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## REPORT NEO-NAZI GROUP LINKED TO PLO

By David Kantor

BONN, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- Links between the Palestine Liberation Organization and Wehrsportsgruppe Hoffmann, the largest neo-Nazi paramilitary organization in West Germany, were reported today in Die Welt. The daily said that West German security agencies are informed on these contacts.

Wehrsportsgruppe Hoffmann was held responsible for the bomb explosion at the Munich Oktoberfest Sept. 26 in which 12 persons were killed, although its leader, Karl-Heinz Hoffmann and five associates were released from custody for lack of evidence. One of the 213 people injured in the Munich outrage, a 17-year-old boy, died today in the hospital. Four others are reported to be on the critical list.

According to Die Welt, the paramilitary group has a record of associations with the PLO going back several years. The paper also reported that members of the Hoffmann group drove German trucks to Palestinian terrorists in Lebanon. A convoy of similar trucks driven by neo-Nazis was seen on a highway in Bavaria shortly after the Munich outrage.

According to Die Welt, PLO terrorists and neo-Nazis have organized public meetings in recent years. The National Zeitung, the largest neo-Nazi newspaper in West Germany, published in Munich, has consistently supported the PLO. A neo-Nazi activist, Udo Albrecht, 40, was arrested four years ago with PLO papers.

When apprehended, Albrecht had 80,000 Swiss Francs in his possession and a bank withdrawal receipt for 14,000 Francs. The German authorities established that the money was given to him by PLO officials for arms purchases. Albrecht was also accused of recruiting neo-Nazi Germans for PLO raids on Israel. He is presently in a prison near Bonn.

## 10,000 PEOPLE MARCH IN PARIS TO PROTEST AGAINST NEO-NAZISM

PARIS, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- Some 10,000 people marched through the center of Paris last night to protest the emergence of neo-Nazi organizations, the spread of racist theories and the lack of adequate police protection for Jewish institutions, schools and synagogues. The marchers, led by Alain de Rothschild, president of the Representative Council of Jewish Organizations in France (CRIF), gathered in front of the Memorial to the Unknown Jewish Martyr.

Exceptionally strict police measures were taken to protect the marchers. Policemen, many carrying machineguns, were deployed at most intersections and army snipers were posted on adjacent rooftops. No incidents or violence marked the march. Representatives of all political parties were present. The French Presidential elections are only six months away.

The demonstration was called in the wake of attacks last weekend against five Jewish institutions in Paris, including two synagogues and two schools. Neo-Nazis claimed responsibility for the attacks.

## EVANGELISTS DEDICATE A 'CHRISTIAN EMBASSY' IN JERUSALEM AS A GESTURE OF SOLIDARITY WITH ISRAEL

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- Evangelical Christians from 20 countries joined tens of thousands of Israelis yesterday in affirming their support of undivided Jerusalem as Israel's capital. At ceremonies led by Dutch Pastor William van der Hoeven, the evangelists dedicated a "Christian Embassy" in Jerusalem as a gesture of solidarity with Israel.

Meanwhile, an estimated 20,000 Israelis, soldiers and civilians, participated in the annual "Jerusalem March," a parade that has become a tradition of the Succot season.

The Christian Embassy, located in the Rehavia section of Jerusalem, was established as a reply to the 13 nations which moved their embassies out of Jerusalem after the Knesset proclaimed undivided Jerusalem Israel's capital. Mayor Teddy Kollek, who shared the platform with van der Hoeven, told an audience of about 1000 Christians that their gesture "outweighs" the embassy closures. Those were acts of governments, he said, whereas the Christian Embassy represents authentic popular sentiment.

## Will Serve As Information Center

The Christian groups raised the flags of their home countries and pledged that the embassy would become a center for Israeli information work abroad.

The Jerusalem march drew Israelis from all parts of the country who assembled at the outskirts of the city in the morning and paraded through its main streets in the afternoon. Premier Menachem Begin greeted them from a reviewing stand in downtown Jerusalem where he was joined by Kollek and Chief of Staff Gen. Raphael Eytan. The parade was the first to be held in several years. It had been suspended for a time for financial reasons.

## SPECIAL TO THE JTA POLL PROBES VIEWS OF JEWS, NON-JEWS ON ISRAEL, MIDEAST RELATED ISSUES

By William Saphire

NEW YORK, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- A privately commissioned Louis Harris poll, just released, shows that Americans favor U.S. military, economic and political support for Israel by a greater majority than four years ago; that they reject the proposition that support of Israel should be reduced to satisfy the demands of the Arab oil-producing states; and that they regard the Egyptian-Israeli peace process, with U.S. participation, "as beacons of hope in the Middle East."

The poll, which probed attitudes on virtually every aspect of the Middle East situation, was conducted last July among a 1506 cross-section of the American adult public and a separate 1030 cross-section of Jewish adults nationwide. All the respondents were interviewed in person.

The survey was undertaken for Edgar Bronfman, chairman of the Seagram Co. Ltd., who is acting chairman of the World Jewish Congress. The results were made available today to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. The 105-page survey, with 46 tables, revealed many ambiguities, with majorities supporting certain propositions but also supporting

others that ran counter to them.

Premier Menachem Begin remained a controversial figure. Certain of his policies are criticized but he is given high marks for his contributions to the peace process and, to some extent, benefits in public opinion from the heavily negative attitudes toward such other Middle East figures as the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini of Iran and Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat.

President Anwar Sadat of Egypt is the best known and most highly regarded of Arab leaders among all Americans. President Carter is in deep trouble with Americans for his overall performance but is given a slightly better though still negative rating on the job he has done in handling the Middle East crisis. Among Jews, Carter is given an 88-10 percent overall negative job rating and a 59-39 percent negative mark for his work for peace in the region.

#### Positive Shift Towards Israel

According to the survey, the shift in public attitudes toward Israel in a positive direction is due in part to such relatively recent events as the seizure of American hostages by Iran and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. In 1976, a 74-12 percent majority viewed Israel in a positive light. In 1980, an 81-12 percent majority shared that view.

Among non-Jews, a 56-33 percent majority said they would be "very upset" if Israel were overrun by Arabs in another war compared to a 50-36 percent majority in 1976 and a 44-37 percent majority who felt that way in 1975.

"Underlying the results of this survey," the Harris organization said, "is a deep sense of urgency that peace can be found between the Israelis and Arabs in the region. There is a strong sense that outside the gates of the traditional and long-standing Arab-Israeli conflict are larger enemies in the region who would be the direct beneficiaries of another Arab-Israeli war."

#### Majority Favors U.S. Aid To Israel

The poll showed a 75-15 percent majority in favor of the U.S. sending planes, tanks, artillery and other weapons to Israel, up from a 65-23 percent majority in 1976. A substantial 76 percent of the public believes Israel is "very much dependent on the U.S. for military aid today." But "when put in extreme terms, if the government of Israel should become so unbending that the chance for peace in the Middle East grows much worse, a 44-37 percent plurality feels the U.S. should threaten to withhold economic and military aid to the Israelis."

According to the survey, however, "When asked if such withholding of economic and military aid meant the Arabs would have military superiority in the case of another war," then by 50-25 percent most Americans would oppose such a withholding of aid."

Polled on another aspect of the support issue, a 63-19 percent majority opposed the proposition that the withdrawal of military support for Israel should be a trade-off for Arab oil at lower prices. "It is evident throughout the survey that the Arab cause has been done much damage in this country by the believed link between oil price increases and continued U.S. support for Israel," the Harris report said.

The poll showed "areas of reservation and dissatisfaction with Israel and its current lead-

ers." By 48-38 percent, the public thinks that "Israel seems to feel the U.S. will back them, no matter what they do." By 44-43 percent, it feels that "Israel is friendly to the U.S. mainly because it wants our military supplies." But a much higher, 61-26 percent majority, felt that way four years ago.

A 44-28 percent majority agrees with the charge that "Israel is wrong to think that the Jewish lobby in the U.S. is so powerful that it can keep them from making the compromises necessary to achieve peace." Harris reported that "It is significant that the cross-section of American Jews rejected this charge only by a very narrow 41-39 percent. Jews with incomes of \$35,000-\$50,000 agree with the charge by 48-36 percent, and those with incomes of \$50,000 and over agree with it by 52-30 percent."

The poll reported that a 67-17 percent majority of the public rejects the claim that "Israel thinks it can control the U.S. Congress" and a 72-13 percent majority dismisses the proposition that Israel does not belong in the Middle East. A 55-23 percent majority rejected the view that "Israel should give back all the territory it gained from the war of 1967," up from a 49-25 percent majority who felt that way in 1976.

#### Positive Views About Israel

"Vastly outweighing these annoyances with Israel is a whole set of positive views about Israel," Harris reported. An 86-8 percent majority thinks that "Israel is a small, courageous, democratic nation which is trying to preserve its independence."

A 68-20 percent majority agrees that "the Arabs are determined to destroy Israel, so Israel is justified in building itself up militarily to defend itself." By 66-13 percent, Americans also agree that "Israel is trying to keep from having to give up territory and make concessions until it is reasonably sure that the Arabs want to negotiate a peace settlement."

The poll found that a 62-23 percent majority of the public feels that "Israel is right not to agree to sit down with the PLO because the PLO is a terrorist organization and wants to destroy Israel." Nonetheless, a 66-13 percent majority of the public and a 53-34 percent majority of Jews feel that "if the PLO would recognize the right of Israel to exist instead of pledging to destroy Israel, then they should be able to join the peace talks about the future of the West Bank."

#### The Palestinian Problem

With respect to the Palestinian problem, the poll reported that a 39-29 percent majority of the public feels that "Israel has mistreated the Palestinian refugees and that is wrong," up from a 35-29 percent plurality in 1976. By 50-26 percent, most Americans feel that "by refusing to come up with a plan to give back parts of the West Bank to let the Palestinians have a homeland, Israel makes peace impossible in the Middle East." That view had a 32-30 percent plurality in 1976.

On the other hand, a 40-26 percent majority believes that "If the West Bank becomes an independent Palestinian state, other extremist Arab states such as Syria, Libya and Iraq would use it as a launching pad to destroy Israel." But Americans, by a 71-12 percent majority agree that "The Palestinian people are now homeless and deserve their own independent state, just as much as the Jews deserved their own homeland after World War II." By 72-11 percent, Americans agree "there must be a way to guarantee Israel's security and also give the Palestinians an independent state on the West Bank."

Of the respondents, 56-16 percent felt that Israel ought to agree to a Palestinian state on the West Bank if it can be assured of security from attack. "Jews reject this proposition by only a very close 41-39 percent," Harris reported.

On the issue of Jerusalem, a 52-26 percent majority of the public and a 72-14 percent majority of Jews oppose "placing Jerusalem under international control." A 52-22 percent majority of the public and an 82-7 percent majority of Jews oppose "giving East Jerusalem back to Arab control."

But a 63-17 percent majority of the public and a 66-21 percent majority of Jews favor "establishing a new system of government for Jerusalem, under which Israelis would have control of Jerusalem but with the governing body of the Holy City being made up equally of a Jewish borough which would elect representatives of the Jewish section and an Arab borough which would elect representatives of the Arab section, with citizens of each section and Christians, Arabs and Jews having access to all parts of Jerusalem."

#### Majority Supports Israeli Leadership

The survey showed that Israeli leadership enjoys majority support of Americans but Begin's policies "lag a full 20 points behind when compared with backing for the State of Israel." By 69-16 percent, the public feels the current Israeli leadership is reasonable about working for peace. Among Jews, 87 percent feel that way.

No more than 38 percent of the public express a great deal of confidence in Begin compared with 54 percent who feel that way about Sadat. Among Jews, 61 percent express high confidence in Begin "although this drops to only 42 percent among those Jews in the highest income brackets," Harris reported.

However, a 77-7 percent majority of the public credits Begin with showing at Camp David that "he is capable of making concessions that can lead to a peace settlement when he agreed to give back the Sinai to Egypt." A 90-4 percent majority of Jews concur in that view.

A 42-38 percent majority of the public agreed that Begin "is right to claim that Israel has prior historical right to control the West Bank since Jews lived there in Biblical times." Baptists agreed by a larger 51-25 percent majority and Jews by a 68-22 percent majority.

Criticism of Begin's policies centered around his announcement that he would move his office to East Jerusalem. The general public, by a 48-22 percent majority felt he has "made peace more difficult" by that announcement and a 43-42 percent majority of American Jews felt the same way.

A 54-19 percent majority of the public agreed with the charge that "by advocating and allowing more Jewish settlements on the West Bank, he (Begin) is making it almost impossible to get a peace settlement. The Jewish community disagreed with that proposition by a 44-41 percent majority.

#### Rating for President Carter

President Carter received a negative 64-34 percent rating by the general public for handling the Middle East crisis, though this was better than his overall performance rating of 72-27 percent negative. But 46 percent of the public gave him high marks for his efforts to work for peace in the Middle East and 44 percent perceived Carter

as being "very sympathetic" to Israel.

An overwhelming 90-6 percent felt that he "has tried to keep good U.S. relations with both Arabs and Israel so that he can persuade both sides to make peace." A 68-14 percent majority felt that "he has kept his word that the U.S. will stand by Israel." But a 63-24 percent majority criticized Carter for "allowing Arab oil pressure to influence U.S. Middle East policy too much."

Only 18 percent of the Jewish community saw Carter as "very sympathetic" to Israel and 59 percent thought he had been highly sympathetic to Egypt. By 55-22 percent Jews gave Carter negative marks for the way he dealt with the PLO. Jews did give Carter credit on two counts. By 83-12 percent they admired his role as a mediator between Israel and Egypt and by 57-26 percent they thought he kept his word that the U.S. would stand by Israel.

#### PAKISTANI PRESIDENT ASSAILS ISRAEL

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- President Mohammed Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan, speaking as chairman of the Islamic Conference, charged today that Israel is "the most destabilizing factor in the Middle East" and warned that the Palestinian problem could "explode at any moment."

In a speech to the UN General Assembly devoted mainly to the Iraqi-Iranian war, Zia said the Moslem world fully supports the Palestinian cause and the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization in their efforts to liberate their territory "from Zionist rule and occupation."

He accused Israel of defying UN resolutions and continuing to occupy Arab land by force. Zia said the Moslem world "salutes" the 13 countries which have removed their diplomatic missions from Jerusalem and called for further actions by the world community against Israel.

The Pakistani President also attacked the United States. He said that while it claims vital economic and strategic interests in the Middle East, the U.S. is pursuing a policy of "hostile confrontation" with the Arab world by extending open-ended support of Israel. The Islamic Conference was scheduled to meet here in closed session later today to discuss the Persian Gulf war.

#### 6000 YOUTH ON SUMMER PROGRAM; DROP FOR BUDGET REASONS

JERUSALEM, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- Six thousand youths from overseas took part this year in the Jewish Agency's youth and halutz department summer program.

Avraham Katz, department head, reporting this to the World Zionist Organization Executive noted that the figure represented a 20 percent drop compared to 1979. This was due, he said, to budgetary considerations which had forced the department to cut back its program.

Katz pressed for an increase in his department's budget to enable it to take in more applicants for its summer programs. These programs include touring the country, seminars on subjects of Jewish and Zionist interest, visits to army camps, lectures from officers and tours of battle sites.

A number of Executive members supported Katz, but treasurer Akiva-Levinsky said he saw no reason why the WZO should subsidize Jewish organizations abroad in order to encourage them to send their youth here. He maintained that the overall figures of youth group visitors had not dropped this year, since many had come in different frameworks -- 2000, for instance, under the auspices of the Jewish National Fund.

**SHEKEL TOVI**

By Yitzhak Shargil.

TEL AVIV, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- Israeli banks and the Stock Exchange will reopen Friday after being closed for three days to allow the official transfer of the currency from the Pound to the Shekel. The Shekel, which is equal to IL 10, is worth about 17 cents in U.S. currency.

Although Israelis were greeting each other with "shekel tov," a switch on "mazel tov," economists do not believe the new currency will help stem inflation unless other strict measures are taken. If not, they predict the Shekel will be worth in two years as little as the Pound is today.

The introduction of the Shekel was announced last February but when the day arrived, Israelis this week did not appear to be ready for it. Most had none of the new currency, had not changed their check books and were unsure what financial regulations might be imposed with the introduction of the Shekel.

The Pound will still be accepted as currency, although 80 percent of the bank notes and 35 percent of the old coins have already been withdrawn from circulation. Checks made out in Pounds will be accepted for another 10 days without any surcharges.

The government is retaining the same portraits on the bill with a zero lopped off. For example, a IL 100 note with a picture of Theodor Herzl will now be a 10 Shekel note.

Price tags have already been changed throughout the country, listing the cost in Shekels. Israelis, after enjoying Succoth tomorrow, will be able to go to the banks Friday morning, which will open a half-hour earlier to meet the expected crowds, and begin life with the new currency, which is after all a return to the monetary unit used in Biblical times.

**THORN-BEGIN TALKS DESCRIBED AS FRIENDLY, THOUGH FRANK**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Gaston Thorn of Luxembourg met here yesterday with Premier Menachem Begin and, separately, with a panel of top Foreign Ministry officials on his second fact-finding mission since August as a special envoy of the European Economic Community (EEC). He met later with several Palestinian leaders from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Thorn's sessions with Begin and other Israeli officials were described as "friendly though frank talks." The atmosphere of the meetings, especially the one with Begin, was markedly more cordial than on his earlier visit.

The European diplomat apparently listened and said little. He did not respond when David Kimche, Director General of the Foreign Ministry, criticized him for making "one-sided" public statements and for exchanging correspondence with Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat over the situation in Lebanon.

He did not comment when Begin told him "There will be no Palestinian state -- we will see to that." But after each of the meetings, Thorn told reporters that there had been no progress since each side -- Israel and the Arab rejectionist states which he also visited recently -- have not budged from their well-known positions.

The main purpose of Thorn's two-day visit was to meet with Palestinian representatives. The meeting took place at the home of the British

Consul in East Jerusalem. One of those he spoke to was Mayor Elias Freij of Bethlehem who said the Palestinians were ready to live at peace alongside Israel, but only in a state of their own.

The Iraqi-Iranian war figured prominently in Thorn's discussions with Israeli diplomats although he made it clear that it did not impinge directly on his current mission. Israeli sources said later that Thorn appeared to agree with their contention that the Persian Gulf war proved that the Israeli-Arab conflict is not the main cause of regional instability.

**LOCAL RED CROSS ACCEPTS MAGEN DAVID ADOM FLAG**

DETROIT, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- An important step encouraging recognition by the International Red Cross, and its inclusion as a cooperating ally, of the Israel Magen David Adom (MDA), was taken by the Southeastern Michigan chapter of the Red Cross at a recent meeting of its governing board.

The event marked the presentation of the MDA emblem and its acceptance for addition to the Red Cross, Red Lion and Sun, and Red-Crescent emblems on the wall of the Red Cross building here. The MDA emblem was presented by Dr. John Mames, president of the Michigan chapter of the American MDA for Israel.

Mames pointed out that failure to include the Israel counterpart of the Red Cross in the international society of the humanitarian movement was due to political pressure, the American Red Cross remaining a leader in efforts to correct the injustice. Honor was paid to the local branch for its fairness in responding to the Israel appeals for cooperation and recognition was given Duane Johnson, executive director of the Southeastern Michigan Red Cross for his consistent efforts in support of the friendliest relations between the Red Cross and the MDA.

**MARCUS LUBIN INTERNING AT JTA**

NEW YORK, Oct. 1 (JTA) -- Marcus Lubin, a student at Columbia University's School of International Affairs, began his internship this week in the editorial department of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. At Columbia, Lubin, 24, expects to receive his Masters in International Affairs this December. He is now specializing in foreign policy analysis and is taking related courses dealing with the Middle East, Eastern Europe, the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China. In addition, he is studying military policy, economic effects on foreign policy and U.S. foreign policy. He majored in history while getting his Bachelors Degree from Lafayette College in Pennsylvania.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Terrorists attacked an Israeli army jeep near Jericho early Wednesday, Israeli military sources said. None of the soldiers was hit, and they managed to fire back at their attackers. The soldiers reported that the terrorists fired grenades and automatic weapons. Israeli soldiers later conducted a house-to-house search in the villages of Ramoun and Taibe in the vicinity of the attack.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union rose slightly in September to 1307, 30 percent of the 1979 average, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry reported Wednesday. Of the 1307, 990 or 76 percent, did not continue to Israel, the SSSJ said.

VIENNA (JTA) -- Former Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan told reporters here he does not think Israel will or should get involved in the Iraqi-Iran war.