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NEWS IN ROME RELEASED; REVIVAL OF JEWISH COMMUNAL LIFE IN ITALY PLANNED

LONDON, June 7. (JTA) -- All Jews who had been arrested by the Germans in Rome and held in the infamous Regina Coeli prison there are now free men, as are all political prisoners in the liberated Italian capital, the British press reported today.

Jewish organizations here were mapping out plans today to send representatives to Rome to contact Jewish leaders there for the purpose of restoring Jewish communal life and Jewish activities in the liberated part of Italy.

London newspapers carry reports from their correspondents in Rome describing how Italians rushed to the gates of the prison, as soon as the Allied armies entered Rome, and demanded the immediate liberation of all Jewish prisoners who had been held in two special wings. Others presented the prison administration with a list of non-Jewish political prisoners and asked for their immediate release.

Estimating that several hundred Jews were set free, the correspondents give detailed descriptions of the scenes at the gates of the prison where the liberated Jews were met by Italian friends. Many of the Italians who witnessed the release rushed to the families of the Jews so as to be the first to bring the news of their liberation.

NEW YORK JEWS FIRST TO GO ASHORE IN FRANCE DURING INVASION

NEW YORK, June 7. (JTA) -- A 22-year-old Jewish officer from New York, Lt. Abraham Condiotti, who comes from a Sephardic Jewish family, was the commander of the first wave of small assault boats in the invasion landing between Cherbourg and Le Havre, while another New York Jew, Robert Halperin, was one of the first Americans - perhaps the very first - to go ashore in France, it was reported here today from the invasion front.

Condiotti's own boat, the first to hit the beach, landed less than 60 seconds after H-Hour, B. J. McQuaid, the New York Post correspondent, related in a dispatch written "aboard the combat transport U. S. Barnett in the transport area." His boat carried members of an infantry company commanded by Capt. Leonard T. Schroeder, 25, of Baltimore, Mr. Quaid wrote. "Just as Condiotti's was the first boat to hit the beach, Schroeder may have been the first American or even Allied soldier to invade Europe," he said.

The news about Halperin's landing, as related by William H. Stoneman, correspondent of the N. Y. Post in a dispatch dated "Off the Coast of France," reads: "One of the first Americans to go ashore in France - perhaps the very first - was Bob Halperin, formerly of the Brooklyn Dodgers professional football team. His job is to mark beaches for the assault infantry, daring job requiring as much brain as courage and barrels of both. He made a hero of himself at Port Lyautey in Morocco, and at Gela, Sicily. He is certainly making a hero of himself in there again this morning, doing a job on which the success of our assault depends and which not one man in a thousand would like to have."

Halperin was an electrical contractor before joining the armed forces. Lt. Condiotti is a graduate of Brooklyn College. He went into the Navy in 1942. Early yesterday, when his parents heard that the invasion had started, they went to a nearby synagogue and spent four hours praying.

HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT FORBIDS SALE OF MILK AND DAIRY PRODUCTS TO JEWS

ZURICH, June 7. (JTA) -- Hungarian farmers were ordered today not to sell milk and dairy products to Jews. Peasants who violate this order will be severely punished and their property will be confiscated, it was announced over the Budapest radio, which broadcast the government decree.

The German Transkontinent news agency today reported that the pro-Nazi Hungarian government has appointed one of the leading officials of the Ministry of Finance, Turvo Elgyi, Commissioner for the Utilization of Jewish Property. He will direct the liquidation of Jewish enterprises and the sale of Jewish belongings confiscated by the state.

The Association of Christian Traders in Hungary has been authorized by the government to elect a committee to evaluate the stock of Jewish enterprises which are now government property. The Association is also to make recommendations concerning the measures which the government should take to prevent Jewish merchandise from falling into the hands of black market dealers, since many officials in charge of liquidating Jewish stores are utilizing their position to dispose of confiscated Jewish property on the black market for their own profit.

JEWS IN PERSIA GIVEN A SEAT IN PARLIAMENT, GERMAN RADIO REPORTS

JERUSALEM, June 7. (JTA) -- For the first time in the history of modern Persia, a Jew has won a seat in its parliament, it was reported today by the German radio. The name of the Jewish member was not given, nor were any details divulged in the broadcast, which warned of "growing Jewish domination" in Iran.

The position of the 50,000 Jews in Persia has improved greatly during the last few years. But the majority of the Jews there still live under miserable conditions. The war, which has made Persia an important link between America and Russia, has resulted in American Jewish soldiers and officers coming in direct contact with Jews in Persia. A Jewish delegation from Palestine which visited Persia recently found that Jewish cultural life is developing among the youth. The delegation was asked to facilitate the emigration of Jewish youth from Persia to Palestine.

GESTAPO DEPORTS 2,000 GREEK AND FOREIGN JEWS FROM ATHENS TO POLAND

CAIRO, June 7. (JTA) -- The Greek Government-in-Exile today reported that approximately 2,000 Jewish residents of Athens, including holders of Spanish, Italian and Turkish passports, were deported by the Germans to occupied Poland last month. The deportation took place despite protests of foreign ambassadors in Greece, the report stated.

"The conditions under which these victims of German barbarism were transported are terrible," the statement of the Greek Government said. "Trucks in which men, women and children, healthy and sick alike, were loaded were formerly used to haul coal and wood, and have only one entrance which is sealed by an iron bar, and one small railed window. The Germans closed even this small window with barbed wire, thus making any communication with the outside impossible.

"The Jews had to remain for two whole days in the trucks in the railway station before they were loaded onto trains. During this time one woman died and another gave birth to a child without any medical assistance. The Germans gave no food or water to their victims. The Greek Red Cross, when informed of what had happened, sent some truckloads of food to the railway station. The German officers in command, however, refused to open to doors of the trucks on the pretext that they were ordered to forbid any communication with the Jews. The only concession made was to remove the barbed wire from the windows, through which the Greek Nursing Sisters threw what little food they could," the statement concluded.

600 CZECH JEWS MURDERED IN RUSSIA BY GERMANS, INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE ESTABLISHES

LONDON, June 7. (JTA) -- Six-thousand Czechoslovakian Jews were murdered by the Germans in the city of Kamenetz-Podolsk, in the Ukraine, according to a report by the Soviet commission investigating Nazi atrocities. The report is quoted today by the Czechoslovakian Press Service here.

The Russian commission ascertained that the Czech Jews were mainly residents of sub-Carpathia - the section of Czechoslovakia which was seized by Hungary - who had been deported to Kamenetz-Podolsk by the Hungarian authorities when the Ukraine was occupied by the German Army.

BRITISH PARLIAMENTARIAN URGES TRANSFER OF PALESTINE MANDATE TO UNITED STATES

LONDON, June 7. (JTA) -- Assumption of the Palestine Mandate by the United States after the war might be a solution to the Palestine problem, it was suggested by Major H. A. Proctor, Conservative M. P., addressing a meeting of the Anglo-Palestine Club.

Another solution, he said, would be for Britain to adopt "strong measures" to crush all rebellion and establish a firm government with full implementation of the Balfour Declaration.

QUEBEC AUTHORITIES CHARGED WITH INDIFFERENCE TO ACTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST JEWS

MONTREAL, June 7. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress today made public a statement expressing regret at the fact that "not one word of public protest or public expression of disapproval" has been uttered by any of the responsible members of the Provincial Government of Quebec, or the clergy, condemning the anti-Jewish acts in Quebec City, which culminated in the recent attempt to burn down the new synagogue there.

"Whilst the Jewish community appreciates the statement attributed to Attorney General Leon Casgrain that 'this Province is one where freedom of worship exists in its complete form,' it is regrettable that these sentiments are apparently not shared by many influential citizens of this Province, and certainly not by the majority of the civic authorities of Quebec City," the statement says.

"The Jewish community of Quebec City comprises about one hundred (100) families. Since 1932 they have endeavored to obtain permission to erect a synagogue where they might worship the religion of their fathers. Every conceivable obstacle was utilized to obstruct their laudable efforts, until finally in 1943 the City Council passed a by-law to expropriate the land purchased by the Jews whereon to erect their house of worship. This by-law has been attacked in the courts and the issue is still to be tried. In the meantime, while the building was being constructed, mass meetings were permitted to take place, where anti-Jewish feelings were aroused, to the knowledge of the authorities, civic, provincial and clerical, meetings even staged at the time when Churchill, Roosevelt and other dignitaries of the United Nations met in Quebec to plan their fight against Fascism, Nazis, etc.

"Strange to say, not one word of public protest or public expression of disapproval has yet been uttered by any responsible member of the Provincial Government, or of the prevailing clergy condemning these anti-religious acts. Is there any wonder that irresponsible persons have gained the impression that they are free to resort to acts of violence against a small Jewish community?" the statement points out.

"The broken windows of the Quebec synagogue will be replaced; the charred walls will be repaired. In the meantime, the very right of the congregation to worship in their new synagogue is still being contested in the courts by the City Council of Quebec, and this at the expense of the citizens," the statement concludes.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS TO HOLD BIENNIAL CONVENTION IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, June 7. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress today announced that it will hold its biennial convention at the Hotel New Yorker here, opening on Saturday evening, June 24 and extending to Monday, June 26. The forthcoming convention, the leaders of the Congress declared, is "to consider and formulate a program of action for meeting both the problems of our brethren abroad as well as the needs of the Jewish community at home."

"As Jews deeply concerned with the fate of our martyred people in the post-war world, we have the added responsibility of helping the peace settlement to include a just solution of the problems of the economic and political rehabilitation of Jewish community life throughout the world and insuring the survival of the Jewish people by the establishment of the Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine," a statement issued by the congress says.

LOUW PLEDGES SUPPORT FOR ORT REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES FOR JEWS IN EUROPE

BOSTON, June 7. (JTA) -- Lauding the work of the ORT, David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, which is now meeting here, pledged the support of his organization for the post-war rehabilitation program which the ORT is planning for the Jews of Europe.

"I consider ORT to be one of the fundamentally sound organizations offering constructive aid towards the rehabilitation of the Jews during the war and its work will be tremendously magnified in the post-war period," Mr. Dubinsky said at a luncheon here. "The International has always supported ORT because ORT offers a substantial solution to one of the phases of the so-called Jewish problem. On behalf of the 365,000 members of the International, I pledge our continued support to the work of ORT as one of the most important agencies operating today in Jewish life."

CHICAGO CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATION CELEBRATES ITS SILVER ANNIVERSARY

CHICAGO, June 7. (JTA) -- Dr. Louis Finkelstein, president of the Jewish Theological Seminary, was the principal speaker tonight at a dinner marking the 25th anniversary of the Congregation B'nai Zion and of Rabbi A. L. Lassen's incumbency as spiritual leader for the entire quarter of a century. Rabbi Lassen is one of the leading figures in the Conservative rabbinate in America.

CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER SAYS FREIMAN'S DEATH IS LOSS TO DOMINION

OTTAWA, June 7. (JTA) -- Prime Minister William Mackenzie King issued a statement here today declaring that the death of Archibald J. Freiman, noted Zionist and communal leader, is a loss to Canada. "The death of Mr. Freiman," the Premier said, "is a great loss to the Jewish community of Canada, the organizations he supported and Canada itself. Mr. Freiman was known throughout the Dominion for his generous benefactions, which were not confined to his own community."

RABBI JOSEPH KONVITZ, PRESIDENT OF UNION OF ORTHODOX RABBIS, DIES AT 66

BELMAR, N. J., June 7. (JTA) -- Rabbi Joseph Konvitz, president of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada, died yesterday at his summer home here. He was 66 years old. Born in Lithuania, Dr. Konvitz came to the United States in 1916. He served as rabbi of several New Jersey congregations, and became president of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis in 1933.