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LAW PUNISHING ANTI-JEWISH ELEMENTS AS WAR CRIMINALS DRAFTED IN RUMANIA

BUCHAREST, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The draft of a law providing for punishment of war criminals was made public here today by the Rumanian Minister of Justice. It specifies that those found guilty of participating in the persecution of Jews will come within the category of war criminals. They include:

1. People who ordered cruelties inflicted on the Jewish population, or who themselves committed such acts.
2. People who ordered the establishment of ghettos or concentration camps for Jews, or deported them beyond the boundaries of the country.
3. People who participated in the transportation of Jews for the purpose of mass-extermiation.
4. People guilty of organizing excessively hard labor for Jews for the purpose of affecting their annihilation.
5. People guilty of ordering and applying inhuman treatment to Jews in concentration camps and in forced labor detachments.
6. People who proposed or issued decrees and regulations inspired by the Nazi racial laws, as well as those who carried out these decrees.
7. People who utilized the Rumanian racial laws to their own advantage to enrich themselves through the anti-Jewish measures.

The varying punishments provided by the law include capital punishment, hard labor for life and from five to twenty years at hard labor.

SILVER-WISE CONFLICT IS PERSONAL, SHERTOK SAYS; LONDON ZIONISTS REGRET CONTROVERSY

TEL AVIV, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The conflict between Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Dr. Abba Hillel Silver with regard to Zionist tactics in the United States is a personal one rather than a matter involving basic principles, Moshe Shertok, head of the political department of the Jewish Agency, declared today at a press conference.

(The Zionist Review, official Zionist organ in Britain, in an editorial in tomorrow's issue, expresses regret over the Silver-Wise conflict and urges them "to end the present public controversy and resume their great work in behalf of the common cause.")

FIRST GROUP OF ENGLISH RECRUITS FOR JEWISH BRIGADE LEAVE FOR TRAINING CAMP

LONDON, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The first group of Jews recruited in England for the Jewish Brigade left here today for a training camp in Kent. The recruits were given a farewell reception last night at the Anglo-Palestine Club, addressed by representatives of the War Office and Jewish leaders.

ALL JEWISH WOMEN AND CHILDREN KILLED IN TWO GERMAN-HELD HUNGARIAN TOWNS

BUCHAREST, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- There are no Jewish women and children left in the liberated Carpathian towns of Munkacs and Uzhorod, which had large Jewish populations, it is reported here today. The present Jewish population of Munkacs consists of 300 men. In Uzhorod only 160 Jewish men were left alive by the retreating Hungarian-German armies. Before the war Munkacs had 13,000 Jews and Uzhorod, 8,000.

The first eye-witness report of the extermination of the last few thousands Jews in the large towns of Slovakia was given here today by a Jewish refugee who succeeded in escaping to Rumania as a result of a partisan uprising against the Nazi-controlled Slovakian government in the Banska-Bistrica region.

The escaped Jew reported that he witnessed the deportation by German police of all Jews from the towns of Nitra, Zilina and Trnovo. These Jews, numbering more than 4,000, were all sent to Nazi-held Poland last August 15. Two weeks later all Jews of Bratislava, the Slovakian capital, including converts, were also deported by the Germans.

"Many of the Slovakian Jews who were held in concentration camps succeeded in escaping when the revolt in Banska-Bistrica broke out," the eye-witness stated. "They all joined the revolt and the majority of them were killed while fighting."

The pro-Nazi Hungarian government today broadcast a violent anti-Jewish attack in connection with the establishment of a free Hungarian Government in the liberated section of Hungary headed by General Bela Miklos. "No one is surprised at the fact that the Miklos group annulled the anti-Jewish laws," the broadcast said, charging the free government with "delivering the country to international Jewry."

NUMBER OF DECORATED JEWS IN RUSSIAN ARMY DOUBLED DURING YEAR; 60,000 HOLD AWARDS

MOSCOW, Jan. 1. (Delayed) (JTA) -- The number of Jews in the Red Army who have been decorated for valor doubled during 1944, the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee announced today in a New Year message to the Jews of the world. Jewish medal winners increased from 32,000 to 60,000 during the past year, the announcement said. The number of Jews named Heroes of the Soviet Union also doubled in the same period.

Reviewing the liberation of all of occupied Russia and many other occupied countries during 1944, the Committee said that in the liberated sections of the Soviet Union a new life has begun for all the people, including the Jews. It points out that while 1944 was a year of victory, hundreds of thousands of Jews were tortured to death in the last twelve months, and calls for redoubled efforts by all Jews in order that "1945 may see the banner of victory raised over Berlin."

IMMEDIATE SOLUTION OF PALESTINE PROBLEM BY PARLIAMENT DEMANDED IN LONDON

LONDON, Jan. 4, (JTA) -- A demand that the present Parliament adopt a final policy on Palestine immediately is voiced today in an editorial in the Daily Express.

Citing the three "conflicting Palestine policies" which were announced before the war, namely, the partition plan of 1937, the reversal of this plan by the Peel Commission in 1938 and the White Paper of 1939, the editorial says: "Before this tired old Parliament ends its term of office it should produce and implement a final policy and should be energetic in the matter."

REJECTION OF PLAN TO SETTLE JEWS IN KIMBERLY CRITICIZED IN AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT

SYDNEY, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- A radical change in Australia's migration policy was advocated today by T. Williams, labor member of the Federal Parliament. Williams urged the expenditure of approximately \$4,000,000,000 to bring a million people to Australia.

"I cannot understand why the Jews were rebuffed in their proposal to people the Kimberly country," Williams said. "I'd like to see those negotiations reopened because as long as we get healthy white people it doesn't matter to which race they belong."

"The supply from Britain will be limited," he warned. "We shall be forced to look for extra people from southern Europe." He named Italy, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Rumania, Bulgaria, Greece, and Poland as potential sources of immigrants.

BRITISH PEOPLE KEPT IN DARK ABOUT REAL REASONS BEHIND PALESTINE TERROR, SAYS STRABOLGI

LONDON, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The British people have been kept in ignorance of the real reasons behind the outbreaks of terror in Palestine, Lord Strabolgi, Labor peer, charged last night in an attack on political censorship in the Middle East, which, he said, is "becoming a positive danger."

"The Colonial Office," Lord Strabolgi stated, "was at loggerheads with the Jewish population of Palestine to the distress of Jews all over the world who are enemies of Hitler. Then came the terrible acts of violence, but the British people were kept in the dark about the real causes of the trouble, nor were they allowed to know the cause of the difficulties between the British and the United States Governments, although both Palestine and Greece have become bones of contention."

The London press today publishes extensive quotes from the statement on Palestine made in Cairo yesterday by Sir James Grigg, new Minister of State for the Middle East. Some papers feature the assurance by the new minister that no final solution of the Palestine problem can be evolved without prior consultation with the United States.

PRESIDENT, SECRETARY OF STATE URGED TO PRESS FOR FREE PORTS FOR JEWS IN PALESTINE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Rep. Thomas J. Lane, Mass. Democrat, today introduced a resolution in the House urging the President and the Secretary of State to use their offices in "effecting the establishment of emergency shelters in Palestine for the persecuted Jews of Europe." The bill was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Referred to the House Committee on Immigration and Naturalization was another Lane Bill providing for the "temporary admission of political or religious refugees of Continental Europe into areas within the United States to be known as free ports for refugees."

A bill empowering the Judiciary Committee of the House to study, investigate and examine the trial and punishment of Axis war criminals, introduced by Rep. Emanuel Celler, N. Y. Democrat, went to the Committee on Rules. Celler also introduced a bill to record the lawful admission to the United States for permanent residence of certain aliens who have lawfully entered with visitor's permits and are refugees from or unable to return to their country because of the emergency created by the war in Europe.

Rep. Ed. Gossett, Texas Democrat, and Rep. Jennings Randolph, W. Va. Democrat, long-time foes of immigration, introduced bills to reduce immigration quotas.

WAR REFUGEE BOARD SAYS RESCUE OF JEWS FROM GERMAN-HELD TERRITORIES WILL BE CONTINUED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The War Refugee Board declared today that everything possible and feasible, and consistent with the winning of the war, is being done to rescue the Jews in German-occupied territory.

In answer to the plea of the American Jewish Conference that rescue work be continued, the board said that "this Government will continue its efforts to save the Jews and other victims of Nazi oppression remaining in enemy Europe."

FRENCH JEWISH LEADERS HOPE TO DEVELOP COMMUNITY LIFE ALONG AMERICAN LINES SAYS MEISS

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- French Jewish leaders have been greatly impressed by the cultural development of American Jewry, and hope to revitalize French Jewish life along similar lines, Leon Meiss, president of the Jewish Consistory of France and of the Representative Council of the Jews of France, said today on the eve of his return to France.

Mr. Meiss, who headed the four-man delegation which arrived here last month to confer with American Jewish leaders, said that although the Jewish population of France has been greatly reduced, Judaism is not dead in France, but is on the verge of a new development.

The president of the Representative Council believes that the Jews of France, the first to be liberated, can show the way toward unity of all Jewish groups, everywhere. "Our program," he said, "is comprehensive of the Zionist aims. The program of the Representative Council of the Jews of France calls for the rehabilitation and reintegration of the Jews in France, with all rights. It also calls for the abrogation of all restrictive measures concerning the immigration of Jews into Palestine, including the White Paper. But we do not see Palestine as the immediate solution of the entire Jewish question.

Mr. Meiss pointed out that there was always a cleavage in France, between the Jews who considered themselves French, and the immigrants, or foreign Jews. But the Nazis put all in common jails and in common graves, and under this common persecution, they learned to fight together. In the Representative Council of the Jews of France, he said, they recognize that there is a level upon which different problems are to be faced by the two groups, but they recognize also that the most urgent problems of the Jewish people are common to all Jews, and that on this level all Jews must act in unity.

AMERICAN KEREN HAYESOD TRANSMITTED \$5,450,000 TO PALESTINE DURING 1944

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Bernard A. Rosenblatt, president of the American Keren Hayesod, announced today that \$750,000 has been sent to its agency in Palestine, as the final payment for 1944, bringing its total remittance for the year to \$5,450,000.

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS FORMS COMMITTEE TO AID DEMOBILIZED MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES

MONTREAL, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The formation of a Rehabilitation Committee to assist discharged members of the Canadian armed forces was announced today by the Canadian Jewish Congress. This committee proposes to supplement the government's rehabilitation program as established under the Department of Veterans' Affairs and to centralize and coordinate the facilities offered by the Jewish community organizations to returned veterans.