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PALESTINE GOVERNMENT DROPS CHARGES AGAINST RAMATH HAKOVESH SETTLERS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- The Palestine Government announced yesterday that it has dropped all charges against the 34 settlers arrested during the police raid on the settlement of Ramath Hakovesh. The bail put up by the settlers when they were released last week-end has been returned. Of the original 35 Jews arrested, one, Shmuel Wolynetz, died as a result of wounds suffered during the raid.

The decision taken last week by the Small Zionist Actions Committee to send Moshe Shertok, Jewish Agency political chief, to London in an attempt to reconcile the differences between Dr. Chaim Weizmann and David Ben Gurion, seems to have precipitated another crisis within Zionist ranks instead of solving the already existing one, it was learned here today.

The General Zionists B, the Mizrahi and the Poale Mizrahi are all up in arms at the Actions Committee because it decided to send Shertok alone, rather than a delegation on which other Zionist groups, besides the Laborites, would be represented. The Mizrahi and the Poale Mizrahi are meeting tomorrow to discuss the situation. The Central committee of the Mapai, the Labor Party, will also meet tomorrow to find a solution to the present disagreement.

Palestine Tension Result of Fear New Outbreaks in Offing, Says London Times

LONDON, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- The present tension in Palestine has been engendered by the feeling that Arab-Jewish disturbances of greater magnitude than have occurred previously may break out in the not far distant future, a Jerusalem correspondent of the London Times writes today in the second of a series of articles on the situation in the Holy Land.

Until there is a "genuine desire on both sides" to cooperate, the White Paper policy or any other policy cannot be successful, the correspondent writes. He says that "moderate thinkers on all sides feel that the only solution to the problem is continued British administration and regulation of land sales and immigration under the conditions laid down by the mandate." The article points out that if the Jews were given a free hand in Palestine they would undoubtedly build up a flourishing country which could be the "dream link" between Europe and the Middle East, but, it adds, the country belongs as much to the Arabs as to the Jews.

GERMANS RAID MILAN SYNAGOGUE DURING SERVICES, ARREST WORSHIPERS; ONE MAN KILLED

ZURICH, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- German troops this week invaded a synagogue in Milan while services were being held and arrested all the worshippers, it is reported in the Italian newspaper Libera Stampa, a copy of which was received here today. The report says that a Dr. Neppi, a noted Milan physician, was killed during the raid.

Other reports reaching here from Italy state that the official Vatican newspaper, Osservatore Romano has published an editorial protesting the German decree providing for the internment of all Jews in Italy and confiscation of their property. The Vatican paper is quoted as stating that the Nazi action "will strike thousands of women and children, aged and sick, who are children of God and who will be exposed to unprecedented sufferings increased by winter."

JDC WILL NEED \$17,000,000 IN 1944; PAUL BAERWALD ELECTED CHAIRMAN

NEW YORK, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- At least \$17,000,000 will be required by the Joint Distribution Committee during 1944 to carry out its normal, routine activities in Europe, Asia and North Africa, it was stated today by Paul Baerwald addressing 4,000 delegates from 135 cities attending the 29th annual meeting of the JDC. Mr. Baerwald stressed that "if the war were to end tomorrow, or at any other time within the year, we would require twice or three times that sum - or even more."

Mr. Baerwald was elected chairman of the JDC last night, succeeding Capt. Edward M. M. Warburg, who is on active service with the United States Army. For the past two years Mr. Baerwald has been functioning as honorary chairman of the organization. Mrs. Felix Warburg was named honorary chairman and James N. Rosenberg was elected to the newly-created post of chairman of the Board.

Joseph C. Hyman, executive vice-president of the JDC, speaking at today's meeting, discussed arrangements which the JDC has just concluded with the Soviet Union to send food, clothing and other relief supplies in the amount of \$500,000 into the U.S.S.R. within the next few months for distribution by the Russian Red Cross to civilians on a non-sectarian basis in areas of predominantly Jewish population. He said that this marked the formal resumption of relief relationships between JDC and the Soviet Union. The new program will supplement the JDC's present shipments of packages containing food, clothing and medicines to large numbers of evacuees from Eastern Europe who are now in Soviet Asia, Mr. Hyman explained, pointing out that the package plan is expected to reach a rate of 5,000 parcels a month by the end of this year.

Role of Private Relief Agencies Stressed by Lehman

High praise for the Joint Distribution Committee's work came from the Director General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, Herbert H. Lehman, in a letter to Mr. Hyman. Mr. Lehman, who for a quarter of a century was actively associated with the JDC, declared that agency, "dealing as it does, not merely with current needs, but preparing to meet large obligations in the post-war world, deserves the support and the interest of all men and groups." In his message, Mr. Lehman declared that "in the vast task which faces the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, not alone will the human and material resources of governments be required, but that of public and private organizations also will be needed."

Harry Greenstein, who is Welfare Branch Chief of the UNRRA's Division of Program and Requirements, pointed out that "the JDC occupies a unique position in the field of foreign voluntary relief. Upon it rests the burden for Jewish life to go on... As countries are liberated, tremendous burdens will be placed upon it. The JDC has had a long and honorable record of usefulness to the Jewish people. It has a far greater opportunity for service in the years ahead."

He declared that it is important "to bear in mind that the UNRRA's resources will be limited and it will have to confine its responsibility to the occupied and liberated countries. The JDC is engaged in work in many countries that are not at all in the war -- neutral countries such as Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, Portugal and all Latin America."

JDC Tasks in War and Post-War Period Outlined by Speakers

The post-war tasks facing the JDC were outlined by Mr. Baerwald. "Within the structure of normal community life," he declared, "the institutions of Jewish culture and religion will need to be reestablished, and Jewish institutions of welfare and service restored." Pointing out that many Jewish exiles will want to go back to their

old homes, he said that the JDC will "have the enormous and difficult task of reuniting families... Many will wish to seek their destiny in new worlds; many will want to go to Palestine. It is our profound hope that the doors of Palestine may be opened to them in the widest degree."

Referring to the problem of children now scattered in hiding places over Europe, many of them in the homes of Christian neighbors, Mr. Baerwald declared that "for a generation to come, these children will need patient, sympathetic and individual care, beyond the assistance of governmental agencies." Men and women, he said, will require guidance in the selection of vocations and in economic training. Hundreds of thousands will require loans and credits of the kind which the JDC has for many years in the past provided in Eastern Europe, particularly in Poland, he added,

The JDC's operations in Europe, Asia and Africa were described by Dr. Joseph Schwartz, the organization's European director. In Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, Asiatic Russia and Sweden, he said, the JDC was providing food, clothing, shelter, medical and child care to thousands of refugees who had escaped from occupied areas. In French Morocco and Algeria, the JDC had brought the refugee situation under control, but in Tunisia, he said, the JDC's "job will take years" to rebuild the community life of the native Jewish population.

He disclosed that the JDC was aiding religious and cultural institutions in Palestine, Iran, Turkey, as well as in North Africa. A special activity of the JDC since the Hitler era, he said, has been emigration aid. Dr. Schwartz pointed out that since Pearl Harbor, the JDC has enabled 12,000 persons to emigrate to the Western Hemisphere and Palestine. In recent months, he added, the JDC has been aiding large groups of Jews who had escaped to Turkey and to Aden, to go to Palestine.

Miss Laura Margolis, who is the only woman in the JDC's overseas service, told the meeting that "the JDC and the organization it set up in enemy-occupied Shanghai has meant the difference between life and death to thousands of refugees there." Miss Margolis was sent to Shanghai by the JDC in May, 1941 to supervise its relief activities in behalf of the 21,000 Jewish refugees. Even after Pearl Harbor, she pointed out, the JDC kitchen was feeding 5,000 persons each day and its five camps were housing many more. Alexander Kahn, a vice-chairman of the JDC, paid tribute to the millions of Jews who have met death at the hands of the Nazis. He eulogized nine former associates of the JDC who have died in Europe.

Old Officers Re-Elected; Several New Ones Chosen

Six JDC Vice-Chairmen were reelected: George Backer, Mr. Kahn and Jonah B. Wise, of New York; William Rosenwald, of Greenwich, Conn.; William J. Shroder, of Cincinnati, and M. C. Sloss of San Francisco. Four new Vice-Chairmen were elected. They are James H. Becker of Chicago, retiring Chairman of the JDC's National Council; I. Edwin Goldwasser, Alfred E. Jaretzki, Jr., and Isaac H. Levy of New York. Other officers who will continue in their posts during the coming year are: I. Edwin Goldwasser and Alexander A. Landesco, Treasurers; Mrs. H. B. L. Goldstein, Comptroller; Joseph C. Hyman, Executive Vice-Chairman; Evelyn M. Morrissey, Assistant Treasurer; Moses A. Leavitt, Secretary; Dr. Bernhard Kahn, Honorary Chairman, Dr. Schwartz, Chairman of the European Executive Council; and Isidore Coons, Director of Fund-Raising. All are from New York.

To the Executive Committee three members were added; Sidney Lansburgh of Baltimore, and Leo Jung and Alfred E. Jaretzki, Jr. of New York. Thirty members of the Executive Committee were reelected. Nine members were added to the Board of Directors. The five New Yorkers among them are: Alexander E. Arnstein, Saul J. Lance, Carl Leff, Jacob Levinson, and Harry Zeitz. Albert H. Lieberman of Philadelphia was elevated from the Vice-Chairmanship of the National Council to the Chairmanship.

Today's meeting was held simultaneously at the Commodore and Murray Hill Hotels. Mr. Shroder presided at the Commodore, and Mr. Goldwasser at the Murray Hill.

GERMANS HAVE ESTABLISHED NINE SEPARATE CONCENTRATION CAMPS FOR POLISH JEWS

LONDON, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- Nine of the many concentration camps which have been established by the German occupation authorities in Poland are used solely for Jewish prisoners, while Jews are also confined in three other camps, according to information gathered by a special commission of the Polish Government, which was made public here today.

The "Jewish camps" are located at Belezec, Starogard, Potulice, Sobibor, Kosow-Podlaski, Treblinka, Trawniki, Poniechówek and also one between Chelmo and Wlodawa. Of these, Treblinka, Trawniki and Poniechówek are "death camps" to which the Jews are sent to be executed. It is known that Treblinka has extensive execution facilities, such as gas and steam chambers. The Government report says that Jews are also confined in the Majdanek, Myslowice and Oswiecim camps and at several other unnamed places in Polish Silesia.

The report reveals that there are a total of 100 concentration camps in Poland, divided into nine categories: Segregation camps, where Poles and Jews are sent for a short period immediately after being arrested, concentration camps proper, forced labor camps, camps for priests, camps for women (non-Jewish), camps for Jews, "racial improvement" camps, corrective camps for young Poles, and children's camps.

BBC SPECIAL BROADCAST ESTIMATES 3,000,000 EUROPEAN JEWS KILLED BY GERMANS

LONDON, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- Marking the forthcoming anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on Nazi atrocities in occupied Europe, which was issued on Dec. 17, 1942, the British Broadcasting Company today broadcast a summary of German atrocities against Jews, estimating that 3,000,000 European Jews have been killed since the outbreak of the war.

The broadcaster stated that Poland has become the execution center for the Jews of Europe. He reviewed the arrest and deportation to Poland of the Jews of Holland, Greece, France, Austria and other countries and estimated that only about 700 Jews, who are married to Aryans, remain in the city of Vienna. The broadcast also described the battle of the Warsaw Ghetto and the death chambers at the Treblinka camp in Poland.

NAZIS EXECUTE 21-YEAR OLD JEWISH YOUTH IN FRANCE

LONDON, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- A 21-year-old Jewish youth named Fried was executed in Lyon yesterday by the German occupation authorities for alleged participation in terrorist activities, the Paris radio announced today. The broadcaster said that the "gang" of which Fried was a member had attempted to raid a government office and seize a quantity of ration cards.

PUBLIC SQUARE IN HAIFA NAMED IN HONOR OF JUDGE JULIAN W. MACK

NEW YORK, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- A square in the commercial center of the Emek Zebulun area of Haifa has been named for the late Judge Julian W. Mack of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, according to an announcement today by the Palestine Economic Corporation. Judge Mack was an active and leading participant in Palestine reconstruction activities for many years.

NEW PRO-PALESTINE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED IN AUSTRALIA

MELBOURNE, Australia, Dec. 5. (JTA) -- A Pro-Palestine Committee, consisting of prominent non-Jewish leaders, has been formed in South Australia, it was announced here today. Four of the Commonwealth's six states now have such groups functioning.