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WEST GERMAN LAWMAN NABBED IN CRACKDOWN ON NEO-NAZI ACTIVITY

By David Kantor

BONN, March 26 (JTA) — A quantity of neo-Nazi propaganda material was found in the home of a senior law enforcement officer in the course of the country-wide police raids Tuesday. The head of the Criminal Investigation Department at police headquarters in Recklinghausen was arrested as a result, on suspicion of rightwing activities proscribed by law.

The surprise raids which netted tons of anti-Semitic and neo-Nazi literature in some 600 private homes and apartments, was welcomed by most of the press. The Frankfurter Rundschau criticized the authorities for not having acted sooner.

Outlawed Neo-Nazi Group Resurfaces

Meanwhile, Alex Wernitz, chairman of the Bundestag Committee for Interior Affairs, disclosed yesterday that the outlawed Wehrsportgruppe Hoffman has spawned a successor organization active in the areas of Augsburg and Neustadt. According to Wernitz, a member of the ruling Social Democratic Party, the new group calls itself the Bundeswehr Fan Club and has a membership of between 20-30 persons who wear uniforms and drill with weapons and motor vehicles.

The original Wehrsportgruppe Hoffman, a neo-Nazi paramilitary organization that masqueraded as a sports club, was outlawed Jan. 30, 1980. Its leader, Karl-Heinz Hoffman, had close contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organization which hosted him on a visit to Beirut and some of its members received training at PLO camps in Lebanon. Bavarian police said they had no knowledge of the new organization but promised a prompt inquiry.

TORONTO MAN IDENTIFIED AS AUTHOR DISTRIBUTOR OF HATE TRACTS THAT WERE SEIZED BY WEST GERMAN POLICE

By Ben Kayfetz

TORONTO, March 26 (JTA) — Ernst Zundel, a 42-year-old commercial artist residing in Toronto is the principal author, publisher and distributor of the tons of neo-Nazi, anti-Semitic literature seized by West German police Tuesday in mass raids on the homes of known neo-Nazis and rightwing extremists. According to the German authorities, the racist material outlawed in the Federal Republic originated mainly in the U.S. and Canada.

Zundel, who operates out of a studio in an old house at the edge of Toronto's downtown business district, has been turning out Nazi hate literature for 18 years. He writes much of the material which is published in 14 languages and circulated in 45 countries around the world. Zundel is the author of seven books. One, titled "The Hitler We Loved and Why," was published in Reedy, W. Va., under the name Christof Friedrich.

Zundel also founded the organization called "Concerned Parents of German Descent." It appeared following the telecast of the American-

made TV docu-drama "Holocaust" in 1979. But Zundel is believed to have little following in Canada's German community. His literature, mass mailed to members of Parliament, provincial legislators and the media, is generally ignored.

The major theme of Zundel's output is that the Holocaust is a Zionist hoax. But this has not been deemed a violation of Canadian laws against incitement to racial or religious hatred. The Canadian-Jewish Congress-B'nai B'rith joint committee on community relations is seeking an appointment with the Attorney General to discuss the matter.

EITAN REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR HADADD'S CHRISTIAN MILITIA

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 26 (JTA) — Chief of Staff Gen. Rafael Eitan said yesterday that Israel's policy in south Lebanon would be guided solely by its self-interest and reaffirmed that Israel would continue to support Maj. Saad Haddad's Christian militia and to take action against terrorists "where we want, when we want and how we want."

Meanwhile, the army expressed surprise today at a statement attributed to Gen. William Callaghan of Ireland, commander of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) that he was determined to help the Lebanese regular army regain control of south Lebanon, regardless of the cost in lives.

The statement was reportedly made in an interview with United Press International. The army issued a special communique asserting that Callaghan's reported remarks appeared to be in direct contradiction to the friendly words and atmosphere during the UNIFIL commander's meeting with Eitan three days ago.

But Israeli sources reported a similar remark by Callaghan at a meeting he had with Gen. Avigdor Ben-Gal, commander of the northern front, in Nazareth a week ago. That meeting was reported to have been frosty and tense but Callaghan insisted later that it was a friendly talk between professional soldiers.

The army statement today said the Lebanese army had demonstrated its inability to establish order in northern Lebanon where it allowed Syrians and the Palestine Liberation Organization to take control. As a consequence, the army communique claimed, tension reigns in the north whereas the Christian enclave in the south is relatively quiet under Haddad's control. The army added that Israel would not abandon Haddad but would continue to support his force to enable it to withstand onslaughts from the PLO.

Self-Interest Will Guide Israel's Policy

Eitan, addressing army pensioners, said "Our own self-interest is supreme" in south Lebanon "and will guide us in our actions not to allow terrorists to return to the border fence." He said Israel could not allow a situation to develop in which "the militia could say they (Israel) helped us when it was convenient for them and left us to be slaughtered when it wasn't."

A subcommittee of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee visited south Lebanon today. Members said later they were convinced that

the Lebanese army regulars who have taken up positions near the Christian enclave are actually Syrian soldiers wearing Lebanese uniforms.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

JNF EXPANDS ACTIVITIES

By Gili Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 26, (JTA) — The annual budget of the Jewish National Fund will increase by 15 percent in the next fiscal year, JNF board chairman Moshe Rivlin reported at a press conference here. The board approved a budget of \$100 million this week, subject to approval by the Zionist General Council budget committee.

Rivlin justified the greater spending at a time of overall cuts saying that the more the JNF puts into cultivating the land, the more income the state derives from it. "I am dealing with essential things in Israel. The needs are such that what I am doing is the minimum," he said. Most of the JNF work is in two main spheres — afforestation and land reclamation.

The JNF will spend some 144 million Shekels (about \$16 million) next year on afforestation alone. Presently, there are some 250,000 acres of forests in Israel, about 150,000 of them planted forests. The rest is natural forest, but they, too, need the support and the maintenance work of the JNF. At the time of the establishment of the State there were some five million trees in the country. Since then the JNF planted 150 million trees. In recent years the JNF has planted some three million trees annually.

One Of The Main Objectives

"One of our main objects presently is the introduction of the forest and the park to the desert," said Rivlin. He pointed to several places which have already changed from barren desert land into islands of greenery. On a line south of Kibbutz Beit Kama near Beersheba, the JNF planted 20 million trees. "There will be no quality of life in the Negev without trees," Rivlin said.

In the Eshkol Park in the Bessor region there are some 1,000 acres of greenery planned, more than 150 acres have been planted. On Independence Day, the JNF will inaugurate a new park and recreation camping site near Dimona. A similar park is planned near the development town of Yeroham further south.

"There are days on which one can find up to 700,000 people in one park," said Rivlin. JNF forests serve for youth camps, both those organized by the JNF itself and those organized by the youth movements. Last year some 20,000 youth spent vacations in the forests, 9,000 of them from overseas. At the present there are about 110 JNF parks and camping sites throughout the country. Another 290 are planned.

Task Of Land Reclamation

The other main sphere of JNF activity is land reclamation. This task is carried out at the request of settlement bodies, such as the Jewish Agency's Settlement Department and the Ministerial Settlement Committee. "I can proudly state that the JNF carried out, according to schedule, any land reclamation tasks that were imposed on it," Rivlin said. Last year the JNF reclaimed land to build 30 lookout posts in the Galilee and 10 in the southern Bessor region.

The JNF reclaimed land for 100 kilometers of new roads in the Galilee and removed some 18

million cubic feet of earth for development projects in the south. Presently it is working on another 10 lookout posts in the Galilee and in the Samaria district of the West Bank. It will reclaim next year 11,000 acres of agricultural land and will prepare the terrain for another 30 kilometers of new roads.

The JNF makes special efforts as an educational tool. Some 100,000 children planted trees last Tu B'Shvat, another 200,000 Jewish children did so abroad. The JNF operates in 1,000 schools in the country, and in hundreds of schools overseas. "We bring to them a close link between the child and the land. We see to it that the link is not only historical, but also has a practical meaning," said Rivlin.

On the occasion of the JNF's 80th anniversary, Rivlin strongly dismissed arguments which questioned the importance of JNF work. "If the JNF had not existed, one should have to invent it," he said. Its main value is both in the historical sense of linking the people with the land, as well as on the practical level.

The work of afforestation, for example, he said is also under the responsibility of special authorities in other countries. But most of all, he said, "The JNF symbolizes the care of the Jewish people for its land." This year the International Bible Quiz will be largely devoted to this subject. The JNF sponsors other projects on the geography of the State and the history of Zionist settlement. In general, a considerable part of Independence Day activities will be linked to the JNF anniversary.

PERES: ISRAEL MUST TAKE INITIATIVE TO FOSTER STABILITY IN THE MIDEAST

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 26 (JTA) — Labor Party leader Shimon Peres believes Israel must take the initiative now to foster stability and security in the Middle East in partnership with the U.S. and the pro-Western Arab states. He said on a television interview today that his recent secret talks with Arab leaders in Morocco and London left him more optimistic about chances for acceptance of an Israeli initiative for economic cooperation in the region.

Peres reportedly met with King Hassan of Morocco in that country and with Prince Mohammad, brother of King Hussein of Jordan, in London earlier this month. Morocco officially denied that such meeting took place. Peres himself refused to confirm or deny the reported meetings when he returned to Israel a week ago but has since acknowledged them.

Referring to his visit "to a country which denies it took place" (Morocco), Peres said he had discussed his proposed approach with both Arab and European leaders and found them interested. He stressed that he was not "negotiating" but was sounding out the possibilities in light of the Reagan Administration's announced intention to fight terrorism and build stability in the Middle East.

Regional Economic Cooperation Proposed

In that connection, Peres suggested that the U.S., Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Israel should now consider the establishment of a regional structure to foster economic cooperation in the Red Sea area, discuss the development of the Dead Sea resources, the Israeli port of Eilat and the Jordanian port of Akaba on the Red Sea, the construction of airfields, road networks and potash production.

It is imperative for Israel to take the initiative now, he said, leaving the onus of rejection to the Arabs. He recalled that in the 1950's Britain established an Arab League that excluded Israel and warned that if Israel does not act, the U.S. may

now build an "Arab League" excluding Israel. Peres repeated his contention that Saudi Arabia may recognize the fact that it needs peace and stability more than Israel. "Saudi Arabia has oil without stabilization but without stability there is a danger of no oil," he said. Nevertheless, the Labor Party chairman's overture to the Saudis met with a prompt rebuff.

Saudis Reject Peres' Contention

His suggestion that if the Labor Party wins the June 30 Knesset elections and he becomes Prime Minister he would try to negotiate peace with Saudi Arabia, drew a negative response. Reports from Saudi Arabia this week quoted Information Minister Mohammed Abdo Yamani as saying that his country "rejects allegations in the enemy's press to implicate the Kingdom in positions contrary to its present and future policies." Yamani reportedly said Peres' remarks were for local consumption and added, "The peace we want is not that which Peres and (Premier Menachem) Begin want."

But Peres suggested today that too much emphasis or concern should not be placed on the public utterances of Arab leaders. He indicated that in his recent and earlier talks he had received a different impression of the basic thinking among the Arabs. "There is now a different situation in both Israel and the Middle East. The next four years won't be like the last," Peres said.

HAIG SAYS IT IS 'TOO EARLY' TO SPEAK OF SAUDI ARABIA'S ROLE IN THE MIDEAST PEACE PROCESS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 26 (JTA) -- Secretary of State Alexander Haig said today that it was "too early" to speak about Saudi Arabia's role in the Middle East peace process. Haig, who leaves April 3 on a four country tour of the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia, was asked by Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R. NY) what he was doing to bring Saudi Arabia into the peace process.

A contention of U.S. opponents of the Reagan Administration's intention to provide Saudi Arabia with equipment to improve the combat capabilities of its 62 F-15 warplanes is that Saudi Arabia is campaigning against the Camp David accords.

Haig told D'Amato at hearings on foreign aid before the Senate Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, that from his "first-hand experience while in the White House," when Henry Kissinger was Secretary of State, Saudi Arabia was "relatively constructive" and "at least benignly respectful." He said, however, that the Camp David accords had "disrupted that somewhat" and indicated that it would be up to historians to determine if that was caused by "American mismanagement and incompetence or something deeper."

When D'Amato persisted in asking Haig if he would raise the matter of the peace process with the Saudis, the Secretary of State replied, "Not in the context of your question." He noted that "the peace process involves the parties themselves," observing that "Saudi Arabia is certainly one of those neighboring states."

Sen. Dennis DeConcini (D. Ariz.) asked Haig if the Administration is supportive of the Camp David accords. In a tone of surprise, Haig responded, "Absolutely; I hope I didn't leave any doubt about it. The peace process is a consequence

of the Camp David accords. We are now engaged in it from two aspects -- the autonomy talks (for the West Bank and Gaza) and the peacekeeping force" in Sinai.

Haig said that among the differences in approach between the Reagan and Carter Administrations in the peace process was that "We are not going to have a myopic preoccupation with the Arab-Israeli conflict exclusively." He was alluding to the Administration's view that the overriding priority is to stem Soviet intervention in the Middle East.

OPHIRA NAVON AND JIHAN SADAT RECEIVE AWARDS FOR WORK IN THE FIELD OF REHABILITATION

NEW YORK, March 26 (JTA) -- Ophira Navon, wife of President Yitzhak Navon of Israel, received here last night the Distinguished Service Award in International Rehabilitation from the World Rehabilitation Fund at a gala dinner at the Hilton Hotel. Jihan Sadat, wife of President Anwar Sadat of Egypt was also honored at the dinner where she received the Fund's first Achievement Award.

This afternoon, Mrs. Navon attended a luncheon given in her honor by Mrs. Sadat. The luncheon was held at the home of Egypt's Ambassador to the United Nations, Ahmed Esmat Meguid. Among the 30 guests were Israel's Ambassador to the UN, Yehuda Blum, and his wife Maria.

Mrs. Navon told the audience attending last night's dinner that there must be no barriers to the exchange of new techniques in rehabilitation. She said: "Communication between rehabilitation experts the world over must be immediate, instantaneous. In this respect there should be no frontiers, neither between the East and the West nor, and we are witness that this is now happily so, between Egypt and Israel. Cooperation must be immediate and wholehearted, for we all know that the basic elements in rehabilitation are universal, cutting across seas and continents, creeds and nationalities."

Mrs. Navon, who arrived here Tuesday, met today with Mayor Edward Koch for some 90 minutes. According to a spokesman for the Israel Consulate here, the Mayor and Israel's First Lady discussed various issues, among them Koch's recent visit to Egypt and Israel. Also present at the meeting were Israel's Consul General in New York, Yosef Kedar, and his wife Ruth, and Rivka Evron, wife of Israel's Ambassador to Washington. Mrs. Navon was scheduled to leave tonight for Israel.

U.S. IMPORTS FROM ISRAEL UP 27%

NEW YORK, March 26 (JTA) -- American imports of Israeli products rose by almost 27 percent in 1980, from \$769.4 million to \$976.8 million, according to figures released by the Israel Trade Center here. While diamonds continue to lead the list of U.S. imports from Israel -- \$456 million worth last year -- manufactured goods showed the biggest percentage gains, rising 36.6 percent.

"Imports of industrial goods have more than doubled in three years, from \$260 million in 1977 to \$520 million in 1980," said Shmuel Ben-Tovim, Israel Trade Commissioner to the United States. He attributed the rise to Israel's "increasing investment in industrial research and development and a better understanding of the American market."

The growth in Israeli industrial exports to the U.S., he said, was particularly strong in basic metals used in the construction and aircraft industries (up 94.8 percent), machinery for agricultural or industrial uses (up 93.2 percent), mining products and fertilizers (up 68.5 percent) and other chemicals (up 39 percent).

AJCONGRESS STUDY ASSESSES ANTI-SEMITISM; PROPOSES A PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITY ACTION

NEW YORK, March 26 (JTA) -- While there is evidence of increased anti-Semitic violence and vandalism, "claims of a 'wave' of anti-Semitism in any part of this country do not seem justified," the American Jewish Congress declared in a major statement on anti-Semitism adopted by its policy-making Governing Council. The AJCongress also adopted a comprehensive nine-point community action program to "cauterize" anti-Semitism at its source.

Despite an increase in the number of reported incidents of anti-Semitism, "all social indices we have conventionally employed to measure anti-Semitism over the years converge in the same direction: the low state of anti-Semitism in the United States," the AJCongress asserted. "In all sectors of American life, anti-Semitism has become shabby, disreputable and abhorrent."

"There is uniform agreement by all who have studied these matters that there is no evidence that any of the recent acts of anti-Semitism were carried out in concert or pursuant to any common design, purpose or arrangement," the statement said. "In the overwhelming majority of cases in which the perpetrators have been caught, they have turned out to be juveniles under the age of 17, and in virtually all cases it has been established that they were acting independently," according to the AJCongress analysis.

Nevertheless, the AJCongress cautioned that "the trauma of the Hitler period does not allow us to feel entirely secure even in free and enlightened societies." The history of western culture "is burdened by a tragic legacy of anti-Semitic prejudice," it added. "Quiescent from period to period, we sense that this predilection lurks beneath the skin of our civilization. We are therefore unable to preclude as unthinkable the deterioration of even a seemingly sophisticated, safe community into a cauldron of anti-Semitic fury."

Nine-Point Program Outlined

The AJCongress urged a nine-point program which calls for: improved monitoring of anti-Semitic incidents; creation of separate sections in police departments and the prosecutor's offices to deal with racial or religious incidents; a review of existing laws to determine their adequacy; reviewing the methods of dealing with offenders; periodic reviews by the police, prosecutors and the Jewish community of anti-Semitic incidents. Also, meetings with the media to discuss the method of reporting incidents; conferences with churches and schools on how to convert anti-Semitic incidents into constructive purposes; assistance to school districts on curriculum dealing with human rights, genocide and the Holocaust; and organization of communitywide coalitions to maintain alertness toward anti-Semitism and to meet it with a united response.

The AJCongress pointed out its officials studied a wide range of reports of anti-Semitic incidents in the U.S. The statistics on increased growth by the Ku Klux Klan "do not imply that the Klan is on the verge of a breakthrough in terms of public support," the AJCongress statement said. The various neo-Nazi demonstrations "have proved the impotence of these fringe groups, their marginality and the total contempt and hostility in which they are held," it asserted.

In employment, housing and admission to the most prestigious universities and professional

schools, "Jews confront no special encumbrances, as Jews, and experience no significant discrimination," it added.

"More critically," the statement argued, "there is not a single influential public personality or molder of public opinion, not a single important or influential journal, magazine or newspaper, not a single important or influential radio or television commentator or spokesman who has failed to express complete and total abhorrence and revulsion over anti-Semitism in all its manifestations."

U.S. CONFIRMS SOVIET AIRCRAFT FLY REGULARLY OVER SAUDI ARABIA WITH SAUDI PERMISSION

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, March 26 (JTA) -- Soviet aircraft regularly fly over Saudi Arabia with Saudi permission between the Soviet Union and Soviet bases in Ethiopia and Aden, both within striking distance of the Middle East oil fields and the Suez Canal.

The State Department confirmed this development as Secretary of State Alexander Haig was prepared to visit Saudi Arabia on his four-country Middle East trip beginning April 3 to assess means to defend the oil fields, including Saudi Arabia's against Soviet penetration and possible takeover.

"There are regularly scheduled commercial passenger and freight flights by Aeroflot between the Soviet Union and those countries (Ethiopia and Aden)," the State Department told this reporter. "These flights over-fly Saudi Arabia," the department said. Soviet aircraft can easily carry munitions and troops as well as civilians and ordinary freight.

The question was raised at the State Department after National Review, the conservative weekly edited by William Buckley, reported in its current edition that Saudi Arabia is allowing the overflights and, in addition, trans-shipment of Soviet-built tanks to Iraq. The Department had no comment on the report regarding tanks.

"The Saudis are the major obstacle to an American presence in the Gulf," which the Reagan Administration is trying to establish, National Review's article said.

"By hiring Pakistani mercenaries, by buying German tanks and French planes, they hope to build an army that will make them independent and able to keep the Americans from establishing a presence nearby. They do not seem nearly as concerned about the Soviet over-flights they permit to Aden and Ethiopia, and they have allowed Soviet-built tanks to be unloaded at Saudi ports for trans-shipment to Iraq," the National Review said.

TWO FINICKY VISITORS IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, March 26 (JTA) -- Two temporary residents arrived in Israel by air last night from Austria, smeared with lanolin and lying on stretchers. They were Fritz, a 650-pound male dolphin and Tivie, a female whose weight was not disclosed. They took up residence today at the Tel Aviv dolphinarium nearing completion on the seashore between Tel Aviv and Jaffa.

The dolphins were imported to help train five others recently captured in the Red Sea by dolphinarium teams and due to be shipped from Eilat to Tel Aviv in a temperature-controlled truck next week.

According to the trainer who accompanied the two visitors from Austria, they took the air trip quite well despite the 20-hour journey, twice as long as the acceptable stay out of water. The imported pair will be returned to Europe in a few months.