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**KOHL, IN ISRAEL FOR FIVE-DAY VISIT, SAYS HE CAME AS 'REPRESENTATIVE OF A NEW GERMANY'**  
By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany arrived here today for a five-day official visit declaring that he came "as representative of a new Germany" and "as the heir of the late Konrad Adenauer, whose name is enshrined as one who opened relations between our two countries. We now want to deepen the friendly relations between us."

Kohl, accompanied by his wife and a large entourage of West German officials, was greeted by Premier Yitzhak Shamir at Ben Gurion Airport. Each leader delivered a formal statement, Kohl in German.

Shamir, speaking Hebrew, observed that they had much to discuss and said his guest would be able to see something of Israel's achievements and learn of its problems. He said they would discuss international and Middle East problems, relations between Israel and Europe and bilateral relations between Bonn and Jerusalem.

Kohl is the third West German Chancellor to visit Israel since the State was founded 35 years ago. Adenauer was the first, though he came after leaving office and former Chancellor Willy Brandt was the second, 11 years ago.

#### Says Israelis 'Are Close To Our Hearts'

Kohl said he welcomed Israel's invitation and hoped his visit would serve as a "bridge over the terrible abyss of the past." He stressed, in his remarks, "Israel is an important country for us. The people of Israel are close to our hearts. We have followed closely the development of Israel and its upbuilding. It is our hope you can live in peace and freedom."

The Chancellor also observed that "Israel lies in an area which we, and our neighbors in Europe have special interest in its stability. We are therefore concerned that efforts made to ensure a just and lasting peace are continually set back. All concerned should therefore bend their efforts to seeking solutions which will give the peoples of the area the possibility of living together, within recognized borders. Only through a solution arrived at by negotiations, acceptable to all, can the peoples of the region be freed from the yoke of war."

He added, "We, the Germans, are prepared to play our part, together with our partners in the European Community, to bring about such negotiations."

Kohl, who heads the conservative Christian Democratic Union (CDU), is regarded as a friend of Israel. He and Shamir will engage in intensive talks during his stay in the country. The Israeli leadership intends to make clear its absolute opposition to West German plans to sell arms to Saudi Arabia, or any other Arab country still technically in a state of war with Israel. The Israelis have expressed concern that the Saudis will be offered Germany's Leopard II tank, regarded by experts as the best of its kind in the world.

Although the Leopard II is reportedly no longer on the Saudi shopping list, the Germans are said to have

offered to sell them 300 anti-aircraft tanks and missiles in addition to other military hardware. Kohl reportedly made such commitments on his recent visit to Saudi Arabia and agreed to military cooperation with the Saudis. The Germans contend that these weapons are solely for defense purposes. The Israelis claim that any weapons in Saudi hands will one day be used against Israel.

The West German Ambassador, Hans Nielson, said in a recent interview that his government would fully take into account "Israel's legitimate security interests." Deputy Foreign Minister Alois Mertes, who is accompanying Kohl, said in Bonn last week that the Israeli position would be given due consideration when Germany re-evaluates its Middle East policies after Kohl's return.

Another issue on the Kohl-Shamir agenda is Israel's request for West German support to protect Israeli agricultural exports to Europe after Spain joins the European Economic Community (EEC).

#### Stringent Security Measures

Stringent security measures were taken to protect the West German visitors. At least 1,000 police were assigned to the area of the Yad Vashem, Kohl's first stop on his arrival in Jerusalem. The 53-year-old Chancellor was in his teens when World War II ended with the downfall of the Third Reich. He is therefore the first West German leader who had no adult experience of the Nazi regime.

Nevertheless, his visit is haunted by Germany's past. Many Israelis are still bitterly opposed to any ties with Germany. Several anti-German demonstrations were planned and members of Betar plastered posters with the yellow Star of David along Kohl's route from the airport to Jerusalem last night. They were promptly removed by police who made it clear they would tolerate no unauthorized demonstrations.

Nevertheless, the West German flag was conspicuously rare at the airport, in the streets and at the Yad Vashem. It is being displayed only where demanded by protocol. The German national anthem was played at the airport arrival ceremonies. Kohl referred to it as "music by Haydn which opens with words recognizing the importance of fraternity, justice and freedom." The anthem is known the world over as "Deutschland Ueber Alles."

#### SPECIAL TO THE JTA

#### THE VERBELLEN CASE

By Charles Allen, Jr.

(Part Two Of A Three Part Series)

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- The most accurate records thus far released on the Nazi past of Peter Jean Verbelen come from the original SS documents housed at the BDC (Berlin Document Center) now under American-West German control in West Berlin.

The recently declassified materials on the SD (Sicherheitsdienst, a security/intelligence unit) officer who worked against his fellow Belgians contain largely W-3 and S-3 or personnel files on Verbelen, not the operational Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) dossier of the 430 CIC Detachment of the USFA (United States Forces, Austria) which "ran" Verbelen even after the

four-power occupation of Austria. The CIC "precis" reports of the SS documents at the BDC provides the key facts.

The CIC "precis" dated August 15, 1956 -- just before the CIC discharged Verbelen from its services -- states that "In 1931 SUBJECT (Verbelen, a/k/a Alfred Schwab) completed his high school education in Stuttgart, Germany." What was a Belgian student doing at a German gymnasium (the equivalent of an American two-year college)?

#### Active In Fascist Organizations

The next information about the recently returned student crops up in late 1933 when he had already become active in fascist organizations upon resuming study at Loewen University of Belgium.

The earliest descriptions of the Army records show he was an "extreme nationalist," "Flemish" and "of the Roman Catholic faith," typical characteristics of most pro-Nazis in the Low Lands before the Nazi invasions.

(Most significantly, CIC documents in the latter years that do not cite the BDC-originated materials describe Verbelen as having "no religious affiliation." One must ask why this reference was changed during the course of the CIC's obviously escalating use of Verbelen.)

In 1935, a small but fanatic band of avowed national socialists whose specialty was armed thuggery (and whose composition was entirely Catholic) was formed called the German-Flemish Working Community (Deutschen-Vlaamische Arbeidsgemeenschap).

Its acronym, Dervlag (The Flag) was its popular name. It actively assisted the Nazi cause even before the invasion. During the German occupation, Dervlag became a major collaborators group with some 50,000 members by 1941.

#### A Ranking Youth Leader Of Dervlag

Verbelen was one of its ranking youth leaders. Dervlag modeled itself after the Hitler Jugend (Hitler Youth). Its goal was "the complete Germanization of Flanders." Its rallying cry was: "There is only one leader: Adolf Hitler, no other!"

Verbelen was, according to the BDC-derived documents in U.S. Army intelligence files, deeply "involved in the Flemish Separatist (pro-German) movement" and was even encouraged "to run for the Belgian Parliament on the Separatist ticket but refused because of his youth."

A member of the NSDAP (Nazi Party) before the Wehrmacht smashed into Belgium, Verbelen belonged to its AO (Ausland Organization) comprised of citizens living in countries outside of the Third Reich.

In fact, according to a BDC-originated document dated June 19, 1956, "SUBJ (Verbelen) was forming a Flemish Sturmbrigade (armed commando) when the occupation of Belgium took place" so as to assist the Nazi invaders of his own homeland. In further fact, Verbelen had become a trained Fifth Columnist after attending gymnasium in Stuttgart.

#### Given Increasing Responsibilities

His treason in behalf of the Third Reich brought him ever-increasing responsibilities. A CIC telex dated February 10, 1966 noted (again from the SS records at the BDC): "Verbelen worked closely with the SS and SD during the German occupation... from 1940-1943 (Verbelen) was a captain and recruiting officer for the German Langemark." The identification of Verbelen as a captain is in error. He never rose higher than a first lieutenant.

When the Germans swept over Belgium they found Verbelen busily recruiting volunteers for what became the Belgian legion that comprised elements of the Viking Division of the notorious Waffen-SS, a further confirmation of his Fifth Column role.

Verbelen's Nazi fanaticism can be measured against the fact that only the most committed Flemish volunteers served in the Waffen-SS, most were disillusioned by SS savageries. But not Verbelen or his followers of Dervlag. They did not flinch.

After recruiting for the Waffen-SS, Verbelen was promoted. "From 1943-1945, Verbelen became a member of the SD Hauptamt (headquarters) in Belgium and the head of the Frauenespionage (Women's Espionage Group)" in the nation's capital, according to the CIC records. These records, based on captured SS documents, then underscore his main contribution: "His main task was to counteract the Resistance Movement within Belgium."

#### Counteracted The Resistance Movement

What did Verbelen do to "counteract" the Resistance? He specialized in running a net of informers and "turned" members of the anti-Nazi underground against their comrades. He organized and, undoubtedly, participated in raids or "sweeps" on known or suspected Resistance fighters.

According to Belgian sources, Verbelen often participated in wiping out villages suspected of harboring underground members. His name is linked to the atrocities committed at Menseel-Kiesegem village in 1944 when all males over the age of 12 were deported to death camps on suspicion of hiding Allied pilots.

The standard weapon used by the German SD and its gестапо to break Resistance and Partisan fighters who were captured was torture. The SS dungeons in Belgium used medieval and modern devices. The Nuremberg war crimes trials produced evidence about the mechanical flogger used by the SD in the Lowlands and France.

The victim -- in Verbelen's case, always a woman or a young girl, according to the war crimes charges sustained against him in 1947 -- was shackled against an upright board. A machine was then calibrated to the exact number of lashed need to kill, and turned on while SD agents waited casually for their victims to "confess."

#### The Verbelen-Barbie Connection

Verbelen's "chief task" against the Resistance necessarily had to bring him into an intimate working relationship with another up and coming SD officer who also used the same SD methods, working out of the identical SD headquarters in Brussels as did Verbelen and eventually -- while hiding from war crimes trials that condemned him to death as was the case with Verbelen -- worked for the same employer, the Counter Intelligence Corps (CIC) of the U.S. Army.

Verbelen's fellow SD colleague in Belgium was none other than Klaus Barbie, according to evidence from both SS and U.S. Justice Department studies of Nazi sources. To be sure, according to the 1983 Justice Department report on Barbie he preferred to force Resistance fighters to undergo more primitive tortures, like the "door treatment," as the underground called it. This involved placing the victim's hand in the doorjam while the door was repeatedly opened and shut.

Barbie's own SS personnel file, located at the BDC, stated that "Since May of 1940, Barbie has been deployed abroad (Holland, Belgium, France)" (BDC, Barbie File, September, 1944).

The Justice Department report, "Klaus Barbie and the U.S. Government," concluded on the basis of

Nazi evidence (P. 8, Vol.1) that Barbie has been "assigned in Belgium ... probably sometime between July 1941 and May 1942" when both Barbie and Verbelen, young Obersturmfuehrers, spent every working hour for 10 months crushing the Belgian Resistance from SD Brussels headquarters out of Section IV of the RSHA (Reichssicherheitshauptamt), the Reich Central Security Office, SS.

As for Verbelen, a 1966 CIC report stated "When Belgium was liberated, Verbelen withdrew with German forces, leaving his wife and two children behind. Unable to reach Verbelen to take revenge on him, members of the Resistance murdered Verbelen's family."

(Tomorrow: Part Three)

#### U.S. SAYS EGYPT CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE CAMP DAVID ACCORDS

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration said today that Egypt continues to support the Camp David accords and remains "a full and active partner in the peace process" in the Middle East.

That assertion, by State Department spokesman, John Hughes, was the Administration's first comment on reports over the weekend that President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt had told King Hassan of Morocco that the Camp David accords are devoid of substance because Egypt has already gained what it could from them, the Sinai and its oilfields, Hassan was the source of the report.

Hughes, who said yesterday that he had no information on the subject, told reporters at today's State Department briefing that "President Mubarak and other senior Egyptian officials, in their public statements and in private statements to us, have made clear Egypt's continued support for the Camp David accords."

Hughes added that "Egypt continues to be a full and active partner in the peace process. In addition, President Mubarak has spoken out in support of the President's (Reagan's) September, 1982 peace initiative urging King Hussein of Jordan to enter expanded negotiations with Israel."

#### Reagan Sees Progress In Lebanon

President Reagan met with Republican leaders at a Republican policy luncheon this afternoon. In the course of remarks on foreign policy he observed that in Lebanon "the peace process has been slow and painful, but we are making genuine progress."

Meanwhile, Donald Rumsfeld, the President's special envoy to the Middle East who is presently in Washington, met with Congressional leaders today on Capitol Hill. Hughes said Rumsfeld is expected to return to the Middle East soon but no date has been set.

#### SIT-IN AT GERMAN CONSULATE GENERAL TO PROTEST ARMS SALES TO ARABS

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- Six persons demanding that a statement be read over West German television urging the German people to oppose their government's plans to sell arms to Saudi Arabia staged a peaceful sit-in at the West German Consulate General here today.

The sit-in, organized by Americans for a Safe Israel, began this morning. Hans Rehfeld, Press and Political Officer at the Consulate, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency late this afternoon that the sit-in was still in progress and that "as long as they are nice and behave themselves," they can remain on

the premises. The Consulate General is located on Park Avenue in midtown Manhattan. Rehfeld said he conferred with the group, on and off during the day and indicated their demands would not be met. He suggested that if they wished to have a statement broadcast, they should contact the West German television which has an office in New York.

The sit-in coincided with the arrival in Israel today of West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl for a five-day official visit. A spokesperson for Americans for a Safe Israel told the JTA that the participants in the sit-in included Rabbi Avraham Weiss of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale and Father Bruce Brambleff, Rector of St. Marks Episcopal Church in Teaneck, N.J. In addition, there were two Holocaust survivors, Alex Friedman and Madeline Oklavick.

The statement they wanted read on German TV called on the German people to "realize that no matter what rationalization your government puts forth in the arms deal, the (money) you are receiving is being obtained in exchange for the murder of Jews. It is blood money..."

The statement added, "It is inconceivable that today the German government and German people are now again prepared to become accomplices in the war against the Jews. You are repeating history. We appeal to you to pressure your government to stop this horrendous act before it is too late..."

Rehfeld told the JTA, "We have respect for the concerns of the Jewish people."

#### TAMI MAY PLAY CRUCIAL ROLE IN WEDNESDAY'S NON-CONFIDENCE DEBATE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- The Tami Party, which holds only three seats in the 120-member Knesset, may play a crucial role in tomorrow's debate and vote on an opposition non-confidence motion aimed at unseating the Likud government.

The small faction, which controls the Labor and Welfare Ministry, is being ardently wooed by the Labor Alignment to defect from Premier Yitzhak Shamir's coalition. At the same time, it is deep in negotiations with the government over a series of demands that would benefit its low income, largely Sephardic constituency.

While Tami has agreed in principle to proposed budget cuts, it is insisting on higher tax exemptions for poor families, increased child care allowances and a minimum wage law. Treasury officials say if those demands are met, their cost would cancel out the cuts.

Tami representatives met with Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad Sunday and are scheduled for another meeting with him later today. According to Treasury officials, Cohen-Orgad promised nothing.

The Labor Alignment has kept a close watch on these negotiations. At a weekend meeting with Tami leaders it reportedly promised the party top positions in Histadrut enterprises if they help bring down the government. Should the Tami MKs support the non-confidence motion or abstain, Likud's parliamentary majority would be reduced to one, and even that is uncertain.

Avraham Melamed, a National Religious Party MK, said today that he has not yet decided how he will vote tomorrow. He demanded, on behalf of the NRP, an amendment to the law governing the appointment of dayanim (religious court judges). The NRP has complained that under the present law too many judgeships go to non-NRP rabbis. The change is opposed by the Aguda Israel party, also a coalition partner.

**CHURBA: ISRAEL'S ARMS POLICY IN CENTRAL AMERICA HELPS THE U.S.**

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- Dr. Joseph Churba, the director of the Center for International Security, asserted yesterday that Israel's involvement in the shipment of weaponry to pro-Western Central American countries is part of an Israeli state policy designed to prevent the United States from becoming bogged down in the defense of the Western Hemisphere.

In an overview of the Middle East, Churba predicted a war between Israel and Syria within one year to 18 months based on the "probability" that the United States will withdraw the marines from Beirut without the establishment of a political understanding between warring factions there. He said the Israel Defense Force will demonstrate in this confrontation with the Syrians new military power and technology hitherto unknown in conventional warfare.

Churba met informally with a group of reporters at a midtown restaurant here to discuss the "convergence of U.S. and Israeli interests in Latin America," a topic he said was fraught with "misinformation and disinformation." He recently returned from a visit to Israel where he said officials were reluctant to discuss Israel's involvement in Central America.

**Strategy Of The USSR And Its Surrogates**

According to Churba, the Soviet Union is working in Central America, using the Nicaraguan government which is in turn aided by the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Libyan government of Col. Muammar Qaddafi. The strategy of the Soviets and its surrogates is to isolate the U.S. from the Mideast and Europe and have it become more involved with the defense of Central and South America, Churba said.

Israel's geopolitical interests in the region become increasingly significant in light of the actions of the Soviets and the Libyans, Churba said. He said Israel must see to it that no hostile coalition of governments gain overall U.S. concern for Central America. This would allow for further Soviet adventurism in the Mideast and Persian Gulf, he added.

**Consequences Of U.S. Withdrawal From Beirut**

In predicting a confrontation between the Syrians and Israel, Churba explained that a U.S. withdrawal from Beirut would create a power vacuum which Israel would have to fill. He said Israel also could not allow a shift in the balance of military power in the region which could take place with the continuing Soviet supplying of weaponry to Syria.

Churba rejected the contention that the Israeli public opinion would forestall any further Israeli military actions in Lebanon, particularly with the Syrian forces. He said Israelis view the Syrians "as an enemy that must be defeated." In turn, the "war option remains credible," he said.

The Washington, D.C. based Center for International Security describes itself as a non-profit, non-partisan organization composed of historians, economists and former diplomats and military officers with the purpose of informing the public on international security matters. The Center "recognizes and affirms that peace requires strength, both moral and military," according to its statement of purpose.

**SOVIETS CHARGE PRESENCE OF JEWS IN BRITISH CABINET REFLECTS 'ZIONIST INFLUENCE'**

LONDON, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- A broadcast by Radio

Moscow charged that the recent elevation of Leon Brittan and Nigel Lawson -- both of whom are Jews -- to senior British Cabinet posts reflected "the growing Zionist influence" in the country's political life and had its basis in the "support of the Jewish bourgeoisie and the numerous Zionist organizations in Britain," the World Jewish Congress reported.

Following the November general elections in England, Prime Minister Thatcher appointed Brittan to the post of Home Secretary and Lawson as Chancellor of the Exchequer. Never before had two Jews simultaneously served in a British Cabinet.

According to monitoring sources of the WJC, an English-language broadcast by the overseas service of Radio Moscow entitled "Who Is Who in Britain" was beamed to England this week and carried the attacks against the two and their links to the "Zionist lobby." The broadcast stressed the immigrant backgrounds of the two; Lawson's father coming from Latvia, Brittan's from Lithuania. It noted that "inconspicuous Conservatives such as Brittan and Lawson ascending to the pinnacle of power is by no means a miracle."

The broadcast then proceeded to explain the reasons for their rise to prominence: "One contributing factor which is not taken into account as a rule is the support of the Jewish bourgeoisie and the numerous Zionist organizations in Britain which serve its interests. This factor reflects the growing Zionist influence in the country's political life. With their traditionally strong foothold in the Labor Party, the Zionist lobby is entrenching itself within the Conservative Party, as is seen from the outcome of the general elections."

To point up the inroads made by the "Zionist lobby" within the Conservative Party, the Soviet broadcast went on to note that before the 1970's "the Jewish bourgeoisie was represented by only two MPs in Parliament" but by 1983 the number was seventeen. In attacking the organization, Conservative Friends of Israel, it noted that Thatcher, as a member of the organization, "is an active supporter of the policies of Israel's Zionist elite."

**TEL AVIV BASKETBALL TEAM RELEASES HIGHLY TOUTED PLAYER FROM THE U.S.**

TEL AVIV, Jan. 24 (JTA) -- The Maccabi Tel Aviv basketball team this week released Joel Kramer, a highly touted former player in the United States' National Basketball Association who had signed a contract with the Maccabi team for a reported \$100,000 a year.

The 28-year-old Kramer, who starred in his collegiate career at San Diego State University and then went on to play for the Phoenix Suns, signed a one-year contract last year with Maccabi Tel Aviv, the leading club in the National Basketball League. The contract provided an option for two succeeding years, which management and Kramer agreed to waive mutually.

He reportedly became very discontent with the new coach of the Tel Aviv team, Zvica Scherf, and also with developments within the managerial ranks of the organization. A prelude to Kramer's imminent departure occurred last Christmas when the Maccabi team played in a tournament in London and Kramer did not suit up for the contest.

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NEW YORK (JTA) -- Julius Berman, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, will lead a 75-member Conference mission to Jerusalem next month at the invitation of Premier Yitzhak Shamir.