

# JTA

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### FUNDS OF JEWISH RELIEF GROUPS IN SHANGHAI REPORTED TAKEN OVER BY JAPANESE

LONDON, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- Japanese authorities in Shanghai have assumed control over the funds of Jewish refugee relief organizations there and have stopped the distribution of relief to destitute refugees, according to unconfirmed reports reaching here today. At the same time it is revealed that the Japanese arrested 1,800 Jewish refugees in Shanghai within the first two days after the declaration of war against the United States. ✓

The Gestapo has requested the Japanese secret police to trace political refugees from the Reich and to seize them for deportation back to Germany, according to the information received here. Many of the Jewish refugees attempted to move from the British and American concessions to the French concession, it is reported, but the French authorities, who cabled Vichy for instructions, were ordered by Admiral Darlan not to allow the Jewish refugees to enter.

Generally, Jews in Japanese-occupied territory are being treated as American, British and Russian agents. A violent campaign has been emanating from Berlin against the Shanghai Jewish refugees who are pictured as a danger to the Japanese war effort.

Meanwhile, in Japan proper, the reports add, Nazi anti-Jewish films are to be shown shortly with the purpose of "explaining" to the Japanese the danger of the "Jewish menace." These will be utilized to assist the government's campaign against the "Jew-minded Roosevelt." These films were shipped here by Dr. Goebbels, the Nazi propaganda Minister, some time ago, evidently in anticipation of Japan going to war against the democracies.

Anti-Jewish demonstrations by students and other pro-Nazi elements in Harbin, in Japanese-occupied Manchukuo, were staged by Japanese officials there shortly after the declaration of war, it is also learned here today. The demonstrators distributed leaflets demanding the expulsion of all Jews from Manchukuo and the confiscation of Jewish property. Harbin has a sizeable Jewish population consisting mostly of Russian emigres.

### 700 JEWS REPORTED EXPELLED FROM BULGARIA TO TURKEY

ZURICH, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- The extent to which anti-Jewish activities are being prosecuted in Bulgaria was revealed today in a report of mass deportations of Jews from the country, broadcast on the Vichy radio.

Vichy's broadcast stated that a Bulgarian ship arrived in Istanbul today carrying 700 Jews who had been expelled from Bulgaria. Anti-Semitic agitation has become more intense since the Bulgarian officials threw in their lot with the Axis and declared war on the United States.

AMERICAN CONSUL IN PALESTINE STATES U.S. AID TO DEMOCRACIES WILL CONTINUE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- Lowell C. Pinkerton, United States consul in Jerusalem, today told the population of Palestine that "your fortune is our fortune and your aims are our aims. We are pledged to continue our efforts until the forces of justice triumph over the forces challenging our lives and liberty and civilization."

Speaking on a broadcast here in connection with the Japanese war, Pinkerton continued: "We have been warned that the road leading to final victory will be hard but none of us doubts our ability to achieve success both in war, and in the peace after the war." Stressing the fact that American tanks, planes and other armaments are fighting on all fronts, Pinkerton declared that "now we stand side by side with other free peoples in fighting a common enemy."

German activity in pushing Japan into war with America in the hope that it would result in curtailing America's supply of material aid has been in vain, he emphasized, adding that "our power becomes stronger every day and our resources are constantly being augmented by the increased efforts of our 130,000,000 people behind President Roosevelt."

SPREAD OF WAR IN FAR EAST CAUSES RESUMPTION OF TALKS ON JEWISH ARMY

LONDON, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- The spread of the war in the Far East has led to a renewal of talks between the British government and a group of interested parliamentarians regarding the formation of a Jewish army, it is reported here today.

It is understood that the conversations were resumed close on the heels of Japan's declaration of war against Britain and the United States, since war in the Pacific presents a new situation to the Australian and New Zealand governments, many of whose troops are with the Imperial forces in the Middle East. Although no reports have been forthcoming here about the possibilities of the Anzac troops being called home, it is felt in authoritative quarters that the new situation will affect the question of sending Anzac reinforcements to Libya and elsewhere in the Middle East theatre of war. New impetus was given the talks, it is learned here, by the fact that Australia has started to recall some of its officers and technical experts to organize the defense of their own country.

Meanwhile, it was announced here today that as a result of international developments the projected trip of Dr. Weizmann to the United States has been postponed.

CZECH GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE DECLARES "ARYANIZATION" OF JEWISH PROPERTY INVALID

LONDON, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- All "Aryanization" of Jewish property in Czechoslovakia as well as transfers of goods or other property under duress, was declared illegal in a broadcast today by the Czechoslovak government-in-exile to the Czechoslovakian people, sent out over the British Broadcasting Company's network.

Any such transfer even if ostensibly made voluntarily will be considered invalid, and the government reserves the right to specify the manner under which such transfers can be made valid and legal claims settled, after the war. Criminal proceedings are threatened against anyone acting against the spirit of this proclamation. It was also announced that this procedure will be applied to all transactions since Sept. 27, 1938 as the present Czech government does not recognize the Munich agreement which was signed on that day.

GESTAPO RAIDED JEWISH OFFICES AFTER GERMAN DECLARATION OF WAR AGAINST U.S.

LONDON, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- Gestapo raiding squads broke into numerous Jewish communal offices in Germany, the Czech Protectorate and Poland, following the German declaration of war against the United States, it is reported here today.

The Nazi raiders sought documents which would reveal relations between Jews in occupied territory and Jewish organizations in the United States. The Germans are anxious to secure any document that can be construed as indicating such connections in order to bolster their story that European and American Jewry forced the war on Germany.

It is also reported that police officials received secret instructions from Berlin to hasten the expulsion of Jews from places where considerable sections of the "Aryan" population were sympathizing with the Jews. Such towns were made "judenrein" almost immediately.

288 JEWS EXECUTED IN YUGOSLAV CONCENTRATION CAMPS BY NAZIS

LONDON, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- The anti-Jewish terror which is raging in Serbia and Croatia as part of the Nazis' attempt to crush guerrilla resistance has taken another 288 lives it is revealed here today by Yugoslav circles.

In the concentration camp at Uzice, in Serbia, 280 Jewish internees and 100 Serbians were executed, the Yugoslav sources disclose. Among the Jews who were shot were many women and children and two aged men, Dr. Guttman and M. Levy. In a concentration camp in Croatia eight Jewish supervisors were executed on charges of aiding the guerrillas, when 340 Jewish prisoners, including 42 young girls, escaped from the camp and succeeded in reaching the mountain stronghold of the Serbian forces.

PROTESTANT CHURCH IN HOLLAND DENOUNCES NAZI PERSECUTION OF JEWS

LONDON, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- A strong denunciation of the treatment of Dutch Jews by the Nazi occupation authorities is contained in a pastoral letter issued by the Dutch Reformed Church at the end of September, the text of which just reached here today.

The letter states in part: "According to God's providence the Jews have lived among us for centuries and are bound with us in a common history and a common responsibility. The commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves applies to them as it does to any other neighbor." It counsels members of the church that obedience to authorities should cease when these authorities "demand that which is against the commandment of God."

SIX JEWS SHOT IN BUCHAREST FOR PRO-RUSSIAN ACTIVITY

LONDON, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- Six Jews in Bucharest have been executed on charges of engaging in pro-Russian activity, it is reported here today. Those executed were: M. Liebshtein, Jonah Markus, Simon Fisch, David Smilovici, Max Schlossman and Osher Beilinson.

The German radio today announced that a new law issued in Rumania declares that persons having even one Jewish grandparent will be considered Jews, whether they have been baptized or not. This is even more severe than the restrictions provided for in the Nuremberg laws.

WARBURG REELECTED CHAIRMAN OF J.D.C.; BAERWALD, MRS. WARBURG ARE HONORARY CHAIRMEN

NEW YORK, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- Edward M. M. Warburg was reelected chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee today at the 27th annual meeting of the organization. Mrs. Felix M. Warburg and Paul Baerwald were also chosen to serve another term as honorary chairmen.

James N. Rosenberg of New York was continued as Honorary Chairman of the Executive Committee and James H. Becker of Chicago as Chairman of the National Council. The nine Vice-Chairmen were likewise re-elected: George Backer, David M. Bressler, Alfred Jaretzki, Jr., Alexander Kahn, Governor Herbert H. Lehman, Harold F. Linder, Solomon Lowenstein and Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, all of New York; William Rosenwald of Greenwich, Conn., William J. Shroder of Cincinnati and M. C. Sloss of San Francisco. I. Edwin Goldwasser was re-elected Treasurer. Alexander A. Landesco of New York was elected as Treasurer to succeed Marco F. Hellman.

Other officers who will continue in their posts during the coming year are Albert H. Lieberman of Philadelphia, Vice-Chairman of the National Council, Abner Bregman of New York, Associate Treasurer; Joseph C. Hyman of New York, Executive Vice-Chairman; Evelyn M. Morrissey of New York, Assistant Treasurer; Mrs. H. B. L. Goldstein of New York, Comptroller; Moses A. Leavitt of New York, Secretary; and Isidor Coons of New York, Director of Fund Raising.

Six new members were added to the J.D.C. Board of Directors: Leslie L. Jacobs of Dallas, Texas; Jerome H. Kohn, Hartford, Connecticut; Al Paul Lefton of Philadelphia; and Louis Broide of New York, were named for terms expiring April 1, 1945. Joel Gross of Newark, New Jersey and Morris W. Haft of New York were elected to the Board for terms expiring April 1, 1944.

JEWISH REFUGEES IN MEXICO EN ROUTE TO NEW YORK

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- A total of 183 Jewish refugees, most of them Jewish, of the 357 who arrived in Vera Cruz on the S.S. Serpa Pinto early this week will proceed to New York, it was disclosed here today. When the ship docked at Santo Domingo 150 refugees landed and another 239 debarked in Cuba.

BELGIAN PUBLICATION REVIEWS NAZI ANTI-JEWISH ACTIVITIES IN BELGIUM

NEW YORK, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- A review of the anti-Semitic measures that have been introduced in Belgium since the Nazi invasion of that country appears today in an illustrated pamphlet entitled "They Ride Through Belgium," issued by the Belgian Information Center here.

Starting with the Nuremberg laws which were introduced immediately after the invasion the publication lists the anti-Jewish acts in chronological order from April, 1941 up to the present.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT CONSIDERING ASSISTANCE TO PALESTINE CITRUS GROWERS

LONDON, Dec. 19. (JTA)-- A careful review is being made to ascertain the extent of assistance that will be given to Palestine citrus growers during the coming season, it was stated today in Commons by George H. Hall, Under-Secretary for Colonies. Hall's statement came in reply to a question by David Adams, Laborite, who drew attention to the fact that Palestine citrus growers had suffered heavy losses as a result of the destruction of their groves because of lack of adequate assistance to enable them to keep the groves in cultivation.