Al Paris 7our

HAPPY HANUKA

In this age of doing your own thing, travel to Europe has not been unaffected. In Paris, Amercans are offered a tour of jazz clubs and restaurants and in Amsterdam a hippie entrepre-neur provides an "alternative" tour aboard a psychedelically colored bus. He proffers hashish and Manila tea and introduces the foreigner to Holland's social problems.

Jews being like everyone else, only more so, as Dorothy Parker once suggested, are not left out of the new special interest emphasis. El Al Israel Airlines and \$5-A-Day Tours have reamed together to fashion Jewish Life of Europe tours in

several major European cities. The all-inclusive winter tour packages offer one week in London or eight days in London and Paris or two weeks in London, Paris and Amsterdam. The price, including round-trip air fare from New York, ranges from \$290 for the one week in London with theater tickets thrown in, to around \$370 for the two-week holiday, depending

on the type of hotel accomodations.

The Jewish interest tours are designed for American Jews who have probably already been to Israel and would now like to find our something about their Western European Jewish heritage. "For years we've gone to Europe and seen cathedrals." one couple on a recent Jewish Life tour explained. "Now for a change we'd like to see the historic synagogues.

The tours attempt to strike a balance between the historic and contemporary aspects of European Jewish existence. In London, the first acti-



THE SYNAGOGUE ON THE RUE DE LA VIC-TOIRE, POPULARLY KNOWN AS "THE ROTHS-CHILD SYNAGOGUE," PICTURED IS THE IN-SCRIPTION DEDICATED TO THE RESISTANCE FIGHTERS DURING THE NAZI OCCUPATION,

vity is a tea-party get-together where the visitors listen to a local expert and learn something about the structure and institutions of Britain's 500,000 Jews.

Like their American counterparts, British Jews are largely middle class and prosperous and the London "Jewish Life" bus tour features a ride through the comfortable northern London suburbs where many Jews live today, including the Chief Rabbi. The highlight is the visit to the East End where both the original spiritual and commercial homes of London Jewry exist side by side -- the Bevis Marks Synagogue, built in 1701, and Petticoat Lane. The tour takes place on Sunday so the visitors can see the famous bargain-

hunting street in full swing. A visit to the Woburn House Jewish Museum, the University of London Hillel House and a day's excursion to Carmel College, the leading Jewish boarding school in Europe, round out the Jewish interest tour. There is also ample time for general sight-seeing and theater-going.

Paris is the next stop on the winter Jewish interest itinerary and the visitor soon learns that the history of the Jews and the city are closely

intertwined.

Jews date back to Roman times and despite persecutions and expulsions by the Church and the Kings, Jewish life in Paris persisted through the Middle Ages, but little is left of Medieval Parisian Jewish existence: the synagogues of the Ile de la Cite and the Left Bank have not survived, most Jewish houses are gone and the

tiny cemeteries have been obliterated.
The "Jewish Life Tour of Paris" concentrates on the more modern aspect of Jewish settlement and offers much of interest. The Synagogue on the Rue de la Victoire, popularly known as the "Rothschild" Svnagogue, is visited at length and some of the participants like to sit in the seats reserved for the Parisian branch of of the famous banking family. The synagogue was built in 1874 and symbolized the period when French Jewry achieved civil emancipation and grew in number from 3,000 in 1809 to more than 40,000 at the end of the 19th century.

Other features of the tour are the site where Theodor Herzl wrote the "Jewish State" and the colorful, old Jewish neighborhood known as "the Plerzel," where Ashkenazi and Sephardic synagogues, shops and restaurants co-exist. The Paris tour concludes with a visit to the monument of the Unknown Jewish Martyr, a memorial to the Jewish victims of the Nazi Holocaust,

Amsterdam, which before World War II was a Jewish city, is the last stop on the tri-city winter Jewish heritage program. Much of Jewish Amsterdam no longer exists as the Jewish population of Holland today is only about 30,000 compared with more than 150,000 before the war. But there are still impressive sights such as the splendid Spanish-Portuguese synagogue built in 1675 as a testament to the prosperity and importance of the Amsterdam Jewish Community; the Jewish rooms of the historical museum and the Anne Frank House, known to millions throughout the world as a shrine and symbol of Jewish suffering under the Nazis. An evening at a Jewish cabaret in the center of Amsterdam is included in the itinerary and in each of the other cities lists of kosher restaurants are made available,

For independent exploring, El Al suggests Macmillan's new book "The Selective Guide For the Jewish Traveler" by Warren Freedman.

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- Izvestia, the Soviet paper sharply attacked Sens. George McGovern (D., S.D.) and Henry M. Jackson (D. Wash.) for their outspoken criticism of the Soviet regime's treatment of its Jews.



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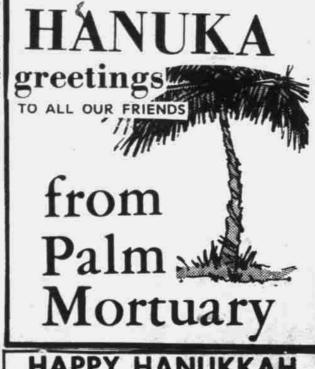
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