

# WORLD BEAT

—edited by Marta Garelik

## Surgeons Implant Silicon Vertebra

TEL AVIV (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.

The partially paralyzed woman had been bedridden before the operation because the vertebra, in the lower part of her spine, was so damaged by cancer that her backbone was unable to hold her body up. She now can sit up in a wheelchair and has been discharged from the hospital.

The silicon replacement was crafted by a team at Hadassah's facial rehabilitation unit to form an exact match of the wasted vertebra.

## Germans to Aid Israel Economy

(Jerusalem Post) — Some 100 West German businessmen have agreed to take part in the creation of a task force to encourage Israeli economic growth. The new task force was formed during a meeting in Frankfurt with Economics Minister Gad Ya'acobi.

Ya'acobi told the businessmen that Israel's imports of German goods would exceed exports there by \$1 billion. The task force should help to narrow that gap, he said.

He suggested that German companies should send a mission to Israel to help Israeli businesses.

## U.S. Data Link Considered

(Jerusalem Post) — Israel-America Chamber of Commerce President Joshua Maor said recently that the organization is exploring the possibility of setting up a direct, computerized communication link with individual U.S.

Chambers for the exchange of business and trade information.

The commercial counselor units in Israeli embassies around the world are being computerized to provide up-to-date information about imports, exports and markets. The Ministry of Industry and Trade has completed the computerization of the unit in the U.S. The embassy computer has been linked up directly to the biggest American data banks. Within seconds, information on potential clients and markets can be obtained.

## "Aryan Nations Hour" Cancelled

NEW YORK (JTA) — The controversial "Aryan Nations Hour" on radio station KZZI-AM near Salt Lake City has been cancelled by its host, Dwight McCarthy, presumably because the station has lost most of its advertisers. The show espoused the views of the Aryan Nations, a white supremacist group, that advocates turning the Pacific Northwest into an all-white bastion.

McCarthy, 37, reportedly blamed the "liberal-Marxist-homosexual Zionist coalition" for his problems at the station.

At the Wiesenthal Center's request, Rep. John Dingell (D-Mich.) has contacted the Federal Communications Commission, which is examining the matter. Two months ago, the FCC said it saw no "clear and present danger" from the "Aryan Nations Hour."

"It's our position that this KZZI incident could repeat itself in other cities unless some corrective action is taken by the FCC," Trank said.

## Israel and Germany to Share Research

BONN (JTA) — The governments of West Germany and Israel will jointly undertake 28 research projects. The projects in medicine, irrigation, agriculture, physics, literature

and other areas, are the outcome of a 1986 agreement. When fully funded, by 1990, the foundation is expected to distribute some 10 million marks (about \$6 million) a year in research grants.

The work will be done mainly in Israel, with German scientists or scientific institutions participating. This will amount to channeling more financial assistance from West Germany to Israel. The Bonn government makes available 140 million marks a year in long-term development credits to Israel. The amount has not been increased since 15 years ago, when Israel and West Germany established diplomatic relations.

## Trade Pact on Agricultural Exports Signed

BRUSSELS (JTA) — Israel and the European Economic Community, after a long delay, signed a new trade protocol here that will give Israeli agricultural exports certain tariff advantages in the European market. But Israel had to make important concessions to win the agreement, changing the way produce from the West Bank and Gaza Strip are marketed in Europe.

The agreement affects mainly Israeli fruits, vegetables and fresh-cut flowers, which are popular on the continent during the winter season. It revises the original 1975 EEC-Israel trade accord in consideration of the entry of Spain and Portugal into the European Common Market in 1986. Spain, in particular, competes with Israel in agricultural exports, notably citrus fruits.

## Canada Seeking Testimony in Nazi Cases

TORONTO (JTA) — Justice Minister Ramon Hnatyshyn is negotiating to allow Canadian investigators to take sworn testimony in the courts of nine nations that can be used to

prosecute 22 alleged Nazi war criminals in Canada.

The new Criminal Code allows Canada to try its citizens for crimes committed on foreign soil, but only after sworn testimony is collected in the countries concerned. The testimony, on video tape, may be presented as evidence in Canadian courts.

The justice minister is negotiating with the governments of Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Israel, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and West Germany for permission to take testimony about the suspects.

## Soccer Fans Fined for Anti-Semitic Slurs

AMSTERDAM (JTA) — Four fans of a Rotterdam soccer team have been fined the equivalent of \$75 to \$200 each for shouting anti-Semitic epithets during a match played last March.

The fans, supporters of the Feyenoord soccer club, also were barred from attending six consecutive matches of their favorite team. To make sure they abide by the orders of the Amsterdam district court, they are required to report to the Rotterdam police while the games are in progress.

The incident occurred during a match between Feyenoord and the Amsterdam soccer team, Ajax. The fans shouted "Van Thijn, Jewish swine." Ed Van Thijn, who is of Jewish origin, is the mayor of Amsterdam.

## Germany Going After Neo-Nazis

BONN (JTA) — An East Berlin district court judge 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 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.

BONN (JTA) Police used tear gas to break up an illegal demonstration by about 300 neo-Nazi youths in Fladungen-Leubac on New Year's Eve. The town is on the border between Bavaria and Hesse, and police from both states participated. Several arrests were made and a quantity of Nazi banners and anti-Semitic written material was confiscated.

## Germans Dedicating Synagogues in Memory of Holocaust

BONN (JTA) — The East German town of Meiningen will erect a memorial at the site of the former synagogue, destroyed with many other Jewish edifices in Germany and Austria during "Kristallnacht," Nov. 9, 1938.

The first local memorial to the destruction will be a sign of respect and gratitude to the town's former Jewish community and be used as an educational tool, according to a town spokesman.

The Bavarian town of Ichenhausen, home to no Jews since 1953, has turned a 207-year-old synagogue building into a cultural and social center. The baroque building, considered one of the most beautiful of its type in Germany, had been used as a firehouse since 1953.

GENEVA (JTA) — The Orienburg Synagogue in East Berlin, the largest Jewish house of worship in Germany until it was destroyed by the Nazis, will be rebuilt as a Holocaust memorial center. It served a community of 100,000 before the Nazi era. East Germany's 600 Jews have a smaller, recently refurbished synagogue and do not need the huge edifice. Thus, it will be turned into "Centrum Judaicum" with a monument to the Holocaust victims and a permanent exhibition tracing the history of anti-Semitism.

"We want to set a monument (because) we feel we share responsibility for the past," Klaus Gysi, secretary of state for religious affairs of the East German Democratic Republic, said. He noted that the Democratic Republic is not the legal successor of the Third Reich. "But we are Germans," he said, "and therefore we are of course responsible

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