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IMMEDIATE AID FOR JEWS IN ITALY WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH ALLIED AUTHORITIES

CAIRO, Sept. 9. (JTA)-- The question of arranging immediate assistance by the Joint Distribution Committee for 20,000 Jewish refugees from Nazi-held territories who have been interned in Italy since the outbreak of the war will be taken up with the Allied authorities at their headquarters in Algiers, Dr. Joseph Schwartz, European director of the J.D.C., told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today.

Dr. Schwartz said he is proceeding at once to Algiers to approach the representatives of the United Nations with regard to the best and most effective ways to deal not only with the situation of the Jewish refugees in Italy, but also with the special needs of the Italian Jewish population. He will also seek permission for a J.D.C. representative to be admitted into Italy in order to study the Jewish relief situation there and undertake necessary measures to cope with the special Jewish relief problems.

While the immediate question of feeding Italy's population is expected to be handled by the military authorities through the U.S.A., there is wide-range activity in the liberated territory which could best be discharged by private relief agencies, Dr. Schwartz believes. "The liberation of Italian territory offers the first opportunity in Axis lands to deal with the refugee problem on an extensive basis and to work out a pattern of cooperation between public and private agencies in connection with the entire relief set-up," Dr. Schwartz said. He pointed out that though the Jewish population will receive the same treatment as Allied authorities as the non-Jewish, there are also special Jewish problems which could be best dealt with by Jewish organizations.

"These problems," he declared, "include the reorganization and re-establishment of the Jewish communal, religious and cultural institutions which have practically been destroyed. It is important and desirable from every point of view to have side by side government bodies and representatives of the J.D.C. contacting refugees and local Jewish communities."

GESTAPO ARRESTS PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL JEWISH ORGANIZATION IN FRANCE

GENEVA, Sept. 9. (JTA)-- Raoul Lambert, Jewish leader and president of the central Jewish organization of French Jews permitted to exist under the Vichy regime, was arrested by German occupation authorities in Marseille with his family, it was learned here today. Andre Baur, vice-president of the same organization, was also arrested.

More than 10,000 Jewish children are wandering through all parts of France as a result of the mass arrests and deportations of their parents. It is feared that these children will soon be rounded up by German occupation authorities and interned in a camp. Local Jewish relief groups in France are doing what they can to save the children, but without the aid of international organizations there is little likelihood that the youngsters will be saved, private advices said.

The renewed hunt for Jews in France is now being conducted by special German police brigades who formerly were used to round up Jews in Belgium and Holland. German mobile police guards are also operating in the Italian-occupied part of

France. They stop passersby on the streets and whenever one cannot prove that he is of "Aryan" origin, he is deported to the Drancy concentration camp, outside Paris.

Lambert had for many years been secretary of the Alliance Israelite in Paris. He distinguished himself as an officer of the French Army in the present war and was recognized by the Vichy government as representative of the Jews in France in all Jewish communal and relief activities.

NEW COMMISSARIAT FOR JEWISH QUESTIONS ESTABLISHED IN RUMANIA

ZURICH, Sept. 9.(JTA)-- A new Commissariat for Jewish Questions has been created within the Rumanian Labor Secretariat, under a new law issued by the Ministry of Health, Labor and Public Welfare, the official German news agency, DNB, reports today.

The new commissariat, DNB says, will supervise the organization of Jewish forced labor, reduce the number of Jews in the professions and will supervise all Jewish centers and organizations for emigration. Hitherto, the last two functions were performed by the government Delegate for Settlement of the Jewish Question.

The Bucharest radio today announced that under a new amendment to the "Rumanization" Law severe punishment will be meted out to violators of the regulation. It also quotes an article in the anti-Semitic Iron Guard newspaper, Porunca Vremi, attacking Dr. William Filderman, Jewish leader, who was recently allowed to return to Bucharest from Transnistria, where he had been deported. The article charges that Dr. Filderman has acted "insolently" against the nationalist movement since 1926 and planned the return of confiscated Jewish property after the war.

BLACK BOOK DESCRIBING NAZI ATROCITIES AGAINST JEWS IN LITHUANIA PUBLISHED IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW, Sept. 9.(JTA)-- A "Black Book" describing Nazi atrocities against Jews in occupied Lithuania was published here today. The facts, compiled by A. Sorin, contain horrible details of the Nazi mass-extinction of Jews in Kaunas, Vilkomir and other Lithuanian cities. The book also has a section describing the activities of Jewish guerilla fighters in occupied Lithuania.

The correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today visited a hospital in which were a number of Lithuanian Jews wounded at the front while fighting with the Russian Army. Itzik Shafirus, one of the wounded, pointed out that all six members of his family, former residents of Kaunas, are now fighting in the Russian ranks and that one of his brothers had killed 103 Germans in a machine-gun fight. "You will find many Jewish families from Lithuania all fighting together against the Germans," he said.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT APPOINTS AMERICAN JEW TO POST-WAR PLANNING POSITION

NEW YORK, Sept. 9.(JTA)-- The Palestine Government has appointed Mr. Emanuel N. Mohl, an American engineer, who has resided in Palestine for more than twenty years, as Officer-in-Charge of the Palestine Industrial Survey of the newly created Department of Post War Planning under Sir Douglas Harris, it was learned here today.

Until recently, as Deputy Director of the Directorate of War Production, and before that as Engineering Secretary of the Palestine War Supply Board, Mr. Mohl had been in charge of much of Palestine's greatly increased war effort in the fields of engineering and chemical industries.

PALESTINE JEWISH TRANSPORT UNIT LOST IN MEDITERRANEAN NAVAL BATTLE

JERUSALEM, Sept. 9.(JTA)-- The tragic story of the death in a naval engagement of 138 Palestinian Jewish drivers serving with the British fordes, briefly announced some time ago, was told in the press here today for the first time in detail by Dr. Bernard Joseph, legal adviser of the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

The men were members of a General Transport Company which came into being in June, 1942, when its mother company, formed in 1942, was divided into two separate units. The new company had a good heritage. Many of its members had been among the first Jewish recruits to volunteer in Palestine. They had had their baptism of fire in Greece and Crete and brought the fighting qualities of seasoned men to the new unit. They had stood the test of siege for they were veterans of Tobruk and had learned the lesson of endurance and perseverance.

The Palestinian transport units in the desert were essentially Jewish, with Hebrew as their language. Jewish traditions observed and Jewish festivals celebrated. Most of the higher posts in their command were gradually entrusted to Jewish officers. The men of the Jewish company lived up to their heritage, playing the part assigned to them in the fateful days of El Alamein and helping to drive the enemy from Egyptian soil. They moved forward with the victorious Eighth Army, transporting in their vehicles men and materials, water and other essential supplies. They were among the first to enter Benghazi, among the first to enter Tripoli.

After a brief breathing space, the men of this transport company were again called upon to take their part in a new and great action. They had scarcely time to celebrate the traditional Passover Seder somewhere in Egypt before they received the order to embark for a new adventure. This time luck did not favour them. Their transport was sunk in a naval action, and many of them were lost at sea.

The whole story cannot yet be told, but some details have been made available. The vessel sank so rapidly that there was no time to lower the lifeboats; the men could only manage to throw a few rafts overboard. When orders came to abandon ship, all jumped into the water except those who were manning the guns; they stayed at their posts until the water covered both them and their guns. The men behaved magnificently, and one British officer who was present later declared that he had never seen such exemplary conduct. The Jewish soldiers helped one another in the water and remained calm, singing Hebrew songs to keep up their spirits. They tied the rafts together and put those aboard who shouted for help. Others clung to floating spare rafts and to an overturned board.

A destroyer passed close by a group of swimmers, but failed to notice them in the darkness. The men were in the water for over three hours until finally a minesweeper approached them. In order to attract attention the men banded themselves into a group, shouting in unison. Eventually the sweeper's searchlights caught one group and the vessel moved to. Most of the men were picked up by the minesweeper and some by another vessel elsewhere. But 138 men lost their lives beneath the waves.

S. AFRICAN ZIONISTS URGE AMERICAN JEWS TO SEND DELEGATION TO PALESTINE

JOHANNESBURG, Sept. 9.(JTA)-- Zionist leaders in South Africa will urge Zionist organizations in America and Great Britain to send delegations to Palestine to study conditions there and make personal contact with leaders of the Yishuv, it was announced here today. A Zionist delegation from South Africa will proceed to Palestine soon.

WEIZMANN HAILS DR. SILVER'S ELECTION AS CO-CHAIRMAN OF ZIONIST EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

NEW YORK, Sept. 9.(JTA)-- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the World Zionist Organization and of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, today in London hailed Dr. Abba Hillel Silver's election as co-chairman of the American Emergency Committee for Zionist Affairs "as an event fraught with significance for our cause at this critical moment when the Zionist world looks to America and American Zionism for political support."

Cabling his congratulations to Dr. Silver, who was also elected chairman of the executive committee of the Emergency Committee, Dr. Weizmann said: "I am confident that you will place unreservedly at the disposal of the cause your great gifts and the qualities of vision, courage and statesmanship which you possess and which the movement requires."

SECRETARY HULL ASKED TO SECURE ADMITTANCE OF JEWS FROM NAZI TERRITORIES TO ITALY

NEW YORK, Sept. 9.(JTA)-- Immediate use of Italy as another line to save the Jews of Europe was urged in a statement sent last night to Secretary of State Cordell Hull by the executive board of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jews of Europe.

At the same time, the Committee announced that it was organizing a mass demonstration of sympathy and compassion for the Jewish people who had been singled out for annihilation, to be held in New York early in October.

CONVENTION OF AGUDAS ISRAEL PRAYS FOR VICTORY OF UNITED NATIONS

FERNDAL, N. Y., Sept. 9. (JTA)-- More than 400 delegates assembled here today at the fourth annual convention of the Agudas Israel Organization of America to discuss the rescue of Jews in Europe and the strengthening of orthodox Judaism in America. The convention will also issue a statement on Palestine.

The opening session tonight was addressed by Jacob Rosenheim, president of the World Agudas Israel Organization, and by Rabbi Eliezer Silver, president of the American branch of the organization. The session was opened with a prayer for the victory of the United Nations followed by a prayer for the Jews massacred in Europe.

JEWS NATIONAL FUND INSCRIBES GEN. EISENHOWER IN GOLDEN BOOK

NEW YORK, Sept. 9.(JTA)-- The name of General Dwight D. Eisenhower has been inscribed in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund as a salute to the Commander of the Allied forces in North Africa upon the receipt of the news of Italy's unconditional surrender, it was announced here by the JNF.

The inscription of General Eisenhower's name has been effected by cable as a result of many gifts for the Fund's wartime program in Palestine which poured in yesterday afternoon as an expression of joy over the news from Italy.

LAST MINUTE NEWSAnti-Semitism Banned in Italy, German Radio Announces

LONDON, Sept. 9.(JTA)-- THE BERLIN RADIO ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT AN ORDER BANNING ANTI-SEMITISM HAS BEEN ISSUED IN ITALY. IT TAKES EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.