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THOUSANDS OF JEWS IN ITALIAN-HELD SECTION OF FRANCE SEIZED BY GERMANS

GENEVA, Sept. 12.(JTA)-- Thousands of French and refugee Jews in the Italian-held section of France were seized by the Nazis this week despite heroic efforts to reach Italy or Allied territory, according to reliable reports received here today.

The rapidity with which the Germans occupied the Riviera and the other territory held by the Italians prevented most of the Jews from escaping, the reports say. Many fled in small boats, even row-boats, hoping to reach an Allied port. Some few hundred are reported to have succeeded in evading the Nazis and reaching Milan where they are being cared for by Jewish organizations. The bulk of them, however, estimated at about 2,000 are confined in a hastily erected internment camp at Grenoble, from where, it is expected, they will be shipped to Poland.

The reports add that in most cases Italian troops attempted to facilitate the Jews' escape but special Gestapo squads accompanying the German troops were given the sole task of hunting down and arresting all Jews hiding in the mountains and forests. In some cases the cornered Jews resisted the Nazis and minor battles occurred. In the neighborhood of Grenoble, a French guerrilla force came to the aid of a group of besieged Jews and succeeded in driving off the Nazis.

Most of the Jews in the Italian zone fled there when the Germans marched into unoccupied France following the Allied invasion of North Africa.

DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Sept. 12.(JTA)-- Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Jewish National Fund of America for the past 20 years, was today unanimously elected president of the Zionist Organization of America at the afternoon session of the 46th national convention of the ZOA, which is meeting here with more than 1,000 delegates in attendance. He succeeds Judge Louis E. Levinthal who served as ZOA president for the past two years.

In honor of Dr. Goldstein's election a check for \$500,000 was presented to him, on behalf of the Jewish National Fund, by its executive director, Mendel N. Fisher, to be cabled today to Palestine for land redemption "as an expression of the deep sense of gratitude to Dr. Goldstein for the decade of concerted services he has rendered to the cause of redeeming the soil of Palestine."

During the same session the following were elected Vice-Presidents of the ZOA for the ensuing year: Dr. Solomon Goldman, Judge Louis E. Levinthal, Edmund I. Kaufman, Louis Linsky, Judge Morris Rotherberg, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Robert Szold, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, and Bernard Rosenblatt. Abraham Goldman of New York was elected treasurer of the ZOA and Rabbi James G. Heller of Cincinnati was named as chairman of the National Administrative Council.

Treatment of Jewish People Index to Post-War Reconstruction, Says Silver

Dr. Silver, addressing the convention, said that what the world will do concerning the Jewish people will be the true index to the nature of the entire reconstruction problem that will follow this war. "If the world will project the problem of the national rehabilitation of Israel - the people who have been the most ravaged

and victimized in this way, which possesses no political power and no military force to enforce its righteous claims - in a spirit of justice, vision and statesmanship, then there is really hope that all the great national and international problems will be solved with fairness and justice by the statesmen of the world," he declared.

Pointing out that the right of the Jewish people to rebuild its national home in Palestine was officially acknowledged by all the great nations of the world, including the United States, after the last war, Dr. Silver said "we ask for no special favors or privileges. We will build with our own hands. We seek to exploit no one and to expropriate no one. We ask for the sympathetic understanding of men of good will everywhere to help a people, which has served not unworthily the cause of mankind's spiritual and intellectual progress through 4,000 years of hostility, to solve its tragic millennial problem. Will the builders of tomorrow's world grant Israel the same privileges which it is hoped will be granted to every people: to live a free and independent life in its own national home?" Dr. Silver asked.

#### Immigration Possibilities Will Not Improve After War, Goldmann Warns

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, a member of the World Zionist Executive, told the convention that "it is wishful thinking to dream that all the American and other countries will open their gates and invite Jews to come in, still less realistic is it to think that all the other countries will be available for Jewish mass immigration. Urging a realistic approach to the Jewish problem, Dr. Goldmann expressed the opinion that "the post-war world will be open to Jewish migration no more than the pre-war world was." He added that there is no fundamental solution to the Jewish problem except Palestine. Alluding to the recent proposal for the settlement of Jews on African territory, Dr. Goldmann said "decades would pass and hundreds of millions of dollars would have to be invested in order to develop limited countries in Africa or elsewhere for large Jewish migration." He expressed the conviction that once the statesmen of the world sit down to consider, wisely, the solution of the Jewish problem they will have to come back to the Palestine solution as the only one which is ripe for implementation.

Judge Morris Rothenberg said that a realistic view of the post-war world is not one to give reassurance to the possibility of the post-war economic readjustment of the European Jewish population. He charged that the doors of the United Nations are still practically closed to Jewish victims of the Nazi terror who might be saved. "Like another black curtain about to be rolled down upon the last hope of escape, the White Paper of 1939 ominously threatens to close all further migration to Palestine," he added. Judge Rothenberg emphasized that the Zionist movement must press vigorously for the establishment of a Jewish commonwealth.

#### Roosevelt Says Measures Being Taken to Aid European Jews

President Roosevelt, in a message sent to the convention last night, stressed that "all feasible measures are being adopted to lessen the sufferings of the persecuted Jews of Europe." He expressed confidence that "the helpful contribution made by American citizens towards the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine will be continued." The text of the President's message reads:

"As the delegates to this conference assembled to consider means of alleviating the suffering of the Jewish people, I cannot but express my horror at the cruelties visited upon innocent people by the Axis authorities in the territories they occupy. The attitude of this government in regard to these atrocities was ably expressed by the Secretary of State in a statement he issued on October 30, 1942, and I wish to emphasize that all feasible measures are being adopted to lessen the

suffering of the persecuted Jews of Europe. I am confident that the helpful contributions made by American citizens towards the establishment of a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine will be continued."

A similar message was received from Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

A warning against use of "half measures or palliatives in the solution of the Jewish problem" was sounded by Judge Louis B. Levinthal, retiring president of the organization, in his annual message. "The statesmen and people of the world must recognize that the solution to the Jewish problem lies primarily in Zionism," he declared. "Unless they are willing to facilitate the establishment of the Jewish Commonwealth, the problem will continue to rise again and again on a dozen tomorrows." "A new creed seems to have been developed among some of the so-called statesmen of Great Britain and, to our shame, yes, of the United States, too--a creed in which mention of the Jewish tragedy, of Jewish persecution, of Jewish homelessness, seems to have become taboo, and taboo also are Jewish Palestine's brilliant contributions to the war effort."

Hailing the recent action of the American Jewish Conference in New York endorsing the Zionist program for the establishment of a Jewish commonwealth, Judge Levinthal asserted that "we cannot re-establish the Jewish commonwealth merely by saying again and again: 'Let there be a Jewish commonwealth.'" Stressing that "the scope of Zionist organization is not confined to Palestine alone," Judge Levinthal stated that "this interest taken by us Zionists in the welfare and security of the Jewish people everywhere and the desire on our part to insure the freedom, creativeness and the happiness of Jews wherever they dwell is part of traditional Zionism." He declared that the Zionist organization "should not hesitate to place its full weight and full influence in the scales of post-war planning."

Daniel Frisch of Indianapolis announced today that the Zionist Organization of America will launch a campaign to increase its membership for the coming year from 67,000 to 150,000. He stressed the need for a larger membership in the organization and urged the Jews of America to bend all efforts to swell the ranks of the Zionist Organization of America.

Benjamin Kaufmann, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, assured the convention last night that the veterans' national encampment, which opens later this month, will adopt a resolution supporting the creation of a Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine.

#### U.S. ENVOY RETURNING FROM SAUDI ARABIA TO REPORT TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

CAIRO, Sept. 12.(JTA)-- A special envoy of President Roosevelt is en route home from Saudi Arabia with information for the President concerning King Ibn Saud's attitude on the Middle Eastern political situation, including Palestine.

The envoy, Col. Harold B. Hoskins, delivered a letter from Mr. Roosevelt which, it is understood, contained an invitation for King Ibn Saud or the Crown Prince to visit the President to discuss cooperation in the solution of Middle Eastern problems. Hoskins also personally discussed several questions with the Arab monarch and his advisers, and will report on these conferences to the President.

The President's invitation to Ibn Saud coincides with a revival of the whole question of an Arab federation. In recent weeks Mustapha Nahas Pasha, the Egyptian Premier, has been holding a series of exploratory talks with representatives of Arab states seeking a basis for a joint understanding upon which more advanced negotiations might be based. For the present, Ibn Saud has been holding aloof from these talks.

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300 GERMANS KILLED, MANY OTHERS WOUNDED DURING BATTLE IN BIALYSTOK GHETTO

LONDON, Sept. 12.(JTA)-- At least 300 German soldiers were killed and several hundred were wounded during the liquidation of the Bialystok ghetto last winter, according to a report reaching here today.

The report discloses that when German troops came to round up the ghetto inhabitants for deportation to execution centers, fierce fighting broke out. The Jews in the ghetto had secretly gathered a store of arms and when the Nazis came they were greeted with rifle fire. Eventually, however, all resistance was crushed and the ghetto evacuated.

A Polish flying officer who recently escaped from a German prison camp revealed today that thousands of Polish-Jewish prisoners of war captured in 1939 have been killed by the Germans. He said that the Germans segregated the Jewish prisoners and used those who were not murdered for heavy manual labor. The officer estimated that about five percent of the Polish war prisoners were Jewish.

SLOVAKIAN JEWS SENT TO CONCENTRATION CAMPS FOR FAILING TO WEAR MOGEN DAVID

ZURICH, Sept. 12.(JTA)-- Many Jews in the Slovakian town of Novi-Mesty were sent to concentration camps this week after having been arrested for appearing in the streets without a Mogen David badge, Slovakian newspapers received here today report. The Slovak press continues to demand that similar measures be taken throughout the country.

Meanwhile, an order has been issued in Bratislava forbidding Jews to travel on trains unless special permission is obtained. All previous travel permits have been cancelled. Jewish doctors and technicians are exempted from the order, if they are travelling on business.

POLISH GOVERNMENT ACTS TO HALT CIRCULATION OF ANTI-SEMITIC NEWSPAPER

LONDON, Sept. 12.(JTA)-- Considerable consternation has been aroused in Polish circles here at reports from Jerusalem that copies of the outlawed anti-Semitic, pro-Fascist newspaper, "Walka," are being circulated there. The Polish Government is believed to be taking steps to place a closer watch on persons suspected of being responsible for the printing and distribution of the publication. It is not known how copies of the paper were smuggled out of England to Palestine and also to Teheran.

MEDICAL CONTRIBUTION OF PALESTINE JEWS TO ALLIED WAR EFFORT LAUDED

NEW YORK, Sept. 10(JTA)-- The medical contribution of Palestine Jews to the Allied war effort is described in two articles in the Hazofeh Haivri, the Hebrew Medical Journal, published here today, marking the sixteenth anniversary of the existence of this publication.

The anniversary issue is dedicated to war medicine and carries a Symposium on War Medicine with articles written by prominent Jewish physicians, many of whom are veterans of the First World War. It also carries an article on the prominent Jewish philanthropist Adolphus S. Solomons, who was co-founder of the American Red Cross.

NAZIS EXECUTE AGED CZECH JEW IN PARIS FOR "CRIMES AGAINST REICH"

ZURICH, Sept. 12.(JTA)-- The official German news agency, DNB, reported today that a sixty-two-year-old Czech Jew residing in Paris has been executed for "conducting treacherous activities against the greater German Reich and the present order in Bohemia and Moravia." The dispatch did not specify what "crimes" the victim, Sig-mund Israel Amarant, is alleged to have committed.