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WAR WAS A "JEWISH WAR" AND GERMANY WAS NOT ARAB ENEMY, HUSSEINI TELLS INQUIRY COMMITTEE

JERUSALEM, March 12. (JTA) -- Charging that the war was a "Jewish war," and asserting that "Germany was not our enemy, and, therefore, we had no interest in the war," Jamal Husseini, leader of the Palestine Arab Party, today opened the Palestine Arab's case before the Anglo-American inquiry committee.

Husseini, who was recently permitted to return to Palestine, after having been exiled for nine years for anti-British and anti-Jewish terroristic activities, said that the main Arab demands were:

1. An independent Palestine under Arab rule.
2. Abrogation of the Palestine Mandate.
3. Abandonment of Zionist aims.
4. Stoppage of all Jewish immigration.

Husseini ran into difficulties soon after he began his testimony when he stated that the Arabs in Palestine "find themselves deprived of their chief leader, the Grand Mufti, for whom they cannot accept any substitute."

Questioned by Richard Crossman concerning the Mufti's collaboration with the Nazis, Husseini said that the Mufti fled to Germany, because it was the only place to which he could escape. He alleged that the Mufti did not help the Germans, but only wanted to get something out of them, if they won. Asked whether in view of the Mufti's record, the Palestine Arab Higher Committee still felt that he enjoyed the confidence of the Arabs, Husseini said: "Yes."

"I am unable to understand," Crossman said, "how, if you believe in the Four Freedoms, and believe in the fight against fascism, your leader allied himself with fascists; I take it you felt that in the fight against the Zionists, it would best serve the interests of the Palestine Arabs to ally yourself with Hitler. How do you answer the average Englishman who says: 'He who fights the common enemy deserves well of me; he who stands by idle, or even assists him, does not deserve so well of me'."

In reply Husseini then remarked that Germany had not been the Arabs' enemy and added, "I've read somewhere that it was a Jewish war anyway."

Urges British to Withdraw and Hints at Arab Violence

Husseini described the Zionists as "invaders," adding that as he listened to David Ben Gurion testify yesterday, he thought that he "was hearing Hitler speak from the grave." Ben Gurion's demands, he added, were fascist.

Hinting at Arab violence, Husseini said that if the British and Americans are unable to solve the Palestine problem "with justice," British troops and police should withdraw from the country and the Jews and Arabs should be allowed to solve the problem by force, if necessary.

"Ben Gurion says that the Jews are able to defend themselves," he continued. "We say the same." Husseini added that, however, if the British troops withdraw, there

not be bloodshed, "because if the Zionists know that they will not be pampered and led, as in the past, by the British, we would become friends. And I feel thirty percent of the Jews would leave Palestine, if they realize that they cannot have a Jewish national home here. The remainder will stretch out their hands to us, and we will extend, not only our hands, but our arms, and embrace them."

Chairman Says Neither Jewish Nor Arab Claims Can Be Taken at Face Value

American co-chairman Joseph Hutcheson interrupted to say: "Your views are the same as the Zionists. You feel that only you can be trusted to take care of your own people. Therefore, we cannot take at face value either claim, can we?"

To a question from Bartley Crum, Husseini said that in a Palestine Arab state, Arabs would have the same rights as Jews in other Arab countries." This drew a burst of laughter from the audience, and he added quickly: "I mean the democratic Arab states." Husseini stated that the only guarantee that could be given the Jews would be on paper, "as in the United States." Crum interjected that "in the United States, you practice what we preach."

Auni Bey Abdul Hadi, Arab extremist leader, told the committee this afternoon that T.E. Lawrence, famed British agent in the Middle East during the last war, had persuaded Emir Feisal of Iraq into signing an agreement in 1918 with Dr. Chaim Weizmann, securing Arab approval to a Jewish state in Palestine. Abdul Hadi alleged that Feisal had never seen the final English translation of the agreement.

A bit of drama was injected into the hearings when after Abdul Hadi reaffirmed that the Mufti was still leader of the Arab Higher Committee and denied that he had ever engaged in Nazi activities, Crossman produced a photograph from the Wiener Illustrierte Zeitung, a Vienna weekly, dated Jan. 12, 1944, showing the Mufti giving the Hitler salute during an inspection of a Moslem S.S. unit. Abdul Hadi first said that, perhaps, the photograph was a forgery, and then added if it wasn't, the explanation for the Mufti's action was that he thought then that Hitler would win.

Crossman asked him whether "if another great power came up some day, offering assistance, would you accept such assistance if it might be inimical to Britain." Abdul Hadi replied "No." He gave the same answer to a question from Crum as to whether he knew of the existence of any written agreement between the Mufti and Hitler.

Anglo-U.S. Inquiry Committee May Investigate Possibilities of Lowdermilk Plan

JERUSALEM, March 12. (JTA) -- The Anglo-American inquiry committee may tour the Jordan Valley and other regions of Palestine which would be included in the proposed Lowdermilk Plan for irrigation and development of hydroelectric power, it is reported here. However, the time and places to be inspected have not yet been fixed.

Meanwhile, Emanuel Neumann, chairman of the Commission for Palestine Surveys, John B. Hays, chief engineer for the commission, and John Savage, consulting engineer, have arrived today to present to the inquiry committee the commission's plans for a Jordan Valley Authority, modeled on the American Tennessee Valley Authority.

BERLIN JEWISH COMMUNITY OPENS OFFICES TO FACILITATE RELIEF AND EMIGRATION

BERLIN, March 12. (JTA) -- The Berlin Jewish community has announced that it has opened four offices in the various sectors of the city in order to facilitate and coordinate the problem of Jews seeking relief or emigration advice.

AUSTRIAN JEWS TO ASK CATHOLIC BISHOPS TO ISSUE PASTORAL LETTER DENOUNCING ANTI-SEMITISM

VIENNA, March 12. (JTA) -- The Jewish community of Vienna will request all Catholic bishops in Austria to have read from the pulpits of every church a declaration condemning anti-Semitic agitation, it was announced here last night at the first meeting in preparation for relations to the community council, which are slated to take place on April 7.

David Brill, acting president of the council, addressing the meeting, voiced the community's thanks for the aid rendered Jews by many Christians after the Anschluss, but demanded that the remnants of anti-Semitism in Austria be crushed by measures outlawing the spread of such propaganda. Speakers pointed out that unless measures are taken to suppress anti-Semitism here, the few thousand Jews remaining in the country would leave, and none of those who have emigrated will ever return.

Representatives of the Jewish Merchants Association, which up to now had been planning to enter a separate list in the elections, announced at today's meeting that they would join with all other groups in presenting a joint list of candidates.

ANTI-SEMITIC PROPAGANDA IN EASTERN SLOVAKIAN TOWNS ALARMS JEWISH RESIDENTS

PRAGUE, March 12. (JTA) -- Anti-Semitic slogans painted on the walls of Jewish homes in the eastern Slovakian towns of Michajlovce and Humenne are causing alarm among Jewish residents. The Jews complain that local officials are taking no measures to curb these activities.

Czech Jews today expressed disappointment at the assignment of only 43 Palestine immigration certificates of the present schedule to Czechoslovakia. Spokesmen point out that this includes only eight chalutzim, although there are 600 chalutzim awaiting certificates on one training farm in Slovakia.

Zionist leaders in Slovakia have begun their campaign to sell "shekels" for the coming World Zionist Congress. In the first few days of the drive, 4,000 were sold in Bratislava and Kosice, and the Zionists expect to sell 15,000 before the campaign closes.

GERMAN JEWS WILL BE EMPLOYED IN DE-NAZIFICATION PROGRAM, PROVINCIAL MINISTER SAYS

WEISBADEN, Germany, March 12. (JTA) -- An effort is being made to employ as many Jews as possible in the de-Nazification and reconstruction program in the province of Greater Hesse, the province's Minister of Reconstruction and De-Nazification, Gottlieb Binder, told a Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent today.

Binder said that Jews had expressed their interest in the job of ridding Germany of the Nazis and placing them in prison. Under the new de-Nazification program announced last week, many persons are needed to fill important posts such as public prosecutors, and judges of trial and appellate tribunals.

The law provides that such positions be filled by persons who are known anti-Nazis, at least 30 years old, and with some knowledge of legal procedure. The political parties have been given the job of nominating candidates, although the burgomeisters in individual communities may also nominate some.

Although preference will be given to qualified Jews and some have applied, Binder does not expect that there will be many Jews on his staff, because there are not many Jews in the province. Weisbaden, for instance, has only 140.

REBBI HERZOG VISITS AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO ITALY; FETED BY JEWISH AND ITALIAN LEADERS

ROME, March 12. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog of Palestine was received here today by Alexander C. Kirk, American Ambassador to Italy.

In the evening a banquet, presided over by David Prato, Chief Rabbi of Rome, was given in Rabbi Herzog's honor. Among those attending were Vittorio Orlando, one of the "Big Four" at the Versailles Peace Conference and now a candidate for the presidency of the Italian parliament, and several members of the Italian cabinet.

FOOD RATIONS FOR DISPLACED PERSONS CUT IN BRITISH ZONE IN GERMANY

LONDON, March 12. (JTA) -- The British section of the Allied Control Commission for Germany today announced a cut in food rations for displaced persons in the British zone.

The announcement declared that displaced persons, however, would continue to receive larger rations than the Germans. A twelve percent reduction in the amount of bread, flour, and potatoes supplied to the camps will be put into effect shortly. The military government said that the measure was taken "reluctantly."

FRENCH ZIONISTS CONCLUDE NATIONAL CONFERENCE WITH DEMAND FOR JEWISH STATE

PARIS, March 12. (JTA) -- The seventh national conference of the Zionist Organization of France concluded here today with a demand for the creation of a Jewish state in Palestine.

Professor Selig Brodetsky, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, addressing the convention, stressed the fact that the Middle East is underpopulated. He pointed to the recent reports that 150,000 Polish troops in Gen. Anders' Second Corps in Italy would be permitted to emigrate to Transjordan as evidence that the area could absorb a greater population.

Declaring that the Jews in Palestine were strong enough to prevent an anti-Zionist solution of the Palestine issue, Dr. Nahum Goldmann of the Jewish Agency, asserted, "We are fighting the last fight--one more victory and Zionism is accomplished."

A delegation of German Jewish refugees addressed the conference and emphasized that the only hope for German Jews was to emigrate to Palestine. Other speakers paid homage to the 6,000,000 Jews murdered by the Nazis. Representatives of various French parties and ministries and of the Spanish Republican Government attended the convention.

J.D.C. OFFICIALS BURIED IN PRAGUE; U.S. REPRESENTATIVES ATTEND FUNERAL

PRAGUE, March 12. (JTA) -- David Guzik and Gertrude D. Pinsky, representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee who were killed here last week in an airplane crash, were buried yesterday.

United States Army Chaplain Reuben Wurzl conducted services, which were attended by Jewish community leaders, representatives of various Czech ministries, American embassy officials, and Army and UNRRA representatives. Capt. George Traittner spoke for the U.S. Army, while Chaim Barless of the Jewish Agency spoke in behalf of the Agency and the Palestine Jewish community. During the funeral planes circled overhead in an official salute.

MASS-MEETING IN CHICAGO DEMANDS ESTABLISHMENT OF PALESTINE AS A JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

CHICAGO, March 12. (JTA) -- An audience of more than 7,000 persons here, last night adopted a resolution greeting the Jewish Federation of Labor in Palestine and demanding the establishment of Palestine as a Jewish Commonwealth.

The mass-meeting marked the conclusion of a \$200,000 campaign for the Palestine Labor League. Principal speakers included Dr. Solomon Goldmann, former president of the Zionist Organization of America; Dan Pines, representative of the Histadruth; and Isaac Hamlin, leader of the Zionist Laborites in America.

Rabbi Goldmann spoke of the tragedy of the Jews in Europe and the necessity of bringing them to Palestine. He emphasized that Palestine today is the only hope for thousands of these Jews. He lauded the role of Jewish labor in the upbuilding of Palestine. Mr. Pines appealed to American Jewry to mobilize all its strength for the Jewish cause in Palestine.

HENRIETTA SZOLD DISCUSSED AS "BUILDER OF WORLD CULTURE" AT INTERFAITH INSTITUTE

NEW YORK, March 12. (JTA) -- The Institute for Religious and Social Studies, meeting at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, today concluded its sessions with a discussion on Henrietta Szold as one of the "Builders of World Culture."

Mrs. Rose G. Jacobs, the only woman member of the executive of the Jewish Agency and former national president of the Hadassah organization, led off the discussion with a paper on Miss Szold covering the period of her life from 1860 till 1944, which she called "The Road from Maryland to Judea."

"A happy synthesis of East and West as personified in Henrietta Szold, may yet put the world on the road to redemption," Mrs. Jacobs said. Picturing Miss Szold as "a mother to thousands" of Jewish youths who were brought from Nazi Europe to Palestine through the Youth Aliyah, Mrs. Jacobs declared: "She exemplified what was best in Jewish traditions and the flowering American ideals. They gave her the moral fibre which radiates the light of her rare personality against the murk of the Jewish tragedy of modern times."

Mrs. Jacobs also noted that "through Henrietta Szold the adaptability and pliability still left to an ancient people are clearly indicative when ready to follow the West in the best it has to offer without forfeiting its own deeply ingrained idealism."

Professor F. Ernest Johnson, professor of education at Teachers College, Columbia University, summed up the course on "Wellsprings of the American Spirit," over which he presided for the current year, in the final lecture on "The Spiritual Role of America."

CAMPAIGN FOR SALE OF 50,000 SHEKOLIM PROCLAIMED AT ARGENTINE ZIONIST MEETING

BUENOS AIRES, March 12. (JTA) -- A campaign to sell 50,000 "shekolim" in Argentina, in order to send several Argentine delegates to the forthcoming World Zionist Congress, was proclaimed here today at a meeting sponsored by the Zionist Central Council to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the publication of Dr. Theodor Herzl's "Judenstaat." A number of prominent civic leaders spoke.