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NAZIS MAKE WOLHYNIA "JUDENREIN"; DEPORT 30,000 JEWS FROM ROWNO

GENEVA, Jan. 20. (JTA) — Thirty thousand Jews have been "evacuated" by the Nazi occupational authorities from the city of Rowno, Wolhynia, to an unknown destination, thus making this heavily Jewish-populated city completely "judenrein," it was reported here today by reliable sources.

The report stated that nearly all Jews have been deported by the Nazis from the occupied Ukraine and the Wolhynia district which formerly was a part of Poland. There is only one ghetto left in Wolhynia with 2,000 Jews. This ghetto is located in the township of Warkowicze, near Dubno. A insignificant number of Jews are left in Dubno and in Lusk — which also had large Jewish populations — but they too are being systematically exterminated by Ukrainian pro-Nazi bands, with the consent of the local Nazi authorities.

Emphasizing that "not a single Jew has remained in Rowno," the report says that during the dramatic exodus of the Jews from that city, thousands of the deportees died from starvation and fatigue. The main streets and the Jewish quarters in Rowno were completely destroyed in the course of hostilities, the report adds.

VICHY FORBIDS JEWS TO TRAVEL; NORTH AFRICAN OFFICIALS FOMENT ANTI-SEMITISM

LONDON, Jan. 20. (JTA) — The Vichy government is preparing a law which would prohibit Jews of any nationality from using railways or any other means of transportation, the Nazi-controlled Paris radio reported today.

Fighting French headquarters in London announced last night that pogroms against Jews are being incited and encouraged in the interior of North Africa by French officials who are known to be followers of the Vichy regime but who have not yet been dismissed from their positions. At the same time, the newspaper "France" published here, commenting today on the appointment of Marcel Peyrouton to the post of Governor General of Algeria, pointed out that Peyrouton was the first official to introduce anti-Jewish measures in France when he was Minister of Interior in the Vichy cabinet.

A Jewish refugee who reached London today from North Africa after many months residence there, reported that many Jews from Libya found refuge in various cities in Algeria prior to the landing of the American forces. They now hope to return to their homes as soon as it is possible to travel from Algeria to British-held Libyan territory.

The London News-Chronicle today said that "not a single of our friends working on the Trans-Sahara railway has been released."

BRITISH PARLIAMENTARIANS WANT VATICAN TO ACT TO SAVE JEWS FROM NAZIS

LONDON, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- The question of whether there is any possibility that the Vatican will take concrete action to attempt to halt the Nazi extermination of Jews was raised in Parliament today when a number of members pressed the Government to undertake steps to save as many Jews as possible.

Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden replied that Pope Pius XII was officially informed of the declaration of the Allied Nations on the mass extermination of Jews by the Nazis. He pointed out that the attitude of the Vatican with regard to acts contrary to Christianity and humanity has frequently been stated publicly. Eden also drew the attention of Parliament to the fact that the Pope in his Christmas Eve broadcast condemned persecutions generally.

Queried as to why the British Government refused visas for 2,000 Jewish children in France who have since been deported to Germany, Mr. Eden said that he would prefer to have this question submitted to him in written form for reply at a later session of Parliament. He stated that in North Africa many refugees have already been released from concentration camps and that a mixed British-American-French commission is investigating all those whose status is not clear.

International Agreement to Help Refugee Jews is Sought

Eden disclosed that the British Government is now engaged in studying two sets of proposals designed to aid Jews escaping from Nazi territories. The first deals with aiding them in every way possible in areas under British control. The second aims at securing an international agreement on helping these Jews.

Asked whether the time is ripe to put proposals to the German Government on the subject of permitting the Jews to leave Nazi countries, Eden replied that he did not know of any such proposals being contemplated. He expressed the hope, however, that concrete results will be achieved through the present activities of the British Government. The Government, he added, is equally interested in the fate of both Jewish and non-Jewish refugees from Nazi territories.

Jewish Delegation Discusses Practical Plans With Eden

At a meeting of the Board of Deputies of British Jews today it was reported that a Jewish delegation had visited Secretary Eden and discussed with him practical steps to follow up the Allied declaration, in order to make clear to the Germans and their satellites that they will be held responsible for the lives of the Jews in their countries.

Prof. Zelig Brodetsky, president of the Board, who submitted the report, stated that the delegation also discussed a number of plans connected with saving Jews who can escape from Nazi territories as well as helping those who are in danger of being returned to German-occupied lands from neutral countries. The question of setting up machinery to deal with the implementation of such plans was also discussed, Prof. Brodetsky stated.

Members of the Board of Deputies expressed their dissatisfaction with the statement made yesterday in Parliament by Deputy Prime Minister Attlee, who said that the question of helping Jews escaping from the Nazis is still under discussion by the United Nations. Some of the members emphasized that the longer these discussions continue, the more Jewish lives are lost.

NORWEGIAN JEWS CONTINUE TO ESCAPE INTO SWEDEN; SWEDISH COMMITTEE AIDS THEM

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- Norwegian Jews and half-Jews continue to escape from Nazi-controlled Norway into Sweden, the press here reported today. They are being cared for by a special office established to aid refugees escaping from Norway. More than 10,000 such refugees, both Jewish and non-Jewish, are being aided by this office at present.

The Swedish radio at Motala in a broadcast to the Swedish people today reported that leaders of the church in Norway reiterated their protest against the Nazi persecution of Jews in a New Year's message which was read from the pulpits in many churches. Condemning Quisling's oppression of the Jews in Norway, the message emphasized that "no answer has been received to the appeal which the clergy and Christian-minded Norwegians recently addressed to Vidkun Quisling in connection with the treatment of the Jews."

POLISH STATESMEN STRESS FUTURE POLAND MUST BE FREE OF ANTI-SEMITISM

LONDON, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- Stressing the friendly relations that exist between Jews and Poles in Palestine, Wladyslaw Banaczuk, the vice-chairman of the Polish National Council who recently returned from a tour of the Near East and Palestine, today declared that there will be "no racial discrimination in a post-war Poland because anti-Semitism is foreign to the vast majority of the people." Speaking at a reception in his honor at the Polish Jewish Center here Banaczuk stated that "Poland will be a mother to all its citizens and will guarantee the free development of the religion and national culture of the Jews."

Similar sentiments were voiced by Stanislaw Kot, former Polish ambassador to Russia and a member of the Polish cabinet, speaking at a reception in his honor in Tel Aviv yesterday, it was reported here today. Prof. Kot said that he shared "his government's conviction that after the war Poland must be a democratic state, free of anti-Semitism, in which we will welcome the loyal friendly cooperation of all Jewish citizens, who will have equal rights, and we will support your national aspirations to develop Palestine."

Prof. Kot told his audience, which included leaders of the Yishuv, that "not a single Jewish refugee in Russia has been denied aid." He added: "I take this opportunity to thank American Jewry for rushing aid which was distributed without discrimination." Chief Rabbi Herzog, David Ben Gurion, Mayor Israel Rokach and other Jewish leaders also spoke.

ZIONIST ACTIONS COMMITTEE HOLDS SESSION ON JEWISH SITUATION IN NAZI COUNTRIES

JERUSALEM, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- A special session of the Zionist Actions Committee devoted to discussion of the situation of the Jews in Nazi countries opened here today. The session heard reports on Jewish life in Nazi-occupied territories, details of which have reached Palestine through various channels, as well as proposals on how to aid those Jews in Nazi Europe who are still alive.

Simultaneously, the Jewish National Council of Palestine held a special session at which it was urged that immediate steps be taken to rescue as many Jews as possible from Nazi-controlled countries. Suggestions on transferring Jewish children and adults from territory under German occupation to neighboring neutral countries were offered by members of the Council.

VISCOUNT HALIFAX CHOOSES ROOM IN JEWISH HOSPITAL AS MEMORIAL TO SON

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- A room in the children's ward of the "Jewish Hospital" in Brooklyn was selected yesterday by Viscount Halifax, the British Ambassador, to be dedicated in honor of his son Francis Hugh Peter Courtenay Wood, who was killed in action last year.

Lord Halifax, who was accompanied by Wendell Willkie and Sir Godfrey Haggard, British Consul General, made a tour of the pediatric wards before choosing the "Alice in Wonderland room." In a brief talk Lord Halifax said he had been fascinated in the children's ward and had been impressed by "the great works of mercy, kindness and duty carried on by this great Jewish community, in a sense symbolic of all the qualities that have made the best of human civilization - qualities for which it would appear there was no use in the Germany of today."

"The problem of persecution inflicted on the Jews," he continued, "is not mainly a Jewish problem, but it is not less a Christian question. The work in which we are all engaged today is a great extension into the world of the work that is being done day by day in this hospital." Sir Godfrey expressed gratefulness to the Jewish community for gifts of ambulances and clothes for shipwrecked sailors and children, in behalf of the British people.

NRS BOARD MEETING SATURDAY TO CONSIDER REFUGEE PROBLEMS

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- Various problems facing refugees and the National Refugee Service in 1943 will be considered at a special meeting of the members and directors of the National Refugee Service which will be held at the Astor Hotel on January 23, it was announced here today. The meeting will be addressed by Frederick P. Keppel, a member of the Presidential Board of Appeals on Visa Cases, and Earl G. Harrison, Commissioner of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service. Reports of NRS activities will be presented by the president and other officers of the agency, as well as the executive director.

In calling the meeting, William Rosenwald, NRS president, pointed out that, "the problems of the agency are still in the category of unfinished business. They provide a continuing challenge to our ingenuity. At this moment no one can predict exactly what will happen in 1943. But, we know that the National Refugee Service -- as the representative of the American Jewish community -- must be ready to meet whatever the future will bring."

By a vote of its Board of Directors, the German-Jewish Children's Aid, founded in 1934 to rescue child refugees from Germany and which now aids children from all the oppressed countries of Europe, will be known in the future as the European-Jewish Children's Aid, Inc. At the same time announcement was made of the election of the following new officers: Herman W. Blook, chairman; Joseph C. Hymen, vice-chairman; Paul Felix Warburg, treasurer; Ethel H. Wise, secretary.

MASS DEMONSTRATION IN MADISON SQUARE GARDEN WILL DEMAND RESCUE OF JEWS IN EUROPE

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- A demand that the Allied Nations take steps to save Jews and others who can still be rescued from Nazi extermination will be voiced at a mass-demonstration to be held at Madison Square Garden here on February 2, it was announced today. The mass-demonstration is being arranged jointly by the American Jewish Congress, American Federation of Labor, the C.I.O. and the Church Peace Union.