

# JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

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## CONFISCATED JEWISH PROPERTY IN GERMANY WORTH "ONLY FOUR BILLIONS," NAZIS CLAIM

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 9.(JTA)-- Obviously anticipating a demand by the Jews at the forthcoming peace conference for reparations for Jewish property confiscated by the Nazis in Germany, the German Ministry of Propaganda today issued a report in Berlin estimating that the property so far confiscated from Jews in the Reich is worth "no more than four billion marks."

The Swedish press, publishing this report, points out that the Nazi estimate is only about one-fourth of the actual value of the confiscated Jewish property. Newspapers here declare that it can safely be stated that sixteen billion dollars worth of Jewish possessions have passed into Nazi hands since Hitler came to power ten years ago.

Swedish newspapers express surprise at the fact that the Nazis have suddenly found it necessary to issue an estimate of the value of the confiscated property of German Jews. They point out that the Nazi announcement is all the more puzzling in view of the fact that the joint declaration issued last month by seventeen of the United Nations and the Fighting French through the State Department in Washington promised restoration of property seized by the Nazis in occupied countries, but made no reference to property confiscated from Jews in the Reich.

## Germany's Reputation in Sweden Sinks as Anti-Jewish Terror Increases

Germany's reputation in Sweden has been damaged more by Nazi persecution of the Jews than by any other act, the conservative Swedish magazine, Svensk Tidskrift, declared in an article quoted by the Stockholm radio today.

"Millions of Europe's population," the Swedish publication wrote, "are now put to death or condemned to death without judgment and trial, yes, even without being accused of any juridical crime, simply because they belong to a race which is decreed to be inferior, and they are blamed for plans on whose existence no one outside of the National Socialist camp believes. The reaction has become tremendously strong, certainly much stronger than the Nazis expected, stronger certainly in the occupied countries, such as Holland, whose 180,000 Jews, now doomed to deportation, both as citizens and people enjoyed general respect.

"In Sweden, Jewish persecution, particularly in Norway, has brought forth a particularly united reaction. As a result of the Nazi mentality which it reveals, it has doubtlessly damaged Germany's reputation more than anything else," the article points out.

## MILLION DOLLAR DRIVE PROCLAIMED TO SAVE JEWISH WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM NAZIS

LONDON, Feb. 9.(JTA)-- A world-wide million dollar campaign was proclaimed here today by the Women's International Zionist Organization to raise funds to save 5,000 Jewish mothers and children in Nazi territories. The fund will also be used to train women and girls over 17 years of age who reach Palestine.

POLISH GOVERNMENT ORDERS CONSULATES IN NORTH AFRICA TO AID INTERNED JEWS

LONDON, Feb. 9, (JTA)-- The Polish Government-in-Exile today instructed its consulate in Casablanca to extend all possible aid to 500 Jewish refugees from Poland now in French Morocco. Some of these refugees have already been released from the camps where they were held, but the majority are still interned, the Polish Government learned.

Similar instructions were wired to the Polish consulate in Algiers. The Polish Government also requested the Consul to forward to London the names of Polish Jews released from camps in Algeria.

BRITISH COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS ASKS IMMEDIATE AID FOR JEWS OF EUROPE

LONDON, Feb. 9, (JTA)-- Immediate government action to aid the Jews in Nazi-held countries was demanded today in a three-point program advanced at the annual meeting of the Council of Christians and Jews here.

A resolution adopted unanimously by the meeting hailed the recent statement in Parliament by Deputy Prime Minister Clement Attlee to the effect that the British Government was conferring with other of the United Nations on means of helping the Jewish refugees and also the disclosure by Colonial Minister Oliver Stanley that Britain had induced Bulgaria to allow the emigration of 4,000 Jewish children and 500 adults to Palestine. At the same time it demanded that the British Government take the following steps:

- 1 - Grant temporary asylum to refugees in British territories, including Palestine, and induce the other United Nations to do likewise in their territory.
- 2 - Arrange with other Allied nations to assure financial assistance and food to neutrals admitting refugees, and pledge that permanent haven elsewhere will be found for them after the war.
- 3 - Use all means to acquaint the governments of the Axis countries and their satellites of post-war reprisals for atrocities against Jews and other civilians.

The Manchester Guardian in an editorial today demands "more energetic" action by the Government to save the Jews in Nazi Europe. It expressed regret over Capt. Stanley's announcement that Jewish immigration into Palestine will be kept within the limits of the White Paper of 1939. "If 30,000 or 50,000 should succeed in escaping and want to go to Palestine, are the gates to be shut to them?" the Guardian asks.

BULGARIA RELAXES ANTI-JEWISH LAW WHICH AFFECTED COUNTRY'S EXPORTS

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 9, (JTA)-- With the economic structure of Nazi-dominated Bulgaria badly weakened by the anti-Jewish laws, the Bulgarian Government has been compelled to revise the restrictions forbidding export firms to employ Jews, it is reported today in the Svenska Dagbladet, a Swedish newspaper.

These firms, the paper reports, have now been notified by the Bulgarian authorities that they are permitted to retain Jewish employees until January 1, 1945. A third of Bulgaria's production normally is exported. However, the amount of exports has dropped greatly due to the fact that Bulgarian firms dealing with foreign countries had been ordered to dismiss Jewish members of their staff.

STALIN THANKS JEWISH COLLECTIVE FARMERS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO RUSSIAN ARMY

MOSCOW, Feb. 9, (JTA)-- Jewish collective farmers in the Samarkand district of Uzbekistan, in Soviet Asia, who have contributed 500,000 roubles to purchase tanks and bombers for the Russian Army, were today in receipt of a personal note of thanks from Premier Joseph Stalin. These farmers were evacuated from Nazi-held Russian territory to the Samarkand district early in the war.

Writing to the members of the Kaganovich Collective Farm, who have placed 100,000 roubles in the State Bank as their contribution to the general fund being raised by the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee to build tanks and planes, and have given another 400,000 for the construction of a special tank column to be called "Soviet Uzbekistan," Stalin expressed "brotherly greetings and the thanks of the Red Army for your solicitude about the air and tank forces of the Red Army."

In a message to Stalin, the Jewish farmers voiced their appreciation of the fact that the Soviet Government has enabled them to enjoy a happy and prosperous life at a time when "unheard of atrocities are being perpetrated by the Hitlerites against the Jewish people," and pledged their efforts to "forever exterminate this savage gang."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S COMMITTEE RECEIVES MEMORANDUM ON JEWISH RESCUE WORK

NEW YORK, Feb. 9, (JTA)-- The United Jewish Appeal today submitted to the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees a memorandum describing the activities supported by American Jews to rescue vast numbers of victims of ten years of Hitlerism.

The document charting the course of relief and reconstruction measures taken by Jews in the United States during "a decade of doom and disaster" stressed the importance of the achievements of the Joint Distribution Committee, United Palestine Appeal and National Refugee Service. It emphasizes that since Hitler became the Chancellor of Germany, the J.D.C. made possible the emigration of 260,000 refugees from Europe to the Western Hemisphere and Palestine, including 125,000 to Central and South American countries. At the same time the U.P.A. arranged the emigration and settlement in Palestine of 305,000 refugees from Europe, while the major portion of the 250,000 refugees of all creeds who entered the United States since 1933 received assistance from the N.R.S.

Declaring that the Jews have experienced ten bitter years during which 2,000,000 have fallen, "many in unmarked, mass graves," the memorandum states that American Jews stand ready to welcome new responsibilities and opportunities for reconstruction that will result from increasing Allied victories. "As they served during the decade of destruction, so they now dedicate themselves to serve in the years of reconstruction in order that the Jewish people may share in the rebuilding of a world in which Hitlerism or any imitation of it shall never rise again to mar the peace of mankind," the document asserts.

BILL URGES SCHOOLS TO INFORM CHILDREN OF JEWISH CONTRIBUTIONS TO U.S. PROGRESS

ALBANY, Feb. 9, (JTA)-- A resolution demanding that the contributions of Jews, Negroes and other minorities to the development of the United States be made a permanent part of the history courses in the schools of the State of New York was introduced here today before the Legislature by Assemblyman Jack of New York City.

The resolution declares that the "ruthless" practice of discrimination against minority-groups is a detriment to the war effort and prevents total mobilization of the nation's manpower. The Board of Regents is called upon under the terms of the resolution to prepare and recommend text books which treat historically the contributions of all racial groups.

B'NAI B'RITH EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE APPROVES PLAN TO CALL AMERICAN JEWISH ASSEMBLY

NEW YORK, Feb. 9. (JTA)-- The three-day conference of the executive committee of the B'nai B'rith, marking the 100th annual meeting of that body, concluded last night by voting its approval of and adherence to the proposals adopted last month at the Pittsburgh conference of representatives of Jewish organizations who recorded themselves as favoring the calling of an American Jewish Assembly to provide a representative forum for the unified expression of the opinion of American Jews with regard to action on the status of Jews in the post-war world and the implementation of the rights of the Jewish people with respect to Palestine.

Reports presented to the executive committee indicated that B'nai B'rith groups throughout the country have been responsible for the sale of \$40,000,000 in war bonds. It was also announced that 23,000 members of B'nai B'rith and its affiliates have donated blood to Red Cross blood banks. Announcement was also made of a nationwide effort on the part of B'nai B'rith to help the Board of Economic Warfare and Office of Strategic Services to locate people in the United States who either have personal specific knowledge of economic and industrial conditions in Axis and Axis-dominated countries through residence there or extensive travel, or who have in their possession photographs and pictures of strategic value.

The executive committee also heard that B'nai B'rith now has 62 Hillel Foundations and Counsellorships on as many college campuses through the country, serving 45,000 Jewish students with a program of religious, cultural and social welfare activities, in addition to providing supplementary recreational and cultural activities for men in the armed forces at camps adjacent to Hillel units. It was stated that B'nai B'rith now numbers 150,000 men and women in addition to 50,000 young people organized in 680 men's units, 557 B'nai B'rith women's groups and 475 youth chapters. Expenditures of B'nai B'rith women during the past year for war service efforts exceeded \$125,000.

Continuing its 60-year tradition of support of and alliance with the American Red Cross, nationally and locally, the meeting of the executive committee of B'nai B'rith appropriated \$5,000 to the forthcoming Red Cross War Fund Drive, making a total of \$175,000 contributed by B'nai B'rith to the Red Cross and other non-sectarian war relief agencies, since Pearl Harbor. Reduction of the age limit in Aleph Zadik Aleph from 15 to 14 because of the fact that nearly 3,000 members 18 and over have gone into the forces, was voted by the annual meeting of Aleph Zadik Aleph's Supreme Advisory Council, which met before B'nai B'rith's executive committee went into session.

UNITED NATIONS ASKED TO FORM MILITARY COMMITTEE TO SAVE JEWS FROM ANNIHILATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 9. (JTA)-- Plans for a huge memorial meeting early next month at Madison Square Garden here to commemorate the hundreds of thousands of Jews annihilated by the Nazis in Europe were discussed today at a luncheon at The Hotel Commodore.

The Committee for a Jewish Army of Stateless and Palestinian Jews today announced that it has decided to launch a campaign to save European Jewry from annihilation. The aim of the campaign, the announcement says, is "to impress upon the governments of the United Nations the necessity of appointing an Inter-governmental Commission of military experts with the task of elaborating ways and means of stopping the wholesale slaughter of Jews in Europe."