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SIX MORE JEWS SENTENCED TO DEATH IN KIEV; NON-JEWS GET PRISON TERMS

LONDON, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Six Jews were sentenced to death in Kiev, while six non-Jews were given prison terms, at the conclusion of a mass trial there of 12 more Soviet citizens accused of "economic crimes," according to a Kiev newspaper here today.

The newspaper, Rabochaya Gazetta, dated January 5, listed the following, all evidently Jewish, as having received the death sentences: G. Friberg, H. Tendler, A. Grossman, B. Pecharsky, E. Handshau and A. Pekelsky. All 12 defendants had been accused of illegal currency speculation and of forging currency. However, only the Jews were sentenced to death.

Jewish circles here pointed to the facts as reported by the Kiev newspaper as another instance in which the Soviet Government encourages anti-Semitism by penalizing Jews more harshly than non-Jews and publicizing their names in the controlled Communist press in such a manner as to advance anti-Semitism in the USSR.

U.S. ENVOY MEETS WITH GOLDA MEIR; DISCUSS EARLIER TALK WITH KENNEDY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Foreign Minister, met today with United States Ambassador Walworth Barbour at the latter's request for a 50-minute meeting.

Topics covered were understood to have included various aspects of the Arab refugee problem against the background of both the recent debate in the United Nations General Assembly and the talks earlier this month between Mrs. Meir and President Kennedy, as well as the situation in Yemen.

The American envoy entertained Premier and Mrs. Ben-Gurion at a luncheon last week which was attended also by Theodore Kollek, director-general of the Premier's office, and Shimon Arai, head of the Israeli Foreign Ministry's American desk.

KNESSET REJECTS BILL DECLARING BNEI ISRAEL AS FULL-FLEDGED JEWS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Israel's Parliament rejected today a private members bill containing a formal declaration that the Bnei Israel community members were Jews in all respects. The exact Jewish status of Jewish immigrants from India has been a subject of controversy since the Indian Jews began coming to Israel a few years ago.

The bill, which was offered by deputy Emma Talmi of the leftist Mapam party, would subject to a year's imprisonment and fine any marriage registrar refusing to perform a marriage between a Bnei Israelite and any other Israeli Jew. The effect would be to give legal sanction to a Chief Rabbinate ruling holding Bnei Israelites to be Jews under Israel's laws of status and marriage which are under sole rabbinical jurisdiction. Some local rabbis have disagreed with the ruling in specific cases.

Dr. Zorah Warhaftig, the Minister for Religious Affairs, opposed the bill. He told the Knesset that there was no doubt that the Bnei Israelites were Jews but that to put this into a law would be "discrimination" and "even insulting." He also argued that since they were Jews, questions of their marriages and divorce were the exclusive province of the rabbinical courts and such Knesset legislation as the Talmi proposal would conflict with the law on the jurisdiction of the rabbinical courts.

FARES OF BUSES TO BE RAISED IN ISRAEL; RAISES ON RAILROADS REJECTED

TEL AVIV, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Israeli public bus cooperatives will raise fares and will be one of the first public services to increase prices, in spite of Government efforts to maintain price stability this year, it was reported here today.

A governmental committee today found that the demands for higher fares by the bus cooperatives were justified because of last year's devaluation of the Israeli pound, followed by wage boosts. These, said the committee, caused deficits which must now be met by fare increases of 10 to 15 per cent. A similar demand for higher fares by Israel's railroads has been rejected by the Government.

TWO EX-NAZIS RESPONSIBLE FOR KILLING 100,000 JEWS FREED IN FRANCE

PARIS, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- The last two German war criminals convicted and detained in France, who were personally responsible for some of the worst anti-Jewish atrocities committed during the German occupation, were released last month, it was announced here today. The release was kept a closely guarded secret, presumably to prevent popular protests.

The two were Karl Oberg, commander of all SS and German police services in occupied France between 1942 and 1944, and Elmut Knochen, who was second in command. They controlled the SS "Jewish section" which carried out the deportation and killing of nearly 100,000 Jews. They were handed over to West German authorities in mid-December.

The criminals were condemned to death in 1954 by a French military court and a presidential clemency changed the sentence to one of life imprisonment in April 1958. Additional reprieves and acts of clemency finally brought about their release from Mulhouse Prison where they had been jailed until their release.

Initially, it was thought that the then President Coty had used his right to grant the two war criminals a reprieve to improve French-West German relations, although Bonn officials never officially intervened on their behalf.

GERMAN SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS IN JAIL FOR MURDERING JEWS IN MINSK AREA

FRANKFURT, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Joseph Lechthaler, a 72-year-old former police lieutenant colonel, was sentenced today by a jury court in Hassel to two years in prison on conviction of complicity in the wartime murder of several hundred Jews in Sluzk in the Minsk area. The jury court took account of the fact that Lechthaler had been under detention for a year. A co-defendant, Wilhelm Papenkort, was acquitted of similar charges.

One of three non-Jews testifying today at the trial in Coblenz of 12 Nazis on charges of the mass murder of 35,000 Jews in the Minsk ghetto described how a young Jewess pleaded "I am still so young, let me live" before she was shot in the neck and killed.

This was one of the scenes of the daily killings described by the witness and the two others from Hungary and Rumania, who now live in West Germany. They also described the subsequent exhumation and mass burning of bodies before the advancing Soviet troops reached the district.

Eight Nazis Charged with Mass-Killing of Jews in Lublin

Pre-trial investigation of evidence against eight former Nazi SS and SD men charged with participation in the mass slaughter of Jews and Soviet prisoners in German-occupied Lublin continued today in Wiesbaden.

Those being investigated include a former Criminal Investigation Department inspector, Hermann Westhoff, and a former CID chief of Limburg, Georg Hoffmann. The investigation is being conducted by a special investigation department of the Wiesbaden public prosecutor's office. The two chief defendants have been confronted with several survivors of the Lublin mass murders. Most of the witnesses have come from Israel to testify.

A 73-year-old former police major general and police commander of Lodz in Nazi-occupied Poland insisted today at the mass murder trial of 13 former Nazis that he had never been at the Chelmno annihilation camp as three of the defendants previously testified he had been.

Walter Keuck, in denying that testimony, said he had lost his memory of the wartime events. He expressed regret if his policemen had been used as "handymen" by the Gestapo. The 13 defendants are being tried on charges of murdering or abetting the murder of 170,000 Jews in the Chelmno camp. Preliminary proceedings against Keuck have been opened by the Hannover public prosecutor on charges of complicity in wartime Nazi mass murders.

W.J.C. LAUDED FOR ESTABLISHING LINKS OF NEO-NAZI ORGANIZATIONS

LONDON, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- The national council of the British section of the World Jewish Congress today lauded the WJC's European Conference for establishing the facts about the existence of international links of Nazi and Fascist organizations.

Meeting here, the national council noted the European Conference report, made at a session in London recently, and welcomed "the initiative taken by the Congress to coordinate the efforts of its affiliates in counteracting the menace of the revival of anti-Semitism and neo-Nazism which it has found to be essentially international in character."

The British leaders of the WJC praised the European executive for "having conducted successful research work and for having brought to light facts relating to international links of Nazi-Fascist organizations, as well as foreign legislation on incitement to racial hatred."

HILLEL FOUNDATIONS REPORT INCREASED STUDENT INTEREST IN RELIGION

NEW YORK, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- One of the factors that has stimulated increased Jewish student interest in religious worship on the campuses of American colleges and universities is that "the academic climate today favors religious identification on the part of students," the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations reported today.

The report said that a study of attendance at services on campuses during the past High Holy Days revealed a larger attendance than ever before. It cited an attendance at the Pennsylvania State University Hillel Foundation of 1,500 Jewish students who filled the auditorium synagogue and overflowed to the outside halls and sidewalks.

"At Ohio State University, concurrent services were conducted, one liberal and the other traditional, not only to meet the specific needs of students of different denominational backgrounds but also to provide additional seating space for the large number of students joining in worship," the report added. "Three concurrent services were conducted at Harvard-Radcliffe in the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform traditions, with more than 1,400 students in attendance."

Conceding that attendance at such services was "no indication of the real intensity of Jewish identification," the report contended that increased student attendance was nevertheless significant "because it runs counter to our experience on the campus a decade ago, certainly 20 years ago. Then large numbers of Jewish students refused to identify themselves in any way with Jewish life and religion." The report added that the Hillel programs demonstrated that "there is indeed a carry-over from attendance at High Holy Day services into the on-going cultural and religious program of the entire year" offered by the Foundations.

Number of Chairs on Jewish Studies Growing in Universities

The report added that the spirit of the university "is highlighted further by the growing number of schools at which Chairs or courses in Jewish studies are found. Forty Hillel directors teach university credit courses in Hebrew language, Jewish history, Jewish philosophy, Bible studies, and on a growing number of universities it is now possible to major in Judaic studies."

The report said that many universities include information on Hillel's religious and cultural programs in their regular bulletins and "take special pains to inform new students of the existence of the Hillel Foundations."

In addition, university administrations, without exception, make extraordinary efforts to accommodate their school calendars and policies to the Jewish religious needs of college students," the report stressed. "When registration is scheduled unavoidably or accidentally in conflict with Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, provisions are made for Jewish students to register before or after the High Holy Days. Jewish students are excused from class attendance on these days as well," the report stated.

Hillel Foundations Budget Exceeded \$2,000,000 in 1962

Touching on the problems of growth, the report said that the annual Hillel budget of \$2,005,477 in 1962 went over \$2,000,000 for the first time. The money was spent on 81 full-time professional staff members; the maintenance of 52 Hillel Foundation buildings whose value at the time of construction or purchase was more than \$6,000,000; program and maintenance funds for 243 Hillel Foundations and counselorships; salaries for specialists in Hebrew, music and dance; student work scholarships, and the operations of the national office.

The report said that in the past four years, the Hillel budget had grown at the rate of \$112,000 a year, and that 45 per cent of the increase had come from parental contributions, student registration fee increases and other local sources.

Noting that the larger universities were reaching the saturation point, the study said that many more Jewish students were entering smaller liberal arts colleges all over the United States. The report cited comparisons of Jewish enrollment in 1961 and 1962 and said that the larger schools showed "modest increases" in Jewish enrollment in 1962 over 1961 but that "the smaller schools show significant percentage increases."

Preliminary findings of a survey to determine Hillel needs beyond the 200 schools already on the Hillel waiting list showed dozens of colleges and small universities with Jewish enrollments of 40 to 50 students. The report added that Hillel officials were not aware before the survey "of the existence of this Jewish student population."

The report said that school administrators have been informing Hillel officials that Jewish students were not waiting for formal affiliation with Hillel Foundations "but are unilaterally designating themselves as 'Hillel' groups." Some even have faculty advisors and rabbinical counselors and "all wait for the time when our budgetary situation will permit their formal designation as official Hillel units."

The Hillel Foundations currently serve--in addition to the United States and Canada--in Australia, Britain, Holland, Israel, Switzerland and South Africa.

GROUP OF WALL STREET BANKING FIRMS UNDERWRITES BANK LEUMI SHARES

NEW YORK, Jan. 10. (JTA) - The impressive scope of American financial and industrial participation in Israel's economy was highlighted at a luncheon of the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce & Industry held here today at the Sheraton-Atlantic Hotel. The meeting marked the successful underwriting of Bank Leumi Le-Israel shares by a group of Wall Street firms headed by Kuhn, Loeb & Co. Inc.

Nathaniel Samuels, senior partner of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., told the meeting that the five leading Wall Street firms which formed the underwriting group have felt that "Israel's economy has matured to the point where a firmly underwritten capital market transaction would help to establish in the minds of American and European investors a new pattern for the financing of Israeli enterprises." No better choice than the Bank Leumi issue could be asked for, he said, since the Bank is Israel's leading financial institution and had established for itself worldwide repute.

Significant developments in the industrial field were outlined to the more than 130 leaders of finance, industry and commerce present by Abraham R. Taiber, director of the Israel Government Investment Authority for North America. He disclosed that the leading American manufacturer of presses, the E.W. Bliss Manufacturing Company, signed an agreement to establish a steel presses plant in Israel, at an investment of \$1,000,000. This development, he said, is augmented by the plans of the Meehanite Corporation of St. Louis-with American and Israeli capital--to erect in Israel a grey iron foundry, specializing in machine castings.

No less important developments, Mr. Taiber said, are taking place in the chemical field, where such corporations as Chemstrand and Monsanto are sharing the list with other leading American concerns in developing Israel's chemical, plastics and rubber industries. He also predicted soon-to-be announced developments in the electronics industry.

CONFERENCE URGES COMMUNITY CENTERS TO DEVELOP JEWISH CULTURAL ARTS

NEW YORK, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- There is a need for the Jewish Community Center to be a dynamic force for the development of Jewish cultural arts in the community, the first conference of the National Jewish Welfare Board on Programming with the Arts agreed here.

The 131 participants also agreed that the center should create and present programs in music, dance, drama and the graphic arts. The attending center presidents, executive directors, cultural arts committee members, center program staff members and arts specialists heard a message from August Hecksher, President Kennedy's Special Consultant on the Arts.

Asserting that "strong and widely supported cultural institutions are among the greatest needs in the United States," Mr. Hecksher said that because the Jewish community center "is so effective in encouraging individual creativity through the arts and because it provides audiences for the appreciation of works of art in all fields, it has a unique opportunity to further the cultural development of our country as a whole." He added that the Jewish center, in its efforts, "to encourage the distinctive Jewish cultural heritage," was "adding to the flowering of the arts of all people in America."

B'NAI B'RITH TO PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENT BODY ON MANPOWER TRAINING

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- B'nai B'rith Vocational Service will participate in an advisory capacity with the Federal Government's manpower training program, it was announced today.

Milton Berger of Philadelphia, chairman of the B'nai B'rith career counseling program, said his group has accepted a Department of Labor invitation to meet periodically with Government planners on national and local levels in the development of the three-year, \$400,000,000 program authorized last year by Congress. The act authorized a broad program of research and development for training unemployed and displaced workers for new job opportunities.

ARGENTINE JEWISH LEADER APPOINTED TO W.J.C. POST IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Jan. 10. (JTA) -- Dr. Nathan Lerner, Argentine Jewish leader, was appointed a member of the staff of the International Affairs Department of the World Jewish Congress headquarters in New York, it was announced here today. He will be in charge of Latin American affairs at the WJC and will also act as deputy to Dr. Maurice L. Perlzweig, WJC representative at the United Nations.

Dr. Lerner is a member of the Buenos Aires Bar and Assistant Professor in Public International Law at the University of Buenos Aires. He is also a member of the executive of the WJC, and a vice-president of DAIA, the central representative body of Argentine Jewry. He was legal advisor to the Israel Embassy in Buenos Aires.