JTA DATIY NEWS BULLETIN

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency 106 East 41st Street, New York, N. Y.

VOL. X. NO. 127

Monday, May 31,1943

QUARTER OF A MILLION JEWS SENT FROM WARSAW GHETTO TO EXECUTION CAMP IN TWO MONTHS

LONDON, May 30.(JTA) -- Statistics revealing how the Warsaw ghetto was cleared of nearly a quarter of a million Jews in a two-month period last Summer were made public here today by the Polish Government, on the basis of official German figures obtained from Nazi newspapers and governmental reports.

Mass-deportations began last July 22, the Polish Government said, adding that by the end of July, 56,089 Jews had been sent to the Treblinka "death camp" where it is assumed most of them were executed. In August, 135,120 were sent to Treblinka, while from September 1 to September 12 another 51,969 were taken to the execution center.

During August, the report discloses, only 45.6 percent of the deaths among the Jews in the ghetto were from neural causes. Fifty-one percent resulted from executions and 5.4 percent were suicides. During the first half of September an average of 198 Jews were shot daily, the report adds. This total fell to twelve daily in the latter half of the month.

AUSTRIAN JEW; TAKEN PRISONER BY RUSSIANS, SAYS GERMAN ARMY CONSCRIPTING JEWS

MOSCOW, May 30.(JTA) -- The disclosure that the Nazis are now using Jews for military service and sending them to the Russian front was made in the Soviet press today on the basis of testimony by the first German-Jewish war prisoner to fall into the hands of the Russian army. The prisoner surrendered at an advanced post on an undisclosed battlefield.

"Hitler is now taking everybody and anybody," the Jewish prisoner stated. He reached the Russian positions driving a German staff our. "I am a Jew," he declared when he spied the Red Armyman, "and I came here to give myself up.

At first the Russian soldiers were puzzled, since they knew that the Nazis be red Jews from the German army. The prisoner insisted, however, that he be questioned by Jewish soldiers, whom he convinced that he was an Austrian Jew who not only spoke Yiddish fluently, but who also spoke Hebrew. He recited Jewish prayers which, he said, he learned in a Jewish religious school in his childhood, and declared that his aged father is now living in a ghetto, while his mother and two sisters have died in the ghetto from hunger "like thousands of other Jews."

"Here is a reminder of the horrible days," he said, pulling from his pocket a yellow badge which he was compelled to wear before he was conscripted by the Nazis. Prior to that he worked as an electrical engineer in a factory in Austria and had to wear the yellow badge even during working hours. "After reaching the front, I tried several times to surrender to the Red Army, but was closely watched all the time," he related. "My chance came when I was sent with an officer in a car to a provision station at the front lines. The officer got out of the car for a few minutes and I was left alone. Taking this opportunity, I drove straight to the advanced Russian position and surrendered."

KING IBN SAUD DECLARES OPPOSITION TO JEWISH CLAIMS ON PALESTINE

NEW YORK, May 30.(JTA) -- Voicing his opposition to Jewish claims on Palestine, and terming these demands "an error;" King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia mades public his views on Arab-Jewish relations in the current issue of Life magazine, so that "the friendly American people may understand the truth of the matter."

The powerful ruler of Saudi Arabia indicates that the Jewish claims with regard to Pelestine would "involve the Allies and the Moslems in a problem void of good." In his written statement given to Noel F. Busoh, Life correspondent, he emphasizes that "Europe and America as well as other lands are larger and more fertile than Palestine" and more suitable for Jewish settlement. He believes that the interests of the native Jewish population in Palestine can be safeguarded only if the Jews cease acquiring property and "refrain from using their great financial power for that purpose." The text of King Ibn Saudis statement reads:

"I have withheld my opinion concerning the Palestine problem from the Arabs in order to avoid placing them in an embarrassing position with the Allies. But because you are one of our friends, I wish to acquaint you with my opinion so that it can be made known to the friendly American people, so that they may understand the truth of the matter.

"First, I know of nothing that justifies the Jewish claims in Palestine. Centuries before the advent of Mohammed, Palestine belonged to the Jews. But the Romans prevailed over them, killed some and dispersed the rest. No trace of their rule remained. Then the Arabs seized Palestine from the Romans, more than thirteen hundred years ago, and it has remained ever since in the possession of the Moslems. This shows that the Jews have no right to their claim, since all the countries of the world saw the succession of different peoples who conquered them. Those countries became their undisputed homelands. Were we to follow the Jewish theory, it would become necessary for many peoples of the world, including those of Palestine, to move out of the lands wherein they settled.

"Secondly, I am not afraid of the Jews or of the possibility of their ever having a state or power, either in the land of the Arabs or elsewhere. This is in accordance with what God has revealed unto us through the mouth of His Prophet in His Holy Book. Thus I hold the demands of the Jews upon this land an error; first because it constitutes an injustice against the Arabs, and the Moslems in general; and secondly because it causes dissensions and disturbances between the Moslems and their friends the Allies; and in this I fail to see anything good. Furthermore, if the Jews are impelled to seek a place to live, Europe and America as well as other lands are larger and more fertile than Palestine, and more suitable to their welfare and interests. This would constitute justice, and there is no need to involve the Allies and the Moslems in a problem void of good.

"As to the native Jewish population in Paleatine, I suggest that the Arabs agree with their friends the Allies to safeguard the interests of those Jews, provided the Jews commit no action that might lead to strife and dissension, which would not be in the general interest, and provided the Jews give a guarantee, endorsed by the Allies, that they would not strive to buy Arab property, and would refrain from using their great financial power for that purpose. Such efforts would only bring to the people of Palestine loss and injury, and poverty and decay to their doors. Such efforts would inevitably lead to more trouble. On the other hand the Arabs would recognize the rights of the Jews and would guarantee to safeguard them."

"JEWISH MARITIME DAY" OBSERVED THROUGHOUT PALESTINE

TEL AVIV, May 30.(JTA) -- "Jewish Maritime Day" was observed yesterday throughout Palestine, marking the seventh anniversary of the completion of Tel Aviv harbor.

DR. FILDERMAN WILL BE DEPORTED TO TRANSMISTRIA; PREMIER SIGNS DEPORTATION ORDER

ZURICH, May 30.(JTA) -- The German official news agency, DNB, today reported that Dr. William Filderman, who was arrested a few days ago in Bucharest on the charge that he urged Jews in Rumania not to pay the special "Jewish tax," will be deported to Transnistria, the Axis-held Russian territory where tens of thousands of Rumanian Jews have perished in exile under the Rumanian administration.

The order to deport the Jewish leader to Transnistria was issued by Ion Antonescu, Rumanian Premier, the Nazi news agancy said. Antonescue was a school mate of Dr. Filderman at Bucherest University.

The introduction of a "special tax" on Jews, Poles and Gypsies in the Czech Protectorate has been announced this week in Prague. This tax is in addition to the special income tax which has been imposed on Jews regardless of their nationality amounting to fifteen percent of their income.

SPANISH AUTHORITIES IN TANGIER ARREST AND FLOG JEWS VOLUNTEERING TO WORK FOR ALLIES

LONDON, May 30.(JTA) -- More than 100 Jewish and Arab youths who registered at the French consulate in Tangiers for labor service in French Morocco were rounded up during the week-end by the Spanish police and flogged, it was learned here today. Thirty of them have been deported to Tetuan.

The police headquarters in Tangiers where the fleggingstook place, was besieged by weeping parents and relatives asking for the release of the arrested boys. The Spanish authorities admitted that the boys were arrested and thrashed because they volunteered to work for the Allies and not for the Axis.

ALL JEWS MUST BE DEPORTED FROM HUNGARY, SAYS PREMIER VON KALLAY

ZURICH, May 30.(JTA) -- Claiming that Hungary has more Jewish residents than "any other country in Western Europe," Premier Nicolas Von Kallay today declared in a Budapest broadcast heard here that "the only solution of the Jewish problem is deportation of all the Jews."

Von Kallay denied persistent reports of anti-Jewish persecution in Hungary, stating that "Bungarians never persecute Jews because they know their duties as Christiens."

N.R.S. ANNUAL REPORT REVEALS REFUGEES' CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICAN WAR EFFORT

NEW YORK, May 30.(JTA) -- Refugees are paying dividends to America in terms of vital contributions to the country's war effort says the current annual report of the National Refugee Service, published today. During the past year, the report reveals, thousands of newcomers have been contributing to America's defense by serving in the armed forces, working in defense industries, and helping to maintain civilian health and morale.

The report is prefaced by a letter from Earl G. Harrison, Commissioner of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, in which he pays tribute to the way in which emigres have been adjusted to life in America. "Because the task of adjusting newcomers to the community is exceedingly complex, Government activities in their behalf must be supplemented by agencies such as the National Refugee Service," Mr. Harrison points out. "This organization and its cooperating agencies, through a program of aid and adjustment, have made possible the effective absorption of most of our new arrivals in amazingly short order."