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JEWIS IN U. S. ARMED SERVICES WILL OBSERVE PASSOVER ON FAR FLUNG WAR FRONTS TODAY

NEW YORK, April 6. (JTA) -- Jewish men and women in the U. S. armed forces in all parts of the world, will have an opportunity of attending Seder services tomorrow evening and will be provided with matzoth during the entire Passover week, it was announced here today by the Jewish Welfare Board.

"Examples of the full cooperation of Army authorities is evidenced by the fact that Jewish soldiers stationed in camps in the upper reaches of the Rockies received their Passover supplies by parachute," the announcement said. "In the far Alaskan outposts, deliveries were made by dog sleds. Even in the newly won jungles of Bougainville, Seder arrangements have been completed for the Jewish fighting men."

Lauding the cooperation of the Army and Navy authorities which enabled the Jewish Welfare Board to provide matzoth, sacramental wine and Haggadoth in every war sector, Frank L. Weil, president of the Board, disclosed that in this country, the 532 local J.W.B. Army and Navy committees "are outdoing themselves in seeing to it that every man and woman in the armed services is taken care of on the Seder nights and the observant are provided with Passover packages for the entire week." Isolated posts throughout the country will be reached by U.S.O. Mobile Service, which will also bring Passover supplies to the maneuver areas.

Jewish Soldiers in Egypt Transported to Palestine for Passover

Jewish soldiers serving in Egypt will relive the dramatic exodus of the Jews from that country when a special train carrying every Jewish man and woman in the U.S. armed services will leave Egypt tonight for Palestine. They will be the guests of the Jewish community in Palestine and will observe the Seder in private homes in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

As in former years, Jewish communities in the Carribean Islands, South America, Great Britain, North Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii, India, Iran and elsewhere will provide home hospitality for many of the American men and women and will cooperate with the Jewish chaplains in arranging for communal Sedarim. Supplies and funds have been furnished by the Jewish Welfare Board.

Passover arrangements for Jewish troops stationed in Great Britain are being supervised by the Jewish Hospitality Committee in 160 communities throughout the British Isles. The Committee was organized by Walter Rothschild, chairman of the Army and Navy Committee of the Jewish Welfare Board and operates with a subsidy from the Board. Arrangements for the observance of the Passover ceremony in Australia and the Pacific Islands, were made by Moritz M. Gottlieb during his recent visit to the South and Central Pacific areas as Special Commissioner for JWB.

Jewish Refugees in Russia and Spain Receive Passover Food

Jewish refugees in Russia, Spain, Portugal and other countries will be provided during Passover with matzoth shipped by the Joint Distribution Committee. Passover food has also been shipped to refugees in Cuba, San Domingo, Haiti, Jamaica and to the 1,400 Jews who have been deported by the Palestine authorities to the island of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. Among the recipients of Passover food sent by the J.D.C. to

Russia will be a large number of refugee rabbis from Poland and their families for whom matzoth, will be, in all likelihood, their only food during Passover week. The J.D.C. has also provided funds for special Passover needs of refugee rabbis and talmudic students in Palestine.

The United Palestine Appeal has made provision for the Passover holiday for newly arrived refugees in Palestine who have come there recently from the Balkans, Spain and Turkey. In the United States, the National Refugee Service has made it possible for newcomers in need to take part in Passover ceremonies. Seder services for detained immigrants will be held tomorrow and Saturday evenings at Ellis Island under the supervision of the Hias which has also arranged a special Seder in its building in New York for the benefit of recently arrived refugees who are being provided with food and shelter by the organization prior to their departure for other cities to join their relatives who sponsored their immigration to this country.

#### Jewish Leaders Broadcast Passover Messages to 500,000 Servicemen

Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, president of the American Jewish Committee, speaking on a special Jewish Welfare Board Passover broadcast over the Columbia Broadcasting System to more than 500,000 Jewish men in the U. S. armed forces throughout the world, said that the juncture of Passover and Easter this year is symbolic of the unity with which Jews and Christian are today fighting for "a world of freedom and peace where all men may again live as brothers." Also heard on the program, speaking from Washington, was Chaplain Aryeh Lev who just returned from a 40,000 mile tour of the fronts.

Dr. Israel Goldstein in a radio broadcast arranged by the Synagogue Council of America, expressed the hope that by next Passover the rescued remnants of European Jewry will be able to say, "Last year we were slaves, this year we are free men."

Judge Meier Steinbrink, Justice of the New York State Supreme Court and president of the New York Federation of Reformed Synagogues, commented in a Passover broadcast on the similarity of the two Jewish oppressors, Hitler of today and Pharaoh of 3500 years ago, both of whom followed the pattern of the aggressor-tyrant. "We must see that the so-called problem of the Jews is really a problem for the world to solve. But conversely we must also see our responsibility to the world in which we live," he said.

In a Passover message to Jewish congregations throughout the United States, Dr. Louis Finkelstein, president of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, urged that prayers be offered for the speedy liberation from the Axis yoke of all those "that are today in bondage under the Pharaohs of today." Passover messages were also issued by Judge Morris Rothenberg, president of the Jewish National Fund, and by Mrs. Moses P. Epstein, president of Hadassah, each appealing for increased support for Palestine to facilitate the settlement there of Jewish survivors of Nazi torture. The Mizrahi Women's Organization of America cabled \$10,000 to Palestine for Passover food for needy persons.

#### PASSOVER USHERS IN NATION-WIDE \$32,000,000 CAMPAIGN FOR UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

NEW YORK, April 6. (JTA) -- The \$32,000,000 drive of the United Jewish Appeal for 1944, the largest ever undertaken in this country for relief and reconstruction of Jews threatened with annihilation by the Germans in Europe, will be officially launched during Passover when more than 1,800 synagogues throughout the country will offer special prayers for the salvation of the victims of war and oppression.

A statement announcing the opening of the drive emphasized that although the approach of victory has brought the turning point in the fate of the Jews and other conquered peoples, "we must not lose sight of the ever-mounting tide of destruction which is engulfing almost all of European Jewry."

4/7/44

HUNGARY BARS JEWS FROM TRAVELLING ON RAILROADS; BUDAPEST BEING MADE "JUDENREIN"

ZURICH, April 6. (JTA) — The Budapest radio today announced that an order has been issued by the Hungarian authorities prohibiting Jews throughout Hungary from travelling on railroads, ships and busses, unless they have "written consent from the authorities."

The broadcast also stated that the decree introducing the yellow badge for Jews became effective yesterday. A decree published in the Official Gazette today exempts foreign Jews from wearing the badge.

The Nazi-controlled Hungarian Telegraphic Bureau today reported that the ban on travel by Jews does not apply to Budapest. It emphasized that Budapest has been partly "evacuated" and that the Jews who are still there have been allowed to remain as essential workers. This was taken here to mean that most Jews have been deported from the Hungarian capital, and that Budapest is being made "Judenrein" by order of the German occupation authorities.

ANTI-SEMITISM IN POLISH ARMY PRECIPITATES ANOTHER STORMY DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT

LONDON, April 6. (JTA) — The question of anti-Semitism in the Polish Army precipitated another stormy debate in Commons today on the heels of Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden's statement of yesterday on the same subject. Led by Tom Driberg, Independent, about a dozen members demanded that the government take steps to facilitate the transfer of 600 Jewish soldiers from the Polish to the British forces.

Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs Richard K. Law, who acted as Government spokesman, told Commons that it was doubtful that any further transfers could be effected, emphasizing that those which have been made were "unprecedented." He asserted that the Polish Government has taken steps to curb anti-Semitism among its troops and expressed regret that the debate had occurred. "We should consider," he said, "its effects on the wider problems of Jews throughout the world,"

The only member to raise his voice in support of the Polish authorities was Captain A. C. Graham, Conservative, who charged that Jews were deserting not only from the Polish Army, but from the British forces in the Middle East. He alleged that "an unofficial Jewish organization in Palestine" had organized the desertions from the Polish forces and was enlisting the deserters in the illegal units which recently caused trouble in Palestine. Graham was twice interrupted; once by Laborite Aneurin Bevan, who told Graham, "this is shocking, you ought to be ashamed," and by William Gallacher, Communist, who protested "manifestations of anti-Semitism from one who associates with certain Polish officers."

Several members cited evidence which had been brought to their attention substantiating the charges of anti-Semitism against certain Polish officers and non-commissioned officers. Among members attacking the attitude of the Polish Army authorities were Laborites James Griffith, John Mack, G. R. Strauss, and D. N. Pritt; Conservatives Sir Thomas Moore and Daniel Lipson; and Eleanor Rathbone, Independent.

LONDON, April 6. (JTA) — The official organ of the Polish Government, Dziennik Polski, replying to charges of anti-Semitism in the Polish Army, said that "in only a few cases the complaints were justified and a thorough investigation was ordered which is not yet finished because of the difficulty of investigating witnesses who are in different units spread over the country." The paper states that "against the guilty, court proceedings will be opened."

PALESTINE CALM BROKEN; GUNMAN BATTLES POLICE IN MAIN STREET OF TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, April 6. (JTA) -- The calm which has existed in Palestine for the past four days was broken momentarily late yesterday afternoon when a policeman and a young terrorist engaged in a gun duel on a main street of this city. Both were wounded, the policeman seriously. Passers-by, who by now are experienced, ducked for cover and none were hit.

The incident occurred when a member of the Stern Gang who was being followed by a police officer, turned on his pursuer and fired several shots, one of which hit the policeman. Before falling to the ground, the constable succeeded in hitting the terrorist in the leg. The officer, whose name is not given, is in Hadassah Hospital in a serious condition. The terrorist is under arrest in the government hospital here.

BELGIAN GOVERNMENT INDICTS TWO GESTAPO LEADERS FOR MISTREATMENT OF JEWS

LONDON, April 6. (JTA) -- The Belgian Government has doomed two Gestapo leaders responsible for the murder and mistreatment of 30,000 Belgian Jews in the Malines concentration camp, it was announced today. The two are a Dr. Kroll, who is reported to have been responsible for the organization of the Lodz ghetto in Poland, and a Major Schmidt.

Kroll is charged with robbing Jewish internees who passed through Malines en route to Poland -- and of attacking Jewish girl deportees. Schmidt, according to the Belgian statement, used Jews as targets for pistol practice and inflicted numerous indignities on his prisoners.

PALESTINE EXPERT OFFERS PLAN TO UNRRA FOR FEEDING LIBERATED EUROPE BY HYDROPONICS

JERUSALEM, April 6. (JTA) -- A proposal for feeding liberated Europe by hydroponics -- agriculture without soil -- will be laid before the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in the United States by Dr. S. E. Soskin, leading Palestinian agronomist.

Dr. Soskin, who has experimented successfully with the soil-less method, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency he would suggest the dispatch of a technical mission to Palestine to consider the immediate introduction of large-scale hydroponic cultivation here to provide foodstuffs for Europe. This, he said, would reduce the burden on Allied shipping and the drain on Allied food stocks. Five hundred tons of chemicals shipped from the United States, he said, could produce 10,000 tons of potatoes.

Hydroponics was the name given by Professor William F. Gericke of the University of California to the method of soil-less growing which he developed. Soskin said he planned to visit Gericke and study the commercial use of hydroponics in California, New Mexico and other states. Chemical solutions in tanks replace soil beds.

"Palestine is particularly well adapted to the chemical method of agriculture since it has on the average of 320 days of sunshine yearly," he pointed out. "Food production by this method would be of particular advantage to Palestine, as it requires less water than soil farming." He expressed his belief that soil-less agriculture could be carried on in many areas of Palestine with from 25 to 85 percent less water than is now used. He envisioned a time when Palestinians in cities would be able to grow part of their own food requirements in tanks on their rooftops, on balconies or in backyards, through most of the year.

JEWISH REFUGEES FROM EUROPE WILL LAND IN PHILADELPHIA TODAY EN ROUTE TO CANADA

PHILADELPHIA, April 6. (JTA) -- A group of 276 Jewish refugees from Europe are expected to land here tomorrow on the Portuguese liner Serpa Pinto, and will proceed from here in sealed trains to Canada. This will be the largest refugee group to be admitted to Canada since the outbreak of the war. Canadian immigration officials will examine their papers on the train en route to Montreal and Toronto from where they will be dispersed to various Canadian centers.

Included in the group are seamen, farmers, tailors, rabbis, photographers, teachers, diamond cutters, paper experts and merchants. The group is about equally divided between professional men, skilled workers and businessmen. Included are Jews from Poland, Austria, Germany, Russia, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, France, Spain, Portugal and Holland. Representatives of the Canadian Jewish Congress, the United Jewish Refugee and War Relief Agencies in Canada and of Canadian immigration groups have come to Philadelphia to facilitate the landing of refugees and their transportation to Canada.

Approval of their entry came after the Canadian Jewish Congress made representations to Prime Minister Mackenzie King of Canada. Last November the Canadian Government indicated that it would give asylum for the duration to a number of refugees in Spain and Portugal, and a Canadian immigration official proceeded to Lisbon to examine applicants. The Joint Distribution Committee paid the transportation costs of the group and the United Jewish Refugee and War Relief Agencies gave guarantees to the federal government that the refugees would not become a public charge. The Jewish Immigrant Aid Society is associated with this guarantee and is collaborating with the J.J.R. and W.R.A. in making arrangements for receiving, sheltering and placing the arrivals in Canada.

ADMIRALTY LORD FRAISES AMERICAN JEWISH WORKERS FOR AID TO SERVICEMEN

LONDON, April 6. (JTA) -- The activities of "Jewish tailors in the United States" in behalf of Allied servicemen in London were praised here today by the First Lord of the Admiralty, Albert V. H. Alexander, inaugurating the Wedgwood Service Club in the Jewish-populated Whitechapel district of London. The Club is named after Lord Wedgwood, the late pro-Zionist member of Parliament.

Emphasizing the contribution of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union of America in establishing a club for members of the armed forces, the First Lord of the Admiralty said that "the Jewish race today faces the greatest concentration of venomous hatred and oppression in Europe, but liberation will not be long delayed." The Wedgwood Service Club will serve only kosher food to the soldiers and sailors who come there for relaxation.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES APPROVAL OF TRADE AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT

JERUSALEM, April 6. (JTA) -- The Palestine Government announced today that it has approved the Egyptian-Palestine trade agreement which was negotiated here last month by government and trade representatives of both countries. The Egyptian Government gave its approval to the pact last week. The agreement provides for an interchange of goods, with Palestine exporting mainly citrus fruits, pharmaceuticals and some manufactures, and receiving raw materials in return.