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## BOLIVIAN PRESIDENT DISAVOWS ANTI-SEMITISM; BOLIVIA TO JOIN INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- The full text of a statement by the new Bolivian President, Gualberto Villarroel, repudiating anti-Semitism was received here today. The statement, which was made by President Villarroel at a press conference at La Paz yesterday, emphasizes that the new government is ready to join the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees. It reads:

"It is ridiculous to imagine that there could exist in Bolivia a government that might in any way favor racial doctrines, inasmuch as such attitudes would lead us to deny our own Indian heritage and pay homage to the so-called Aryans.

"In Bolivia any one who denounced those who made money by selling passports, thus exploiting the Jews that sought refuge in Bolivia, was called anti-Semitic. The truth of it all is that Bolivia whose large territory is very sparsely populated needs to bring in new people, especially farmers. Unfortunately, however, not one percent of the Jewish population that came into the country included farmers. That brought about protests that cannot be labelled as anti-Semitism or racism.

"My government does not in any way sympathize with racial doctrines and the fact that during the revolution not one of the many Jewish establishments was attacked by the populace would seem to corroborate that the Bolivian people are likewise alien to such exotic theories.

The Bolivian Government will designate a representative in the London Intergovernmental Committee as suggested to all the American countries by Sir Herbert Emerson and its policies with regard to the Jewish population of the country will conform with the policies that the other countries of the continent have adopted. Within the country, in accordance with the constitution, both Bolivian nationals and foreigners enjoy the same individual liberties without distinction of race."

### Villarroel's Statement Leaves Washington Unimpressed

President Villarroel's statement made little impression in official circles in Washington. It was pointed out here that four members of the anti-Semitic National Revolutionary Movement are included in Villarroel's cabinet. Also that the leader of the party, Victor Paz Estenssoro, a known anti-Semite, engineered the coup that brought the Villarroel regime to power.

Government officials here do not hesitate to label the week-old Bolivian regime as Nazi, despite a denial of anti-Semitism and all other Nazi connections by Paz Estenssoro. In diplomatic circles it was predicted today that a coalition government with strong labor support will soon replace the pro-Nazi revolutionary junta. The junta cannot survive long without the support of the United States.

One effect of President Villarroel's disavowal of anti-Semitism may be the continuation in office of Dr. Enrique de Lozada, the junta's representative here who had threatened to resign unless the new Bolivian regime repudiated the anti-Jewish parts of the program of the National Revolutionary Movement. Dr. Lozada is expected to stay in the hope that Jose Antonio Arze, leader of the Bolivian Leftist Revolutionary party, will enter the government and eliminate Nazi tendencies.

RIGHT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE TO DEAL WITH GERMANY WILL BE CLARIFIED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- The office of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees in London, which maintains that it has not been empowered by the Bermuda Conference to enter into direct negotiations with Germany concerning the rescue of Jews in occupied territory, will soon be "set right" on this subject, it was learned here today.

The State Department seems to agree with the view expressed by its Assistant Secretary, Breckinridge Long, who told the House Foreign Affairs Committee that under the extended mandate of the Bermuda Conference, the Intergovernmental Committee was given "plenary authority to do whatever it can, within and without Germany and the occupied territories."

It was also learned here today that the military authorities still object to any proposal to send food to the people of occupied Europe through the Allied blockade. They also object to the proposal made by certain Jewish groups that an exchange of refugees or potential refugees for Axis prisoners be negotiated. These two proposals were rejected at Bermuda as not being within the scope of the conference.

With regard to the extended mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee, attention was drawn here today to the fact that the new mandate was approved at Bermuda by the Governments of Britain and the United States, but that the Committee also includes neutrals as well as other United Nations.

PALESTINE PRICE CONTROL LEADS TO INFLATION, LONDON PAPER CHARGES

LONDON, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- The Palestine Government's price control system is inadequate to check inflation, and its system of point rationing "does not exist outside the boundaries of the Jewish municipalities," it is charged today in an article appearing in the London "Economist."

The writer asserts that the government is appeasing the land owners and peasantry, "whose overcharging on agricultural products is chiefly responsible for the increase in the cost of living." The article also criticizes the "cost-of-living allowances" which provide for an automatic wage increase as the price index rises. It declares that these wage increases intensify the inflationary pressure and also cause difficulties for Palestine producers by making it almost impossible for them to compete with overseas competitors whose cost of production is much lower.

With the approach of peace, the article concludes, this problem will assume increasing importance and, therefore, "the recovery of the purchasing power of the pound is vital to the future stability of Palestine's economy."

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS WARNS AGAINST PREMATURE EFFORTS TO OUTLAW ANTI-SEMITISM

MONTREAL, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders in Canada are of the opinion that there are grave dangers and difficulties in a proposal advanced recently for legislation to ban anti-Semitism in Canada, it was announced today by the Canadian Jewish Congress.

The subject was discussed at a conference of the Dominion Council of the Canadian Jewish Congress and has been receiving constant attention. The Jewish Congress has warned the Jews here against irresponsible steps by men and groups "seeking to exploit community interest in this subject for their own ends." It says that the matter will continue to receive the utmost attention and reveals that consultations "with learned counsel" are in progress with regard to the proposal.

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CANADIAN PARLIAMENT EXPECTED TO DISCUSS INCREASED IMMIGRATION FROM EUROPE

OTTAWA, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- The forthcoming session of the Canadian parliament may take up the question of opening the country to increased immigration from Europe, it was predicted in the press today.

It is expected, however, that the Canadian Government will take no action on admitting large numbers of immigrants until the war is over. At present there is a group within Canada asking for increased immigration while another group is completely opposed to it. A third group advocates the restriction of immigration to British subjects only.

The Financial Post, a leading Canadian financial publication, recently published an article advocating selective immigration on a huge scale. The article comes to the conclusion that Canada must have large immigration in order to avoid post-war unemployment and to develop its natural resources and newly-built industry. The paper says that Canada could absorb 100 million new immigrants under a selective immigration system which would exclude Germans and people of colored races from entering the country.

4,000 SLOVAKIAN JEWS HELD IN FORCED LABOR CAMPS; ANTI-JEWISH CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

ZURICH, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- About 4,000 Slovakian Jews are now engaged in forced labor, constructing roads, repairing railroad right of ways, building houses and assisting in flood control work, it is disclosed in an official government report published in Bratislava newspapers received here today.

The Slovakian press, meanwhile, continues to hammer away at the continued presence in economic life of Jews. One paper says that as a result of "Aryanization" officials utilizing the services of the former Jewish owners of confiscated businesses, a "Semitization of the Aryanizers" is taking place. Another paper charges that anti-government propaganda by Jews is becoming bolder as Allied successes grow and is "shaking the belief of reliable elements of the population in a German victory."

46,500 REFUGEES NOW RESIDING IN SWEDEN, GOVERNMENT REPORTS; MANY EMPLOYED

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- The Swedish Government announced today that there are now 46,500 political and religious refugees in Sweden, an increase of about 14,000 in the last 16 months. The announcement, which was broadcast by the Stockholm radio, said that one-sixth of the refugees are employed in agricultural and forestry work.

Stockholm newspapers report today that the municipal council of Goteberg has decided to tender a reception on January 11 to 600 refugees living there. Mayor Jungen of Goteberg stated that the city wanted refugees from Sweden's sister nations to feel at home.

MID-WESTERN ANGLO-JEWISH PUBLISHERS WILL HOLD CONFERENCE IN INDIANAPOLIS

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 28. (JTA) -- A two-day conference of Mid-Western Anglo-Jewish publishers will be held here in the middle of January, it was announced today by Gabriel M. Cohen, publisher of the Indianapolis Jewish Post. The conference, which will open on Jan. 16, will discuss various problems facing Anglo-Jewish publications in this country, including questions of circulation, advertising and editorial work.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL POST-WAR EDUCATION FORMED; ALL FAITHS JOIN

NEW YORK, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- Announcement was made today of the formation of the American Association for an International Office for Education consisting of leaders in the fields of industry, labor, religious organizations of Catholic, Jewish and Protestant faiths, service clubs and educational groups to secure public support for the establishment of an International Office for Education as an essential instrument for an enduring peace.

One of the aims of the Association is to create commissions to prepare curriculum materials to bring about the elimination from text books of matter causing international ill will or misconceptions by one people of another. Officers of the Association are Chairman, Dr. Harlow Shapley, Harvard College Observatory; Vice Chairman, James Marshall, New York City Board of Education, Monsignor George Johnson, Catholic University of America; Treasurer, Sylvan L. Joseph, former Regional Director O.P.A.

In a statement explaining its purposes, the Association declared that "an international organization for education with a permanent secretariat - an international education office - can be an instrument to create healthier relationships between people and through them between nations. It can materially contribute to the peace of the world by helping to improve educational standards, to clarify educational aims and to foster intercultural fellowship and understanding."

LORD WEDGWOOD'S "TESTAMENT TO DEMOCRACY" ASKS JEWISH MAJORITY IN PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- The future of Palestine as visualized by the late Lord Josiah Wedgwood is outlined in his last work, published this week under the title of "Testament to Democracy." The volume, which contains a foreword by Prime Minister Winston Churchill, has been issued under the auspices of the American Chapter of the Religious Emergency Council of the Chief Rabbi of Great Britain.

"What I should like," Lord Wedgwood says in his "Testament," "would be a larger Palestine, embracing the Hauran, Transjordan and Sinai, as a self-governing State of the Democratic Federal Union; such a State to be pledged to open frontiers for immigration; and Jewish police to keep order. Then the Jews would soon be in a majority, and with votes for all and single member constituencies on a general franchise, the State would develop as peacefully and justly as the State of New York. As for the rest, being something of a Turcophile I should gladly see the rest of Syria and Iraq recaptured by the new Turkey -- that would at least remove those hideous veils and turbans with which we seek to perpetuate in Palestine the obfuscated mysteries of the Middle Ages."

NEW YORK SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS NAZI LAW DENYING INSURANCE CASH TO JEWS IN U. S.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28. (JTA) -- A Nazi law which refused to allow two women, now in America, to collect a \$7,000 insurance policy, "because they are Jews who have taken up residence abroad," was upheld by Supreme Court Justice Peck, here yesterday. Justice Peck held no brief for the law. He called it "very obnoxious and offensive and hoped that "in the post-war world justice may be done."

The suit was instituted by Anna Kleve and Kathe Warisch against a Swiss insurance company which wrote the policy naming them as beneficiaries before they came to the U. S. in 1935. In February, 1942, they demanded payment of the policy's cash surrender value - \$7,000 - via radiogram, but the Swiss firm refused on the grounds that amount of money had already been confiscated by the German government in Berlin.

Though he attacked the German decrees, Justice Peck nevertheless found that "the court is obliged to hold that governing law is no less controlling because it is a bad law."