

# WORLD BEAT

edited by Marta Garelik

## 'Israel Looks Beautiful From Up Here'

TEL AVIV (JTA) — "Israel looks beautiful from up here," according to one of the astronauts circling the world in the space ship Challenger.

An Israeli amateur radio enthusiast obtained the schedule of the Challenger orbits over Israel and made contact with one of the scientists aboard, a radio ham operator who obtained permission from NASA to take his short wave radio aboard with him and speak to ham radio operators on the ground.

He made voice contact with Challenger while it was passing over Tel Aviv, until it was over Jerusalem some 90 seconds later. An excerpt of their conversation, broadcast by Israel Radio, sounded loud and clear.

## Crime Doesn't Pay As Much Any More

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Whether or not crime pays, the government is entitled to its lawful share of the criminal's ill-gotten gains, a Tel Aviv magistrate ruled. Judge Yitzhak Braaz fined Yoel Kochavi the equivalent of \$40 and imposed a two-month suspended sentence for failure to file income tax returns for the years 1980-82. Kochavi admitted his income was derived from burglary and robbery.

He said he did not file a return because of a "work accident." Kochavi fell from a first-floor apartment he was attempting to break into and served time in jail for that offense.

Braaz ruled that taxes must be paid even on illegal income. Otherwise, he said, robbers, burglars, pimps and procurers

could justify tax evasion on grounds that their earnings were outside the law. He imposed a light sentence on Kochavi who swore he was abandoning his life of crime and intended to open a repair business.

## Computer Crime Increasing In Israel

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Computer crime, which has become the bane of advanced technology all over the world, has risen to significant proportions in Israel. But much of it goes unreported by the victims for fear of bad publicity.

The Justice Ministry is drafting recommendations for special legislation to deal with this type of white collar criminality which will include sanctions against victims who fail to report their suspicion of such crimes.

## Israel's Diamond Industry Glitters

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Israel's diamond industry has made a better recovery from the world slump than its counterparts abroad. This year's exports are running 11 percent ahead of last year's. Israel's diamond industry has paid off all of its indebtedness to banks which amounted to a staggering \$1.25 billion only three years ago. Now the industry is operating with a lean working capital of no more than \$250 million, borrowed from banks.

## U.S. Jews Opposition of S. African Government Could Endanger Jews There

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The South African Jewish community is becoming in-

creasingly concerned about the strong vocal opposition to the South African government by American Jewish groups, which it fears could endanger that community, a leader of South African Jewry warned here.

"We appeal to them (American Jewish organizations) to exercise restraint and to realize that their actions and expressions must in no way jeopardize the integrity or safety of our community," Dr. Israel Abramowitz, former chairman of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies, said in an address to the B'nai B'rith public affairs forum. "Our local community interests must be taken into account."

Abramowitz, president of B'nai B'rith in South Africa, stressed he neither supported nor spoke for the South African government. But he said he was reflecting the views of the South African Jewish community.

## Anti-Semitism/Holocaust Here and There

BUENOS AIRES (JTA) — Four arson attempts against Jewish institutions in Rosario have badly shaken the 12,000-member Jewish community in that city, the second largest in Argentina. Analysts have noted the existence of pro-fascist groups among the Peronistas with a history of anti-Semitism.

Rosario is a major industrial and port city on the River Plate, northwest of Buenos Aires. The province is governed by the opposition Peronist Party.

DENVER (JTA) — The house that was the home of Golda Meir here in 1913 was defaced. Swastikas were painted on the house after it was moved by truck to a site where it is to be restored as a community center and a museum.

PARIS (JTA) — A powerful bomb exploded in the French

northern city of Lorient, causing extensive damage to an Israeli-styled restaurant. Damage to the building and the neighborhood was extensive.

The restaurant, The Kibbutz, serves Israeli food, is decorated with blue and white flags and has Stars of David inscribed on its walls. Its non-Jewish owner is known as a fervent supporter of the Jewish State.

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The House passed by voice vote a bill requiring the Department of Justice to collect data annually on crimes motivated by hate.

The Hate Crime Statistics Act requires the Attorney General, starting in 1986, to accumulate and publish data "about crimes which manifest racial, ethnic or religious prejudice, including where appropriate, the crimes of homicide, assault, robbery, burglary, theft, arson, vandalism, trespass and threat."

The Justice Department had objected to the original bill introduced by Rep. Barbara Kennelly (D. Conn.) which required the data to be collected under the FBI's annual uniform crime report. But it accepted a suggestion by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith that the hate information be collected separately. The bill now goes to the Senate.

NEW YORK (JTA) — The State of California will provide the Simon Wiesenthal Center with some \$5 million in state matching funds to aid in construction of a "museum of tolerance" on the grounds of the Yeshiva University in Los Angeles.

Governor George Deukmejian supported the funding because he felt sympathy for the suffering of the victims of the Holocaust and other tragedies.

VIENNA (JTA) — The

Netherlands will erect a memorial at Mauthausen, the former Nazi concentration camp, for the Dutch victims of the Holocaust. Several hundred Dutch citizens were murdered in Mauthausen during World War II. The Dutch memorial will be the 17th of its kind at Mauthausen.

## What's New In Science & Technology

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A non-surgical method for treating periodontal disease — the main threat to dental health for adults beyond the age of 18 — has been developed at the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Dental Medicine. The method involves inserting a plastic strip saturated with an antiseptic agent into the "pocket" between tooth and gum caused by the periodontal disease. The antiseptic is released from the film over a period of days, and the gums are then able to reattach themselves to the teeth.

BONN (JTA) — Israel and West Germany are discussing various avenues of scientific and technological cooperation including establishment of a joint German-Israel industrial group which each government would assist in research to develop products that could be marketed commercially.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — A ranking faculty member of the Nanjing (Nanking) Medical College will be the first member of the People's Republic of China's scientific establishment to visit Israel. Prof. Chu SiMing, head of the department of physiology, has accepted an invitation to serve as a member of the scientific advisory board of the eighth World Symposium on Cardiac Pacing which will be held in Israel next year.

The advisory board will also include cardiologists from the Soviet Union and Poland. The symposium, expected to be attended by 4,000 scientists, will be one of the largest gatherings ever held in Israel.

NEW YORK (JTA) — The first independent diabetes education program operating outside of a hospital function is in the YM-YWHA of southern Westchester, the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies has reported.

There are an estimated 50,000 diabetics in Westchester, far beyond the capacities of the education center, which was opened last October. So far, Federation sources said, 158 persons, aged 20 to 93, have come to ADEC for help. The program is sponsored by a Federation grant.

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