

VOL. 68 - 73rd YEAR

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1990

NO. 130

**SOVIETS IN EAST GERMANY  
MAY NOW BECOME CITIZENS**

By David Kantor

EAST BERLIN, July 12 (JTA) -- East Germany, which recently asked the forgiveness of Jews for its Nazi past, has now opened its gates to any Jew who wants to live there.

The announcement Wednesday by the government that Jews are free to settle in East Germany and obtain citizenship was made on humanitarian grounds, according to Almut Berger, the official responsible for foreign residents.

The immediate beneficiaries will be some 500 Soviet Jews who came to East Berlin on tourist visas in recent months in hope of entering West Berlin.

A government spokesman said Thursday that the group, which has been supported by the East German authorities since its arrival, may now apply for citizenship and the wide range of absorption benefits that go with it, including free German language courses.

Jewish circles in both East and West Berlin said the example set by these refugees may influence other Soviet Jews who do not want to go to Israel.

Soviet emigrants can now become East German citizens, and, with unification imminent, they would seem virtually assured of citizenship in a united Germany.

**Not Coordinated With Bonn**

The East Germans did not coordinate their decision with the Bonn government. West Germany presently grants automatic citizenship only to Jews who were expelled from the country, and their families, or those who can prove they are "ethnic Germans."

West Germany, however, has always acknowledged responsibility for the depredations of the Nazi regime and maintained a special relationship with the Jewish people.

The former Communist regime in East Germany, in contrast, rejected any link with Nazism during its 40-year tenure.

But on April 12, a solemn statement of East German culpability for Nazi atrocities was read out at the inaugural session of the Volkskammer, East Germany's first freely elected parliament.

It apologized to the Jewish people and Israel for the crimes committed against Jews by the Third Reich.

Observers said the offer of citizenship is a further step to distance East Germany from its past hostility toward Jews, first under Nazism and later under the Stalinist regime.

The decision was adopted at a Cabinet meeting on the subject of foreigners and refugees in general.

According to a government source, East Germany will offer asylum to political refugees. Any foreigner who can prove he or she has shelter and sufficient funds can stay in the country, the source said.

In another effort to distance itself from past hostility, the East Germans and Israelis seem close to an agreement on the establishment of diplomatic relations and payment of reparations to Holocaust victims.

**CASE AGAINST EX-NAZI RUDOLPH  
GETS POSTPONED UNTIL AUG. 1**

By Cassandra Freeman

TORONTO, July 12 (JTA) -- Canadian immigration authorities have ruled that former Nazi rocket scientist Arthur Rudolph is free to stay in Canada until his hearing resumes Aug. 1.

According to the Toronto Globe & Mail, Rudolph was told that when the hearing begins again, he will have to prove that he is admissible to Canada, and not that Canada has to prove why it will not let him remain.

The hearing to determine whether to give Rudolph visitor's status in Canada began Wednesday, but was adjourned for 30 days to allow for the translation of a 70-page German document.

Barbara Kulaska, Rudolph's lawyer, said the document will exonerate her client.

Manuel Prutschi the Canadian National Congress' national director for communications, said the document is the result of an investigation taken by West German officials into Rudolph's wartime past.

No charges were filed after that investigation was completed, he said.

Rudolph, 83, and his wife, Martha, 84, arrived in Canada on July 1, saying that they wanted to stay for a month to visit their daughter, who came from San Francisco to see them.

**Participated In War Crimes**

Rudolph is barred from the United States because of allegations made by the U.S. Justice Department that he participated in war crimes during the World War II.

Rudolph voluntarily gave up his U.S. citizenship in 1984 and moved to West Germany rather than face deportation hearings.

According to the Canadian Jewish News, Dog Tillet, a spokesman for the Department of Justice, said that when confronted with the evidence, Rudolph freely admitted "he participated in Nazi-sponsored persecution of unarmed civilians while serving as operations director of a missile facility and that he acquired his (U.S.) citizenship illegally."

He also agreed never to return to the United States.

Both the CJC and B'nai Brith Canada have expressed their concern that Rudolph is now being allowed to visit Canada freely until the hearing resumes.

"While Mr. Rudolph is entitled to a fair hearing, we are obviously very disappointed about the length of the adjournment," Paul Marcus, the national director of the Institute for International Affairs at B'nai Brith said Thursday.

"Meanwhile, the circus continues as Mr. Rudolph continues to use Canada as a platform to clear his name in the United States," he said.

Since his arrival, Rudolph has been holding news conferences to deny all allegations made against him by the U.S. Justice Department, and has charged that U.S. officials "used dishonest methods and pressure tactics to railroad me out of the country."

On Wednesday, B'nai Brith wrote a letter to Justice Minister Kim Campbell calling for criminal charges to be laid against Rudolph.

Marcus said his concern is that Canada is making it too easy for alleged war criminals to visit this country.

"What's to stop the other 30 people that the U.S. has deported from coming here also?" Marcus said.

In a related development Wednesday, immigration official Milton Best announced that plans are under way to charge Lufthansa airlines for ignoring an alert to stop Rudolph from boarding airliners bound for Canada.

If the charge is laid, Lufthansa will face a \$5,000 fine and will have to take Rudolph back to West Germany if he is deported.

"We are vindicated in terms of our claim that somebody goofed at the point of his embarkation in Germany," CJC spokesman Prutschi said of this announcement.

On Wednesday, the CJC called on the Canadian government to launch an investigation as to why Rudolph was allowed to board the plane to Canada when the Royal Canadian Mountain Police had issued an alert to all airlines to prevent this from happening.

The CJC is also protesting the fact that Rudolph was allowed to go free upon his arrival while posting a \$500 (Canadian) bond.

"If he had been detained, he wouldn't have been able to run around and hold press conferences and he might have returned to Germany," Prutschi said.

In a letter to Minister of Employment and Immigration Barbara McDougall on Tuesday, CJC President Les Scheininger wrote, "It is galling to us that solicitousness is being shown for the alleged frailty of an elderly Nazi when he never remotely was concerned for the fragility of the slave laborers under his care and direction."

#### MIDDLEMAN IN GAS FACTORY SCHEME IS SAID TO HAVE DIED LAST MONTH

By David Kantor

BONN, July 12 (JTA) -- An Iraqi exile believed to have been the intermediary between the Libyan government and a West German industrialist convicted for illegally supplying material to build a poison gas factory, is reported to have died in London last month.

The death of 63-year-old Ishan Barbouti was announced in Stuttgart this week by his lawyer, Peter Mueller, who said his client has just returned from a visit to Libya.

Experts believe Barbouti was the only person who could have cleared up certain discrepancies in the confession of Jurgen Hippenstiel-Immhause, founder and former manager of Immhausen-Chemie, who was sentenced to five years in prison on June 27.

Hippenstiel-Immhause, 49, admitted in a Mannheim court two weeks earlier that he had illegally sold Libya equipment, substances and know-how to build a chemical weapons plant.

He apparently established his contacts with Libya through Barbouti, who was based in London.

Hippenstiel-Immhause was found guilty of tax fraud and violating West Germany's export laws. His penalty, considered very mild, was understood by many observers to be part of a deal involving his confession.

The legal authorities are said to have considered the political need to spare the West German government additional embarrassment inasmuch as it had originally refused to prosecute the industrialist.

#### FRENCH HISTORIAN GUILTY OF SLANDER FOR DENYING EXISTENCE OF GAS CHAMBERS

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, July 12 (JTA) -- A prominent French historian who claimed that gas chambers never existed was found guilty of slander Wednesday and ordered to pay a \$4,000 fine to the anti-racist organization that brought the charges against him.

Bernard Notin, a senior lecturer at Lyon University, was the latest revisionist historian to be penalized by a French court.

A civil suit was brought against him by the Movement Against Racism and Anti-Semitism on the basis of an article he published last January in a sociological journal edited by Lyon University.

Notin wrote that gas chambers were "a figment of popular imagination without any historic basis."

He added an anti-Semitic slur, which could result in criminal charges against him for slandering the dead and spreading racial hatred.

In an obvious reference to an international conference held in Paris last year at the instigation of Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor, and sponsored by President Francois Mitterrand, Notin wrote:

"A Nobel gang which had come to Paris on vacation at the initiative of the president's Jewish advisers helped to further disseminate this legend."

The court found that his article caused serious and needless pain to former deportees and their families, and especially to the Jewish community.

French courts have cracked down on revisionists in recent months.

On May 14, Alain Guionnet, editor of a periodical dedicated to the premise that the Holocaust was a hoax, was sentenced to nine months in jail and ordered to pay \$13,500 in damages to Jewish groups he defamed in his writings.

#### WOMAN FINED FOR NEO-NAZI ACTIVITY

By David Kantor

BONN, July 12 (JTA) -- Neo-Nazi activist Ursula Mueller was given a seven month suspended sentence and fined \$600 by a Koblenz court Wednesday, for displaying and disseminating outlawed Nazi and anti-Semitic material.

Mueller, a housewife, was arrested while offering passersby the magazine "Die Kampfgefährtin," which contains neo-Nazi propaganda.

She heads a group called the German Women's Front. Her home in Koblenz has been a known meeting place for neo-Nazis for years.

#### FRANCE GETS A FEMALE RABBI

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, July 12 (JTA) -- France has its first woman rabbi.

Pauline Bebe, a 26-year-old mother of two, will assume rabbinical duties at the Liberal movement synagogue here on Sept. 1, shortly before the High Holidays.

The congregation of some 1,200 families is an island of Liberal Judaism in a city where affiliated Jews are overwhelmingly Orthodox.

Bebe completed her studies at the Leo Baeck College in London.

**LABOR VOTES FOR ELECTIONS NOW  
AS RABIN WINS FIRST ROUND VS. PERES**  
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 12 (JTA) -- The Labor Party Executive decided Thursday to hold elections as soon as possible for party chairman, giving an important victory to former Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who is challenging incumbent Chairman Shimon Peres for party leadership.

The vote in the 115-member body was 59-41. The Executive's decision was not the last word, as it must be ratified by the Central Committee, which is scheduled to convene on July 22.

Rabin has been pressing for an early contest, but Peres argued that he should be allowed to fill out his term corresponding to the tenure of the present Knesset, which expires in 1992.

The Executive approved by a smaller margin Rabin's proposal to hold "primaries" rather than have the next chairman elected by a more exclusive forum, such as the Central Committee or a party convention.

Primaries would allow rank-and-file party members to vote.

Thursday's vote gave a strong boost to Rabin and his supporters, confirming that he had the backing of senior echelons of the party.

Peres, who hopes to do better in the 1,000-plus-member Central Committee, had to weather some tough criticism in the Executive, which is frequently called Labor's leadership bureau.

The party's former secretary-general, Uzi Baram, accused him of "a cynical attempt to use deserters from other parties" to try to establish a Labor-led government after its unity coalition with Likud collapsed last March.

Baram was referring to the deals made by Peres with certain Likud defectors, who later reneged and returned to the fold.

**POLL REVEALS RABIN MOST POPULAR,  
WOULD WIN ANY ELECTION HELD TODAY**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 12 (JTA) -- Former Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin appears to be the most popular politician in Israel.

According to the latest poll, a majority of Israelis would elect him prime minister over Yitzhak Shamir or Ariel Sharon of Likud, or his colleague Shimon Peres, whom he is challenging for leadership of the Labor Party.

But the results do not mean Labor would beat Likud if elections were held now. The poll was based on the premise of direct election of the prime minister, one of the electoral reforms being urged by increasing numbers of Israelis.

According to the poll, Rabin would have an easy win over Shamir, the incumbent prime minister, and an even easier one over Sharon, the minister of construction and housing known for his hard-line policies.

In a direct confrontation with Shamir, Rabin would win 50 percent of the votes to 33 percent for the Likud leader. Among the respondents, 17 percent had no opinion.

The poll, by the Jerusalem-based Hanoch Smith Research Institute, was conducted June 24 to July 3 among a representative sample of 1,200 Israelis.

A Rabin-Sharon contest would give the Laborite a 54 percent to 28 percent edge, with 18 percent offering no opinion.

Rabin is campaigning to unseat Peres as

Labor Party chairman. The poll results seemed to bear out his argument that he would be a far more formidable candidate than Peres for the office of prime minister.

The poll showed that Shamir would beat Peres by a 44 percent to 29 percent margin, with no opinion from 27 percent.

A Sharon-Peres contest would be much closer, but Sharon would win by 37 percent to 34 percent. Twenty-nine percent had no opinion on that race.

**ISRAEL'S RAIDS INTO LEBANON REFLECT  
NATURE OF LIKUD, WRITER CHARGES**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 12 (JTA) -- A leading Israeli military commentator suggested Wednesday that the spate of air raids on terrorist targets in southern Lebanon is a direct consequence of Likud's control of the government.

Ze'ev Schiff, writing in Ha'aretz, believes the temporary halt in aerial activity over Lebanon which preceded the latest raids was probably due to political considerations and differences within the former unity government.

Now with Likud dominating a narrow coalition, many of the restraints against aerial action have been removed, he said.

"It is also logical to assume that Moshe Arens' occupancy of the Defense Ministry has made it easier for the Israel Defense Force to obtain authorization for attack operations when he is confronted with reports of enemy intentions to attack Israel," Schiff wrote.

Israel has mounted 16 air attacks against targets in Lebanon so far this year, four of them between July 6 and 9.

Arens claimed Monday that the IDF had intelligence reports indicating terrorists were planning to attack Israel on hang gliders.

Another commentator writing in Ha'aretz, Eitan Rabin, claimed that hang gliders and very light aircraft were being added to the terrorists' arsenal and posed a serious security threat to Israel.

A person buckled to the contraption soars with air currents and can control direction. The gliders are silent and evade radar detection, making them ideally suited for clandestine use.

According to the Ha'aretz writer, "a number of companies in the past sold significant amounts of hang gliders to terrorists. Ahmed Jabril's organization acquired 10."

**SHAMIR TO CONVENE CONFERENCE  
TO HELP CREATE JOBS FOR OLIM**  
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 12 (JTA) -- Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir is looking to Diaspora Jewish business leaders to help create jobs for new immigrants.

On Wednesday, he announced at a meeting of Likud ministers that he planned to convene an international conference of Jewish businessmen, financiers and economists to stimulate investment in Israel. The plan was unanimously approved.

Shamir said aliyah itself should spur investments in Israeli industry because of the high proportion of well-trained personnel arriving from the Soviet Union.

He said that industrial growth, building new factories and expanding existing ones would provide the jobs needed to absorb the newcomers.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES:**

**MODERN ORTHODOXY SHIFTING TO RIGHT AS IT FACES TRADITIONALIST PRESSURES**

[Part 1 Of A Series]

By Elena Neuman

NEW YORK, July 12 (JTA) -- Whatever happened to Saturday night dances at the neighborhood Young Israel, where the girls wore pink taffeta and the boys their best blue blazers, where young Orthodox Jews drank punch and danced the foxtrot to the tunes of Frank Sinatra and Cole Porter?

You won't find a teen-age dance at a Young Israel synagogue these days. In fact, you would be hard-pressed to find mixed dancing, much less mixed seating, at an Orthodox wedding today.

Things have changed in the modern Orthodox movement in America, with the emphasis shifting from modern to Orthodox. And while some rabbis question whether the changes are going too far, others contend they are not going far enough.

"There is a new force in the Orthodox Jewish community," said Rabbi Pinchas Stolper, executive vice president of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations of America, the congregational arm of the Orthodox movement.

"It's a force that's pulling the movement not so much to the right as toward consistency," he said. "Public deviations from the very nature of the synagogue as a sacred institution can no longer be tolerated.

"You can't make your own rules and call yourself Orthodox anymore," he said. "We expect the affiliates to tow the line."

But some modern Orthodox rabbis think the trend to the right is not as much an indigenous force within modern Orthodoxy as a show of force by a minority of fundamentalist rabbis within the Orthodox Union and the Rabbinical Council of America, the movement's rabbinical arm, who are bullying the movement to take more right-wing postures.

**'Struggle For Soul Of Modern Orthodoxy'**

"Moderate views have come under increasing attack from the surging right of Orthodoxy," Rabbi Irving (Yitz) Greenberg, founder of CLAL, the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership, writes in the June issue of CLAL News and Perspectives.

"Classic modern Orthodox views have been rolled back or eroded. Some modern Orthodox leaders have shifted positions. Others have become silent," he writes. "Nothing less than a struggle for the soul of modern Orthodoxy is now raging."

Similar warnings were sounded in mid-June at the RCA's annual convention in the Catskills.

"The way of moderation is open to attack by extremists," Rabbi Norman Lamm, president of Yeshiva University, said in a speech to the convention. "We must not be intimidated, nor must we compromise on principle or policy."

Lamm explained later that "subtle pressure" is coming from all sides: the left, meaning Reform and Conservative Judaism, and the right, by which he meant more traditional, European-style Orthodoxy, represented by Agudath Israel of America.

At the center of the debate are questions of liberalism, secularism and a more permissive interpretation of halachah, or Jewish religious law.

The "Who Is a Jew" controversy that divided the Jewish community in 1988 and 1989 has been replaced by less publicized -- though no less

contentious -- debates over women's issues, standards for conversion in the United States and interdenominational dialogue.

The rationale against interdenominational dialogue is that communication with the Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist movements lends legitimacy to non-Orthodox Judaism.

**Little Room For Compromise**

If the RCA were willing to break its ties with the other movements of Judaism by not affiliating with such interdenominational organizations as the Synagogue Council of America or CLAL, it would be possible for the modern and more traditional elements of the Orthodox movement to unite, said Rabbi Shmuel Bloom, executive vice president of Agudath Israel.

"There's room to talk," said Bloom, "but we won't compromise on what we believe in." The problem, he said, is that "they won't either."

Bloom is right that the RCA leadership is also unwilling to back down on at this time.

"It's got to be they (Agudath Israel) who make the break," Lamm said in an interview. "We believe in the klal Yisrael (one Jewish people) approach. It means stretching out our hand to the more intense as well as the less."

Lamm, however, does not have the backing of all modern Orthodox rabbis on this issue or, for that matter, many others. The modern Orthodox movement is facing pressures from within.

Individuals within the RCA said to be under the unofficial leadership of Rabbi David Hollander have been pushing the rabbinical group to proscribe interdenominational intercourse.

This faction also opposes Orthodox rabbis who take more liberal positions such issues as conversion, the division of the sexes in synagogue and the right of Orthodox women to form their own prayer groups.

Many rabbis believe the RCA membership is much more right-wing than the group's past history or present leadership indicates.

Lamm and Rabbi Marc Angel of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue in New York are commonly considered the leaders of modern Orthodoxy today. Angel, who was recently elected president of the RCA, is known for his centrist Orthodox orientation.

"Rabbi Angel and Rabbi Lamm do not represent the general sentiment of the RCA or Y.U.," said Rabbi Gilbert Shoham, a pulpit rabbi turned professor in Kansas City.

**Right-Wing Rabbis 'Shout The Loudest'**

The Talmudic experts at Y.U. and members of the RCA "are not liberal by any means," said Shoham. "Centrist, liberal, halachically committed Orthodox rabbis are becoming a dying breed."

"You're going to see a battle emerging within modern Orthodoxy," said Rabbi Avraham Weiss, religious leader of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, a modern Orthodox shul in the Bronx.

Rabbi Joseph Ehrenkranz of Stamford, Conn., said that some of the more liberal rabbis within the RCA are beginning to feel intimidated. But he insists that the forces on the right are not as strong or as numerous as some would suggest.

"The majority of the rabbis in the RCA are not rightist, but the right-wingers are more vocal and cause the others to be intimidated," he said.

"They shout the loudest and speak in the name of God," he said. "And if you don't agree, you're automatically wrong, of course, because you're not with God."