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JTA CORRESPONDENT REPORTS 1,000,000 JEWS EXTERMINATED AT MAJDANEK; FINDS 1000 SURVIVORS

LUBLIN, Aug. 30. (JTA) -- The Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent arriving here today established that two-thirds of the more than 1,500,000 men, women and children annihilated by the Germans in the "death chambers" of the notorious Majdanek "extermination camp" near Lublin were Jews.

The correspondent also found that about 1,000 Jews succeeded in miraculously escaping death and were the only Jews surviving in Lublin and the vicinity, which was liberated by the Russian Army. Only fifty of them are residents of Lublin where 48,000 Jews resided before the war. The remainder were brought from other sections of Poland for extermination.

Many of the survivors have relatives in the United States and in Palestine. Their names were obtained by the JTA correspondent for transmission to America. Their addresses are registered with the Komitet Zydowski w Lublinie, the Jewish Committee of Lublin.

It must be remembered that survival of Jews in Poland under the Nazis is in itself a miracle. The survival of 1,000 Jews in the area where Jews were massacred in the hundreds of thousands is an act surpassing human understanding. This was emphasized by Dr. Emil Sommerstein, Jewish member of the Polish Committee of National Liberation and head of the Reparations Department of that committee, which is recognized in Moscow as the temporary government of the liberated part of Poland.

Interviewed by the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Dr. Sommerstein, prominent Zionist leader and member of the pre-war Polish parliament, expressed the hope that the number of Jews remaining in the Lublin district may rise to 2,500 since many of the survivors are still in the woods and on farms where they hid from the Germans for more than three years. He estimated that in all of Poland no more than 100,000 Jews can have survived, in addition to those who were saved by evacuation into the U.S.S.R. prior to the German attack on Russia.

"The total number of Jews in Poland after all evacuees will return to their home towns will not exceed 250,000 as compared with the 3,500,000 that lived there before the war," Dr. Sommerstein predicted.

Committee Starts Registration of Surviving Jews in Liberated Poland

The Jewish Committee in Lublin is now engaged in registering all Jews in the liberated parts of Poland in order to enable their return to their home towns as well as to establish contact for them with their relatives abroad. The registration reveals a gloomy picture of Jewish annihilation by the Germans all over Poland.

So far the committee has established that no more than 100 Jews survived in the city of Zamose; about 150 Jews were found alive in Vlodava; there are about 300

Jews in Krassek; 100 in the city of Sedlice; 200 in Lukow; 250 in Chalm and less than 50 in the city of Jaroslav. All these places were thickly populated with Jews before the Germans occupied Poland. In Lwow, where 75,000 Jews lived before the war, there are now no more than 2,000.

Many thousands of Jews are believed to be alive in the part of Poland still held by the Germans. The correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency spoke here to one who just escaped from the besieged city of Warsaw who said that there were 7,000 Jews in Warsaw. It is also known here that up to a few months ago about 60,000 Jewish mechanics worked in Cracow in German war plants as slave laborers. There were also about 2,000 Jews in the German-held city of Czenstochowa.

Jews in Lublin Clamor for Revenge; Majdanek Horrors Described

Speaking to many of the Jews in Lublin, the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency established that every surviving Jew is dominated by a strong desire for revenge. Dr. Shloima Hersjenhorn, a Jewish captain in the First Polish Division who on return to Lublin found that his wife, his son, his parents and all his relatives had been killed by the Germans, told the correspondent what most of the Jews in Lublin say today. "I have nothing to live for," he said, "except to serve those who are still alive and to obtain revenge."

Revenge is a common word among the Jews in Lublin. It is also a common word among non-Jews here who are horrified at the annihilation by the Germans of 1,500,000 people at Majdanek.

American and British correspondents brought here from Moscow were appalled at what they saw at the Majdanek camp. They visited the gas chambers where the Germans suffocated their victims and inspected the crematories where the bodies of the gassed people were burned to ashes. They also visited the storage places where the personal possessions of the victims were stored by the Germans for transportation to Germany. Among these possessions were suit cases, clothing, shoes, family photographs, and even kitchenware. It was obvious that the victims, prior to deportation from their homes to Majdanek were told that they were being transported to a ghetto and not to an extermination camp.

The correspondents established that the victims, upon their arrival at the camp, were taken to a barracks for "bath and disinfection." There they were told to undress and after taking a shower were led into the next chamber which was a gas chamber where they were killed within ten minutes by poison gas, after which their bodies were taken in trucks to the crematories and burned.

German prisoners of war and officers associated with the camp told the correspondents that hundreds of children were among the exterminated victims. One of them testified that he was in charge of shipping to the German State Bank all the gold, jewelry, rings, watches and other valuables of which the victims were stripped.

RACIAL DISTINCTIONS ABOLISHED IN FRANCE, AMERICAN RADIO REPORTS

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30. (JTA) -- The American Broadcasting Station in Europe (Absie) reported today in a broadcast to France that all racial distinctions had been abolished throughout France, and that the word "Jew" must not appear on any identification paper.

CONFISCATED PROPERTY WILL BE RETURNED TO BULGARIAN JEWS, GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES

ISTANBUL, Aug. 30. (JTA) -- The Sofia radio today broadcast a lengthy explanatory statement concerning the abolition yesterday by the Bulgarian Government of anti-Jewish legislation, emphasizing that all confiscated property will be returned to Jews and that the decree covers all anti-Jewish measures whether of a "political, moral or police character."

The statement says that the abolition applies to all decrees issued under the "law for defense of the state" as well as the cabinet order of August 29, 1942. All restrictions are abolished including the wearing of yellow badges, prohibitions on freedom of movement, places of residence or practice of professions.

The functions of the dissolved Commissariat for Jewish Affairs have been transferred to various ministries. The Ministries of Finance and Agriculture will deal with the question of Jewish property, while the Ministry of the Interior will issue instructions and legislative decrees covering the resettlement of exiled Jews and the legal problems arising from the restitution of Jewish possessions.

The statement revealed that on August 24 the Minister of the Interior received the executive council of the Jewish Consistory to whom he explained the government's decision to rescind anti-Jewish legislation. The council expressed full satisfaction and declared their support of the Bulgarian State, to which, they said, they had never ceased their allegiance.

PALESTINE HIGH COMMISSIONER DEPARTS; WARNS AGAINST "POLITICAL FANATICISM"

JERUSALEM, Aug. 30. (JTA) -- Stressing that many dangers still threaten the peace and welfare of Palestine, retiring High Commissioner Sir Harold MacMichael in a farewell message today warned that the gravest danger is "political fanaticism which has been deliberately inculcated among the younger generation which has been regimented for ends which are negative to all that is meant by democracy."

Sir Harold, who is leaving the country today, added that not all the people of Palestine sympathize with this fanaticism and urged those who oppose it to act to curb the terrorism. At the same time, he paid tribute to the population's contribution to the war effort. The High Commissioner's address was broadcast nation-wide.

"I have no intention to retrace the happenings of the past nor forecast the future, nor do I propose to repeat at length the advice which I have already ventured to give," Sir Harold said. "I have nothing to add and nothing to withdraw on that score. I wish rather to thank those to whom thanks are due."

Thanking the government officials and the armed forces for "the teamwork they gave the country, which on its part gave its best manpower, industry and goodwill," the High Commissioner declared: "It is with mixed feelings that I leave the country - so much remaining to be done, so many dangers threatening from within its peace and welfare, the gravest of which is that political fanaticism which has been deliberately inculcated among the younger generation for ends which are negative to all that is meant by democracy - that same impious will for power which reared its ugly head in Germany and brought ruin to the pleasant, friendly world which many of us love and remember."

"Not all of us sympathize with it - thank God - far from it - and Palestine may yet be spared its natural consequences," Sir Harold continued, "but a great, a very urgent duty falls on all who have wisdom and moral courage enough to combat the

danger, to make their voice heard and their influence felt before it is too late. I can think of no greater tragedy than that the ending of the war waged to defend the cause of justice and freedom should be a signal for the outbreak of a futile struggle for political domination in the land which first heard the words 'peace on earth, goodwill towards men.'

"These words are not only of deep religious import, they are the highest human wisdom and Palestine's ailment may be summed up in these words: 'too much cleverness, too little wisdom.' With all my heart," the High Commissioner concluded, "I pray to God for Palestine and for the sake of its people that the balance may yet be redressed."

JEWS IN LIBERATED TERRITORIES NOT PERMITTED TO ENTER PALESTINE, SHERTOK REVEALS

LONDON, Aug. 30. (JTA) -- Jews from liberated territories are excluded from Palestine as a result of the decision of the British Government not to admit any Jewish immigrants except those coming from enemy-occupied countries, it was revealed here today by Moshe Shertok, head of the political department of the Jewish Agency addressing a press conference.

Shertok criticized the British Government for this decision. Since a large-scale escape from enemy territories is not certain, the policy of the British Government only slows down the distribution of the 14,000 immigration certificates still available under the White Paper, Shertok pointed out adding that this inflicts unnecessary suffering.

"There has been no relaxation in efforts to bring endangered Jews to Palestine," Shertok declared. "But with Hungary isolated and the Balkan countries in the midst of political transition, further escapes of Jews are most problematic." The present stoppage of Jewish immigration even in advance of the White Paper limits makes impossible further transports of Jews from Italy and Aden where 1,500 distressed Yemenite Jews are on their way to Palestine," he added.

Shertok also stressed the indignities and hardships suffered by 1,500 Jews who are held on the Island of Mauritius. He revealed that only five thousand Jews from enemy countries were able to reach Palestine since September 1943. Eliahu Dobkin, head of the immigration department of the Jewish Agency, addressed the conference, also taking issue with the British policy.

SENATE COMMITTEE OPENS HEARINGS ON BILL FOR PERMANENT FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE GROUP

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30. (JTA) -- "The work of wiping out discrimination in industry is not the job of a private agency but should be carried on by an agency such as the Fair Employment Practices Committee," Rabbi J. X. Cohen, chairman of the commission on economic problems of the American Jewish Congress, told a Senate education and labor sub-committee today.

Testifying in support of the establishment of a permanent commission to penalize discrimination in industry, Rabbi Cohen stressed the extent of pre-war discrimination and said that it was "a pattern of what we may anticipate in the post-war period" unless "economic statesmanship is employed." Others testifying in behalf of the legislation included Clarence Pickett of the American Friends Service Committee; Senator Denis Chavez, a sponsor of the bill; Bishop Bromley Oxman of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, and Rev. Francis N. McPeck, of the Congressional Christian Churches.