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RUSSIA SUBMITS NEW PROPOSALS TO ALLIED NATIONS ON RETALIATION FOR NAZI MASSACRES

LONDON, Dec. 15. (JTA)-- New and stronger proposals for halting the Nazi massacre of Jews in occupied countries have been submitted by the Soviet Government to the Allied Nations, it was reported here today. These new proposals are the cause for the delay in the issuance of a joint Anglo-American-Russian statement on the Nazi atrocities against the Jews and on the measures which will be taken to check these atrocities.

A direct appeal from the Jewish underground movement in Poland was transmitted from here today by cable to President Roosevelt. The appeal which asks for action to save the surviving Jews in Poland from extermination was received by Samuel Zygelboim, Jewish member of the Polish National Council, for transmission to President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

In the House of Commons today Sir James Grigg, Minister of War, was asked whether the British Government would consult American military authorities in Europe on the question of the establishment of a Jewish Army now that the Nazis are exterminating the Jews in Europe. It was pointed out by several members of Parliament that the Nazis massacres entitle the Jews to form an army of their own to avenge their murdered brethren.

Sir James replied that the question of the formation of a specifically Jewish Army has been carefully examined by the government on various occasions in the light of all relevant factors and that a departure from the present policy on this subject is not considered justified.

The Manchester Guardian, one of England's leading newspapers, in commenting today on the suggestion by British Laborites that the Allied Nations should enable Jews from Nazi-held countries to proceed to Sweden by promising the Swedish Government that they will not become a burden upon local institutions, declares that this suggestion would no doubt be welcomed by the Swedish people providing that the U.S. Government undertakes to supply food for the refugees during their stay in Sweden. The paper believes that the Swedish authorities could be persuaded to at least admit a substantial number of Jewish children. It adds that Turkey is prepared to allow Jewish children to pass through en route to Palestine and that Kenya is prepared to accept Jewish refugee children.

The Yiddish theatres in London today announced that they will remain closed all week, observing the week of mourning for the Jews of Europe proclaimed by the Rabbinate and the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

The Trades Advisory Council at a protest meeting today adopted a resolution expressing grief and indignation at the Nazi annihilation of Jews and appealed to the United Nations for retribution. Neutral countries are urged in the resolution to open their borders to Jews escaping from Nazi terror. Prof. Selig Brodetsky, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews and Lord Melchett were among the principal speakers at the meeting.

BRITISH WAR MINISTER READS STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT ON DUTIES OF PALESTINE REGIMENT

LONDON, Dec. 15.(JTA)-- The duties and prospects of the Palestine Regiment were defined here today by War Minister Sir James Grigg in a written statement read in the House of Commons.

Emphasizing that the statement was drawn up after consultations with the British Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East, Sir James said that the Palestine Regiment has been created for the purpose of enabling Arabs and Jews to participate in the defense of their homeland.

"Since the defense of Palestine is an integral part of the British Middle Eastern strategy, the duties of the Palestine Regiment must be related to Middle Eastern requirements as a whole," the statement said. "The Commander-in-Chief in the Middle East who is in the best position to judge what the task of the Palestine Regiment should be, has allotted to it the immediate role of defending vulnerable points such as airfields and radio stations." The Commander-in-Chief is completely confident of the regiment's ability to carry out this indispensable task which releases seasoned troops urgently needed for battle duties, the statement pointed out.

Dwelling on the amount of arms and equipment which have been allotted to the Palestine Regiment, the statement admits it is not large "because it is manifestly uneconomical to equip any force heavier than its duties necessitate." The statement concludes with the assurance that "the Commander-in-Chief, with the full approval of the British Government, intends, when equipment and circumstances permit, to relieve units of the Palestine Regiment for general duties which will enable the regiment to participate more actively in operations in the Middle East, should the situation require it."

HOUSE OF LORDS IN STORMY DEBATE OVER INTEGRITY OF PALESTINE POLICE

LONDON, Dec. 15.(JTA)-- A motion by Col. Josiah Wedgwood asking for the disbandment of the entire Palestine police force and "the transfer of the whole lot into the army" provoked a stormy debate in the House of Lords today. Col. Wedgwood, in making this demand, levelled a number of accusations against the British police in Palestine, charging them with anti-Semitism, bribery and "lack of understanding."

Lord Samuel and Lord Morris defended the Palestine Police force. Lord Cranborne, speaking for the British Government, denied Wedgwood's charges and said that they can do great harm. He stated that the Palestine Police "is doing fine work in the face of constant danger of assassination by a small and active section of the population." He added that the Government is ready to investigate individual cases of abuse but decried generalizations that "everything that the Palestine Government does is wrong." Col. Wedgwood's motion was defeated.

JEWISH DELEGATION DISCUSSES POLISH-JEWISH RELATIONS WITH GEN. SIKORSKI IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.(JTA)-- Polish Prime Minister Sikorski, who is now in the United States, today received a Jewish delegation which discussed with him a number of problems concerning Polish-Jewish relations and post-war reconstruction in Poland.

The Prime Minister expressed the horror which he and his Government feel at the outrages being committed by the Nazis against the Jewish population in occupied Poland. The delegation, representing the World and the American Jewish Congresses, was composed of Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Nahum Goldmann, Arich Tartakower and Rabbi Maurice L. Perlzweig.

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INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS REPORTS ON NAZI TREATMENT OF PALESTINIAN WAR PRISONERS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 15. (JTA)-- A report on the treatment by the Nazis of 1,200 Jewish and 400 Arab war-prisoners who fell into their hands last year during the campaigns in Greece and Crete, was made public here today on the basis of information received from the International Red Cross and letters reaching the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

The war-prisoners, all of them Palestinians, were serving with the Auxiliary Pioneer Corps which was attached to the British fighting forces. They are reported to be held in camp "Stalag VIII-B" which is situated near Lambsdorf, Upper Silesia. Delegates of the International Red Cross who have visited the camp several times emphasized in their reports that the representative of the prisoners who deals with the German camp authorities, a British officer, is seeing to it that the same treatment is given Jewish and non-Jewish prisoners. The Jews, however, are separated from the "Aryan" prisoners.

While the Red Cross representatives stated in their reports that the camp where the Palestinian Jewish prisoners are held "is well equipped" they also established that food is one of the major problems there. The International Red Cross Convention provides that prisoners are to be fed the same rations as the soldiers of the country in which they are imprisoned. It appears that the food in German prisoners' camps is hardly adequate. In order to supplement this deficiency the British Red Cross Society despatches weekly food parcels from England to every British prisoner including soldiers from the colonies and mandated territories.

Over 16,000,000 dollars have so far been spent on this work. A typical parcel contains the following items: a tin of biscuits, cheese, chocolate, fish, fruit, jam, vegetables, soup, cold meat, milk, special food, Vitamin C, sugar, margarine, cocoa, tea, condiments, sundries. In addition, the next-of-kin of war prisoners are allowed to send a quarterly parcel.

In Palestine this next-of-kin parcel scheme is in the hands of the Joint Organization of the British Red Cross and Order of St. John of Jerusalem, the president of which is Lady MacMichael. They are assisted by a large group of English, Jewish and Arab women. A central card index of all prisoners of war is kept up-to-date and entries are made of each parcel despatched and of the confirmation of its receipt by the prisoner. This work is conducted on an entirely voluntary basis.

The next-of-kin parcels contain, apart from food, handkerchiefs, towels, toilet articles, and four woolen garments from the Jewish Soldiers' Welfare Committee and a pullover, socks, scarf, helmet or mittens and a packet of soup as the gift of the Red Cross. From time to time so-called "bulk parcels" containing books, Hebrew Calendars and in-door games are despatched to Camp Commandants for distribution. While the Red Cross bears the office expenses and buys the wrapping material, the parcels themselves have to be paid for by the senders. Unfortunately, only about a 100 next-of-kin of Jewish war prisoners can afford to spend several dollars a year for these quarterly parcels, while 500 families are not in such a position and 600 prisoners, who hail mostly from Central and Eastern Europe, have no next-of-kin in Palestine. The Jewish Soldiers' Welfare Committee has, therefore, resolved to "adopt" 1,100 prisoners of war as their next-of-kin.

MANY JEWISH OFFICERS AND MEN CITED FOR GALLANTRY ON FAR-FLUNG U.S. BATTLE FRONTS

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.(JTA)-- Many Jewish officers and men participating in the war against the Axis on the far-flung battle lines of the United States from Libya to Guadalcanal were cited this week for gallantry in action, according to information released here today by the National Jewish Welfare Board.

Lieut. Martin Spector, 26, of Philadelphia, a physician attached to the Medical Corps, has been commended for bravery under fire in the Australian war zone. The citation lauds Lieut. Spector for "displaying a high order of courage and professional zeal. Upon a most unpleasant occasion he stayed at his post and treated wounded under fire."

A non-commissioned officer with the Air Force in Egypt, Sgt. Herman J. Hochman, 22, of Rosenberg, Texas, has been cited for his work as bombardier of a plane which smashed four Nazi aircraft and sank a supply vessel attempting to bring aid to Rommel's harrassed legions. Hochman finally got into the Air Force after having been rejected several times for minor physical and academic shortcomings. An 18-year-old private from Chicago, Sherman Levine, has been posthumously honored with the award of the Purple Heart for heroism displayed in action on Dec. 7, 1941 when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Levine had already been in the Army a year when the United States was thrust into the war. On Guadalcanal, where hostilities between the Japanese and American troops continue almost unabated, Capt. Frank Mandel of Pittsburgh has been killed, it is reported by the Army. Capt. Mandel had participated in two major battles for the Solomons and had been stationed on Guadalcanal for several months, the J.W.B. discloses.

CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIAN LEADERS URGES FREE IMMIGRATION OF JEWS TO PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.(JTA)-- A statement of principles declaring that "the destiny of the Jews is a matter of immediate concern to the Christian conscience" was issued last night by the National Committee of Christian Leaders, Clergymen and Laymen in Behalf of Jewish Immigration Into Palestine, following an all-day conference at the Hotel Pennsylvania addressed by Bishop Francis J. McConnell, Prof. Reinhold Niebuhr and others. The statement also pointed out that "of all lands available for post-war immigration of Jews, Palestine is the most practicable."

Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, addressing the conference, warned Britain not to follow an appeasement policy towards the Arabs at the peace conference. "If Britain attempts to deny the Jews a homeland or a Jewish Commonwealth, things are going to be very bad," he said. Bishop McConnell urged free immigration of Jews to Palestine after the war. He warned that "the forces which have created European anti-Semitism may continue to be operative, that indeed they may even gain in strength and intensity in consequence of long years of Nazi indoctrination and in the wake of vast social dislocations which will beset all of Europe when hostilities cease."

PHILADELPHIA JEWISH LEADERS HONOR DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15.(JTA)-- More than 800 civic and communal leaders of the Jewish community in Philadelphia paid tribute to Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Jewish National Fund of America, at a dinner tendered in his honor here at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel. Judge Louis E. Levinthal, president of the Zionist Organization of America and Admiral Yates Stirling, Jr. were among the principal speakers. The function highlighted a city-wide conference at which "Nachlatz Philadelphia," a project to redeem a tract of land which will bear the name of the City of Brotherly Love, was successfully launched.