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BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE IN MIDDLE EAST CONFERS IN PALESTINE WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER

JERUSALEM, Jan. 9. (JTA)—Sir Edward Grigg, new British Minister of State in the Middle East, arrived today to confer with High Commissioner Lord Gort. It is understood that they will discuss recent political developments and the situation created by the activities of Jewish terrorists.

Meanwhile it was announced today that 14 more terrorist suspects have been deported to Eritrea. Two-hundred and fifty-one were sent to Eritrea in October and 14 were deported in December, making a total of 279 now confined there.

Russia Not Prepared to Intervene in Palestine Dispute, Egyptian Radio Says

CAIRO, Jan. 9. (JTA)—Russia is not prepared to either oppose or support Jewish aspirations in Palestine, a broadcast on the Egyptian radio said today. It alleged that Jewish leaders have been in contact with the official Russian press departments in Cairo, London and Teheran, by whom they were informed of the Soviet decision not to intervene in the dispute between Jews and Arabs in Palestine. Both Arabs and Jews consider the Russian attitude a political victory, the broadcast added.

Discussing the Palestine situation further, the broadcaster said that plans for creation of a "Greater Syria" which would have included Palestine, Transjordan, Lebanon and Syria, "are in abeyance, if not dropped." The Arabs, he declared, are giving serious consideration to the Palestine problem and are "explaining" their position to the great powers.

The Jews, he continued, seem to be postponing decisive action until the end of the war, since Dr. Weizmann recently convinced the majority of them that the establishment of a Jewish state would not be practicable at the present. Dr. Weizmann is quoted as stating that as far as the attitude of Britain is concerned, support of the Jewish demands by the Labor Party might offset the tendency of the Conservatives to maintain friendship with the Arabs.

RUMANIAN JEWISH YOUTHS ORDERED TO ENROLL IN ARMY BY JANUARY 15

BUCHAREST, Jan. 9. (JTA)—Jewish youths in the military classes of 1935 to 1940 were ordered today to report for induction. They must enroll by January 15.

They will constitute the first large group of Jews taken into the Rumanian armed forces since the introduction of anti-Jewish measures by the Antonescu regime. Under that government Jews were used only in forced labor battalions and were forced to pay a tax in lieu of military service.

The Ministry of Agriculture has announced that Jewish boys and girls who plan to emigrate to Palestine will be enabled to secure preparatory training at state farms.

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BRITISH SAY NO MORE "EMERGENCY VISAS" FOR PALESTINE WILL BE ISSUED TO BALKAN JEWS

LONDON, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Britain has ceased issuing visas for Palestine to Jewish refugees arriving in Turkey from the Balkans, a Foreign Office spokesman said last night, but he denied that this meant any change in British policy toward Palestine immigration.

Asked to explain a statement by Turkey that it could no longer grant transit visas to Jews from the Balkans because Britain had stopped issuing Palestine immigration certificates, the official spokesman said that while the Balkans were still in the hands of the Nazis, it had been agreed to issue Palestine visas in Istanbul to any refugees reaching there. However, since those countries are now liberated, an emergency situation no longer exists and visas will not be issued by the British consulate in Turkey.

Normal visas will continue to be issued, under the limitations of the White Paper, by British authorities in the countries in which the prospective emigrants now reside, he said, adding that this procedure had been discussed with the Jewish Agency. He pointed out that 640 Jews who left Rumania after the issuance of emergency visas had been suspended, and who were consequently held up in Bulgaria, have been given visas. This group arrived in Turkey during the week-end.

Jewish Agency Denies Turkey Halts Issuance of Transit Visas

NEW YORK, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- The local office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine denied today reports that Turkey has refused to grant transit visas to emigrants from the Balkans wishing to go to Palestine.

"The Turkish Government is continuing to grant transit to all immigrants who have Palestine certificates," the Agency said. "Under the new quota of 11,000 certificates, 1,500 a month were allowed to come in. As this number was exhausted last month, the Turkish Government stopped giving transit visas to immigrants who arrived. In the meantime, the British Government has resumed the issuing of certificates and the Turkish authorities have resumed granting the necessary transit visas."

JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION FROM AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- The Jewish Labor Committee revealed officially today that it has withdrawn from the American Jewish Conference because of the admission to the conference of the Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order, which, the Labor Committee charged, is a Communist organization.

In a pamphlet issued to its members, the labor group stated that the Communists have attempted to demoralize Jewish labor organizations and injure Jewish interests. It indicated that it was willing to rejoin the conference if the Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order were ousted.

UGO CARUSI IS SWORN IN AS COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Ugo Carusi was sworn in today as Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization by Associate Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson. He succeeds Earl G. Harrison who resigned in July to return to private law practice.

Carusi, executive assistant to five Attorney-Generals, was nominated for the immigration post last August but was not approved by the 78th Congress until mid-December.

SURVEY OF SITUATION OF JEWS IN BALKANS AND OCCUPIED TERRITORY MADE BY JDC DIRECTOR

PARIS, Jan. 9. (JTA) — An over-all report on the situation of the Jews in the Balkans, Hungary, Austria and Italy was given here by Dr. Joseph Schwartz, European director of the Joint Distribution Committee, who has just returned from Switzerland.

Revealing that JDC aid is even going to Jews in still-occupied territories and battle areas, Dr. Schwartz said in an interview that working directly or through the International Red Cross, his organization is bringing relief and assisting in the rescue of Jews in Bulgaria, Rumania, Yugoslavia and Italy, as well as Nazi-occupied Hungary, Slovakia, Austria and parts of Croatia.

He revealed the little-known fact that there are 17,000 Hungarian Jews still in Vienna who are being taken care of by 229 Austrian Jews under the leadership of Dr. Joseph Lowenherz. Most of these Austrian Jews were permitted to remain in Vienna either because they were married to non-Jews or were baptized. The JDC has been able to aid these people as well, Dr. Schwartz said, through the International Red Cross. The JDC also made a special grant of \$100,000 to care for Hungarian Jewish refugees in Rumania who, Dr. Schwartz said, are in a very sad plight.

In Budapest, Dr. Schwartz reported, only 75,000 Jews remain after the mass deportations and the recent transportation to the Austrian frontier of all able-bodied Jews for compulsory labor. Those remaining are children under fifteen, women over 55, men over 60, those too infirm for labor and those protected by possession of neutral passports. All are concentrated in the ghetto except the holders of neutral passports who have to reside in certain designated houses. But even these latter, he said, are now being moved into the ghetto. Jews are not permitted to emerge from this area without special military passes and even their movements within its confines are restricted. The International Red Cross is permitted to work in the ghetto, Dr. Schwartz said, and to have representatives there. The inhabitants are being sustained by relief in kind and in money supplied by the JDC through the International Red Cross. From June until December 15, Dr. Schwartz stated, the JDC spent \$2,300,000 for relief and rescue work in Hungary.

Only 4,000 Jews Remain in Slovakia; Most in Hiding

In Slovakia, he reported, only about three to four thousand Jews remain alive of the once populous community and most of these are in hiding in the Slovak countryside and forests. Practically all the Jews in Slovakia were wiped out in mass actions as punishment for the role Slovak Jews played in the recent Partisan uprising against the Nazis. Most of the 15,000 Jews remaining in Bratislava, the Slovak capital, were deported, though a small group remains in the concentration camp at Sereď. Mrs. Gise Fleischmann, for many years chairman of the JDC committee at Bratislava, has been deported and it has been impossible to ascertain her fate, Dr. Schwartz said. Oscar Neumann, Slovak Zionist leader and member of the JDC committee, is still believed to be in the Sereď camp. Through the services of the International Red Cross, the JDC chairman reported, assistance is being given the interned Slovak Jews. In addition, the JDC is expending about \$50,000 monthly to maintain the Slovak Jews in hiding.

In the Nazi-held part of Croatia, Dr. Schwartz said, there are about 2,000 Jews in the Zagreb area, about 800 of whom are in a concentration camp. Yugoslav partisans are helping the JDC care for these people, Dr. Schwartz said, making it

possible to send them regular monthly aid. Additional assistance, in the form of badly-needed clothing, is being sent in from Italy.

In the liberated areas, Rumania presents the greatest relief task, according to Dr. Schwartz. No less than 216,000 Jews there require assistance in some form or other. Unlike other countries, he said, food can be obtained in Rumania provided the people have money with which to pay the constantly mounting prices. As an emergency grant for the last three months of 1944, the JDC provided \$1,000,000 for relief requirements in Rumania through the International Red Cross. The budget now submitted by Dr. William Filderman, chairman of the JDC committee in Bucharest, calls for expenditure of \$800,000 monthly for the first three months of this year, Dr. Schwartz said.

Turning to Bulgaria, Dr. Schwartz said that one-third of the Jewish population or about 16,000 are in need of relief. In addition, epidemics of malaria, diphtheria and typhus have broken out in some sections where the Jewish population is most numerous and the JDC has been asked urgently for quantities of medical supplies. In Bulgaria, Dr. Schwartz said, the JDC has been supplying aid at the rate of \$50,000 monthly to the officially recognized Jewish community organizations in Sofia and some other cities.

Only an inconsiderable number of Jews has been found in liberated Yugoslav territory, the JDC official declared, but it is hoped that as time passes, more will come out of hiding. A JDC-CSE medical mission has been granted permission through the Yugoslav Red Cross to enter Yugoslav territory and work there, Dr. Schwartz announced. It will leave from Switzerland in the near future. One member of the mission will be designated as representative of the JDC for general relief and assistance work.

While in Switzerland, Dr. Schwartz said, he received reports on the situation in Italy which he described as "shocking to an unbelievable extent. Practically all of the concentration camps have been evacuated through the deportation of the interned Jews. There are now only seventy Jews left in northern Italy - forty of them in a camp and thirty in prison. Of the Italian Jewish population, it is estimated that not more than 4,000 remain and they are living in hiding. Up to now, Dr. Schwartz said, it has been possible to send them some aid.

DR. NAHUM GOLDMANN DENIES CHARGES MADE BY DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

NEW YORK, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the administrative committee of the World Jewish Congress and a member of the executive of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, issued a statement here today denying certain charges against him made last week by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver. Dr. Goldmann's statement reads:

"I see from the papers that Dr. Abba Hillel Silver has tried to drag me into his public controversy with other Zionist leaders here. I refuse, as I always did, to enter into any public controversy with Dr. Silver as I regard the publicity which he is giving to differences of opinion which have to be settled within the councils of the Zionist movement, as irresponsible and harmful to the Zionist cause. I merely wish to state that the various statements concerning me are absolutely incorrect and a distortion of the truth."

BARONESS NELLY DE ROTHSCHILD DIES IN NEW YORK; WAS ACTIVE IN CHARITABLE WORK

NEW YORK, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Baroness Nelly de Rothschild, wife of Baron Robert de Rothschild, died at Roosevelt Hospital here yesterday after an illness of several months. She was 68. Baroness Rothschild was active in Jewish and general charities in France until she and her husband were forced to flee from the Nazis in 1940, and had done war work and engaged in charitable activities here.