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BRIGADIER BENJAMIN NAMED COMMANDER OF JEWISH BRIGADE, BRITISH WAR OFFICE ANNOUNCES

LONDON, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- Brigadier E. F. Benjamin was today appointed commander of the Jewish Brigade which is now being formed, it was announced by the British War Office.

Brigadier Benjamin is a British Jew who is serving with the Royal Engineers. He is familiar with Palestine having visited the country.

LONDON ALARMED OVER FATE OF JEWS IN HUNGARY; STRICT ANTI-JEWISH ORDERS ISSUED IN BUDAPEST

LONDON, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- Jewish leaders here today expressed alarm concerning the fate of the 300,000 Jews remaining in Hungary, as the German radio announced that all Jews in Budapest have been ordered not to leave their homes, which is usually a prelude to a Gestapo round-up of Jews for deportation.

At the same time, the Budapest radio announced that the Szalasi Government, which the Germans have set up in Hungary, has issued an order cancelling all exemptions from wearing the yellow Mogen David granted by the previous regime to certain categories of Jews, including war veterans. The order emphasized that all Jews who discarded the yellow insignia, whether by exemption or arbitrarily, must immediately resume wearing it. "Jews who are caught without the yellow star will be arrested and interned," the order said.

Custodians of buildings from which the yellow Mogen David was removed must replace it immediately under penalty of internment, the order provides. The Budapest radio also broadcast an order-of-the-Day by Premier Ferenc Szalasi, who is also the new Regent of Hungary, stating that the present war is "a war of independence directed against Jewry," and indicating that the Jews in Hungary are considered enemies of the country.

Jewish Organizations Appeal to Pope to Prevent "Mass-Murder"

The Board of Deputies of British Jews is considering action in behalf of the threatened Jews. The World Jewish Congress office here has sent appeals to the Pope, to British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden who is now in Moscow, and to principal leaders of the United Nations asking for urgent measures to prevent "impending mass-murder of the remaining Jews in Hungary."

Count Michael Karolyi, former Premier of Hungary now in London, today expressed doubts whether the Jews in Hungary can be saved. "The only thing that can still save Jews from the Gestapo's last-minute massacre is a rapid advance of the Russian Army," he told representatives of the press. "A terrible butchery of Jews is now going on in Hungary, but I hope that even with their German thoroughness, the Nazis will not succeed in killing all the remaining 300,000 Jews."

ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT READY TO RE-INSTATE 20,000 DISMISSED JEWISH EMPLOYEES WITH BACK PAY

BUCHAREST, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- The Rumanian Government is ready to re-instate 20,000 Jewish employees who were dismissed from their jobs by the pro-Nazi regime, it was announced here today by Dr. William Filderman, president of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Rumania.

Dr. Filderman told the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the government has promised to pay the dismissed Jewish employees salary for the period since their dismissal.

The order issued by the Rumanian Government over the week-end calling up for military service all Jews in the classes of 1941-46 was received by Jewish leaders here with great satisfaction since it provides for the admission of Jews into the Rumanian Army for the first time since Rumania entered the war. Hitherto Jews were taken for forced labor only. The order stipulates that Jewish students are to serve in the army for one year. Others are to serve two years.

BULGARIAN JEWS APPEAL FOR ECONOMIC AID; JEWISH COOPERATIVES WILL BE REOPENED

SOFIA, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- An appeal to Jews in the democratic world to assist in the restoration of normal life for the Jews of Bulgaria was issued here today by the United Zionist Organization which represents all Zionist groups in the country. The appeal also asks the establishment of a settlement in Palestine for Bulgarian Jews.

The plea was issued following a three-day conference of all Zionist groups held in Sofia at which it was resolved that all parties in the Zionist movement, including the Hechalutz, should join the Fatherland Front which helped in the liberation of Bulgaria and of the Bulgarian Jews. In order to immortalize the thousands of Jews who were deported to Poland from Thrace and Macedonia, as well as the Jewish partisans who fell in the fight against the Germans, the conference decided to inscribe their names in the Golden Book of the Jewish National Fund.

At the same time, a mass-meeting of Jews took place in Sofia under the chairmanship of David Eroyan, president of the revived Jewish Consistory, at which speakers pledged cooperation with the present regime and emphasized the tasks which Bulgarian Jewry faces in restoring the liberated Jews to their pre-war status. It was announced at the meeting that Jewish cooperative banks will soon be reopened throughout the country.

ROME JEWS RAISE 500,000 LIRE TO REOPEN THEIR INSTITUTIONS; J.D.C. MATCHES FUND

ROME, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- Jews in Rome raised among themselves a fund of 500,000 lire which will be used to reopen the Jewish hospital, orphanage, day nursery and the elementary and high schools, it was announced here today.

Joseph Nathan, a banker who lived for twenty years in England, was chosen chairman of the fund. Dr. Dante Almansì, son of the former mayor of Rome, was elected honorary chairman. The Joint Distribution Committee has agreed to contribute an equal amount to that raised by the Jews of Rome for philanthropic and charitable purposes.

Funds granted by the J.D.C. and medical supplies from the Allied authorities made possible here the re-opening of Rome's Jewish maternity home which carried on work during the German occupation at great risk. The Vatican made a gift of food-stuffs to the institution.

CONVENTION OF ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OPPOSES PARTITION OF PALESTINE; CONDEMNS TERROR

ATLANTIC CITY, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- Condemnation of all schemes of partition and a demand that "the free Jewish Commonwealth of Palestine to be established shall embrace the whole of Palestine, undivided and undiminished," joined with a plea to Congress for an early adoption of the Palestine Resolution now before it, were voiced in a resolution adopted by the Zionist convention at its closing session here today.

Another resolution hailed "with profound appreciation the historic message of President Roosevelt to this convention endorsing the Democratic plank on Palestine, and supporting the establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth." A similar resolution hailed "the forthright declaration of endorsement by Governor Dewey of his party's platform calling for fulfillment of Jewish aspirations in Palestine."

Still another resolution condemned "the so called Hebrew Committee for National Liberation which has presumed to speak for the Jews in Palestine and the stateless Jews in Europe in the face of repudiation" by authorized Jewish bodies of Palestine and the United States.

Violence in Palestine was condemned in a resolution in which the terrorists were described as "a small band" not representative of the mass of Palestine Jews. The convention also hailed the establishment of a Jewish Brigade and urged its early enlargement.

Other resolutions expressed "deep satisfaction with the program of political action initiated and carried forward by the American Zionist Emergency Council during the past year under the distinguished direction of Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and their associates;" called for support of the American Jewish Conference; and greeted the veteran Zionist, Dr. Harry Friedenwald of Baltimore on the occasion of his eightieth birthday.

A final resolution urged the establishment of a colony in Palestine to be named for the Zionist Organization of America.

TRANSPORT OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES SENT BY JEWS OF SOUTH AFRICA AND PERU LEAVES FOR RUSSIA

JERUSALEM, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- A large consignment of ambulances, portable field hospitals, sterilizing equipment and other medical supplies, which are being sent to the Red Army by the Jews of South Africa and Peru, under the auspices of the "Palestine Victory League for Russia," arrived here today en route to Teheran.

Before leaving, the transport - which is the third to be sent to Russia - proceeded to the Russian Compound where it was inspected by John V. M. Shaw, Acting High Commissioner, who said that it was a testament to Jewish skill in industry, surpassing anything he had seen up to now. Shaw expressed his satisfaction that the Palestine Government had assisted the League in preparing these gifts for "the splendid Red Army." The transport will be accompanied to Teheran by M. Tarnopoler, general secretary of the League, who will turn it over to Russian authorities.

At a ceremony held earlier in the courtyard of the League's building, David Remez, general secretary of the Histadruth, and Isaac Ben-Zvi, president of the Jewish National Council, delivered brief addresses.

NO PLANS EXIST TO BRING MORE REFUGEES FROM EUROPE TO U.S., FEHLE ANNOUNCES

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- There are no plans under consideration to bring more refugees from Europe to the United States, John W. Fehle, executive director of the War Refugee Board, announced today at a press conference at which Ira Hirschmann, the Board's representative in the Middle East, reported on the situation of the Jews in liberated Bulgaria.

Mr. Fehle revealed that Hirschmann is not returning to his post in Turkey. "The big job that can be done there is over," he declared. He added, however, that the work of the War Refugee Board can not be considered finished, "while the situation in Hungary and Slovakia and German-occupied Poland and Germany remains as desperate as it is."

Mr. Hirschmann stated that Bulgaria's initial move to revoke the anti-Jewish laws was a direct result of pressure from the War Refugee Board exercised by him through Bulgarian diplomats in Turkey.

HUNT FOR PARACHUTISTS IN PALESTINE RESULTS IN "IMPORTANT ARRESTS," POLICE REPORT

JERUSALEM, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- Combined police and military operations in the Wadi Kelt area have resulted in "important arrests," a police communique said today. The police and troops went into action following a report last week that parachutists of "unknown nationality" had been dropped over the Jordan Valley. No further details were given in today's announcement.

For the first time since the outbreak of the war, military censorship has been relaxed to allow publication of a partial report on Palestine's industrial contribution to the war.

An article by Wilson Brown, Controller of Heavy Industry and Director of War Production, in the semi-official magazine "Palestine and the Middle East," says that Palestine produced 2,500,000 anti-tank mines, several million steel receptacles, large quantities of shells and many other war products.

BOARD OF DEPUTIES PROTESTS BRITISH ATTEMPT TO LINK ALL PALESTINE JEWS WITH TERROR

LONDON, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- The Board of Deputies of British Jews adopted a resolution today expressing "deep abhorrence at the acts of a terroristic, murderous character which have been carried out by a small number of Jews in Palestine," but stated that it is satisfied that the Jews of Palestine are doing everything in their power to assist the Palestine Administration to wipe out these crimes.

The executive committee of the Board issued a statement protesting any attempt to place the responsibility for these deeds on the Jewish population of Palestine or the Jewish people as a whole. Responsibility it stressed, must be placed on the relatively small body of extremists who perpetrated these acts.

4,000 JEWISH CHILDREN GASED AND CREMATED IN GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMP IN POLAND

LONDON, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- Four thousand Jewish children from the fortress prison of Terzin in Czechoslovakia were gassed and cremated in the Birkenau camp in Poland, the Polish Telegraphic Agency reports today, quoting an eye-witness account by a woman who spent seven months in the camp.

"What I've seen cannot be described," the woman wrote. "I saw 4,000 Jewish children from the Theresienstadt Ghetto in Czechoslovakia pass through our camp to be gassed. The gas just rendered them unconscious. The guards were ordered to use gas sparingly because it was expensive. The quantity used may kill the weaker ones but the stronger ones come to on the cart taking them to the crematory and are burnt alive."

LIBERTY SHIP NAMED AFTER MURRAY M. BLUM, JEWISH HERO, LAUNCHED IN GEORGIA

Brunswick, Ga. Oct. 17. (JTA) -- A Liberty Ship named after Lt. Murray M. Blum of New York was launched here today in the presence of his mother, in recognition of his heroism in the North Atlantic.

Blum, who served as chief radio operator on a similar vessel, was rescued from the waters of the Atlantic after his ship was torpedoed. But he jumped back when he heard a sailor shouting for help and was drowned. He was a graduate of the City College of New York and was the holder of several decorations.

ROOSEVELT ASKED TO PROVIDE TRANSPORT PLANES TO SEND FOOD TO JEWS IN POLAND

NEW YORK, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- The American Federation for Polish Jews has appealed to President Roosevelt for his help in providing transport planes to carry urgently needed food, medicines and medical instruments to the liberated areas of Poland where 20,000 Jewish survivors have been saved from Nazi persecution by the Soviet advance, it was announced here today.

The plight of the survivors is detailed in a cablegram received by Dr. Joseph Tenenbaum, president of the Federation, from Dr. Emil Sommerstein, head of the Jewish Relief Committee in Lublin and member of the Polish Committee for National Liberation. The cable reads, "Needed immediately, winter cloaks, warm clothes, linens, shoes and boots, evaporated milk, sugar products, vitamins and nutritive preparations, medications and medical instruments. Instruments for key-makers, joiners, tailors, shoe-makers. We lack everything.

Through the facilities of the Russian War Relief the Federation is now engaged in shipping emergency food packages for the surviving Jews in Poland by boat. "Such shipments," the appeal to President Roosevelt declares, "will require at least two months for delivery to surviving Polish Jews and we therefore appeal for your help in arranging that urgently needed quantities be forwarded by transport planes."

LAURA L. MARGOLIS, J.D.C. WORKER, ARRIVES IN SWEDEN TO SUPERVISE AID TO JEWISH REFUGEES

NEW YORK, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- Laura L. Margolis, J.D.C. overseas worker who served in Spain after her release from Japanese internment in Shanghai, has arrived in Sweden where she will direct J.D.C. activities on behalf of the thousands of Jewish refugees in that country, it was announced here today by the Joint Distribution Committee. Miss Margolis will work in cooperation with the Mossiska Foersamlingen, central Jewish agency of Sweden.

The Joint Distribution Committee provides supplementary assistance for some 6,000 Danish Jews in Sweden who fled to that country when the persecution of Jews in Denmark began. Complete support is also provided by the J.D.C. for several hundred stateless refugees who escaped from Finland and fled to safety in Sweden. The J.D.C. also maintains the Hachsharah or youth training program which provides vocational education for some 600 boys and girls, and provides funds for religious purposes and for Jewish education.

HADASSAH CHANGES CONVENTION TO CONFERENCE; CUTS DELEGATE ATTENDANCE FROM 1500 TO 500

NEW YORK, Oct. 17. (JTA) -- The thirtieth annual convention of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America being held in Cleveland, Ohio, November 13 through November 16, will take the form of a presidents' conference, and will be attended by a maximum of 500 instead of the usual 1500 delegates, in compliance with the request of the Office of Defense Transportation that national gatherings be kept down to a minimum, Mrs. Herman Shulman, convention chairman, announced here today.

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