

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK CITY

VOL. X, NO. 18

Friday, January 22, 1943

ANTI-JEWISH ACTS IN THE BALKANS; NAZIS CLOSE LAST JEWISH INSANE ASYLUM IN REICH

ZURICH, Jan. 21. (JTA)— New anti-Jewish measures in Bulgaria and Rumania were reported today over the German radio stations which are now concentrating on anti-Jewish broadcasts to divert the attention of the people in Germany from the Nazi defeats on the Russian front.

At the same time German newspapers received here today report that the Nazi authorities in Germany have closed down the last Jewish insane asylum in the Reich.

In Bulgaria, the Nazi stations reported, Jews will now be forced to assume Jewish first names when they register with the authorities. A law to this effect has been passed by the Bulgarian Parliament. The law also forbids Jews to have Bulgarian-sounding surnames.

In Rumania, all snow shovelling in the streets must now be done by Jews, the Nazi radio revealed. It stated that by order of the military authorities all Jews in Rumania over 16 years of age have been ordered to clear streets and roads of the heaviest snow that has fallen in the last fifty years. A few professionals who are still allowed to practice are exempt from the order, but must pay 3,500 lei to the local authorities.

Rumanian papers reaching here today reveal that the Ministry of Public Works has ordered the closing of two Jewish technical schools in Bucharest. Only one such school is still functioning in all of Rumania.

U.J.A. RENEWED FOR 1943; PLAN TO DISTRIBUTE FIRST \$9,100,000 IS ANNOUNCED

NEW YORK, Jan. 21. (JTA)— An agreement providing for the renewal of the United Jewish Appeal for 1943 as the single channel through which Jewish communities in the United States will provide the resources for the programs of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service, was signed here today.

No total quota for 1943 was announced, but in accordance with procedures followed in the past, an initial sum of \$9,100,000 will be allocated to the constituent agencies of the United Jewish Appeal. The initial amount of \$9,100,000 is designed to enable the organizations to proceed with their activities until it is determined later in the year, when Spring campaigns have been completed, what total sum will be available for distribution. All amounts above this initial \$9,100,000 will be distributed among the organizations by an Allotment Committee, which will base its decisions on the needs at the time of appropriation, thus insuring the flexible use of the funds contributed by American Jews.

The initial sum of \$9,100,000 is to be divided among the participating agencies as follows: to the Joint Distribution Committee, \$4,840,000; to the United Palestine Appeal, \$2,760,000; and to the National Refugee Service, \$1,500,000.

The news of the renewal of the U.J.A. agreement for 1943 was made public by William Rosenwald, president of the National Refugee Service, Rabbi Abba Hillel

Silver, national chairman of the United Palestine Appeal, and Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, chairman of the Fund-Raising Committee of the Joint Distribution Committee. The NRS will have a partnership status for the first time this year, having been a beneficiary in previous campaigns. The corporate structure of the United Jewish Appeal, Inc., created by the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal, remains unchanged.

In describing the needs of the U.J.A. for 1943, Mr. Rosenwald, Rabbi Silver and Rabbi Wise declared that American Jews must act in terms "of an arena of world rescue enlarged by Allied victories. Reoccupation and liberation are two words which hold the key to the expanded horizon of the 1943 programs supported by the United Jewish Appeal." The statement of the Jewish leaders declared that while governmental action on the part of the United Nations will be organized to further post-war reconstruction, the agencies of the United Jewish Appeal will be called upon to minister to Jewish communities in connection with vast needs not included in government-supported economic rehabilitation activities.

RABBI BERLIN, ARRIVING FROM PALESTINE, SAYS JEWS MUST SIT AT PEACE CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, Jan. 21. (JTA)— The fact that Iraq, by its belated joining of the United Nations, may get a place at the peace table while "it is not yet known whether representatives of the Jews will be included at the Peace Conference," was emphasized here today by Rabbi Meyer Berlin, outstanding leader of Palestine Jewry, president of the World Mizrahi Organization, and member of the presidium of the Jewish National Fund, who arrived by plane yesterday from Palestine, which he left eight days ago.

Addressing a press conference Rabbi Berlin voiced bitter criticism of the anti-Jewish policy of the Iraq Government. He pointed to Iraq's recent refusal to permit the transit to Palestine of Jewish refugee children. The post-war Jewish future, he declared, lies "in Palestine and in Palestine alone, and nowhere else."

"It is certain that the part of the world that we call the Near East will be one of the topics that will be dealt with at the Round Table or a Peace Conference," the Palestine Jewish leader predicted. He expressed the hope that the victorious nations will solve Near East questions "with fairness and not with fear."

Summarizing the sentiments of the Jews in Palestine, Rabbi Berlin said that the Yishuv wishes the United Nations to declare that the Jews are a nation and when the time comes will sit, together with representatives of other nations, to protect their interests and to voice their opinions at the peace conference; that Palestine and stateless Jews in the meantime be given the opportunity "to join the forces which are fighting for themselves," and that the gates of democratic countries be opened to Jews to give them refuge "before Palestine will be the Jewish Commonwealth." He stated it is the "greatest injustice" that the gates of Palestine are closed to thousands of Jews.

RABBI NUROK, PROMINENT MIZRACHI LEADER, REPORTED "FREE AND WELL" IN RUSSIA

LONDON, Jan. 21. (JTA)— Rabbi Mordechai Nurok of Riga, Latvia, a member of the World Jewish Congress and of the World Executive of the Mizrahi Zionist Orthodox Organization, is now in Russia "free and well," Allied circles today reported on the basis of information received from Russia.

PRESSURE ON BRITISH GOVERNMENT FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION TO SAVE JEWS INCREASES

LONDON, Jan. 21.(JTA)-- Nine hundred visas permitting the entry into Britain of refugees from France, including 183 children, were granted during the last half of 1942, it was disclosed today by Home Minister Herbert Morrison in the House of Commons as members continued to press the Government for immediate action to save the Jews from Nazi terror. He added that he was unable to state at present how many of these visa-holders actually reached Britain, nor how many of them were Jews.

The Manchester Guardian today expresses the hope that Deputy Prime Minister Attlee's statement in Parliament that the present plans of the Government to aid the Jews fleeing from Hitler must be shrouded in secrecy is not an attempt to cover up slackening efforts. "All indications from the continent point to daily increase in terrorism, and there is reason to believe that the conditions in some areas are even worse than the descriptions contained in the Polish note and similar documents," the paper writes. Despite this situation, recent consultations by governmental authorities reveal "a sense of a lack of urgency," the Guardian continues, adding that "nothing definite has been heard regarding facilities for refugees now in Spain to enter Palestine."

Samuel Zygelboim, one of the Jewish deputies in the Polish National Council, today suggested that Foreign Secretary Eden officially challenge Germany to allow a special commission of neutral representatives and Red Cross workers to visit Poland to establish the whereabouts of millions of Jews who have been deported and how many Jews in Poland are still alive. Zygelboim's suggestions were contained in a letter published in the London Times.

HUNGARIAN JEWS SENT TO RUSSIAN FRONT. BARRED FROM RECEIVING MAIL FROM HOME

KULIBYSHEV, Jan. 21.(JTA)-- Jews serving in Hungarian forced labor battalions on the Russian front - it is estimated that there are about 250,000 of them - are forbidden to receive any mail from home, it is disclosed in confidential orders to Hungarian officers seized when the Red Army crushed an Hungarian infantry division on the Southern front.

The ban on mail to the Jewish laborers has never been announced in Hungary and consequently the families of the Jews send them letters. The secret orders, however, instruct the officers to destroy all such mail in the presence of the addressee after first making sure that he is informed that the letter being burned is from his family. The order also provides that if the addressee receives another letter from his family he is to be punished.

Reports from captured Hungarian soldiers and Jewish laborers also reveal that the families of mobilized Jews are usually denied any government allotments although the law provides for such assistance. In the case of Jewish families, the authorities insist that they prove that the mobilization of their son or father has caused them material hardship before they are eligible for aid. Almost always the officials decide that they have suffered no hardships.

FIFTY HUNGARIAN JEWISH REFUGEE CHILDREN ARRIVE IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21.(JTA)-- Fifty Jewish refugee children arrived here today from Hungary. They came by way of Bulgaria and Turkey.

JEWISH WOMEN SUBSCRIBE \$200,000 FOR U.S. BOMBER; ASK AID FOR JEWS IN EUROPE

NEW YORK, Jan. 21.(JTA)-- More than \$200,000 for war bonds which will be earmarked for construction of an Army bomber was subscribed yesterday at the twenty-third annual convention and luncheon of the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations at the Hotel Astor. Fifteen hundred members, many in uniforms of various women's military and civilian auxiliary organizations, attended.

The convention adopted a resolution addressed to President Roosevelt and Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, expressing the hope that the United Nations will follow the example of the President in giving assurance that the Jews of Europe will be freed from the terrors of Nazism.

NZO PRESIDENT SAYS JEWS WILL FIGHT ESTABLISHMENT OF PAN-ARAB FEDERATION

NEW YORK, Jan. 21.(JTA)-- Declaring that Emir Abdullah, Arab ruler of Transjordan, is a "British puppet," the New Zionist Organization of America today issued a statement under the signature of its president, Col. Morris J. Mendelsohn, stating that "the Jewish people will fight with all its might and influence" the establishment of a pan-Arab Federation composed of Palestine, Syria, Transjordan and Lebanon as advocated by the Emir in a press interview this week.

"That this federation scheme is contrary to the desires of the countries concerned is obvious from the very fact that except Emir Abdullah no other spokesman could be found among the Arabs to advocate the plan," the statement said. "It is well-known that the Emir is an insignificant British puppet whose influence among the Arabs is next to nil. It must be clearly understood that a federated Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Transjordan is at present calculated to embrace Jewish Palestine in a vise of Arab domination. Palestine Jewry would thus be relegated to a status of a permanent minority and the possibility of a post-war large-scale Jewish immigration into Palestine would be forestalled."

HIGH PRIEST OF SAMARITAN ORDER DIES IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21.(JTA)-- The High Priest of the Samaritan order, Jacob Matzliach, died in Nablus today at the age of 70. He had been the spiritual ruler of the Samaritan community for the past ten years.

There are about 240 Samaritans in Palestine, 180 of whom reside in Nablus and another forty in Tel Aviv. They consider themselves the direct descendants of the tribes of Ephraim, Manasseh and Levi, and as such entitled to the highest posts in the Jewish clergy.

Matzliach will be buried on Mount Gerizim which is considered by the Samaritans to be the holiest place in Palestine. The Jewish National Council telegraphed its condolences to the Samaritan community.

AGUDAH AGAINST JEWISH AGENCY ASSUMING CONTROL OF PALESTINE IMMIGRATION

LONDON, Jan. 21.(JTA)-- Orthodox Jewry will not, under any circumstances, agree to having control of Jewish immigration into Palestine vested in the Jewish Agency for Palestine after the war, it was stated today by G. Halpern, an Agudas Israel leader, addressing a regional conference of the organization in Manchester. The meeting went on record supporting Mr. Halpern's stand.