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TRUMAN ASKS INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR DISPLACED JEWS; DISSOLVES WAR REFUGEE BOARD

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14. (JTA) — The need for the immediate rehabilitation of the displaced Jews in Europe and an international solution of the problem of their ultimate settlement was stressed today by President Truman in a statement announcing the dissolution of the War Refugee Board. The Board will cease to exist as of tomorrow.

Praising the achievements of the War Refugee Board in rescuing hundreds of thousands of "persecuted minorities of Europe in imminent danger of death at the hands of the Nazis because of race, religion or political belief," the President said:

"The tremendous effort which went into the saving of these lives will have been in vain unless steps are taken for the immediate rehabilitation of these survivors of Nazi savagery, as well as for a humane, international solution of the problem of their ultimate resettlement."

Private American relief agencies were lauded by the President for their "important part" in financing and executing many of the life-saving missions which the government undertook "as a part of the total war against Nazi principles." The War Refugee Board was established in 1944 by President Roosevelt, and consisted of the Secretaries of State, Treasury and War. Former Brigadier-General William O'Dwyer was executive director of the Board.

BRITAIN WILL SOON ISSUE STATEMENT ON PALESTINE; COLONIAL MINISTER MEETS WITH JEWISH LEADERS

LONDON, Sept. 14. (JTA) — The British Government will issue a statement of policy on Palestine "as soon as the conference of foreign ministers, which is now taking place in London, is out of the way," Reuter's reports today.

The news agency, which is close to official circles, emphasized that the British Government has not yet decided on its future policy in Palestine, but that the prevailing opinion in London is that failing a decision which will satisfy the minimum Jewish requirements for the continued immigration of Jewish refugees from Europe within the next six weeks, there will be trouble in the Middle East.

The report revealed that Colonial Secretary George Hall has again met representatives of the Jewish Agency and told them that with so many urgent issues facing the Government at home and on the continent it had been impossible so far to deal with the delicate issues involved in the Palestine problem. At the same time, the Colonial Secretary emphasized that the Government realized the urgency of the matter and that a decision would not be postponed one day longer than necessary.

"There are now 16,000 young Jews, mostly ex-ghetto fighters or *Yaguisards*, who have tramped from all over Europe and assembled in Southern Italy determined to

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to Palestine and there are thousands more elsewhere in Europe," the Reuter report says. "In view of this general situation it is believed here that a British policy statement will be issued as soon as the conference of foreign ministers is out of the way."

Palestine to Become Most Important Security Center in Middle East

The report also revealed that a strategic revision of British military dispositions in the Middle East is now under way. This revision will make Palestine the most important security center for the entire Middle East and the area of the Suez canal.

Broadly, the idea behind the revision is that in the future neither Iraq nor Egypt will be an essential or secure basis for British military power in the Middle East, which will be largely a matter of air and naval power. The maintenance of air bases in Iraq would require considerable protective forces to ensure against a repetition of a rising such as that which occurred in 1941, whereas air power strongly based on Palestine would be able to be used over the entire Middle East and the Suez area.

"This is believed to be the explanation for the continued construction of airfields in Palestine, particularly in the south," the report says. "Palestine has the additional advantage of presenting a local industrial base and skilled local labor which is not available in Iraq. Well informed observers here consider it likely therefore that gradually the basis of British military and air strength in the Middle East will be moved from Egypt and Iraq to Palestine while Cyprus will become the pivot for her naval power."

"One immediate consequence of this adjustment of Middle Eastern policy is that the British authorities will have strong forces in Palestine this Autumn, a situation which is markedly different from any of the previous occasions when they had to deal with armed uprising or other trouble," the report continues. "British Labour leaders would like, of course, to achieve an agreed solution between Jewish, Arab and British interests, but the prospects of such a happy ending are not rated high," it concludes.

U.S. AMBASSADOR IN POLAND VISITS MAIDANEK; SENDS ASHES OF EXTERMINATED JEWS TO AMERICA

WARSAW, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- Arthur Bliss Lane, United States Ambassador to Poland, today returned from a trip to the extermination camp at Maidanek where the Germans murdered hundreds of thousands of Jews in gas chambers and burned their bodies in crematoriums.

"The most extensive reports in the press hardly conveyed the real picture of horror which one witnesses at the Maidanek camp even today," the U.S. envoy declared. He brought with him ashes of the cremated Jews and toys which had belonged to Jewish infants. He will send these relics to the United States to be used in a forthcoming exhibition of German and Japanese atrocities.

Mr. Lane's visit to Maidanek coincided with "Maidanek Week" which is now being observed throughout Poland in memory of those killed at the camp by the Germans. Large mass-meetings are being held in Warsaw, Lublin, Cracow and other cities. Exhibitions depicting the horror of Maidanek are also being shown in many towns at the request of the central government in Warsaw.

In Maidanek itself a mass-meeting attended by more than 20,000 people, including delegations from all parts of the country, was held. The meeting was addressed by leaders of various political parties, in the presence of high government officials.

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SYNAGOGUES DESTROYED IN RUSSIA BY NAZIS, SOVIET INVESTIGATION BODY DISCLOSES

MOSCOW, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- Five-hundred and thirty-two synagogues were destroyed by the Germans in Russia, according to a report by the State Commission to Investigate German Crimes made public here today.

The report also reveals facts concerning the despoliation and murder of Russian Jews. It cites the following case as typical of the Nazi mistreatment of Jews:

In the city of Kislovodsk, in the Caucasus, the Gestapo chief and the military commandant ordered Jews to surrender all gold and silver rings, cigarette cases, watches, silver spoons, carpets, shoes and clothing. When everything of value had been obtained, all the Jews in the city were shot.

JEWS IN YUGOSLAVIA SATISFIED WITH THEIR POLITICAL SITUATION; NEED ECONOMIC AID

PARIS, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- The political position of the Jews in Yugoslavia is good, but their economic position is not satisfactory, and considerable aid is required, a delegation of Jewish leaders who have just arrived from Belgrade today told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The group is headed by Dr. David Alkalay, president of the Union of Jewish Communities in Yugoslavia, and includes Dr. Albert Vaja, vice-president of the union and a member of the Yugoslav War Crimes Commission and Dr. Ladislav Klajn, a member of the union's executive committee.

Discussing the political situation in his country at present and during the war years, Dr. Alkalay said that the Chetnik movement of Gen. Draja Michailovic had been "as anti-Jewish as the fascists."

WEIZMANN, OTHER PROMINENT JEWISH LEADERS IN ENGLAND MARKED BY GESTAPO FOR "EXTERMINATION"

LONDON, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- Dr. Chaim Weizmann, Sir Robert Waley Cohen, Neville Wylie and a number of other prominent Jewish leaders in England were marked for "extermination" by the Gestapo in a list prepared in Berlin in 1940 when the Germans were boasting that they were about to invade Britain.

The list, unearthed yesterday in Berlin, includes 2,300 names of the most important people in England, known for their opposition to the Nazis, headed by former Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

J.D.C. EUROPEAN DIRECTOR FLIES TO WARSAW TO ORGANIZE RELIEF FOR JEWS IN POLAND

LONDON, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- Dr. Joseph Schwartz, European Director of the Joint Distribution Committee, is leaving today by air for Warsaw, to survey the needs of the Jews in Poland and organize relief for them. He will be the first Jewish representative from abroad to be admitted to Poland.

(Ten American welfare workers, recruits to the overseas staff of the Joint Distribution Committee, sailed today from New York on the SS "Argentina" for Europe, where most of them will work in the onetime German concentration camps to aid in the relief and rehabilitation of thousands of stateless and non-repatriable Jews among the displaced persons there.)

EXTREMISTS IN PALESTINE TO GO EASY ON TERROR, AWAIT BRITISH DECISION ON PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- The Irgun Zvai Leumi, illegal Jewish extremist group, today issued a manifesto announcing that it will wait to see what the Labor Government in London intends to do with regard to proclaiming Palestine a Jewish State before starting "large scale offensive operations" which, they said, were mapped out a few days ago.

"The struggle will not cease until our principal aim of 'Hebrew rule in the land of the Hebrews' is attained," the manifesto said. "Therefore we have not laid aside our arms despite all threats from without and within."

The Palestine police today reported that 179 rounds of rifle ammunition were stolen from a British ship which is unloading its cargo at Haifa.

AMERICAN ZIONIST LEADERS HAIL TRUMAN'S REQUEST THAT 100,000 JEWS BE ADMITTED TO PALESTINE

NEW YORK, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- Welcoming the report that President Truman has sent a personal letter to Prime Minister Attlee urging the immediate admission into Palestine of 100,000 Jewish refugees from Europe, Drs. Stephen S. Wise and Abba Hillel Silver, co-chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council, today issued the following statements:

"The Zionist movement in America, together with all Americans of good will, welcomes with great satisfaction the news that President Truman has written a letter to Prime Minister Attlee of Great Britain, requesting that immigration certificates to the amount of 100,000 be issued to Europe's uprooted and homeless Jews. If this official suggestion of the President is followed by the British Government, it will be the first great humanitarian act in many years on behalf of suffering Jewry, and we shall be proud to know that it came about through American initiative.

"The demand for an immediate issue of 100,000 certificates was presented many months ago by the Jewish Agency for Palestine to the Churchill Government in London. Recently, as a result of the London Zionist Conference, it was again submitted to the new Labor Government. Here, the American Zionist Emergency Council requested the support of the United States Government for this demand. It is credibly reported that Mr. Earl G. Harrison, American representative on the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, was dispatched by the Government on an official mission to Europe, and upon his return he stated that at least 100,000 Jews in Europe must be provided with an immediate haven, and that Palestine offers the best haven possible.

"In conclusion, let us sound a word of caution. This measure, even if contemplated, is no solution of the Jewish problem. The problem still remains to be solved by political decisions, re-establishing Palestine as a Jewish State, which is the unalterable goal of the World Zionist Organization."

"BILL OF RIGHTS" TO BAR RACIAL DISCRIMINATION URGED IN CANADIAN PARLIAMENT

OTTAWA, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- Enactment of a "Bill of Rights for Minorities," as a means of combatting racial discrimination in Canada was urged yesterday in the Dominion Parliament by Alastair Stewart, Commonwealth Federation deputy from Winnipeg.

Stewart pointed out that discrimination against Jews and other racial groups exists not only in Canada's immigration laws, but also in educational institutions. He specifically charged the Universities of Montreal and Toronto with discriminating against Jews.

PARIS GROUPS FORM BODY TO WORK WITH JEWISH CONGRESS; CONSISTOIRE NOT PARTICIPATING

PARIS, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- Representatives of Jewish organizations in France held a conference here today under the chairmanship of Marc Jarblum, and decided to establish a permanent representation of 19 members to cooperate with the World Jewish Congress. The Consistoire Israelite, the Alliance Israelite and the Jewish Socialist "Tuni" did not join the new body.

The conference was addressed by Leon Kubovitzky, general secretary of the Congress, who said that there is no adequate organization, as far as he could see, to represent the Jews of France.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN URGES TRUMAN TO ALLEVIATE STARVATION IN EUROPE

NEW YORK, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- Declaring that America must assume its "responsibility toward providing Europe with necessary food, although knowing full well that it would mean prolongation of rationing at home," Mrs. Joseph M. Welt, president of the National Council of Jewish Women, today urged President Truman, in a letter, to "allocate enough food during this fourth quarter to relieve the present emergency abroad."

Pointing out that "we Americans are eating incomparably better than the people in Europe," the letter urged that rationing of "foods needed for relief be continued where necessary to provide for overseas shipments."

DR. WALTER FISCHEL, HEBREW UNIVERSITY ORIENTALIST, TO TEACH AT UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

NEW YORK, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- Dr. Walter J. Fischel, a member of the faculty of the Hebrew University's School of Oriental Studies since 1926, has been appointed to the Department of Semitic Languages of the University of California for the academic year 1945-46, it was announced here today.

Dr. Fischel has been granted a leave of absence by the Hebrew University, to which he had planned to return this month after spending several years here on a mission for the institution. He is a well known authority in the field of Islamic and Jewish Oriental history and has written extensively on those subjects.

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL WILL BE OBSERVED NEXT MONTH

NEW YORK, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- The vital role played by the Jews of this country in the reconstruction of Palestine will be marked at the Twentieth Anniversary Conference of the United Palestine Appeal, to be held at the Hotel Commodore on October 21, it was announced here by Dr. James G. Heller, national U. P. A. chairman.

The celebration will also honor the twenty-fifty anniversary of the Koren Hayesed, fiscal instrument of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, which shares with the Jewish National Fund in the proceeds of the U.P.A.

JACOBUS KANN, NOTED DUTCH ZIONIST, DIED IN THERESIENSTADT

NEW YORK, Sept. 14. (JTA) -- Jacobus Kann, prominent Dutch banker, government official and Zionist, died in Theresienstadt in October, 1944, and his wife died there on April 26 of this year, according to a letter from his grand-daughter in Holland received by Max Nordan, daughter of the late Zionist leader and writer Max Nordan.

The letter reveals that Mauritz Kann, Jacob's son and father of the girl who wrote the letter, died in Germany to which he was deported by the Nazis. Two of his brothers were also sent to Germany and were never heard of again.

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