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POPE PAUL SAYS JEWS KILLED CHRIST, BUT JESUS DID NOT CURSE THEM

ROME, April 5. (JTA) -- Pope Paul VI declared here yesterday, while delivering his Passion Sunday Lenten sermon, that Christ had been killed by the Jews, but that the Jews did not know who Jesus was. He emphasized that Christ himself "did not curse those who crucified Him, but invoked the Father's forgiveness because they did not know what they were doing."

The Pontiff took as his theme, in conducting a large outdoor mass, the Passion Sunday Gospel which tells of Christ talking with the Jewish teachers in Jerusalem who doubted his divinity and who "took up stones against him." Pope Paul called the Gospel: "a grave and sad page because it narrates the conflict, the clash between Jesus and the Hebrew people, a people predestined to await the Messiah but who, just at the right moment, not only did not recognize Him but fought Him, abused Him and finally killed Him."

Referring to the killing of Christ as "that absurd tragedy of the failed recognition," Pope Paul--according to the official transcript of his sermon provided here today by the Vatican's organ, *Osservatore Romano*--asked: "Why does the Lord find so many enemies? Why does the Gospel not find the world's friendship after 20 centuries?" The official version quoted the Pope as answering: "It is because there is still much ignorance in the world regarding Christ. Indeed, He Himself, on the cross, instead of cursing his killers, prayed to his Father to forgive them because they did not know what they were doing."

ESHKOL REPORTS VISIT TO LONDON STRENGTHENED TIES TO BRITAIN

JERUSALEM, April 5. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, who returned home last night from an absence of almost two weeks, during which he conferred with Britain's Prime Minister Harold Wilson and other leaders of the London Government, told the Israeli Cabinet here today that his visit to Britain "achieved its purpose, strengthened the ties of friendship and deepened understanding between the two countries."

Mr. Eshkol told newsmen at the airport, when he arrived after a short vacation in France, that his talks with the British leaders proved the "identity of views between the two governments on various matters." The London meetings, he declared, were "good." The talks, he said, covered worldwide problems as well as regional. Israeli and British problems. Actually, he said, his own predictions regarding his trip to Britain, voiced when he left for London, "came true."

The Premier, however, refused to comment on the reports from London which quoted Mr. Wilson as saying that Britain opposes Israel's use of force in connection with the Arab plans to divert the headwaters of the Jordan River.

SYRIA, LEBANON RESUME WORK ON DIVERTING HEADWATERS OF JORDAN

TEL AVIV, April 5. (JTA) -- The Syrians have renewed their preliminary work on the diversion of the Banyas water sources, one of the headwaters of the Jordan River, after two weeks of inactivity caused by the destruction of a number of tractors and other equipment in an exchange of fire with Israel, it was reported here today. The Syrians brought new equipment to the site, and resumed clearing operations.

The evening daily, *Maariv*, reported that the decision to resume work on the Syrian project was reached by the United Arab Command, after precautionary measures were taken, including the reinforcement of Iraqi forces deployed along the Jordanian border and the movement of forces within Syria and Lebanon.

The Lebanese authorities, meanwhile, released details this morning on the work going on within the country's borders close to Israeli territory, stressing that it was not connected with any water diversion plan. It is assumed that the Lebanese Government's statement was intended to allay the fears of Lebanese farmers in the area who fear reprisals by Israel. Israeli quarters, however, said today that the work does constitute part of a water diversion scheme, and that the Israeli warning against such projects still stands.

ERHARD'S ENVOY RETURNS TO ISRAEL FOR 'THIRD ROUND' OF TALKS

JERUSALEM, April 5. (JTA) -- Dr. Kurt Birrenbach, Chancellor Ludwig Erhard's special emissary, arrived here tonight for his third and possibly concluding round of talks with Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, Foreign Minister Golda Meir and Deputy Minister of Defense Shimon Peres.

TITO, BOURGUIBA VOICE ANXIETY OVER SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST

LONDON, April 5. (JTA) -- Presidents Tito of Yugoslavia and Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia voiced anxiety in Belgrade today over the deterioration of the situation in the Middle East, southeast Asia and the Congo. In a joint communique issued during the visit of the Tunisian Chief of State to Yugoslavia, the two leaders pledged their help in opposing any actions which harmed the situation in those areas.

JORDAN REPORTS GETTING \$35,000,000 UNITED STATES DEVELOPMENT GRANT

LONDON, April 5. (JTA) -- The United States has agreed to give Jordan a \$35,000,000 development grant, to be paid over several years, it was reported here today from Amman. At the same time, Jordan and the Soviet Union have agreed to a program of technical and broadcasting cooperation, which provides for the exchange of programs and technical assistance.

Jordanian in Brazil Urges Start of Middle East Peace Movement

SAO PAULO, Brazil, April 5. (JTA) -- Jews and Arabs living outside of Israel and Arab countries were urged to start a movement toward peace in the Middle East by Tuffic Mappar, Jordanian honorary consul here. In an interview which appeared in the mass circulation daily newspaper, Folha de Sao Paulo, Mr. Mappar declared that the peace movement should be started in Brazil.

SPANISH TOURISTS VISIT ISRAEL AS MADRID'S SHIP BAN IS DEBATED

TEL AVIV, April 5. (JTA) -- Although Spain has ordered that no Israeli shipping will receive harbor facilities in Spain's major ports in the future, except for tourist travel, a Spanish passenger liner docked today in Haifa, and received complete port services. The ship carried Spanish tourists who were taken directly from the Haifa dock for a tour of northern Israel.

Meanwhile, the Israeli press was reporting fully today on Spain's ban against most Israeli merchant shipping for what Madrid calls "administrative reasons." The Zim Israel Navigation Company, which had announced previously that it was sending a representative to Spain to discuss the issue, postponed its special emissary's departure today. In Jerusalem, today, Israel's Cabinet discussed the announced Spanish ban on Israeli shipping, but issued no statement on the issue.

BUNDESTAG HEAD DEFENDS AIDE ACCUSED OF WORKING WITH NAZIS

BONN, April 5. (JTA) -- Dr. Eugen Gerstenmaier, president of the Bundestag, the lower House of Parliament, today rejected charges of the Organization of Persecuted Nazi Victims, an alleged Communist group, that Bundestag Director Hans Trossman ever worked with the Nazi authorities as an administrator in the Lodz ghetto. "The Bundestag will not permit certain political circles to maintain a defamation campaign against personalities with the sole purpose of undermining the free part of Germany and to smear it before the world," Dr. Gerstenmaier said.

Mr. Trossman confirmed the fact that he worked as a government councillor from the end of 1940 until 1943, and later as top government councillor for the administration department, which checked prices in Lodz. In that connection, he said, he also had something to do with administration of the ghetto, but "never put a foot inside the ghetto."

New German Envoy to Britain Accused of Nazi Party Membership

LONDON, April 5. (JTA) -- Herbert Blankenhorn, newly appointed West German Ambassador to Britain, arrived here today to take up his post and refused to discuss an allegation that he had been a "nominal" member of the Nazi Party during the Hitler regime. "There is no need," he said, "for me to give any explanation about my background. Anyone who has lived in Germany during the last 20 years know exactly what I had been and what I had done."

Tom Driberg, a Labor member of Parliament, made the Nazi membership charge against Mr. Blankenhorn last week, stating that the German was "persona non grata because of his Nazi past."

A member of the German diplomatic corps during the Hitler era, Mr. Blankenhorn had been screened after the war by the British occupation authorities in Germany. He was said to have been one of the nominally pro-Hitler Germans who had plotted the unsuccessful attempt to assassinate Hitler.

YUGOSLAV OFFICIAL RAPS GERMANY ON ITS ACTION ON WAR CRIMINALS

BELGRADE, April 5. (JTA) -- The West German Parliament's decision to extend the statute of limitations for Nazi war criminals until 1969 was criticized here today as "unsatisfactory" by Dusan Blagojevic, spokesman for the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry.

Addressing a press conference here, Mr. Blagojevic expressed the view that, following the Bonn Parliament's decision, the statute of limitations for Nazi war criminals remained valid in West Germany, which, he said, was contrary to the provisions of international law and the norms of international morals.

ABRAM URGES U. S. S. R., EAST GERMANY TO REVEAL NAZI CRIMINAL RECORDS

GENEVA, April 5. (JTA) -- An urgent plea to the Soviet and East German Governments to make public immediately all their documents on Nazi war criminals was made here this morning by Morris B. Abram, U. S. Representative, before the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

The Commission today interrupted the examination of a draft convention on religious intolerance to deal with the question of punishment of war criminals and of claims against humanity. Mr. Abram, who is also president of the American Jewish Committee, discussed the question recently with top West German federal authorities. Previously, he had been on the Nuremberg war criminals prosecution staff.

Mr. Abram pointed out that evidence in the Auschwitz and other war crimes trials had indicated that Soviet archives still "contain a considerable volume of war crimes material, and that East German authorities had declared that vast quantities of war crimes evidence were still in storage there. "Until this has been investigated and the results made available to the Federal Republic of Germany, no reasonable person can expect effective prosecution of the many Nazi criminals who may be involved," he told the Commission.

In a tribute to Nazi war crimes victims, Mr. Abram urged that no government seek to make propaganda profits of the war crimes against humanity, which are now universally denounced. "The best possible action on behalf of the victims," he declared, "is to make the Universal Declaration of Human Rights a living and enforceable truth." In an obvious reference to the Soviet Union and East Germany, he scored those governments who revealed "records of reprehensible Nazi criminals only after they had achieved respectable prominence. A war criminal is as despicable before he sneaks into prominence as after," Mr. Abram declared.

Jewish Labor Committee Asks Soviet Union, Poland to Unveil Documents

NEW YORK, April 5. (JTA) -- An urgent appeal addressed to the governments of Poland and Soviet Russia, calling on them to give Germany all documents naming Nazi criminals who have not yet been brought to justice, was sent today by the Jewish Labor Committee.

In a letter to the Polish and Soviet Ministers of Justice, signed by Adolph Held, chairman, and Benjamin Tabachinsky, executive secretary, the JLC stated that the four-and-a-half year extension of the statute of limitations on Nazi crimes in Germany made it necessary that the German police authorities act "with all deliberate speed" if the criminals are to be brought to justice.

AUSTRIAN STUDENT ARRESTED FOR KILLING MAN IN NEO-NAZI CLASH

VIENNA, April 5. (JTA) -- A neo-Nazi student, Gunter Kumel, was arrested by Austrian police today in connection with the death last week of Ernst Kirschweiger, a 67-year-old survivor of a Nazi concentration camp, who was killed during a student clash over Prof. Taras Borodajkewicz, a member of the faculty of the Austrian College of World Trade.

Although he insists he is not anti-Semitic, Borodajkewicz, who is an admitted former member of the Nazi Party, insists on identifying Jews as such when they figure in Austro-German history. Accused of being a neo-Nazi, Jewish groups and resistance organizations have demanded his dismissal. Kumel, who has acknowledged striking Kirschweiger during the clashes last week, had once been discovered with swastikas adorning his Christmas tree.

JEWISH AGENCY NAMES SPECIAL UNIT TO AID IMMIGRANTS FROM WEST

JERUSALEM, April 5. (JTA) -- A special committee has been named by the Jewish Agency to aid in the absorption of immigrants from Western countries, it was disclosed today by Aryeh L. Pincus, treasurer of the Agency.

The need for proper absorption facilities to substantially increase American immigration to Israel was voiced by Moshe Goldberg, executive director of the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel. Addressing the organization's 14th annual convention, he also stressed the need for disseminating accurate information abroad in order to eliminate unpleasant surprises for newcomers.

The annual conference of the Association of Settlers from Britain, meanwhile, adopted a resolution urging the government to put into effect a policy on Western immigration. The delegates also urged a more liberal approach in the field of housing.

BRITISH-ISRAELI EXPORTS AND IMPORTS REPORTED ON RISE IN 1965

LONDON, April 5. (JTA) -- British goods and materials exported to Israel in January 1965, were valued at 3,311,000 pounds sterling (\$9,270,800), according to statistics issued here today. Imports from Israel during the same period amounted to 2,877,000 pounds sterling (\$8,055,600). The comparative figures for January 1964, were 2,698,000 (\$7,154,400) and 2,505,000 pounds sterling (\$7,014,000), respectively.

NEW JERSEY CATHOLIC PAPER REPORTS 'MINIMAL' ANTI-JEWISH BIAS

CAMDEN, N. J., April 5. (JTA) -- A poll on anti-Semitism among the readers of the Catholic Star Herald, a weekly published here by the Camden Roman Catholic Diocese, has found only a "minimal" residue of anti-Jewish prejudice, the paper reported today.

Based on 719 replies to questionnaires sent to 3,000 of the Star Herald's subscribers, the survey showed that nearly 90 percent of the respondents would vote for a Jew as President of the United States if he were nominated by the political party to which they usually adhere, and about the same percentage approved of the Ecumenical Council statement exonerating Jews from any guilt in the death of Jesus. Only about nine percent felt that even Jews of Jesus' time should be termed guilty.

While the overwhelming majority of those responding replied in a manner indicating they were free of anti-Jewish bias, some other strong feelings were shown by the fact that five persons not only refused to answer but mailed back their questionnaires "torn to shreds," the newspaper reported. Another finding showed that public school graduates revealed more anti-Jewish feeling than graduates of Catholic parochial schools.

With regard to specific questions in the survey, 677 of the respondents said they do not avoid the company of Jews, 26 said they do, and 16 did not reply to the question. In reply to another question, 561 said they did not prefer non-Jewish neighbors, 120 said they did, and 33 gave no answer. Eighty-three percent of the respondents said that they had no distrust of Jews.

QUEBEC WITHDRAWS CATHOLIC TEXTBOOK FOUND OFFENSIVE BY JEWS

QUEBEC CITY, April 5. (JTA) -- Gilles Bergeron, assistant deputy Minister of Education of the Province of Quebec, gave assurances here today that a third-grade reader, which had been used in French-language schools here and which depicted a Jewish father throwing his son in an oven for attending a Roman Catholic church, would not be used next year.

The official's statement followed a complaint about the book by Rabbi Morris Halpern of Toronto. The text is one of three available to Quebec's French-language schools, and can be bought in bookstores for 80 cents. Mr. Bergeron said that proper measures will be taken to ensure that the text, "My Third Reading Book," will not be used in future school years. The Roman Catholic School Board here said that the book was not currently in use, although it had been used in previous years.

CANADIAN JEWS SEEK ADVISORY ROLE ON GOVERNMENT'S BROADCAST BODY

MONTREAL, April 5. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress today reiterated a request that a representative of the Jewish faith be named to membership on the National Religious Advisory Council of the Government-owned Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Such a request has been denied previously by the CBC on the grounds that the Council "must be kept to a manageable size." In a letter to R. M. Fowler, head of the CBC, Michael Garber, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, rejected that reasoning, declaring "the Jewish faith cannot possibly be put into the category of just another denomination of limited numbers."

"It would appear rather incongruous," stated the CJC letter, "at a time when Judaism is clearly recognized, certainly on this continent, as one of the three major and distinctive faiths, to refer to its numerical minority position in denying our request for one suitable representative on the National Religious Advisory Council."

The CJC requested also that rules be laid down for the guidance of program producers who have recently broadcast programs on both radio and television, giving forums to acknowledged fascists and hatemongers. Such programs, stated the CJC, "gave national platforms and immense propaganda opportunities to known, vicious merchants of hate. This rush into sensationalism was, on balance, appraised as of dubious value to the Canadian body politic as a whole."

ISRAEL ECONOMIC CORPORATION TO OFFER RIGHTS ISSUE TO STOCKHOLDERS

NEW YORK, April 5. (JTA) -- PEC Israel Economic Corporation announced here today that it has filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission for a rights issue to be offered to its stockholders. The 39-year-old company has outstanding approximately 786,000 shares of common stock without par value, owned by more than 11,000 stockholders throughout the United States. The stock is traded in the over-the-counter market.

While the number of shares to be offered to stockholders has not yet been determined, the company said it intended to raise approximately \$2,000,000 through the proposed rights issue. PEC is engaged in private investment in Israel, and will use the proceeds of the proposed issue for further participation in industry, construction and real estate development, transport and marketing.