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### ADL REPORT REVEALS ATTEMPT BY RIGHTWING EXTREMIST UNDERGROUND TO OVERTHROW THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

By William Saphire

NEW YORK, May 13 (JTA) — The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith released a report today detailing the background and activities of "an underground network of armed racists and anti-Semites" employing gangster and terrorist tactics in what the ADL describes as the first attempt by rightwing extremists in this century to overthrow the United States government by violent revolution.

According to the report, prepared by the fact-finding department of the ADL's civil rights division, the network consists of the "Order", the "Aryan Nations," and a pseudo-Christian racist movement called "Identity."

These and a loose affiliation of like-minded groups in the U.S., Canada and West Germany are known collectively as the "Identity" movement. The ADL estimates their total membership in the 2,500-3,000 range.

The propaganda and violence of these groups is directed primarily against Jews, Blacks and Hispanics. They also view with extreme hostility the U.S. government, its judicial system and law enforcement agencies. Their ultimate aim is the overthrow of the U.S. government — which they label "ZOG" for "Zionist Occupation Government" — and its replacement by "a nationalist racist state."

The criminal violence of the network, which has resulted so far in more than two dozen arrests in 13 states, includes bank and armored car robberies involving more than \$4 million, counterfeiting operations, shootouts with FBI agents, three murders and a synagogue bombing.

#### A Paradox Is Cited

The ADL report noted that "Paradoxical as it may seem, this outbreak of rightwing criminal violence on the West Coast comes at a time — and is largely a consequence — of a decline in the strength and influence of the far-right hate movement in the United States."

The report pointed out that the Ku Klux Klan's "membership has fallen off to some 6,000-6,500 nationwide and the neo-Nazis today number no more than 500. Both figures represent significant losses over the past several years. Unable to arrest this decline or attract new supporters through their usual propaganda techniques, some younger, hard-core activists have resorted, says a leading far-right spokesman, Robert Miles, to 'propaganda of the deed' — an old anarchist expression meaning terrorism." The ADL report added: "In other words, despairing of gaining the support of the American people, this group of right-wing extremists decided to try to bomb and shoot their way into power." The ADL noted that their ideas "come straight from the propaganda arsenals of the neo-Nazis and Ku Klux Klan..."

The groups adopt flatulent names intended to evoke mystery and inspire fear. In addition to the "Order" and "Aryan Nations" the network includes "Bruders Schweigen" (Silent Brotherhood), the "White American Bastion" and the "Aryan Resistance Movement."

The ADL report said "thirteen of the terrorists issued a 'Declaration of War on November 25, 1984' stating that 'We no longer consider the regime in Washington to be a valid and lawful representative of all Aryans who refuse to submit to the coercion and subtle tyranny placed upon us by Tel Aviv and their lackeys in Washington ...'"

#### Background Of The Extremist Groups

According to the ADL report, "The Order was founded in October, 1983 by members or former members of the Aryan Nations and National Alliance. The purpose of the organization, according to a sworn FBI statement, was 'to carry out various illegal actions to advance the cause of several extremist right-wing political groups.'"

The "Aryan Nations" was founded in the early 1970s by Richard Butler, a former engineer who also ran a group called "Church of Jesus Christ Christian." The ADL report noted:

"The Aryan Nations' ultimate aim is the establishment of 'a nationalist racist state.' In furtherance of this aim it has sponsored a series of summer conferences attended by leaders of the Ku Klux Klan, neo-Nazi organizations based in the U.S., Canada and West Germany, and like-minded groups which are part of the Identity movement. Among the latter groups which have sent representatives are the Covenant, the Sword and the Arm of the Lord (CSA) and Posse Comitatus."

"The CSA, some of whose members joined the Order, is a paramilitary survivalist group which operates a 'Christian' community settlement on 224 acres of secluded land near the Arkansas-Missouri border. The settlement is known as 'Zarephath-Horeb', named for biblical sites of refuge. CSA members believe American society to be approaching economic collapse, famine, race-rioting and a coming war, which one of its leaders has described as 'a step towards God's government'."

Justin Finger, director of the ADL's civil rights division, noted in connection with the release of the report, that a federal grand jury in Seattle indicted 23 members of the "Order" on charges of violating the anti-racketeering laws and related charges. Finger said the outbreak of criminal violence confirmed a November, 1984 ADL report that far right extremists were planning to conduct a campaign of terrorism in this country.

#### SLOW START FOR HISTADRUT ELECTIONS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 13 (JTA) — The Histadrut elections got off to a slow start today. The voting booths opened at 7 a.m. local time at more than 3,500 polling places around the country. But only 30 percent of the 1.5 million members of Israel's trade union federation eligible to vote had cast their ballots by 5 p.m.

Most polling stations will remain open until 10 p.m.; those in smaller locations and in the Arab sector will close at eight. Although the voting seemed sluggish throughout the day, election officials noted, with some surprise, that the hour-by-hour tally of voters was almost identical with the numbers cast in Knesset elections which are held on a public holiday. For most Israelis, today was an ordinary work day.

The voters are electing 1,501 representatives to the 15th Histadrut Conference. They will also cast ballots in each of 72 districts for candidates to the local labor councils.

The Histadrut Conference is the trade union federation's highest policy-making institution. Its members are elected every four years. In the last elections, the Labor Alignment won 61.98 percent of the delegates to 26.35 percent for Likud.

Political observers looking for national trends, say that if Labor manages to increase its 62 percent lead over Likud, Labor Party leaders may be encouraged to end their national unity coalition with Likud before Shimon Peres has to hand over the office of Prime Minister to Likud leader Yitzhak Shamir some 16 months from now, as required by the coalition agreement.

But others say no relationship can be established between Knesset and Histadrut elections because the latter revolve around local economic and social problems rather than national affairs.

Today's voting followed a lackluster election campaign conducted by seven parties seeking representation in the Histadrut Conference. In addition to Labor and Likud these include the Hadash (Communist) Party which holds 3.58 percent of the outgoing Conference seats and Shinui with 2.16 percent.

Four parties running for the first time in the Histadrut elections are the combined Civil Rights Movement-Sheli list, the leftwing Jewish-Arab Progressive List for Peace and the far rightwing Tehiya Party. The latter is expected to win some delegates at the expense of Likud.

#### 85% Of The Labor Force Represented

Histadrut represents 85 percent of Israel's labor force. Its membership includes about 175,000 Israeli Arabs and 12,000 residents of East Jerusalem. The religious parties, which have their own, much smaller, labor organization, do not participate in the Histadrut elections.

The Histadrut Conference was established 65 years ago by a handful of delegates representing the several thousand Jewish workers in Palestine in 1920. Today it is a vast, and many say unwieldy body which will meet only once after the elections to discuss the government's economic policy, determine labor goals and adopt resolutions on Histadrut's internal operations.

The Conference plenary will select from its ranks a 501-member Council which convenes every eight months. The Council in turn elects an Executive Committee which holds monthly meetings. That body appoints a Central Bureau of 35 members which is the executive branch of Histadrut. Its functions are roughly parallel to those of a cabinet in a parliamentary system and its members are comparable to ministers, heading the labor Federation's 10 departments.

The Central Bureau names the Histadrut Secretary General. The incumbent is Laborite Yisrael Kessar.

Histadrut's Central Bureau also serves as the Board of Directors of Histadrut-owned industries which, with over 60,000 workers, makes the labor federation one of Israel's largest employers.

This has long been a sore point. Critics of Histadrut see an anomaly in the fact that the labor federation, established to preserve the rights of workers, is also one of the country's largest industrial enterprises.

The low key election campaign that preceded today's voting was attributable in part to budgetary constraints. However, several urgent economic and labor relations issues could have an effect on the outcome.

One of these is the forced closure of the Ata textile combine, the largest single employer in the Haifa area, which has been operating in receivership for several months. A Haifa court ordered the mills closed because the government appointed receiver was unable to find a buyer.

Employees have complained bitterly of lack of firmness on the part of Histadrut to keep the mills running. Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon went to court and obtained a week's delay. His opponents accused the Likud minister of playing Histadrut politics rather than acting in the interests of Ata employees.

Another hot issue is the threatened strike by teachers who are split between a Histadrut union and an independent professional teachers association.

#### RA BAN ON MKs WHO VOTED FOR LAW OF RETURN CHANGES IS LAUDED BY REFORM AND DENOUNCED BY ORTHODOX

NEW YORK, May 13 (JTA) — The announcement by the Rabbinical Assembly (RA), the association of Conservative rabbis, that 51 members of Israel's Knesset should consider themselves unwelcome at American Conservative synagogues as speakers or honorees was lauded today by a Reform leader as one that might be emulated by the Reform movement and denounced by an Orthodox rabbinical leader as "divisive political blackmail."

The Conservative rabbinic action was taken in response to those Knesset members, mostly Likud and National Religious Party members, who voted to support changes in the Israeli Law of Return which would have discredited the validity of Conservative and Reform conversions of non-Orthodox Jews settling in Israel. The proposed change failed to become part of the Law of Return. (See story in May 13 Bulletin.)

The Reform leader, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), said that while the idea of a "blacklist" of Knesset members was "abhorrent" to such a liberal movement as Reform, equally abhorrent to Reform was the system in Israel "that relegates Reform and Conservative Jews to a second-class status in Jewish life." He added that Israel's Orthodox state-financed rabbinate also denied "full and equal rights to Reform rabbis and synagogues."

He said the Conservative action had "at least the merit of serving notice that the demands of non-Orthodox Jewish religious movements for full equality in Israel is not a mere matter of rhetoric but rather represents a deeply-felt concern of the preponderant majority of American Jews."

Rabbi Louis Bernstein, president of the Orthodox Rabbinical Council of America, which supports changes in the Law of Return, called the RA position, "degrading to the Jewish people and Israel," an example of "single issue politics" which could lead to "dangerous consequences."

He added that "the State of Israel cannot permit foreign groups of any persuasion to pressure it in such an unprecedented fashion." He said "we are certain that even those in Israel's government who oppose changing the Law of Return, will condemn this dangerous, divisive and unprecedented action."

# BEHIND THE HEADLINES A TALE OF 3 CENTRAL EUROPEAN CITIES By Aviva Cantor

(Part Five Of A Five-Part Series)

VIENNA, May 13 (JTA) -- There is a street in what was once the old Jewish Quarter of Bucharest named for Abraham Goldfaden, founder of the modern Yiddish theater. There are costumes, posters, and flyers from the Yiddish theater in the Historical Museum of the Jewish Communities of Rumania, established seven years ago in the former men's tailors' synagogue. There is also a functioning Yiddish State Theater, which performs plays by Jewish authors such as Peretz, Ansky, and Sholem Aleichem in Yiddish, and provides its audiences running translations via earphones.

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"Revista Cultului Mozaic," the newspaper published by the Rumanian Jewish community since 1956, has several hundred foreign readers, among them Soviet Jews. The community gets letters from them saying they read and study it.

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During this past winter, which has been severe not only meteorologically but also economically, the Jews have been the only Rumanian citizens who have meat. The government accords the community the right to carry out shechita (kosher slaughter) in state facilities. The Bishop of Bucharest came to the Jewish community -- asking for a kilo of meat.

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When the Iron Guard carried out its pogrom of January, 1941, the Torahs in the Great Synagogue were hurled toward the ceiling, ripped and crushed. All were destroyed but one, which got caught on a chandelier and was later rescued. After the war it was sent as a gift to Israel.

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The Federation of Jewish Communities of Rumania created new sources of income for its educational and cultural budget (and for 20 percent of the social services budget). They originally got a monopoly on the baking of matzot and the pressing of grapes from their own vineyards. Now they import without customs duties, and sell matzot from Israel as well as alcoholic beverages -- 200,000 bottles of wine a year and 200,000 bottles of cognac. Most of the buyers are non-Jews.

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The Giurgui cemetery of Bucharest has memorials for the Jews murdered during the Nazi and Iron Guard pogroms of January, 1941. It also has a tall white monument on which are listed in black the names of all the 768 Jews who drowned when the "Struma," a vessel trying to smuggle in illegal immigrants to Palestine, sank in the Black Sea February 24, 1942. There was one survivor, who made his way to Japan.

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Rumanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei, in response to a question from members of the World Jewish Congress delegation who met with him during their visit to Bucharest, stressed that Rumania considered Archbishop Valerian Trifa a war criminal but

Rumania would not ask for his extradition because he is not a Rumanian citizen. Trifa, the Iron Guardist accused of inciting the January 1941 pogrom in Bucharest, lived as a U.S. citizen in Michigan until he was deported, following denaturalization. He is now in Portugal.

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The Hana kosher restaurant in Budapest, which feeds 1,000 people daily, is supervised by a woman mashgiach (person who makes sure the laws of kashrut are observed). She is Suzsika Lefkowitz, who learned the profession from her husband.

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A young academic claims that if a survey were made of prominent Hungarian Jewish intellectuals, it would be found that almost all were members of Hashomer Hatzair, the Socialist Zionist youth movement, in 1948.

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Dr. Ilona Benoschovsky, who has been the director of the Jewish Museum of Budapest for 21 years, is the sister of the Chief Rabbi of pre-war Buda, Dr. Imre Benoschovsky. Imre gave Hannah Senesch religious instruction when she was a high school student, said Ilona. He came to a meeting of the Jewish youth club she served as president and reported to his sister that "she spoke with a Jewish heart."

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At the Friday evening gathering at Rabbi Sander Scheiber's Seminary in Budapest during the visit of the World Jewish Congress delegation, those present sang Shir Hamaalot, one of the zmirot (traditional Shabbat songs), to the tune of Hatikvah, the Jewish national anthem.

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While the official position of Czechoslovakia is anti-Zionist, some Jews perceive private sympathy to Israel among Czech gentiles. A case in point is the Israeli rescue of its hostages from Entebbe in 1976, which occasioned much unofficial cheering. Some generals and high officers in the Army reportedly screened a film about Entebbe and regarded the operation as a model to be emulated.

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Last year, the newspaper of the Czech Jewish community published an article on the 1944 revolt in Slovakia, on the occasion of its 40th anniversary, which the country was marking. The article included an account of how Haviva Reik, native of a village near Banska-Bistritza in Slovakia who settled in the Hashomer Hatzair Kibbutz Maanir, parachuted into the liberated territory with her comrades from Palestine and how she was killed when the territory was recaptured by the Nazis. Her body, thrown in a mass grave, was identified after post-war exhumation by a bracelet she wore giving her British Army nom de guerre. (Reik's remains and those of another comrade were brought to Israel in 1953 and re-buried in the parachutists' section on Mt. Herzl.)

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The State Jewish Museum in Prague was an excellent archive which, I was told, includes 3,000 books stolen by the Germans from the Rabbinical Seminary in Budapest in 1944. The Seminary wants them back

and the Czechs want to return them, but the accomplishment of this effort is snarled in inter-ministerial red tape.

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The tomb of the Maharal (Rabbi Judah Loew--credited with the creation of the golem in the 16th century) in the old Jewish cemetery in Prague--like the tombs of other Jewish saints and the Western Wall, is stuffed with petitions on tiny slips of paper, asking him to apply his wonder-working powers to various personal problems. Hundreds of letters addressed to the Maharal arrive every year from all over Eastern and Central Europe, mostly from non-Jews. The post office turns them all over to the secretary of the Jewish community.

#### CHRISTIAN LEADERS URGE UN TO RECONSIDER THE FALSEHOOD IN THE ZIONISM-RACISM RESOLUTION By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 13 (JTA) -- A group of Christian leaders urged the United Nations today to reconsider "the falsehood promulgated in its 1975 resolution declaring Zionism to be a form of Racism," and called on the Christian community to appreciate the centrality and importance of the State of Israel, as affirmed by the Bible, for the Jewish people.

In a press conference at the Church Center for the United Nations, sponsored by the National Christian Leadership Conference for Israel (NCLCI) a statement, endorsed by Christian leaders from all parts of the U.S., denounced anti-Semitism and urged Christians to rid themselves of prejudice and hostility "that have been alive among Christians for centuries."

The statement, entitled "Forty Years Later: Christians Speak Out on Israel And Zionism," declared: "As we commemorate the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Europe and the rescue of the survivors of the concentration camps, we send an urgent message to our Christian brothers and sisters: Give special consideration to the meaning of Israel in the thought, faith and life of the Jewish people throughout their long history.

"We reject the notion that the State of Israel's legitimacy is to be found in the sufferings of the Jewish people during the Holocaust. Yet, we do believe that the horrors of the Nazi era give special meaning to the rebirth of Israel in 1948. It is imperative that all who seek decency and justice among nations show a concern for the survival and well being of Israel."

#### Distortions Of Faith Cited

The statement continued: "Many Christians seem more comfortable with the concept of the 'wandering Jew,' condemned to eternal exile, than with the reality of a sovereign Jewish State. These distortions of faith contribute to unbalanced negativism in some Christian thinking toward the State of Israel, often with sad and disturbing effects."

Charging that the Zionism-is-racism resolution is "a lie" the statement declared: "We see it as urgent that Christians speak out against the vicious anti-Semitism that hides under the cloak of anti-Zionism.... In the name of morality and truth, we call upon members of the United Nations to repudiate its resolution which declared Zionism to be a form of racism."

"For ten long years this infamous statement has cast a serious doubt on the UN's adherence to the

principles on which it was founded and has contributed to its loss of credibility. We urge leaders in the United States to do everything in their power to remove this scandalous blot from the record of the United Nations."

#### Collecting Signatures Of Endorsement

It was announced during the press conference that the NCLCI is undertaking an intensive campaign to collect signatures of endorsement from Christians across the U.S. for today's statement, which will be presented to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on the eve of the 40th anniversary of the General Assembly in October. The signatures will be collected from now until October.

Among the signers of the statement were: Bishop John Burt of the Episcopal Church in America; Dr. Ben Armstrong, executive director of the National Religious Broadcasters; Dr. Eugene Fisher, the Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations, National Conference of Catholic Bishops; Rev. Edward Flannery, Our Lady of Providence Seminary, Rhode Island; Sister Rose Thering, Seton Hall University; Sister Margaret Ellen Traxler, Institute of Women Today.

The NCLCI is a network of individuals and organizations actively engaged in support of Israel. It was established in 1978.

#### ITALY ASSURES ISRAEL IT WILL SUPPORT HER IN THE EEC

ROME, May 13 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir received assurances on a two-day visit here that "Israel can count on Italy's support" for measures to protect Israel's export position in the European market after Spain and Portugal become members of the European Economic Community (EEC) next year.

Italy currently holds the rotating presidency of the EEC. Shamir, at a meeting with Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti yesterday, asked that it expedite the work still to be done to define the terms that will govern Spanish and Portuguese exports to the European Common Market so that Israel's position will become clear before January, 1986.

That is the date when Spain and Portugal will begin exporting as members of the EEC. Andreotti assured Shamir that rumors circulating in Israel that Italy opposes Israel's requests were false. He observed that Israel's products sold in Europe do not compete with Italian exports.

Israel is deeply concerned, however, that its main export items to the continent, citrus fruits and by-products, will suffer because Spanish citrus will have a competitive advantage by virtue of membership in the EEC.

Shamir said in a television interview last night that Israel's imports from Europe far exceed its exports to the EEC countries. He said that if its exports were to be affected by Spain and Portugal, Israel would have to stop importing from Europe.

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BONN (JTA) -- Thousands of Americans, mainly Jews and World War II veterans, have cancelled vacations in West Germany since President Reagan visited the Bitburg war cemetery last Sunday. Knut Blaeternann of the German tourist promotion center in New York, told a news conference in Hamburg Monday that the cancellations resulted in hotels losing at least 200,000 overnight stays valued at several million dollars.