

DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

Published by the JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY - 106 East 41st Street, New York 17, N.Y.

SEVEN NAZI WAR CRIMINALS, GUILTY OF ANNIHILATING JEWS, MAY BE HANGED TODAY; PLEAS REJECTED

FRANKFURT, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- Last-minute efforts to save from the gallows seven Nazi war criminals convicted of the mass murder of Jews and others failed here today, as U.S. authorities indicated that the seven condemned Germans may be hanged at dawn tomorrow.

Eleventh hour petitions from the seven, airmailed from Frankfurt, were turned down yesterday in Washington by Judge Edward A. Tamm of U.S. District Court. Appeals made by Germans today to U.S. High Commissioner John J. McCloy appeared to be in vain.

A U.S. Army officer refused to say when the executions would take place. Relatives of the seven condemned men had been notified by official telegrams that they could make final visits to the prisoners today. Normally prisoners are executed in the pre-dawn hours of the day following such final visits. The condemned men, and the crimes for which they were sentenced, are:

Hans Schmidt, for three years SS Adjutant at the infamous Buchenwald concentration camp. In command during a period when 5,000 prisoners died monthly, and director of "Command 99," a special group charged with killing Jews and gypsies.

Georg Schallermair, former roll-call chief at Muehldorf concentration camp. Convicted of having personally beaten prisoners to death and of overseeing the extraction of gold from teeth of slain inmates.

Oswald Pohl, former SS General in charge of all German concentration camps. Units under him carried out the liquidation of Jews in the Oswiecim concentration camp. The destruction of the Warsaw ghetto and pillage and murder of Jews in East Europe.

Otto Ohlendorf, former Major General in charge of an extermination group in Russia which slaughtered 90,000 men, women and children, most of them Jews.

Werner Braune, former Gestapo official convicted of carrying out the "Simperepol Massacre" of thousands of Jews and gypsies.

Erich Mannmann, former SS Brigadier General, in command of an extermination unit which killed 3,539 people in 24 hours.

Paul Blobel, former SS Colonel, found guilty of ordering the killing of 60,000 Jews in the notorious two-day massacre at Kiev.

United States authorities have forbidden press coverage of the hanging of the seven condemned German war criminals. The U.S. Army spokesman told reporters that the press ban was decreed by U.S. High Commissioner McCloy and Gen. Thomas T. Handy, Commander of the U.S. armed forces in Europe. Press coverage was permitted at the Nuremberg executions of Nazi war criminals.

ISRAEL LABOR AND INDUSTRIALISTS START DIRECT TALKS ON SETTLEMENT OF STRIKE

TEL AVIV, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- Direct negotiations started today between representatives of the Histadrut and the Manufacturers Association in the hope of settling the strike in the metal industry which has closed 260 plants and left 7,000 men jobless.

The direct talks were resumed after personal intervention in the dispute by Premier David Ben Gurion and Trade Minister Yaakov Gari, who stressed to both sides the harm to the country's economic interests caused by a prolonged shutdown of the metal industry. A compromise settlement of the strike, set off by demands for wage increases, seemed likely today when it was reported that the manufacturers were prepared to consider increases for workers in the lower wage brackets.

ISRAELI LABORERS WANT GENERAL ELECTIONS; SEEK TO END RELIGIOUS BLOC THREATS

JERUSALEM, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- Circles close to Premier David Ben Gurion today indicated that they consider it desirable that general elections be held in Israel within three months in order to put an end to the constant threats by the Orthodox Bloc to disrupt the government coalition.

Meanwhile, a ten-hour debate on religious education in the immigrant camps opened in Parliament with Minister of Interior Moshe Shepira leading off for the Orthodox elements in a speech charging the Labor Party with attempting to coerce the Religious Bloc. He also indicated the desire of his group for a compromise settlement.

U.S. GOVERNMENT IS URGED BY GOVERNOR DEWEY TO GIVE FULL MILITARY SUPPORT TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- A proposal that the United States should be ready to give full military support to Israel, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Iran in order to prevent the oil supply of the Near East from falling into Russia's hands was made here last night by Governor Thomas E. Dewey addressing a Lincoln Dinner of the National Republicans Club at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Gov. Dewey urged that the North Atlantic pact be extended along the Mediterranean Sea and beyond its Eastern shores.

"Greece and Turkey should be brought into the North Atlantic treaty immediately," the Governor said. "Then we should settle other questions. Will we move into war if the Red Czar invades Iran? If not, will we let him take all of Iran's oil and then take Iraq and Israel and then perhaps march down into Saudi Arabia? Will we allow that crucial oil supply to fall into Russia's hands? Or would we bomb it out? Nobody messes. It is a vacuum and dictators move into vacuums."

Pointing out that there is the danger that the Eastern Mediterranean may become a "Red Sea," Governor Dewey declared: "Let us stop handing armies and nations over to the Russians. The only way to stop it is to draw the line. All the world knows what nations we will defend for sure and as a result no attack has been made on a single one of them. Now let us go the rest of the way. We should say where we stand as to the rest of the world. Let there be no more blundering into little wars or big wars. The United States with her allies should make clear their common purpose."

FORD MOTOR COMPANY MAKES \$1,000,000 GIFT TO NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS

NEW YORK, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- A gift of \$1,000,000 will be made by the Ford Motor Company Fund to the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Dr. Everett Clinchy, president of the Conference, announced today. The announcement said that Henry Ford II, president of the company, had informed Dr. Clinchy that the money was to be used to purchasing land, designing and constructing a "World Brotherhood" headquarters for the Conference near the permanent U.N. site in New York.

JEWISH GROUP IN GERMANY FEARS GERMAN SOVEREIGNTY MAY NULLIFY RESTITUTION CLAIMS

NEW YORK, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- The New York Times reports today from Frankfurt that the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization, fearful that increasing German political sovereignty may nullify restitution claims on behalf of Jewish victims of Nazism, is negotiating most bulk-sum settlements with the individual West German states.

The Jewish Restitution Successor Organization represents the American Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency. It is the claimant of heirless Jewish property. In the American zone alone claims have been instituted for about \$6,500,000. A restitution group is now functioning also in the British zone, but not yet in the French zone.

Indicating the modesty of the settlements, the N.Y. Times correspondent says that the J.R.S.O. was to sign an agreement today with the State of Hesse accepting 25,000,000 German marks, largely in utility bonds, in settlement of 54,000,000 marks in claims. "We are selling under duress because we are afraid of what will happen when the Germans take over," Benjamin B. Ferencz, director of the J.R.S.O., told the Times correspondent. He indicated that he expects to sign an agreement soon with the Bremen State Government. He added that resistance to Jewish claims is strong in Bavaria where the claims amount to 53,000,000 marks.

Until now the J.R.S.O. has managed to obtain 10,000,000 German marks worth of various types of assets, of which only 3,000,000 marks were in cash. However, because of Allied financial regulations the money was blocked and could be used only for a small number of surviving Jewish victims still in Germany. Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency, who is now on a visit in Germany, expects to meet tomorrow with John J. McCloy, U.S. High Commissioner, and discuss the possibilities of unfreezing the money obtained as restitution.

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS CRITICIZES U.S. AUTHORITIES FOR MITIGATING SENTENCES OF NAZIS

NEW YORK, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- The action of American authorities in mitigating the sentences of German war criminals was criticized by the World Jewish Congress as a development which "threatens to turn the vital code of offenses against mankind, established at Nuremberg, into a travesty."

Dr. Israel Goldstein, chairman of the Western Hemisphere executive of the World Jewish Congress, said that a panel of legal experts of the W.J.O. have established that executive clemency was granted to virtually 90 percent of the Nazi war criminals whose cases were reviewed. "This action," he said, "lightening the sentences of men convicted of slaughtering hostages, indulging in mass murder or carrying out slave labor policies, was taken despite the fact that neither the evidence in the original trials nor the justice of the original sentences were challenged by the American authorities."

Dr. Goldstein pointed out that, even before the recent acts of mitigation, American authorities had released a total of 109 war criminals before the expiration of their jail terms. "Today only 51 war criminals remain in prison in the American zone out of nearly 1,300 sentenced to prison, and if the present rate of pardons continues the number will dwindle rapidly," Dr. Goldstein said.

The Society For the Prevention of World War III today made public a letter it addressed to U.S. High Commissioner John J. McCloy declaring that "every American who values the good name and moral standing of the United States" will challenge the action taken by the American authorities in Germany in mitigating the sentences of Nazi war criminals. "It is our considered judgment that your decision helps to undermine the foundations of international law as implemented by the Nuremberg verdicts and runs counter to the expressed determination of the President of the United States to punish international lawlessness," the letter said.

75 PERCENT OF THE JEWISH ADOLESCENT POPULATION IN U.S. RECEIVED TO JEWISH EDUCATION

NEW YORK, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- Seventy-five percent of the total Jewish adolescent population in the United States did not receive any form of Jewish education in their earlier years, it was reported here today at the opening session of a two-day conference on Jewish education convoked by the Rabbinical Assembly of America, central body of the Conservative rabbis.

A plan to remedy this situation was outlined at the conference by Dr. Moshe Davis, Dean of the Teachers Institute of the Jewish Theological Seminary. He also urged the formation of committees in all the Conservative congregations to take up with local authorities the expansion of Hebrew modern language courses in the public high school system.

The results of a survey of the present state of religious education for students of high school age were presented at the conference by Rabbi Albert Lewis and Rabbi David Panitz who conducted their survey among more than 200 congregations. Jewish instruction for high school students is virtually non-existent, they reported, adding that very few congregations include anything in their budget for youth activities of a formal or extension nature.

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS RECEIVES CEREMONIAL ARTICLES WHICH BELONGED TO MARTYRED JEWS

MONTREAL, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- A number of ceremonial articles, formerly the property of European Jews, have been received by the Canadian Jewish Congress and will be kept by the Congress as a memorial to their former owners who disappeared during the years of war.

The Congress states that the collection will be kept intact in the headquarters of the Congress in Montreal and will be put on display in various parts of Canada on suitable occasions. Many cases of books, the property of the martyred European Jews, have been distributed by the Congress in various Canadian Jewish institutions as memorials to their former owners.

ANGLO-AMERICAN SHIPPING INTERESTS REPORTED PLANNING TO OPERATE NEW YORK-ISRAEL RUN

SYDNEY, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- Anglo-American shipping interests were today reported to be planning the purchase of a Canadian vessel docked here and using her on a New York-Israel run. The vessel is the 17,000 ton Aorangi which was formerly on the Vancouver-Sydney run.

Elections for delegates to the forthcoming World Zionist Congress will be held in Australia as a result of the defeat of a proposal for agreement on a joint slate. In addition, non-party Zionists have submitted a slate to the elections board, which also means that an election must be held.

LORD SAMUEL HONORED IN LONDON; GETS "HONORARY FREEDOM OF BOROUGH OF PADDINGTON"

LONDON, Feb. 13. (JTA) -- Honorary freedom of the Borough of Paddington, where he has resided for the past 50 years, was conferred tonight upon Viscount Samuel "in recognition of the eminent services he has rendered to his country, to the British Commonwealth and to mankind in a long life dedicated to public service."

Lord Samuel, who recently celebrated his 80th birthday, was first British High Commissioner of Palestine, a member of several British Cabinets, a leader of the Liberal Party and president of the British Institute of Philosophy. In a tribute to the cotemporary, Lord Jovett, the Lord Chancellor, lauded his "complete intellectual honesty and integrity" and declared that "his name will live so long as the history of law in this country is remembered."

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