

# JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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## JTA CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ON PRESENT POSITION OF POLISH JEWS IN RUSSIA

TEHERAN, Iran, Jan. 5, (JTA)-- A picture of the present situation of the hundreds of thousands of Polish-Jews who are now stranded in Russia was given here today by S. Wolkowicz, the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in Russia, who arrived here en route to Palestine where he intends to remain for a few weeks prior to returning to Kuibyshev.

In constant touch with the Polish-Jewish refugees in various sections of Russia, the JTA correspondent estimated that they now number more than 350,000. Ninety percent of them live in Middle Asia, chiefly in the Soviet Republics of Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. The remainder are scattered throughout Siberia in the districts of Swerdlowsk, Novo-Sibirsk and Krasnoyarsk.

"The majority of the Jewish refugees from Poland now in Russia are women and aged people who are not able to work," Mr. Wolkowicz stated. "They depend for maintenance on the assistance which they get from relief groups. The Soviet authorities are furnishing free transportation to the Jewish refugees and are also aiding welfare organizations which help refugee children, aged and invalids."

### 24,000 Jewish Children from Poland in Russia, 12,000 are Orphans

Estimating that there are about 24,000 Jewish refugee children from Poland in various parts of Russia, Mr. Wolkowicz said that 14,000 of them must be cared for by welfare organizations. About 12,000 are orphans, having lost their parents either on the battlefields, or on the roads when escaping from Nazi territory. Only about 10,000 children are being taken care of by their own mothers, he declared.

"Discrimination by Polish relief officials in Russia against Polish Jews, in connection with the distribution of relief from abroad, stopped last month," Mr. Wolkowicz reported. "Other defects in the Polish machinery for relief distribution from which Jews were the principal sufferers have also been adjusted. The Polish Embassy in Kuibyshev has given definite assurance that the utmost justice and fairness will be observed in the distribution of any relief which reaches the Polish authorities in Russia."

With the approval of the Soviet Government, the Polish authorities have recently appointed thirty Jewish representatives to cooperate in the relief distribution in localities where the majority of the refugees from Poland are Jews. The medical supplies which reached the Polish authorities in Russia from the American Joint Distribution Committee and other foreign relief organizations were distributed among the refugee centers on an equitable basis, the JTA correspondent stated.

UNITED NATIONS ISSUE DECLARATION PROMISING RESTORATION OF PROPERTY SEIZED BY NAZIS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5. (JTA)-- Jewish property in Germany and in Nazi-held territories, whether acquired by non-Jews "legally" or seized by Nazi officials, will be restored to the rightful Jewish owners after the war when the Nazis are defeated, according to a joint declaration issued here today by seventeen of the United Nations and the Fighting French.

The declaration, made public through the State Department, does not refer to Jews specifically but officials indicated that it supplements the joint statement which the United Nations issued recently, warning the Nazis of retribution for the massacres of Jews in Europe.

In their declaration today the United Nations, including the Fighting French, warn all persons to refrain from acquiring any property in Nazi-held territory which may later be claimed by the rightful owners. Together with the declaration, the Dutch Government-in-Exile today issued a statement describing the methods through which the Germans in occupied Holland acquire the property of Jews and of persons considered friendly to the Allied cause.

Full Text of the Declaration of the United Nations

The full text of the declaration made public by the State Department reads: "The Union of South Africa, the United States of America, Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, the Czechoslovak Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Greece, India, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Yugoslavia, and the French National Committee: Hereby issue a formal warning to all concerned, and in particular to persons in neutral countries, that they intend to do their utmost to defeat the methods of dispossession practiced by the governments with which they are at war against the countries and peoples who have been so wantonly assaulted and despoiled.

"Accordingly the governments making this declaration and the French National Committee reserve all their rights to declare invalid any transfers of, or dealings with, property, rights and interests of any description whatsoever which are, or have been, situated in the territories which have come under the occupation or control, direct or indirect, of the governments with which they are at war or which belong or have belonged, to persons, including juridical persons, resident in such territories. This warning applies whether such transfers or dealings have taken the form of open looting or plunder, or of transactions apparently legal in form, even when they purport to be voluntarily effected. The governments making this declaration and the French National Committee solemnly record their solidarity in this matter."

JEWISH OFFICER DECORATED FOR BEING FIRST TO ENTER CAPTURED CITY OF DERNA

JERUSALEM, Jan. 5. (JTA)-- Capt. J. B. Segal, son of one of the professors at the Hebrew University, today was awarded the Military Cross for being one of the two British officers who were first to enter Derna, Libya, capturing the city from Rommel's army.

Together with the other officer, Capt. Segal, who was in the vanguard of Gen. Montgomery's forces, planted the Union Jack on the municipal building after the Axis troops were forced to retreat from Derna. They then released the British prisoners.

DIES' COMMITTEE MAY PUBLISH REPORT ON ANTI-SEMITIC PROPAGANDA OF PRO-AXIS GROUPS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5. (JTA)-- Rep. Jerry Voorhis of California who refused to sign the annual report of the Dies Committee on Un-American Activities, of which he is a member, today acknowledged that objections to the publication by the committee of material concerning anti-Semitic propaganda conducted by pro-Axis organizations in America had been raised by persons who feared that exhibits of anti-Jewish utterances might be distorted by propagandists to indicate "Dies Committee approval" of their contents.

"Personally, I do not believe that this consideration carried much weight," the California congressman said. He added that he believes that the Dies' Committee report on anti-Semitic propaganda in this country would eventually be issued "in some form or another." He minimized the reports that the information had been withheld because it might embarrass "respectable isolationists." As far as he could recall, he said, no such persons would be involved.

A number of notorious anti-Jewish propagandists are listed in the indictment returned yesterday by a District of Columbia grand jury against thirty-three persons charged with wartime sedition. Twenty-eight of them had been previously indicted. The new indictment charges that 42 publications were used in a conspiracy to impair the morale and loyalty of the American military and naval forces, including the notorious "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," the anti-Jewish and anti-British "Double Cross in Palestine," and "The Christian Free Press."

Jury Establishes Contact Existed Between American Anti-Semites and Nazi Germany

The notorious Nazi publisher, Ulrich Fleischauer who was involved in the international trial in Bern, Switzerland, which branded the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion" as a forgery, was also named by the grand jury here yesterday as a co-conspirator, though not as a defendant. Fleischauer has been distributing his anti-Jewish propaganda service "Welt-Dienst" in all major languages, from Erfurt, Germany, trying to reach every country in the world. The indictment quotes a letter addressed to the "Welt-Dienst" in Erfurt on November 30, 1938, by the defendant, Hans Diebel of Los Angeles, proprietor of the "Aryan Bookstore," asking for anti-Jewish propaganda literature to be sent from Nazi Germany with signs of its origin obliterated.

"The American people will fall for anything but German-printed literature," Diebel wrote. A letter to Diebel from the "Welt-Dienst," signed "J. Klapproth, American Section," is also quoted. This acknowledged the receipt of money and advised that literature was being sent. "The printer's trade mark we have covered as good as it was possible," said Klapproth. "In the future we will eliminate entirely the name and trade mark for our literature for the U.S.A." The defendants face maximum fines of \$20,000 and jail sentences of 30 years.

Most prominent of the new defendants is George E. Deatherage, of St. Albans, W. Va., organizer of the Knights of the White Camellia; Mrs. Louis De Lafayette Washburn of Chicago, organizer of the National Gentile League; Frank W. Clark of Tacoma, Wash., organizer of the National Liberty Party and commander in chief of the League of War Veteran Guardsmen; Paquita De Shishmaroff of Glendale, Calif., publisher of the Christian Free Press and organizer of the Militant Christian Patriots; and Frank K. Forenz of Los Angeles who was active in the distribution of pro-Nazi films. The New York Evening Enquirer, Inc., a corporation headed by William Griffin, was also indicted.

NEW YORK AND CHICAGO WILL OBSERVE "HAYM SALOMON DAY" TODAY

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.(JTA)-- Mayor LaGuardia today proclaimed tomorrow as "Haym Salomon Day" in honor of the Jewish patriot of the American Revolution who died 157 years ago on January 6.

The proclamation had been requested in a resolution approved by the City Council at its last meeting. The Mayor noted that Salomon had placed his entire personal fortune and his services at the disposal of the American colonies.

A similar proclamation has been issued by Mayor Edward J. Kelly, of Chicago, in accordance with a resolution unanimously adopted by the Chicago City Council. "Haym Salomon Day" will be marked in schools by teachers telling their pupils the story of Salomon's contribution to the cause of American liberty.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT TAKES STEPS TO ABSORB CITRUS CROP

JERUSALEM, Jan. 5.(JTA)-- The Palestine Government, with the approval of the British Government, will buy at least 25,000 tons of the citrus fruit of the country in order to absorb any surplus on the market, it was officially announced here.

At the same time, measures will be taken to stimulate the consumption of citrus fruit. The permit scheme for the disposal of citrus fruits has been abandoned.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY WILL MARK TERCENTENARY OF SIR ISAAC NEWTON

LONDON, Jan. 5.(JTA)-- The tercentenary of the birth of Sir Isaac Newton, one of the first modern physicists and the discoverer of the law of gravity, will be marked at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem during the first week of March, it was announced here today by the British Council of the University.

Dr. Harold Spencer Jones, Royal Astronomer of the Greenwich Observatory, will journey from England to attend the ceremonies. Many academic institutions in the Near and Middle East have been invited to send representatives to the Hebrew University, it was stated.

18,000 SOUTH AFRICAN JEWS SIGN PETITION FOR CREATION OF A JEWISH ARMY

JOHANNESBURG, Jan. 5.(JTA)-- More than 18,000 South African Jews have signed a petition urging the creation of a Jewish Army, it was announced here today by the Committee for a Jewish Fighting Force. The petition has been submitted to Prime Minister Jan Smuts who has promised to forward it to London.

FORTY PERCENT OF BOSTON JEWISH HOSPITAL STAFF WITH ARMED FORCES

BOSTON, Jan. 5.(JTA)-- A plaque has been unveiled here honoring 63 doctors, 28 nurses and 15 other staff members of the Beth Israel hospital who are now in the armed services of the nation. Dr. Charles Wilinsky, executive director of the institution, announced that the figure represents forty percent of the pre-war staff.