

# WORLD BEAT

edited by Marta Garelik

## B'nai B'rith Canada Urges Action on Alleged Nazis

HAMILTON, Ont. (JTA) — The national officers of B'nai B'rith Canada (BBC), meeting here, have passed three resolutions calling on the Canadian government to take immediate action in response to the revelations of Nazi war criminals living in Canada as contained in the Rodal report.

The 600-page report documented among other things that in 1983 two alleged Nazi war criminals, one with a background in the Waffen SS, were admitted to Canada with the complicity of a senior member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), who destroyed vital immigration documents.

BBC has urged the government to commence proceedings to remove the two former Nazis, and to take disciplinary action against those responsible for their admission and the disappearance of the files.

A resolution by the BBC League for Human Rights appealed the deletions of the heavily censored Rodal report to the Canadian Information Commissioner, questioning if in fact all the deletions were justified. The government initially claimed that the Rodal appendix to the Deschenes Commission report on Nazi criminals was too sensitive to release because it could lead to the identification of suspected war criminals.

Ottawa historian Alti Rodal acknowledged that due to the time limits imposed on her research and the sheer quantity of the classified records, her report has significant gaps, according to BBC. The report contains little or no treatment of the post-1960's history of admitting and protecting Nazi war criminals.

The third resolution called on the government to present a report completing the work that the Deschenes Commission was unable to do because of time constraints.

Commenting on the resolutions, David Matas, senior legal counsel and vice president of BBC, stated, "It was imperative that all the data pertaining to the entry and destruction of files be made known to the Canadian populace."

Frank Dimant, BBC executive vice president, stated, "We are concerned that cover-ups in previous governments are an unhealthy episode in the history of this country. The Canadian community is entitled to know what the positions were of previous Premiers and the directives given from these men to the Cabinet Ministers."

## Botha Pledges to Defend South African Jews Against Any Neo-Nazi Attacks

JOHANNESBURG (JTA) — President P. W. Botha promised South Africa's 110,000-member Jewish community that his government would protect them against any neo-Nazi attacks. This statement came after an upsurge of neo-Nazi activity prompted by the death of Rudolf Hess.

White extremists, who view Botha as too liberal towards Blacks and are overtly anti-Semitic, enraged South African Jews by eulogizing Hess. A memorial service, complete with Nazi salutes, was held by a neo-Nazi group at Pretoria's cenotaph.

Other neo-Nazi activity included the laying of a wreath commemorating Hess in the Indian Ocean city of Durban, and in north Johannesburg, a businessman raised a huge swastika at his plush home and distributed t-shirts displaying pictures of Hitler to his family.

The extreme right-wing Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB), which has attracted mounting support this year, warned Jewish critics. Its leader, Eugene Terreblanche, said if Jews com-

plained about AWB tributes to Hess they "would make life very difficult for themselves."

In reaction to these events, Botha made a special statement to Parliament saying: "As long as this government is in power, there will be no hesitation to act against any elements which threaten or defame any of our communities or minority groups. For this purpose, existing measures will be applied strictly." He added, "If that does not prove sufficient, additional measures will be submitted to Parliament for approval."

In the past, Botha's ruling National Party itself used anti-Semitic propaganda. In the 1940s they portrayed Dutch-descent Afrikaner whites as victims of exploitation by the Jewish business community.

In addressing the Parliament, Botha said: "I want to tell the Jewish community of South Africa: We appreciate your contribution to the economic, cultural and technological achievements of our fatherland." He stressed, "We reject racial superiority. We reject religious coercion."

## More Young Arabs Adopting Khomeini's Doctrine

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Sheffy Gabai, the eminent Arab affairs correspondent of Maariv, reported that the number of young Arabs in the administered territories who are adopting Khomeini's doctrine is growing year to year.

The newly-recruited Khomeinists are often past members of Islamic movements which operate freely in the territories and do not rule out the use of firearms in the belief that only in this way can the Islamic revolution in the region be fomented.

The majority of the Muslims in Israel and the territories belong to moderate trends and reject the attempts of the Khomeinists to impose their will.

## IDF is Walking Taller

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The IDF is ordering new and longer beds for its soldiers — not because the beds have shrunk, but because its new recruits are three centimeters (an inch-and-a-half) taller than they were 10 years ago.

The new beds now being ordered are expected to answer the requirements for sleeping stretched out for all except six percent of the tallest new recruits. These unlucky soldiers will have to sleep with bent knees or with their feet sticking out of the end, the IDF quartermaster said. As far as is known, no research has yet been conducted to determine why today's recruits are taller than those a decade ago.

## Day School Won't Admit Boy Because of His Mother

AMSTERDAM (JTA) — A Jewish day school here has refused to admit a 13-year-old boy because his mother is not halachically Jewish.

The board of the Jewish Maimonides Lyceum, the only Jewish secondary school in Amsterdam, has stated it will not admit Aram Bruckner for the upcoming school year despite his parents' desire to give the boy a Jewish education.

Local press has given considerable attention to the Bruckner story, depicting it as an example of Orthodox Jewish rigidity. One Amsterdam daily ran an interview with Aram in which he said he wanted to attend the Jewish day school because he experienced much anti-Semitism during the six years he attended a village elementary school in the province of Vorarlberg in Austria.

## New Hotel Opens in Jerusalem

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The 522-room Hyatt Regency Hotel, one of the largest hostels in Israel, has opened here after 10 years of construction. The hotel, overlooking the Old City, was built by a group of 30 Jewish Latin American investors for \$50 million.

The hotel, with two pools, a convention center and more, is scheduled to be fully operational by mid-October. Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir said Israel had room for more such hotels.

## Medical News from Israel

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Israeli prostitutes will be required to undergo blood tests for AIDS every six months and will be liable to arrest if caught without an "AIDS-free" certificate.

There are estimated to be between 2,000 and 10,000 male and female prostitutes active in Israel.

Of the total of 45 people found to have AIDS in Israel, 35 have died. Half of them were infected abroad. Another 237 persons have been found to carry AIDS antibodies in their blood.

Of 4,000 convicts in Israeli prisons tested for AIDS, 30 have been found to have AIDS antibodies, but not the disease itself. Most were drug addicts.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Ovadia Masri, 50, of Beer-sheba, was pronounced "stable but still not out of danger" by doctors at Hadassah Hospital after undergoing a heart-transplant operation.

It was the first such surgery performed in Israel in 20 years. Two operations done in the late 1960s both failed.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — A group of Soviet Jewish physicians is reconsidering plans to immigrate to Israel due to a new Israeli law requiring all new-immigrant doctors to undergo professional tests before being licensed to practice medicine in this country.

The Health Ministry said some recent immigrant doctors have shown a low professional level, so the tests are necessary. Since 1971, about 3,700 doctors from Eastern Europe have settled in Israel.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Some 700 scientists from around the

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