

# JTA

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### ROOSEVELT ORDERS ANNULMENT OF ANTI-JEWISH LAWS IN NORTH AFRICA

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.(JTA)-- President Roosevelt, at his press conference today stated that he has ordered the abrogation of all anti-Jewish regulations in North Africa and the liberation of all the political prisoners of the Vichy regime.

"I have requested the liberation of all persons in Northern Africa who had been imprisoned because they opposed the efforts of the Nazis to dominate the world," President Roosevelt said, "and I have asked for the abrogation of all laws and decrees inspired by Nazi governments or Nazi ideologists."

President Roosevelt's announcement came on the heels of a broadcast by the American-controlled Algiers radio reporting that Gen. Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief of the American Expeditionary Forces, had received a Jewish delegation at his headquarters in North Africa and assured them that all anti-Jewish laws imposed by the Vichy regime would be annulled. The delegation was composed of representatives of Jewish organizations in Algiers.

### British Jews Greet Restoration of Rights to North African Jewry

LONDON, Nov. 17.(JTA)-- The Board of Deputies of British Jews at its meeting today expressed gratification at the news that Gen. Eisenhower will annul the anti-Jewish laws in North Africa which affect 330,000 Jews in Algeria, French Morocco and Tunisia.

"The Jewish community in Britain wholeheartedly joins in the feeling of general satisfaction regarding the victory in Libya and the Anglo-American move in North Africa," Prof. Selig Brodetsky, president of the Board of Deputies stated at the meeting. He added that British Jewry is especially pleased "to see Jews sharing in the general liberation of that part of the world."

The Rome radio reported today that the delegation which was received by Gen. Eisenhower was led by the Chief Rabbi of Algiers. Broadcasting this news in French to Near Eastern countries, the Rome radio stated that the Jewish delegation expressed to Gen. Eisenhower the good wishes of Algiers' Jewish community and asked him to convey a message of gratitude to President Roosevelt. The Fascist radio is exploiting this news for anti-Jewish propaganda.

The Nazi-controlled Paris radio today launched a campaign against the Jews in Corsica which has been occupied by Italian forces. It demands the expulsion of Jews from Corsica "for the sake of the island's safety." Declaring that many Jews have fled from France to Corsica since the fall of Paris in 1940, the Nazi radio asserts that a number of them "have acquired huge tracts of land and property in strategic sections of the island."

FRIEDMANN, STRICKER, TWO VIENNA JEWISH LEADERS, SENT TO THEREZIN FORTRESS

GENEVA, Nov. 17. (JTA)-- Information reaching here today from the fortress town of Theresin in the Czech Protectorate, where tens of thousands of Czech Jews are being held isolated from the rest of the world, reports that Dr. Desider Friedmann, former president of the Vienna Jewish Community, has been transferred by the Nazi authorities to Theresin where he is directing the internal affairs of the interned Jews there.

Dr. Robert Stricker, noted Austrian Zionist leader, is also reported to have been transferred to Theresin and is working with Dr. Friedmann in organizing the everyday life of the Jews in the fortress. Both Jewish leaders were arrested by the Nazis shortly after the occupation of Vienna and held for a long time in the Dachau concentration camp in Germany. They were later released but not permitted to leave Nazi territory.

QUISLING GOVERNMENT LISTS MORE CONFISCATIONS OF JEWISH PROPERTY

STOCKHOLM, Nov. 17. (JTA)-- An additional list of Norwegian Jews whose property has been confiscated appears today in the Frit Volk, official organ of Vidkun Quisling, bringing to almost 900 the number of Jews who have been rendered penniless by the pre-Nazi puppet government of Norway. Today's list includes the names of 310 Jews. The first list, published last week, gave the names of 585 Jews.

Invalids over eighty years of age, including blind and crippled persons, are among the Norwegian Jews arrested for deportation, it is reported today in the Social Demokrat. This paper discloses that the anti-Semitic campaign in Norway is so violent that even Minister Hagelin, chief of the Department for Internal Affairs, had difficulty proving that he had a sufficient number of "Aryans" among his ancestors to justify his remaining in Oslo and not sharing the fate of the Jews and half-Jews who are isolated in two camps awaiting deportation to the Arctic regions.

At the same time the Swedish newspaper, Stockholm Aftontidningen, publishes the names of the Gestapo leaders chiefly responsible for the persecution of the Norwegian Jews. In charge of the anti-Jewish campaign, the Aftontidningen writes, is Sturmbann-Fuehrer Wagoner and his assistant Boesm. They are aided by Inspectors Fisher and Grossman. The actual arrests and confiscations, although ordered by the Gestapo, are carried out by the Quisling state police under the leadership of Chief Constable Harald Egeland, the Aftontidningen adds.

PALESTINE JEWISH YOUTH REPRESENTED BY TWENTY DELEGATES AT INTERNATIONAL PARLEY

LONDON, Nov. 17. (JTA)-- Twenty Jewish youths from Palestine are participating in the International Youth Conference which opened in London County Hall with each nation represented by a delegation of twenty. Two of the Jewish group are soldiers, six are agricultural workers, four are scientists working for the war effort and eight are students.

At a mass-meeting last night in Albert Hall, addressed by speakers of all nations, David Moushine, speaking in behalf of the Palestine Youth delegation, said that Jews in the Allied armies are fighting and giving their lives every day on the battlefields. "We, the Jewish youth of Palestine, pledge ourselves to work and to fight until a happier world secures the four freedoms for Jewish citizens of all countries and national liberation for the Jewish people in our ancient homeland, in Palestine."

ELDERLY JEWS PRAISED IN RUSSIAN PRESS FOR EVACUATING CATTLE FROM ENEMY TERRITORY

KUIBYSHEV, Nov. 17.(JTA)-- Two Jewish brothers who are peacefully tending a herd of cattle intended for the Red Army somewhere in the interior of Russia are lauded in the press today for their successful evacuation of the sorely needed livestock from Stalingrad, and for their heroism in saving hundreds of Jews in the town of Kameni Brod, in the Zhitomir district, earlier in the war.

When the Nazis suddenly invaded Kameni Brod, they shot most of the Jews in the town and seized seventy-five Jews who they announced would be executed the following day. Abraham and Shaye Mirochnik, aged fifty and fifty-eight, respectively, succeeded in escaping from the town and went in search of Red Army units or partisan bands. Fifteen kilometers from town they met up with a guerrilla band, to which they told their story. The next morning the guerrillas attacked Kameni Brod, freed the seventy-five Jews and enabled about 450 Jewish and Ukrainian families to depart.

The Mirochnik brothers were assigned to driving a herd of cattle into the interior. Despite heavy bombardment and exploding mines they drove the cattle through burning villages until, after several months, they reached a village near Stalingrad. Here they remained until the Nazis attacked Stalingrad, when they resumed their trek, again under heavy enemy fire, and after two months brought their herd and their families to safety farther in the interior.

Nazis Shoot Jews in Riga for Walking on Sidewalks

Further details of the reign of terror instituted in Latvia by the Nazi occupation forces were given here today by Wolf Scheinman, who recently succeeded in escaping from Latvia after hiding in different towns for nearly a year. In Riga, he said, where Jews were forbidden to ride on streetcars, the Nazi soldiers started dragging Jews off the cars as soon as the notices to that effect were posted, and before the majority of the Jews were aware of the new order. The Jews taken from the cars were immediately shot.

Similarly, the Nazis decreed that Jews were forbidden to walk on the sidewalks, but placed the notices in out-of-the-way places and shot Jews who unwittingly violated the order. Scheinman relates that he saw two Jewish girls in Riga shot because they stepped on the sidewalk to allow a column of marching Nazis to pass. Entire families were wiped out, he said, if the Nazis discovered that any member of the family had been employed in a Soviet enterprise, even in the most minor capacity.

Jewish evacuees from Bessarabia have turned out to be among the best farmers on the collective farms in the Saratov district on the Volga, it is reported today by the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee on the basis of reports reaching here.

At a general meeting of farmers of the Chapayev collective it was announced that the Bessarabian Jews have greatly contributed to victory by the good example they set in performing the varied tasks assigned to them.

3,000,000 COPIES OF SHOLOM ALBICHEM'S WORKS PUBLISHED IN RUSSIAN IN 25 YEARS

MOSCOW, Nov. 17.(JTA)-- Three million copies of the works of Sholom Aleichem, the noted Yiddish humorist, have been published in the Russian language during the twenty-five years since the founding of the Soviet Union, it was announced here today by Paul Yudin, director of the State Publishing House. These three million copies are in addition to the original editions in Yiddish and the translations into Ukrainian, Byelorussian, Georgian and numerous other languages found in Russia.

20,000 REFUGEES REPORTED TO HAVE FLED UNOCCUPIED FRANCE TO SPAIN

LONDON, Nov. 17.(JTA)-- About 20,000 refugees, mostly Jews, fled from unoccupied France to Spain last week, just before the Nazi occupation of all of France, the Daily Herald reports from Lisbon today, adding that the only refugees who were not permitted to cross were those possessing visas for Britain or the United States.

Trains from the interior of France to the Spanish frontier were crowded and every facility was extended to the refugees until the closing of the French frontier, the Herald states. Even the German inspectors who entered the trains did not attempt to halt any of the refugees except those with the American and British visas.

Since the Nazis assumed control of what was hitherto Vichy-ruled France, however, the Gestapo has placed men at the frontier stations, and all Jews are taken from trains reaching there, the report states.

CHRISTIANS AND JEWS HONOR CHIEF CHAPLAINS OF U.S. ARMY AND NAVY

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.(JTA)-- Citations were conferred last night upon Brigadier General William R. Arnold, Chief Chaplain of the United States Army, and Captain Robert DuBois Workman, Chief Chaplain of the United States Navy, at a dinner of Catholic, Protestant and Jewish leaders arranged by former Postmaster General Will H. Hays at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Brigadier General Arnold received his citation in absentia through Adjutant General James A. Ulio.

The citation conferred upon Brigadier General Arnold by Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, read as follows: "Faithful priest, Chief of Chaplains of the United States Army, has impressively emphasized the importance of religion in a democracy and of adequate service for the spiritual needs of the men in the United States Army. He has kindled in the entire Corps of Chaplains respect for the convictions of citizens of every religious faith in our country.

"The Chaplains Corps has developed morale among the men, based on the discipline of high religion, and promoted cooperation on the part of those of all faiths without compromise on the part of any. This is essential to unity of purpose and action in the armed forces as it is essential to national unity in the nation at large. In recognition of the notable service that Army Chaplains are rendering to the Army and the Nation, the National Conference of Christians and Jews presents to the Chief of Chaplains this citation."

Captain Workman's citation read: "In accordance with the high traditions of the United States Navy, Captain Robert DuBois Workman has held character to be of supreme importance in the training of those serving in the Navy. As a trait of the desired character of every American, the Chief of Chaplains and those serving in the Corps of Naval Chaplains have exemplified and instilled a spirit of mutual respect, understanding and friendly cooperation among the men whom they serve, whether Protestant, Catholic, or Jew. Without surrender of conscientious conviction they have lived and worked together in unity of aim and action.

"On the basis of the brotherly character inculcated by the Chaplains in the armed forces lies the hope for a brotherly world when this war is over. As a mark of appreciation of his fellow citizens of all faiths, the National Conference of Christians and Jews presents to the Chief of Chaplains this citation."