

CHURCHILL SAYS FUTURE OF ZIONISM MENACED BY TERRORISTS; URGES JEWS TO CRUSH OUTLAWS

LONDON, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- The future of Zionism is menaced by the activities of Jewish terrorists, Prime Minister Churchill said today in Commons, in a warning to the Jews of Palestine to crush the Stern Gang.

"If there is to be any hope for a peaceful and successful future for Zionism, these wicked activities must cease, the Prime Minister declared. He stated that chief responsibility for curbing the terrorists rests with the Palestine police, but emphasized that full success depends on the wholehearted cooperation of the entire Jewish community. "This, His Majesty's Government is entitled to demand and receive," he added.

Quoting a letter sent to him by Dr. Chaim Weizmann and the statement issued by the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Jerusalem, Churchill said "these are strong words, but we must wait for those words to be translated into deeds. Every man, woman and child of the Jewish community must do his or her best to bring this terrorism to an end."

Describing the assassination of Lord Moyne, British Resident Minister of State in the Middle East, by two Palestine Jews as "a shameful crime which has shocked the world," Mr. Churchill said that "it has affected none more strongly than those like myself who in the past have been the consistent friends of the Jews and constant architect of their future."

Says He Will Have to Reconsider Stand on Zionism if Terror Continues

"If our dreams for Zionism are to end in the smoke of the assassin's pistol and our labors for its future produce only a new set of gangsters worthy of Nazi Germany," he continued, "many like myself will have to reconsider the position we have maintained so consistently and so long in the past."

Questioned by Will Thorne, Labor, who asked whether the assassins of Lord Moyne will be tried by a court-martial or a civil court, and demanded assurance "against a Spanish Inquisition," Churchill replied that he had no doubt that the proceedings would be conducted correctly in Egypt. If the men are proved to be deserters from the Palestine forces, he said, they will be handed over to a British military court.

Referring to the 251 terrorist suspects who were deported from Palestine to a camp in British Eritrea last month, the Prime Minister said that their presence in Palestine would have resulted in increased insecurity in view of the possibility that a large-scale attempt to rescue them might have been made.

Following the Prime Minister's statement, Daniel Lipson, Labor, told Commons that every Jew worthy of the name will wholeheartedly support his stand and will pray that efforts to eradicate "this murderous gang" are speedily, and completely, successful.

11/17/44

REPRESENTATIVES OF LIBERATED JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN POLAND MEET, ELECT JEWISH COMMITTEE

MOSCOW, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- The first meeting of representatives of Jewish communities in liberated Poland was held this week, it was revealed today with the announcement that the delegates voted to establish a "National Committee of Polish Jews," which will be headed by Dr. Emil Sommerstein, prominent Jewish leader and a member of the Polish Committee of National Liberation. The delegates were chosen by Jewish district councils in the freed area.

A statement issued by the new committee says that Polish Jews are taking an active part in the struggle against the Germans, for a free, democratic Poland. It stresses that Jews enjoy full equality and that the committee will devote itself to caring for orphaned Jewish children and reviving Jewish art and culture.

The group has been received by President Boleslaw Bierut and Chairman Edward B. Osulka-Morawski of the Polish National Council, both of whom expressed their sympathy with the sufferings of the Jewish population and pledged all possible assistance to the work of the Jewish committee.

NEW RUMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SAYS MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN TO SOLVE JEWISH PROBLEM

BUCHAREST, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- The new Rumanian Government will do everything possible to solve the Jewish problem created by the Antonescu regime, Foreign Minister Constantin Visoianu said today in an exclusive interview with a Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent.

"The Jewish problem, in my opinion, does not and should not exist in Rumania," Mr. Visoianu stated. "Jews should have equal status with all other citizens. Everything that the Antonescu regime destroyed in this respect, we shall soon remedy." A decree will be promulgated restoring full rights to Jews, which "will give thorough satisfaction," he said.

Jews can be very helpful in rebuilding Rumania's ruined economy and, therefore, the government is not interested in promoting their emigration, the foreign minister said. He added, however, that no obstacles would be placed in the path of Jews desiring to go to Palestine since "the government agrees on the necessity for the establishment of a Jewish state there."

PRO-NAZI SLOVAKS DESTROYED AIRPLANES ASSIGNED TO EVACUATE JEWISH PARTISANS, GERMANS SAY

ZURICH, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Fifty airplanes which were to have been used to evacuate Jews from the Banka-Bystrica region in Slovakia where the partisans are operating were destroyed by pro-German Slovaks, the Nazi-controlled Bratislava radio reports.

The puppet broadcaster alleged that the Jews are stranded in mountainous country, inside dense forests, from which it will be impossible for them to escape. He said that snow has already fallen in these regions and that the Jews cannot hold out much longer.

The Sofia radio today broadcast a statement by a Free Hungarian Committee in Bulgaria pledging that the re-establishment of Jewish rights will be one of the first measures taken after the Germans are driven from the country. Those guilty of anti-Jewish acts will be punished, the statement said, but it expressed the belief that most Hungarians are opposed to the anti-Jewish policy of the present Nazi-dominated regime.

11/19/44

REJECTION OF JEWISH SETTLEMENT IN KIMBERLY ANNOUNCED BY AUSTRALIAN PREMIER

SYDNEY, Australia, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Acting Premier Francis M. Forde announced today that the Australian Government has rejected the proposal to set aside a large tract in Kimberly, in western Australia, for the post-war settlement of refugee Jews.

(Informed of the announcement by Acting Premier Forde, Dr. I. N. Steinberg, head of the Freeland League for Jewish Territorial Colonization, and the "father" of the plan for a Jewish settlement in Kimberly, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he did not believe that this was a final decision.

(In a statement given by telephone from Montreal, Dr. Steinberg said that he had not been informed of any action by the Australian Government, although he knew that the Kimberly project was under consideration. He added that from the information available at present, it was difficult to ascertain whether the whole idea of Jewish colonization in Kimberly had been rejected, or only the settlement plan as now formulated.)

LEON BLUM IN GERMANY WITH WIFE, UNDER HOUSE ARREST, PARIS KIN REVEALS

PARIS, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Former Premier Leon Blum is living with his wife under house arrest in a tiny village in a woods somewhere in Germany, his daughter-in-law, Rene Blum, revealed here today. Contact with him, she said, had been maintained through his son, Robert, a prisoner in Germany, to whom he wrote letters and who relayed news of him up to September 30. He was permitted to write twice a month.

Blum said his health was excellent, but his family is worried because they have been unable recently to send their usual bi-monthly food packages. They have tried to send the packages through Switzerland, but the Swiss insist that they be furnished with his address, which obviously is not known. Despite his need for food, Blum used much of his package permit for books, requesting Cicero in Latin, Plato in Greek and John Steinbeck's "In Dubious Battle."

In his letters, Mme. Blum revealed, the former Popular Front leader advocated a United States of Europe and a powerful League of Nations. He told of having written a book, "Echelle Humaine" (The Ladder of Humanity) while imprisoned at Ft. Bourassol, near the Franco-German border. The book, in which he outlines his ideas, will shortly be published here.

Former Interior Minister Georges Mandel was imprisoned with the Blums until last July, when the Nazis sent him to France where he was killed by the Vichy militia. Until 1943, they had been imprisoned at Ft. Bourassol together with former Premier Edouard Daladier, Gen. Maurice Gamelin and other former French leaders.

PROPERTY OF MURDERED POLISH JEWS MUST BE USED TO AID SURVIVORS, SAYS JEWISH DEPUTY

LONDON, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- A demand that property belonging to murdered Polish Jews who left no heirs be used only for the rehabilitation of those Jews who survive has been presented to Premier Mikolajczyk of the Polish Government-in-Exile by Emanuel Scherer, Jewish Socialist deputy in the Polish National Council.

During a conversation with Mikolajczyk, Scherer also urged that the government guarantee full economic rights to Jews in post-war Poland, and that it support his proposal that anti-Semitism be made a criminal offense under Polish law. Mikolajczyk is reported to have promised support of some of the demands.

INCREASE IN PALESTINE TEXTILE PRODUCTION NOTED IN U. S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE REPORT

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Industrialization in the Jewish section of Palestine has progressed rapidly during the past several years with production of textiles and clothing contributing largely to the development, the U. S. Department of Commerce pointed out today.

Production of textiles increased in value from \$1,460,000 in 1937 to \$14,840,000 in 1943, and the number of workers in the industry increased from 1,610 to 5,700. The value of production in the clothing industry increased from \$1,088,000 to \$7,600,000 during the same period, while the number of workers increased from 1,270 to 3,020.

Lehman Lauds Work of Palestine Economic Corporation

NEW YORK, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Former Gov. Lehman, director-general of UNRRA, today praised the Palestine Economic Corp. for its development of Palestine and predicted that even after the end of "the Nazi curse" it would be the only refuge for thousands of persecuted European Jews.

"The development of Palestine and the progress made by the settlers and pioneers over the past quarter of a century has been almost unique in modern history," Lehman said in a letter to Bernard Flexner, recently elected chairman emeritus of the PEC board. "During the past several years, particularly, it has served as a haven for many thousands of refugees who had no other place to which they could go. Even now, when the Nazi curse is rapidly coming to an end, Palestine will still offer the only refuge for many thousands of our persecuted co-religionists."

NEW B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH COMMISSION CREATES NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- A four-part national B'nai B'rith Youth Organization for Jewish boys and girls of high school age, for Jewish young men over high school age and under 21, and for Jewish young women over high school age and under 25 was launched by B'nai B'rith at the first meeting of the newly-organized B'nai B'rith Youth Commission.

The four groups within the framework of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization are the Aleph Zadik Aleph, for Jewish boys in high school or of high school age; B'nai B'rith Girls for Jewish girls in high school or of high school age; the B'nai B'rith Young Men for Jewish boys above high school age and under 21; and the B'nai B'rith Young Women for Jewish young women above high school age and under 25. The B'nai B'rith Youth Commission was created by B'nai B'rith to govern the activities of the entire B'nai B'rith youth movement.

ORTHODOX SYNAGOGUES OUTLINE AID FOR RETURNING SERVICE MEN

NEW YORK, Nov. 17. (JTA) -- Returning service men will be given free membership in orthodox Jewish synagogues and will receive free employment aid and other assistance on a non-sectarian basis, according to a resolution unanimously adopted by the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America at its first quarterly meeting of the current season. The resolution was introduced by William B. Herlands, former New York City Commissioner of Investigation and a Vice-President of the organization, which represents the orthodox synagogues throughout the United States.