



SURVIVORS OF MAIDANEK TESTIFY AT EICHMANN TRIAL ON KILLING OF JEWS

JERUSALEM, June 5. (JTA) -- Three survivors of the Nazi holocaust--two who lived through the atrocities at Maidanek, and one who had been at the notorious Sobibor camp--testified in the Adolf Eichmann trial here today, piling more gruesome details upon the earlier grisly reports of Nazi horrors.

One of the witnesses, Yosef Resnik, testified that Nazi army bands played lively music at Maidanek, while Jews were marched to mass graves. "The bands kept playing all the time," he told the court, "and the inmates did not know what was going on. At the graves, the machine guns were working all the time."

Another witness, Yaacov Friedman, a Polish-born Jew who "passed" as a Christian but who was, nevertheless, imprisoned at Maidanek when he was suspected of being a member of a Polish partisan group, identified Eichmann as "one of the leaders and planners" of the Jewish annihilation program.

Friedman said Eichmann came to the camp as the apparent head of ten SS officers inspecting the installation. Although he did not know who Eichmann was, until he returned to his hut, Friedman said he noted that it was Eichmann who acted as leader and "asked all the questions."

"Can you recognize the man here today?" asked Attorney General Hausner.

Friedman took a hard look at the prisoner in the bullet-proof, glass-enclosed cage in the courtroom, and replied: "His features have not changed."

Friedman told the court he was freed, "with other Christians," in the spring of 1944, and warned to forget everything he had seen and heard at Maidanek. "However," he said, "no Jew was ever released from Maidanek." Mr. Hausner entered a document, furnished to the Israel Government by Poland, showing that about 200,000 Jews were annihilated by the Nazis at Maidanek alone.

Witness Tells Details of Driving Jews into Open Mass Graves

Details of the mass-murder program at Maidanek were told the court by Resnik, now a resident of Israel. A Jew, Resnik was fighting with the Polish Army when he was captured by the Germans in 1941. He told how Jews from the entire area of Lublin, Poland, were rounded up and brought to Maidanek in 1943. On November 2 and 3, he said, entire columns of Jews were marched into open mass graves, while German bands played.

Resnik said he had been one of 240 Jewish slave laborers forced to build the death factory at Maidanek. After being assigned to huts, he and the other "strongest and healthiest" were taken in trucks in the direction of Chelmo, to an area known as Vorky Forest. For two weeks, he said, "we did nothing." Then the Jews were ordered to "start digging."

"After removing three spadefuls of earth," he testified, "I hit the skull of a human being. There was a terrible smell all around. We had hit a mass grave. It was 170 meters long, and there were some 10,000 bodies in the grave. They burned the bodies. A special machine to grind up the bones was brought. The ground material was sifted, and the gold was removed. Then the ground material was scattered, and grass was planted atop."

"One of the graves remained open all the time. Trucks would bring warm bodies, which were tossed into this open grave," Resnik said. Ultimately, Resnik and three other Jewish inmates managed to escape from Maidanek by digging a tunnel under the bunker to which they had been assigned.

Dov Freiberg, who testified he had spent 17 months at the Sobibor death camp, said he was only 15 years old when he arrived at Sobibor. He said he was assigned to a work detail whose job was to sort the personal effects of inmates, and some times to cut the women's hair, before the victims entered the gas chambers.

Jewish inmates at Sobibor, according to Freiberg, were deliberately misled by the Nazis, being told, though they were only a few feet from the gas chambers, that they would be reunited with their families for work in the fields of the Ukraine. Many members of his work detail, Freiberg told the court, committed suicide. He said he was on the verge of suicide once but "after a struggle with myself, I rejected the idea."

BEN-GURION ARRIVES IN PARIS; CONFERS TODAY WITH PRESIDENT DE GAULLE

PARIS, June 5. (JTA) -- Israel Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion arrived here today from London for a three-day stay and will meet with President Charles De Gaulle tomorrow. Following the meeting, he will be the guest of Premier Debre at a dinner tendered in his honor.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Ben-Gurion will confer tomorrow with Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, who will arrive in the morning from Copenhagen, one of several cities she has been visiting on a European tour. Shimon Peres, deputy Defense Minister, Ambassador Eytan and other officials will take part in the conference. In the afternoon, the Prime Minister will meet with representatives of French, Jewish and Zionist organizations.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed today that France and Israel have decided to step up their program of cultural exchanges. A number of key recommendations to this effect were Franco-Israeli Mixed Cultural Committee. Among the committee's recommendations, which are usually given automatic approval by both governments, was the establishment of a Professorship of Hebrew Language and Culture at the Sorbonne.

A lectureship in Hebrew Language and Culture will be established at Lille University and four readerships at the Universities of Rennes, Lyons, Toulouse and Montpellier. The committee also recommended increased scientific cooperation between the two countries and the creation of scholarships in this field. One particularly interesting recommendation was that Hebrew be admitted as an official language at the French baccalaureate, the school graduation examinations.

ISRAEL WILL NOT SELL ARMS TO ANY COUNTRY LIKELY TO RESELL THE WEAPONS

JERUSALEM, June 5. (JTA) -- Finance Minister Levi Eshkol, in his capacity of Acting Premier--in the absence from the country of Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion--told the Cabinet at its weekly meeting here yesterday that the Government is still checking uncorroborated reports that West Germany has resold to Portugal some of the arms sold by Israel to the Bonn Government.

Mr. Eshkol reprimanded those political parties who have been attacking the Government for this alleged occurrence without checking "unfounded reports." The reports claim that Portugal bought from Germany 10,000 Israeli-made "Uzi" submachine guns which it is using against the independence movement in Angola, Africa.

In the past, Mr. Eshkol told the Cabinet, the Government has rejected bids for arms made directly or indirectly for the purpose of suppressing peoples fighting for freedom from colonial rule. Reports about such alleged sales, the Acting Premier said, are likely to cause grave harm to Israel's relations with African and Asian countries.

Mr. Eshkol laid down the Government's policy regarding sales of arms to foreign countries. Such sales, he said, are made only with the approval of the Cabinet, and are negotiated on the assumption they will not be resold to a third party.

In the future, Mr. Eshkol assured the Cabinet, the Government will not sell arms to any country likely to resell the weapons. The Government, he said, will also study the insertion into arms-sale contracts of a clause specifically forbidding the resale of the arms to any power intending to use the weapons for the purpose of continuing a colonial regime.

MOROCCAN JEWISH LEADERS DISCUSS PROBLEMS TO BE PRESENTED TO KING

CASABLANCA, June 5. (JTA) -- A special meeting was held here today by the Council of Moroccan Jewish Communities to discuss a number of problems to be presented to King Hassan by a Jewish delegation. The main problem to be put before the King, it was reported here, will be the question of the issuance of passports and freedom of movement for Moroccan Jews.

The delegation will presumably also discuss with the King the status of Moroccan Jewish communities which was dealt with at a Moroccan Jewish Congress last March and which the late Minister of the Interior Si Bekkal had promised to study.

GERMAN UNIVERSITIES CONSIDER REVOCATION OF DEGREES FROM NAZI PHYSICIAN

BONN, June 5. (JTA) -- The faculty of the University of Frankfurt is considering revoking the medical degree granted to Dr. Josef Mengele, the Auschwitz concentration camp physician who selected inmates for the gas chambers, it was reported today. A notice has been placed on the university bulletin board, summoning Mengele to attend a faculty hearing on July 6.

The Frankfurt prosecution office has offered a reward of 20,000 deutschemarks (\$5,000), for information leading to Mengele's apprehension. He was last reported residing in Argentina, but is believed to have fled from that country to Brazil. In Munich it was reported that the faculty of the University of Munich was considering revoking Mengele's doctor of philosophy degree.

JEWISH AGENCY SEEKS FUNDS FROM SWISS BANKS LEFT BY JEWS KILLED BY NAZIS

LONDON, June 5. (JTA) -- A 15-year-old dispute between the Jewish Agency and Swiss banking and legal interests, involving vast millions of Swiss francs deposited secretly in Swiss banks by European Jews who were later murdered by the Nazis, is expected to reach a new stage this week, according to a report from Bern in the London press.

Jewish sources, according to the report, claim that the sums involved reach "hundreds of millions" of Swiss francs. According to the Bern report, however, these claims are "exaggerated" and also without value, since the banks do not know which of its clients may be agents for Jewish depositors. On the other hand, says the report, another figure, of 10,000,000 francs, is "probably far too low."

This week, according to the Bern report, the Swiss Minister of Justice will be handed a new bill, directing all banks, insurance companies, lawyers and agents for private persons to report confidentially to the Government about all foreign assets left unclaimed in their hands. The driving force behind the plan, says the report, is Eran Laor, European financial director for the Jewish Agency.

One of Mr. Laor's arguments, reportedly, is that a precedent was established by the Swiss Government in 1946, when it ordered confidential reports filed about all financial holdings of Germans and Austrians. That move enabled the identification of assets belonging to Nazi war criminals. Now, it is said, Mr. Laor will claim the 1946 order is a precedent, making possible the registration of assets left by Jews who had been murdered by the Nazis.

B'NAI B'RITH PRESIDENT CALLS FOR 'WORKING UNITY' AMONG U.S. JEWISH GROUPS

KIAMESHA LAKE, N. Y., June 5. (JTA) -- B'nai B'rith president Label A. Katz tonight called for a "working unity" among American Jewish groups to assist Jewish communities abroad "whose status and future are critically affected by political upheavals and international conflicts."

Addressing 2,000 delegates at the 109th annual convention of B'nai B'rith District 1, Mr. Katz proposed a "three freedoms" goal in support of Jews living in the world's "trouble spots." He described these as: 1. The right of the Jew to physical security, spiritual freedom and equality of opportunity; 2. His right to emigrate freely "to any land that welcomes him," and 3. His right, "wherever he lives, to be himself--to be Jewish on his own terms."

He called the last "the most challenging freedom of all," since it provides that "Jews are free to be Jews not by chance but by choice." In urging "cooperative action" among Jewish groups, Mr. Katz said this "does not mean a dominant or monolithic group in Jewish life, but a working unity on issues that are a common concern of Jewish groups, whatever their ideological or philosophical differences."

This concept, he added, was encouraged by Prime Minister Ben-Gurion last week in his meeting with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, a consultative group of 18 organizations which acts jointly on American-Israeli matters. Mr. Katz, who is chairman of the Presidents Conference, said that Mr. Ben-Gurion at that time had urged efforts by Jewish groups "to work together not alone in support of Israel but to strengthen Jewish education, assist Jewish communities abroad and advance Jewish cultural life in America."

U. J. A. YOUNG LEADERSHIP MISSION STUDIES ISRAEL'S MAJOR PROBLEMS

TEL AVIV, June 5. (JTA) -- The 140 young American Jewish community leaders participating in a United Jewish Appeal Young Leadership Mission began today an 11-day intensive tour of Israel which will take them from Dan in the north to Eilat in the south and will include a visit to the shores of the Dead Sea and an ascent to the ancient Massada fortress.

The group, which is headed by Rabbi Herbert Friedman, executive vice-chairman of the U. J. A., will meet with President Izhak Ben-Zvi, Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, Cabinet Ministers, Jewish Agency leaders and military personnel.

ISRAEL'S IMPORT FROM BRITAIN RISES; BRITAIN'S IMPORT FROM ISRAEL DROPS

LONDON, June 5. (JTA) -- While Israel's imports from the United Kingdom increased by more than 1,000,000 pounds sterling (\$2,800,000) during the first three months of this year, Britain's imports from Israel dropped by about 1,500,000 pounds sterling (\$4,200,000), it was reported here today.

Figures for the first quarter of 1961 show that the United Kingdom exported to Israel goods totaling 5,231,000 pounds sterling, compared with 4,036,000 pounds sterling exported to Israel during the same period last year. Israel's exports to Britain totaled 6,883,000 pounds sterling during the first three months of this year as compared with a total of 8,254,000 in the same period last year.

CANADIAN JEWISH DELEGATION MAY VISIT RUSSIA TO STUDY SITUATION OF JEWS

MONTREAL, June 5. (JTA) -- A Jewish delegation may visit the Soviet Union "in the not too distant future," to make an on-the-spot investigation of the situation of the Jews there, it was stated here by officials of the Canadian Jewish Congress. The CJC would "give consideration, in due course," to the possibility of joining such a delegation, if the Canadian Jewish Congress is asked to join, the officials said.

Meanwhile, the CJC executive committee, at a meeting presided over by chairman Monroe Abbey, reiterated its adherence to a 1959 resolution which proclaimed the organizations' "deepest anguish at the plight and isolation of its brethren in Russia." The executive committee also reaffirmed the 1959 recommendation that it take, on behalf of the Congress, "whatever steps it deems fit, both alone and with other organizations, to achieve the full ethnic, cultural and religious rights of Jewry in the Soviet Union." Such steps, it was emphasized, would be taken only in such a way as to harmonize "with the viewpoints and activities of the World Jewish Congress, World Conference of Jewish Organizations, and others."

CONGO YOUTHS ARRIVE IN SWITZERLAND FOR TRAINING IN ORT INSTITUTE

GENEVA, June 5. (JTA) -- Sixteen young men from the Congo, all in their early twenties, arrived here today to begin training at the Ort Teachers Training Institute at Aniers, near here, under the Swiss Government technical assistance program.

The young men, from all parts of the Congo, will be kept busy for 18 months at research and on-the-job training courses with the aim of qualifying them as foremen and instructors when they return home. They were selected by a special international office mission in Leopoldville in cooperation with the Swiss Consul General there. Ort is providing its training facilities at the request of the Swiss Government.

At the present time there are 100 young men undergoing specialized study at the Teachers Training Institute. They come from Morocco, Tunisia, France, Algeria, Israel, Iran, Italy, Greece and Belgium. Ort last year trained 40,000 men, women and young people in its schools and related facilities.

58 STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM J. T. S.; DR. GOLDMANN GIVEN HONORARY DEGREE

NEW YORK, June 5. (JTA) -- Fifty-eight students graduated yesterday from the Jewish Theological Seminary, while honorary degrees were awarded to eight prominent Jewish and non-Jewish personalities. Among those who received honorary Doctor of Laws degrees were: Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization; Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, emeritus vice-president of Union Theological Seminary; Ogden Reid, former Ambassador to Israel; and Alan Maxwell Stroock, lawyer and chairman of the board of directors of the seminary.

An Honorary Doctor of Letters degree was conferred on Dr. Frederick Ernest Johnson, Professor Emeritus at Teachers College, Columbia University. Chaim Grade, Yiddish writer and poet, received the degree of Doctor of Hebrew Letters. Honorary Doctor of Divinity degrees were given to Dr. Guillermo Schlesinger, of Congregacion Israelita de la Republica Argentina, and Rabbi Isidore Soloman Mayer, librarian of the American Jewish Historical Society.

NEW TRANSLATION OF BIBLE IN MODERN SPANISH PUBLISHED IN ARGENTINA

BUENOS AIRES, June 5. (JTA) -- A new translation of the Old Testament, in modern Spanish, was issued here today. The two-volume edition, beautifully printed and bound, contains a translation of the Old Testament by Prof. Leon Duvoine and Manases and Moses Konstantinovsky. An important feature of the new edition is the transliteration of Hebrew names and place-names.

The only Old Testament translation by a Jew available here is one made 150 years ago and written in archaic style. There are several other Spanish translations, but both are very old and stem from Christian sources. The new edition contains about 1,000,000 words and runs to 1,400 pages.

DR. LEO KOHN, AUTHOR OF ISRAEL'S PROPOSED DRAFT CONSTITUTION, DEAD

JERUSALEM, June 5. (JTA) -- Funeral services attended by thousands of mourners including Cabinet Ministers, members of the Knesset and senior Government officials, were held here today for Dr. Leo Kohn, political adviser to the Foreign Ministry, professor of international relations at the Hebrew University and author of Israel's proposed draft constitution, who died here Saturday at the age of 67.

Born in Frankfurt, Dr. Kohn settled in Jerusalem in 1925 and served as political secretary to the Jewish Agency from 1934 to 1948. He was named political adviser to the Foreign Ministry when the State was established in 1948, receiving the rank of Ambassador ten years later. He has been the Weizmann Professor of International Relations at the Hebrew University since 1953.

At yesterday's Cabinet session, Acting Premier Levi Eshkol paid warm tribute to Dr. Kohn, who was also eulogized at funeral services by Interior Minister Moshe Shapira and by former Premier and former Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett.