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JEWISH JOURNALIST EXECUTED IN IRAN

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Dec. 21 (JTA) — An Iranian Jewish journalist, Simon Farzami, was executed last Tuesday night by a firing squad in Teheran. The news was first reported here last Thursday by the French news agency, Agence France Presse (AFP) for whom the veteran journalist worked for several years. However, sources in Paris confirmed only last Friday that Farzami was Jewish and had at one time been an active member of the Teheran Jewish community. He was reportedly the seventh Jew executed by the regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Farzami, who was 70 years old, headed for almost 20 years the main Teheran French-language daily, "Journal de Teheran," serving as its editor and publisher. After the paper closed down following the takeover of the Iranian government by the Ayatollah, Farzami started working for the AFP as a translator and reporter. Arrested last February, his trial was held in camera and the verdict was kept secret.

Teheran's "Islamic judge," Hadjatoleslam Guhani, said at the time that Farzami was arrested on the basis of documents found at the American Embassy after its occupation by the Islamic students. He said these documents showed that Farzami was paid a monthly stipend by the "American imperialist spies."

Explained Source of Stipend

Farzami, according to French sources, explained at the time of his arrest that he was paid for various translations and that he needed this money to "supplement his meager income" from the AFP. The Swiss-born Jewish journalist was executed in Teheran's Evin Central Prison where 337 people have already been executed since the Ayatollah came to power. Guhani, the man who is believed to have been the presiding judge at the trial, later said he was "grieved that not more enemies of the people and of Islam" have been executed. According to Teheran Radio, he promised to be "more vigilant" in the future.

(In New York, the Jewish Labor Committee today called on the United Nations Human Rights Commission to investigate the execution of Farzami. The Committee noted that this execution and that of an Iranian Jewish community leader a year ago, Habib Elghanian, "would make it appear that the Iranian government is intent on intimidating Iranian Jewry." Elghanian was executed on the charge that he had contact with "Zionists.")

GERMANY'S JEWISH COMMUNITY IS SHOCKED OVER THE MURDER OF A PROMINENT GERMAN JEWISH LEADER

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 21 (JTA) — The murder of a prominent Jewish leader in Erlangen, Bavaria last Friday has shocked West Germany's Jewish community because of its apparent racial and political motivation. The victim, Shlomo Levin, 69, chairman of the Association for Christian-Jewish Co-

operation, was shot to death along with a friend, Frida Poeschke, 57, in the latter's home. Poeschke, who is not Jewish was the widow of a Social Democratic anti-Nazi activist.

Police have assigned a 20-member homicide squad to investigate the crime and have offered a 20,000 Mark reward for information leading to an arrest and conviction. Immediately after the shooting, the police said the assailants would be found among enemies of Israel and the Jews but they did not repeat that speculation and insisted later that there were no clues.

No organization or individual has claimed responsibility for the killings. Premier Franz-Josef Strauss of Bavaria denounced the crime and promised that every effort will be made to trace those responsible.

Levin came to West Germany in the late 1950s from Israel where he is known to have a family. He was chairman for several years of the Jewish community of Nuremberg, near Erlangen, and for a time owned the Ner Tamid Publishing Company which specialized in Jewish books.

Werner Nachman, chairman of the Jewish community of West Germany, condemned the murder which he said, was aimed against all democrats in the country. He denied a rumor that Levin had been a personal aid to Moshe Dayan when the latter was Israel's Defense Minister. A similar denial was issued by the Israel Embassy in Bonn.

DINITZ; HAIG IS ISRAEL'S FRIEND

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21 (JTA) — Simcha Dinitz, Israel's former Ambassador to the United States, described U.S. Secretary of State-designate Gen. Alexander Haig as a friend of Israel who had shown sympathy for Israel's case in negotiations with the U.S. about the freeing of the Egyptian Third Army when it was entrapped near the Suez Canal during the Yom Kippur War.

Speaking on an Israel Radio interview yesterday, Dinitz said that Haig's intervention prevented a crisis in Israel-U.S. relations at that time. "Gen. Haig always showed a keen understanding of Israel's security needs and posture ... immediately after the war when the late Golda Meir (then Israeli Premier) came to Washington and had some very tough talks with the President and especially with Dr. Kissinger — the subject matter was the freeing of the Egyptian Third Army from Israeli forces then surrounding it — the conversation ended not in any very great accord. It was Gen. Haig who intervened at the very end of the talks with a view to improve the situation and showed a great understanding towards us, to prevent a crisis," Dinitz said.

Haig was serving at the time as a deputy to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

Dinitz said Israel could expect President-elect Reagan to continue President Carter's policies towards the Camp David accords and the autonomy negotiations as there is always a basic continuity of policy after changes in the U.S. Administration. But he warned Israel is not to be surprised if there were some changes in emphasis once the new Administration settles in.

"I must caution that while every succeeding Administration undertakes what the previous one has implemented, especially in foreign policy, we have

to understand that within the same framework different policy and different emphasis can take place," he said. Dinitz said the new Administration would, for the first time, seek a solution to the Palestinian question apart from the Palestine Liberation Organization.

ISRAEL PLAYS DOWN SYRIAN SHELLING OF CHRISTIAN ENCLAVE IN LEBANON

By Hugh Orgel and David Landau

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21 (JTA) — Israeli officials tended today to play down the Syrian shelling of villages in the Christian enclave in south Lebanon yesterday and last Thursday as a one-time affair that did not herald a serious deterioration of the situation. Syrian artillery opened fire Thursday apparently in retaliation for the deaths of three Syrian soldiers during an Israeli attack on terrorist targets in south Lebanon several hours earlier.

One Israeli soldier, a corporal, was killed and three were wounded in the strikes against six terrorist strongholds and supply bases by paratroopers and elements of the crack Golani Brigade. An estimated 10-15 terrorists were killed and a considerable quantity of military equipment was destroyed, the army announced Friday.

An army spokesman said the attacks were in line with Israel's declared policy of hitting terrorist targets preemptively to forestall attacks on Israel before they can be launched. Israeli settlements were shelled Friday from Palestine Liberation Organization bases in south Lebanon. No casualties or damage were reported.

The State Department said Friday, "We have made it clear and will make it clear again that we oppose preemptive attacks by Israel against targets in Lebanon and that we support Lebanon's territorial integrity."

Israel expressed regret that three Syrian soldiers were killed during its attack and two others wounded. "If the Syrians were harmed, it was because they were in an area where they should not be stationed," an army source said. The Syrian soldiers were outside the area in which the Syrian army, forming the Arab peacekeeping force in Lebanon, normally operates.

Israel Wants No Conflict With Neighbors

Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Zipori said today that he hoped the incident was isolated and stressed that "Our encounter is with the terrorists only. Israel wants to avoid a conflict with its neighbors."

(The U.S. State Department said Friday that it did not have independent confirmation of the incidents but warned that "any action by the Israel Defense Force involving Syrian forces represents a dangerous new element" in the south of Lebanon. It called on "all involved to exercise restraint and self-discipline" to reduce tension in the area.)

An Israeli army spokesman denied a Damascus radio report that Syrian artillery shelled Israeli tank concentrations in south Lebanon yesterday. According to the spokesman there were no Israeli tanks in Lebanon. He said the Syrians fired about 1000 shells, mainly at Christian militia concentrations. Israeli sources said some buildings were damaged but they denied earlier reports of casualties.

The latest round of fighting in south Lebanon was touched off last Wednesday when the Christian forces of Maj. Saad Haddad launched a massive attack on PLO positions. Haddad is an ally of Israel.

Meanwhile, the army updated its account of a terrorist attempt to infiltrate Israel last Sunday. A spokesman disclosed that two members of El Fatah were captured when a group of five was intercepted trying to break through the border fence near Zarit. The army had reported previously that a terrorist was killed and an Israeli soldier was wounded in that encounter.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL DENOUNCED FOR CONDEMNING ISRAEL FOR EXPELLING TWO WEST BANK MAYORS

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (JTA) — The United Nations was denounced today by Rabbi William Berkowitz, president of the Jewish National Fund, for the vote by the Security Council last Friday evening to condemn Israel for expelling two Palestinian West Bank mayors.

"The United Nations continues to fiddle while the Middle East burns," he said. "The future of two Arab mayors who have openly sided with the terrorist Palestine Liberation Organization and fomented violence that took the lives of six Israeli citizens monopolizes the time and the attention of the Security Council while the Soviet rape of Afghanistan goes into its second year and while the mutual slaughter of Iran and Iraq continues unremarked."

The Security Council's unanimous vote on the two Arab mayors, Fahd Kawasme of Hebron and Mohammed Milhim of Halhoul, was also denounced by Yehuda Blum, Israel's Ambassador to the U.N. He told the Council that Israel's judicial system, which has an "enviable reputation," had ruled on the case and "we cannot accept any attempt to interfere with the judicial process of our country."

He denounced the Council for hypocrisy in considering the case for the third time this year while ignoring the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the Libyan invasion of Chad, the Iran-Iraq war and the ordeal of the American hostages in Iran.

U.S. Goes Along With Condemnation

The real bombshell in the vote was that the United States went along with the other Council members to condemn Israel for expelling the two mayors. It was the first time since last March that the U.S. had voted against Israel in the UN, and President Carter himself repudiated that vote after he came under fire from American Jewish organizations. However, after the vote Friday evening, U.S. Ambassador Donald McHenry stated, "Cynics may claim that we would have voted differently before November 4, but I can't be hostage to cynics."

Referring to the U.S. vote, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said today: "That the U.S. should have joined the UN's latest display of anti-Israel bias comes as a deep disappointment but no surprise. Let us hope that the incoming Reagan Administration will recognize what President Carter never understood: that the U.S. need not pander to the Fifth-Israel bigotry of the Arab-Soviet-Third World bloc."

Mayors Conducting Hunger Strike

As soon as the vote was taken Friday, Kawasme and Milhim announced that they were conducting a hunger strike inside the UN; hoping that this unprecedented action would force Israel to readmit them. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim gave the two men personal permission to conduct their hunger strike. The mayors had been expelled originally last May following the terrorist ambush killings of six yeshiva students in Hebron. They appealed against their expulsion and were again expelled earlier this month to Lebanon.

Their hunger strike in the UN building is unprecedented. Other demonstrators have also staged protests on the UN premises but have been removed by guards and turned over to New York City police. But Waldheim gave his personal permission for the sit-in by the two mayors because, according to the Secretary General's spokesman, "In this case there has just been a unanimous Security Council resolution. It is not the same as coming in from the street."

Milhim told the Council right after the vote was taken: "We have no homes to go back to and we consider that this building belongs to everybody, especially those who are oppressed, so we have decided to stay." Neither he nor Kawasme indicated how long they intend to conduct their hunger strike.

CANADIAN OFFICIAL RECOMMENDS MEASURES TO PURSUE SOVIET COMPLIANCE WITH HUMAN RIGHTS

By Michael Salomon

OTTAWA, Dec. 21 (JTA) — Mark MacGuigan, Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, recommended to the government several measures to pursue Soviet compliance with human rights accords in the aftermath of the Helsinki review conference in Madrid. MacGuigan also heard a report from Irwin Cotler, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, on the rapidly deteriorating situation of Jews in the USSR.

Cotler, a professor of law at McGill University last Thursday briefed the minister on the Madrid conference which he attended. He noted that one-third of all Jewish Prisoners of Conscience in the Soviet Union have been convicted in the last six months alone.

He said that the arrest of Soviet Jewish scientist and activist Viktor Brailovsky, seen in the context of the dramatic drop in Jewish emigration from the USSR and the intensification of anti-Semitism, was profoundly disturbing. Cotler observed that Brailovsky's arrest in particular was "an ominous note, Brailovsky being for the Soviet Jewry movement what (Andrei) Sakharov is the dissident movement."

Canada's Stand Appreciated

Cotler expressed appreciation for Canada's strong stand in Madrid by Ambassador Louis Rogers, particularly his outspoken condemnation of anti-Semitism. MacGuigan replied that "Canada regards Soviet anti-Semitism as unacceptable and has told the Soviets in Madrid that all persecutions, harassments and violations of human rights must stop at once."

The Canadian minister has recommended a post-Madrid continuing review of human rights violations by an internationally established committee of experts to monitor compliance with the Helsinki human rights agreements. He also proposed to the Soviets the establishment of a bilateral round-table conference on the implementation of human rights.

ISRAEL UNVEILS ITS NEW CHANCERY IN WASHINGTON

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (JTA) — Israel unveiled last Thursday its magnificent and spacious new chancery in Washington in the presence of about 500 leading Washington officials, including U.S. government officials, diplomats, business and professional leaders.

The four-story brick structure, the design and color of which reflect contemporary construction in Jerusalem, houses all the Israeli offices that, for the past several years, have been scattered in three buildings.

The Embassy itself, the residence of Israel's Ambassador, also is considerably closer to the chancery. Under Secretary of State David Newsom, the top U.S. official present, lauded Ambassador Ephraim Evron's services and friendship, and added: "On this day, a special occasion, I can congratulate the government of Israel on this beautiful symbol of the beauties of Israel, and also congratulate my good friend, Ephraim Evron."

Newsom also observed "the very sincere hope" of the State Department that the Camp David peace process will continue. He noted that the "very fundamental and frank discussion" between Israel and the United States "made this process possible and will be carried on."

Washington's Mayor, Marion Barry, expressed the "friendship and kinship of the people of Israel and the people of Washington." Barry is Black and Washington's population is three-quarters Black. Both Barry and Newsom spoke at the ground-breaking ceremonies for the chancery on Israel's Independence Day in May, 1979.

Chancery Is Well Protected

Israel's chancery, located at Van Ness Street and Reno Road, is the first in the "international center" established by the State Department for a dozen chanceries. None other has yet been built, although options have been taken by various governments. The center adjoins the University of the District of Columbia and is in a well-to-do residential area of northwest Washington.

In keeping with modern security requirements, the building is protected by brick and metal fencing and an entrance that permits easy access only with the approval of a secluded guard. The cost of the building and its furnishings totalled \$5 million overall, Evron said.

Dominating the chancery is the atrium that involves the building's four floors and leads to a large hall for conferences and receptions. Works of some 50 Israeli artists decorate the interior and exterior, making the structure a showcase of Israeli art. Works include those of Ruben Rubin, Menasha Kadishman, Yigal Tomaikas, and Yisrael Shemi.

Planning for the building began in 1977 during Premier Menachem Begin's first trip to the United States, when former Israel Ambassador Simcha Dinitz and former White House Chief of Protocol, Evan Dobell, signed an agreement leasing to Israel land in the international center.

In lauding those who contributed toward the planning and construction, Evron gave special thanks to Robert Kogod of Washington "for his tireless efforts on overall development." Architect Louis Bernardo was credited with the building's architectural design, and Yeshayahu Mandel, Israel's architectural consultant, added the flavor of Jerusalem to the design.

Sam and Saul Stern were named for their assistance in the procurement of office furniture and the interior design services provided by their designer, Wilda Schrade. The Israel Museum of Jerusalem, the Tel Aviv Museum and the America-Israel Cultural Foundation assisted in the art program and coordinating the contributions of the works of art.

AMSTERDAM, (JTA) — Yad Vashem Awards were presented by Eytan Ronn, Israel's Ambassador to Holland, last Friday at a ceremony in Utrecht.

SPECIAL TO THE JTA
WIENER LIBRARY HAS BEEN MOVED
FROM LONDON TO TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY
 By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21 (JTA) — The Wiener Library, described as the world's largest, most important and most comprehensive source of information on anti-Semitism, the Holocaust and fascism, has been moved from London to Tel Aviv University.

The collection, which has been referred to as a chamber of horrors, was established in Amsterdam in 1933 by Dr. Alfred Wiener, a German Jewish scholar who early on recognized the dangers of the rising Nazi Party and began to devote himself to documenting its practices.

Wiener moved it in 1939 to London, where it opened on the very day World War II broke out. During the war the library, which he continued to head, was extensively used by the British intelligence services as a major source for information about German affairs and by the British Broadcasting Corporation for its counter-propaganda services.

After the war, the library was expanded by the addition of eye-witness accounts of Nazi atrocities, transcripts of the Nuremberg and Eichmann war crimes trials, and documents from the gestapo and Nazi Party archives.

Wiener died in 1964. Since then the library which bears his name has been headed by Prof. Walter Laqueur, who divides his time between London and Tel Aviv, where he is on the faculty of the Tel Aviv University.

Information Contained In The Library

The library contains over 60,000 books, reference works, pamphlets and periodicals, one million newspaper clippings, 1500 eye-witness accounts of Nazi persecution from diaries, unpublished memoirs and interviews, 40,000 documents relating to the Nuremberg trials and the Eichmann trial, literature on the various publications and editions of the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," dossiers on war criminals, and some 5,000 documents relating to the Jewish question from the records of the gestapo, the chancellery of the Nazi Party, and the German foreign office.

It also comprises up-to-date material on modern manifestations of anti-Semitism, including material published by Arab propaganda offices.

The Wiener Library, which is continually being expanded by the addition of new current material and older documents now being discovered, is a major source of information for all scholars doing research on the Nazi period and anti-Semitism.

A complete copy of the collection remains in London, on microfilm. During his lifetime Wiener made frequent efforts to have the library transferred to Israel. The move was finally made possible by a donation from an undisclosed benefactor.

Children's Games Included

The collection includes a number of children's games widely sold during the Nazi period. One of them, entitled "Juden Raus" (Jews Out), is in the form of the children's game of snakes and ladders, or the modern game of monopoly, in which pawns depicting Jews in medieval hats and clothes were to be moved about a board until they were finally expelled with the note: "Go to

Palestine." In reverse, the child player was told: "If you are the first to expel six Jews, you are the undoubted victor."

Addressing a ceremony last week marking the Wiener Library transfer to Israel, Tel Aviv University rector Yoram Dinstein described it as "one of the most important collections now housed in the University." He said: "We now have the most important tool for research into anti-Semitism and the Nazis. The only collection approaching it is the German Institute for Contemporary History in Munich."

Prof. Saul Friedlander, of Tel Aviv University, said: "the Wiener Library can help us prove to the world that there is a clear and direct connection between anti-Semitism in the past and anti-Semitism today."

SMITH, ADL OFFICIALS MEET

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (JTA) — At a meeting at the headquarters of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the Rev. Bailey Smith, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, and his colleagues, and Maxwell Greenberg, ADL chairman, Nathan Perlmuter, ADL director, and the leadership of the ADL, held an open and friendly conversation last Thursday on the subject of Smith's widely reported comments concerning Jews.

Smith expressed deep regret for any hurt to the Jewish community and said he stands with them for an American pluralistic society and against anti-Semitism. He also said that if he had it to do over, knowing how it would be misinterpreted, he would not have made those statements. He said he has distinctive theological beliefs that he cannot compromise, but he stands with the Jewish community for total religious liberty.

The parties agreed that: they abhor, condemn and reject anti-Semitism; both groups reaffirmed their commitment to their basic theological beliefs without rancor or rejection of each other; and both groups have been the victims of religious persecution and, even to this day, suffer persecution in the Soviet Union and other parts of the world.

For those reasons, the ADL reported, they agreed to establish a joint working relationship in which Baptists and Jews will explore and plan improved methods of communication. It is contemplated that various programs will be continued and initiated with conferences, seminars, academic interchanges, preparation of joint materials and other means for each community to learn more about the other.

VACCINE FOR ITALY'S QUAKE VICTIMS

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (JTA) — A shipment of 20,000 doses of typhoid vaccine is on its way to Italy, donated to the earthquake victims by Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center of New York.

In a spontaneous response to the disaster, Dr. Isadore Levine, the hospital's Deputy Director for Professional Affairs, contacted the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) to offer to send a team of doctors to Italy at Montefiore's expense.

JCRC representatives discussed the matter with the Italian Consul General Alessandro Cortese-de Basis, who, though "deeply gratified by this generous offer," noted that doctors from neighboring countries as well as those from northern Italy were on the scene in sufficient numbers to handle the situation. The Consul General indicated, however, that there was an urgent need for typhoid vaccine.

REMINDER: There will be no News Bulletin dated Dec. 25, due to Christmas, a postal holiday.