

perious Wallenberg with an air of authority that intimidated even Nazi officials. Wallenberg did not back down even in the face of personal danger. *Eichmann made threatening noises, saying, "Accidents do happen, even to a neutral diplomat." Wallenberg's car was rammed.

In November 1944, thousands of Budapest Jews, including women and children, were forced on a "death march" via the town of Hegyeshalom, to the Austrian border. Wallenberg and Per Anger, the Embassy's secretary, followed after them with a convoy of trucks carrying food and clothing, and he himself distributed medicine to the dying and food and clothing to the marchers. By superhuman efforts he managed to free some 500 persons and return them to Budapest. He saved several hundred members of labor detachments who had been put on the deportation train. In Budapest, he organized "International Labor Detachments" and even a "Jewish Guard" consisting of Aryan-looking Jews dressed in ss and Arrow Cross uniforms, and established two hospitals and soup kitchens. Eichmann threatened to kill him, referring to him as "Judenhund Wallenberg." Wallenberg formulated a comprehensive plan to restore the Hungarian economy when peace came. When the Soviet army entered Budapest on January 16, 1945, 100,000 Jews were still alive. Many, if not most of them, owed their lives to Wallenberg and his colleagues. At that moment, Wallenberg's struggle seemed to be over. He should have been able to look forward to returning home in honor. He approached Soviet officials with a plan for the postwar rehabilitation of Hungarian Jews. On January 17, 1945, Wallenberg was seen by Dr. Erno Peto, one of his closest collaborators, in the company of Soviet soldiers. He said: "I do not know whether I am a guest of the Soviets or their prisoner." He was never seen as a free man again. During the liberation, he had presented himself to Soviet army guards, who were reconnoitering the streets of Budapest.

For ten years, the Soviet Union denied that Wallenberg was in their custody. But after the death of Stalin and the thaw of the Khrushchev years, the Soviet Union formally announced that Wallenberg had been arrested. They produced a death certificate to substantiate their claim that he had died of a heart attack in 1947.

Yet up until the 1980s, there were occasional reports from former political prisoners who said they had seen an aging Swede in various Soviet prisons. In 1991, on the eve of the collapse of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev presented the Wallenberg family with Wallenberg's diplomatic passport.

In 1981 the United States Congress gave Raoul Wallenberg honorary citizenship, an honor previously accorded only to Winston Churchill. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum is located on Raoul Wallenberg Place and Yad Vashem has named him Righteous Among the Nations.

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WALLENROD, REUBEN (1899–1966), Hebrew writer on American Jewish life. Born in Vizno, Belorussia, he emigrated to Erez Israel in 1920, but shortly afterward left to study in France and the United States. Wallenrod served as instructor and later professor of Hebrew literature at Brooklyn College in New York. From 1929, he frequently contributed stories and essays to Hebrew periodicals.

His novels *Ki Fanah Yom* (1946; *Dusk in the Catskills*, 1957) and *Be-Ein Dor* (*At Ein Dor*, 1953), as well as his collections of short stories *Ba-Deyotah ha-Shelishit* (1938) and *Bein Homot New York* (1952), describe the life of immigrant Jews in the United States and their difficulty in adjusting to their new surroundings. Among his works are essays and literary criticism *Mesapperei Amerikah* (1958), a travelogue *Derakhim va-Derekh* (1951), and others. He was coauthor, with Abraham Aharoni, of *Fundamentals of Hebrew Grammar* (1949) and *Modern Hebrew Reader and Grammar* (1945). In English he wrote *The Literature of Modern Israel* (1956) and in French, *Dewey, l'éducateur* (1932).

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[Jerucham Tolkes]

WALLENSTEIN, ALFRED (1898–1982), U.S. cellist and conductor. Born in Chicago, Wallenstein was taken when still a child to California, where he played the cello in theater orchestras and later in the San Francisco Orchestra. After studying the cello and medicine in Europe, he became first cellist of the New York Philharmonic under Toscanini (1929) and, from 1931, began appearing on the radio as conductor. Two years later he formed the Wallenstein Sinfonietta, a radio orchestra which became famous for its high standard of performance and its extensive repertoire of classical and contemporary music. From 1943 to 1956 Wallenstein conducted the Los Angeles Philharmonic and, after 1952, was also music director of the Hollywood Bowl.

WALLENSTEIN, MEIR (1903–1996), Orientalist. Born in Jerusalem, Wallenstein taught in Palestine (1925–29) and in Manchester, England (1932–38). From 1946 he was reader in medieval and modern Hebrew at Manchester University, and in 1970 he settled in Jerusalem.

Wallenstein's works include studies on Moses Judah Abbas and his contemporaries in *Melilah*, 1–4 (1944–50); *Hymns from the Judean Scrolls* (1950); *Some Unpublished Piyyutim from the Cairo Genizah* (1956); *The Nezer and the Submission in Suffering Hymn from the Dead Sea Scrolls* (ed., with translation, 1957); and he edited J. Jaffe's *Ahavat Ziyyon vi-Yrushalayim* (1946).