







## Official Washington Attends 'We Shall Never Die' Pageant

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*Participants in pageant "We Shall Never Die," included, left to right, Joseph Rabinowitz, L. M. Shea, Louis Fenik, Irving Wolf and Hyman Shatsky*

Official Washington packed Constitution Hall last night and was visibly moved by the powerful pageant, "We Shall Never Die," written by Ben Hecht as a memorial to the two million Jews slain in German-occupied Europe.

There were few dry eyes as the victims of the ruthless Nazis paraded across the stage, recounting the mass murders in Poland, Czecho-Slovakia and the Ukraine, the thousands of men, women and children burned in their synagogues, drowned in the Dneiper, sprayed with machine-guns and used as practice targets for bombing planes.

Before two towering tablets containing the Ten Commandments the scenes unfolded. Kurt Baum, as a cantor, sang a special arrangement of Kol Nidre, then a bearded figure blew a blast upon the shofar. A rabbi said a prayer for the dead Jews and those suffering a living death in Hitler's Europe.

Two narrators, Edward G. Robinson and Paul Muni, told of the countless Jewish great of the past—the scientists, artists, composers, writers, philosophers and patriots. As they spoke a black-veiled choir filed from between the tablets with a candle for each of the dead Jewish luminaries.

And then the living. A flashback to Corregidor and the Jewish boy from Brooklyn who tapped out the last message from "The Rock."

And the Jews fighting in this war under the flags of all of the United Nations. Then came the heart-rending scene, "Remember Us," as the Nazis' victims appeared at the peace table.

Viewing the stirring pageant were ambassadors, ministers and attaches from nearly every embassy and legation in Washington, seven Supreme Court Justices, two Cabinet members, the First Lady, representatives of Government departments and members of Congress.

Moss Hart directed the pageant, settings were by Lemuel Ayres and the musical score was by Kurt Weill. Among the many actors who donated their services were Sylvia Sidney, Eleanora Mendelsohn, Jacob Ben-Ami and Luther Adler. Three hundred Washingtonians also participated.

Keynote of the appeal sounded in the play was seconded at its end by Senator Edmund C. Johnson (Democrat) of Colorado, chairman of the Committee for a Jewish Army for Stateless and Palestinian Jews, who said that many Jews doomed to death in occupied Europe could be saved if the gates of Palestine were opened to them by the British. He asserted that there were hundreds of thousands of Jews in and out of Europe who ask only to die as soldiers, and not as "victims of politics" as they are because no country will receive them.