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EIGHT-POINT PROGRAM ON RESCUE OF JEWS PRESENTED TO BRITISH GOVERNMENT

LONDON, Feb. 24.(JTA)-- The Board of Deputies of British Jews today approved a program of action to aid the Jews in Nazi-held European countries, prepared by the Joint Foreign Committee of the Board. The plan suggests to the British Government that it take the following steps:

- 1.) Announce that to the best of the country's possibilities, subject to all the necessary safeguards in connection with the security of the country, asylum will be afforded to Jewish refugees. A similar announcement to be made concerning colonies and other territories under control of the Home Government.
- 2.) Endeavor to secure a similar offer from the United States and the other Allies regarding territory under their control.
- 3.) Approach the Dominions to offer refuge. Such offers to include facilities for transit to other countries.
- 4.) Use the Government's good offices to secure offers of refuge from the United States and the governments of Latin America.
- 5.) Give adequate recognition to the specially favorable opportunities for refuge available in Palestine as a result of the country's geographic proximity to the countries from which the refugees could be transferred.
- 6.) Acceptance by the United Kingdom, the United States and other of the United Nations of the ultimate responsibility for providing asylum for the refugees, whether such sanctuary is given by the United Nations or by neutral countries.
- 7.) Encourage neutrals to help in the rescue and reception of refugees, with pledges by the United Nations that (a) they will receive in territories under their control such of the refugees as can be subsequently removed from the neutral countries; (b) such refugees that can not be transferred during the war will be transferred after the war; (c) the cost of maintaining the refugees and extending other practical assistance will be borne by the United Nations.
- 8.) The satellite countries, one or two of which have already shown their readiness to allow Jews to depart, should, through available neutral diplomatic channels, be encouraged to extend such emigration opportunities in the future.

A statement by the Board, accompanying the program, declares that the above steps, if taken immediately by the Government, on its own initiative, would save the lives of thousands of people. It suggests that the German Government be approached through appropriate channels and asked to allow the Jews to leave territory under German control; and that neutral nations should be requested to approach Germany jointly, in their own name, with the same proposal. The Deputies also suggest that perhaps the Pope might agree to associate himself with such a proposal by the neutral nations.

Discussing suitable machinery to carry out the practical measures suggested, the Board of Deputies also proposes that the British Government create a special agency with which the United States and other of the United Nations could later associate themselves.

ONLY VICTORY OF THE ALLIES CAN SAVE JEWS IN EUROPE, EDEN SAYS

LONDON, Feb. 24.(JTA)-- Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, speaking in the House of Commons today, declared that the only effective means of saving the Jews from Nazi extermination is a victory of the Allies. He added that he is at present unable to say anything concerning the demands for international action to rescue the Jews, emphasizing that some such action has been taken but that it would not be in the interests of the victims to disclose the details.

Rejecting the suggestion that a special minister be appointed to deal with the problem of aiding the Jews, Eden stated that he did not think that the appointment of the late Fridtjof Nansen by the League of Nations after the last war to deal with refugee problems could serve as a precedent for dealing with the problem at present. He said that England is not ready for the time being to give any assurance to neutral governments on the question of maintaining refugees who they may admit. Such assurances can be given only after consultation with the other United Nations, he declared.

A suggestion that the British Government send an envoy to the countries concerned in order to expedite the emigration of Jews from Nazi-held territory, was impractical, the Foreign Secretary declared. "I doubt whether this would expedite matters," he added. He also brushed aside the suggestion that Parliament have a full debate on the various recommendations on alleviating the plight of the Jews. "I believe that such a debate would not facilitate matters," he stated.

PALESTINE LEADER APPEALS TO ARABS TO HELP SAVE JEWS IN NAZI-HELD COUNTRIES

JERUSALEM, Feb. 24.(JTA)-- An appeal to the Arabs to aid the Jews who are being slaughtered by the Nazis in Europe was voiced by Zalman Rubashev, laborite leader and editor of the largest Hebrew newspaper, Haaretz, addressing a public meeting here last night.

"We appeal to our sister-nation, the Arabs, to come to the immediate rescue of the suffering Jews who could still be saved from extermination," he said. He also appealed to the governments of the United States, Britain and Russia to supplement their declarations of sympathy with action.

The Jewish National Assembly of Palestine today submitted to the Palestine Government and to all diplomatic representatives of the United Nations the text of the appeal adopted by the Jews throughout the country during mass-meetings on Monday urging the governments of all democratic countries to take effective action to rescue those Jews in Nazi-controlled countries who can still be saved.

HITLER REITERATES THREAT TO EXTERMINATE ALL JEWS IN EUROPE

BERN, Feb. 24.(JTA)-- Adolf Hitler, in a manifesto broadcast today over the Berlin radio, reiterated his threat to exterminate all the Jews in Europe. He termed the Allied Nations a "Jewish world coalition" and devoted a substantial part of his proclamation to "the Jewish menace."

"The present struggle will not end with the annihilation of Aryan mankind but with the extermination of the Jews in Europe," the proclamation said. It was issued by Hitler on the occasion of the anniversary of the establishment of the Nazi Party, and was read by Secretary of State Herman Esser who said that Hitler himself is now on the Russian front.

RUMANIAN PAPER URGES JEWS IN EUROPE BE HELD AS HOSTAGES FOR ALLIED AIR RAIDS

LONDON, Feb. 24.(JTA)-- A suggestion that "all Jews in Europe should be held as hostages" for Nazis and pro-Nazi elements killed in Allied air raids on Germany and German-dominated countries, has been advanced in an editorial published in the Rumanian anti-Semitic newspaper Forunka Vremi, according to a broadcast from Bucharest.

Declaring that "the bombing of European cities is nothing but a diabolical plan of international Jewry" the organ of the anti-Semitic Iron Guard urges that the Allied Governments be warned that ten Jews will be executed for each "Aryan" killed during air raids and that 100 Jews will be executed for every non-Jewish building destroyed. "Only in this way can our lives be protected," the paper writes.

A neutral traveler who reached London today and whose reliability is vouched for by competent quarters, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the reports of Nazi atrocities on Jews are not only true, but are often understatements.

"The actual situation of the Jews in many parts of Europe," this observer said, "is wholly beyond description." He emphasized that he made this statement on the basis of talks with persons who returned from Germany, and from Nazi-occupied countries in Western, Central and Eastern Europe, as well as on the basis of conversations which he had with Gestapo men who boasted cynically of their experiences in exterminating Jews. "There is not the slightest doubt in many circles that when the war is over, no matter how it will end, there will no longer be any Jews in Europe," the informant declared.

400 JEWS MURDERED IN KURSK BEFORE NAZIS EVACUATED CITY, IZVESTIA REPORTS

MOSCOW, Feb. 24.(JTA)-- Four hundred Jewish old men, women and children were executed in Kursk shortly before the Nazis were forced to evacuate that key city, it is reported today in the newspaper Izvestia, organ of the Soviet Government.

When the Germans occupied Kursk in the Autumn of 1941, the majority of the city's Jewish population was evacuated to the interior of the country "where they found homes and work," Izvestia writes. During the nineteen months that the Nazis occupied the city, however, hundreds of Jews who had not succeeded in escaping were shot in cold blood, the newspaper reveals. Every day that the Red Army advances and liberates more towns, further evidence of the "monstrous atrocities committed upon Soviet citizens, Jews and non-Jews, are revealed," the article adds.

The Moscow press today also reports that the Council of Peoples Commissars has raised three more Jewish officers to the rank of Major-General. They are Jacob Rappaport and Naftoly Frankel of the Engineering Corps and Lazar Berenson of the Quartermaster Corps.

DR. SINGALOVSKY, ORT LEADER, REACHES SWITZERLAND FROM FRANCE

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.(JTA)-- Dr. Aaron Singalovsky, one of the leaders of the World ORT Organization, has reached Switzerland from France, the headquarters of the American ORT learned today. Attempts to secure permission for Dr. Singalovsky to leave France had been made for some time.

U.S. GOVERNMENT IS URGED TO INVESTIGATE REPORT OF RUMANIA'S OFFER ON JEWS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.(JTA)-- Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah today urged the American Government to investigate the report of the alleged offer by the Rumanian Government to allow 70,000 Rumanian Jews in Transnistria to emigrate to Palestine or other countries of refuge.

"Vigorous action on our part," he said in a statement inserted in the Congressional Record, "will result not only in the rescuing of these 70,000 Jews, but will also be proof of our eagerness and determination to stop the barbarous plan for mass-slaughter of the Jews in Europe."

Officials here today continued to express doubt as to whether the offer was ever made, or, if the report is true, whether it was made in good faith.

RESTRICTED POST-WAR IMMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES URGED

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.(JTA)-- Restricted post-war immigration into the United States is advocated by Robert Moses, New York City and State official, in an article in the March issue of the Readers Digest.

"Our first duty is to provide our own population, including the returning members of the armed forces, with work, food, shelter and a decent chance to enjoy the victory which they have earned," Mr. Moses writes. Our present quota system, he believes, is the most equitable solution found thus far. He adds that although each nation has had a fixed quota since 1929 which limited total immigration from all countries to 150,000 a year, the legal quotas have never been filled. He claims that between 1931 and 1940 Germany and Austria sent 153,000 less immigrants than their quota called for. From Ireland, Italy and Poland also fewer people arrived than the quotas allowed.

Claiming that the United States has been far more liberal in immigration laws than any other great nation, Mr. Moses says that between 1820 and 1942 America admitted over 38,000,000 immigrants who have created at least one-half the population of the United States, and have brought to it the strength, the skill and the talent of every race on the globe. But, he claims, the enormous floods of immigrants who entered in the first quarter of the twentieth century clogged America's economic, administrative, social and cultural systems in scores of ways. The strain was too great on the language, on the schools, on housing, on crime, disease and dependency, on congestion of urban centers and on labor and employment, and it became clear that the tremendous unselective mass migrations without let or hindrance had to stop. The quota system proved the best solution, he asserts.

SGT. MEYER LEVIN DIED WHILE SAVING OTHER MEMBERS OF CREW

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.(JTA)-- Master Sgt. Meyer Levin, Brooklyn Jewish youth who flew to fame in the Pacific aerial theatre, died as heroically as he had lived, it was reported today in a United Press dispatch from New Guinea. The three survivors of the crash which took Levin's life on January 7 revealed that his quick action saved their lives.

When the bomber, which had exhausted its gasoline supply trailing a Japanese convoy, crashed, Levin released the life raft on which three members of the crew floated until picked up by a rescue vessel, but was evidently knocked unconscious before he could escape. It was also revealed that Sgt. Levin had not been assigned to what proved to be his last flight but had volunteered to go along since he was an expert at identifying Japanese surface vessels.