

WORLD BEAT

edited by Marta Garelik

Israeli Officials In West Germany Harassed By Hecklers

BONN (JTA) — Israel's Ambassador to West Germany, Yitzhak Ben Ari and another member of the Israel Embassy staff were severely harassed by hecklers at separate speaking engagements in Munich and Marburg.

Ben Ari, addressing a group in Munich on the prospects for peace in the Middle East, was repeatedly shouted down by young members of the audience who hurled anti-Israel slogans at the envoy in Marburg where Embassy aide Dan Ashbel appeared before Protestant students in a building owned by their church.

Hours before Ashbel's arrival, several thousand youngsters marched through the city carrying anti-Semitic banners and proclaiming their support for the Arab cause. Later, they occupied the meeting hall and refused to let Ashbel speak. Police were on hand but did not intervene.

Israel Festival In Memphis

TEL AVIV (Jerusalem Post) — A month-long festival highlighting the commercial, cultural and educational facets of Israel will be held in Memphis, Tennessee next May.

Some 27 individual events will be held during the month; 139,000 school children will be given a 500-page book on Israel, past, present, and future, and will have to prepare lessons on the subject.

The Memphis in May festival has in the past honored six countries: Japan, Canada, West Germany, Venezuela, Egypt and the Netherlands.

The aim is to develop commercial ties between foreign countries and the Memphis

area. Memphis is the trading center for large portions of Mississippi, Arkansas, West Kentucky, Alabama, Louisiana and, of course, Tennessee.

Israel and U.S. To Exchange 'War Lessons'

(Jerusalem Post) — Israel and the U.S. signed an agreement which will regulate the flow of information gleaned from Israel's experience in the Lebanese war and reciprocal American technology resulting from this information.

The agreement signed in Tel Aviv by Defense Minister Ariel Sharon and Andrew Marshall, head of the Net Assessment department of the Pentagon establishes formal conduits through which Israel transmit not only what it learned about Soviet weapon systems used by the Syrians in Lebanon, but on the performance of American weapons used by the IDF.

Iranian Periodical Says 'Israel Must Be Destroyed'

GENEVA, (JTA) — A monthly periodical called "Iman" which is published by the information department of the Iranian Foreign Office has been sent to the United Nations correspondents in Geneva. The title on the cover reads, "Israel Must Be Destroyed."

The editorial states: "The deliverance of the Islamic countries from the international imperialism headed by the United States of America is dependent upon the destruction of Israel which is the symbol of that superpower in the region."

It adds: "It is sad to be reminded of the fact that had the war with the aggressive regime of Iraq not been forced on Iran, our brave people would have directed their struggle and resources

towards the achievement of that objective."

Electronics Plant Opened in Jail

TEL AVIV (Jerusalem Post) — A Tadiran electronics plant was inaugurated in Ramle's Ma'asiyahu prison by Interior Minister Yosef Burg as part of a program to provide prisoners with more opportunities for gainful employment.

Prisoners can work outside the jail three months before their release and are paid the prevailing minimum wage.

Israeli Computers Being Marketed in France

PARIS (JTA) — Israeli-made computers are being marketed in France and have already been bought by several large public and private corporations including France's national security ministry and Air France. The Israeli "Elbit" factory last year sold \$2 million worth of sophisticated computers and electronic devices on the French market, according to the head of the French company dealing with the sale, Jacques Benillouche. Elbit now plans to start building the computers in France itself in order to be able to compete on better terms with various West European manufacturers of similar products, Benillouche said.

Fonda Declares Support For Israel

NEW YORK (JTA) — Declaring her unqualified support for Israel, actress Jane Fonda condemned the "double standard" which has been applied to Israel over the war in Lebanon, to an overflow audience at Town Hall for Rabbi William Berkowitz' Dialogue Forum Series.

"It's easy to sit over here, Jew and non-Jew, and criticize, but we haven't lived on the border of Lebanon and we were not shelled for 12 years by Palestinian terrorists," she said. "Israel," she said, "is surrounded by a sea of fanaticism. These countries are against women, against democracy, and every right we hold dear, and they're anti-Semitic."

Fonda called for a more balanced and less biased assessment before criticizing, and said: "Maybe if there had been as much focus in what was going on in Lebanon before the war, the war would not have had to happen."

By L. Louis Albert, ACSW Director Federation Social Services

We've all heard about the attractive early retirement packages offered by several large corporations. In some fields, mandatory retirement is still an issue. Some people look forward to retirement with anticipation and others dread it like the plague. There are several issues to consider as one nears this stage of life. There are also some pit falls that should be avoided along the way.

Throughout our lives, we often plan for major changes. We plan in order to buy a home. We plan for a family. We plan years in advance for a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, but most people do not give much thought to retirement. The word itself sounds like a disease or as if it were a tangible thing. Rather, it is a stage of living that affects both the individual and the entire family.

The time to begin planning is at least one year before making any changes. At that stage, one has the relative luxury of playing with the possibilities rather than reacting to the needs of the moment.

How much money will you have to live on and how much money will you need to maintain the desired life style? To reach financial goals requires that decisions have been made in earlier years. Another major decision concerns where to live. Will it be Charlotte or Florida or somewhere else? You'll need information on climate, cost of living, cultural activities and dozens of other things. It

takes considerably longer than a few weeks to obtain and sift through this mountain of information. Will you live in a condo, buy a single family home, or rent? And speaking of housing, it's not likely that you'll sell your present home very quickly given the high interest rate.

These are concrete problems though, and are easier to handle. The emotional changes that may come about upon retiring are often a source of surprise to husbands and wives. The man or woman used to working everyday may suddenly find him or herself at loose ends. Will you go out and look for a part time job or some volunteer work? Will you use your time to pursue old hobbies and interests, or to develop new ones? How will you use your time?

Many wives complain about newly retired husbands and don't know what to do with them. How do you handle a husband who follows you around all day and is becoming depressed? Are you expected to disrupt the pattern of your own life? Marital problems often surface at this time unless each partner can make an adjustment to changed circumstances.

With a little timely planning, most of these problems can be successfully handled or even avoided. The key is to start early, and to talk with other people who are knowledgeable in order to make sound decisions. Your Jewish Social Services Program has been created, in part, to help people with the planning for these changes. Give us a call, we're here to help.

Your Jewish Lexicon

Adult Jewish Studies — UAHV

The Seal of Truth

Of all the words in the Jewish lexicon, *emet*, meaning "truth," is one of the most frequently heard and important in Jewish thought. Indeed, so important is the concept of *emet* that the sages of the Talmud called truth "the seal of God." They regarded *emet* as one of the pillars sustaining the world, the other two being *din*, "justice," and *shalom*, "peace." Between nations and between all human beings, *emet* must prevail lest the world collapse into chaos.

A lovely *midrash* points to the spelling of *emet* with the Hebrew letters *alef* (the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet), *mem* (the middle

letter) and *tav* (the final letter) and concludes that "truth" is hence the beginning, the middle and the end of all things.

The One, true God despises lying and perversions of *emet* in every area of life. The Prophet Zechariah (8:16:17) proclaims: "Speak the truth (*emet*) every man with his neighbor; execute the judgement of truth (*emet*) and *shalom* in your gates; and let none of you devise evil in your hearts against his neighbor; and love no false oath; for all these things I hate, says the Lord."

The preoccupation with *emet* finds expression in the Ninth Commandment, which prohibits false witness. All of our prophets and sages excoriated a lying tongue and a lying heart, for both lead to untold suffering and injustice. Self-deception or lying to oneself, is also a perversion of *emet*, and can lead to disaster.

Any Jew who has ever mourned a relative or friend knows the word *emet* from the benediction, *Baruch dayan ha-emet*, "Blessed be the Judge of truth."

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