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1,800,000 JEWS KILLED IN POLAND UP TO MAY OF 1943, POLISH GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES

LONDON, July 26.(JTA)-- More than 1,800,000 Jews had been exterminated by the Nazi occupation authorities in Poland up to May 1, 1943, Wladyslaw Banaczuk, Minister for Home Affairs in the new Polish Cabinet, announced here today on the basis of reports reaching his Government from Polish underground groups. These same reports reveal that 1,400,000 Poles were murdered in the same period, Mr. Banaczuk stated.

Underground information, he said, disclosed a recent subterfuge used by the Nazis to lure fugitive Polish Jews to their death. The German press in Poland publishes reports that certain ghettos still exist in specified towns. Since a Jew caught in a city from which Jews have been barred or found wandering in the forests or countryside is almost automatically executed, the Jewish fugitives attempt to reach ghettos, where there is less chance of their being discovered. When they arrive at the places where the fictitious ghettos are supposedly located, they are rounded up by the Nazis.

A special statistical department of the underground, Mr. Banaczuk stated, is now at work compiling even more recent figures concerning the number of Jews and Poles killed by the Germans. This department, he added, is also checking the number of Poles and Jews left in cities and towns. In addition to the civilians killed without any charges being placed against them, Nazi military tribunals have executed 140,000 Jews and Poles since the invasion, the underground report said.

The Polish Home Minister also reported that in anticipation of withdrawing their front lines from Russia to Poland, the Nazis have cordoned off half of the province of Lublin, where they are constructing defenses and murdering thousands of civilians whom they fear are "unreliable."

SPANISH AUTHORITIES ORDER 1,000 REFUGEES IMPRISONED; NEW POLICY SEEN

LONDON, July 26.(JTA)-- Spanish authorities have ordered the re-imprisonment of a large number of refugees previously released from Miranda de Ebro, it was learned here today. No explanation of the action was immediately available.

Up to 1,000 refugees of all nationalities, including a proportion of "stateless" exiles, are being transferred from assigned residences at Caldas de Malavella and Gerona to the great prison at Miranda. They are believed to comprise the same group once before imprisoned at Miranda, where they had been cared for and released through the efforts of American relief organizations.

The Spanish measure, regarded as a drastic reversal of policy, will impose added burdens on the relief organizations, since the prisoners have to be fed by friends, relatives or interested groups while under detention. One interpretation of the move offered here was that Dictator Franco wished to have all anti-Fascist elements in custody in the event of an Allied invasion of the Continent. Another was that the Spanish government was bringing pressure on relief groups to expedite the transfer of all refugees from Spanish soil.

LORD WEDGEWOOD, VETERAN FIGHTER FOR JEWISH RIGHTS, DIES IN LONDON AT 71

LONDON, July 26.(JTA)-- Lord Josiah Wedgewood, long-time friend of Zionism and fighter for Jewish rights, died at his home here this morning at the age of 71. He had been suffering from a severe heart ailment. The British Zionist Federation and Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, immediately upon being informed of Lord Wedgewood's death sent condolences to his family and the Agency announced that it will hold a memorial meeting in his honor.

Since the early part of this century, Lord Wedgewood, who was raised to the peerage in December, 1941, had been a supporter of Jewish causes in Parliament and since 1915 he had been, perhaps, the chief spokesman for Zionism in the House of Commons and later in the House of Lords. In May of 1942 he made a broadcast to America suggesting that Britain surrender the mandate over Palestine to the United States since, he charged, it had failed in its policy there. The broadcast was severely criticized by the British Colonial Office which described it as "an incitement to civil war in Palestine." Lord Wedgewood, however, continued his battle for Zionist aims until he became severely ill last month.

A frequent visitor to the United States, where he spoke for the Zionist movement, Lord Wedgewood was there last in the summer of 1941. At that time he suffered a severe heart attack which kept him confined to a hospital for several weeks and which resulted, owing to an error, in the London Evening Standard publishing his obituary.

Lord Wedgewood had a distinguished Parliamentary and military career, having served in Commons from 1906 until 1941, when he entered the House of Lords. In the first Labor Government he was Chancellor for the Duchy of Lancaster. For his part in the landing at Gallipoli in World War I, during which he was severely wounded, he received the Distinguished Service Order.

U.S. Zionists Mourn Wedgewood As Staunch Friend of Zionist Cause

NEW YORK, July 26.(JTA)-- Lord Wedgewood of Barlaston was "the most valiant and dedicated friend of the Jewish people and the cause of Zionism," Dr. Stephen S. Wise, chairman of the American Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs, declared tonight in a tribute to the British statesman who died in England earlier in the day.

"Every memory of Josiah Wedgewood will strengthen the just Jewish aims and claims with regard to a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine," Dr. Wise said. "Wedgewood's faith in Zionism rested upon his faith in his own country and its inviolable honor, in the cause of human freedom and in the Jewish people. He was the friend of every just human cause. His life served his country. Among those who surround his bier are the Jewish people, unrelated to him in blood but one with him in the faith that human peace depends upon justice to the small peoples as well as to great nations."

ESTABLISHMENT OF COURT EMPOWERED TO TRY WAR CRIMES AGAINST JEWS URGED IN LONDON

LONDON, July 26.(JTA)-- Establishment of a special international court to try war criminals, including persons charged with crimes against Jews, was suggested here today by the London International Assembly, which is composed of prominent British statesmen and leaders of the United Nations including Viscount Cecil, chairman, and Jan Masaryk, vice-chairman.

The group urged that war crimes which come under the jurisdiction of the courts of the individual United Nations be tried there, but, it pointed out, that certain crimes, such as Germany's persecution of the Jews, should be tried by international courts before whom the heads of states responsible for the crimes could be haled.

MAPAI CANCELS AGREEMENT WITH HASHOMER HAZAIR ON PARTICIPATION IN HISTADRUTH

JERUSALEM, July 26.(JTA)-- The existing agreement between the Mapai, Palestine Jewish Labor Party, and the Hashomer Hazair, left-wing group, which covered the latter's participation in the various bodies of the Histadruth, has been cancelled by a special resolution adopted by the Mapai, it was learned here today.

The resolution, which states that "the Hashomer Hazair's behavior towards the Histadruth and its attitude towards the Mapai has morally cancelled the agreement," will be presented to the next Mapai conference for a final vote, it was announced. A statement by the Hashomer Hazair is expected to be published in its organ, "Mishmar," which will appear on July 30.

BRITISH JEWS HAIL ABOLITION OF RACIAL LAWS IN SICILY; RAISE FUND FOR POST-WAR AID

LONDON, July 26.(JTA)-- Hailing the announcement of the abolition of all racial laws in Sicily by AMGOT, Professor Selig Brodetsky, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, last night expressed the hope that a similar policy will be followed in all liberated territories as the Allied armies advance further into Axis Europe. He recalled that no such announcement was made when the Allies conquered Tunis.

The newly-elected Board voted to raise a minimum "fighting fund" of \$600,000 to aid the Jews in Europe after the war. Prof. Brodetsky declared that the outstanding problems facing the Board were victory and the status of the Jews, which, he said, had steadily deteriorated since 1933. He stressed that it was imperative that British Jewry make clear that Jews everywhere must be guaranteed the right to live like free men and women after the war, and that the Jews of Palestine be allowed to develop a national existence there. He appealed to all Jews, even non-Zionists, to support the demand for large-scale immigration into Palestine.

"When peace comes," Prof. Brodetsky continued, "we will be able to state that the Jews fought and suffered for both their own freedom and for the freedom of the world. Therefore, they should at least be allowed to participate in working out a program of Jewish rights acceptable to Jews in all free nations." Emphasizing the dangers of anti-Semitic propaganda after the war, he urged that steps be taken to safeguard the position of the Jews and to "see to it that anti-Semitism be treated as an illness which cannot be tolerated."

Among those elected to the executive committee of the Board at last night's meeting were Sir Robert Waley Cohen, Lavy Bakstansky, Leslie Hore-Belisha, Barnett Janner, Lord Nathan and Mrs. Rebecca Zieff. Candidates supported by the Zionists comprise two-thirds the membership of most of the other committees. Among the 15 members of the Foreign Affairs Committee are Mr. Hore-Belisha, Viscountess Bearsted, Lord Nathan, Simon Marks and Mr. Janner. The Palestine Committee is composed of 14 Zionists and two non-Zionists.

DUTCH NAZI PRESS CONFIRMS DEPORTATION OF LARGE NUMBERS OF JEWS FROM AMSTERDAM

STOCKHOLM, July 26.(JTA)-- Confirmation of previous reports that a large proportion of the Jews of Amsterdam have been deported is contained in Dutch Nazi newspapers received here today. One paper protests the fact that five percent of the vegetables coming into the city from the neighboring farms are reserved for the Jews "when the number of Jews in the city has decreased considerably since last year."

ZIONIST LEADERS LAUNCH MOVEMENT TO DRAFT DR. ABBA SILVER FOR ZOA PRESIDENCY

PITTSBURGH, July 26.(JTA)-- A group of 100 leading American Zionists from coast to coast have launched a movement to draft Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Cleveland rabbi, and national chairman of the United Palestine Appeal and of the United Jewish Appeal, for the presidency of the Zionist Organization of America, whose annual convention is to be held in Columbus, Ohio in September, it was learned here today. The group is headed by Charles Rosenbloom, Pittsburgh philanthropist, as chairman and Joel Gross, Jewish leader of Newark, N.J., as vice chairman.

The draft effort was made public by Mr. Rosenbloom in a desire to get the support of other Zionists in persuading Dr. Silver to "put aside all other Jewish communal obligations in order to accept the leadership of the Zionist movement in America." The group revealed that an appeal had been submitted to Dr. Silver asserting that "the Zionist movement is faced with the greatest crisis in its history, requiring leadership that will be courageous, stimulating and inspiring," and declaring that he was the one man in America to take the helm.

The fight on the British White Paper policy for Palestine, due to go into effect next year, was said to be one of the important tasks requiring the best leadership. Dr. Silver was also reminded that preparations must now be made to prepare Palestine for mass Jewish immigration after the war. The Committee sponsoring Dr. Silver's candidacy is in the process of formation and will include representatives of every Zionist District in New York, it was announced.

ANTI-SEMITISM HAS NO LOGICAL CONNECTION WITH FASCISM, SAYS GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

LONDON, July 26.(JTA)-- Anti-Semitism was defined today by George Bernard Shaw as "hatred of the lazy, ignorant, fat-headed Gentile for the pertinacious Jew who, schooled by adversity to use his brains to the utmost, outdoes him in business."

In a statement issued by him in connection with his 87th birthday today, the Irish wit and playwright, commenting on the state of the world, also said that "anti-Semitic propaganda has no logical connection with Fascism, which is simply state-aided capitalism instead of 'Laissez-Faire.'"

MIKHOELS AND FEFFER GIVEN OFFICIAL RECEPTION IN DETROIT

DETROIT, July 26.(JTA)-- Prof. Solomon Mikhoels and Lieut.-Col. Itzik Feffer, the Jewish cultural delegation from the Soviet Union, were received here over the week-end by Mayor Edward J. Jeffreys at City Hall. The mayor gave Prof. Mikhoels, who is a member of the Moscow City Council, a gavel as a gift to the mayor of Moscow. The delegation's visit to this city was arranged by a committee of prominent Jewish and non-Jewish notables headed by Fred M. Butzel and Aaron Rosenberg, Detroit Jewish leaders.

HOLLANDER COMPANY ATTEMPTS TO OUST ALLEGED ANTI-SEMITES FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NEWARK, N. J., July 26.(JTA)-- A fight to secure the removal of Luigi Criscuolo, investment banker and a director of the fur-dyeing firm of A. Hollander Sons, Inc., from the board of directors of that company, has been launched here by Michael Hollander, its president, who charges that Criscuolo has injured the company by issuing material attacking Jews, anti-Fascist Catholics and prominent public figures.

Criscuolo is the publisher of "The Rubicon," a news letter distributed to large business firms. This publication has at various times attacked Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mayor LaGuardia, Congressman Sol Bloom, Archbishop Spellman and others. The issue of Criscuolo's removal will be settled on August 9 when a stock-holder's meeting will be asked to adopt a charter amendment which would result in his ouster.