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NAZI COMMISSARS IN POLAND ANNOUNCE "JEWS FOR SALE" TO GERMAN MANUFACTURERS

STOCKHOLM, March 8. (JTA)-- The selling of Jews as slaves by the local German administrators in Poland has become an every day occurrence, it can be noted from German newspapers reaching here today.

Capitalizing on the acute shortage of qualified workers, Nazi commissars in various Polish towns are openly advertising in German newspapers that they have "Jews for sale" to work in private and military industrial enterprises. Typical of such advertisements is one published in the *Litzmannstetter Zeitung* by the Nazi commissar of Varta, a town near Lodz. The advertisement reads: "I have at my disposal 250 qualified Jewish tailors, furriers and cap-makers. I am ready to take orders for the Army or for private enterprises."

Other Nazi commissars announce their readiness to send the qualified Jewish laborers to any place in Nazi-controlled territory where they may be needed. The announcements are inserted in the German papers by the Nazi officials with a view of securing as large a bribe as possible from German manufacturers working on defense contracts who compete for desperately needed factory workers.

"First Class Ghetto" Established for Jews Working in Nazi Factories

A special "first class" ghetto for Jews who are working in Nazi-controlled factories has been established in Lublin, it is reported in the *Brakauer Zeitung* reaching here today.

Jews working on Nazi-supervised farms are similarly permitted to reside in this special ghetto. All residents are permitted to leave the ghetto for work in their respective places and must return after work. They are forbidden to maintain any contact with the Jews in Lublin who are crowded in the "inferior ghetto," the Nazi paper states.

BRITAIN CONSIDERS REQUEST TO PERMIT SHIPMENTS OF FOOD TO STARVING JEWS IN POLAND

LONDON, March 8. (JTA)-- Jewish organizations interested in securing British permission to send food to Jews in Nazi-occupied Poland along the same lines as it was permitted to be sent to the suffering population in Greece, were informed yesterday by the Foreign Office that their memorandums have been transmitted to the Ministry for Economic Warfare for a decision.

The Polish Ministry for Social Welfare similarly informed the Jewish organizations that the Polish Government will support the move. It was pointed out in the memorandums submitted to the Foreign Office that starvation among the Jews in Poland is no less acute than in Greece, since the Nazis are preventing Jews from securing any foodstuffs, even under the meager rations which are officially allocated to them.

25,000 JEWISH REFUGEES RESCUED SINCE FALL OF FRANCE, HIAS CONVENTION HEARS

NEW YORK, March 8. (JTA)-- Expressing their unshakable faith in the victory of America over the Axis powers and giving voice to their hope that the triumph of the United Nations will restore to bleeding humanity "a truly democratic world order founded on equality and justice for all," 2,500 delegates of 1,250 religious, labor and welfare agencies attending the annual convention of the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society here today, "pledged their all" for the triumph of American arms and called upon 1,000,000 men and women who are either members of or affiliated with the participating organizations to give their utmost to the national war effort.

This resolution was the climax of an all day session at the Hotel Astor, marking the 57th annual convention of HIAS. A budget of \$865,000 to continue during 1942 what has been described as service on the "Front of Human Salvage" through the Society's "Rescue Through Emigration" work was unanimously adopted. The Budget was submitted by Abraham Herman, President of the Society, who delivered the keynote address and presided. Special Assistant to the U.S. Attorney General, Earl G. Harrison, Judge Jonah J. Goldstein, Justice Mitchell May, Rabbi Aaron D. Burack, Morris C. Feinstein, secretary of the United Hebrew Trades; Joseph Weinberg, president of the Workmen's Circle; Adolph Held, president of the Jewish Labor Committee; Dr. S. Margoshes, editor of The Day, and Isaac L. Asofsky, Executive Director, addressed the session.

The highlight of Mr. Herman's report for the 18 month period since the fall of France was the fact that HIAS in cooperation with its European affiliate, the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association, was instrumental in facilitating and aiding the rescue of 25,000 men, women and children who fled from the Nazi hordes and found havens in the Western Hemisphere including the United States.

More than 50% of those aided to emigrate were taken from concentration camps in unoccupied France from which they were released only when the opportunity for emigration was created for them. Detailed figures were given in the report concerning the rescue of 10,000 persons for whose transportation overseas, a sum of \$2,049,000 was expended. 15,000 men and women in French concentration camps have been registered at the Society's branch at Marseille, France, for Rescue Through Emigration, the report added.

HIAS Service to American Relatives Reported

Highly interesting details concerning the services of the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society to American relatives of refugees and to the refugees themselves upon their arriving in this country, were given in the report submitted by Mr. Asofsky.

The Society was called upon to answer 545,854 inquiries of American sponsors of refugees abroad in matters affecting immigration, naturalization and transportation, Mr. Asofsky reported. During the period January 1, to December 31, 1941, 25,152 Jewish aliens entered the United States. Of this number 20,280 were immigrants. The Society's pier service met 706 incoming steamers and gave special service to 12,494 new arrivals who were released by the Federal immigration authorities into the care of the Society which provided the new arrivals and transients with 165,049 kosher meals and 58,813 nights of shelter. Fourteen branches of the Society's apparatus in the fields of Americanization, legal aid, transportation, personal service and employment carried on an extensive program with a view to ameliorating the plight of the refugees and helping them in their adjustment to a new environment in this country and in the Central and South American Republics.

Dr. James Bernstein, director of the HIAS-ICA, reported on the refugee emigration activities of the organization's headquarters in Lisbon. He stated that 5,160 refugees were aided on their road to freedom in the South American Republics by the HIAS-ICA rescue program.

MASS EXECUTIONS OF JEWS IN LITHUANIA; FOUR JEWS EXECUTED IN NORWAY FOR LISTENING TO BBC

ZURICH, March 8. (JTA)-- Forty-two "Jews and Communists" were executed this week in Kaunas, Nazi-occupied Lithuania, and four Jews were executed by the Nazis in Norway, according to a report published in the Deutsche Zeitung fuer das Ostland, official Nazi organ for the Baltic countries, received here today.

This is the first time that mass executions have been announced by the Nazis in Lithuania. The victims were charged with anti-Nazi sabotage. The four Jews executed in Norway were accused of conducting pro-British propaganda. Their names as announced by the Oslo radio today, are David Wolfson, Rolf and David Isaksen, brothers, and Abel Bernstein.

Observance of Purim Restricted in Warsaw to Few Synagogues

A clandestine radio broadcast from Poland today reported that the Nazi authorities in Warsaw permitted the reading of the Book of Esther on Purim in a limited number of ghetto synagogues. Purim was observed by the Warsaw Jews as a day of national mourning the announcer said.

The same broadcast reported that the Nazi authorities are now confiscating movable and immovable property belonging to Jewish community councils in various parts of occupied Poland. A number of synagogues are among the confiscated community buildings which the Nazis are converting into military offices and hospitals in connection with preparations for a large scale Spring offensive on the Soviet front.

JEWS ENSIGN COMMENDED BY KNOX; BOMBARDIER LEVIN LAUDED BY KELLEY'S CO-PILOT

WASHINGTON, March 8. (JTA)-- Ensign Stanley Caplan, Jewish Naval Reserve officer from Elmira, New York, has been commended by Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox for his feat of assuming command of a destroyer and taking it out to sea in pursuit of the enemy during the attack on Pearl Harbor, despite the fact that he had only eight months experience afloat. Citing Caplan, who is only 26, for distinguished service, Secretary Knox stated that he conducted operations of the destroyer for approximately thirty-six hours "in a most outstanding manner."

The destroyer got under way, Secretary Knox said, when four Naval Reserve ensigns were the only surviving officers on board. Caplan, as senior of the four, took command, the Secretary related and "the young officers met all emergencies and operated the ship like veterans." Caplan is the son of Moses Caplan, of Elmira. He was born July 15, 1915, at Elmira, and was graduated from the University of Michigan in 1939. He enrolled in the Naval Reserve in 1940, and reported for duty aboard a destroyer with the Pacific fleet on April 4, 1941.

Corporal Meyer Levin, of Brooklyn, who was the bombardier on the plane piloted by Captain Colin Kelley, which sunk the Japanese battleship Haruna, was highly praised in the detailed account of the flight, which reached here today. Second Lieut. Donald Robins, who was Kelley's co-pilot gave the full story at Corregidor where he is serving with Gen. MacArthur's besieged forces. Speaking of Levin, he stated: "The bombardier of our plane, Corporal Meyer Levin, deserves special credit, since he was using an untried bombsight of a type slightly different than he usually operated."

JEW SENTENCED TO DEATH IN PALESTINE FOR KILLING BANK EMPLOYEE IN HOLD UP

JERUSALEM, March 8. (JTA)-- The death sentence was imposed here yesterday by the Criminal Court upon Joshua Becker, twenty-two year old Tel Aviv Jew, found guilty of shooting and killing Natan Federman, a Jewish employee in Ellern's Bank in Tel Aviv, during a hold-up of the institution on Jan. 9. Reuben Nissim, another participant in the hold-up, was sentenced to 14 years imprisonment.

AMERICAN ZIONISTS PROCLAIM "MONTH OF MOURNING AND PROTEST" FOR STRUME VICTIMS

NEW YORK, March 8. (JTA)-- A summons to Jewish communities all over the country to observe a month of "Mourning and Protest" in commemoration of the 750 men, women and children of the Strume who were lost in the Black Sea, was issued today by the American Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs. In accordance with the summons, meetings of sorrow and indignation for the victims of the Strume will take place in cities all over the country.

The Strume sinking was also discussed by the National Administrative Council, the supreme body of the Zionist Organization of America between annual conventions, in an all-day session held today at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia, presided over by Dr. James G. Haller of Cincinnati, Ohio, chairman of the Council.

Weizmann Assails British Government for Refusal to Admit Strume Refugees

LONDON, March 8. (JTA)-- Charging that British rule in Palestine has become "not one of consent but one of coercion" since the inception of the White Paper policy, Dr. Chaim Weizmann speaking today at a memorial meeting for the Strume refugees declared that despite this Jewish efforts in Palestine will continue and its contributions to the war effort will go on.

Addressing a crowded meeting, which was arranged by the Zionist Federation of Great Britain and Ireland, Dr. Weizmann characterized as "an insult to the intelligence the Palestine administration's arguments that the Strume refugees were not admitted because of the fear that there might be undesirable elements among them. He pointed out that past experience has shown that there were almost no undesirables among the refugees entering Palestine. "Refugees," he said, "have been received with open arms in this country as have Polish refugees in Palestine, and rightly so. The method of sending people to their death was applied only to the Jews, and to Jews in their national home."

Discussing Palestine's importance as a focal point in the military situation in the Near East, the Zionist leader stated that "elementary military considerations should have taught them (the British government) that in a fortress like Palestine today there must be harmony among all the people, but they neglected even this vital consideration.... However, out of this blood and sorrow Palestine will arise. I hope together with you that such tragedies will not happen any more."

The meeting which heard several other prominent Zionist speakers, adopted a resolution stating that the attitude of the Palestine administration was inimical to the Allied cause, and requesting Lord Crenborne to make radical changes in the Palestine administration and to effect fundamental changes in the policy toward Jewish immigration into Palestine.

FORMATION OF REFUGEE LEGION AS PART OF U.S. ARMY IS PLANNED IN WASHINGTON

NEW YORK, March 8. (JTA)-- The New York Times today, reporting that a project is now taking shape in Washington for the formation of an American Foreign Legion composed of refugees now in this country, expressed the hope in an editorial that "the plan may be carried out."

"About 2,000,000 citizens of the other United Nations are now in this country," the editorial says. "Those from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Yugoslavia and the Netherlands are here because they were driven out of their homelands. Russians exiled by the Stalin Government are not unwilling to fight against Hitler.... Three hundred and fifteen thousand 'enemy aliens' from Germany, 402,000 from Austria and Hungary, include many stalwart men who have proved at great personal risk their hatred of Hitlerism.... We are all comrades in this war. We may well remain so when the war is ended."