representing over 1500 organizations and welfare agencies in the Metropolitan area heard Lt. Governor Poletti and City Council President Newbold Morris.

WOMENS AMERICAN ORT WILL HOLD ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP TEA TOMORROW

NEW YORK, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- Dr. Frank Kingdon, chairman of the New York City Fight for Freedom Committee to Defend America and special consultant in the national Office of Civilian Defense, and Baron Robert de Rothschild, French Jewish leader, will be the principal speakers Tuesday afternoon at the annual membership tea of Women's American ORT at the Hotel Commodore. More than 1,500 women representing 40 chapters throughout the United States and Canada will attend.

PALESTINE LEADERS ATTEND SIMPLE FUNERAL RITES FOR DAVID YELLIN

JERUSALEM, Dec. 14. (JTA)-- David Yellin, one of Palestine's greatest teachers and writers, was buried yesterday as thousands of mourners paid tribute to him. Leading Jewish, Arab and British officials attended the funeral, which was marked by simple rites. No eulogies were delivered. Chief Rabbi Herzog recited Kaddish.