

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK CITY

VOL. X, NO. 13

Sunday, January 17, 1943

LEADERS OF ARAB COUNTRIES CONFER ON POST-WAR ESTABLISHMENT OF PAN-ARAB FEDERATION

NEW YORK, Jan. 15. (JTA)-- Emir Abdullah, ruler of Transjordan, in an interview at Amman with a special correspondent of the United Press today revealed that Arab leaders are now holding conferences on the question of the establishment after the war of a federation of Arab countries. He indicated that such a federation might be ruled under a monarchical system since, he said, the Arab people prefer that form of government.

Queried on the position of the Jews in Palestine, if that country were included in the planned federation, and how the rights of the Jewish National Home would be guaranteed, the Emir said that question would be decided after the Arab leaders reached an understanding on the formation of the projected federation.

INTENSIFIED ANTI-JEWISH MEASURES IN HUNGARY DEMANDED BY BERLIN

ZURICH, Jan. 15. (JTA)-- The introduction of yellow badges for Jews in Hungary, a decree restricting Jewish families in Budapest to two-room dwellings and more rapid elimination of Jews from all aspects of Hungarian public and economic life is demanded in Nazi newspapers reaching here today from all parts of Germany.

The fact that these demands are also published in Nazi newspapers in occupied countries bordering Hungary, makes it obvious that the German press has received instructions from Berlin to launch a concerted campaign against the Jews in Hungary with a view to forcing the Hungarian Government to intensify the anti-Jewish measures in the country. Recently, much dissatisfaction has been displayed by influential non-Jews in Hungary because Germans and not Hungarians are getting control of the property which is taken from Jews under the Hungarian anti-Jewish laws.

The Essener National Zeitung, organ of Marshal Goering, reaching here today, reveals that during November and December approximately 58,000 acres of Jewish-owned land in Hungary were distributed to Nazi party members. The paper nevertheless states that the Hungarian Government is too "lenient" with the Jews and demands more rigid anti-Jewish measures.

The Krakauer Zeitung, reviewing internal conditions in Hungary, declares that "elimination of Jews from public and economic life is of extreme importance." Counselling stronger measures it states that "the present anti-Jewish measures only combat the most conspicuous symptoms without attacking the root of the evil." The Berliner Boersen Zeitung, while expressing satisfaction that the Hungarian are increasingly ousting Jews from trade and industry, points out that "the Jews still represent a serious threat since they spread rumors and disturb internal peace." The Neue Wiener Tagblatt comments in a similar vein.

ALL-PARTY DELEGATION TO SEE CHURCHILL ON ADMISSION OF REFUGEES FROM NAZI LANDS

LONDON, Jan. 15. (JTA)-- A delegation representing all parties in Parliament is scheduled to call on Prime Minister Winston Churchill in the near future to discuss with him the necessity of easing the immigration regulations in order to allow the admittance into Britain of those refugees who are able to escape from Nazi-controlled countries. It is reported in the London press today. Arthur Greenwood, the leader of the Labor Party is reported to be arranging the delegation and planning other action to facilitate the admission of the refugees.

It is also reported that when Parliament reconvenes, several members plan to question the Government on the present rigid immigration regulations and on the possibility of utilizing the nearly 40,000 Palestine immigration certificates that remain unused of the 75,000 assigned to Jews under the provisions of the White Paper of 1939. The question of securing emigration possibilities for Jewish refugees overseas will also be discussed.

The British press today reports that the situation of the Jewish children in France whose parents have been deported to Eastern Europe by the Nazis, grows worse daily. They are confined in children's homes where they are harshly treated and face the imminent possibility that they, too, will be deported. Since the severance of relations between Vichy and the United States, they have received no food or clothing from abroad, the reports state.

POLISH JEWS INTERNED IN NORTH AFRICA APPEAL FOR FOOD AND CLOTHING

LONDON, Jan. 15. (JTA)-- The Polish Government-in-Exile today instructed its representatives in North Africa to contact Polish-Jewish internees held in camps in order to give them whatever immediate aid they need.

The action was taken by the Polish Government following a message received by the New Zionist Organization here from a number of Polish-Jewish refugees interned in camps near Oran appealing for food and clothing. Though the French authorities in North Africa are releasing Polish and Czech citizens as soon as private lodgings are provided for them, many Polish Jews are still interned, the report stated.

Anti-Jewish Laws Not Yet Fully Abolished in North Africa, British Minister Says

The London press today publishes a statement by Harold MacMillan, British Minister to North Africa, establishing that the Vichy anti-Jewish laws have not yet been repealed in North Africa despite President Roosevelt's order that they be abolished. The statement, which is dated from Allied headquarters in North Africa, emphasized that the restoration to the Jews of rights which were taken from them by the Vichy Government is complicated because of the large Arab population in North Africa.

Declaring that the British and American people would not permit a continuance of the present anti-Jewish abuses of the French administration, the British Minister declared that he will energetically demand the complete abolition of the anti-Jewish regulations and the liberation of the Jewish and other political refugees interned in North African camps. "The attitude of the French regime toward the Jews must be changed and the Hitlerite taint removed," he stated.

ITALIANS OUSTED FROM FASCIST PARTY FOR DEALING WITH JEWS

BERNE, Jan. 15.(JTA)-- The Italian press received here today carries the names of several members of the Fascist Party who have been expelled for dealing with Jews.

One man in Turin was expelled for organizing real estate companies in behalf of Jews; another for acting as director of these companies; a third for assuming the managership of Jewish-owned real-estate and still another who was accused of "offering his services to Jews."

The Italian Stefani news agency reports from Sofia, capital of Bulgaria, today that the Brannik, the fascist youth organization there, has distributed 10,000 leaflets warning the Jews to refrain from committing a multitude of "crimes," including spreading "alarmist rumors."

JEWS LEAD ATTACKS ON NAZIS ON STALINGRAD, ROSTOV FRONTS

KULBY SHEV, Jan. 15.(JTA)-- Jewish heroes who have distinguished themselves in the bitter fighting on the Stalingrad front which paved the way for the Nazi rout in the Don area are lauded today in an article appearing in the local newspapers.

Singled out for special praise is Jehuda Traestman, who fled from the town of Krivobog to a collective farm in the village of Chernigovka when the Nazis invaded the Ukraine. Traestman became head of the tractor brigade in the collective and was instrumental in saving most of the farm equipment when the Nazis overran the village, which lies between Stalingrad and Rostov, in the drive towards Stalingrad last Autumn. In the confusion, however, Traestman's wife and children were not evacuated.

Unable to do anything to save his family, Traestman joined the Red Army and became an expert tankist. A few weeks ago his machine was among those that drove the Nazis from Chernigovka and liberated the population. He found that his house was in ruins, but his family had escaped death, having remained hidden in the homes of non-Jewish farmers. Today Traestman is in the vanguard of the Russian troops that are driving the Nazis from the Volga region and his wife and children are helping to rebuild the destroyed collective.

Other Jews cited for their gallantry in action are, Isaac Portnoi, Red Army artilleryman, who has accounted for 500 German officers and men and eight Nazi tanks; sniper Moishe Yessin who killed 77 Nazis; Liout, Aaron Goldberg, from Kiev, who penetrated fifty miles behind the enemy lines and brought back valuable information to division headquarters which made possible the recapture of several villages; Zalmon Shifman, 54, attached to a medical unit, who continued to carry wounded men from the field despite intense enemy fire; and Israel Kurtansky, a member of the crew of an armored train which destroyed a large number of enemy tanks.

STUDENT CONFERENCE IN SCOTLAND CONDEMNES ANTI-SEMITIC PROPAGANDA IN BRITAIN

LONDON, Jan. 15.(JTA)-- A resolution condemning the growth of anti-Semitic propaganda in Britain and the persecution of the Jews in Nazi Europe was adopted today at the first national conference of Scottish students held in Edinburgh.

RECORD OF JEWISH PARTICIPATION IN U.S. ARMED FORCES PUBLISHED BY J.W.B.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.(JTA)-- Facts concerning Jewish men in the U.S. armed forces during the first year of the war which indicate that American Jews are contributing their full share to the national war effort, were released here today by the National Jewish Welfare Board in a report entitled "In The Nation's Service."

The JWF report opens with a statement by General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, to the effect that "there are thousands of Jewish soldiers in the ranks of the Army, and many officers of that faith." The statement emphasizes that the U.S. Army is composed of people of many religions and that all of them "are Americans and all are involved in our effort to promote peace and justice in the world." A section of the report also carries statements from American generals and admirals praising the Jewish servicemen as ably upholding the tradition of Americans in combat, proving themselves to be among the best fighters in the world.

Reviewing the record of Jewish heroism in this war, the report points out that "despite the relatively small percentage of Jews in the general population, men of Jewish faith have distinguished themselves in almost every major encounter in the war." It enumerates outstanding acts of heroism by Jewish servicemen at Pearl Harbor, Bataan, Corregidor, Java, Australia, Wake Island, Midway, New Guinea, the Solomons, the Aleutians and other fronts, revealing that in the North African campaign Lieut. Colonel A.H. Rosenberg is credited, among others, with leading the first American troops into Algiers. In addition the report carries an incomplete listing of names, deeds and citations of Jewish servicemen who have been decorated for valor since Pearl Harbor.

\$75,000 DISTRIBUTED BY AMERICAN FUND TO 17 INSTITUTIONS IN PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Jan. 15.(JTA)-- The sum of \$75,000 has been distributed to seventeen Jewish cultural, educational and social service institutions in Palestine by the American Fund for Palestinian Institutions since it launched its active campaign in October, 1941, it was announced here today by Edward A. Norman, president.

Emphasizing that the Fund, which conducts a centrally-organized drive for a number of institutions in Palestine, has made "progress along all fronts," Mr. Norman explained that the Fund came into the field "because separate appeals by Palestine institutions involve extravagant fund-raising costs, confusion, needless expenditure of the energy of leaders, etc." Through the American Fund, he said, these evils are, for the most part, eliminated.

U.S. TREASURY DESIGNATES WAR BOND MONTH FOR AMERICAN ZIONISTS

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 15.(JTA)-- The U.S. Treasury has designated February as War Savings Bond Month for members of the Zionist Organization of America, the national headquarters of the organization announced here today.

The decision to "designate the month of February, 1943, for the participation of every Zionist group throughout the United States in sponsoring an active War Savings Bond Campaign" was taken in consultation with Judge Louis E. Levinthal, president of the Zionist Organization of America, and Judge Morris Rothenberg, chairman of its National War Effort Committee, according to a communication from Mr. William C. FitzGibbon of the U.S. Treasury, addressed to all officers of Zionist Regions and Districts throughout the country.