

Hungarian 'Mein Kampf' Planned

BUDAPEST, Hungary (JTA) - The announcement by a notorious right-wing publisher that he plans to issue a new translation of Adolf Hitler's "Mein Kampf" has created a swirl of controversy here.

Saying he wants to fight "false history," publisher Aron Monus announced he would keep to his plans despite growing criticism expressed by local historians.

Monus has already published "Conspiracy Against Nietzsche's Empire," a tract which alleges that Jews paid Hitler to carry out the Holocaust.

Local historians reacted to his announcement with the assessment that a new translation of "Mein Kampf," which was outlawed here during the Communist regime, could prove dangerous if it were not accompanied by an appropriate explanatory text.

"It would just encourage hatred," historian Maria Ormos said in a recent interview with the English-language Budapest Week.

While admitting that she had not read any portions of Monus' soon-to-be-published translation, Ormos said that she had read "Conspiracy," which she described as riddled with "factual inaccuracies and uncontrolled ideas."

Hungary's chief prosecutor told Budapest Week that no legal steps could be taken to prevent Monus from publishing "Mein Kampf," since that would run counter to Hungary's anti-censorship laws.

Las Vegas ISRAELITE Communists Meet At Jewish Theater

MOSCOW, Russia (JTA) - Economics sometimes makes strange bedfellows.

Hoping to obtain some extra revenue, a financially strapped Jewish theater in Moscow rented out its premises recently for a session of the Russian Communist Party's congress.

The arrangement, which was given air time on a nationwide broadcast of the evening news, was considered highly unusual, given the Russian Jewish community's fears that Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov may win the country's June presidential election.

Founded in 1987, the Shalom Theater is home to Russia's only professional Jewish drama group.

Since its founding, the theater troupe has been performing on a permanent stage located in a southern district of Moscow.

But recently, after the company went on an American tour, the company's general manager decided to rent the auditorium to the Communists.

Garry Zakharov, the company's assistant general manager, explained the decision, citing recent financial difficulties the theater has been experiencing.

The Communist Party paid the Jewish theater about \$160 for an 8-hour rental, he said.

Zakharov added after he made sure no Communist slogans would be displayed on the theater's facade during the meeting, which was attended by some 200 people.

El Al To Offer American 'Miles'

NEW YORK, NY (JTA) - El Al passengers traveling between American cities and Tel Aviv will soon be able to earn frequent flier miles on American Airlines.

The arrangement is part of a code-sharing agreement recently signed by the two airlines.

Beginning Nov. 1, members of El Al's frequent traveler program, Matmid, will earn air miles for designated code-sharing American flights between Tel Aviv and Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami and Newark.

A member of the airline's AAdvantage program who travels from Dallas, for example, to a connecting El Al flight in Chicago will earn AAdvantage air miles for the entire trip, including the Dallas to Tel Aviv leg.

The two airlines also plan to offer more attractive prices on their connecting flights to and from Israel.

"We believe it's a great partnership and a great potential for both of us," said Michael Gat, general manager for El Al in North and Central America.

Some 200,000 people, including about 70,000 Jews, died at Majdanek.

Ryan, whose maiden name was Braunsteiner, had fled to the United States after the war and married an American. In 1975, she was extradited to Germany.

Ryan, now 76, was released recently from the prison hospital, where she had been since 1990.

According to German law, after a prisoner has served 15 years, the court must examine whether there are any grounds for parole.

The release of former Nazis on grounds of illness is "all too common an occurrence," said Steinberg, who added: "As brutal as she was, she should receive medical attention."

ROME, Italy (JTA) - Jews held a silent demonstration outside the Polish embassy here recently to protest a march by skinheads at Auschwitz.

"The demonstration took place in absolute silence," Riccardo Pacifici, a member of the council of the Rome Jewish community, said in an interview.

Early Release For Nazi Camp Guard

NEW YORK, NY (JTA) - Jewish groups reacted sharply to the recent release from prison of a former Nazi concentration camp guard because she is ill.

We are expressing "revulsion and outrage at this development," said Elan Steinberg, exec. director of the World Jewish Congress.

In 1981, a German court in Dusseldorf found Hermine Ryan, a guard at the Majdanek concentration camp in Poland, guilty of murder and sentenced her to life in prison.

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