

JTA

VOL. XII No. 143 (27th year)

Sunday, June 24, 1945

*Daily News Bulletin*PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.**DR. FILDERMAN REPORTED ARRESTED IN BUCHAREST, CHARGED WITH "SUPPORTING FASCISM."**

LONDON, June 22. (JTA) -- Dr. William Filderman, president of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Rumania, is under arrest in Bucharest and will be placed on trial on charges of "supporting fascism," it was reported in the press here today.

The report caused uneasiness in Jewish circles, especially in view of the fact that information reaching Jewish leaders here this week through other sources also stated that Dr. Filderman is under arrest. A cable sent several days ago by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency to its Bucharest correspondent, asking him to establish whether Dr. Filderman had been arrested, has not yet been answered.

The pro-Communist press in Bucharest has been conducting a campaign against Dr. Filderman for some time. Several weeks ago it was reported that as a result of this campaign Dr. Filderman had been arrested. This report was denied by the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in a cable from Bucharest. Efforts to check this latest report of Dr. Filderman's arrest are being undertaken by Jewish leaders here.

FRENCH GOVERNMENT WILL TRANSFER REFUGEE CHILDREN FROM NON-JEWISH CUSTODY TO JEWISH GROUPS

PARIS, June 22. (JTA) -- A Jewish delegation, headed by Dr. Joseph Fischer, general secretary of the Central Representative Committee of the Jews of France, today were assured by the Ministry for Deportees that the Jewish refugee children from Germany, who French authorities in Paris placed under the care of a non-Jewish welfare organization, will be transferred to Jewish institutions.

The children, most of whom are orphans whose parents were murdered in German concentration camps, will be placed in the custody of the children's committee of the Central Representative Committee of the Jews of France, the delegation announced, following its visit to the Ministry. The announcement was received with great satisfaction by all Jewish groups.

THIRTY PALESTINE JEWS RELEASED FROM SUDAN INTERMENT; 250 OTHERS STILL INTERNED

JERUSALEM, June 22. (JTA) -- The liberation of thirty Palestine Jews from internment in the Sudan and their return to their homes in Palestine was announced today by the Palestine Government. About 250 Palestine Jews still remain interned in the Sudan camps.

The official announcement read as follows: "Following the normal procedure of periodically reviewing cases of persons detained under the emergency regulations, it has been decided to release 30 Jews deported and detained in Sudan. These persons arrived in Palestine and were shortly afterward set at liberty."

GERMAN PLAN TO KILL ALL JEWS IN THERESIENSTADT THWARTED BY RAPID ADVANCE OF RED ARMY

LONDON, June 22. (JTA) — A German plan to kill all Jews in Theresienstadt in special "gas chambers" was foiled almost at the last minute, the London Times reports today in a letter from Theresienstadt.

The letter reveals that "bathing establishments" for gassing the interned Jews had already been prepared, but the doors for these chambers were returned three times because they did not fit. In the meantime, Russian troops reached Theresienstadt.

The letter confirms earlier reports with regard to the number of Jews who passed through Theresienstadt, and estimates that during the years 1942-43 an average of 150 Jews died there each day. Only Rabbi Leo Neuhaus and four Jewish women remained alive from the first transport of 1,197 Jews brought to Theresienstadt from Frankfurt-am-Main, the letter reported.

(Rabbi Ralph Neuhaus, who is rabbi of Congregation Ohav Shalom in New York, told the JTA that he last heard from his father over four years ago and did not know where he was or whether he was alive. The younger Rabbi Neuhaus came to the United States in 1941.)

Eva Bart, an official of the Joint Distribution Committee in Warsaw, is among the Jews liberated in Western Germany, Dr. Emanuel Szwerc, Polish-Jewish leader reported today. She lived in the Warsaw ghetto until its "liquidation" by the Germans and passed through the notorious camps of Oswiecim, Majdanek and Ravensbruck.

DESTRUCTION OF LODZ JEWS BY NAZIS DESCRIBED BY JEWISH LEADER WHO ESCAPED DEATH

BRUSSELS, June 22, (JTA) — An eye-witness account of the destruction of the Jewish community of Lodz by a man who was deported from that Polish industrial center last August was given here today. The witness was Jacob Hirenberg, a leader of the Jewish Socialist Bund, who has just arrived in Belgium after being liberated from a German concentration camp, to which he was sent from the Oswiecim death camp, his first stop after being deported from Lodz.

In May of 1940, Hirenberg disclosed, the 158,000 Jews of Lodz were confined in a ghetto. Later 50,000 Jews from other countries of Europe were brought there. About a quarter of the over 208,000 ghetto residents died from starvation and disease and hundreds were shot. From December 15, 1941 to August 8, 1942, over 71,000 Jews were taken from Lodz to the Chelmo death camp and murdered. From August, 1943, to July 1944, about 8,000 were sent to Oswiecim.

The last large transport of deportees left Lodz for Oswiecim and Birkenau in August, 1944, and Hirenberg and 90 of his co-workers in the underground were among them. The transport also included 8,000 children under the age of ten.

FORTY-FOUR JEWS STANDING FOR ELECTION TO PARLIAMENT, DIVIDED AMONG THREE PARTIES

LONDON, June 22. (JTA) — Forty-four Jewish candidates are standing for Parliament in the elections to be held July 5. There are eight Conservatives, twenty-four Laborites and eight Liberals. Among them are James Rothschild, Barnett Janzer and Samuel S. Silverman.

REJECTION OF PRE-WAR PALESTINE PARTITION SCHEME TERMED "WORST MISTAKE OF ZIONISTS"

LONDON, June 22. (JTA) — Terming the rejection of the 1937 partition plan for Palestine "one of the worst mistakes of Zionism," Harry Sachar, prominent British Zionist, told a conference of American army chaplains here that he hoped that "if there should be a new offer of partition, the mistake will not be repeated."

"If we had a sovereign Jewish state, however small, we could have rescued large numbers of European Jews, established a Jewish Army and secured a seat at the peace table," Sachar said, adding that "the best solution would be dominion status for a Jewish state in Palestine." He declared that England is determined to stay in Palestine, but "the Yishuv of 600,000 will stay and grow there. There is no power that can stop them."

Asserting that the tension was "almost beyond bearing," Sachar counseled that "it is the duty of those taking the longer view to be patient themselves and teach others patience, because we are convinced the future is with us."

J. B. Brunel-Cohen, addressing the Council of Jewish Fellowship, said today that that organization's plan for solution of the Jewish problem in Europe envisaged full and equal citizenship for Jews in all countries, and free emigration of uprooted Jews who desired to go to free countries willing to accept them, with special consideration being given to settlement in Palestine.

In the Spectator today, Neville Barbour, pro-Arab orientalist, said that a Jewish state could not be established in Palestine without prolonged use of force, and advocated, instead, a Jewish national home within the framework of an Arab Commonwealth of nations.

MIRASHI WITHDRAWS FROM ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL, SAYS ITS REQUESTS WERE IGNORED

NEW YORK, June 22. (JTA) — The executive committee of the Mirashi Organization of America today announced its withdrawal from the American Zionist Emergency Council.

The decision was taken at a special meeting of the executive committee at which a resolution was adopted reading: "In view of the fact that the Zionist Emergency Council did not comply with the request of the Mirashi that it reorganize itself within two weeks, the executive of the Mirashi Organization of America has decided to leave the Council and to recall its representatives from that body."

One of the major requests of the Mirashi was that the Zionist Emergency Council should recall Dr. Abba Hillel Silver to active leadership. A statement issued by Leon Gellman, Mirashi president, said: "The Mirashi attitude toward the internal rift in American Zionist movement is clear. We have been advancing two demands — unity in the Zionist ranks, and a more aggressive Zionist political policy. Both demands have not been complied with by the Zionist Emergency Council, thus nothing was left to us but to withdraw."

200 JEWS, INCLUDING CHALUTZIM AND CHILDREN, LEAVING ENGLAND FOR PALESTINE

LONDON, June 22. (JTA) — Two-hundred persons, including 100 chalutzim and 25 children, will leave here for Palestine next week, it was announced today.

STATE DEPT. ASKS CONGRESS TO APPROVE FUNDS FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL REFUGEE COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, June 22. (JTA) — The State Department has recommended to Congress that legislation be adopted authorizing U. S. contributions to the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today. A draft bill has been submitted by the department to the House Foreign Affairs Committee and Acting Secretary of State Grew has embodied the department's proposals in a letter to Senator Lemath McKellar, president of the Senate.

Congress provided two small appropriations for U. S. participation when the committee was formed in 1938 on the initiative of President Roosevelt, but has not been asked for further funds, since there have been no operating expenses requiring them. The American representative on the committee, Earl G. Harrison, former Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, conferred with the committee at its London headquarters shortly after his appointment last March, but then returned to the United States. With the probable active revival of the committee's activities, Harrison may return to London at any time, according to the State Department.

The committee is responsible for the resettlement of some 14,000 refugees now in neutral countries, the State Department points out. Repatriation of refugees able and desirous of returning to their native countries is a function of UNRRA, for a "reasonable time," or possibly for the duration of UNRRA. After that period, the responsibility will devolve upon the Intergovernmental Committee which, in addition, must handle resettlement of refugees who cannot, or do not wish to, return to their home countries.

PHILADELPHIA CATHOLIC PAPER PICTURES JEWS AS "FANATICAL ENEMIES" OF CHRISTIAN CHURCH

PHILADELPHIA, June 22 (JTA) — The ancient accusation that Jews "murdered Jesus Christ" and that they are "materialists and fanatical enemies of Christ and his Church" is revived here in an article published in the Catholic weekly newspaper "Shlyakh" (The Road) issued in the Ukrainian language under the editorship of Rev. Basil Feddish.

The paper carries on its masthead an appeal from the Bishop's office asking priests "to do everything in their power to have the paper reach every house, and to see that it is passed from hand to hand." Signed by Bishop Constantyn (Bohachevsky,) the appeal says: "Every religious Ukrainian should read this paper. We hope that the paper will find distributors in every parish, in every locality, and that it will also find faithful friends and subscribers."

The article, in which the Jews are presented as a nation of "sinners," is written by Rev. Joseph Ananovich. "Since the Jews murdered Jesus Christ, they have been scattered over the world, deprived of a state, a language, priests, etc.," the author writes, adding: "The Jews remain the same to this day. They are materialists, fanatical enemies of Christ and His Church. During this war, they have been brutally massacred by the Nazis, but whether this is the end of their sin and their punishment by God is hard to say. God predicted that the time would come when they would repent and be reconverted to God. God will forgive them and let them become Christians, members of the Catholic Church."