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GERMANY AND ITALY ANNOUNCE PREPARATIONS FOR A DRIVE "TO LIBERATE THE ARABS"

CAIRO, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- Intensive Axis preparations for an early offensive into Turkey, Syria and Palestine were indicated today in broadcasts from Rome to the Arab world on the occasion of the arrival of the Jerusalem ex-Mufti in Rome yesterday.

"The Grand Mufti has reached Rome just at a moment when important actions are being prepared for the prosecution of the war which will liberate the Arabs and secure for them their deserved freedom," the Rome radio said. "The words of Mussolini and of Hitler are sufficient guarantee that the Axis victory will mean freedom for the Arab world and unity for their race."

At the same time the broadcaster stressed the fact that "while Britain is helping the Zionists by sending them gifts and promises and while America sends Mr. Bullitt to visit the Jews of Palestine to express admiration and respect for them, the Axis countries are showing great sympathy and understanding for the Arab cause. The Axis powers are fully in accord with the desire of the Arabs to attain their self-government and independence."

The Rome broadcast threatened severe punishment for Arab leaders who cooperate with the democracies. Commenting on the visit of several Syrian leaders to Palestine, the Rome radio said: "These so-called Syrian ministers who are sent to Palestine to visit the Jews will be punished when the day of freedom comes."

NAZIS RESUME MASS-EXPULSIONS OF JEWS FROM POLISH TOWNS; MORE EXECUTIONS REPORTED

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- Nazi-published newspapers in Poland reaching here today report the resumption of mass-expulsions and executions of Jews in practically every section of the country.

In the township of Gora-Kalwarja, the seat of the famous Gerer Rebbe, the entire Jewish population was ordered to leave for the Warsaw ghetto. Only four of the 5,500 Jews there were permitted to remain in their homes, the Krakauer Zeitung reports. In the city of Wloclawek two Jews were executed for listening to Polish broadcasts from London.

The Krakauer Zeitung also reports that stricter measures are to be introduced against Jews and Poles in the districts of Bialystok, Grodno and Lomza where the number of Jews is estimated to be about 150,000. All the three districts, the paper informs, have now been merged into one province which will not be incorporated in either the Government General or the Ostland section.

The Deutsche Zeitung, Nazi organ in Ostland, reports that all Jews in the Baltic countries, which form part of the Ostland province, have been ordered to supply their full quota of warm clothing and underwear for the German troops by tomorrow. The paper says that Governor Lohse, Nazi administrator for Ostland, is "disappointed" with the results of the clothing collection campaign for the German army.

JEW IN NORWAY IS SOUGHT BY GESTAPO AS ORGANIZER OF ANTI-NAZI PROPAGANDA

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- Alexander Eidenboom, a Norwegian Jew, is charged by the Gestapo with being the organizer of an anti-Nazi propaganda center in Bergen, it is reported today in the Bergen Tidende.

The paper says that the Gestapo accuses Eidenboom of publishing three illegal anti-Nazi newspapers in Norway. Although they have not succeeded in discovering Eidenboom's whereabouts, the Gestapo has confiscated his property and arrested two Norwegians as his alleged collaborators. The Bergen newspaper believes that Eidenboom escaped to England.

VALUE OF PALESTINE INDUSTRY TO BRITISH WAR EFFORT PRAISED BY MILITARY LEADER

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- The value of Palestine industries to the British war effort was graphically described this week by General Robert Hadden Haining, in charge of supplies for the Middle East forces, at the Palestine Industrial Exhibition in Cairo, according to a cable received today by the offices of the United Palestine Appeal.

In the presence of King Farouk of Egypt and a distinguished gathering of Egyptian, British and Palestinian government officers, General Haining, who was formerly the G.O.C. (General Officer in Command) in Palestine, revealed that the British forces had ordered military goods on exhibit valued at over £1,000,000. Both King Farouk, who had previously placed an order for some twenty of the different articles shown, and the British Ambassador to Egypt, Sir Miles W. Lampson, expressed surprise at the variety and achievements of Palestine production.

The ceremony this week was in preparation for the closing of the exhibition, which opened on August 18 for a six-month period. If war conditions permit, it may be transferred to the largest market in the East - India.

150 POLISH REFUGEES LEAVE LISBON FOR JAMAICA UNDER JDC SUPERVISION

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- A group of 150 Polish Jewish refugees, long stranded in Lisbon, have left that port aboard the Portuguese vessel Serpa Pinto, en route to the island of Jamaica in the West Indies, in accordance with an arrangement made by the J.D.C. with the Polish and British governments, it was reported here today.

The group is accompanied by a member of the J.D.C.'s overseas staff, S. Bertram Jacobson, who has been delegated to supervise their settlement in Jamaica and do everything possible to smooth the way for them. Mr. Jacobson formerly represented the J.D.C. in Budapest.

HUNGARIAN JEWISH SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS DISBANDED BY MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

ZURICH, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- All Jewish sports organizations in Hungary have been ordered to disband immediately in a decree issued by the Ministry of National Education, the Rome Radio reported today. Jews were also ordered to leave any Hungarian sports groups to which they belong.

THREE NEW GOVERNORS ELECTED TO BOARD OF HEBREW UNIVERSITY

JERUSALEM, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- Dr. Saul Tchernichovsky, Hebrew poet, and two lawyers, Shalom Horovitz and Moshe Smoira, have been unanimously elected to the Board of Governors of the Hebrew University, it was announced here today.

NAZIS FORCE JEWISH WAR PRISONERS TO DIG THEIR OWN GRAVES; EXECUTE 400 DAILY

LISBON, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- Between 300 and 400 Jewish war prisoners are being executed each day by the Nazis in the prison camp at Chelm, it is reported in a letter written by a German soldier, confirming the fact that the German military authorities are executing all Jewish war prisoners taken on the Soviet front.

The letter, written by the soldier to his relatives in Germany and smuggled to Lisbon by a devious route, describes conditions at the Chelm camp. The soldier writes: "Naturally we are not treating the prisoners too gently. If they will have to stay here through the winter, half of them will die. Jewish prisoners are shot on the spot. They must first dig their own graves, then five of them are bound together so that all fall into the pit at the same time. About 300 to 400 of these executions take place daily."

JEWISH DOCTORS IN REICH PERMITTED TO TREAT "ARYAN" CHILDREN

ZURICH, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- The lack of doctors in Germany and the rapid spread of a scarlet fever epidemic there today forced the Nazi authorities to permit Jewish doctors to treat "Aryan" children throughout the Reich.

An order issued by the Ministry of Health in Berlin provides, however, that only "Aryan" children who are under 11 years of age may be treated by Jewish doctors. Regulations covering Jewish dentists were also relaxed by the Ministry in view of the acute shortage of dentists in Germany.

REXIST LEADERS, RETURNING FROM SOVIET FRONT, PREDICT TROUBLE FOR JEWS IN BELGIUM

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- Inspired by the anti-Jewish propaganda which the Nazis are conducting in the occupied territories of Eastern Europe, Jean Georges and Felix Frank, two leaders of the Rexist movement in Belgium, today delivered violently inciting anti-Jewish addresses over the Nazi-controlled Belgian radio system, at the same time giving eye-witness accounts of the Jewish misery which they saw during their visit to the Eastern front from where they just returned.

"The Jews of the Eastern front live like hunted animals," Georges, who is the general inspector of the Rexist movement, reported. He then went on to ascribe the anti-Jewish brutalities in the occupied eastern countries to "the hatred which the local population feels toward the Jews." He threatened the Jews in Belgium with the same fate as "their brethren in the East."

Felix Frank, the private secretary of Leon Degrelle, the Rexist fuhrer, said in his broadcast that he was "astonished and indignant" on his return from the Eastern front to see "the tolerance and goodness which the Belgian authorities display towards the Jews." The Jews in Belgium, he said, must expect "a stern awakening" as a result of the trip which the two Rexist leaders made to the Soviet front.

FARM SCHOOL FOR JEWISH REFUGEE CHILDREN IN ENGLAND CLOSED

LONDON, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- The famous Whittinghame Farm School, established in 1939 on the estate of the late Lord Belfour to train refugee children for agricultural work in Palestine, has been closed, it was announced today.

The announcement states that 110 of the children, who have already received training, will be settled on farms in Britain, while a smaller training center will be established for 40 children who still remain at Whittinghame.

RACIAL UNITY IS URGED IN SPECIAL CHURCH SERMONS; ASK END OF JOB DISCRIMINATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- The twentieth annual race-relations Sunday, sponsored by the race-relations department of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, was observed in many Protestant churches of New York today, where ministers spoke on the importance of inter-racial unity and fellowship.

A statement issued by Dr. G.E. Haynes, executive secretary of the race-relations department, said: "With our country at war we have achieved a unity within our land, but discrimination in industrial employment on account of race, color or national origin has reared its head and even endangers the supplies needed for the defense of democracy. At this time of national defense inter-racial unity is particularly important."

NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE WILL EXTEND ITS RETRAINING PROGRAM IN 1942

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- The retraining program of the National Refugee Service will be increased considerably in 1942 in expectation that our country will face a shortage of trained men and will need all available industrial manpower to meet the demands of the national all-out production effort, it was announced today by Albert Abrahamson, Executive Director of the N.R.S.

Under the retraining program of the National Refugee Service, refugees who have no prospects of earning their livelihood in fields they formerly pursued are re-trained for jobs where opportunities are available. Last year, 1,000 individuals were entered in more than 75 retraining courses both in New York City and a number of communities throughout the country. Courses in other cities were set up with NRS guidance and often with the agency's financial assistance.

N.Y. TIMES REITERATES ITS APPEAL FOR ADMITTING REFUGEE DOCTORS TO PRACTICE HERE

NEW YORK, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- The failure of the United States to fully utilize the services of refugee physicians, in marked contrast to Great Britain's policy, was pointed out in a second editorial on the subject in the New York Times yesterday.

Speaking of the liberal attitude which England has adopted, regarding the admittance of refugee doctors to practice, the editorial says that these doctors "could be of great use in America also at a time when the Army and Navy are calling for physicians."

"If depleted X-ray departments and laboratories of the hospitals are now debarred to these foreigners, they should be opened; if English interposes difficulties, it should be taught; if loyalty to the Government is in doubt, it should be settled by investigation," the article says. "There must be some place in our medical system for these medical emigres, and it is clearly the business of the hospitals and the county medical societies to find it. This is no time for stiffening our attitude toward a class of professional foreigners who have no liking for Hitler or Mussolini, and who are eager to do what they can to aid the cause of the United Nations."

FOREST COMMEMORATING PINCHAS RUTENBERG PLANTED IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Feb. 8. (JTA)-- A forest commemorating the late Pinchas Rutenberg was planted today in the colony of Hanita in Upper Galilee in the presence of representatives of the leading institutions of the Yishub, including many Jewish National Fund officials.

The money for the forest was collected about three years ago from workers of the Palestine Electric Corporation, on the occasion of Rutenberg's sixtieth birthday.