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GERMAN HIGH COURT TO DECIDE ON TRIAL ACTION FOR THREE EX-NAZIS

BONN, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- The highest court in West Germany, the Bundesverfassungsgericht in Karlsruhe, has promised "to decide within this year" whether to bring three Nazi war criminals to trial. The promise was made in reply to a letter from the International Committee of Former Concentration Camp Inmates in Vienna who have demanded justice for Ernst Boje Ehlers, Constantin Canaris and Kurt Asche.

All were high-ranking members of the Nazi SS and SD held responsible for mass murders in Belgium and northern France during World War II. They were charged with war crimes on Feb. 26, 1975. The court in Flensburg refused to open the case but the high court of Schleswig-Holstein ordered proceedings to begin on March 1, 1977.

The accused filed a complaint with the Karlsruhe court claiming infringement of their human rights. The court responded to the Vienna group in a letter dated Feb. 7, 1979. The Vienna committee wrote again on Feb. 14 asking for an earlier decision inasmuch as the crimes of which the three men were accused have gone unpunished for 35 years and the defendants, all near 70 years of age, may escape justice.

BROWN SAYS U.S. WILL CONSIDER USING MILITARY FORCE IN MIDEAST TO PROTECT OIL FLOW, AREA'S NATIONALS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- Defense Secretary Harold Brown said today that the "protection of the oil flow from the Middle East is clearly a part of our vital interest" and "in protection of those vital interests we will take any action that is appropriate, including military force." He said the United States would follow the same policy if any Middle Eastern country was threatened by a major power beyond its borders.

Brown made those statements on the CBS-TV program "Face The Nation" when he was asked if the U.S. would go to war to protect the Saudi Arabian oilfields. (Sen. Henry Jackson (D-Wash.) offered a similar view today. See separate story P. 3.)

Referring to his recent 11-day visit to Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel and Egypt, the Defense Secretary said he found the major concern in those countries was "possible threats from outside their borders. He said the U.S. has begun to discuss a more active presence in the Middle East with various nations in the area.

According to Brown, "Less intrusive and less obvious forms of U.S. presence or possible U.S. military influence such as ship visits and so on are clearly the right way to begin such activities and I think they may be as far as we want to go." With respect to the new regime in Iran, Brown said he had the impression that the government appointed by the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was not interested in forming alliances with any major power at this point. "I believe we can work out friendly relations."

PRESIDENT REPUDIATES HIS BROTHER

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- Presi-

dent Carter has strongly repudiated his brother Billy's recent anti-Semitic remarks in a private telephone conversation with Presidential trade representative Robert Strauss which the President fully intended to be made public, the Washington Post reported today.

Strauss, a former chairman of the Democratic National Committee, was quoted by Post staff writer Martin Schram as saying: "The President said this to me -- and he knows I'm going to repeat it: 'I am terribly concerned with the whole situation of Billy, including his health. You know, Bob, I just totally disassociate myself from his comments. They are objectionable and foreign to everything about the way we live our lives.'"

Schram wrote that "in this unusual and indirect way ... the President has moved to end his controversial silence on the matter of brother Billy's anti-Semitic remarks." He reported that "the President's failure to rebuke his brother brought him under increasing criticism. White House officials say that a number of prominent American Jews had let them know that they regarded Carter's silence as countenancing Billy's comments."

Billy Carter has been escorting a group of Libyan officials around the United States which in itself aroused the ire of the Jewish community. He justified his actions at one point by remarking that "There's a hell of a lot more Arabians than there is Jews." When a radio news reporter asked for his reaction to Jewish critics earlier this month, Billy Carter replied, "They can kiss my ass as far as I'm concerned now."

ANALYSIS SHOWS MIDEAST MILITARY BALANCE IS ON THE SIDE OF THE ARABS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- Briefings on the balance of military forces in the Middle East indicate that both the Arab states and Israel are better armed than before the Yom Kippur War. But "the balance leans heavily in favor of the Arab states," according to an article in the current issue of "NATO's 15 Nations," a privately published bi-monthly magazine that specializes in discussions of armaments.

"NATO's 15 Nations" describes itself as an "independent review of economic, political and military power." Its editorial network is led by the Monch Publishing Group whose executive office is in Bonn, West Germany. Jupp Monch is president.

It issues magazines mainly in German and English but also publishes a quarterly in Spanish and Portuguese. Johannes Steinhoff, a retired German Air Force general, is chairman of the editorial board. Its editorial director is Sir John BaracloUGH, RAF retired, a former British Air Marshal. Israel is listed among the scores of countries where the magazine has offices. The address there is the Marketing Systems Developing Co. in Tel Aviv.

Israel Impatient With Its Friends

According to the article, the Arab dependence in weaponry is "offset" only by widely reported rumors that Israel for some time now has a nuclear capability and the determination to use it if necessary. Another point made in the article, bylined Bonner H. Day, is that Israelis feel "that the Arabs, the Soviet Union and even the U.S. are taking actions contrary to Israeli interests" and

therefore Israel is making a tremendous effort to develop its own arms industry with "the ability to build as many of its own weapons, including sophisticated jet fighters as the nation's strained financial resources will permit."

This, according to the writer, "is at once a symbol of this country's (Israel) growing impatience with friends abroad and self-doubts over diplomatic and military policies at home."

The article, titled "Israel's Quest for Military Independence," indicated that the Arab states have a decided edge over Israel in aircraft and tanks. "The total Arab fighter and attack plane force against Israel totals more than 1700 planes," the writer said. "Several hundred more are on order from the U.S., the Soviet Union and Western Europe." Egypt, with 500 combat aircraft and Syria with 450 form the "leading edge." Israel, by contrast, is thought to have about one-third the air fleet. And the Israeli Air Force, "long considered the main arm of the country's defense, continues to undergo re-examination in light of its performance in the 1973 war."

The writer said that according to Israeli estimates, the Arab confrontation states have 34 divisions and 10,000 tanks compared to 27 divisions and 7000 tanks of the NATO countries. Israel's figures were not given.

The article stated that "Israel and its Arab neighbors are in their greatest arms race yet," but "at the same time, Israeli leaders are increasingly concerned over the Soviet Union's growing influence and presence in the Horn of Africa and the Arabian peninsula. In Israel, in fact, there is a growing feeling that the Arabs are not the principal foe but rather a pawn of the real enemy, the Soviet Union."

The writer reported that Israeli "government leaders are still in a state of shock and disappointment at the delays and reluctance that colored the support the U.S. gave Israel in the 1973 war. . . . As for West Europe, several leaders expressed to me their disgust of its role during the war with the Arab states. 'It is obvious Europe values oil more than its international reputation,' one high placed Israeli remarked."

MOVES TO IMPROVE THE EDUCATION OF ISRAEL'S ARAB POPULATION

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- Education Minister Zevulun Hammer began a series of meetings last week with a group of Knesset members, academicians and other experts, Jewish and Arab, to devise a policy aimed at improving the education of Israel's Arab population. "The Arab education system should be conducted in a spirit of loyalty to the country without causing the Arabs to lose their identity," Hammer told reporters today.

But one of his chief aides, Eliezer Shmueli, director general of the Education Ministry, blamed the shortcomings of Arab education primarily on Arab teachers and the Arab municipalities. "The main reason for the slow development of the educational system in the Arab sector was the failure of the Arab municipalities to establish education departments," Shmueli claimed.

Hammer disclosed some of the problems that have been discussed at the meetings held in his office. One was the political factors that influence the appointment of Arab teachers. Often a good teacher is not accepted because of his political views, and vice versa. Another problem was the insufficient number of training programs

for the Arab education system. It was pointed out that many teachers are forced into the profession for lack of other suitable jobs.

Finally, Hammer warned that if there is no change in the negative attitudes of the Jewish society toward the Arab society, the process of de-Israelization of the younger Arab population will be accelerated.

Shmueli said that a close look at the Arab sector would show that an Arab teacher, to be accepted by his own society, must emphasize the negative aspects of the education system. He said that the teachers should have the courage to point to the great progress already achieved in Arab education. He noted that despite the manpower freeze, additional Arab inspectors have been appointed and despite budget cuts, the Ministry doubled its development budget for Arab schools.

JEWS, LUTHERANS IN HISTORIC MEETING

GENEVA, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- The World Jewish Congress office here reported that on Thursday and Friday some 30 representatives from more than 15 countries, representing the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC) and the Lutheran European Commission on the Church and the Jewish People (LECCJP), met in Berlin in the first international consultation of these two religious groups.

The IJCIC represents major Jewish organizations throughout the world and holds regular consultations with the Roman Catholic Church and with the World Council of Churches, among others. The LECCJP was founded in 1976 and represents Lutheran churches and organizations in Europe.

Observers were also present at the meeting from the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S., the Lutheran Council in the U.S., the Lutheran World Federation, and the International Council of Christians and Jews. The participants shared information on areas of common interest and established a committee to explore future collaboration.

The IJCIC consists of the World Jewish Congress, Synagogue Council of America, American Jewish Committee, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the Israeli Jewish Council for Interreligious Consultations.

NRP REFRAINS FROM CENSURING MK MEMBER FOR ATTENDING PEACE NOW RALLY

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- The National Religious Party Executive has refrained from acting on a demand from one of its 12 Knesset members, Rabbi Haim Druckman, that another NRP Knesseter be censured for attending a Peace Now movement rally and criticizing the Gush Emmunim. Interior Minister Yosef Burg, who persuaded his fellow members of the NRP Executive not to act on the demand to censure MK David Glass, is scheduled to meet with Druckman tomorrow in an effort to persuade him not to leave the NRP.

The dispute arose last week during an NRP Executive meeting on the proposed plan for autonomy for the Palestinian Arabs, when Druckman, a strong supporter of Gush Emmunim, urged the NRP to censure Glass for denouncing the Gush at the Peace Now rally which urged the government to offer more concessions if needed to ensure that the Camp David ministerial meeting would be successful. Druckman denounced Glass for attacking rabbis and yeshiva students. "Who gave you permission to speak against them?" he asked Glass. "Who made you qualified to attack rabbis?"

Glass replied that the Peace Now movement

is closer to the political position of the government, of which the NRP is a part, than Gush Emunim which has called for the toppling of the government. He said he would accept a ruling by the Executive in which no NRP MK would be allowed to appear before other forums. But he declared, he would not accept a situation in which NRP MKs could participate in Gush Emunim rallies while other MKs, with different views, could not appear in support of groups which share their views.

While some Executive members supported Druckman, most opposed any decision which would prevent freedom of expression with the party even if they did not approve of Glass attending the Peace Now rally. The decision not to act against Glass was seen as an indication that the Gush Emunim no longer enjoys the support of the majority of the NRP. A year ago, Glass might have been censured. But the Gush attacks on the government have apparently lost it much support within the NRP.

NEW SUMMIT MEETING THIS WEEK WILL INCLUDE CARTER, BEGIN AND KHALIL

No Immediate Explanation For Sadat's Absence
By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- President Carter announced this afternoon that he, Premier Menachem Begin of Israel and Prime Minister Anwar Sadat of Egypt will meet at Camp David later this week on furthering the negotiations for an Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty. There was no immediate explanation of why President Anwar Sadat will not participate in the Camp David meeting.

Carter read his brief statement to the media following a half-hour meeting with Khalil, Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance who had been meeting at Camp David since Tuesday night. He said:

"For the past week, I as President, have kept in close touch with the negotiations at Camp David and that Khalil, Dayan and Vance have now given me a first hand report. . . In light of the developments of the talks at Camp David this past week, we are discussing with the two governments the possibility of moving these negotiations to the head-of-government level later this week.

"Prime Minister Begin will represent Israel and Prime Minister Khalil has been authorized by President Sadat to conclude these negotiations on behalf of Egypt. It will be going to Camp David with Prime Minister Begin, Prime Minister Khalil and Secretary Vance." The President added, "I am prepared to spare no effort in achieving the peace settlement foreseen in the Camp David accords reached last year. The other two parties in the negotiations share this determination."

Carter announced that Khalil and Dayan will leave this evening for Cairo and Jerusalem respectively. He said that his statement had been drafted jointly with them.

Egypt Increases Its Demands

The President's announcement spelled the end of the ministerial level talks that began at Camp David Tuesday night and had been under a virtual news blackout. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned from informed sources that Egypt had increased its demands and toughened its position and that Vance, after two days of intensive talks with Dayan and Khalil, did not succeed in reaching a suitable compromise.

(Lack of progress at Camp David was reported

in Jerusalem by Israel Radio today. The report said Dayan was due home tomorrow and that Begin has called an extraordinary Cabinet meeting for Tuesday.)

Speculation over why Sadat will be absent from the new Camp David talks ran the gamut from reports that he was too preoccupied with affairs of state in Cairo to allegations that he did not want to face Begin again because of their personal differences. Some sources suggested that the fact that Khalil will represent Egypt indicated that Sadat is unwilling to commit himself personally to some compromise and will be in a position to block a final treaty with Israel after agreement is reached between Begin, Khalil and Carter.

In addition, informed sources here felt that the absence of Sadat means that Carter is seeking further concessions from Begin and does not need anything from Sadat. Another factor in this scenario is that Sadat has given his conditions and wants Carter to impose them upon Begin. "The absence of Sadat is bad news for Israel," one informed source said.

However, Presidential News Secretary Jody Powell told a press conference after Carter made his statement that the issue of concessions does not appear to be a factor in the forthcoming summit meeting. "He said the exact date for the beginning of the meeting will be known by midweek.

JACKSON URGES CARTER TO TAKE STRONG MEASURES IN THE MIDEAST

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- Sen. Henry Jackson (D. Wash.) urged President Carter today to take stronger measures to form an alliance of states in the Middle East and suggested the use of United States might to block Soviet influence and Arab radicalism from spreading over the oil fields and threatening Israel and Egypt. Jackson, chairman of the Senate Energy Committee, expressed this view in a speech prepared for delivery today to the American Professors for Peace in the Middle East in a forum on energy policy at the George Washington University.

"It remains within our power to fashion an alliance of states prepared to resist the encroachments of the Soviets and their friends," he said. "But it will take more understanding than we have thus far demonstrated -- more will than we have shown -- and more imagination than we have evidenced."

It is time, the Senator observed, to stop repeating "the stilted cliché that we cannot be the world's policeman and begin to think about our future in a world without a cop on the corner." He warned that the Soviet Union has for some time, "through the use of proxies and surrogates," undertaken an effort to encircle the oil producing countries on which the West depends.

"The passage of Iran from a Western oriented power closely allied with the United States and opposed to Arab radicalism to a fundamentalist Islamic and potentially radical state has profound implications for Israel," Jackson said. "However, much we may hope that it will not fully develop, we must, on the basis of what has already happened, assume that Iran will become a base for operations of the PLO and a significant source of strength for radical Arab regimes. This momentous shift means increased danger for Israel, increased pressure on (Egyptian President Anwar) Sadat and a decrease in the security of oil supplies for the U.S. and its allies."

NAZI MARCH TURNS OUT TO BE HOAX

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 25 (JTA) -- A series of events suggesting a hoax against the local Jewish community came to an abrupt end last Friday morning in federal court, when U.S. District Court Judge Clifford Green ordered withdrawal of a permit for a march Sunday (Feb. 25) by a mysterious individual identifying himself as the leader of a Nazi party. The National Park Service, which had issued the permit for the march at Independence Mall to a James Guttman on Feb. 20, followed through on Green's order by cancelling the permit.

Disclosure that the permit had been issued for a march by "100" Nazi party members touched off action for an injunction to bar the march, and plans for counter-demonstrations by the Jewish War Veterans and the Philadelphia Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (JCRC).

The injunction was sought by the City of Philadelphia, the Association for Jewish New Americans, a survivors group, and Brith Shalom. The hearing on the injunction application began last Thursday in Green's court but the judge postponed the hearing until 10 a.m. Friday, giving Guttman until then to appear in court to prove his constitutional right to the permit and the march. Guttman has not been seen since he went to the National Park Service office, which is in charge of Independence Mall, and obtained the permit.

Officials said Guttman had listed a P.O. Box as his address and the name of Frank Collin, leader of the Nazi group in Chicago who obtained worldwide publicity last year when he announced plans to stage a march in Skokie, Ill., and switched it to a rally in Chicago. Collin was reported to have said he had never heard of Guttman, and that there was no Nazi party in Philadelphia.

Calls For An Investigation

The board of the local JCRC met last Thursday to consider action, on the assumption that Guttman's constitutional rights to stage a march would be upheld. The JCRC board approved plans for the counter-demonstration -- called off after the permit was withdrawn -- and asked all people "of good will" in the city to join the planned counter-demonstration at Independence Mall.

Solomon Fisher, president of the JCRC, declared in a statement issued after the permit was cancelled that the JCRC asked "all appropriate governmental officials to investigate these events fully and completely" and prosecution "to the fullest of the law" for "any criminal acts" perpetrated "in this matter." Fisher expressed gratitude for "the many acts of kindness that so many people -- Blacks and whites, Christians and Jews -- willingly performed during this period." The non-Jews helped to prepare materials for the counter-demonstration and offered to march in the projected counter-demonstration.

According to the permit, Guttman planned to lead a "White power rally to show to white masses the unity of the white race." The shadowy alleged Nazi may be an individual using a student identification card lost by a Belgian music student, Michael Guttman, who lived in New York, according to testimony presented in Green's court Thursday.

ADL PROTESTS KLAN EXHIBIT

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C., Feb. 25 (JTA) --

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith denounced plans for a Ku Klux Klan exhibition in the city's main library. A Klan flag, Confederate uniforms, Klan literature, hoods, robes and pictures of Robert E. Lee are scheduled for display tomorrow.

Norman Olshansky, ADL's North Carolina-Virginia regional director, charged Forsyth County library director, William A. Roberts III, with public support of an organization advocating white domination, anti-Semitism and which has a long history of violence.

The library official claims the Klan exhibit is in response to "Black History Month" now being nationally observed. Olshansky dismissed the explanation as a "specious and flimsy canard." Olshansky said "Allowing the Klan to display all its paraphernalia -- its hoods, robes and such anti-Semitic and racist publications as 'The Crusader' -- is tantamount to promoting and supporting the KKK's philosophy."

He stated that the library display is the latest manifestation of an increase in Klan activity since David Duke, head of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, visited Winston-Salem in the fall.

In addition to the library exhibit, the Klan also obtained a permit to hold a promotional rally in a public school, and permission to use the library during regular hours to exhibit and promote its racist organization. The only official rejection to KKK requests occurred when Mayor Wayne A. Carpenter refused to declare Robert E. Lee's birthday "White Pride Day." Olshansky praised the local clergy association for decriing "public support of this organization known for its overt bigotry."

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- A Nazareth-based Greek Orthodox newspaper has strongly attacked Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon, the first such attack by that community on an Israeli Minister. In an article on the problem of Ikrit and Biram, the Arabic-language newspaper, El Rabiha, called Sharon an ardent Arab hater and referred to Jewish settlers as foreign settlers. Sharon is head of a ministerial committee which has recommended against allowing the former residents of Ikrit and Biram to return to the two villages near the Lebanese border from which they were evicted in 1948. El Rabiha declared that allowing Sharon to head the committee was shameful.

BONN (JTA) -- The group of members of the West German Bundestag (Parliament) who are expected to vote against the statute of limitations for Nazi war criminals to take effect Jan. 1, 1980, is growing daily. According to the spokesman for the Christian Democratic Union opposition party, 34 members have already decided to vote for repealing the statute. In addition, more and more Liberal Party members of Parliament have indicated that they will vote for repealing the statute. Other Liberal MPs are expected to join this group if their attempt to repeal the statute of limitations fails.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Four Arabs from Idna village near Hebron have been detained by police as suspects in the vandalizing of tombstones at the Kinyat Gar Cemetery. The four are said to have dislodged bronze letters from the tombstones and stolen small lamps and ornamental fences made of expensive metals.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- Larissa Vilenskaya, a 30-year-old Moscow activist, has been given an exit visa. A parapsychologist, she first applied for a visa in 1977.