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TURKISH GOVERNMENT TERMS "FABRICATED" REPORT OF MASSACRE OF JEWS IN URFA

ANKARA, April 7. (JTA) -- The Turkish Government today denied a report in a New York newspaper that a pogrom in which "hundreds of Jews were massacred" had taken place in Urfa, a Turkish town on the Syrian frontier.

"There is no truth whatsoever in the fabricated report alleging that a pogrom took place in Urfa, or that hundreds of Jews were murdered there," an official statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency said.

Authoritative Turkish sources stated that on the night of Jan. 31, a Jewish family in Urfa which had become converted to the Moslem religion four months earlier was found murdered. "The police are still continuing their investigation to discover the murderers who will be placed on trial, but no other incident has taken place at Urfa," the same sources told the JTA.

MOSCOW CONFEREES AGREE AUSTRIA MUST PAY COMPENSATION FOR PROPERTY TAKEN FROM JEWS

MOSCOW, April 7. (JTA) -- The committee drafting the Austrian peace treaty today agreed to include a clause binding Austria to return to Jews and other racial and religious persecutees property stripped from them during the Nazi regime, or to pay compensation, where the property cannot be recovered.

The conferees, however, were unable to reach an agreement on the question of what was to be done with property for which there were no heirs. Jewish quarters have demanded that such property be placed in a central fund to be used for the rehabilitation of needy surviving Jews.

American Jewish Committee Hails "Big Four" Decision on Property Restoration

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- News from Moscow that the Big Four have agreed that Austria must restore looted property to Jews or, where restoration is impossible, compensate for it, was hailed today as "a triumph in the international struggle for human rights" by Dr. John Slawson, executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee. He pointed out that the American Jewish Committee, on February 19, submitted to the State Department recommendations for inclusion in the peace treaties with Germany and Austria providing for property restitution and guarantees of civil rights.

"The report from Moscow clearly indicates that a victory has been won in behalf of the human rights ruthlessly violated in Austria and Germany at the outset of the Axis war against humanity," Dr. Slawson said. "The American Jewish Committee has consistently contended that civil rights guarantees and property restitution and compensation clauses should be included in the treaties not only with the Axis satellites but with Germany and Austria. This now seems to be on the fair way toward accomplishment. It is a step in which all to whom human liberty is sacred can take pride and courage."

PALESTINE HOLIDAY PEACE SHATTERED BY ATTACK ON BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN TEL AVIV

JERUSALEM, April 7. (JTA) -- The holiday quiet was shattered late last night when sentries guarding British military headquarters in Tel Aviv were attacked by a small band of unknown assailants, who used rifles and revolvers. One soldier is reported to have been wounded in the exchange of fire which lasted for about a quarter of an hour, after which the attackers fled.

Earlier, two Jewish youths attempted to disarm three soldiers who were walking along Rothschild Boulevard, in the center of the city. Several shots were fired, but the soldiers retained their arms.

Oil tanks which were set afire last Monday when the Shell Company installations in Haifa were blasted by the Stern Group were still burning today. The Arab press reports that Arab Legionnaires have arrived to take over guard duty at all Shell facilities.

Meanwhile, the Irgun last night, in a broadcast on its underground radio, reiterated its defiance of the Hagana's threat to take action against the terrorists, and warned that it will meet violence with violence, "kidnappings with kidnappings."

Sneh Doubts Prompt Or Effective Action by U.N. On Palestine

Dr. Moshe Sneh, a member of the Jewish Agency executive, speaking at the annual conference here of the General Zionist Labor Organization last night, said that it was illusory to expect rapid and effective action from the United Nations on Palestine. He added that he did not believe that a decision will be taken soon, or that Britain was inclined to seek a prompt solution. Sneh charged that the British wish to keep the Mandate, "not to implement it."

The Agency leader called on the Zionist movement to gear itself to resistance to the White Paper policy. He voiced opposition to partition, which, he said, was based on the assumption that there are two peoples in Palestine, each with an equal need for independence. The principle Jewish need, he continued, is immigration, which is possible only under Jewish control, and which must continue until a numerical majority of 1,000,000 is reached within the next five years.

A widening of the Zionist coalition to include representatives of the Hashomer Hazair, Movement for Labor Unity and "even the Revisionists, if the latter change their attitude towards the Labor movement," was also urged by Dr. Sneh.

PALESTINE SUPREME COURT REJECTS ROKACH PETITION TO SET ASIDE GRUNER DEATH SENTENCE

JERUSALEM, April 7. (JTA) -- The Palestine Supreme Court today rejected Tel Aviv Mayor Israel Rokach's petition for an order to set aside the sentence condemning Dov Gruner to death, and refused to grant permission for an appeal to the Privy Council in London. Rokach's attorney, however, announced that he plans to appeal to the Council.

The Supreme Court ruled that Rokach was not competent to press the petition because he was not a directly interested party. Chief Justice Sir William Fitzgerald turned down the request that the same plea be forwarded to the Privy Council on the grounds that the Palestine Court did not have jurisdiction in the matter.

Several weeks ago, in rejecting another appeal by Frank Gruner, uncle of the condemned Irgunist, the Privy Council had indicated that a plea from a representative of the Jewish community might have legal weight. The High Court's decision apparently forestalls the possibility of further appeals to halt Gruner's execution.

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BEVIN TO BE HAILED INTO COURT ON FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT LABOR PARTY PLEDGES ON PALESTINE

LONDON, April 7. (JTA) -- When Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin returns from the Moscow Conference he will be hailed into court on charges of "wilful misrepresentation" in connection with his failure to carry out the Labor Party's pledges on Palestine, it was learned here today.

Henry Cooper, a London resident, has obtained a writ from the High Court of Justice ordering Bevin to explain the government's failure to settle the Palestine issue along the lines of the party platform.

Following an inquiry at the Foreign Office on the possibility of serving the writ, Cooper received a letter informing him that he may take action through the Treasury Solicitor. Cooper declared that he intends his suit to be a test case of the possibility of forcing politicians to carry out their election promises.

REFUGEE WOMEN IN PALESTINE ON HUNGER STRIKE TO PROTEST HUSBANDS' DETENTION IN CYPRUS

JERUSALEM, April 7. (JTA) -- Twenty-six women refugees from various blockade runners, who are now housed in the Jewish Agency's refugee hostel here, are in the third day of a hunger strike in protest against the Agency's alleged failure to secure the return from Cyprus of their husbands. The women said that Agency officials had promised that their husbands would be back in Palestine by Passover.

ITALIAN POLICE RELEASE 43 REVISIONISTS ARRESTED FOR SEIZING JEWISH REFUGEE OFFICES

ROME, April 7. (JTA) -- The Italian police have released 43 Revisionists arrested several weeks ago for seizing the headquarters here of the Organization of Jewish Refugees in Italy, following an appeal by the Union of Jewish Communities in Italy and the Italian Zionist Federation. The Revisionists attacked the headquarters during a demonstration to protest alleged discrimination against them in immigration matters.

The Central Committee of the Organization of Jewish Refugees in Italy has submitted a memorandum to UNRRA Director-General Maj. Gen. Lowell Rooks asking that the relief agency continue providing assistance to refugees and displaced persons in Italy after July 1, if the International Refugee Organization is not prepared to take over at that time. Gen. Rooks is attending a conference of UNRRA mission chiefs from various countries in Central and Eastern Europe.

AMERICAN ORTHODOX LEADER FINDS YESHIVOTH IN DP CAMPS FUNCTIONING BETTER THAN IN U.S.

PARIS, April 7. (JTA) -- "In spite of the hardship endured by the displaced Jews in the camps, the Yeshivoth there are functioning on a level that even surpasses many Yeshivoth in the United States," Rabbi S. Gourary, chairman of the United Lubavitcher Yeshivoth in America, declared today upon his arrival here from a visit to the camps for displaced Jews in the U.S. zones in Germany and Austria.

SWEDISH SHIP BRINGS 166 JEWISH REFUGEES TO THE UNITED STATES

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- The Swedish liner Gripsholm arrived today from Gothenburg with 166 Jewish refugees.

15,000 POLISH JEWS REPORTED REGISTERED FOR REPATRIATION TO POLAND FROM DP CAMPS

WARSAW, April 7. (JTA) -- Reports reaching here today from camps for displaced Jews in Germany and Austria indicate that many Polish Jews intend to join repatriation transports and return to Poland, either to resettle here permanently, or to wait for an opportunity to emigrate legally to Palestine.

The number of Jews who have registered for repatriation is estimated to be about 15,000. Several thousand are expected to return within the next three months. They will be included in the transports of non-Jewish Poles who will be returned from the American and British zones. Arrangements for the mass-repatriation of Polish citizens are now being worked out in Warsaw between Roland Berger, chief of the UNRRA Repatriation Department, and Polish Minister of Labor Kazimierz Rusinek.

Many of the Jews who have registered for repatriation left Poland at the height of the anti-Jewish terror waged by anti-Semitic and anti-Government forces. Disappointed with conditions in the camps and encouraged by reports from Poland that the terror against Jews has been checked, they are reported to be willing to return to the larger Jewish centers.

On the other hand, emigration of Jews from Poland, mainly from France, continues even though securing a Polish exit visa involves great difficulties. It usually takes at least four months to obtain an exit permit, even if the applicant already has secured a French entry visa. Illegal emigration from Poland practically ceased after February 20, when the Czech-Polish frontier was closed for persons in transit to the U.S. zones.

TRIAL OF PERPETRATORS OF JASSY MASSACRE WILL REOPEN IN THREE WEEKS, MINISTER SAYS

BUCHAREST, April 7. (JTA) -- The trial of the perpetrators of the Jassy massacre of 1941, during which 14,000 Jews were killed, will be reopened within three weeks, Gen. Mihail Lascar, Rumanian Minister of War, announced, following a three-hour debate in which the government's inaction was criticized. The debate, which was led by Dr. Edward Manulescu, Jewish deputy, broke into a discussion of the budget.

Dr. Manulescu, who is a representative of the Union of Rumanian Jews, declared that the government's replies to questions raised by the Jews were unsatisfactory and criticized the military authorities' handling of the case, charging "fascist saboteurs" interfered with the courts. He was joined by Social Democratic deputy Dimitru Pop who demanded that the War Ministry investigate who was responsible for the sabotage.

Pleading with the members of parliament "not to consign the facts to oblivion", Dr. Manulescu produced documents proving that a number of officers who had been tried and acquitted were actually participants in the massacre. He described the scenes of horror and death in Jassy and on death trains sent out of the city. Pop demanded a revision of the indictment against the army personnel involved because the courts martial had been "systematically hampered."

SMALL HOLDERS PARTY IN HUNGARY CRITICIZES RELEASE OF PARTICIPANTS IN MISKOLC RIOT

BUDAPEST, April 7. (JTA) -- Kis Ujsag, official organ of the Small Holders Party, today criticized the release of three persons charged with participating in the riots at Miskolc last year in which two Jews were killed. The newspaper demanded to know who was responsible for the freeing of the three, pending the opening of their trial, and asked that the Small Holders Party place a discussion of the case on the agenda of its forthcoming party conference.

1,200 CHALUTZIM ARRIVED IN ITALY WITHIN RECENT DAYS; CAME FROM GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

ROME, April 7. (JTA) -- Twelve hundred chalutzim have arrived in Italy from Germany and Austria within the past three days, it was learned here today.

Serious dissatisfaction exists among some 7,000 chalutzim, living and working in 50 training farms throughout Italy, as a result of UNRRA's decision to close up the settlements. The chalutzim are expected to object most strenuously to moving from their centers into crowded camps where conditions are known to be primitive.

Sir George Rendel, British representative on the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, has arrived in Italy to study displaced persons problems. Rendel is expected to make recommendations to the British Government as to whether or not the DP population should be transferred out of Italy when British troops withdraw in about four months.

INTERNATIONAL JEWISH REFUGEE COMMITTEE THANKS TRUMAN, ARMY, AMERICAN JEWS FOR AID

VIENNA, April 7. (JTA) -- The American military authorities in Europe were today praised for their aid to displaced Jews by the International Committee of Jewish Refugees in a message to American Jewry released through the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. The message, which also lauds President Truman for his sympathetic attitude toward the Jewish survivors, follows:

"The Jewish DP's who are forced to wander from land to land and camp to camp thank above all President Truman who has constantly shown interest in the problems of Jewish refugees and who used all influence to solve the problem of Jewish refugees by calling for the immigration of 100,000 Jews to Palestine. The Jewish refugees also thank the American military authorities, the Joint Distribution Committee and American Jewry for their generous help.

"Jews of America, continue to help us. Help us bridge this terrible period. With your aid we shall reach our goal -- Palestine -- and begin a new life. Brothers and sisters of America, the most unfortunate of unfortunates place their confidence in you."

ORT ANNOUNCES EXPANSION AND ACCELERATION OF TRAINING COURSES IN AMERICAN ZONE

PARIS, April 7. (JTA) -- The ORT advisory council has announced an expanded and accelerated vocational program in the U.S. zones of Germany and Austria, following a two-day conference here of field workers from those areas.

The Council decided to increase the number of trainees in the American zone from 10,000 to 12,000 during the current year and also approved plans for the establishment of three ORT schools which will be centrally located outside the DP camps in Germany.

FIRST YIDDISH NEWSPAPER IN AUSTRIA IN NINE YEARS TO BE PUBLISHED SHORTLY

VIENNA, April 7. (JTA) -- The first Yiddish newspaper to be published in Austria in nine years will appear shortly, it was learned here today.

The newspaper, a weekly, will be entitled "Die Yiddische Welt." Its publication follows the opening of the first Jewish print shop, equipped with Yiddish and Hebrew type, since 1938, when the Nazis entered Austria.

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION MEETS WITH ZIONIST LEADERS DURING VISIT TO PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, April 7. (JTA) -- The U.S. Congressional delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union meeting in Cairo, which spent Easter Sunday here, lunched with David Ben Gurion, chairman of the Jewish Agency executive, and later was dined in Tel Aviv by Mrs. Goldie Meirson, head of the political department of the Jerusalem section of the Agency.

The Congressmen asked many questions concerning the Palestine situation, but refused to be drawn into a full-dress discussion of the problem. All they would say was that America took a great interest in Palestine developments.

The Poale Mizrahi Party, Orthodox labor group, today celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary. During the last quarter century the party, numbering about 11,000 members, has established twenty agricultural settlements with a population of 5,000. The settlements are on more than 16,000 acres and represent an investment of \$6,000,000.

J.D.C. SPENDING RECORD TOTAL OF NEARLY \$30,000,000 IN FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1947

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- With appropriations for April reaching \$6,117,000, the JDC announced today that its allocations during the first four months of 1947 totalled \$29,872,000--the largest sum ever expended in any four-month period in the history of the organization.

The announcement pointed out that the April appropriation will aid distressed Jews in more than 30 countries on three continents, including a special project for tubercular Jews who will be supported in sanatoria in Switzerland, Italy and other countries.

WORLD FEDERATION OF YMCA'S CHARTER RATIFIED; FRANK WEIL ELECTED PRESIDENT

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- Ratification of the articles of federation of the World Federation of YMCAs and Jewish Community Centers by its four founder member organizations in the United States, Great Britain, Canada and Australia, and the election of the Federation's first officers were announced at the group's headquarters here today.

The objectives of the Federation include the interchange of ideas and experiences and opportunities for cooperation among the national organizations and the fostering of the Jewish center movement in all countries where it appears feasible and desirable. Frank L. Weil, president of the Jewish Welfare Board, was chosen president of the Federation.

JEWISH BOOK COUNCIL ANNOUNCES CONTEST FOR RECOMMENDING BOOKS OF JEWISH CONTENT

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- The Jewish Book Council of America, sponsored by the Jewish Welfare Board, today announced a contest for recommendations for the publication of books of Jewish content. Prizes of \$200 and \$100 will be awarded for accepted recommendations of either new works or literature published in another language and not available in English.

MRS. FRANK COHEN, NOTED MUSICOLOGIST, NAMED CHAIRMAN OF JEWISH MUSIC COUNCIL

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- Mrs. Frank Cohen, New York musician and musicologist, has been appointed chairman of the National Jewish Music Council, which is sponsored by the National Jewish Welfare Board, it was announced here today by Frank L. Weil, president of JWB.

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