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EX-NAZIS AMONG LEADERSHIP RANKS OF REPUBLICAN OUTREACH GROUPS

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- A new study charges that accused Nazis, fascists and anti-Semites hold or have held leadership positions in some of the Republican National Committee's ethnic outreach groups.

The report, "Old Nazis, the New Right and the Reagan Administration: The Role of Domestic Fascists Networks in the Republican Party and their Effect on U.S. Cold War Politics," by Detroit free-lance writer and researcher Russell Bellant, was released Sept. 15 and reported Friday in the Washington Jewish Week.

Bellant, 40, uncovered accused Nazis in the outreach groups formed under the umbrella of the RNC's Heritage Groups Council.

He also found that four of the seven members of Vice President George Bush's Coalition of American Nationalities who resigned in the past two weeks are still active in the Heritage Groups Council and its constituent groups.

In an interview, Bellant said that he could not uncover any remaining RNC link to Jerome Brentar, Bohdan Fedorak and Ignatius Bilinsky, the other three who resigned, but he said they might be involved in the RNC on the state level.

He said he was not calling for the resignations of the individuals in question, but, added that "it would be nice if some Republicans would call for the resignations instead of the Democrats."

RNC Won't Investigate

Responding to Bellant's accusations, Albert Maruggi, the RNC's press secretary, said there are no plans to investigate the backgrounds of any of the ethnic group members cited in the report.

He repeated a comment made by Kathryn Murray, RNC director of communications, in the Washington Jewish Week story that the study's conclusions were "patently ridiculous and absurd."

Marshall Breger, President Reagan's former liaison to the Jewish community and now chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States, said some of the charges in the report may be true, but said its suggestions that the involvement of the ethnic individuals represents "a Republican conspiracy is ridiculous."

The study concluded that "a combination of ignorance, amnesia and in some cases political sympathy, have allowed both American and European abettors of the Third Reich to play a prominent and respectable role inside the Republican Party."

Breger said those in question are part of a larger "problem of American history," that after World War II, "the U.S. government assisted persons with anti-communism backgrounds who had neo-Nazi backgrounds to enter this country." He added that both political parties have received support from such individuals.

The 87-page report was published by Political Research Associates of Cambridge, Mass. The research organization was founded in 1981 to investigate the extreme right in the Chicago area following Ku Klux Klan and neo-Nazi rallies in Skokie and Marquette Park, Ill.

While Murray of the RNC told the Jewish Week that the research firm "makes its money from trashing right-wing groups," Bellant simply characterized the firm as "politically progressive."

Four Still Tied To Bush

The four Bush ethnic coalition members who recently resigned but are still active in the constituency groups of the Heritage Groups Council, or the council itself, are:

- * Philip Guarino, former vice chairman of Bush's Coalition of American Nationalities. He once chaired the Italian-American Republican Club and, from 1971 to 1975, was vice chairman of the Heritage Groups Council. Guarino has been listed as a member of P-2, a fascist group.

- * Radi Slavoff, who was national co-chairman of Bulgarians for Bush, chaired the Heritage Groups Council from 1985 to 1987. Slavoff reportedly served in a national front aligned with the Nazis.

- * Florian Galdau, honorary chairman of the ethnic coalition, who heads the Romanian-American group and allegedly was a member of the Iron Guard, an anti-Semitic, pro-Nazi movement.

- * Laszlo Pasztor, a former coalition member who set up the Heritage Groups Council in 1969 and has served as head of the Hungarian-American group. Pasztor served in Hungary's pro-Nazi Arrow Cross regime.

Before 1969, the Heritage Groups Council "was not an ongoing thing," Bellant said. But since 1969, Republican presidential nominees have "utilized the Heritage Groups Council as the shell for setting up their own ethnic campaigns," he added.

He said he studied the council's precursor, the so-called Ethnic Division, in existence from 1952 to 1969, only superficially.

Bellant said Republicans who helped the RNC organize the Ethnic Division also had set up programs to recruit former Nazis to serve in U.S. paramilitary operations in Europe in 1952.

Nazis In Leadership Posts

Bellant said that since 1969, several dozen alleged Nazis, fascists and anti-Semites have held leadership posts in the Heritage Groups Council.

The alleged Nazis include:

- * Nicholas Nazerenko, accused of having been a former World War II officer in the German SS Cossack Division. He heads one of the two Cossack-American units in the RNC.

- * Ivan Docheff, the mayor of a German city during World War II and founder of a pro-Hitler youth group.

- * Joseph Mikus, a former diplomat to Rome for the Nazi puppet state of Slovakia.

- * Stanislav Stankevich, mayor of a Russian city in 1941 when police massacred 6,500 to 7,000 Jews in one night, Bellant said.

- * The late Alfreds Berzins, charged with committing war crimes in Latvia.

In a related development, the Philadelphia Inquirer reported Sept. 18 that in 1972, convicted Nazi war criminal Boleslavs Maikovskis of Mincola, N.Y., served on the advisory board of the Latvian-American Section of the Heritage Council for the Re-Election of the President.

SHULTZ REPORTS NEW PROGRESS IN SOVIET HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- Secretary of State George Shultz, concluding two days of talks here last week with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, indicated that further progress on human rights has been made.

"I think that the situation is reasonably promising, but we are not quite there yet," Shultz said.

He spoke to reporters Friday after President Reagan met with Shevardnadze, at the conclusion of the meetings between the two foreign ministers.

The talks were expected to be the last major meeting between the two superpowers during the Reagan administration.

But Shultz stressed that the administration will continue working with the Soviets "to accomplish as much as can be accomplished" in the four areas that all their discussions have focused on: arms control, human rights, regional issues and bilateral issues.

The secretary said that over the past three years, these meetings have become routine and the Soviets have acknowledged that such issues as human rights are part of the regular agenda between the two countries.

He said he believes this pattern will continue in the next administration, regardless of whether Vice President George Bush or Gov. Michael Dukakis is elected president.

U.S. Seeking New Guarantees

The human rights issue focused on the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe now being held in Vienna as a follow-up to the 1975 Helsinki Accords. The United States and other Western nations are maintaining that the conference must conclude additional written guarantees on human rights before talks on reducing conventional arms can begin.

Stressing that "deeds are more important than words," Shultz said that in assessing the Soviet Union's human rights record, the United States looks at emigration figures, political and religious prisoners, and the cases of divided families.

"We've seen quite a bit of change in Soviet behavior and in the behavior of other Eastern European countries," he said.

But he added that in addition to changes in behavior, there must be changes in language produced in Vienna about human rights. He noted, in particular, that the United States wants the Soviets to allow groups to monitor compliance with the Helsinki Accords.

Shultz said that the United States had received assurances that the Soviets are drafting new legislation on religious freedom, emigration and changes in the criminal code.

The secretary has long sought, for example, to get the Soviets to institutionalize emigration procedures, so that Jews and others would no longer be refused exit visas on arbitrary decisions of officials.

While Shultz said that he and Shevardnadze discussed the Middle East, it was apparently not a major part of the talks.

But he said there was a long discussion about the need to ban the production of chemical weapons. U.S. and Soviet experts are to meet Dec. 16 on ways of halting their proliferation.

PERES SAYS HE'D CALL A VOTE ON ANY PEACE AGREEMENT STRUCK

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- If the Labor Party wins Israel's elections Nov. 1, it will initiate peace talks and then hold a referendum on any peace agreement that emerges, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, the party leader, said here Friday.

He did not specify with whom Israel would negotiate. He stressed, however, that Jordan still has an important part to play in the peace process, despite King Hussein's recent renunciation of any leadership role on behalf of the Palestinians in the West Bank.

Peres spoke to reporters after meetings with President Francois Mitterrand and Premier Michel Rocard.

He said Labor's election campaign is based on peace in exchange for territorial concessions. "Israel should leave the Gaza Strip and parts of the West Bank within the framework of a comprehensive peace settlement," he said.

He made much the same point in an interview published in Le Monde on Thursday, a day before his arrival.

"The movement I am representing is ready for a historic compromise that would also include a territorial element to solve the Palestinian problem," Peres told the French daily.

But "the time has come for the Arabs and the Palestinians to publicly and clearly state the contribution they are ready to make for peace with Israel," Peres stated.

Camp David-Style Talks

The Israeli foreign minister was here on a private visit. He flew late Sunday to New York, where he is due to meet Monday with President Reagan and the Egyptian foreign minister, Ismat Abdel Meguid.

Peres told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency the meeting would be a direct continuation of the 1978 Camp David talks.

According to Israeli sources here, the session was arranged by Reagan to establish binding guidelines for the next American administration and to help strengthen Israeli-Egyptian ties, which have been badly strained because of the 9-month-old Palestinian uprising.

Peres is to meet Reagan on Monday at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. He will be accompanied by Moshe Arad, Israel's ambassador to the United States; his diplomatic adviser, Nimrod Novik; and his press adviser, Uri Savir.

Because of the Sukkot holiday, the Israeli delegation will walk to the meeting and will not take written notes.

Peres is scheduled to address the U.N. General Assembly on Wednesday.

PORTUGAL TO UPGRADE TIES WITH ISRAEL

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- Portugal will soon upgrade its diplomatic representation in Israel.

President Mario Soares of Portugal told Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres here Sunday that his country has decided to appoint a resident ambassador to Israel and will do so "in a matter of months."

Portugal presently has a non-resident ambassador accredited to Israel. Israel maintains a full diplomatic mission in Lisbon, headed by a career foreign service official with ambassadorial rank.

ISRAEL SINKS TERRORIST RAFT, BOMBS AL FATAH BASE IN SIDON

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- An Israeli gunboat sank a rubber dinghy Saturday off the Lebanese port of Tyre, killing its three occupants. They were identified by naval officers as members of Al Fatah, the Palestine Liberation Organization's military wing.

The naval encounter followed an Israeli air force attack Friday on what was described as an Al Fatah naval base in the southern Lebanese port city of Sidon.

According to the naval officers, the dinghy was on a course toward Israel when it was challenged by a Dabour-class gunboat. They said it was the third attempt by terrorists this year to infiltrate Israel by sea.

Other boats carrying terrorists have been sunk while laying mines on routes used by Israeli naval craft.

The air attack was the 14th by Israel this year against targets in Lebanon. A military spokesman said it was carried out by three jets, with a fourth flying cover.

They struck twice in 15 minutes at the base on the edge of the Mich Mich refugee camp, according to eyewitness reports from Lebanon. All aircraft returned safely to their base, the spokesman said.

PALESTINIAN LINK UNCOVERED IN ATTACK ON GERMAN OFFICIAL

By David Kantor

BONN, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- The West German terrorists who attacked a vice minister of finance here last week may have ties to the Palestine Liberation Organization or other Palestinian groups, government officials said over the weekend.

The Red Army faction took credit for the attack, from which Finance Vice Minister Hans Tietmeyer emerged unscathed. Only his limousine was damaged.

Sources familiar with the investigation noted that the attackers identified themselves as the "Khaled Aker Commando" in a letter they sent to the West German news media.

The last sentence in the letter reads "Solidarity with the rebellion of the Palestinian people."

A spokesman for the Interior Ministry, Michael-Andreas Butz, said that Khaled Aker was one of two Palestinian guerrillas killed by Israeli security forces while trying to infiltrate Israel from Lebanon in November 1987.

The naming of the German terrorist squad after a Palestinian suggests ideological and operational ties, according to experts here.

The Red Army faction did it either to reward the Palestinians for something "or as a signal that they expect something from the Palestinian organizations," one authority said.

"Experience suggests that the naming is by no means an accident," he added.

Tietmeyer was attacked because he has been heavily involved in preparing the upcoming meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in West Berlin.

The letter from the "Khaled Aker Commando" denounced the meeting as another step in what it called the endless exploitation of the Third World.

FIRE GUTS SECOND BROOKLYN SHUL, BUT NO EVIDENCE OF ARSON REPORTED

NEW YORK, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- A second synagogue in Brooklyn was gutted by fire early Saturday. But fire and police officials say there is no evidence of arson, though the possibility is being investigated.

Rabbi Solomon Friedman, 82, of Congregation Chuna David and his wife, Gizella, 80, were hospitalized for foot burns. They fled in their nightclothes from the living quarters on the second floor of the building that housed the synagogue.

The blaze was caused either by a short circuit, candles or a gas stove that was left burning overnight, according to Fire Marshal Denis Guardiano.

The 70-family Orthodox congregation is located on Ocean Parkway. It is about half a mile from Orthodox Congregation Rabbinical Institute Sharai Torah, which was vandalized and torched by arsonists during the early hours of Sept. 17.

Unlike the case in Sharai Torah, there was no evidence of break-in and no anti-Semitic graffiti at Chuna David. But some local Hasidim and other Orthodox Jews in the area refused to believe the two fires were coincidental.

City Councilman Noach Dear, who represents the district and is himself Orthodox, tried to reassure the doubters.

"Believe me, this was not a deliberate act. There was no forced entry into the building. There was nothing thrown into the building," said Dear, who is spearheading a rebuilding drive.

Rabbi Friedman and his wife were reported in stable condition Sunday at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center.

Friedman, a Holocaust survivor, heads a rabbinical dynasty that originated in Romania.

HISTORIAN SHMUEL ETTINGER DIES

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- Shmuel Ettlinger, one of Israel's foremost historians, was buried Sunday in Jerusalem.

He died last Thursday at the age of 69, while visiting England. His body was flown to Israel on Sunday.

Ettlinger was a professor of Jewish history at the Hebrew University and was president of the Israel Historical Society. He was born in Kiev, Russia, and came to Palestine in the 1930s.

His research into modern Jewish history, particularly the history of Eastern European Jewry, and into the causes of anti-Semitism established him as a major scholar.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM SENDS DISASTER AID

TEL AVIV, Sept. 25 (JTA) -- Magen David Adom, Israel's Red Cross equivalent, has rushed urgently needed medical supplies to help the victims of Hurricane Gilbert in Jamaica.

The Israeli Embassy in Kingston, the Jamaican capital, compiled a list of supplies requested by rescue teams.

They were sent via El Al, Israel's national airline, without charge to the Caribbean nation.

Because of Sukkot, JTA will not publish the Daily News Bulletin on Tuesday, Sept. 27.

**5748 IN REVIEW:
INTIFADA DOMINATES THE HEADLINES
AS VIOLENCE AGAIN ENGULFS MIDEAST**
[Part 1 Of A Series]
JTA Staff Report

EDITOR'S NOTE: Last month, JTA's New York and Washington staffs compiled an extensive round-up of key news stories that broke during the Jewish year 5748. The 40-page compendium was published in JTA's Features package, which is distributed to Jewish weekly newspapers.

Following is the first part of a condensed version of that compendium. For a copy of JTA's entire "5748 in Review," send your name, your address and \$10 to: Year in Review, JTA, 330 Seventh Ave., 11th floor, New York, N.Y. 10001.

(JTA) -- The Demjanjuk war crimes case, two superpower summits, a steady stream of prominent Soviet Jewish emigres, anti-Semitism in Chicago and the election campaign in the United States all grabbed headlines in 5748. But the story that dominated the Jewish year in news, month after month, was the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The intifada, as the uprising eventually came to be called by Jews as well as Arabs, broke out Dec. 9 as a series of violent protests in refugee camps and villages throughout the administered territories.

By year's end, more than 200 Palestinians had been killed, nearly 50 had been expelled or ordered deported, and literally thousands had served time in administrative detention.

The orchestrated campaign of violent revolts may have been inspired, in part, by the success of a terrorist attack in November. In that incident, a Palestinian terrorist sailed over the Israeli border from Lebanon in a motorized hang-glider and killed eight Israeli soldiers at a Galilee army base before being shot to death.

Attack In Dimona

The next large-scale terrorist attack occurred in March, when terrorists stormed a bus near Dimona, in the Negev, and opened fire, killing three Israelis and wounding 10.

But aside from these incidents, the major threats to Israeli security came from the administered territories. One tragic incident occurred in April, when a group of teen-agers from a Jewish settlement in the West Bank took a Passover hike through the Arab village of Beita, near Nablus.

After an apparently trigger-happy adult escort opened fire on an Arab farmer, the slain man's family began hurling stones at the Jewish hikers. At the end of the melee, 15-year-old Tirza Porat lay dead, the victim of a bullet fired accidentally from the escort's rifle. Accident or not, the incident enraged Israelis.

But the world's wrath this year seemed to be directed at Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin's announced policy of employing "force, might, beatings" against Palestinian rioters.

Israel found itself fighting the intifada not only in the Palestinian villages and refugee camps, but also in the halls of the United Nations and on television screens around the world.

Deportation, in fact, became one of Israel's most potent tools in fighting the uprising -- but also one of its most controversial. After Israel deported Palestinian non-violence advocate Mubarak Awad in June, the practice came under sharp

criticism, even from such longtime friends as the U.S. government.

The intifada also produced rifts in an American Jewish community that generally prefers to speak with one voice on issues that affect Israel's security. While the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations strived to maintain some semblance of unity, critics in the Reform movement and the American Jewish Congress found it difficult to stay silent.

Assassination In Tunis

By the end of spring, however, the fiery debate had subsided, only to be replaced by an actual inferno: the burning of Israeli forests, much of it by Arab arsonists. By the end of the summer, Israel had lost 40,000 acres to fire.

Israel did not remain only on the defensive in 5748. In April, a commando team gunned down Khalil al-Wazir, the Palestine Liberation Organization's No. 2 man, also known as Abu Jihad, at his villa in a Tunis suburb. Israel would not claim responsibility for the carefully orchestrated attack, but all signs pointed in that direction.

Amid all the violence, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz tried vainly to bring peace to the region in a series of personal diplomatic missions to the Middle East. But by year's end, the prospects of a settlement seemed even dimmer than ever, especially after King Hussein of Jordan announced July 31 that he was cutting all ties to the West Bank.

In Washington, meanwhile, the familiar battles between the Reagan administration and Congress over arms sales to Arab countries continued this spring. But friends of Israel received a tremendous shock in July when Britain announced a \$35 billion sale of sophisticated arms to Saudi Arabia. The Saudis also succeeded in tying up arms deals this year with China, France and eventually the United States.

Scandals And Strikes

Inside Israel, the year was peppered with the usual allotment of scandals and strikes. Mordechai Vanunu was convicted of sharing Israeli nuclear secrets with the British press. William Nakash was extradited to France for the murder of an Arab.

A Soviet-born businessman named Shabtai Kalmanovitz was charged with spying for the Russians. And Shin Bet, Israel's internal security service, faced renewed allegations of improprieties.

At year's end, an elaborate bribery scheme aimed at exempting recruits and reservists from military service was uncovered.

And in the midst of all this, doctors, nurses and non-medical personnel at Israel's public hospitals staged a relentless strike that limited medical care to all but emergency cases.

On the religious front, the "Who Is a Jew" amendment was again defeated, along with other attempts to deny Israeli citizenship to non-Orthodox converts to Judaism. Israel's Supreme Court ruled that women should be allowed to serve on local religious panels and those charged with selecting chief rabbis.

Homosexuality was legalized with scarcely any notice. And a Conservative movement youth hostel lost its kashrut certification and then regained it.

It was also a year of landmarks in Israel, not the least of which was the Jewish state's celebration of its 40th anniversary.

(Next: 5748 In The Diaspora)