

BODY OF SLAIN ISRAELI DIPLOMAT IS RETURNED HOME; TWO WOMEN SHOT BY THE GUNMEN UNDERGO OPERATIONS
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 21 (JTA) — The body of Albert Atrakchi, the administration attache at the Israel Embassy in Cairo slain by gunmen in Cairo yesterday, was brought back to Israel aboard an El Al plane early this morning. He is to be buried in Tel Aviv this evening.

Also aboard the plane which brought his coffin were his wife Ilana and Mazal Menache, another Israeli woman employed at the Embassy, who were wounded in the attack on the car in which the three were driving from their home in the Mahdi quarter of Cairo to the Embassy.

Ilana is so far not aware that her husband was killed in the assault. Their two-year-old daughter was carried back to Israel in the arms of an Embassy employee.

The two women were being operated on at the Sheba Hospital in Tel Hashomer this morning. Ilana Atrakchi is suffering from a bullet wound in her cheek near her nose, while Menashe has bullet wounds in her chest. The condition of both was reported to be stable. An Israeli Foreign Ministry doctor had been flown to Cairo yesterday, and returned with the two injured women.

Some hours after the return of Atrakchi's body and the injured women, Egyptian Tourism Minister Wajih Shindi arrived in Israel for an official three-day visit at the invitation of Israeli Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir, who met him at the airport.

Shindi said the Egyptian government would spare neither time nor energy to track down the assailants who, he thought, had been intent on sabotaging the Israel-Egyptian peace process which would, however continue unabated.

Police in Cairo, meanwhile, detained Osana Ali, an Egyptian, whose car is suspected with having been used in the killing of the Israeli diplomat. Police report that Ali's car was found abandoned in the Mahdi section of the Egyptian capital, where the attack took place.

RABBI PROPOSES SUMMIT CONFERENCE OF RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD TO HELP STEM THE SPREAD OF RELIGIOUS FANATICISM
By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21 (JTA) — Rabbi Arthur Schneier, president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, proposed today a summit conference of religious leaders from throughout the world to help stem the spread of religious fanaticism which is causing intolerance, terror and persecution.

"The purpose of such a conference would be not to discuss theology but rather tolerance and respect for differences — how to seek it, how to teach it, how by precept and example, to practice it," he told reporters at a breakfast meeting at the National Press Club.

"The growing polarization of faiths and peoples and nations that afflicts our world today thrives on intolerance," Schneier declared. "We need ways to stop it. It leads to bloodshed. We need ways to prevent it."

Schneier said that the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, which seeks to promote religious freedom throughout the world, would set up a 12-member steering committee by the end of the year to organize the conference which he hopes would be held in 1986.

"I believe such a religious summit is urgently necessary, now more than ever," he said. "From it, I would hope, will come a cry demanding a halt to the killings and bombings and acts of terrorism that are being carried out daily in the name of religion."

He added that if the conference succeeds, it "could become a permanent institution in the international political landscape, meeting perhaps once every five years, to deal with new issues and speak out on new crises that arise."

Schneier, an Orthodox rabbi who is spiritual leader of the Park East Synagogue in Manhattan, said that there is a religious revival throughout the world partly because of "the fear of nuclear destruction." While he welcomes this trend, he said it has also sparked an increase in religious fundamentalism which he noted always means "less tolerance."

Criticizes U.S. Foreign Policy

Schneier criticized United States foreign policy for failing to take account of this trend, the most glaring example being Iran. "We paid too much attention to the military and economic position and strengths of the Shah without truly understanding the power and the potential force of the mullahs and religion," he noted.

Islamic fundamentalism is also becoming a threat in Egypt, where the murder in Cairo of an Israeli diplomat yesterday is "only the tip of the iceberg," and in Malaysia, Schneier said. He stressed that this polarization and intolerance is affecting all religions, including Judaism.

"In Israel, Meir Kahane is reported to be winning recruits among young people for his own brand of religious fundamentalism and political extremism," he said.

Asked about Kahane's proposal to expel all Arabs from Israel, Schneier replied that it was a "radical simplistic solution" which is rejected by the government and people of Israel and "certainly by Jews all over the world." He said such a policy would not only be harmful but no nation lives in isolation and noted that the transfer of mass population has "never succeeded."

Schneier was also critical of Black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan, who he said belongs to "that historical breed that thrives on prejudice, on divisiveness, on intolerance." He said Farrakhan "is really a danger and should not be ignored." Farrakhan "should be condemned, isolated and insulated before he spews forth poison into our American bloodstream," Schneier said.

On South Africa, Schneier said religious leaders should use their moral pressure against its apartheid racist policies. He rejected the charge made by the Rev. Jerry Falwell, head of the Moral Majority, that Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Black South African leader

and 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner, is a phoney. Schneider also said that religious revival is going on in the Soviet Union and the Peoples Republic of China. He has visited the Soviet Union 19 times since 1966, the latest being last May. He noted that it was his impression that the new regime headed by Mikhail Gorbachov has not yet decided its policy or religion.

Schneider stressed that religious leaders cannot divorce themselves from the political process. He welcomed the stand on political issues taken by the Catholic Bishops and Jewish and Protestant organizations. "Living in this nuclear age and not to echo some of the moral issues is a gross neglect of responsibility, of religious duty," he declared.

FORMER NAZI HONORED BY AN AUSTRIAN SS VETERANS ORGANIZATION By Reinhard Engel

VIENNA, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- Walter Reder, a former SS Major and convicted war criminal, whose cordial reception by Austrian Defense Minister Friedhelm Frischenschlager earlier this year after an early release from an Italian prison had triggered a storm of protests in Austria and abroad, has been honored by an SS veterans organization in Carinthia. This was reported by the Austrian news-magazine, Profil.

According to the report, Reder was awarded the Golden Honorary Medal of the Kameradschaft IV, an organization described by the book, "Rechtsextremismus in Oesterreich" ("The Extreme Right in Austria") as a leading voice of the extreme right. The ceremony took place in a restaurant in Klagenfurt, the capital of Austria's southernmost province, Carinthia.

The magazine reported that Reder, after his return to his native Austria, had been accommodated in a garrison outside of Vienna and later was hidden in a Roman Catholic monastery. The abbot of the monastery, however, has denied this report.

Reder is now living in Krumpendorf, Carinthia, in an apartment belonging to Wilhelm Gorton, a member of the Austrian Parliament representing the conservative opposition Volkspartei (People's Party) which sharply criticized the warm reception extended to Reder by Frischenschlager. The criticism sparked a parliamentary motion of non-confidence in the government, which failed to pass. Despite the official attitude of the Volkspartei, the party could not stop Gorton to provide Reder with a home and a job.

Austria had promised the Italian authorities that Reder would be kept in custody until his sentence was to end in July, six months after he was released and returned to Austria. Since July 14, Reder has regained his full freedom.

SOME 500 CHRISTIANS TO PARTICIPATE IN CHRISTIAN ZIONIST CONGRESS IN BASEL By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- An expected 500 Christian lay leaders and theologians, active supporters of Israel, from more than two dozen nations will gather next week in Basel, Switzerland, to reaffirm their commitment to Israel and to the Jewish people, and to challenge others to follow their example.

The Christian Zionist Congress will be held August 27 to August 29 in the same city chosen by Theodor Herzl for the first World Zionist Congress in 1897.

The conference in Basel has been organized by the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem, a support center established five years ago by Christians in and outside of Israel.

The Rev. Jan Willem van der Hoeven, spokesman for the Christian Embassy, told a press conference here that Israel should be presented "as more than a mere security asset for the West, and a secular state." He said the stress at the Basel conference will be on the spiritual significance of Israel.

Asserting that the Christian Zionists are the only non-Jewish organization willing to fight for Israel, van der Hoeven asserted that Jews tended to settle for asking Christians not to stand against them. He said "this time, they will have an opportunity to challenge Christians to help them. It will give them an enormous encouragement. You sometimes need people from the outside to tell you how great your future is."

Van der Hoeven said some of the scheduled speakers represent organizations not known for their support of Israel, such as the World Council of Churches. He said their participation would force these church organizations, in the view of the conference organizers, into dealing with the importance of Israel to the Christian world. He predicted this would be a "bombshell."

He said Basel was chosen as the conference site because it was a symbol of the Zionist quest for Jewish sovereignty. He said the International Christian Zionist Leadership Congress will present a full, diverse agenda, dealing with such subjects as the Biblical basis for Christian support of Israel, the Soviet Jewish freedom movement and Christian responses to Israel's political, economic, social and media problems.

Van der Hoeven said representatives from different Christian organizations would participate, coming from the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, Australia, Brazil and Israel.

The Congress will present exhibitions, film premieres and much material on sources and exchanges to demonstrate Christian Zionist "far-flung" efforts to support Israel and the Jewish people. He said the Basel gathering would seek to determine how Christian Zionists "can be of optimal service to Israel, both in theory and in action."

U.S. DEFENSE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL PRAISES HADASSAH-HEBREW UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER COOPERATION WITH U.S.

JERUSALEM, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- Dr. William Mayer, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, presented a plaque to officials of the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center in Ein Karem formally recognizing the Center's cooperation in making its medical resources available to the American military last April after the U.S. military installation in Beirut was bombed by terrorists.

The presentation on Monday followed a tour of the Medical Center by Mayer as part of "continuing cooperative efforts in medical care, including research between the U.S. and Israel," according to a statement released by U.S. and Israeli officials here.

The two nations reached a formal understanding in December of 1983 on "the mutual use of medical facilities in the event of urgent or disastrous circumstances, including the use of medical resources and hospitalization in Israel," the statement said.

Mayer praised Medical Center officials for the "generous" offer of its facilities and resources. The agreement provides the United States with an alternative to airlifting injured members of the military and other personnel for treatment at U.S. facilities in Europe.

NEXT MONTH, CRACOW WILL CELEBRATE ITS FIRST BAR MITZVAH IN 35 YEARS

NEW YORK, Aug. 21 (JTA) — On September 7, the Jews of Cracow, Poland, will celebrate their first bar mitzvah in 35 years. The bar mitzvah boy will be Eric Strom, an eighth-grader from Stamford, Conn. Eric, his family, and their rabbi will make the journey to Cracow because of a request from the leader of the Jewish community there: "Send us a bar mitzvah. Send us life," the Cracow Jewish leader said.

That was in April, when a group of Federation of Jewish Philanthropies trustees and leaders visited Cracow on a UJA-Federation Campaign of New York trip. "I asked what we could do for the community," says Lester Pollack, of Rye, N.Y., vice president of the Federation and chairman of the mission. "I thought we would be asked for money or food."

But the Cracow Jewish leader asked for a bar mitzvah, so Eric will read the Haftarah in the 15th Century Remu Synagogue, the oldest in use in Poland and the only one in operation in Cracow.

Only Some 200 Jews Left In Cracow

There are only about 200 Jews in Cracow now, the remnant of a pre-war community of 60,000. It is an aging population, averaging 73, and a needy one. There is no rabbi, no religious education. The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), provides food and other necessities for the people, but they haven't for years had a birth or a wedding to celebrate.

To partly meet that need, the mission participants got together upon their return to the New York area, and found Eric. For Eric, who will become 13 on September 7, the rite of passage to manhood and responsibility offers both an unexpected adventure and extra work. His family came to this country from Poland, several generations ago. "I never thought I'd have my bar mitzvah in Poland, just like my ancestors," he said.

To prepare for the bar mitzvah in the Remu Synagogue, Eric has had to study an extra portion of the Prophets for a half-hour each day. He will read one Haftarah in a service in Stamford a week earlier, and the added Haftarah in Cracow, before the Polish congregants. Also making the trip are his parents, Marjorie and Barry Strom; his sister, Holly, 9; and his two grandmothers and one grandfather.

There will be one other rarity for the members of the Cracow synagogue: a woman, Rabbi Emily Korzenick, spiritual leader of The Fellowship for Jewish Learning in Stamford, will make the trip with her husband, Korzenick lives in Scarsdale, N.Y. Edward Blonder, of Stamford, and his two daughters will also make the journey. Blonder is a native of Poland and a Holocaust survivor. He will serve as interpreter.

A Spiritual Uplift

It shapes up as a spiritual uplift for the people in Cracow and a thrill for Eric, according to his mother, "Mostly," she said, "Eric realizes he is in for a week of head-patting and cheek-pinching." Eric's father, she continued, "can barely remember his own bar mitzvah, but we know for sure Eric will never forget his."

Eric has invited the Cracow Jewish community to a birthday party after the ceremony. He and his party of 12 will lunch at the JDC kosher kitchen in Cracow. They will visit the Auschwitz and Birkenau

concentration camps sites. They will journey to Warsaw and see a performance of the Yiddish Theater there, and the group will visit the towns from which came the ancestors of Eric and other members of the party.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD AT THE ISRAELI CONSULATE IN NEW YORK By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Aug. 21 (JTA) — Major changes in the staff of the Israeli Consulate in New York have been taking place in recent weeks.

Barukh Binah, an official of the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem, was appointed the new spokesman for the Consulate. Binah, who arrived here two weeks ago, replaced Menachem Shalev, who served as a spokesman during the last year.

The Consulate's Consul for Cultural Affairs, Michael Kerem, was transferred to Chicago as Israel's Deputy Consul General there. He will be replaced by Erela Hadar, who served until now as Consular for Cultural Affairs at the Israel Embassy in Washington. The post in Washington will be abolished due to budgetary reasons.

Naphtali Lavie, Israel's Consul General in New York, has completed his term of duty and is returning to Israel in a few days. His successor, Dr. Moshe Yegar, is scheduled to arrive here September 10.

Changes are also taking place in the Israeli Mission to the United Nations. Arie Levin, deputy to Ambassador Binyamin Netanyahu, is being replaced by Yochanan Bein, a veteran Israeli diplomat. Because of the budget cuts by the Israeli government no new spokesman was appointed to the UN Mission, to replace Judith Dranger who returned to Israel a few months ago.

DEVELOPMENT WORK ON LAVIE PLANE OKAYED

TEL AVIV, Aug. 21 (JTA) — The Inner Cabinet today voted in favor of continuing development work on the Lavie fighter plane and its subsequent production. The 10-man Cabinet voted 8-2, with Finance Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Minister-Without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman voting against.

Mordechai was reported to have demanded that the development costs for the plane should be borne by the U.S. He proposed that the Cabinet set up a special committee composed of members representing the Finance and Defense Ministries, to look into the costs.

'MEMORIES OF WAR' TO AIR SEPTEMBER 5

NEW YORK, Aug. 21 (JTA) — "Memories of War," a look at patriotism and prejudices from the perspective of the civilian population during World War II, will premiere on Thirteen Thursday, September 5 at 10 p.m. The seven-part documentary series features never-before-seen film footage from the war years, and historical newsreels from Europe and Asia.

"Memories of War" will examine the Nazi occupation of Paris from the viewpoint of a German officer; the shameful apathy of the Allies to the horrors of the concentration camps; the treatment of captured soldiers in British and German prisoner-of-war centers; the varied experiences of four "war brides"; and the escape of Danish Jews from German rule, among other aspects of the civilian experience.

JEWISH OFFICIAL SAYS THAT BOTH FARRAKHAN AND KAHANE ARE 'CANCERS ON THE BODY POLITIC'

NEW YORK, Aug. 21 (JTA) — Calling both Louis Farrakhan and Rabbi Meir Kahane "cancers on the body politic," the Washington representative of the American Jewish Community today urged Black leaders to denounce Farrakhan in much the same way that Jewish leaders have denounced Kahane.

Speaking before the Hadassah national convention here, Hyman Bookbinder said that Black Muslim leader Farrakhan and Kahane had no common goals but had "much in common in their basic intolerance and their basic rejection of the democratic process." Bookbinder added:

"One major difference that has surfaced in the reaction to these two political cancers (is that) Jewish leadership both in Israel and in the United States has said no to 'Kahaneism' but the response to Farrakhan in the Black community has been too little and too weak."

Farrakhan, leader of the Black group known as the Nation of Islam, charged Bookbinder, is "an open, hateful anti-Semite ... (who) has openly declared war against the 'gutter religion' which is (the Jewish) faith, and would presumably approve of any kind of actions against us."

And Kahane, the American-born politician who heads the Kach Party in Israel, is committed to the ouster of all Arabs from Israel, is, in comparison, "an open, hateful Jewish bigot (who) insists that he is the only true defender of Judaism and of Israel," Bookbinder said. But Kahane's policies, continued Bookbinder, "if implemented, would rob Judaism of its most precious values."

Cites Basis Of Support

Both men, Bookbinder said, are supported primarily by young people who feel "anger and frustration at their respective situations," but, he stressed, "if it is not proper to justify Farrakhan's racist ranting because there are indeed very serious problems facing America's Blacks, it is similarly not proper to accept Kahane's racist rantings because Israelis do indeed have critical problems at home and terrorist horrors facing them every day."

Turning to the reactions of the Jewish and Black communities to the two men, Bookbinder noted that last week 12 major national Jewish organizations joined in a statement denouncing Kahane for "racism" and "demagoguery," but, he said, "there has been no comparable response from national Black leadership—at least not publicly."

"I am sure that the overwhelming majority of Black leaders and Black public officials reject Farrakhan and what he stands for," said Bookbinder, "but they make a serious mistake if they think they can fight him by silence. Can you imagine the impact that would result from a statement comparable to the one the Jewish community issued that would be signed by the NAACP, the National Urban League, the National Council of Negro Women and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference?"

SPECIAL TO THE JTA A REQUEST FROM THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF ZAGREB, YUGOSLAVIA

NEW YORK, Aug. 21 (JTA) — Leaders of the Jewish community in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, have written to the American Jewish Joint Distribution

Committee with a request that the international relief agency help it to identify people whose family or friends are buried in the Karlovac Jewish Cemetery, it was reported here today.

According to the letter, received on August 14, the Jewish community has negotiated with the local council of Karlovac for "the renewal of the Karlovac Jewish Cemetery." In line with this, "it has been agreed that the graves of Jews with survivors willing to pay the regular fee for maintaining the graveyard will be taken care of but those of others, with no living survivors, will be exhumed and reinterred in a communal grave inside the newly enclosed part of the Jewish cemetery."

The letter signed by Erich Stern, secretary, and Dragan Volner, president, asks that those interested in this matter should contact the community of the Jevrejska Općina, Palmoticeva Ulica 16, 41001 Zagreb, Yugoslavia, before October 30th.

BOYS TOWN JERUSALEM GETS \$300,000 AID GRANT FROM U.S. GOVERNMENT

NEW YORK, Aug. 21 (JTA) — Boys Town Jerusalem has been awarded a \$300,000 U.S. government grant from the Agency for International Development (AID) to acquire new technical equipment for its College of Applied Engineering, it was announced today by Joe Nakash, president of the Boys Town Jerusalem Society.

"The grant brings the AID funding Boys Town has received through the Office of the American Schools and Hospitals Abroad to \$1,350,000," Nakash said. "Boys Town was awarded \$800,000 in 1982 toward construction of the college's new academic building, scheduled for completion next spring, and a second grant of \$250,000 in 1983 for technical equipment for the college."

Attorney Samuel Rabinowitz of Philadelphia, president of Boys Town's Mid-Atlantic Region, and Lois Krebs, the region's executive director, represented Boys Town in obtaining all three grants.

Rabinowitz said their acquisition "demonstrates the U.S. government's recognition of Boys Town as a model education center that fosters American ideas and practices abroad, as well as its positive assessment of the college's emerging impact on the technological growth and development of Israel's economy."

He said the College has graduated over 400 students with degrees as mechanical and electronics engineers and technicians who have taken positions in Israel's high tech industries, vocational high schools or armed forces with responsibility for critical defense systems. The majority of those students are the children of underprivileged immigrant families who first attended Boys Town's High Schools of Electronics or Precision Mechanics, two of the eight institutions it maintains on an 18-acre residential campus in the Jerusalem suburb of Bayit Vegan.

BUENOS AIRES (JTA) — Business executive Bruno Levi of Sao Paulo, Brazil, has been elected chairman of the Latin American section of the International Council of B'nai B'rith. He succeeds Dr. Isaac Frenkel, an attorney from Santiago, Chile. Levi, who was born in Trieste, Italy, in 1924, has lived in Brazil since 1939. A member of B'nai B'rith since 1968, Levi is president of B'nai B'rith District 25 (Brazil), president of the Regional Council of Sao Paulo and vice president of B'nai B'rith's Regional Council.