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U.S. GOVERNMENT DEFINITELY INTERESTED IN FATE OF JEWS IN EUROPE, ROOSEVELT INDICATES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.(JTA)-- President Roosevelt, at his press conference today, indicated that the U.S. Government is definitely interested in the fate of the Jews in occupied Europe. The problems of rescuing them and of sending them immediate relief are merely questions of ways and means, he said.

The President was asked whether anything had been decided at the tri-partite conference in Moscow about the Jews in Nazi Europe. He replied that he would not know until the return of Secretary of State Cordell Hull. He hoped Hull would be back soon.

The heart is in the right place, President Roosevelt remarked, but it is a question of ways and means. He added that the same is true of sending relief.

It was pointed out today that the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, which will meet Wednesday at Atlantic City for its organizing session, cannot take up the question of relief in enemy-controlled territory. Under the agreement to be signed, the UNRRA will distribute relief "in any area under the control of the United Nations." Other areas are excluded by implication.

There is a chance that an amendment to the agreement will be sought by some of the Governments-in-Exile, which ex-President Herbert Hoover said yesterday are deeply concerned that relief be sent now. But this chance is not considered great unless considerable support develops behind the Senate resolution that Hoover's testimony was supporting. Opposition to sending relief through the blockade of Europe comes from British officials strongly opposed to helping the German food supply, directly or indirectly, in amounts however small.

A Senate subcommittee headed by Senator Elbert D. Thomas, Utah Democrat, heard additional testimony today in favor of the resolution, which urges cooperation between the democracies and European neutrals to feed the hungriest civilians of Europe. Those who spoke for the measure included Dr. Oswald F. Barnes, Associate General Secretary of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ; Mrs. Elizabeth Smart of the National Women's Christian Temperance Union; James Wood Johnson of the Feed the Children Committee; and Dorothy Detzer of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

DEPORTATION OF JEWS FROM MILAN DELAYED WHEN ANTI-FASCISTS DESTROYED GESTAPO LISTS

ZURICH, Nov. 5.(JTA)-- Faced with an order by the German military authorities in Milan that all Jews be deported from the city, the underground anti-Fascist movement in Milan succeeded in destroying the lists of Jews compiled by the Gestapo, thus delaying the deportation, it was reported here today.

The report received here from the Italian underground movement says that special "combat units" have been organized by the Fascist Party in German-controlled northern Italy to assist the Gestapo in raids on Jews. These units also

see that the population complies with the anti-Jewish orders. Although the Nazi-controlled Italian press and radio continue to term the Jews "Italy's Enemy Number One," the population seems unimpressed by the unabated anti-Jewish propaganda.

German Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels, in an article today in Das Reich, declares: "Jews apparently believe that they are on the eve of their greatest triumph, but according to German war prisoners who have just returned from England under an exchange arrangement, anti-Semitism is growing daily there despite the pro-Jewish propaganda sponsored by the British Government."

French anti-Semitic newspapers reaching here today from Paris carry a suggestion that concentration camps for Jews be established near places endangered by Allied air attacks. Au Filori, a notorious anti-Jewish publication, demands that one Jew in France be shot for every Frenchman killed during Allied air raids.

CHIEF RABBI OF ATHENS, DEFYING GESTAPO ORDER, DESTROYS RECORDS OF JEWISH COMMUNITY

CAIRO, Nov. 5.(JTA)-- The Chief Rabbi of Athens destroyed membership lists of the Jewish community and then disappeared rather than comply with German demands to hand them over to the Gestapo when a German garrison replaced the Italians in the Greek capital, it was revealed here today by Jean Politis, a former Greek diplomat.

Politis, who escaped from Greece a month ago, said that one of the first German moves was directed against the Jews. When the Chief Rabbi disobeyed the demands to hand over the lists, they began a house-to-house search for Jews. Previously, Politis said, all 50,000 Jews of Salonika had been deported to an unknown destination.

BEN-GURION REPORTED UNWILLING TO WITHDRAW RESIGNATION FROM JEWISH AGENCY EXECUTIVE

LONDON, Nov. 5.(JTA)-- David Ben-Gurion, chairman of the executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, who submitted his resignation to that body last week as a result of differences of opinion between him and Dr. Chaim Weizmann, will not withdraw it, the London Jewish Chronicle reports today in a cable from Jerusalem. "People who have spoken to Ben-Gurion declare that he categorically states that he does not intend to withdraw his resignation," the Chronicle says.

The Manchester Guardian, in an editorial today, says that the different treatment given Jews and Arabs in the recent arms trials in Palestine is "disquieting." Charging that the trials have been used to create prejudice against the Jewish Agency and the Palestine Jewish community, the editorial states:

"It is greatly to the credit of the Jews that David Ben-Gurion and Moshe Shertok, two members of the Jewish Agency executive, made new appeals for recruitment of Jewish volunteers for the British armed forces after the trials began, though this is no more than can be expected from a community whose effort for the United Nations compares favorably with any other people."

NORMAN BENTWICH INVITED BY HAILE SELASSIE TO DRAW UP NEW CONSTITUTION FOR ETHIOPIA

LONDON, Nov. 5.(JTA)-- Norman Bentwich, former Attorney-General of Palestine, and at present serving as an officer with the Royal Air Force, will shortly proceed to Ethiopia to draw up a new constitution for that country, it was learned today. Mr. Bentwich has been asked to come to Ethiopia by Emperor Haile Selassie. He is professor of international relations at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

JOINT EMERGENCY COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN JEWISH AFFAIRS DISSOLVED

NEW YORK, Nov. 5.(JTA)-- The Joint Emergency Committee for European Jewish Affairs, composed of the leading Jewish organizations in the country, today voted to dissolve itself.

The decision was reached by a vote of five to four. Voting for the dissolution of the Committee were the representatives of the American Jewish Congress, the B'nai B'rith, the Synagogue Council of America, the American Zionist Emergency Council and the Hadassah. Against the dissolution were the American Jewish Committee, the Jewish Labor Committee, the Union of Orthodox Rabbis and the Agudas Israel of America.

In the resolution proposing the dissolution of the Committee, it was pointed out that such a body is no longer necessary since a committee on the rescue of Jews from occupied Europe has now been established by the American Jewish Conference. The representatives of the organizations who opposed the dissolution argued that while not all Jewish groups are represented in the American Jewish Conference, they are all represented in the Joint Emergency Committee for European Affairs. This, they stated, offers a good opportunity for united Jewish action in behalf of the Jews in occupied Europe. The reply of the members advocating the dissolution of the Committee was that the doors of the American Jewish Conference are still open to all other groups.

MEDICAL AID PROGRAM FOR JEWS IN EUROPE DURING AND AFTER WAR DISCUSSED IN GENEVA

GENEVA, Nov. 5.(JTA)-- A program of medical aid and child-care activities for Jews in devastated Europe to be carried out during and after the war was discussed here at a special convention of the Ose, Jewish health society, at which it was reported that all shipments of medicaments which have been sent by the society to the Jews in the Polish ghettos through the International Red Cross were received there.

A report on the proceedings of the convention issued here today reveals that the Ose took care of more than 5,000 Jewish children in France this past summer. In order to prevent their deportation, many of them were placed in private homes. When the situation in France made its position untenable, the Ose moved to Switzerland from where it will now function.

Dr. Boris Tschlenoff, vice-president of the organization, told the convention that one of its chief tasks was planning the organization of medical-social work in all countries where Jews are concentrated in order to facilitate their rehabilitation after the war. Other speakers stressed the necessity of securing the cooperation of other relief organizations throughout the world, forming groups of "cadres" who will be ready to go into liberated Europe and aid the Jews, preparing family records to speed the reuniting of families, and planning for the emigration of those persons who are unable or unwilling to reestablish themselves in their countries of origin.

The convention was attended by prominent members of the Swiss Jewish community. The new executive committee of the Ose includes Professors Milhaud, Abelin, Minkowski, Armand Brunshawig, George Bloch, Dreyfus de Gunzbourg, Prof. Hersh, Dr. Tschlenoff and Dr. Sheps.

POLISH GOVERNMENT URGED TO BAN DISTRIBUTION OF ANTI-SEMITIC BOOK AMONG SOLDIERS

NEW YORK, Nov. 5.(JTA)-- The American Representation of the Central Jewish Workers' Union of Poland today appealed to the Polish Government-in-Exile in London to bar the distribution among Polish soldiers of an anti-Semitic book, "Kultura Polski," published by Roy Publishers, New York, and distributed as a gift to men in the Polish armed forces throughout the world.

The appeal, cabled to the Polish Minister of Labor and Social Welfare, Jan Stanczyk, reads: "We call your attention to the fact that the Polish American Council, Rada Polonji, is trying to distribute through Polish Government channels thousands of copies of the book 'Kultura Polski' by Kazimierz Hartleb as a gift for Polish soldiers and refugees. Because this book contains anti-Semitic chapters and seeks to influence readers in favor of a semi-Fascist Polish Government as it existed before the outbreak of war, we ask you to take the necessary steps."

Among the other anti-Semitic statements which the book contains, it describes Polish-Jewish relations as follows: "The Poles envy the Jews their wealth, particularly since the Poles are convinced that the Jews acquired their fortunes by wicked means. The more superstitious the Poles became, the richer the Jews got. The Jews lived in Polish towns like worms in beautiful furniture, like moths in precious furs. The Polish landlords liked eating spicy foods, and the Jews sold them these foods. That is why the Jews got everything from the landlords for a sack of pepper. The Jews meant everything to the landlord. The landlords rented mills, inns, hotels and hamlets to the Jews. The Jew was his best secretary and his trusty servant."

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN OPEN CONVENTION IN CHICAGO TODAY

CHICAGO, Nov. 5.(JTA)-- The 17th triennial convention of the National Council of Jewish Women opens here on Sunday in the Drake Hotel. The Council was founded in Chicago fifty years ago this month. Delegates from 215 sections of the organization in the United States and representatives of the Canadian section will attend.

The convention, which will be in session until Thursday, Nov. 11, will be addressed by Thomas Mann, noted German author; Earl G. Harrison, Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization; Dr. Caroline Ware, of the American Association of University Women, and others. The high point of the convention, which has been stripped of most festivities because of the war, will be the "Golden Anniversary Dinner" on Nov. 10, marking a half-century of service by the Council.

"THOMAS MASARYK SQUARE" DEDICATED IN TEL AVIV AT PUBLIC CEREMONY

TEL AVIV, Nov. 5.(JTA)-- "Thomas Masaryk Square," named after the founder of the Czechoslovakian Republic, was dedicated here today at public ceremonies presided over by Mayor Israel Rokach. Mr. Rokach praised Masaryk's attitude toward minorities, including the Jews of Czechoslovakia.

Czech Consul-General Dr. Novak addressed the gathering, reviewing the career of Thomas Masaryk and his son, Jan, who is foreign minister of the present Czech Government. District Commissioner Ralph Crosbie also spoke.