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STIRRING SCENES MARK ARRIVAL IN PALESTINE OF JEWS LIBERATED FROM NAZI CAMP

HAIFA, July 12. (JTA) -- Tears of happiness rolling down their emaciated faces, 82 Jews who only two weeks ago were in a Nazi concentration camp arrived here today from Turkey where they were exchanged for Germans interned by the Allies in the Middle East.

Stirring scenes marked their arrival when they were met at the station by relatives and friends. The first to alight from the train was a young Jewish girl carrying a Torah which she miraculously saved from the Nazis. She held out the Torah to the others who kissed it gently as they stepped on Palestine soil.

No young men or women were included by the Germans in the liberated group. German authorities insisted that the group be composed of people aged between 45 and 60 and of children up to the age of 14. The majority of the group are Palestinians and holders of Palestine visas who had been interned first in Holland and transferred later to the Bergenbelzen camp where they were held until the exchange was arranged. Others were brought to the Bergenbelzen camp from Vittel, France.

4,000 More Jews Remained in Camp; Many Committed Suicide

About 4,000 more Jews, most of them holders of South American passports, still remain in the Bergenbelzen camp, near Hanover, the arrivals reported. Although they could be exchanged for interned German civilians in Latin American countries, they are gradually being deported to extermination camps in Poland. Forty of them committed suicide when they learned that they were scheduled for deportation.

Among those who committed suicide was the widow of Chief Rabbi Moses Schorr of Warsaw. The daughter of Rabbi Schorr also attempted suicide. Reuben Cohen, prominent Agrachi leader, died in the camp, while Isaac Katznelson, prominent Jewish poet, together with his son, were among those deported from the camp to "an unknown destination." Chief Rabbi Koretz of Salonika was still in the camp when the group which reached Palestine today left Bergenbelzen. Ninety percent of all Jews in Holland have been deported to Poland and exterminated there, some of the Dutch Jews in the group stated.

Arrivals Tell Horrible Story of Life in Concentration Camp

Many of the arrivals were so old and exhausted that they could not walk and needed assistance to alight from the train. Dr. Israel Taubes, who was the leader of the group, said that the sealed train on which the Jews were taken from Germany to Turkey through the Balkan countries had a narrow escape when Allied bombs exploded on both sides of the train near the Bulgarian border.

Telling of their horrible experiences in the Bergenbelzen camp which the Nazis claim is "one of the most humane camps," the arrivals said that the Nazis "did not

actually kill the people in the camp, but starved them to death." One of the arrivals gave the following account:

"They compelled us to get up before sun-rise and appear in a courtyard for inspection. If any of the internees died during the night - and an average of six to seven people died each night - the living were compelled to bring the dead and line them up in a row for inspection. The inspection lasted several hours, even in the coldest winter days, after which we were ordered to work till sunset. Kept on a starvation diet, our rations were reduced to a small piece of bread as punishment for even the smallest 'sin.'

"As time went, our working hours were increased and the rations diminished. Had it not been for the precious assistance we received from the International Red Cross, in the form of food parcels, we could have figured out with mathematical precision the day and the hour of our death. The situation improved somewhat when the Nazis learned that our group was to be exchanged for Germans living in Palestine."

Jewish Leaders from Holland and Germany Among Arrivals

Among the arrivals are Gertrude Van-Tyn, the head of the Jewish Relief Committee in Holland, Rabbi Lazar Dinner of Amsterdam, Prof. Albert Lefkowitz, Jacob van Elitz, Dr. Ignatz Bergenthal, Dr. Max Plaut, last president of the Hamburg Jewish Community, Dr. James Ellenburgen, last treasurer of the Berlin Jewish Community, and other Jewish leaders from Holland and Germany.

The arrivals also include people who witnessed the deportation of Jews from Mittel. Their eyes filled with tears as they described the brutal scenes when Jews of all ages, including infants, were forcibly driven to the station and herded into sealed trains for deportation.

BRITAIN ESTABLISHES TEMPORARY CAMP IN TRIPOLITANIA FOR 2,000 REFUGEES FROM EUROPE

LONDON, July 12. (JTA) -- A temporary camp for 2,000 European refugees will be established in Tripolitania by the British Government, with the cooperation of the United States, Commons was told today by Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden.

Replying to a question, Eden said that the Government, in view of the increasing number of refugees arriving from Europe, had been concerned to find a suitable place for their temporary accommodation in addition to those already arranged.

Refugees in the Tripolitania camp will be housed there until it is possible to send them back to their countries of origin or to find other places of permanent residence. The United States, Eden said, is fully cooperating in questions of staff and maintenance.

POPE INTERVENES FOR JEWS IN HUNGARY; IRELAND ASKS BUDAPEST TO EASE DRIVE ON JEWS

LONDON, July 12. (JTA) -- Pope Pius has directly intervened for the Jews of Hungary through the Papal Nuncio in Budapest, leaders of the Agudas Israel reported here today.

At the same time, it was learned that the government of Ireland has communicated with the pro-Nazi Hungarian government, urging relaxation of the anti-Jewish drive.

JTA CORRESPONDENT FINDS ONLY TWELVE JEWS WERE LEFT ALIVE BY GERMANS IN MINSK

MINSK, July 12. (JTA) -- Only twelve Jews remained alive in Minsk of the 80,000 Jews who lived in the city and of the 39,000 who were brought there from Berlin, Vienna and Prague, the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency established today upon arriving here.

Ignatz Burstein, one of the twelve who miraculously escaped Nazi extermination, told the JTA correspondent how the Germans annihilated the 119,000 Jews in Minsk during the three years they held the city. He related his gruesome tale in front of a charred building where the twelve Jews, all of them highly-skilled technicians, were forcibly employed repairing German military vehicles.

In 1941, Burstein said, the Germans deported thousands of Jews from Lodz to Baranovichi, which is a short distance southwest of Minsk, where they were placed in a ghetto. A total of about 12,000 persons were confined there. Although forced to work for the Germans, the Jews were not molested until March, 1942, when the Nazis suddenly divided the ghetto into two parts and drove all the inhabitants into one section, leaving the other empty.

Then they began distributing green "tickets of life." These were work cards. Failure to obtain such a card meant death, since only those who were deemed fit to work were to be allowed to remain alive. From 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. the Germans called out the names of the fortunate persons who were to be given cards. Twelve thousand desperate people attempted to claw their way into the building where the cards were being distributed. Women and children were trampled. Distraught persons whose names were not called attempted to snatch the permits from those who had obtained them.

Order Jewish Leader to Select Victims for Execution

Towards the end, the Germans handed all the cards that remained to a local Jewish lawyer named Isaacson, who was head of the ghetto council, telling him to distribute them as he saw fit. This last bit of cruelty - compelling the Jews, themselves, to decide which of their number were to die - was the invention of a S.S. leader named Wolf. When all the cards had been distributed, those possessing work permits were herded into one section of the ghetto, separated from the others.

At six o'clock in the morning, large trucks drove up to the ghetto and the unlucky 6,000 were loaded into them as their families and friends who had been spared were forced to stand by and watch. Isaacson and several Jewish policemen who were compelled to assist the Germans - to maintain a pretense of legality - were shot that same evening.

This was the first pogrom in Baranovichi. The second occurred in the Fall of 1942, when 3,000 were killed, leaving another 3,000 survivors. All but 200 of these were murdered in a third pogrom on December 17, 1942. The 200 who were spared were highly skilled workers, among them Burstein and his companions. They were taken from the city shortly afterwards to a penal camp and then to the Trostinetz camp, about eight miles outside of Minsk.

Jews from Berlin, Vienna, Prague Sent to "Death Camp"

Trostinetz was a "death camp" for Czech, German and Austrian Jews, 39,000 of whom arrived by train between September, 1942 and October, 1943, in transports of 1,000 each. Of the 1,000, only about five to 30 persons were allowed to live; these were skilled workers. The others were asphyxiated in portable gas chambers and then lumped into pits a few miles away. Some of the portable gas chambers were mounted on

"diamond T" trucks which were manufactured in the United States. The executions were so efficient that within three hours after they detained, the deported Jews were lying dead in mass graves.

Only about 500 people were kept alive at the Trostinetz camp. Most of them were engaged in sorting out the clothes of the thousands of murdered Jews for shipment back to Germany. Others, among whom were Burstein, worked in the auto repair shops in the university buildings. They were taken to the city each morning and returned at night.

Liquidation of Minsk Ghetto Started Last Year

In the Fall of 1943, the Germans began liquidating the Minsk ghetto. They deported 8,000 Minsk Jews to Lublin where they were killed, while several thousand others were executed at Trostinetz.

At the same time, the advance of the Red Army towards Minsk necessitated the services of more auto mechanics. Burstein and about 200 others, including 13 women and four children, were quartered in the garage building where they lived as slaves. In June of this year, Burstein noticed great excitement among the Germans, and indications that they were preparing to evacuate the city.

From hints dropped by their chief, the slave laborers realized that they would be executed before the Nazis quit Minsk. They decided to escape. On the morning of June 28, the twelve men fled from the garage and hid in the cellars of the university buildings.

They had nothing to eat. After several days of starvation, they slipped from the cellars and lowered one man down a chimney to the kitchen where he stole some food.

Women and Children Burned Alive Before Nazis Retreated

On the Sunday before last, July 2, which was the day before the Red Army broke into the city, all the Jewish mechanics who had not escaped, together with the women and children were taken into the charred building we could see behind us and burned to death. One woman who broke out of the building was beaten and hanged.

At 5 o'clock on the morning of July 3, Burstein looked out of a crack in the basement wall and saw a Red Armyman standing before the ruined government building where a statue of Lenin had once stood. Burstein shouted: "Red Armyman, Red Armymen," but his companions did not believe him. Then as they all rushed to look, a column of tanks bearing the Red Star rolled down the street.

Shouting deliriously, the twelve men - the only Jews alive in Minsk - rushed out into the streets, where they were halted by the peremptory challenge of a Red Armyman. They soon explained who they were.

Today Burstein and his companions are working at repairing damaged German trucks making them serviceable for use by the Russian troops.

JEWISH FARMS IN SLOVAKIA TRANSFERRED BY GOVERNMENT TO NON-JEWISH WAR VETERANS

ZURICH, July 12. (JTA) -- The Bratislava radio today reported that the transfer of confiscated Jewish land in Slovakia to soldiers is being completed. Eighty-five Jewish farms were taken over this week by Slovakian families whose men are at the front, the broadcast said.

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