

**TERRITORIES REPORTED QUIET,  
THOUGH FILLED WITH TENSION**  
By Gil Sedan

RAMALLAH, West Bank, Dec. 27 (JTA)--The administered territories are quieter than they have been in a very long time, military sources told reporters here Sunday, as some 270,000 Arab students in the West Bank returned to their classes without incident.

The 1,200 Arab schools in the territory had been closed for the past five days, on orders of the Israeli authorities, after nearly three weeks of rioting, much of it by school-aged youngsters.

Commercial life also returned to normal in downtown Ramallah. Shops reopened and fewer troops were seen on the streets than at any time in recent days.

Nevertheless, Israeli security forces will remain in strength and in a high state of alert in the territories, at least through Jan. 1. That is the anniversary of the founding of Al Fatah, the mainstream terrorist group of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The occasion has triggered disturbances in the past.

But military sources cited the peaceful Christmas celebrations in Bethlehem and other Christian sites as evidence that calm has been restored and "we are in full control of the situation."

The calm is not without tension. A curfew was imposed on the Askar refugee camp after youngsters set fire to the local police station during a funeral procession. The Palestinian population anticipates more punitive measures.

More than 1,000 detainees are being held in West Bank prisons. Many have been transferred to prisons in Israel proper. Several hundred Palestinians were detained in the Gaza Strip.

Israeli military courts are preparing to try hundreds in both territories for various degrees of violent offenses, and many of the accused will face expulsion. The authorities admit they are concerned that mass deportations could touch off a new wave of disturbances.

An Arab student who talked to reporters in Ramallah's main square Sunday summed up local feelings. "Of course the situation is more quiet," he said. "The army is everywhere and there are massive arrests."

**SPEEDY TRIALS IN STORE  
FOR RIOTERS IN CUSTODY**  
By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- Israel's military courts will seek speedy trials for Palestinians arrested during nearly three weeks of violent disturbances in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. But the prisoners will not be denied their full rights under the law, Israel Defense Force Judge Advocate General Amnon Streshnov said Sunday.

Streshnov told reporters that some 200 criminal proceedings have opened so far against suspected rioters, out of more than 1,000 taken into custody in the territories. He conceded that the rapid pace of the trials was unusual, but noted that the scope of the violence had been

extraordinary too.

One of the first of the "fast trials" was held in a military court Sunday in Nablus. Of 34 defendants charged, all but three pleaded "not guilty." Two of the three, who confessed to rock-throwing, were sentenced to six weeks in jail. An eight-month sentence was given a 17-year-old youth who admitted he threw rocks at Israeli vehicles.

Other trials began Sunday in Dahariya, near Hebron, and in Gaza. Because of the abnormally heavy case load, employees of the military judicial system are working overtime.

But problems are developing. Defense lawyers in Gaza have been boycotting the courts for the past two weeks to protest the dragnet-style mass arrests. As a result, the accused have been forced to appear in court without legal counsel.

**Little Time To Prepare Cases**

The Palestinians' lawyers say the arrests were so fast and so numerous they had no time to prepare their clients' cases. Streshnov rejected that complaint. He said whenever a lawyer wanted a day or two for preparation, it was granted.

He pointed out that the law does not require an accused person to be represented by legal counsel, it merely gives him the right to be represented. He added that the trials would go ahead, regardless of the lawyers' boycott.

Widespread expulsions are anticipated to follow the trials. So far, no deportation orders have been issued. Streshnov assured reporters that those offenders ordered deported will have sufficient time to file appeals with Israel's Supreme Court.

The defense establishment was reported Sunday to be culling the lists of those arrested for sufficient evidence to order deportations that will stand the test of hearings before the high court. According to informed sources cited by the news media, the authorities are actively considering 15 to 18 possible deportations.

But the question has arisen of where the deportees will be sent. It is considered likely that Palestinians ordered deported from the West Bank would be sent to Jordan and those deported from the Gaza Strip would be sent to Egypt, which controlled that territory between 1948 and 1967.

**Egypt, Jordan Reject Deportees**

According to Davar, however, neither Egypt nor Jordan will accept Palestinians expelled by Israel. Osama El-Baz, political adviser to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, made that clear to Abdul Wahab Daroushe of Labor, an Israeli Arab member of the Knesset, who visited Cairo last week, the newspaper reported.

Maariv reported that refusals by Mubarak and King Hussein of Jordan to accept deportees were in response to requests by Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat.

Hadashot noted that the IDF has employed several methods of deportation in past years. In the early 1970s, deportees were given a few dinars (Jordanian currency), a white flag and sent on foot to Jordan.

Later, most deportees were sent across the Jordan River bridges and were met on the east

bank by Jordanian police, who placed them under arrest. Still later, after Jordan refused to accept deportees, Israel expelled rioters and agitators to Lebanon.

In past years, the legality of the deportations has been challenged by Arab mayors in the administered territories. In each case, the deportations were upheld by the Israeli Supreme Court.

While the mayors claimed violations of international law, Justices Moshe Landau and Yitzhak Cohen ruled that the 1945 Defense Emergency Act, promulgated under the British Mandate and retained by Israel, takes precedence over international law.

#### Controversy Over Ages

Another controversy has arisen, meanwhile, over the ages of the Palestinians presently in custody. According to Palestinian sources, 85 percent of the 500 to 600 arrested in the Gaza Strip are between the ages of 14 and 17.

An Israeli military source in the West Bank said most of the detainees are between 17 and 27. The source said the IDF was under strict orders not to arrest anyone under 12.

"There are only one or two detainees who are younger than 14, and they were arrested only after a specific approval by the legal adviser of the central command," the source said.

#### **JEWISH LEADERS PRESS OFFICIALS ABOUT U.S. STATEMENTS ON UNREST** By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- American Jewish leaders and key Reagan administration policymakers disagree "by 10 percent" in how they view Israel's handling of violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, according to Morris Abram, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Their discrepancy revolves around Israel's use of live ammunition in quelling riots and its lack of riot police, said Abram after he and more than 25 Jewish organizational representatives met Thursday morning with four State Department officials.

They included Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead and Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs.

Abram paraphrased Whitehead as saying "in emphatic terms" that the disagreements do not "in any way impair or impinge the close special relationship" between the two countries. Whitehead reassured the leaders that the close strategic relationship will continue, Abram said.

#### 'Bump In The Road'

The Jewish leader termed the differences "merely a bump in the road" in relations between the United States and Israel. He also said that he has been "repeatedly" in touch with the Israeli government regarding its "image problem -- because of small bites on the television sets, which may not be representative of the true circumstances."

On the subject of Israel's handling of the unrest, Abram conceded that "it would be better if Israel had better equipment for dealing with riots."

But he asserted that U.S. criticism was too harsh, pointing out that when the Persian Gulf crisis erupted, "the United States didn't have minesweepers for the Persian Gulf. No military or

paramilitary or police force ever has the right equipment, in the right place, in the right time, under the right circumstances, in the right hands."

On the issue of Israeli soldiers fatally shooting rioting Palestinian civilians, Abram questioned whether it was reasonable for any government to use simply water cannon, shields and helmets "against persons who are engaged in a guerrilla war."

However, he added, "We have no doubt that there have been individual incidents in which a better trained force could have done the job with some degree of improvement."

Abram said he had requested the meeting to "express our very deep concerns with some of the statements" made by the White House and State Department on Israel's role in the violence. He said his primary concern was statements "equating" Israel's actions to those of the rioters.

He did not call for the State Department to retract any of its statements, but he did criticize past statements for failing to differentiate between "those who are responsible under international law, namely Israel, to produce and to control order in the territories, with those whose object is to uproot order and to create disorder and violence."

#### 'Attempt To Overthrow'

"What we are faced here with is the attempt to overthrow not only the government of Israel in the territories, but the government of Israel in Israel -- it is an extension of terrorism," he said.

In specifying the conference's concerns, Abram asserted that U.S. statements have referred to the protestors as demonstrators. "They are not college campus protesters," he said. "They come with Molotov cocktails and gasoline bombs."

Abram said that the rioters' "purpose is not to make a point but to overthrow the rule which under international law Israel must continue in Gaza until some other rule is found," Abram said.

Abram called peace "the overriding concern," but said it cannot be pursued until order is restored.

#### **SURVEY SHOWS FEWER ISRAELIS OPPOSE 'LAND FOR PEACE' IDEA** By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- The percentage of Israelis opposed to yielding any land for peace is declining, according to an opinion poll published in Maariv Thursday. The survey's findings were compared with results of polls taken in October 1986 and April 1987.

At the same time, the percentage of Israelis ready to give up all of the West Bank and East Jerusalem for peace, though a small minority, has increased successively in the last three polls.

The poll, conducted by Dr. Micah Hof of the Modiin Ezrachi organization, asked the question "Do you support a peace agreement with Jordan in which Israel would have to make a commitment to evacuate areas of Judaea and Samaria?"

In response, 44.4 percent of the respondents said they were not prepared to yield any land, compared to 46.4 percent last April and 47.7 percent in October 1986.

But 5.6 percent said they were prepared to yield all of Judaea and Samaria, including East Jerusalem, which Israel has annexed. The comparative figures are 4.4 percent for last April and 3.1 percent for October 1986.

## INFILTRATION FROM JORDAN RAISES QUESTIONS ABOUT BORDER'S SECURITY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- The infiltration of three Palestinian terrorists into Israel from Jordan Friday night has raised questions about security along the normally quiescent Israeli-Jordanian border.

Israeli authorities still believe King Hussein is doing his best to prevent terrorist activity from Jordanian soil, according to a report in Hadashot Sunday. Terrorist leaders are exerting pressure on him, but the king is standing fast. He has informed the United States that while Palestine Liberation Organization offices are open in Amman, their activity is restricted, Hadashot reported.

Nevertheless, Friday's infiltration, though short-lived, was unnerving. The three terrorists were captured alive after a brief shoot-out with security forces, shortly after they crossed the Jordan River near Maoz Chaim and Bet Shean, south of the Sea of Galilee. One of the three was wounded.

It was the first infiltration since Nov. 25, when a lone Palestinian riding a motorized hang glider, crossed the Lebanese border into upper Galilee and killed six Israel Defense Force soldiers at a military base and wounded seven, before he was shot to death.

Maariv reported Sunday that the three terrorists belong to the Palestine Liberation Front, a group headed by Mohammed (Abul) Abbas, who masterminded the October 1985 hijacking of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro in Egyptian waters.

According to Maariv, the infiltrators traveled from Iraq to Amman, where they were given Kalachnikov assault rifles and other equipment and briefed on their mission. The head of the PLO military staff, Khalil Al-Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad, was in Jordan at the time, Maariv reported.

Al Hamishmar quoted Gen. Amram Mitzna, IDF commander of the central sector, as saying after the infiltration that the Jordanians are working to prevent terrorist activity aimed at Israel.

## PROSECUTION, BUT NOT CONVICTION, EXPECTED FOR 4,000 SUSPECTED NAZIS

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- Proceedings have begun against 4,000 suspected war criminals as a result of information obtained from the recently opened United Nations war crimes archives in New York, the Office for the Prosecution of Nazi War Criminals in Ludwigsburg announced Friday.

But it is unlikely at this late date that more than a few of the suspects will be brought to trial and, if so, convicted. A spokesperson for the Ludwigsburg office told reporters that the U.N. files came much too late for effective investigations and proceedings that could result in convictions.

The files, compiled by the Allied War Crimes Commission after World War II, contain dossiers on more than 40,000 suspected war criminals. They were placed in custody of the U.N. in 1947 and remained sealed to all but the governments of U.N. member states. They were opened last month after a year-long campaign by Israel to make the files available to scholars, historians, researchers,

journalists and other members of the public.

The Ludwigsburg spokesperson said the United Nations "told us for years that they could not release the files for legal or political reasons and that has made our job much more difficult and certainly contributed to certain disappointments."

Nevertheless, after receiving the files, the Ludwigsburg office added 10 experienced prosecutors to its staff and opened proceedings.

Most of the files refer to persons who are either deceased, missing or already convicted. Of the 4,000 who were traced, most are aged and may be too sick to be put on trial, the spokesperson said.

Moreover, witnesses are either dead or too old and ill to stand the emotional and physical hardships of giving testimony. Under the circumstances, it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to obtain convictions, the spokesperson said.

## EAST GERMAN COURT IMPOSES HEAVIER SENTENCES ON NEO-NAZIS

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- An East Berlin district court judge Thursday lengthened the sentences imposed by a lower court on four young neo-Nazis who were involved in a major anti-Semitic incident.

The prison terms were changed from 14 to 18 months in two cases and from two to four years in two others. The four youths, whose names were not released, burst into the Protestant Zion Church in East Berlin on Oct. 17 shouting, "All Jews to the gas chambers," "Pig Jews" and other offending slogans.

They attacked congregants, severely injuring several of them. The church is known for its activities in promoting a Christian-Jewish dialogue and is a center for ecological and peace groups which criticize or oppose the Communist regime in East Berlin.

The youths' original sentences were described by the official press here as "minor, outrageous," and the state prosecution immediately appealed the penalties.

The trial amounted to the first public admission that neo-Nazi groups were operating in East Germany. But Communist officials still maintain that the neo-Nazi groups are the product of "capitalist" influence from neighboring West Germany.

## POLICE DISCOUNT BIAS IN SLAYING OF HASID

NEW YORK, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- New York City police say they have no evidence that the slaying early Friday of Eli Wald, 39, a Hasidic Jew from Brooklyn's Borough Park section, was a "bias incident."

Wald, a postal worker, was stabbed repeatedly as he was returning home from work, police said. His body was found at 1:10 a.m. near his home at 936 51st St., which he shared with his wife and their baby daughter.

Detectives have found no weapon, no suspects and no motive for the incident, according to Officer Peter O'Donnell, a Police Department spokesman. He said Wald may have been killed resisting a robbery attempt.

But a wallet, still containing \$2 in cash, as well as a wristwatch and knapsack, were found on Wald's body, police said.

## WELL-KNOWN WEST GERMAN TV PERSONALITY RESIGNS AMID FOCUS ON HIS NAZI PAST

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- Commentators and observers are listing any number of reasons for the downfall of Werner Hoefler, for 35 years one of West Germany's best-known television journalists, who resigned Dec. 22 because of new revelations about his Nazi past.

The question was raised because Hoefler's journalistic endeavors for the Nazis were exposed many times over the years and it was no secret that he was a Nazi party member from 1933, when Hitler came to power, through the end of World War II in 1945.

Hoefler, 74, quit two weeks after the latest expose of his past appeared in the mass-circulation weekly *Der Spiegel*. He lost the confidence of the 41-member board of the Cologne-based WDR television station, which broadcast his popular "Internationaler Fruehschoppen" (International Eye-Openers) interview show at noon every Sunday since 1952.

The press and public are asking, why now? According to leading commentators, the decisive factors were the recent changes in consciousness about the Nazi era and *Der Spiegel's* focus on the Hoefler story.

The magazine piece dealt with Hoefler's writings in the Berlin Nazi daily "12 Uhr Blatt" in 1943, and specifically his praise of the execution by the Nazis of a Jewish pianist, Karlrobert Kreiten.

Hoefler has claimed repeatedly in the past that the most offensive parts of the article were written by someone else and inserted by Nazi zealots.

But *Der Spiegel*, published in Hamburg, quoted from other articles written by Hoefler to show his comments on the Kreiten case were not atypical. The magazine also interviewed experts who questioned Hoefler's claim that his article was rewritten.

Paradoxically, Hoefler's politics, like *Der Spiegel's*, have been left-liberal for years. The show he moderated was a forum on controversial issues for foreign journalists, including a number of Israelis, of all political hues. Hoefler frequently came under attack from the right wing.

He was also vigorously attacked in the past by the Vienna-based Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal. But a leading French-Jewish political scientist, Alfred Grosser, has been among his most ardent defenders.

The WDR board gave Hoefler until March 21 to "clarify" the charges contained in the *Der Spiegel* story. But Hoefler, who will be 75 that month, chose instead to resign. Some observers believe his resignation is what WDR had in mind and used the latest expose to force the issue.

## DEBATE AMONG EAST BERLIN'S JEWS CENTERS ON HOW TO APPROACH THE YOUNG

By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- A controversy has surfaced within East Berlin's tiny Jewish community over how to approach the several dozen young Jews who lately have showed interest in Judaism and in seeking their Jewish roots.

Peter Kirchner, chairman of the community, believes they must be confronted with the choice of "joining in or staying out" of the official community. But the new rabbi of East Berlin,

Isaac Neumann, its first rabbi in 22 years, insists that no pressure be brought to bear on young people attracted to Judaism.

The quarrel involves a Jewish community that is minuscule. There were 400 officially registered Jews in all of East Germany in 1985, about half of whom lived in East Berlin. In 1984, the community numbered 800, half in East Berlin.

Neumann, writing in the West Berlin leftist daily *Tageszeitung*, said his primary concern was that the young men and women grasp Judaism and practice whatever they understand. "Whether one is a member of the community or not, this is certainly not decisive," he said. He added that it was up to the rabbi to decide.

Neumann, 65, was born in Lodz, Poland and after years in Nazi concentration and labor camps, immigrated to the United States in 1950. He was ordained there in 1958 and served as a rabbi in Champaign, Ill.

He assumed his rabbinical post in East Berlin last September after prolonged negotiations between American Jewish organizations and the East German authorities. He is presently vacationing in the United States.

Some sources in East Berlin said his visit abroad during Chanukah was due to friction with the community chairman and some of his closest colleagues. He hinted in his *Tageszeitung* article that their differences are broader than the question of young Jews seeking their heritage.

Neumann wrote: "I insist on free access to all Jews. If there is no such free access, I am not interested in this community."

## DINITZ STRESSES DIASPORA'S IMPORTANCE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- Simcha Dinitz, the new chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive, offered two axioms to members of the combined WZO-Jewish Agency staff at a meeting here Sunday.

He said the very existence of the Jewish state in the future will depend on its links with diaspora Jewry. And he said the existence of the WZO-Jewish Agency will depend on "turning it into an efficient organ, so that we do not find ourselves in the future all together on a sinking ship."

Dinitz, a Labor member of the Knesset and a former Israeli ambassador to the United States, was elected head of the WZO at the 31st World Zionist Congress held here Dec. 6 to 10. In his keynote address, he stressed the need for efficiency and restructuring.

Only confidence and close cooperation between management and staff can achieve these goals, he told the staffers Sunday.

As for the ties binding Israel with Jews overseas, Dinitz observed that 4 million Jews in Israel cannot ensure the state's survival indefinitely without being a part of the worldwide Jewish experience and existence.

## SURGEONS IMPLANT SILICON VERTEBRA

TEL AVIV, Dec. 27 (JTA) -- Doctors at the Hadassah-Hebrew University hospital at Ein Kerem have replaced a middle-aged woman's cancerous vertebra with a hand-sculpted silicon facsimile.

The surgeons said they believed this was the first time this procedure has been performed anywhere in the world. Bedridden before the operation, she now can sit up in a wheelchair.