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EXPECTED MEASURES TO IMPROVE POSITION OF BERLIN JEWS; CITY COUNCIL CHARGED WITH BLOCKING AID

BERLIN, July 19. (JTA) -- Although no final policy has been laid down as to restoration of confiscated Jewish property, or increased food allowances for Jews in Berlin, it was indicated here today that some steps would soon be taken to improve the position of the several thousand Jews in this capital.

According to reliable non-Jewish sources, however, there appears to be an obstructionist attitude towards Jews within the Berlin magistrate, which is a sort of city council. The magistrate, which acts as a cabinet to the Russian-appointed mayor, Dr. Arthur Werner, seems to be taking the attitude that it has no responsibility for the damage caused by the Nazi regime, whether it affects Jews or others. Communists wield a great deal of influence in the magistrate, but it is difficult to say whether they also are responsible for what these non-Jewish sources described as latent remainders of anti-Semitism.

A Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent, who today interviewed Dr. Werner, representatives of the Jewish community, Father Bucholz, a Catholic priest who is in charge of religious affairs at the magistrate and Major Valentin Lipniaky, who is Marshal Zhukov's liaison officer to the Berlin administration, in an attempt to obtain some definite information on Jewish matters, received replies which varied on several points. One thing is clear: that so far no written decrees covering Jewish problems have been drawn up.

Food Rations of Most Jews Will Be Increased

However, the correspondent learned that a decision to increase food rations for Jews was adopted last week, but it does not seem to have reached the level of the district food offices. Under the new plan, all Jews who were hiding in Berlin until the city was captured and all those who were in concentration camps will be moved up on the food ration scale depending on what work they are doing. At present, only Jews sent to camps for political reasons get special food allowances, while those who were persecuted for racial reasons were treated the same as all other Germans. Only Jews who were sent to camps for criminal or asexual reasons will be denied the increased rations.

When the correspondent pointed out to Major Lipniaky that credits had been granted to Catholic and Protestant churches to enable them to pay salaries and meet current expenses, while the Jewish Hospital had been refused funds, the Soviet officer said that the hospital's request had never reached him and, probably, was turned down by the magistrate to which the Russian authorities try to give as much freedom of action as possible. He said that he would try to remedy the matter.

Both Major Lipniaky and Dr. Werner said that the city administration, which has taken charge of all Nazi-owned property, is only acting as trustees and that even-

tually everyone - including, of course, Jews - who can prove ownership will have their homes and apartments restored to them. As far as factories and industries are concerned, however, nothing has been decided as yet.

It was also pointed out that all those returning from concentration camps are being given apartments, although not necessarily their own, since this would involve unnecessary moving.

EX-MUFTI OF JERUSALEM PLACED ON WAR CRIMINALS LIST, INDICTED BY YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT

WASHINGTON, July 19. (JTA) -- Hadj Amin el-Husseini, former Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, has been officially placed on the war criminals list of the United Nations, the Hebrew Committee for National Liberation reported today.

The committee, which sent a memorandum to the United Nations War Crimes Commission and several European governments, last April, asking indictment of the ex-Mufti, made public a cable from Sava Kosanovich, Minister of the Interior and Information in the Yugoslav Government, declaring that "Mufti Hadj Amin el-Husseini put by Yugoslavia on list of war criminals."

The steps which led up to the indictment of the Mufti, who is now held under comfortable house arrest in a villa outside of Paris, were described by the committee as follows:

In reply to its original request to the War Crimes Commission that it place the Mufti on its list of criminals, the commission stated that before doing so one of its member governments would have to present evidence constituting a prima facie case.

Upon receipt of this cable, a committee representative discussed the matter with Ivan Subasic, Yugoslav Minister of Foreign Affairs, while he was at San Francisco, pointing out that the Mufti had organized the German S.S. Moslem Division in Bosnia and been responsible for the massacre of Yugoslav Moslems who refused to collaborate with the Germans.

It was reported recently that there was little possibility that the Mufti would be punished, since the British, who had been seeking him on various charges, had made no move to extradite him from France, and it was rumored that the French were treating him with great deference with a view of making use of him in their attempt to win Arab support in the Levant and North Africa.

REPORT BRITISH PLAN TO SOLVE PALESTINE PROBLEM BY PARTITION, EUROPE-WIDE GUARANTEES FOR JEWS

JERUSALEM, July 19. (JTA) -- A new British proposal for solution of the Palestine problem, which combines a partition plan with guarantees for Jews in all European countries, is rumored to be in the making. Under the new plan, a "symbolic" Jewish state will be established in a small part of Palestine, while, at the same time, Britain will attempt to secure full and equal rights for Jews in all of Europe.

The scheme would, according to its sponsors, on the one hand, reward the Jews, especially the Jewish community of Palestine, for their contributions to the war effort and lift the pressure for emigration from European countries to Palestine, while, on the other hand, it would satisfy Arab demands by ending immigration. It is understood that a high British representative in Egypt, who recently arrived in London, discussed the plan with leaders of the Arab League in Cairo, who are reported to have voiced no opposition to the proposal.

PALESTINE PRESS RIDICULES CHARGE OF PERSECUTION OF SOVIET CITIZENS BY JEWISH GROUP

JERUSALEM, July 19. (JTA) -- The influential Laborite daily Davar, commenting today on the Moscow charge that Soviet citizens were being persecuted by Jewish groups in Palestine, says that "somebody is evidently interested in degrading the prestige of the Moscow radio in Palestine, and is, therefore, spreading lies and insinuations."

Davar reviews the Soviet accusation that one Michal Shulkin had been ousted from his apartment because he was a Soviet citizen and sympathizer, and says that these "strange efforts to ascribe political significance to a tenant's quarrel seem ridiculous."

The entire Hebrew press has not attacked Russia in any way or form in recent years. In fact, it has often stated that the Soviet Union has been one of the most important factors in combatting fascism and defeating Germany. The Palestine Jewish community's attitude toward Russia is best illustrated by the activities of the Victory League for Russia and the recent planting of a "Red Army Forest" in Palestine.

In an attempt to ascertain the basis for the Moscow accusations, a JTA correspondent today interviewed both Shulkin, who is a Polish refugee, and his landlord, whose name is Cohen. Shulkin asserted that Cohen had refused to allow him to use a balcony attached to the house and had called him a Soviet spy. When a Soviet repatriation mission came here recently Shulkin complained to them. Cohen, on the other hand, denies he ever abused Shulkin and said that his chief objection to him was that he was illegally occupying an apartment which had been rented by Cohen for single occupancy by a kindergarten teacher who is now Shulkin's wife.

The correspondent was unable to turn up any other instances of "persecution" of Soviet citizens. The entire matter seems to be a tempest in a teapot, resulting from someone misleading the Cairo correspondent of Tass, from whom the story emanated.

JERUSALEM JEWS WILL REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE AUTHORITY OF BRITISH MUNICIPAL COMMISSION

JERUSALEM, July 19. (JTA) -- The Jewish National Council of Palestine, the Jerusalem Jewish community council and the Agudas Israel today submitted a joint memorandum to the Acting High Commissioner, declaring that the Jewish residents of this city will refuse to recognize the British commission appointed to administer municipal affairs. This body, the memorandum said, has no moral or juridical basis.

Protesting against "the injustice done to the Jewish residents of Jerusalem by robbing them of their lawful representation and share in the management of municipal affairs," the memorandum said that Jewish leaders would not give evidence before the inquiry commission appointed to investigate the municipal administration, despite their high personal regard for Chief Justice William Fitzgerald, who comprises the entire investigating commission.

EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL NATIONAL MINORITIES DEMANDED BY BULGARIAN FATHERLAND FRONT

SOFIA, July 19. (JTA) -- Condemnation of racist ideologies and a demand for equal rights for all national minorities are contained in the platform of the Fatherland Front issued today in connection with the forthcoming elections, the first to be held in Bulgaria since the Germans were driven out.

SENATE HEARS PLEA FOR FREE PALESTINE IMMIGRATION UNDER CONTROL OF JEWISH AGENCY

WASHINGTON, July 19. (JTA) -- Senator James Mead, Democrat of New York, has urged the free immigration of Jews into Palestine under the direction of the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

Addressing the Senate, yesterday, Mead declared that the Big Three conference made it "the appropriate hour" to withdraw the White Paper of 1939 and to "ask for the fulfillment of the intent and the purposes of the Balfour Declaration" and of the 1924 Anglo-American Convention, intended to create a national homeland in Palestine for the Jewish people.

The Senator supplemented his remarks by inserting in the Congressional Record a memorandum submitted to the President and Secretary of State by the American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine, also a statement by President Roosevelt, and excerpts from the platforms of the Democratic and Republican party platforms bearing on Palestine.

PARCELS VALUED AT \$5,000,000 SENT BY JDC TO REFUGEES IN ASIATIC RUSSIA

NEW YORK, July 19. (JTA) -- In two years, relief supplies valued at \$5,000,000 have been furnished in the form of food parcels to more than two hundred thousand war-displaced Jews from Poland and Baltic Europe now in Asiatic Russia. Charles Passman, director of the Middle East program of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, said today. Mr. Passman, an American citizen whose visit to this country terminates an absence of 17 years, arrived in New York last week from Palestine.

The food parcel program was made possible, Mr. Passman told a press conference, through arrangements made by the Joint Distribution Committee with Soviet and other government authorities in 1943. Despite wartime supply difficulties, he established commodity stockpiles in Teheran from which 10,000 food parcels monthly have gone into the Soviet Union for delivery to individuals and families. A J.D.C. service unit of 70 persons is stationed in Teheran to handle the shipment of the parcels.

Mr. Passman also revealed that Teheran has been used as the base for furnishing bulk supplies for the surviving Jews in Poland. He said that the J.D.C. is now making arrangements to ship relief parcels to individuals in the Baltic area, Bessarabia, Bukovina and other places.

One by-product of the parcel program, according to Mr. Passman, is that through it the J.D.C. has helped reunite thousands of scattered family members among the Jewish refugees in Asiatic Russia. A central file is kept in Jerusalem of all recipients of the packages. This file provides information for inquiring husbands, wives and children of their near ones of whom they have lost track.

JOB INFORMATION PROGRAM FOR VETERANS LAUNCHED BY NEW YORK FEDERATION

NEW YORK, July 19. (JTA) -- A job information program benefiting more than 12,000 soldiers of the Second Service Command has been instituted here as a public service by the Federation's Employment Service, the central vocational guidance and job placement agency of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies.

Established at the request of Army officers who wanted to assist more effectively the soldiers under their command in returning to civilian life, the program has been so well received that in the last two weeks it was expanded to include five additional military installations in the New York area. Immediate plans call for further expansion that will ultimately enroll 25,000 soldiers who want to learn more about vocational and other problems relating to economic adjustment.