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NAZIS HURRIEDLY EVACUATING JEWS FROM POLISH TOWNS IN PREPARATION FOR RETREAT

SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE, Feb. 15. (JTA)-- A hurried "evacuation" of all Jews from cities in Western Poland is reported today to be taking place as a result of Nazi preparations for further retreats on the Russian front.

The aged and feeble Jews are being transported by the Nazis in cattle trains to Rawa-Russka, Galicia, where they are executed, while the younger victims are being sent to the provinces of Polesia and Wolyhnia to build fortifications in the pre-war Polish-Russian border zone to where the Nazis apparently expect to be driven by the Russian Army.

Thousands of Jews from Lodz and other cities in the western part of occupied Poland have been driven from their ghettos to the city of Czenstochowa, during the last few weeks - since the Nazi defeat at Stalingrad. Information from Poland, reaching here today, however, reveals that all these Jews, estimated at more than 30,000, have been deported from Czenstochowa to an unknown destination and that this city has suddenly been made "judenrein."

"Jews Chosen For Destruction," Nazi Leader Says; Ration Cards Cancelled

Speaking last night before a Nazi audience in Koenigsberg, Robert Loy, Nazi Labor Minister, declared that "the Jews have been chosen for destruction." His speech was broadcast over the German radio, which is now publicizing the Nazi atrocities committed upon the Jews in an attempt to impress upon the Germans that a similar fate awaits the German people should the Nazis lose the war.

The Official Gazette of the Czech Protectorate published in Prague carries an order depriving all Jews in Bohemia and Moravia of their ration cards, thus making it impossible for them to secure any food. At the same time the Prague radio announced today that two Czechs have been executed for selling ration cards to Jews. Previous reports indicated that the Nazis have ordered that the Czech Protectorate be made "completely judenrein" by the end of March.

The sum of 17,000,000 kronen "to pay for the maintenance of Slovak Jews deported to Poland" is demanded by Germany from the Slovak Government, a report from Bratislava reveals. The report also discloses that Michal Szabat, a Greek Catholic priest in Blaskovico, Slovakia, has been arrested for baptizing Jews. Bratislava furriers, with whom customers have stored fur coats, have received orders from the Slovak authorities to demand proof that the customers are of "Aryan" descent before returning the coats. The garments of those who are unable to prove their "Aryanship" are to be confiscated, the instructions state.

The pro-Nazi newspaper "Slovak" reaching here today from Bratislava writes that "one of the reasons for expelling Jews from Slovakia was the fact that Jewish innkeepers ruined rural municipalities through alcohol. Now the Jewish innkeepers have disappeared but the people drink more alcohol than before."

JEWISH LEADERS IN LONDON UNAWARE OF RUMANIAN PROPOSAL TO SEND JEWS TO PALESTINE

LONDON, Feb. 15.(JTA)-- Central Jewish organizations here, including the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the World Jewish Congress, were puzzled today over the report appearing in the United States of an alleged Rumanian proposal to transfer 70,000 Rumanian Jews from Axis-held Transnistria, in the Ukraine, to Palestine or any other refuge the Allies may choose, providing \$200 "transportation money" is paid for each refugee to the Rumanian treasury.

The report was not confirmed today by any authoritative source. Jewish leaders who would be in a position to know about the reported offer declared that such a proposal is "most unlikely." They shared the scepticism of Washington officials, pointing out that even if the Rumanian Government were inclined to transport Jews on its ships for the sake of the \$14,000,000 which it could realize on such a deal, the Nazis would never permit it to send any of its ships out of the Black Sea into Allied-controlled waters.

Radio broadcasts from Rumania last night reported that Commander Alexander Sturdza, head of the Jewish forced labor service, has been arrested on the charge that he accepted bribes from Jews to exempt them from forced labor. He is being held in the notorious Vacaresti prison. Two of his aides have also been arrested on the same charge, the broadcast revealed.

PROMINENT SWEDISH WOMEN FORM GROUP TO AID JEWISH CHILDREN IN NAZI COUNTRIES

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 15.(JTA)-- A Swedish organization to aid the Jewish children in Nazi-held Europe, especially to facilitate their emigration to Palestine, has been formed here under the chairmanship of Baroness Maria Stjernstedt.

Other Swedish notables interested in the group are Countess Ebba Bonde-Ellenhagne, Alma Nydahl, Amelie Posse and Gulli Herkman-Erikson. The latter two are noted authors. Baroness Stjernstedt declared today that the work of the organization will be purely humanitarian.

GESTAPO CONSIDERS JEWISH PROBLEM IN VIENNA "SOLVED"; MOVES TO BERLIN, AMSTERDAM

LONDON, Feb. 15.(JTA)-- The British Broadcasting Corporation today reported that the Gestapo officials supervising the expulsion of Jews from Austria have been withdrawn from Vienna in view of the fact that there are almost no Jews left in the whole of Austria.

These officials, the British radio stated, have been transferred to Berlin and to Amsterdam in order to speed the expulsion of Jews from Germany and Holland. Hitler has ordered that all Jews must be deported from Berlin by March 31.

RULER OF TRANSJORDAN SAYS HE IS "PERTURBED" OVER ZIONIST ACTIVITIES IN AMERICA

CAIRO, Feb. 15.(JTA)-- Reports reaching here today from Transjordan state that Emir Abdullah, ruler of Transjordan, has started an open campaign against Zionist aspirations in post-war Palestine. The Emir, who aspires to become the ruler of an Arab state combining Transjordan, Palestine and Syria, declared to newspapermen that he is very much "perturbed" over the Zionist activities in the United States among congressmen, senators and leaders of the Church.

JEWISH AGENCY EXPECTS AXIS DEFEAT IN 1943; ALLOCATES FUNDS FOR PEACE-TIME WORK

JERUSALEM, Feb. 15, (JTA)-- Anticipating a complete Axis defeat this year, the Jewish Agency for Palestine has allocated ten percent of its \$4,608,000 budget for 1943 to facilitate the smooth transition of Jewish life in Palestine from war to peace-time conditions, it was announced here today by Eliezer Kaplan, the Agency's treasurer. The sum of \$1,000,000 has been assigned in the budget for new Jewish agricultural and colonization activities.

The position of Palestine and Transjordan is considered to be so secure at present that the blackout regulations were cancelled today in Transjordan. Direct airplane communication between Palestine and Russia will soon be established, carrying passengers and mail.

ALL JEWISH DOCTORS IN PYATIGORSK KILLED BY NAZIS; CHILDREN POISONED

KUIBYSHEV, Feb. 15, (JTA)-- Scores of Jewish doctors, nurses and other members of the medical staff of the famous sanatoriums in the Caucasus resort city of Pyatigorsk were murdered by the Nazi troops when they occupied the city and shortly before they were forced to flee, it is reported today by the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee here on the basis of reports reaching it from Red Army-men who were with the units that reoccupied Pyatigorsk.

Stories told the Russian soldiers by survivors indicate that the Nazis made a special point of wiping out every Jewish medical worker, the Committee states. Jewish doctors who had fled to Pyatigorsk from the Ukraine and Byelorussia shortly after the war and had been assigned to posts in the sanatoriums, were among those murdered.

In one village near Stalingrad, a Russian correspondent reports in a local newspaper today, the Russian troops found the bodies of small Jewish children who had been poisoned by the Nazis. "Those dead babies' faces haunt my dreams," the correspondent writes. Another correspondent, writing in the same paper, tells how in one village the advancing Red Armymen found the grave of 22 wounded soldiers, among them many Jews, who had been killed when the Nazis seized the place. Buried with them was a young Jewish boy, Lenya, who had been shot when he pleaded with the Nazis to spare the life of one of the soldiers who had been recuperating from wounds in Lenya's home when the Germans came.

POLISH GOVERNMENT FLEDGES READMITTANCE OF REFUGEES TO POST-WAR POLAND

LONDON, Feb. 15, (JTA)-- Refugees from Poland for whom Allied and neutral governments provide sanctuary will be readmitted to Poland after the war is over. A resolution assuring friendly governments on this question was adopted yesterday by the Polish Cabinet.

The resolution, published today, caused surprise in various circles, since it seemed obvious that Polish citizens would be readmitted to post-war Poland. It is assumed, however, that the announcement was made to reassure certain countries who apparently asked the Polish Government for a pledge that Polish-born Jews who formerly lost their citizenship while residing abroad will be able to return to Poland after the fall of the Nazis.

POLISH GOVERNMENT DENIES GEN. SIKORSKI MADE ANTI-JEWISH REMARKS IN MEXICO

NEW YORK, Feb. 15, (JTA)-- A statement from the Polish Government with regard to reports that anti-Jewish remarks were made by Polish Premier Gen. Sikorski and his secretary, Dr. Retinger, during their recent visit to Mexico, was released here today by the Polish Information Center. The statement was issued by S. Stronski, Polish Minister of Information in London, and cabled to New York for publication. It reads:

"There was no Jewish incident of any kind during General Sikorski's stay in Mexico. He received the representatives of a Polish-Jewish Organization in a friendly way, and among other things spoke to them of a few cases in which Mexicans, especially trade unions, were complaining of various Polish Jews who did not conform to Mexican laws and were engaged in illegal occupations and employed "sweated" labor. The General asked the delegation to take care not to smirch the good name of Polish citizens, more especially as Mexico was willing to give asylum to thousands of Polish refugees. The Jewish delegates promised to look into those matters and do their utmost to uphold the good reputation of Polish Jews.

"General Sikorski also received in Washington and New York delegations of representatives of leading American-Jewish organizations and had most satisfactory talks with them about Jewish problems, during and after the war," the statement concludes.

J.N.F. SENDS \$1,386,000 TO PALESTINE IN FOUR MONTHS; OTHER GROUPS SEND FUNDS

NEW YORK, Feb. 15, (JTA)-- The sum of \$1,386,000 was remitted to Palestine by the Jewish National Fund of America during the first four months of the current fiscal year, it was reported at the February session of the Board of Directors of the J.N.F. held at the Hotel Commodore. The session was addressed by Rabbi Meyer Berlin, member of the presidium of the Jewish National Fund in Jerusalem.

The American Fund for Palestinian Institutions yesterday cabled \$10,000 to its 17 beneficiaries in Palestine, representing the first remittance for 1943.

Three hundred of the war-orphaned children taken to Palestine from Nazi Poland will be assured a religious upbringing through funds allocated by Keren Hayishuv, the Palestine subsidiary of Agudath Israel, it was announced today by Michael G. Tross, national chairman. These children had been temporarily quartered in Tchoran.

NEGRO LEADER ADDRESSES SYNAGOGUE ON RACIAL HATRED

BOSTON, Feb. 15, (JTA)-- Racial hatred is hindering the effective prosecution of the war by the United States, Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People, declared in an address delivered over the week-end at inter-racial services in Temple Israel here.

Mr. White said that "unless we begin to find a solution, not after the war, but right now, to this question of race not only in our own country, but throughout the world, it is conceivable that we shall not win this war, but instead lose it. Even if we do win military victory, but fail to face this question, we shall merely purchase for ourselves a brief interlude between this war and an even more disastrous one." Dr. Joshua Loth Liebman, rabbi of Temple Israel, shared the pulpit with Mr. White. The services were held in cooperation with the American Jewish Committee and the NAACP.