

# JTA

VOL. XII. No. 294 (27th year)

Thursday, December 27, 1945

## Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY  
106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

### THREE HUNDRED "NON-CERTIFICATED" JEWISH IMMIGRANTS LANDED IN PALESTINE; VESSEL ABANDONED

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26. (JTA) -- Eluding British naval craft, shore patrols and radar stations, the 200-ton motor ship Chana Szenes slipped into Palestinian waters sometime last night and disembarked 300 Jewish immigrants without immigration certificates.

The landing was disclosed this morning when the vessel, named after a Palestinian Jewish girl parachutist who was executed by the Germans in Hungary while on a mission for the British, was found abandoned within 300 yards of an encampment of the Arab Transjordan Frontier Force.

Flying from the ship was a blue-and-white banner on which was the following inscription in Hebrew: "This ship has unloaded immigrants. She is named for the heroine Chana Szenes. This ship will remain as a gravestone on the shores of Palestine for the 6,000,000 of our brothers and sisters who perished in Europe. Shame to the British Government."

Later today the Haganah, the Jewish self-defense organization, distributed leaflets in Jerusalem announcing the landing of the immigrants.

### British Correspondent Describes How 'Haganah' Landed the Immigrants

LONDON, Dec. 26. (JTA) -- A dramatic eye-witness description of how 300 "non-certificated" immigrants landed in Palestine last night from a vessel which had been at sea for two weeks, is given today by Jon Kimche, Palestine correspondent of the Reuters news agency.

"I was called soon after midnight by a public relations officer of the 'Haganah' and was told that the landing was being carried out," the British correspondent cabled from Haifa. "A car called for me and took me out of the city as soon as the curfew was lifted at 5:30 A.M.

"All approaches to the landing area were still guarded by 'Haganah' officials. Apparently the vessel bringing the immigrants had evaded a shadowing British plane during a storm on Christmas Eve, and as a result the landing beach was changed at the last moment. There were no small boats to take the arriving Jews ashore and the schooner had to come close inshore and foundered. Girls and women aboard cried as there seemed to be no chance of getting ashore in view of the stormy waters. But 'Haganah' stevedores constructed a rope bridge and the last passenger landed soon after midnight. In the distance the sweeping searchlights of British destroyers could be seen, but did not come close.

"The sea was running rough, and the immigrants were soaked to the skin, but there were 250 complete sets of clothing waiting for them. At the most all were be-

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teen 15 and 35. Some had been on their way for nine months, from Poland and Eastern Europe. One girl had been in Auschwitz and Mauthausen concentration camps and a group of boys had come from Dacau.

"Today all these newcomers were already being absorbed in settlements and elsewhere in Palestine, and 'Haganah' officials declared they would intensify their efforts and rapidly increase the number of immigrants coming to Palestine."

The Reuter correspondent reports that the landing was carried out twenty miles north of Haifa "within a quarter of a mile of the encampment of a unit of the Arab Legion." The vessel evaded two destroyers, a number of police boats and search-lights along the coast.

On the sandy shore of the Jewish colony of Nahariah, where the landing took place, a number of U.S. Air Force life preservers, popularly called "Mae Wests", were found, the correspondent writes.

#### ISI WHO DIRECTED DEPORTATION AND MURDER OF LODZ JEWS DOOMED BY POLISH COURT

WARSAW, Dec. 26. (JTA) -- The vice-commander of the Lodz Ghetto during the German occupation, Rudolphe Kramp, was sentenced to death last Saturday for organizing the deportation and murder of over 200,000 Lodz Jews.

Witnesses at the trial charged that Kramp personally directed the transfer of Jews from the ghetto to a death camp at Chelmek and looted the property of the deportees. He also was accused of directing the execution in the Lodz Jewish cemetery of tens of thousands of Jews; and of heading Camp Dobrowka, near Pabianice, where thousands of other Lodz Jews were murdered.

#### PALESTINIAN JEWISH OFFICER NAMED MILITARY GOVERNOR OF TRIPOLI

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26. (JTA) -- The former town clerk of the municipality of Bethany, Major M. Arkin of the British Army, has been named military governor of Tripoli, where over 100 Jews were killed in riots last month, it was learned here today. Major Arkin will also act as mayor of the city.

#### ZOA TO MOVE HEADQUARTERS FROM WASHINGTON; PREPARES DRIVE FOR WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS

NEW YORK, Dec. 26. (JTA) -- The Zionist Organization of America will move its headquarters from Washington to New York, it was decided here last night at a meeting of its executive at which the Zionist political situation was discussed.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, reporting on his visit to Palestine, said that the World Zionist Executive, which met recently in Jerusalem, had decided that the forthcoming World Zionist Congress - the first since 1939 - should take place in Palestine during the summer. It was also decided, he revealed, to launch a huge campaign among Jews throughout the world for the buying of a Shekel which entitles a person to vote in the election for delegates to the Congress. This campaign, he explained, is to serve as a kind of a referendum signifying the extent of Jewish solidarity with Zionism. He urged the organization in the United States of the widest possible Shekel drive in order to enable American Zionists to play a decisive role at the Congress.

Following a report from Dr. Emanuel Neumann on Zionist activities in Washington, the ZOA executive decided to transfer to the American Zionist Emergency Council its invitation to send representatives to the hearings of the Anglo-American Inquiry Committee on Palestine which are to open on Jan. 7. The executive adopted unanimously a resolution expressing thanks to Dr. Neumann for his activities in Washington.

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AMERICAN INFORMATION SERVICE EVOKES CRITICISM IN PALESTINE HEBREW NEWSPAPERS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26. (JTA) -- Criticism of the American Information Service in the Middle East was voiced here today by the Hebrew press in connection with an "interpretation" given to the news that Congress had adopted the Palestine Resolution.

Reporting the fact that the resolution was passed by the Senate, the release of the American Information Service adds that "every resolution, though approved by the Senate, is not binding on the President of the United States." Hebrew newspapers say the "explanation" is tendencious and are asking who in the American Information Service is responsible for it.

U.S. MAKES PLANS FOR DISPLACED PERSONS WHO WILL ENTER U.S. UNDER TRUMAN'S PLAN

NEW YORK, Dec. 26. (JTA) -- The National Refugee Service today announced that preparations are being made "to extend a warm welcome" to displaced persons who will be permitted to enter the United States under President Truman's directives of last week to admit 3,900 a month under the existing immigration quota.

Prof. Joseph P. Chamberlain, chairman of the board of the N.R.S., today revealed that local refugee aid committees in many communities have expressed readiness to accept definite numbers of the 900 refugees who will be released from the Oswego Emergency Shelter under President Truman's order. Some communities actually have funds earmarked for the resettlement of these refugees, he declared.

The United States Committee for the Care of European Children and the European Jewish Children's Aid will be ready to extend their programs to youngsters who under the President's plan will constitute a large part of the refugee immigration, Professor Chamberlain stated. "The EJCA, an affiliate of the National Refugee Service, took care of a group of orphaned and homeless children brought to this country before and during the war. With the collaboration of local children's agencies it placed these boys and girls in foster homes and institutions throughout the country, and most of them have now grown into young American men and women," he pointed out.

DISPLACED JEWS MUST BE CHANGED TO "PLACED JEWS", CHIEF RABBI BAECK URGES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26. (JTA) -- The displaced Jews must be made over into "placed Jews" and must be taken to Palestine as soon as possible, Dr. Leo Baeck, former Chief Rabbi of Berlin, urged today at a press conference at the B'nai B'rith headquarters here. At the same time he lauded President Truman's announcement that the U.S. immigration quota will be filled and reported that it will be received as a "message of peace and hope" in the displaced persons camps.

Rabbi Baeck, who is returning to London to head the work of the B'nai B'rith European Aid Council, said that America can become the center of Jewish spiritual life. Such life, he stated, would not be possible in such small Jewish communities as will remain in Germany and the rest of Europe. He revealed that he was the only living survivor of his three brothers and four sisters, and ascribed his own escape from execution by the Nazis to a mistake made when they killed another man of the same name, his name being then removed from the list.

AGUDAS ISRAEL LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN IN PALESTINE TO PROVIDE MATZOKS FOR DISPLACED JEWS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26. (JTA) -- A country-wide drive for funds to provide matzoks for displaced Jews in the camps in Germany, Austria and Italy was launched here today by the Agudas Israel Organization.

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J.D.C. PROVIDED MOST AID TO JEWS IN EUROPE DURING 1945; UNRRA NOT OPERATING IN SOME LANDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 26. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee provided more relief, worked in more countries and helped more sufferers in 1945 than any year in its 31-year history, Edward M. M. Warburg, chairman, announced today in commenting on J.D.C. activities during 1945.

"Our appropriations this year of \$28,675,475 were probably the greatest of any private relief agency," Mr. Warburg disclosed. "Over 100 professionally trained welfare and secretarial workers are now operating in 50 countries, helping administer to the urgent needs of the 1,500,000 Jews who survived out of a pre-war population of over 7,000,000. Yet today, despite the size of its program, the J.D.C. is tragically forced to weigh one man's hunger against another's; to determine who shall get a second hot meal daily, or who shall be given a pair of shoes, or a warm coat."

In a full report by Moses A. Leavitt, J.D.C. secretary, it was emphasized that 75 percent of European Jewry live in countries where the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration does not operate. In 1945, nearly half the Jews in continental Europe outside the Soviet Union were directly dependent on the Joint Distribution Committee for major aid, and the vast majority of the other 750,000 looked to the J.D.C. for help other than direct relief, the report said.

Transportation for more than 8,000 Jews entering Palestine was paid for by the J.D.C. during 1945. This emigration was carried out in cooperation with the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

Emphasizing the need for help from governmental and intergovernmental agencies in saving the remnants of European Jewry, Mr. Warburg praised the work of the War Refugee Board and the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees. The latter took over part of the relief burden in Spain, Portugal and Belgium, and also granted aid to eligible refugees in France. He also urged that other countries follow the example of Switzerland and Sweden in the care and maintenance of refugees.

Because most of the funds of the J.D.C. were used to keep alive hundreds of thousands of Jews in dire need of their daily bread, he stated, only small beginnings could be made in rehabilitative and reconstructive activities. This was particularly so since the large-scale help from other sources failed to materialize. Restricted by its constitution, UNRRA was prevented from entering countries where most of the Jews are located. Even where it does operate, "at best only 10 per cent of the needs of the destitute population can be met." The primary burden of caring for the Jews thus fell on the Joint Distribution Committee, he pointed out.

LARGEST JEWISH MUSEUM IN WORLD TO BE OPENED IN NEW YORK; MRS. WARBURG DONATES HOME

NEW YORK, Dec. 26. (JTA) -- Conversion of the home of Mrs. Felix Warburg into the largest Jewish museum in the world will be started immediately, and the institution will be opened to the public by Oct. 1, 1946, according to an announcement made here today by Dr. Louis Finkelstein, president of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. The six-story building was donated to the Seminary by Mrs. Warburg in memory of her husband, Felix, her father Jacob H. Schiff, and her brother Mortimer M. Schiff.

The new building, which triples the present capacity of the Seminary's Jewish Museum, will house permanent and temporary collections of Jewish art, music, literature as well as objects depicting the ritual, life, and history of the Jews. The museum "ought to become a center for creative artists, who wish to express the traditions and aspirations of the Jewish people in the varied media of music, painting, sculpture and letters," Dr. Finkelstein said.

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