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## EUROPEAN PRESS STIRRED BY SCHWARTZBARD TRIAL; FRENCH OPINION DIVIDED

Petlura Committee Issues Book; Contradicts Documents That Were Published by Paris Committee (Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Paris, Oct. 18.—The entire French press devotes much space to the trial of Sholom Schwartzbard for the slaying of Semion Petlura in revenge for the anti-Jewish massacres in the Ukraine.

Opinions vary in the editorial comment. The "Journal Populaire" makes an impassioned appeal against anti-Semitism. "Le Matin" limits itself to a description of the details of the assassination and the trial. The "Echo de Paris" insists on its charge that relations existed between Schwartzbard and Bolshevism. The "Liberte" urges watchful waiting. The "Journal" refers to the allegation made in the act of indictment that Sholom Schwartzbard had been convicted for burglary in Austria.

Almost all of the French newspapers however, pay homage to the record of Sholom Schwartzbard's service in the French army during the World war, praising him for his bravery.

Paris, Oct. 18.—A book describing the point of view of the Ukrainian leaders in the Petlura case was issued by the Paris Committee for the Commemoration of Petlura.

The book attempts to answer charges made in the collection of documents made public by the Committee of Jewish Delegations, in which the guilt of Petlura and his responsibility for the continuous anti-Jewish massacres was established. The Ukrainian publication attempts to prove that Petlura was favorable toward the Jews, citing as an instance the introduction of Jewish national autonomy in Ukraine. Declarations by Kras, former Minister for Jewish Affairs of the Petlura government, Dr. Arr Margolin, former Ukrainian Supreme Court Justice, are also quoted. Statements by Vladimir Jabotinsky and Slavinsky are given.

The Ukrainian newspaper "Tridobro" published an article today by the Ukrainian leader Shulgin attacking Vladimir Jabotinsky. Shulgin accuses Jabotinsky of contradicting himself in his attitude toward Ukraine and blaming the Jews and Ukrainians.

## SCHWARTZBARD TELLS PARIS COURT HE ADMITS ACT TO AVENGE HORRORS OF ANTI-JEWISH MASSACRES IN UKRAINE; IS CONVINCED OF PETLURA'S GUILT IN FAILURE TO PREVENT POGROMS; RECITAL STIRS COURT AND SPECTATORS

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Paris, Oct. 19.—Sholom Schwartzbard, Jewish watchmaker, dreamer and soldier, who slew Semion Petlura, head of the Ukrainian army, to avenge the anti-Jewish massacres in the Ukraine between 1918 and 1920, took the stand in the Court of Assizes to lift the veil of silence in which the anti-Jewish massacres in the Ukraine had been enshrouded.

Declaring that in slaying Petlura, whom he considered responsible for the massacres in which many of his relatives perished, Schwartzbard readily admitted that he committed the act to avenge victims and that in planning the slaying of Petlura he was acting in his own behalf. He was of

voice trembled with excitement, connotating both sorrow and joy. The spectators in the courtroom were stirred to tears at his description of the horrors of the pogroms.

Presiding Judge Flory questioned the accused concerning the details as given in the indictment, Schwartzbard confirming the data concerning him.

After the indictment was read, the court verified the identity of all witnesses called by the prosecution. That there were nearly all officials, Post 4

(Continued on page 4)

The real culprits were the Russians who were stationed in Ukraine and not the Ukrainians. Jews and Christians suffered. The Red Army, as well as Denikin's army, engaged in the pogroms. It is no doubt that Petlura's regiments were also engaged in these criminal practices and even the chaotic state of the country cannot explain their conduct because, being representatives of law and order, they should have shown a good example, but it was very difficult for Petlura, living far away, with his orders frequently disobeyed, to control these activities which were really

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## SCHWARTZBARD TELLS PARIS COURT HE ACTED IN HIS OWN BEHALF

(Continued from page 1)

photograph of Petlura and comparing it with the features of men he met. He related how he encountered Petlura in the Latin Quarter many times, but always with his wife and daughter or friends. Finally on May 25, 1926, he met him in the Rue Racine and the Boulevard St. Michel alone. He related the last moments of Petlura's life.

"Here's my chance," I thought. "Are you Petlura?" I asked him. He did not answer, simply lifting his heavy cane. I knew it was he. I shot, once, twice; three! four! five times! He fell. The crowd rushed in on me. My only worry was whether it was really Petlura. I might have killed the wrong man. When a policeman told me it was Petlura I threw my arms about his neck in joy."

At this point, Schwartzbard, who had been gesticulating and demonstrating his act, threw his arms about the neck of the gardener sitting beside him.

Schwartzbard denied he had accomplices, saying the result of his investigation was the in-

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He described with harrowing details the pogroms in the Ukraine, saying he had heard them by word of mouth from witnesses. He contended that Petlura was chiefly responsible for the pogroms, since at the time they occurred he was the head of the Ukrainian State Army.

Asked concerning the allegation made in the indictment that he was convicted in Austria on a charge of burglary, Schwartzbard declared that the incident was due to a misunderstanding. He was stopping at a hotel and was given the key to the front door. When he returned to the hotel one night and had difficulty in opening the door he was seized on the suspicion that he was a burglar.

Replying to the allegation of the indictment that Vladimir Jabotinsky had expressed his opinion that Petlura was not responsible for the pogroms, M. Torres, Schwartzbard's counsel, read an article by Jabotinsky published recently in the Jewish Morning Journal of New York where he holds Petlura responsible. The Petlura counsel asserted Jabotinsky contradicted his statements in an earlier article in the same paper.

The Petlura counsel formulated the accusation that Sholom Schwartzbard was active in Communist propaganda while on the steamer on his way to Russia. Schwartzbard protested against this allegation, declaring that he was ill during the entire passage. He never entered the Red Army, he declared.

Tel Aviv, Oct. 19.—Thousands of Tel Aviv residents, many of them of Ukrainian origin, who witnessed the anti-Jewish massacres there, participated in a demonstration yesterday morning as the trial of Sholom Schwartzbard began in Paris.

The demonstrators bore a black flag with an inscription: "to the memory of 100,000 Jewish martyrs in the Ukraine." Holy Scrolls were also carried. Stirring scenes of lamentation on part of relatives of the Ukrainian victims occurred during the demonstration.

Jerusalem, Oct. 19.—Palestine Jewry taking a keen interest in the proceedings of the trial of Sholom Schwartzbard.

Memorial services for the victims of Ukrainian pogroms were held Tuesday during Iskor in Jerusalem synagogues. In some synagogues prayers were read for Schwartzbard.

Varsaw, Oct. 18.—Memorial services for the victims of the anti-Jewish massacres in the Ukraine were held today in the Great Synagogue on Omackie Street during Iskor, the services for the dead.

## DEATH PENALTY ASKED FOR SCHWARTZBARD IN FRENCH INDICTMENT ACT

Charges Schwartzbard Slew Petlura with Premeditation and Malice; Denies Petlura's Guilt for Anti-Jewish Massacres; Depicts Attaman as Ukrainian National Hero and Avenger as Dubious Character; Articles Invoked Include Possibility for Commutation of Sentence

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency)

Paris, Oct. 17.—Articles 295, 296, 297, 298 and 302 of the French Criminal Code were invoked in the indictment filed against Sholom Schwartzbard, slayer of Semion Petlura in revenge for the anti-Jewish massacres in the Ukraine between 1918 and 1920 under the Petlura regime, whose trial begins to-morrow before Judge Flory. The articles provide for the death penalty with the possibility of the jury's recommendation for commutation of sentence to imprisonment.

The official act of indictment as published here today denies that Petlura's guilt and responsibility for the pogroms which occurred at the time he was head of the Ukrainian government and army had been established, charges that Schwartzbard committed the act with premeditation motivated by malice and asserts that Schwartzbard who was at one time convicted for burglary cannot be viewed in the "role of a judge of Petlura."

The opening of the trial of the Ukrainian Jew, a French citizen, for the slaying of the one time head of the Ukrainian Republic, following the crumbling of imperialistic Russia, holds the attention of the French press and public and is followed with keen interest by the Jewish communities in Europe. The act of indictment, in attempting to clear the name of Semion Petlura, expresses doubt in the statement of Schwartzbard that he committed the act on his own initiative and that he had no accomplices.

The indictment recounts Schwartzbard's shooting of Petlura on May 25, 1925 when the latter was leaving a Paris restaurant, and charges that Schwartzbard "wiflutly murdered Petlura with malice aforethought."

After the fall of the Romanoff dynasty, the indictment reads, the Ukrainians established a Rada (council) in which Ukrainians, Russians, Poles and Jews were represented. The Ukraine then became an independent state. After the fall of the Kerensky government, Ukraina was recognized by the governments of France and England. The Ukrainian government, however, had enormous difficulties with the Red Army.

At that time Semion Petlura became a power. He played an important part in the history of the Republic and in the opinion of his countrymen, he was an apostle of liberty, a regenerator of his country and a savior of the Ukraine. He did not, however, succeed in his ambition, although he

devoted himself with the greatest self-sacrifice and devotion. Finally after many battles during which lives were lost he was compelled to leave the country which passed under Soviet rule. He then settled in Paris where he led a simple, retired life.

When Schwartzbard heard that Petlura had died from the wounds he had inflicted, Schwartzbard was overjoyed. He shook the hand of his informant, the indictment states. When examined, Schwartzbard stated that from his childhood he had lived in the Ukraine, that he fought in the French army during the war and was wounded. He then returned to the Ukraine where he witnessed the pogroms which left an indelible horror on his mind. He had heard people speak of Petlura and became convinced that it was Petlura who was responsible for these pogroms. When Schwartzbard returned to Paris and heard that Petlura was living here, he obtained the paper, "Trident," which Petlura was publishing and found that he was continuing his anti-Semitic activity. Schwartzbard decided to take revenge. Schwartzbard declared that he acted on his own initiative without extraneous help or accomplices. None knew of his plans, not even his wife.

Although these depositions must be admitted in the absence of anything else pointing to the contrary, the act continues, it is certain that the circumstances do not agree with the murderer's statement. Professor Koval, a friend of Petlura, testifies that he saw Schwartzbard, accompanied by others, shadowing Petlura. Schwartzbard's method of defense is very unstable, the act proceeds. He could not produce any proof of his statements. Really, Petlura was not an anti-Semite but a lover of the Jews, the act asserts.

Even Schwartzbard recognized the contradictions in his statement. After insisting on Petlura's responsibility for the pogroms, he finally admitted that the only fact is that the pogroms occurred while Petlura was the head of the state and army and never proved that Petlura organized or even was indifferent to these murders which shocked the conscience of mankind. Schwartzbard, the act continues, brought no proof of his statements which are founded on vague presumptions.

No one denies the unfortunate, terrible pogroms during Petlura's government, the act states, but they were due to the state of anarchy which prevailed in the country after the revolu-

## MAYOR WALKER AND REP. FISH DENOUNCE WHISPERING CAMPAIGN AGAINST CHAS. LEVINE

The whispering campaign against Charles A. Levine, first trans-Atlantic air passenger, was denounced by James Walker, Mayor of New York, and Hamilton Fish, Republican Representative to Congress from New York, during one of the functions held on Monday for Charles A. Levine upon his return to America on the steamer Leviathan. Charles Levine was taken aboard the Macom from the steamer Leviathan at Quarantine. His wife, his daughter Eloyse and a welcoming committee headed by Grover Whalen, greeted him on the Macom. At City Hall Mayor Walker made him officially welcome and presented him with a scroll recounting his achievements. At the Hotel Astor a luncheon was given in his honor.

In a frontal attack against "a campaign of whispered detraction" Mayor Walker, in his address at the luncheon, led the demand that Levine's achievements be adequately recognized. Speakers threw aside all pretense that there had been no criticism of Mr. Levine, roundly condemned Federal Officials, though they did not specify the Post Office or War Department, who had made trouble over contracts, and demanded for him the same recognition as he had won in Europe.

Mayor Walker started his address with a reference to his earlier talk at City Hall.

"I just let my mind and heart think out loud," he declared. This is a fast moving town, ready for all rumors. There are men and women living in our city who haven't much affection for you or me because of things to which we are loyal. But we'll survive even as we have survived for generations, even though unjust criticism be heaped upon yours and mine. Our answer has always been to smile and do something. I don't know but that half the impatience and rancor against you and me, speaking of our kind, is born of jealousy. If that is true, you

(Continued on page 4)

tion. The real culprits were the Russian soldiers who were stationed in the Ukraine and not the Ukrainians. Both Jews and Christians suffered. The Red Army, as well as Denikina's army, engaged in the pogroms. It is no doubt that Petlura's regiments were also engaged in these criminal practices and even the chaotic state of the country cannot explain their conduct because, being representatives of law and order, they should have shown a good example, but it was very difficult for Petlura, living far away, with his orders frequently disobeyed, to control these activities which were really

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# DEATH PENALTY IS ASKED FOR SCHWARTZBARD IN FRENCH INDICTMENT ACT (Continued from page 3)

caused by the circumstances of the moment, the act declares.

Shulglin, former minister in the Petlura government, explained the hardships which were brought to a head in these pogroms by the conditions which have always existed between the peasants and the Jews. The peasants regarded with mistrust a population engaged only in trade or in assisting the estate owners. The peasants did not distinguish between Jew and estate owner whom they considered their oppressor. Also, the Bosheviks have always included Jews in high positions in the Ukrainian administration. The Cheka contributed to the unpopularity of the Jews. The enemies of Ukrainian independence have always encouraged the hostility between Ukrainians and Jews. Furthermore, the army, having had no regular supply of food, necessarily compelled the population to provide it with supplies. The dregs of the population participated in the robberies. The peasants were exasperated and naturally reprisals followed.

The historian Jabotinsky, the act continues, declares that the cause of the pogroms was the anti-Semitism of the events. It is therefore clear that theoretical responsibility cannot be placed upon Petlura in the face of his remarkable energy against the pogroms and the great humane principles he endeavored to instill in his soldiers and the wise measures he adopted under most difficult circumstances to prevent these pogroms.

The act then quotes the text of several orders against the pogroms which were issued by Petlura to the army. It asserts that Petlura shot those who were guilty in the pogroms and that he had helped the victims out of the state treasury, particularly the victims of the Proskurov pogrom. Many beneficial measures, the act further asserts, taken by Petlura show the wisdom and liberalism of his government. His government gave extensive rights to the national minorities and especially the Jews. It appointed a commission in 1919 to inquire into the causes of the pogroms. It had among its members a minister for Jewish affairs, it permitted the printing of Yiddish inscriptions on the Ukrainian banknotes. There were Jewish high officials even in the army. Jews declared their confidence in his government. The late Israel Zangwill expressed appreciation for Petlura's granting the Jewish national rights. Jabotinsky refused to consider Petlura and his associates as pogromschiks. Stavinsky, a Ukrainian leader, stated that Petlura instructed him to support the suggestion made at the Zionist Congress in Carlsbad to organize a

# MAYOR WALKER AND REP. FISH DENOUNCE WHISPERING CASH- PAIGN AGAINST CH. LEVINE (Continued from page 3)

and I ought to be satisfied, for jealousy will not undo us, not immediately anyhow. For they can't stop the fact that you did it. Every time they complain you may say, 'Well, ladies and gentlemen, there is the Atlantic and there is the air. Europe is still where it was when I landed and there are no traffic cops in the air.' Then throw them a kiss, keep your feet on the ground and show what it means to have ideals of sportsmanship. Any time they think they can make it let them try it. And after all, when you and I go away, Charlie, we have the satisfaction of knowing a real hand-clasp when we come home."

Representative Hamilton Fish added his voice to the protest. "He typifies courage, 100 per cent, unadulterated courage," Mr. Fish said. "He represents what the Jewish people have been all through their history right down to the time when their boys in the Twenty-seventh Division died in France for their country. As an American he deserves the welcome in this country that he received all over Europe, not only from the Jewish people but from all Americans."

"Let's put an end to these rumors, to these attempts to belittle him for one reason or another. Let's get behind him to congratulate him and assure even greater things for American aviation through his efforts."

"He gambled with his life and won," Mr. Fish continued. "No one can take a jot off his achievements, but even the New York newspapers don't seem to re-

special Jewish gendarmerie in the Ukraine. The editor of the Trident denies that he had published articles inciting pogroms."

It is therefore clear that Schwartzbard had no reason either because of Petlura's past or because of a fear for Petlura's future to commit the crime he did, the act declares. His crime appears strange under the circumstances and even stranger and more terrible because it was committed in 1925, years after Petlura had lost power, had lived modestly and quietly in obscurity.

Schwartzbard, the indictment states, should have felt enough affection for France which treated him well, made him her citizen, and not shed on her soil the blood of an aged man living in retirement, having passed all active life.

The indictment depicts Schwartzbard in dark colors, charging him with having been an anarchist and having been convicted of burglary, although it adds that the information obtained about Schwartzbard in France is not unfav-

orize their vastness. Where were the editorials that should have greeted him and his feat? This was one of the great events not only of the year, but of the generation, and why is it not recognized? We ought to know the personal courage it required. We know what happened to those who tried to follow him.

"But what we hear is veiled criticism of his dealings with the Government. The only thing I have been able to learn about those contracts is that he saved the governments millions of dollars. I also know that he submitted a bid for the airline between Chicago and New York which was less than any other. It was rejected by officials, one reason being that he was looking out for the interests of his aviators by giving them stock in the concern. He ought to have been commended for that instead. When that excuse was exposed, then something else had to be raked up. Since then others have tried to minimize his standing and repute. As a Federal representative I say that this does not represent the views of Congress. As far as I am concerned in his dealings he is to be congratulated and commended. Not a single war contract, but some dispute has arisen. It is time Charles Levine got a square deal."

In an interview after his arrival on board the Macom, Mr. Levine said he intended to make an East-to-West flight across the Atlantic next year, but in the meantime he would start manufacturing airplanes.

Mr. Levine was asked by the representative of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, "Is it true that while visiting Poland you denied to newspapermen that you were a Jew?"

"Why should I?" he said.

"You were born in this country, weren't you?"

"At North Adams, Mass. On St. Patrick's Day."

The representative of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency stated that his purpose in asking the question was to establish Mr. Levine's denial of this report, based on the fact that while in Warsaw, Mr. Levine declined to have a separate interview with the Yiddish press, saying, "I am here as an American, not as a Jew."

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