

# Jewish Telegraphic Agency

# DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

Contents Copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

660 FIRST AVENUE

NEW YORK 16. N.Y.

Vol. XXVIII - 43rd year

Wednesday, July 5, 1961

No. 127

# FORMER NAZIS, VIA DEPOSITIONS, PRESENT TESTIMONY INCRIMINATING EICHMANN

JERUSALEM, July 4. (JTA) -- A parade of Adolf Eichmann's own Nazi colleagues testified by-deposition here today, showing exactly what the prosecution had contended right along--that Eichmann was responsible for the annihilation of at least 6,000,000 European Jews during the Hitler era.

The bizarre twist came during a hiatus in Eichmann's direct testimony under the guidance of his Cologne counsel, Dr. Robert Servatius. The court had halted the direct presentation of defense testimony to hear the depositions by the ex-Nazis, given under oath in German and Austrian courts, in recent weeks. These former members of the SS Elite Guard, all of whom feared coming to Israel lest they be arrested and prosecuted here for their war crimes and for crimes against Jews, were interrogated by German and Austrian Judges and cross-examined by legal representatives of both the defense and the prosecution.

Dr. Theodor Horst Grell, now a West German Foreign Service counselor without an assigned post, was one of the witnesses via deposition. He had been the Jewish affairs adviser to the Nazi legation at Budapest during the war. He said under oath that Eichmann had told him he knew that he, Eichmann, was regarded as a "No. 1 war criminal, that he had on his conscience 6,000,000 killed enemies of the Reich."

Grell did not quote Bichmann as having mentioned the word "Iews." But he cited Eichmann as having said that "he who has the most enemies has most respect." Grell admitted during his interrogation that he had given "more damaging testimony" against Eichmann during the Nuremberg war crimes trials, but insisted that he was reacting then to "a teridency, without actually being untrue," to tell the Nuremberg trial what its prosecutors wanted to hear. Grell did concede, however, that his testimony 15 years ago "was more accurate as far as specific details were concerned."

# Eichmann's Breakdown of Deaths: 4,000,000 in Camps, 2,000,000 Others

A former Nazi major, Dr. Wilhelm Hoettl, now living in Austria, gave his testimony via an 80-page deposition. He had headed the SS counter-espionage and counter-intelligence service at Budapest.at the time Eichmann was trying to put through his "trucks for blood" deal, envisaging an exchange of 1,000,000 Jews for 10,000 trucks.

Hoettl, too, said that Eichmann mentioned the figure of 6,000,000 Jews killed during the Nazi annihilation program. He said Eichmann broke down the figure to 4,000,000 Jews killed "in operations in various camps," while 2,000,000 Jews died from "shootings, hangings, starvation and diseases." Hoettl also said Eichmann considered himself "a major war criminal," in the eyes of the Allied powers.

A 17-page deposition was entered from Walter Huppenkothen, who had worked in the same department where Hoettl was employed. He was an SS major and counselor. He tried to help Eichmann by insisting that all orders in connection with the Jewish matters had really been the responsibility of Gen. Heinrich Mueller, Eichmann's immediate chief.

### Accused Conducted 'Autonomous' Operation; Outdid Even Heinrich Himmler

But from Eberhard von Thadden, former Nazi adviser on Jewish affairs to the Hitler Foreign Ministry, came another deposition, affirming definitely that Eichmann's department was "autonomous" and had full responsibility for Jewish affairs as an "independent" office. He recalled that Eschmann had shown his independence by rejecting appeals from the Swedish Government for the emigration of a group of Jewish children.

Similar testimony was given by Kurt Æcher, head of the economic department of the SS, and from Lt. Gen. Max Juettner, personal adjutant to Heinrich Himmler, head of the Gestapo.

Dr. Servatius tried to keep in the court record only part of Juettner's testimony. But Mr. Hausner insisted on reading the whole record of Juettner's sworn interrogation. Mr. Hausner showed that Juettner had stated that the Budapest police chief considered "Eichmann was entirely responsible" for the death march of Hungarian Jews.

Becher testified that Eichmann was "a dedicated National Socialist and a zealous anti-Semitt." He said under oath that he had complained to Himmler that Eichmann "was trying to circumvent" Himmler's own orders. He said Eichmann had confirmed to him that he, Eichmann, had countermanded a Himmler order for the sending of 1,700 Hungarian Jews to Switzerland, saying Eichmann acmitted he had sent these people instead to the death camp of Bergen-Belsen.

# ISRAEL RAILWAY WORKERS STRIKE, TEXTILE EMPLOYEES THREATEN WALK-OUT

TEL AVIV, July 4. (JTA) -- While threatened strikes by Israel's salaried physicians action on the professionals' demands, railroad transportation throughout the country was brought to almost a complete standstill today. Railway clerks, signal operators and maintenance men went off the job over demands for higher wages. A few trains were still running between Tel Aviv and Haifa today, as the management of the Israel Railways attempted to maintain token traffic.

The strike of salaried physicians, scheduled for this week, was called off when an agreement was reached, providing for immediate hearings and an early recommendation by an inter-ministerial committee. Demands by salaried engineers for higher wages were partly met, and detailed proposals for a complete settlement will be presented shortly to the Government and other institutions.employing engineers.

A new strike threat developed in another sector of Israel's economy today when it was learned that Ata, one of the country's largest textile firms, turned down demands by workers for a six percent cost-of-living increase. Other textile companies, claiming they are unable to pay the increase, are also expected to reject the workers' demand despite a strike threat by the industry's Labor Council.

Pre-election political dissension among Electric Company workers was blamed for labor friction at several of the company's plants. A number of hastily formed workers "actions committees" were persuaded to disband today, after submitting demands to management without consulting the elected workers committees. The "actions committees" and the workers committee were supported by different political parties.

# KNESSET CRITICIZES ELECTION BROCHURE PREPARED FOR ISRAELI ARMY

JERUSALEM, July 4. (JTA) -- The Knesset, Israel's Parliament, adopted a resolution expressing regret over the distribution to Army personnel of an information booklet on the forthcoming elections. The resolution, which was supported by all parties except Mapai and Poalei Agudat Israel, said the booklet was tendentious and, in some parts, violated objectivity. The vote was taken at a special session of the Knesset which reconvened to discuss the issue, after a number of opposition parties had charged that the booklet, which had already been withdrawn by the Army, contained Mapai propaganda. The Knesset was recessed last month for the election campaign.

In opening the debate, which later developed into a political free-for-all, Premier David Ben-Gurion insisted that the booklet presented a fair explanation of the elections, and that not even a single sentence was subject to reproach. He said that the booklet correctly attributed the need for elections to the fact that Mapai was not able to form a new Government by itself, while the other parties could not form one without Mapai.

The Premier, who was heckled during most of his statement, touched off the lively debate when he told the House he resigned because the Cabinet committee, which exonerated former Defense Minister Pinhas Lavon from responsibility for the 1954 security mishap, had assumed Judicial functions. Opposition speakers maintained that the Premier refused-to accept the Cabinet committee's findings because they differed from his own opinion--not because of constitutional scruples.

In supporting the resolution, opposition deputies charged that the booklet was pro-Mapai, made light of political parties in general, and gave a biased view of the circumstances forcing the early elections.

#### JEWISH AGENCY APPROVES HOUSING PLAN FOR IMMIGRANTS FROM WEST

TEL AVIV, July 4. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency gave final approval today to plans for construction of an agricultural village for Western immigrants in the Gedera area, south of Rehovot. Forty housing units and auxiliary farm buildings will be built in the village of Basheet by the Rassco construction firm.

The farm units will be made available for immigrants from Western countries who are able to invest \$5,000. The area was designated several years ago as a center for middle-class immigrants from English-speaking countries.

# ISRAELIS, AMERICANS CELEBRATE U.S. INDEPENDENCE DAY, GREETED BY BARBOUR

TEL AVIV, July 4. (JTA) -- Thousands of Israelis and American visitors attended a celebration at ZOA House here today marking the 185th anniversary of United states independence. At the rally, Walworth Barbour, the new U.S. Ambassador here, made his first public appearance. The gathering, which was sponsored by the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel, was greeted by Knesset Deputy Joseph Serlin, and by Theodore Frye, Second Secretary of the U.S. Embassy here.

This evening, Sir John Barbiroli conducted a special Fourth of July concert at the Mann Auditorium here, sponsored by the American Ambassador and by Israeli Foreign Minister Golda Meir. An Independence Day celebration was also held at the U.S. Consulate in Haifa.

# TREATY SIGNED FOR WEST GERMAN PAYMENTS TO SWISS VICTIMS OF NAZISM

GENEVA, July 4. (JTA) -- Switzerland and West Germany have signed a treaty providing 10,000,000 marks (\$2,500,000) for indemnification of some 1,100 Swiss citizens we were persecuted by Nazi authorities in German occupied countries during World War II.

Maurice Jaccard, spokesman for the Swiss Foreign Ministry, noted that, after the war, West Germany passed indemnification laws which applied only to persons who resided in occupied territories in 1937. Many of the victims, he said, were Swiss citizens not in that category.

He said Switzerland began paying indemnification in September 1957, even while it was still negotiating with the Bonn officials. The present treaty must be ratified by the Swiss Federal Chamber and by the West German Parliament. He said, however, payments would be made to hardship cases without waiting for the ratification.

# GERMANY HAS NO PLANS FOR ISRAELI LOAN IN 1962, SAYS FOREIGN MINISTER

BERLIN, July 4. (JTA) -- West Germany has "no concrete plans" at present to extend a loan to Israel after the present German-Israel reparations agreement expires in 1962, Foreign Minister Heinrich von Brentano declared here last night. He made the statement in answer to an inquiry during a television interview here.

"Just what these relations will be," as between West Germany and Israel, he added,
"whether we will grant a loan, or make some arrangements, I cannot say exactly. But
they will be normal." Asked whether West Germany will aid Israel, as it helps other underdeveloped countries, he replied: "We certainly cannot call Israel an underdeveloped country. I have not had the privilege of visiting Israel, but I know about its wonderful achievements."

# SWEDISH EXPORTS TO ISRAEL RISE AS IMPORTS ALSO INCREASE DURING YEAR

STOCKHOLM, July 4. (JTA) -- Israel exports to Sweden rose from 27,000,000 krona (\$5,230,000) in 1959 to 28,600,000 krona in 1960, according to figures released here today. Swedish exports to Israel increased during the same period from 26,800,000 krona (\$4,450,000) to 34,800,000 krona (\$6,750,000).

The trade figures were released today in connection with the re-election of Ragnar Investedt as president of the Sweden-Israel Chamber of Commerce. His name was inscribed in the Jewish National Fund Golden Book for his efforts on behalf of Israeli-Swedish trade.

# NORWEGIAN BISHOP, TRYGVE LIE ON NEW ORT COMMITTEE FORMED AT OSLO

OSLO, July 4. (JTA) -- A new Norwegian ORT Committee has been established here, including in its membership former United Nations Secretary-General Trygve Lie and other leading Norwegian statesmen and lay leaders.

Only two of Norway's 1,000 Jews are members of the 15-man committee, which is headed by the Bishop of Trondheim, a hero of the Norwegian resistance movement during the Second World War. The bishop saved many Jews during the Nazi occupation of this country.

## MOROCCO TO NAME RABBI TO AGADIR POST; ANOTHER JEW PLACED IN MINISTRY

CASABLANCA, July 4. (JTA) -- The Moroccan Ministry of Justice has decided to nominate a new rabbinical Judge in Agadir in order to encourage the return to that city of hundreds of Jewish families who were forced to leave when the city was leveled in an earthquake last year. Rabbi Chaim Elferchi is under consideration for the post. A small Jewish community has already been re-established there.

In Rabat, meanwhile, the appointment was announced of Jo Ahana, a Jew, as Chief of Cabinet for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. M. Ohana had previously occupied this post for two years and was dismissed. Moroccan right-wing newspapers today criticized the appointment of a Jew to the Ministry, describing Commerce Ministry Joundy as "pro-Jewish."

#### GERMAN PARLIAMENT CLEARS DR. OBERLAENDER, BUT NAZI CHARGES PERSIST

BONN, July 4. (JTA) -- The Bundestag, (lower House of Parliament); has approved a report of a Judicial committee clearing Dr. Theodor Oberlaender, former Minister of a Refugees, of charges that he was involved in the killing of Poles and Jews during World War II in Foland.

The Christian Democratic Union party faction contended that the report, which was based on a probe conducted by the Bonn prosecution office, had "fully rehabilitated" Dr. Oberlaender, and that the creation of a Parliamentary investigation committee had been made superfluous.

The opposition Social Democratic party, which had demanded such a committee, argued that the judicial committee report covered only the criminal charges against the former West German Cabinet member, and not his Nazi past. Dr. Oberlaender, who resigned his Cabinet popt under fire, is, however, still a member of the Bundestag.

REFORM LEADER CHARGES HOUSING BIAS; CALLS ON TEMPLES TO ACT ON ISSUE

CHICAGO, July 4. (JTA) -- Rabbi Richard G. Hirsch, of this city, on behalf of Reform Judism's Commission on Social Action, today accused the real estate industry, financial institutions, insurance agencies and Federal Government agencies of "perpetuating housing segregation." He called upon the 630 Reform temples affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations to adopt a program of study and action to deal "with this vital question."

The Commission on Social Action represents the Gentral Conference of American Rabbis, the rabbinical organization of the Reform rabbinate, as well as the UAHC and its affiliated bodies.

Rabbi Hirsch expressed his accusations in a pamphlet, issued here today, entitled "Judaism and the Crisis in the Cities." The study deals with many moral and social problems which effects the metropolitan city in crisis, including the clog of transportation; need for better urban planning; population changes; higher educational standards; elimination of slums and abuses of slum landlords.

One section includes an historical analysis of the Jewish views towards the city as it evolves from Jewish history. "It would be unjust to place the blame for the perpetuation of segregation on any single group or any single cause, "stated Rabbi Hirsch. "Nevertheless, some elements in our society are more directly involved than others." In his call upon Reform Judaism to act on the problem. he stated:

"Judaism does not ask: man to love every other man the way he loves himself. Judaism does not expect all whites to love all Negroes, and all Christians to love all Jews, any more than it expects all whites to love all whites or all Jews to love all Jews. Judaism, however, does expect each person to recognize the sanctity of every man, the individuality of every individual; the right of every human being to be human;

In his program for study and action on the problem, Rabbi Hirsch emphasized synagogal participation in all community action toward elimination of segregation, creation "of a climate of opinion" on the problem within the synagogue, and "initiating and pioneering the translation of Jewish thics into action."

#### BEN-ZVI SENDS 'FOURTH' GREETINGS TO KENNEDY VOICING HOPES FOR PEACE

JERUSALEM, July 4. (JTA) -- President Inhak Ben-Zvi today cabled Independence Day greetings to President John F. Kennedy, expressing the good wishes of the people of Israel on the occasion of the 185th anniversary of U.S. independence. The message stated in part: "In these difficult times we pray that it may be given to the statesmanship of United States leaders to maintain and strengthen peace, justice and liberty, in the world."

#### 500 ATTEND BAERWALD OBSEQUIES; U.S., WORLD JEWISH LEADERS MOURN DEATH

ELBERON, N.J., July 4. (JTA) -- Five hundred of America's foremost Jewish leaders attended funeral services at Temple Beth Miriam here yesterday for the late Paul Baerwald, banker and philanthropist, who was one of the world's leaders in the work of resettlement of Jews following both World War I and World War II. He died at his summer home Sunday at the age of 89.

Messages of condolence were received by the family from Jewish organizations, and from prominent non-Jewish personalities from all over the free world. The services were conducted by Rabbi Aaron H. Lefkowitz, of Temple Beth Miriam. Interment, which was private, was at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, in Westchester County, in suburban New York.

A founder of the Joint Distribution Committee, active for many yars in the topmost leadership of the JDC, the United Jewish Appeal, the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York City, the New York Foundation, the Jewish Family Service Society, and many other philanthropies, Mr. Baerwald was mourned by the leaders of these organizations and many others. In accordance with the expressed wishes of the Baerwald family, many of the mourners made contributions to the Joint Distribution Committee in lieu of flowers.

Among those who issued statements of condolence were Joseph Meyerhoff, general chairman of the United Jewish Appèal, as well as Melvin Dubinsky, UJA campaign cabinet chairman and Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, executive vice-chairman, Edward M. M. Warburg and Moses A. Leavitt, respectively chairman and executive vice-chairman of the JDG; Lawrence A. Wien, president, and Sali Horowitz, Jr., secretary of Federation; David A. Heymann, president and D. John Neyman, secretary, of the New York Foundation; and, on behalf of the Family Service Society, Frances Taussing, secretary, and Frances L. Beatman, executive director.

One of the survivors, Mr. Baerwald's daughter, Mrs. Myron S. Falk, Jr., is president of the Jewish Family Service Society.. Other children surviving are Herman F. Baerwald, Mrs. Jane Aron and Mrs. Florence Doubilet.