

JTA DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency

106 East 41st Street, New York, N. Y.

VOL. X. NO. 169

Thursday, July 22, 1943

ITALIANS AND GERMANS UTILIZING ALLIED INVASION OF SICILY TO ATTACK JEWS

BERN, July 21.(JTA)-- Both the Italian and German radio and press are utilizing the Allied invasion of Sicily for renewed attacks against the Jews and to bolster their oft-repeated charge that the Allies are fighting a "Jewish war."

The Rome radio was heard here today describing the raid on that city as being carried out by "American air gangsters led by a Jewish general, Brigadier-General Levy." (Informed quarters in the United States state that there is no brigadier-general named Levy attached to the American air forces.)

The Nazi party's press service, commenting on General Sir Harold Alexander's annulment of all racial laws in Sicily, alleges that there are no Jews in Sicily and that General Alexander's action is "symbolic" of the Allied war aims. The Nazi press officer in the Wilhelmstrasse, Schmidt, at a press conference of neutral journalists, also pointed to the fact that one of the first acts of AMGOT in Sicily was restoration of civil rights to Jews.

HUNGARY ORDERS LABOR CONSCRIPTION OF ALL JEWS BETWEEN 38 AND 43

ZURICH, July 21.(JTA)-- All Hungarian Jews between the ages of 38 and 43 have been ordered to report for three months compulsory labor service, according to a broadcast on the Budapest radio today. The broadcast did not indicate whether the labor conscripts would be used within Hungary or sent to the Russian front to construct fortifications.

Meanwhile, the German press continues to attack the Hungarian government for not taking sufficiently strong anti-Jewish measures. The "Nachrichten fuer das Aussenhandel," a copy of which was received here today, charges that Jews still control one-third of the industrial enterprises in Sub-Carpathian Russia, the section of Czechoslovakia annexed by Hungary. The newspaper demands that all industrial permits granted Jews be revoked.

Budapest papers reaching here report that Propaganda Minister Stephen Antal plans to "reorganize the entire publishing trade in Hungary in the Christian spirit to purge it of its Jewish influences."

FRENCH NEWSPAPER IN LONDON CALLS ON GIRAUD TO RESTORE CREMIEUX LAW

LONDON, July 21.(JTA)-- The newspaper France, published here, today called for restoration of the Cremieux Law of 1870, granting citizenship to Algerian Jews, which was abrogated by General Henri Giraud last March.

In an editorial welcoming General Giraud to London, the newspaper emphasized that in order to achieve complete unity among all French groups, it was necessary to abolish certain measures which are contrary to Republican law. The abrogation of the Cremieux Law by Giraud was cited as one of the anti-Republican measures that must go.

NEW POLISH COMMANDER PLEDGES EQUAL RIGHTS FOR JEWS IN ARMED FORCES

LONDON, July 21.(JTA)-- "The principle of the equality of all citizens is embodied in the Polish Constitution and is, therefore, binding upon the Polish forces and their Commander-in-Chief," General Kazimierz Sosnkowski, new commander of the Polish armed forces, declared last night in an exclusive statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Asked for a statement defining his attitude towards the "Jewish problem" as such, Gen. Sosnkowski said that "as a soldier, holding only a military position, I am unable to make pronouncements concerning political matters, which are the exclusive domain of the Government."

When queried specifically on the position of Jewish soldiers in the Polish forces, Gen. Sosnkowski declared that "every commander knows how important it is to maintain good morale among his troops. Soldiers must not only be well trained, but must be sound in mind and body. Therefore, all facilities are extended to Christian and Jewish Polish soldiers to practice their religion." He pointed out that rabbis are attached to the Polish troops as chaplains to aid the Jewish soldiers.

Gen. Sosnkowski concluded by stating that "Christian ideals and the democratic love of freedom have for centuries permeated Polish life and culture and are instilled in the heart of every true Pole," and reiterated his "personal feelings of dismay and horror" at the persecution of the Jews in Poland by the Nazis.

The new commander-in-chief affirmed that he stood by the late General Sikorski's "order of the day," issued in August, 1940, barring any discrimination against soldiers of the Jewish faith and warning that persons molesting Jewish soldiers would be punished.

The J.T.A. query to Gen. Sosnkowski was motivated by the fact that some Polish quarters have charged that he had anti-Semitic tendencies. They point to the fact that during the war with Russia in 1920 he interned thousands of Jewish soldiers and volunteers in an isolation camp near Jablonna, on the charge that they had "Bolshevik tendencies."

CALL CONFERENCE IN PALESTINE TO DISCUSS FORMATION OF "PROVISIONAL JEWISH GOVERNMENT"

JERUSALEM, July 21.(JTA)-- A manifesto appealing to Jews in Palestine and throughout the world to support the establishment of a "provisional Jewish government" with its headquarters in the United States, was issued here today by a group of Jewish leaders including Rabbi Jacob Toledano, Sephardic Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv; Dr. David Prato, former Chief Rabbi of Rome, and Prof. Joseph Klausner of the Hebrew University.

Announcing that a Palestine-wide conference would be held on July 25 to discuss the formation of a "provisional government," the signers of the manifesto declared that such a government would have as its aims: Securing recognition of the Jewish people as an ally of the United Nations; Establishing internal peace; Securing the participation of the Jewish people as such in the peace conference; Saving the Jews remaining in Axis countries; and, finally, establishment of a Jewish nation in Palestine. They appealed to the Jewish Agency, the Jewish National Council and all parties to assist in the formation of the "provisional government."

EMERGENCY CONFERENCE PANELS PROPOSE MEANS OF SAVING JEWS IN EUROPE

NEW YORK, July 21.(JTA)-- A series of proposals touching on various aspects of the problem of rescuing the Jews in Axis-held Europe were advanced here today by groups of experts meeting in panel discussions at the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe, at the Hotel Commodore.

The panel on International Relations, which is headed by Prof. Max Lerner, suggested that America and Britain approach the Axis satellites with a proposal that the International Red Cross be allowed to supervise the treatment of Jews in those countries. It also urged that the United States and England give guarantees to neutral countries, assuring them of financial support for Jews received within their borders. A large-scale campaign to organize mass opinion in the United States to make clear to the President and State Department that special officials must be appointed to handle the rescue of Jews, was also urged by the international relations committee.

The panel on Military Affairs, which is under the chairmanship of Admiral Yates Stirling, Jr., suggested that all the United Nations appoint a governmental agency "immediately to put into effect promises of reprisals and reprisals" to force all satellite nations allied with the Axis to discontinue the persecution of the Jewish people. The panel on Religion, which is being presided over by Bishop Henry St. George Tucker, came to the conclusion that the churches should take the following steps: Voice support of the Zionist aspirations for a Jewish National State in Palestine. Point out that anti-Semitism is of necessity opposed to Christianity. Declare that the persecution of the Jews in Europe is a problem that must be met now and not put off until the peace conference.

Other panels discussed Public Opinion and Relief and Transportation. The groups will meet again before submitting their final recommendations to the resolutions committee of the Conference on Friday evening.

DR. JAMES BERNSTEIN, HIAS-ICA EUROPEAN DIRECTOR, RETURNS TO LISBON

NEW YORK, July 21.(JTA)-- Dr. James Bernstein, the representative of the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society on the board of directors of the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association, has left for his post in Lisbon, Portugal, it was announced today by Mr. Abraham Herman, President of HIAS.

Dr. Bernstein, who has been connected with the work of the Society for two decades, is in charge of the European "Rescue Through Emigration" activities being conducted by HIAS and its European agency, the HIAS-ICA Emigration Association, which since the occupation of France, has its headquarters in Portugal. He returned to New York in April for consultation with the board of directors of HIAS and the formulation of new plans under which those rescued from the Nazi-held countries may be directed towards new havens in the Western Hemisphere.

ESTABLISH ORGANIZATION TO SETTLE JEWISH REFUGEES IN ETHIOPIA

NEW YORK, July 21.(JTA)-- Formation of an organization to arrange the settlement of European Jews in the Harrar area of Ethiopia and in adjoining British Somaliland was announced here today. The group, which calls itself the Council for an Autonomous Jewish Province in Harrar, wants to settle Jewish refugees from Europe in Harrar immediately after the war "under conditions of political autonomy."

DEHYDRATED PALESTINE CITRUS FRUITS WILL HELP TO FEED POST-WAR EUROPE, SAYS STANLEY

LONDON, July 21.(JTA)-- Dehydrated citrus products from Palestine are expected to play an important part in providing vitamins for Allied troops and in meeting the food requirements of the civilian populations in devastated areas of liberated Europe after the war, Colonial Secretary Colonel Oliver Stanley stated in Commons today in reply to a member who pointed to the precarious position of Palestine citrus growers as a result of their export markets being closed because of the war.

W.W. Astor, Conservative, suggested the erection of a dehydration plant in Palestine to enable the growers to export the citrus fruits after they were processed and were in no danger of spoiling. Admitting that the establishment of such a plant might be feasible, Col. Stanley revealed that a "dehydration mission," composed of two officers of the Food Ministry and a representative of the United States Department of Agriculture, is now in Africa and is expected in Palestine shortly.

This commission will report to the Minister of Food and its report will be used by the Colonial Ministry in deciding whether or not to establish a dehydration plant in Palestine, Col. Stanley added, pointing out, at the same time, that the production of concentrated citrus juices has already begun in Palestine and that the Food Ministry is purchasing large quantities of the juices.

AUSTRALIAN MINISTER PRAISES JEWISH AGRICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN PALESTINE

MELBOURNE, Australia, July 21.(JTA)-- Praise for Jewish agricultural achievements in Palestine was voiced here today by Australian Minister to Russia Slater, who visited Palestine while en route home. He contrasted Jewish agricultural methods with the primitive methods of the Arabs and stated that the Jewish settlements compared with any he had seen in other parts of the world.

The Emergency Committee for European Jewry today cabled to the Archbishop of Canterbury and to Miss Eleanor Rathbone, Independent member of Parliament, expressing its appreciation for their efforts on behalf of the Jews in Europe.

EMMA LAZARUS TO BE HONORED AT STATUE OF LIBERTY CEREMONIES TODAY

NEW YORK, July 21.(JTA)-- The 94th anniversary of the birth of Emma Lazarus, whose poem, "The New Colossus," is inscribed on the base of the Statue of Liberty, will be marked on Bedloe's Island in New York harbor, where the Statue is located, on Thursday afternoon, it was announced here today.

Speakers at the ceremonies, which have been arranged by the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born, will include George A. Palmer, of the Department of the Interior, who will preside, Congressman Vito Marcantonio of New York and Councilman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

Emma Lazarus was born in New York City on July 22, 1849, of Spanish-Jewish immigrant parents. She died in 1887. She wrote her world-famous poem, "The New Colossus," in 1883 as her contribution to the public campaign to raise funds for the purchase of the pedestal on which the Statue of Liberty was to stand.