

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency

106 East 41st Street, New York 17, N. Y.

VOL. X. NO. 199

Thursday, August 26, 1943

JEWISH PARTICIPATION IN INVASION OF EUROPE DEMANDED BY PALESTINE PRESS

LONDON, Aug. 25.(JTA)-- Hailing the possibility of an early Allied invasion of the European continent, the Hebrew press in Palestine has demanded that Jews, as such, be given an opportunity to participate in the liberation of the oppressed peoples, among whom are millions of Jews, according to a cable report reaching here today.

The report includes summaries of leading editorials on the subject appearing in those Hebrew dailies which speak for influential sections of the Palestine Jewish community.

The newspaper, "Haboker," conservative organ, writes that "now that the war is entering a new stage, as a result of the invasion of Axis-occupied Europe, there is a task for Jewish soldiers. There will not only be an urgent demand for more men to serve behind the lines, but there will also be a moral need for Jewish soldiers to be among those who will bring freedom and liberty to occupied Europe - especially our persecuted brethren. The people of Europe are clamoring for Jewish soldiers who will avenge the blood of their brethren who have been brutally murdered by the enemy."

The newspaper of the General Zionists A, "Hazman," declares that "the Jewish community, which has been the bearer of the vision of independence, cannot remain neutral in this war. As long as the enemy is not annihilated, as long as any Jews are imprisoned in ghettos or concentration camps, as long as the future of our people and of our homeland is not secure, the struggle of Israel will continue. Recruitment must go on."

The political aspect of the new developments is stressed by "Davar," official organ of the Histadruth, Palestine Federation of Labor. "The political front already exists," Davar writes. "The Zionist movement and the Yishuv recognize the limitations and duties imposed by the war, and the Yishuv devotedly participates in the war. Yet, the fact that it has maintained a political front is one of the factors in its effort. Because, thanks to this, its sons and daughters have realized that they are fighting not merely against but for something."

U.S. SOLDIERS GREATLY IMPRESSED BY JEWISH ACHIEVEMENTS IN PALESTINE, SAYS ISSERMAN

LONDON, Aug. 25.(JTA)-- American troops stationed in and about Palestine have been greatly impressed by Jewish achievements there and by the open-handed hospitality extended to them, it was reported today by Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman of St. Louis who arrived here en route to the United States.

Rabbi Isserman, who has been in North Africa and the Middle East in recent months on a mission for the American Red Cross, disclosed that hundreds of American servicemen, Jewish and non-Jewish, have spent their furloughs visiting Jewish colonies throughout Palestine. He expressed the opinion that the good-will created by these visits would strengthen the friendship between Jews and non-Jews in the United States after the war, when these soldiers return home.

PROSECUTION IN ARMS TRIAL FAILS TO LINK DEFENDANT WITH BRITISH SOLDIER

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25.(JTA)-- The trial of Leib Sirkin, a Jewish policeman, and Abraham Rachlin, a taxi driver, on charges of illegally purchasing arms from two British soldiers, was resumed here today after a three-day recess.

The greater part of today's session was devoted to testimony by the handwriting expert of the Lebanon Government who stated that specimens of handwriting in Sirkin's diary and in an army book belonging to Christopher Harris, one of the two soldiers, were similar, but he could not swear that they were both written by the same man. The expert was introduced by the prosecution in an apparent attempt to link Sirkin with Harris through writings in the latter's book.

JEWISH REFUGEES FROM LATIN-AMERICA BEING RELEASED FROM INTERNMENT BY U.S.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 25.(JTA)-- Fifty men, women and children who have been confined in the Algiers Immigration Detention Stations here for several months as "enemy aliens" are being released, it was disclosed today by a representative of the National Refugee Service.

The Enemy Alien Control Unit of the United States Department of Justice, with the assistance of the NRS and of refugee-aid committees in 14 American cities, is dealing with the cases of this group in such a way that, after long internment as "enemy aliens," they will be enabled to devote an assortment of valuable skills to the war effort, an NRS announcement said.

Under a ruling of the Enemy Alien Control Unit these refugees, who were originally rounded up in a number of Latin American countries after Pearl Harbor and sent to the United States for detention, are to enter into "internment at large." They will be permitted to reside in specified cities under regulation and supervision and will be able to establish their own homes, earn a livelihood and in general lead a normal existence. Several young men in the group have announced their intention of enlisting in the armed forces at the earliest possible moment, while professional men and skilled technicians among them now hope to serve in useful war jobs. The group includes several physicians, an expert on tropical lumber and rubber, a railroad man, an economist and statistician, a diesel engine mechanic, a refrigeration mechanic, and several manufacturers, including one who, in Europe, operated a factory for the manufacture of uniforms.

Relaxation of internment was allowed after investigation of the character and trustworthiness of this group here and in Latin America by the Department of Justice. Evidence on their behalf was compiled and presented by the NRS.

NO NEED FOR ILL JEWS TO RECUPERATE, BUCHAREST NEWSPAPER WRITES

ZURICH, Aug. 25.(JTA)-- Promulgation of a decree barring convalescent Jews from health resorts is the latest demand voiced by the anti-Semitic Bucharest daily Porunca Vremii, received here today.

Complaining that some Jews have been admitted to health resorts on the basis of medical certificates, the paper writes: "Must Jews really be allowed to recuperate?" It urges that all Jews, irregardless of their physical condition, be barred from the resorts.

The Bukarester Tageblatt reports that in the future Jews wishing to close their businesses because they are ill will be obliged to produce certificates from a state physician when applying for permission to liquidate their enterprises.

PLIGHT OF JEWS IN EUROPE REVIEWED IN SPECIAL MAGAZINE SUPPLEMENT

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.(JTA)-- A special 20-page supplement to the New Republic, liberal weekly, entitled "The Jews of Europe - How to Help Them," will appear tomorrow. The supplement contains articles touching on the various aspects of the position of the Jews in Europe, tracing the rise of Nazi-fostered anti-Semitism and outlining a program of rescue.

In a lead editorial, the magazine states that "impatient Gentiles and timorous Jews had better reconcile themselves to the fact that the fate of the Jewish people is one of the issues in this war. It is true that the Jews suffer from the political disadvantage that by the very law of their being they can produce no Quisling or Laval to intercede for them with Hitler, and consequently no Darlan to resell their allegiance to the democracies. They have nothing to bring to the political markets; they have already given to the Allied cause all they have. Nevertheless, the moral issues in this war cannot be permanently evaded and must be brought into the open. Shall Hitler decide the issue on the first front, or the democracies? Is this a war for power or is it a war for freedom?"

Other articles demand that anti-Semitism be outlawed after the war, that the persons responsible for the persecution of the Jews be punished, that asylum be found for refugee Jews in Britain, America and Palestine, that food be sent to the starving populations of the ghettos, and that an international agency be created, aside from the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee, to deal with the Jewish problem in Europe.

Discussing the role of such an agency, the publication writes: "The situation calls for the appointment of an Allied Commission provided with the necessary resources and armed with adequate powers to deal solely with the task of bringing aid to the Jews of Europe. It should work in close liaison with the military authorities, and in every appropriate case seek to provide arms for those who will use them as did the Jews of Warsaw in their last heroic stand against the Gestapo troops. Secret supplies should be sent under proper safeguards through channels now available, to localities where they could help to maintain morale and life itself. The commission would also seek to organize means of escape through the underground; and it would generally take full advantage of the discontent and corruption which permeate the whole of the machinery of Hitler's New Order."

In advertisements appearing in the supplement, the Jewish Labor Committee, the National Conference of Christians and Jews and the Committee for a Jewish Army ask public support for the various proposals to aid the Jews in Europe and to foster good will between Jews and Christians in the United States.

SAMUEL ZEMURRAY SLATED FOR IMPORTANT FEDERAL POST, WASHINGTON HEARS

NEW YORK, Aug. 25.(JTA)-- Samuel Zemurray, head of the United Fruit Company and prominent Jewish philanthropist, is slated for a key post in the new Office of Economic Warfare, according to the Washington correspondent of the New York Post.

The correspondent points out that the appointment of Mr. Zemurray to an OEI position will mean that he will be forced to drop much, if not all, of his duties in connection with his membership on the Fair Employment Practice Committee. Since Mr. Zemurray is looked upon as representing Jewish interests there, his leaving the FEPC will raise a question of adequate Jewish representation on that body, the article stresses.