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CZECHOSLOVAK JEWS TESTIFY AT EICHMANN TRIAL ON HIS BRUTALITIES

JERUSALEM, April 27. (JTA) -- The first phases of the Nazi erasure of the ancient and flourishing Jewish community of Czechoslovakia and the direct role of Adolf Eichmann in its destruction were described today at the trial of the former Gestapo colonel by three eye-witnesses who lived to confront him here.

The three witnesses, all of whom experienced Eichmann's anti-Jewish activities, were: Dr. Paul Meretz, a former chairman of the Czech Zibnist Organization, Vali Zimet, a one time Hias official in Prague and the first woman witness in the trial, and Max Burger, who had been an elder of the Jewish community of Moravska-Ostrava.

Dr. Meretz recalled in his testimony that the first warning of the impending Nazi savageries was a refusal by the Nazi occupiers of the Sudetenland--the part of Czechoslovakia in which many Germans lived--to allow Sudeten Jews to choose a transfer permitted to the rest of the non-German population.

Dr. Meretz, a lifetime Orthodox Jew, restrained his emotions with difficulty as he told of arrests in Czech synagogues during Rosh Hashanah services in 1939 and the forced surrender of radios and jewelry on Yom Kippur.

Miss Zimet, who worked in the Hias office in Prague until the Gestapo shut it down in July 1939, testified that she represented the community as an official in the emigration department for Jews set up by Eichmann under an SS officer named Gunther. She told the court that Eichmann frequently visited the department with a demand for daily quotas of transports of Jews. She said that when these quotas were not filled, he became wrathful.

She recalled one occasion in 1940 when the quotas reached a trickle and word was passed that Eichmann was coming to check. The staff became terrorized and Gunther instructed the staff to line up applicants with blank dossiers to impress Eichmann and evade his anger.

Jews Held Under Open Skies in the Woods During Winter Months

Mr. Burger centered his testimony on the reality to Jews of the "Jewish protectorate" which Eichmann told his police interrogators in pre-trial questioning was to his credit as an example of his efforts for a "temporary territorial solution" of the "Jewish question."

Mr. Burger was chosen on behalf of the Jewish community leadership to join the first 1,000 Jewish men deported to Hnisko in Poland, located between Cracow and Lublin. Arriving after a three-day trip in sealed railroad cars, without drinking water or food, the 1,000 were "welcomed" by a group of SS officers, including Eichmann. "There are no houses," the Jews were told. "If you build them you will have a roof. The drinking water is infected with typhus and dysentery and other diseases. If you dig new wells and find water, you will have water."

Men over 40, as well as lawyers and merchants, were expelled by the Nazis to the woods without any belongings, the Nazis having stolen all of their possessions, the witness said. The same treatment was handed out to several later groups of Jews from Vienna, Prague and Ostrava. All Jews slept under the open skies even though it was October and it was the coldest area in all of Poland. The temperature during the night dropped to well below zero. This continued until the first barracks were built.

Water was carried from a village more than a mile away. It was boiled and then distributed according to a Nazi system of priority--German guards first, their horses second, the Jews last. The Nazis did not provide any food for the victims which they had to buy for themselves with money sent by the Jewish community of Ostrava and by the American Joint Distribution Committee. The money was held by an SS guard.

The witness said that the next year a cable suddenly arrived to the SS guards to liquidate the Hnisko camp and the Jews who had survived were taken back to Ostrava. Of the 1,000 of the first group, only 300 returned. Some of the other 700 managed to escape across the Russian border, the rest perished from the brutal treatment.

Israel Opposes Sending Judge to Germany to Hear Eichmann Witnesses

JERUSALEM, April 27. (JTA) -- The three-justice court sitting in the trial of Adolf Eichmann reserved judgment today on a proposal from chief defense Counsel Dr. Robert Servatius that an Israeli judge should be sent abroad to hear prospective defense witnesses

who feared to come to Israel to testify because of possible arrest under the Israel law for the punishment of Nazi criminals.

The court announced it would rule tomorrow on the proposal, which Dr. Servatius had offered after Attorney General Gideon Hausner, the chief prosecutor, rejected the defense attorney's request that immunity be granted to former Nazis so that they could come to Jerusalem to testify without facing possible arrest.

The court's announcement was made today after Mr. Hausner said that, on behalf of the Israel Government, he had been authorized to declare that the Government considered present international legal aid arrangements adequate and that it saw no need to ask other Governments to permit Israel judges to take testimony on their territories.

The Attorney General repeated the prosecution's readiness to accept confirmed sworn statements or investigations before German or other courts based on questions provided by the prosecution or defense or both. He suggested that the court should follow the Nuremberg tribunals' precedent of accepting sworn statements, or depositions, with a reservation of the right to review the admissibility of such statements at a later date and to call witnesses personally if their testimony was deemed of extreme importance.

Dr. Servatius entered an objection and proposed that it should be left to the court to decide which witnesses should receive entry visas with guarantees of immunity to testify in the Jerusalem trial.

BEN-GURION SAYS DANGER TO ISRAEL IS INCREASING; CITES NASSER'S PLANS

JERUSALEM, April 27. (JTA) -- Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion asserted today that any public impression that there had been a decrease in dangers to Israel from President Nasser, "the Egyptian dictator," was the result of "wishful thinking and blindness to the facts."

Asserting that the "grave truth" was just the opposite of any such impression, the Prime Minister said in an interview that all of the military preparations of Nasser were aimed at Israel. He added that Nasser's propaganda did not differ greatly from the Nazi global campaign against Jews.

He also denounced suggestions that Israel was not making sufficient efforts for peace as just "as true and fair as if someone had suggested that Europe's Jews had not taken steps to appease Hitler." The Prime Minister said that the difference between Israeli Jewry and Jewish communities abroad "is that we here are not solely dependent on the mercies of our neighbors."

DR. GOLDMANN SAYS STANDSTILL ON ARAB ISRAEL BORDERS MAY NOT LAST LONG

JERUSALEM, April 27. (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, warned today that the relative quiet in the Middle East, particularly on the Israel-Arab borders was unlikely to continue long.

Dr. Goldmann made the prediction in an address summing up general debate at the current session of the Zionist Actions Committee, in which he asserted that the present "static stage" in the international situation was nearing an end and unsettled problems were due for new discussion.

He said the attempts at restoration of good relations between King Hussein of Jordan and President Nasser of the United Arab Republic represented a danger to Israel. He cited as evidence the recent extremist attitude taken by Jordan on the matter of Israel's customary inclusion in its Independence Day parade on April 20 of weapons in which Jordan forced a meeting of the Security Council.

He also said that Israel's position in the United Nations had deteriorated as indicated by the vote on the resolution on the Arab refugees. These developments, he said, obliged the Zionist organization to be prepared to support Israel's interests in these various areas.

Discussing Israel's relations with non-Israeli Jews, he stressed the immense sympathy of the Jewish people for Israel but added there had developed two negative factors. He said one was the mistaken feeling that Israel had solved all of its economic problems and the other the "unsavory impression" created abroad by "several events in Israel's internal politics." This was understood to be a reference to Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion's fight against Histadrut secretary-general Pinhas Lavon.

Behind the scenes efforts to reach agreement among the parties on the composition of the new executive of the Jewish Agency continued during the morning session of the Actions Committee. The standing committee failed to bring a solution to the impasse over parties over distribution of some key portfolios, particularly on the issue of the New York chairman of the executive.

The General Zionist faction headed by Dr. Israel Goldstein and Mrs. Rose Halprin was reported to have demanded that when former Prime Minister Moshe Sharett takes office as the new chairman, he should reaffirm his stand that he should not appoint as New York chairman a member of the faction led by Dr. Emanuel Neumann. The Goldstein-Halprin group contended the Neumann faction was the smaller in General Zionism and that it already had the presidency of the American Zionist Council.

ARREST OF JEWS IN MOROCCO TOUCHES OFF A NEW ANTI-JEWISH CAMPAIGN

PARIS, April 27. (JTA) -- The Moroccan press was reported here today to be engaged in a new campaign against Moroccan Jews following the arrest of a number of Jews at Melilla on charges that they were planning to go to Israel.

The new press campaign was one involving all parties, from left to extreme right. The organ of the progressive left, L'Avant Garde, questioned the representative nature of the Government-sponsored Council of Jewish communities and assailed its publication, Voice of the Communities.

Al Fajr, the organ of the Moroccan Ministry of the Interior, and Al Moukafih, organ of the Moroccan Communist party, also carried lengthy discussions of the events involving Moroccan Jews.

Moroccan Jews were reported most shocked, however, by the stand of the Government paper on the trial of Nazi Adolf Eichmann in Jerusalem. The position of the newspaper made it clear that for Morocco, as for the United Arab Republic press, Eichmann was far from being considered guilty.

COUNCIL OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN MOROCCO ABANDONS PLAN TO APPOINT RABBIS

CASABLANCA, April 27. (JTA) -- The Council of Jewish Communities here has temporarily abandoned plans to appoint directly a spiritual leader for the community in the post of Chief Rabbi, it was reported here today. The Council wanted the post of Chief Rabbi to be dependent on the Moroccan community itself, rather than on the Ministry of Justice, which appoints the Moroccan rabbis.

The plan for the direct appointment by the Council of a Chief Rabbi had been rejected by Rabbi Saul Danan, president of the High Rabbinical Council, who felt that such a move would "disorganize" the religious affairs in the Jewish community. Rabbi Danan said the plan would "sow disorder" among Jewish religious circles in Morocco without bringing any advantages.

There are 160,032 Jews now living in Morocco, 71,175 of them in this city, which is the country's economic capital, according to the latest census figures published here today by the Ministry of the Interior. The Jewish population of the country represents 1.4 percent of Morocco's total population, the statistics show.

The Jews are concentrated chiefly in the towns, the census indicates, 14 percent of them living in Sefrou, 11 percent in Essaouira, and 5.2 percent in Marrakesh. Two towns in Morocco contain one permanent Jewish resident each. The places are Tarfya, on the edge of the Sahara Desert; and Chaouen, a small town in Northern Morocco.

EDUCATION OF GERMAN YOUTH ON NAZI ANNIHILATION OF JEWS TO BE INTENSIFIED

BONN, April 27. (JTA) -- The Federal Youth Ring, all-West Germany organization of youth organizations, announced here today it will intensify its educational program aimed at instructing the youth of present-day Germany about the Nazi program for the annihilation of Jews.

With the help of the Government's Federal Press Bureau, the Ring has sent four correspondents to Israel, who are reporting the Adolf Eichmann trial for the various publications issued by the Ring's constituent youth groups. Today's announcement stated that two more youth representatives will be sent soon to Israel to help obtain further material in the drive to apprise today's German youth of the facts of the Nazi holocaust.

TURKISH PARLIAMENT APPROVES FULL EQUALITY OF ALL CITIZENS BEFORE LAW

ISTANBUL, April 27. (JTA) -- The Turkish Assembly has approved the twelfth article of the draft constitution which guarantees "full equality before the law of all citizens without distinction of language, race, faith and religion."

During debate on the article, Mrs. Kaludi Leskaris, representing the Greek community at the Assembly, said that members of minorities were not admitted to the Turkish public service. She said non-Moslems could study at the universities and that they did their national service like all other citizens but they were still discriminated against in the field of public service. She asked for full equality in this area.

Muammer Aksoy, chairman of the draft constitution committee, replied that the new constitution would provide equality for all citizens in all fields and that "we hope the principle will be applied in practice." Jews along with other minority group members, are usually not accepted for Government positions.

ITALIAN SENATE BODY STARTS DEBATE ON BILL TO OUTLAW NEO-FASCIST GROUP

ROME, April 27. (JTA) -- The Interior Affairs Committee of the Italian Senate opened debate today on a bill to outlaw the neo-Fascist Movimento Sociale Italiano. The bill is based on a provision of the Italian Constitution which bans the resurgence of Fascist movement under any form.

U. S. BANKS REPORTED RELAXING BARRIERS FOR JEWS TO BECOME EXECUTIVES

NEW YORK, April 27. (JTA) -- Major banking firms in the United States are beginning to show a willingness to grant equal opportunity to Jews who wish to make an executive career in banking, the results of a study made public here today by the American Jewish Committee revealed.

The two-year survey in Philadelphia of employment practices in major banks has found that some barriers to Jews on executive levels in banking still persist. However, "the door is no longer firmly shut," the survey emphasized. The study points out that "Jews are neither sought after nor seek entry into the field." This study was the pilot project for similar surveys of major banks throughout the country. Philadelphia was chosen because it has been historically known as the "cradle of American finance" and is considered representative of banking throughout the United States.

The survey showed that in Philadelphia, Jews comprise 25 percent of the college graduates. In contrast, only slightly more than one-half of one percent of the officers at the six largest banks were Jewish. Four of these six banks had no Jewish officers at all despite the fact that most bank officers are drawn from the ranks of college graduates.

In an effort to understand the reason for the small number of Jews in banking, the American Jewish Committee arranged a series of interviews with bank officials, college and university placement staffs, and others related to the general field. Meetings were held with ranking officers among the six major banks and a number of the smaller banks.

While top level bankers are opposed to discrimination, the study found that "the image of the Jew that exists among some bankers may affect their attitude toward engaging Jewish candidates. Dispelling this image will serve to open up a whole new source of executive training manpower."

Bankers Acknowledge Hostility Toward Jews in Hiring Personnel

Responding to the survey, some of the bankers acknowledged that even on lower- and middle levels of banking some hostility might exist toward Jews. This, they said, is frequently a product of the fear of competition. The bankers stressed that they consider this a minor problem which can be corrected. "It should be noted, however," the survey report commented, "that the hiring of new personnel often takes place at this level."

Despite the existence of a number of "negative stereotypes" about Jews among some bankers, the interviewers were concerned "that opportunities exist for Jews in banking." In this connection, the report points out: "It is interesting to note that since this study was begun, one of the largest banks named its first Jewish member to the board and two others have hired their first Jewish executive trainees."

Generally, the AJC pointed out, there has been a gradual easing of barriers in banking due mainly to "important changes taking place in the field." Most significant among these changes has been the need for talented individuals as a result of the growing complexity of the field, increased "competition for business and the discovery of the importance of the small depositor, which has given banking a broader public character."

The American Jewish Committee said that it was most important that the "willingness to hire Jews, expressed by higher level banking officials, be more conscientiously transmitted to the middle and lower levels and to university placement officials." In the future, the report noted, the problem will be twofold: "removal of those factors in banking personnel procurement that remain resistant to change and overcoming among Jews their own stereotypes of banking and sensitivity resulting from cultural conditioning."

The president of the Federal Reserve Bank in Philadelphia, Karl R. Bopp, in an introduction to the study, declared that the country's future economic growth and security requires utilization of the talents and energies of "all our people, irrespective of race, religion, or ethnic origin." Mr. Bopp noted that "prejudice and outmoded attitudes with regard to members of the Jewish faith still exist" and that "this remains a disturbing problem." He added: "What is encouraging is that bankers are aware of it and are addressing themselves to it."

In a supplementary study, the AJC's Philadelphia Chapter surveyed career interests and choices of Jewish college students in Philadelphia. The survey found that more than half the students felt that discrimination exists in a number of fields and played an important part in hiring and promotion. One out of four students responded that the feeling of discrimination influenced their choice of careers.

In addition, "more than half listed one or more fields of work from which they feel that Jews are barred" by exclusionary practices. These fields include: Large corporations, heavy industry, banks and insurance companies.

SEVENTY ISRAELI FIRMS TO EXHIBIT AT U. S. WORLD TRADE FAIR IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, April 27. (JTA) -- Seventy Israeli firms in 13 categories of manufacturers and services will have exhibits in the Israeli Pavilion at the New York Coliseum during the U. S. World Trade Fair, May 3rd to 13th, it was announced here today.

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE OPTIMISTIC ON FUTURE OF JUDAISM IN U.S.

NEW YORK, April 27. (JTA) -- "In spite of the prophets of doom and the various prophecies of doom that have come out of Israel and elsewhere, Judaism in America will survive and flourish," Dr. John Slawson, executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee, declared in his address today at the opening session of the 54th annual meeting of the organization.

The four-day meeting of the American Jewish Committee, which is taking place in the Roosevelt Hotel here, will be addressed by Secretary of Labor Arthur J. Goldberg and other prominent personalities. Herbert B. Ehrmann, president of the AJC, announced that the conference will consider intergroup issues in American life, the impact of the Eichmann trial in Jerusalem, job discrimination in American industries, federal aid to sectarian colleges, religious observances in public schools, and Arab nationalism and security of Jews.

Dr. Slawson, in his address, said that there are "pitfalls and dangers" with regard to the future of Judaism in this country. "But," he stressed, "barring the success of totalitarian groups either of the right or of the left, such as the John Birch Society, on the one hand, and Communist groups on the other, there is a future in the United States for American Jewry to develop an indigenously American Judaism."

Dr. Slawson Urges Prevention of Centralization in Community Life

The American Jewish Committee leader urged the prevention of the formation of centralism in Jewish community life, whether it be international, national or local. "I would also urge," he said, "that we keep Jewish communal life voluntary as the general American life is voluntary, with its richness, variety and flourishing progress; that we should consider differences among Jews as well as similarities and permit Jews to select those organizations that express their American Jewish interests and that represent their particular points of view and serve as channels to do things the way each group would like to have them done; that we not stultify by superimposing over-all umbrellas; that collaboration take place on a voluntary basis of independent autonomous entities; that we do not create out of Jews in America a separate enclave 'one voice,' 'one spokesman.'"

Simultaneously Dr. Slawson urged "to encourage inter-action and full participation of Jews in all facets of the life of America with the retention of our religious or religio-cultural identity. He also suggested the promotion of "surefootedness" among the American Jews" by giving them an understanding in depth of what America actually is and, of equal importance, what Judaism actually is especially in its ethical and moral aspects--self-knowledge and self-understanding for the young and old."

Pointing out that America is often being spoken of as a tri-faith country, Slawson said: "As a Jewish group we put forth our claim for recognition and acceptance as one of the three great religions in America. We have assumed all of the accouterments of a religious group in American society. Yet often we are uncomfortable in this attire. Is that not because we know there is another dimension to Jewishness beside religion? There are Jews who are not religious but who consider themselves Jews and who are identified as Jews. Are they less so because they are not religious? Jews nearly always find themselves on the side of secularists and humanists in the dialogue or debate with the religionists."

Analyzes Impact of Rise of Underdeveloped Countries on Israel

The American Jewish Committee leader analyzed the situation of the Jews in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia and pointed out that the rise of the underdeveloped countries in the world is being accompanied by a "very fervent" anti-colonial spirit. "In connection with this," he said, "we find that an anti-Israel sentiment has been incorporated into the total syndrome of anti-colonialism. Israel is looked upon as a Western imperialistic product."

"It seems likely that Christian groups, eager for the friendship of African and Asian peoples, will accept these sentiments and act accordingly," he continued. "And, I should add that the statements and actions that have come out of Israel since it has been created, especially in recent years, in no way help the situation a bit. As a matter of fact, they invest with a certain amount of credibility in the minds of even friendly American Christians, the irrational attitudes manifested and actions taken by the Arab countries toward Israel."

Dr. Slawson emphasized that the election of President Kennedy "marked America's entry into a post-Protestant era, distinguished by industrial urbanism and by religious, racial and ethnic pluralism." He said that with respect to the new Administration, two things must be kept in mind: the emergence of reactionary groups as a protest to a liberal administration, such as the John Birch Society, and that pluralism calls for an increase in intergroup contacts "and may therefore result in intergroup conflicts due to differences in perceptions and values."

JEWS IN ALGERIA REPORTED 'SAFE AND WELL' FOLLOWING ARMY MUTINY

PARIS, April 27. (JTA) -- The Jewish community in Algeria is "safe and well," according to a report received here today by the local offices of the World Jewish Congress. The report brought relief to Jewish leaders here who feared for the safety of Algerian Jewry during the last week's French army rebellion against the regime of President Charles de Gaulle.

PALESTINE ECONOMIC CORPORATION OFFERS \$1,000,000 STOCK IN UNITED STATES

NEW YORK, April 27. (JTA) -- The Palestine Economic Corporation announced today it is offering an issue of 43,496 shares of common stock, to be sold at par value of \$25 per share for a total of \$1,087,400. According to the company's prospectus, PEC had, as of last December 31, a total of 539,982 shares of common stock outstanding and assets totaling \$18,302,286.

The shares being offered now, PEC stated, represent the balance of an offering of 124,000 shares originally registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission in November 1959. Of that total, 80,504 shares had been sold as of April 1, 1961, with an aggregate par value of \$2,012,600.

The corporation announced that the new issue may be bought not only for cash but also in payment through State of Israel Bonds. Proceeds of the sale are to be devoted to further PEC participation in the development of Israel industry, erection of residential and factory buildings in Israel, and Israeli exports. The latest PEC dividend paid to stockholders for 1960 amounted to \$1.25 per share.

B'NAI B'RITH WOMEN HOLD BIENNIAL CONFERENCE; GREETED BY KENNEDY

MIAMI BEACH, April 27. (JTA) -- President Kennedy, in a message to the biennial meeting of B'nai B'rith Women, asked for support of the national "effort to elevate the quality of our education, to strengthen our health and welfare programs and to bring the economic blessings of our country to more of our people."

Mrs. Charles D. Sobovich of Detroit, president of the organization, called for creation of a home front Peace Corps to provide hospitality in this country for dark-skinned representatives of foreign countries who are often shunned because of American prejudices against color. She said the organization had been asked by the U.S. State Department to help find homes where a diplomat, student or observer would be welcomed, regardless of the color of his skin.

She reported that the B'nai B'rith Women's programs for Jewish youth had benefited more than 150,000 young people during the past two years.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE CONFERENCE AT KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY DISCUSSES HEBREW

LEXINGTON, Ky., April 27. (JTA) -- Some 20 reports and discussions on various aspects of the study of Hebrew language and literature will be represented at the three-day Foreign Language Conference which opened here today at the University of Kentucky.

The conference will deal with the theory and practice of teaching foreign languages, both classical and modern. Hebrew topics on the agenda include papers on modern Hebrew and its significance for the restoration of Israel, Hassidism, problems of the revival of Hebrew and teaching uses of biblical language statistics.

Aharon Rosen of the Hebrew University, consultant to the Department of Education and Culture of the American Zionist Council today, conducted a demonstration lesson for beginners in Hebrew.

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION GRANTS \$80,000 FOR RESEARCH IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 27. (JTA) -- The Israel National Physical Laboratory in Jerusalem has been awarded an \$80,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation to help finance research on solar energy, the Foundation announced here today.

The research, which is being conducted by a staff of 22 scientists under the direction of Dr. H. Tabor, will continue to probe the absorptive and emissive qualities of surfaces used for the collection of solar energy, solar steam boilers and solar ponds.

The Foundation also announced the approval of a \$10,000 grant to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem for library acquisitions relating to Asian studies.

RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY CONVENTION RE-ELECTS ALL OFFICERS FOR NEW TERM

KIAMESHA LAKE, N. Y., April 27. (JTA) -- The Rabbinical Assembly, completing its 61st annual convention here as the organization representing Conservative rabbis in the United States and Canada, re-elected all of its officers today.

Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow was re-elected president. The other officers, all chosen to serve further terms, are: Rabbi Theodore Friedman, vice-president; Rabbi S. Gershon Levi, treasurer; Rabbi Eli A. Bohnen, recording secretary; Rabbi Morris S. Goodblatt, corresponding secretary; and Rabbi Max D. Davidson, controller. Rabbi Wolfe Kelman was re-elected for his eleventh consecutive term as executive vice-president.

J. N. F. TO PLANT FOREST IN ISRAEL IN HONOR OF QUEEN OF BELGIUM

BRUSSELS, April 27. (JTA) -- Queen Elisabeth was represented at a reception sponsored by the Jewish National Fund at Antwerp to celebrate the planting of the Queen Elisabeth Forest in Israel. Among the speakers were the Belgian Minister of Justice, A. Lilar, MP; I. Craeybeck, the Mayor of Antwerp and other dignitaries. More than 2,000 persons attended the reception.