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GERMAN REFUGEES FROM HAMBURG, MISTAKEN FOR JEWS, EXECUTED IN NAZI "DEATH CHAMBERS"

LONDON, Aug. 17.(JTA)-- Mistaken by Nazi administrators for deported Jews, a trainload of German refugees from Hamburg were exterminated by Gestapo officials in the "death chambers" of a Jewish concentration camp near Lwow, the Manchester Evening Chronicle reports today.

The report, reaching the Manchester paper from a person inside Germany, states that the train with the German refugees arrived at its destination in the camp a few days after the last Jewish inmates of that camp were executed to make room for new arrivals. The administration of the camp was not informed that the new arrivals would be Germans from devastated Hamburg. They took it for granted that the new transport consists of Jewish deportees who ought to be dealt with along the usual routine of extermination.

When the train arrived, the hungry and exhausted German refugees looked not much different from the hungry and exhausted Jews who have always been brought to this camp to their death in gas chambers. The Gestapo guards lost no time in stripping the newcomers naked and in sending them into "gas chambers" under the usual pretext that they were to take a bath and be "deloused" from the long trip which they had made.

The mistake was not brought to light until the railway authorities started inquiries regarding some of the cars in the refugee train. It was then discovered that the train carried Germans and not Jews.

PALESTINE JEWS APPEAL TO AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE TO SUPPORT BILTMORE DECLARATION

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17.(JTA)-- Apprehensive that the American Jewish Conference, which opens in New York at the end of this month, will ignore the Biltmore Declaration demanding the post-war establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth, the Jewish National Council today cabled to the Conference an appeal insisting the gathering in New York adopts a resolution "in the direction of the realization of the Biltmore Declaration as the complete solution of the Jewish problem."

The Jewish National Council also announced today that it has cabled to Rabbi Meir Berlin, president of the World Mizrahi Organization, who is now on a visit in the United States, to represent the Jews of Palestine at the American Jewish Conference and to address the gathering in behalf of Palestine Jewry.

Information received here reveals that many Zionist delegates to the American Jewish Conference are inclined to support the Jewish demand for free immigration to Palestine, but are reluctant to have the Conference approve of the Biltmore Declaration. This reluctance, it is believed here, is apparently inspired by the recent report that a joint Anglo-American statement on Palestine may soon be issued by the State Department and the British Foreign Office.

SWEDISH PRESS WARNS AGAINST HUNGARY'S ATTEMPT TO PRESENT ITSELF FRIENDLY TO JEWS

STOCKHOLM, Aug. 17.(JTA)-- The Swedish liberal press came out today with a warning not to take seriously the systematic propaganda which the Hungarian Government is now carrying on in neutral countries in an attempt to make believe that the Jews are well treated in Hungary.

The papers recall that Hungary was the first country in Europe where organized persecution against Jews was started soon after World War I. This resulted in thousands of Jews being massacred in 1919 and in anti-Jewish riots later in the Hungarian universities where a numerous clausus for Jewish students was introduced.

The Gotesborgs Handels, a liberal evening paper, charges that Cardinal Seredi, head of the Catholic Church in Hungary who came out recently against the anti-Jewish persecutions in Nazi Europe, has never taken a direct and active stand against the anti-Jewish propaganda conducted by the priests throughout the country.

Another Swedish paper publishes an article describing the compulsory labor service at the Russian front to which Hungarian Jews have been driven. The Hungarian Government is charged in this article with "large scale attempts to extirpate the Jewish youth, particularly intellectuals, by sending them unarmed to death and captivity."

"Large numbers of letters are now being received by the Swedish Red Cross from Jews in Hungary whose relatives have disappeared on the Russian front doing labor service in the ranks of the Hungarian Army," the article states. "Forced into menial service as laborers on the front instead of being permitted to serve in the armed forces, were Jewish doctors, engineers, writers, teachers and lawyers. The last hope of their relatives is that the Swedish Red Cross may succeed in finding out their whereabouts."

The article concludes with the charge that when Hungarian troops carried out the massacre of Yugoslavian Jews in the Hungarian-occupied Yugoslav city of Novi-Sad, they did not spare even the Hungarian Jews who were holders of Hungarian passports.

ALL ORGANIZED JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN GALICIA WIPED OUT BY THE NAZIS

GENEVA, Aug. 17.(JTA)-- Galicia is without a single organized Jewish community now, following the extermination by the Nazis of a majority of the Jewish inhabitants, it was reported here today. The several thousand Jews who survive as workers for German industry who cannot be replaced, are confined to labor camps under very rigid discipline, says the report.

"The formerly Jewish populated towns in Galicia are almost completely bare," adds the report, "with no residents to take the place of the annihilated Jews. To the bareness is added the ruins of large portions of the Jewish quarters which have been completely burned down by the Nazis."

BOARD OF DEPUTIES POSTPONES DEBATE ON POST-WAR JEWISH PROBLEMS FOR INDEFINITE TIME

LONDON, Aug. 17.(JTA)-- The Board of Deputies of British Jews today decided to postpone, for an indefinite time, its debate on the policy of British Jewry with regard to post-war Jewish problems. "The debate will be held as soon as this will be practical," it was announced. Originally, this debate was scheduled for September 12.

ANTI-SEMITIC GROUPS SEEK MORE SEATS IN POLISH CABINET IN LONDON

LONDON, Aug. 17.(JTA)-- Indications that the anti-Semitic elements in the Polish Government-in-Exile are still active and are enjoying the support of General Sosnkowski, the Commander-in-Chief of the Polish armed forces, were seen today in a move made here by the Polish newspaper *Wiadomoscie Polskie*, an organ close to the head of the Polish Army.

The paper publishes a letter which the former Polish Propaganda Minister Stronski wrote to the late Gen. Sikorski, Polish Premier, in June, 1942, demanding the inclusion in the Polish cabinet of more representatives of the anti-Semitic Endek Party "even if the Soviets and the Jews would not like it."

The fact that this letter, more than a year old, was suddenly published for the first time today in an organ which is considered the mouthpiece of the Polish Commander-in-Chief General Sosnkowski, is taken by some Polish leaders here to mean that pressure is now being exercised to have more Endeks and so-called Pilsudski-men included in the present Polish cabinet. Gen. Sosnkowski is mentioned in Stronski's letter as leader of the Pilsudski group.

The Polish Ministry for Social Welfare today opened registration for social workers willing to be helpful in post-war relief work in liberated Poland. Polish Jews are invited to register through their organizations in London.

RUSSIA MAY ADMIT LARGE NUMBER OF JEWS FROM EUROPE AFTER THE WAR, EXPERTS BELIEVE

NEW YORK, Aug. 17.(JTA)-- The possibility that Russia may admit, after the war, a large number of Jews from devastated Europe is suggested by the Foreign Policy Association in an analysis of the prospects of post-war Europe re-settlement.

It is pointed out in the analysis that with regard to the Jewish tragedy in Europe, "public feeling in the United States appears to have been less strongly stirred than in Britain," and little hope is held out that the United States immigration rules will be liberalized in the near future. It will be necessary to transplant large populations after the war, not only for humanitarian reasons, but to achieve economic stability, the Foreign Policy Association concludes.

"In Europe itself," the analysis says, "the ravages of war may create labor shortages so acute that countries may be eager to receive immigrants - as France was after 1919 - although it can hardly be expected that all national political and racial groups will be equally welcome. The extent to which Europe is able to resettle refugees, however, will largely depend on the success of the United Nations' efforts to rehabilitate the Continent. But, even under the most favorable conditions, it seems that Western European countries will be able and willing to absorb only limited numbers of new residents, whereas it has been suggested that the U.S.S.R. may admit immigrants on a much larger scale. In the vast area of Soviet Asia, where natural resources are today being exploited on an unprecedented scale, there is an acute lack of skilled labor that suggests great population capacity. Moreover, in the western regions serious depletion of manpower as a result of the war may amke the Russians reverse their pre-war exclusionist policy and accept specially skilled refugees from Europe. The U.S.S.R.'s post-war immigration policy will depend, in the last analysis, on the confidence the Soviet government may feel the loyalty of foreigners who want to settle in its territory."

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JEWISH FLYER WINS THIRTEEN DECORATIONS; PARTICIPATED IN 52 BOMBING MISSIONS

NEW YORK, Aug. 17. (JTA)-- One of the most abundantly decorated flyers in the American forces is Staff Sgt. Schiller Cohen, a 23-year old Jewish graduate of the New York City College, the Jewish Welfare Board reported today. Sergeant Cohen is the holder of 13 decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal and ten Oak Leaf Clusters.

A tail gunner, waist gunner, and photographer aboard a B-17, Sergeant Cohen was with the first American aircraft to bomb Nazi-held Europe, flew with the first Fortresses to attack enemy territory in North Africa, and participated in the opening aerial assault on Italy. Altogether, he has been on 52 bombing missions, having to his credit 254 hours of air combat.

It was on the initial onset against the ex-Duce's domain, with Palermo as the target, that Sergeant Cohen encountered his most searing experience. He was in the tail gun position and his plane, the Stinky, was at a high altitude. It was very cold. Approaching the coast of Sicily, he "got ready for business. Suddenly it came, as he was looking out the window. "All at once," he recalls, "as if they'd appeared out of a cloud, I saw 50 fighters coming at us. One minute they weren't there -- the next they were right on us, firing away."

The Fortress had no fighter escort, which meant that it was up to the gunners to smash the enemy craft down. "We pumped plenty of lead. I saw one ME 109 near my plane's tail begin to smoke, but I didn't stop to watch it go down. There was too much to do. The enemy fighters kept with us all the way to the target. Every time they came into us we let them have it, thick and fast, and they peeled off. We reached our target and started our runs. Suddenly 30 more fighters came up. The air was positively thick with them. But our guns were going so furiously that they couldn't get close to us without having their heads blasted off. We laid our eggs. Pictures later showed that the raid was one of the most successful of the war."

Jewish Lieutenant Holds 11 Decorations; Troy Jew Decorated Eight Times

Lt. Pinus Philip Taback, 24, of Newark, N. J., is not far behind Sergeant Schiller, having been awarded 11 medals. He holds the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal, and nine Oak Leaf Clusters. A P-38 Lightning pilot, Lieutenant Taback, who has been serving on the North African front, has been on 50 missions. Home on furlough, Lieutenant Taback has been in service more than two and a half years. He is a graduate of Weequahic High School and belongs to the Newark Hebrew Club.

Lt. Malcolm A. Hormats, 24, of Troy, N. Y., who has been hailed by the daily press of that city as "Troy's outstanding hero of the war," is another multi-decorated American Jewish serviceman, having been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Distinguished Flying Medallion (a British honor), the Air Medal, and five Oak Leaf Clusters, eight in all.

The achievement which earned Lieutenant Hormats the DFC took place in the air over Tunisia, when "alone and unaided" he attacked a flight of enemy planes, dispersed them, and saved the bombers he had been assigned to protect. It was recalled that when Hormats sought to enlist in the Army Air Forces early in 1941, he was rejected for a defect of his left eye. He then made his way to Canada, got into the R.C.A.F. and became a Spitfire pilot.