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ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY ASKS CHURCHES TO PRAY FOR JEWS IN NEW YEAR SERVICES

LONDON, Dec. 30. (JTA) -- The Archbishop of Canterbury, head of the Anglican Church in Britain, and J.S. Whale, Moderator of the Free Churches, today issued a joint statement urging special prayers for the Jews in all churches in England on the first Sunday of the new year.

Expressing their "bitter grief that our nation can do so little to help," the two churchmen state that "short of victory there is no way in which we can effect anything comparable to the need and the massacre which go on from day to day. We should be united in constant prayer to the Almighty that this monstrous evil may be checked and the Jews delivered from their tormentors," the statement concludes.

Meanwhile, Liberal circles in Britain continue to press their demands that the British Government take definite steps to implement the recent Allied declaration which condemned the persecution of Europe's Jews and promised retribution for their persecutors. Especial emphasis is laid on action by the British Government to ease the immigration barriers which hinder the rescue of those few Jews who are able to flee Nazi-dominated countries.

Laski Urges Action Now to Rescue Jews

The noted economist, Harold Laski, writing today in the London Daily Herald, organ of the British Labor Party, asks President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill for "a policy of action which will light the flame of hope in those Jewish hearts which now see no future save the choice between the mercy of a swift death and torture which brings release more slowly." Laski stresses that he asks action on behalf of the Jews, not for what they can contribute to Britain and America, but "on the ground that a nation which does not act against the commission of a monstrous wrong becomes an accomplice in its infliction. After all, that is the outstanding lesson of the policy of appeasement."

Foreign Secretary Eden's statement condemning the Nazi treatment of the Jews is but a "peroration," Laski writes, emphasizing that a more definite program of aid for the Jewish people in German-controlled nations is needed in face of the fact that the immigration laws of both the United States and Great Britain remain unchanged. The article ends with an appeal to the United Nations to act immediately to save the Jewish victims of Hitler.

Jews, Christians in South Africa Ask Aid for Jewish Victims of Nazis

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 30.(JTA)-- All radio stations in the Union of South Africa went off the air yesterday for two minutes as part of the nation-wide observance of a day of mourning and protest for the hundreds of thousands of Jews who have been murdered by the Nazis in Europe. Church leaders and public officials joined Jewish spokesmen in demanding measures to save the Jews from total extermination.

An open air meeting here, attended by 10,000 people, presided over by the Bishop of Crayston, adopted a resolution placing the citizens of Johannesburg on record as condemning the "systematic extermination of the Jews" and urging the United Nations to prevent the shedding of more "innocent blood" by taking measures to rescue those who can be saved and to provide asylum for them. A. Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Council, demanded the "opening of the gates of Palestine, the Soviet Union and the other United Nations to the Jewish refugees." Other speakers included W.B. Madelley, Minister of Labor; S.W. Kirschner, president of the Zionist Organization; and leaders of the Protestant and Catholic churches here. Consuls of several of the United Nations were seated on the speakers' platform.

Similar meetings, called jointly by the Board of Deputies of South African Jews and the Zionist Organization, were held throughout the country and Jewish businesses closed at 4 P.M. Synagogues in all Jewish centers were crowded as worshippers recited mourning prayers.

Atrocities Against Jews Assailed at Curacao Meeting

WILLEMSTADT, Curacao, Dec. 30.(JTA)-- The Governor of this Dutch Island, Pieter Kasteel, and Msgr. Pieter Verriet, the Catholic Bishop of Curacao, were the principal speakers at a meeting here yesterday to protest the extermination of European Jewry. Leaders of the Jewish community also spoke.

Jewish-owned businesses remained closed all day and the synagogues were crowded with worshippers who offered prayers for their brethren in Europe.

Peruvian Notables Join Jews in Protest Actions

LIMA, Peru - By Airmail - (JTA)-- Prominent diplomats, Labor representatives, writers and others joined the Jewish community of Peru in a series of actions during the week-end of December 12-15 to protest the Nazi atrocities against the Jews and to demand that efforts be made to rescue them.

On Saturday, the Peruvian Labor Federation issued a strong protest against the massacres and the general secretary of the organization delivered a nation-wide address on the fate of the Jews. The following day Jewish leaders called a protest meeting at the hall of the Jewish community here, which was attended by local notables. The series of demonstrations closed with a special mass for the martyred Jews in a Catholic church the next day.

JEWISH NATIONAL COUNCIL CONSIDERING PETITION TO ALLIES ASKING RESCUE OF JEWS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30.(JTA)-- The Jewish National Council today is considering a proposal that it circulate throughout Palestine a petition urging the Allied nations to rescue the Jews of Europe. Copies of the petition, when completed, would be sent to the heads of the various United Nations, according to the plan.

RUSSIAN PRESS CITES VARIED NATIONALITIES FIGHTING NAZIS; JEWISH HEROES LAUDED

MOSCOW, Dec. 30. (JTA)— The number of national groups that are fighting in the ranks of the Russian army on all fronts is stressed today in an editorial appearing in Pravda, which states that "our strongest and most solid weapon is the unity of nationalities...including Jews, Ukrainians, White Russians, Armenians and many others."

At the same time other Russian newspapers carry accounts of heroic exploits by Jewish men and women on vital sectors of the front - at Stalingrad and Voronezh - and in the guerrilla bands harassing the lines of the retreating Nazi troops. A Jewish husband and wife, both of whom enlisted in the Red Army as volunteers, are especially praised. The wife, Luba Gumer, is a pilot of a fighter plane. Her husband, Simkha Khlebnov, is in charge of routing important military trains to their destination. By chance they were assigned to the same sector near Voronezh during a heavy Nazi air raid. As a result of the woman pilot's destruction of several German planes and Khlebnov's re-routing of the trains, none of the equipment and munitions being transported to the front was lost. Both have been decorated.

Isaac Cohen, commander of an anti-aircraft detachment on the Stalingrad front has been awarded the Order of the Red Star in acknowledgement of the efficiency of his unit which, in the space of forty minutes, brought down 13 Junker transports attempting to bring relief to the Nazis in Stalingrad. During the long siege of the Volga city by the Germans, Cohen's detachment is credited with destroying 100 planes, and damaging thirteen Nazi tanks and a quantity of other equipment.

Red-headed Lieut. Isaac Grudsky, who has been dubbed "Isaac the Red," by the guerrilla unit he leads in the Mogilov district, "has sowed terror in the ranks of the Nazis by his lightening raids, striking from his forest hide-out where the Nazis least expect him," one correspondent writes. Lieut. Grudsky, who is 28, is a veteran of the Russo-Finnish war, having been decorated for courage in that conflict, and was attached to a regular Red Army unit before assuming command of the guerrilla band, the writer adds.

U.S. JEWISH SOLDIERS IN PACIFIC WAR ZONE DECORATED BY ARMY

NEW YORK, Dec. 30. (JTA)— Jews who have distinguished themselves in the bitter fighting in the Pacific from Alaska down to New Guinea are listed in a report of decorations recently awarded Jewish men, issued here today by the Jewish Welfare Board.

The unusual honor of being awarded the coveted Purple Heart medal twice has been won by a 22-year-old corporal from New York City, Morris Moskowitz. The first award was made for disabling wounds suffered in the fighting in the Southwest Pacific and the second for dragging to safety the crew of a burning bomber which had cranked up when taking off at an advanced occupational base in Port Moresby.

Another Purple Heart has been awarded posthumously to Private Joseph Sharp, also 22, of Philadelphia. The award was made by Major Gen. Buckner, head of the Alaska Defense Command, for "meritorious acts" by Sharp during the Japanese assault on Alaska.

The "Silver Star" of the Army Air Corps has been given to Lieut. Emanuel Sitkin, 24, of Newark, New Jersey, attached to a bomber squadron in the Pacific, for the accuracy of his bombing during an Allied attack on Japanese-held positions in New Guinea, which did heavy damage to enemy installations.

JEWISH REFUGEES ARRIVE IN NETHERLANDS WEST INDIES; 5,000 STILL IN SPAIN

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.(JTA)-- One hundred and four Jewish refugees from Holland are once again on Dutch soil, having arrived on Monday at Surinam, Dutch West Indies, it was announced today by Joseph C. Hyman, Executive Vice-Chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee. The refugees disembarked at Paramaribo from a Portuguese vessel. Their passage was arranged by the Lisbon office of the J.D.C. In addition to the Jewish refugees, there are 14 Catholics and 4 Protestants. The refugees range in age up to 80 years. There are 28 children in the group.

Exiled for two and a half years from Holland, the refugees spent two years in France and then waited in Spain and Portugal for several months until their passage could be arranged. Many of the men among them had taken part in the defense of Holland during the German invasion of the Low Countries. They have expressed their intention to enlist again in the Netherlands armed forces as soon as possible. They have been given asylum in Surinam for the duration with the permission of the Netherlands Government.

Over 5,000 Jewish refugees are still in Spain, according to information just received from J.D.C. European headquarters, it was reported by Mr. Hyman. With the exception of several hundred, the refugees have all arrived since the Summer, when the beginning of deportations from unoccupied France gave rise to panicky crossing of borders in an effort to escape deportation. The subsequent German occupation of Southern France during November spurred this kind of flight even further, Mr. Hyman stated. The J.D.C., he said, is attempting to secure the release of all refugees who are still imprisoned. Many have already been freed.

The names of 2,400 Czechoslovakian Jews who have been deported to Poland are now in its possession, the J.D.C. also announced today. The lists were received from the Federation of Czechoslovakian Jews in London. American relatives of Jews formerly resident in Czechoslovakia may make inquiry at the J.D.C. office in New York City. The lists give the present addresses of the deportees in the various Polish ghettos, but do not show the former city of residence.

ADDITIONAL WAR PLANTS AGREE TO STOP QUERYING EMPLOYEES ON RACE AND RELIGION

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.(JTA)-- Three more war industries in New Jersey, each holding Government contracts, have agreed to delete references to race and religion from their application blanks, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice announced yesterday.

The three firms, which are executing contracts for both the Navy Department and the War Department, are: the Pollak Manufacturing Company in Arlington; the Tung-Sol Radio Tubes Division in Newark, and the Thomas A. Edison Co. in West Orange.

NEW YEAR'S PRAYERS TO BE HELD BY YOUNG ISRAEL IN ANSWER TO ROOSEVELT CALL

NEW YORK, Dec.30.(JTA)-- New Year's Day will be a day of prayer in the 70 branches of the National Council of Young Israel, in accordance with President Roosevelt's recent proclamation, it was announced today by J. David Delman, president of the Council. Rabbis of all Young Israel branches will conduct special congregational services on Friday morning, at which time prayers for the welfare of our government and for victory for the United Nations will be recited.