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### ROMANIAN CABINET ORDERS THE RETURN OF FUNDS CONFISCATED FROM JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

LONDON, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- The Rumanian Cabinet has voted to return to Jewish organizations the funds confiscated from them under the previous regime, it was announced today over the Bucharest radio. The broadcast estimated that the organizations concerned will receive 67,000,000 lei, which is \$465,000 at the pre-war rate of exchange.

The broadcast also reported that a government commission, under the chairmanship of Minister of Justice Lucretiu Patrascanu, has submitted to the cabinet the final draft of a decree abrogating the racial laws in Rumania. The decree is to apply equally to employees, property-owners and tenants who suffered from the anti-Jewish laws issued by the previous regime, the announcement said.

### ROMANIA AND HUNGARY DIFFER ON FATE OF TRANSYLVANIAN JEWS; EXCHANGE NOTES VIA RED CROSS

BUCHAREST, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- The Rumanian Government today made public the text of a reply received from the pro-Nazi government of Hungary to its request, sent through the International Red Cross, asking that a special commission be permitted to investigate the situation of 150,000 Jews reported to have been deported by Hungary from the part of Transylvania annexed from Rumania. The request, sent two months ago, indicated that Rumania would take reprisals against Hungarians living on Rumanian soil should the Hungarian Government fail to give a satisfactory answer.

The answer of the Hungarian Government, transmitted through the Red Cross, and received here today by the Rumanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reads: "Transylvanian Jews have not been deported, but have been sent to work in auxiliary services. The Government of Hungary asked the International Red Cross to send a commission composed of Rumanian and Hungarian representatives to investigate the situation. The Hungarian Government considers the request of the Rumanian Government a pretext to justify persecution of Hungarians in the Rumanian-held part of Transylvania. The Hungarian Government thinks it strange that Rumania should display an interest only now in the situation of the Transylvanian Jews."

In a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Dr. Ernest Marton, chief of the department established by the Rumanian Government to deal with Jewish affairs in North Transylvania, declared that reliable reports in the hands of the Rumanian Government establish the fact that of the 150,000 Jews who lived in northern Transylvania about 120,000 men and women of all ages were deported to Poland and Germany during the months of May and June. The remaining Jews were sent to forced labor and are being treated as war prisoners.

"The reply of the Hungarian Government, thus, does not coincide with the facts gathered by us and substantiated by many eye-witnesses," Dr. Marton said. "We have testimony from eye-witnesses who, arriving from Poland, stated that Transylvanian Jews under the age of 15 and over the age of 65, including invalids and sick, were murdered in the gas chambers of Oswiecim."

ZIONIST LEADERS EXPECT FURTHER CLARIFICATION FROM STATE DEPARTMENT ON PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Further clarification by the State Department of its attitude towards the Palestine Resolution, action on which was deferred yesterday by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, is expected by Zionist leaders, it was announced here today by the Zionist Emergency Council which represents all major Zionist groups in this country.

The announcement said that the Council has in the meantime "reserved comment on the statement issued by the State Department." The Council's announcement recalls the statement on Palestine issued by President Roosevelt on Oct. 15th. Also that the 1944 platforms of both the Republican and Democratic parties included planks endorsing the re-establishment of Palestine as a free and democratic Jewish Commonwealth. "On November 30, 1944," the Council also pointed out, "the House Foreign Affairs Committee favorably reported to the House of Representatives a resolution identical with the one which has now been deferred in the Senate."

BRITISH LABOR PARTY WANTS JEWISH MAJORITY IN PALESTINE; ALSO TRANSFER OF ARABS

LONDON, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- A statement of policy advocating a Jewish majority in Palestine and a voluntary transfer of Arabs to neighboring countries, as well as the extension of the present boundaries of Palestine through negotiations with Syria, Transjordan and Egypt, was adopted here today by the convention of the British Labor Party.

This policy will be the official stand of the Labor Party on the Palestine issue. All other resolutions with regard to Palestine which were submitted to the convention have been shelved by the adoption of today's statement. No further debate on Palestine will take place at the convention.

The statement of policy was adopted following a report of the executive committee presented by Prof. Harold Laski. The report contained a section on Palestine declaring that there is no meaning to the Jewish National Home unless Jews are allowed to enter Palestine in such numbers as to become the majority there.

"There was a strong case for this before the outbreak of the war, and there is an irresistible case now after the unspeakable atrocities of the cold and calculated Nazi plan to kill all Jews in Europe," the report said. It urged the British Labor Party to seek the support of the American and Russian governments for the policy on Palestine recommended by the executive.

DELEGATION OF JEWISH CHILDREN SUBMITS PETITION TO WHITE HOUSE ASKING RESCUE OF JEWS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Forty Jewish school children from New York called at the White House and the Capitol today to "beg of our President, our Congress, and our fellow citizens to help us, in line with the glorious American tradition of carrying freedom to all the oppressed, in the salvation of our defenseless brethren and their rehabilitation as a free and independent people."

The youngsters, ranging in age from 10 to 14, presented a petition signed by more than 40,000 Jewish children of America first to Vice-President Henry A. Wallace at the Capitol, and then to Jonathan Daniels, acting in behalf of President Roosevelt, at the White House.

### AUSTRALIAN JEWISH LEADERS OBJECTED TO SETTLEMENT OF JEWS IN KIMBERLY, MINISTER SAYS

CANBERRA, Australia, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- There is little likelihood of the Australian Government acceding to the request of the Australasian Trade Union Council that it reverse its rejection of the plan to establish a Jewish settlement in the Kimberly section of north-western Australia, Minister of the Interior Senator J. S. Collings said today.

"The scheme has been investigated and turned down for the obvious reason that the Government is opposed to large groups of foreign nationals being established in any one place," Sen. Collings declared. "In addition, the most important and influential section of the Jewish community is itself opposed to any such scheme."

Deputy John McGwen, a former Minister of the Interior, also voiced opposition to the Kimberly project today. Establishment of such a colony, he said, would ultimately mean that it would have its own parliamentary representative. "More than once," he added, "great decisions have been made by the vote of one independent member. If for no other reason I oppose the Jewish settlement."

### PALESTINE CITRUS GROWERS URGE BRITAIN TO BUY CROP TO PREVENT CATASTROPHE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- A shipment of 100,000 cases of Palestine oranges and grapefruit is en route to England, the largest consignment ever shipped there, it was announced today. The fruit, which is expected to arrive in time for Christmas, is part of an order for 1,500,000 cases placed by the British Government. It represents twenty to twenty-five percent of the total current crop.

Meanwhile, representatives of the fruit growers told a press conference that unless the British Government agrees to purchase 7,000,000 cases of this year's crop, the citrus industry faces catastrophe. Joseph Saphire, mayor of Petach Tikvah and an official of the Jewish Farmers Association, pointed out that one-third of the Jewish population depends in whole or part for their livelihood on the citrus orchards, which represent a capital investment of more than \$80,000,000.

Most of the 12,000 groves have been able to continue during the war years because of government-guaranteed loans made by private banks, Saphire said, but the only real solution to the industry's difficulties is action by the British. He pointed out that if Britain could find shipping to carry apples from Australia, dates from Iraq and cotton from Egypt, it could provide bottoms to carry Palestinian oranges, grapefruits and lemons -- "unless there is a political reason behind its refusal to buy."

### BIRO-BIDJAN ADMINISTRATION ALLOCATES TWO MILLION ROUBLES FOR JEWISH THEATRE

MOSCOW, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- The administration of the Jewish autonomous region in Biro-Bidjan has allocated two million roubles for a new building for the Jewish theatre there, it was reported here today.

The report also discloses that 41 doctors were graduated from the Biro-Bidjan medical school this year, bringing to 200 the total number of graduates of the institution. Many of these physicians are now serving with Red Army front-line units.

### GOVERNMENT WILL ERECT MONUMENT TO 6,500 YUGOSLAV JEWS KILLED IN GERMAN CAMP

LONDON, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- A monument will be erected by the Yugoslav Government in the town of Zemun, west of Belgrade, to the 6,500 Jews and the thousands of other Yugoslavs who died in a concentration camp the Germans established on the Zemun fair grounds, Yugoslav circles here report today.

958 JEWS FROM RUMANIA ARRIVE IN PALESTINE; INCLUDE SEVERAL HUNDRED ORPHANS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- A transport of 958 Jews arrived in Palestine yesterday aboard the S.S. Taurus from the Rumanian port of Constanza. Dr. Weizmann and other members of the Jewish Agency left here for the Atlit internment camp where the refugees will be held pending clearance by the authorities.

The transport consists of 391 men, 145 women, 236 boys and 178 girls. Nearly all of the children are orphans whose parents died while interned in Transnistria, the one-time Rumanian-held section of the Soviet Ukraine, to where about 75,000 Rumanian Jews were deported.

ANTI-SEMITISM MENACES LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES, LABOR CONVENTION WARNED

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Anti-Semitism presents a danger to all the countries of Latin-America, Vicente Lombardo-Toledano, president of the Latin-American Federation of Labor, declared at the opening session of the organization's convention in Cali, Colombia, on Sunday, according to information received here. He pointed out that anti-Semitism was used by all reactionary forces to promote national disintegration.

Prior to leaving here from Cali, Mr. Lombardo-Toledano told a Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent that the convention would consider steps to out-root anti-Semitism from Latin America and would, probably, express itself in favor of a Jewish state in Palestine. The labor leader said that personally he favored the establishment of such a state.

BARUCH LAUDS JEWISH PHILANTHROPY; FEDERATION ATTEMPTS TO RAISE \$1,000,000 IN ONE DAY

NEW YORK, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- Speaking before 1,500 Jewish volunteer fund-raisers, the vanguard of an army of 10,000 men and women, who attended a "million dollar breakfast" this morning at the Hotel Astor, launching an effort to raise \$1,000,000 before nightfall through personal solicitation for the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, Bernard M. Baruch, noted philanthropist, emphasized that "the Jew has always tried to take care of his own" and that this characteristic has always been "a proud badge" of the members of the Jewish faith.

The "million dollar breakfast" was part of the Federation Day proclaimed for today by Mayor LaGuardia of New York. In a proclamation the mayor called the attention of the people of the City of New York "to the worthy work of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies in helping to meet today's welfare responsibilities while, at the same time, preparing for post-war strains and emergencies." The breakfast was addressed, in addition to Mr. Baruch, by Benjamin Lazarus, chairman of the "Federation Day," Judge Jonah Goldstein and Samuel Schneidersson.

PLAQUE HONORING JEWISH CHAPLAINS IN U.S. ARMED FORCES DEDICATED BY J.W.B.

NEW YORK, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- A plaque dedicated to the 280 rabbis serving with the United States armed forces was dedicated here yesterday at the headquarters of the National Jewish Welfare Board. Six of the names are in goldleaf, in honor of chaplains who died while in service.

The chaplains who died in service are Alexander Goode, of Brooklyn, who has just been posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for surrendering his lifebelt to a soldier on a sinking transport; Irving Tepper of Chicago; Louis Werfel of New York; Henry Goode of Philadelphia; Samuel D. Hurwitz of Fort Wayne, Indiana; and Herman L. Rosen of Brooklyn.