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AMERICAN JEWS MOURN DEATH OF POPE JOHN XXIII; LEADERS EXPRESS GRIEF

NEW YORK, June 3. (JTA) -- American Jewry joined the Catholic world today in mourning the death of Pope John XXIII who died this afternoon at the age of 81. Major American Jewish organizations issued statements expressing grief and emphasizing that Pope John was one of the warmest friends the Jews ever had in the Vatican.

Leading in tributes to Pope John was the Synagogue Council of America, the national coordinating body representing the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbinical and congregational organizations. Represented by the Synagogue Council are: the Central Conference of American Rabbis, Rabbinical Council of America, Rabbinical Assembly, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, and United Synagogue of America. The statement issued by the Synagogue Council through its president Rabbi Julius Mark, reads:

"Men of good will everywhere, those who cherish the highest ideals of human freedom and dignity under God, mourn the death of a great spiritual leader, Pope John XXIII. His life and noble works will long endure as an inspiration for man's immortal quest for peace and justice. His deep concern for all who suffer injustice and pain, his acts of generosity, his dedication to charity and his efforts in bringing peoples of the world closer together, will long be remembered by men, women, and children of all faiths.

"In behalf of the Jewish religious community of the United States, I wish to express our profound sadness at the death of Pope John. To the Catholic community of this country and throughout the world, the Synagogue Council of America extends its sincerest condolences," Rabbi Mark said that this statement has been sent to Catholic authorities in the Vatican and in this country.

Will Go Into Jewish History as A Warm and Trusted Friend

The American Jewish Committee cabled the following message to the Papal Secretary of State: "The American Jewish Committee joins in the universal mourning over the death of Pope John XXIII. In the brief five years of his Papacy he has given extraordinary personal leadership that has significantly transformed an improved human relationships in such an historic way that this may well constitute his greatest living monument.

"His great personal humanity, his overwhelming charity and his love for the human person have endeared him and have won the universal respect of men of all races, religions and points of view. It is obvious from the anxiety that men everywhere have felt during his recent illness that he was regarded as a friend and leader by many who are outside his own religious tradition. Jewish history will reward Pope John as 'one of the righteous among the nations of the earth who earned a place in the world to come.'

"The American Jewish Committee is persuaded that Pope John's brilliant and greatly needed spirit of humanity and fraternity that made such a difference in the world of public affairs will continue to radiate in the relationships between man and his fellows for many years to come. May his memory continue to be a blessing."

The American Jewish Congress issued the following statement: "The American Jewish Congress extends to the college of cardinals and to Roman Catholics throughout the world its deepest sympathy upon the death of Pope John XXIII.

"Among his many contributions to mankind, the Pontiff will be remembered wherever men of good will gather for his earnest and effective efforts in the wartime rescue of victims of Nazi persecution, including thousands of Jewish men, women and children, for the great encyclicals in which he charted a path by which men of all faiths and all nations could live in peace and dignity and enjoy the blessings of liberty and justice, and for the human qualities of kindness and understanding which radiated from him.

"The Catholic church has lost its supreme leader, the Jewish people have lost a warm and trusted friend, the world has lost a wise and good man."

B'nai B'rith president Label A. Katz cabled to the Apostolic Secretary of State at the Vatican the "profound sorrow" of his organization, and added: "The world has lost a wise and vigorous spokesman for human goodness. His spiritual and moral leadership transcended distinctions of religious faith and he will be remembered by the non-Catholic community for his compassionate regard for the dignity and freedoms of man and for his positive efforts to inspire peace and social justice among nations. The Jewish community shall also remember him as a sympathetic friend who expressed that friendship in great deeds of humanitarianism and loving kindness."

MOSCOW GETS ISRAEL'S VIEW ON NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

JERUSALEM, June 3. (JTA) -- The Cabinet yesterday approved the text of Israel's reply to a Soviet note proposing that the Mediterranean be declared a nuclear-free zone. The reply, which was to be handed to the Soviet Government today, will be made public within a few days.

While no details of the note have yet been disclosed, it is understood to generally express favor toward the proposal. However, the note points out that the question of Polaris missile submarines in the Mediterranean is part of the global nuclear disarmament problem and that a nuclear-free zone in the area would be possible only within the framework of global agreement.

It is assumed that the note also stressed that the major danger to the stability of the area emanates not from nuclear arms but from the flow of conventional weapons to Egypt.

ISRAEL CABINET DECIDES TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL SECURITY COLLEGE

JERUSALEM, June 3. (JTA) -- Establishment of a National Security College, to be opened next October with an enrollment of about 20 senior army officers and other officials of high rank, was voted by Israel's Cabinet yesterday, according to an announcement today.

The college will offer an eight-month course which will include public administration with regard to security problems. Col. Uzzi Narkis will head the institution. Faculty members will include professors from the Hebrew University, army commanders, members of the Cabinet, and experts from various fields.

The college will be run along lines similar to the policies of such institutions conducted in the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France, Holland and the Scandinavian countries.

BULGARIA AGREES TO PAY \$195,000 TO ISRAEL FOR SHOT DOWN EL AL PLANE

JERUSALEM, June 3. (JTA) -- Protracted negotiations over the question of compensation for the 22 Israelis who died in the crash of an El Al plane which was shot down by the Bulgarian Air Force in 1955, have been concluded with the signing of an agreement providing for the payment to Israel by Bulgaria of a total of \$195,000, it was announced here today. Israel had originally claimed \$2,500,000 in compensation for the incident in which all 58 persons aboard the plane were killed when the aircraft was shot down on a routine flight from Vienna to Lydda Airport.

Under the terms of the agreement, each of the families of the victims will receive \$8,236 which corresponds to the maximum compensation payment fixed by the Warsaw Convention for damage claims of individuals against foreign governments. The remainder of the payment will be divided among the families to cover damage and freight losses.

The agreement does not include compensation for the loss of the plane. The Bulgarian Government had earlier settled most of the claims brought by families of the 26 non-Israelis aboard the plane. In 1959, Israel's claim was brought before the International Court of Justice at The Hague which ruled that it had no jurisdiction in the case.

AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT FINDS JEWS DEPRIVED OF CULTURE IN MINSK

NEW YORK, June 3. (JTA) -- There is little evidence of any Yiddish culture in Minsk, a city rich in Jewish history, it was reported here today by David Miller, correspondent of the New York Herald Tribune, who is currently visiting the capital of Byelorussia in the Soviet Union.

The correspondent noted that there are no Byelorussian Yiddish-language books or newspapers in the stores although Byelorussia publishes 128 newspapers and last year issued 1,612 book titles. He said Yiddish writers appear either in the Moscow-published Yiddish magazine, Soviet Homeland, or in translation. Yiddish is not taught in any school, not even as a specialized course in one of the institutes of higher learning. Concerts in Yiddish are given in Minsk, but there is no permanent theater.

The only synagogue in Minsk, where nearly 120 flourished before the 1917 revolution, is scheduled for demolition by Communist officials as part of a new construction project. It is not known where religious Jews will gather to pray after the ancient synagogue is swept away. There are some 59,000 Jews in Minsk, according to the latest Soviet census. Jews in the city constitute about eight percent of the population. In all of Byelorussia, there are about 150,000 Jews, about two percent of the population.

At the Byelorussian state museum of the history of the Second World War, the correspondent found almost no reminders of the holocaust suffered by the Jews under the Nazis. Of the 4,500 photographs, documents and exhibits, only one--a newspaper clipping ordering the creation of the Minsk Jewish ghetto in the early days of the Nazi occupation--was on display.

600 TRIALS OF NAZIS WHO KILLED JEWS STILL PENDING IN WEST GERMANY

BCNN, June 3. (JTA) -- Eighteen years after the war, there are still more than 600 trials scheduled to take place in Germany of Nazis charged with killing Jews and others in concentration camps and in Nazi-held territories, it was reported here today. The report said that it would take two to three years to complete all the pending cases.

The Federal Supreme Court at Karlsruhe meanwhile ruled today that Nazi General Erich Ehrlinger and his wartime associates--all connected with the notorious Einsatz Commandos who conducted the mass-killing of Jews in Eastern Europe -should stand a new trial.

Ehrlinger had been charged with responsibility in 1,045 cases of murder and sentenced in 1961 to 12 years at hard labor. The prosecution appealed the sentence to the Karlsruhe court as too light. The Supreme court now ordered that the entire case be referred back to the lower court, holding that the crimes committed by the various defendants had to be judged individually and not simply as a joint action.

The prosecution in the mass murder trial of 11 Nazis accused of the murder of 35,000 Jews in the Minsk Ghetto filed an appeal today in Coblenz against a sentence of three years and six months for one of the defendants as too light. The prosecution had asked for a sentence of seven years at hard labor for Artur Harder of Frankfurt, 53.

In another trial, a court in Nuremberg sentenced Joseph Pauer, 61, former Nazi regional police chief in the Ukraine, to seven years hard labor for complicity in the war-time murders of 2,400 Jews. Judge Karl Kristl also sentenced Wilhelm Wacker, 64, another Nazi police official in the Ukraine, to three years and eight months at hard labor for complicity in more than 1,000 of the killings.

BRITISH GOVT. SEEKS TO INCREASE PENALTIES AGAINST RABBLE-ROUSERS

LCNDON, June 3. (JTA) -- A bill introduced in the House of Lords to increase penalties against extremists inciting unrest at public meetings met sharp criticism today from some Tory and Labor MP's as inadequate.

The bill was introduced in accordance with the promise of Home Secretary Henry Brooke in the House of Commons last week to increase penalties against such offenders. Under its provisions, the maximum punishment for trying to break up public meetings would be 12 months in jail and a fine of 500 pounds (\$1,400).

Members of Parliament of both the Conservative and Labor parties pressed the Home Secretary to have the proposed bill include a specific statement to be made part of the Public Order Act that incitement on racial and religious grounds was a punishable offense.

In its present form, the measure provides for maximum penalties for offensive behavior at meetings or for trying to break them up of three months jail or 100 pounds (\$280) fine or both on summary punishment. On conviction or indictment, the stiffest penalties would be the 12 months jail or 500 pounds fine or both.

Before introducing the bill, the Home Secretary cited the neo-Nazi rallies and clashes and noted that they led to the prosecution and jail sentences for Colin Jordan and other members of Britain's National Socialist movement.

"The Government is determined that extremists should not be allowed to provoke violence by stirring up racial hatreds," Brooke said. "The action so far taken under the existing law has been effective and offenders have been punished. The people of this country are united in their detestation of fascism and in their determination not to allow abuse of free speech by extremists leading to the breach of the peace."

He pledged that if further legislative action was found necessary, the Government would not hesitate to seek it "for we are determined that the law shall be fully adequate to deal with any persons or groups whose words or actions give rise to breaches of the peace."

Colin Jordan Returns to Nazi Leadership in Britain

LONDON, June 3. (JTA) -- Colin Jordan returned today to leadership of his small British National Socialist movement after serving eight months of a nine-month jail term for violation of the British Public Order Act. He was convicted of violating a section of the act barring formation of paramilitary organizations seeking political change by forcible means.

"My sentence has reaffirmed my beliefs," he said on his release during the weekend. "I shall carry on the struggle to free this country from Jewish domination and colored immigration." He said he planned to work fulltime for his neo-Nazi group. "My career in teaching is finished," he stated. "Pressure by my opponents has seen to that." Jordan was dismissed as a school teacher as a result of his conviction and for participation in a violently anti-Semitic rally in Trafalgar Square last summer.

PLEA FROM LATIN AMERICAN JEWRY TRANSMITTED TO O. A. S. IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, June 3. (JTA) -- The cooperation of the World Jewish Congress and its affiliated communities in Latin America in protecting human rights has been welcomed by the Organization of American States. Dr. Jose A. Mora, secretary-general of the OAS, said the support of the WJC and its affiliates was "particularly welcomed in these moments when the protection of these rights has become a matter of vital concern to all the peoples of the Americas."

Dr. Mora made his remarks at OAS headquarters here on receiving from Dr. Maurice L. Perlzweig, director of the WJC's International Affairs Department, a copy of a resolution on human rights adopted at a recent Congress of Jewish communities held at Sao Paulo under World Jewish Congress auspices. Expressing deep concern over "the recent revival of Nazi and Fascist activity in the Americas," the resolution addressed "an urgent appeal to the Organization of American States to take the necessary decisions to facilitate the adoption of an Inter American Convention for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the establishment of a Court of Human Rights."

Dr. Mora said that the Inter-American System was devoting increasing attention to human rights than ever before "because there is growing realization throughout the Americas that the violation of the rights of the individual in any one country, the establishment or perpetration of a regime of tyranny and injustice anywhere, affects not only the citizens who suffer directly under it, but also threatens the peace and security of all of the peoples of the Americas."

JEWISH WAR VETERANS PROTEST APPEARANCE OF ROCKWELL AT COLORADO U.

DENVER, June 3. (JTA) -- The commander of a Jewish War Veterans post in Denver demanded the dismissal by the University of Colorado of the editor-elect of the university newspaper for promoting the appearance of Nazi George Rockwell at the university.

Commander Harry J. Pells said that JWV members expressed shock over the fact that Rockwell was invited by the Colorado University Daily and a Committee of the Associated Students of Colorado University. Mr. Pells charged that the invitation gave Rockwell credentials for invitations from other universities.

DROPSIE COLLEGE AWARDS HONORARY DEGREE TO DR. JOSEPH J. SCHWARTZ

PHILADELPHIA, June 3. (JTA) -- Founders Day of Dropsie College, established 54 years ago, was observed here tonight with the conduct of the institution's annual convocation and the award of degrees in course as well as honorary degrees. The recipients of the honorary degrees were Dr. Leo Strauss, of the University of Chicago, given the degree of doctor of laws; and Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, executive vice-president of the Israel Bond Organization, awarded a doctorate in Hebrew letters. The convocation address was delivered by Dr. Schwartz.

Dr. Abraham Neuman, president of Dropsie, pointed to the international nature of the institution's body, which includes students from 14 countries. Doctorates earned in course were conferred upon Walter Gebhardt, Jr., an American, and Song Nai Rhee, a Korean. Gershon Y. Rijnwan, a former Iraqi who studied at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, received the degree of master of arts.

H. U. C. - J. I. R. ORDAINS SEVEN RABBIS; BESTOWS TEN HONORARY DEGREES

NEW YORK, June 3. (JTA) -- The Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion yesterday conferred honorary degrees on ten persons at exercises at Temple Emanu-El here at which seven rabbis were ordained and five cantors were invested. The degrees were conferred by Dr. Nelson Glueck, president of HUC-JIR.

Recipients of the honorary degrees were: Dr. Buell Gallagher, president of City College; Dr. Richard B. Morris, professor of history at Columbia University; Louis Rasminsky, governor of the Bank of Canada; Isaac Bashevis Singer, author; Rabbi Sidney Ballon of West Hempstead, L. I.; Rabbi Abraham Dubin and Rabbi Hugo Hahn of New York; Rabbi William H. Fineshriber of Elkins Park, Pa.; Rabbi Morris S. Lazon of Palm Beach, Fla.; and Rabbi Maurice H. Schatz of Huntington, L. I.

BEN-GURION RECEIVES DELEGATION OF AMERICAN AND CANADIAN SETTLERS

TEL AVIV, June 3. (JTA) -- A delegation representing the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel was received by Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion to discuss problems related to immigration of Americans and Canadians to Israel.

Consideration was given to ways of encouraging future immigration from North America at the meeting, at which Pinhas Sapir, Minister of Commerce and Industry was also present. The Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel serves the North American settlers here by granting them financial assistance and advice on jobs, housing and other matters.