

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK CITY

VOL. X. NO. 8

Monday, January 11, 1943

DEPORTATION OF ALL JEWS FROM RUMANIA PREDICTED BY NAZI PRESS

GENEVA, Jan. 10. (JTA)-- The deportation of all Jews from Rumania, shortly, is predicted in Nazi newspapers which reached here today from Germany.

Devoting renewed "attention" to the Jews in Rumania, the Nazi press states that the Rumanian Government is planning intensified anti-Jewish measures. It also reports that bread rations for Jews in Rumania were reduced as of January 1. Jews now may buy only 1,000 grams, slightly more than two pounds, of bread per week as compared to 1,750 grams allowed to them previously. Rumanian bread-cards contain seven coupons, each of which is worth 225 grams. In ration cards belonging to Jews, three of the coupons have been cancelled.

BRITISH WAR CABINET CONSIDERS ADMISSION OF JEWS FROM NAZI-HELD LANDS

LONDON, Jan. 10. (JTA)-- The British War Cabinet is considering the possibility of relaxing the immigration restrictions for Jews escaping from the Nazis, the London press reported today. The report adds that the Government will make the admission of the Jews to Britain conditional on the Allied and neutral countries doing the same, the object being to ensure aid for the Jews on the widest possible scale.

Commenting upon the fact that 600 Jewish children from Poland were compelled to leave last week for Palestine from Teheran by way of India, which adds hundreds of miles to their journey, because the Iraq Government refused them transit passage through Iraq despite American and British intervention, the British newspapers today demand that either Prime Minister Churchill or Foreign Secretary Eden make a statement in Parliament regarding Iraq's conduct.

A full-page editorial in the influential liberal weekly, New Statesman and Nation, entitled "Our Part in the Massacres," today urges the admission into Palestine of 40,000 Jewish refugees under the provisions of the White Paper of 1939. "It is intolerable," the editorial states, "that Palestine of all places should be closed, and by our own act."

The Sunday Observer today asks why thousands of Italian settlers in Abyssinia have been allowed to return to Italy, without the British Government insisting on the release of at least a similar number of Jews in Axis lands. It adds "The appalling slaughter of Jewry continues and British official policy remains ineffective. The thing is to get these people out of the fires of Hell. Announcing future penalties for the stokers does not save lives now."

A call to Jewish emigres throughout the world to prepare for large-scale aid to help the Jews of Europe as soon as Hitler is defeated was voiced here today at a meeting of the Association of Jewish Refugees in Britain. The gathering was called to honor the memory of Heinrich Stahl, former head of the Berlin Jewish community, who died in the Terezin ghetto in Czechoslovakia where the Nazis have concentrated tens of thousands of Czech and German Jews.

ITALY WARNS JEWS AGAINST SETTLING REFUGEES IN NORTH AFRICA

ZURICH, Jan. 10.(JTA)-- The Italian Government, through its official news agency, today issued a warning to Jews not to hope for the settlement of Jewish refugees in North Africa, but to direct their attention to "the vast living spaces of Australia."

The warning is part of intensified Axis propaganda aimed at the Moslem population in North Africa with a view to arousing fears among the Moslems that the Allied Governments will bring large numbers of Jewish refugees from Europe to North Africa.

The Vichy radio today announced that two weekly broadcasts on the "Jewish Question" will be given under the auspices of the "Union for Defense of the Race" established by Darquier de Pellepoix, French Commissar for Jewish Affairs.

NAZIS STAGE "WITCHCRAFT" TRIAL OF JEWS; SENTENCE THEM TO DEATH AT STAKE

KUIBYSHEV, Jan. 10.(JTA)-- Charging a number of Jewish religious students with practicing witchcraft, the Nazi authorities in occupied Lithuania staged a "witchcraft" trial on the public square in the town of Havaredok and sentenced the accused youths to burning at the stake, it is reported in a number of German newspapers published in Vilna, Kaunas and Bialystok made available here today.

The Polish Catholic Archbishop Jalbzykowski, prelate of the Vilna district, who witnessed these inquisitions and attempted to intervene for the victims, was arrested by the Nazis when, after defending the Yeshivah students at their trial, he issued a pastoral letter to all churches in his diocese ridiculing the charges of "sorcery" levelled against the Jewish youths. He is being held in a concentration camp at Marienpol, near Vilna.

The trial was staged by the Nazis in an effort to inflame the Lithuanian, Byelorussian and Polish population against the Jews. The Nazi newspapers in Vilna, Kaunas and Bialystok published long reports describing the "Jewish sorcerers" and the details of the trial, and stating that the Yeshivah students were sentenced to be burned alive because "the trial exposed the very character of the Jews."

Members of the Lithuanian Soviet Government now in Russia today published a "Black Book" on the Nazi atrocities against Jews in occupied Lithuania. The document contains detailed descriptions of how the Jews were massacred by Nazi soldiers in the towns of Verzhbolovo, Volkovishki, Polangen, Neustadt, Kaunas, Ponievsh, Shavli and others.

In Ponievsh, the "Black Book" reports, hundreds of Jews were driven into an overheated bathhouse and kept there until they had all suffocated. In Shavli the Hitlerites drove 300 Jewish youths to forced labor in the fields and then executed them when their task was completed.

NAZIS EXECUTE BELGIAN PRIEST FOR HIDING 100 JEWISH CHILDREN

LONDON, Jan. 10.(JTA)-- One of the most popular and best known Catholic priests in Belgium was recently executed by the Nazis for hiding 100 Jewish children in order to save them from deportation, it was reported today by Belgian circles here. The clergyman was among several priests who have been shot by the Nazis on charges of anti-German activity, these Belgian sources added.

B'NAI B'RITH INVITES MAJOR JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS TO CONFERENCE ON UNITY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.(JTA)-- B'nai B'rith has invited representatives of the major national Jewish membership organizations in the United States to a preliminary conference at the William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, Saturday evening, January 23 and Sunday, January 24, to consider what steps should be taken to bring about some agreement on the part of the American Jewish community with respect to the post-war status of Jews and the upbuilding of a Jewish Palestine.

Announcement of the conference was made here by Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith, who extended the invitation to 32 national membership organizations. Each organization invited was asked to designate from one to three representatives to the conference.

In explaining the purpose of the conference, Mr. Monsky said: "American Jewry, which will be required, in large measure, to assume the responsibility of representing the interests of our people at the Victory Peace Conference, must be ready to voice the judgment of American Jews, along with that of the other Jewish communities of the free countries, with respect to the post-war status of Jews and the upbuilding of a Jewish Palestine. Every thoughtful Jew interested in the present critical situation with which we are confronted, must be profoundly concerned with the distressing conflicts which threaten to impede concerted action. The purpose of the conference is to bring together the representatives of major national Jewish membership organizations in order that they may consider what steps should be taken to bring about some agreement on the part of the American Jewish community."

GERMAN LABOR UNIONS IN BRITAIN ISSUE MANIFESTO CONDEMNING MASSACRES OF JEWS

LONDON, Jan. 10.(JTA)-- The Union of German Socialist Organizations in Britain today issued a manifesto "to the civilized world," expressing its "feeling of horror and bitterness" at the Nazi extermination of Jews in Europe. The manifesto approves the declaration of the Allied Nations promising punishment to all those responsible for the Nazi crimes against the Jews in occupied countries.

The German Trade Unions in Britain have issued a similar manifesto, stressing the fact that Jewish and non-Jewish workers in Poland are showing joint resistance to the Nazis. "Our fight to regain freedom and equality for all men would be meaningless should the Jews, who are suffering most of all of the oppressed peoples, be deprived of the fruits of this struggle," the manifesto says.

JEWS OF GERMANY AND ITALY NOT INCLUDED IN PROPERTY PLEDGE OF UNITED NATIONS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.(JTA)-- Restoration of property to German and Italian Jews is not pledged in the recent declaration of the United Nations warning the Axis against seizure of property in occupied territories, it was explained today by officials of the State Department.

"The declaration referred only to foreign lands that have come under Axis control, and not to Germany and Italy proper," the officials said.

REVISIONIST LEADER DIES IN ITALIAN CONCENTRATION CAMP

JERUSALEM, Jan. 10.(JTA)-- The headquarters of the Zionist-Revisionist organization here today received a report from Yugoslavia that Dr. Mordecai Kahlesky, president of the New Zionist Organization in Yugoslavia, has died in a concentration camp in Italy.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY DEVELOPS PROCESS TO SAVE PALESTINE'S GRAIN SUPPLY

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.(JTA)-- Palestine's wartime grain supply will be kept intact by a manufacturing process developed in Hebrew University's physical chemistry department, it was reported here today by the American Friends of the Hebrew University.

Damage to the extent of hundreds of thousands of dollars a year was caused by insects in the period before the war. During the war the losses have increased proportionately as the reserve stocks had to be enlarged. To avoid these losses granaries and grain must be fumigated with chemicals whose vapors kill the harmful insects and destroy their eggs. Tests made by the Hebrew University in co-operation with the Grain Growers Organization of Palestine showed that one kilogram of a new chemical developed by University scientists, is enough to fumigate ten tons of grain. It can be produced in large enough quantities to supply the needs of Palestine and neighboring countries, the report said.

DEDICATE SERVICE FLAG FOR 450 LOUISVILLE JEWS SERVING IN ARMED FORCES

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Jan. 10.(JTA)-- The Jewish War Veterans of Louisville today presented to the Louisville Y.M.H.A. a Service Flag and a plaque containing the names of approximately 450 Louisville Jewish boys presently serving our country in the various branches of the Armed Forces. Louisville's total Jewish population is approximately 8,000, thus the percentage of Jewish participation is considerably higher than the national average.

Among those who took part in the ceremony were Mrs. Walter Heller, Chicago, National Vice-Chairman of the Jewish Welfare Board; Wilson W. Wyatt, Mayor of the City of Louisville and Rev. Bernard J. Boland, Catholic representative of the Louisville U.S.O. Executive Committee. A message was read from General Jacob L. Devers of the Armored Force and Keen Johnson, Governor of Kentucky. Charles W. Morris, chairman of the Fifth Corps Service Area of the Jewish Welfare Board presided.

HAYM SALOMON'S CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICAN VICTORY MARKED AT PHILADELPHIA CEREMONIES

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 10.(JTA)-- Representatives of fraternal, historical and veterans organizations honored the memory of Haym Salomon on the 158th anniversary of his death in this city where he played his great role as a Revolutionary War financier. In old Mikveh Israel Cemetery where Salomon's remains are buried, Mayor Bernard Samuel and Judge Harry S. McDevitt, Executive Director of the Defense Council, laid wreaths and Dr. A.A. Neuman, rabbi of Mikveh Israel Synagogue of which Salomon was a member, conducted services. Salomon's career was reviewed in a radio broadcast under auspices of a Citizens Committee appointed by the Mayor.

Suggest War Freighter be Named "Haym Salomon"

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.(JTA)-- A suggestion that one of the new Liberty ships be named the "Haym Salomon" in honor of "one of the unsung heroes of the American Revolution," was made today in an open letter to Admiral Emory S. Land, chairman of the United States Maritime Commission, sent by American Communications Association, CIO, which is the union of the ships' radio officers.

Reviewing the Polish immigrant Jew's contributions to the struggle of the American colonies, the ACA letter stresses that naming a war freighter after Salomon now, "at a time when all America is aghast at the revelation of the Nazis' attempt to exterminate the Jewish people....will fling a challenge in the teeth of Nazi racial theorists."