

# FACE TO FACE WITH ADOLPH EICHMANN'S SON

by Jacob Beller

ACCORDING to recent newspaper accounts, Adolph Eichmann's son declared to the press in Buenos Aires that Martin Borman lives in South America, and that he met him often in his father's circles. He had demanded of him to reveal himself to the police and to take upon himself the guilt of the Jewish Mass-murders for which his father was tried and hanged.

When the Jewish commandos from Israel captured Adolph Eichmann in Buenos Aires, the newspaper "La Razon" wrote that after pictures of Eichmann and other mass-murderers, Martin Borman and Dr. Yosef Mengele, were published, a waiter from a restaurant in one of the outlying areas of Buenos Aires revealed that they used to come together often but that he did not know who these men were at the time.

After the Israeli commandos brought Eichmann to Israel where he was standing trial, my journalistic curiosity brought me face-to-face with the young "newly-crowned leader" at an unusual interview in the presence of his mother, Vera Eichmann.

Argentina had severed diplomatic relations with the State of Israel and had demanded that Eichmann, who was spirited away illegally from the country, be returned to Argentina. Anti-Semitism was rampant in the country, walls of homes, especially in Jewish neighborhoods, were plastered with swastikas and anti-Jewish slogans. A pogrom mood pervaded the city, but Jews bore themselves bravely and proudly under the circumstances.

Newspapers reported daily sensations about



Vera Eichmann hugs her youngest son during press interview.

## An Interview With the Son of the Mass Murderer at the time of the Trial in Jerusalem



Jacob Beller.

"kidnapping," stating that Adolph Eichmann's wife was suing the State of Israel, and that she and her family had disappeared, fearing that the Jewish commandos would murder her. In the midst of the trial hearings, reported through the newspapers, Life Magazine in New York published a series of articles by Willie Sassen, which had been dictated to him in 1955 in Buenos Aires. This news strengthened the sensationalism. Who was Willie Sassen? If he had a personal acquaintance with him in 1955 and received his memoirs, then why didn't he turn them over to the authorities, when West Germany and the Allies had searched for the Jewish mass-murderer around the world?

Reporters began to search for the mysterious person, but both he and Madam Eichmann had disappeared. There was little doubt that there had been communication between these two. Then my telephone rang and a Spanish colleague notified me that Vera Eichmann had been located and that she was granting an interview that evening. Knowing of my interest in such an opportunity, my friend offered to take me along on condition that I not ask questions, only stand by as a silent witness . . . in order not to betray my Jewishness.

That evening we drove to the outlying area of Vicenty Lopez, a suburb of Buenos Aires, and on a quiet street with white plastered family homes, we entered one of the houses, surrounded by an iron fence, and with children's clothing hung out — almost purposely — to dry.

Madam Vera Eichmann, a thickly woman with overdeveloped sprawling facial features, held her child (the youngest then six years old) in her arms and fondled him so as to elicit sympathy. . . . Adolph Eichmann junior was the spokesman. He stood at the end of the table holding a revolver in his hand which he waved before the questions of my colleagues began: "The government permitted me to keep this weapon so as to defend myself against the Jewish criminals who want to assassinate us," he made his first comment.

"Could you tell us how your father was caught?"

"It is not true," he began to bellow like an ox. "It is not true what the newspapers wrote that the Jewish criminals caught him at six o'clock on his way home from work. It was eight o'clock, he had already come home from work and was going to a meeting."

"What kind of meeting?" a second colleague asked.

He became somewhat confused, looked at the questioner with his cold steel eyes. . . . "A meeting of the syndicate (union) to which he belonged. . . ."

"Did you suspect that they were searching for your father?"

"Yes," came his swift answer. "We knew it full well and therefore, because of this, never let him go alone. . . . Suspicious persons often loitered in our section, and the neighbors are also. . . ." He did not conclude his phrase, and added: "This time we had no time to escort him."

Vera Eichmann interrupted the conversation with a crying voice. . . . in a broken Spanish with a German dialect, "He is innocent my. . ." and embracing the child with a German expression



Horst, Adolph Eichmann's son, with swastika on his arm, in an interview with the press.

"Armes Kind" (poor child). . . .

I suddenly felt that my blood rushed to my face. . . . With all my strength I controlled myself not to shout out: "And the thousands of Jewish children that were burned through your husband, for their murder there was no pity?" "Do you suspect anybody who was connected with the capture of your father?"

"Yes," he answered. "Jewish criminals from Buenos Aires helped the Israeli criminals." He named two Argentinian Jewish young men whom he suspected. "They. . . ."

"Did you take any steps?" a Spanish colleague asked him again.

"Yes." We brought suit through the Argentinian government against the Israeli government. The Argentinian law was broken. A crime had been committed against a peaceful citizen who lived a respectable life and worked to support his family. . . ."

"What do you believe will be the verdict of the court in Jerusalem?" suddenly came a question.

The young Eichmann jumped up. "Blood will flow in the streets here in Buenos Aires and in all the countries where Jews live if they will dare to touch a hair on my father's head. We," he bellowed like an ox, "are not alone. . . . our people are found everywhere. They will take revenge."

Next day — a second sensation. Willie Sassen, author of Eichmann's memoirs in Life Magazine, suddenly revealed himself. The Netherlands government stated that he was a former Nazi collaborator who served in the Nazi army as an S.S. captain; that his citizenship had been cancelled and that he had been sentenced in absentia. It seemed that the Nazi counter espionage in Argentina were concerned that both Willie Sassen and Eichmann's son should make declarations to the press just as the trial in Jerusalem started.

Willie Sassen declared that murder of six million Jews was exaggerated; at most, as Adolph Eichmann had told him, there may have been a million. . . . He based his declaration on a statement of a Jewish writer, Ritlinger — claiming the numbers to be grossly exaggerated. He argued, however, that if there really were six million, then the whole German people and not Eichmann alone should be tried, because it was impossible to annihilate such large numbers without the help of the whole nation. He counselled the Jews that a war demands sacrifices. . . . and consoled them by declaring that without the concentration camps there never would have been a Jewish State.

The chief of the German counter espionage, Admiral Canaris, Willie Sassen claimed, advised

(Continued on page 25)

# My Father — Sholem Aleichem

(Cont. from page 22)

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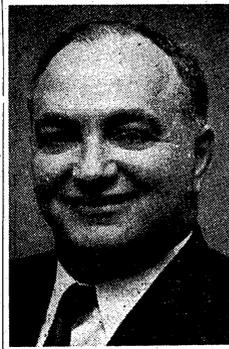
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