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UNRRA DISMISSES MORGAN AFTER HE REFUSES TO RESIGN; DISAVOWS HIS REMARKS

LONDON, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The regional office of UNRRA here reported late today that Lieut. Gen. Sir Frederick Morgan has been dismissed as chief of UNRRA operations in Germany because of his statement concerning the emigration of Jews from Poland.

Earlier in the day UNRRA had issued a statement, here and in Washington, disassociating the agency from the views expressed by Gen. Morgan and disclosing that his resignation had been requested. The announcement of his dismissal followed his rejection of the demand that he resign.

The full text of the statement reads as follows:

"Consequent on a press conference given by General Morgan at Frankfurt on Wednesday Jan. 2nd, the UNRRA has felt obliged to call for his resignation. Irrespective of any further clarification of the statement made or attributed to General Morgan, issues outside the scope of UNRRA were raised at the press conference and the administration must therefore be completely disassociated from any views expressed by General Morgan on these issues.

"The results of these statements and the interpretation which has been placed upon them are such as to make it difficult if not impossible for General Morgan to serve the administration effectively. The administration has reached this decision with deep regret in view of the valuable services already rendered by General Morgan to the displaced persons operations in Germany and because of his close personal concern for the welfare of all persecuted people, including Jews who have suffered greatly and are in need of further help."

Morgan Charges "Jewish Angle" of Refugee Problem Unduly Highlighted

FRANKFURT, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Lt. General Sir Frederick Morgan, chief of the UNRRA Operations in Germany, whose statement on Jews who are fleeing from Poland provoked great resentment in America and in England, today declared that he saw no reason why he should resign. In a statement issued to the press, Gen. Morgan said:

"I have not resigned, because I see no reason why I should resign. It was unfortunate that in some quarters what I said was distorted. My one and only objective in saying what I did was to do what I could to bring to the attention of the competent authorities the urgent necessity for producing a positive and constructive solution to the displaced persons problem as a whole.

"It is a thousand pities that the Jewish angle of the problem has been so unduly highlighted. It is only one fraction of a very much larger whole, which I hope will not tend to obscure the broader picture. The fact remains that a solution of the overall displaced persons problem must be found - and quickly."

In an earlier statement, the British general emphasized that in his remarks on Wednesday he was not referring to the Jewish question as a whole, but "to local

symptoms which seem to me to be as unhealthy as the lack of general plan to bring an end to the fear and wanderings of these unfortunate people.

"It is to be regretted," Morgan declared, "that my remarks were interpreted in some quarters as an attack on the motives of European Jewry in their present itinerant state. It seems probable that some Jews have been encouraged to leave their permanent homes by unauthorized sources. Many other Jews may well have been driven from their homes by threats and occasional violence.

"My purpose in bringing up the problem of European Jews - both in its pitiful and curious aspects - was to bring to the attention of the world the need for a solution more permanent than UNRRA can possibly furnish. Those Jews who remain alive after Hitler's six-year program of extermination deserve, in my opinion, more than sympathy and temporary shelter."

British Press Scores Gen. Morgan; His Allegations Are Termed "Childish Talk"

LONDON, Jan. 4, (JTA) -- The British press today severely criticizes Gen. Morgan for his statement on the Jewish refugees from Poland.

The Manchester Guardian says that Morgan's allegations are "at best childish talk and at worst an echo of Hitler's ravings." The paper calls for sympathy for the Jewish survivors from Poland and says that they cannot be considered criminals just because they wish to proceed to Palestine. "The Jews," the article points out, "have been abominably treated by Europe; why should they be blamed for trying to leave it?"

The Evening Standard says in an editorial that "to accuse the wretched Jewish survivors of a conspiracy is defiance of reason." It emphasizes that Jews have suffered more than any other people in the world. "They need sympathy, help and sure guidance that will lead them out of the land of bondage never to be enslaved again," the paper says.

The News-Chronicle publishes an article by its Berlin correspondent refuting Morgan's statement that there is no concrete evidence of recent pogroms in Poland. "Before leaving for Warsaw, I saw hundreds of Jewish refugees who upon reaching Berlin gave eye-witness accounts of the persecution which drove them out of Poland. When I was in Warsaw, I repeated their accounts to the British Consul who confirmed them in every particular. While I was with him, he received news of three more murders of Jews in Lodz. The Polish Prime Minister, when I saw him, admitted anti-Jewish persecution, but claimed that it is now diminishing.

Says Every American Citizen Condemns Morgan Attack on Jews

NEW YORK, Jan. 4, (JTA) -- In signed advertisements appearing in several newspapers today, Eddie Cantor, the noted comedian, stated that "not only the Jews of America, but every citizen, be he Christian or Jew, white or Negro," will condemn Lt. Gen. Sir Frederick Morgan's "unfounded and shameful attack upon a defenseless people that deserves far better at the hands of the United Nations." Addressing himself to Gen. Morgan, Mr. Cantor said: "You cannot consign the surviving remnants of Jewry to death. They have survived Hitler and they will, with our full sympathy and support, survive you."

Charles S. Zimmerman, vice-chairman of the Jewish Labor Committee, who returned this week from Warsaw, where he studied Jewish conditions, issued a statement refuting Gen. Morgan's allegations, declaring that during his stay in Poland he established that excesses against Jews were taking place there and that not even official government circles denied that they had occurred. These atrocities "are due, in part, to existing anti-Semitism and also to underground political activity against the present government, as well as just plain banditry," he said.

WITNESS AT NUREMBERG TRIAL SAYS GERMAN ARMY COOPERATED IN ANNIHILATING JEWS IN EUROPE

NUREMBERG, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Evidence of an agreement among the German High Command, the Army command and the Nazi Security Police for the extermination of Jews in Russia was offered today by Walter Schelleberg, former SS-brigade leader, at the Nuremberg trial of the top Nazi leaders.

The evidence followed testimony given late yesterday by a Gestapo official, Dieter Wisliceny, estimating that "at least 4,000,000 Jews" were exterminated by the Nazi security police in Eastern Europe with the full knowledge and cooperation of the German Army leaders.

Wisliceny described how thousands of Jews from Slovakia, Greece and other countries were transported to the death factory at Auschwitz, Poland. Most of this movement, he said, was ordered by his superior in Berlin, Adolf Eichmann. The witness said he personally went to Salonika and Macedonia on Eichmann's orders and helped to arrange for 54,000 Jews to be transported to Auschwitz for extermination. They were shipped in requisitioned army railway trains, 2,500 at a time, he said.

After the Germans entered Hungary, Wisliceny said, Eichmann moved in with a huge staff. More than half a million Jews, he said, were involved in Eichmann's activities in Hungary. The "final solution" at Auschwitz awaited most of these people also. Only 25 to 30 per cent of them escaped because they were allocated to labor camps.

EXPLOSIONS IN TEL AVIV LAST NIGHT CAUSED NO DAMAGE; POLICE ON ALERT IN HAIFA

TEL AVIV, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The three explosions which were heard here last night are reported to have been made by pamphlet bombs which were detonated in the northern part of the city. A tour of Tel Aviv disclosed no signs of damage. Meanwhile, new searches were carried out here and in Jerusalem today.

Immediately after the explosions, frightened residents rushed into the streets and called upon shopkeepers to open their stores, fearing that another curfew was to be clamped down on the city. Food shops did a rushing business for a short time.

Both in Jerusalem and in Haifa special measures have been taken by the police to protect all government buildings and offices. Barbed-wire entanglements have been thrown up around the structures and Tommygun nests have been established in watch-towers erected in strategic spots. Entrances to buildings have been restricted to narrow doorways, which can be easily guarded.

PALESTINE GOVERNMENT REFUSES TO AID IN SETTLING JEWISH VETERANS IN FARM COLONIES

TEL AVIV, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The Palestine Government has refused to cooperate in placing demobilized Jewish soldiers in agricultural settlements, a meeting of the Agricultural Workers Center was told today.

Speakers said that Jewish institutions will be compelled to bear the entire burden of aiding those veterans who wish to settle in agricultural colonies. Plans are already under way for the establishment of 15 new settlements before the end of September. Land has been allotted by the Jewish National Fund, and the Jewish Agency will finance the projects.

ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON PALESTINE HOLDS FIRST MEETING TODAY

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The British members of the Anglo-American Inquiry Committee on Palestine arrived here today and will meet tomorrow in a closed session with the American members. Zionist spokesmen will be heard on Monday and for half of Tuesday at the Committee's first open sessions.

The Synagogue Council of America, one of the organizations invited to present its views at the committee hearings, today announced that its executive has submitted a brief memorandum to the American secretary of the inquiry committee, declaring that the Council is of the opinion that there is nothing to be added to what is already known about Palestine from reports published and republished and incorporated in the official records of both the governments of Great Britain and the United States.

"We feel," the memorandum says, "that the institution of this Committee will only result in further delay in the work of rescue and rehabilitation, and consequently add to the casualty list of over 6,000,000 which the Jewish people have suffered in the struggle for freedom."

ARAB HIGHER COMMITTEE WILL BE RECOGNIZED AS REPRESENTATIVE BODY OF ALL PALESTINE ARABS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The Palestine Government will shortly recognize the recently re-constituted Arab Higher Committee as the sole representative body of Palestine Arabs, it was reported today. The committee has already applied for such recognition.

Although allegedly representative of all Arabs here, the committee is dominated by the Palestine Arab Party, which is controlled by the Hussein family, whose titular head is the exiled Grand Mufti of Jerusalem. At the time it was reorganized, several weeks ago, the committee voted to reserve the presidency for the Mufti.

A memorandum to the Anglo-American inquiry committee is to be drafted by the Arab group tomorrow. It will be sent to the various Arab countries for approval and suggestions, and will serve as model for the statements which the Arab nations will submit to the probe commission.

1,000 DELEGATES ATTEND JEWISH NATIONAL FUND CONFERENCE IN PITTSBURGH

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- More than 1,000 delegates from all parts of the United States gathered here today to attend the national conference of the Jewish National Fund, the formal opening of which will take place tomorrow evening at the William Penn Hotel.

Dr. Chaim Weizmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, in a message to the conference, called upon the Zionist leaders in this country to exert full strength in the struggle against the discriminatory Palestine land regulations under the White Paper.

"In the throes of crisis confronting us today, I can think of nothing more vital or more symbolic of the enduring nature of our work than land which endureth forever," Dr. Weizmann said. "The Jewish National Fund is not only the cornerstone, but the very foundation of Zion rebuilt. Every dunam of national soil which is being added extends the era of salvation of our people, as it makes more firm its foundations for a new life in freedom and dignity."

GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZES NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE TO ISSUE AFFIDAVITS FOR OSWEGO REFUGEES

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The first steps for the dispersal of the 900 refugees in the Government's Emergency Shelter at Oswego, N.Y. and their resettlement throughout the country as quota immigrants were announced today by Joseph E. Beck, executive director of the National Refugee Service.

The entire resettlement program is the responsibility of NRS, Mr. Beck pointed out. The agency, as principal organization for assistance to refugees in the United States, has been authorized by the Government to issue a corporate affidavit as the basis for visa applications by the Oswego refugees, he disclosed. This was done in order to facilitate the process of issuing visas to those who qualify for permanent immigrant status.

Preparations for resettlement of the group were made in advance by NRS, which got in touch with their American relatives and friends and with its cooperating committee in many cities and towns all over the country. Many local committees, Mr. Beck said, have already agreed to accept small groups for resettlement in their communities, to find quarters for them with kinsmen or friends without complicating housing problems, and to aid in their economic and social adjustment to American life. Those refugees who do not have American relatives or friends will be resettled in the larger communities with local cooperation. Completion of the dispersal of the Oswego group is expected to take several weeks.

INQUIRY BODY SCORED AS "POLITICAL PLOT", SENATOR SAYS TRUMAN ORDER WILL HELP FEW JEWS

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- The Anglo-American Inquiry Committee, which is to open hearings in Washington on Monday, was denounced last night by Sen. Edwin Johnson of Colorado as "a political plot to pave the way for the declaration of predetermined and arbitrary decisions." Addressing a meeting at Manhattan Center called by the New Zionist Organization, Sen. Johnson expressed regret that the American Government had allowed itself to become a party to this "deliberate and shameless deceit."

Sen. Charles Tobey of New Hampshire told the meeting that the situation of the Jews in Europe demands immediate action to rehabilitate them, not further inquiries into their problems. He charged that President Truman's recent announcement that 39,000 refugees would be allowed to enter the United States yearly was an "ill-advised imposition upon the unfortunates who look to us for help." He pointed out that "out of this quota, less than five thousand per year will apply to Jews." Sen. Tobey said that Palestine was "the home which Jewry needs, one they can call their own."

Other speakers at the rally were Dr. Joseph Schechtmann, member of the executive committee of the World Jewish Congress and Mor Grossman, president of the Jewish State Party. Col. Morris J. Mendelsohn, president of the New Zionist Organization of America, presided.

DR. LEO BAECK WILL RECEIVE DEGREE AT SPECIAL CONVOCATION OF JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

NEW YORK, Jan. 4. (JTA) -- Dr. Leo Baeck, former Chief Rabbi of Germany, will receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity at a special convocation at the Jewish Theological Seminary on Sunday, it was announced today.