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35,000 JEWS SURVIVED IN BULGARIA; OFFICIAL PLEDGES RETURN OF JEWISH PROPERTY

SOFIA, Sept. 24. (JTA) -- Thirty-five thousand Jews have survived the German occupation of Bulgaria, but not a single Jew remains in Macedonia from where the entire Jewish population was deported to extermination camps in Poland, the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency established upon his arrival here today. Before the war there were about 50,000 Jews in Bulgaria.

Dimo Kazasov, Bulgarian Minister of Propaganda, assured the J.T.A. correspondent today that the Jews in Bulgaria would get back all property, businesses and other assets confiscated by the state, or forcibly sold under the anti-Jewish laws of the former pro-Nazi regime. It may take time to settle the transfer of some of the property, he said, but the Bulgarian Government is determined to solve the problem in a manner which will not disrupt "the traditional friendship and mutual understanding between the Bulgarians and the Jews."

Emphasizing that the Jews in Bulgaria are already enjoying full freedom and equality and that all the anti-Jewish laws have been abrogated, including the law under which the Jews had to pay a special "Jewish tax" on their property up to seventy-five percent of its value, the minister stated that "due to the State's financial difficulties, these sums will be transferred into a State loan with definite security." He added that the Bulgarian Government will support the Zionist demands for a Jewish State in Palestine and that Bulgarian Jews will be permitted to emigrate to Palestine.

Impoverished Sofia Jews Return to Their Homes from Exile

The correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency found that of the 25,000 Jews who resided in Sofia, capital of Bulgaria, before the issuance of the anti-Jewish laws, only two hundred were left. The remainder were deported to provincial towns. Many of them are now returning to their homes, but they are all ruined economically, due to the fact that during the German occupation they were deprived of all their possessions, including money, jewelry and even furniture. Among those who have already returned to the Bulgarian capital are 6,000 Jewish youths who were used for forced labor.

More than forty percent of the Sofia Jews are still living in the small provincial towns to where they were deported. Almost all of them have no clothes to protect them from the cold of the approaching autumn. The Jews returning to Sofia find their homes occupied by Bulgarians. But an official order made public today by the Bulgarian Government permits them to automatically claim their dwellings without any formalities.

The Jewish Consistoire, representing all the Jewish communities in the country, has resumed operations in Sofia. Jewish partisans are returning to their families and Jewish communal work which was conducted underground during the German occupation is now going on openly. The Zionist organization in Bulgaria and the Zionist youth groups have reopened their offices. The executive committee of the Zionist organization issued an appeal urging the Jews to join the "Patriotic Front" which is composed of representatives of all political parties in liberated Bulgaria.

PARIS JEWS CONCERNED AT ATTEMPTS TO PREVENT RETURN HOME OF NON-FRENCH DEPORTEES

PARIS, Sept. 24. (JTA) -- The Jews in Paris and elsewhere in France are deeply concerned at attempts by powerful groups to prevent the return home of deported Jews who were not French citizens. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent was told that such sentiments have been voiced even in influential government circles.

The proposal by these groups that the non-citizens be returned to their countries of origin would work extreme hardship on thousands of deportees who may still be living - working in the coal mines of Silesia or elsewhere, or confined in German concentration camps. Many of these had spent the majority of their lives in France prior to their deportation, had French wives and in many cases owned considerable property here. If prohibited from returning they would be stripped of everything.

This problem is not an academic one, it was stressed today by Avrom Alperin, president of the Jewish Unity Committee. Alperin told the J.T.A. correspondent that he believes that 40 to 60 percent of the Jews deported from the Drancy concentration camp to Poland or Germany may still be alive. He revealed that he has received communications from several deportees now working for the Germans in the coal mines of Upper Silesia and added that he has been informed of deportees who are working elsewhere. Frenchmen returning to France from work in Silesia disclosed that Jews were working at forced labor in several places there.

Emanuel Langberg, one-time commandant of the "Jewish self-administrative" machinery set up by the Nazis at Drancy smuggled out the names of 75,000 Jews deported from the camp during the 13 months he held office. Of these at least 1,000 were heard from subsequently. At certain times, Langberg said, the Germans permitted deportees to mail printed cards stating they were alive, although they did not permit them to receive any incoming mail.

Although there are these and other indications that some of the deportees are still alive, Mr. Alperin emphasized that it would be incorrect to minimize the tragedy or grow over-optimistic about the chances of most of the deportees having survived. Able-bodied men may possibly have been utilized, he stated, but there are no indications that the women deportees were spared, and it is feared that they were all sent to extermination camps.

Authorities Issue Regular Identity Papers to Foreign Jews in Southern France

MARSEILLE, Sept. 20 - Delayed. (JTA) - French authorities here are facilitating legalization of the position of foreign Jews and other "displaced persons" who, for the most part, had to go underground during the German occupation in order to escape deportation to the Reich, it was established by a special correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency who arrived here today.

Raymond Aubrac, French Government commissioner for the Marseilles area, told the correspondent that identity papers are being issued to replace the false documents these civilians had to carry in order to avoid arrest. He said that there is no discrimination against foreigners and displaced persons either in the distribution of government relief, or in employment. Discussing the presence of tens of thousands of foreign civilians in Southern France, he expressed the view that the problem was one which had to be treated on a national basis and declared he had already raised the issue with Paris.

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OPponents OF JEWISH BRIGADE WARN THAT BRITISH JEWS WILL NOT JOIN IT

LONDON, Sept. 24. (JTA) -- Sir Brunel Cohen, in behalf of The Jewish Fellowship, today published a statement in the Times warning that the establishment of a Jewish brigade should not cause any confusion regarding the position of the Jews in the British armed forces. "The vast majority of the Jews in Britain have no desire whatever to be segregated from their comrades in the armed forces with whom they feel united in national loyalty," the statement says.

Col. Robert Henriques, Jewish writer and artillery commander, in a statement to the Times challenges the contention that the establishment of a Jewish brigade group is an acknowledgement of the efforts of multitudes of Jews in the armies of the United Nations. "They neither require, nor merit such acknowledgement, for they are simply performing their duties as citizens of their respective countries," Henriques writes. He concludes by stating that most of the British Jews will never agree to surrender "the distinctive honorable flashes of their military units and formations for the Mogen David of the Jewish brigade."

PALESTINE ARABS SPLIT ON UNITY; PAN-ARAB CONFERENCE OPENS TODAY IN EGYPT

CAIRO, Sept. 24. (JTA) -- On the eve of the opening of the pan-Arab unity conference in Alexandria tomorrow, it was learned here today that a conference of the leading sheikhs of Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Palestine and Transjordan will be held shortly to decide on measures to support the anti-Zionist demands of the Palestine Arabs.

Meanwhile, it appears that the Palestine Arabs will not be represented at the unity parley because of failure of the various parties to agree on a single delegation. A meeting called over the week-end to choose such a delegation was without result because of the absence of the Arab National Bloc and the Arab Defense Party which rejected invitations to participate in establishing a "higher committee" to represent all Palestine Arabs at Alexandria.

Iraqian Premier Hamid Bahgagi arriving here on route to Alexandria told a press conference that "as things stand we consider Palestine represented at the conference, since we are jointly the trustees of her independence and integrity and intend to achieve Arab aspirations in Palestine."

Another country which will not be represented at the conference is Saudi Arabia, whose ruler, Ibn Saud, continues to maintain that the parley is useless until the question of Palestine can be solved after the war.

JEWS HERE GRATIFIED AT EISENHOWER'S AROGATION OF RACIAL LAWS IN LIBERATED REICH TOWNS

NEW YORK, Sept. 24. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders here are elated at the issuance by Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, commander of Allied forces in western Europe, of a proclamation abrogating Nazi racial laws in the portion of Germany held by the Allied armies.

Announcing the fact that Allied Military Government detachments went into action in German towns as soon as they were occupied, Gen. Eisenhower released the text of the proclamations promulgated by AMG, among which is one abrogating the "law for 'protection of German blood and honor,' one of the infamous discriminatory Nuremberg laws" and the "Reich citizenship law denying citizenship to those not of German blood."

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BRITISH JEWS MAY SEND REPRESENTATIVE TO U.S., CANADA, TO CONFER ON POST-WAR COOPERATION

LONDON, Sept. 24. (JTA) -- British Jews may send a representative to the United States and Canada to confer with Jewish leaders there on the problem of co-ordination of post-war relief for Jews in Europe and forming a single unified body to represent the interests of Jews in connection with all post-war questions, it was indicated here today at a meeting of the Board of Deputies of British Jews.

Discussing the desire of British Jewry to participate in furnishing relief to the destitute Jews of Europe, Prof. Selig Brodetsky, president of the Board and chairman of its foreign committee, said that cooperation of Jews throughout the world is necessary to avoid the mistakes of Jewish groups at the last peace conference. He recommended that the Board send a representative to the United States and Canada to discuss ways and means of securing such cooperation. At the same time, he hailed the inclusion in the Rumanian and Finnish armistice terms of clauses abolishing racial discrimination by those governments.

Considerable concern was expressed by several of the deputies at the growth of anti-Semitism in England and the prospects that it will be even more wide-spread after the war. Debating a proposal to appoint a standing committee to maintain contact with other organizations interested in the problem of community libel, the majority of the speakers charged the executive committee of the board with failure to press for legislation outlawing racial and religious propaganda. Replying to the charge, other deputies asserted that England has never known anti-Jewish laws and that it might be dangerous to introduce pro-Jewish measures.

DR. ISRAEL J. KLIGLER OF HEBREW UNIVERSITY DIES; WAS PROMINENT BACTERIOLOGIST

JERUSALEM, Sept. 24. (JTA) -- Dr. Israel J. Kligler, prominent American bacteriologist who has headed the Department of Hygiene and Bacteriology at the Hebrew University for several years, died suddenly last night from a heart attack suffered at his home in the settlement of Nathania. He was 55.

Dr. Kligler, who was born in Russia in 1889, emigrated to the United States as a youth and was educated at the City College of New York and Columbia University. He was on the staff of the American Museum of Natural History from 1911 to 1915 and was with the Rockefeller Institute from 1916 to 1920. He came to Palestine in 1921 where he had remained since except for occasional visits to the United States and service on various scientific commissions. He last visited the United States in 1942.

In Palestine Dr. Kligler pioneered in developing adequate medical facilities. After serving as chief of the Bacteriological Department of the Hadassah Medical Mission, he joined the staff of the Hebrew University. He was an expert on yellow fever and had been a member of malaria and yellow fever commission in Africa, Mexico, Peru and Palestine.

Under Dr. Kligler's leadership, his department at the Hebrew University co-operated with United States and Allied military authorities in the Middle East in combating epidemic diseases menacing Allied troops. In July, 1943, he was awarded the Golden Cross of Merit by the Polish Government-in-Exile for developing and testing on himself and his assistants an anti-typhus vaccine which saved the lives of Polish soldiers in Russia. Early this year he headed a mission sent from here by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee to Aden to provide medical aid for refugees from Yemen stranded there.

Dr. Kligler is survived by a wife and son who are residing presently in New York.