

JEWISH SOLDIERS TESTIFY ON ANTI-SEMITISM IN POLISH ARMY; COURT-MARTIAL CONTINUES

LONDON, April 19. (JTA) -- Testimony of Jewish soldiers threatened with death by anti-Semitic officers in the Polish Army was made public here today by Tom Driberg, Independent member of the House of Commons, as a Polish court-martial "Somewhere in the British Isles" was trying a group of Jewish soldiers who left the Polish Army because of anti-Semitism and came to London to plead for a transfer to the British forces.

The testimony quoted a Polish captain Lupa Mielmiczuk as expressing high regard for Hitler, in front of his soldiers, "because Hitler is murdering the Jews." He added that "this is not the end as yet." Another officer, Capt. Brekowski, warned a Jewish soldier under his command that "the time will yet come for the Jews."

Lance-Corporal Nowakowsky is quoted as having stated to Jewish soldiers: "I beat Jews in Poland before the war, and will beat them upon my return to Poland, if any of them are still left there."

Corporal Czeslaw Kaczorow, second in command of a platoon, refused to take any steps against a private, Jan Lis who, in the presence of many soldiers, told a Jewish soldier: "I killed Jews in Poland, and shall kill you too on the first possible occasion." A Polish corporal named Rozensky is quoted as having stated publicly in his barracks: "I would like to kill five Jews, three Communists and two Ukrainians

Anti-Jewish verses ridiculing the Jewish people and their religion were constantly sung by a Polish bombardier, Ratajczyk who molested Jewish soldiers. When asked by a Jewish flier to stop his anti-Semitic activities, he is quoted as having replied: "You dirty Jew. If we were not here, I would have finished with you long ago."

Other testimony stated that after the first group of Jewish soldiers left the Polish Army and joined the British forces, the situation became even more difficult for those Jews remaining. Polish soldiers whispered among themselves that when the second front was opened, their first action would be to murder "any Jews that are still left in Polish units."

Polish Official Lauds Jewish Participation in Army

JERUSALEM, April 19. (JTA) -- Prof. Grzybowski, Chief of the Polish Middle-East Information Center, addressed a press conference here today on the question of anti-Semitism in the Polish Army, expressing regret at the fact that this question had been raised in the British Parliament and was being widely discussed in the press in Palestine, England and the United States.

The Polish official highly praised Jewish participation in the Polish Army and all other armies of the Allied nations. He emphasized that the proportion of Jews in these armies is higher than that among the various national populations. He said that the German radio is "joyfully picking up" the debate on anti-Semitism in the Polish Army, and pointed out that the discussions were "aimed at undermining the existing relations between Poles and Jews."

PROCESSION TO CITY HALL, WORK STOPPAGE MARK ANNIVERSARY OF WARSAW GHETTO BATTLE

NEW YORK, April 19. (JTA) -- Tens of thousands of Jews stopped work at 11 o'clock this morning for fifteen minutes and thousands of Jewish stores closed as part of a huge demonstration commemorating the first anniversary of the Battle of the Warsaw Ghetto in which 40,000 Jews battled superior German forces for more than a month.

The White House today issued a statement saying that President Roosevelt and all liberty-loving people all over the world will always remember the heroic fight of the brave people of the Warsaw ghetto. Bishop William Manning announced that he joined today in the prayers "for the ghetto martyrs whom the world will never forget."

More than 16,000 Polish Jews, led by Rabbi Isaac Rubinstein, a former member of the Polish Senate, marched to City Hall here. Included in the procession were prominent rabbis, writers, artists, labor leaders and businessmen. They were met by Mayor LaGuardia who delivered an address lauding the fallen Jewish heroes.

Thousands of Jews crowded the synagogues to recite special prayers. More than 5,000 weeping Jews crowded into and around the little Warsaw Synagogue on New York's East Side. A statement issued by Lord Halifax, British Ambassador in Washington, pledged that "the Nazis will pay for their crimes against the Jews." Similar statements of sympathy were issued by ambassadors of other nations.

Carnegie Hall Meeting Asks Democracies to Rescue Remaining Jews

The commemoration of the Warsaw battle was culminated by a mass-meeting tonight at Carnegie Hall, convened by the American Jewish Conference, at which a resolution was adopted urging the United Nations "to recognize and proclaim the right of temporary asylum for every surviving Jewish man, woman and child who can escape from the Hitlerite fury into the territories of the United Nations." The resolution also demanded that the gates of Palestine "be opened wide and that there be a re-assertion of the right of every Jew who can reach Palestine to find a haven and a permanent home in that country."

The resolution strongly urged establishment of refugee rescue camps or free ports, and that continued encouragement be given to neutral nations to secure the release of Jews, especially children and to grant them hospitality in their lands or the right of transit to havens of refuge.

The meeting was addressed by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Dr. Israel Goldstein, Adolph Held, Dr. Arieh Tartakower, Rabbi Isaac Rubinstein, Solomon Mendelsohn and Benjamin Winter. A message was read from Henry Monckey, B'nai B'rith president. "The Story of the Warsaw Ghetto," written for the meeting by Pierre Van Paassen, was read to the audience by the well known actor Sam Jaffe and a memorial service was conducted by Chief Rabbi Isaac Alcaiz of Yugoslavia.

JOINT RULE OF PALESTINE BY AMERICA, BRITAIN, RUSSIA PROPOSED IN HOUSE

WASHINGTON, April 19. (JTA) -- A solution of the Palestine problem under which the country would be ruled jointly by the United States, Great Britain and Russia was proposed today by Rep. Emanuel Celler, New York Democrat, in a brief address on the floor of the House of Representatives.

RUSSIAN SUBMARINE COMMANDER IN RUSSIA DECORATED BY U. S. GENERAL

MOSCOW, April 19. (JTA) -- Captain Yarosh Pinnovitch, acted Jewish submarine commander of the Red Fleet, who destroyed many German raiders which were attempting to intercept American and British convoys to Russia, has received an American decoration. It was disclosed here today when a photograph of a U. S. general awarding him the decoration was placed on exhibition at the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee.

Other photos at the exhibition show the active participation of the Jews in the U.S.S.R. at the battle fronts and on the home fronts. Many photos show mass graves of Jews executed by the Germans and bodies of Jewish men and women hanged by the Nazis in occupied cities and townships in the Ukraine and Byelorussia. The exhibition includes also pictures showing the receptions given by Jews in the United States and Canada to Prof. Solomon Mikhoels and Lt. Col. Itzik Pfeffer when they visited these countries as a Jewish cultural delegation from Russia.

Graphs displayed at the exhibition show that 32,000 Jews are among the 500,000 soldiers and officers of the Russian Army decorated for bravery. Jews occupy fourth place among the various nationalities in the U.S.S.R. which have distinguished themselves at the fronts. The graphs also show that Jews are third among the 10 fighters who have been given the "Hero of the Soviet Union" award which is one of the highest Russian military decorations.

Jewish War Orphans will be Reared in Biro-Bidjan

The exhibition was arranged in connection with the third annual convention of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee, which was attended by 150 delegates from all parts of the U.S.S.R. as well as from Jewish refugee groups who escaped from Vilna, Cracow and Lodz. The convention concluded with the sending of a letter of thanks to Marshal Stalin "for saving 3,000,000 Jews" from the Nazis and with the election of new executive officers.

Speaking in behalf of the Jews of Biro-Bidjan, delegate M. Kushnir disclosed that this year the Jewish autonomous region will adopt 3,000 Jewish war orphans whose parents have been killed by the Germans. "Next year we may adopt even a larger number," he said. He also revealed that there is a possibility that Biro-Bidjan may soon be opened to general Jewish immigration. "Such immigration did not and could not take place during the past years," he declared.

It was revealed at the convention that the well-known and much-decorated Marshal Jacob Keldner, who is one of the leaders of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee, did not attend the convention, "because he is one of the generals now at work clearing the Germans out of the prisons." Shakhna Epstein, general secretary of the committee, addressing the closing session, estimated that 35,000 Jews are now fighting in the ranks of Marshal Tito against the Nazis in Yugoslavia.

CHINESE CAPITAL OF BESPARASTA HAS ONLY 75 JEWS, GERMAN NEWSPAPER REPORTS

ZURICH, April 19. (JTA) -- Only 75 Jews are left in Kishinev, capital of Bessarabia, which is annexed by the Russian Army, it is reported in the Subbotnik Zeitung, a Nazi newspaper published in Rumania, which reached here today.

The paper says that there were 11,338 Jews in Kishinev in 1941 when the Rumanian mayor of that city ordered a census of the population. Before the war there were about 80,000 Jews in Kishinev. Many of them were massacred by the German Rumanian troops, while others were deported to Transnistria. Several thousand Kishinev Jews retreated with the Red Army into Russia in the early months of the last German war.

LEBANESE PREMIER OPPOSES JEWISH STATE; ARAB GOVERNMENTS TO CONFER ON PALESTINE

BEIRUT, Lebanon, April 19. (JTA) -- The Lebanese Government is opposed to the establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine, Acting Premier Abu Shalah told a representative of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today.

Lebanon, Shalah added, is also opposed to the creation of a Greater Syria federation to include Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan and Palestine. Advocates of such a union point out that settlement possibilities for Jews might be opened in areas within the federation, but outside Palestine. Well informed observers here assert, however, that neither Syria or Lebanon would agree to Jewish immigration.

A conference of representatives of Arab governments to formulate and propagandize Arab demands for the settlement of the Palestine question may be held early this summer, informed quarters said today. Such a conference would have the tactical advantage for leaders of the pan-Arab movement of forcing the hand of King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia, who has been balking at joining the Arab unity movement on grounds that the Palestine question called for a solution before there could be Arab unity. It would be difficult for him to refuse to participate in a conference seeking this very aim.

One of the chief purposes of the conference would be to give the Arab states a chance to reaffirm their claim to a special status regarding Palestine, and demand that they be equal partners with the great powers in determining the country's fate, it was pointed out.

PALESTINE JEWS ASK POSTPONEMENT OF WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS CONFERENCE UNTIL OCTOBER

JERUSALEM, April 19. (JTA) -- The executive committee of the Jewish National Council today cabled to the World Jewish Congress in New York requesting that it postpone its Emergency Conference until next October. The conference is scheduled to open in New York on May 20.

The Council based its plea for postponement on the fact that elections for the Assefath Hanivcharim, the Palestine Jewish National Assembly, will be held in June, and that the new body will be able to select a more "authoritative and influential delegation."

Fifty-one Jewish immigrants from Rumania and other countries arrived in Palestine yesterday by rail from Turkey. Some of them are being detained in the Atlit Immigration Station while others have joined relatives here.

MIDDLE-EAST RELIEF ADMINISTRATION CONFERS WITH PALESTINE JEWISH LEADERS

JERUSALEM, April 19. (JTA) -- Representatives of the Middle East Rehabilitation and Relief Administration, an official British Government relief group with headquarters in Cairo, conferred here today with the Palestine Jewish Council for the relief of European Jewry on the extent of the contributions that Palestine can make to the rehabilitation of devastated Jewish communities in Europe.

The MERRA representatives, Majors Webb and Barret-Brown, said that Palestine Jews could render an important service by contributing trained medical and social workers to the units that MERRA plans to send into liberated territories. Among the projects discussed were the establishment of a training camp for volunteers for the relief units and the question of obtaining the required equipment.

STRICTER ANTI-JEWISH MEASURES DEMANDED IN FRANCE; GESTAPO RAIDS JEWISH OFFICES

LONDON, April 19. (JTA) -- The German-controlled Paris radio today demanded stricter enforcement of the anti-Jewish laws in France, complaining that "Frenchmen do not yet realize the full implication of the Jewish danger." The broadcast demanded that the Commissariat for Jewish Affairs be cleared of men "whose aim is to protect Jews from all restrictions."

French circles here report that German soldiers and members of the Gestapo broke into the building of the Savoy Jewish Union in Chambéry recently and seized all records. Persons found in the offices were beaten and eight were shot when they attempted to flee. Ten arrests were made.

A few days after that, the Germans arrested all the Jews in the town of Chalons, among whom was a 17-month-old infant, and placed them in the local police station, pending their being sent to concentration camps. When rumors spread throughout the town that the Germans were refusing to feed the infant, an angry crowd gathered around the police station and demanded that they be given custody of the baby. Even the mayor of Chalons intervened, but he was told by the Nazis not to interfere.

ARAB COMMITTEE IN CANADA ANNOUNCES PLAN OF ACTIVITIES; WILL COMBAT ZIONISM

MONTREAL, April 19. (JTA) -- A wide-scale plan of pro-Arab activities in Canada was announced today by the recently-formed Canadian-Arab Friendship Committee. The main task of the committee will be to combat the Zionist movement, but the plan also outlines other activities such as fostering friendship and understanding between Canada and the Arab-speaking countries of the world; encouraging the interchange of information and trade between Canada and the Arab nations; striving for the establishment of chairs for the teaching of Arabic in universities and other educational institutions and encouraging Arab students to enter Canadian universities.

The Committee has sent a resolution to Premier Mackenzie King and to Malcolm Macdonald, the former Colonial Secretary who is now British High Commissioner to Canada, stating: "The Canadian-Arab Friendship Committee wishes to express its sincere appreciation of the British Government's attitude in implementing its aim as contained in the White Paper of 1939, as a fair and equitable solution of a vexing problem in view of the circumstances preceding its formulation. By ceding the privilege to control their own immigration to the rightful inhabitants of Palestine, it is to be hoped that the Arabs of Palestine recognize in this action of the British Government a salutary step, though belated, in the direction of a continuation of that traditional friendship that has been the fundamental characteristic of the relations between these two great peoples for a number of years."

JUDGE PROSKAUER RECEIVES CITATION IN RECOGNITION OF HIS GOOD WILL ACTIVITIES

NEW YORK, April 19. (JTA) -- Judge Joseph M. Proskauer, president of the American Jewish Committee, will receive a citation tomorrow "for distinguished service to the cause of inter-faith amity," from the New York Round Table of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The award will be presented to Judge Proskauer by Hon. Frank Hogan, District Attorney of New York.

JEWISH SOCIALIST DEPUTY NAMED TO POLISH DELEGATION TO TRADE UNION CONFERENCE

LONDON, April 19. (JTA) -- Emanuel Szerer, Jewish Socialist deputy in the Polish National Council, has been appointed to the delegation which will represent Polish trade unions at the International Labor Conference to be held here in June, it was announced here today.