

JTA

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

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

VOL. IX. NO. 283

Wednesday, December 9, 1942

ROOSEVELT RECEIVES JEWISH DELEGATION; PROMISES AID TO END NAZI MASSACRES OF JEWS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8. (JTA)-- Assurance that the United Nations are prepared to take every possible step to end the Nazi massacres of Jews in Europe and to save those who may still be saved was given today by President Roosevelt to a Jewish delegation which presented to the President a twenty-page memorandum containing details on the Nazi destruction of European Jews.

The delegation consisted of Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress; Maurice Wertheim, president of the American Jewish Committee; Henry Monsky, president of the B'nai B'rith; Adolph Held, president of the Jewish Labor Committee and Rabbi Israel Rosenberg, president of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada. The five heads of the major national Jewish organizations in the country also presented to President Roosevelt another memorandum asking that "an American Commission be appointed at once to receive and examine all evidence of Nazi barbarities against civilian populations, and to submit that evidence to the bar of public opinion and to the conscience of the world."

Declaring that "we are doing everything possible to determine who are personally guilty" of the death of two million Jews in Nazi-occupied Europe, President Roosevelt assured the delegation that its proposals would receive full consideration from the United States Government and that he did not doubt that the United Nations will be prepared, as the American Government would be, to take every step to end these crimes against the Jews and other civilian populations of the Hitler-ruled countries and to save those who may still be saved.

"The mills of the Gods grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly small," President Roosevelt was quoted by the delegation as having stated. He reminded the delegation that when Jewish organizations held a meeting in Madison Square Garden in New York last July to protest against the savagery of the Nazis, he made it clear that all Americans, without regard to religious allegiance, would share in the sorrow of American Jews. He emphasized that at that time he had said: "The American people do not only sympathize with the victims of Nazi crimes, but will hold the perpetrators of these crimes to strict accountability on the day of reckoning which will surely come."

The President was profoundly shocked to learn that two million Jews had in one way or another perished in Europe as a result of Nazi rule and crime, the delegation reported.

Rabbi Rosenberg bestowed his blessing upon the President prior to the delegation's leaving the White House. Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Synagogue Council of America, who also signed both memorandums submitted to President Roosevelt, was not present at the conference.

TEXT OF APPEAL TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT SUBMITTED BY AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.(JTA)-- The full text of the appeal to President Roosevelt asking him to "institute action" against the Nazi massacres of Jews in Europe was made public here today following the visit of the Jewish delegation which submitted the appeal to the President at the White House. The appeal was made jointly by the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Jewish Labor Committee, B'nai B'rith, Synagogue Council of America and Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States. It reads:

"Mr. President: We come to you as representatives of all sections of the Jewish community of the United States. Within recent months all Americans have been horrified by the verification of reports concerning the barbarities against the inhabitants of countries overrun by Hitler's forces. To these horrors has now been added the news of Hitler's edict calling for the extermination of all Jews in the subjugated lands.

"Already almost two million Jews, men, women and children, have been cruelly done to death, and five million more Jews live under the threat of a similar doom. The record of these heinous crimes against the Jews in Nazi Europe is detailed in an attached memorandum. Every device of a perverted and malignant ingenuity is being employed to hasten the process of their destruction. The result is a crime so monstrous as to be without parallel in history.

"The victims of this brutality are guilty of no crime save that they are the children of the people through whose divine law and through whose prophets the world was given the ideas which constitute a basic part of the civilization that the Nazis seek to destroy. Through the bodies of these innocent and defenseless victims the Nazis strike at civilization itself. Death and destruction follow everywhere in the wake of the Nazi armies. Lands have been laid waste and their peoples destroyed or enslaved. In the midst of their suffering, however, the peoples of Europe are sustained by a hope that the victory of the Democracies will destroy the Nazi scourge and restore freedom to the world. European Jews share that hope. But will they live to see the dawn of this day of freedom? Unless action is taken immediately, the Jews of Hitler Europe are doomed.

"In this hour of deepest anguish and despair we turn to you, Mr. President. You are the symbol of humanity's will to fight for freedom. Your voice awakened the conscience of the world to the great crime of Lidice. When hundreds of innocent French hostages were led to execution, yours was the prophetic word of democracy and human decency. We ask you now once again to raise your voice - in behalf of the Jews of Europe. We ask you once again to warn the Nazis that they will be held to strict accountability for their crimes. We ask you to employ every available means to bring solemn protest and warning to the peoples of the Axis countries so that they may be deterred from acting as the instruments of the monstrous designs of their mad leaders.

"We urge that an American Commission be appointed at once to receive and examine all evidence of Nazi barbarities against civilian populations, and to submit that evidence to the bar of public opinion and to the conscience of the world. It is our earnest hope that such action as you may initiate will be joined with similar action by all the United Nations. We are of the belief that you can speak the word and take such action as will strike fear into the hearts of the enemies of civilization and at the same time bring hope and faith to their victims. In this spirit, we appeal to you, Mr. President. Speak the word! Institute the action!"

LAVAL INTRODUCES "JEWISH PASSPORTS" IN FRANCE; DISSOLVES JEWISH YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

LONDON, Dec. 8. (JTA)-- The introduction of special "Jewish passports" for the Jewish population of France was announced today over the Vichy radio by Darquier de Pellepoix, Commissioner for Jewish Affairs of the Laval Government.

The announcement also said that as of today Jewish youth organizations are dissolved and no stateless or alien Jew is permitted to travel outside the district in which he lives. Pellepoix also announced a new decree which provides punishment for non-Jews aiding Jews to avoid the anti-Jewish laws.

"These measures," he said in his broadcast, "are only the first installment of our new program of 'dejudaisation.' Further suggestions which are now being studied by the government include the introduction of a yellow Mogen David for the Jewish population throughout France, the prohibition of mixed marriages and the purging of our administrative system of whatever Jewish officials are left there."

Pellepoix concluded his broadcast with an announcement that a special Institute "to examine racial problems with perfect scientific objectivity" has now been created by the Laval Government under the direction of Vacher de la Ponge, known as the "father of scientific racialism." He also announced that the Laval Government intends to form a Union for Defense of the Race with branches in all towns and villages throughout France.

DEPORTATION OF JEWS FROM NORWAY ORDERED BY HITLER DESPITE OPPOSITION OF ARMY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8. (JTA)-- The Office of War Information today quoted a report from the Swedish newspaper Svenska Morgonbladet to the effect that high officers of the German army in Norway are trying to disassociate themselves from the recent deportation of Norwegian Jews.

"A sensation has been caused in Norway," the paper says, "by the sharp dissociation of the German army from the persecution and deportation of Jewish families. High military circles indicated that Quisling proposed some time ago to the Nazi Interior Ministry that Norway's Jews be deported, but Berlin disapproved owing to the shortage of ships and other transportation difficulties. It is reported that Quisling then made his request to Hitler personally and got the Fuehrer's approval when he maintained that Jews were behind the opposition to his Nasjonal Samling, the Norwegian Nazi party."

The paper adds that Quisling was much disappointed in the results of the confiscation of Jewish "wealth," since it was discovered that many Norwegian Jews were so poor that they had been forced to subsist on charity. (A cable from London today stated that all Jewish communal funds in Norway have been confiscated under an order issued by Quisling.)

HANNAH G. SOLOMON, FOUNDER OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, DIES

CHICAGO, Dec. 8. (JTA)-- Mrs. Hannah G. Solomon, founder and first president of the National Council of Jewish Women, died here today at the age of 85.

Messages of condolence were received by her family from Mrs. Maurice L. Goldman, president of the National Council of Jewish Women; Frank L. Weil, president of the Jewish Welfare Board; Tamar de Sola Pool, president of the Hadassah; William Rosenwald, president of the National Refugee Service, and other Jewish leaders.

CARDINAL HINSLEY CONDEMNS NAZI MASSACRES OF JEWS IN POLAND

LONDON, Dec. 8.(JTA)-- Arthur Cardinal Hinsley, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, today expressed his condemnation of Nazi atrocities against Jews and Poles, addressing a large audience in Westminster Cathedral on the Catholic Day of prayer for Poland.

"Here I unite my voice to the loud denunciations uttered by the Catholic bishops and peoples of France, Italy and other countries against the brutal persecution of Jews," the Cardinal said. "Poland has witnessed acts of such savage race hatred that it appears fiendishly planned to be turned into a vast cemetery of the Jewish population in Europe.

"We appeal insistently to the humane feelings and Christian sense of justice of the entire civilized world for a speedy end of this wholesale campaign of extermination," the Cardinal said. "No deceitful pretexts can discount the outrages committed by the invaders. The outrages are too well authenticated." Members of the Polish Cabinet and of the Polish National Council were in the audience.

U.S. JEWS SHOULD FURNISH GUIDANCE TO SOUTH AMERICAN JEWRY, KEREN HAYESOD DIRECTOR SAYS

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.(JTA)-- The American Jewish community should send specially-trained teachers and rabbis to the Jewish communities of South America to furnish educational and spiritual guidance to the large groups of Spanish and Portuguese-speaking Jews in those countries, it was stated today by Leib Jaffe, director of the Keren Hayesod in Jerusalem, who has just returned from a fund-raising tour for that organization in the countries of South America.

The South American Jews, he said, are greatly interested in the plight of their brethren in Nazi-occupied Europe and in the development of Palestine. During his tour Mr. Jaffe visited the American and British ambassadors in the South American lands as well as many of the local political leaders. In varying degrees he found most of them sympathetic to Jewish aspirations in Palestine. Reporting on the financial results of his trip he stated that almost a quarter of a million dollars was contributed by the Jews in the countries he visited, greatly surpassing the contributions of previous years.

ALBERT KAHN, WORLD FAMOUS INDUSTRIAL ARCHITECT, DIES AT 73 IN DETROIT

DETROIT, Dec. 8.(JTA)-- Albert Kahn, world famous Jewish industrial architect who designed many of the United States military and naval installations here and abroad, and who built most of the factories of the automotive industry as well as scores of airplane plants in more recent years, died here today at the age of 73.

Mr. Kahn was born in Rhaunen, Westphalia in 1869 and came to the United States in 1881. He learned his profession as an assistant in a Detroit Architect's office. In World War I he was the Chief Architect of the Aircraft Construction Division of the Army. In 1929 he was commissioned by the Russian Government to design and erect several industrial buildings at Stalingrad and along the Volga River and the Caspian Sea.

Last June the American Institute of Architects awarded a special medal to Mr. Kahn, the first time the group had made such an award since its founding in 1857. At that time the Institute pointed out that Mr. Kahn "has been variously designated as 'The World's No. 1 Industrial Designer' and 'United Nations' No. 1 War Plant Designer.'"