

JTA

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
100 EAST 41ST STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. IX, NO. 265

Tuesday, November 17, 1942

JEWISH AGENCY ALLOCATES 1,000 IMMIGRATION CERTIFICATES FOR FRENCH JEWS

JERUSALEM, Nov. 16.(JTA)-- The Jewish Agency for Palestine, considering the situation of the Jews in France under Nazi occupation, has decided to assign 1,000 of its new immigration certificates -- a third of the entire quota -- to French Jews and Jewish refugees in France, and will seek ways to deliver these certificates to the Jews in France, it is reported today in the Davar, leading Hebrew newspaper.

A second transport of Palestinians, exchanged for Germans interned in the Holy Land, is expected to arrive here tomorrow from Germany and German-occupied territories where they had been detained since the outbreak of the war.

The transport includes 69 Jews and 70 Englishmen, including elderly persons, women and children. The first group of Palestine repatriates under the exchange agreement arrived here last December. It numbered 70 persons. (Yesterday the Vichy radio reported 350 German women and children had reached Germany from Palestine, where they had been interned since the start of the war.)

FASCIST PRESS CHARGES JEWS IN ITALY WITH SPREADING "ALARMING REPORTS"

ZURICH, Nov. 16.(JTA)-- With Italy's position becoming more and more difficult as a result of American victories in North Africa and the Allied victory on the Libyan front, the Regime Fascista, organ of the notorious anti-Semite Roberto Farinacci this week launched an intensified campaign against the Jews of Italy, charging them with spreading "alarming reports."

The latest issue of the Fascist paper which reached here today contains an article alleging that the Jews in Italy are disseminating false reports about the battle on the African front, and are conducting a whispering campaign to the effect that Germany is annexing the Italian harbor city of Trieste. As a result of these rumors, the paper complains, many persons are selling their property in Trieste and moving to the interior of Italy.

"It will not be time wasted to collect, constantly and diligently, evidence of the propagandist tactics of the Jews and thus unmask their activities," the Regime Fascista writes. It reports that the former Jewish mayor of Trieste, Paolo Salam, who has just changed his name to Dangari, has sold a large block of several houses in the center of the city of Trieste to a foreigner and that his example has been followed by many other "discriminated" (privileged) Jews who then invested their capital in property in Rome, Milan and other cities. In addition, the paper says, fairly big companies controlled by Jews have transferred their head offices and management from Trieste to Rome and Milan without any plausible reasons. It also charges that 1,200 Trieste Jews have recently moved to other sections of Italy.

JEWS IN RUSSIA SEND MESSAGE TO STALIN: "WE PRAY TO GOD FOR YOU WITH TORAH IN HAND"

MOSCOW, Nov. 16.(JTA)-- The text of a message sent by the Moscow Jewish religious community to Stalin informing him that the Jews in Russia are offering prayers for his health and for Russian victory "with the Torah in our hands," was made public here today.

Signed by Samuel Chobrutsky, president of the Moscow Jewish Community which is now located in Tachkent, the message read: "On behalf of the Board of the Moscow Jewish Community and all religious Jews, on the day of the 25th anniversary of the October Revolution, we offered up our prayers with the Torah in our hands, fervently asking the Almighty to grant you, beloved leader and the man chosen by the Lord to express as you are the will of a great people 200,000,000 strong, long life and strength so that your wisdom may bring about the speediest and complete destruction of Hitler, the vile enemy of our beloved country and of all freedom-loving people."

The message concludes with the prediction that "God will grant victory" for Russia and that "the Fascist hordes will face the same inglorious, shameful death which befell Pharaoh, the Amalek and Haman."

HUNGARIAN JEWS BARRED FROM ENGAGING IN WHOLESALE TRADE

BERN, Nov. 16.(JTA)-- Hungarian Jews may no longer be granted licenses to engage in wholesale trade according to a new decree issued by the von Kallay government, the Berlin radio reported today from Budapest.

Declaring that the order was aimed "at speeding up the purging of Jews from Hungarian trade," the Nazi broadcaster added that "measures are being prepared to deal with Jewish businessmen whose names are already in the trade register."

GREEK GOVERNMENT REPORTS ON INTENSIFIED NAZI PERSECUTION OF JEWS IN GREECE

LONDON, Nov. 16.(JTA)-- The Greek Government-in-Exile today issued a report through the Inter-Allied information office declaring that "a savage and ruthless persecution of Jews has been going on in Northern Greece since the middle of October."

In Salonika, the report states, Nazi occupation authorities have driven many Jews from the city, forcing them to take refuge in mountain villages outside the city. In addition they have issued a decree forbidding Greek residents of the city to aid the remaining Jews. They have also attempted to force Greek clergy to take a stand against the Jews on the ground that they are an "inferior race" and to urge their parishioners not to give any aid or comfort to the Jewish victims. Most of the clergy refused to obey this order and, on the contrary, urged the people to help the persecuted Jews as much as possible.

As a result of this stand by the Greek clergy, the Germans arrested many of them and closed their churches, converting them to military purposes, the report reveals. One Greek monk was executed for sheltering Jews who were wanted by the Gestapo. Many Jewish families have fled to surrounding mountain villages where the able-bodied men have joined guerrilla bands, while their families have been given refuge by Greek families.

"BILTMORE DECLARATION" POSSIBLE BASIS FOR PEACE BETWEEN ZIONISTS AND REVISIONISTS

LONDON, Nov. 16.(JTA)-- Leaders of the Revisionist Party here today expressed satisfaction at the fact that the "Biltmore Declaration" demanding a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine, was approved by the Small Zionist Actions Committee in Palestine, and hailed it as paving the way for an understanding between the Zionists and the Revisionists.

1,521 PROMINENT AMERICANS ISSUE PROCLAMATION ON JEWISH RIGHTS IN EUROPE AND PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Nov. 16.(JTA)-- A "Proclamation on the Moral Rights of the Stateless and Palestinian Jews" signed by 1,521 leading Americans and praised by Secretary of the Navy Knox as an historic document, was made public here today by the Committee for a Jewish Army of which Pierre van Paassen is national chairman.

Signed by congressmen, generals, admirals, leading government officials, as well as by Herbert Hoover, former ambassador Joseph E. Davies, William Green, Philip Murray and prominent industrialists, artists and clergymen, the document proclaims "the right of the Jews of the Old World to live in freedom and equality, enjoying the rights and privileges of all other human beings." It stresses the right of "the dispersed, disinherited Jews of Europe and the proud Jewish people of Palestine" to fight the Axis in their own army and under their own insignia, and points out that the solution of the Jewish problem in Europe must be one of the objectives of democracy, to the end that the Jewish people no longer be "compelled to haunt the corridors of Time as ghosts and beggars and waifs of every storm that rages."

Emphasizing that "hundreds of thousands of Jews have perished" under Hitler, and that "the Jews were not only the first victims of Hitler's aggression, but the most persecuted and most tortured," the Proclamation says that Americans have a duty to perform since "the eyes of the world's oppressed and heavy-laden are on Washington." It calls on America not to fail the Jews of Nazi-Europe, and says:

"From this day onward, as heirs of the glorious American tradition and by virtue of the great moral authority vested in our Nation at the present critical historic conjuncture, we, people of America, recognize the solution of the age-old Jewish problem in Europe as one of the objectives of democracy and as a preliminary condition to permanent peace in the world.

Place of Jews Among Free Peoples is Recognized

"We recognize the right of the Jews to return to their place among the free peoples of the earth; so that the remnant of the tortured Jews, those who went through the fiery furnace of this war may take up life as a free people and raise their voice with the voices of other nations on earth in a new and supreme harmony, the harmony of mankind, which is that "genuine world civilization" for which President Roosevelt calls.

"We recognize the right of the dispersed, disinherited Jews of Europe and the proud Jewish people of Palestine, to fight as fellow-partners in this war against our common foe; we recognize their right to fight in their own army, under their own insignia, on every battlefield of the world to which the United Nations' High Command will assign them.

"Thus, in a new regenerated humanity which will arise from the ruins of a world of blood and hatred, an end will be put to the scandal of history, of a great and ancient people compelled to haunt the corridors of Time as ghosts and beggars and waifs of every storm that rages. Thus our war-torn world will witness the Army of the Fighting Jew, arising from "blood, sweat, toil and tears," marching shoulder to shoulder with the Legions of the United Nations to ultimate victory; And to that end we, the undersigned, place our names on this proclamation."

Secretary Knox, in commenting upon the Proclamation stated: "I am confident that the public enunciation of the Proclamation on the Moral Rights of the Stateless and Palestinian Jews will be an historical occasion, and I should like to express my strong conviction that the sufferings of the Jews in Europe, the first victims of Nazism, must not and will not be forgotten."

PALESTINE'S IMPORTANCE IN MEDITERRANEAN WAR THEATRE WILL BE DISCUSSED AT CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, Nov. 16.(JTA)-- The strategic and military importance of Palestine in the Mediterranean campaign and the necessity of mobilizing American Jewry to help the Palestine community carry out its vital war tasks will be fully discussed at the National Council for Palestine at the Biltmore Hotel on Sunday, December 6, it was announced here today by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, National Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal.

Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes will be the guest of honor at a dinner which will conclude the day-long deliberations, Dr. Silver said. Other speakers besides Mr. Ickes and Dr. Silver will include Dr. Chaim Weizmann, President of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the World Zionist Organization, Pierre von Paassen, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Judge Morris Rothenberg, Nathan Straus, Martin Agronsky and Sylvan Gotshal.

"The freeing of the Mediterranean from Fascist domination opens new vistas for the development of Palestine and the Middle East and at the same time places new responsibilities on the valiant Jewish community in Palestine in carrying forward the military plans of the United Nations," Dr. Silver said. "Palestine at the crossroads of the ancient world, now resumes its military role, the most important communications center. It is a pivotal point on the most direct route for aid to the Caucasus and Stalingrad. Haifa becomes the chief transit port for war materials to the Soviet Union via Iraq and Iran, saving the 4,000 mile voyage from Suez to Dandar Shahpur. If the traffic is too great for existing facilities, we can expect the early completion of the long-projected Haifa-Baghdad railroad. With the loyal Jewish population mobilizing all its resources to aid the war effort, Palestine will now be an important base for the coming invasion of Europe," Dr. Silver pointed out.

JEWISH RADIOMAN SAVES 13 CREWMEN OF NAVY PATROL BOMBER FROM DROWNING

NEW YORK, Nov. 16.(JTA)-- Leonard S. Edelstein, a New York Jewish boy serving as aviation radioman first class in the U.S. Navy, has been awarded a certificate of commendation for his "superhuman efforts" in freeing the life boat of a rapidly-sinking Navy patrol bomber and thereby saving the lives of the 13 crewmen, it was learned here today by the National Jewish Welfare Board.

Sergeant Maurice Londer, of Minneapolis, Minn., has been awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action in the South Pacific, the J.W.B. also reports. General George C. Kenney, commander of the Allied Air Forces in the southwest Pacific, awarded the decoration to Sergeant Londer, praising his "cool and excellent marksmanship" in the course of a half-hour air engagement with Japanese Zero planes at New Britain several months ago.

First Lieutenant Harold Spiro, of Los Angeles, is the recipient of a Purple Heart, earned as navigator of a Flying Fortress, it is also reported by the J.W.B. Wounded in an air engagement, he recovered completely and returned to action. Now his parents have learned that Harold is missing in action.

Chief Machinist's Mate Abe Kushman, of Oakland, California, is a holder of the Purple Heart and is to receive the Churchill award and the Grand Fleet medal, according to an official announcement. He is a survivor of the Wasp, which was his home for two-and-a-half years.