

# JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK CITY

VOL. X, NO. 85

Monday, April 12, 1943

## CRACOW GHETTO LIQUIDATED IN "WORST POGROM OF NAZI ANNIHILATION CAMPAIGN" POLES SAY

LONDON, April 11.(JTA)-- Thousands of Jews in the Cracow ghetto were slaughtered and other thousands were deported to the dread concentration camp at Oswiecim during the week-end of March 13 - 15 in what is described as "one of the worst pogroms of the Nazi annihilation campaign," according to reliable information reaching Polish Government circles here today.

While the exact number of Jews that remained in Cracow before this latest massacre is not known, reports reaching neutral countries early in March stated that about 5,000 were confined in the ghetto there. Indirect confirmation of today's report was given by the renegade American broadcaster Paul Revere over the Berlin radio on April 2 during an account of a visit he had just made to Cracow. "Not a single Jew remains in the city," Revere said.

While Gestapo gangs raided the ghetto in the Podgorze quarter of the city, shooting and killing at random, other Nazi squads herded large groups of Jews into cattle trucks, the report says. These trucks, which are described as "death wagons," transported all the victims to the Oswiecim camp, which, Polish circles here state, has recently been equipped with special facilities for mass executions. The report adds that it is presumed that all the Jews taken to Oswiecim are dead.

The same report reveals that a large part of the Jews living in the Lodz ghetto were recently transferred to the small village of Ozorkow. Their present fate is unknown.

Polish circles here report that information reaching them through underground channels indicates that many of the large ghettos which had been almost completely liquidated have now been filled with Jews transferred from smaller towns. These Polish sources added that it is obvious that these ghettos are being used merely as assembly points from which the victims are taken for extermination.

## RUMANIAN GOVERNMENT ORDERS ALL STATELESS JEWS TO LEAVE COUNTRY BY MAY 1

ZURICH, April 11.(JTA)-- The Rumanian Government has issued an order threatening with deportation to Transnistria, the Rumanian-occupied section of the Ukraine, all "stateless Jews" who do not leave Rumania by the end of this month, the Berlin radio reported today.

The official order, as quoted by the Nazi radio, said: "All stateless Jews who fail to leave the country by May 1 will be deported to former Soviet territories on the other side of the Dniester now occupied by Rumanian troops." The Nazi-controlled Paris radio, heard here today, also carried the same report.

## FOOD, CLOTHES TO BE SENT TO JEWISH REFUGEES IN RUSSIA FROM INDIA

JERUSALEM, April 11.(JTA)-- The Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Joint Distribution Committee have received the permission of the Indian Government to purchase large stocks of tea, coffee and clothing in India for shipment to refugee Jews in Russia, it was learned here today. An Agency spokesman also disclosed that 6,000 parcels purchased in Teheran will soon be sent to Russia.

CREATION OF JEWISH STATE IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE AFTER WAR SUGGESTED

LONDON, April 11.(JTA)-- Various projects to help the Jews of Europe now and after the war are advanced in the British press today, including a proposal that a Jewish state be established in South-Eastern Europe at the peace conference after an Allied victory.

The suggestion that the peace conference set up a Jewish state for the distressed Jews of Europe is advanced in an article in the Times written by Commander A. W. H. James, a member of Parliament. He points out that the Palestine immigration quota must be utilized "when conditions will permit it," but that the larger aspect of the Jewish problem in Europe can be solved by the creation after the war of a Jewish state in the south-eastern part of Europe. "There are reasons to believe that the states concerned would be ready to consider the small territorial concessions involved as a step towards solving their own minority problem," Commander James writes.

The Manchester Guardian diplomatic correspondent, emphasizing that Herbert Lehman's visit to London is in no way connected with the forthcoming Bermuda conference on refugees, says that it is admitted that if Lehman were to go to Bermuda, he would be in a position to make a valuable personal contribution to the question of solving the refugee problem.

Many quarters in London are now considering a suggestion that large transit camps be established in North Africa for refugees escaping from Nazi-Europe, it is reported in the press here today. The project envisions the Lehman Office for Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation maintaining the refugees in the camps until they can emigrate to other countries.

An editorial in the London Observer today headed "Rescue the Perishing" assails the government for its indifference to the fate of millions of Jews living under a sentence of death. "Today is April 11," the editorial says, "and it must be stated that so far the British Government has not found it within its power to rescue or shelter from cruel death one single Jewish man, woman or child. The doors of this country and its possessions remain closed."

Referring to the Bermuda conference, the Observer emphasizes that not preliminary explorations, but immediate action, prompted by elementary humanity, is needed. "The murder of the Jews in Europe," it continues, "is the greatest horror of all times. History will record what all nations did and left undone to check it. We must not allow our government to put such a stain on Britain's record."

The Board of Deputies of British Jews was urged by a number of its members today to prepare and place before a plenary session of the Board a detailed policy on post-war Jewish problems which could be considered as the official policy of the Jews in Britain.

NEW OUTBREAK OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN LONDON; TEACHERS GROUPS HITS ANTI-JEWISH AGITATION

LONDON, April 11.(JTA)-- In a new outbreak of anti-Semitic activity, the shutters of Jewish shops in the Bethnal Green section of London today were painted with obscene anti-Jewish slogans and the letter "J". Sidewalks in front of the shops were similarly defaced. In Stepney, a Jewish councillor, Mr. Fine, who introduced a resolution urging the government to outlaw anti-Semitism, reported today that he has received abusive threatening letters.

At the same time the East London Teachers Association adopted a resolution deploring the growth of anti-Semitism in that area. The National Council for Civil Liberties announced that it will hold a conference on April 17 to discuss the problem.

## EINSTEIN, GREW URGE UNITED NATIONS TO MAKE HASTE IN RESCUING JEWS IN EUROPE

NEW YORK, April 11.(JTA)-- Prof. Albert Einstein and Joseph C. Grew, special assistant to Secretary of State Cordell Hull, today appealed to the United Nations to hasten their efforts to save Nazi victims in occupied Europe.

"Help to save the body, that the spirit may continue to be effective for the highest good of mankind," Prof. Einstein said in a radio broadcast under the auspices of the United Jewish Appeal. Former Ambassador Grew, speaking from Washington on the same broadcast, emphasized that although the task of rescuing the refugees is the responsibility of the United Nations, governments will need the help of all of the private relief agencies.

Paying special tribute to the achievements of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service, the three agencies which are represented in the United Jewish Appeal, the former ambassador said: "Food, clothing and medicine must accompany the forces of the United Nations into Europe not alone in the name of humanity, but for practical military purposes. When that time comes, and it may be soon, the work of the private relief organizations for which I speak today, will be vastly expanded. Meanwhile their work must go on, for it is, quite simply, part of the winning of this war. It is also a concrete expression of the ideals for which this war is fought." Ambassador Grew added that he was "proud, as an American, of the work of the three organizations represented in the United Jewish Appeal."

Professor Einstein, whom Ambassador Grew, in his address, characterized as a "great man," cautioned the world against setting up "the intellect as our god," pleading for the establishment of "a community of free and happy human beings who, by constant inward endeavor, strive to liberate themselves from the inheritance of anti-social and destructive instincts."

"Our Jewish people, a small minority everywhere, with no means of defending themselves by force, is exposed to the cruellest suffering, even to complete annihilation, to far greater degrees than any other people in this world," he said. "The hatred raging against us is grounded in the fact that we have upheld the ideal of harmonious partnership and given it expression in word and deed among the best of our people. Exposed to a criminal, ruthless persecution, we are in ourselves aware that we serve mankind's true ideals. There can be today no higher goal for a Jew than to aid with all his power all those of his fellow-Jews whom our aid can reach. To my great satisfaction I have observed that the rescue work supported by the United Jewish Appeal is excellently organized and most highly important for the salvation of our people."

## SOUTH AFRICAN MINISTER LAUNCHES JEWISH NATIONAL FUND CAMPAIGN

JOHANNESBURG, April 11.(JTA)-- Expressing his support of the Jewish National Home, J. H. Hofmeyer, Minister of Finance, today officially launched the Land for Victory campaign proclaimed by the Jewish National Fund in South Africa.

Mr. Hofmeyer lauded the role of Palestine "as a bastion for the use of the Allied Nations" and emphasized that Palestine must be given to the Jews as a National Home since Jewish homelessness is "one of the distinguished causes of anti-Semitism." Zionism is not merely a Jewish cause, but also a human cause, he said.

## Palestine Campaign Opened In Havana

HAVANA, April 11.(JTA)-- A campaign for the Keren Hayesod was opened here tonight at a mass-meeting addressed by Leib Jaffe, Palestine director of the fund, who arrived here last week. Mr. Jaffe visited the British Minister here and was tendered a banquet arranged jointly by various Zionist groups.

FRENCH NEWSPAPER IN NEW YORK MUM ON GIRAUD'S ABROGATION OF CREMIEUX DECREE

NEW YORK, April 11.(JTA)-- French-Jewish circles here today criticized a statement made by Maurice Stern, a member of the board of the Jewish Colonization Association, approving Gen. Giraud's policy regarding the Jews in Algeria and declaring that "Gen. Giraud is the only European who, after the armistice, gave factual proof of his determination to destroy the Nazi anti-Jewish ideology."

Mr. Stern made this statement in the French newspaper "Pour La Victoire" which is published in New York. The newspaper itself has so far refrained from taking any stand on Gen. Giraud's abrogation of the Cremieux decree which has been a subject of discussion in the general press and among Frenchmen in the United States. An inquiry addressed to Madame Genevieve Tabouis, one of the editors of the paper, asking her attitude on this issue, in which American Jewish groups are interested, elicited no reply.

Resentment is also expressed in French-Jewish circles at the fact that Andre Levy, one of the owners of the Unis Prix Department stores in Paris, who arrived here from Algeria recently, is engaged in an attempt to whitewash Gen. Giraud and Marcel Peyrouton by explaining away the abrogation of the Cremieux decree. He is canvassing Jewish leaders in order to mitigate the adverse reaction to the annulment of the decree.

FRENCH JEWISH LEADERS FORM COMMITTEE TO RAISE FUNDS IN U.S. FOR FIGHTING FRENCH

NEW YORK, April 11.(JTA)-- A Free French Committee, headed by prominent French Jews now in America, has been established here to raise funds among American Jews for Fighting French relief, it was announced yesterday. The committee, which will be affiliated with the United Jewish War Effort, is headed by Baron Edouard de Rothschild, president of the Consistoire des Israelites de France et d'Algerie, and Captain Pierre Dreyfus. The group was organized by Henri Torres, former French deputy and famous trial lawyer.

On the committee are Naoum Aronson, sculptor; Commandant Benedictus of the French Navy; Professor Gustave Cohen of Sorbonne University; Paul Jacob, lawyer; Rabbi S. Langer, Jean Benoit-Levy, motion picture director; Maxa Nordau, writer-lecturer; Andre Spire, poet; Paul Weill, international lawyer; Paul Wertheimer, industrialist, and Dr. Max Beer, Jewish leader.

SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL PROCLAIMS SIX-WEEK PERIOD OF MOURNING FOR JEWS IN EUROPE

NEW YORK, April 11.(JTA)-- The Synagogue Council of America today proclaimed a six-week Period of Mourning and Intercession for the two million Jews massacred by the Nazis in Europe, which will start on the closing day of Passover and conclude on June 9.

During these six weeks synagogues in every part of the country will conduct special memorial services. Jews are being asked to observe Mondays and Thursdays as partial fast days, to limit occasions of amusement, and to make extra contributions to the United Jewish Appeal, which is engaged in rescue work for European Jews. Special prayers are to be recited and moments of silence observed at home and in public meetings. Certain days in the Jewish calendar which are traditionally observed as semi-festival days during this period will be excepted. Frequent religious gatherings will be organized by the leading rabbis in communities throughout the nation.