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VATICAN ORGAN STRESSES POPE PAUL'S DEFENSE IN ISRAEL OF PIUS XII

ROME, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- A further and resounding defense of the actions on behalf of Jews suffering deadly persecutions under the Hitler regime, taken by the late Pope Pius XII, was printed here today in the Vatican's official organ, L'Osservatore Romano.

The article made it clear that, when Pope Paul VI made a statement in Jerusalem, last Sunday, defending Pius, the present Pontiff was referring specifically to the German drama, "The Deputy," which accuses Pope Pius of failing to speak out against the Hitler holocaust. Pope Paul had made his pro-Pius statement when he was leaving Israeli territory, at the Mandelbaum Gate, on his way back to the Jordanian area.

"It is not necessary," stated L'Osservatore Romano, "to explain that Paul VI, by these and other words, referred to a known theatrical work which has provoked lively discussions and protests. To vindicate the memory of the Pope of the war years, his good will, his heroic work, his intense and direct participation--there, near the Mandelbaum Gate in Jerusalem--meant reaffirming and exalting the dignity of man, created in the image of God, meant to defend man from all oppressions, discriminations, all cruelties that ensue from the inevitable.

"Paul VI, before his audience of survivors of the tragedy which swept away so many of their brothers and ours, raised his voice against denigration and calumny which, against the person of Pope Pius XII, attempted to strike the Church and, with her the people of the faithful.

"It is false to say that the tragedy of the Jews, and of so many other beings judged then of being of an 'inferior race,' was not understood or shared. The truth is the opposite. The Pope and the Church did everything they could with assiduous zeal, often hidden and therefore unknown to many through daily engagement often performed and with true heroism.

"Neither did they fear to pass the limits that a certain common sense obstinately assigns to their action in history. Nothing that concerns man can leave the Church indifferent or her visible head who leads her through the centuries. This, in its time, was acknowledged with gratefulness by Jewish leaders who manifested, on several occasions, their thanks to Pius XII. All those who did not share the Christian faith should look with confidence and hope at the Church, which has not betrayed and will not betray."

ESHKOL EXPECTS RUSSIA TO PERMIT JEWS TO JOIN FAMILIES IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- The expectation that the Soviet Union would permit many Soviet Jews to emigrate to Israel for purposes of reunification with their families in this country was voiced here tonight by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol.

The Premier referred to Russian Jewry when he addressed a dinner given by the Jerusalem Labor Council in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mitchell, of Los Angeles, who received tributes for their philanthropies.

"We may expect to see the day," said Mr. Eshkol, "when the Soviet Union will recognize the strivings of the Jewish people for national existence in its own country, and enable thousands--tens of thousands--to join families and friends here."

The Mitchells were honored specifically for contributing the Edward and Anna Mitchell Auditorium, which will be opened tomorrow at the headquarters here of Histadrut, the Israel Federation of Labor. They have also contributed funds for the construction of a school building in Jerusalem for working youth. Prior to the dinner, they were received by President Zalman Shazar and Minister of Finance Scipio.

JEWS SENT TO JAIL IN ISRAEL FOR RAID ON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

TEL AVIV, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Eight religious youths, convicted last October for staging a riotous raid against a Christian missionary school in Haifa, were re-arrested today and sent to jail to serve 25-day sentences each.

EGYPT REFINING URANIUM IN ITS 'ATOMIC CITY'; AVOIDING CONTROL

TEL AVIV, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Reports from Cairo that Egypt was refining its own uranium were interpreted here today as indicating that the Nasser regime does not expect any Big Power control on how it would use uranium, the key material in the production of nuclear weapons.

The announcement was that Egypt was refining uranium and thorium in its "atomic city," south of Cairo, in a plant manned mainly by West German scientists. The key to the situation was seen in the fact that uranium can be bought in any quantity from the major powers if used for peaceful purposes under control of the Big Power supplier. Israeli sources said the Egyptian announcement meant that Egypt might start uncontrolled operation of uranium-based installations.

Israel has discovered some uranium ore in phosphate layers in the Negev, but purification of such small quantities would cost immense sums. Israel meanwhile is waiting to learn what quantities of uranium Egypt is able to produce, and whether the ore was found in more or less pure form in uranium mines or mixed with other minerals. Until this information is obtained, Israel is not expected to comment officially on the Egyptian announcement.

NASSER'S RADIO ATTACKS PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND THE UNITED STATES

CAIRO, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Nasser's clandestine radio station, "The Voice of the Arab Nation," broadcast an attack on President Johnson and the United States. Inciting the Arabs "to fight against Israel's Jordan River irrigation project," the Egyptian radio station declared:

"The people will not allow Johnson to interfere in the affairs of Arab soil. Palestine is for the Arabs and not for Johnson. The Arab people are a burning fire which will consume the enemies of the Arab nation. We will not fear the Sixth Fleet. We are stronger than America and its Sixth Fleet."

ISRAEL'S SUPREME COURT REJECTS ORTHODOX PETITION AGAINST MEMBER

JERUSALEM, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Israel's Supreme Court today refused to issue an order to the Attorney General which would have made it mandatory that the latter prosecute a member of the Court, Justice Haim Cohn, for alleged "criminally offending" Jewish religious feelings.

The petition for the show cause order had been filed by Aryeh Waggenar, a prominent member of the Jewish Orthodox Community here. He alleged that, last summer, when Justice Cohn addressed an "America-Israel Dialogue" here, he referred to Israel's personal status law--a law governing marriage and similar personal affairs--as "racist."

In denying the petition, the court reaffirmed the principle that "freedom of speech must be preserved," and held that "something said at a scholarly gathering is unacceptable" as a basis for criminal charges.

AUSCHWITZ CAMP SUPERVISOR CLAIMS INNOCENCE AT TRIAL IN GERMANY

FRANKFURT, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- An official of the Auschwitz murder camp, charged with supervision of the camp gas chambers which killed 6,000 victims daily, asserted in testimony today that he had never entered the main camp where the killings took place.

That testimony was given today by Robert Mulke, 68, one of 22 former officials of the camp now on trial in the biggest war crimes hearing in West Germany since the Nuremberg tribunal staged by the Allies at the close of World War II. Mulke was the first of the defendants to undergo questioning by the nine judges in the trial. During the first three sessions, the defendants made personal statements.

Collectively, the 22 defendants are charged with choosing victims, operating the huge gas chambers and extracting gold teeth and other valuables from the victims before they were cremated in the Auschwitz ovens. An estimated 3,000,000 victims, mostly Jews, perished in the camp.

Chief Justice Hans Hofmeyer, responding to Mulke's claim he had never entered the main camp during his years as assistant commandant, asked him if he had had no interest in how the inmates were treated. Mulke replied: "I never got any complaints." The judge then asked him whether he knew there were two gallows in the camp, and Mulke replied: "No, no, no. I had no idea."

In the personal statements, none of the defendants admitted complicity to any of the crimes listed in the massive indictment. More than 250 witnesses are coming from 15 countries to testify, many of them survivors of the death camp.

CANADIAN MINISTER ASSURES JEWISH PARLEY OF ACTION FOR SOVIET JEWRY

OTTAWA, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Firm assurance that the Canadian Government would do all that it could to bring about alleviation of the continuing anti-Jewish discrimination in the Soviet Union was given here yesterday by External Affairs Minister Paul Martin.

The Minister spoke at an All-Canadian Rabbinic Conference sponsored by the Canadian Jewish Congress. "The treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union," he said, "is but one example of the Communists' failure to rid themselves of attitudes and actions with respect to the individual which can only be considered backward and wrong."

"The Canadian Government is seriously concerned with this problem and will continue to make known its feelings on the subject," the Minister told the conference. "Let us make clear that respect for the existence of fundamental rights and freedoms is essential to the consolidation of peace and harmony among the nations of the world."

Stressing that Canada has expressed itself on discrimination "against any group, regardless of race, religion or color whenever that was considered useful," Mr. Martin pictured Russia's discriminatory policies on Jews as less an indication of anti-Semitism than of deep disorders in the Soviet economy.

Both he and Rabbi Stuart Rosenberg of Toronto described the pilgrimage of Pope Paul VI to Israel and Jordan last weekend as an historic event. The Canadian Minister said it would be a harbinger of peace for the world. Rabbi Rosenberg said the pilgrimage "showed the involvement of the Roman Catholic Church with humanity and with the destiny of the Jewish people."

Soviet Ambassador Rejects Invitation to Attend the Parley

Rabbi S.M. Zambrowsky of Toronto, conference chairman, stressed that Canadian and American Jews were seeking only equality of treatment for Russian Jews with other nationalities in religious, cultural and educational freedom. He emphasized that "we Jews do not want any part of the Cold War," and regretted that the Soviet Ambassador to Canada had declined an invitation to attend the conference and had refused to meet a CJC delegation.

Michael Gerber, CJC president, expressed satisfaction with the response to the Congress' invitations to the conference. He said that "it is fitting that Jewish rabbinical leaders in Canada should raise their voices against the Jewish persecution in Russia."

B.Z. Goldberg of New York, a noted Jewish journalist and author, said it was "nonsense" for Russia to pretend that the treatment of Russian Jewry was an internal affair and added that "the conscience of the world will not be stilled by that attitude." Blaming Jewish conditions in Russia today on Stalin and Premier Khrushchev, he said Soviet Government policy was contradictory in that it sought to assimilate Jews while simultaneously discriminating against them.

National Day of Prayer for Soviet Jews to be Held in Canada

Six approaches to the problem were approved at a closed session of the conference and committees named to deal with them.

Under the program, representations will be made by conference representatives to the Soviet Embassy in Ottawa to seek to ease existing discriminatory anti-Jewish conditions. In another move, a specific request will be made to the Canadian Government to bring the problem before the United Nations Human Rights Commission at its meeting in New York in March as an urgent matter.

A national day of prayer will be arranged for Russian Jews and efforts will be made to send a Canadian rabbinic mission to Russia to observe the conditions of Russian Jewry at first hand. Finally, the Rabbinic Conference will be kept in being until conditions for Jews in Russia are ameliorated.

Following the conference, a mass meeting was arranged by the Ottawa Jewish Community Council. An overflow crowd heard reports on the situation of Russian Jewry from a panel made up of Mr. Goldberg, Rabbi Rosenberg, Rabbi Walter S. Wurzbarger of Toronto, and Rabbi Zambrowski.

The importance of Ottawa as a nation's capital was reflected in the recent selection by Soviet officials of the city for publication of a full-page advertisement in the Ottawa Citizen, under the heading "Is There A Jewish Problem?" which sought to refute widespread criticism of the Soviet Union on the issue.

SEN. KEATING URGES UNITED NATIONS CONTROL OF HATE PROPAGANDA

NEW YORK, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Senator Kenneth B. Keating of New York called last night for creation of a United Nations Propaganda Monitoring Board "to control and condemn international hate propaganda."

DETROIT JEWISH AGENCY REPORTS RISING CLAIMS BY VICTIMS OF NAZISM

DETROIT, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- There has been a noticeable increase in the last year in the number of indemnification and restitution claims filed against West Germany by victims of Nazism here, according to a report by the Jewish Family and Children's Service. Such claims are handled by the organization's resettlement service in cooperation with attorneys of the United Restitution Organization in New York and in Germany.

At the present time, the report showed, the resettlement service here is handling approximately 175 cases of claimants for German restitution or indemnification. Many of the claims involve illness and injuries suffered as a result of concentration camp experiences under the Nazi regime. Increasing requests for claim applications are anticipated as a result of legislation pending now in Germany.

TWO MAJOR N.Y. JEWISH INSTITUTIONS JOIN TO COPE WITH MENTAL RETARDATION

NEW YORK, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- The Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University and the Jewish Child Care Association of New York announced today an affiliation of their facilities to promote an accelerated program of research, treatment and training in the field of mental retardation.

The affiliation, believed to be the first between a medical school and a child care agency, will be applied first to the agency's Edenwald School, a residential treatment center in the Bronx for mentally retarded, emotionally disturbed children. The initial cooperative effort will involve the college's department of pediatrics and psychiatry. Subsequently there may be participation by such other college departments as neurology, rehabilitation medicine and genetics.

The Graduate School of Social Work and the Graduate School of Education of Yeshiva University also will be participants. The college and the agency plan to create at the Edenwald School a clinical, research and teaching facility which could not be provided by any of the participating units alone.

Dr. Samuel Belkin, Yeshiva University president, and John L. Freeman, president of the child care agency, said, in announcing the project that a clinical director will be named by the medical college to head the cooperative project.

EUGENE WEISBERG NAMED HEAD OF ALLIED JEWISH DRIVE IN DENVER

DENVER, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Eugene J. Weisberg, Jewish community leader here, will command the 1964 Allied Jewish Campaign, as general campaign chairman, it was announced today by Jack Shapiro, president of the Allied Jewish Community Council. Mr. Weisberg succeeds M.J. Baum, who led the campaign drive in 1963.

The new chairman is a member of the Allied Jewish Community Council Board of Trustees, former president and member of the Board of the Jewish Community Center, as well as a member of the board of directors of the United Fund.

MONUMENTS FOR JEWISH MARTYRS UNVEILED IN TWO POLISH TOWNS

LONDON, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- Two more monuments to Jewish martyrs of the Nazi occupation were unveiled today in Poland, it was reported here from Warsaw. One of the monuments is located in the town of Zaslaw and is dedicated to the memory of 10,000 Jews, Poles and Gypsies who were murdered in the nearby Sereck concentration camp. The other is located at the Jewish cemetery of Pietrikow, and is dedicated to the memory of local Jews killed by the Nazis.

The Committee for the Preservation of Monuments to Nazi martyrs in Poland has opened a special office for visitors on the site of the now-completed Treblinka monument. The office contains maps of the district, postcards and miniatures of the monument for souvenirs. It also has books and pamphlets on the fate of the Jews under the Nazi rule generally and on the fate of the Polish Jews during the Nazi occupation. Stamps also are offered so that visitors can mail postcards bearing a stamp about the death camp.

MINNEAPOLIS TEMPLE TO DEDICATE TODAY MEMORIAL FOR 6,000,000 JEWS

NEW YORK, Jan. 9. (JTA) -- A memorial to the 6,000,000 Jewish men, women and children murdered by the Nazis during World War II will be dedicated at Sabbath services tomorrow evening at Temple Israel in Minneapolis. The inscription on the memorial reads:

"Let There Be Light Unto Thee, the Darkness is Even as the Light. Dedicated to the memory of the six million Jews who died as Martyrs under Nazi barbarism, and to the memory of those Christians who sacrificially sought to preserve the lives and dignity of their Jewish Brethren. May these Martyrs not have suffered in vain. May their memory shed a renewed light in the hearts of all men and be an enduring blessing to all Mankind."