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CASE OF JEWISH SOLDIERS IN POLISH ARMY SUBMITTED TO PRESIDENT; ASK REVERSAL OF VERDICT

LONDON, May 4. (JTA) -- The case of the twenty-one Jewish soldiers sentenced to imprisonment by a Polish court-martial for attempting to leave their units because of anti-Semitism and to join the British Army, was presented here today to Polish President Wladyslaw Raczkiewicz by Dr. Ignacy Schwarzbart, one of the two Jewish members of the Polish National Council.

The President discussed for a full hour with Dr. Schwarzbart the position of the Jews in the Polish armed forces. At the same time the Polish National Council released today the text of the statements made by Dr. Scharzbart and by Dr. Emanuel Szerer, the two Jewish representatives, at a closed session of the Council two days ago.

Both statements emphasized that the Polish people as a whole are not being accused of anti-Semitism, but that no attention has been paid by the Polish authorities to Jewish complaints about the mistreatment of Jews in the Polish Army. Both charged the military command with failing to deal with the problem energetically. They also urged the Jewish soldiers to remain in the Polish armed forces.

Dr. Schwarzbart, in his statement, demanded that the commanding officer reverse the sentences imposed by the court-martial. He also insisted that the Polish officers and men who have been practicing anti-Semitism be court-martialed. He urged that the implication, in official Polish documents, that the Jewish soldiers were tried for "desertion" be corrected and appealed to the Polish Government to eradicate anti-Semitism in the army by intensified education.

Dr. Szerer also demanded that the sentences against the Jewish soldiers be nullified. He emphasized that he disagreed with the steps taken by the persecuted Jewish soldiers, but added that they had not committed any crime since the Polish government had previously facilitated the transfer of 200 Jewish soldiers from the Polish armed forces to the British.

HUNGARIAN WAR VETERAN LEADERS RESIGN IN PROTEST AGAINST ORDER TO OUST JEWS

BERNE, May 4. (JTA) -- The resignation of the executive officers of the Union Front Fighters in Hungary, as an expression of protest against the government order to expel all Jews from membership in the war veterans organization, was announced today in Budapest.

In making the announcement, Count Joseph Takacs, president of the Union, said that all leaders of the provincial branches of the organization would also resign. He pointed out that the executive committee saw no reason why members who fought for Hungary at the front should be excluded from the organization only because they are Jews.

Reports from Budapest reaching here today state that the merchandise confiscated from the Hungarian authorities from "liquidated" Jewish enterprises is not being turned over to non-Jewish firms, but is being "reserved for air raid victims." The reports state that many commissars appointed to "Aryanize" Jewish stores are utilizing their positions for personal profit.

JEWISH AGENCY LEADER RETURNS FROM VISIT TO LIBERATED ITALY; PRAISES JEWISH SOLDIERS

CAIRO, May 4. (JTA) -- Palestine Jewish military units in Italy have won high praise from British authorities for effective performance of all tasks assigned them, it was reported here today by Moshe Shertok, chief of the political department of the Jewish Agency, who has just completed an eleven-day tour of the Allied-held section of the country.

Discussing the position of the Jewish refugees in Italy, Shertok disclosed that about one-third of the several thousand refugees in the liberated areas are still living in camps. The remainder are scattered according to where work is available. The camps, he said, are well run although some of them are placed in unhealthy locations. What work the refugees obtain is usually of a temporary nature, Shertok stressed, and most of them are anxiously awaiting steps to provide them with permanent accommodations elsewhere.

The Agency political head said it was gratifying to see the Palestine Jewish soldiers, who are easily distinguishable by the distinctive insignia they wear. They have established close contact with Jewish men in the American forces and with the refugees, he stated, and have raised considerable amounts of money within their own ranks to assist destitute refugees and have aided them in other ways.

GERMAN-JEWISH REFUGEES IN BRITAIN HAILED FOR DEVELOPING NEW "WONDER DRUG"

LONDON, May 4. (JTA) -- Drs. Kurt Wallersteiner and Hans Enoch, whose development of a new anti-infection drug known as vivicillin has been hailed by British medical and governmental circles, are Jewish refugees from Germany, it was learned here today.

Dr. Wallersteiner told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that both he and Dr. Enoch had been disappointed that in all the reports of their work on vivicillin no mention was made of the fact that they are Jewish refugees. The drug, which is similar to penicillin, has been found effective in treating different types of serious war casualties as well as civilian ailments. It can be produced quickly and inexpensively.

Dr. Wallersteiner arrived in England in 1936 and is still "stateless" although he is technical manager of the Watford Chemical Co. He comes from an old Jewish family which settled in Oettingen-Wallerstein in the 16th century. His grandfather was head of the Jewish community there, and his father was a well known doctor. He is a Zionist and plans to go to Palestine to make scientific investigations, he disclosed.

Dr. Enoch came from Hamburg, where he worked in a serum company founded by his father, who was a prominent scientist. He has engaged in much important war work here and is technical manager of the International Serum Company.

ORTHODOX STUDENT GOES ON TRIAL IN PALESTINE FOR POSSESSING ILLEGAL ARMS

JERUSALEM, May 4. (JTA) -- Shimon Amrani, 18, a student at the Mizrahi Teachers' Seminary, went on trial here today before a military court on charges of possessing illegal arms, including a bomb, an automatic pistol and fourteen rounds of ammunition. Amrani was arrested immediately after the explosion in the Jerusalem police headquarters which demolished the building and caused extensive damage in the surrounding neighborhood.

WAR REFUGEE BOARD PLANS TO MOVE 5,000 JEWISH CHILDREN OUT OF RUMANIA

NEW YORK, May 4. (JTA) -- The War Refugee Board is determined to rescue 5,000 Jewish children from Rumania, it was revealed here today by Ira A. Hirschmann, who recently returned from Turkey where he was the Board's special representative.

Speaking before a group of editors at the Lotus Club, Mr. Hirschmann lauded the Joint Distribution Committee, the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the U. S. Ambassador in Turkey, Laurence Steinhardt, for the efforts which they are making to save as many Balkan Jews as possible. He emphasized that the Joint Distribution Committee enjoys a very fine reputation abroad for its efficient relief activities. He also commended the International Red Cross for cooperating with him in the rescue of Jews from Rumania.

The Rumanian Government, Mr. Hirschmann said, promised to place no difficulties in the way of Jews desiring to leave the country. So far three ships carrying Jewish passengers have succeeded in leaving Rumania and reaching Turkey. The passengers are permitted to land on Turkish soil, in transit to Palestine, as a result of efforts made by Ambassador Steinhardt.

New York Times Supports Plan for "Free Ports" in America for Refugees

NEW YORK, May 4. (JTA) -- Support for the plan to establish "free ports" in the United States for refugees in order to save as many Jews from occupied Europe as possible, is given today by the New York Times in an editorial which urges that the War Refugee Board be the agency to carry out this plan.

"When the idea of 'free ports' in this country for war refugees was brought up in Washington recently there seemed to be two possible objections to it, one good and one bad," the editorial says. "The first objection was that it would be inhuman to establish what might be regarded as concentration camps for refugees we were not willing to admit. The second was that some of these refugees might eventually get into the country, beyond the restrictions of the quota law. A study of the situation indicates that neither argument is valid. A refugee brought, say, to Ellis Island and there comfortably housed and fed and treated with consideration, would be in heaven compared with the same person in Germany or Rumania. As for the danger of refugees escaping into the United States from their places of detention, this is hardly a menace to the safety of the Republic. We take this risk with our captive enemies. Why not with our luckless friends?"

"The War Refugee Board, as its director, John W. Pehle, has indicated, would be a logical agency to carry out the 'free port' plan. Perhaps Army camps, vacated as the peak of training passes, could be used. After the war some of the refugees might safely return to their countries of origin. Other might find homes in other countries where immigrants might be needed and welcomed. Still others could in time be admitted regularly to the United States. The plan has nothing to do with unrestricted and uncontrolled immigration. It is simply a proposal to save the lives of innocent people," the editorial concludes.

B'NAI B'RITH NATIONAL WAR SERVICE CONVENTION OPENS IN NEW YORK TOMORROW

NEW YORK, May 4. (JTA) -- The national war service convention of the B'nai B'rith will open at the Hotel New Yorker here on Saturday with 240 delegates from 41 states and four Canadian provinces in attendance. The meeting will discuss ways and means of intensifying the organization's contributions to the war effort. The opening session on Saturday night will be addressed by Henry Monsky, B'nai B'rith president.

JEWISH NATIONAL COUNCIL PROCLAIMS "AARONSOHN MONTH" TO HONOR JEWISH HERO

JERUSALEM, May 4. (JTA) -- The Jewish National Council of Palestine today proclaimed the month of May as a "Aaronsohn Month" in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the death of Aaron Aaronsohn, agronomist and political leader, who in the last world war organized a Jewish intelligence service in Palestine which helped England to defeat the Central Powers in the Middle East.

Aaronsohn died in May 1919 in a plane crash while flying over the English Channel. He agreed to do intelligence work for the British on the condition that Palestine be given to the Jews after the war. His sister, Sarah, joined him in the work and succeeded in securing important documents from German and Turkish officers which she delivered in 1917 to British military headquarters. She was later arrested by the Turks and tortured for several days until she committed suicide.

Aaronsohn visited the United States in 1909 upon the invitation of the Department of Agriculture. He was born in Rumania in 1876 and came to Palestine with his parents in 1882. His father was one of the founders of Zikhron Yakov, one of the oldest settlements in Palestine.

JOSHUA RAVNITZKY, VETERAN JEWISH WRITER, DIES IN TEL AVIV

TEL AVIV, May 4. (JTA) -- Joshua Ravnitzky, veteran Jewish writer, who first published the works of Chaim-Nachman Bialik, died here last night from a brain hemorrhage he suffered while attending a memorial gathering of friends of the Jewish writer Sholem Aleichem in the house of the latter's son-in-law, I. D. Berkovitch.

Ravnitzky was 85 years old. He came to Palestine from Russia after the revolution. He collaborated with Bialik on a number of works, especially on the six-volume "Ezer Haggadah" which is a collection of Jewish legends and aphorisms based on the Talmud. He will be buried today at the Old Cemetery in Tel Aviv next to the grave of Bialik.

MONTREAL REACHES \$250,000 QUOTA FOR UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

MONTREAL, May 4. (JTA) -- The 1944 Montreal United Palestine Appeal and Emergency Youth Aliyah campaign has reached its quota of \$250,000, according to an announcement made here today by Rabbi Jesse Schwartz, Executive Director of the Zionist Organization of Canada and of the Canadian United Palestine Appeal. Hyman Grocer, prominent Montreal communal worker and national treasurer of the Zionist Organization of Canada, was chairman of the UPA campaign which was the most successful ever held in this city.

HYMAN L. MEITES, PUBLISHER OF CHICAGO JEWISH CHRONICLE, DIES AT 67

CHICAGO, May 4. (JTA) -- Hyman L. Meites, publisher of the Chicago Jewish Chronicle and superintendent of the Chicago Bureau of Water since 1931, died yesterday of a heart ailment in Passavant Memorial Hospital. He was 67 years old.

Born in Odessa, Russia, he came to the United States in 1891. In 1919 he founded the Lawndale Press, which later was merged into The Chronicle. He organized the Jewish Historical Society of Illinois in 1918 and published a history of Jews in Chicago. He possessed the first membership certificate of the Knights of Zion, dated October 20, 1897, which made him the first officially recognized Zionist in the United States.