

WORLD BEAT

edited by Marta Garelik

Habimah Has Been Invited To Perform In Budapest

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Habimah, the Israel National Theater, has been officially invited to perform in Budapest, and the Hungarian National Theater will come to Israel later for performances at the Habimah Theater building.

Life-Sized Statue Of Wallenberg Erected In Budapest

LONDON (JTA) — A life-sized statue of Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat, was erected in Budapest, the city where he saved up to 100,000 Hungarian Jews from the Nazis and where he was seized by Stalin's agents as a suspected spy.

Following a decision of the Budapest Municipal Council, reported in the Hungarian Communist daily Nepszabadsag, it was unveiled last month in the capital's fashionable Number Two District on the Buda side of the Danube River.

The city already has a small street named after Wallenberg on the opposite bank of the Danube where many Jews were sheltered from the Nazis in Swedish protected buildings. But the new statue will have additional significance.

Mayor To Be Honored For Promoting Arab-Jewish Amity

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Mayor Ibrahim Nimr Hussein of the Israeli-Arab town of Shfaram will be honored for his efforts to promote understanding and goodwill between Arabs and Jews.

He will receive a medal awarded annually by the

Movement for a Better Israel, a non-political group of about 1,200 of Jews and Arabs seeking amity between the two communities.

Grant Given For Jewish Farmers Documentary

NEW YORK (JTA) — A historical film about the Jewish farmers of New Jersey has received a \$9,925 boost from the New Jersey Historical Commission.

"The Land Was Theirs: Jewish Farmers in New Jersey" is cosponsored by the American Jewish Archives of Cincinnati, the non-profit organization Documentary III and the New Jersey Area of the American Jewish Committee, which received the grant.

Researchers for the film have found that Jewish immigrants settled throughout the U.S. in the last century in their own farm communities, eventually developing poultry farming as a major part of U.S. agriculture. The first successful Jewish farm community was set up in Alliance, N.J., in 1882.

Profound Change in Greece's Attitude Toward Israel

ATHENS (JTA) — When the 100th anniversary of the birth of David Ben-Gurion was celebrated here at the City Hall, the prominence of those attending, no less than the rank and position of the organizers of the centennial event, reflected a profound change in the attitude of Greece toward Israel, a country with which it still does not have full diplomatic relations.

The government was officially represented on the occasion by the Minister of

Culture, the world famous film actress Melina Mercouri, who, diplomatic observers noted, has "come a long way" since she embraced Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat. Part of the ceremony was broadcast by Greek Television, which could not have been done without the express approval of Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou.

Anti-Semitism in Holland

TORONTO (JTA) — While many people view Holland as a law-abiding country, its Jewish population is experiencing a growing wave of anti-Semitism.

Nathan Wijnperle, secretary-treasurer of Stiba (Foundation for the Fight Against Anti-Semitism), said that while anti-Semitism in Holland has always existed below the surface, it began to surface after the 1973 Yom Kippur War when people started to blame Jews for the Arab oil embargo. To fight this, Stiba came into existence. Wijnperle said that probably the most serious problem at the moment is religious anti-Semitism. He said there are certain sects of Catholics and Protestants preaching anti-Semitism and publishing anti-Semitic brochures.

When Lucas and Jenny Goeree, a Dutch couple belonging to a Protestant sect, were found to be publishing thousands of anti-Semitic brochures, Stiba took them to court and they were convicted. As a result, all their possessions were confiscated and they were forbidden from continuing to publish the offending material.

However, Wijnperle said, the couple managed to obtain funding from an unknown source and began publishing and distributing 300,000 brochures in February. Stiba has again brought the matter to the attention of the public prosecutor.

Wijnperle said the brochures state that "the Jews can principally blame themselves for what happened to them during the Holocaust. They killed Christ and proclaimed that his blood comes onto us and our children. And that is exactly what has happened to the Jews all through the centuries."

There are about 20,000 Jews presently in Holland, compared to the 125,000 who lived there prior to the Holocaust.

Government Helped Spark Anti-Semitism in Spy Case

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Saul Bellow, the American Nobel Laureate in Literature, holds the Israel government responsible for stroking anti-Semitism in the U.S. by its involvement in the Jonathan Pollard spy case.

He described Israel's use of Pollard as "a piece of foolishness and recklessness" which did not take into consideration the impact on American Jews.

"If the Israel government had a natural interest in the American Jewish community, it should protect it from such pitfalls," Bellow told reporters in Haifa, where he attended a three-day international conference at Haifa University devoted to his literary work.

Anti-Semitism has been on the rise for some time in the U.S. and the Pollard affair is the kind of thing anti-Semites seize upon, Bellow said. "I think the American Jews are very sensitive to the question of dual allegiance, and it is probably wrong of Israel to press this question because it is one which is very often used by anti-Semites."

Measure To Investigate How War Criminals Allowed Into U.S.

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Legislation to investigate how Nazi criminals were allowed into the U.S. has been introduced in Congress.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Barney Frank (D. Mass.), would establish a seven-member Commission selected by Congress and the President which would enjoy special subpoena powers giving it access to evidence and testimony from the various intelligence agencies. The commission would issue a report on its findings of smuggling of Nazis by U.S. intelligence agents and recommendations.

Chirac Asks School System To Conduct Classes On Jewish Persecution In France In WWII

PARIS (JTA) — Prime

Minister Jacques Chirac has asked the French school system to conduct special classes on the persecution of Jews under the collaborationist Vichy regime during World War II, to coincide with the trial of Nazi war criminal Klaus Barbie.

Referring to the "black pages of history", Chirac told a press conference that the lessons would focus on the mass deportations and other measures taken against Jews by the pro-Nazi Vichy government headed by Marshal Philippe Petain and Pierre Laval.

"I hope that young people will be informed of a certain number of facts that occurred and which were so profoundly opposed to human rights and respect for human beings," Chirac said.

Ivanier To Be Honored

MONTREAL (JTA) — Paul Ivanier, a Canadian steel tycoon who founded the Center for Robotics Research and Management at Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beersheba, will be honored by the Canadian and Israeli governments here.

Ivanier, son of Jewish immigrants to Canada, is president and chief executive officer of IVACO, an industrial giant of nearly 60 steel mills and metallurgical plants in Canada, the U.S. and Australia. It ranks sixth among steel-makers in the Western world. More than half of the subscribers to the project he launched at Ben Gurion University are non-Jewish.

The Paul Ivanier Robotics Research and Management Center will include departments of electrical, computer, mechanical and industrial engineering and management. It is expected to attract top experts from all over the world. Through international conferences, symposia and the publication of learned papers in many languages, its influence will extend beyond Israel's borders, Ivanier predicted.

Tid-Bits

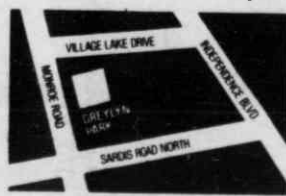
NEW YORK (JTA) — "32 Degrees Latitude", a weekly one-hour program of inter-

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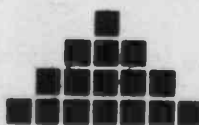
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