

"Murray Blasts Nazi Massacre of Jews" Newspaper Article, January 4, 1943

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 31 — Nazi massacres of the Jews and people of all nationalities in conquered and invaded countries mark the Nazi armies and Gestapo hangmen as “the greatest curse that has ever afflicted mankind,” CIO President Philip Murray said in a statement issued last week.

Murray declared that labor’s answer “to this mass horror now being inflicted on our brothers and sisters in Europe” is to “redouble our pledge of devotion to the cause of complete United Nations’ victory.” He called on the people in Axis countries “to rise and cast out these monstrous beings.” who will be “tried and punished with the utmost severity for their crimes.”

Full text of the statement follows:

“The civilized world is filled with horror and anger at the slaughter of whole generations and whole peoples now being carried on by order of Adolf Hitler. Europe, and particularly its eastern regions, has been turned into a gigantic shambles by the Nazis, who are daily killing thousands of men, women and children to satisfy an insane bloodlust.

CALCULATED PLAN

“The conduct of Nazi Germany’s armies and Gestapo hangmen in the occupied countries and in the territories they have invaded marks them as the greatest curse that has ever afflicted mankind. No parallels in the history of brutality suffice to describe the massacre of Jews and of human beings of all nationalities where the Nazi war machine has entered.

"This brutality is part of a calculated plan, part of the basic program of the Axis to enslave and destroy all peoples. In the organized mass slaughter in Axis held territories, we can see the future that is planned for our own country and our own people should Hitler win.

“In answer to this mass horror now’ being inflicted on our brothers and sisters in Europe, we pledge in the name of humanity to redouble our work for the utter destruction of Nazism and all its legions of death throughout the Axis.

"We renew our pledge of devotion to the cause of complete United Nations’ victory. We reaffirm our pledge of unity with the workers and the plain people of all nations, including the occupied nations, in the common struggle for freedom and for life itself.