

ROCK THROWING ENDS QUIET PERIOD ON WEST BANK

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 5 (JTA) — The relative calm that prevailed in the West Bank in recent days was broken by a new wave of rock throwing incidents today and last night.

Rocks hit a Tel Aviv-to-Jerusalem train this morning as it passed near the Arab village of Batir on the outskirts of Jerusalem. A window was smashed but no one was injured.

An 11 year-old boy was slightly injured last night when the car he was riding in was stoned on a road between Jerusalem and the West Bank settlement of Maale Adumim. Earlier in the day, an automobile passenger was slightly injured by stones thrown at the vehicle as it drove by the Dahaiشة refugee camp near Bethlehem.

The camp has been calm for several months and the Israeli military authorities only recently removed a barricade that had been erected at its entrance to prevent rock-throwing at passing vehicles. But the situation deteriorated this week after five Arab youths were wounded in a clash with Israeli border policemen near Bethlehem Tuesday.

RESOLUTION ASKS CONGRESS TO ESTABLISH 'HELSINKI HUMAN RIGHTS DAY'

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, July 5 (JTA) — Rep. John Porter (R. Ill.) has introduced a resolution in the House on the anniversary of the Helsinki accords calling on the Soviet Union and Eastern Bloc nations to adhere to the human rights standards they agreed to when they signed the document in 1975.

Porter's resolution, which has some 35 co-sponsors in the House, designates August 1 as Helsinki Human Rights Day. It calls upon President Reagan to reassert the United States commitment to the Helsinki accord and to continue his efforts to achieve full implementation of the human rights and humanitarian provisions of the accords by raising the issue of non-compliance with authorities in the Soviet Union.

"The Soviet Union and its satellites continue to disregard the human rights provisions of this document they signed nine years ago," Porter said.

"They jam Western radio broadcasts, restrict religious freedom, deny Jewish citizens the right to emigrate and jail human rights activists."

A similar resolution has been introduced in the Senate by Dennis DeConcini (D. Ariz.)

BLACK MUSLIM LEADER BLASTS FARRAKHAN FOR PREACHING HATE; EX-CHAMP MUHAMMAD ALI SAYS JACKSON SHOULD NOT ASSOCIATE WITH HIM

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, July 5 (JTA) — Black Muslim leader Warith Deen Muhammad yesterday blasted Louis Farrakhan for his anti-Semitic diatribe last week, saying the former follower of Muhammad's father, Elijah Muhammad, does not preach the true teachings of Islam.

"What he preaches is not at all what we believe in," Muhammad said at a news conference before leading an Independence Day parade in Anacostia, District of Columbia. "We say he represents the time of our struggle in the dark and a time of confusion in us and we don't want to be associated with that. As far as his statements against Jews, we don't share in that at all."

Muhammad was joined in the news conference by Muhammad Ali, the former world heavyweight boxing champion, who called Farrakhan's remarks "unfortunate." "We're here to explain that we're not him. I'm not with Farrakhan and none of these people are with Farrakhan," Ali said.

Ali was referring to the more than 100,000 followers of Muhammad who is the leader of the American Muslim Mission. Upon Elijah Muhammad's death at the age of 77, his son took over the leadership position of what was known as the Nation of Islam, changed the group's name and sought to steer the group toward Orthodox Islamic teachings, along with opening the movement to cooperation with whites.

Farrakhan's Extremist Background

By the late 1970s, with Black Muslim membership suffering, Farrakhan formed a separate group which he viewed as reaffirming the doctrines of Elijah Muhammad and his vision of the Nation of Islam. These doctrines include the belief that whites are "devils," that Blacks are superior and are God's chosen people, and that Blacks should have a separate nation within the United States.

Farrakhan, who on June 24 addressed his followers in a speech broadcast over a local Chicago radio program, created a furor in the Jewish community and within the Democratic Party because of his relationship with the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who was seeking the Party's Presidential nomination. In the broadcast he denounced Judaism as a "gutter religion" and declared Israel an "outlaw" nation.

Ali Chides Jackson

Ali, who converted to Islam in the 1960s, said yesterday, "talking about calling white people 'devils,' all men are brothers, black, brown, red, white. None of that devil stuff. We used to talk that at one time, but (Warith Muhammad) saved us from that ... We don't go for that hate and violence."

Muhammad criticized Jackson for his political association with Farrakhan. "If he weren't reverend, it would be different, but what I read in the New Testament has no place for Farrakhan, and if he (Jackson) represents Christianity as a reverend, then he should understand that a reverend shouldn't associate with such persons."

When one of the people in the crowd listening to Muhammad challenged him on his criticism of Jackson's relationship with Farrakhan, Muhammad responded: "How would you like me to sit down with Hitler if he was alive? Farrakhan represents the same kind of thing that Hitler taught, and I know what he represents better than anybody here."

GREECE SAYS SUSPECT IN ROME SYNAGOGUE ATTACK STILL IN JAIL

By Lisa Palmieri-Billig

ROME, July 5 (JTA) — The Greek Embassy denied

today that a Palestinian terrorist implicated in the October 9, 1982 attack on the main synagogue in Rome had been released from an Athens prison where he was serving a 20 month sentence for smuggling explosives.

According to an Embassy communique, the sentence of 24-year-old Abdel Osama Al Zomar ended on June 22 but he is still being held pending a decision by the Greek Supreme Court on Italy's request for extradition. Osama is the prime suspect in the machinegun and grenade attack that killed two year-old Stefano Tache and wounded 37 worshippers nearly two years ago.

The communique was apparently in response to an angry demonstration by about 200 Rome Jews outside the Embassy last night, protesting the reported release of Osama. According to the Italian news agency, ANSA last Friday, he and an accomplice were freed a full month before their sentences expired despite the extradition request. This, the Greek Embassy said, simply is not true.

Demonstrators Chastized

The Embassy communique also sharply chastized the demonstrators for carrying placards considered insulting to Greece. The demonstration was led by Rome's Chief Rabbi, Elio Toaff and all or most of the 37 Jews wounded in the synagogue attack participated. In addition, the Rome Jewish community and the Union of Italian Jewish Communities sent a telegram to Premier Bettino Craxi of Italy expressing their "indignation" and "astonishment" over the actions of the Greek authorities and asked Craxi to follow up the Jewish protests to Greece.

The Embassy claimed the protestors were acting on incorrect information. The communique said Osama is "still in prison awaiting the decision of the Supreme Court (Aesopago) on his extradition to Italy. Therefore we simply must await the verdict of justice, which as in every free state and also in Greece, is independent." An Embassy spokesman added that these matters have been cleared up at a meeting with members of the Rome Jewish community.

The communique stated however that "It is unfortunate that slogans detrimental to the dignity of a civilized and democratic country like Greece were shown outside its diplomatic headquarters — offensive to its people who in the dark years of occupation offered help and protection to the Jews persecuted by the Nazis and Fascists."

ISRAEL'S DOLLAR RESERVES PLUNGE

By Hugh Orgel

TELAVIV, July 5 (JTA) — Israel's Dollar reserves fell by \$350 million in June, largely as a result of heavy purchases of foreign currency by the public fearful of further devaluations of the Shekel.

The Shekel was devalued by 17.2 percent last month and now stands at an official rate of 236.40 to \$1.00. The black market rate over the weekend stood at 350 Shekels to \$1.00.

The government is expected to take an "overnight loan" from foreign sources, the Jerusalem Post reported today, so that when official statistics are released later this month the foreign currency situation will not appear too bad. The Knesset elections are less than weeks off.

The public rushed to buy Dollars and other foreign currency before the Shekel sank so low as to put them out of reach. The buying spree was financed in part by the government's injection of 40 billion Shekels (about \$169 million) into the economy in

June and partly by the conversion of some 25 billion Shekels (\$106 million) of private assets into Dollars.

According to Treasury figures, the total monetary infusion by the government between January and June, 1984 was 190 percent higher in real terms than in the same period of 1983. The excess of government spending over revenue — the national deficit — was about 280 percent higher.

IPO WILL PERFORM AT HOLLYWOOD BOWL IN MEMORY OF SLAIN ISRAELI OLYMPIC ATHLETES

By Hugh Orgel

TELAVIV, July 5 (JTA) — The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra will give a gala performance at the Hollywood Bowl next month to honor the memory of the Israeli athletes slain by terrorists at the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich, Zubin Mehta, the IPO's Conductor and Musical Director announced today.

The concert will take place during the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. It will follow a month-long tour of Australia by the IPO, at the invitation of the Australian Broadcasting Commission. Mehta told a press conference just before the IPO left for Australia that the proceeds of the Hollywood Bowl benefit performance would be divided among the American Friends of the Hebrew University, the United Jewish Appeal and the newly organized IPO Endowment Fund.

Mehta said he would conduct 17 concerts on the tour, four with completely different programs. They will feature such internationally famous soloists as Yitzhak Perlman, Simon Mintz and Daniel Binyamini. Several of the performances will be broadcast on Australian television.

Mehta said that despite the fees paid and extensive help from the IPO's friends in Australia, the orchestra would end its tour about \$200,000 in debt. The new Endowment Fund is expected eventually to cover the IPO's deficits. But Mehta said the Israel government should increase its subventions, considering the important function the IPO plays in creating good will and prestige for Israel abroad.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Likud's electioneering dropped to a whisper Thursday when its principal campaigner, Premier Yitzhak Shamir, temporarily lost his voice, apparently due to the strains of campaign oratory. On a visit to Petach Tikva Wednesday he was barely audible. Aides said the Premier was soothing his vocal cords with tea and honey. He has no time to see a doctor, they said.

AUSTRIA SEES PROGRESS IN PRISONER EXCHANGE MEDIATION

By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, July 5 (JTA) — The Austrian Foreign Ministry reported progress today in its efforts to mediate a prisoner-of-war exchange between Israel and dissident factions of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The Ministry said that a number of missing and captured persons have been identified with the cooperation of both sides and that this in itself was a prerequisite for a prisoner exchange.

The Austrians also reported that the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, a PLO breakaway group headed by Ahmed Jibril, has informed the Austrian authorities that it will permit representatives of the International Red Cross to visit Israeli prisoners.

SPECIAL REPORT **THE JEWS OF SOUTH AFRICA—** **WHY THEY LEAVE** By Sheldon Kirshner

(Sheldon Kirshner, a reporter for the Canadian Jewish News describes the problems and insecurities of South African Jewry in the first part of this three part series.)

JOHANNESBURG, July 5 (JTA) — Curiously enough, the city of Toronto has a certain appeal for Jews in South Africa — a wealthy, astonishingly beautiful country blessed by a temperate climate but cursed by grave racial problems.

When Jews here think of Toronto, as they sometimes do in the company of a visiting Canadian journalist, they are invariably reminded of sons and daughters, relatives and friends who've emigrated and gone to live in Canada. Because thousands of South African Jews have immigrated to Canada (and to countries like Australia, Britain, Israel and the U.S.) in the past 25 years, Toronto is jokingly pronounced To-Run-To.

Usually, the person telling this joke has a broad smile denoting amusement. But no one is really laughing. The resort to gallow humor — a traditional escape hatch for Jews — masks a reality from which there is no exit. South African Jews have it good, the Jewish community here being deeply integrated and respected. Yet, according to the World Jewish Congress, somewhere between 20,000 and 30,000 Jews have left South Africa in the last two decades or so.

Conflict Over Apartheid

What has happened is not very difficult to understand.

Jews, like many of South Africa's 4.7 million whites, are torn by conflicting emotions over South Africa's policy of apartheid (or institutional segregation) and the country's long-range viability and stability. As one woman, a mother of four in her early 40s, put it: "I've got a lot out of this country. It has given me everything I have. I love it. I don't intend to leave, but I may have to."

The reason why many more Jews have not packed up and left is the generally cushy life they enjoy in this nation of sharp contrasts. In common with most whites, Jews have done well by South Africa — a military and industrial behemoth that is rich in strategic minerals and that is the breadbasket of southern Africa.

Predominantly of Lithuanian origin, Jews have contributed much to the South African economy, the arts, the free professions (especially medicine and law) and civic politics. Men like Barney Barnato, Alfred Beit and Ernest Oppenheimer (whose descendants are no longer Jewish) were among the founders and developers of the immensely lucrative, diamond and gold mining industries. Jews rejuvenated the wool industry by importing high grade French Merino sheep, and they opened steel, processed foods, garment and cigarette factories.

"We launched the industrial revolution in South Africa," said Marcus Arkin, an economic historian who is also the director general of the South African Zionist Federation. "No one took the risks the Jews did." Jews, to this day, play a leading role in virtually every sector of South African life.

Raymond Ackerman, who was recently voted businessman of the year by the Financial Mail, runs a retailing empire. Tony Bloom and Natie Kirsch are

the proprietors of chain stores. Sol Kirzner is probably South Africa's most prominent hotelier. Rudi Frankel is head of a food conglomerate, and Basil Herscov is big in mining. Morris Hellman was president of the Medical Association of South Africa. Nadine Gordimer is a world-class novelist, and Benjamin Pogrand is deputy editor of Johannesburg's Rand Daily Mail.

Barney Simon has a national reputation as a theater director, and Sylvia Kaplan is president of the South African Association of Arts. Two Jewish judges out of 14 sit on the highest court in the land, and Jews are the mayors of Johannesburg and Cape Town, the largest cities. Although Jews are not really attracted to the civil service, armed forces or the diplomatic corps, Abe Hoppenstein is South Africa's consul general in New York City.

On the national political level, Jews have no significant clout. However, Helen Suzman — who belongs to the opposition Progressive Federal Party — is undoubtedly South Africa's best known politician after P. W. Botha, the prime minister. Surveying the scene, Thomas Langley, a Conservative Party parliamentarian, noted: "There is no doubt about it, Jews have made a great contribution to South Africa." And, although anti-semitism is far from being absent in South Africa, Richard Goldstone, a judge on the Supreme Court, pointed out: "I can't think of any walk of life where Jews are prevented from entering."

"We're very much South Africans in our style," said Sylvia Kaplan, a doctor in her private capacity. "By and large, Jews are very well accepted," observed John Moshal, president of the Council of Natal Jewry, with headquarters in Durban.

Material Well-Being

Materially, Jews hardly know the meaning of deprivation, although there are Jews below the poverty line. Indeed, on a per capita basis, this could well be one of the richest Jewish communities in the world. "We live very comfortable lives," said David Finkelstein, a 39-year-old pharmacist from the charming resort town of Knysna, whose sister has settled in London. Finkelstein, who has a lovely home and two new BMWs in his garage, may typify the material advancement of this diaspora community.

In Johannesburg, the center of South African Jewry, Jews have drifted into such leafy and beautiful suburbs as Houghton, Bird Haven and Victory Park. In Cape Town, they're concentrated in Sea Point, which offers a panoramic view of a magnificent harbor. In Pretoria, they tend to congregate in the tree-lined eastern residential neighborhoods, one of which is known as Brooklyn.

Not surprisingly, given South Africa's hot summers, many Jewish homes come with proverbial swimming pools. And South African housewives — a disproportionate number of whom cannot imagine life without their maids or gardeners — are therefore liberated in a sense some North American women might not begin to understand.

The languid existence enjoyed by so many Jewish women (or kugels, in local parlance) breeds a certain hauteur. One of the results of this lifestyle is a fairly high divorce rate. According to Ivan Sackheim, chairman of the Federation of Synagogues, one in three marriages breaks up. Of course, this phenomenon is not limited to Jews. The affluent standard of living has had adverse demographic implications for the Jews of South Africa. Consider the bald facts:

The 1934 census listed 100,000 Jews, the majority of whom were the offsprings of settlers who arrived in South Africa between 1880 and 1910. The 1980 census showed 119,000 Jews. Whereas Jews comprised 4.5%

of the Caucasian population 50 years ago, they now comprise 2.6%. In 1934, Jews were multiplying by an annual rate of 3%. "By now, it's probably negative," said Marcus Arkin. Referring to a recent study, Arkin said that the population of the community will be under 100,000 by the year 2,000.

This points to a low birth rate among Jews. Stuart Busbaum, in an article in Jewish Affairs, the official organ of the Jewish Board of Deputies, the representative body of South African Jews, said: "Child bearing (in) Jewish women begins later and ends earlier..." But the falling birth rate, a byproduct of affluency, is not the only problem afflicting South African Jewry. It is an aging community.

In 1934, 5% of Jews were over 60. In 1980, the figure was around 20%. "This is a rapidly aging — and diminishing — community," said Arkin.

In the last 10 years, several thousand Jews from Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) and Israel have immigrated to South Africa. But their presence, which may or may not be permanent, does nothing to change the basic demographic picture.

The movement of Jews from the country (platteland) to the city since World War II has not had any significant effect on Jewish demography either.

Twenty-five rural synagogues, however, have been closed since 1974. Inter-marriage, which Arkin estimates to be in the 12% to 15% range, is relatively low by North American or Western European standards, possibly because the emphasis on racially separate development here militates against mixed marriages. But the phenomenon is growing, warned Bernard Moses Caspar, the chief rabbi of South Africa, in an interview. "We are getting to the danger mark."

This talk about a contracting community does not appear to worry Michael Katz, the 39-year-old chairman of the Jewish Board of Deputies. Jewish institutions, he claimed are "more dynamic" than ever. "The state of the community, spiritually, is a very healthy one." In some ways, he is correct. The network of Jewish schools, though suffering from financial ills, is a model of its kind. The Zionist Federation remains strong and vigorous by all accounts, and there has been something of a religious revival, in the estimation of Aleck Goldberg, the outgoing executive director of the Jewish Board of Deputies.

The Exodus

Despite the community's strong institutions, South African Jewry has been sapped by an incremental exodus of some of its finest young, middle-class professionals. In the view of informed observers, the outflow was in large measure due to the 1960 Sharpville massacre, the 1974 Portuguese withdrawal from Angola and the 1976 Soweto riots. The events of 1960 and 1976 underscored the volatile and volcanic nature of inter-racial relations in South Africa. The Portuguese flight from Angola was a disturbing commentary on the prospects of white rule in Africa.

Needless to say, racial violence and the fall of a white settler regime were not the sole causes of Jewish emigration. Zionist-inclined Jews went to Israel, and Jews seeking greater professional opportunities looked abroad for advancement. Today, when Jews consider the option of emigration, they are confronted by conflicting developments.

Some are cheered by the government's belated recognition that non-whites, such as Indians and Coloureds, must be given a parliamentary voice. Some are worried because Blacks have not been included in this so-called New Dispensation. Some feel secure in the knowledge that South Africa, having signed an

historic non-aggression treaty with neighboring Mozambique, has begun to break out of its isolationist laager. Some, noting the upsurge of urban terrorism, are not so upbeat in their assessment of the future.

Frank Bradlow, vice-president of the Jewish Board of Deputies, said that Jews are "more optimistic" these days because they are "getting used to" the situation in South Africa. He thinks that emigration will decline because South Africans have experienced difficulties in immigrating to Western countries with unemployment problems. But if barriers were to be lifted, he added, emigration would rise. "There's more scope for a young professional overseas than here."

Arkin, who must be theoretically committed to living in Israel, remarked that Jews, being a minority within a minority in a multiracial society, feel insecure. "Insecurity is a part of the South African way of life," he said. Asked if another internal upheaval could trigger an exodus, Arkin replied in the affirmative.

Rabbi Scott Saulson, executive director of the South African Union for Progressive Judaism, told this reporter it is his impression that most Jews have considered the possibility of leaving. "They either don't think that the government's policy (of apartheid) will work, or they think that they will have to pay too high a price for stability." Rabbi Caspar voiced similar sentiments.

"There are many young couples with children who are worried about the future — not because of anti-Semitism, but because of the potential for political instability. They look at what's happened in Zimbabwe (from which whites have emigrated) and they wonder..."

Isador Kahanovitz, a Pretoria educator, is more blunt. "I would encourage my children not to live in South Africa," he said, stressing he was speaking personally. "I can see there's going to be tremendous conflict, and I don't know whether it's fair to inflict on our children an involvement in that conflict. History has shown no one is prepared to change (a political system) until change is forced upon them."

In Cape Town, the teen-aged daughter of a community leader struck an uncertain pessimistic note. Six out of 10 of her friends are seriously thinking of leaving upon the completion of their education, she disclosed. "It's the political uncertainty." After a pause, she murmured, "I may leave, too."

In another corner of Cape Town, a 33-year-old mother, the wife of a well-to-do doctor, said: "I'm happy here, but on some days when the odd bomb goes off, I feel it's time to move on."

JACOB SONNTAG, DEAD AT 79

LONDON, July 5 (JTA) — Jacob Sonntag, a key literary figure of British Jewry, died at the age of 79 and was buried here Tuesday.

Sonntag founded the Jewish Quarterly, the only independent Anglo-Jewish periodical, in 1953 and was its editor until his death. He was born in Czernowitz, Rumania, in 1905, spent his early years in Vienna, except for a brief time on a kibbutz in Palestine, and moved to Prague in 1935. After the Munich pact of 1938, he found refuge in Britain where he lived the rest of his life.

Until 1935, Sonntag had worked as a translator and free-lance contributor to Jewish and non-Jewish publications. After World War II the Jewish Quarterly was his sole endeavor, reflecting his independent, critical and creative spirit. The organized Anglo-Jewish establishment gave it only minimal financial support. But it attracted some of the most talented thinkers and writers to its columns.