

ROME, Tuesday (Palcor) — His Holiness the Pope yesterday received the Head of the Jewish Agency's Political Department at Jerusalem, Mr. M. Shertok, in private audience. The Pontiff discussed with Mr. Shertok the position of the Jews of Europe and the future of the Jews in Palestine. APR 11 1945

URGENT NEED OF RECRUITS FOR BRIGADE

MR. SHERTOK BRINGS MESSAGE FROM TROOPS

From Our Own Correspondent CAIRO, Tuesday. — "The Jewish Brigade Group now in Italy is in most urgent need of reinforcements." This is the message which Mr. M. Shertok, Head of the Political Department of the Jewish Agency, is bringing back with him from his visit to the Brigade in the Italian theatre of war.

Mr. Shertok, who is in Cairo en route for home, told The Palestine Post correspondent today that before he left Italy he had been received by Field Marshal Alexander at his headquarters.

"The Field Marshal referred to the most complimentary terms the fine fighting qualities of the Jewish Brigade Group and expressed the highly favourable impression made by the Palestinian boys in it. The main message I bring from the military in Italy is the most urgent need for reinforcements of the Jewish Brigade Group engaged in effective operations there."

Mr. Shertok also met leading members of the Field Marshal Alexander's staff, went on Mr. Shertok, read had several discussions with them on matters concerning the organization of the Jewish Brigade Group and the position of other Palestinian Jewish units in the Central Mediterranean Theatre not included in the Jewish Brigade. Visiting hospitals where the wounded of the Brigade were undergoing treatment, Mr. Shertok said, he was able to get a first hand account of the battles fought by Brigade soldiers in the present offensive. "The morale of the soldiers is on the highest," he declared, and their Commanders are most pleased with the account they are giving of themselves."

Saw Greek Leaders

Mr. Shertok disclosed that on his way back from Rome he had spent a day in Athens, where he was received by the Regent, Archbishop Damaskinos, and by the Premier, Admiral Voulgaris. He discussed with them the position of the Jewish community in Greece, with reference to immigration to Palestine.

The Head of the Jewish Agency's Political Department also addressed a large meeting in the synagogue at Athens, and visited some of the barracks where a large number of Jewish refugees was being cared for. He could not give more details of his talks with the Greek leaders, as he was keeping this and other news for Palestine newspapermen. Mr. Shertok replied in the affirmative, however, when asked whether his visit was similar in purpose to that paid recently by Mr. D. Ben Gurion to Bulgaria.

Mr. Shertok is to see Sir Edward Crigg and expects to leave for Palestine on Thursday or Friday.

Mr. M. Shertok, Head of the Jewish Agency's Political Department, returned to Jerusalem on Friday from his visit to the Jewish Brigade Group and other Jewish units in Italy. He was accompanied by Mr. M. Yuval. APR 05 1945

EX-SOLDIERS WILL FOUND Kfar MONASH

NAMED AFTER JEWISH GENERAL OF LAST WAR

The name of Kfar Monash is to be given to a new Jewish Palestinian ex-servicemen's settlement which will be set up on J.N.F. land after the war, it was decided by the Photo-Lithography Printers' Cooperative No. 524 in the Palestine Field Survey Company, R.N.C.M.F. APR 05 1945

The decision was conveyed to The Palestine Post in a letter received from its secretary, Pte. M. Weksler.

Both Mr. M. Shertok and Mr. J. Gurion, who is in charge of the Jewish Agency's ex-servicemen's rehabilitation department, visited the unit in the C.M.F. area. Mr. Gurion, said the letter, had discussed various matters with them at length, and had inspected the area in which they are undergoing elementary agricultural training.

MR. SHERTOK AT HISTADRUT MEETING

TEL AVIV, Tuesday. — The Histadrut Council convened tonight to discuss the question of hired workers in cooperatives.

At the opening session in the Ohel Hall, Mr. Moshe Shertok made a recruiting appeal for the Jewish Brigade Group, and spoke of his impressions in Italy and Greece. Mr. J. Sprin-zak presided.

Mr. M. Shertok will speak at the Edison Theatre in Jerusalem at 10.30 on Saturday morning on his recent visit to the Jewish Brigade Group. APR 06 1945

The annual general meeting of the Association of Palestine Journalists will be held at 3.45 this afternoon in the Tel Aviv Museum. Mr. M. Shertok will give a political survey. MAY 15 1945

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NATIONAL REVIVAL TEL AVIV, Monday. — Thousands of relatives of soldiers in the Jewish Brigade Group filled the streets outside the crowded Bet Haam here tonight to listen through loud-speakers to a speech by Mr. Moshe Shertok, who has just returned from Italy.

The sector where the Brigade Group went into action had been turned over to them 20 days before the present offensive started. Before the Brigade came, it had been a quiet sector but from the start the Jewish soldiers had probed the Nazi defences in order to engage the enemy. APR 04 1945

The Jewish war effort was at last receiving recognition from the highest official sources, Mr. Shertok said. The existence of the Brigade confirmed that the Jews were a nation and not a conglomeration of peoples and all who met the formation recognized it as a symbol of Jewish national revival.

The fact that the Brigade was formed not when the Allies were hard up for manpower but when they were already on the road to victory showed that not military considerations but an irresistible moral force had dictated its formation, the speaker declared.

Appeal for Recruits

Appealing for new recruits, Mr. Shertok dismissed the conjecture that they would not be trained in time to fight. The enemy had crack units on the Italian front and though they were retreating they were not yet beaten. In Northern Italy groups of Jews in hiding were awaiting their liberation and behind them was the Brenner Pass, Austria and Southern Germany with thousands of Jews waiting to be freed.

Brigade Greets Dr. Weizman

Greetings from the Jewish Brigade Group in action to Dr. Chaim Weizman, Mr. D. Ben Gurion and the Zionist leaders in America have been cabled by Mr. Moshe Shertok, who has just returned from Italy.

The men, the cable says, who are fighting at last as a national force under their own flag, face to face with the mortal enemy in open battle, are happy that they were not too late to enter the frontline and join in active operations. Their enthusiasm, courage and military efficiency are high.

The Brigade has already established its name throughout the theatre, and has won the high opinion of all commanders, including Field Marshal Alexander who, after having personally inspected the Brigade, said that the boys were first-rate fighters, and that he was much struck by their remarkably fine appearance.

The sight of this complex, self-contained organism seething with activity, with Hebrew spoken everywhere and the blue-white and gold Magen David at every crossroads post and on every vehicle, was magnificent and unforgettable, wrote Mr. Shertok.

The boys in the line asked for new recruits to take the place of their fallen comrades and wounded in the hospitals were eager to rejoin the ranks, he added. "Never have I seen a body of men more ardently aglow with exultation or more deeply."

OF GREEK JEWS STILL ALIVE

MR. SHERTOK REPORTS ON MISSION

From Our Own Correspondent TEL AVIV, Tuesday. — Reporting to journalists on his mission abroad, Mr. M. Shertok, Head of the Jewish Agency's Political Department, gave details of his meetings with ecclesiastical, political and military leaders in Italy and Greece.

In an audience with the Pope in Rome, Mr. Shertok expressed appreciation for assistance rendered by the Catholic Church in some occupied countries to oppressed Jews. He urged that Jewish children given sanctuary in monasteries should be restored to Judaism. APR 25 1945

The Regent of Greece, Archbishop Damaskinos, was also thanked by Mr. Shertok during his visit to Athens for his gallant efforts to save the Jewish Community there from extermination. Placed under house-arrest by the Nazis, the Archbishop continued to resist their scheme to rid the Greek capital of the Jewish "plague." His Eminence had warned the Jewish community to go into hiding and appealed to the population to give them shelter. The Jewish Agency's delegate also met the Greek Prime Minister, Admiral Petros Voulgaris, and discussed the emigration problem.

In Greece, only 8000 of the original Jewish population of 80,000 remained alive. The rate of extermination of Jews there was second only to Poland.

Most of the survivors were poverty stricken and shelterless and were prepared to go through anything to get to Palestine.

Representations that the property of victimised Jews should be utilized to finance the settlement of Jewish survivors in Palestine were contemplated.

Of the 1000 Jews in the Polish Army in Italy, 800 expressed the wish to settle in Palestine after the war.

Referring to the Jewish Brigade Group Mr. Shertok revealed that Field Marshal Alexander had told him: "Your boys are first-rate fighters."

Brigade's Future

Replying to questions at a press conference in Jerusalem yesterday about the future of the Jewish Brigade Group, Mr. Shertok, Head of the Jewish Agency's Political Department said, "We attach the greatest importance to the continued existence of the Brigade and change of personnel to the extent that the men now serving will become due for release. It is essential for recruiting and transfer from other units to continue," he added.

Asked whether he had any comments to make on the Jerusalem Municipality imbroglio, Mr. Shertok replied that an attempt seems to have been made to settle the problem by means of one sided negotiations, with the Arabs, on the basis of a scheme of Municipal partition. If, he added, the fact that no such offer had been made to the Jews meant that the official quarters were assuming an *a priori* agreement on the part of the Jews to the partition of Jerusalem, that assumption would be a serious mistake.