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RUMANIA IMPOSES \$28,000,000 LEVY ON JEWS; JEWISH LEADERS THREATENED

GENEVA, May 14.(JTA)-- Jewish leaders in Bucharest were recently summoned to appear before the authorities and were told that they must deliver to the Government the sum of 4,000,000,000 lei - approximately \$28,000,000 at the last quoted rate of exchange - by September 1, 1943.

Reporting this new levy today, the Nazi Transocean news agency stated that unless the Jews deliver the total sum by the designated date, there will be a new mass-deportation of Jews from Rumania to Transnistria where tens of thousands of deported Jews have perished.

The ultimatum to the Jewish leaders was delivered in the offices of the Commissariate for Jewish Affairs in Bucharest. Radu Lecca, the Rumanian commissar in charge of Jewish questions, said that the Jews must raise the 4,000,000,000 lei among themselves by taxing every Jewish man and woman "and even half-Aryans." Those who refuse to pay will be sent, together with their families, to Transnistrian territory, he added.

240,000 Rumanian Jews Under Threat of Deportation

The approximately 240,000 Jews still living in Rumania are constantly threatened with deportation to "unknown destinations" as an "economically inactive element," another report reaching here today stated. Since the Jews are deprived of the right to work, the Rumanian authorities claim that they must be "evacuated" from the cities where they live in order to make the protection of these cities from air raids more effective.

Only about 11,000 Jews in the whole of Rumania have been classified as "economically useful," the report revealed. These are mostly engineers and specialists indispensable to Rumania's economy and they are in no danger of being deported.

MAYOR OF RABAT ARRESTED FOR SABOTAGING ABOLISHMENT OF VICHY ANTI-JEWISH LAWS

LONDON, May 14.(JTA)-- The Mayor of Rabat, Morocco, and twelve municipal officials there are reported here today to have been arrested for sabotaging the orders issued by Gen. Giraud abolishing the Vichy anti-Jewish laws in North Africa.

London newspapers also report that a number of students in Algiers have been arrested for trying to organize a student demonstration against the abolition of the numerus clausus for Jews in the school system. Those arrested proved to be leaders of the fascist movement among the youth.

NAZIS BURN DOWN 200 HOUSES IN WARSAW GHETTO; EXECUTE JEWISH HOSTAGES

LONDON, May 14.(JTA)-- The Polish Telegraphic Agency today reported that during the battle between the Jews and the Nazis in the Warsaw ghetto about 200 houses were burned down by the German troops. Several members of the ghetto council, who had been seized as hostages on April 17, were shot. They included Gustav Wilikowski, an attorney named Szereszewski and Maximillian Lichtenbaum and Alfred Stegman, engineers. Their bodies were thrown on a garbage dump. This news was broadcast Thursday evening by a secret Polish radio station.

ITALY REGISTERS ITALIAN JEWS IN FRANCE; VICHY RE-EXAMINES NATURALIZATIONS

ZURICH, May 14.(JTA)-- The Italian Government has issued an order to its consulates in France to arrange for the registration of all Italian Jews residing in the section controlled by the Vichy regime as well as in the French territory which is under the administration of the Nazi occupation forces. It is believed that the registration will result in the deportation of the Jews to Italy for slave labor building fortifications.

The Vichy Government today announced that all Jews who have been deported from France have automatically lost their French citizenship. The announcement adds that a commission has been established to examine the citizenship of all naturalized Jews still living in France.

HUNGARIAN DEPUTIES PROTEST CONSCRIPTION OF JEWS FOR LABOR SERVICE AT FRONT

LONDON, May 14.(JTA)-- Reports of a recent stormy session of the Hungarian Parliament during which Socialist and other deputies strongly protested the deportation of Hungarian Jews to the Russian front for forced labor, appear in the London press today.

Asserting that a large number of the deported Jews are dying at the front, the Socialist deputies distributed leaflets and photographs depicting the appalling conditions under which the Jewish conscripts are forced to live and work. The Socialist protest was supported by members of the Small Farmers party and even by some pro-Fascist deputies.

One deputy, named Payer, told the house that God's punishment is sure to fall on Hungary for the terrible suffering the government has inflicted upon the Jews. Following the protest, Premier von Kallay immediately adjourned the session, declaring that the debate was "highly inconvenient" at the present time. Reports from Russia, in recent months, based on captured Hungarian documents and prisoners, indicated that about a quarter of a million Jews have been conscripted for labor service at the front.

NON-JEWISH GROUP TO FIGHT FOR JUSTICE FOR JEWS FORMED IN SCOTLAND

LONDON, May 14.(JTA)-- A "Scottish Union for Justice for the Jews" has been formed in Glasgow by prominent non-Jews who are interested in placing the case for the Jews before non-Jewish groups, it was announced here today. Sir John Boyd-Orr, prominent nutrition and food expert, is president of the organization.

The New Statesman and Nation today, commenting further on the Bermuda conference, declares that nothing effective was accomplished at the parley. "Although England and America are unable to do much on a large scale, there are many things on a small scale which were not difficult to do," it says.

JEWISH PROFESSOR ELECTED MEMBER OF TURKISH PARLIAMENT

ISTANBUL, May 14.(JTA)-- Professor Abraham Galante, prominent Jewish leader in Turkey and veteran historian of Jewish life under Turkish rulers, has been elected a member of the Turkish National Assembly, it was announced here today.

PALESTINE MILITARY ASKS RESIDENTS TO CONTRIBUTE MAPS OF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

JERUSALEM, May 14.(JTA)-- Military headquarters here today appealed to all Palestine residents for recent maps, gazateers, or guidebooks of any European country. It is believed that they are needed in connection with the expected Allied invasion of the continent.

NAZIS DISSATISFIED WITH SATELLITE COUNTRIES; CLAIM THEY SHOW MERCY TO JEWS

STOCKHOLM, May 14.(JTA)--- The slogan "no mercy for the Jews" which was recently proclaimed by Nazi Propaganda Minister Goebbels is being widely spread throughout the satellite countries as part of a special campaign mapped out by propagandists in Berlin, it was learned here today.

The official German news agency, DNB, today reported from Berlin that Dr. Paul Schmidt, head of the press department of the German Foreign Office, is the first of a number of important Nazi officials who are going to visit Slovakia, Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria to give new impetus to the anti-Jewish propaganda in these countries. Upon his arrival this week in Bratislava, Schmidt addressed a meeting at the university there on the "Jewish problem" declaring, according to the DNB, that "Germany will not rest until total victory over the Jews is achieved."

Nazi newspapers reaching here today from Germany express dissatisfaction at the fact that Bulgaria and Hungary are ready to permit emigration of a number of Jewish children and also a small number of adults. At the same time they carry articles urging that "Jews be dealt with mercilessly." The Breslauer Neuste Nachrichten and other German newspapers emphasize that Jews are still treated too well in the Balkan countries. "It is inconceivable that South-Eastern nations should still handle the Jewish problem as carefully as an egg," the Breslau newspaper writes.

MASS-ARRESTS OF JEWS IN BULGARIA; EIGHT SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR SABOTAGE

BERN, May 14.(JTA)-- Mass-arrests of Jews in Bulgaria were reported here today as a result of an attempted assassination in Sofia of a radio engineer, Janakiev, known to be one of the Bulgarian agents of the Gestapo.

In addition to the alleged assailant, Leon Menachem Depapo, twenty young Jewish girls were arrested in Sofia on the charge of conspiring for a foreign power. Jews are also being arrested in other Bulgarian cities, the press here today reported. Eight Jews were sentenced to death by a Bulgarian military tribunal on the charge of sabotaging military installations.

Jews in all provincial towns in Bulgaria have been ordered by the authorities to display a Mogen David sign at the entrance to their homes, in order to indicate that the residents are Jewish, the Deutsche Nachrichten Bureau, official Nazi news agency, reported today from Berlin.

ZYGELBOJM COMMITTED SUICIDE, FRIENDS SAY; NAZIS KILLED HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER

LONDON, May 14.(JTA)-- Intimate friends of Samuel Zygelbojm, the Jewish member of the Polish National Council who died here suddenly this week, today expressed the opinion that he had committed suicide after receiving news that his wife and his daughter had been massacred by the Nazis in occupied Poland.

Polish President Raczkiewicz and Premier Sikorski today expressed regret at Zygelbojm's death. Gen. Sikorski, in behalf of the government and the armed forces, declared: "I am deeply moved by the sudden death of Zygelbojm, a meritorious Polish patriot and a staunch representative of the Jewish worker. Zygelbojm died like a soldier, at his post. His death is a grave loss to all of us. We will always remember him as one of the great patriots and public men of Poland of Jewish origin."

MONUMENT TO BE ERECTED TO AGED STALINGRAD JEW WHO DEFIED NAZIS

KUIBYSHEV, May 14.(JTA)-- A monument is to be erected at Golubaya, in Stalingrad province, to an aged Jew who defied Nazi torture and refused to disclose where valuable electrical generating equipment and farm machinery had been hidden before the Russians were forced to retreat.

When the Nazis came to Golubaya they seized Joseph Weisman, a 62-year-old watchman at the local machine and tractor station and demanded that he tell them where the station's dynamo had been hidden and also harrows, which they needed to disguise their gun emplacements from Soviet aerial reconnaissance. The Germans stripped Weisman naked and beat him with twigs, and when he still refused to give them any information, they gouged out both of his eyes with bayonets. Finally, they shot him.

Today the Golubaya station is again in operation, using the machinery which Weisman saved from the Nazis. The local Soviet authorities have voted to erect the monument on the exact spot where Weisman was killed.

ZOA, HADASSAH URGE UNITED ZIONIST FRONT AT ELECTIONS TO AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, May 14.(JTA)-- The Zionist Organization of America, the Hadassah and the Order Sons of Zion today issued a joint call to their branches throughout the country "to unite in behalf of local delegates to the American Jewish Conference who are pledged to the Biltmore Zionist program," which asks for the opening wide of Palestine's doors for Jewish immigration, vesting the Jewish Agency with control of immigration, and the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth.

"Only by such united action can we hope to give expression to what we believe to be the overwhelming sentiment for Palestine which exists in American Jewry," the joint statement says. "We have always maintained that the enrolled membership of the Zionist Organization does not adequately represent the strength of the Zionist movement in this country. There is an infinite number of organizations, synagogues, sisterhoods, landsmanschaften and philanthropic groups which hitherto have taken no official stand on Palestine but whose members have a strong sympathy for the purposes of Zionism and who through their liberal contributions have indicated their desire to be of help in the upbuilding of the Jewish National Home. We must mobilize this latent strength and afford it the opportunity of becoming articulate through the election of a maximum number of delegates committed to the Zionist program," the statement declares.

ARGENTINE JEWS GAVE MORE THAN \$100,000 TO BRITISH WAR RELIEF IN PAST YEAR

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina, May 14.(JTA)-- More than \$100,000 were contributed by Argentine Jews to British War Relief during the past year, it is revealed in the annual report of the Council of the Jewish Committee to Aid England, made public here today. Since December of 1940 the Committee has given about \$225,000 for British relief.

During 1942, the Committee also made grants to the Central Yugoslav Committee in Argentina and to the Fighting French, as well as to local war activity groups.

FOUR-DAY CONFERENCE WILL DISCUSS EFFECT OF WAR ON JEWISH FAMILY

CLEVELAND, May 14.(JTA)-- The effect of the war on the Jewish family and individual as well as the post-war needs of world Jewry will be the major topics of discussion at a four-day session of a joint annual conference of educators and communal workers sponsored by the National Council for Jewish Education to be held in this city from May 28 through May 31, it was announced here today.