

# WORLD BEAT

— edited by Marta Garelik

## U.S. Extremist Groups Are More Violent

PALM BEACH, Fla. (JTA) — More than 70 racist and anti-Semitic organizations are active in the U.S. while the organization of conspiracy theorist Lyndon LaRouche has made inroads in Latin America, according to reports released here by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

The 138-page "Hate Groups in America: A Record of Bigotry and Violence" details an upsurge of violence by extremist groups during the past six years as their membership declined.

The violence includes bombings and arson against Jewish, black or other property and religious institutions; armed robberies and shootouts with law enforcement officers; counterfeiting operations; and murders, such as the fatal shooting of Denver radio talk show host Alan Berg in 1984.

According to the report, extremists also have conspired to commit large-scale sabotage with the ultimate goal of overthrowing the American government in order to establish a white supremacist regime. The plans, such as the destruction of dams, were aborted by law enforcement action.

Despite neo-Nazi membership being at its "lowest ebb" since George Lincoln Rockwell founded the American Nazi Party in the 1950s, the report indicates, neo-Nazi groups reach a widening audience through the nationwide dissemination of anti-Semitic literature and posters. They also use radio — especially call-in programs — cable television and lately a computer network. The survey also points out that youth are joining the movement. It cites the Skinheads, the gangs of shaven-headed youth who wear neo-Nazi garb and carry out violence against blacks, Jews

and other minorities.

## Skinheads Sentenced in East Berlin

BERLIN (JTA) — An East Berlin court sentenced eight members of a "skinheads" group to jail terms of up to more than three years for attacking rock-music fans and yelling Nazi slogans at a church concert in October.

During the riot inside and outside the church, the "skinheads" screamed slogans from the Nazi era and insulted people. The riot had been instigated and led by West Berlin "skinheads."

The sentences ranged from three years and nine months to one year and three months. Four other "skinheads" already have been jailed for up to four years for their part in the attack.

## Meese Told of Anti-Semitism

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Sixty members of Congress have written Attorney General Edwin Meese III recommending that the Justice Department act on the "disturbing increase in anti-Semitic incidents in the United States" last year.

"We urge you to ensure that the criminal justice system is responding appropriately to this dangerous increase in anti-religious crimes," the representatives said in the letter, initiated by Rep. Ted Weiss (D-N.Y.).

## Holocaust Museum Seeks Materials

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Holocaust-related documents, especially those created during the period, are sought by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, scheduled to open here in 1990.

"To tell that story accurately, authentically and powerfully, we need original artifacts, documents, letters, diaries and documentary works of art and

photographs that were created in the camps, in ghettos or in hiding," said museum director Arthur Rosenblatt.

The museum also seeks material pertaining to armed or spiritual resistance against the Nazis and to the reestablishment of life that followed.

Individuals and organizations with original material to donate are asked to send a full description of it to: Curator, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, 2000 L St. N.W., Suite 588, Washington, DC 20036.

## French Cardinal to Help Fund Auschwitz Interreligious Center

PARIS (JTA) — France's highest ranking Catholic prelate said he would use a \$35,000 human rights award to help establish an interreligious center at the Auschwitz death camp in Poland.

Cardinal Albert Decourtray, a noted friend of Israel and Jews, was awarded the French government's first "prize for the defense of human rights" which included the funds.

Decourtray's intervention is credited for the Vatican's decision to remove the convent in recognition that the Jewish people were overwhelmingly the victims of the Nazi death machine at Auschwitz and that the camp site must remain forever linked to Jewish martyrdom. He has considerable influence in Vatican circles. He was the only top-ranking Catholic cleric to openly express "reservations" over Pope John Paul II's meeting with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim at the Vatican last June because of Waldheim's revealed Nazi past.

## Rabbi Urges to Stop Anti-Semitism in Japan

WASHINGTON (JTA) — American Jews should construct a Jewish cultural center in Tokyo to disseminate information that would counter negative Japanese perceptions

of Jews, Japan's sole rabbi urged.

Michael Schudrick, spiritual leader of the Jewish Community Center in Tokyo, explained that the stereotypes were essentially the result of a recent spate of anti-Semitic books. He delivered his comments following a conference on that literature sponsored by the American Jewish Committee.

Approximately 170 Jewish families live in Tokyo and no more than 1,000 Jews are in Japan at any given time, the rabbi estimated. The Japanese government and people are not anti-Semitic, he said, and "no significant acts" of anti-Semitism have taken place in Japan in recent years.

The problem, as he saw it, was that some "very unscrupulous authors" were "taking advantages of" the Japanese public with the anti-Semitic books. A combined one million copies have been sold. Masami Uno's "If You Understand Judea, You Will Understand the World" and "If You Understand Judea, You Will Understand Japan."

## Shultzes Were Pampered

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israelis seemd to have spared no expense to make U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's four-day stay here comfortable.

His huge entourage had been allotted the top four floors of the posh Jerusalem Hilton Hotel. Shultz and his wife Helena occupied the Royal Suite on the 20th floor, which offers such amenities as a private sauna and luxurious bathrooms.

There were corsages of orchids for Helena and a masseuse for the secretary of state. The Hilton flew in a master chef from West Germany to prepare fish to the Shultzes' taste.

Hotel maintenance workers spent five days cleaning and repairing the hotel's indoor pool. It was filled with fresh water and heated to 77°, the temperature Shultz prefers when he goes swimming.

## Tid-Bits

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Knesset enacted legislation outlawing sexism at the work place and protecting women employees from sexual harassment.

The new law prohibits discrimination by sex in employ-

ment, work conditions, promotions, professional training, dismissal or compensation for dismissal.

A major provision states that men as well as women will be entitled to post-maternity leave with pay. In addition, a father may obtain paid leave to take care of a sick child. Similar laws exist in Sweden and several other European countries, but they are a rarity world-wide.

NEW YORK (JTA) — Although no Israeli athlete participated in the 15th Winter Olympics in Calgary one of the top-rated athletes is known to be Jewish, the corollary events were not without Jewish content.

The memory of the 11 Israeli athletes killed by Palestinian terrorists during the 1972 Olympics in Munich was honored by the Calgary Jewish community at a memorial service at the Calgary Jewish Center, attended by more than 750 people, including Calgary Mayor Ralph Klein.

GENEVA (JTA) — Nazi-hunter Beate Klarsfeld has again accused the Syrian government of harboring Alois Brunner, one of the most notorious Nazi war criminals still at large, and of ignoring appeals that he be brought to justice.

She told the UN Human Rights Commission here that Syrian President Hafez Assad had not responded to appeals about Brunner.

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — The governments of Britain and Argentina are taking steps to bring to justice suspected Nazi war criminals residing in those countries, the Simon Wiesenthal Center reported.

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council and Yad Vashem, the world's only two national Holocaust institutions, recently agreed to their first official exchange of exhibits and considered donating duplicate materials to each other. In addition, they agreed to co-publish books in English on the Holocaust and provide assistance to each other's scholars and researchers.

Yad Vashem also has agreed to participate in the council's automated inventory of Holocaust-related documents worldwide.



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