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Armed Resistance of Polish Jews

The fighting spirit of the Jewish masses of Poland, who are led by the General Jewish Workers' Union, which established immediately upon the Nazi occupation, an Underground Movement of resistance against the hated conqueror, has revealed itself once more.

The American Representation of the General Jewish Workers' Union of Poland received the following cable, dated February 7th:

JANUARY GERMANS STARTED LIQUIDATION OF REMNANTS WARSAW GHETTO STOP JEWS RESISTED STOP TENS OF GERMANS AND A FEW HUNDRED JEWS KILLED AMONG THEM MERMELSTEIN CHOLODENKO GITERMAN STOP AFTER THREE DAYS GERMANS STOPPED ACTION TAKING AWAY SIX THOUSAND JEWS STOP ALL OVER POLAND LIQUIDATION PROCEEDING STOP LIQUIDATION OF WARSAW REMNANTS PLANNED MIDDLE OF FEBRUARY STOP WE SUFFER TERRIBLY STOP THE REMAINING FEW HUNDRED THOUSAND JEWS THREATENED WITH IMMEDIATE ANNIHILATION STOP ONLY YOU CAN RESCUE US STOP RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS HISTORY THROWS UPON YOU

As far back as the last months of 1939, there was much talk among the ranks of the Jewish Underground Movement about the necessity for the Jewish masses to be prepared for an armed resistance against the Nazi oppressors when the time comes. There was a general feeling, that such a serious step should not be taken only by the Jewish section of the Polish population. The representatives of the Jewish Underground Movement repeatedly demanded of the agency of the Polish Government-in-Exile, which is in Poland, weapons to arm the Jews in the ghettos. These demands were refused. When the Nazis commenced, in July, 1942, to execute in cold blood their plan of wholesale annihilation of the Jews, and there were no weapons in the ghettos with which to resist the murderers, the anger and grief of the Jewish Underground Movement, because of that blunder, was expressed in a report as follows:

"I will not dwell any more on the details of our underground work. Even if I wished to do so, I could not bear it. There is one offense committed against us, that we will never forgive: we asked for weapons that would enable us to die as human beings, in organized resistance against the murderer. We did not receive them; we were refused. . . ." (Eye-witness Report of the Annihilation

of the Jews of Poland, published in No. 9, Ghetto Speaks, March 1, 1943.)

We do not know as yet how weapons finally reached the remnants of the Jewish masses in the ghettos. We do know, that at least a fraction of the Jews of Poland succeeded in receiving them and, that the first act of armed resistance of the Jews in the ghetto of Warsaw took place on February 7th, 1943. We know now, that the ardent desire of the Jewish Underground fighters of Poland "to die as human beings in organized resistance," instead of being slaughtered like cattle by their Nazi oppressors, was at least partially fulfilled. We also know, that the heroic, armed resistance of the Jews is being led by members of the General Jewish Workers' Union of Poland, who are paying with their lives for their bravery in the fight for freedom and justice.

Fourteen Jews Hanged For Partisan Activities In Poland

Fourteen Jews, including three women, were hanged by the Germans from a balcony in the city of Tarnopol, located in the southern part of Poland, for partisan activities in that vicinity. The Jews were left hanging for three days, while Poles were brought into town to look at the victims.

There was an inscription over the dead bodies, in the Polish and Ukrainian languages which read, that a similar fate would befall all who would be guilty of that which the Jews were guilty of.

The hanged Jews were but a few of those who recently joined the guerrilla detachments in the forests of Poland.

Three of the Hundreds Who Paid With Their Lives

It seems, that a new and heroic chapter in the yet unwritten history of the Jewish Underground Movement of Poland has begun. The Jews are now waging armed resistance against the Nazis. The odds are tremendous and, unless the United Nations will find immediate ways and means for a successful intervention, the Jews of Poland are doomed. However, the Nazis in Poland are now paying, to some extent, for their crimes.

We do not know as yet the full extent of the armed resistance of the Jews in Poland. It stands to reason that "communiques" from that new "war front" inside Germany's occupation lines are scarce. The first report from our home front, **calling the attention of the world to this desperate turn of events in the ghettos**, which appears in this issue, emphasizes two important points:

Along with several hundred Jews, killed in the streets of the ghetto of Warsaw on February 7th, 1943, as a result of their first armed resistance, the **Germans suffered casualties too**. Among the several hundred Jews who died in armed resistance against their mighty oppressors, the report mentions the names of **Mermelstein, Giterman and Cholodenko**, probably because of the leading roles they played.

The above-mentioned persons were well-known in Lodz, which is the second largest city of Poland, famous for its textile factories, where thousands of Jewish workers were employed. They joined the Jewish Socialist Labor Movement in their youth, at a time when the mere fact of belonging to such a movement was regarded by Czarist Russian police as a severe offense against the law. Poland, at that time, was a part of the Russian Empire. In 1918, when Poland regained its independence, Mermelstein, Giterman and Cholodenko proceeded with their activities in the General Jewish Workers' Union of Poland and won the confidence of the Jewish working masses in their native city, Lodz. **Mermelstein** became the leading figure in the Trade Union of Clerks of Lodz, and was elected to the City Council of Lodz in 1938. **Cholodenko** devoted himself to cultural activities and was the president of the League for the Advancement of Culture and Education among Jews, in the city of Lodz. **Giterman** was a well-known member of the Lodz City Committee of the General Jewish Workers' Union of Poland.

When the Second World War broke out and Hitler occupied Lodz, these three active members of the Jewish Labor Movement were still there. We do not know what needs of the Jewish Underground Movement compelled them to leave Lodz for Warsaw, in violation of Nazi regulations. Till their death, they were devoted to the fight against our common enemy. Worthy sons of the Jewish working masses of Poland, they died in the first armed resistance against the Nazi murderers of their country and their nation. Their memory shall long live with us.

MEMORANDUM TO THE BERMUDA CONFERENCE

The American Representation of the General Jewish Workers' Union of Poland sent the following memorandum to the Bermuda Conference on April 23rd, 1943:

The American Representation of the General Jewish Workers' Union of Poland deems it a duty to make the following statement:

The Jewish Underground Movement of Poland was organized by the largest Jewish workers' party, the General Jewish Workers' Union ("Bund") immediately following the Nazi conquest of Poland.

The "Bund", in which the Jewish population of Poland, numbering three and a half million, voted confidence during the municipal elections of 1938, is the Socialist Party of the Jewish workers. It is a Party, that has fought for a Poland of social justice and freedom. The "Bund" believes, that the fate and future of the Jews of Poland is linked with that of the country wherein they have lived for the past eight hundred years; along with the Polish working masses, they have helped towards the upbuilding and advancement of their country. The "Bund" feels, that the Jews should be regarded as citizens endowed with full and equal rights in all countries where they reside, which should be their homes, as they are the homes of other nationalities in the countries concerned. Full and genuine equal rights mean not merely political and economic equality on par with the neighboring population; they mean an opportunity for a minority to live its national life as a minority, endowed with a culture of its own which it desires to preserve and develop. The activities of the Jewish workers' Party, the "Bund", have been closely connected with the struggle of the Polish workers and peasants for an independent, free, just and democratic Poland.

In the course of more than three years of war, the Jewish Underground Movement has been active, waging strong resistance to the enemy. It has fortified the courage and endurance of the plagued Jewish population. Politically and organizationally, it has worked along with the Underground Movement of the Polish working masses and has remained faithful to the principles and traditions of the Jewish Labor Movement, despite the hell it has endured under the heel of the Nazi occupant.

The most recent reports from Poland, dated January 23rd, 1943, reveal, that despite the slaughter of Jews, which has become a mass phenomena, the Jew-

ish Underground Movement is still active. What is more, the Jews are waging armed resistance to the Nazi murderers. The first desperate act of resistance took place in the ghetto of Warsaw on February 7th, 1943. Several hundred Jews paid with their lives for their daring.

We shall not endeavor to relay to you all that occurs in the slaughter-house called Nazi Poland. The horrible facts are known to you. All nations, under the Nazi yoke, are bleeding to death. With regards to the Jewish people of Europe, however, the Nazis have set themselves the aim of annihilating them completely. Despite desperate calls for help, on the part of the Jews, this aim is being realized.

On December 18th, 1942, eleven Governments issued a statement declaring, that those who will participate in the slaughters, will be punished when the war is over. This statement has had no effect whatsoever. In all reports from Poland it is pointed out, that "the decisions to punish the Nazi murderers after the war are without results and without effect. For, before this will have happened, all Jews still alive will be destroyed, so that not a trace will be found of them. Deeds are, therefore, necessary, immediate and effective deeds."

This demand has been voiced not only by the Jewish Underground Movement, but also by the united working masses of the entire Underground Movement in Poland. The latter, in its appeal to the British Labor Party, wrote: "It is insufficient to have the assurance that the guilty will be punished after the war. The statement made to this effect has not broken the calm displayed by the German people with respect to the murderous acts."

The Bermuda Conference has before it an important task: to provide a haven for a certain number of refugees who at present reside mainly in neutral countries. Those, who have escaped from the Hitler hell, should be regarded as soldiers who have succeeded in fleeing from a prison camp. **All countries should be open to them.**

In conferring on the refugee problem, decisions should be made to rescue not merely those, who have already succeeded in escaping to neutral countries. It is necessary, too, to utilize all means to rescue as many men, women and children as possible from the clutches of Vichy and all other European countries, controlled or occupied by the Nazis. It is the duty of the United Nations to admit these unfortunates to their countries, so that they might survive and be useful to the war effort.

We believe, that admission of refugees should not even be classed under immigration laws, but ought, rather, be included in the sphere of "rights of asylum," which is a basic principle of every democratic nation. Every possible aid should be extended to the refugees, after the war, to enable them to return to their native lands, so that they might rebuild their ruined homes on their beloved soil. Their repatriation must be planned by the refugees themselves.

The refugee question, however, comprises but a fraction of the huge problem that must now confront the United Nations. We trust, that the Bermuda Conference will unfold the entire problem to the Allied Powers, and not merely a part of it.

In a number of reports, the Jewish Underground Movement has put forth the following demands:

- 1) that retaliatory measures be adopted against the Germans residing on the territories of the Allied Nations;
- 2) that the German citizens in the Allied countries, whose pro-Nazi orientation has been proven, be regarded as partners-in-crime, equally responsible for the murders committed;
- 3) that the German public be informed, in detail, about the slaughters;
- 4) that the remaining Jews, within the ghettos, as well as the suffering Poles, be provided with food;
- 5) that the United Nations establish an institution to safeguard the civilian population in Nazi occupied countries.

In its memorandum to the British Labor Party, the leadership of the United Underground Movement of Poland declares: "The German people should already now be made conscious of the fact that they are responsible for the criminal acts committed by the Nazi hordes. The German population will comprehend this only after measures will be taken against them in retaliation for the mass-murders; measures directed not against the German Army, but against the civilian population. We know how difficult it is for civilized human beings to decide upon such methods. However, prejudices against adopting such methods will intensify the brutality of the occupant."

"Jews who escaped death at the hands of the Nazis are threatened with utter starvation," the Underground Movement of Poland reports. For almost four years, the Nazis have pursued a policy of starving

out the Jewish population of Europe. Particularly since July, 1942, the Jews of Europe have been entirely deprived of the right to obtain food allotments.

The same treatment has been applied by the Nazis, in a large measure, against the Greek population. The United Nations have realized that this could lead to the complete annihilation of a people, and have permitted the shipment of food to Greece. The Greeks have been regarded as prisoners of war, confined in the enemy's camp. The same principle should be applied to the surviving Jews now suffering agony behind the ghetto walls.

One of Hitler's methods of war is systematic extermination of the defenseless civilian population; it commenced with the Jews. The United Nations should, therefore, take into account the unparalleled murderlust of the enemy. A danger looms that Europe will be turned into an Island of Death for tens of millions. It is, therefore, necessary to create a permanent Protection Council for the civilian population, a Council that shall, within the sphere of the conduct of the war, seek ways and means of saving the lives of those doomed.

We consider it our obligation to bring to you the voice of those now suffering in the anguish of death. We understand, that these proposals do not exhaust all means that should be adopted. We believe that the Allied Nations will exploit all means of fulfilling the moral obligation of rescuing the Jews.

Jews have sacrificed hundreds of thousands of lives in the battle which the countries, wherein they are so deeply rooted, have waged for freedom. In the reconstruction of the world, after the war, the Jewish masses will have to participate equally, on par with other nations. However, if Jews are to rebuild their homes, they must, of course, first of all, survive. The post-war world will be confronted with the problem of how to realize the return of all plagued and exiled peoples to their native countries. Even now, however, it is imperative to prevent the destruction of those who have remained in their native lands.

The present war is being waged in order to create a world of social justice, economic equality and freedom. In that world of the future, the principle of full freedom of nations will, most certainly, have to prevail, instead of the principle of — superior versus inferior nations.

FIFTY-THREE PRISONS FOR THE REMAINING JEWS IN POLAND

Notwithstanding the great shock which the whole world felt on hearing of the unparalleled German butchery of millions of Jews in Poland, the Germans, with complete disregard for the flood of protests which followed, are cold-bloodedly carrying on with the completion of their murderous task.

We have before us two new official decrees issued by the German authorities in Poland, one dated November 1st (No. 94.P.66) and the other November 14th (No. 98.P.683), from which can be seen the final preparations to finish off the few remaining Polish Jews.

The decrees, one issued for the districts of Warsaw and Lublin and the other for the districts of Radom, Krakow and Galicia, order the concentration of all remaining Jews in Poland into fifty-three places, mostly little towns and villages which they call "Jewish Residential Areas." The decrees state:

"1. All Jews within the meaning of the enactment establishing the definition of the term 'Jew' in the General Gouvernement of July 24, 1940 (VBIGG I p.231), must take up their residence by November 30, 1942, in one of the residential areas specified in paragraph I. *All other persons must have left these areas by that date unless they have received special permission to stay from the police.*"

A special paragraph declares that only those Jews employed in the war industry, who are kept interned in closed camps, are exempt from the duty of finding for themselves accommodation in "Jewish Residential Areas."

Death Penalty for Giving Help to Jews

The further paragraphs of the decrees impose the death penalty for Jews who are found after December 1st outside those "Jewish Residential Areas." They also impose the death penalty upon every non-Jew who gives any kind of help to a Jew. The paragraph referred to reads as follows:

"Anyone who knowingly offers such a Jew hospitality—that is to say, anyone who offers a Jew asylum, hides him or feeds him outside a Jewish Residential Area—will be punished with death."

Those non-Jews who obtain knowledge that a Jew is outside a Jewish Residential Area and who fail to inform the police shall be "proceeded against by the police."

"Non-Jewish persons who infringe the provisions of the decree by failing to leave Jewish Residential Areas within the time specified and who enter such area without police permission will be fined 1,000 zloty (about \$200.) or sentenced to six months' imprisonment."

One must bear in mind, that these appalling decrees were issued in November, 1942. Since that time, the Nazis have made a great deal of progress in their task of annihilating the remnants of the Jews in Poland.

J E W S I N B I A L Y S T O K

Bialystok, the largest industrial city in the eastern part of Poland, where generations of skilled Jewish workers were employed in textile factories, was a prominent Polish city before the outbreak of the war and one of the oldest Jewish communities. It was the home of a united and well organized mutual struggle of Polish and Jewish workers for a better life. Since the German occupation of that city, which took place at the beginning of their war against Soviet Russia, in the summer of 1941, no one has heard anything about the fate of the population there, Jews and non-Jews alike. It seems, that the Germans are more anxious to conceal their deeds in Bialystok, than in any other occupied territory. It is, therefore, interesting to cite the story of a Swedish merchant, who recently visited, with special permission, Bialystok and some other places in the eastern part of Poland. This item appeared in the Swedish newspaper "Dagens Nyheter":

"There are many closed stores in Bialystok. These stores are all labeled — *Vorgesehen fur Kriegsteilnehmer* — which means — reserved for soldiers. All of these closed enterprises are marked for transfer at the end of the war, to German soldiers as a reward for their toil. The entire population of the Bialystok district is appallingly poverty-stricken. Long lines of Jews, with yellow stars on their chests pass through the streets. They are forbidden to use the sidewalks and are restricted to the use of the pavements."

"The eastern part of Poland, in general, presents a picture of utmost destruction. The devastation there, caused by the war, is comparatively new and its measure is even greater than that which one encounters in other parts of war-torn Poland. Here and there efforts have been made to collect the iron junk that was left after the battles. Here and there one beholds many rows of wooden crosses with German helmets on top of them. . . ."

A I R - B O R N E L E A F L E T S I N T H E G H E T T O O F W A R S A W

While bombing Germany's military objectives in Warsaw, in the summer of 1942, Soviet pilots dropped some leaflets, together with their bombs. Some of these air-borne gifts dropped to the streets of the ghetto and were found by the Jews there. The following is the text of one of these leaflets:

"Brethren Poles! We are very sorry, that we have been compelled to bomb Warsaw. We are not trying to get you, but the Germans. We are bombing our enemy, which is also the worst enemy you have ever had. To you, we are the messengers of your allies and friends, the peoples of the Soviet Union. Our cause is your cause. Our victory is your victory. Poles, arise and fight our common foe." (signature—"Soviet Pilots.")

"A CRUEL CRIME HAS BEEN COMMITTED . . ."

During the Memorial and Protest Meeting, which was held at the Mecca Temple on March 30th, 1943, dedicated to Henryk Erlich and Victor Alter, who were executed by the Soviet Government, the narration, which formed a part of the program, deeply touched the several thousand New Yorkers who were assembled there. The following is the text of the narration:

NARRATOR: A cruel crime has been committed. Grave injustice has been perpetrated. Two courageous, loyal fighters for the rights of man, for social justice and international good will, two noble men have been done to death. And their good names have been villified, besmeared. We are here tonight to protest the crime, to pay homage to the memory of these two martyred men.

They were fighting men. They were leaders in the eternal struggle of man against the rule of brute force, against racial intolerance and exclusion. Theirs was the gospel of social democracy, of brotherhood of all men, of freedom and humanity.

That such two men should have died a forced death is not what so distresses us. Fighters for a great cause, for freedom for all men, they counted life itself but little, and freedom all. They were at all times prepared to give their own lives for what they held to be their sacred duty and honor. Had they, indeed, died thus, we here tonight would mourn their memory

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not with tears of humiliation and fury, but with glowing pride and fiery determination — determination that the battle for their cause, and ours, should continue unabated. But not in face-to-face combat with the enemy were these men killed. They were committed to death, defenseless, in the secrecy of a court set up to destroy their bodies and disgrace their names; not only to take their lives but also forever to blacken their memory.

Therefore our tears are choked with the fury of our anger. Here to pledge undying fealty to the deathless memory of these two men, we call out in anguish of spirit and sorrow of heart against the cruel, crying crime committed against two of humanity's best sons.

VOICE: Who were these men?

NARRATOR: Their names were Henryk Erlich and Victor Alter. They were born in Poland when the Russian Czars ruled that country. They were distinguished Polish citizens when that country regained its independence. One was a scholar in law, in the social sciences, a born leader of men; the other was an engineer, a man of practical genius, a born rebel. Both devoted their abilities, their hearts and their lives to the labor movement of Poland in times when the loss of liberty and pleasure, the loss even of life was the only discernible reward for devotion to the labor movement. They fought for freedom. They fought for labor. They fought, above all, for democracy, and against the atrocity called fascism, the inhumanity named Nazism. Theirs was a shining record of unbroken service, of brilliant, self-denying, devoted leadership.

These men gave their all to organize and to lighten life's burdens for the Jewish worker and the Jewish people followed them. They rendered signal service in the struggle for democracy and progress at home and Polish labor knew and honored them. And they were widely known and influential in lands beyond their own, in labor's international movement. They were esteemed by countless men on two continents, east and west, north and south.

VOICE: Were the Nazis after them?

NARRATOR: The fighting but overwhelmed men of Germany, of Spain, of Italy, knew them. For they carried their fighting ingenuity, their socialist hatred of barbarity, their burning human appeal, right into the stronghold of the enemy. Hitler knew of them.

Although opponents of militarism and war, they warned and protested against the humiliation and the indecency of the Munich pact. Although opponents of Communist dictatorship, they urged cooperation between England, France and Russia, for a stand against Hitler and Nazism. And as the armed Nazi hordes marched into Poland, they called on the Jewish people of Poland to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Poles and defend their homeland with their life's blood. So when the Nazis marched through Poland, the names of Erlich and Alter stood high on the wanted list of the Gestapo. Yes — Hitler knew of these men.

As Hitler's armies advanced, Erlich and Alter moved eastward, to Eastern Poland, to organize resistance to Germany. There, they were seized, arrested.

VOICE: Arrested by the German authorities?

NARRATOR: No — arrested by the Russian authorities.

VOICE: What had the Soviet Union against these men?

NARRATOR: As Hitler marched east, Russia marched west; the two met, each occupying a part of Poland under their pact of non-aggression. The advancing Russian armies arrested the two men and held them imprisoned for months without end. And then they sentenced them to death on a charge at once untrue and devoid of sense: that they were agents of Poland's secret service and of the international imperialist bourgeoisie, plotting against Russia. They, Erlich and Alter, who had always urged cooperation with Russia.

Then Hitler broke his pledge to Russia and his armies penetrated deep into the Soviet Union carrying destruction, terror, slavery. Russia made a pact of alliance with Poland's Government-in-Exile. A general amnesty of all interned Polish nationals followed. The lives of the two men were saved.

VOICE: So they were set free — honored perhaps?

NARRATOR: Yes, the two men were freed from prison and the authorities even apologized. Said it was all in error. Having regained their liberty, the two men eagerly took up the fight against the enemy, the Nazi-Fascists; they called upon their compatriots, the Poles and Jews on Soviet soil, to join the Red armies and to fight for freedom and for victory. Thus, they acted in the open for all men to see and with as-

sistance from the Soviet authorities. But not many months passed and the two men were imprisoned once again.

VOICE: Captured by the Nazis this time?

NARRATOR: No — by the Russians, again.

VOICE: (anxiously) What could the Russian people have against these men?

NARRATOR: Not the Soviet people but the Communist partisan dictatorship, the evil power that determines Russian home policy. Alter and Erlich were socialists, opponents of all kinds of oppression and dictatorship, no matter of what color: brown, black, red or blue. Old party hatred of democrats and socialists was brought to bear on the court of a great state, itself engaged in a life-or-death struggle against Nazi aggression. They tried the two gallant fighters for freedom, democracy and humanity — sentenced and put them to death.

VOICE: (louder, protesting) But what could that court, any court not itself an instrument of tyranny, charge against two of freedom's best men?

NARRATOR: That when set free, they acted as Nazi agents, was the charge. That they called on the Red Army to lay down its arms, sue Hitler for a separate peace, apart from the United Nations, was the senseless, slanderous, vile accusation . . .

VOICE: (cries out) Infamy! Blasphemy! Lies!

NARRATOR: (resuming, in a quiet voice) So we are here to mourn the two men. Denied the right of all soldiers — the right to die exchanging blows with the enemy — they were killed behind the battle-lines. They were killed on the verdict of a bitterly partisan court, on lying charges of incredible absurdity. It is too late now to ask justice for men no longer living. But justice to their names can and shall be secured! To the task of clearing the names of Erlich and Alter we, loyally and devoutly, dedicate ourselves. We can do no more. We must do no less.

MEETINGS PROTESTING THE EXECUTION OF HENRYK ERLICH AND VICTOR ALTER

The wholehearted condemnation of all independent trends in American public opinion of the Soviet executioners of the two prominent leaders of the Jewish working masses of Poland, Henryk Erlich and Victor Alter, expressed itself at innumerable memorial and protest meetings, which took place throughout the country during the last two months, since the announcement of the crime was made public. The American Representation of the General Jewish Workers' Union of Poland daily receives resolutions which

are being adopted unanimously at these meetings. Because of their large number, they cannot be quoted here. We would just like to mention here, without any attempt to review them, the cities where public meetings, attended by more than one thousand persons, were held, aside from the meeting at the Mecca Temple in New York, which took place on March 30th: Chicago, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Los Angeles, Boston, Montreal and Toronto. More than one hundred thousand Americans have already participated in protest meetings throughout the country.

A LAW AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM

The American Representation of the General Jewish Workers' Union of Poland has decided to hand in a project of a law, to the Polish National Council in London, through its representative there, which should declare anti-semitic propaganda a criminal offense, punishable by law.

Anti-semitism, so strong in the ranks of reactionary groups in pre-war Poland, has decreased greatly since September, 1939. Many of those, who were previously influenced by anti-semitic propaganda, have realized, in view of what has occurred, the falsehood and the detrimental aspect of their former viewpoint.

However, certain obstinate reactionary groups among the Poles, on the one side, and the frightful, Jew-baiting Hitler propaganda, on the other, have served to maintain anti-semitic tendencies among some of the Poles. At the present time, when the gruesomely reduced Jewish population of Poland is resisting the oppressors for the sake of saving those who have remained, even the slightest trace of anti-semitism is a menace to their safety; particularly since every German massacre of Jews is accompanied by a wave of anti-semitism designed to arouse the Polish populace against the Jews.

Under such circumstances, Polish Governmental agencies should denounce anti-semitism as a fighting weapon of the enemy, as something from which every Polish citizen must refrain.

The prohibition of all anti-semitic propaganda among Poles will strengthen Poland's resistance against Hitlerism, and increase the influence of democratic principles on Polish society. Moreover, it will clearly define the fact that Jews are truly regarded as citizens on a par with all others in Poland.

A law against anti-semitism, which would be passed now by the Polish Government, would strengthen Polish Jewry morally and thus would strengthen their resistance to the Hitler hordes, who are executing a plan of systematic murder of the Jewish population.