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FRENCH GOVERNMENT PREPARES DECREE ON RETURN OF JEWISH PROPERTY PURCHASED BY FRENCHMEN

PARIS, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- A new decree which will clarify the question of the return to Jews of property acquired by non-Jews during the German occupation of France will be promulgated by the government within a few days, the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned here today.

Two decrees dealing with the restoration of Jewish property have already been issued by the government. They provide chiefly for the restoration of property which was under the control of government administrators. With regard to property of Jews purchased by Frenchmen during the occupation, efforts are being made by the purchasers to prevent its return. They are supported by the Catholic organ, "Temoignage Chretien", which published a special article urging the Jews "to be discreet and modest" and to be content with indemnities such as those paid to war victims, instead of insisting on the return of their businesses and property.

The French purchasers opposing the return of Jewish property are represented by a newly formed organization which is called the Association Nationale Intercooperative du Commerce, de l'Industrie et de l'Artisanat. The organization claims that it has 4,000 members most of whom are now in possession of Jewish stores. Actually, the office of this high-sounding body consists of nothing but a desk on the second floor of a dress house which formerly belonged to a Jew and was taken over by a Frenchman, who is now financing a campaign against "foreign" ownership of French business enterprises by Jews.

French Courts Appoint Temporary Administrators for Disputed Firms

The Association, which was formed only six weeks ago and was incorporated about three weeks ago, is headed by Simeon Charnul, owner of a furniture business which formerly belonged to a Jew. Occupants of Jewish apartments and operators of firms which formerly belonged to Jews come to Charnul for legal advice, and upon payment of a fee are aided. Charnul claims that his organization represents the non-Jewish purchasers before court referees wherever former Jewish owners contest the ownership of the enterprises. There have been cases where the referees named temporary administrators for the disputed businesses until legislation is promulgated settling the issue.

Meanwhile, the Association issued a manifesto in behalf of "war widows, wives of war-prisoners, escaped prisoners, war veterans and war evacuees," - who, according to Charnul, form the great majority of purchasers of Jewish business - containing anti-Jewish allegations and charging Jews in France with debasing the reputation of French goods "by Jewish methods" and with "profiting from the traditional hospitality of our country to increase the immigration of their coreligionists and exploit illegal residence."

POLISH CABINET VOTES \$140,000 FOR RELIEF FOR POLISH JEWS IN LIBERATED BELGIUM

LONDON, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- The Polish Government-in-exile today voted to allot \$140,000 for relief for Polish Jews in liberated Belgium. The vote was unanimous. The grant was recommended by Jan Stanszyk, Minister of Labor and Social Welfare,

JEWISH GROUPS IN BUCHAREST PROTEST AGAINST RELEASE OF TWO PRO-NAZI COLLABORATORS

BUCHAREST, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Jewish groups today launched a protest with the Rumanian Government against the release of two Jews who acted as officials of the organization established by the pro-Nazi regime in Rumania to sever as liaison agency between the Rumanian authorities and the Jewish population during the period when Rumania was deporting Jews to Transnistria and confiscating Jewish property.

The two, named Gingold and Grossman, were arrested on October 20 on the charge of collaborating with the pro-Nazi Antonescu regime and with the Germans. They were released yesterday despite strong protests by Jewish left-wing parties. The body which they headed was dissolved after the armistice, and the Federation of Jewish Communities, which existed until the Germans entered Rumania, was re-established under the leadership of Dr. William Filderman.

MOSCOW REPORTS SAGA OF FORTY VILNA JEWS WHO LIVED TEN MONTHS IN SEWERS

MOSCOW, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Moscow newspapers today report how forty emaciated, tubercular Jews spent ten months in the sewers of Vilna to escape execution by the Germans.

The group, led by Mikhail Spokoyny and his brother, both engineers, decided in September, 1943, when the Nazis began to liquidate the Vilna ghetto, that the only possibility of escaping death was to retreat to "fox holes" in the sewer system which had been prepared for temporary use during German man-hunts.

Through a man-hole within the ghetto precincts several hundred Jews descended into the sewers. Most of these kept on until they reached the outskirts of the city from whence they fled to join partisan bands. The Spokoyny group, which included several children, set up primitive house-keeping in a foxhole which had been equipped by them with electricity and running water. Food was supplied by a Polish superintendent of a building located above their hiding place. He also brought German newspapers for the adults and crayons and picture books for the children.

One day the superintendent notified them that their fox hole had been discovered and that they would have to flee. From then on, Spokoyny said, things grew undescribably difficult. They were out off from all light, water and food. But from reports obtained from their Polish friend of German activity in the city's streets, they realized that the Red Army must be approaching Vilna. They determined, therefore, to hold out as long as possible.

Crouched in the sewers they heard the noise of battle above them. At one point, Spokoyny advanced to a position where he could hear the voices of Russian soldiers, but he was unable to communicate with them. Finally, after four days of severe fighting, the Germans retreated and the sewer-dwellers emerged. As a result of inactivity, they could hardly walk. Their bodies were covered with sores. Their eyes were pained by the light, and all of them spat blood.

JEWS IN BULGARIA INVITED BY GOVERNMENT TO LODGE COMPLAINTS AGAINST ANTI-SEMITES

SOFIA, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Jews throughout the country who suffered from the anti-Jewish terror during the previous pro-Nazi regime, were urged today over the Sofia radio to register their complaints with the offices of the State Attorney. A special department to take evidence from persecuted Jews has been established, the broadcast advised.

ANGLO-JEWISH ASSOCIATION POSTPONES SUBMISSION OF PALESTINE MEMORANDUM TO GOVERNMENT

LONDON, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- The Anglo-Jewish Association, at its general meeting today, unanimously decided to postpone submitting to the government its memorandum on Palestine which has provoked strong Zionist opposition. The memorandum was referred back to a special commission which is to consider the details and the form of the document as well as when it is to be presented.

It was revealed at the meeting that leaders of the Association have consulted Dr. Weizmann regarding his views on the document. Anthony de Rothschild, who was one of the speakers, emphasized that "the main purpose of the memorandum was to be helpful." From a practical viewpoint, he said, the Anglo-Jewish Association considers that the memorandum could be more helpful than more far-reaching demands. Leonard Stein, president of the Association, pointed out that it is obvious that if the memorandum is accepted by the British Government it would replace the present White Paper policy and would thus cause jubilation among all Zionist groups.

The memorandum urges a "fresh start" for Palestine. It stresses the fact that the whole country benefited from the development of the Jewish National Home there. It also points out that Palestine made a worthy contribution to the Allied cause during the war, and can also make a major contribution to the welfare of the entire Middle East during peace time if given full facilities for immigration and for the use of the natural resources of the country.

Four-Points Program Outlines Demand for New Deal for Palestine

Expressing the hope that future British policy with regard to Palestine will provide maximum aid for the alleviation of Jewish distress, the memorandum of the Anglo-Jewish Association outlines the following four principles:

1. The government of Palestine should be conducted - with necessary administrative changes - for the further development of the Jewish National Home within an undivided Palestine; it should facilitate and expedite Jewish immigration and settlement; it should promote the utilization of the country's economic resources in order to create conditions conducive to the attainment of the status of a self-governing territory under a constitution designed to meet the special needs of the country within the British Commonwealth, or closely associated with it.

2. The government, in consultation with the Jewish Agency, should prepare plans now for the settlement in the shortest possible period, as soon as possible after the cessation of the hostilities in Europe, of as many Jews as desire, with the assistance of the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees and of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

3. The Palestine constitution shall provide that religion or race is not a criterion for Palestinian citizenship. No Palestine government shall have jurisdiction and authority over persons outside of Palestine who are not Palestinian citizens.

4. This policy should be carried out as an integral part of post-war settlement in the Middle East in conjunction with measures for further progress and prosperity of the Arab states. It will contribute generally to the peaceful development of the Middle East.

Board of Deputies Asks Establishment of Palestine as Jewish State

While the Anglo-Jewish Association carefully refrains from demanding the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish State, this demand is made by the Board of Deputies of British Jews in a declaration published today in the Zionist Review, official

organ of the Zionist movement in England. The declaration, which will be voted upon at a plenary session of the Board on Sunday, reads:

1. The Board of Deputies of British Jews looks to His Majesty's Government to secure that the United Nations, in laying down the policies governing the post-war settlement, declare that Palestine be designated to become, after an agreed period of transitional government, a Jewish State or Commonwealth. All Jews who wish to make their home in Palestine, shall have the right of entry, settlement and citizenship, in accordance with its laws, it being provided that nationality of the Jewish State or Commonwealth shall be confined to its own citizens, and shall not, in the terms of the Balfour Declaration, prejudice "the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

2. That, having regard to the traditional interest of the British people in the ideals and aspirations of the Jews in relation to Palestine and Great Britain's historic role in creating the Jewish National Home, the Board hopes that the Jewish State or Commonwealth may find an appropriate and legally secured place within the British Commonwealth of Nations.

3. That the Constitution of the Jewish State or Commonwealth shall guarantee the equality of rights of all citizens of Palestine irrespective of race, religion or language, and this equality shall be secured by international guarantee.

4. That, during the transitional period, before the full establishment of the Jewish State or Commonwealth, the Jewish Agency, recognized under the Mandate as the authorized representative of the Jewish people in relation to Palestine, be vested with authority to direct and regulate immigration into Palestine, to develop to the maximum the agricultural and industrial possibilities and the natural resources of the country and to utilize the uncultivated and unoccupied lands for Jewish colonization and for the benefit of the country as a whole.

That within the general scheme of post-war reconstruction the United Nations should take into account the need of Jewish reconstruction and, upon the cessation of hostilities and the liberation of the European territories, provide facilities for the speedy transfer to Palestine of the Jewish survivors of Nazi persecution who may wish to settle in Palestine, and grant, for this purpose, appropriate financial and other resources as part of the general scheme of post-war reconstruction.

6. That the rights of the respective religious authorities with regard to the Holy Places shall be internationally guaranteed.

#### EISENHOWER SAYS ALLIES WILL CONTINUE WARNINGS TO GERMANS OF PUNISHMENT FOR ATROCITIES

NEW YORK, Nov. 3. (JTA) -- Allied military headquarters will continue to issue warnings to the Germans of punishment for atrocities against civilians in occupied territory, "as the situation warrants," Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, states in a cable released today by the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish people of Europe.

Replying to an appeal by the committee that action be taken to save Jews and others in Nazi concentration camps who are menaced by annihilation, Gen. Eisenhower cabled: "The conditions described in your message are well known to me. German authorities have been repeatedly and explicitly warned by radio and leaflets against committing atrocities on prisoners or civilian deportees and told that the guilty would be brought to justice. Further warnings will be issued as the situation warrants."

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