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RAIDS BY POLISH TROOPS ON SETTLEMENTS CAMOUFLAGE BRITISH HUNT FOR ARMS, JEWS CHARGE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 9. (JTA) -- Polish military authorities in Palestine may be compelled to halt their raids on Jewish colonies as a result of the bitter resentment among the Jewish population of the country, it was indicated by Polish sources here today. Jewish spokesmen have charged that the raids are merely a camouflage to enable the British police to hunt for arms without bearing responsibility for initiating the searches.

Conducted on the pretext of searching for deserters from the Polish army, the raids have so far not resulted in turning up any deserters and have proven that the Jewish settlements are not sheltering them. On the other hand these searches led to a bloody clash in Ramath Hakovesh between the settlers and British police, as well as to so-called "arms trials" such as the one which is taking place now before a military court in Jerusalem, resulting from a Polish raid on Hulda settlement.

Polish authorities today indicated that they are inclined to discontinue their searches in Jewish colonies because they do not wish to become involved in local politics. They said that the searches are the affair of the local administration. Polish military police who participated in the Ramath Hakovesh raid testified that no Polish deserters were found in the colony.

Beds Ransacked in Search for Arms in Hulda; Jews Embittered

At today's session of the military court hearing the Hulda "arms trial" it was established that the British police who followed up the search of the Polish units in the Hulda settlement ransacked pillows and beds in their search for allegedly hidden arms. Testifying before the court, Israel Bernbaum, the head of the settlement, said that the Jews are embittered over the manner in which the search was conducted. He charged that the real aim of the search for Polish deserters was to enable the British police to search for arms.

As first witness for the defense, Bernbaum reviewed the constitution of the Hulda communal settlement. He said that the Kvutzah is generally opposed to any search for arms because of the tragic occurrences there during the Arab riots when the settlement was demolished. He pointed out that Jacob Mass and Jacob Galata, the two of the seven accused who pleaded guilty at the opening session of the court, were assigned by the settlement to prepare plans for the defense of the Kvutzah, but never disclosed their plans to other members of the colony.

Court Refuses to Dismiss Case Against Five Jews

David Goiten, the attorney for the defense, appealed to the military tribunal to dismiss the case against the remaining five members of the Hulda colony who have pleaded not guilty to the charge of illegal possession of arms. He pointed out that no evidence has been produced to indicate that these five had any knowledge concerning the existence of the arms discovered during the police raid. Since Hulda is

a communal settlement every single member of the colony could have been accused, he declared in appealing for dismissal.

The defense appeal was rejected by the court, however, and the trial continued with testimony by prosecution witnesses. Police Inspector Taylor said that Hulda had been permitted to have thirteen auxiliary policemen and was supplied two years ago by the British military authorities with a number of rifles, revolvers, and 2,500 bullets but not with mortar bombs.

Two other police witnesses testified that the Jewish auxiliary policemen in Hulda were trained in the use of mortar bombs when the German army was in El Alamein and Palestine faced a serious danger of German invasion.

#### Congressman Celler Denounces Palestine Raids; Wants American Inquiry

NEW YORK, Dec. 9. (JTA) -- A demand that a Board of Inquiry, composed of representatives of Jewish and non-Jewish American organizations, be set up immediately "to investigate the nefarious practices of the Palestine Government" was voiced here today by Congressman Emanuel Celler in a statement issued to the press in connection with the new arms trial which is taking place in Jerusalem.

Congressman Celler termed the new trial "part of a pattern of the British Colonial Office to discredit the heroic effort of the Jews in Palestine." Emphasizing that the Hulda settlement, like a number of other Jewish colonies in Palestine, was "the scene of cruel pogroms by Arabs," he charged the Palestine Government with "failing dismally, miserably and deliberately to protect the Jews in their homes."

"The Jews" the statement said, "cannot fight the Arab highjacker with bare knuckles. In the previous disorders the Arabs used guns and rifles denied to the Jews. The Jews dare not take chances on future assaults and attacks. They must prepare for Arab riots."

#### JEWS ARRESTED IN RUMANIA FOR LISTENING TO FOREIGN BROADCASTS

ZURICH, Dec. 9. (JTA) -- The Berlin radio today reported that 48 Jews have been arrested in Bucharest on charges of "listening to enemy broadcasts and spreading defeatist propaganda."

The Hungarian press reaching here today reports that a Christian named Lajos Kupai has been sentenced to one month in prison because he declared he was a Jew in order "to demonstrate his disgust with the anti-Jewish laws. His action was termed by the court "an insult to the nation." Kupai is a tinsmith who served in the Hungarian armed forces on the Russian front in the present war.

#### BELGIAN GOVERNMENT WARNS CITIZENS AGAINST PARTICIPATION IN ANTI-JEWISH ACTS

LONDON, Dec. 9. (JTA) -- The official organ of the Belgian Government-in-Exile has announced that Belgians found guilty of helping the Nazis commit anti-Jewish atrocities will be punished as war criminals.

This ruling also applies to Belgian citizens participating in anti-Jewish crimes in Axis-held territories outside of Belgium, the announcement said.

SIXTY ALL-JEWISH UNITS SERVING WITH BRITISH FORCES, JEWISH AGENCY REPORTS

LONDON, Dec. 9. (JTA) -- There are now sixty all-Jewish units in the British armed forces and 300 of their officers are Jewish, it is disclosed today in a review issued by the Jewish Agency here.

The total number of Palestine Jews serving under the British flag is about 22,000, the report says, with 700 in the Navy and 3,000 women in the Auxiliary Territorial Service, and the remainder in the Army and Royal Air Force. There are also 6,000 Jews among the supernumerary police in Palestine and 8,000 in the regular police.

The Agency review states that the efforts of the Palestinian Jews are directed toward: 1- Maximum participation in the war effort. 2- Saving European Jewry. 3- Maintaining their existing position. 4- Expanding their economic activities. 5- Laying the groundwork for a permanent solution of the Jewish problem after the war.

FURTHER REPORTS OF LIQUIDATION OF POLISH GHETTOS REACH LONDON; POLES PRAISED

LONDON, Dec. 9. (JTA) -- A detailed report of the liquidation of the smaller Jewish ghettos in Poland by the Nazis during last May and June was received here today by Dr. Ignacy Schwarzbart, a deputy in the Polish National Council. The report says that the ghettos in Piaski, Komskowole, Siedlice, Lukow and Radzyn were wiped out.

In the town of Wlodawa 4,000 Jews - 1,000 of whom had been sent there from Bzow in May - were divided into two contingents of 3,000 and 1,000. The 3,000 were sent to the Sobibor concentration camp, and most of the 1,000 were executed on the spot. Some of the latter, however, succeeded in fleeing to safety in the neighboring woods. Several hundred Jews were killed at Siedlice. In Wengrow 400 of the 700 Jews in the city were executed in the ghetto and the other 300 were gassed in the Treblinka "death camp," the report discloses.

Several hundred Dutch Jews recently arrived at the Trawniki camp, it is also revealed in the underground report. Children, women and aged men were sent to the Sobibor camp, while able-bodied men were placed in workshops manufacturing clothes for the German army. The report pays tribute to several Polish individuals and families who have been executed by the Germans for the "crime" of either sheltering Jews or feeding them.

ORT TRAINEES FROM ITALY REACH SWITZERLAND; ITALIANS HIDING MACHINERY FROM NAZIS

ZURICH, Dec. 9. (JTA) -- Forty-five young Jewish refugees who were being trained in an ORT school near Genoa have arrived safely in Switzerland, it was learned today from delegates attending the annual conference of the Swiss ORT here. The youths report that the machines and tools belonging to their school are being hidden by friendly Italian peasants to prevent their seizure by the Germans.

Addressing the conference, Dr. Aaron Syngalovsky, vice-president of the World ORT Union, pointed out that in view of the problem which will face Jews in the devastated areas of liberated Europe, it is vitally important to train as many technicians as possible at present for service in Europe after the war. The meeting approved a plan of work for the first six months of 1944 which will require the expenditure of 350,000 Swiss francs.

JEWISH LEADER ELECTED MAYOR OF CORNWALL IN CANADA

MONTREAL, Dec. 9. (JTA) -- Aaron Horvitz, a manufacturer active in Jewish communal affairs, has been elected mayor of the city of Cornwall, the highest elective post to be held by any Canadian Jew.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS' UNION DEMANDS RESCUE OF JEWS; URGES ANNULMENT OF ANTI-JEWISH LAWS

LONDON, Dec. 9. (JTA) -- A resolution urging the United Nations to take immediate measures to rescue the Jews in occupied territories and to annul anti-Jewish measures in these territories as soon as they are liberated was adopted here today by the council of the League of Nations Union at a session held under the chairmanship of Viscount Cecil.

The meeting drafted a plan for an international authority to maintain world peace and offered a six-point post-war program which includes the provision that "there should be no discrimination on grounds of religion, race or language by any state." It also adopted a resolution requiring punishment of those guilty of massacring Jews.

ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY SAYS PERSECUTION OF JEWS MUST NEVER BE FORGOTTEN

LONDON, Dec. 9. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders expressed gratification at the address delivered yesterday by the Archbishop of Canterbury, in which he stressed the importance of keeping alive the spirit of indignation and compassion concerning the persecution of the Jews.

Addressing the Council of Christians and Jews, Dr. Temple said: "It is one of the most terrible consequences of war that the sensitiveness of people tends to become hardened. We could hardly live these days if we felt the volume of suffering of others in the world as acutely as we felt in peacetime. There is a great moral danger in the paralysis of feeling that is liable to be brought about. It is most important for our own moral health and vigor that we express horror at the persecution of the Jews."

The Archbishop concluded by saying that the persecution of Jews on the Continent, and particularly in Poland, "almost baffles imagination and leaves one horrified at the power of the evil that can show itself in human nature."

NRS REUNITES JEWISH REFUGEE CHILDREN WITH PARENTS; WERE SEPARATED FOR MANY YEARS

NEW YORK, Dec. 9. (JTA) -- Reunions of Jewish children with parents from whom they had been separated for five years or more by Nazi persecution have taken place in New York and other cities following the arrival in the past few days of two ships from England bringing 206 refugees, it was disclosed today by the National Refugee Service.

Seventeen of the passengers were children who had been rescued from Axis countries and brought to England before the war. Their parents had subsequently immigrated to the United States, but legal complications and lack of transportation delayed the reunions until now. Among the other passengers there were also many grown sons and daughters restored to parents whom they had not seen since they were boys and girls and brothers reunited with sisters.

SEVENTH COLONY TO BE FOUNDED SINCE NEW YEAR OPENED IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 9. (JTA) -- The seventh new Jewish settlement to be established here since the beginning of the Jewish year on Sept. 30 was formally opened today at Hema near Yavneh. The colony has been founded by the "Haoved Hazoni," a labor group, and will accommodate sixty to seventy families. Its 1,600 dunams of Jewish National Fund land will be devoted to mixed farming. Equipment and funds have been advanced by the Palestine Foundation Fund.