

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency

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

VOL. X. NO. 232

Thursday, October 7, 1943

JEWS IN DENMARK COMMITTING SUICIDE; GERMANY REMAINS "UNMOVED," BERLIN SAYS

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 6.(JTA)-- A considerable number of Jews have committed suicide in Denmark as a result of the Gestapo manhunt, it was reported here today by Danish policemen who escaped to Sweden after being disarmed by the German military authorities in Copenhagen for refusing to cooperate in rounding up the Jews. Einar Dessau, noted Jewish philanthropist, is among those who took their life by poison, they said.

Miniature mine fields are now being laid in Danish waters by the Germans in order to prevent further flight of Jews from Denmark on small fishing boats. Nevertheless, the number of Danish Jews risking their lives to reach Sweden in rowboats in the darkness of the night is growing. It was estimated today that 3,000 Jews have already reached safety here.

Swedish newspapers today reported that Hitler himself is studying the note which the Swedish Government has sent to Germany offering to receive all Jews in Denmark. The report emphasizes that the note has been submitted to Hitler by the German Foreign Office since it was Hitler who issued the order that all Danish Jews be arrested and deported.

A broadcast from Berlin today stated that "the reaction of the Swedish public towards the deportation of the Jews from Denmark leaves Germany quite unmoved."

"Swedish humanity," the broadcast said, "which is now up in arms on behalf of Danish Jews, did not utter a word when Sweden, by putting an end to the transit agreement, drove Germans on leave from Norway into the jaws of British submarines. Therefore, what Sweden understands by humanity is of no interest to anyone."

Sweden Plans Decentralization of Jewish Refugees

The question of accommodations for the refugees arriving from Denmark is becoming more complicated as their number grows. The Swedish welfare authorities have, therefore, decided to move the Danish Jews away from the coastal districts. Up until now the work of aiding the refugees was centralized at Helsingborg.

The Swedish press today reports that representatives of the Jewish community in Stockholm have been sent with extensive relief funds to Malmoe, Landskrona and Helsingborg to assist relief committees and the authorities in these places. It also stated that all the buildings at the Ramloessa health resort have been given over to the refugees as well as the Oerenaes castle which is situated north of Landskrona.

Jewish National Assembly in Palestine Lauds Sweden's Aid to Danish Jews

JERUSALEM, Oct. 6.(JTA)-- Appreciation of Sweden's offer to give refuge to the Jews of Denmark in order to save them from deportation to Germany was voiced here today by the Assefath Hanivcharim, the Jewish National Assembly of Palestine.

DANISH JEWS COOPERATED WITH BRITISH AGENTS AGAINST GERMANY, BERLIN CHARGES

ZURICH, Oct. 6. (JTA)-- German radio stations today broadcast a lengthy "explanation" of the mass-arrests of Jews in Denmark, charging the Danish Jews with offering their services to British agents and with "poisoning the relations between the Danish population and German troops." The broadcast attacked Sweden for giving hospitality to escaping refugees and declared that the German round-up of Jews in Denmark is being conducted "in the interests of the Danish nation."

"German security police in Denmark," the broadcast stated, "have found it necessary to place Jews there under stricter supervision. The fact that these steps have been taken three-and-a-half years after Denmark was occupied by German troops means that measures taken against Danish Jews are a result of the role played by Danish Jewry in an attempt led by Britain to incite the Danish nation against Germany."

"It was Danish Jews who offered their services to British agents when the latter endeavored to prevent military safeguarding of Denmark by German troops," the broadcast continued. "A great many acts of sabotage which have occurred in the last few weeks and months and were directed as much against military requirements of German occupation as against Danish property, were due to Jewish instigators. In the same way Jews in Denmark have assiduously participated in a war of nerves and in all attempts to poison good relations of the population with German troops by slander and rumor mongering."

"If preventive measures are now being taken against these Jewish elements, this is a matter of police necessity," the broadcast went on. "The only thing that can be said about it is that the taking of these steps is now necessary, and in fact overdue, in interests of the Danish nation, which after all has to pay for Jewish agitation with its life and property. Conditions such as are now threatening in Denmark existed at one time in France, Czechoslovakia and Poland. In all three countries underhand attacks on German soldiers, acts of sabotage, and outbreaks of black marketing ceased suddenly when Jews were put under lock and key. The police measures which proved extremely efficacious in Paris, Prague and Warsaw will also be completely successful in Copenhagen."

American Jewish Labor Committee Transmits Thanks to Swedish Government

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6. (JTA)-- Swedish Ambassador W. Buström today received a message of thanks from the Jewish Labor Committee expressing deep appreciation, on behalf of 500,000 organized Jewish workers in the United States, "for the courageous and humanitarian action of the Swedish Government taken in connection with the great tragedy that has befallen the Jews in Denmark."

"The solemn warning by your government that the extension to Denmark of the Nazi program aiming toward the total extermination of the Jewish people in Europe will have serious repercussions in Sweden, and its noble offer to admit all Jews from Denmark is a bright light in this hour of agony and darkness," the message said, adding that Sweden "has given the world an example which strengthens man's faith in himself, in civilization and in social progress" and which may well be emulated by other democratic governments.

Name of Swedish King Inscribed in Golden Book in Jerusalem

NEW YORK, Oct. 6. (JTA)-- The name of King Gustav of Sweden will be inscribed in the Jewish National Fund's Golden Book in Jerusalem in gratitude for his country offering haven to the Jews of Denmark, it was announced here today by Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the JNF.

MAISKY DISCUSSES POST-WAR JEWISH PROBLEMS WITH HISTADRUTH LEADERS IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Oct. 6.(JTA)-- Ivan Maisky, Soviet Vice-Commissar for Foreign Affairs, who is now visiting Palestine, today met with leaders of the Histadruth in the Maale-Hanisha settlement and discussed with them questions concerning the solution of the Jewish problem after the war.

Mr. Maisky was especially interested in Palestine's absorptive capacity. It is understood that David Ben-Gurion, Laborite chairman of the executive of the Jewish Agency who was present at the conference, outlined to Maisky the possibilities of industrial and agricultural development in Palestine which would enable the absorption of millions of Jews from Europe within the framework of the Biltmore Declaration which demands the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth. The Soviet Vice-Commissar displayed great interest in the reports of Jewish achievements in Palestine before and during the war.

Mr. Maisky, who is staying at Government House as a guest of the Palestine Government, also received Chief Rabbi Herzog and visited a number of Jewish colonies accompanied by Mr. Ben-Gurion and Eliezer Kaplan, another Laborite member of the executive of the Jewish Agency.

JEWS IN PALESTINE WARN BRITAIN DISTURBANCES MAY RESULT FROM ANTI-JEWISH INCITEMENT

JERUSALEM, Oct. 6.(JTA)-- The British and Palestine Governments were warned yesterday that disturbances may result from the tension engendered by the allegations against leading Jewish institutions voiced by military authorities at the recently concluded trials of two British soldiers and two Jews on charges of gun running. The warning was contained in a resolution adopted by the special session of the Assefath Haniyeh, the Palestine Jewish National Assembly, called to voice the Yishuv's reaction to the arms trials.

In the major address delivered at the session, David Ben-Gurion, chairman of the executive of the Jewish Agency, one of the institutions which it was insinuated were involved in gun smuggling, charged that the trials were a result of pre-war appeasement and the present White Paper policy. Referring to the Haganah, Jewish self-defense group, which the prosecutor in the trial of Leib Sirkin and Abraham Rachlin charged was one of the recipients of the stolen arms, Ben-Gurion recalled that it had been founded before British occupation of Palestine and disbanded when England assumed the mandate on the assumption that it would no longer be needed. The Haganah was revived, he said, when after the Arab pogroms against Jews the Yishuv decided "not to allow itself to be slaughtered."

Other resolutions passed by the Assembly condemned the trials as being of a political nature, aimed at discrediting the Yishuv and its institutions; pledged that despite provocation the Jews would continue to develop the country, but would, if necessary, defend themselves; and, lastly, called on the Yishuv to restrain its bitterness and not accuse the whole British government and people, since the Zionist cause had friends in England. The meeting praised the contribution to the Allied war effort made by Jews and sent greetings to "the thousands of Jewish volunteers fighting for freedom and victory."

ARAB-JEWISH DIFFERENCES PRECLUDE SELF-GOVERNMENT IN PALESTINE, MORRISON SAYS

LONDON, Oct. 6.(JTA)-- Palestine cannot as yet have self-government, Herbert Morrison, British Home Minister, declared today addressing members of the Anglo-American Press Association here. "It is not Britain that forbids such self-government, but Arab-Jewish differences," he said.

CATHOLICS, JEWS AND PROTESTANTS ISSUE DECLARATION ON WORLD PEACE

NEW YORK, Oct. 6.(JTA)-- A declaration giving seven basic principles for the post-war world was issued here today under the signatures of 47 Catholic Archbishops, Bishops, priests and laity, by 47 representative rabbis and laity and by 50 leaders of Protestant communions and national organizations.

The declaration, intended "to dispel confusion in the public mind and in the minds of official policy-makers which might arise from the multiplicity of religious peace statements," demands that: 1. Moral law must govern world order; 2. The rights of the individual must be assured; 3. The rights of oppressed, weak or colonial peoples must be protected; 4. The rights of national minorities must be secured; 5. International institutions to maintain peace with justice must be organized; 6. International economic cooperation must be developed; 7. A just order within each state must be achieved.

Announcement of the declaration has come from agencies of the three groups: the Synagogue Council of America, the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America and the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. Each group has prefaced the statement with a special introduction.

THREE HUNDRED RABBIS SUBMIT PETITION TO WASHINGTON ON RESCUE OF JEWS FROM EUROPE

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.(JTA)-- Four of a delegation of 300 rabbis called at the White House today and left a petition urging that Jewish refugees be admitted to the United Nations, neutral countries and Palestine and that a special inter-governmental agency be created to deal with the problem.

More than 100 of the rabbis were from New York. The others came from Chicago, Los Angeles, Detroit, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Columbus and other cities. Rabbis Israel Rosenberg, Wolf Gold and B.L. Levinthal of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States, and Solomon N. Friedman of the Union of Grand Rabbis, were received by Marvin McIntyre, one of the President's secretaries. The visit was sponsored by the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe.

Earlier, Vice-President Henry A. Wallace and a score of congressmen greeted the delegation on the capital steps. The petition was read in Hebrew by Rabbi Eliezer Silver, co-president of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis, and in English by Rabbi Aaron Burack of New York. Among the congressmen who welcomed the rabbis were Speaker Sam Rayburn of the House of Representatives, and Senators Alben W. Barkley and Charles L. McNary, majority and minority leaders of the upper house. The rabbis then went to the Lincoln Memorial. On the steps, Rabbi Isaac Horowitz led a memorial prayer for the dead of Europe. The group joined in prayer for the President and the United Nations. They then sang the Star Spangled Banner in Hebrew.

Earlier in the day, Bishop James Cannon, Jr., of the Methodist Church, called at a press conference for "something more than soft, sweet words," to help the persecuted Jews of Europe. At the same time, a call to set aside Sunday, October 10, as a Day of Prayer in Christian churches for Jews of the world, was issued by the Right Reverend Henry St. George Tucker, presiding bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, the Rt. Rev. Francis J. McConnell, resident bishop of the Methodist Church, and the Rev. Dr. Henry Sloane Coffin, moderator of the Presbyterian Church.