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### Jews in Rumania Resume Control Over Their Confiscated Property; New Decree Enforced

BUCHAREST, Jan. 1. (JTA) -- The Director of the Office to Liquidate the National Center for Rumanisation today announced that tenants or lease-holders of confiscated Jewish property must settle all matters concerning such property with the original owners. The announcement pointed out that on the basis of the cabinet decree issued December 19, returning expropriated Jewish property, supervision of Jewish-owned buildings has been transferred from the government to the owners.

A military court here has begun the trial of two members of the anti-Semitic Ironguard organization charged with "inciting hatred of persons of the Jewish religion." The prosecution was ordered by Minister of Justice Iureanu Patrescu.

### France Starts Action to Dissolve Groups Fighting Return of Property to Jews

PARIS, Jan. 1. (JTA) -- Acting on the decision of the French Cabinet to dissolve the two organizations which have been conducting propaganda to prevent the return to Jews of property seized under Vichy laws, which was announced Friday, the Attorney General today opened an investigation into the activities of the directors of the two groups, while the State Prosecutor began a civil action for the immediate dissolution of the organizations.

The case will be argued in a civil court here on January 10. The organizations affected are the National Inter-Corporative Association of Commerce, Industry and Artisanry, which is composed of purchasers of Jewish businesses under Vichy, and the Association of Administrators of France, composed of men appointed to manage seized Jewish enterprises by the Vichy commissariat of Jewish Affairs.

### JTA Correspondent Visits "Death Camp" in Yugoslavia Where Germans Massacred 16,000 Jews

SOFIA, Jan. 1. (JTA) -- The Government radio station today broadcast a report by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent, Welwel Pomerance, on "Jewish death camps" in Yugoslavia, built by the Germans in the village of Yanki, eight miles from Belgrade, from which Pomerance has just returned.

The correspondent was taken by the Yugoslav authorities to a large fenced yard which was used before the war by the Yugoslav Army to train snipers. The Germans converted it into a center for the execution of Jews. The Jews were brought to the yard in closed vans called "Maritzar" by the local people. They were then ordered to take off their clothes and to dig ditches while naked. When the ditches were dug, the Jews were forced into them and were machine-gunned by soldiers of the notorious German Prince Eugen Division.

More than 16,000 Yugoslav Jews were slaughtered in this way at the Yanki "extermination camp," the JTA correspondent established. He spoke to some of the surviving Jews in Belgrade who expressed thanks for food parcels sent to them from Palestine. A delegation of the reconstituted Jewish community in Belgrade is planning to proceed to Sofia in order to establish contact between the surviving Jews in Yugoslavia and those of Bulgaria.

DR. SILVER TAKES ISSUE WITH DR. WISE; CHARGES HIM WITH RESENTING NEW LEADERSHIP

CLEVELAND, Jan. 1. (JTA) -- Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, who resigned last week from leadership of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today took issue with a statement issued by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, last Tuesday, in which it was charged that Dr. Silver "had deliberately and persistently contravened the decisions of the Council in a matter of supreme importance to the lasting hurt of our sacred cause."

Dr. Silver's statement reads:

"The statement of Dr. Stephen S. Wise, which appeared in the JTA Bulletin of Wednesday, December 27, explaining his so-called resignation amused me greatly. No officer of the American Zionist Emergency Council has so frequently and so flagrantly contravened its decisions as Dr. Wise. The minutes of the Council will show that Dr. Wise was time and again criticized for his unauthorized conduct and undisciplined actions. The worst and most recent instance was the fatal telegram which he dispatched without my knowledge to the Secretary of State on the very eve when Senator Wagner and I were scheduled to see him in order to persuade the State Department and the President to withdraw their objections to passage of the Palestine Resolution.

"In this telegram, which Dr. Wise sent on his own without consulting the Council, he stated that while he would be happy if approval were given to the Resolution, he and many of his associates do not wish to have action taken contrary to the recommendation of the State Department and the President. This, of course, completely nullified the whole purpose of our visit and more than any other factor was responsible for the shelving of the Palestine Resolution.

"All too often Dr. Wise treated the Zionist movement of the United States as a piece of personal property and has bitterly resented any new leadership which threatened his monopoly. His 'shtadlanuth' in Washington has been an egregious failure for many years, and not only as far as Zionism is concerned. This weak-knee 'shadlanuth' policy has accomplished next to nothing for our people during these tragic years of slaughter and annihilation."

Dr. Wise Says He Has No Personal Controversy With Dr. Silver

NEW YORK, Jan. 1. (JTA) -- Asked to comment on Dr. Silver's statement, Dr. Wise declared:

"As regards Dr. Silver's attack upon me, I have had and I shall have no personal controversy with him. The Zionist Emergency Council has passed judgment upon the issue involved by acceptance of Dr. Silver's resignation."

Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Zionist Organization of America, issued a statement today disclosing that the Zionist Emergency Council had decided unanimously not to press for passage of the Palestine Resolutions by the Committees of the House and the Senate of the Congress of the United States "unless and until the preliminary approval of the Executive branch of the Government would have been secured."

Such approval, Dr. Goldstein stated, was not received, nevertheless Dr. Silver went to Washington and "without the knowledge or consent of the Emergency Council, personally interviewed Representatives and Senators, especially those in key positions, to urge them to put the Resolutions through as quickly as possible," the ZOA president charges.

Another charge made by Dr. Goldstein is that Dr. Silver sent a formal written inquiry to the Secretary of State to check on the veracity of a report given by Dr. Nahum Goldmann to the Zionist Emergency Council on "certain important statements" made verbally by the Secretary of State during a visit to him by Dr. Wise and Dr. Goldmann,

POLISH JEWISH LEADERS PUZZLED OVER DROPPING OF SOMMERSTEIN BY LUBLIN GOVERNMENT

LONDON, Jan. 1. (JTA) -- Polish Jewish leaders here expressed puzzlement today over the fact that Dr. Emil Sommerstein, Jewish member of the Polish Liberation Committee in Lublin, is not included in the new Provisional Government established there yesterday, composed of members of the Liberation Committee.

It was pointed out that members of the Committee who were less important than Dr. Sommerstein were given portfolios in the Government. This was interpreted to mean that Dr. Sommerstein was dropped because of his Zionism.

The Central Committee of Polish Jews in Lublin is making arrangements to establish homes for Jewish war-orphans in Otwock, Lublin, Bialystok and Przemysl, it was learned here today. The institutions will also house child survivors from the Maidanek extermination camp.

TWO MORE JEWS KIDNAPPED IN PALESTINE; KIDNAPPERS POSE AS BRITISH POLICEMEN

JERUSALEM, Jan. 1. (JTA) -- Two members of the Revisionist Organization were kidnapped over the week-end by armed men who invaded their homes. The abductions brought to seven the number of persons kidnapped in recent weeks.

The first kidnapping occurred Saturday afternoon, when Daniel Janowsky, an employee of the Jerusalem Jewish Community Council, and an active member of the Revisionist Organization, was taken from his home by three men, two of whom were disguised as British policemen.

The second victim was Mordechai Korngold, 17, a member of the Revisionist Orthodox Youth Organization. Young Korngold was forced from his home by a group of three men, all of whom were dressed as British policemen.

250,000 NEW YORK JEWISH MEN AND WOMEN SERVE IN U.S. ARMED FORCES, MEDALIE REVEALS

NEW YORK, Jan. 1. (JTA) -- More than 250,000 Jewish men and women from New York City are serving in the U. S. armed forces, it was revealed today by George Z. Medalie, president of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, in connection with a conference called by the Committee for Coordinating Jewish Community Services for Veterans which is to be held here on January 11, with several thousand representatives of New York Jewish groups and organizations in attendance.

Federation funds and agencies will be placed at the disposal of the committee, Mr. Medalie said. The committee, which is also sponsored by the National Jewish Welfare Board, is preparing to facilitate matters surrounding the demobilization of Jewish veterans in four major ways, Mr. Medalie revealed. These will be vocational counseling and a job-finding campaign; adaption of family and case work services to fit the needs of veterans and to speed their readjustment to civilian life; stimulation of the extension of social outlets for veterans through neighborhood community centers; "setting up a physicians' panel through hospitals affiliated with the federation." The committee plans also to supplement "what is provided through the Veterans Administration, Selective Service and the War Manpower Commission."

THOUSANDS OF JEWS TORTURED TO DEATH BY GERMAN "SCIENTISTS" IN ALSACE CAMP

NEW YORK, Jan. 1. (JTA) -- The New York Herald-Tribune today reports from Paris that a French investigation commission has published a report stating that 20,000 persons, most of them Jews, were tortured to death at the Struthof camp in Alsace, in the course of "experiments" by German scientists who used the internees as guinea pigs for tests of poison gas and anti-plague and leprosy vaccines.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE APPEALS TO ROOSEVELT TO CONTINUE RESCUE OF JEWS IN EUROPE

NEW YORK, Jan. 1. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Conference today announced that it has appealed to President Roosevelt to extend the term of the War Refugee Board so that the work of rescuing Jews from occupied European territories may continue.

At the same time, the Conference announced that it has received reports which make it clear that "war conditions notwithstanding, there is still a good possibility of saving tens of thousands of Jewish lives now in Nazi-occupied territory," if appropriate measures are taken without delay by Jews in this country, with the support of the Allied governments.

"Figures on the exact number of Jews who survived in Europe vary, but it appears that with the exception of the Soviet Union, over 1,200,000 Jews still live in Europe, of whom about fifty percent are under Nazi domination," the announcement said, enumerating the following ways and means of rescuing the Jews in Axis-controlled areas:

"1. Some can be saved by arranging an exchange of Jews detained in concentration camps, for German civilian prisoners in the hands of the Allied powers. Thus far, very little has been done to exploit this avenue of rescue.

"2. Neutral powers could issue protective passports to Jews in Axis countries. Sweden has promised to grant some 10,000 protective passports and, in fact, has already issued 6,000. Much more could be done if the Allied powers intervened with the neutral states and encouraged them to give similar protection to Jewish victims.

"3. There are today many Jewish refugees in Palestine, allied and neutral countries, whose wives and children are still in Nazi-occupied countries. The intervention of the protecting powers could bring about the evacuation of their families from the danger zones, and their transportation to the countries where their heads reside. An attempt in this direction was made on behalf of Jewish refugees who settled in Palestine but the powers in charge, while promising aid, have done nothing for them, and in the meantime many of the families who could have been saved have perished.

"4. The underground movements could be aided in the rescue of families and groups. In many cases the underground movements have brought women and children across guarded frontiers.

"5. The International Red Cross, the League of Red Cross Societies and the American Red Cross could, by extending their protection to Jewish internees, save thousands of families from death. For reasons that can scarcely be considered valid, in matters of life and death, the Red Cross organizations do little to protest and feed Jewish internees. When it was done, as in the case of Hungary, many lives were saved.

"6. Food and clothing should be rushed at once to Jews detained in concentration and labor camps. It is an undeniable fact that millions of dollars and thousands of tons of food were sent to the Axis countries for civilian prisoners and non-Jews, with the consent of the Allied powers. But none of these measures was applied to Jews under Hitler's domination. Whether or not the Jews in concentration and labor camps can be transported to safer zones, their clothing and feeding is of paramount and immediate importance."

"There are many other possibilities of rescuing Jewish lives, but the prevailing erroneous impression that 'nothing can be done any more' or that the 'battle of rescue was lost,' which results in the inactivity and lack of cooperation on the part of the Allied powers, must not stand in the way of continuing the rescue battle," the statement added.