

WORLD BEAT

edited by Marta Garelik

Swiss City Hit By Anti-Semitism

GENEVA (JTA) — Swiss police are investigating the recent emergence of what appears to be a well organized campaign of virulent anti-Semitism in Basel, located near the German border. Its targets are not only Jews but non-Jewish families who have Jewish friends. The campaign is aimed particularly against faculty and students of the medical school in Basel. Jewish students have been advised not to attend a faculty party because their lives may be in danger.

Vicious anti-Semitic slogans have been daubed on the walls of the local synagogue, the Jewish cemetery, public telephone booths and on the walls of underpasses near the university. Some of the slogans read, "Jews Out"; "Jews are Swine"; "Auschwitz was invented by the Jews." On the bulletin board of the medical school faculty, someone wrote: "Jews, sons of prostitutes, out of here."

The campaign is well organized and unrestrained in its viciousness.

About 200 university students in Basel demonstrated over a week later to the above. The federal government, various political parties and churches have denounced these manifestations. Police are investigating but have been unable to find the perpetrators so far.

Non-Jews among the demonstrators declared that they were "deeply shocked by the anti-Semitic campaign against Jewish students" and expressed full solidarity with them.

Chicago City Council Urges U.S. To Aid Falashas

CHICAGO (JTA) — The Chicago City Council, by a vote of 43-2, adopted a resolution urging the U.S. to assist in rescuing and resettling the Falashas, the Jews of Ethiopia.

The resolution noted "The Ethiopian Jews are amongst the oldest continuous Jewish communities in existence." The Council resolved to "urge President Reagan and the Congress to take all steps necessary to assist the Ethiopian Jews and to use all available resources to make freedom, rescue and resettlement of these people possible."

The Jewish Community in Argentina

(JTA) — The 1,323-page State Department's annual report on the human rights situation in Argentina claims "significant expansion of civil and political liberties" in 1982.

Argentina's Jewish community, estimated at 300,000-450,000, "practices its religion without official restraint," the report states. "It represents an important part of the country's economic and cultural life, and the government maintains good relations with the community. There is no evidence of an official policy of anti-Semitism."

The report adds that "occasional incidents" occur, such as the desecration of a Jewish cemetery in February, 1982. "The government strongly condemned the vandalism, with President Galieri's personal denunciation given wide distribution by all the news media. Jewish community leaders called the government's repudiation of anti-Semitism 'unprecedented' in its forcefulness."

Israelis Healthy

(Jewish Post & Opinion) — Israelis are among the healthiest people on earth. Child mortality is low, and longevity is great. This condition can be attributed to the Kupat Cholim (Sick Fund) of the Histadrut which has been providing health in-

surance and hospital benefits to the populace for years.

Kupat Cholim is currently observing its 70th anniversary and has 2,000 clinics, hundreds of pharmacies, laboratories galore, 16 hospitals, mental institutions, 13 nursing schools, and many doctors who actually make house calls.

Names in the News

(Jewish Post & Opinion) — Every year, Allen Quille, a Baltimore black businessman, buys \$50,000 in Israel Bonds, and since 1976 he has visited Israel once a year. A millionaire many times over, he operates parking garages, and is a life member of the Zionist Organization and a vice-president of the Jewish National Fund. He credits Jewish sources with helping him get started in business. Menachem Begin presented him with B'nai B'rith's Man of the Year award 18 years ago.

(JTA) — Dr. Hugh Montefiore, Bishop of Birmingham, a member of the eminent Sephardi family whose greatest figure was Sir Moses Montefiore, the 19th century philanthropist and defender of oppressed Jewry, preached at a church which is staging an exhibition of Holocaust material on loan from the official Auschwitz Museum in Poland.

Referring to "an atmosphere of hatred" in the Gospels of St. Matthew and St. John, Bishop Montefiore said: "It is here, right at the heart and center of the New Testament writings that we find the beginnings of anti-Semitism which has been so rampant in the church."

VIENNA (JTA) — Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, a sharp critic of Israeli policy, said the report by the inquiry commission "indicates that Israel is a democracy and a state based on law...I am overwhelmed. This report will repair Israel's

damaged image in the world."

LONDON (JTA) — The British Foreign Office took a virtually unprecedented step in summoning the Soviet Ambassador to discuss the plight of imprisoned Jewish dissident Anatoly Shcharansky. Foreign Secretary Francis Pym told Ambassador Viktor Popov that Shcharansky should be released immediately, and expressed concern about the effect of his hunger strike and forcible feeding. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher granted an interview to Shcharansky's wife, Avital, and publicly supported her singlehanded campaign for his release.

Tid-Bits

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Ben Gurion Airport is to lease from the U.S. what is regarded as the "latest word" in American radar, now in use in 96 leading U.S. airports throughout the country. U.S. Federal Aviation Administration officials are already in Israel to train local personnel in use of the new equipment.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The late Arthur Rubinstein left half a million dollars in his will for the beautification of Jerusalem.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — A group of South African scientists are in Israel to study its rain-making systems, anticipating a water shortage in South Africa by the year 2020. The Hebrew University laboratory has a world-wide reputation for successfully seeding clouds to produce considerable increase in local rainfalls.

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Jewish National Fund will plant a forest in memory of the 200,000 Jewish soldiers in the Red Army who fell in battle against the Nazis during World War II. About a half million Jewish soldiers

served with the Red Army during the war.

PARIS (JTA) — President Francois Mitterrand will convene an international conference which will study the best ways to prevent anti-Semitism, racism and discrimination in the world.

SAN FRANCISCO (JTA) — Nearly 40 San Francisco homosexual Jews met recently to form a non-profit corporation called Congregation Ahavat Shalom, which holds Sabbath services on Fridays at the Metropolitan Community Church.

Interesting Headlines

Second Test Tube Baby Born In Israel

CEAUSESCU Authorizes Shipment of Jewish Religious Items to Israel

Poll Shows Majority of French People Favor Reinstatement of Death Penalty In The Case of Klaus Barbie

U.S. Investors Established 18 New Firms in Israel in 1982

Gerber To Lead Tour Of Israel

Rabbi Israel J. Gerber, Temple Emmanuel of Gastonia, has arranged an exciting 11-day trip to Israel. It leaves on June 30 and returns July 10. Extensions to other cities and countries are available.

The trip includes air fare (NY-Tel Aviv - NY), deluxe hotels daily Israeli breakfasts, 2 Shabbat dinners, sightseeing throughout the country, transfers, portage, etc. During this period, the World Union for Progressive Judaism will be meeting in Jerusalem. All this, and in high season too, is only \$1590 per person, double occupancy.

Rabbi Gerber, a world-traveler and a many-time visitor of Israel, is an excellent group leader and anyone who has been contemplating a trip to Israel should avail themselves of this opportunity.

To reserve your space now, send your deposit of \$100 to Rabbi Israel Gerber, 2025 Donegal Court, Gastonia, NC 28052. For further information call the Rabbi at (704) 861-1776.

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