

## SUMMARY

### Extracts from Siach Lohamim

(Combatants Converse)

This issue begins with a chapter from the book "Siach Lohamim" (Combatants Converse).

The book is quite different from most of the books that have been published and continue to be published about the Six Day War. Rather than describe battles and events, the book expresses what the young combatants remembered about their feelings and reactions at the height of the struggle when face to face with danger. The expression of the combatants is at the same time the expression of different generations. They tell of their ties with the Jewish people and its fate. Fate and the past stand out in sharp contours in this supreme test in battle which for our people is always the battle for our very existence.

We have recorded the conversations in Kibutz Ein-Hahoresch with Aba Kovner in the chair. The subject was the combatants' relation to the period of the Holocaust.

### Last letters before the tragic end

In this issue dedicated to the 25th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Revolt, we publish a series of letters written in the tense days of the Holocaust, which reached countries outside the Nazi occupation. There are three sections:

- a. Letters written to friends and relatives;
- b. Letters written on behalf of organizations and movements supplying information on events in the community;
- c. Farewell letters and appeals to world public opinion.

### Rescue of Jewish Children in Buchenwald

Ruzka Korchak tells about children in the concentration camp in Buchenwald. During the war deportations of Jews to Buchenwald included many Jewish children. The international Underground, as well as Jews not belonging to the Underground but assisted by it, did much to alleviate the suffering of the children and to rescue them. Thanks to the risks, the devotion and resourcefulness of many, a large

group of children was rescued. This was possible in Buchenwald where conditions were somewhat different from those in other concentration camps, especially in Auschwitz and Majdanek in Poland, where most of the Jews were assembled.

Ruzka Korchak based her work on the evidence of survivors, on documentary material and works about Buchenwald.

#### **The "Exodus" Diary**

This issue publishes a diary written on board of the expulsion ship "Exodus 1947". The writer was an emissary from Israel as a member of "Hagana". He spent three weeks with these people while they were in the French port of Porte de Buc, on the same three boats to which they have been transferred from "Exodus".

The writer of the diary made daily entries describing the everyday life of the survivors, conveying an authentic picture of the organization of their daily life, the human reactions and the general atmosphere and mood on the boat.

#### **The Brisker Memoirs**

This is a portion of an extensive document written by the late Warsaw engineer Brisker. The manuscript was written in a hide-out on the Aryan side of Warsaw during the last period of the war. Brisker had been confined in the Warsaw Ghetto during four years. His memoirs describe life in the Ghetto and various events.

The original manuscript is in the custody of Brisker's daughter Yael Brisker-Shalit.

#### **Portrait of a Combatant (Aryeh Wilner)**

From now on we shall present in each issue of Yalkut Moreshet (Heritage Digest) a description of one of the major combatants. For this issue which marks the 25th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Revolt, we have selected Aryeh Wilner. He was chief liaison for the Jewish Combatant Organization; he also contacted the Polish Underground Organizations and procured arms for the Jewish Combatant Organization. We have collected memoirs and evidence, some of which were never published and others which were published in foreign languages. In these selections people who knew Aryeh Wilner during the war and before, relate how he impressed them and why they loved him as a man and as a combatant.

### **The reactions of world Jewry during the first stage of the Nazi regime**

A chapter from the work of Dr. Shaul Ash, lecturer at the Jerusalem Hebrew University. Dr. Ash describes the reactions of World Jewry during the first stage of the Nazi persecutions in Germany. This work reveals the early attempts to react, the difficulties encountered in the attempts at organized drastic reactions.

### **The Illegal Aliya from Germany**

Dr. K. J. Ball — Kaduri describes in detail the work of Aliya Beth, the illegal Aliya from Germany, before the Second World War and the first period of the War. This description, which presents details about each ship of the time, carrying emigrants from Germany, is based on verbal evidence and written material on this emigration. (Haapala).

### **The development of the Political Police in Bavaria in 1933**

Dr. Shlomo Aharonson, lecturer at the Jerusalem Hebrew University, gives a chapter out of a larger work on how the Nazis gained power over the Bavarian Police, and about the position and methods of the S.S. in the process of gaining control over the Establishment and the inner life of the country.

In a short essay, Prof. Mushkat of the Tel-Aviv University, tells of the Great Nurnberg Trials, the present bearing of these court proceedings, and the juridical methods employed in preparation for the trials.

### **Critical Notes**

In the section assigned to criticism, Israel Gutman presents his criticism of Dr. Leni Yahil's book, which deals with the rescue of the Danish Jews during the war.\* Abraham Barkai comments on the book on Hitler by A. Bullock.\*\* This book is not new, but it is one of the fundamental works about the period.

\* Leni Yahil — Test of a Democracy, The Rescue of Danish Jewry in World War II, Jerusalem, 1966.

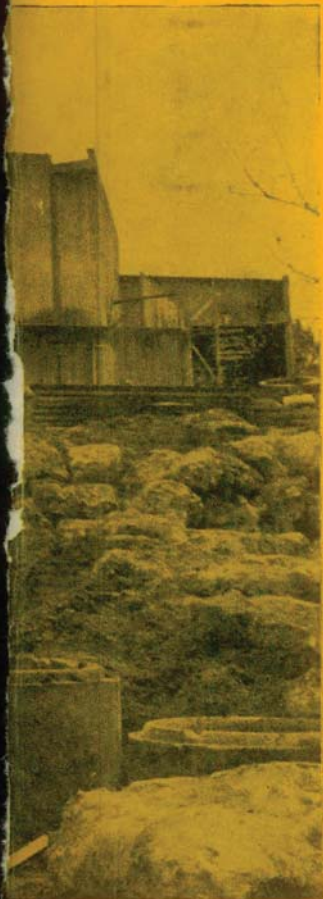
\*\* Alan Bullock — Hitler, a Study in Tyranny.

# YALKUT MORESHET

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