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JEWS IN NORTH AFRICA SPLIT ON POLITICAL ISSUES; SOME SUPPORT SEPARATION FROM FRANCE

ALGIERS, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Jews in North Africa are now divided into two camps as the result of a separatist movement sponsored by Moslem extreme nationalistic groups, one of which demands that France grant Algeria a dominion status, while others advocate the formation of a Western Arab Federation composed of Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco.

The proposal that the three French colonies be merged into an imperial Federation will be brought before the forthcoming session of the French Parliament-in-Exile at Brazzaville, it was stated today. Jewish leaders of France, now in Algeria, oppose any separatist tendencies which would weaken the position of the French Committee of National Liberation. Algerian Jews, on the other hand, seem to favor those Moslem elements who work towards achieving a dominion status for Algeria.

Some anti-Jewish regulations issued by the Vichy regime are still being applied by local officials in Morocco and in other parts of Western Africa despite the decision of the French Committee of National Liberation annulling the Vichy anti-Semitic legislation. This gives the colonial Jews ground for alliance with the nationalist Moslems. The situation is even more complicated by the fact that Jews in Morocco and in Tunisia, unlike the Jews of Algeria, do not benefit from any of the decisions of Gen. de Gaulle's French Committee because they are considered subjects of the Sultan and the Bey in these territories which are French protectorates.

Moslems Approve Restoration of Cremieux Decree; Prejudice Still Noticeable

On the whole, the Jewish situation in North Africa has greatly improved since the re-establishment of the Cremieux Decree under which Algerian Jews are regarded as French citizens. The Oulemas, Arab religious leaders, the Marabouts, government-appointed religious chiefs, and all the Moslem-elected officials, have approved of the restoration of the Cremieux Decree. Anti-Jewish prejudices is still, however, noticeable in army circles in Morocco.

In the regions where the anti-Jewish propaganda was conducted by German agents and by Vichy officials prior to the liberation of these territories by the Allied armies, a more satisfactory situation has developed since the arrest and internment of local leaders of the anti-Semitic Doriot Party and of the so-called Petain Legionaries. This is especially apparent in Oran and in Sidi-Belabbes.

All Jews in North Africa, native as well as French, are united in the opinion that the French Committee of National Liberation is working effectively to combat anti-Jewish prejudice. The leaders of the French Jews here who oppose separatist tendencies and urge all-out support of the de-Gaulle regime include Dr. Henri Abouker, president of the Committee for Social Studies, and Bernard Lechache, president of the Committee to Combat Racism.

Rene Bloch, Famous Jewish Mathematician, Executed in Occupied France

The French clandestine publication *Honneur et Patrie* reaching here today reports that Rene Bloch, famous French-Jewish mathematician, and his son have both been executed. The paper also reports that the Germans have opened special offices in many parts of the country to "expedite" the liquidation of Jewish property.

10,000 JEWS FROM OCCUPIED POLAND GIVEN SHELTER IN HUNGARY; MANY HELD IN CAMPS

GENEVA, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Approximately 10,000 Polish Jews have succeeded in reaching Hungary during the last few months, according to information reaching Jewish organizations in Switzerland today. About 2,500 of them were originally given shelter in Budapest, but by the end of last month only three hundred of them were living in the Hungarian capital. The remainder were interned in camps by a special government order.

Jewish refugees, who are not sent to camps are permitted to reside wherever they choose and may engage in any kind of work, the report stated. Many Hungarians are taking the refugees into their homes to save them from being interned.

Jewish organizations in Hungary, the report added, are facing a gigantic task in maintaining the refugees. The fugitives come over the frontiers in rags, many of them barefoot, and all of them penniless. A campaign for winter clothing for them has now been completed by Hungarian Jewish communal institutions, but only fifteen percent of the refugees could be provided for with the clothing collected.

JEWISH GUERRILLA UNIT IN POLAND AVENGES "LIQUIDATED" GHETTOS; KILLS OFFICIALS

LONDON, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- A unique Jewish guerilla unit, numbering more than 100 young Jews who escaped from the liquidated ghettos in various sections of occupied Poland, is now terrorizing Germans in the Lublin district, it was reported here today by Jewish leaders from Poland.

The unit is known all over Poland as "Ghetto Guerillas" and publishes its own clandestine newspaper under the title "The Ghetto Guerilla." The members of the unit concentrate chiefly on the killing of German officials responsible for massacres of Jews. Their publication claims that they have succeeded in "liquidating" many Germans who participated in the liquidation of the ghettos of Lublin and Otwock. The unit was organized by Warsaw Jewish youths who escaped after the Battle of Warsaw Ghetto. They were later joined by Jewish youths from Bialystok, Lublin, Vilna and Lodz.

The Polish clandestine publication Rzeczypospolita Polska received here, today reports that the Polish underground movement has put to death a Warsaw Pole, Boguslaw Pilnik, for denouncing Jews to the Gestapo. Pilnik delivered hiding Jews to the German authorities after first defrauding them under false promises of their money and valuables.

FASCISTS CONFISCATE JEWISH FURNITURE IN ITALY; RAIDS ON JEWS RESUMED IN FRANCE

BERN, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The Turin newspaper La Stampa received here today reports that Fascist authorities are confiscating all furniture in Jewish homes in German-controlled Italy. An order issued by the Italian Fascist authorities says that the furniture is to be turned over for use in public offices or military establishments.

Reports from Madrid reaching here state that a new hunt on Jews has been started in France following orders issued by M. Darmand, new Vichy Director for Public Order. More than 300 Jews were rounded up in Lyons on Monday and sent to an unknown destination. Another 200 Jews including women and children were arrested in Lyons on Tuesday. Raids on Jews have also been resumed in other French cities.

CHIEF RABBI OF ASHKENAZIC COMMUNITY IN TURKEY DIES IN ISTANBUL

ISTANBUL, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Dr. David F. Marcus, Chief Rabbi of the Ashkenazic community in Turkey, died here today aged 73.

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CHIEF RABBI HERZOG DENIES TIES WITH AMERICAN EMERGENCY RESCUE COMMITTEE

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Herzog of Palestine today issued a statement denying any ties with the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, the organization in New York, which announced yesterday that it is citing Stephen S. Wise before a tribunal of orthodox rabbis on the charge of seeking to dertermine its rescue efforts. The statement of the Chief Rabbi reads:

"My only contact with the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe has been to use their address for delivery to Senator Johnson in Washington of a message to the American people with reference to the rescue of Jews of Europe. The address of the committee was used by me under the impression that they are a body representing all sections of American Jewry. Besides this I have had no contact whatsoever with this committee. In all rescue matters, the Chief Rabbinate is working in close cooperation with the general rescue committee established by the Jewish Agency jointly with the Jewish National Council of Palestine and with the participation of all sections of Palestine Jewry, including the Agudas Israel and the Revisionists."

NATIONAL MINORITY GROUPS CONFER ON RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Spokesmen for 40 minority groups, including leading Jewish Organizations, completed a two day conference here today urging a continued government fight against job discrimination.

The conference sent an open letter to President Roosevelt urging preservation of his committee on Fair Employment Practise, and sought Congressional support for bills recently introduced to give the committee greater powers.

Mr. Sidney Hollander, vice-chairman of the Coordinating Committee of Jewish Organizations Dealing with Employment Discrimination in War Industries, was the leading Jewish delegate. The conference was also attended by representatives of the American Jewish Congress, the National Council of Jewish Women, the United Hebrew Trades and the Jewish Workers' Circle.

LIBERTY SHIP NAMED AFTER JEWISH LABOR LEADER, LAUNCHED; THREE OTHERS TO FOLLOW

BALTIMORE, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- A Liberty ship named after the late Benjamin Schlesinger, American Jewish labor leader, was launched today at the Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyards. Another, named after Morris Hilquit, Jewish Socialist leader, will be launched tomorrow.

The two ships were named after the labor leaders in recognition of the contribution to the war effort by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union with which the two labor leaders were associated. Two more ships carrying the names of Morris Zigman and Meyer London, also prominently connected with the ILGWU, will be launched next week.

ARAB WORKERS IN PALESTINE APPLY FOR PERMIT TO PUBLISH A DAILY LABOR PAPER

JERUSALEM, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- The Arab workers organization of Palestine today applied to the Palestine authorities for permission to publish an Arab daily labor newspaper.

The Lebanese delegation to Cairo which is now in Haifa on its way back to Lebanon, today paid a visit to Nuri Pashc, Premier of Iraq, who is in Palestine.

JEWISH INTERNEES ARE "ROTTING AWAY" AT MAURITIUS, ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL CHARGES

NEW YORK, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- More than 1,500 Jews are completing their third year of internment on the Island of Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean, after having been declared illegal immigrants to Palestine by the British government in 1941, the American Zionist Emergency Council, charged today.

"Although British officials have done all they can to make the living quarters habitable, approximately 70% of the refugees are suffering from malaria and avitaminosis," Henry L. Shapiro, an executive of the Council said. "The men live in an ancient prison while the women and children occupy barracks. Family life has been wiped out. These unfortunate people are just rotting away. What makes it worse is that they actually landed in Palestine and were deported because they had escaped from the Nazis without stopping for visas."

BE COURT MARTIAL OF U. S. OFFICER WHO BOASTED OF MISTREATMENT OF JEWS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Letters showing how an army lieutenant let his anti-Jewish prejudices influence his treatment of soldiers today brought a demand to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson for a court martial and investigation.

The name of the lieutenant is withheld pending official action, but Rep. Marcantonio of New York made public photostatic copies of two letters, addressed to his colonel, in which the lieutenant expressed bitterly anti-Semitic sentiments.

The first letter, dated Aug. 8, 1943, included the following statement, "It is the first unit I ever saw that didn't have a bunch of Jewish officers in it. We do not have a one. Thank God for it."

The second, dated Sept. 2, 1943, began with an expression of thanks, for the colonel's help toward a promotion, and continued, "I don't know whether or not I mentioned it in my previous letter, but there isn't a single 'kike' officer in the group and I am happy for it. We have a few enlisted men of Jewish persuasion but they can be handled. In fact, my personnel Sergeant Major is one. I read the riot act to him and then gave him a 14-day furlough in which to think it over. If he comes back unchanged he will simply have to be reassigned and stripped of his stripes."

Marcantonio asked Stimson to ascertain the identity and present status of the Sergeant Major, saying that the Army "is endangered as long as men can, for no reason other than a Hitler-like religious and racial prejudice, discriminate against soldiers under their command."

LUCIUS N. LITTAUER GIVEN HONORARY DEGREE BY N. Y. UNIVERSITY ON 85TH BIRTHDAY

NEW YORK, Jan. 21. (JTA) -- Lucius Nathan Littauer, Jewish philanthropist, celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday yesterday by receiving the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from New York University. The degree was conferred by Dr. Harry Woodburn Chase, chancellor of the university, in a ceremony in the amphitheater of the psychiatric division of Bellevue Hospital.

The N. Y. U. degree made the third such honor for Mr. Littauer. Harvard made him a Doctor of Humane Letters in 1927, and Hamilton College gave him a Doctor of Laws degree in 1940.