

JTA

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Wednesday, March 25, 1942

NAZIS ORDER WARSAW JEWISH COUNCIL, TO DELIVER 20,000 WORKERS FOR FORCED LABOR

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Simultaneously, the Belgian Government here reported today that a transport of 10,000 Belgian Jews deported by the Nazis to Poland has reached the city of Lodz where the deportees were isolated in special ghetto barracks and set to work manufacturing German army uniforms.

The report issued by the Belgian Government-in-Exile adds that it seems that all Belgian Jews of Polish origin who were deported several months ago from the city of Antwerp to Nazi-held Poland have now been concentrated in the Lodz ghetto where they are forced to do artisan's work for Nazi enterprises filling orders for the German army.

SOVIET-JEWISH GENERAL WHO BROKE NAZI "BLITZKRIEG" WILL BE IMMORTALIZED IN PLAY

TASHKENT, Soviet Uzbekistan, March 24. (JTA)-- Lev Dovator, the Soviet-Jewish general who led the Cossack attack on the Nazis in the Rostov district which broke the German offensive and initiated the Nazi retreat along the entire Soviet front, will be immortalized in a play which will be produced by the Soviet Jewish State Theater, it was announced here today. Gen. Dovator was killed at the front while pursuing the retreating Germans.

The announcement that Gen. Dovator will be made the central figure in a play depicting the heroism of Soviet Jews in the fight against the Nazi invading forces was made by S. Michaels, internationally known Jewish artist, who is director of the Soviet Jewish State Theater. The Theater, which was established in Moscow by the Soviet Government about 25 years ago, has now been moved to Tashkent, to accommodate the cultural needs of hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews evacuated from the war zones as well as the huge number of Polish Jews who are now permitted to reside in Tashkent, Samarkand and other cities in Soviet Uzbekistan.

The Soviet Jewish State Theater, which will now remain in Tashkent where all central Jewish institutions from Moscow are situated, will also produce a play showing the joint struggle against Hitler by Jews and Poles in Nazi-occupied Poland. With Tashkent now the largest Jewish center in the U.S.S.R., the Soviet Government will finance the Jewish State Theater here in the same way as it did in Moscow.

"I cherish the dream of producing very shortly the heroic epic of Gen. Dovator," Michaels said today. "A son of the Jewish people, the Red Army commander showed himself

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"I cherish the dream of producing very shortly the heroic epic of Gen. Dovator," Michaels said today. "A son of the Jewish people, the Red Army commander showed himself

to be a hero and a patriot. The Jews in Soviet Russia, grateful to their country, have brought forward many such heroes in recent months. Our theater will put all our skill and heart into the production. We want to make it a solemn hymn to all Soviet patriots of all nationalities. In choosing Gen. Dovator as the subject of the play, we could hardly find a figure more noble and colorful than this Jewish cavalryman and brave general who commanded regiments of Cossacks who in Czarist Russia were used by reactionary forces for bloody pogroms against innocent Jews. I personally will regard it a great honor to portray this great man on the stage."

Pointing out that "there is no life for the Jewish people, or for any individual Jew, as long as Hitler is alive, "Michoels appealed to the Jews of America "to revive the ancient military fame of the Jewish people" and to concentrate on the fight against Hitler by taking as an example the Soviet Jews "who are courageously defending their country to the last breath."

J.W.B. STARTS SURVEY OF JEWISH WAR SERVICE IN FIFTY COMMUNITIES

NEW YORK, March 24. (JTA)-- A sample survey of 50 typical Jewish communities throughout the United States was undertaken this week by the Jewish Welfare Board's new Department of War Records to ascertain the nature and extent of Jewish participation in the war effort, it was announced today.

The communities in which the survey will be conducted are those where reasonably reliable estimates of the total Jewish population are available. In these communities, an effort will be made to secure all the names of Jewish men who have entered every branch of service. Part of the new department's task also will be to compile records of honors, citations, promotions and other military data bearing upon the question of Jewish contribution to the war effort.

Organization of the Department of War Records, and the launching of the present survey, was authorized at a recent meeting attended by representatives of the 37 national organizations affiliated with the Jewish Welfare Board, together with representatives of other national bodies who were invited to join in the work of compiling an over-all Jewish war service record.

PALESTINE'S POST-WAR ROLE STRESSED BY DR. SILVER AT FAREWELL LUNCHEON

LONDON, March 24. (JTA)-- Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, president of the United Palestine Appeal in America, was honored here today at a farewell luncheon tendered him by Simon Marks. Silver, who arrived in England two weeks ago on an important Zionist mission and to aid in the Keren Hayesod campaign here, said he hopes to be back in the United States in time for Passover.

Speaking at the luncheon, Dr. Silver stressed the need for post-war mass emigration of Jews and warned that the nations of the world which will be faced with grave problems of internal reconstruction after the war cannot be expected to eagerly accept thousands of Jewish refugees whom they refused to admit even before the war. Therefore, Silver stated, Palestine is the only hope and there is a danger of losing even Palestine if the White Paper, "that immoral, illegal document" remains in force.

At a press conference preceding the luncheon, Dr. Silver revealed that he had been received this morning by Sir William Jowett, British Minister of Reconstruction, with whom he had discussed the problem of the post-war rehabilitation of the European Jewish communities.

NAZIS USING 10,000 JEWS AS GUINEA PIGS IN POISON GAS EXPERIMENTS, PRIEST CHARGES

ZURICH, March 24. (JTA)-- The news that the Nazis are using thousands of Jews as guinea pigs in poison gas experiments was reported here by a Bavarian Catholic priest who escaped from Germany to this country. The priest estimated that about 10,000 Jews and several hundred anti-Nazi refugees captured in France had been made the victims of these experiments.

Declaring that the details of how the Nazis perform their experiments would be "unprintable," the escaped Catholic clergyman related that the internees in the Mauthausen camp, which is one of the most notorious concentration camps in the Reich, are being used for the research work on poison gas.

(Previous reports reaching New York from Germany early in December prior to Germany's declaration of war against the United States, indicated that the Nazis were using Jewish internees in the Mauthausen camp as guinea pigs in poison gas experiments. So far, not a single case has been registered of a Jewish prisoner being released alive from the Mauthausen camp.)

JEWISH HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES MUST JOIN THE POLICE FORCE. PALESTINE LEADERS DECIDE

JERUSALEM, March 24. (JTA)-- A decision to have all male students of the Palestine Jewish high schools join the police force immediately after their graduation next month was adopted here today at a special conference of representatives of leading Jewish institutions in the country. The graduates are urged to serve either as policemen or as supernumeraries.

A grove in memory of the Jewish refugee passengers aboard the S.S. Patria, who lost their lives when the ship exploded and sank in Haifa harbor in November, 1940, and to the memory of those who died while en route to Mauritius to where 1,600 refugees were deported, will be planted in Palestine, the office of the Jewish National Fund announced here today.

NAZIS MISTREAT TRAPPED JEWISH JOURNALISTS. EYE-WITNESS REPORTS

LONDON, March 24. (JTA)-- How Nazi authorities forced interned Soviet journalists to undergo a special physical examination in order to ascertain which of them were Jewish, was related here today by one of the internees who arrived here after being released from Germany in exchange for an interned Nazi correspondent in Soviet Russia.

The Soviet newspaperman stated that on the day when the German army started its march against Russia all Soviet journalists were arrested in Berlin. Upon their reaching the internment camp, they were informed that those of them who were Jews would be subjected to "special" treatment. They were then stripped naked by their jailers and those suspected of being Jewish were separated from their colleagues in a special barracks where they were maltreated and beaten by the Nazi guards.

JEWISH DISTRICT IN LONDON RAISES \$5,000,000 IN TWO DAYS FOR ROYAL NAVY

LONDON, March 24. (JTA)-- Nearly \$5,000,000 was collected in the predominantly Jewish section of Stepney in the East End of London in the first two days of the special city-wide "warship" drive to raise \$6,000,000,000 for the building of additions to the Royal Navy, it was announced today. The Federation of Synagogues contributed \$40,000. By raising the \$5,000,000 Stepney surpassed in two days the goal it had set for itself for the entire week. The drive committee is headed by Mayor Pritchard of Stepney and Daniel Franckel, Jewish M.P.

DANES SENTENCED TO LONG PRISON TERMS FOR AIDING REFUGEES TO ESCAPE FROM GESTAPO

STOCKHOLM, March 24. (JTA)-- Long prison terms have been imposed upon a number of Danes charged with helping the escape of Jewish refugees wanted by the Gestapo, it was reported here today from Copenhagen.

The report states that while some political refugees, when caught, are immediately sent to Germany for internment in concentration camps, others who are skilled workers are ordered to work in German war industries. Some refugees who were arrested in Denmark have been sent to Norway to work on construction of defense projects in Trondheim, the report says.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY EXCAVATIONS UNCOVER COFFINS OF HASMONEAN PERIOD

JERUSALEM, March 24. (JTA)-- Excavations conducted by Prof. E. Sukenick on behalf of the Hebrew University have led to the discovery in cave tombs outside Jerusalem, of stone coffins dating back to the period of the Hasmoneans up until the time of the destruction of the Second Temple, it was announced here yesterday.

Five closed caves were found, and they contained a large number of ossuaries ornamented in various ways, painted red and yellow and bearing carved or colored inscriptions in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek. It appeared from the inscriptions that the caves were used not only to bury citizens of Jerusalem but also as a resting place for the remains of inhabitants of other towns in Palestine and possibly even Jews of other countries. One cave yielded ten ossuaries, arranged in two rows. Each was on a shelf hewn out of the stone floor. They bore inscriptions, the majority in Greek, two in Hebrew.

FRATERNITY HONORS DR. CLINCHY WITH AWARD FOR "HUMANITARIANISM AND BROTHERHOOD"

LONDON, March 24. (JTA)-- Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, tonight received the annual award of the national inter-collegiate fraternity Pi Lambda Phi for his services as a "true exponent of humanitarianism and brotherhood." The presentation took place at the 47th annual Founders' Day Celebration of the fraternity at the Advertising Club here.

Each year since 1954, the fraternity, of which Lawrence A. Steinhardt, U.S. Ambassador to Turkey, is now Supreme Rex, has made an award to an American citizen "who, during the past year, has most convincingly achieved world-wide recognition as an exponent of true humanitarianism and brotherhood." The honor was conferred upon Dr. Clinchy this year by Joseph C. Hyman, director of the American Joint Distribution Committee and past Supreme Rex, as the official representative of the fraternity.

PROF. HERMAN STRAUSS, NOTED PHYSICIAN, COMMITS SUICIDE IN BERLIN

NEW YORK, March 24. (JTA)-- News of the death of Professor Herman Strauss, head of the Jewish Hospital in Berlin, who committed suicide recently on the eve of his deportation to a ghetto in Poland, was received here yesterday. Dr. Strauss was 74 years old. Reports of his death came from Berne, Switzerland, and London.

Professor Strauss is remembered by many medical men in the United States because of his visit to this country in 1910, when he lectured at several leading universities and before medical societies. Professor Strauss had published twenty volumes and some 750 articles on medical subjects. One of the few Jewish doctors who ever served on the faculty of the University of Berlin, Professor Strauss was decorated with the Iron Cross for notable services to his country in the first World War.