

# JTA

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### JEWISH GENERAL WHO LED COSSACK OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE NAZIS KILLED IN BATTLE

MOSCOW, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- The revelation that the Soviet General, Lev Dovator, famous commander of the Cossack troops who defeated the Germans at Rostov and caused their retreat along the entire Soviet front, was a Jew, is made today in the Red Star, official organ of the Soviet army.

Reporting that Gen Dovator "died the death of a hero," the Soviet army newspaper emphasizes the fact that under the Czarist regime the Cossacks were used to carry out pogroms against Jews, while under the Soviet regime they are led by a Jewish general and dealt smashing blows at the enemy. This, the Red Star says, is the sign of the great changes that have taken place in Soviet Russia. Gen Dovator was made a hero of the Soviet Union three weeks before he was killed on the front in the January battles.

The Soviet press today reports from Biro-Bidjan that collective farming in the Jewish autonomous region there is to be considerably extended in connection with war emergency measures taken by the Soviet administration. The Jewish collective farms in Biro-Bidjan are clearing 3,000 acres of new fertile land from the taiga, the Siberian forest, and 10,000 acres of fallow land will be brought under cultivation, the report says.

### THREE PALESTINE SHIPS, FIVE SEAMEN LOST IN FIERCE MEDITERRANEAN GALE

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- A fierce Mediterranean gale last week destroyed three Palestine vessels and took the lives of five Palestine seamen, it was disclosed here today. The three ships that were lost in a storm off Latakia, Syria, were the 200-ton S.S. Stikva, the 407-ton S.S. Amathus, belonging to the Atid Navigation Co., and the motorship, Hafez Elrahman, owned by the Palestine Transport and Shipping Co.

The five seamen, all of whom were lost when the Stikva went down, are Jacob Salem, Urko Chibowsky, Jacob Silberstein, Pavel Kreigel and Eisig Rittner. The first three were buried at Beirut, while the bodies of the other two have not been recovered. Kreigel, who was the first officer of the Stikva, had previously been rescued from the S.S. Antar, which was torpedoed by an Italian submarine some time ago.

### NAZIS CLOSE DOWN ONE OF VILNA GHETTOS; MOVE INHABITANTS TO SUBURB

LISBON, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- One of the two ghettos in Vilna has been "liquidated" by order of the Nazi authorities there and its Jewish inhabitants have been ordered to move to the already over-crowded ghetto in Baksht, a suburb of the city, according to a report appearing in the Deutsche Zeitung, which the Nazis publish in Vilna.

The German paper, which reached here today, states that this so-called second ghetto, was situated between German and Dominican streets.

## WARTIME DIFFICULTIES IN FUND-RAISING OUTLINED AT CONFERENCE OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS

CHICAGO, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- The difficulties which Jewish fund-raising work may face in America during 1942 as a result of the war situation were outlined here yesterday at the closing session of the ninth General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, by Louis Tobian, Board member of the Jewish Federation for Social Service, Dallas, Texas.

Stating that increased taxation, higher cost of living and industrial dislocation will confront the Jewish fund-raising activities with new problems, Mr. Tobian added that these obstacles are not insurmountable. He pointed out that in Canada, where taxes are proportionately higher than in the United States, more funds have been raised for Jewish philanthropy each year since 1939, when Canada entered the war. He also cited the recent successful Jewish fund-raising campaigns in England. At the same time he warned against inflated "unrealistic" quotas, stating that they are harmful to fund raising. He urged the national agencies to evaluate their programs and eliminate "surplus activity and surplus programs."

### Functions of National Advisory Budget Service Defined

The approved report on National Advisory Budgeting Service, as submitted at Sunday's session by Mr. Jacob Blaustein, member of the Council's board of directors, was made public here today. The report, recommended jointly by those who supported the project as well as by the group which had previously opposed a National Advisory Budget Service, provides:

1. Reports issued on organizations will be limited to analysis and descriptions of functional services, administration and fund-raising procedures, the problems with which the organizations deal, and the results of services rendered.
2. Reports will not attempt to translate findings in terms of total budget requirements and no specific recommendations will be offered to member agencies on approved minimum or maximum financial needs of any organization.

### Role of Jewish Volunteers in British Army Described by Dr. Silver

The closing session of the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds was also addressed by Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, national chairman of the United Palestine Appeal. Emphasizing the role which Jewish volunteers in the British forces are now playing in various theatres of war, Dr. Silver said:

"Many thousand Palestine Jews are skilled workmen, making war materials and repairing machines for mechanized war. An American lease-lend administrator is stationed in Jerusalem, indicative of Palestine's strategic importance in the war."

Moses A. Leavitt, speaking for the Joint Distribution Committee, said that "the J.D.C. cannot and will not send funds to enemy-occupied territories. But to prevent collapse of programs which alone stave off starvation for hundreds of thousands in Poland, Shanghai, China, Hungary, Rumania and elsewhere, the committee is using methods which, during the last World War, prevented the collapse of sorely tried Jewish communities in the war zones."

### JACOB EPSTEIN COMPLETES NEW STATUE, "JACOB'S STRUGGLE WITH THE ANGEL"

LONDON, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- A new colossal statue, "Jacob's Struggle with the Angel," has been completed here by Jacob Epstein, noted American-born Jewish sculptor, and will be placed on exhibition this week.

PALESTINE LEAGUE FOR SOVIET RUSSIA CALLS FOR ALL-OUT AID TO RUSSIAN ARMY

HAIFA, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- Palestine Jews were urged today to give maximum moral and material aid to Soviet Russia at the first public meeting called here by the Palestine League for Soviet Russia, recently formed under the presidency of Arnold Zweig, noted novelist.

Addressing today's meeting, Dr. Shlomo Kaplanski, a Histadruth leader and vice-president of the League, pointed out that the League is a non-political organization aiming to extend moral and material support to the Soviet Union. "It is true," he said, "that the Soviet authorities did not understand formerly - and even hampered - the Zionist movement, but this is not the time for political arguments. The only thing to do now is to mobilize all resources against the Nazis for the day when the German military will be crushed by the British sea power and the Russian armies."

LONDON BROADCAST TO AMERICA EXPLAINS WHY BRITAIN DOES NOT WANT A JEWISH ARMY

LONDON, Feb. 3. (JTA)--The question "why does the British government refuse the offer of Palestine Jews to supply a Jewish army" was answered here last night in a broadcast to the United States over the British radio by Prof. Norman Bentwich, noted Zionist, who was formerly the attorney-general of Palestine, and is now an officer in the Royal Air Force.

"The answer to this question is simple," Prof. Bentwich said. "The position between Arabs, Jews and British in Palestine is still delicate, and the Government is naturally anxious to do nothing that might complicate it. As a former official of the Palestine government, I can understand the difficulties."

Declaring that "the great majority of the Arabs have been loyal and cooperated with the British forces," Prof. Bentwich explained that the British government has encouraged the Jews in Palestine to join the British forces and that the more than 10,000 Jews in the air force and in the army have done signal service in Libya, in Crete and in Syria. "It is very disappointing to Jews, of course, not to be able to fight under their own flag, like other peoples, with their own badge and as a recognized ally in the struggle against the Nazis, but they can fight as soldiers of humanity and that is no mean citizenship," Prof. Bentwich said. "They will make the sacrifice of national pride and prestige, for the sake of the greater cause."

Expressing his hopes about the future of the Jews and of Palestine, Prof. Bentwich emphasized that "Prime Minister Churchill and many members of the British Cabinet are tried friends of the Jewish National Home in Palestine and they will have regard for the services which the Jews are rendering to the Allied cause."

TWO JEWS APPOINTED TO POLISH NATIONAL COUNCIL; BODY WILL ADOPT POST-WAR CONSTITUTION

LONDON, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- The Polish government here today announced the appointment of the new Polish National Council, which replaces the Council dissolved last September. Among the 35 appointees are two Jews, Dr. Ignacy Schwartzbart, representing the Zionists, and Arthur Zygielbaum, representing the Socialist Labor Bund of Poland.

The main task of the new Council, it was learned here, will be to adopt a draft of the constitution for a post-war Polish state. Such a draft is being prepared at present by a commission of experts of all shades of political opinion. The Polish government will not take the final step of declaring the constitution the "law of the land" while in exile, but will submit it to freely-elected Parliament after Poland is liberated.

TWO RUSSIAN-BORN JEWISH DOCTORS EXECUTED BY NAZIS IN PARIS; THIRD COMMITS SUICIDE

ZURICH, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- Two Russian-born Jewish doctors are among the six "Jews and Communists" whose execution by the Nazis was announced last night in Paris by the German military commander General Ernest von Schaumburg, it was reliably learned here today. The two victims are Dr. M. Simkoff and Dr. S. Moldavsky. They had been living in Paris for over 20 years. A third Jewish doctor, M. Abrami, French-born, committed suicide.

Information reaching here today from Paris states that practically all of the 100 people who Gen. Schaumburg announced last night were slated for deportation to Poland are Jews. Their deportation as well as the execution of the six was explained by the Nazi general as a measure of retaliation for the renewed outbreak of violence against German soldiers in the French capital.

MICHAEL HASKELL, NOTED JEWISH LEADER IN SO. AFRICA, KILLED IN AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- Michael Haskell, noted Zionist and Jewish communal leader in South Africa, who generously contributed to Zionist funds, died here this morning as the result of an automobile accident.

Mr. Haskell was the honorary president of the New Zionist Organization of South Africa and was known for the substantial financial support which he gave to the Revisionist movement. He was the only Jew in South Africa to receive a Coronation Medal, which was designated as a private gift and personal souvenir from the King of England. He also held the post of Honorary Commissioner in Palestine for the Union of South Africa.

Interested in bringing about peace in the Zionist ranks, Mr. Haskell was greatly responsible for the decision adopted last month by the New Zionist Organization in South Africa, to negotiate with the executive of the World Zionist Organization for a reunion which would permit the Revisionists to re-enter the Zionist ranks under certain conditions. He was contemplating a trip to the United States to convince the NZO leaders in America of the necessity of a united Zionist front.

PALESTINE DIAMOND EXPORTS TO USA TOTALLED \$1,000,000 IN 1941; WILL BE DOUBLED IN 1942

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- Diamonds valued at \$1,000,000 were exported from Palestine to the United States in 1941 and these exports will be doubled in 1942, it was reported today at a conference of Palestine diamond dealers, the first of its kind ever held in Palestine.

Seventy persons who were active in the diamond industry in Belgium, Holland, Poland and Germany before Hitler came to power are participating in it. Approximately \$2,500,000 is now being dispensed by the Palestine diamond industry in wages to workers, it was disclosed at the conference.

A conference of the Yichud Ezrachi, middle class groups, which is now being held in Tel Aviv, today decided to send a delegation abroad to conduct a propaganda campaign there with regard to the internal economic and political issues which Palestine Jewry is now facing. The conference also decided to raise a \$600,000 fund for the encouragement and assistance of private commercial enterprises in Palestine and for publicizing the necessity for such enterprises.

PHILIP ROSENSTEIN, ROMANIAN ZIONIST LEADER, DIES IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- Philip Rosenstein, 60, former president of the Zionist Organization of Rumania, died here today.