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GESTAPO BEGINNING TO WIPE OUT JEWS IN LODZ IN ANTICIPATION OF GERMAN RETREAT

LONDON, April 3. (JTA) -- Apparently anticipating a German retreat far into western Poland, the Gestapo has begun liquidating the Lodz ghetto in which, according to the most recent reports, there were living 150,000 Jews employed as slave labor in vital German war industries. The Lodz ghetto is the only one remaining in all of Poland.

A message from "inside Poland" received here today by Dr. Ignacy Schwarzbart, one of the two Jewish members of the Polish National Council, says that "the remainder of the Jews in Lwow have been massacred in the most bestial manner" and that "the liquidation of the Lodz ghetto has been started."

The message, dated February 22, states that 20,000 Jews have been massacred in the Lodz ghetto "as a beginning." It says that a "similar fate awaits all the remaining Jews of Lodz," and desperately appeals for action "to save the remnants from total extermination."

Dr. Emanuel Szerer, the other Jewish member of the Polish National Council, today received a report from the underground movement in Poland stating that a German orchestra played gay tunes while German soldiers executed 8,000 Jews in the Trawniki "death camp." The Jews were compelled to dig their own graves and were mowed down by machine-guns when the trenches were completed. Among the prisoners in the camp were 3,000 Jews brought from Italy, the report stated. Another report received today by Dr. Szerer discloses that more than 2,000 Jews have been executed by the Germans in the Lipowie Camp, near Lublin.

An eye-witness account of the murder of 30,000 Jews in an unnamed concentration camp located on the outskirts of Warsaw has been received by Belgian circles here. The report was written by a Belgian who was conscripted by the Germans to serve in the occupational police in Poland, and who succeeded in escaping recently. He discloses that on November 9, 1943, the units to which he was attached, together with S.S. troops, participated in the massacre of approximately 30,000 Jews, who were buried in several large trenches which were 30 to 40 yards long and three to four yards deep. The Jews were forced to strip and run a gauntlet of S. S. men armed with whips and rifles, before being shot and dumped into a trench. Among the victims, he states, were many children.

CONFERENCE OF PREMIERS OF BRITISH DOMINIONS WILL DISCUSS FUTURE OF PALESTINE

OTTAWA, April 3. (JTA) -- The future of Palestine will be discussed at the forthcoming meeting of the prime ministers of all of the British dominions, which is to convene in London in June, Prime Minister MacKenzie King declared in Commons, in reply to a question on the Canadian Government's attitude on the problem.

The Prime Minister promised Commons that he would make a full statement on the refugee situation in the near future. He said that up to December, 1943, the Canadian Government had contributed approximately \$5,200 to help defray the expenses of the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee.

LIFTING OF CURFEW GREETED JOYFULLY BY PALESTINE JEWS; MANY SUSPECTED TERRORISTS SEIZED

JERUSALEM, April 3. (JTA) -- The lifting of the curfew, which has kept the bulk of Palestine's Jewish population confined to their homes for 12 of every 24 hours, was greeted joyfully today by the residents of Tel Aviv and the Jewish sections of Jerusalem and Haifa, the quarters which had been affected by it. It had been expected that the curfew would remain in force for another two weeks.

Among those who joined in the rejoicing at the return to normal were hundreds of Allied soldiers on leave. Tel Aviv, which is a center of recreation for the troops, had been an almost dead city after five 5 p.m. More important to the residents of Tel Aviv and the other affected areas was the fact that normal business activities could be resumed. The curfew had seriously hindered all trade and commerce.

Immediately after announcing the lifting of the curfew yesterday, the authorities revealed that they had arrested 60 persons in various sections of the country for participation in the recent outbreaks. Names of those arrested were not disclosed, but it is understood that among them are several leaders of the New Zionist Organization. Meanwhile, the grenade which killed a Jewish policeman in Haifa on Saturday took another victim today when the unnamed youth who threw it died from his wounds.

As the outbreaks of terror subside, the extremist groups are resorting to mimeographed appeals to the population to support their cause. Both the Irgun Zvai Leumi and the "Stern Gang" are flooding the country with leaflets. They are delivered to all editors, correspondents, consulates and government offices, and dropped from roofs on to the main streets of the principal cities. A nine-point appeal issued by the Stern group compares its activities with those of the European underground, and seeks to romanticize the terror in a bid for support.

JEWISH AGENCY AND HIAS-ICA REACH AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN EMIGRATION WORK

JERUSALEM, April 3. (JTA) -- An agreement between the Jewish Agency and the Hias-Ica Emigration Association regarding immediate and post-war cooperation on emigration activities was made public here today by David J. Schweitzer, special representative of the Association.

The agreement provides for close cooperation between the two Jewish bodies on matters of common interest and on activities in countries where the Hias-Ica maintains offices. The extension of this agreement to cover also activities in the Middle East will be discussed in the future, after Mr. Schweitzer's return to Palestine from a tour of various countries in the Middle East. The Hias-Ica, under the agreement with the Jewish Agency, will also have a permanent representative in Palestine.

Officials of the immigration department of the Jewish Agency will work with the Hias-Ica offices in Lisbon, Madrid and in North Africa in selecting emigrants for Palestine and in the distribution of Palestine immigration certificates, while the Hias-Ica staff will deal with technical details. The agreement between the Jewish Agency and the Hias-Ica will eliminate overlapping and enable speedier and more efficient handling of emigration activities, Mr. Schweitzer said in a statement to the press.

JEWS IN ENGLAND SEND TEN TONS OF CLOTHING TO JEWISH REFUGEES IN SWITZERLAND

LONDON, April 3. (JTA) -- More than ten tons of clothing will be sent from here to Jewish refugees in Switzerland through the Red Cross it was announced today by the Association of Jewish Refugees in Britain, upon completion of its campaign for old clothing to meet the immediate needs of Jews from occupied countries who have found haven in Switzerland.

JEWISH REFUGEES IN RUSSIA RETURN TO THEIR HOMES IN LIBERATED CITIES

MOSCOW, April 3. (JTA) -- Preparations for the return of Jews to their homes in the cities of Dubno and Kremenetz, which were recently liberated by the Russian armies in their drive toward the Carpathian mountains, are now being completed by the Soviet authorities in the Tambov region of central Russia where the Jews were given refuge when their cities were invaded, it was announced today by the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee here. While in Tambov, the refugees became skilled agricultural workers.

At the same time it was reported by the Committee that not a single Jew was left alive by the Germans in Kremenetz and Dubno. These cities had large Jewish populations before the outbreak of the war.

"Many of the Jews in these two neighboring cities succeeded in fleeing to the mountains near Kremenetz where they organized themselves into guerilla units under the leadership of a Kremenetz Jew named Bernstein," the report of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee said. "For almost a year they harassed the German armies and were of great help to the vanguard of the Russian Army. The German authorities offered a reward for any information leading to Bernstein's capture, but all their efforts to discover his whereabouts failed."

The Committee also reported today that when the Russian Army liberated the town of Mozyr in Byelorussia, they found only three Jews. These were tailors whom the German authorities left alive in order that they might sew for the army. All the remaining Jews in Mozyr were annihilated by the Germans during their occupation. The Nazis retreated from the town in such disorder that they evidently forgot these last three Jews whom they had constantly been threatening with eventual execution.

Another report made public by the Committee reveals that women in the Red Army are performing the dangerous assignments of sappers, detecting thousands of mines concealed as "booby traps" in cities abandoned by the Germans. One of these women, a Jewish girl named Raya Kozhevnikova, 20, has left a trail of her activities in the word "demined" written on house walls in towns and villages throughout White Russia, the Committee says. She learned the hazardous art of detecting mines in Stalingrad, where she made 1,900 mines harmless.

SHERTOK CALLS UPON ZIONISTS TO DEVELOP CONTACTS WITH RUSSIA AND UNITED STATES

LONDON, April 3. (JTA) -- Although the basic hope of the Jewish Agency is to come to a fundamental understanding with Britain regarding the post-war status of Palestine, Zionist leaders must develop their contacts in America and built up contact with the USSR, Moshe Shertok, head of the political department of the Jewish Agency, declared here last night addressing the annual conference of the Laborite Zionist organization. He condemned the terrorist groups in Palestine and stated that "the Jews in Palestine cannot be left to the mercy of lunatics."

The conference welcomed the statement issued by President Roosevelt warning the population of Nazi Europe to abstain from participating in annihilation of Jews. It sent greetings to the Jews in Russia expressing the hope that they "will soon take their place in the council of world Jewry among the builders of the Jewish commonwealth in Palestine." The conference also adopted resolutions demanding international assistance for Jewish settlement and immigration in Palestine under the control of the Jewish Agency, the abrogation of the White Paper and the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth. Condemnation of the terrorism in Palestine was voiced in one of the resolutions.

PALESTINE JEWS TO ESTABLISH PHYSICAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE NAMED AFTER GEN. WINGATE

JERUSALEM, April 3. (JTA) -- An institute for physical education, named after the late Maj. Gen. Orde C. Wingate, who was killed in a plane crash in Burma last week, will be established by the Jewish National Council, it was announced here today. The Council's executive committee also announced that it had conveyed its condolences to the War Office in London.

The Palestine Hebrew press carries articles on Wingate's amazing career and editorials praising his friendship for the Jewish people. At the weekly session of the Jewish Agency executive today, David Ben-Gurion, Agency chairman, eulogized Wingate. Similar tribute was paid by Mayor Israel Rokach at a meeting of the Tel Aviv municipal council.

WAR DEPT. WILL NAME FLYING FORTRESS "THE JEWISH NATIONAL WORKERS' ALLIANCE"

NEW YORK, April 3. (JTA) -- The War Department will name a flying fortress "The Jewish National Workers' Alliance," in appreciation of the purchase of \$400,000 worth of War Bonds by members of the Alliance during the Third War Loan Drive, it was announced today.

The members of the Alliance are currently concluding a campaign to purchase \$2,000,000 worth of War Bonds. This sum will be used to construct a Liberty Ship bearing the name of Dr. Nachman Syrkin, the famous Jewish scholar and spiritual leader of Labor Zionism.

FIRST JEWISH NURSES SCHOOL IN SOUTH AMERICA OPENED BY OSE

BUENOS AIRES, April 3. (JTA) -- The inauguration of the first Jewish nurses' school in South America, organized by the Argentine OSE, was celebrated here in the "Hebraica" conference hall in the presence of representatives of welfare and health authorities, physicians and leaders of various local institutions.

Dr. Arnolde Taubenslag, Chairman of the Confederacion Latino-Americana "Ort-Ose," Dr. Ricardo Dubrowski, chief of the OSE section and Dr. Miguel Elkin, director of the nurses' school, addressed the assembly and stressed the role of the newly established institution in the general medical welfare activities of the country and in offering occupational training to young Jewish women. Fifty-five students have already enrolled for a two year course. Classes will be conducted at the Sigmund Freud Institute of the OSE in Buenos Aires and the facilities of the Jewish Hospital in Buenos Aires will be used for practical work.

NEW YORK STATE MAKES DESECRATION OF SYNAGOGUES AND CHURCHES A FELONY

ALBANY, April 3. (JTA) -- Desecration of synagogues, churches or cemeteries was made a felony punishable by up to three years in prison yesterday when Governor Thomas E. Dewey signed the Heller Bill, which had previously been passed by both houses of the Legislature. The legislation was introduced as a result of vandalism committed on synagogues, churches and cemeteries in New York City during the past year.