JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY

1560 BROADWAY NY C

VOL. VI. NO. 198.

Monday, April 1, 1940.

NAZIS GIVE UP 800 POLISH WAR PRISONERS TO LITHUANIA

WILNO, Lithuania, March 51. (JTA) -- Eight hundred Polish war prisoners entitled to Lithuanian citizenship have been released from German intermment camps and are on their way home by way of Russia, it was learned here today. An estimated 60 per cent of the released men are Jews.

5 WAR CORRESPONDENTS ASSIGNED TO BRITISH FORCES IN MIDDLE EAST

JERUSALEM, March 31. (JTA) -- The British authorities in the Middle East are appointing five accredited war correspondents to the Middle East Command, it was learned today.

POLES PREPARE TO ISSUE 'BLACK BOOK' ON NAZI ATROCITIES IN OCCUPIED AREAS

PARIS, March 51. (JTA) -- The Polish Government-in-exile announced today the forthcoming publication of a Black Book containing documentary evidence of Nazi atrocties in Poland since the first week of the occupation.

POLISH JEWS ACT TO CREATE REPRESENTATIVE BODY IN PARIS

PARIS, March 31. (JTA) -- An organization committee has been formed to establish a representative body of Polish Jews, it was learned today, while negotiations were proceeding for setting up a Department for Jewish Affairs in the exiled Polish Government.

The Jewish body would include all Jewish deputies, senators and aldermen who held office in the Polish Republic. About a dozen such Jewish ex-officeholders have escaped from Nazi-occupied Poland and some of them may be brought to Paris to form a group organized along the lines of the Kolo, the Jewish Parliamentary Club, in the former Republic.

Jewish ex-senators now outside Nazi-occupied Poland are Rafael Szereszewski, Muses Koerner, Jacob Trockenheim and Isaac Rubinstein. Ex-deputies include Dr. Ignacy Schwartzbard, Dr. Silberschein, Heinrich Rosmarin and Noah Prilutzki. Ex-aldermen are Anselm Reiss and Dr. Moses Kleinbaum.

Such a Jewish body would not only represent the Polish Jews in dealings with the Polish Government, but could act on behalf of the Polish Jews in negotiations with American and other relief organizations.

NAZI 'WHITE BOOK' ALLEGATIONS ON JEWISH ROLE IN WAR BRANDED FALSE BY POTOCKI

WASHINGTON, March 31. (JTA) -- Polish Ambassador Count Jerzy Potocki has denied the authenticity of a document published by the German Government quoting him as having reported to Warsaw on Jan. 12, 1939, that "international Jewry" was influencing President Roosevelt's anti-Fascist stand and seeking U.S. entry into a war.

"The publication by the German Government of pretended documents from the Polish Foreign Office is obviously for propaganda purposes," Count Potocki said. "I deny the allegations attributed to me."

The purported Potocki document, one of a series published in a German White Book last Friday, represented the Polish Ambassador as having said that American opinion was generally against Fascism and particularly opposed to Hitler. The Ambassador was quoted as having said that propaganda "is above all in Jewish hands, for they own almost 100 per cent of the radio, films, press and periodicals."

The alleged document declared that influential Jews such as Bernard M. Baruch, Governor Lehman, Justice Felix Frankfurter and Secretary of Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr., who are "close friends" of Roosevelt, wished "that Roosevelt should become a champion of human rights and religious freedom, as well as freedom of speech, and one who in the future would punish those who create disturbances."

"This group of persons, who have the highest positions in the American Government and who like to join themselves to representatives of 'real Americanism' and 'defenders of democracy,' is basically bound with unbreakable bonds to international Jewry," the purported document said. "For those Jewish internationalists, who have the interest of their race above all else to place Roosevelt upon this 'idealistic' post as a defender of human rights was a genial chess move."

The objective of all this, according to the document, was to have the United States rearm for the future war "toward which the Jews in full consciousness are striving."

'Obvious Fake,' Poles in Paris Hold

PARIS, March 31. (JTA) -- Polish official circles today branded as "obvious fakes" the alleged documents contained in the German White Book.

Pointing out that all important diplomatic papers had been removed from Warsaw in the first week of the war, these circles asserted the purported documents bore the unmistakeable style of Nazi Propaganda Minister Goebbels.

Referring to that portion of the White Paper concerned with Ambassador Potocki, they said he would not, in describing the American situation, have used language reminiscent of Nazi Field Marshall Goering or of "typical Nazi propaganda."

U.S. Officials Preparing Report on Nazi Propaganda Here

NEW YORK, March 31. (JTA) -- The New York Times said in a Washington dispatch today that it had learned on good authority that American officials were preparing a complete report on German propaganda on the basis of data gathered since the European war began.

Disclosure of these preparations came on the heels of issuance of the German White Book on alleged American machinations for war, the authenticity of which drew official denials in all Washington quarters.

"Day by day since the war started, it was disclosed," the dispatch said,
"a careful record has been kept of German attempts to influence or divide American
opinion at critical moments through official statements in Berlin, or inspired
press reports, or by other channels. The results of this labor are now being carefully correlated and analyzed for official purposes and, perhaps, for eventual
publication."

The dispatch at the same time reported persistent, underied rumors that Clarence E. Pickett, the Quaker leader, would be appointed the first American Ambassador to the Reich since withdrawal of Hugh Wilson at the height of the anti-Jewish drive. Issuance of the Nazi White Book, however, has made a new exchange of Ambassadors between Germany and America "unlikely," the dispatch added, quoting informed State Department quarters.

Beaverbrook Refutes Charge Jews Made War

LONDON, March 31. (JTA) -- In a 12-point defense of the British position in the European war, Lord Beaverbrook today refuted contentions that the British were "in the hands of the Jews" and that the Jews "made this war."

Writing in the Sunday Express, the publisher said: "But at the very moment when the English are meeting this accusation Jews in many parts of the world are rioting against Britain, declaring that the English are anti-Semites because they will not deprive the Arabs of their rights in Palestine.

J'If it is true that the English have gone to war at the behest of the Jews, it is strange that they are permitted to flout the Jews' demands in Palestine. For my part I would gladly hand the rule in Palestine over to the Turks or the Italians. It might then be that the Jews would find conditions much more agreeable for them than at present.

"It is not for Britain alone to judge the prospects of happiness for Jews and Arabs in Palestine. And many will say and believe that government in the Holy Land would be much more desirable if it were conducted on economic lines of public expenditure such as the Turkish administration of centuries."

PENDING TRIP TO REICH BY CUZA STIRS CONCERN AMONG RUMANIAN JEWS

BUCHAREST, March 31. (JTA) -- Apprehension was expressed in Jewish circles today over the disclosure that Georg Cuza, anti-Semitic leader, member of the short-lived Goga cabinet in 1938 and son of Prof. Alexander Cuza, will shortly visit Germany. The announcement was taken as indication of the close cooperation of the Rumanian anti-Semites, now incorporated in the Front of National Rebirth, with the Nazis in Germany.

DOMINICAN PROJECT LAUDED BY MRS. ROOSEVELT IN 'MY DAY'

NEW YORK, March 31. (JTA) -- Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt declares in her syndicated column, "My Day," that the Dominican Republic colonization plan "lightens the picture" of the refugees' plight.

"That item about the 1,600 Polish refugees who have been wandering from country to country and are now finally interned in Palestine seems to me one of the saddest of tales," Mrs. Roosevelt says. "The only thing that lightens the picture is the other news item, that Santo Domingo may consider taking in some of these homeless people.

"A story was told to me today of a man who was trying to become an American citizen, but who cannot state his present nationality, for he was born in a country which has changed hands in the last few years and he is no longer a citizen of either of the nations. His wife and child are citizens of the United States and he is temporarily a 'man without a country.'"

To Select Dominican Settlers

NEW YORK, March 51. (JTA) -- Solomon Trone, a representative of the Dominican Republic Settlement Association, will sail for Europe this week to aid in selecting refugees for settlement in the Dominican Republic. He will cooperate with Dr. Kurt Bondy, another representative of the association, who is now in Paris.

GOLDMANN, PERLZWEIG TO CONFER WITH GIBSON ON EUROPEAN RELIEF WORK

NEW YORK, March 31. (JTA) -- The question of facilitating relief work in German-occupied areas will be the subject of conferences on board the Europe-bound liner Conte di Savoia between Hugh Gibson, representative of the Commission for Polish Relief, Inc., and Dr. Nahum Goldmann and the Rev. Maurice L. Perlzweig, World Jewish Congress leaders returning to Europe after a two-month tour of the United States, Canada and South America, it was announced today.

Mr. Gibson, former American Ambassador to Belgium and Poland, is on his way to London and Paris to take up with the Allies questions concerning the effects of the blockade on shipment of relief supplies to Poland.

Prior to their departure yesterday, Dr. Goldmann and Mr. Perlzweig issued a statement expressing the conviction that "American Jewry will manfully meet the challenge of our times and will rise to the height of the great opportunity which events have provided for it." Upon returning to Europe, they said, they planned immediately to take formal steps to set up at Geneva an institute whose task it will be to formulate Jewish proposals to the ultimate peace conference, and to expand and develop the machinery of relief established by the World Jewish Congress.

HEAT WAVE FELLS SEVERAL IN PALESTINE

TEL AVIV, Palestine, March 31. (JTA) -- Several prostrations were reported today as a heat wave accompanied by a khamsin, sultry desert wind, gripped Palestine. The temperature reached 93 degrees in the shade.

OVER 650 COMMUNITIES ACTED FOR U.J.A. IN FIRST QUARTER

NEW YORK, March 31. (JTA) -- More than 650 communities throughout the country completed or launched campaigns for the 1940 United Jewish Jewish Appeal in the first three months of the year, it was announced today.

Warning that the very existence of the Jewish people was at stake, more than 500 orthodox rabbis meanwhile signed a solemn prayer summoning American Jewry to fulfill their sacred duty in rescuing European Jews from destruction and in rebuilding Palestine by supporting the U.J.A.

An illustration of the spirit of sacrifice with which the appeal is being met was disclosed by the U.J.A. in a report from Athol, Mass., where the Jewish community postponed construction of its synagogue for a second year in order to mobilize all its resources for the U.J.A. campaign.

15TH ANNIVERSARY OF HEBREW U. IS OBSERVED HERE

NEW YORK, March 51. (JTA) -- The fifteenth anniversary of the founding of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem was observed tonight at a meeting in the auditorium of the Society for the Advancement of Judaism.

Held under the auspices of the American Alumni of the Hebrew University, the meeting was the first of a series of Hebrew University Day programs being arranged for the month of April by national and local organizations throughout, the country.

Scheduled speakers at tonight's meeting were Dr. Alexander Dushkin, executive director of the Jewish Education Committee and former Hebrew U. faculty member; Salmann Schocken, chairman of the Hebrew U. executive council; Dr. Israel S. Wechsler, of the Columbia medical faculty and the Hebrew U. board of governors; Samuel Finkel, director of the American Friends of the Hebrew U., and others.

The Hebrew University, which was founded April 1, 1924, with a student body of 64, a faculty of 50 and only chemistry, microbiology and Jewish studies departments, now has a student body of 1,100 drawn from all parts of the world; a faculty of 140 members, including renowned scholars exiled from Europe, and a curriculum comparing favorably with that of leading universities.

CHIEF RABBI SAFRAN DONATES FIRST MONTH'S PAY TO RUMANIAN DEFENSE

BUCHAREST, March 51. (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Alexander Safran is donating his first month's salary as Chief Rabbi and as Senator to the Rumanian defense fund, he announced in a letter to Senate President Constantin Argetoianu, published in the press today. Members of the Bucharest Great Synagogue gave a total of 6,650,000 lei to the defense loan, according to the first published list of subscriptions.

RUMANIA LIQUIDATING PROPERTY OF EDGAR AUSNIT, BROTHER OF JAILED ARMS MAGNATE

BUGHAREST, March 51. (JTA) -- Following the imprisonment of Max Ausnit, Jewish-born "steel and munitions king of Rumania," the authorities today began "liquidation" of the property of his brother, Edgar, who was recently deprived of citizenship and is now in England.

It is not yet known who will be the beneficiary of the "liquidation" of Edgar Ausnit's property, but it is assumed that it will be assigned to social institutions. Edgar Ausnit was deprived of citizenship by Royal decree last Dec. 9.