

WORLD BEAT

edited by Marta Garelik

Anti-Nazi German Officer Honored At Yad Vashem

JERUSALEM (JTA) — An anti-Nazi officer of the German army, who at great risk to his own life saved the lives of hundreds of Jews during World War II, was honored at a ceremony at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial.

Eighteen visiting mayors from West Germany and the United States each placed a white rose at the tree planted in memory of Maj. Eberhard Helmrich in the area of the Yad Vashem reserved for The Righteous Among Nations.

Helmrich, in charge of a Wehrmacht quartermaster in Drohobycz, Galicia, established a farm to supply food for German troops in the area. He employed about 300 healthy young men and women, 90 percent of them Jewish. He promised that if they did their job well, he would look after them.

Each time Helmrich received a request from the SS for a "selection" for deportation to death camps, he managed to convince the Nazis that the farm could not meet its quotas if any of his workers were taken. He also bribed gestapo agents to keep silent. Because of Helmrich's intervention, his workers were saved from deportation autumn '42 and winter and summer '43, when the Nazi death machinery was operating at its maximum.

Helmrich prepared forged documents in his cellar which saved at least 100 Jewish young women. They were identified as Ukrainian gentiles and were transferred to Germany to work as domestics.

Helmrich also provided food to the Jewish hospital in the Drohobycz ghetto when most of its patients were dying of malnutrition.

Foundation Created for Education on Nazis

NEW YORK (JTA) — The American Jewish Congress announced the establishment of a new foundation that will

sponsor educational programs in American schools and universities as well as exchanges between German and American students and educators to study the lessons of Nazi Germany and the model of resistance offered by the anti-Nazi White Rose Movement.

The White Rose Movement consisted of a small group of Christian students who in 1942 banded together in Munich and distributed leaflets opposing Hitler and his policies. Some 150 people were arrested for being part of the movement. Eighteen died through execution or in concentration camps and 36 survived prison terms until being liberated by the allies in 1945.

Catholic Appointed to Vatican Unit For Dialogue With World Jewry

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Dr. Eugene Fisher, 41, director of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations, has been appointed to a five-year term on the four-member Vatican's Liaison Committee for dialogue with leaders of world Jewry.

At the next meeting October 28-30 in Rome, the Catholic and Jewish leaders will commemorate the 20th anniversary the Second Vatican Council's declaration on the relationship of the Catholic Church to non-Christian religions which declared the common spiritual patrimony of Jews and Christians and repudiated anti-Semitism.

Farrakhan Expanding Audience For His Anti-Semitic Talks

NEW YORK (JTA) — Black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan is bringing his anti-Semitism to new and larger audiences, appearing before friendly crowds on college campuses and in other public forums, according to the Anti-

Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. Farrakhan's "message has become all the more troubling because of the large crowds he has drawn and because of the support and sympathy for Farrakhan expressed by some respected elements in the Black community — implying a degree of legitimacy and acceptance for a philosophy infected by the poison of hate," the ADL said in a report released at the ADL's 72nd annual national commission meeting.

"His audiences hear him describe how they can improve their lives and whom to blame for their misfortune. His message provides a promise of a better life through pride and economic independence, but also supplies devils to hate — whites, Jews, Zionists and American society."

National Recognition Sought for Haym Salomon

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — Two California Republicans introduced the Haym Salomon Memorial Act of 1985 in the House of Representatives giving "national recognition" to the Polish-born Jew whose financial genius helped the United States win its war for independence 209 years ago.

Salomon, born in Lissa, Poland, came to the American colonies in 1772 and was a broker in New York and Philadelphia. Through his financial contacts he was able to raise credit for George Washington's Continental Army from France, Spain and Holland. A commemorative stamp issued in his honor by the U.S. Post Office in 1975 bears the title, "Haym Salomon, The Financial Hero."

Dulzin Speaks Out About Soviet Jewish Emigres

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Leon Dulzin, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, wants refugee status denied to Soviet Jews who emigrate from the USSR with Israeli visas but do not settle in Israel. He has urged Premier Shimon Peres to raise

the issue with President Reagan.

Jews leaving the USSR are admitted to the U.S. as refugees. Most of the so-called drop-outs settle in the U.S. Out of 463 Jews allowed to leave the USSR between January and May, 1985, 312 chose not to go to Israel, a drop out rate of 67.5 percent.

Reagan Signs Free Trade Bill

WASHINGTON (JTA) — President Reagan signed the United States-Israel Free Trade Area implementation Act of 1985. The act liberalizes trade between the U.S. and Israel and is widely seen as a boon to the ailing Israeli economy, virtually opening the door to Israeli products to be freely marketed in the U.S.

Tid-Bits

NEW YORK (JTA) — Black African states that had broken off diplomatic relations with Israel after the Yom Kippur War, largely under Arab pressure, have begun quietly to resume economic and diplomatic ties with the Jewish State.

VIENNA (JTA) — A memorial marker was erected and the park in front of the University of Vienna was named Sigmund Freud Park to honor the Vienna-born father of psychoanalysis.

BONN (JTA) — The Haifa Theater, the first Israeli theater to be invited to take part in the Berlin Theater Festival, is a smashing success. All tickets to its four performances at the festival have been sold out. The Haifa Theater will also perform in Bonn, Cologne, Hamburg and other major West German cities.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A priest from Lebanon was one of seven Roman Catholic priests who completed their

studies in a seven-month course at the Rothberg School for Overseas Students of the Hebrew University. This is the tenth consecutive year that the program has been held at the Hebrew University, in cooperation with the Pontifical Biblical Institute of Rome.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A Center for Prevention of Risk Factors for Coronary Heart Disease has been established at the Hebrew University - Hadassah Medical School in Jerusalem. The new center will bring together a number of researchers on heart disease, which is the primary cause of death in Israel and the western world.

PARIS (JTA) — French President Francois Mitterrand inaugurated an exhibition tracing the Jewish people's contribution to world civilization over the last 3,000 years. The exhibition, called "From the Bible to Present Days" for the first time shows outside Israel part of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Also on view are priceless archaeological objects including some dating back to the Second Temple.

BONN (JTA) — The 1985 Peace Prize of the Association of German Book Publishers, West Germany's most prestigious literary award, will be presented to Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem at the opening of the Frankfurt Book Fair next October 13, in Frankfurt. Kollek, the most popular Israeli politician in Germany, will get the 25,000 Mark prize for his contributions to Arab-Israeli reconciliation. The awards ceremony will be held in Pauls Church; principal speaker, Mayor Manfred Rommel of Stuttgart, is the son of the late Field Marshal Irwin Rommel of World War II. The Frankfurt Book Fair is the largest in the world.

RIO DE JANEIRO (JTA) — Chaia Sura Gertzenstein, considered the oldest Jewish woman in Brazil, died here at the age of 108. She was the widow of the former Chief Rabbi in Sao Paulo. Rabbi Gertzenstein came to Brazil from Bessarabia before World War I.

Some 60 Israeli firms are currently involved in establishing enterprises in the Peoples Republic of China or are in the final stages of agreements with Chinese authorities. The two countries are cooperating on projects including an airfield and 10 hotels, solar energy plants and agricultural development involving Israeli know-how and technology.

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