

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK CITY

VOL. X. NO. 29

Thursday, February 4, 1943

BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT PERMITS 4,000 JEWISH CHILDREN TO LEAVE FOR PALESTINE

LONDON, Feb. 3. (JTA)—The Bulgarian Government has agreed to permit 4,000 Jewish children and 500 adults to emigrate to Palestine, as a result of successful negotiations by the British Government, which was represented by a neutral nation, it was reported in the House of Commons today by Colonial Secretary Col. Oliver Stanley.

The children and their escorts will be permitted to travel in transit through Turkey, Col. Stanley indicated. Transportation for the group has already been arranged, although it involves great practical difficulties," he said.

The British Government has also decided to admit into Palestine 500 Jewish children from Rumania and Hungary, instead of only 240 as previously announced, the Colonial Minister informed Commons. (A cable from Palestine to the JTA today stated that 72 Jewish children have already left Hungary for Palestine and that 22 Jewish children from Hungary have arrived there recently.)

The Palestine Government, Col. Stanley revealed, is prepared to admit more children and also a number of adults, within the limits of the White Paper under which approximately 29,000 Jews can still enter Palestine, and has even provided available transportation facilities to this end. He warned, however, that the difficulties in securing transportation as well as in providing sustenance in Palestine might limit the number of immigrants that can be admitted.

Asked why more Jewish adults were not being taken from Nazi-dominated countries to Palestine, Col. Stanley emphasized that the Jewish Agency demanded that the children be saved first.

Eden Denies that England Refused Admission to Children from France

Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, in a statement in the House of Commons today denied that the British Government had refused visas to 2,000 Jewish children in France, who were recently deported to Germany.

"The Vichy Government," he said, "at first refused to permit any Jewish children to leave France. Subsequently, it permitted 500 children to emigrate to the United States, but did not agree to take advantage of thousands of other visas which were offered for the United Kingdom, the Dominions and Palestine. After Germany's entry into the unoccupied part of France, the departure of the 500 Jewish children to the United States was stopped."

"I wish to emphasize that at the time when His Majesty's Government had made application for Jewish children in France to come to the United Kingdom, more visas for other countries were available than children who were permitted to leave France," Eden concluded.

NAZIS HANG PRESIDENT OF JEWISH COMMUNITY IN LWOW; TEN OTHER JEWISH LEADERS HANGED

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- A reliable report received here today from Nazi-occupied Poland reveals that Dr. Landsberg, the president of the Jewish community in the ghetto of Lwow, was recently hanged by the German occupation authorities together with ten other Jewish hostages.

They were executed on the pretext that a Jew had attacked a German soldier. The body of Dr. Landsberg remained hanging for several days from the balcony of his house on Lokietka Street, the report discloses.

Another message received today from Poland states that many of the Jews deported from France, Belgium and Holland "have been received by Malach Hamoveth in Rawa-Russka," thus revealing that the deported Jewish victims met their death in the city of Rawa-Russka, in Eastern Galicia.

Pastor Carl Lidby of Malmo, addressing an audience here today on the Nazi persecutions of Jews, said that "the Jewish problem is also a Christian problem." He pointed out that "Christianism is rooted in Jewry, therefore hostility against Jews is also hostility against Christians." Anti-Semitism, he said, conflicts with the doctrine of Christian mercy.

JEWISH AGENCY SUBMITS \$4,608,000 BUDGET FOR CURRENT YEAR

JERUSALEM, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- The Jewish Agency for Palestine today submitted its budget for the current year to the Small Zionist Actions Committee for approval. The budget provides for expenditures of \$4,608,000 for various activities.

Government officials today reported that no tests for oil are now being made in the Dead Sea area because the manpower and materials which such tests require are being utilized in a more useful fashion for the war effort in areas which are already producing oil.

The first twenty-two of the Palestine Jews attached to the ground crews of the Royal Air Force will soon leave for England and Rhodesia to attend flying schools. They will become the first Palestinian Jewish fliers in the British air force.

NAZIS WANT ALL BULGARIAN JEWS DEPORTED FROM BULGAR-TURKISH FRONTIER ZONE

ZURICH, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- Nazi uneasiness over Premier Churchill's conference with the President of Turkey is reflected today by the Voelkischer Beobachter, Hitler's own newspaper, in an article which asks Bulgaria why Jews who were ordered sometime ago to evacuate territory on the Bulgar-Turkish frontier, have not yet done so.

At the same time the Nazi paper reports that Jacob Kohn, a Jewish leader in Bulgaria, and other noted Bulgarian Jews were arrested following the discovery by the Bulgarian police of an organization smuggling Jews out of Bulgaria into neighboring countries.

VICHY PREPARING TO BAR "HALF-JEWS" FROM PROFESSIONS, NAZI RADIO REPORTS

LIEBON, Feb. 3. (JTA)-- New anti-Jewish laws being prepared by the Vichy Commissariat for Jewish Affairs bar "half-Jews" from certain professions, it was reported today by the Nazi-controlled Brussels radio.

VICHY ANTI-JEWISH REGULATIONS RELAXED IN ITALIAN-OCCUPIED FRANCE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.(JTA)-- The sections of France occupied by Italian troops have escaped many of the harsher anti-Jewish edicts instituted in the areas policed by German forces, it was reported today in a Swiss newspaper dispatch received by the Office of War Information.

"Whereas territories under German occupation strictly apply the anti-Jewish measures of the Vichy government," the report said, "these measures are not being taken in Nice and other cities under Italian occupying forces; in particular, the Italians are not demanding the wearing of the yellow star or the stamping of the word 'Jew' on the identity cards."

Although the Nazis now occupy all France, the dispatch said, permits are still necessary to cross the demarcation line between the formerly occupied and "free" zones. The Swiss correspondent said only a few German troops remained in Vichy and that many French ministries had moved back to Paris. The only divisions of the Ministry of the Interior still said to be functioning in Vichy are the police and the Bureau for Jewish Affairs.

85,000 JEWS ANNIHILATED IN YUGOSLAVIA; ONLY 1,000 LEFT ALIVE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.(JTA)-- Ninety-nine percent of the 80,000 Jews of Yugoslavia and the 8,000 Jewish refugees who found asylum there before the outbreak of the war are now dead as a result of atrocities committed by the Nazis and their puppet-governments in Croatia and Serbia, it was reported here today in a statement released by diplomatic representatives of the Yugoslav Government-in-Exile.

The statement declares that no more than about 1,000 Jews remain alive in Yugoslavia, while only about 220 have succeeded in fleeing. Those still in the country are practically interned and live in imminent danger. "The details of the bestial cruelty and sadism by which the 85,000 other Jews were slaughtered, achieve a degree of horror which mums the mind," the statement says.

"In Bosnia and Herzegovina," the Yugoslav sources relate, "Jews have suffered not only because they are Jews, but also for their traditional loyalty to the Yugoslav cause. But in the other parts of 'independent' Croatia, the extermination has been just as thorough. It was in the hands of a special section closed down on June 15, 1941 - its task was completed. Apart from those who escaped to the forests and hills, and a handful who for special reasons were granted 'honorary aryan status,' the Jews of Croatia had been annihilated.

"In Serbia, the whole people was opposed to anti-Semitism. Therefore, it is not surprising to find that General Neditch, twice applied, in August, 1941, for permission to deal with the Jewish problem, explaining that too violent Gestapo measures could only recoil on the Germans themselves. Neditch's request was, of course, rejected - on the grounds that the Serbian people were not civilized enough to be trusted to deal with the Jews. The Jews were to be dealt with by a special section of the Gestapo. In February, 1942, this organization carried out its task by gassing the few score remaining Jewish women and children kept in the Sajmiste camp. In March, with some pomp and ceremony, its offices too were closed. Its mission had been accomplished."

RUMANIA DECREES DEATH PENALTY FOR JEWS ABSENT FROM FORCED LABOR FOR TWO DAYS

ZURICH, Feb. 3.(JTA)-- An order issued today in Rumania by Marshal Ion Antonescu provides the death penalty for Jews absent from forced labor "without authorization" for more than one day.

The order, reported over German radio stations, says that all property of these Jews will be confiscated by the state. "Jews who do not act on being summoned to discharge their labor duties within four days will similarly be punished with death," the broadcast reported. Jews of Rumanian nationality who are abroad have to report for work within thirty days, the order of Marshal Antonescu provides.

GERMAN SOLDIERS CAPTURED BY RUSSIANS REVEAL DETAILS OF ATROCITIES ON JEWS

KUIBYSHEV, Feb. 3.(JTA)-- German soldiers captured during the rout of the Nazi armies around Stalingrad and in the Caucasus reveal almost unbelievable details of the atrocities committed upon Jewish civilians in various sections of occupied Europe in which they were stationed and Russia, in accounts made public here today by the Anti-Fascist Jewish Committee.

In a small village near the city of Lutsk in Poland, one Nazi corporal disclosed, sixty Jews - all those remaining in the village - were locked in a barn, stripped of their clothes which were burned and then ordered to beat each other with iron rods. The next day they were shot. A German infantryman told how a Jewish youth in a small town about fifteen miles outside of Lwow was compelled to swim from one bank of a river to the other until he was near exhaustion. He was then dragged from the river, beaten and stoned, and then his arms and feet were tied together and he was flung back into the river to drown. In a town in the Ukraine, tanks were driven into a mass of Jews, crushing them to death, another Nazi reported.

Jewish Red Army men are subjected to particular torture by the Germans, it was also revealed. Some were compelled by drunken Nazis to crawl on all fours and bark like dogs or "meow" like cats, while others were forced to fight each other and then, in violation of international law covering war prisoners, were shot.

AMERICAN ANTI-SEMITIC WRITER ADMITS LINK WITH NAZI PROPAGANDA OFFICE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.(JTA)-- Robert Edward Edmondson, anti-Semitic pamphleteer, admitted in a District of Columbia Court yesterday that he had exchanged propaganda material with the World Service organization at Erfurt, Germany, conducted by Col. Fleischauer, notorious Nazi anti-Semitic propagandist.

Edmondson is one of the 33 night-shirters and pamphleteers indicted here for conspiring with German agents to undermine the morale of members of the American armed services. His admission of a direct link with the Nazi Propaganda Ministry was made at a hearing on his motion for return of some of his papers, seized by Federal agents when he was arrested in California.

Assistant Attorney General Maloney asked Edmondson whether he had sent copies of his pamphlets - one of which attempted to prove that President Roosevelt was of Jewish blood - to Erfurt. Edmondson said he had. Maloney also obtained ready admissions from Edmondson that he had free freight service on German boats before the war for this exchange of propaganda material, and that the free freight service was arranged for him by the German consul in New York.