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GUNMAN SHOOTS UP B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL HQ; NO ONE INJURED

By Joseph Palakoff

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3 (JTA) — An unidentified gunman using an automatic weapon fired nine bullets into the glass doors of the B'nai B'rith International headquarters building here early yesterday morning and fled in a car. No one was injured.

A short time later, the Washington Post received an anonymous telephone call from a man who said he was a member of "the Christian Anti-Zionist League" and claimed that he had fired the shots. Neither the police nor the B'nai B'rith have heard of such a group.

Dr. Daniel Thurz, executive V.P. of B'nai B'rith, said "Obviously this is frightening and disturbing but we have no way of knowing whether it is the activity of one deranged person or a group."

Thurz added that "until more evidence is obtained we cannot see this as anything more than an isolated incident." The only eye-witness was a security guard near the doors of the B'nai B'rith building who saw the assailant flee but could make no identification. The guard was protected by the bullet-proof glass which was only partially penetrated by the shots.

The B'nai B'rith building has been under "extremely tight" security since members of the Hanafi Moslem sect invaded it three years ago and seized hostages who were subsequently released.

LAW DRAFTED TO PROHIBIT IMPORT OF NEO-NAZI MATERIAL IN GERMANY

By David Kantor

—BONN, Nov. 3 (JTA) — The ruling Social Democrat Party (SPD) and its junior coalition partner, the Free Democrats, have reached agreement on a draft law prohibiting the import of neo-Nazi propaganda material into the Federal Republic.

If endorsed by the Bundestag the law is expected to make it difficult for the neo-Nazi movement to spread books and periodicals denying the existence of gas chambers during the Hitler era. Another side effect could be the banning of some propaganda material provided to the neo-Nazis by the Palestine Liberation Organization, which has been keeping close contacts with right-wing extremists in this country.

Under existing West German laws it is largely forbidden to circulate Nazi propaganda. But the law can be evaded easily by maintaining that the prohibited material is imported. The popular neo-Nazi weekly "National Zeitung" has been publishing for years articles by well-known American and other "experts," who present allegedly scientific evidence of the non-existence of the Nazi death machinery during World War II and before.

Differences Of Opinion Remain

The two coalition parties still have differences of opinion on how far the glorification of Nazi crimes can be tolerated by German lawmakers. The SPD is seeking an amendment to an existing

law that will enable State Prosecution to take to court the authors of anti-Semitic publications. At present, this can be done only by private complainants who feel themselves insulted on the ground of their origin or their background.

The Free Democrats are said to have reservations. But a spokesman for the parliamentary factions said "We fully agree on the aim of the proposed legislation and are looking forward to examine the detailed formula suggested by our coalition partners."

AUSTRALIA'S P.M. ASSURES ISRAEL OF HIS GOVERNMENT'S FIRM SUPPORT

By Sam Lipski

MELBOURNE, Nov. 3 (JTA) — Australia's newly elected Prime Minister, Malcolm Fraser, declared that Israel would be assured of the firm commitment of his government "to Israel's fundamental and non-negotiable right to live within secure and recognized boundaries."

In his first statement on the Middle East since his reelection to government on Oct. 18, Fraser said the region was facing increasing instability, highlighting the difficulties of the West in maintaining its oil supplies. But there were "many strands" influencing events in the Middle East. "The difficulty in securing a just peace between Israel and her Arab neighbors is only one of those strands," he added.

Fraser was speaking last week at a dinner in Melbourne organized by the Australian Association for the Weizmann Institute of Science. Former President of Israel, Prof. Ephraim Katzir, flew to Australia for the occasion which marked the endowment of the Malcolm Fraser Chair of Medical Biology at the Weizmann Institute.

The Chair has been endowed by friends and patrons of the Association in order to honor Fraser's continuing support for expanded bilateral relations with Israel, particularly in scientific, trade and cultural activities.

The dinner marked the first formal appearance in public by Fraser after his victory over the Labor Party leader, Bjil Hayden, in the Oct. 18 poll. Although his coalition majority of 48 seats was cut back to 25 in the 125-seat House of Representatives, the Liberal Party leader confounded the opinion polls and pundits who had predicted he would lose the election to the Labor Party or win with only a handful of seats.

Pays Tribute To Weizmann

In his speech accepting the new Chair in his name at the Weizmann Institute, Fraser paid tribute to Israel's first President, Dr. Chaim Weizmann. "He was a visionary who saw no contradiction in the proposition that Israel could have territorial dignity and peace with the Arabs." The beginnings of direct negotiation between Israel and Egypt presented "a challenge and responsibility that Dr. Weizmann would have relished."

While assuring Israel that it would have Australia's support for its right to secure boundaries, Fraser said his government also believed that no comprehensive peace would be possible without a recognition that "the Palestinians have a legitimate right to a homeland of their own alongside Israel's."

In his remarks, Fraser also emphasized the parallels between Australia and Israel in pioneering scientific research in areas of common interest such as solar-energy and arid zone research. He said he was proud of the relations which had developed between Australia and Israel because both countries valued "individual freedom and parliamentary democracy."

HIGH COURT ENDS HEARINGS ON APPEALS OF REPORTED WEST BANK MAYORS; WILL RENDER DECISION 'AT ANOTHER DATE'

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- The Supreme Court ended its hearing this evening on the appeals by mayors Fakh Kawasme of Hebron and Mohammed Milhin of Halhoul against their deportation by the West Bank Military Government. The justices will render their decision "at another date," it was announced. The two mayors remain in custody in the Ramle jail pending the outcome.

Both were in court today, along with members of their families and many friends, to hear their attorney, Felicia Langer, argue their case. She cited learned opinions by West Bank judicial authorities to demonstrate that Jordanian law which applies in that territory does not countenance expulsion.

According to Langer, the special review board which rejected the mayors' appeals last month -- sending the case to the high court -- was appointed by the Military Government in order to justify the original deportation orders, not to consider whether they are necessary.

Deputy State Attorney Dorit Beinisch contended that, on the other hand, the review board had "bent over backwards" to be fair to the mayors. She submitted an affidavit from the West Bank military commander, Gen. Binyamin Ben Eliezer, stating that the proceedings were fair and that the presence of Kawasme and Milhin on the West Bank would constitute a security risk.

They were summarily expelled last May in the aftermath of the ambush slaying of six yeshiva students in Hebron by Palestinian terrorists. While the mayors were not implicated in the crime, the military authorities maintained that their nationalist and anti-Israel public statements created the climate in which it was committed.

Several minor disturbances broke out on the West Bank while the court was in session today. There were incidents of rock throwing at Israeli vehicles in Ramallah. An attempt by students to set up a road block in El Bireh was broken up by security forces.

BEGIN TO ARRIVE IN U.S. NOV. 9 FOR A 10-DAY VISIT

By Hitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- Premier Menachem Begin is scheduled to arrive here Sunday, Nov. 9 for a 10-day visit to the United States, according to a spokesman for the Israel Consulate who today released a tentative itinerary of Begin's visit.

The highlight of the Premier's visit will take place Nov. 11 when he will address

the Jabotinsky Centennial Dinner at the Waldorf Astoria and confer the Jabotinsky Centennial Medal on 100 distinguished Americans from all walks of life.

Begin will be in Washington Nov. 12 and will meet with the President. The following day he will fly to Detroit to address the 49th General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations. The Premier is expected to spend the rest of his visit in New York where he will meet with Jewish leaders and other officials.

Dan Patir, Begin's spokesman, is due to arrive here tomorrow and will provide further details of the Premier's U.S. visit.

BENJAMIN SWIG DEAD AT 86

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- Funeral services were held here yesterday for Benjamin Harrison Swig, chairman of the Board of the Fairmont Hotel and a philanthropist active in Jewish and non-Jewish communities. He died Saturday at the age of 86 after a long illness.

Born in Taunton, Mass. on Nov. 17, 1893, Swig was a real estate operator in Boston and New York City from 1925 to 1945. In 1945, he bought the elegant Fairmont Hotel on famed Nob Hill and resided there in its penthouse suite. He was also a partner in the real estate firm of Swig, Keller and Arnow of San Francisco and New York City.

In recent years he had not been active in the family business and had devoted himself to philanthropy. He was the recipient of more than 170 citations and awards and knighted twice by the Nation for humanitarian work.

Swig was a member of numerous organizations. Among others, he was a member of the Board of Directors of the American Joint Distribution Committee and of the national Boards of the United Jewish Appeal, Israel Bond Organization, American Jewish Committee, Zionist Organization of America, Jewish Welfare Board and the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Swig was also associated with the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the American Society for Technion, the Board of Trustees of Brandeis University, the Board of Overseers of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, American Friends of Tel Aviv University, the Board of Governors of Hebrew University and the American Friends of Hebrew University, the national advisory committee of Dropsie College and was chairman of the American-Israel Cultural Foundation.

RALLY TO PROTEST PARIS SYNAGOGUE BOMBING

NEW YORK, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- More than 1,000 people thronged the sanctuary of Central Synagogue here last Thursday for a Testimony Against Terrorism sponsored by the World Union for Progressive Judaism in protest against the bombing of its affiliate synagogue in Paris, the Union Libérale Israélite de France (Rue Copernic), Oct. 3. An appeal for support of the French Jewish community, alarm over the revival of neo-fascist and neo-Nazi violence, and concern over the French government's pro-Palestine Liberation Organization policies were voiced by the principal speakers.

Rabbi Michael Williams, spiritual leader of the Rue Copernic congregation, thanked the North American Jewish community for its vigorous response after the bombing. He called for

continuing aid, so that French Jewish congregations could put in place the security measures required to assure their ability to worship in safety.

Williams spelled out factors contributing to the bombing as: the escalation of violence toward the Jewish community during the past 18 months, which he deemed likely to be a component of a worldwide pattern; and the French government's "consistent, non-stop, 13-year anti-Israel policy," causing a spillover into anti-Semitism.

The most fundamental and difficult problem, Williams said, is that Jews are not considered as really French by the bulk of the French people, but as different and inferior. "Being Israelite or Juif is a pejorative term in society," he observed. "There is no equivalent to the openness of American Jews about their Jewishness ... Because there is a strong monolithic pattern in the French population, French Jews can't behave like American Jews. They must tread the delicate path between discretion and courage."

Strong Criticism Of French Government

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, expressed strong criticism of the French government. He declared:

"French Jews are deeply concerned that the new Nazis who seek to destroy Jewish lives have been encouraged by official lethargy and inattention to the violent nature of the anti-Semitic movement in France. There is also a strong belief that the government's willingness to accept the terrorist PLO as a legitimate party in the Middle East political scene emboldened the French counterparts to the PLO to engage in the same loathsome tactics."

Schindler recalled that more than three years ago the government of Valery Giscard d'Estaing had surrendered to Arab pressure, in releasing Abu Dodd, the PLO assassin who had boasted of responsibility for the Munich Olympic Games attack in which 11 Israeli athletes were killed. He noted that French authorities had let it be known that "they would like nothing better than to be the first major Western country to receive PLO chieftain Yasir Arafat."

Warns Of Incipient Fascism

Dr. Alfred Gottschalk, president of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, called on Jew and non-Jew alike to unite in opposing the threat of neo-fascist and anti-Semitic violence.

"A new fascism is arising that is utilizing the scapegoat of Jews and Judaism," he stated. As a refugee from Nazi Germany, he pointed out, he is well aware of how insidious the progress of this kind of evil can be. He warned of the beginning of a "difficult time for all of us."

"I am by nature not an alarmist, but I see this in its incipient stage," Gottschalk said. "There is a warning in the world."

Rabbi Richard Hirsch, executive director of the World Union for Progressive Judaism, pledged his organization's continuing support for the French Jewish community, announcing that the next meeting of the World Union's international board will be in Paris. The meeting was chaired by Gerard Daniel, president of the World Union.

UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA HELPS ORGANIZE FIRST CONSERVATIVE 'GARIN' TO LIVE IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- In a significant move to actively encourage aliya, the United Synagogue of America, the congregational arm of the Conservative movement, has announced that it has helped organize the first United Synagogue "garin" (nucleus) of a group of young men and women who will band together to live in Israel in a communal settlement.

Simon Schwartz, president of the United Synagogue, and Rabbi Benjamin Kreitzman, executive vice president, said the new group, known as "Garin Nitzan," is composed of "a dedicated core of young idealists trained in the values of Conservative Judaism."

The garin, a project of the Department of Israel Affairs and Aliya of the United Synagogue, has received the official endorsement of the Tnuah M'soraitit, the movement of Conservative Judaism in Israel. According to Gerry Skolnick, chairman of the group, the garin seeks "to establish a pioneering Conservative movement collective settlement designed to attract both Israeli and American Jews. The combination of Conservative Jewish ideals and service to the State of Israel, will provide a means of aliya both ideologically appealing and economically viable for young Jews."

One of the goals of the garin is to create an educational center at its settlement which will attract all members of the Conservative movement who seek to deepen their understanding of Conservative Judaism and its spiritual and historic ties to Israel.

Garin Nitzan expects to organize its settlement within the borders of Israel. As of now, the core group of the new garin consists of about 25 persons from throughout the United States. The garin is open to married couples and singles, ages 22-35, who plan to settle in Israel within five years, Skolnick said.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- The American Friends of the Alliance Israelite Universelle hailed the decision of the Israeli authorities last month to declare the Mikveh Israel Agricultural School, founded by the Alliance, an Israeli national landmark. A spokesman for the American Friends said this decision "will give a new impetus to the work of this institution which continues to fulfill a prominent and very vital part in the agricultural development of Israel." The present enrollment of the agricultural school is about 800, the spokesman said.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir will visit Finland and West Germany later this month as part of his frequent contacts with European governments. A spokesman said Shamir would also visit Paris as part of his trip to Europe.

FOCUS ON ISSUES

NAZI "JOKE" AT PRETORIA UNIVERSITY

By Sally Press

JOHANNESBURG, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- If it was a student joke, it was in execrable taste. A men's residence at Pretoria University, Maroela Hall, decided to have a Nazi "victory feast" as theme for their annual dinner last month. There were the Sieg Heils, Wagnerian music, the shirts and armbands, salutes and Hitlerian speeches -- and the slogan: "We hate Jews."

When Jewish students at the university wanted to find out what was going on, they were lectured by one of the organizers, a Christian theology student, on the need to forget the Nazi death camps. As news of the Nazi feast leaked to the general public, the organizers intransigently told the press that the residents of Maroela Hall "marched up and down the corridors yelling anti-Semitic slogans."

Let it be said immediately that South Africans as a whole are by no means anti-Semitic, no more and no less than, say, the French or British public. Certainly at governmental level the Administration of Premier P.W. Botha has a fine record of respect for the local Jewish community and for Israel, an attitude shared by the opposition parties and groups, whether Black or white.

Moves To Defuse The Issue

So it was no wonder that responsible leaders of Pretoria University, one of Africa's biggest institutes of learning, sought to quickly defuse the issue. The university principal, Prof. E.F. Hamman, disassociated himself from what he called the ill-conceived dinner and he censured the function.

Earlier the university's rector-designate Prof. D.M. Joubert, had stated that he was unaware of such a function being organized and dismissed it as "a student prank." The head of the student residence, politics professor G. Olivier, conceded that the "victory feast" may have been "insensitive" though no evil was intended.

South Africans, no less than other people, usually tolerate "student pranks," no matter how tasteless. But when the students concerned are Afrikaaners fooling around with Nazi symbols for whatever reason, the "joke" tends to boomerang on more than just the students. Some, though by no means all Afrikaaners gained a reputation during World War II for holding pro-Nazi sympathies.

In the post-war period, the Afrikaaner-dominated governments gained a reputation for racism due to apartheid policies. Then followed the formation of rightwing fringe groups in and around Pretoria, some of them cherishing avowedly anti-Semitic attitudes. Further, the timing of the "prank" was worse compounded by the news of the upsurge of anti-Semitism in Western Europe.

Many Afrikaaners are descendants of French and other West European peoples, though they usually tend to import more noble ideas from their countries of origin than anti-Semitism. In fact, many Afrikaaners, together with their Jewish, English and Black compatriots, joined the Allied onslaught against Nazism and fascism from 1939 to 1945.

It was less than surprising to find South African opinion against the Pretoria pranksters. Let-

ters to the newspapers from Jews and Gentiles alike deplored the Nazi "feast," some casting doubts on the level of education of those concerned. The South African Jewish Board of Deputies' executive director Aleck Goldberg, spoke of "unbelievable ignorance or else a frightening lack of sensitivity towards the victims of the Nazi regime."

The mass-circulation Sunday Times of Johannesburg, by way of its political column, observed: "It really is time that Pretoria University and all that it represents as an elite, catches up with the civilized world. To launch the racial doctrine of apartheid in 1948 when the Nazi death camps were hardly empty is one thing; to celebrate the Holocaust as a joke 30 years later, as the students of Maroela House did, displays the kind of insensitivity to civilized human concerns that marks barbarians."

It may be that the "Nazi" celebrants are just too plain dumb or downright boorish to become effective anti-Semites. But one thing they did with almost professional élan: they seemed to calm me, wittingly or unwittingly, the view among many that racism still exists in Pretoria.

At a time when the country is trying its level best to undo its racist heritage, this sort of "joke" hardly renders a service to overdue enlightenment. Even if the students carry out their "threat" to have a Bar Mitzvah as theme for next year's dinner, the damage will have been done.

RABBI OF LYDDA DEAD AT 68

JERUSALEM, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- A leading Habad Hasid in Israel, the Rabbi of Lydda, Shraga Elimelech Kaplan, died today in Lod and was buried in Jerusalem. He was 68 years old. Kaplan was head of a yeshiva in the town and was considered a foremost Habad halachic and spiritual authority in the country.

REDGRAVE IS AT IT AGAIN

LONDON, Nov. 3 (JTA) -- Vanessa Redgrave, the actress known for her ardent support of the Palestine Liberation Organization, reiterated her call for Israel's demise in order to make room for a secular state in Palestine. "I don't think that there is any room for a state of Israel," she said in an interview published today in the Beirut weekly magazine, Monday Morning.

The anti-Israel actress also was quoted as saying that her role as a concentration camp inmate in the recent CBS-TV film, "Playing for Time," has strengthened my belief that the only way the Jews of the world can press ahead is to struggle with the Palestinian people for the establishment of a democratic, secular state in Palestine.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Following President Yitzhak Navon's and President Anwar Sadat's agreement to step up certain normalization procedures, a team of Egyptian officials arrived in Israel Monday for talks with Israeli counterparts. Headed by Ambassador Osmat Rida of the Cairo Foreign Ministry, the Egyptian delegation includes officials of the Transport Ministry and the Customs Authority. It will take up the issue of transporting goods across the land border crossing near El Arish.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Israel's Knesset elections, still a year away, will cost about 50 million Shekels, presently the equivalent of \$8 million, according to Dr. Michael Bar-Zohar, chairman of the Labor Party's campaign committee. He said his figure reflected the effects of inflation.

There will be no Bulletin dated Nov. 11, due to Veterans Day, a postal holiday.