JTA DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency 106 East 41st Street, New York 17, No. Yo

VOL. XX NO. 96 (26th year)

Thursday, April 27, 1944

CHURCHILL INTERVENED AGAINST MISTREATMENT OF JEWS IN POLISH ARMY, EDEN REVEALS

LONDON, April 26. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Churchill has discussed the question of anti-Semitism in the Polish Army with Polish Prime Minister Mikolajczyk, it was revealed in the House of Commons today by Foreign Minister Anthony Eden.

The debate on the mistreatment of Jewish soldiers in the Polish armed forces was resumed in Commons today with a number of members of Parliament demanding that the British Government act to secure the transfer of Jewish soldiers from the Polish Army to British units. Replying, Mr. Eden said that he is not prepared to intervene with the Polish Government for any further transfer of Polish Jews into the British forces.

"Our ambassador to the Polish Government, acting upon my instructions, has brought to the attention of the Polish authorities the full report of the debate in this house which was held on April 6," Mr. Eden said. "He impressed upon them the importance which His Majesty's Government attaches to the Polish Government continuing to intensify its efforts to eradicate manifestations of anti-Semitism in the Polish forces in this country and that all steps are taken to ensure that this policy be translated into appropriate action."

Eden added that the Polish Government is keeping the British Government informed of the inquiries which are being made into anti-jewish activities in the Polish Army, but that these inquiries are not yet completed. Referring to the sentences imposed by a Polish court-mortial on 21 jewish soldiers who left the Polish Army because of anti-Semitism and came to London to join the British forces, he said that he understood that these sentences, ranging from one to two years imprisonment, are subject to confirmation by higher Polish authorities. "I am sure that these authorities will give full weight to extenuating circumstances," he declared.

Commons "Not Satisfied" with Polish Action on Jews

John Mack, Laborite, pointed out in the course of the debate that the Polish military authorities "have violated the very principle of democracy and humanity" by allowing anti-Semitiam in the army. He urged Eden to draw the attention of the Polish Government to the fact that "the House of Commons is not satisfied with the action it has taken by instituting a court-martial against mistreated Jewish soldiers and not against those who mistreated them." He demanded that the British Government reopen its negotiations with the Polish authorities for the transfer of Jews from the Polish Army to the British.

Tom priberg, Independent, also insisted on the transfer of Jews in the Polish army. He pointed out that the number of Jews in the Polish armed forces is small, since more than 200 of them have been transferred to British units. "The transfer of the remaining Jews would thus not dislocate any of the invasion plans," he said.

Replying, Eden stated that it is not a question of dislocation, but that it is

difficult and delicate to urge the Polish Government to allow members of their forces to be transferred when great events are impending.

Oliver Locker-Lampson, Conservative, suggested that some members of Parliament meet with Polish representatives to discuss the question.

The debate will be resumed on Friday.

Trial of Polish Jewish Soldiers Criticized in House of Representatives

WASHINGTON, April 26. (JTA) -- Rep. Samuel Dickstein of New York, today condemned the court-martial of the 21 Jews who left the Polish Army to join the British as "not being in the interests of the Allied war effort." In a speech on the floor of the House, he asked the dismissal of the Polish officers who were responsible for the anti-Semitism which forced the Jewish soldiers to seek a transfer to the British forces.

UNITED STATES CHARGED WITH FAILURE TO FULFIL PROMISE TO AID JEWS IN EUROPE

WASHINGTON, April 26. (JTA) -- Calling attention to the "shameless, ungodly beastly persecution of the Jews being undertaken in Germany and the territories which the Mazis dominate," Rep. James M. Curley, Mass. Dem., today demanded vigorous and determined action by the United States to rescue the Jews of Europe. He asked that this country "transform into reality the promise of relief which it has held out."

"We have started well by the creation of the War Refugee Board and by calling to the attention of the murderers the fact that their crimes will not go unavenged," he told the House, "but more is needed, much more -- and the time is now,

"The war Refugee Board and its executive have worked hard and well and they are deserving of the highest praise, but the undertaking ahead is still tremendous," Curley continued. "We must act if we wish to accomplish results and we must act with vigor and determination. Our intentions are admirable enough but certainly we must be prepared to do more than enunciate these intentions."

"The Greeks," Curley said, "have not hesitated to do everything in their power to all the lows being sought after by the Mazi Gestapo. Similarly, Polish catricts fighting in the underground against the Mazi conqueror have held out the hand of brotherhood to the Jews. Nor did the Jews fail them," he added, "for with the arms made available to them by the Poles they fought gallant battles in the thetos of Warsaw and Bialystok that cost the Germans hundreds, if not thousands, of lives."

"If the oppressed Greeks and Foles in the depths of their misery can reach out ind befriend these sufferers," Curley concluded, "certainly this nation with its scalth, resources and armed might can transform into reality the promise of relief which it has held out."

ERMANS IN GREECE OFFER CONFISCATED PROPERTY FOR BETRAYAL OF FUGITIVE JEWS

CLIRO, April 26. (JTA) -- German occupation authorities in Greece are offering informants who betray the whereabouts of Jews hiding in the countryside half of the ugitive's property, it was disclosed here today by a Greek who fled the country early his month.

He also told of a massacre of Jews in Crete, during which the entire Jewish opulation of the town of Heraklion was wiped out.

-3- 4/27/44

JEWISH GUERRILIA BAND IN POLAND TERRORIZES GERMANS; HUNT FOR FUGITIVE JEWS INTENSIFIED

GENEVA, April 26. (JTA) -- A Jewish guerrilla band in the Staszow region of south-eastern Foland has, by daring reids, so intimidated the German occupation troops that the Nazi soldiers fear to penetrate beyond the fringes of the forests, it is reported here today. The guerrillas' leader is named Abraham, and they are commonly known in the region as "Abraham's Guerrillas."

The report says that there are several other Jewish partisan bands operating in Foland, of whom little is known. Stung by the activity of the Jewish guerrillas, the Germans have intensified their hunt for Jews still hiding in the forests. These are mainly persons who managed to flee from ghettos being liquidated by the Nazis.

Captured Jews are either executed or sent to forced labor camps. A few such camps still exist in the Radom and Gracow districts. The two largest are situated at Milec, near Cracow, and Fionki, near Radom. There are about 5,000 prisoners in both camps, who are forced to work 16 hours daily with little food and inadequate shelter, the report says. An estimated 50 persons die daily, but are soon replaced with newly centured viotims.

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS POSTPONES ITS WAR EMERGENCY CONFERENCE

J.T.A. NEWS

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- The executive committee of the World Jewish Congress decided at its meeting today to postpone its War Emergency Conference from May 20th to the late summer or fall. The decision was taken in response to a cabled request from the Jewish National Council of Falestine to postpone the Conference in view of the elections for the Jewish Assembly which will be held in Falestine in June.

"The executive of the World Jewish Congress, recognizing the distinctive place of the Yishuv in the life of the Jewish people at the present time, unanimously, supported the view of the Jewish National Council that the Palestinian delegation could not properly be appointed before the results of the election are known," says a statement issued by the Congress. "In view of the importance of the decisions which the War Emergency Conference will be called upon to take in the formulation of a Jewish policy, it was felt that the Yishuv ought to be represented by a delegation armed with full authority."

RUSSIAN DIPLOMAT LEAVES FOR PALESTINE; WILL REMAIN TWO WEEKS TO STUDY SITUATION

CAIRO, April 26. (JTA) -- The secretary of the Soviet legation here is leaving tomorrow for Palestine to remain there for two weeks, it was announced today by the legation.

The secretary, a Moslem named Sultanov, speaks Arabic fluently. His visit to Falestine is considered here as evidence of Russia's mounting commercial and other interests in this part of the world.

SCHWEITZER LEAVES PALESTÎNE FOR TURKEY; WILL OPEN HIAS ICA OFFICE THERE

JERUSALEM, April 26. (JTA) -- David Schweitzer, special American representative of the Hias-Ica Emigration Association, left Palestine today for Turkey where he will establish an office of the Association to facilitate the emigration of Jews who can still be removed from the Balkan countries. Mr. Schweitzer will cooperate with the Jewish Agency office there.

ENISH WELFARE BOARD PUBLISHES DATA ON JEWISH PARTICIPATION IN U. S. ARMED FORCES

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- A report on Jewish participation in World War II as emplete as it is possible to issue at this juncture in the war, was made public today we the National Jewish Welfare Board.

The book - "Fighting For America" - reveals that Americans of Jewish faith are not only fully represented in this war but that "thousands have performed great and peroic deeds for American victory."

"Fighting For America" contains a chapter on statistics and surveys, reports on percentages of refugees in service, discusses the distribution of Jews in various tranches of the armed services, including a section on the medical corps. Another section of the book is devoted to 10 first-hand accounts of battle action by topflight beroes of Jewish faith.

The last pages of "Fighting For America" are devoted to listing some 2500 merican heroes of Jewish faith, hundreds of whom have been killed in action, others counded, and others awarded medals and citations for valor under fire "above and become the call of duty." Accompanying the name of each hero is a brief notation of its exploits.

The volume offers statistical proof that, in all communities surveyed thus ar, the Jewish community has contributed to the armed forces as many sons, in proortion to their numbers in each community, as the general population. In reviewing
ewish service in the medical branches of the armed forces, "Fighting For America"
eports that in a survey covering approximately one fourth of America's physicians of
ewish faith. 32 percent were found to be in the armed forces.

ATIONAL CONFERENCE OF ZIONIST LEADERS CONVOKED IN WASHINGTON BY EMERGENCY COUNCIL

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- A national conference of Zionist leaders, repreenting more than 300 communities in the United States, will be held at the Statler otel, Washington on May 23 and 24, it was announced today by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, co-chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council.

The conference of local Emergency Committee heads will formulate plans to arry forward the Council's program in the ensuing months, and will hear reports overing recent developments in the Council's drive to bring about the repeal of he British White Paper policy and the reconstitution of Palestine as a free and emocratic Jewish Commonwealth.

ANADIAN PARLIAMENT WILL NOT ACT ON BILL OUTLAWING ANTI-SEMITISM

OTTAWA, April 26. (JTA) -- The office of Prime Minister Mackenzie King today tated that the present parliamentary session will not act on the bill introduced by agus MacInnis, Canadian Commonwealth Federation representative, which proposes a new ection to the criminal code to prevent public utterances and the distribution of aterial likely to cause dissension or disturbance due to differences of race or eligion.

RA A. HIRSCHMANN TO BE HONORED AT HEBREW UNIVERSITY DINNER IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- Ira A. Hirschmann, War Refugee Board representatre in Turkey, who returned to the United States last week to confer with John W. Help, executive director of the WRB, and with Secretaries Stimson, Morgenthau and all, who comprise the Board, will make his first public address on May 4 at a dinner in his honor at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, arranged by the Friends of the Hebrow Uniersity, it was announced today.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS BULLETIN ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION