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Marc,

The attached was prepared at Selma Hirsh's
request for Sol Linowitz.



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date October 21, 1986
to Selma Hirsh
from David Harris
subject Soviet Jewry Update

Much of my thinking on the current opportunities and challenges facing the Soviet Jewry advocacy movement in the face of evolving Soviet-American relations is set forth in the enclosed Moment article. Let me use this opportunity, however, both to summarize the main points and add some thoughts based on the Reykjavik meeting.

Supporters of the Soviet Jewry issue are faced with a number of pressing issues:

1. Emigration figures have declined steadily since the peak year of 1979. Whereas 51,000 Jews were issued exit visas in 1979, it is expected that less than 1,000 will be permitted to leave in 1986. At the same time, selected repression of Jewish activists continues under Gorbachev. While there are comparatively few Jewish prisoners of conscience -- some two dozen -- nearly half were arrested since Gorbachev's accession to power in March 1985. The situation of Jewish religious and cultural practice remains essentially unchanged, namely, virtually no official opportunities to engage in serious study or practice despite a few well-publicized cosmetic gestures. And the flow of vitriolic anti-Zionist tirades in the electronic and print media continues, with some of the subject matter bordering very close on the anti-Semitic.
2. The Soviet government is stepping up its efforts to "re-assimilate" Jews, stating publicly that Jews are a respected and equal nationality in the Soviet family of some 120 nationalities. Although this may seem contradictory to the thrust of points raised above, it reflects a variation of a two-track policy on the Jewish question that the Kremlin has frequently pursued.
3. The current round of bilateral discussions provides the first serious opportunity for U.S. negotiators to address human rights issues with their Soviet counterparts since 1979. President Reagan and Secretary of State Shultz have affirmed publicly on several occasions their recognition of the magnitude of the problem and commitment to its favorable resolution. They have noted that the human rights issue is one of four intrinsic agenda items with Moscow -- the others being arms control and security, bilateral

issues and regional conflicts -- and that every appropriate opportunity will be used to press the Kremlin on the human rights question, of which a central element is the emigration of Soviet Jews. While no direct linkage with arms control has been proposed, President Reagan has noted that the atmosphere of trust and credibility would be greatly enhanced if the Soviets were to begin fulfilling their obligations under the Universal Declaration for Human Rights, Helsinki Final Act and other relevant international agreements to which they are signatory.

4. At the same time that we note the current opportunities for movement on the Soviet Jewry question, we are also aware of the serious challenges before us. It is possible to visualize a scenario whereby Soviet Jewry is, in effect, "left behind" while superpower relations move forward on other fronts. Clearly, the Kremlin is anxious to find the minimum possible price to pay to mute criticism of its human rights practices and to permit progress on other fronts, namely, arms control and security and trade and commerce. Thus, the Kremlin has been engaged in a well-orchestrated and shrewdly calculated attempt to gain favorable publicity through any staggered release of several well-known dissident and refusenik cases. In doing so, however, it has left unaddressed the large underlying questions, relying instead on such well-worn themes as "family reunification has essentially been completed;" "the only refusals are for those possessing state secrets and such refusals last from five to ten years;" "Soviet Jews are a talented and privileged minority;" and "U.S. discussion of such issues represents a gross violation of Soviet internal affairs." Thus, the Administration and the Jewish community are presented with a dilemma. What if the Soviets simply refuse to resume large-scale emigration despite Israeli assertions that nearly 4000,000 Soviet Jews desire exit visas? Is it appropriate to consider proffering non-strategic carrots to the Kremlin to attempt to undo the current situation? Should the Administration (and the Congress) consider restrictions beyond the Jackson-Vanik and Stevenson Amendments to seek to influence Soviet behavior? And, of course, these questions are even more pressing for the Jewish community which will be expected to take a lead in offering policy direction, bearing in mind that it might find itself in conflict with other private interest groups, i.e. the business community, or with segments of the government itself.
5. An interesting new dimension in the discussion is the future of Soviet-Israeli relations. In light of the Helsinki talks in August and the Peres-Shevardnadze meeting in New York the next month, one must begin to consider the possibility of a resumption of at least low-level diplomatic ties at some point in the future. The Soviet Jewry issue will undoubtedly play a significant role in all negotiations. Hence, there is a possibility, remote as it may now seem, that future talks will impact on Soviet Jewish emigration. Further, it could have the added benefit for Israel of providing for direct flights (or via an East European transit point) and thus

preventing Soviet Jews from "dropping out " in Vienna and proceeding to North America. Indeed, should large-scale emigration resume, but without agreement on direct flights, it is clear that the long-brewing controversy over final destination will again surface as a major issue in Israel and the American Jewish community.

6. A final issue that keeps surfacing is the relationship of the Soviet Jewry question to other human rights issues in the USSR. Most Soviet Jewry advocates, including the Israeli government and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, have always stressed the uniqueness of the issue and gone to great lengths to prevent the intermingling of the Soviet Jewry and other human rights questions. They contend that Soviet Jews seek not to change the Soviet system but to leave, consistent with the Soviet practice of acknowledging the right of repatriation (i.e., ethnic Germans to West Germany) and family reunification. They note that, with few exceptions, Jewish activists in the USSR, regardless of their private views, have avoided alliances with other human rights activists precisely for this reason. Others, particularly in this country, however, contend that it is tactically impossible to avoid mixing the issues, especially for coalitional reasons. If Soviet Jewry advocates seek the support, as they must, of non-Jews, then they must be prepared to address the human rights concerns of those groups as well.

But, ultimately, the most pressing question before us, as raised earlier, is the challenge of insuring that Soviet Jewry becomes a beneficiary -- and not a victim -- of any improving superpower relationship.

cc: Marc H. Tanenbaum

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THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date September 12, 1986
to The Files
from David Geller
subject Hungarian Jewish Community

CONFIDENTIAL

Yesterday I met with Andras Losonci, the head of the Hungarian Jewish community; his wife, Agnes; and their son, Gabor. It was a strictly off-the-record meeting. Dr. Losonci expressed deep pessimism about the future of the Jewish community. Assimilation and intermarriage have made deep inroads into the Jewish community, and, coupled with low birth rates and an extremely low level of Jewish education among the general population, it is obvious to any objective observer that the future seems bleak indeed.

On the positive side, there has been a dramatic rebirth of interest in the young about their heritage, and, in the general population, a greater interest in religion and a greater willingness to participate in religious activities, especially those connected to Jewish holidays. Coincidentally, the government is displaying a more relaxed attitude towards these activities and this has in turn encouraged more interest in the community.

Losonci expressed concern that anti-Semitism, though outlawed by the government, still exists and could be aroused by the greater assertiveness that many in the community, especially the young, feel increasingly willing to express.

His other great concern is the deteriorating condition of the community's finances. Before World War II the community was supported by an income tax of a sort, as well as substantial contributions by a number of wealthy families and individuals. Now, wealthy contributors do not exist. Furthermore, only 10-15% of the community can contribute, because, besides the very young, most of the community are elderly, including many Holocaust survivors without families. Government subsidies are small, and given Hungary's grave financial problems at the present time, the community fears that the subsidy will be decreased.

As for the Joint, its help is crucial. But here, too, there are problems. The Joint makes payments directly to the government. For every million forints given to the government, the community receives about 200,000... i.e., about 10% ... and no one dares inquire about the whereabouts of the 90%! Losonci asked me to speak to Ralph Goldman to see if it is possible to make payments directly to the institutions -- old age homes, hospital, schools, etc.

Regarding the scholars-in-residence idea which I had raised at the Presidents Conference meeting, he asked me to get in touch with Rabbi Schmelzer at JTS who is au courant with conversations on this subject which have already been held. Losonci hoped we might work together.

Finally, he asked me to bear in mind that the government's flexibility regarding religious and cultural matters is inversely proportional to the state of their finances. In other words, now is a good time to press.

He told me that AJCongress will be visiting Budapest in October, and the World Jewish Congress will be meeting there in May of 1987. Such visits are very important and helpful.

DG/es



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date October 28, 1986
to Marc Tanenbaum, Shula Bahat
from Allan Kagedan
subject South Africa Project -- Funding Methods

As you may recall, we met last week with David Gordis and Bob Goodkind to decide how to raise funds for the South Africa Civil Rights and Education Project outlined in our Statement on South Africa, an issue of concern to some of our chapters. The hope was that the support of AJC officers would be secured before the NEC session that will consider that Statement, so that funding questions which are raised could be answered, thus permitting us to launch the South Africa Project in Seattle.

We decided to pursue three avenues for raising funds: (1) A letter from Ted Ellenoff to AJC members requesting their support; (2) Encouraging AJC chapters to organize programs around the Project (e.g., with the participation of South African students in the U.S., visiting civil rights lawyers from South Africa, etc.) to raise funds, in cooperation with like-minded black, church, or human rights organizations; (3) To solicit funds from interested American Jewish foundations.

If the funding issue is clarified at the NEC, we could begin work immediately on setting the South Africa Project in motion.

Enclosed are additional materials relating to the Project that may be helpful.

AK/es

Enclosures

cc: E. Robert Goodkind
David M. Gordis
David A. Harris

MEMORANDUM

National Executive Council
Plenary Session: South Africa
November 1, 1986 - 2 P.M.

Notes for Presentation by E. Robert Goodkind,
Chairman, South Africa Task Force

South Africa Civil Rights and Education Project

Issue

* South Africa has become a key American foreign policy issue, one that will be with us for years to come. By and large, discussion has focussed on economic sanctions -- their effectiveness or ineffectiveness in promoting peaceful change. But what the sanctions debate expresses above all is the American public's desire to do something about the denial of basic human rights to blacks and other non-whites in South Africa. The question is how to channel this legitimate concern into effective, forward-looking positive action.

* Among policy-makers, there is a growing awareness that, sooner or later, blacks and other non-whites will overcome discrimination and share in the governing of the richest country on the African continent. How America deals with South Africa now will have a profound effect on its relations post-apartheid South Africa and with other African states who see policy toward South Africa as a litmus test of attitudes toward themselves. Moreover, a more positive attitude toward America among South Africa's majority would enhance the prospects for democracy in that country.

*Make
difference*

* A major American foreign policy issue, South Africa also raises particular concerns for Jews. Although it is experiencing significant emigration, South Africa's 110,000 member Jewish community will remain in place for years and its members realize the importance of reaching out -- as Jews -- to the black majority.

AJC PROGRAM

* In response to these concerns, the South Africa Task Force has devised a proposal for a South Africa Civil Rights and Education Project to enhance our current work on South Africa. The project would seek (1) to engage in applied human rights work by assisting in educating and defending the civil rights of disadvantaged South Africans and promoting ideas for a democratic post-Apartheid South Africa (2) to establish connections with the South African majority, clearly identifying ourselves as a Jewish organization (3) to involve AJC chapters in coalition-building work around this issue, serving in this way as a catalyst to encourage Americans to become creatively involved with South Africa.

* The project would function on an ongoing basis under the guidance of the South Africa Task Force. AJC would be actively involved in every project it undertakes with an American or South African partner.

* Examples of partners, with whom we have begun tentative discussions, are: (1) The Funda Center in Soweto, outside Johannesburg, which provides teacher training and supplementary education courses; ⁽²⁾ the Center for Applied Legal Studies at Witwatersrand University, which aids detainees and others whose human rights have been violated; ⁽³⁾ and the South African Training Program of the African-American Institute, which provides training at American Universities for South African refugees. Every project we undertake will have a specific target: the support of one or more students, the initiation of a course, the provision of educational materials, the undertaking of a legal case. We will publicize our work in the hope of educating the public on conditions in South Africa, on encouraging government and private support for similar work.

* The project has been endorsed by AJC's International Relations Steering Committee, and by our officers. Thus far, 15 AJC chapters have expressed an active interest in participating and organizing programs around it. The project has also received approval from US and Israeli government officials from prominent members of the South African Jewish community, and the programmatic work we plan to do is approved by a wide range of South African and American black leaders.

FUND RAISING

* We plan to raise funds in three ways: (1) Through an appeal to the AJC membership as a whole in the form of a letter from our President, Ted Ellenoff; (2) By encouraging fund-raising in connection with specific chapter events organized around this project, possibly in cooperation with civil rights church, or other groups; (3) Though soliciting funds from foundations that appreciate the value of American Jewish participation in the movement to democratize South Africa.

CONCLUSION

* Project South Africa offers AJC an opportunity to initiate applied, tangible, human rights work, and act as a catalyst for Jewish communal and general American work on a central foreign policy and human rights issue. Your support of this project would be most appreciated.

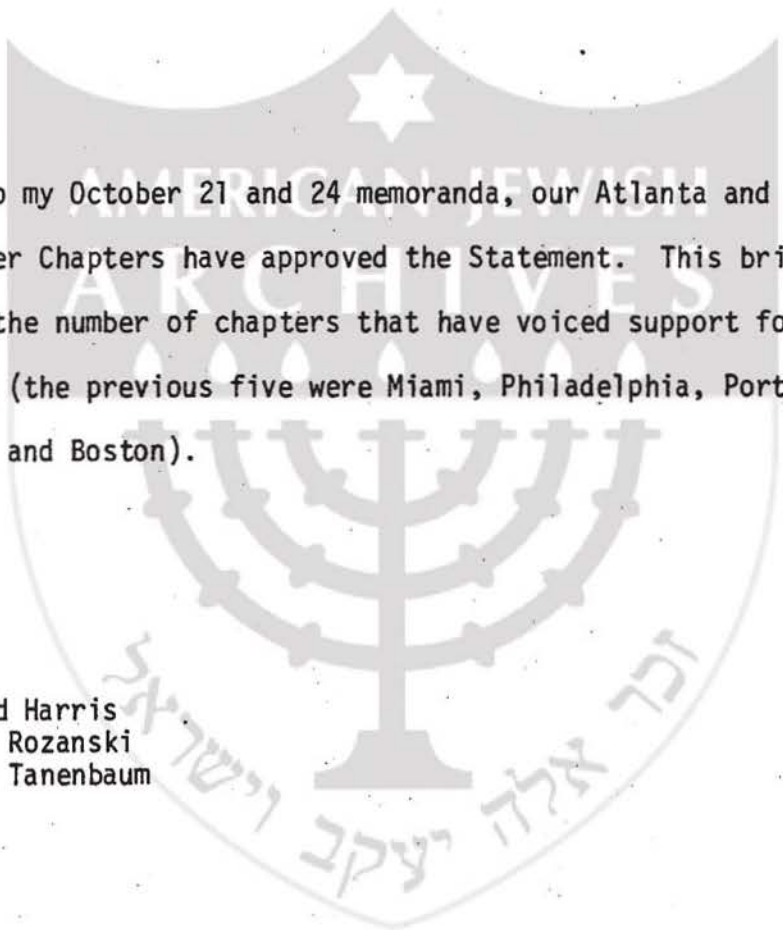
THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date October 28, 1986
to E. Robert Goodkind
from Allan Kagedan
subject Further Chapter Reaction to South Africa Statement


Further to my October 21 and 24 memoranda, our Atlanta and Westchester Chapters have approved the Statement. This brings to seven the number of chapters that have voiced support for the Statement (the previous five were Miami, Philadelphia, Portland, Cleveland and Boston).

AK/es

cc: David Harris
Geri Rozanski
Marc Tanenbaum



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date May 29, 1986
to Marc H. Tanenbaum
from Jacob Kovadloff 
subject CONSULTATION ON SOUTH AMERICA

I am pleased to report that concrete steps have been taken for our Consultation on South America which will take place in Boston on October 26-27. As you know, we are taking advantage of the presence there of academicians who are experts on South American countries in general, as well as having a great deal of involvement in Jewish life both here in the U.S. and in South America. They will be there attending the Latin American Studies Association Conference before the Consultation begins.

I spoke to some of the people participating in our Consultation and received positive replies from: Prof. Judith Elkin, Department of History, Ohio State University; Prof. Saul Sosnowsky of Maryland University; Prof. Carlos Waisman, University of California-San Diego; and Prof. Haim Avni of Hebrew University-Jerusalem, and I am waiting for answers from several others. As soon as the complete list of registrants to the LASA Conference is available, I will have other names to add.

Also, I think that scholars from Brandeis which is involved in special programs for Latin American professionals will be interested in joining us. The same applies to International Associates of our Washington, D.C. Chapter as well as one or two leaders of the Miami Chapter. Also, I think that professionals who are involved in programs with South America here in New York should be invited. They are: Alfredo Berflein of JDC; Rabbi Clifford Kulwin, Director of Latin American Affairs of the World Union for Progressive Judaism and Prof. Eddie Rauch of the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Our Boston Chapter shows great interest in co-sponsoring the Consultation. I spoke about this with the Chapter Chair, Mrs. Naomi J. Banks and Diane Steinman. I would suggest that we have a maximum of 20 participants. We must also think about a budget that will cover hotel accommodations for one night, three meals and fees for the scholars. I do not know as yet if the Boston Chapter will share these expenses with us.

continued...

The main goal of the Consultation is to learn about problems of the South American Jewish communities and prospects for the future of these communities. Both of these aspects will enhance the formulation of future AJC programs for the sub-continent, as well as providing material for an in-depth backgrounder for the AJC Officer's Mission in March of '87.

I would like to have your reaction to the plans I have outlined above. As you know, time is of the essence.

Many thanks.

JK/BJB

cc: David A. Harris



MEMORANDUM

Ellenoff

Leo Nevas

Gordis

Ed Elson

Dand

Hershovms

Goodkind

Jaffe

Carol Siegel


R. Fink

Conroy

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date May 28, 1986

to Marc H. Tanenbaum

from Jacob Kovadloff 

subject AJC OFFICER'S MISSION TO SOUTH AMERICA - MARCH 1987

In accordance with my meeting with David Gordis and subsequent discussions with you, Marc, I would like to outline the specifics of the AJC Officer's Mission to South America scheduled for March 1987. The tentative dates and itinerary are attached.

The last AJC Officer's Mission was in March of 1982. Since then, many changes -- both good and bad -- have taken place in the South American countries that, in particular, affect the Jewish communities but have also brought new dimensions to bilateral relations. Therefore, a fact-finding mission will give the new AJC leadership first-hand experience on the current geopolitical situation and be of great value.

This trip also represents solidarity with the local Jewish communities and an opportunity to learn about their external and internal problems. Yes, the democratic regimes are flourishing but there are still threats from both the extremists of the Left and Right. Indigenous terrorist groups which have links to international terrorist networks are still present in the new democracies. The Arab penetration through the actions of diplomats and PLO representatives is a matter of utmost concern to the Jewish communities. The agenda for the mission will include meetings with high level government officials, Jewish community leaders, church officials, leaders of human rights groups, academicians, the media, etc.

I have already started the basic preparations for this agenda and I hope to have it definitively in place by this August when, as planned, I will go to South America to attend several events to which I was invited so a lot of groundwork will be covered at that time.

continued....

It will be prudent to have approval of the agenda and itinerary for the mission as soon as possible. Also, it is vital to know who the attendees will be. Therefore, I would very much appreciate it if you can proceed with inviting the participants and give me a copy of your list.

In conclusion, I would like to remind you that next October 26th and 27th, in Boston, we will have consultations with academicians who are experts on Jewish life in South America to discuss current and future situations of Jewish communities there as well as to guide us regarding the most appropriate programs that AJC should develop. These discussions will be most useful for members of the mission in advance of their trip.

Please let me hear from you regarding the above at your earliest convenience.

Many thanks.

JK/BJB
attachment

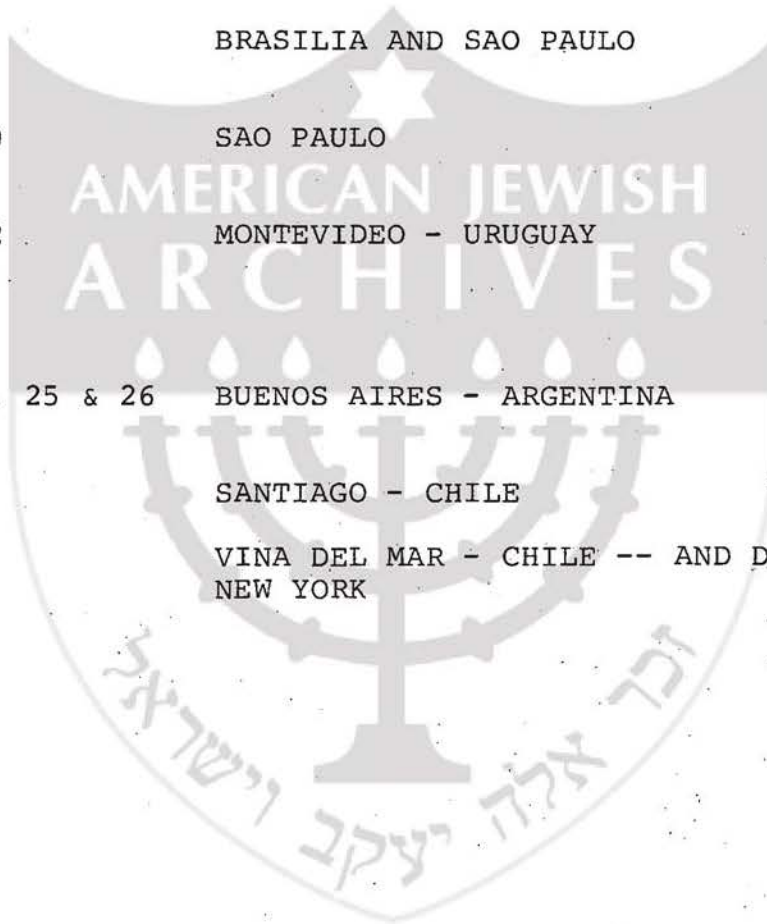


AJC OFFICER'S MISSION TO SOUTH AMERICA - MARCH 1987

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

MARCH

Saturday - 14	DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK FOR RIO DE JANEIRO-BRAZIL
Sunday & Monday - 15 & 16	RIO DE JANEIRO
Tuesday - 17	BRASILIA
Wednesday- 18	BRASILIA AND SAO PAULO
Thursday & Friday -19 & 20	SAO PAULO
Saturday & Sunday - 21 & 22	MONTEVIDEO - URUGUAY
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday -23, 24, 25 & 26	BUENOS AIRES - ARGENTINA
Friday & Saturday -27 & 28	SANTIAGO - CHILE
Sunday -29th	VINA DEL MAR - CHILE -- AND DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK



CURRENT MIDDLE EAST ISSUES

State Department Briefing, Friday, May 16, 2:00 P.M.

Plenary Session, Sunday, May 18, 10:00 A.M.

U.S.-Israel Relations

Relations between the United States and Israel remain strong. The Reagan Administration continues to regard Israel as our most reliable democratic ally in the Middle East. Strategic cooperation between the two countries is evident in such areas as the war against international terrorism, the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) and the stationing of a Voice of America transmitter in Israel.

The Administration has also expressed its satisfaction with the austerity measures Israel is taking to stabilize the economy and to reduce its economic dependence on the United States. American and Israeli policymakers differ, however, as to the appropriate time and method to begin stimulating growth and the respective roles of the public and private sectors. These differences are reflected in internal debates within Israel as well. Prime Minister Shimon Peres has advocated government-fostered growth, while former Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i pressed for reliance on free market forces and the privatization of state-run industries. This clash of perspectives helped spark the recent Israeli government crisis. Nevertheless, Israel's Government of National Unity, under Peres's leadership, has achieved a number of significant economic accomplishments that would have been politically difficult under normal circumstances. Foremost were the curbing of Israel's astronomical rate of inflation and a reduction in the country's foreign trade deficit.

During his visit to the United States in April, Prime Minister Peres proposed a Middle East "Marshall Plan," whereby the Western European allies and Japan, which had benefitted from the drop in world oil prices, would join with the U.S. in offering assistance to Arab states, such as Egypt and Jordan, whose economies have suffered from the side effects of the end of the oil boom in the Gulf states. Peres's plan is based on the premise that economic development rather than more armaments provide the best defense against internal social unrest and political instability. (The recent riots by the Egyptian internal security forces graphically illustrated this point.) According to informed sources, U.S. officials, including Secretary of State George Shultz, and several European countries have expressed interest in the Peres proposal, and the State Department is examining ways of implementing it.

The Israeli-Jordanian-Palestinian peace process

Peres has also made significant conciliatory gestures toward the Palestinians. In his address to the United Nations General Assembly on October 21, 1985, he acknowledged that the Palestinians are a people and endorsed the concept of "land for peace." During the Labor party convention in April, Peres affirmed that Israel recognizes the Palestinians "as a nation." The latest AJC-sponsored poll in Israel indicates that Peres enjoys widespread popular support (62%) for his offer to begin negotiations with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, provided it does not include known Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) members.

Peres's latest peace initiative has also had favorable repercussions in Amman, where King Hussein has agreed in principle to negotiate with Israel if he has an "international umbrella" and Palestinian backing. The U.S. Government has actively supported the Peres-Hussein efforts.

On February 19, the King publicly declared that he was suspending his year-long effort to coordinate politically with the present leadership of the PLO because it had failed to live up to its commitments. Hussein had earlier believed that he had secured PLO chief Yasser Arafat's endorsement of UN Security Council Resolution 242; Arafat's failure to make an unequivocal statement to that effect and to renounce all acts of terrorism against Israel undermined the King's effort to include the PLO in the diplomatic process.

Both Israel and Jordan are interested in cultivating moderate Palestinian leadership based in the West Bank. Israel's appointment of Zafer al-Masri as the mayor of the West Bank city of Nablus, with the tacit approval of Jordan, was seen as an important step toward this objective. The real tragedy of al-Masri's assassination by Syrian-backed Palestinian extremists in March is that it has served to intimidate other pragmatic leaders from coming forward and working with Israel to achieve greater autonomy for the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza.

Syrian War Cries

The foremost instigator of such politically motivated terrorist acts designed to undermine the U.S.-backed peace process has been Syrian President Hafez Assad. In February, during his address to the Syrian Ba'ath Party congress, Assad threatened to make the Golan Heights not only the frontier of Syria, but its center. While Syria is undoubtedly continuing its massive military buildup, it is considered unlikely that Assad will actually launch an offensive in the near future. Prime Minister Peres has asserted that Assad "still has a long way to go" before he will achieve his goal of "strategic parity" with Israel, whereby the Syrian Army would be capable of challenging Israel militarily, alone and on equal terms.

In addition, Assad has been unsuccessful in supplanting the now-defunct Lebanese National Charter with an alternative agreement among Lebanon's various denominational groups, whose support he seeks to enlist in his strategy against Israel. However, if tensions flare up again, as they did several months ago, a Syrian-Israeli clash cannot be completely ruled out.

U.S. -Libyan Military Confrontation

The United States recently carried out two military attacks against the regime of Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi in retaliation for Libyan state-supported terrorism against Americans. It is yet to be seen whether the strikes will have their desired deterrent effect or will topple the Qaddafi regime. The Administration is currently trying to convince America's European allies to cooperate in an effort to isolate Qaddafi politically; their economic ties to Libya and fear of terrorist retaliation have so far precluded their cooperation. The one notable exception is Great Britain, which allowed the most recent U.S. airstrike on Libya to originate from U.S. airbases in Britain. France refused to even permit American bombers the use of its airspace, which greatly increased the length and cost of the mission.

The Iran-Iraq War

The Arab states, especially those located along the Persian Gulf, are becoming increasingly alarmed at Iran's apparent ability to break through Iraqi defenses and hold some Iraqi territory. The Arabs' top military priority at this time is to prevent any major Iranian breakthrough. Great Britain has already pledged its assistance to Kuwait should it become threatened. The U.S. is also committed to the defense of the Arab Gulf states, although the paring-down of the U.S. sale of advanced weaponry to Saudi Arabia has required the Administration to reassure its Arab friends in the Gulf. This was one of the reasons for Vice President Bush's recent visit to the region. (His other, still inadequately explained reason, was to encourage the Saudis to stabilize oil prices.)

Although Israel has no "favorite" in the Iraq-Iran war, an Iraqi victory would have serious implications for Israel. It would allow Iraq to devote its large, battle-trained army to a potential war on Israel's "Eastern Front." Assad's belligerent threats would have to be taken much more seriously in such a context. On the other hand, an Iranian victory over Iraq would strengthen the power of Islamic fundamentalism throughout the region, including Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. The victory of extremism would preclude any negotiated settlement with Israel.

Egyptian-Israeli Relations

For the past seven years, Israel's "Southern Front" with Egypt has been quiet. Egypt has abided by the military provisions of its 1979 peace treaty with Israel. Egyptian compliance with the non-military aspects of the treaty, however, has been less than satisfactory to Israel. With the exception of Egyptian oil sales to Israel, both trade and tourism between Egypt and Israel flow predominantly in one direction: from Israel to Egypt.

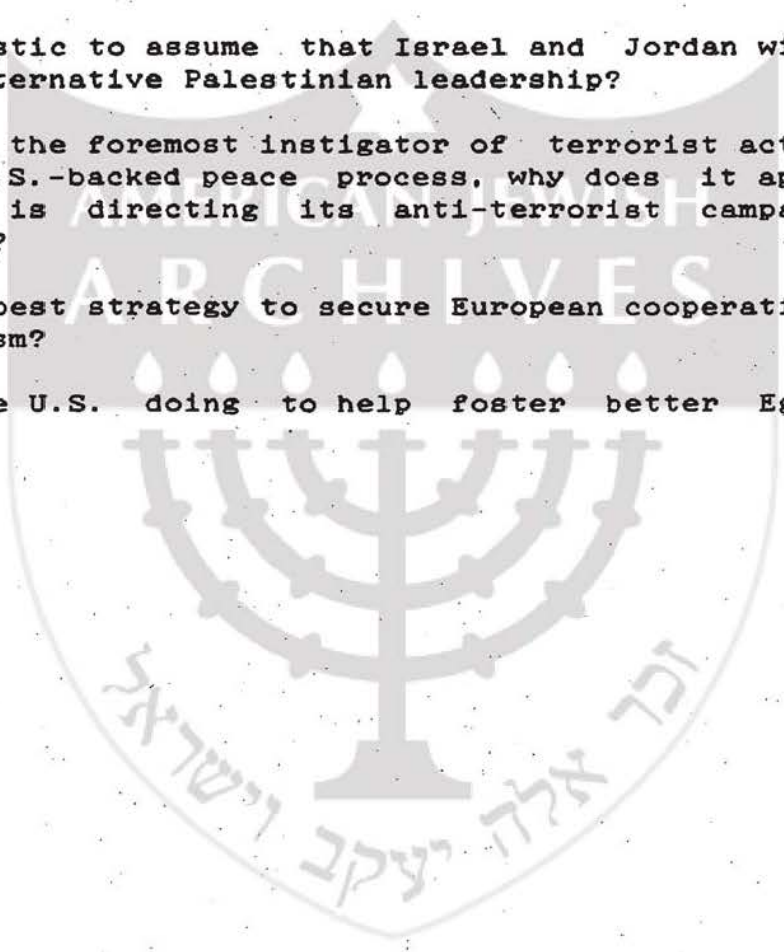
Furthermore, even though the Israeli cabinet finally agreed to settle the dispute with Egypt over Taba -- a miniscule strip of Sinai coastline -- through a process which would combine conciliation with arbitration, Egypt appears unwilling to make the required gestures of goodwill that would eliminate the lingering Israeli opposition to arbitration.

Egyptian-Israeli relations have been further marred by the killings of Israelis -- both tourists and official representatives -- in Egypt. In June 1984, Zvi Kedar, an Israeli diplomat in Cairo, was assassinated. In August 1985, another Israeli diplomat, Albert Atrachki, was murdered in Cairo. Last October, seven Israeli tourists were shot by a berserk Egyptian soldier and left to bleed to death in the Sinai desert. And on March 19, 1986 Eti Tal-Or, a hostess at the Israeli pavilion at the Cairo International Trade Fair, was shot to death in the fairground parking lot. The Egyptian Government has strongly condemned these attacks, promised to fully investigate the incidents, and has prosecuted those it has found responsible.

On a more positive note, Israeli and Egyptian political figures were warmly received in each other's capitals recently. Knesset Foreign Affairs Chairman Abba Eban met with leading Egyptian statesmen during a reception in his honor at the Israel envoy's home in Cairo in April. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak reportedly told Eban that once the Taba arbitration agreement is signed, a summit meeting with the Israeli prime minister will be held, the Egyptian ambassador will return to Tel Aviv, and all bilateral agreements will be fulfilled. In Israel, Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butros Ghali attended the Labor Party convention in April, where he was greeted with a standing ovation.

Questions for Discussion

1. How viable is Peres's proposal for a Middle East "Marshall Plan?"
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of an international peace conference on the Middle East?
3. Is it realistic to assume that Israel and Jordan will succeed in producing an alternative Palestinian leadership?
4. If Assad is the foremost instigator of terrorist acts designed to undermine the U.S.-backed peace process, why does it appear that the United States is directing its anti-terrorist campaign primarily against Qaddafi?
5. What is the best strategy to secure European cooperation in the war against terrorism?
6. What is the U.S. doing to help foster better Egyptian-Israeli relations?



SOME DIRECTIONS IN AJC'S INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

PROGRAM FOR EUROPE DURING 1986-87

I- EUROPEAN RELATIONSHIPS - During the past three years, AJC's International Relations Department has made a number of programmatic approaches to several key areas on the European continent. These have been directed mainly at the following sectors:

(1) The European Economic Community, the Council of Europe, the European Parliament, all in Strasbourg; the NATO Parliamentary Group (especially its human rights commission) in Brussels;

(2) Missions to European governments - France, Italy, the Federal Republic of Germany, Spain, Hungary and Rumania. Contacts were also established with the Washington Embassies and UN missions in New York, and with Consulates in New York and in other major U.S. cities (through our local chapters) with these countries, but also with Austria, Denmark, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Sweden, and Switzerland.

(3) Mission to the Vatican and audience with Pope John Paul II in February 1985 and October 1985. Contacts were also established with Catholic and Protestant leaders in each of the countries whose governments AJC delegations visited (France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Hungary, Rumania, etc.)

(4) Close contacts were established and maintained with the key Jewish leadership in most of these countries (through regular correspondence, and reciprocal invitations to attend each other's annual meetings and conferences; exchange of publications and mailings.)

II- AJC PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

In all these programmatic undertakings, we sought to advance our AJC goals, tailoring our approaches differentially to the target group we sought out. These were our major goals:

(1) Seeking to stimulate support and build a constituency for active collaboration with the U.S. Government in combatting international terrorism (based on our conversations with Ambassador Robert Oakley of the State Department, etc.) We raised this issue with foreign ministers in Italy, France, West Germany, and Spain, among others.

(2) Advocating increased support of international human rights, and especially the cause of Soviet Jewry (we raised these concerns with government officials and academics in the Bonn conference, March 1986; in France, Italy, with Ambassador Marcelino Oreja, Secretary General of the 21-nation Council of Europe, March 10, '86, in Washington, D.C., among others.)

(3) We interpreted a number of issues affecting Israel (German arms sales to Saudi Arabia; Italy's indulgence of the PLO; France and Spain's providing haven for PLO and other anti-Israel forces in their

countries). We cautioned against another version of the EEC's one-sided Venice Declaration that legitimized the PLO, while affirming Israel's right to exist. We actively supported the establishment of diplomatic relations between Spain and Israel, both through our mission to Spain and with Spanish ambassadors in Washington and New York.

(4) We pressed for governmental opposition to the anti-Zionist and anti-Jewish propaganda at the United Nations and at international bodies and conferences through our meetings with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar; with heads of state at the EEC, NATO, France, Italy, Germany, Spain, and Hungary, among others. We made available solid documentation of our case on these issues which we provided at each of our meetings.

(5) Endangered Jewish communities - we worked closely with French authorities and world Jewish communities at conferences in Paris, London, and New York devoted to the plight of Ethiopian, Syrian, and Lebanese Jews.

(6) We made forceful statements through AJC's President Howard Friedman to the Pope and to Cardinal Willebrands on the importance of establishing diplomatic relations between the Vatican and Israel, as well as in combatting anti-Semitism, especially in Catholic countries. Similar representations were made to Cardinals in Europe, the U.S., and South America.

(7) We explored the possibilities of joint programming, including youth exchange visits, with Jewish communities in contact with the Europe Conference of Jewish Communities, as well as with Jewish leaders and groups in France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Sweden and Hungary.

III- IRD PROGRAM EMPHASES FOR 1986-87 IN EUROPE

Keeping this broader background in mind as context, we propose to concentrate on the following priorities during the coming months:

(1) AUSTRIA - In light of the international furor over the Kurt Waldheim affair, we have begun substantial conversations with the Austrian Government aimed at stimulating Austrian cultural, educational, and political figures to face Austria's involvement in the Nazi holocaust, and its long and dangerous tradition of political anti-Semitism. We have submitted a detailed program concentrating on a seminar in Vienna on "Confronting Anti-Semitism in Austria;" a series of secular and religious textbook studies based on our U.S. and German experiences; exchange visits (based on the German models with the Adenauer and Ebert Foundations); missions of our AJC leaders to meet with highest government, political, and cultural leaders who are appropriate for these projects.

The first mission of top AJC leaders has been invited to Vienna by the Austrian government for August 1986 (exact date now being determined.) There will be meetings with the new Chancellor and Foreign Minister, but the primary purpose of the mission is to engage in intensive discussions with officials of the Ministries of Education, Interior, and Justice on developing programs for dealing with teachings

and other cultural influences (media, law, among others) relating to the Nazi holocaust and the persistence of anti-Semitism in Austria. University of Vienna academics, Political Science Institute research specialists, the Renner Research Institute leaders, among others, are expected to take part in this think-tank.

If all goes well, we expect a major, comprehensive, long-term program to develop out of this consultation.

(2) FRANCE - Based on Bill Trosten's recent meetings with President Mitterrand's aide, Charles Salzman, we are planning a visit to the Q'uai d'Orsay, possibly in September. Our purpose is to discuss AJC's co-sponsoring with an appropriate French Foundation (possibly, Madame Mitterrand's new foundation on human rights), a conference on human rights in Paris. This could be based in part on the model of the successful Bonn conference on the situation of minorities in the Soviet Union.

Our September meeting in Paris with government and foundation officials is a planning session during which we hope to design the general plans for such a conference -- themes, participants, program objectives, publicity, political impacts, etc.

We also expect to arrange a series of meetings with the highest government officials, especially in light of new cabinet personalities recently assuming office. At these meetings we would prepare ourselves to discuss such subjects as international terrorism, promoting peace initiatives in the Middle East, Jewish and other hostages in Lebanon, French-Syrian relations, French-Israel-Jewish relations in Africa (France has 300,000 people working in 20 African countries), Soviet Jewry in the context of East-West relations, the role of AJC in helping promote Franco-American relations in the advancement of constitutional democracies and human liberties, etc.

As time allows, we will meet also with our friends in the French Jewish community (Theo Klein, David Rothschild, Ady Steg, Jean Paul Elkann, Nicole Goldmann, etc.) We will need to prepare ourselves for proposals for joint programming, especially with Alliance Israelite Universelle who wish to co-sponsor a conference with AJC on Catholic-Jewish relations, human rights, or some related theme. Similarly, the European Conference of Jewish Communities has invited our closer collaboration with their program. The Chief Rabbi of France, Rene Sirat, repeatedly has asked for AJC cooperation in sponsoring a Jewish-Islamic dialogue at the Sorbonne.

All these program possibilities involve decisions about budget and assuring staff persons who would implement agreed-upon projects with professional competence.

We might also meet with Cardinal Lustiger, to discuss Vatican-Israel diplomatic relations, the Carmelite convent at Auschwitz, etc.

(3) WEST GERMANY As a result of meetings between Howard Friedman and Bill Trosten with FRG officials, we are now completing a parallel

textbook study with the Eckert Foundation; namely, they are examining the portrayal of Jews, Judaism, anti-Semitism, the Nazi holocaust and Israel in West German textbooks; AJC is studying the portrayal of Germany in American secondary school textbooks.

When the studies are completed, they will provide the basis of a joint conference in Germany. We would explore what implementation is required to translate the findings into revised teaching systems. (This also would provide the basis for a press conference to announce the findings and program follow-up.)

The dates for these meetings need to be worked out.

Bill Trosten has also explored the possibilities of holding a conference on human rights, terrorism, anti-Semitism with Prof. Herbert Strauss at the Free University in Berlin. Date, budget, etc.

There is also need to review the present status of our program with the University of Duisburg (textbook revision, publication of excellent books on the theological roots of anti-Semitism in German culture, the Nazi holocaust, Israel, etc.), Freiburg, and Aachen. (Zach Shuster, olov hashalom, laid the foundation for these programs, and they require his kind of personal follow-up).

There is also need to examine the Catholic and Protestant exchange programs, the visits to East Berlin from the perspective of developing a coherent AJC German program with priorities, defined objectives, time schedule, budget and staff resources.

Over and above these concrete program considerations, there is need to renew our top-level political and foreign relations contacts with the West German government, especially in light of Ted Ellenoff's presidency and our having a new slate of officers. Such a mission, based on the success of previous missions, would also enable us to follow up some program initiatives begun with the late Alois Mertes, the FRG Staatsminister.

(4) ITALY - As a result of an address delivered last February before the AJC's International Relations Steering Committee by Italy's Ambassador to the United States, Ambassador Petrignani, we have an invitation from him to explore an Italian-AJC exchange program, modeled on the German experience. Budget and staff resources will determine how this might fit into our priorities. But the proposal is there, it is real, waiting to be enacted at the proper time.

Italy is of major concern to us for two primary reasons:

(a) its role in combatting terrorism and its linkages with the Arab world;

(b) the Pope and the Vatican.

Having successfully concluded its foreign policy objective of establishing diplomatic relations with Spain, Israel's Foreign Ministry will now concentrate its attention on promoting full diplomatic rela-

tions between the Vatican and Israel. In my conversations with Israel's Prime Minister's office and with Israeli Foreign Ministry officials, they have asked AJC to play a leading role in helping mobilize Catholic support for this goal. As we can see from Cardinal O'Connor's ambiguous statements on the Middle East following his recent Lebanon visit, Bishop Malone's letter opposing the moving of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, this is going to be a very bumpy road over a long period of time.

This will require a carefully thought-out strategy for reaching Catholic authorities in the U.S., Europe, and Latin America. It should also involve, I believe, interventions with President Reagan and Secretary Shultz (President Jack Kennedy was asked by AJC to intervene with the Pope during Vatican Council II to support Nostra Aetate's passage, and he did.)

At the core is strengthening our ties with the Vatican Secretariat of State, as well as with Peace and Justice. We need therefore to plan an early mission - in the Fall 1986 or early 1987 - for an audience with the Pope involving Ted Ellenoff and AJC officers, including chair people of IRD and Interreligious Affairs. That audience should be used as an opportunity for meetings with the Vatican State and Justice-and-Peace officials, in addition to Cardinal Willebrands.

(ADL has just set up a full-time office in Rome with its aggressive program director present. We need to keep this in mind as we plan our own work and role in the Vatican and in Italy.)

While in Rome, we should plan visits with key Italian government officials as we have in the past. It is helpful to reinforce our friends, such as Defense Minister Spadolini, in their pro-Israel, pro-Soviet Jewry, anti-terrorist positions.

We would also meet with leaders of the Italian Jewish Community, foremost among them, Ms. Tullia Zevi, and Chief Rabbi Toaff (an increasingly important actor in Vatican circles.) Mrs. Zevi has repeatedly discussed cooperation on programs, and here, too, budget and staff resources are important considerations.

(5) SPAIN - Through our close working contacts with Sam Toledano, president of the Spanish Jewish community, we have invitations for regular missions to Spain, including meetings with government, political, cultural, Catholic and Jewish Community officials.

Spain plays a role in the Arab world, and is a factor in counter-terrorism, and in supporting human rights.

Decisions about further work in Spain need to be integrated with possible missions to Italy, or France.

(6) HUNGARY - We have developed warm, fraternal ties with the Hungarian Jewish community. Their leadership regularly invites our sending missions to Budapest as a way of strengthening solidarity with Hungarian Jews.

We have begun valuable conversations with the Hungarian Ambassador to the U.S., as well as with government officials in Budapest established by last year's AJC mission there. Hungary has begun opening its ties with Israel, and next to Rumania, may be a normalizing agent in relations between Israel and the East European bloc. There is some speculation as to whether Hungary, Rumania and other East bloc countries may yet play some role in influencing the USSR to honor the rights of Soviet Jewry to emigrate.

Depending again on budget and staff personnel, we are considering a proposal for sending a high-level AJC mission on an East European trip, including Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Rumania and Hungary. This requires much policy reflection, but if favored, could be undertaken later in 1987.

(7) INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES - EEC, COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, ETC. - Despite its obvious weaknesses and limitations, the European Economic Community and its allied agencies all clustered in Strasbourg, and the NATO Parliamentary groups in Brussels, represent important opportunities for advancing our program objectives on the European scene; namely, Israel, Soviet Jewry, human rights, counter-terrorism, opposing anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism, etc.

Our early contacts with the EEC, the European Parliament (Ed Elson and MT meeting with its President last September), the Council of Ministers, the NATO human rights group all indicate a warm receptivity to continued relationship with AJC, and some program possibilities. (It is quite likely that we could obtain an invitation for AJC's president and other officers for presentations to the European Parliament and other EEC Commissions.)

Through the Jacob Blaustein Institute, we are exploring a conference on Human Rights Education with the Strasbourg Institute on Human Rights. That will involve representatives from all the appropriate EEC and NATO groups. Date to be set.

In planning our European work, we will need to give major consideration to Strasbourg and Brussels as key areas for our international relations programs.

Marc H. Tanenbaum, Director
AJC's International Relations Department

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AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Memorandum On European Programming

AJC has long supported programs characterized as "European." ~~In support of these programs,~~ It has supported those programs with domestic resources and staff and offices on the continent. This Memorandum is a study of the purposes, capacity, content, desirability and organization of ~~contingency~~ AJC activity focused on continental Europe.

The discussion that follows is based on two central assumptions. The first is that Europeans perceive the American Jewish community as the possessor of substantial political power in the United States. The second is that Europeans perceive AJC to be an example of that power and an important institution through which it is exercised.

PURPOSES

We propose six purposes for European activity of AJC. They are, in suggested order of importance: Support of Israel, Support for the cause of Soviet Jewry; Reduction of anti-Semitism; Enhancement of AJC's effectiveness, prestige and status; Support for other programming; and Support for European Jewish communities. While we consider these purposes separately, we urge that they are elaborately interrelated.

Support of Israel. The importance of the governments of Western European countries to the strengths of Israel needs no rehearsal here. Our domestic programming is in part directed toward the development of policies and programs by our government which will influence European governments to increase their support for Israeli international political goals. We cannot pretend to act as an arm of our government. We can maximize our persuasiveness by acting a rather powerful player on the American political scene, understanding and capable of sympathy and even support for some other goals of foreign governments.

Support for the Cause of Soviet Jewry. Meaningful support by major non-Jewish institutions in Europe for the right of Soviet Jews to emigrate is of utmost importance. The issue can be useful to governments in connection with other matters in which they are more directly concerned.

The issue of the emigration rights of ethnic Germans in the Soviet Union is important to West Germany. That importance led to direct support by the Bundestag of emigration by both Germans and Jews. We were able to play a part in achieving that support and should position ourselves to continue to influence West German actions which might be supportive of such emigration. Opportunities to secure similar support by other European governments and major non-governmental institutions are more likely to be found by Jewish organizations with presence and respect in Europe than by others.

Reduction of Anti-Semitism. Anti-semitism lives and is dangerous in Western Europe. Anti-semitism in Europe can play a larger role in the development of national policies than in the

United States. European Jewish communities, whatever their beliefs in their own independence, have less ability to oppose and counteract anti-semitism than we do. We magnify our potential for success in this area by a respected presence in Europe and an observed interest in and knowledge of related European issues and problems.

Organizational Prestige and Status. Our organizational life and vigor depend on the willingness of American Jews to provide us with financial, organizational and intellectual resources. We and other Jewish organizations are learning that our community will not now support all of its organizations to the limits of their wishes. Our history, if reflected in our activities, and our skills, if effectively mobilized, may permit us the other resources needed for continuation of our contributions to Jewish life.

Europe is becoming more of a concern not only to mass Jewish American opinion but also to its leadership, recognizably a financial elite. They are learning and can increasingly be taught that sound and fury often are not cost effective. Europe can provide a charming classroom.

Relationship to Domestic Programming. Of all the Commissions and Departments of AJC, its International Relations Commission most clearly relates to its Interreligious Affairs Commission. This is particularly obvious when one reflects on the importance of the Vatican and our historic participation in Vatican II. We have also had a long and close relationship with the American hierarchy and the National Council of Catholic Bishops. Recent activity in Europe has created close relationships with major Protestant theologians and theological institutions, as well as

with Catholic institutions and leaders not always closely self-identified with the Vatican. All of these institutions interact. We need a strong emphasis on interreligious affairs to maximize our international concerns in Europe, not to mention Central and South America.

Other intergroup, inter ethnic programs spill over into many areas of our European interests. Our domestic success in these areas can often be mobilized for support abroad.

International affairs provide an attractive source for a variety of interesting chapter programming. The uncertainties, volatility and "strangeness" of foreign affairs combined with the excellence of our staff can attract an audience otherwise committed in respect to domestic Jewish concerns. Jewish organizations are not so overloaded with capacities in the international affairs area as they are elsewhere.

Support for European Jewish Communities. This purpose is placed last because of our perception that Jewish communities in Europe often do not welcome "interference" from their American counterparts. This sensitivity is understandable. They existed before we did. Their survival is stronger testimony to Jewish ability to survive than is ours. We should respect their views of themselves, be prepared to support them when asked and retain our independence from them by emphasis on our status as an American, not a European, institution.

CAPACITY

We must hesitate to devote scarce resources even to purposes as

important as those described above unless we have the resources to effectively support them. We do.

European programming requires a mix of skilled, wise and experienced staff and intelligent and perceptive lay leaders. AJC now does and can continue to satisfy those requirements. The cause of modesty may be served by noting that perception by others is more important than actuality.

This Memorandum is, with the exception of the next four paragraphs, the work of both professional and lay members of the International Relations Commission. Those paragraphs have only one author and editor, the Chairman.

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum is, in his own right, a major figure and a major voice in the American Jewish community. His status is a fact and a resource. His role in Vatican II and continuing relationships with Catholic and other religious leaders, his abilities and recognition as a theologian, his rhetorical skills, his acquaintance with a wide range of American and foreign personages, and the totality of his presence require that he continue to be the leader of AJC's efforts in Europe.

William Trosten has been a major contributor to, a sine quae non of, the development and potential of AJC's Western European programming. He has the language and understanding of the major power in non-communist, continental Europe. He is shrewd, wise, quiet and effective.

David Harris has become the source of an increasing reputation of the International Affairs Commission, and AJC in general, as an institution capable of major intellectual effort and study in the area of international relations. He has a strong presence in the Soviet Jewry movement. He, and Trosten, are probably the two best listeners among the staff and lay leaders of AJC active

in international affairs. He is an excellent writer and a wise counselor.

George Gruen shares in the virtues described above, is widely and currently knowledgeable and has an intellect sufficiently subtle to deal with the complex relationships that must be understood if any European programming is to be successful. He communicates his knowledge well.

In addition to a full-time, highly competent staff, the Commission attracts the best of AJC's lay leadership, not only as members of the Commission actively participating in its deliberations, but also as members of "missions" to Europe. In these they bring their own skills as well as the ability to enforce the appearance of an American institution with European interests, not the European branch of AJC.

The International Relations Commission has the staff and lay resources to make major contributions to the goals described above. There can be no doubt that AJC has sufficient financial and other resources to support an effective use of the Commission. With the mobilization of all those resources along the lines suggested by this Memorandum, AJC has the capacity to contribute to the interests of the Jewish community in a way not duplicated by any other agency. Unless so mobilized, that capacity will rapidly wither.

CONTENT

The International Relations Commission must take programmatic aim at two types of targets. Permanent targets always on the range and targets of opportunity which pop up at unpredictable times and places. Examples of the former are exchange programs like

those with Germany, text book programs, study and analysis, consultations with other areas of AJC's activity, including those directly devoted to its institutional life, and education of staff, lay leadership and members and the American Jewish community generally. We are arranging discussions with the French government looking toward cooperative activity, and are planning an official mission to France late this year. Targets of opportunity are exemplified by Bitburg, Waldheim and Austria, and the German parliamentary support for emigration of Soviet Jews.

We already have determined that we have the capacity to act in respect to each of the matters mentioned in the preceding paragraph. We believe that each of those determinations were correct. Our success rate leaves room for improvement but not for discouragement. We need to continue to address subjects like those, and others which will appear, in the face of substantial risks of failure. Indeed, the ability and willingness to take such risks is an institutional need and an important part of all programming.

To support the European programming, we need to maintain and further develop our ties in Washington and New York to European embassies and consulates. Similar ties can be created in large, chapter cities. Those contacts can provide appropriate support for our programs from foreign diplomats here. We recommend that a full-time staff member be assigned to this task.

DESIRABILITY

Our development of this Memorandum demonstrates, we hope, our conviction of the need for AJC to pursue the purposes and programs we have described. We must continually demonstrate to

the American Jewish community that we merit its support. The continuing and developing work of the International Relations Commission is a major element of that demonstration, as well as an evidence to ourselves of our continuing concern with and participation in the survival and strength of world Judaism.

ORGANIZATION

Discussion of the organizational form which will best support the goals of the International Affairs Commission should perhaps have been the first subject with which this Memorandum dealt. Law is not the only institution in which, "Substance is secreted in the interstices of procedure." Organizational goals will not be achieved in difficult areas without persistent attention to the need and form of effective organization.

We suggest, first, that in respect to its European activity, AJC in general, and the International Relations Commission in particular, think and act as American, not European agencies. We must at all costs maintain that image and actuality in Europe and with Europeans. We believe that this imperative is implicit, and often explicit, in this Memorandum.

We must maintain and if possible improve our relationships with European religious institutions, especially including the Vatican. This organizational and substantive need requires that Marc Tanenbaum regularly, as well as when irregularly required, visit with that institution and the major Catholic leaders and institutions in Europe, as well as in this country. He must be given that responsibility and the organizational support that is required to discharge it. He should also continue to act as the professional leader of the Commission.

Administrative staff must be sufficient to support a wide and constantly varying range of activity. That level of staffing is not now available.

A European office is required. That office, however, should neither be or seem to be the source of AJC activity on the continent. It is needed only to provide support and follow up for activity instituted and advanced from the United States.



To: Marc H. Tanenbaum
From: David A. Harris
Date: August 18, 1986
Re: 1986-87 Program Year

As requested, I have begun giving thought to the forthcoming program year. Herewith some preliminary ^{ideas} ~~thoughts~~ on a number of topics:

1) Administrative/Support - The most pressing need will be for a full-time secretary to handle the work of David Geller and Allan Kagedan. At the moment, the need is being partially met by the part-time presence of Shep, but that will prove inadequate as the program year goes into high gear and Allan assumes greater programmatic responsibility in several areas.

In addition, we need to plan a minimum of ^{5/4/6} one meeting every two months with the clerical staff to permit an airing of major issues of concern.

2) Equipment - a) ~~xix~~ Especially if a full-time secretary is to be hired and presumably located at the desk in front of David Geller's office, we will need to order a telephone console. This will cost several hundred dollars and doubtless prove a point of contention with Anita Watkins.

b) It is long overdue for IRD to have its own table top photocopier. We should no longer have to lose time begging the Libray to use theirs or having secretaries waste time going to the basement for small copying jobs. The cost will be under \$1,000.

c) Careful consideration should be given at the earliest possible moment to expanding our computer facilities to include a word processing capacity and access to Dialogue, the data base to which ~~xx~~ National Affairs is hooked up. A modem and printer, which would permit access to Dialogue but not word processing, would cost approximately \$900. A complete operation would cost about \$3,000.

d) While it is not an immediate priority, longer-term consideration should be given to installing a FAX machine in the Mexico City office (and, later, in a revamped European office). It is inefficient to have to rely on the mail to a country like Mexico whereby as much as two weeks can be lost in the process.

3) Publications - a) Our goal should be three issues of Global Issues, the first to appear in connection with the N.E.C. at the end of October, the second in February and the third for the May Annual Meeting.

b) A second issue of Impact, the compilation of press clippings, should be prepared for the May Annual Meeting.

c) Greater attention should be paid by all the IRD staff members to writing analyses and backgrounders appropriate to publication in leading general and Anglo-Jewish newspapers and magazines. Otherwise, they almost invariably have little impact.

d) We have had good success with the preparation of Op Eds for Sonya Kaufer. Every staff member has cooperated, and the result has been rather widespread use in newspapers of these pieces. Recent pieces on Yosef Begun and Naum Meiman for example, got excellent pick up, including the St. Louis Post Dispatch and San Francisco Examiner Chronicle. The effort should be continued.

e) Greater attention should be paid to the expansion of mailing lists to insure that key figures in the general and Jewish communities are receiving relevant publications. In this regard, our ongoing effort at computerization of the lists can be very helpful.

f) *A booklet: 80 years in defense of human rights*

4) Chapters - ~~ax~~ In the last two years we have improved our collaboration with chapters in a number of important ways, including more frequent memos, better response time to their requests, programming ideas and visits. To further this effort I would recommend:

a) A goal of several IRD-chapter conferences this ~~year~~

program year. ~~xxxxx~~ Theme, ~~xxx~~ timing and location should, of course, be given careful thought. Jacob Kovadloff is considering two conferences on Latin America. George Gruen and Harry Milkman should also be thinking of at least two conferences, one in the fall and the other the spring, in key parts of the country. Sidney the same, especially as we mark 80 years of fighting for human rights. Six should be the absolute minimum, although there is no reason we could not do more using Allan and David.

b) We should proceed with plans to bring Aleck Goldberg for a chapter tour on the South African issue. We should also seek to utilize other South African visitors, including possibly Helen Suzman and Harry Schwarz, both on the national and chapter level. Helen is planning a visit in October, I believe, and the Boston Chapter is very interested in hosting her. Harry will be in the U.S. in November.

c) We should move forward with the chapters on the twinning program and be in a position to announce the first pairings at the N.E.C, if possible. The best candidates are Miami and Guatemala, Cleveland and Panama, and, possibly, Houston and Mexico.

d) The consular program should be stressed. It has been extremely well-received and popular as it has expanded in L.A., Chicago, San Francisco, Miami, Houston, Atlanta and is likely to get stated in Phoenix and Seattle.

5) The Steering Committee - Our primary goals in the coming year should be to expand membership on a quality basis, consider the naming of a vice chairman, and develop a select number of sub-committees. At present, we have the Task Force on Soviet Jewry (which might be expanded to include Eastern Europe), the Sub-Committee on South Africa (which, too, could be expanded one day to include all of Sub-Saharan Africa) and the ad hoc group on diplomatic outreach led by Susan Gitelson. The latter, by the way, should be activated early in the program year and charged with a few key projects. Susan had some excellent ideas and should be encouraged to pursue them, with staff support. *Monthly luncheon series should be started* We may want to attempt the

formation of another task force, dealing with Western Europe. I would suggest consideration of at least one alternative format Steering Committee meeting this year, possibly an intensive Sunday meeting on a few key topics before the agency with selected outside speakers, possibly a visit to Washington.

Also, purge of non-attendees.

6) Missions - At the moment, three missions appear quite certain: Austria in August, Panama and Costa Rica in February (?), and Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay in March (?). In addition, there is consideration of a mission to France. I would also strongly urge, particularly in light of our 80th anniversary year, that we carefully consider a mission to the USSR. Obviously, ^{in part} this will depend on whether the Rogov connection is resumed, but if nothing develops we should move ahead with a trip. Other possibilities worth considering include Eastern Europe, especially Poland, Hungary and possibly Romania and East Germany (Bulgaria and Yugoslavia are also reportedly edging closer towards Israel), ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

7) Staff Responsibilities - It is worth considering a sharper delineation of staff responsibilities, especially concerning Allan Kagedan and David Geller.

8) Israel Office - George and Harry should be asked soonest to draft a proposal for several ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ major activities -- conferences, symposia, etc. -- to be undertaken by the Israel Office in the next year. Shimon Samuels should also ^{information} be asked to provide us with regular ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ on Israeli foreign concerns, region by region (Africa, Asia, Eastn and Western Europe, etc.).

Program Priorities

- * Monitoring and protection of endangered or otherwise threatened Jewish communities
 - Soviet Jewry; East European Jewry
 - Middle East & North African Jewry
 - South African Jewry
 - ~~- Ethiopian Jewry~~
- * Enhancement of the quality of Jewish life
 - Central and South America
 - Europe
- * Security and well-being of the State of Israel
 - Intergroup relations: Promotion of tolerance
 - 1) Religious-secular
 - 2) Arab-Jew
 - 3) Christian-Jewish-Muslim
 - 4) Ashkenazic-Sephardic
 - Geopolitical programming
 - 1) Israel and Asia
 - 2) Israel and Black Africa
 - 3) Israel and Western Europe
 - 4) Israel and the Soviet Bloc
 - 5) Israel and the Arab world
 - 6) Israel and the U.S.
 - 7) Israel and South Africa
- * Promotion of human rights standards and compliance
 - Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights

* International interreligious dialogue

- Vatican; IJCIC
- Catholic-Jewish outside Vatican
- World Council of Churches
- Jewish-Muslim

II Professional Staff: New York

* Existing staff subject and time allocation

* Additional staff

III Overseas Representation

* Overseas offices, including Paris office

* Correspondents

IV Administrative/Support Staff

* Additional staff

* Effective utilization of existing staff

V Publications

* Global Issues

* Impact

* Backgrounders & analyses

* Commissioned papers

* Israel Press Highlights

* Effective distribution

VI Conferences and Symposia

* New York

* Overseas

* Topics: 1) Middle East

2) Human Rights

3) Terrorism

4) Anti-Semitism

5) Other

VII Overseas Missions

1) Leadership Missions

2) Chapter leadership missions

3) Destination: a) Austria

b) Germany

c) France

d) Vatican

e) USSR

f) South America

g) Central America

h) Eastern Europe

VIII Diplomatic Outreach

* Meetings with and cultivation of diplomats in Washington, D.C., at UN missions and New York consulates

* Contact with diplomats overseas

1

1) National

2) Regional (EEC, Council of Europe, etc.)

IX International Relations Commission

* Development of qualified new members

* Creation of working groups

X IRD - Chapter Programming

* Diplomatic outreach

* Conferences on israel-related topics

- * Conferences on Latin America-related topics
- * Chapter delegations to the USSR
- * Chapter twinning with overseas Jewish communities
- * More effective utilization and distribution of IRD materials
- * Involvement in South Africa projects



Some priorities that should be addressed in the coming year:

- 1) Stepped up presence of the AJC Israel Office, including more effective information gathering on both internal and external questions.
- 2) Resolution of the long-standing question of the future of the Paris Office and the nature of AJC's European presence, at least for the near-term future.
- 3) Clarification of the responsibilities of David Geller and Allan Kagedan.
- 4) Better utilization of lay talent in international affairs, hitherto largely untapped in many communities around the country.
- 5) Improved clerical situation, including improved filing
- 6) More targeted programming in all subject areas: What are our goals in Soviet Jewry, Latin America, the Middle East? How do we plan to achieve them? We need ~~for~~ more forethought and planning on the part of all staff members, both here and overseas.
- 7) Ever more effective use and distribution of our publications
- 8) A FAX machine for the Mexico office, a photocopy machine for our office and updated telephone system
- 9) More effective interpretation of the work of the Blaustein Institute
- 10) Oversight of the East German program, to be shifted from Gene DuBow to IRD (David Geller?)
- 11) More frequent opportunities to interpret IRD's work, including programming in key chapters (we have made a start with planned conferences in Atlanta, Dallas and Boston; this should be further developed)
- 12) Expanded contact with key diplomats in New York and Washington

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date May 28, 1986
to Marc H. Tanenbaum
from Jacob Kovadloff
subject AJC OFFICER'S MISSION TO SOUTH AMERICA - MARCH 1987

In accordance with my meeting with David Gordis and subsequent discussions with you, Marc, I would like to outline the specifics of the AJC Officer's Mission to South America scheduled for March 1987. The tentative dates and itinerary are attached.

The last AJC Officer's Mission was in March of 1982. Since then, many changes -- both good and bad -- have taken place in the South American countries that, in particular, affect the Jewish communities but have also brought new dimensions to bilateral relations. Therefore, a fact-finding mission will give the new AJC leadership first-hand experience on the current geopolitical situation and be of great value.

This trip also represents solidarity with the local Jewish communities and an opportunity to learn about their external and internal problems. Yes, the democratic regimes are flourishing but there are still threats from both the extremists of the Left and Right. Indigenous terrorist groups which have links to international terrorist networks are still present in the new democracies. The Arab penetration through the actions of diplomats and PLO representatives is a matter of utmost concern to the Jewish communities. The agenda for the mission will include meetings with high level government officials, Jewish community leaders, church officials, leaders of human rights groups, academicians, the media, etc.

I have already started the basic preparations for this agenda and I hope to have it definitively in place by this August when, as planned, I will go to South America to attend several events to which I was invited so a lot of groundwork will be covered at that time.

continued....

It will be prudent to have approval of the agenda and itinerary for the mission as soon as possible. Also, it is vital to know who the attendees will be. Therefore, I would very much appreciate it if you can proceed with inviting the participants and give me a copy of your list.

In conclusion, I would like to remind you that next October 26th and 27th, in Boston, we will have consultations with academicians who are experts on Jewish life in South America to discuss current and future situations of Jewish communities there as well as to guide us regarding the most appropriate programs that AJC should develop. These discussions will be most useful for members of the mission in advance of their trip.

Please let me hear from you regarding the above at your earliest convenience.

Many thanks.

JK/BJB
attachment



AJC OFFICER'S MISSION TO SOUTH AMERICA - MARCH 1987

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

MARCH

Saturday - 14	DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK FOR RIO DE JANEIRO-BRAZIL
Sunday & Monday - 15 & 16	RIO DE JANEIRO
Tuesday - 17	BRASILIA
Wednesday- 18	BRASILIA AND SAO PAULO
Thursday & Friday -19 & 20	SAO PAULO
Saturday & Sunday - 21 & 22	MONTEVIDEO - URUGUAY
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday -23, 24, 25 & 26	BUENOS AIRES - ARGENTINA
Friday & Saturday -27 & 28	SANTIAGO - CHILE
Sunday -29th	VINA DEL MAR - CHILE -- AND DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK



JK/BJB

OCT - 6 1986

MT

TO : DAVID GORDIS FROM : M. BERNARD RESNIKOFF SEPTEMBER 22, 1986

Thanks for your fax of Sept. 19 giving me the dates of your visit.
I ask you and Marc to note that I have booked the Laromme Hotel
the evening of Nov. 18 for Shimon's reception.

MR

09-22-86 MON

06:08:39

G3

** ****

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AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



זכר אלה יעקב וישראל

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date October 27, 1986
to Steering Committee, International Relations Commission
from George E. Gruen, Director Israel & Middle East Affairs *GE G*
subject JAPAN AND THE ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL

The Israelis are undertaking a major effort to improve economic and political relations with Japan, South Korea and other Asian countries. A serious impediment to these efforts in the past has been the exceptional degree to which Japan was prepared to comply with the Arab boycott of Israel, shying away even from some ordinary trade transactions which were not prohibited by the boycott. Japan's heavy dependence on imported oil, largely from Arab sources, and its desire to find lucrative markets in the Arab world were the usual explanation for this.

Although not easy to prove, it would appear that the Japanese Government has acquiesced in and even tacitly advised some major companies to refrain from entering into various forms of economic cooperation with Israel, such as direct investment, joint industrial projects, research and development and exchange of know how. Israeli exports to Japan in 1985 were around \$200 million, with some 70 percent consisting of cut diamonds. Only 1.7 percent of all Israeli exports of goods and services were directed to Japan, and Japan provided only 1.2 percent of Israel's imports. In terms of the burgeoning Japanese economy, trade with Israel still accounts for only one-tenth of one percent of Japan's foreign trade.

It is generally believed that changes in the world economic and political climate -- notably the oil glut and decreased power of OPEC, on the one hand, and the growing importance of and increasing strains in Japanese-American economic relations, on the other -- make this an opportune time for Americans to express to Japanese officials and corporations their interest in seeing that the principles of free trade are applied also to Japanese-Israeli relations.

The official invitation to Israel Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir to visit Japan in September 1985 was widely hailed as a turning point and hopes were expressed that there would be a breakthrough in Japanese-Israeli economic relations. However, the successes thus far have been few and limited. Scitex, the Israeli-based graphics arts company, has established a joint venture with the Japanese Tokyo Ink Manufacturing Company (Nihon Scitex Ltd.) Former Foreign Minister Abba Eban, who led a three-member Knesset delegation to Japan in September 1986, told me

MEMORANDUM

that while the group was received with traditional courtesy, the Japanese refused to commit themselves to any positive change in regard to the Arab boycott.

There have also been negative developments. In May 1986 the Boycott of Israel Office in Dubai announced that it had removed Mitsubishi from the list of countries subject to the Arab boycott, presumably because the heavy industrial producer had satisfied the boycott office that it was not dealing with Israel. When New York Mayor Ed Koch declared during his November 1985 visit to Tokyo that the Japanese government's adherence to the Arab boycott contradicted its professed support for free trade principles, not a single Japanese language paper reported these remarks although Koch's press conference had been attended by some 200 journalists.

In view of this official stifling of criticism, how does one convey American displeasure over Japanese compliance with the Arab boycott?

Appropriate and effective ways of getting this message across have been the subject of meetings of the subcommittee on Japan of the International Steering Committee on Freedom of Trade with Israel, on which I have represented the AJC. One way is through the adoption of statements by major U.S. organizations, such as the AJC, reaffirming our adherence to the principles of free trade and opposing restrictive practices, such as the Japanese compliance with the Arab boycott. (ADL recently adopted such a statement.) These statements can then be communicated to the Japanese Embassy and consulates. Another suggestion raised at recent meetings was the need to identify and involve members of the American Jewish Committee and other Jewish organizations who have professional and business ties in Japan and other Far Eastern countries. Such persons would provide the necessary expertise and credibility to the effort of demonstrating to the Japanese that there are positive benefits to be gained from developing Japanese-Israeli bilateral and possibly also trilateral Israeli-American-Japanese business relationships.

Thought is also being given to organizing a delegation of such businessmen to visit Japan at an appropriate time in the near future. Such a delegation could also reinforce the efforts currently under way to have the Japanese authorities invite a delegation of Israeli manufacturers to Japan and conversely to permit a delegation -- governmental trading company and manufacturing representatives -- from Japan to visit Israel and explore the economic opportunities there.

Attached is additional background information that we have prepared on Japan and the Arab boycott as well as a general survey of Israel's relations with Asian nations that was prepared under our guidance by Harry Milkman and Jordana Schein-Levi of the IRD staff.

8080/IRD-8 - ar

86-580

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date October 28, 1986

to Miles Jaffe

from George Gruen

subject Japan, the Arab Boycott and Israeli-Asian Relations

Since the last session of the Steering Committee did not have time to deal with the above-mentioned issues, I am sending you an updated package of materials in preparation for the Commission's discussion in Seattle.

As you know, dealing with Japan is a complicated and sensitive subject. I understand from Marc Tanenbaum that some American Jewish businessmen who have commercial relations with Japan, are reluctant to become engaged in a public campaign in opposition to Japan's yielding to Arab boycott pressure.

The discussion in Seattle should, therefore, be exploratory to ascertain the sentiment among the membership. If there is not strong sentiment for a public statement at this time reaffirming AJC's commitment to free trade and opposition to yielding to Arab boycott pressures, then the least that should be done is the appointment of a subcommittee to explore appropriate strategies, including quiet personal contacts to bring about a change in Japanese policy.

Among the names suggested for participation in the subcommittee have been Maynard Wishner, Norman Alexander, Mel Merians and Joseph Durra. Other AJC members with contacts with Japan or other Asian countries should also be encouraged to participate. I believe this is also an area appropriate for chapter work, especially in cities where there is a Japanese Consulate.

If you have any questions on the substance of the materials, please give me a call in New York since I will not be at the NEC sessions in Seattle. Marc Tanenbaum will of course be there and he will be available to discuss with you the appropriate ways to present the issue.

GEG:mr

P.S. I thought you would also be interested in a brief analysis of current Middle East issues which I was asked to provide for Sol Linowitz.

- Encs. -

cc: M.H. Tanenbaum

Best wishes.

George

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

JAPAN AND THE ARAB BOYCOTT

This assessment is based on information we have received from Israeli official and commercial sources. - George E. Gruen, Director, Israel & Middle East Affairs Division.

In Israel's efforts to develop trade and establish closer economic cooperation with Japan, the Arab boycott emerges as a significant obstacle which limits the scope of business in both directions to a level much below its potential.

Japan's attitude towards the Arab economic boycott of Israel differs substantially from that of other Western industrialized states. Unlike other countries, Japanese business openly gives in to pressure by the boycott authorities to refrain from maintaining economic contacts with Israel. Furthermore, Japanese companies frequently preempt such pressure by voluntarily boycotting Israel. One cannot avoid the impression that some Japanese companies decide to boycott Israel after consulting official Japanese authorities.

The common Japanese argument is that this peculiarly Japanese attitude is dictated by Japan's heavy dependence on Arab oil. However, this argument alone cannot fully explain the difference between the Japanese attitude and that of other states which are equally dependent on Arab oil. Furthermore, since Japan's dependence on Arab oil has declined in recent years as a result of diversification of supply sources and growing purchases of oil from non-Arab suppliers (such as the People's Republic of China, Indonesia and Malaysia), this explanation becomes increasingly unsatisfactory.

Some of the main reasons for the Japanese going out of their way to please the boycott authorities are as follows:

* The importance of the Arab oil-producing countries as major markets for Japanese goods. In addition, Japanese firms are involved in the execution of large projects in industry and construction in several Arab oil-producing countries, and by 1983 Japanese investments in these countries amounted to \$3 billion.

* Japan's hard-nosed business approach and protectionist inclinations. This results in all other considerations being subordinated to commercial interests, frequently disregarding the principles of free trade.

* The partial ignorance of Japanese business regarding the actual operation of the Arab boycott. This includes ignorance of the fact that in accordance with boycott rules and implementation, sanctions are not applied against companies which do regular non-military export-import business with Israel.

Arab Pressure on Japan

The Arab boycotting states are clearly aware of Japan's extreme susceptibility to economic pressure, which invites the intensification of such pressure.

In 1972 the Arab states tried to convince the Japanese Government to break off its diplomatic relations with Israel, which were established in 1952, and to close its Tel Aviv Embassy, which was opened in 1963. Japan refused to give in and go to the extreme of breaking off relations with Israel, to some extent due to fear of negative repercussions in the American market.

However, in 1973 the policy of the Japanese Government shifted from one of neutrality in the Arab-Israeli conflict to one reflecting a clear pro-Arab bias. The reward for this policy change was that Japan was granted the status of 'friendly state' by the Arab countries, and the threat of an oil embargo was lifted.

The shift in Japanese policy resulted in a demonstrative coolness towards Israel. Until 1985 official visitors from Israel had not been welcome in Tokyo, while political, economic and cultural relations were kept low-key. In September 1985 Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir made an official visit to Japan and in September 1986 former Foreign Minister Abba Eban headed a three-man Knesset delegation. Although the Israelis were courteously received, they failed to obtain assurances of any significant change in Japanese economic policy.

Manifestations of the boycott

The boycott is exercised mainly by the large Japanese conglomerates. Most of them either refuse to deal with Israel altogether, or are willing to do so only indirectly, through trading companies set up for this purpose, dummy companies or through third countries. Smaller companies, which do little business with the Arab states, are frequently more amenable to doing business with Israel.

As far as imports from Israel are concerned, there is a reluctance among Japanese importers to purchase Israeli-made consumer goods which receive great public exposure. On the other hand, there is greater willingness to buy Israeli-made products, such as cut diamonds, chemicals and electronic equipment, which are less exposed to the general public's eye. But even here Israeli exporters frequently come across difficulties. For example, the Japanese agricultural co-

operatives association Zennon, which for 26 years imported potash from the Dead Sea Works, stopped all purchases in Israel out of pure boycott considerations.

Strangely enough, the boycott is even more evident in Japan's exports to Israel. Several major Japanese exporters, especially of consumer durables, such as the car manufacturers Toyota and Nissan, refuse to sell to Israel altogether. Others, such as Sanyo, Sharp and National [electronics firms] trade with Israel only indirectly.

It is not uncommon for Japanese firms approached by potential Israeli customers to inform them openly that due to the Arab boycott they are unable to supply the desired items. For example, the Japanese Mochida company refused to sell medical supplies to an Israeli hospital, and the Japanese Toshiba company refused to sell mail-sorting equipment to the Israeli Ministry of Communications. Among the items which Japanese companies have refused to sell to Israel one may find photographic equipment, pocket computers and even barber chairs --hardly items one would consider of strategic value to the Israeli economy and thus objectionable from the boycott authorities' point of view.

It is not only trade in goods which is affected by the boycott, but transportation and finance services as well. Japan Air Lines (JAL) refrains from landing in Israel, and even though ships bearing the Israeli flag do call on Japanese ports, no Japanese ships throw anchor in Israel. Japanese banks refuse to grant commercial credit lines for over 180 days or long-term financing for exports of investment goods to Israel.

The Future

Even though there are first indications for a change in the Japanese attitude towards the Arab boycott, the continued cooperation of the Japanese authorities and business community with both real and imaginary requirements of the boycott authorities remains a major barrier to trade and economic cooperation between Israel and Japan.

The immediate target of those combatting the boycott remains to convince the Japanese Government and business community that their policy is both morally and politically mistaken and counterproductive to Japan's economic interests. The arguments against the boycott are well-known:

* The secondary and tertiary boycotts are contrary to the principles of free trade and non-discrimination to which Japan adheres and upon which GATT and other international organizations and agreements are based. (The secondary boycott involves the blacklisting by the Arab boycott authorities of companies which maintain 'prohibited' economic contacts with Israel. The tertiary boycott involves non-Arab companies refraining from doing business with blacklisted firms under pressure by the Arab boycott authorities.)

* Due to fear of frequently imaginary losses of business with the Arab states, Japanese companies lose real business opportunities with Israel.

* Japan's considerable political and economic power is undoubtedly great enough to stand up to the boycott's diktats, as is done by several smaller and weaker states with considerable success.

Although the expectation that the Japanese will introduce anti-boycott-legislation, such as that which exists in several major industrial states, may seem premature, this does remain a goal for the future. The immediate target of the anti-boycott policy within the Japanese context is to convince the Japanese business community and government to reduce their far-reaching cooperation with the boycott, and to take positive steps to encourage the development of free economic relations on all levels between Japan and Israel.

Implications for Korean-Israeli Relations

Since 1980 Israel has been trying to obtain approval from the Government of the Republic of Korea to reopen its Embassy in Seoul. Its various demarches, up to now, have been unsuccessful. The reason, given by officials of the Republic of Korea, was that "reopening Israel's Embassy in Seoul might endanger Korean economic interests in the Arab countries."

Economic exchanges between Israel and Korea are, at present, at a very low ebb. This is due to the lack of on-the-spot representation and to the Korean Government's reluctance -- in spite of its declared policy in support of international free trade -- to promote bilateral trade with Israel. Korean companies refrain from doing business with Israel following the pattern of Japanese companies as described above.

Israel believes that the reopening of its Embassy in Seoul and the promotion of bilateral economic activity are in the best interest of both countries and therefore, will appreciate any aid directed towards attaining the above-mentioned goals.

Improvement in Japanese-Israeli economic relations is valuable not only for the intrinsic benefits involved, but may also have a salutary effect on Israel's relations with the Republic of Korea and other Asian countries which have cited Japan's example in yielding to Arab boycott demands.

* * *

AMERICAN STEERING COMMITTEE ON FREEDOM OF TRADE WITH ISRAEL

280 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Walter P. Stern
Chairman

August 26, 1986

Dear Allen,

I am writing to provide you a further update on activities regarding Japan and the boycott, which I promised to do at our last meeting on March 31st.

First, the Israeli government has informed us that negotiations are proceeding on a trade mission to Japan, with December 1986 as a probable date. Important specifics relating to who will host the group, where and at what level, have not yet been worked out. We continue to believe that senior-level government and major business participation is critical as is Japanese commitment to meaningful follow-up -- so that the meeting is not only "form" but also "substantive." It appears that, while there is clearly no official boycott, there is a de facto boycott by major companies, possibly following administrative guidance from the government. I want to thank you again for your help and would welcome any further assistance you may be able to provide.

Second, given the virtual absence of Japanese trade or ministerial missions to Israel, it seems a logical next step in the process to promote and encourage such a visit. I would like your thoughts on this proposal -- as well as your help -- if you consider it meritorious.

.../2

Committee Members (partial listing)

Kenneth Bialkin (ex-officio) Conference of
of Presidents

Paul Berger - Attorney, Washington, D.C.

Lawrence Goldmuntz - Investor, Washington, D.C.

Abe Foxman - Anti-Defamation League

Kenneth Jacobson - Anti-Defamation League

Will Maslow - American Jewish Congress

George Gruen - American Jewish Committee

Jess Hordes - Staff Director

Arlene Behar - Staff Assistant

A.W. WALLIS

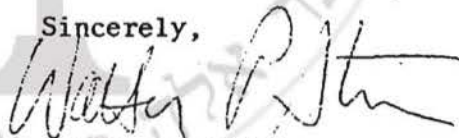
- 2 -

Third, we are still in the process of trying to develop current specific cases of Japanese compliance with the boycott. It seems clear (as stated above)-- based on our research to date -- that boycott cooperation is exercised primarily by the large Japanese companies, although there is substantial evidence of trade with small entities. We also believe the Japanese government, at some level, is both considering the problem and is looking at ways of expanding trade with Israel. This may be due to both American governmental pressure and some of the unfavorable publicity about the Japan boycott resulting from media attention to the topic.

On behalf of our committee, representing the major national Jewish organizations, including the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress and the Anti-Defamation League, I want to express our appreciation for your support and interest.

We would be happy to meet with you or your staff again, if such a meeting would be useful.

Sincerely,



WALTER P. STERN

The Honorable Allen W. Wallis
Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs
U.S. Department of State
Room 7256
Washington, D.C. 20520

Restricted

Jerusalem, June 15, 1986

To: Walter P. Stern, Chairman,
American Steering Committee on Freedom of Trade
with Israel

From: Yuval Elizur, Jerusalem

REPORT ON A VISIT TO JAPAN, MAY 30th-JUNE 9th, 1986

1. Conclusions

In the course of my visit I had a chance to lecture to four research institutes dealing with Middle East affairs, meet with senior officials of the Foreign Ministry (Gaimuchū), the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MITI), the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) as well as with several Japanese, American and Israeli businessmen. As a result of these talks I came to the following conclusions:

a. The impact of the Arab boycott on Japanese-Israeli business relations is as strong as ever. Trade between Israel and Japan (less than \$200 million per annum in each direction) is negligible in terms of the foreign trade of both countries. In fact, no economic contacts exist between any of the major Japanese industrial and trading concerns and Israel or with foreign firms known to them to be on the Arab blacklist. All reports made in recent months concerning a so-called "breakthrough" were either based on wishful thinking or, worse, on a desire to point to "achievements" that in fact were imaginary.

b. The only hope for a change in the situation is to bring the Japanese business interests to realize that there is a price to pay for this attitude towards Israel. They must be made to realize that they may have to weigh the danger of the loss of Arab markets or perhaps even a cut off of vital oil supplies (if and when there is a reversal in the oil market) against the danger of further embarrassments in their trade relations with the U.S.

This need not necessarily take the form of a noisy "counter-boycott" whose results may be questionable, but of systematic action, involving public and U.S. government steps, that make it clear to the Japanese decision makers that the present situation is unsatisfactory to the American public as well as to the U.S. Government.

c. Under the present circumstance I have very serious doubts whether a mission of Israeli industrialists to Japan would be useful. Keidanren is opposed to the mission and would do everything within its power to play it down. MITI considers the mission a small price to pay to let off steam and ward off the pressure applied by U.S. Under-Secretary for Economic Affairs Allen W. Wallis.

2. What Israel needs from Japan

In the course of my mission to Japan I often asked myself what would happen if we do achieve our goal and Japan-Israel economic relations no longer suffer from artificial political barriers that have nothing to do with the real interests of the two countries.

It has been argued that what Israel has to offer to Japan in finished products and even in know-how can always find outlets in the margins of the mainstream of the Japanese economy. These margins have not yet been sufficiently explored by Israeli businessmen. Similarly Israel can obtain most of its needs from Japan by doing business with relatively small manufacturers (such as purchasing Subarus, Suzukis and Daihatsus) or by trading through intermediaries.

Japan successfully resists pressures to import from the rest of the world, the argument goes on, why should we expect that they will start buying Israeli goods once they decide to overlook the Arab boycott? Why would the Japanese electronics industry, for example, buy Israeli components or software, if they do not buy any foreign components because of language difficulties, quality control and the peculiar Japanese system of vertical integration?

What makes it particularly difficult to refute these arguments is that it is impossible to quantify any positive development of Japan-Israel relations once the political barriers are removed. It can only be said that because of the ever growing importance of Japan not only as a manufacturing power but also as a trading and financial empire, Israel, without having access to Japan, will have to fight for its position in the world economy with one hand tied behind its back.

Perhaps very few changes would take place in Japan-Israeli relations in the first years after the boycott were lifted. But one may also see gradual changes that may be of crucial importance to the Israeli economy. Here are some of these changes:

a. If Zim, Israeli Navigation Company, can obtain cargoes, at competitive rates, not only from the small companies but also from the large firms like C. Itoh, Marubeni and others this may make all the difference in the world for the profitability of its shipping line between Japan and the U.S.

b. Tadiran and other Israeli electronic firms would like to reach agreements with Japanese companies for integrating their production in certain lines such as communications equipment. Israel would buy from Japan some components and sell the finished product or vice versa.

c. By having a better choice in its car imports Israel would be able to save tens of millions of dollars a year.

d. Joint ventures between Israel and Japan could prove to be an important instrument to overcome U.S. import restrictions (since imports

to the U.S. benefit from the Free Trade Area Agreement when the Israel added value is at least 35%).

But perhaps the most convincing argument for the need to make attempts to remove the obstacle imposed by the Arab boycott on Japan-Israel are the high stakes involved: a relatively small effort is required but so very much can be gained.

3. The visit to Japan

The idea of my visit to Japan came after a short talk I had in Jerusalem with Dr. Yaakov Cohen, Israel's Ambassador in Tokyo who was in Israel for a short personal visit. I told him that we, in the Institute of Economic Co-existence in Israel, would like to get first hand impressions of the reality of Israeli-Japanese relations and perhaps even use our independent position to tell our Japanese counterparts things that cannot be said by diplomats.

Later, after meeting with Maxwell Greenberg and Abraham Foxman of the ADL and with representatives of other American Jewish organizations, it became clear to us that our mission could have an additional purpose: that of fact finding. A number of questions had remained as a result of conflicting reports of the changes in the attitude of Japan to the Arab Boycott. ADL found itself unable to proceed with a plan of action in the U.S. until all the facts were clear.

Dr. Cohen and members of his staff did an excellent job in preparing a most intensive program that kept me going for five days of all-day schedule of appointments in Tokyo. If one takes into consideration the reluctance of some of the government and business institutions to set up the appointments, the appreciation for the embassy's efforts becomes even more apparent. Some events, like the lecture to the National Defense Institute of Japan, where the audience consisted of about 20 representatives of the various military branches and security agencies (all in civilian clothes), my appearance constituted a "first" for any Israeli representative.

In some cases, such as in the Keidanren, a lively discussion developed on ways to promote Japanese-Israeli business relations. In the research institutions the debate was mostly on the future of oil supplies. At all times the exchanges were polite and did not get out of hand, although, as I learned from the Embassy personnel who accompanied me to all the meetings, at no time in the past was there such a "frank" discussion of the Arab boycott as in some of those meetings.

I did not "win points" and have no illusions that I convinced anybody. Yet, my audiences took notes feverishly and I am convinced the messages were received by the decision making levels. The Japanese staff members of the Israel Embassy, who did not hesitate to tell me when arguments were not too convincing, felt that some of the meetings were "very good" or "most successful."

I did not just argue but also listed, collected facts, arguments and even suggestions, made by my Japanese hosts, how to change the present situation. Some of these suggestions I have incorporated in the recommendations included in this report. At no time was I given information "off the record." The Japanese do not hide the fact that their reluctance to do business with Israel is because of their fear of the Arab boycott. Yet, both in government offices and in the Keidanren the argument is that they have no policy of their own with regards to the Arab boycott and "the decisions are made by the firms themselves on the basis of their own business interests."

4. Why the Japanese Firms Boycott Israel

Ever since OPEC began to lose its grip on the international oil market and especially since oil prices collapsed in January 1986 it looked as if a change Japan's capitulation to the Arab boycott was inevitable. The reports that followed the visit of Israel's Foreign Minister, Yitzhak Shamir, gave the impression that the ice had indeed been broken. This was clearly not the case. It now looks as if at the time of the visit of Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir to Japan, in September 1985, an effort was made (perhaps even with the help of the Japanese officials themselves or by wishful thinking of some of the Israeli diplomats) to create the impression that there had been a "breakthrough" that in fact did not take place.

One of the unfortunate results of this mistaken impression were statements that appeared in the world press during the visit to Japan by Minister without Portfolio Moshe Arens to Japan early in May 1986 expressing hopes for cooperation with Japan on the development of the Lavi, when in fact no such possibilities exist. This does not mean that the relations between Israel and Japan, especially on the political and cultural level, are not improving gradually. These relations reached a low point after the Yom Kippur war in 1973 when Japan almost gave in to Arab demands to break diplomatic relations with Israel. The visit of Shamir may have indicated a change but definitely not a "breakthrough." It should also be pointed out that most Japanese, especially the Japanese businessmen, have no anti-Israel emotions. On the contrary, they are friendly towards Israelis on a personal basis.

The following reasons are given in Japan for the continued acquiescence to the Arab Boycott:

a. The Japanese experts give credence to the predictions that a new oil shortage will develop in the 1990's. Although by that time Japan will acquire a good part of its oil from China (which has no other way to pay for imports from Japan) the MITI funded research institutes advocate caution in what they consider a clearcut danger to Japan's lifeline.

b. Although hopes of large scales sales to the Arabs markets did not materialize, the Japanese firms still consider the potential of

these markets to be more important than that of Israel. The present economic difficulties of some of the oil states only exacerbate matters since firms in those countries are in debt to Japanese banks and exporters. The Japanese fear that if they violate the Arab boycott regulations this may serve as an excuse not to repay the debts.

c. The revaluation of the Yen and the difficulties which the Japanese economy now faces have already sharpened the competition between Japan's large corporations. Part of this competition is the tendency of one company to "squeal" on another by accusing it, among other "sins" of violating the Arab boycott of Israel. The firms are therefore careful not to become "guilty" of such "sins."

d. The decision-making process in Japan is slow and requires a consensus. Thus, even if the change in the oil supply situation will bring about a rethinking of the Middle East policy, no conclusions can be expected before one or two more years.

5. What can be done?

Despite the peculiar Japanese method of decision-making and despite the reluctance to give in to direct pressure, I am convinced that Japanese firms must be made aware of American displeasure. The forthcoming talks between the American diplomat Dr. Gator Sigur and the Japanese government, and the change in Japan's attitude on microchips imports are a good example of the way the boycott of Israel should be handled.

Japanese firms are at present more sensitive than ever before to market pressures. Those firms who have already had to raise their export prices because of the revaluation of the Yen have expressed the fear that a drop in prices may bring about a crisis, especially since the large firms have difficulties in reducing their labor force.

While I do not recommend a counter boycott of Japanese goods, limited action against a single firm (Hitachi, for example, that does not even allow Israelis to visit their offices) could cause the necessary shock.

A detailed program could be worked out by the various agencies and co-ordinated by your committee.

This plan should suggest to the Israeli government that Israel should, on its part, also make it clear that it is unsatisfied with the present state of affairs. The minimum it could do is to refuse to issue import licences for Japanese consumer goods unless accompanied by the original manufacturers' invoices, thus eliminating "indirect" sales to Israel.

I do not believe that any plan of action, successful as it may be, can bring about an immediate change in Japan's position vis-a-vis the

Arab boycott, but it will certainly give impetus to a process which no doubt has begun but cannot, as yet, be noticed on the surface.

Serious consideration should be given to the question of the Israeli delegation which has been suggested by Japan's Ambassador to Washington. On the one hand if the Israeli manufacturers visit, and their visit is downplayed by their hosts, the Japanese will be able to tell the Americans that "we have done something" although in effect they have done nothing.

On the other hand, if it is decided not to send the delegation, the Japanese will not be sorry. Under present conditions the Israeli industrialists should go to Japan but it should be made quite clear to the participants not to expect too much. It should also be made clear to the Japanese government that neither Israel nor the U.S. Administration consider the delegation as the end but only as a beginning of an intensive plan of action that should be laid down, hopefully with Japanese co-operation.

Keidanren leaders told Arens that they had sent a circular to their members suggesting to them that they join a mission to Israel but none of them responded favorably. The idea can be brought up again. Perhaps it can be made clear to Keidanren officials that the U.S. would favor such a mission and that they should try harder.

The fight against the Arab boycott in Japan is one that Israel cannot afford to lose. In fact, it is a fight that Israel can win if there is determination and a good plan of action.

cc: Members of the Committee

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The Week in Germany



Federal Republic of Germany

Editors: B. Karkow, P. McGraw, G. Kruger, G. Ernsberger; Press Review: H. Holzapfel

October 24, 1986

ON THE INSIDE . . .

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KOHL DISCUSSES ARMS CONTROL IN TALKS DURING U.S. VISIT

In talks with American officials during a four-day visit to the United States, Chancellor Helmut Kohl stressed the special interests that the Europeans and the Federal Republic have in arms control negotiations between the superpowers. At a news conference on Wednesday (October 22) after meetings with President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz, Kohl said that progress had been made in arms control at the superpower meeting in Reykjavik and added that an agreement on medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe was "now within reach." He reported agreement with U.S. leaders that further steps called for joint consultation. The chancellor criticized the Soviet negotiating stance of linking medium-range missiles with other weapon systems, saying he agreed with Reagan and Shultz that the USSR must be persuaded to change this "regrettable position." Kohl pointed out that Soviet superiority in conventional weapons would have to be addressed if NATO's strategy of flexible response and the security of America's European partners were to remain credible. He characterized as justifiable research on the Strategic Defense Initiative combined with a restrictive interpretation of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, but stressed that the number of offensive missiles remaining after drastic cuts must "necessarily determine the extent of future defensive systems." Kohl urged patience in negotiations with the Soviets. He pointed to "elemental" changes in the negotiations but called it "absurd to expect that things can be put in order overnight" after so many years with hardly any progress. In his view, said the chancellor, the Reykjavik meeting was not the actual summit. He expressed optimism about the prospects for the previously agreed upon summit to take place in the U.S. in 1987.

In a meeting with Treasury Secretary James Baker the question of economic stimulation was discussed. Kohl said the Federal Republic had "done its homework from the economic summits," especially regarding the reduction of budget deficits. The Federal Republic has achieved a three percent growth rate and will have created 600,000 new jobs by year's end, said Kohl, and sees no possibility of doing more at present. Sources in the West German delegation indicated that Baker had made no demands during the talks with Kohl.

On Friday (October 24), Kohl traveled to Chicago, where he addressed the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations and a group of Chicago business executives.

BERLIN PROSECUTORS CLOSE BOOK ON NAZI PEOPLE'S COURT

The Berlin Senator for Justice, Rupert Scholz, announced on Tuesday (October 21) that investigations by the Berlin state attorney's office of former judges and prosecutors of the Nazi "People's Court" were being terminated because of "substantial legal and factual difficulties." Scholz said that the investigations could not be continued because suspects had either died, disappeared, or been judged unfit to stand trial, or because not enough evidence could be found to prove murder charges against them. Established to try cases of high treason and other political crimes, the People's Court was used by the National Socialists to eliminate political opponents. Between 1934 and 1945 it handled some 16,000 cases and condemned almost one-third of the accused to death. Scholz called the termination of the investigation "very regrettable" and voiced concern that many people's sense of justice would be offended. The main reason for the difficulties, according to Scholz, was that a centralized investigation against the People's Court was started only in 1965, which was "unfortunately much too late."

The Chairman of the Jewish Community in Berlin, Heinz Galinski, called the decision a "disservice" to democracy and the world public and a "black day" in the history of German justice. Criticism of the failure of the prosecution effort also came from the judge and lawyer members of the public employees' union and from the Social Democratic Bundestag group. Federal Justice Minister Hans Engelhard (CDU) issued a statement saying, "De jure the chapter on the legal prosecution of former National Socialist jurists may have been closed. The spiritual process of coming to grips with the regime of violence and with the pernicious contribution of jurists to it must, however, continue as never before."

U.N. COMMITTEE APPROVES GENSCHER INITIATIVE ON REFUGEES

An initiative for the political prevention of a new massive flow of refugees, first proposed by Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher at the United Nations six years ago, was unanimously approved by the Special Political Committee of the U.N. General Assembly in New York Monday (October 20). The final vote by the full General Assembly is expected in November. The draft resolution calls on all nations to prevent refugee problems by promoting human rights.

SPD AND SED PROPOSE NUCLEAR-FREE CORRIDOR IN CENTRAL EUROPE

The West German Social Democrats and the German Democratic Republic's ruling Socialist Unity Party announced an agreement Tuesday (October 21) on common principles for establishing a "corridor" free of atomic weapons along the border between the Federal Republic and Warsaw Pact countries. The agreement was drawn up by a joint working committee of the two parties led by Egon Bahr, a member of the SPD executive committee, and SED politburo member Hermann Axen. The initiative calls for the withdrawal of all nuclear weapons from an area 150 kilometers on each side of the border. It provides for constant international inspection of the corridor. -- Deputy Government Spokesman Herbert Schmülling criticized the SPD-SED proposal, saying it did not increase the security of the Federal Republic, but only "creates the illusion of security."

VON WEIZSÄCKER, KOHL HONOR BEN GURION ON 100TH ANNIVERSARY

In a letter to Israeli President Chaim Herzog made public on Monday (October 20), Federal President Richard von Weizsäcker praised Israel's founding president, David Ben Gurion, as a great statesman who together with Konrad Adenauer first made possible the positive development of relations between the Federal Republic and Israel. The occasion for the letter was the start of Israel's commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the late leader's birth. -- In his own message, Chancellor Helmut Kohl recalled the 1959 speech before the Israeli parliament in which Ben Gurion declared that "the Germany of today is not the Germany of yesterday." Kohl said it had been the Israeli politician who "first offered the hand of reconciliation," adding that it is the task and responsibility of Germany today to continue this work of understanding and friendship.

CHANCELLOR KOHL IN WASHINGTON

As Chancellor Helmut Kohl arrived in Washington for an official visit, the German press talked about a possible agenda. It expressed the hope that he would convey to President Reagan Bonn's--and Europe's--desire for salvaging at least some important disarmament agreements from Reykjavik. As some commentators saw it, Bonn, as one of the most faithful allies of America, is justified in making its strong interest in arms reductions known in Washington.

NEUE OSNABRÜCKER ZEITUNG (October 20) pointed out that Chancellor Kohl will have a unique chance to test the water on this visit and to give voice to Europe's interest in new arms moves: "This visit to America by the chancellor differs from many previous ones. What was going to be a routine exercise--useful for making contacts and for image cultivation--suddenly took on a new dimension as the result of the Reykjavik summit. It is Helmut Kohl's lot, as first government leader of a NATO country to confer with Ronald Reagan after the summit, to play the unavoidable role of emissary and spokesman of the European allies....The aim is to forcefully represent the European viewpoint that progress made in Reykjavik must be utilized persistently as the basis for efforts towards concrete agreements, and that all arms categories must be negotiable, including the Strategic Defense Initiative."

NEUE RUHR/NEUE RHEIN ZEITUNG (October 20) said that the visit would give the chancellor the opportunity to probe for the real impact of the Reykjavik summit: "The accident of the choice of time...affords Helmut Kohl a double chance: to ascertain whether the Reagan-Gorbachev meeting...actually was a 'black Sunday' and hence the start of a new East-West ice age, or whether it was the start after all of a new political breakthrough to a world with a few less weapons at last."

GENERAL-ANZEIGER (October 18) focused its attention on how Mr. Kohl might fare in discussing the SDI with the president: "In contrast to the president, Kohl prefers to look at the gigantic space venture as an eventual instrument of pressure which could be sacrificed on the altar of world peace once there is globe-encircling disarmament. The chancellor will at least try to coax a hint in that direction from the president. At that sensitive point in the dialogue there could of course be a repetition of what Gorbachev had already discovered in Reykjavik, namely that Reagan might conceivably listen to reason on questions of procedure but not on principles."

SCHWÄBISCHE ZEITUNG (October 20) argued that Bonn has made its military contribution to the alliance and is entitled to be heard: "As an alliance partner, Helmut Kohl can make some good arguments. In the Federal Republic the upper limits of what is militarily tolerable have been reached. In no other region of the world are there as many weapons stationed in such a narrow area. The Bonn government did its alliance duty when missile redeployment was at issue. It was the only European partner to declare its readiness to have Pershing missiles stationed in its territory. It is the only European partner to tolerate the storing of American chemical weapons. And with its armed forces it provides the strongest conventional force among the Europeans in the Atlantic alliance. It is thus justified and well-rounded interest when Helmut Kohl makes his demands for fewer arms known in Washington too."

ARMS CONTROL AND NATO AFTER REYKJAVIK

In the wake of Reykjavik the German media are trying to assess the impact of that summit on disarmament issues and on NATO. In the process they come up repeatedly against uncertainties and doubts about the effects of the work on disarmament that was left unfinished in Iceland.

DIE WELT (October 20) was of the opinion that we know little about the real intentions of the two powers after their meeting: "The problem is that we know many more factual

things about this summit than we knew of each disarmament jamboree in past decades. But what is lacking to make any final and precise judgments is reliable knowledge about the motives of both sides, for these will be more decisive in the end than all the zero-solutions and SDI reservations. Did the Soviets set any traps, as Kissinger suspects, or are they negotiating in good faith, as Shultz believes?"

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG (October 20) called on America not to allow the SDI issue to damage the cohesion of the Western alliance: "It is obvious that even a plea by Bonn will not separate Reagan from the SDI as far as Gorbachev would like it....That vision is too important for the president, and it has turned out to be a highly effective means of pressure. But the U.S. must seriously reckon with the danger that projects like the SDI could turn out to be divisive instruments in the alliance."

SÜDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG (October 18) expressed concern that Moscow's stand seems to be hardening after Reykjavik: "It strikes us that in contrast to Gorbachev's initially solicitous tones, Moscow's stand is stiffening, and that the Kremlin runs the risk in this connection that part of the responsibility for the failure of the summit will end up back on its doorstep. Because now one gets the impression that the Russians do not want to make a deal at all and that they are looking for a pretext to cancel Gorbachev's planned trip to the U.S. After everything that has previously been said on both sides, the zero-solution seemed to be almost perfect for Europe, and it could have been put into a separate agreement. Therefore the Europeans must be even more careful now not to let themselves be used by Moscow against Washington."

NEUE OSNABRÜCKER ZEITUNG (October 18) warned that some of the arms reduction proposals envisaged in Iceland could harm NATO militarily: "There is more behind the criticism by NATO's commander-in-chief about the leak of information from the U.S. before and after the summit than just irritation about insufficient respect on the part of the leading Western power. In reality, this highly unusual intervention has to do...with sufficient security for Europe. The military are concerned that a zero-solution for medium-range weapons would give the Soviets superiority in two respects: in short-range missiles and in conventional weapons. Both problems were obviously not touched on in Reykjavik, although--or because?--they least affect direct Soviet-American interests."

NOBEL PRIZE FOR ELI WIESEL

Available media comment after Eli Wiesel received this year's Nobel Peace Prize said that it represents a recognition of his activities. Some of the output also contained reminders that in addition to the need not to forget the past atrocities of the Holocaust, the world still must be on guard against continuing violations of human rights.

AUGSBURGER ALLGEMEINE (October 15) stated that Mr. Wiesel's intent is to protect others from new crimes against humanity: "Wiesel's main concern in not letting the immense suffering of the Jews in the Third Reich fall into oblivion is not an end in itself. Wiesel wants to protect the memories of crimes by the Nazis and their accomplices from being forgotten; so that they continue to be permanent reminders and protect people all over the globe against being drawn once again, as perpetrators or as victims, into the vortex of hatred and fanaticism."

RHEIN-ZEITUNG (October 15) also saw the Boston University professor as standing guard against evil in this world: "Eli Wiesel received the...prize because he never forgot that good can overcome evil....Eli Wiesel is a watchman whose task it is to prevent us from falling asleep self-righteously or from justifying deadly cruelty with the false label of 'self-assertion.'"

MÜNCHNER MERKUR (October 15) said that the honoring of Wiesel should remind us also of contemporary threats to humanity: "Wiesel's honor ought to dismay all those who currently disregard human rights. We can readily assume that no state, no dictator and no regime sees itself as the guilty party....There are quite a few who happen to use a different yardstick: They would rather talk about our past than about their present."

THE ECONOMIC ACCOUNT

On Thursday, October 23, the U.S. dollar's official rate in Frankfurt was DM 1.9903.

DOLLAR GAINS NEARLY TWO PFENNIG BUT REMAINS BELOW DM 2

The value of the U.S. dollar registered DM 1.9734 in Frankfurt Friday noon (October 17), and gained two pfennig by Tuesday. It lost a pfennig Wednesday but regained it Thursday.

"FIVE WISE MEN" FORECAST CONTINUED GROWTH

The five leading West German economic research institutes, commonly referred to as the "Five Wise Men," predict in their autumn report, published Monday (October 20) in Bonn, that the upward economic trend in the Federal Republic will continue despite significant risk factors in the world economy. Private consumption, which has already become the "decisive driving force of the economy," is expected to contribute significantly to a further increase in total demand in 1987. The economic researchers predict a real three percent growth in the gross national product for 1987, and revise their original 1986 GNP prediction of 3.5 percent downward to three percent. The number of employed persons is expected to increase by 250,000 and the number of unemployed to decrease by nearly 100,000 but remain above two million. Prices will increase at an average rate of 1.5 percent, the experts predict. The trade surplus, at around DM 100 billion, will be somewhat lower in 1987 than in 1986, they believe, and the balance of payments on current account will decrease by some DM 10 billion to around 60 billion. -- Government spokesman Friedhelm Ost welcomed the institutes' report as a sign that the Kohl government's policies have succeeded in securing "trust, credibility and continuity" in the economy. In a joint response to the report, Economics Minister Martin Bangemann and Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg stated that the institutes' findings confirm Bonn's expectations for continued growth in 1987. The Five Wise Men's report clearly shows that Bonn's economic and financial policies have been successful and must be continued, they said.

STEINKÜHLER ELECTED TO HEAD LARGEST LABOR UNION

The West German Metalworkers Union, the largest labor union in the West, chose a new president this week. Franz Steinkühler, the former vice president, was elected Wednesday (October 22) to lead the 2.5 million Metalworkers by a vote of 437 to 64 delegates at the union's convention in Hamburg. The 64-year-old former president, Hans Mayr, is retiring. Called "our Franz" by supporters and labeled at times a "strike-happy" agitator or "the wild man from Stuttgart" by management spokesmen, Steinkühler has been a controversial figure in the past. Saying "organization isn't everything, but without organization, everything is nothing," Steinkühler has announced plans to streamline the union's structure and, with the help of computer technology, to make it more effective.

TEN THOUSAND SHIPYARD WORKERS TO BE LAID OFF

Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg and Economics Minister Martin Bangemann Thursday (October 23) predicted that the jobs of about 10,000 shipyard workers would have to be eliminated in order to save the remaining 30,000 positions in the industry. In a Bundestag session called by the opposition Social Democrats, Bangemann said the crisis in shipbuilding in the coastal regions is to be traced to external factors such as the decline of the dollar, international low-wage competition, and national subsidies. Currently 37,400 people are employed by German shipyards--3,100 fewer than in 1985. SPD spokesman Norbert Gansel said that Bonn's aid to the industry of about DM 420 million over three years is "totally inadequate." CDU spokesman Reinhard Metz said it would be impossible to retain all the employees as long as there remain "too many ships for too little cargo." Green Party Deputy Willi Tatge proposed using the surplus labor to construct public buildings, wind energy installations and environmental protection facilities.

GERMAN PARTICIPATION IN HERMES PROJECT DISPUTED

During a meeting of Bonn cabinet ministers Friday (October 17) chaired by Chancellor Helmut Kohl and attended also by Bavarian Prime Minister Franz Josef Strauß, government leaders decided to participate in the European Hermes space shuttle program by providing thirty percent of the financing for the project's preparatory phase, government spokesman Friedhelm Ost announced. Ost said the West German contribution of DM 32 million would be covered by the budget of the Ministry for Research and Technology. On Wednesday, however, the Bundestag's budget committee voted to block funding for the project in the 1987 budget. The Christian Democratic research expert in the Bundestag, Dietrich Austermann, said that the data provided by Research Minister Heinz Riesenhuber was as yet insufficient. Austermann said the committee wanted to ensure that entry into the preliminary phase would not amount to an irrevocable commitment on German participation in the whole project. The committee's decision to block the funds might be reconsidered before the 1987 budget is finalized, he indicated. In the meantime, he said, the committee expects further information on the prospective costs of the project to be provided.

BUNDESBAHN DEFICIT INCREASE TRACED TO LOW FUEL PRICES

The Federal Railway's deficit, which was reduced from DM 4.1 billion in 1983 to DM 2.9 billion last year, will probably climb back to DM 2.99 billion by the end of 1986, the Bundesbahn's governing board announced Friday (October 17) in Bonn. If the current trend continues, the federally owned corporation's deficit could increase to DM 3.28 billion by the end of 1987, according to a report prepared by the board. A decrease in transport volume--especially in coal, iron, and steel--has led to income losses. The Bundesbahn's freight charges are under heavy competitive pressure from trucking and river shipping concerns, which are saving significant amounts of money by paying less for oil, the officials said. The railway has been able to partially compensate for reduced freight income by cutting expenditures, the board stated. The railway estimates that it will take in about DM 27.45 billion and spend DM 30.44 billion in 1986. Its estimates for 1987 are an income of DM 27.61 billion and outlays of DM 30.89 billion.

AUTOMOBILE EXPORTS UP DESPITE EXPENSIVE D-MARK

Despite the continued decline of the U.S. dollar and the British pound against the D-mark, West German automobile exports continue to rise. Of the total 410,400 cars and trucks that rolled off the assembly lines in September, 240,000 were shipped abroad--an increase of eight percent over September 1985. The export of passenger cars and station wagons increased nine percent to 226,500, while exports of trucks weighing six tons or less decreased 10 percent. From January through September the country's automakers produced 3,406,700 vehicles--three percent more than last year.

KIECHLE IN KIEL: BETTER DISTRIBUTION IS NO SOLUTION

Speaking at a rally for World Food Day in Kiel Friday (October 17), Agriculture Minister Ignaz Kiechle said that experts agree world hunger can only be quelled by helping the 500 million or so starving people on this planet achieve local food self-sufficiency. Kiechle pointed out that the world's population is predicted to grow by some 1.5 billion by the year 2000. Available land, water, fertilizer, labor and pesticides are enough to produce the food needed to feed those additional mouths, but the hunger problem cannot be solved solely by equalizing distribution, he said. The attempt to transfer food from the lands of abundance into the hands of the needy creates an undesirable, permanent dependence on the supplying countries, he said. Kiechle added, however, that the Federal Republic is still prepared to provide food relief in cases of emergency. In 1985 Bonn spent DM 500 million on emergency aid and another DM 1.3 billion to cover 28 percent of the European Community's food aid program. Kiechle cited China and India as countries which have achieved food self-sufficiency and said Pakistan is approaching it. Several other speakers emphasized the growing significance of the seas and inland bodies of water as sources of world nutrition.

ROUNDUP

TV SHOW RAKES IN DM 4,742,230 TO HELP CHILD CANCER VICTIMS

A donation drive launched in connection with the television show "Künstler für Kinder" (Artists for Children) last week collected DM 4,742,230 for children suffering from cancer in the Federal Republic, according to Stern magazine, a cosponsor of the show. Stern announced that a computer at the TV network, which registered donations between DM 10 and DM 90, had counted a total of DM 2,269,230 by the time the show ended. A Stern telephone team in Hamburg received more than DM 1 million in additional pledges, and a single anonymous contributor gave another million. The show, organized by the magazine, the German Cancer Relief Foundation and the television network Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen, featured such artists as Angelo Branduardi, Udo Jürgens, Udo Lindenberg, Peter Maffay, and Milva and Konstantin Wecker. The donations are to be used to staff 14 cancer clinics for children and to build houses where parents may stay to be near children who are undergoing treatment.

UNIVERSITY OF HEIDELBERG CELEBRATES 600TH ANNIVERSARY

The 600th anniversary of the founding of the University of Heidelberg (Baden-Württemberg) was celebrated on Saturday (October 18) with a ceremony in the city's Church of the Holy Spirit. It was in the same church that three professors gave the university's first lectures to a small group of students on October 18, 1386. President Richard von Weizsäcker addressed the gathering, declaring that government must once again give the universities the trust which they have justified over many centuries. The ceremony concluded a year-long series of events commemorating the anniversary. The university, today with over 600 professors and 28,000 students, is Germany's oldest.

KOHL MAKES OFFICIAL VISIT TO BONN

Chancellor Helmut Kohl made an official visit to the City of Bonn last week, four years after taking office in the federal capital. The chancellor and his wife Hannelore visited the municipal art museum and the cathedral. In a speech at the Old Town Hall, where the chancellor signed the golden book of the city, Bonn mayor Hans Daniels lauded Kohl's contribution to the growth of Bonn as an intellectual and cultural center of the Federal Republic. Kohl said that the capital fulfills an important purpose for the whole country, because many foreign visitors' first impression of the Federal Republic is formed in Bonn. The federal government finances 70 percent of the subsidies for "privileged cultural areas," such as opera and theater, in the capital.

SYMPOSIUM ON SPACE FLIGHT DYNAMICS HELD IN DARMSTADT

More than 150 scientists from all over the world gathered Monday (October 20) in Darmstadt (Hesse) for a four-day symposium on the flight dynamics of spacecraft. The precise determination of a satellite's orbit and prospects for future interplanetary space missions were the main topics of the symposium, which was hosted by the mission control center of the European Space Agency. According to a spokesman for the center, mathematicians and mechanical specialists have narrowed the margin of error in establishing a satellite's orbit from several meters to only 10 centimeters. The European Space Operations Center in Darmstadt has guided and monitored 25 scientific and communications satellites in space, among them the ESA probe "Giotto," which earlier this year came within 500 kilometers of Halley's Comet.

L.A. THESPIANS PLAY IN BERLIN

The fifth Berlin Amateur Theater Festival ended Sunday (October 19) in the Centre Francais in the Wedding district of the city. This year the Pacific Palisades Theater from Berlin's sister city Los Angeles took part in the 12-day festival, the first American theater company ever to participate. The group from Los Angeles opened the festival with a performance of Ernest Thompson's "On Golden Pond," in English.

RESEARCH SHIP TESTS FOR RADIOACTIVITY IN BALTIC

The research ship "Gauß" of the German Hydrographic Institute left Kiel (Schleswig-Holstein) last week on a 22-day mission to test the Baltic Sea for traces of radioactivity. Scientists from Denmark, Sweden and Finland as well as from the Laboratory for Marine Radioactivity in Monaco are also on board. According to an announcement by the institute, water samples taken at 113 locations will be tested for traces of cesium 137 and 134, strontium 90, technetium 99, and plutonium. The institute's previous studies have found that the portion of artificial radioisotopes in the Baltic has "changed qualitatively and quantitatively" since the nuclear accident at Chernobyl. The concentrations of cesium 137 in the western Baltic are up from .02 to 1 becquerel per liter since the accident, according to the announcement. Previous levels of radioactivity, which were traced to fallout from above-ground nuclear testing and to radioactive pollutants from the North Sea, were very low before Chernobyl, the institute stated.

LÜBECK EXHIBIT FEATURES PETER WEISS AS PAINTER

An exhibit of paintings, drawings and collages from the 1930s and 1940s by the writer and filmmaker Peter Weiss opened last week in Lübeck (Schleswig-Holstein). The exhibit, which will remain until November 9, presents a little-known aspect of the work of an artist who is most widely known as a dramatist. Weiss, who was born 70 years ago in Berlin and emigrated in 1934, began his career as a painter after studying at the art academy in Prague. The works on display in Lübeck come primarily from the private collection of Weiss's widow, Gunilla Palmstierna-Weiss. There are also works on loan from Swedish museums. The display includes colorful oil paintings, with the circus and theater world or the struggle with the onset of mechanization in the world as major themes. Also featured are drawings and collages inspired by oriental fables. -- Though he settled in Sweden in 1939 and became a citizen of that country in 1945, Weiss was a member of the West German PEN writers' organization and wrote his novels and plays in German. Among the internationally best known of his literary works was the play Marat/Sade. Weiss was awarded the Georg Büchner Prize posthumously in 1982.

NEW FOUNDATION PROMOTES BERLIN OPERA COMPANY'S TIES WITH U.S.

The American Berlin Opera Foundation, formed this year to help promote closer ties between American audiences and the Deutsche Oper Berlin, held a \$175-a-plate gala dinner for some 200 guests last week in New York. The dinner was preceded by a reception hosted by Arthur F. Burns, former U.S. ambassador to the Federal Republic and a promoter of the foundation. The evening included performances by soprano Karan Armstrong and baritone Simon Estes, whose careers have included important associations with the Berlin company. The general manager and artistic director of the Deutsche Oper Berlin, Goetz Friedrich, told journalists that the idea for this "bridge" between the opera company and the U.S. was born out of the necessity to find new sources of financial support for the opera's guest appearances in the U.S. due to decreases in government funding. The foundation will finance the creation of original operas to be premiered by the Deutsche Opera Berlin, will help underwrite future tours in the U.S., and will provide scholarship funds to continue the artistic training of young American artists with the Berlin company. Almost half of the the Opera's present company are Americans.

MUTTS MAULING MAILMEN MORE OFTEN

The Federal Post Office recommended in an announcement on Tuesday (October 21) that dog owners keep their pets "in safe custody" during the times of postal deliveries. In spite of the post office's best efforts, more and more of its personnel have been attacked by "man's best friend" while making their appointed rounds. In the Bremen postal district alone, which includes the city and half of the state of Lower Saxony, mail carriers fell prey to predatory pooches 244 times during the past year. In the Federal Republic as a whole, carnivorous canines took a bite out of unsuspecting postal employees 3050 times. The resulting injuries have cost the post office DM 6.4 million. Postal officials warned that deliveries may be cut off to especially inconsiderate dog owners, who will then have to pick up their own mail at the post office.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date October 7, 1986
to Marc Tanenbaum
from David Harris
subject Attached Op Ed

At the request of Neil Sandberg, I prepared the attached op ed to be used, it is hoped, this week in the Los Angeles Times. It would appear in the name of a prominent non-Jew whom Neil is currently seeking to identify.

D Harris

Enclosure

cc: Eugene DuBow
David Geller
Geri Rozanski



Soviet Jewry: A New Opportunity

"I set before thee life and death, the blessing and the curse; therefore, choose life."

(Deuteronomy, 30:19)

At the forthcoming Reagan-Gorbachev talks in Reykjavik, the United States has an important opportunity to help millions of people -- victims of Soviet human rights abuse -- to affirm their choice of life. Soviet Jews are among them. Targets of seven decades of a deliberate Soviet policy to extinguish every vestige of religious and cultural identity, they still yearn to reestablish new lives as Jews in the West. They cannot succeed without our help.

Two million Jews live in the USSR, the third largest Jewish community, after the United States and Israel, in the world. Yet almost beyond belief, there is not a single rabbinic seminary in that vast land and only a handful of rabbis remain. Hebrew, the unifying language of the Jewish people, is taught in only four institutes but Jews are denied access to these programs. And the few synagogues and well-worn prayer books are clearly inadequate to serve the needs of the Jewish community.

Even the sacred memory of the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust is denied to the survivors. Last week, the 45th anniversary of the massacre of 34,000 civilians, mostly Jews, at Babi Yar, a ravine

in the outskirts of Kiev, was marked. Yet there is no reference at Babi Yar to the fact that Jews were the primary victims of the Nazi massacre then. Indeed, when three Soviet Jews sought to recite the Kaddish, the traditional Jewish prayer for the dead, at the site five years ago, they were arrested by Soviet authorities and sentenced to two weeks' imprisonment for "malicious hooliganism."

It is the memory of the Holocaust -- the haunting silence then of so many -- that adds a special sense of urgency to the rescue of the surviving Soviet Jews. Appropriately, Emil Fackenheim, a Judaic scholar in Toronto, coined a new commandment: "After Auschwitz, thou shalt not give Hitler posthumous history." Who among us can in good conscience sit idly by knowing that the fate of so many individuals, some 15% of world Jewry, hangs in the balance?

Many survivors of Hitler's monstrous concentration camps have recalled two compelling fears that haunted them during those dark years: the first was that the world was unaware of what was happening to them, but they had a second and far greater fear, namely, that the world was aware of what was happening to them but was insufficiently moved to react.

Fortunately, people in the West responded to the crisis facing Soviet Jewry. When, in the mid-1960's, a few courageous Jews in the USSR began to raise their voices and assert their internationally-recognized rights to leave their own country and to exercise freedom of

conscience, their pleas captured the attention of public officials and private citizens, Jews and Christians, blacks and whites, Americans and Europeans, liberals and conservatives. Among the early activists was the late Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. Exactly twenty years ago he denounced the Soviet Government's efforts to destroy the heritage and culture of Soviet Jews: "While Jews in Russia may not be physically murdered as they were in Nazi Germany, they are facing every day a kind of spiritual and cultural genocide...When you are written out of history as a people, when you are given no choice but to accept the majority culture, you are denied an aspect of your own identity."

And as a result of the efforts of Soviet Jews and their Western supporters, one of the most successful non-violent movements in modern history ensued. 270,000 Jews succeeded in reestablishing new lives in the West and countless others, braving official retribution, began privately to study Jewish religion and culture, Hebrew language, and the 4,000-year-old history of their people.

Today, however, emigration has been severely curtailed. The statistics tell the story: in 1979, more than 4,000 Jews per month were issued exit visas; in 1986, the monthly average has been roughly 60! We are told by Soviet leaders that few now want to leave but Israeli officials point to 400,000 outstanding cases. And despite General Secretary Gorbachev's efforts to portray himself as a more open and modern leader, half of the current Jewish prisoners of conscience languishing in labor camps and prisons were sentenced since his acces-

sion to power in March 1985. A vicious campaign of anti-Semitism, often transparently veiled as anti-Zionism, has continued in the government-controlled electronic and print media. Jews find themselves between a rock and a hard place: They can neither leave the country nor can they live as Jews within the country.

But this situation can be changed. It was not easy twenty years ago to force the gates open and it will not be easy today. Still, an opportunity surely exists. As superpower diplomacy steps up, the United States is in a better position to voice the profound concern of the American people for the fate of Soviet Jewry, and to insist to Kremlin leaders that peaceful coexistence between the two great powers requires respect for human rights.

And human rights means the right of Soviet Jews to live in Israel or any other country where they are free to practice their faith without interference or persecution; the right of peoples of other faiths in the USSR -- Catholics, Pentecostals, unregistered Baptists, Seventh Day Adventists -- to exercise their fundamental rights free of restriction and harassment; the right of individual citizens to enjoy the basic liberties enshrined in the numerous international covenants to which the USSR is a signatory.

"What is peace, after all," said the late President Kennedy, "but human rights."

July 11, 1986

Nathan Weisman

Jacob Kovadloff



Finally, attached herewith is my proposal for a
Center for Latin American Jewry.

I apologize for the delay in sending this to you
but I was involved with urgent projects and trips
that prevented me from getting it to you earlier.

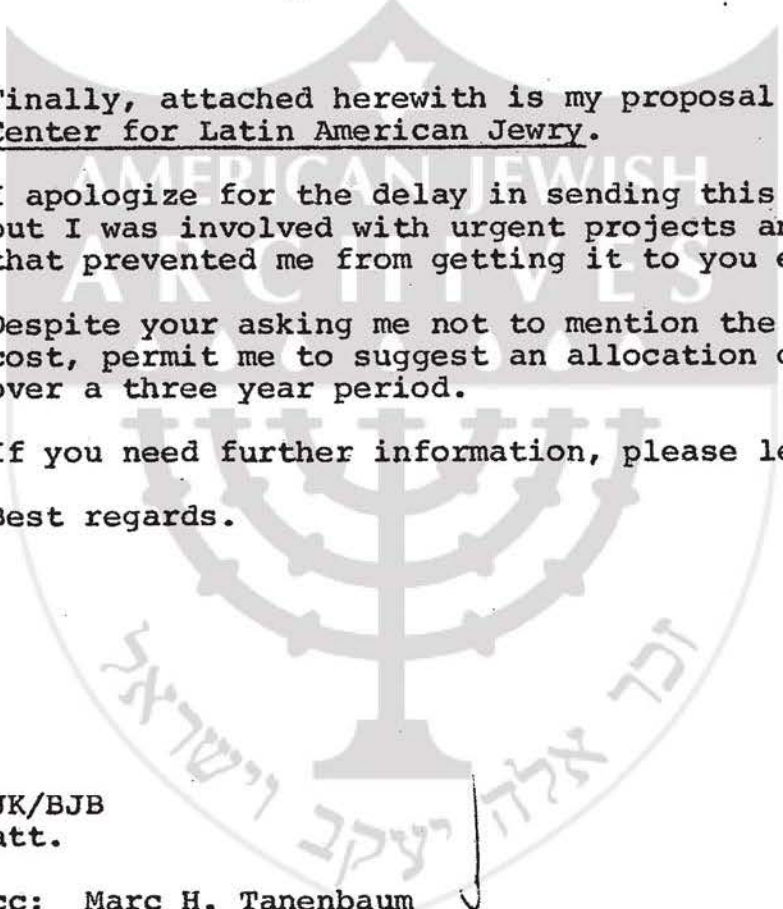
Despite your asking me not to mention the estimated
cost, permit me to suggest an allocation of \$150,000
over a three year period.

If you need further information, please let me know.

Best regards.

JK/BJB
att.

cc: Marc H. Tanenbaum



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

PROGRAM PRESENTATION

CENTER ON LATIN AMERICAN JEWRY

Proposal

In the past few years, with the return of full democratic systems to several countries in South and Central America, the fact that Jewish politicians were appointed to high government positions underscores the general integration of Jews into the mainstream of society.

Nevertheless, a variety of problems still exist which affect the countries in general and manifest themselves on Jews who, in the main, are part of the middle and lower classes.

Economic instability, growing guerrilla movements, an increase of Arab penetration with five PLO offices with quasi-diplomatic status in the subcontinent, antisemitic attacks and publications coming from both the extreme right and left, high rate of assimilation and intermarriage, are all contributory factors which are jeopardizing the half million Jews in Latin American countries.

Yes, these communities had built a wonderful institutional network. Nevertheless, behind this apparent institutional prosperity a complexity of problems exists. The internal dynamics of the communities cannot be isolated from the abovementioned global issues.

The American Jewish Committee proposes to establish a permanent center for research, training and public education in order to be able to better understand and cope with the dimensions of the various problems. In this way, AJC hopes to reinforce a program that has been utilized for more than 40 years.

The AJC's Role

Since the end of World War II, AJC opened offices in Buenos Aires and Mexico City working with local institutions, applying its expertise and resources for a creative Jewish life, combatting antisemitism, counteracting Arab propaganda, supporting Israel mainly in the Third World milieu where it is undermined by the slogan "Zionism equals racism."

AJC's offices were fundamentally hoping to create human rights institutes, organizing interfaith groups -- mainly with the Catholic church, translating and disseminating in the Spanish language basic literature in all the fields of Jewish interest, supporting and teaching scientific research, funding courses for Jewish studies in local universities and

to attract young Jewish intellectuals to participate in Jewish life.

Projected Activities

- Training programs for young Latin American Jewish leaders and professionals for the development of intergroup and public relations.
- To organize seminars, conferences and colloquiums with the participation of American and Latin American experts on the major topics of current Jewish interest.
- Publication and dissemination of Spanish AJC major backgrounders, special publications, research and essays. The Spanish press material produced by the South American office in New York is widely carried by the Spanish media and Jewish communities in Latin America so this program is really invaluable to them.
- To encourage research on the most important topics of common interest.
- To organize AJC fact-finding missions to Latin America and to publish quarterly a newsletter with analyses of current conditions in these countries, as well as a Spanish newsletter about Jewish life in America.
- To resume publication of "Comunidades Judias de Latinoamerica" (Spanish Jewish Year Book) which was interrupted in 1975.

Cost

NOTE: This program can also be expanded to include Spain.

JK/BJB/
July 11, 1986 /smm

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
PROGRAM PRESENTATION

INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RELATIONS IN ISRAEL

Proposal

There have been serious strains in the very fabric of Israel's democratic and pluralistic society that threaten its well-being and quality of life. These frequently tense relations -- especially between Jews and Arabs, Ashkenazi and Sephardi Jews, and religious and non-religious Jews -- are considered by most observers to be the source of some of the most troublesome and intractable problems Israel faces. While some progress has been achieved in efforts to inculcate a need for tolerance, respect for differences and an understanding of the importance of human rights and religious freedom, serious work is still needed to improve intergroup relations in Israel's multiethnic and multi-religious society.

The American Jewish Committee proposes to establish an Institute of Human Relations in Israel as a unique center for advocacy, research, training and public education in furthering intergroup tolerance and understanding. This institute would operate out of the AJC's office in Jerusalem, working closely with headquarters in New York and with an Israeli panel of consultants, to identify problems and recommend projects. In devoting its expertise, guidance and resources to this significant undertaking, the AJC hopes to assume a more assertive role in Israel's internal development by helping to strengthen unity and solidarity within its extraordinarily diverse society.

The AJC's Role

As the first American Jewish organization to establish an office in Israel -- in 1961 -- the American Jewish Committee has been active in promoting understanding among groups and reducing societal conflict there. Drawing upon its long experience in intergroup relations in the U.S., the AJC, through its Israel Office, has sponsored some unique research, initiated a number of dialogues, consultations, workshops and publications, and has consistently given its support to Israeli grass-roots organizations active in these areas.

Recognizing the AJC's leadership role, Israeli officials, including the President, the Prime Minister, cabinet members and media representatives, have urged it to become even more actively involved in helping Israel cultivate a spirit of tolerance among its many constituencies. When Israel was faced with an influx of Ethiopian Jews, the AJC was called upon to advise the new immigrants on how to cope with Israel's bureaucracy and how to insure their guaranteed rights to facilitate their acculturation to their new environment. Another example of the AJC's involvement in helping to reduce group tension in Israel is its co-sponsorship and subsequent follow-up with the International Sephardic Education Foundation (ISEF) of "Social Inequalities: The Way Out," a major conference designed to begin bridging the gap between Ashkenazim and Sephardim. And even more recently, the AJC, in association with the Israel Interfaith Association, held a consultation on combatting religious intolerance in Israeli society for Knesset members, university faculty, students, Jews, Christians and

Muslims from all over the country. The results were distributed to interested and concerned organizations as a guide for future activities and served as the basis for a series of AJC meetings on interfaith relations.

The proposed Institute of Human Relations will enable the AJC to intensify and expand such intergroup programs in Israel.

Projected Activities

-- To institute seminars and training programs for Israeli teachers, journalists, civic and religious leaders which will introduce new strategies and techniques for promoting positive intergroup attitudes and behavior, and evaluate ongoing projects;

-- to encourage discussion through the print and electronic media about the importance of fostering positive intergroup attitudes and behavior;

-- to promote research on the interaction of the diverse elements in Israel's pluralistic society -- religious and non-religious; Sephardim and Ashkenazim; Jews and Arabs, Christians and Muslims;

-- to initiate studies on values and teachings in Jewish tradition that uphold the unity of the Jewish people and support religious pluralism;

-- to organize conferences, seminars and institutes led by qualified experts that would introduce the various research and study findings into public consciousness and intergroup behavior;

-- to analyze and monitor textbooks and teaching materials at all school levels to determine where negative stereotypes need to be eliminated, and to present appropriate recommendations to Israel's Ministry of Education;

-- to publish and disseminate scholarly research, essays, books and pamphlets that would stimulate thought on these issues.

Cost

The AJC estimates a budget of \$100,000, to be expended over a three-year period, in each of the following areas:

Research and publications;
Conferences, seminars, lectures, etc.;
Training programs;
Staff fellowships.

Funds for specific projects in each of these areas, which will vary in cost, are also welcomed, as well as general support for the Institute.

The programs would be identified with the names of the respective donors.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
PROGRAM PRESENTATION

LOCAL JEWISH RELIGIOUS DIALOGUES

Proposal

Religious polarization is one of the most serious internal problems facing American Jews today. Although differences in theology and practice have always existed among Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist Jews, an increasingly strident tone of incivility has been threatening to disrupt the unity of the entire Jewish community. The Reform Movement, in a far-reaching departure from Halakhah (traditional Jewish law), moved in 1983 to recognize as a Jew the child of a Jewish father and a non-Jewish mother. Extreme Orthodox groups, under pressure from its extremist elements, has become more and more insular, displaying great hostility toward the non-Orthodox and refusing to take part in community efforts that involve the other groups. Conservative Judaism is still trying to recover from the internal dissensions between its own traditionalists and modernists, brought to the fore by the Jewish Theological Seminary's decision to ordain women as rabbis. Complicating intra-Jewish relations even further, all the non-Orthodox groups deeply resent the Orthodox monopoly over organized Jewish life in Israel. While most Jews recognize and deplore the dangers of polarization, proposals put forward by some concerned rabbis for healing the breach have been stymied by interdenominational mistrust and considerations of "turf."

The American Jewish Committee proposes to organize a series of Jewish religious dialogues in communities around the country, in which local lay leaders affiliated with the major movements of American Judaism can air their differences in a climate of trust and cooperation. It is hoped that such encounters will not only educate and enrich the local communities themselves, but that they will help bring about constructive changes in the tone and content of the relationship that prevails among the various segments of American Jewry as a whole.

The AJC's Role

Because the AJC is not identified with any particular institutional form of Judaism and maintains good relations with virtually the entire gamut of Jewish religious opinion, it can play a unique role in promoting intrareligious harmony. After working for years to understand and strengthen all forms of Jewish expression through numerous publications, conferences and pilot demonstration projects, the AJC's Jewish Communal Affairs Department has launched a Jewish Religious Dialogue for national lay leaders. Since their inaugural session in November 1985, prominent lay personalities representing the Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist movements have been taking part in regular encounters devoted to candid discussions of topics that unite and divide them. The AJC decided early on to involve only lay people in these exchanges on the assumption that they would be less bound than rabbis to vested institutional interests, and thus more open to mutual accommodation. It is hoped that eventually the lay leaders will communicate to their respective rabbinic leaderships the sense of Jewish harmony they gain from these forums.

Replicating the national Jewish Religious Dialogue on the grass-roots level will represent another step in the AJC's ongoing efforts to defuse internal religious tensions and enhance its standing as a recognized mediator for Jewish group unity.

The Jewish Communal Affairs Department is ready to assist AJC chapters with guidance and materials for organizing and conducting these local dialogues.

Program Goals

- To invite lay leaders from each branch of Judaism who enjoy prestige and clout both in their respective movements and their community to participate in a dialogue chaired by a knowledgeable and committed local AJC member;
- To break down psychological barriers among the participants by encouraging them to talk about the issues that concern them and what they hope the Jewish Religious Dialogue will accomplish;
- To focus on topics of unity before proceeding to a discussion of divisive issues, such as patrilineal descent, conversion and divorce procedures, and recognizing the legitimacy of all expressions of Judaism;
- To aim wherever possible for a consensus, in the form of a statement espousing harmony, signed by the leaders of the various branches. On those issues where a consensus cannot be forged, the statement should seek to chart a course that minimizes danger to the community by reducing the level of rhetoric and urging the participants to "agree to disagree" in a civil manner. Publication of such a statement would have a profound impact on the local community as well as national implications.

Cost

The AJC estimates a budget of \$10,000 to establish a local dialogue. The funds would cover the following costs:

- Gathering and distributing of background materials
- Training Specialist (staff member from AJC's Jewish Communal Affairs Department)
- Administrative expenses (mailing, tape recording, transcribing, etc.)
- Follow-up reports and statements

The dialogue would bear the name of the respective doner(s).

* * *

C O N F I D E N T I A L

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date July 15, 1986

to Ted Ellenoff, Leo Nevas, Ed Elson, Bob Jacobs, Miles Jaffe,
David Gordis, Bill Trosten

from Marc Tanenbaum

subject MISSION TO AUSTRIA

I have just received a telephone call from the Austrian Consul General informing me that appointments have been made for an AJC leadership delegation to meet with Austrian officials.

They propose a meeting with the Austrian Federal Chancellor on Tuesday, Aug. 26, 12 p.m., and with the Austrian Foreign Minister on Thursday, Aug. 28, 4 p.m. Meetings will be scheduled during the interim days with the president of the Austrian National Bank, with research institute people, and University of Vienna academics involved in subjects of our concern.

We will undoubtedly also want to meet with Austrian Jewish Community leaders, quite possible with the Israeli Ambassador, Michael Elitzur, if he is still there and if we think such a meeting appropriate at this time. (I met him in Jerusalem last week and he was very open to receiving our delegation on any terms we think appropriate.)

Also, I would try to arrange meetings with Cardinal Koenig and the new Archbishop of Vienna.

Please let me know at your early convenience (a) whether these dates are open on your calendar; and (b) how soon we can meet to discuss our strategy and agenda.

MHT:RPR

bc: Mort Yarmon
David Harris

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date May 28, 1986
to David Gordis
from George E. Gruen & Harry Milkman, Israel & Middle East Affairs
subject Division Report for March-April 1986

Public Appearances

On March 6, Mr. Milkman delivered a lecture entitled "Breaking through the Mideast Deadlock" to a group of 40 high school teachers in Wyckoff, New Jersey. The teachers were enrolled in a course on the Middle East which included presentations by official representatives of the Arab states, Israel and the PLO. Mr. Milkman was the only American speaker.

On April 2, Dr. Gruen was a guest lecturer at the New School on the subject of "Israel-U.S. Relations: Friendship and Discord," which was part of the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions series.

On April 6, Dr. Gruen participated in a symposium convened by New York Congressman Ted Weiss at Columbia University entitled "Critical Issues on the World Agenda." Dr. Gruen was a member of the panel on the Middle East, attended by over 400 people, together with Egyptian Ambassador to the UN Abdel Halim Badawi, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Arnold Raphel, Dr. Yoram Peri, a visiting Israeli scholar, and Dr. Rashid Khalidi, an American-born Palestinian professor at Columbia. Dr. Gruen's opening remarks, entitled "Between Extremism and Pragmatism," have been circulated to AJC leadership.

On April 10, Dr. Gruen delivered a lecture entitled "Opportunities and Obstacles on the Road to Peace in the Middle East" before the Contemporary Action Division of AJC's New York Chapter. A lively question and answer period followed.

Publications

In March, Mr. Milkman edited Oil, Guns, and Gold: The Arab-South African Connection by Arye Oded, a lecturer in Middle East and African history at Tel Aviv University. Mr. Oded's study documents the extent

of Arab ties with the apartheid regime. The Israeli Foreign Ministry requested 500 copies of this AJC publication for distribution to its embassies and consulates worldwide.

During March and April, Israeli Press Highlights (edited by Mr. Milkman) covered such topics as the Herut party convention, the killing of an Israeli in Egypt, balancing the state budget, the argument over Daylight Saving Time, the latest cabinet crisis and Israeli reactions to the American raid on Libya.

On March 24, Mr. Milkman met with Dr. Yosef Goell, who prepares the original drafts of IPH for AJC's Israel Office. Mr. Milkman and Dr. Goell discussed ways of improving IPH so that it would appeal to, and be understood by, a broader audience. (Please note that Dr. Goell does not wish to be publicly identified as the preparer of IPH.)

On March 31, Mr. Milkman was told by Lois Gottesman of the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) that her agency uses IPH as a resource document in lieu of preparing an in-house weekly review of the Israeli press. (FBIS is a branch of the National Security Agency.)

In April, Dr. Gruen and Mr. Milkman prepared a backgrounder on current Middle East issues for use at the Annual Meeting. It covered such topics as American-Israeli and Egyptian-Israeli relations, Syrian-Israeli tensions, the Jordanian-PLO split, the Iran-Iraq war and the war against international terrorism. It also included questions for discussion during the Annual Meeting's State Department briefing and plenary session on the Middle East.

AJC Public Statements

On April 15 and 17, Dr. Gruen drafted AJC letters to President Reagan, Secretary of State Shultz and Secretary of Defense Weinberger endorsing the American bombing raid on Libyan military and terrorist bases.

On April 17, AJC released the findings of the latest Israeli public opinion poll conducted by Hanoch Smith for AJC. Dr. Gruen and Mr. Milkman edited Smith's report and prepared the press release which accompanied it.

Efforts on Behalf of Jews in Arab and Islamic Countries

In March, Dr. Gruen met with State Department officers Gordon Brown and Cathy Allegrone to discuss the current situation of Jews in Yemen.

In March, Dr. Gruen disseminated copies of an open letter to the captors of the Lebanese Jewish hostages by Rachel Hallak, the widow of

Dr. Elie Hallak, who was murdered by Shi'ite terrorists in Lebanon. The letter was originally published in Le Monde (Paris).

In March, the New York JCRC distributed copies of Dr. Gruen's latest backgrounder on the kidnappings and murders of Lebanese Jews to synagogues throughout New York City for use during services on Shabbat Zachor (March 21-22), which is traditionally dedicated to Jews in Syria and other Arab countries.

On March 10, Dr. Gruen sent a letter of recommendation on behalf of Lawrence Salzman to the National Endowment for the Humanities, which encouraged the NEH to fund Mr. Salzman's photo-documentation project on Turkish Jewry.

On April 8, Dr. Gruen prepared a special background report on the Lebanese Jewish hostage situation for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. The report was widely reprinted in the Jewish press.

On April 21, Dr. Gruen was notified by the law firm of Tindall & Foster (Houston, Texas) that as a result of his providing an affidavit describing the circumstances facing Jews in Iran, an Iranian Jewish woman facing deportation had been granted political asylum in the United States.

Middle East-related meetings at AJC

On March 18, the Division hosted a discussion with Hanna Siniora, editor of the Palestinian newspaper Al-Fajr, and Uri Avnery, a former member of the Israeli Knesset and a peace activist, on the prospects for Palestinian involvement in peace talks and the obstacles in the way.

On March 21, Mr. Milkman attended an IRD meeting with an Argentine provincial governor who had recently visited Israel, and who hopes to inspire his own people with the spirit of Israeli resourcefulness.

On April 3, Dr. Gruen attended a meeting of the Advisory Board of the Institute of American Jewish-Israeli Relations to discuss formulation of a new public opinion questionnaire on American Jewish attitudes to Israel.

On April 11, Dr. Gruen and Mr. Milkman met with David Frielich, the American representative of the Golda Meir Association for Labor Education, which is developing "Education for Democracy" curricula for the Israeli school system and sponsors workshops designed to instill the values of democracy and tolerance in Israeli youth.

Memoranda to AJC Area Offices

On March 4, Mr. Milkman distributed his response to an op-ed piece

by Rowland Evans and Robert Novak which appeared in The Washington Post. The Evans and Novak piece had alleged that Congress was bowing to Jewish pressure when it denied the sale of additional U.S. arms to Jordan in February. Mr. Milkman outlined the Congressional rationale as it was expressed in resolutions of disapproval in both Houses.

On March 17, Dr. Gruen prepared a memorandum on the proposed U.S. arms sale to Saudi Arabia which analyzed the various issues involved and outlined AJC's position, as adopted by the IRC Steering Committee and the Board of Governors earlier in the day.

On March 27, Dr. Gruen and Mr. Milkman sent a memorandum to the area offices regarding the upcoming PBS special "Flashpoint: Israel and the Palestinians." The memo cited reasons why major PBS stations decided not to air the program, and advised area offices to seek balanced coverage by their local PBS affiliates. The directors of AJC's Atlanta, Chicago, Kansas City, Long Island, Los Angeles, Miami, Portland and San Francisco offices informed us of what was being done in their communities.

(On April 27, New York Newsday printed a letter to the editor by Dr. Gruen and Mr. Milkman which refuted the allegations of editorialist Otis Pike, who had accused the Committee of coercing PBS stations not to broadcast "Flashpoint.")

On April 2, Dr. Gruen distributed his response to a pro-PLO advertisement which appeared in The New York Times. The ad asserted that the PLO had proposed "peace plans" to King Hussein which the King rejected. On April 9, Dr. Gruen sent a similar memo to the Steering Committee of the International Relations Commission.

On April 23, Dr. Gruen sent a memorandum, with accompanying background materials, to the field offices outlining the current situation of the Black Hebrew sect in the U.S. and Israel.

Representation of AJC at Inter-agency Meetings and Conferences

On March 2, Mr. Milkman represented the AJC at a NJCRAC collegiate conference on Israel and South Africa. He participated in a workshop on the effective use of research data in countering Arab propaganda. AJC backgrounders on Israeli and Arab connections with South Africa were distributed to the participants.

On March 4, Dr. Gruen and Mr. Milkman attended the dedication of the Institute of Sephardi Studies at the City University of New York. Princeton Middle East scholar Bernard Lewis delivered a lecture on the Jews of the Ottoman Empire.

On March 10, Dr. Gruen attended a reception in honor of J. Sternstein, the President-elect of the Jewish National Fund.

On March 12, Dr. Gruen attended a luncheon with Moshe Rivlin, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Keren Kayemet L'Yisrael.

On March 26, Dr. Gruen and Mr. Milkman attended a NJCRAC briefing with Shmuel Goren, the civilian administrator of the territories held by Israel. Mr. Goren discussed Israeli efforts to improve the quality of life for Palestinians living under Israeli occupation.

On March 27, Mr. Milkman represented the AJC at a meeting of the NJCRAC Campus Advisory Board. The agenda included a discussion of federal legislation to require universities to disclose their sources of private funding, and methods of promoting Black-Jewish relations on campus (including dealing with the Israel-South Africa issue and Louis Farrakhan).

On April 3, Dr. Gruen represented the AJC at a Presidents' Conference meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

On April 10, Dr. Gruen and Mr. Milkman represented the AJC at a NJCRAC Israel Strategy Committee meeting, and participated in a discussion of the current situation in the Middle East with Hebrew University lecturer and Jerusalem Post commentator Yosef Goell. Dr. Goell also presented his observations of American media coverage of the region.

Miscellaneous Consultations

On March 25, Dr. Gruen arranged a meeting between Richard Mei, Jr., an assistant to Mayor Koch, and Walter Stern, who monitors the Arab boycott, in which Japanese compliance with the boycott was discussed.

On March 27, Dr. Gruen advised Joan Silverman of AJC's Long Island Office regarding the composition of a panel of experts on international terrorism.

At Dr. Gruen's suggestion, the Columbia University Middle East Seminar on Religion in the Middle East hosted Hebrew University Professor Ehud Spinzak in April.

* * *


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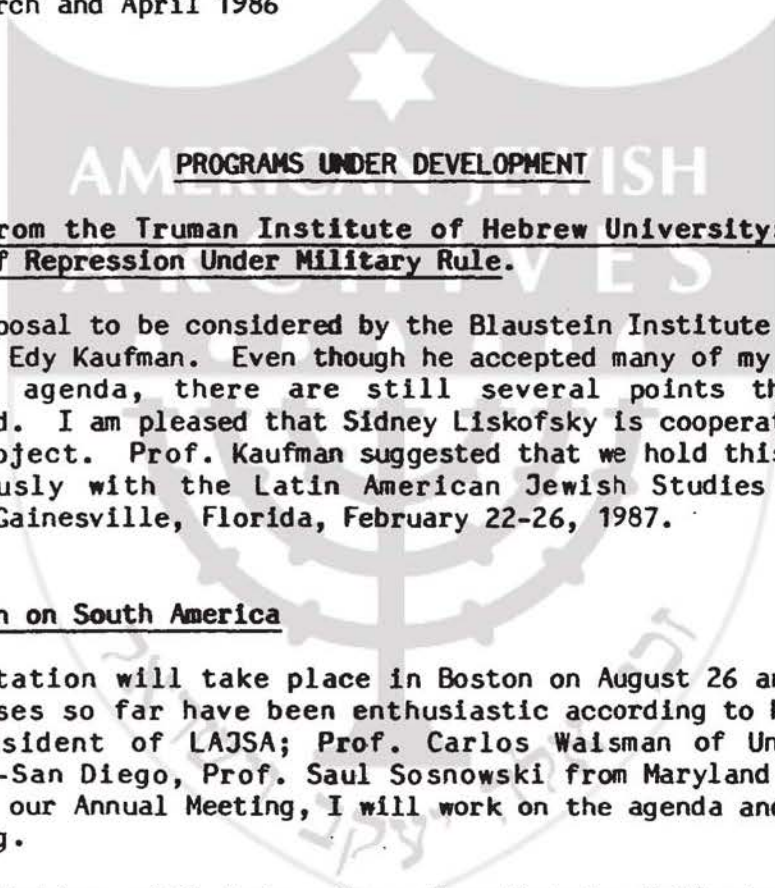
THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date May 15, 1986

to Dr. David M. Gordis

from Jacob Kovadloff 

subject Report of Activities of South American Office -
March and April 1986



PROGRAMS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Proposal from the Truman Institute of Hebrew University: The Jewish Dimension of Repression Under Military Rule.

The new proposal to be considered by the Blaustein Institute was sent to us by Prof. Edy Kaufman. Even though he accepted many of my suggestions for a new agenda, there are still several points that must be reevaluated. I am pleased that Sidney Liskofsky is cooperating with me on this project. Prof. Kaufman suggested that we hold this conference simultaneously with the Latin American Jewish Studies Association meeting in Gainesville, Florida, February 22-26, 1987.

Consultation on South America

The consultation will take place in Boston on August 26 and 27, 1986. The responses so far have been enthusiastic according to Prof. Judith Elkin, president of LAJSA; Prof. Carlos Waisman of University of California-San Diego, Prof. Saul Sosnowski from Maryland University, etc. After our Annual Meeting, I will work on the agenda and format for this meeting.

The consultation will take place immediately following the Latin American Studies Association conference. Diane Steinman shows great interest in the Boston Chapter's co-sponsorship of the event.

For the LASA conference, I am organizing a session in which the AJC's book Integracion y Marginalidad, an oral history of Jewish immigrants to Argentina will be discussed.

AJC Mission to South America

Recently, I was in Buenos Aires and I spoke with several leaders of the Jewish community about the abovementioned mission scheduled for late

March of '87, hosted by the Sociedad Hebraica Argentina -- the major community center in Latin America. A program was planned to include an encounter to discuss the subject: Israel-Diaspora Relations: North and South of the Americas. Hebraica's president, Mario Trumper will be in New York in June and we will discuss in-depth the complete program at that time.

Cuba

After the visits of Dr. Jose Miller and Mr. Moises Asis to New York City, I was in constant touch with them. We sent them books for their library both in English and Spanish on Jewish subjects and I remain as their contact with other Jewish groups in this country. They insisted again that they want to be visited by AJC leaders. Other Jewish agencies are planning trips to the Havana community.

I will include the status of other forthcoming programs in my next report to you.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AND CONFERENCES

March 2 - American Jewish Congress - South Shore Division. I was asked to speak about "South & Central American Jewry."

March 5 - Marymount College - HISPANOPROGRAM - I spoke about "Argentina: Human Rights, Dictatorship and Democracy."

March 9-11 - Maryland University - I participated in the conference on Uruguay.

March 23 - American Jewish Congress - North Shore Division - Second Session - South & Central American Jewry.

MEETINGS

March 12th, I met with Ambassador Yegar for a discussion on the Argentine Jewish community.

On March 13th, I was visited by Prof. Chela-Massi of Buenos Aires to give me her evaluation of the status of human rights in Argentina at the present time.

March 14th - Meeting with Ms. Teresa Porcecansky from Uruguay -- a well-known Jewish writer.

On March 14th, I had a luncheon meeting with Fernando Garcia Bielsa, first secretary of the Cuban Mission to the United Nations. We had a discussion in general about Fidel Castro's attitudes about various religious groups and Nicaragua.

March 14 - A meeting was held with Prof. Edy Kaufman and Ms. Beatriz Cymberknopf. We discussed the program for the upcoming conference in Gainesville. Also, Beatriz, who is now living in New York, is working for us here at AJC organizing the files that will be needed for the conference.

March 19 - I attended a reception given by the Spain-U.S.A. Chamber of Commerce to celebrate the establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and Spain. The major speakers were: Mayor Edward I. Koch, Ambassador Manuel Sassot and Ambassador Moshe Yegar.

March 19 - I attended the opening of the office of Radio Caracas TV (Venezuela) here in New York. They will start to transmit from N.Y. shortly.

March 21 - At the request of the D.A.I.A. through Herzl Inbar of the Israeli Consulate, we met with Governor Romero-Ferris from the province of Corrientes, Argentina (a memo was sent to you about this).

March 22 - Meeting with Alfredo Berflein, director for Latin America of the JDC. We discussed common goals regarding Cuba and South America.

March 25 - I was visited by Amos Elon who was going to Argentina to write an article for The New Yorker and to whom I gave guidance.

March 25 - I attended a meeting of the International League For Human Rights at which Ms. Marta Patricia Baltodano, a human rights activist from Nicaragua reported on the current conditions in her country. Mainly, she emphasized the persecution of the Catholic Churches' activists as well as some Indian groups but she denied anti-Semitism as the official policy of the Sandinistas.

March 27 - Paul Meany, a Columbia University graduate student needed advice re his dissertation.

March 27 - Prof. Jose Schreiber of Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri - He is also a member of the local chapter and was here to see me regarding his use of our Spanish press releases and backgrounders for students of Spanish.

March 28 - Prof. Guenther Bohm director of the Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Chile, came to meet with me requesting, as always, our financial support.

April 3 - Jeff Lesser, New York University graduate student, is going to Brazil to do research and visited me for suggestions and introductions to people who may be helpful to him.

April 8 - Rabbi Henry Sobel of Sao Paulo visited me to discuss the follow-up to the Sao Paulo Conference.

April 10 - Ambassador Benno Varon was here requesting information for an article he is writing on Jose Lopez Rega, who is now under arrest in

Miami. His extradition has been requested by the Government of Argentina.

April 14 - Isolde Gorneman (recommended by Sam Toledano of Madrid) visited me for advice about an exhibition for a Sephardic artist from Spain.

April 14 - Sergio Bergman, director of the Youth Department of Emanu-El Congregation in Buenos Aires contacted me for information and advice and programs.

April 15 - Rabbi Marcelo Rittner of Mexico met with me prior to our meeting with you requesting a selection of AJC publications for the library of his congregation.

April 15 - The Argentinian journalist and writer, Tomas Eloy Martinez was in town and we met at length about the current anti-Semitic problems in Argentina and the future of Peronism.

April 16 - Alberto Senderey, the executive director of the Sociedad Hebraica Argentina, came to see me to extend an invitation for me to participate in the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the institution this coming August.

April 21 - Dr. Raul Gutman, secretary of political affairs of the D.A.I.A. in Buenos Aires, also came to visit me. It was an important opportunity for me to discuss current events in Argentina.

April 22 - I met Ms. Elsa Kelly, the Argentinian Ambassador to UNESCO and to the Human Rights Commission of the OAS. She is a good friend of the Argentinian Jewish community but was reluctant to discuss the current foreign policy of the country. May I remind you that she was the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and because she was in disagreement with Minister Caputo, she resigned.

Respectfully submitted.

JK:BJB:smm

cc: Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum ✓
David A. Harris
Geri Rozanski

9103-IRD-SA
/smm

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date March 17, 1985
to David M. Gordis
from George E. Gruen and Harry Milkman
subject Israel & Middle East Affairs Division Report
(for January - February 1986)

Continued Campaign on behalf of the Lebanese Jewish Hostages

Following the murder of two Lebanese Jewish hostages at the end of December, Dr. Gruen, together with Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum and Rabbi Haskel Lookstein, President of the New York Board of Rabbis, initiated plans for a service to memorialize the murdered hostages and to appeal for the redemption of all remaining captives in Lebanon. The event, which was co-sponsored by the New York JCRC, AJC and the New York Board of Rabbis, was held at Cong. Kehilath Jeshurun in Manhattan on January 8, and was attended by approximately 250 persons. Notable New York political and religious figures addressed the assembly; Howard Friedman spoke on behalf of the Committee. Press coverage of the event included two of New York's major television stations, Kol Yisrael and the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

A special analysis by Dr. Gruen on "The Murder of Lebanese Jewish Hostages" was distributed to the participants and was widely disseminated to the media. Dr. Gruen's report examines the nature of the militant pro-Iranian Shi'ite group that murdered the Jews and is still holding several others, and provides personal details on the lives of the hostages, which clearly demonstrate that they had no partisan political involvement and refute the obscene allegations by the murderers that the Jews were killed because they were "spies for Israel." We hope that this information will stimulate humanitarian appeals that will lead to the freeing of the remaining hostages.

On January 3, Harry Milkman wrote a memorandum to the AJC field offices summarizing AJC's efforts on behalf of the Lebanese Jewish hostages to date.

On January 14, Dr. Gruen and Mr. Milkman provided Rabbi James Rudin with information which he transmitted to Cardinal O'Connor of the New York Archdiocese, who had planned to visit Lebanon and had offered to inquire about the hostages. Cardinal O'Connor's visit was cancelled, however, after Lebanon's latest cease-fire broke down, and violence again erupted in Beirut.

The following section is strictly confidential:

On January 15, Dr. Gruen spoke with Fuad Ajami, a Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim currently teaching at Johns Hopkins University, about the possibility of direct intervention with the Lebanese Shi'ite group holding the Jewish hostages; Prof. Ajami was quite pessimistic, based on his professional and personal experience.

On January 17, Dr. Gruen discussed with Stuart Eizenstat the possibility of former President Jimmy Carter's intervention. Since the terrorists are known to be connected to Iran, President Carter's involvement was ruled out. However, Mr. Eizenstat did contact Hamilton Jordan, who reported that unfortunately all his contacts are either dead or had gone into hiding.

On the morning of January 21, Rabbi Tanenbaum and Dr. Gruen met with two key aides of UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar. We were asked to keep even the fact of the meeting confidential. (The substance of the discussion is contained in George Gruen's memo to the file of January 27, 1986.)

In the evening of January 21, Dr. Gruen met Representative David Obey of Wisconsin at a New York JCRC forum on U.S.-Israel relations. Rep. Obey had visited Syria and met with high-ranking Syrian officials in his capacity as Chairman of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. Dr. Gruen presented Rep. Obey with a copy of his latest backgrounder on the Lebanese Jewish hostages and appealed to him to intervene in whatever way he can with the Syrian authorities, who are known to have considerable influence in Lebanon.

On January 29, Dr. Gruen wrote to Felice Gaer, Executive Director of the International League for Human Rights, providing her with the latest available information we had, and urging her to continue ILHR interventions on behalf of the remaining hostages.

On February 3, Dr. Gruen spoke with former Attorney General Ramsey Clark about the possibility of his intervention with contacts in Lebanon, Syria, or Iran. Mr. Clark expressed a readiness to be helpful, although many of his former contacts are no longer in positions of influence.

End of Confidential section.

We were also actively involved behind the scenes in coordinating the meeting in Paris on February 23 of the International Committee for the Freedom of Syrian Jews, which focused also on the plight of the Lebanese Jewish community. Nives Fox, Director of our European Office, who has been a primary source of contact with the relatives of Lebanese Jews in France, helped in the preparations for the conference and represented AJC at the sessions.

The latest background analysis on "Lebanese Jews--Victims of Shi'ite Muslim Terror" written by Dr. George E. Gruen, was distributed

to the press and conference participants. Dr. Neil Sandberg, Director of AJC's Los Angeles office, helped to secure funding for the participation in the conference of Mrs. Rosemary Cohen, the sister-in-law of Haim Cohen, one of the Jewish hostages murdered in Beirut by the self-styled "Organization of the Oppressed in the World."

The conference was widely covered by the French TV and press, including Le Monde and Le Quotidien, as well as the The New York Times and the Associated Press and Reuters. (See March report for followup.)

On February 26, Mr. Milkman attended a lecture by Columbia University professor Rashid Khalidi, a Palestinian who had lived in Lebanon. He was as pessimistic as Fuad Ajami about Lebanon's future because of the total absence of a Lebanese national identity and the cooperative spirit that normally accompanies that feeling of shared identity. He noted that not only is there no central authority for Lebanon as a whole, but also the various denominational groups are internally divided and struggling for power. Hence, even fellow Shi'ites from the Amal faction may not be able to influence their coreligionists in Hizbullah, who are, in turn, believed to be connected to the "Organization of the Oppressed" which has abducted and killed several Lebanese Jews.

Israeli Intergroup Relations

In December, Mr. Milkman initiated a project to increase media attention to the work of Jewish-Arab reconciliation groups in Israel. On January 8, he chaired a meeting of various representatives of these organizations, to which he invited Mort Yarmon and Jonathan Jacoby, Executive Director of the New Israel Fund (NIF). As a result of the January 8th meeting, NIF has drawn up a budget and programmatic framework for implementing a public relations project, which will be professionally staffed in Israel. AJC thus played a catalytic role in creating this much-needed institution, whose goal will be to project an image of Israel as an integrating, rather than polarizing, society.

Countering Arab Propaganda

On January 17, Dr. Gruen and Mr. Milkman collected materials related to Arab desecration of Jewish and Christian holy sites in the Middle East for use by the Israeli Mission to the United Nations during a UN debate on the Temple Mount controversy. The January 20 issue of Israel Press Highlights, edited by Mr. Milkman, also dealt with this issue.

In February, Mr. Milkman edited "Oil, Guns and Gold: The Arab-South African Connection" by Tel Aviv University Professor Arye Oded. The report documents ongoing economic and military ties between the Arab world and the apartheid regime, and exposes Arab hypocrisy at castigating Israel for maintaining ties with South Africa. Copies of the edited paper have been distributed to the press by both Mort Yarmon's department and by AJC field offices. The paper was also included in a

resource kit distributed to the Jewish student anti-apartheid activists at a NJCRAC conference in March. Mr. Milkman participated in the planning of the conference.

Consultations with Notable Israelis and Arabs

On January 8, the Division hosted a lively discussion with Uzi Benziman, editor of the weekly magazine supplement to Ha'aretz and author of Sharon: An Israeli Caesar. Mr. Benziman discussed the controversial Ariel Sharon's political future, including the prospects that he may become prime minister of Israel.

On January 9, the IRD met with Uri Bar-Ner, Director of Information of the Israeli Foreign Ministry. Mr. Bar-Ner analyzed the current situation in the Middle East in an exceptionally cogent manner. Mr. Bar-Ner brought copies of Mr. Milkman's December backgrounder on the legal and political rights of Israel's Arabs back to the Foreign Ministry for review.

Also on January 9, Dr. Gruen and Mr. Milkman participated in a NJCRAC Israel Strategy Committee meeting, during which Israeli (New York) Deputy Consul Herzl Inbar discussed the state of the Middle East peace process and the Pollard spy affair.

On January 21, Mr. Milkman attended a New Israel Fund Roundtable discussion with Ambassador Walter Eytan, the first director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, during which Amb. Eytan discussed the effects of terrorism on Israeli domestic politics, the West Bank, Jerusalem, Israel-Diaspora relations, social tensions in Israel, Jewish-Arab relations, and the Israeli economy.

On January 22, Mr. Milkman attended a Council on Religion and International Affairs (CRIA) Conversation with the Egyptian Ambassador to the U.S., Abdel Raouf el-Reedy. Amb. el-Reedy discussed the Arab-Israeli peace process, U.S.-Soviet relations, Egyptian-Israeli relations and the PLO.

On January 27, the IRD met with the new Israeli Consul-General in New York, Moshe Yegar, to discuss areas of potential mutual cooperation. Mr. Milkman then accompanied Mr. Yegar back to the Consulate, where they participated in the organizational meeting of the Ben-Gurion Centennial Commission Steering Committee. (Mr. Milkman attended in place of AJC Washington representative Hyman Bookbinder.)

On January 29, the Division hosted a discussion with Dr. Avraham Rozenkier, the International Secretary of Mapam, who provided a socialist analysis of Israel's domestic and foreign policies, and discussed Mapam's role in making friends for Israel in the Third World. (Also on January 29, Dr. Gruen and Mr. Milkman met with Leeora Black, Director of Public Affairs of the Zionist Federation of Australia. As a result of that meeting, Israel Press Highlights will soon begin to be published in the Australian Jewish press.)

On February 3, the Division hosted a meeting with representatives of the American-Israeli Civil Liberties Coalition, including Tel Aviv University Professor Haim Shaked, former Knesset member Shula Koenig, and New York Law Professor Phillipa Strum. The members of the Coalition discussed their educational and legal activities to promote civil rights in Israel and possibilities of joint cooperation with AJC through our Israel office and the Blaustein Institute. The question of their relationship to other Israeli groups concerned with similar issues was also discussed.

On February 7, Dr. Gruen participated in a discussion with former Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem Meron Benvenisti about prospects for Arab-Jewish relations in the West Bank.

On February 24, David Harris and Mr. Milkman met with Sandy Eiges, director of Save the Children's cross-cultural education project in Israel. Mr. Milkman provided her with valuable leads regarding sources of funding for her project (i.e., the Agency for International Development (AID) and the Ford Foundation, which have funded similar projects in the past).

Other Informational Activities

In January and February, Israel Press Highlights, edited by Mr. Milkman, dealt with such issues as the terrorist attacks in Rome and Vienna, Syrian military escalation, the Taba dispute, the Israeli interception of a Libyan airplane, and Israeli economic policy.

Confidential: In response to a personal request from a prominent New York official who had been asked to appear in an ad promoting travel to Greece, Dr. Gruen wrote him a letter, on January 27, advising him not to publicly advocate travel to Greece until the Greek Government ended its support of the PLO, its acquiescence to terrorists, and its record of anti-Israeli voting at the UN. Documentation was appended to the letter.

On February 4, following the Israeli interception of a Libyan civilian jet, Mr. Milkman briefed a Jewish Telegraphic Agency reporter on previous Israeli-Libyan aviation encounters.

On February 11, Dr. Gruen wrote a letter to Mr. John Roy Carlson of the Armenian Assembly responding to his request for information on Armenian-Jewish relations and their shared history of persecution.

On February 13, Mr. Milkman drafted an op-ed piece entitled "Helping Hussein to See Reality." (Apparently, on Feb. 19, he did! That day Hussein delivered a 3 1/2 hour speech blaming Arafat and the PLO for the collapse of the U.S. sponsored negotiating efforts.)

On February 26, Dr. Gruen wrote a memo to Mrs. Liliane Shalom, at her request, elaborating AJC's record of support for the State of Israel and concern for Jews in Arab and Islamic countries. She had reported resistance among Sephardim to attending the New York Chapter dinner

honoring Stephen and Lilliane Shalom, on the grounds that the AJC had been anti-Zionist and continued to be lukewarm to Israel. Dr. Gruen also worked with the fundraising department to develop possible projects for support by the Shaloms.

On February 29, Mr. Milkman collected materials for Congressman Charles Schumer's office regarding the Nazi war criminal being harbored by Syria.

The Division also responded to numerous requests for information from AJC field offices during January and February.

Participation in Inter-Agency Conferences

On January 24, Dr. Gruen represented AJC at the President's Conference subcommittee on terrorism meeting with Stanley Klein, Chief of the FBI's Terrorism Section.

On January 27, Dr. Gruen recommended a number of changes to NJCRAC's Israel Propositions, which were voted upon at the NJCRAC Plenum in February. He also attended the Israel Strategy Committee session on February 27.

Dr. Gruen is an Associate of the Columbia University Seminar on the Middle East. This year's sessions are on the general topic of Religion and International Politics in the Middle East. During the period under review, Dr. Gruen participated in the meeting on January 22 at which Dr. Dale Eickelman, Prof. of Anthropology at NYU, and Dr. Lisa Anderson, Assoc. Prof. of Government at Harvard, presented papers on "Morocco: Religion in Politics and Society," as well as the meeting on February 5 at which Prof. Serif Mardin of Bosphorous University led the discussion on "Turkey: Religion in a Secular Islamic State." These seminars also provide useful opportunities to exchange views on current Middle East developments on an informal basis over drinks and at dinner with well informed persons in the academic, diplomatic and business community.

Dr. Gruen represented AJC at a meeting on February 21 of the ad hoc committee on Japanese attitudes to the Arab boycott, held at the office of Walter Stern. Contacts with U.S. officials were initiated and they were asked to convey American popular displeasure to their counterparts in Japan.

GEG/HM/GN

cc: ✓ Marc Tanenbaum
David Harris

American Jewish Committee Involvement in European Protest on Behalf of Lebanese and Syrian Jews

The International Relations Department of the American Jewish Committee was actively involved behind the scenes in the meeting in Paris on February 23 of the International Committee for the Freedom of Syrian Jews, which focussed also on the plight of the Lebanese Jewish community. Nives Fox, Director of our European Office, who has been a primary source of contact with the relatives of Lebanese Jews in France, helped in the preparations for the conference and represented AJC at the sessions.

The latest background analysis on "Lebanese Jews--Victims of Shi'ite Muslim Terror" written by Dr. George E. Gruen, AJC Director of Middle East Affairs, was distributed to the press and conference participants. Dr. Neil Sandberg, Director of AJC's Los Angeles office, helped to secure funding for the participation in the conference of Mrs. Rosemary Cohen, the sister-in-law of Haim Cohen, one of the Jewish hostages murdered in Beirut by the self-styled "Organization of the Oppressed in the World."

The conference was widely covered by the French TV and press, including Le Monde and Le Quotidien. The following are texts of the dispatches filed as a result of the conference by the Associated Press and Reuters, and a photocopy of the story that appeared in the New York Times. (Also appended are the Resolution and Program of Action adopted by the Conference.)

"Families of slain Lebanese Jews condemn Syria, Iran" by Marilyn August

Associated Press Writer

PARIS (AP) - The families of some of the Jewish hostages murdered in Lebanon in recent months called on western governments Sunday to pressure Syria and Iran into releasing the remaining Jewish hostages and letting Lebanon's tiny Jewish community live in peace.

Speaking at a meeting in Paris of the International Committee for the Freedom of Syrian Jews, the families joined French Jewish leaders and political figures in blaming Syria and Iran for the deaths of five Jewish hostages.

Eleven Lebanese Jews are currently thought to be in the hands of fundamentalist Moslem kidnapers.

"President Assad says he does not control the groups holding the hostages, but that is only a half-truth," said Theo Klein, president of CRIF, a French Jewish organization.

He stressed that the Moslem groups working in Lebanon took their orders directly from the Ayatollah Khomeini and could not operate freely without the tacit approval of Syria.

Rosemary Cohen, the sister-in-law of Chaim Cohen, killed in December, said she was not after revenge.

"I hope the assassins live so that they change their attitudes and feel guilty for what they have done," she said. "What can they get out of killing my brother-in-law? The problems in Lebanon are terrible; it's as if God had turned his back on us."

In 1975, Lebanon's Jewish community numbered about 8,000. Today, there are fewer than 100 Jews left. Most have emigrated to Israel.

Mrs. Cohen, an Iranian [citizen born in Lebanon] who has been living with her husband and children in Los Angeles for the past 18 months, said she had spoken to her brother-in-law a few days before gunmen burst into his home and dragged him away. His bullet-riddled body was found nine months later.

"He was a very simple man who didn't really feel he was in danger because he wasn't a soldier, and wasn't involved in politics," she told The Associated Press.

Mrs. Cohen said her brother-in-law, 38, did not want to go to Israel because "he didn't want to ever have to shoot at his fellow Lebanese." His wife and three children, she added, remain in Beirut and have no plans to leave.

Other speakers at the day-long conference included noted Nazi hunter Beate Klarsfeld, Ovadia Soffer, Israeli ambassador to France, and Rene Samuel Sirat, Grand Rabbi of France.

Mrs. Klarsfeld, who recently returned from Beirut where she spent three weeks trying to negotiate the release of the Jewish hostages, said she was not optimistic about their fate.

"Jews are the scapegoats for all the anti-Israel feeling in the Middle East," she said. "The various Lebanese groups are fighting each other, but they express their hatred of Israel by kidnapping and killing the few Jews left.

"They are behaving just like the Nazis during World War II -- They are killing Jews just because they are Jews," she said. "There is no government to defend them."

She said her husband, Serge, was currently in Beirut trying to convince Moslem spiritual leaders to condemn the killings.

Other talks included the testimony of a young Syrian Jew who described life in Syria for the 4,000 remaining Jews.

"The entire Jewish community is being held hostage," said the young girl, who spoke to the audience, her back turned and surrounded by body guards. She declined to be identified saying it would endanger her family in Syria.

In Syria, she explained, Jews are under constant surveillance. They are arrested arbitrarily at home or in the synagogue. Unlike Christians or Moslems, they are required to carry identity cards marked with their religious affiliation.

"You cannot imagine what it is like for a young girl to face a hostile civil servant for the 'nth time, to be harassed, asked the most indiscrete questions, to wait years for an answer, knowing that it will be negative," she said.

Syrian universities have strict quotas for Jewish students and entrance refusals need no explanation. Jews cannot sell their home or car. They cannot vote, work for the government as civil servants or for nationalized companies, she said.

"Conditions are getting worse all the time," she said. "We live in constant fear. Every time the door bell rings, we never know who it's going to be."

* * *

"French Jewish leaders blame Syria for death of Lebanese Jews"

PARIS, February 23, Reuter - Leaders of France's Jewish community today accused Syria of direct responsibility in the capture and killing of Lebanese Jews.

Roger Pinto, head of the International Committee for the Liberation of Syrian Jews, told a meeting that the Jews "are being held in territory under Syria's control...where nothing is done or decided without its accord."

An underground Shi'ite Moslem group calling itself the "Organization of the Oppressed in the World" has claimed responsibility for killing four Lebanese Jews since last December and has said it is holding three others.

Addressing delegates to the meeting from 16 countries, Pinto accused the European Community of failing to take a firm stand against Syria, Libya and Iran, which he said fostered guerrilla groups acting in Western Europe.

A young woman, her back turned to the public and her head swathed

in a scarf to hide her identity, told the meeting that Syria's 4,500 Jews lived in a state of near-terror, having to account to the authorities for every movement.

She called on Syria to let the Jews "leave and have the right to happiness."

THE NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1986

JEW IN LEBANON URGED TO GET OUT

Moslem Extremist Campaign Making Beirut Too Risky, Paris Conference Says

By RICHARD BERNSTEIN

Special to The New York Times

PARIS, Feb. 23 — Leading French Jews, saying that the Jews of Lebanon are in imminent danger, called on them today to leave for other countries.

The appeal at a conference here today came amid a continuing campaign by extremist Moslems against Lebanese Jews. Since December, the extremists have announced the executions of four Jews in Lebanon and the abduction of three.

The appeal follows by nearly a year the first kidnappings of Jews in Beirut — four kidnappings in a single day last March. The families of those hostages, many of whom live in France, had asked that the incident not be publicized in hopes that by remaining silent they would increase the chances that their relatives would be released.

But since the end of December, the group holding the Jews has announced in written communiqués to a Beirut newspaper that three of the four kidnapped last March have been executed. In each case they have provided pictures of the victim, saying it was evidence of their death.

Moslem Group Claims Abductions

A group calling itself the Organization of the Oppressed on Earth has claimed responsibility for the abductions and the executions. In letters to An Nahar, an Arabic-language daily in Beirut, the Shiite Moslem group has demanded that Israel withdraw all its forces from southern Lebanon and release the Shiite prisoners it is holding.

The victims have been identified as Elie Hallak, a 52-year-old physician who was vice president of the Higher Council of Lebanon's Jews; Chaim Cohen-Hajala, 39, a merchant, and Isaac Tarrab, 70, a professor of mathematics at a Beirut university.

A fourth Jewish hostage said to have been killed was Ibrahim Benesti, 34, a physician and one of three Jews reported kidnapped on Feb. 15.

That would leave at least three other hostages still alive, including the father and the son of Dr. Benesti, kidnapped with him on Feb. 15, and Elie Sasson, a merchant who is the chief spokesman for Jews in Lebanon and who was among those kidnapped last March.

French Jews have historic ties with Lebanese Jews, who numbered several thousand in the early 1930's. French Jews say there are now 22 Jews living in West Beirut and 73 in the East, many of them widows and elderly people.

In the last few months, a few quiet efforts have been made here to win the release of the Jews being held prisoner. Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish spokesmen here have called on Moslem clerics in Lebanon to speak out against the taking of Jewish hostages.

Serge Klarsfeld, a French lawyer who has tracked down former Nazis, went to West Beirut last week to appeal to local religious leaders to condemn the hostage seizures in Lebanon and to offer himself in exchange for the hostages.

But Mr. Klarsfeld's wife, Beate, said today that he had received threats against his life after arriving in Beirut and, on the advice of the French Embassy there, had moved to the Christian-controlled half of the city.

Earlier, Mrs. Klarsfeld spent three weeks in east Beirut in an effort to negotiate the release of the hostages. She said today that she was able to meet with a man described as a low-level representative of the Party of God but that the meeting produced no results.

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INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FREEDOM OF JEWS IN SYRIA

COUNCIL RESOLUTION
February 23, 1986

Delegates from 16 countries which joined the International Council for Freedom of Jews in Syria, met in Paris February 23, 1986, with leaders of the Jewish community, religious authorities and a broad range of French political representatives.

-- Recalling that the International Committee is inspired by humanitarian concerns about the life and freedom of persons undergoing moral and physical suffering and as its fundamental objective "defends the Freedom of Jews in Syria and their right to emigrate to the country of their choice, according to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights";

-- Being aware that the worsening fate of the Jewish Community in Syria, in contravention to international law and fundamental principles of the right to life and human dignity;

-- Stresses that its intended campaign for international protest will have no political connotation,

- * for Jews in Syria constitute a community in peril, suffer discrimination in an environment that is hostile and full of hate,
- * as second class citizens their condition is a permanent offense to the United Nations Charter and Human Rights,
- * they live in a prison-land, a hostage community at the mercy of harassment, isolated and scorned, in daily fear and without hope;

-- Call upon universal conscience, international bodies and all governments to work unceasingly so that all Jews, citizens or residents of Syria, who wish to leave the country can be assured of the right to do so freely, at any time, and settle in the land of their choice.

-- Commits itself to pursue this struggle in all its aspects and by appealing to all bodies in order that the principles of liberty and dignity stated in Articles 13 and 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights become effective for all concerned, Jews and non-Jews, who are forbidden to emigrate freely from their country of nationality or residence.

PROGRAM OF ACTION

The following program of action was voted unanimously and with the approval of French and European Parliamentarians present:

-- Mrs. Nicole Fontaine, member of the European Parliament, agreed to submit to this organization a proposition that a delegation of European Parliamentarians go to Syria to inquire about the situation of the Jews.

-- On the initiative of deputies Georges Sarre, Olivier Stirn and Claude Gerard Marcus, a French Parliament delegation will be constituted for the same purpose.

-- The 16 Committees formed throughout the world have agreed to ask their governments and Parliaments to intervene with the Syrian government.

-- In addition, the same committees agreed to launch a campaign in their respective lands pointing up the tragic situation of Jews in Syria.

-- In each country requests for a meeting with the Syrian Ambassador also will be made.



INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE FREEDOM OF JEWS IN SYRIA

PRESS RELEASE

Paris, February 23, 1986

Roger Pinto, President of the International Council for the Freedom of Jews in Syria which gathered in Paris, February 23, 1986, in the presence of delegates from 16 countries declared:

That the President of the Syrian Republic did not keep his promises. On November 18, 1984, he declared that the Jews of Syria were full-fledged citizens, that is to say that, as other religious communities, their right to freely circulate and go to the country of their choice was recognized.

Unfortunately, the situation has not changed and Jews in Syria are still a hostage community, living under difficult conditions.

Mr. Pinto stated that the Council's international action will have strictly humanitarian bases, that the means used will be peaceful, though firm and continuous for as long as Jews in Syria will not be authorized to leave the country if they so wish.

As for the Jews of Lebanon, Mr. Pinto expressed horror for the barbarous killing of four hostages whose only crime was to be Jewish.

It reminded him of the "old times" when Jews were selected and led to slaughter.

He accused Syria of bearing major responsibility for these murders. How could it be otherwise, when one knows that the hostages, French as well as Lebanese Jews, are kept on Lebanese territory controlled by Syria, omnipresent in the country, and without whose accord nothing can be done or decided.

Syria, Libya and Iran are treated with strange indulgence by the free world and especially by the European community. This is even more astonishing given that these three countries are cradles for international terrorism and that Western Europe has become its first victim. We do not understand...


Addressing himself to Jews in Lebanon Roger Pinto pressingly and solemnly called on them to "quit Lebanon as rapidly as possible, for you are in mortal danger. Leave Lebanon lest you wish to lengthen tomorrow's list of hostages."

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MAR 19 1986

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date March 17, 1986
to Dr. David M. Gordis
from Jacob Kovadloff 
subject Report of Activities of South American Office - January and February 1986

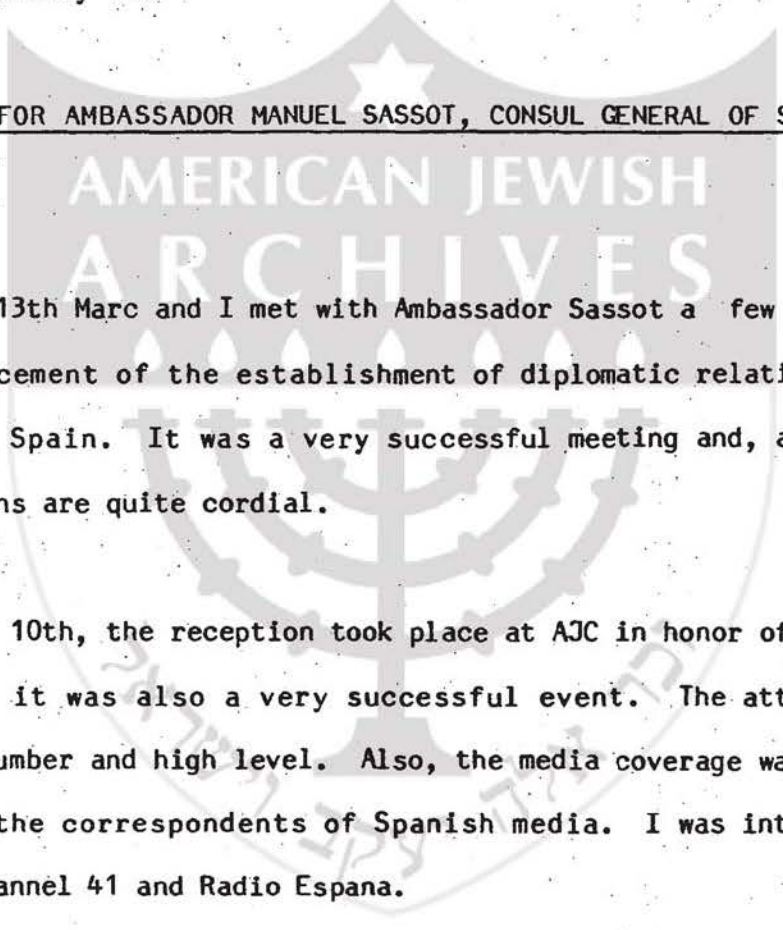
RECEPTION FOR AMBASSADOR MANUEL SASSOT, CONSUL GENERAL OF SPAIN IN NEW YORK

On January 13th Marc and I met with Ambassador Sassot a few days before the announcement of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and Spain. It was a very successful meeting and, as a result, our relations are quite cordial.

On February 10th, the reception took place at AJC in honor of Ambassador Sassot and it was also a very successful event. The attendees were great in number and high level. Also, the media coverage was extensive including the correspondents of Spanish media. I was interviewed by local TV Channel 41 and Radio Espana.

The above was accomplished by two weeks of intensive work by my office.

MEMORANDUM



PROGRAMS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

"Learning from History: The Jewish Dimension of Repression in Argentina Under Military Rule (1973-1983)." A conference proposal from the Truman Institute of Hebrew University of Jerusalem. As I mentioned in my last bi-monthly report, I have been working on the abovementioned program and I suggested a new agenda as well as names of possible participants. The tentative schedule for this conference is February '87.

JOINT PROGRAMS WITH AJC CHAPTERS

As part of the IRD program projections, I am trying to organize two major meetings on South or Latin American Jewry. The first one, in Boston, on the occasion of the Latin American Studies Association Conference on October 23-25, 1986. The second one on February 22-26, 1987 in Gainesville, Florida, on the occasion of the Latin American Jewish Studies Association meeting.

On both occasions we will take advantage of the presence of scholars who specialize in the subject of our interest as a consultation for AJC future programs in Latin America.

Also, these activities will help IRD projects to interweave AJC Chapters with smaller Jewish communities.

TENTATIVE MISSION TO SOUTH AMERICA

The abovementioned consultations will provide us with a better understanding of current conditions of the Jewish communities in the sub-continent as well as the programming to be organized. I suggest a tentative mission of AJC officers to South America for March of '87 --they will confirm the results of these consultations by personal contact with local leaders of these communities.

Also, these potential programs and schedules for the Mission's trip will be explored on a prior trip by me tentatively scheduled at the end of this July since I am invited to attend two events in Buenos Aires.

HISPANIC-JEWISH-CATHOLIC DIALOGUES IN NEW YORK

In meetings that I had with Father Carlos Mullins and his colleagues at the Hispanic Pastoral Center of New York, they showed a great deal of enthusiasm for increasing our common activities -- keeping in mind the success of our last programs in '85 on the commemoration of Nostra Aetate.

Two main proposals were discussed: A two day encounter following the Sao Paulo Conference agenda and a trip to Israel.

EXHIBITION ON "COLONIAL-JEWISH AMERICA"

As per my last report this remains status quo. Despite my efforts there is no change and/or progress.

MEETINGS

On February 7th, I met with Dr. Andres Zaldivar from Chile, chairman of the International Christian Democracy. Together with other people we were informed of current conditions in his country. His remarks indicated the possibility that democratic changes can be made but there are so many obstacles to them that we can only be pessimistic regarding the near future.

On February 19th and 26th, I took part in a series of discussions at the Center for Inter-American Relations on "The Media and How We See Latin America." Participants were: Warren M. Hoge, Foreign Editor, The New York Times, Arturo Villar, Publisher, Vista Magazine, George Russell, Associate Editor, Time Magazine, and Roy Gutman, National Security Correspondent, Newsday. I left these meetings with a sad feeling that there is no such influence by the American media in the formulation of U.S. foreign policy for Latin America.

On January 21st, I met with the General Secretary of the OAS, Joao Clemente Baena Soares in Washington, D.C. The purposes of this meeting were to explore his participation in the AJC Annual Meeting, which he

accepted in principal and the beforementioned exhibition at the OAS premises.

On January 31st, Prof. Donald Warren of the University of Michigan came to visit me on his way to Buenos Aires for advice about introductions there regarding his research on Nazism in Argentina.

PUBLICATIONS

During January and February, 10 Spanish press releases were distributed by my office. Also, eight Spanish radio programs for "El Mundo Hoy" were taped.

On January 21st, I was invited by the Voice of America program and Radio Marti to tape in D.C. a program on "Terrorism and the Libya Connection." They paid my travel expenses.

Also, on January 6th, I was interviewed by telephone by Radio Azul from Miami on the same subject.

Several local Spanish journalists and some from Argentina visited me during this period. They were: Eduardo Rosenberg from Spain, Jorge Levit from Buenos Aires, Manuela Fingerit from Buenos Aires, Claudio Campusano, New York, Omar Rivabella, New York, Mempo Giardinelli from Buenos Aires.

MISCELLANEOUS

Several people came to me for advice on trips to South America and Spain. Among others were Barry Sklar (U.S. House of Representatives) Mrs. Carol Herman of Technion, Judith Manelis of UJA-Federation, N.Y. and Martin Rubinstein of National Public Broadcasting plus many more.

Dr. Carlos Galante visited me on January 22nd. He was sent to me by the chairman of D.A.I.A. of Buenos Aires.

Rabbi Clifford Kulwin of the World Union for Progressive Judaism visited me for advice on programs for South America.

Juan Carlos Mercado of Columbia University visited me on February 10th for advice on a paper that he is writing on the Jewish community of South America.

Respectfully submitted,

JK/bjb

cc: Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum

David A. Harris

IRD-7/9370

3/18/86-gn

BI-MONTHLY REPORT
(November-December 1985)

for

David A. Harris, Deputy Director
International Relations Department

Administrative

- * Ongoing administrative responsibilities with respect to the 1) national professional staff, 2) secretarial staff and 3) overseas offices;
- * Coordination and planning of bi-weekly professional staff meetings, bi-monthly secretarial meetings, and, during this program period, the December 16th meeting of the Steering Committee of the International Relations Commission;
- * Assistance in the coordination and planning of IRD's participation in the National Executive Council meeting in Miami in November, including preparation of materials, planning of the plenary session on Central America, and coordination of the Steering Committee and other smaller meetings on Central America;
- * Liaison on a minimum bi-weekly, and frequently much more often, basis with such organizations as the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, Coalition to Free Soviet Jews, National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, American Jewish World Service, Israel Embassy, Israel Consulate and Catholic Relief Services;
- * Frequent contact with AJC Chapters, including, during this period, Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Long Island, Los Angeles, Miami, Philadelphia, San Diego, San Francisco and Westchester on a variety of programmatic issues and specific informational and service requests to IRD;

Travel

- * November 12: Meetings, together with Howard Friedman, at the State Department, Israel Embassy and House of Representatives;
- * December 3-4: Chapter visit to Denver;
- * December 9-10: Chapter visit to Detroit;

Publications, Memoranda, etc.

- * "IRD Major Program Activities: 1985;"
- * "Ethiopian Jews," a letter published in the December issue of Commentary;
- * "Soviet Jews: Beneficiaries or Victims of Improving Soviet-American Relations?," published in a number of Anglo-Jewish newspapers;
- * Letters to the Editor of the New York Times and The New Republic on Soviet disinformation and long-term refuseniks respectively, unpublished as yet;
- * "Additional International Relations Programming," a memorandum dated December 13;
- * Extensive correspondence with U.S. State Department and overseas Foreign Service officials, Jewish communities abroad, foreign diplomats in the U.S., chapters and individual letter-writers requesting policy direction, specific information, etc.;
- * Review of draft documents and op eds prepared by IRD colleagues and editing of material from Mexico Office;

Meeting Attendance

- * Tullia Zevi, President of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, November 7;
- * Yehuda Domonitz, former Jewish Agency executive (re Ethiopia), November 7;
- * Morris Abram and other NCSJ leaders, November 20;
- * Larry Cohler, Long Island Jewish World (re South Africa), November 21;
- * Rabbi Moses Rosen, Chief Rabbi of Romania, November 26;
- * Delegation of the NATO North Atlantic Assembly on human rights (re Soviet Jewry), December 6;
- * Lazar Gosman, Director of the Soviet Emigre Orchestra, December 6;
- * Joseph Lovinger, President of the Greek Jewish community, December 11;
- * John Swenson, Associate Washington Director, Catholic Relief Services (re African famine and development), December 12;

- * Barbara Ribakove, North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry, December 12;
- * Jan Goodwin, Executive Editor, Ladies' Home Journal (re Afghanistan and the Soviet Union), December 20;
- * Robert Steinberg, Assistant to the Vice President, Boston University (re trip to North Yemen to monitor Jewish condition), December 20;

Other

- * Coordination of the transfer of the headquarters of the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry to the AJC building;
- * Planning of the AJC leadership delegation visit to the Soviet Union in April 1986;
- * Briefing of the Chicago Chapter and the National Interreligious Task Force on Soviet Jewry delegations to the U.S.S.R.;
- * Supervision of the work of Susan Rothblatt, new Program Assistant in IRD;

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JAN 10 1986



The American Jewish Committee

European Office
4, rue de la Bienfaisance
75006 Paris
Tel. 46 22.92.43 46 87.38.39
Nives E. Fox
European Representative

Howard I. Friedman
President

David M. Gordis
Executive Vice-President

Theodore Ellenoff
Chair, Board of Governors

Alfred H. Moses
Chair, National Executive Council

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Honorary Chair,
National Executive Council

Executive Vice-Presidents Emeriti

John Slawson

Bertram H. Gold

January 8, 1986

To: David Gordis

From: Nives Fox

Subj: European Office Report -- November/December 1985

Planning, inviting, confirming and cancelling individual appointments and program for new "postponed" Communal Affairs Department mission to Europe. A lot of time, alas.

Continued gathering and relaying of information to IAD about Jewish hostages in Lebanon. Regular consultation with Jewish organizations here as threats to "liquidate" hostages began and after assassination of two among them, to consider variety of Jewish actions in France and possible parallels by AJC US. Following CRIF declaration co-sponsored by Presidents Conference and UK Board of Deputies, proposed AJC organized a joint declaration with leading religious representatives of major faiths, particularly Moslem, in US.

Project for French edition JTA to review on a regular basis US Jewish content books, for which editor asked if AJC could supply the books. Query to Commentary and Present Tense for help along these lines. Received agreement from Murray Polner (provided IRD/Paris Office paid postage). Now waiting for books. Bulletin will give credit to AJC; and after reviews, plan is to give the books to Alliance Israélite Universelle Library, also showing (perhaps with a stamp "gift of...") that the volumes come from AJC.

Report about Spain/Israel relations and followup note to IRD. Interventions with CRIF, Union of Jewish Communities in Italy, Rabbi Bent Melchior in Denmark, and UK Board of Deputies to contact friendly parliamentarians in order that questions be raised during ratification^{mission} entry Spain

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in EEC about Spain's conformity on this issue.

Report to IRD about meeting with FSJU, JDC, Consistory and Sephardic Federation to take stock of situation in Tunisia and possible need for further action six weeks after October 8 shooting at Hara Srira synagogue in Djerba.

Ms. Claire Bishop Huchet query about Ecumenical Center for Repentance. Its President, Mr. Tchivijan, invited Amitié Judeo-Chrétienne to attend a meeting Nov. 24-25 in Geneva. After clarification from New York Interreligious Affairs Department encouraged Ms. Bishop to go to this meeting. Judy Banki, in Europe at the same time, was also able to go to the meeting in Geneva as a result.

Checking out reports about the Carmelite convent established in Auschwitz camp and critical attitude among Christian/Jewish groups of this project. Transmitted this information to Interreligious Department NY.

Unesco-sponsored seminar on Maimonides, December 11-12.

Meeting with Israel Ambassador to Unesco of Jewish NGOs for briefing about Unesco's General Conference in Sofia.

Inauguration Square René Cassin. Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac opened his commemorative address with Talmud quotation.

Much ado and report to IRD about MKAP (Communist affiliated Movement against Racism and for Amity among Peoples) and Soviet anti-Zionist Committee members meeting, December 19. An example of very clever USSR manipulation to be avoided.

Late season visitors of interest: Myra Alperson, Present Tense contributor interested in contacting young adults involved in revival Jewish cultural and religious life in France; also looking for possibilities articles about European Jewish life. Suggested one on Ferramonti camp in Italy during WWII, for which Paris office can supply background material and addresses of two former inmates. Larry Carp, AJC Board of Directors in St. Louis: several hours long tour d'horizon about situation Jews in Europe.

Marc Tanenbaum
cc: David Harris

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JAN 13 1986

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE - ISRAEL OFFICE

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES, NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1985A. Fulfilling the service function

1. Represented AJC at a city-wide planning committee meeting to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem.
2. Made contact with Pinchas Peli to follow-up materials promised for the Jewish Communal Affairs Department.
3. At the request of David Harris and Harry Milkman, met with David Shuker and Tzion Zehavi of the Public Committee for the Jews of Yemen. Also met with Robert Steinberg of the U.S., who was planning to go to Yemen. In that connection, there were also a series of conferences with the Jewish Agency and the Foreign Office in order to be helpful to Mr. Steinberg, all the details of which were forwarded to the national office in a series of special reports.
4. Provided services to George Gruen on his visit here in December.
5. Provided services to David Gordis on his visit here in November.
6. Provided services to Sergio Nudelstejer on his visit here in December.
7. At the request of Steven Bayme, followed up contacts with Charles Liebman and Sergio Della Pergola.
8. At the request of Murray Polner, made contacts with Amos Alon, Amoz Oz plus other regulars who write for Present Tense.
9. At the request of the Chicago office met with Rina Khan, followed up in appropriate ways.
10. At the request of the New York office gave consultative services to Judge Stanley Gartenstein.
11. At the request of Marsha Turken provided services and a private guide for Mr. and Mrs. Sy Reisman.
12. Provided services and conducted a private tour of the city of Jerusalem for a Dr. (and Mrs.) Lester Saperstein, who sits on the Kansas City AJC board.
13. Arranged for appointments for Uri Bar-Ner to meet with staff in the national office.

14. At the request of George Gruen met with and offered services to Dorothy Margolin.

15. A number of contacts made with Rabbi Berkovits with respect to his manuscript for the Jewish Communal Affairs Department.

16. Made arrangements for a series of meetings for Yehuda Dominitz with members of the national staff.

B. Visitors-to-Israel Program

1. Routine contacts made and minor requests filled, for the Institute for Leadership Development and Travex agency on behalf of the Jewish Academic Program of the Jewish Communal Affairs Department.

2. Consulatations with David Harris, Shula Bahat, and Mrs. Rabin with respect to the postponement of the projected mission of the Dallas Museum Board.

3. Preliminary contacts made with Carol Karsch regarding a Tuscon Mission next June.

4. Preliminary contacts made with Evelyn Smith of Phoenix for a mission from that community.

5. Preliminary contacts made with respect to a projected mission in 1986 for Genesis 1986.

6. Met with Father Patrick Kelly of Los Angeles and put him in touch with our Los Angeles region.

C. Information and Education

1. Special reports

a. "Syria - Big Question Mark in the Middle East"

b. "Peres through the Eyes of American Jews"

c. "Quo Vadis Egypt"

d. "Church and State in Israel: the case of the Ethiopian Church"

e. "Israel's Ethiopians: Absorption and Immigration"

f. "Vandalism of Bus Stops in Israel"

2. The winter issue of Tefutsot Israel is finished and should be off the press, ready for distribution by about the end of the second week of January.

3. This year's allocation of the American Jewish Year Book arrived during this period and was distributed to a carefully selected list of opinion-makers as a way of helping them see the variety of ways in which the AJC promotes its informational program.

D. Human Relations Program

1. A project orientation meeting for Howard Kavalier incoming head of the Consular and Visa section of our government in Jerusalem. Contacts and relationships established. He reports the undiminished problem of American Blacks and other ethnics who are hassled upon arrival at the airport, exacerbated by the problem of the Black Hebrews, whose number is increasing. I promised to follow this up, as I did at a meeting with Ron Sivan, head of the Consular Section at the Foreign Office. See separate report on these meetings.

2. Continued to meet and be helpful to the staff of the Academy of the Air for Jewish Studies.

3. A series of meetings with officials at the Foreign Office, and others, to help plan for the Israel celebration of the Martin Luther King holiday on January 20.

4. Intensive consultations with the officials of the International Christian Embassy, the Municipality of Jerusalem, and the head of the Christian Affairs Department at the Foreign Office with respect to alleged missionary activities on behalf of the Embassy. See my report to Jim Rudin as follow-up. In addition, I took up the Embassy complaint about Julius Berman about which see separate report to the national office.

5. AJC conducted, with others, annual James Parkes Memorial Lecture that took place on December 3 (see two enclosures). A separate report in detail was forwarded to the national office.

6. A series of consultations were held with the offices of the Association of Civil Rights to discuss with them their plan to monitor pending legislation that might have an impact on the human and civil rights of the people of this country. The consultation took place with, among others, Zalman Abramov and Natan Lerner of the Law Faculty of the University of Tel Aviv. See also my report to Sid Liskofsky on the same subject.

7. Contact was established with Morris Inch incoming President of the American Institute of Holyland Studies, who will take up his new post in May.

8. AJC convened a luncheon consultation with the Ministry of Religious Affairs Daniel Rossing, the Municipality of Jerusalem advisor Naomi Teasdale and the Israel Interfaith Association director Joseph Emanuel, to discuss the declining fortunes of the Ecumenical Theological Research Fraternity. We reviewed evidence of such deterioration and decided among ourselves who can be helpful in what kind of ways. We all agreed that a thriving Fraternity is important for our work.

9. A consultation with Yael Vered, Head of the Christian Affairs Department at the Foreign Office who brought to AJC's attention a number of perceived problems about which I reported separately to James Rudin.

10. I was invited to represent the AJC at a special convocation that took place at the Hebrew University on December 26, to celebrate the Vatican's conferring of a Knighthood on Steinberg, Honorary President of Israel Interfaith Association.

11. Accepted an invitation to represent the AJC at a reception in the Residence of The President at a ceremony on the occasion of the New Year to which were invited the heads of all churches. (enclosure)

12. Invited to represent the AJC (one of a small number of Jews) to attend the Holiday Open House at the Jerusalem Baptist House (enclosure).

13. Represented the AJC at a Christmas-Chanukah celebration attended by Teddy Kollek, in Jerusalem's Town Hall to which were invited the heads of all churches (enclosure).

14. Invited to represent AJC as the Church of Scotland celebrated St. Andrew's day on November 30 (enclosure).

15. Represented AJC at a special and private reception that took place at the YMCA in honor of the visiting director of the YMCA in Cairo, Mr. Rushit Malik.

E. Israel-Diaspora Relations

1. The conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations held a consultation on December 3 at the Hilton Hotel on the subject of Israel-Diaspora Relationships. See special report issued on that occasion.

2. The first lecture in our series on the Contributions of American Jewish Religious Organizations to Israel took place on November 18 at the Museum of the Diaspora. See special report written at the end of that session on the reasons why the series is being transferred to Jerusalem, without the co-operation of the program staff of the museum.

3. A luncheon meeting was held with Mordechai Gazit and me with Arthur Green of the American Cultural Center and Elena Mischel of the American Embassy with respect to proposals for joint co-operation. See Mordechai's and my separate reports to Bert Gold on the subject.

4. Naphtali Lavie has been installed as head of the UJA in Israel and it is already clear that he plans a different kind of operation than did his predecessor. To this end I met with him socially, and attended an open house at his new quarters and he and I agreed that we would follow-up, in private meetings between us, to see the ways in which we might co-operate in the future.

5. The Labor Zionist Forum held a half-day consultation on the relationships between American Jewish Federations with Israel and this was covered and reported on in a special report issued in the middle of November.

6. In the meeting referred to above with Howard Kavalier of the American Consulate, we discussed the ways in which the services of the Consulate to American citizens and others could be clarified. To this end, it was agreed that AJC would use its good offices for Howard to make a major presentation at an early meeting of DOJO.

7. A rather remarkable write-up on the life and career of Mordechai Gazit was written up in the Jerusalem Post and copies of it were widely distributed both here and, hopefully, abroad, as a way of further enhancing the Institute on American-Jewish Israeli Relations.

8. The Conference of Presidents, referred to above, held a reception at the Hilton Hotel on December 1 and I represented the AJC (enclosure).

9. Bar Ilan University, after checking registration, heartily agreed to conduct once again the experimental program that AJC sponsors on the teaching of American Jewish life through the study of English, Hebrew and Yiddish fiction. The course of study and registration for that course exceeded everyone's expectations and a special report on this subject was issued recently.

F. Projection for next period

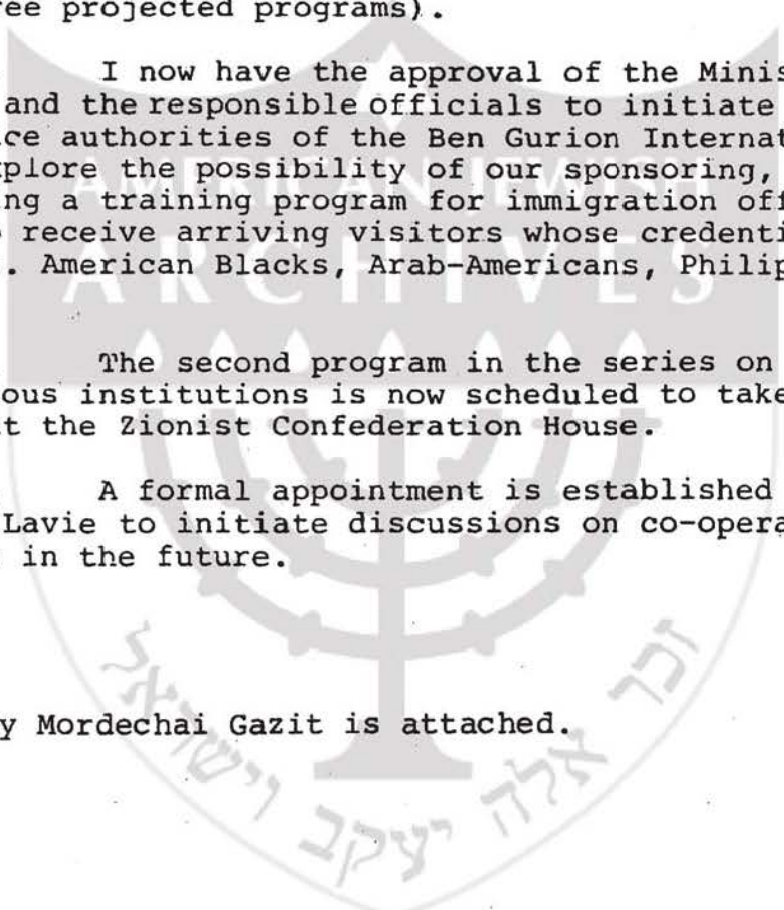
(Projections for next period reflect the part-time status of the writer as of January 1. Still, there are commitments that have ongoing obligations and they are reflected in the following three projected programs).

1. I now have the approval of the Ministry of the Interior and the responsible officials to initiate conversations with the police authorities of the Ben Gurion International Airport to explore the possibility of our sponsoring, funding and supervising a training program for immigration officials on the way to receive arriving visitors whose credentials need checking. (ie. American Blacks, Arab-Americans, Philipinos and others).

2. The second program in the series on American Jewish Religious institutions is now scheduled to take place in February at the Zionist Confederation House.

3. A formal appointment is established in January for Naphtali Lavie to initiate discussions on co-operative relationships in the future.

The report by Mordechai Gazit is attached.



THE INSTITUTE ON AMERICAN JEWISH-ISRAELI RELATIONS

Bi-monthly report: November, December 1985

1. Monthly Newsletter. We continue to consider our monthly newsletter, which will soon mark two years since it first came out, one of our most successful programs. It is, however, quite expensive to produce (about \$0.80 per copy). It is, of course, distributed free of cost.
2. Young Leadership Program. The selection process will soon begin. We hope to include one or two outstanding young writers or poets. The director of the American Cultural Center in Jerusalem will be on our four-member selection board. This will enable him to make his recommendations for the five-day add-on program, financed by U.S.I.A., based on his personal impressions of the candidates.
3. Teaching Program on U.S. Jewry in the Israeli Educational System. We are coming close to the end of the first exploratory stage. On the basis of our tentative findings, we shall soon approach the Ministry of Education and Culture with our ideas. Only thereafter will it be possible to develop real cooperation with the Ministry. We have established a good relationship with the Director of The Center for the Integration of the Sephardi and Oriental Jewish Heritage which is part of that Ministry. We hope that some of the *modus operandi* of the Center can be adapted to promote our program.
4. Israeli TV. The Director of the Israeli Instructional TV is very interested in programs about American Jewry. Various possibilities are being explored (unfortunately, all of them very expensive).
5. The Successful American Oleh. We have temporarily halted our efforts to find a researcher to undertake the study, pending more information about the parallel complementary project undertaken by the New York Office.
6. Projects "Inventory" and "Compendium". Both are now in New York. We believe that the material for the "Inventory" is suitable for publication. We have, however, doubts regarding the "Compendium".

Mordechai Gazit

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date: January 3rd, 1986

to: Dr. David H. Gordis
from: Sergio Nudelstejer

subject: November-December Activities Report *

The activities we carried out during this period of time were the following, but taking into consideration that in Mexico as well as in the countries of Central America, Colombia and Venezuela, from December 16th through January 6th, almost all communitary activities are called-off due to the catholic festivities and the December school vacations.

FEDECO .- The Board of Governors of the Federation of Jewish Communities of Central America and Panamá should have met to decide all details concerning their bi-annual meeting. In spite of the fact that in January 1984 in the meeting held in Guatemala it was agreed to meet again in 1986 in Panama City, due to internal difficulties in this community, FEDECO will meet again this year in Guatemala. For the time being, the date has been set for March and both the program and the days of the meeting will be known later on.

Our office has been in permanent touch with Mr. Marcel Ruff, President of FEDECO; with Dr. Mario Permuth, President of the Jewish Community of Guatemala and with Mr. Joseph Harari, President of the Jewish Community of Panama, insistin on the importance of this next conference of FEDECO and to collaborate with them preparing the agenda with the main important issues to be discussed.

JEWISH-CHRISTIAN RELATIONS .- We have planned together with Mr. Joseph Harari, President of the Jewish Community of Panamá to continue the good relations between the Catholic Church and the Jewish Community. I have proposed to carry out a Jewish-Christian encounter in which the Jewish Community and the AJC will pay their respect to Cardinal McGrath of Panamá who has been nominated recently the Vatican's representative for Central America. On that opportunity, we sent in to Cardinal McGrath the greetings of the AJC.

Mr. Harari is at the moment planning together with the Jewish Community the celebration of this event and preparing the program. It is important to mention that Cardinal McGrath for many years now has been openly a friend of Israel and of the Jewish People and with whom we have counted to further the Jewish-Christian relations in Latin America.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

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SOVIET JEWRY.- Due to the fact that in Mexico City, next April, will take place the Interparliamentary Latin American Conference and a large delegation from the Parliaments of the Latin American countries is expected, we have taken the initiative that during this meeting should be presented, as part of the agenda, the issue of the present situation of the Jews in the Soviet Union.

For this purpose I have started a series of efforts: 1.- I have met with the Mexican Senator Mr. Andrés Henestrosa, who is at the same time the President of the Latin American Conference on Soviet Jewry, to plan this activity, and he offered his full support. We decided to meet again sometime in the middle of January to discuss details and take some decisions. 2.- I have requested a meeting with the Mexican member of Parliament, Mr. Juan José Bremer, President of the Foreign Relations Commission of the Chamber of Deputies, to present him this idea. I hope to see him after he will return from his vacation by mid-January. 3.- Due to the fact that during my visit to Caracas, Venezuela in March last year I was able to meet with the President of the Venezuelan Parliament thanks to the interventions of Dr. Efraín Schacht Aristiguieta, at that time the President of the Venezuelan Parliament offered to bring up the issue of the Human Rights of Jews in the USSR to the next Latin American Interparliamentary Conference. By the beginning of this year I will contact him either by phone or telex to remind him of his offer to bring up the issue of Soviet Jewry during the above mentioned conference. 4.- Much the same way, through my contact with the national committees on Soviet Jewry in Latin America, I am trying to get parliamentarians from different countries who should come to the conference in Mexico City to participate in the debate on the situation of the Jews in the USSR. For this purpose I will prepare a special background material to keep them well informed up to the most recent events.

CIVIC-JEWISH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.- Due to the success of the special program on Jewish Civic Education for pupils of Senior Highschool in three of our Jewish Schools, prepared and carried out by our Mexican office this year, our aim is to repeat the same program of lectures, this time in four out of the six Jewish schools.

It is a cycle of eight lectures, one per month, prepared specially for the mentality of senior high pupils who are about to start their college or university education, and in subjects that they do not get at school or which they have run across very superficially.

MEMORANDUM

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

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Some of the subjects we teach them are the following:
1.- History of the Jews in Colonial Mexico; 2.- Structure of the present Jewish Community. 3.- Problems of antisemitism in Mexico; 4.- Situation of the Jews in the Soviet Union; 5.- Jews in arab countries; 6.- Realities and problems faced by the students upon entering the universities; 7.- The Jewish Communities in Latin America and 8.- The political, social and economical problems in Mexico.

These lectures are given by specialists in each of the areas and by the end of each lecture, there is a question and answer period which turns out to be most interesting because the pupils receive answers to their restlessness and interests.

PUBLICATIONS.- We have translated into Spanish and published, the address of Dr. David M. Gordis at the Committee's National Executive Council - Meeting on November 7, 1985 in Miami, Florida. We published 500 copies which we already started to send out to Jewish lay leaders, activists, to libraries and study centers in Mexico as well as to the Jewish Communities in Central America (Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Venezuela) with the certainty that it will prove of interest to them.

We continue with the editing of the material for the book on Jewish Identity and Identification and we have added some new articles we consider will enrich this work.

At the same time, on a continued basis, we sent out to the Jewish Communities in our area, copies of important material produced by the different departments of the AJC.

DELEGATION TO THE SOVIET UNION.- We have started all the necessary preparations for the trip to the USSR of a delegation representing the Latin American Conference on Soviet Jewry. The date set for this trip is March 20th through the 3rd of April 1986. It will be integrated by the Presidents of the Committees in Behalf of Soviet Jewry from the following countries: Dr. Luis Pan from Argentina; Senator Jaime Posada from Colombia; Dr Carlos Alfredo Lopez Guevara from Panama and myself.

After this visit, a series of press conferences will be given in each of the above mentioned countries as well as lectures for different groups and a full report on the next Latin American Conference on Soviet Jewry to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

MEMORANDUM

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

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MEMORANDUM

The preparation, organization and details of this Latin American mission are the responsibility of the AJC office in Mexico, which we consider of special importance for our agency.

MEETINGS WITH THE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR .- I met twice with Mr. Moshe Arad, Ambassador of Israel to Mexico, in order to discuss and analyze together a series of important problems that affect the Mexico-Israel relations as well as the Jewish Community.

The main issues on which we focussed our attention have been the Mexican negative votes at the UN on the issues of Jerusalem, the occupied territories and economical sanctions. We also discussed the different antisemitic expressions that sprung in Mexico after the earthquake. As well as the terrorists attacks on the airports of Vienna and Rome.

The Mexican Government has publicly condemned the terrorist attacks, specially because two Mexican citizens died during the attack on the TWA aircraft in Malta and the two deaths of the Mexican military attache in Rome and his secretary during the shooting in the airport of Rome.

We decided to bring up this and other issues in one of the next meetings of the Comité Central Israelita de México (Jewish Central Committee in Mexico).

MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL .- As I do it on a regular basis, I had an important meeting with representatives of A.I. in Mexico in order to analyze the most recent reports they received on violations of Human Rights in Central America, specially in Guatemala, Salvador, Nicaragua and Colombia. The information they get from their counterparts in those countries is important for me to know. I received from Amnesty International some recent publications with articles and information on Central America that are of special interest. Frequently we exchange some information regarding violations of human rights in the area.

CONTACTS WITH JEWISH COMMUNITY OF CUBA .-As I reported previously, we try to keep in constant touch with the leadership of the remnants of the Jewish community in Cuba. This time, we encouraged a young Jewish married couple to visit them and to meet specially with young people. During the former visit of Rabbi Abraham Palti to Cuba, he told us that a group of young

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people are trying to get together, interested in keeping contact among themselves and possibly establish some Jewish studies. We briefed Mr. Elias Fasja and his wife on the prevailing conditions in Cuba and they offered that upon returning, they will inform us of their contacts and experience. All expenses of this couple for the trip to Cuba are paid by the couple themselves.

LATIN AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON BEHALF OF SOVIET JEWRY .-After a number of meetings and contacts with different countries, we have received the confirmation to hold the next Latin American Conference in Behalf of the Jews in the Soviet Union, which will take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, tentatively from May 29th through the 1st of June this year.

As per the next week, I will contact the presidents of the different committees in Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina, and ask them to start preparing this important conference. During december I held long conversations and working sessions to plan the Agenda of this Conference with Mr. Pedro Ramirez Vazquez, President of the Mexican Committee on behalf of Soviet Jewry and with Senator Andres Henestrosa, President of the Latin American Conference and with Mr. Shamai Golan of the Israeli Embassy in Mexico.

It is considered of great importance this next Latin American Conference on Behalf of Soviet Jewry due to the prevailing difficult situation in the USSR in relation to the "refuseniks" as well as to the recent arrests and trials against some of the activists.

ACTIVITIES IN ISRAEL .- During my recent vacations, which I spent most of the time in Israel, I used some of my time to contact some personalities with whom I considered it was important to meet. Among the people I met were Mr. Arie L. Dultzin, President of the Jewish Agency with whom I discussed matters concerning the Jewish Communities in Latin America, specially the relationship Diaspora-Israel as well as Aliyah problems and some others.

I met with Ambassador Israel Gur Arie, General Sub-Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Latin America, in Jerusalem. Ambassador Gur Arie invited me to dinner at his home where present also were Am-

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bassador Shmorak, who during some years was Chief of the Israeli Mission in Argentina and Ambassador Victor Shem Tov, who was Chief of the Israeli Mission in Colombia. Our conversation dealt basically with the situation of the Latin American countries as well as the problems that the Jewish Communities in this area face. I was pleasantly surprised that all of them know about the work of the AJC in Latin America, in the United States, in Europe and in Israel.

I also had the chance to meet and talk with Mr. David Bartov, new advisor of Prime Minister Shimon Peres, on issues concerning Soviet Jewry. Mr. Bartov, former Judge of the Supreme Court of Justice in Israel, who was to take up his new appointment to office on January 1st, will be substituting Mr. Yehuda Lapidot who occupied this office till December 31st.

During our meeting in his Tel-Aviv office, which lasted almost an hour and a half, we brought up the subject of the difficult situation of the Jews in the Soviet Union and the activities that should be held specially in Latin America. Mr. Bartov let me know that he is not acquainted with these countries and expressed his wish that I should keep him informed.

I consider that this interchange of ideas and opinions was very fruitful and also in this first encounter Mr. Bartov made a very positive impression on me, for his knowledge regarding Soviet Jewry as well as for his intelligence and talent.

While in Israel, I, of course, visited the AJC office in Jerusalem, spending some time with my colleagues there, specially with Dr. Bernard Resnikoff who asked me to give a brief report to members of his staff on the situation of Mexico during and after the earthquake, which I did with pleasur.

* For your information, from the 6th through the 10th of November I was in Miami for the National Council Meeting and my vacations were from November 12th to December 8th.

DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS -
JACOB BLAUSTEIN INSTITUTE

ACTIVITY REPORT

September 1 - October 31, 1985

This report records selected program developments in the work of the Division of International Organizations and the Jacob Blaustein Institute (JBI). Its brevity suggests that it should be read in conjunction with more extensive, previous treatments of our objectives and programs. The specific projects and activities mentioned here will be subsumed under three over-all, overlapping AJC program foci, identified in "AJC Program Directions and Emphases for 1985-86," (April 30, 1985): (1) Counter-acting Anti-Semitism, including Israel Delegitimization; (2) strengthening human rights and (3) assisting Soviet Jewry. In addition, included is a section on JBI program activity.

1. Counter-acting Anti-Semitism and Israel Delegitimization

Drafted letters to: Alan Keyes and Nita Barrow inviting them to accept NEC awards, to UN Secretary General and to UN representatives of Canada, Australia, and to U.S. Secretary of State expressing appreciation for their role in countering Zionism equals racism reference at Nairobi.

Memorandum outlining plans of other Jewish organizations regarding the Zionism/racism equation, to provide a basis for IRD work in this area.

Memo to Howard Friedman on UN Zionism-equals-racism resolution for use in NEC speech. Preparation of two 800-word op-eds on Zionism-equals-racism; one dealing with its UN, the other with its global, significance. Submitted materials to Suzanne Elson, including introductory remarks, for NEC award presentation to Alan Keyes.

Issued study on UN Zionism-equals-racism resolution 3379, and its effects over the past decade. Resolution 3379 was part of an elaborate plan by the PLO and its supporters to convert UN fora and programs into vehicles for delegitimizing Israel; acquiescence from the non-aligned bloc, many of them countries with Muslim majorities or substantial minorities, ensured success. Possible counteraction measures include interpreting the historical background and contemporary meaning of Zionism to Third World representatives and supporting selective withdrawal of participation and/or funding by U.S. and allied states to deter anti-Zionism affirmations.

2. Strengthening Human Rights

A. International Norms

Prepared memo on proposed U.S. torture legislation about which AJC has been approached by International Lawyers Committee on Human Rights.

Telephone consultation with U.S. Defense Department official on the continuing controversial provisions relating to liberation movements, including PLO Protocols to the Geneva Conventions. Received and studied his written analysis of the issues.

Participated in International League for Human Rights meeting with representatives of Western nations to UN Human Rights bodies. The International League is planning to press for a Declaration on the Right To Know, inspired by the work of JBI grantee Professor Vratislav Pechota, who prepared at SL's request a draft declaration for use by the International League for Human Rights. This meeting with Western representatives laid the groundwork for this initiative planned for the March 1986 meeting of Human Rights Commission. Other issues discussed included the case of Andrei Sakharov, and the UN study on religious intolerance.

Prepared memo on terrorism issue for use in Howard Friedman's NEC speech.

Attended dinner in honor of retiring UN High Commissioner for Refugees and exchanged ideas with with head of International Organizations Division, International Committee for the Red Cross; U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Refugee Programs; Chef de Cabinet of UN Secretary General. The conversation with the State Department official led to a written proposal from Cultural Survival, an organization involved in Ethiopian relief. Another idea, which maybe pursued, was suggested from conversation with the Secretry General's Chef de Cabinet.

B. South Africa

Addressed AJC Philadelphia Chapter on South Africa. Memo to Murray Friedman - commenting on current Philadelphia anti-apartheid legislation in light of AJC policy on South Africa.

Wrote report on meeting with South Africa Institute of Race Relations Assistant Director, Sylvia Gon, for members of AJC's leadership delegation to South Africa.

Issued paper on allegations in the American media that Israel and South Africa are "allies," disputing assertions that they have close bilateral relations, common historical roots and similar contemporary human rights conditions. Paper concludes by pointing out Arab-Soviet role in this anti-Israel campaign.

3. Assisting Soviet Jewry

Wrote letter to editor of New Times protesting publication of anti-Semitic article; issued press release on this.

Letter to official of UN Human Rights Centre detailing medical information on condition of Dr. Iosif Begun, Soviet Jewish activist, received from governmental and non-governmental sources. Information to be used as basis for private UN humanitarian appeal for Begun.

Conversations with Marc Tanenbaum and Bill Trosten on projected Cologne conference on Jews and Germans in the USSR. Began to study issues raised in German conference proposal.

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4. JBI Program Activity


1. Frequent phone conversations, correspondence and meetings with co-sponsor (Professor Leonard Swidler of Temple University's Religion Department; editor of Journal of Ecumenical Studies) of JBI colloquium on religious intolerance in regard to agenda, papers, participants, and other matters. Drafting of Conference press release.
2. Phone conversations and meetings with various persons connected to effort to get Ford Foundation to finance international conference on the right to leave (e.g., Hurst Hannum, author of JBI-financed PAIL study on right to leave; Jiri Toman, director of Geneva-based Henri Dunant Institute (research arm of International Committee of the Red Cross); John Carey, US member of UN Subcommission on Discrimination and Minorities; Stephen Marks and Shepard Forman of Ford Foundation.
3. Reading and study relating to regional inter-governmental organizations; Council of Europe (reports of Court and Commission on Human Rights), Organization of American States and Organization of African Unity; book and journal analyses of issues of international organizations, international law, and human rights.
4. Phone conversations, correspondence and/or meetings with aspiring JBI grantees (and study of their applications and supporting documentation)- among them the following:
 - a) Editor (Chaim Shur) and representatives of Israel journal New Outlook
 - b) Director of London-based Minority Rights Group (Ben Whitaker, also UK member of UN Subcommission on Discrimination and Minorities) for distribution in US, Latin America, Africa and Asia, and Western Europe, of a report based on its study of anti-Semitism around the world.
 - c) Acting Director of Costa Rica-based Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (Sonia Picado) on a range of proposals relating to human rights education; also religious intolerance.
 - d) NYU Law School's Professor Theodor Meron on his request for JBI Fellowships at NYU Law School.
 - e) Director of International League for Human Rights, Felice Gaer, on support of its work on counter-reports to governments' human rights compliance reports to UN committees overseeing implementation of conventions on racial discrimination and on civil and political rights.
 - f) Professor George Fletcher in connection with his project for JBI on a Guide to Soviet Criminal Law and Practice.
 - g) Professor Richard Claude in connection with his project for JBI on a college-level human rights reader.
 - h) Professor Philip Alston in connection with his project for JBI on enhancing the UN's technical assistance role in human rights promotion (as against inherently political complaint-type procedures).
5. Conversations and negotiations with Theodor Meron, Yoram Dinstein, Thomas Franck (director of NYU Center for International Studies), Benjamin Rivlin and Max Finger (CUNY's Ralph Bunche Institute on the UN), and John Carey, relating to April 1986 conference on anti-Semitism and Zionism-racism under international law - in regard to auspices, agenda, themes and authors of papers, participants and administration.

6. Reading and study of publications of JBI grantees' work in-progress: Lowell Livezey on NGOs' human rights philosophies and roles; editor Irene Bloom on book stemming from JBI colloquium on religion and human rights; Hurst Hannum on the right to leave; V. Pechota on genocide.

7. Reading and study of documents and articles on UN system overall and of US policy and legislation relating to it; human rights in US foreign policy; activities of non-governmental organizations, and developments within the NGO community.

8. Extensive reading and study, heavily at home, on program-related UN and other inter-governmental organization documents: resolutions, and verbatim and summary records, background papers and reports, governmental statements and reports connected to a range of human rights topics and Israel-related and other items on agendas of General Assembly, ECOSOC, Human Rights Commission, Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, and other bodies and agencies (e.g., UNESCO): UN Decade for Women, including Nairobi follow-up; Elimination of Religious Intolerance; Program of Action for Second UN Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination; Human Rights and Scientific and Technological Developments; International Covenants on Human Rights; Alternative Approaches within the UN system for Improving Enjoyment of Human Rights; Measures to Prevent International Terrorism...; Draft Body of Principles for the Protection of Detained Persons or Prisoners; Cooperation between UN and Organization of African Unity and Arab League; Question of Palestine; Situation in the Middle East; UNRWA for Palestinian Refugees - and others.

9. Provided annotated bibliography of genocide-related material in AJC collections to JBI grantee Vratislav Pechota, who is preparing a study of this topic.



Sidney Liskofsky
Allan Kagedan
November 15, 1985

NOV 12 1985



The American Jewish Committee

European Office · 4, rue de la Bienfaisance, 75008 Paris · Tel/522-9243 and/387-3839

NIVES E. FOX, European Representative

November 6, 1985

To: David Gordis

From: Nives Fox

Subj: European Office Report -- September/October 1985

Post Nairobi -- Meeting Unesco NGO's to get a sense of reactions from participants at the Forum which ended UN Decade for Women. Also to find out whether French Minister for Women's Affairs Yvette Roudy acted in conformity with her repeated assurances to AJC leaders in Paris and New York: to stick to women's issues and stay clear and fight political ones. Conveyed opinions and supplied clippings to IRD.

On occasion Paris visit of Susan Goodman, Curator Jewish Museum in New York, pursued past and present requests by Israel's Ambassador to Unesco that Jewish content activities be launched in Unesco by Jewish organizations. Discussed possibility for setting up an educational-cultural Jewish content exhibit (ritual objects, documents) to be presented either by the New York Museum alone or in conjunction with the Council of American Jewish Museums. Followed up with paper setting out rationale and motivation for such a project, possible format, how and whom to contact at Unesco.

Arranging several contacts in the US during a visit there by Prof. Pierre Pachet, long-time activist in France on problems of Soviet Jewry, who wished to learn more about how campaigns on behalf of Soviet Jews are organized in the US as well as to find additional material about Joseph Begun. Pachet is considering writing a book or a pamphlet and using the Begun case as the symbol of thwarted Jewish culture in the USSR.

Meetings with European Council, FSJU, CERAC in Paris and calls to community representatives in Sweden and Denmark to discuss the program and persons to involve in connection with Communal Affairs Department forthcoming delegation to Sweden, Denmark and France. Correspondance with Yehuda Rosenman.

/...

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Report about public quarrel between Chief Rabbi of France and lay leadership of Consistory. For information to IRD.

Revival of over ten year old charges of anti-Semitism against Paris Vuitton store (window-posted refusal to sell or to hire Jews). An up-dated memo and copies of dossier mailed to Dallas Chapter and IRD.

Inquiry and report to IRD concerning US/German Veterans commemoration of WWII at St. Avoild cemetery (a low-level Bitburg simile): prevention possibilities explored by AJC in the US and France; counter-measures taken in France. Is there a clarification role AJC can play with veteran groups in the US?

Continued regular checking for news and information about six Jewish hostages in Lebanon through contact with family members in Paris and other persons from Lebanon in France but with remaining interests and ties in Lebanon. Sharing and exchanging information with CRIF and IRD for possible interventions.

Meeting of mayors of Human Rights Cities (a list of 20, including Baghdad, for its Hamurabi Code) planned by Karel Vasak (human rights expert and director, formerly with Cassin Institute, Council of Europe and Unesco) for this December. This is part of his long-range project for a Human Rights Academy and 1989 human rights bi-centenary in France. Convinced Vasak to add Jerusalem to the list and discussed the difficult choice of a non-controversial representative Palestinian intellectual who would accompany Teddy Kollek. Success for inclusion of Jerusalem and finding the right Palestinian marred by "regrets cannot come" from Kollek, AJC Jerusalem office intervention to change this decision notwithstanding.

Transmission, with letter of support, of Karel Vasak's application to Blaustein Foundation financial aid for a compilation of a human rights encyclopaedia (also part of Human Rights Academy accomplishments). Vasak's resumption of publication of Human Rights Journal offers opportunity for US article placing and AJC action in this direction.

October 8 killing and wounding of several Jews at Hara Srira synagogue in Djerba (Tunisia). Linked to Israel PLO bombing in Tunisia? a madman? Daily rounds with family members in France and others with information and knowledge about present Tunisian political complexities and Jewish life. Matching and exchanging information with Consistory, Federation Sephardic Jews, CRIF, JDC, Hias, to reach a balanced view about immediate and long-range effect of this most serious incident since the beginning of tensions in the Middle East on the considerably dwindled yet over 3000 remaining Jews in Tunisia. Almost daily telephone contact with New York to convey maximum verified information, needs for US intervention with Tunisian authorities in the US.

Gorbachev visit to France -- General and Jewish expectations; French community interventions and action before visit; roundup of visit and comments. Report requested by IRD for use AJC-NEC meeting early November.

Annual Assembly CRIF with AJC President Howard Friedman's participation. Gathering pertinent information before and conveying the exceptionally favorable reactions about speech to Howard Friedman.

Annual Meeting of Alliance Israélite Universelle -- short report to IRD concerning new projects announced at this gathering.

Proposal for AJC renewal of former ties and cooperation with CCJO (Consultative Council Jewish Organizations). This urged again both by Alliance in France and Anglo-Jewish Association in UK (Pt. Clemens Nathan in Paris for the occasion). Memo to IRD to outline how such joint efforts could be useful and fruitful for AJC human rights interests in Europe, without impinging on AJC membership in International League.

Virtually any two month period in Paris also includes visits from AJC members who wish to have a first hand view about the general situation in Europe and European Jewry in particular. And so it was this past September and October.

The above selected activities fairly represent the raison d'être of the European office: to monitor Jewish community life and developments in Europe and convey its major problems or directions to AJC in the US. This includes re-enforcing the work of the Jewish communities in Europe with AJC/US interventions when needed (as it was for Jewish hostages in Lebanon and the tragedy in Tunisia); seeking and supplying information and suggestions on all subjects with relevance to the vast AJC/US program -- human rights, women's rights, anti-Semitism, Soviet Jewry, Middle East developments, communal affairs, etc. Conversely, to promote and distribute AJC material, views and ideas whenever applicable or adaptable in Europe.

In other words, the European office activities and representation work as a network of trust and good relations, a two-way road of transmission about AJC issues of concern in Europe and European issues and problems which parallel those of AJC or are of importance to AJC's on-going work and program.

####

cc: Tanenbaum
Harris

BI-MONTHLY REPORT

(March-April 1986)

for

David A. Harris, Deputy Director

International Relations Department

Administrative

- * Ongoing administrative responsibilities with respect to the 1) national professional staff, 2) secretarial staff, and 3) overseas office staff;
- * Coordination and planning of regular professional staff meetings and bi-monthly secretarial meetings;
- * Liaison on a minimum bi-weekly, and frequently much more often, basis with such organizations as the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (New York and Washington offices), Coalition to Free Soviet Jews, National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, American Jewish World Service, Israel Embassy, Israel Consulate, State Department, Helsinki Commission, National Security Council, and Catholic Relief Services;
- * Frequent contact with the Washington Office and AJC chapters;

Travel

- * March 4-5: Chapter visit to Houston, including dinner with chapter leadership, speech to chapter board, meeting with CRC, speech at University of Houston, meeting with Hillel group, and interviews with Houston Chronicle and University of Houston newspaper;
- * March 6: Luncheon with Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs Rozanne Ridgway, meeting with Israeli Ambassador Meir Rosenne, and planning session with the National Conference on Soviet Jewry for press conference on the plight of Soviet Jewish refuseniks Naum and Inna Meiman;
- * March 10-11: Dinner with AJC leadership and Washington dignitaries for Marcelino Oreja, Secretary General of the Strasbourg-based Council of Europe, followed, in the morning, by meetings with Ambassador Robert Oakley, Director of the Office for Counter-Terrorism and Emergency Planning, and Michael Armacost, Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs;
- * March 25: Speech to Federation Young Leadership in Springfield, Mass.;

- * March 27 Meeting with Sam Wise, Deputy Director, Helsinki Commission, and meeting with Yehoshua Pratt, Israel Embassy, Washington, D.C.;

Publications

- * "Crisis in Soviet Jewry," Midstream, March 1986;
- * "From Russia with Laughs," Jewish Monthly, March 1986;
- * "Jacques Chirac, France and the Middle East," published in the Washington Jewish Week, Heritage (Los Angeles), Palm Beach Jewish World, Jewish Chronicle (Pittsburgh) and other Anglo-Jewish newspapers, April 1986;
- * "A Change in the Wind Concerning Soviet Jews?," The World and I (A Washington Times publication), April 1986;
- * "Soviet Jewry: Back to Square One?," published in the Washington Jewish Week and other Anglo-Jewish newspapers, April 1986;

Meeting Attendance

- * March 3: Briefing of Alice Levy, New York Chapter vice president, prior to her visit to the USSR;
- * March 12: David Gordis and Yishiyahu Barzel, Israel Consul on Soviet Jewish affairs;
- * March 12: David Gordis and Barbara Ribakove, Director, North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry;
- * March 18: Uri Avneri and Hanna Siniora;
- * March 19: Jamie Kelstein, Deputy Director, AJC Fundraising Department, on cooperation with IRD;
- * March 19: Frank Reiss, Director, European Affairs, ADL New York
- * March 21: Governor Romero, Corrientes Province, Argentina;
- * March 26: Address on Soviet Jewry to Jewish Awareness Group, informal group of New York artists and writers;
- * March 31: Bernie Resnikoff
- * April 1: Bill Courtney, Consul-General-designate, U.S. Consulate, Kiev;
- * April 2: Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD), re: Helsinki process;
- * April 2: Meeting with Saul Cohen of JDC, Barbara Ribakove and Abe Bayer of NJCRAC on Ethiopia;

- * April 3: Baruch Gur, Israel Prime Minister's Office on Soviet and East European Affairs;
- * April 8: Klaus Henning Rosen, Chef de Cabinet to Willy Brandt;
- * April 11: Meeting with Austrian Consul General, New York;
- * April 21: Meeting of NJCRAC on the Waldheim case;
- * April 23: Meeting with Bernard Suchecky of Belgium on Carmelite Convent in Auschwitz;
- * April 28: Briefing on AJC international programs to Philadelphia AJC chapter leaders;
- * April 29: Ethel Goodman, AJC Office, Mexico City;

Press

- * April 1: Press conference at AJC for Rav Yosef Hadani, the first ordained Ethiopian rabbi in Israel;
- * April 7: Interview on Soviet Jewry with Ecumedia;
- * April 15: Co-sponsorship of press conference in Washington with the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, attended by Senators Hart and Simon and Congressmen Sikorski and Wirth, to focus attention on the plight of Naum and Inna Meiman, long-term Jewish refuseniks and activists. Mrs. Meiman suffers from cancer of the neck and is badly in need of experimental treatment only available in the West;
- * Numerous press phone calls concerning the May visit to the U.S. of Natan Shcharansky and requesting background information on Soviet Jewry;


Other

- * Assistance in the coordination of the IRD Steering Committee on March 17;
- * Assistance in the planning and coordination of IRD activities at the 80th Annual Meeting;
- * Assistance in the preparation of Global Issues and Impact, two departmental publications to be distributed at the Annual Meeting;
- * Extensive correspondence, drafting of statements and letters, and editing of material from both national and overseas staff;
- * Supervision of the work of Susan Rothblatt, Program Assistant in IRD;

JUL 17 1986

memorandum

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date July 15, 1986
to Dr. David M. Gordis
from Jacob Kovadloff 
subject Report of Activities of South American Office --
May and June 1986

PROGRAMS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Proposal from the Truman Institute of Hebrew University: The Jewish Dimension of Repression Under Military Rule.

At this time, as you know, the Administrative Council of the Blaustein Institute decided not to allocate funds for the above-mentioned conference. Nevertheless, I should mention that during these two months I was in constant touch with all the people involved.

Catholic-Jewish-Hispanic Group Trip to Israel

Finally, the Catholic-Jewish-Hispanic Group Trip to Israel was confirmed. I was able to arrange for very good rates, and it will be co-sponsored by the Northeast Catholic Pastoral Center for Hispanics, Inc. of the New York Archdiocese and AJC. It will take place from November 7-18th. In forthcoming weeks, I will send you more information about this.

Trip to South America

At the beginning of August, I will travel to South America visiting Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay. If it is possible, I will extend my trip to include Paraguay. I am invited to attend two meetings in Buenos Aires. One is the 60th Anniversary of the Sociedad Hebraica Argentina and the other is an encounter of Jewish intellectuals of Argentina which is sponsored by the Kehila and Cultural Center - San Martin of the municipality of Buenos Aires.

The main goals of my trip are to learn about current conditions in these countries and how they affect the local Jewish communities as well as to solidify the program and itinerary for AJC's forthcoming Leadership Mission to South America.

MEETINGS

- May 7th - I met with Mr. Rolando Elnecape from Miami. We discussed programs for the Latin American Sephardic Federation.
- 8th - Meeting with Dr. Abraham Liberson, Vice President of Hebraica of Buenos Aires.
- 12th - Meeting with Father Carlos Mullins discussing the above-mentioned trip to Israel.
- 14th-15th- I participated in the AJC Annual Meeting and I taped a program with Irving Levine for Channel 7 on AJC activities.
- 20th - Meeting with Minister Beauge from the Argentinian Mission to the UN regarding the text of the cable from TASS which was reported to you.
- 21st - Attended the Semi-Annual Meeting of the JDC.
- 28th - I was visited by Mr. David Udell of UJA who requested advice for a mission to South America.

I started my contact with the Uruguayan Embassy in Washington, D.C. as well as with the Uruguayan Mission in New York in order to arrange the AJC meeting with President Sanguinetti that finally took place on June 20th. Certainly, several other meetings with the Uruguayans took place in the meantime.

- June 2nd - Rabbi Clifford Kulwin, the Latin American Director of the World Union for Progressive Judaism visited me. We meet periodically to exchange information of common interest.
- 2nd - I was visited by Mr. Domingo Laino from the Liberal-Radical Party of Paraguay who asked me for AJC's help in contacting State Department people. Laino was again trying to enter Paraguay from which he had been expelled. I was able to help as much as I could.
- 3rd - Meeting with Dr. Marcos Berstein of the School of Psycho-Sociological Studies of Buenos Aires, with whom we collaborated two years ago sponsoring a Conference on Identity and Ethnicity.
- 5th - Miss Tina Rosenberg from the Atlantic Monthly visited me for contacts in Chile and El Salvador.
- 5th - Meeting with Father Carlos Mullins and Baruch Tenenbaum re trip to Israel.

- 11th - Meeting with Mr. Aaron Kandel of Melia Travel Service re itinerary for trip to Israel.
- 12th - I attended a lecture and discussion with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Argentina, Dante Caputo, at the Center for Inter-American Relations. Most of the discussion was about Central American problems. Minister Caputo said that even though they are supporting the Contadora Group, they are condemning the Soviet presence in the zone. When I asked about Cuban involvement, Minister Caputo answered that it was implicit in his prior comments.
- 13th - Luncheon meeting at the New York Archdiocese with Argentinian Bishops Jorge Casaretto and Rodolfo Bufano of Buenos Aires. The discussion was mainly about the financial problems of Argentina and conflicts between the government and trade union. Certainly, what was written in my last report is confirmed -- that there are links between the Peronist Labor Movement and the Catholic church.
- 14th - I attended the reception for President Sanguinetti at the Americas Society. I was part of a special small group that met with him privately.
- 20th - Meeting with Msgr. Dario Castrillon, General Secretary CELAM (Latin American Bishops Conference).
- 23rd - I was visited by Rabbi Robert Graetz of Rio de Janeiro who was kind enough to offer me his cooperation for the forthcoming AJC Mission.
- 24th-25th- In Washington, D.C. I met with the new Ambassador of Argentina Mr. Candiotti who I briefed on AJC activities. I attended a reception at the Embassy of Spain celebrating the King's birthday. I was the only representative of a Jewish agency present.
- I met with Prof. Haim Avni at the Wilson Center and we discussed the Conference on Argentina. Again, I met with Mr. Blankenfeld of the OAS about the proposal regarding an exhibition on Jewish Colonial America.
- 26th - Meeting with Mr. Marcos Kovalivker of Argentina.
- 26th - Meeting with Dr. Nahum Bergstein, President of the Comité Central Israelita of Uruguay.
- 30th - Mrs. Louise Sclove, a volunteer for AJC's Oral History Library is going to Chile and asked me for advice about interviews there.

MEDIA ACTIVITIES

During May and June 21 Spanish press releases were distributed by my office.

Also, eight Spanish radio programs for "El Mundo Hoy" were taped.

Respectfully submitted.



JK:BJB:ar

cc: Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum
David A. Harris
Geri Rozanski

8273 - (IRD-SA)

JUL 17 1986

memorandum

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date July 15, 1986
to David M. Gordis
from David Geller
subject Bi-Monthly Activities Report (May-June 1986)

SOVIET JEWRY

- * Participated in several meetings of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry dealing with (1) the **Third Follow-Up Meeting of CSCE** in Vienna in November 1986, and (2) plans relating to **Summit II**.
- * Drafted a backgrounder on "**East-West Relations and Soviet Jewry**" which was distributed to those attending the AJC Annual Meeting in Washington.
- * Prepared introductory remarks for the chairmen of sessions relating to Soviet Jewry at the AJC Annual Meeting.
- * Staffed the AJC Task Force on Soviet Jewry as well as the special session at the State Department. Prepared minutes of both sessions.
- * Drafted an Op Ed piece on Anatoly Shcharansky (not used).
- * Drafted an AJC statement for the 65th birthday of **Andrei Sakharov**.
- * In accordance with suggestions at the AJC Task Force meeting in Washington, drafted a paper on the **Jackson-Vanik Amendment**.
- * With David Harris, prepared updated version of "**A Basic Guide to Soviet Jewry**." (see attached).

ACADEMY OF THE AIR FOR JEWISH STUDIES

- * Was asked to staff this project. Have arranged and participated in several meetings.

AUSTRIA

- * Prepared memo on suggested steps that might be taken in dealing with the Waldheim situation (see attached).

- * Drafted paper on status of Jewish community in Austria.
- * Sent materials and suggestions to area professionals relating to chapter committee visits to Austrian consulates.

HUNGARY

- * Met with the son of the current president of the Jewish community in Hungary.

ROMANIA

- * In response to a request from the USIA, arranged meeting with a prominent Romanian journalist who was doing a special study of the Jewish community in the United States.

EUROPE

- * Provided list of contacts and phone numbers and prepared background notes for AJC professional visiting Budapest, Prague and Vienna.

HOLOCAUST-RELATED ACTIVITIES

- * Drafted a paper on the case of **John Demjanjuk** whose trial will commence shortly in Israel, following a discussion by representatives of various departments at the AJC. It was decided that such a paper would be useful in terms of public relations in response to the publicity that may be evoked by the trial.
- * For AJC **PRESENT TENSE** radio program interviewed a woman who is doing a special study on the **Barbie** case in France.
- * For AJC **PRESENT TENSE** radio program interviewed the head of the **Holocaust Library** in New York.
- * As a member of the advisory Council of the **U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council** was invited to become a member of a special committee dealing with Holocaust education.

GENERAL

- * For AJC **PRESENT TENSE** radio program interviewed Dr. Nahum Sarna on his book, Understanding Exodus.

memorandum

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date October 27, 1986
to Marc Tanenbaum
from Joan Silverman
subject Attached workshop announcement

Bernice has sent the enclosed along to me, and I, thinking it might be of interest to you, am forwarding it along.

Pretty impressive.

Best regards.

JS:pj
Enclosure

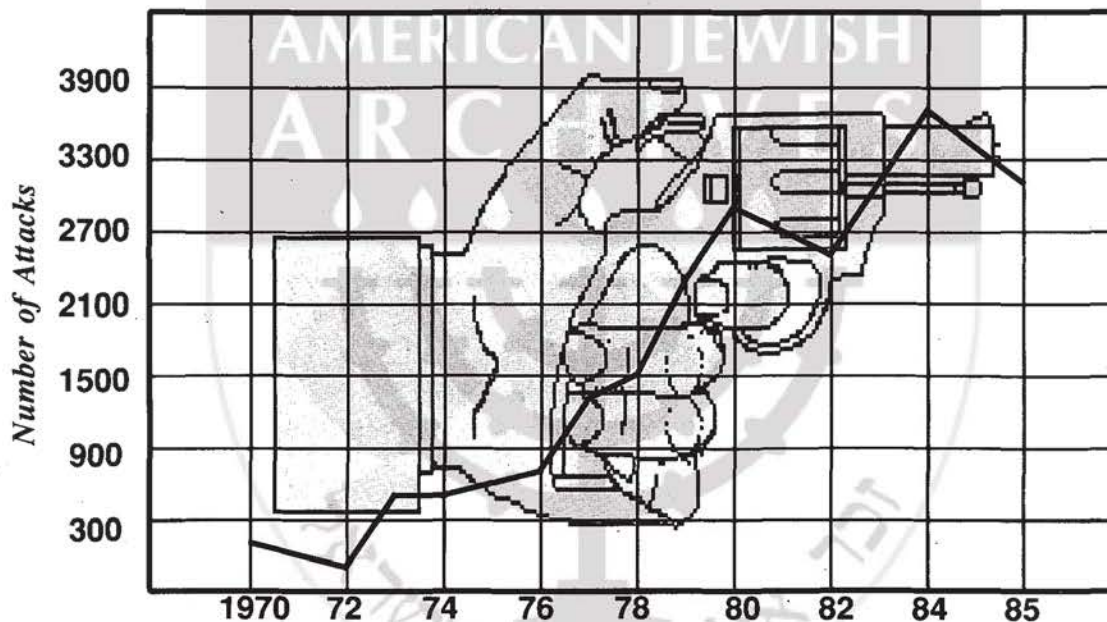


Terrorism and Corporate America:

Vulnerabilities and Countermeasures

An All-Day Conference for Domestic and International Executives,
Security Directors, and Law Enforcement and Safety Officials

Terrorist Attacks Worldwide



Source: *Risks International, Inc.*, Executive Risk Assessment (April, 1986)

**Learn How to Protect Your People,
Your Investments, and Yourself**

*Monday, November 17, 1986
Hyatt Regency Hotel - Houston (Downtown)*

Co-sponsored by



National Forum Foundation

**Rice
University**

Office of Executive Development
Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Administration



Terrorism and Corporate America: *Vulnerabilities and Countermeasures*

The National Forum Foundation conference series on terrorism, begun in February 1986, continues on November 17, 1986, with a day-long conference at the Hyatt Regency Hotel-Houston examining the threat that terrorism poses to American businesses and exploring possible corporate responses. Experts on the unique problems facing American businesses, especially those with substantial assets overseas, will address a select audience of corporate representatives and security managers on topics ranging from emergency action and kidnap/ransom negotiations to risk assessment and the economic impact of terrorism.

The conference is co-sponsored by the National Forum Foundation, the Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Administration of Rice University, and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

Anti-American terrorism, after a temporary lull, threatens to rise again. Symbols of American economic presence are attractive targets for terrorists. Businessmen themselves risk kidnapping for ransom. Americans must understand the nature of terrorism to respond effectively. This conference will make suggestions that you can put into effect immediately.

The Program

Panel 1: Domestic and International Trends: Past, Present, and Future

Chair:	Yonah Alexander, Ph.D.	Distinguished Scholar and Director of the National Forum Foundation Terrorism Project
<i>Domestic:</i>	Hubert Williams	President, The Police Foundation
	Lee P. Brown, Ph.D.	Chief of Police, City of Houston
<i>International:</i>	Joel Lisker, Esq.	Chief Counsel and Staff Director, U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism
	Amb. Parker W. Borg	Principal Deputy, Office of the Ambassador-at-Large for Counter-Terrorism, U.S. Department of State

Panel 2: Targets, Tactics, and Costs

Chair:	Fred R. von der Mehden, Ph.D.	Albert Thomas Professor of Political Science, Rice University
<i>Economic Costs:</i>	Harvey J. Iglarsh, Ph.D.	School of Business Administration, Georgetown University
<i>Maritime Threats:</i>	Hugh W. Stephens, Ph.D.	Department of Political Science, University of Houston
<i>Transportation:</i>	Harold W. Olson	Staff Security Specialist, Air Line Pilots Association
<i>Communication:</i>	Bernard Stewart, Ph.D.	Center for Counterterrorism Strategies, Science Applications International Corporation

Luncheon Speaker: Senator Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr.
Chairman, Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism

Panel 3: Business Responses: Analytical, Physical, and Administrative

Chair:	Louis O. Guiffrida	Former Director of Federal Emergency Management Agency
<i>Managing Counterterrorism:</i>	John R. Brinkerhoff	Executive Vice President, Data Memory Systems
<i>Intelligence:</i>	Stanley Bedlington, Ph.D.	Senior Analyst on Terrorism, Central Intelligence Agency
<i>Crisis Management:</i>	Donald A. DeVito	Director, New York State Emergency Management Office
<i>Physical Security:</i>	Edward J. O'Sullivan	Manager, Office for Special Planning, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

Panel 4: Business Responses: Psychological, Financial, and Legal

Chair:	James E. Landry	Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Air Transport Association of America
<i>Terrorism in Perspective:</i>	Peter Probst	Special Assistant for Concept Development, Office of the Secretary of Defense
<i>Surviving Hostage Situations:</i>	Amb. L. Bruce Laingen	Acting President, National Defense University
<i>Medical Aspects:</i>	Martin E. Silverstein, M.D.	Senior Fellow, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Georgetown University

The Speakers

- Senator Jeremiah A. Denton, Jr.** (R-Alabama) Chairman of the Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism of the Judiciary Committee of the U.S. Senate. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Sen. Denton served as a Navy pilot in an active duty career of 31 years, culminating in his promotion to Rear Admiral. He spent seven years as a prisoner of the North Vietnamese, undergoing frequent torture and four years of solitary confinement. Known and respected for his personal courage and patriotism, he retired from the Navy in 1977, and in 1980 became the first Republican ever elected by popular vote to the U.S. Senate from Alabama.
- Yonah Alexander, Ph.D.** Professor of International Studies and Director of the Institute for Studies in International Terrorism at the State University of New York. He serves as a fellow of the Institute for Social and Behavioral Pathology at the University of Chicago, is a Senior Research Staff Member at the Center for Strategic and International Studies at Georgetown University, and a Senior Consultant with the Strategic Studies Center at SRI International.
- Stanley Bedlington, Ph.D.** Senior Analyst at the Central Intelligence Agency, specializing in terrorism. From 1985-86 he was a Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council and Rapporteur of the Atlantic Council's Public Policy Paper on International Terrorism. Dr. Bedlington has also served in the State Department Office of Intelligence and Research for three years, working on Southeast Asia. He served for 17 years in the British Colonial Police Service. He has a Ph.D. from Cornell University.
- Ambassador Parker W. Borg** Principal Deputy, Office of the Ambassador-at-Large for Counter-Terrorism at the U.S. Department of State, since 1984. He has also served as U.S. Ambassador to Mali, as a Special Assistant to former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, and as Director of the Office of West African Affairs in the U.S. State Department.
- John R. Brinkerhoff** Executive Vice President of Data Memory Systems, Inc. A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, Mr. Brinkerhoff served in the U.S. Army for 24 years followed by service in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and subsequently as Associate Director of the National Preparedness Programs, Federal Emergency Manpower Agency.
- Lee P. Brown, Ph.D.** Chief of Police, City of Houston. Involved in law enforcement since 1960, he first served in San Jose, California, and later as Sheriff and Director of the Department of Justice Services of Multnomah County, Oregon. He was Public Safety Commissioner of Atlanta, Georgia, for four years before coming to Houston in 1982. Chief Brown holds master's and doctoral degrees in criminology from the University of California at Berkeley. He is coauthor of the book, *The Police and Society: An Environment for Collaboration and Confrontation*.
- Donald A. DeVito** Director, New York State Emergency Management Office since 1980. Mr. DeVito is also a member of the International Task Force on the Prevention of Nuclear Terrorism. A former County Administrator of Montgomery County, New York, he received his M.B.A. from Syracuse University.
- Louis O. Guiffrida** President of Guiffrida Associates, Inc. He is former Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. He has also served as Chief U.S. Delegate to NATO's Senior Civil Emergency Planning Committee and to its Civil Defense Committee. He was Chairman of the International Emergency Management Committee and Advisor on Terrorism and Emergency Management to the Governor of California.
- Harvey J. Iglarsh, Ph.D.** Associate Professor of Decision Sciences in the School of Business Administration at Georgetown University. His research includes the study of the effects of terrorism on managerial decision making. He is a specialist on the economic costs of domestic terrorism to U.S. businesses.
- Ambassador L. Bruce Laingen** Acting President of the National Defense University. He served as *Charge d'Affairs* for the U.S. Embassy in Teheran, Iran, and was held captive by radical Iranian militants for 444 days. He had previously served as U.S. Ambassador to Malta.
- James E. Landry** Senior Vice President and General Counsel of the Air Transport Association of America. He has served ATA since 1961 in positions of increasing responsibility and prior to that served with the Civil Aeronautics Board for four years. Mr. Landry earned his law degree at the George Washington University School of Law.
- Joel Lisker, Esq.** Chief Counsel and Staff Director for the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary's Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism. He previously served as a Special Supervisory Agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
- Harold W. Olson** Staff Security Specialist for the Air Line Pilots Association. He formerly headed a NATO working group on airport matters and is head of the U.S. Delegation to a five-nation Pacific working group on airport issues.
- Edward J. O'Sullivan** Manager of the Office of Special Planning (Counterterrorism), Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. His previous positions at the Port Authority include Security Advisor and Police Administrator at Kennedy International Airport. Mr. O'Sullivan served in counterinsurgency operations in the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam.
- Peter Probst** Special Assistant for Concept Development to the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense dealing with terrorism and low intensity conflict. Mr. Probst has dealt with terrorism and international narcotic trafficking for 15 years. He has attended the Russian Institute and the Latin American Institute at Columbia.
- Martin E. Silverstein, M.D.** Senior Fellow in Science and Technology at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Georgetown University, and Clinical Professor at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and at Georgetown University School of Medicine. His major fields of interest are in shock trauma and in international disaster and emergency management.
- Hugh W. Stephens, Ph.D.** Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Houston, teaching comparative politics and international relations. A specialist in maritime security and port readiness policy, he serves as National Defense Consultant for the American Association of Port Authorities. He earned his master's degree in Political Science at the University of North Carolina and his Ph.D. at Yale University.
- Bernard Stewart, Ph.D.** Director of the Center for Counterterrorism Strategies, Science Applications International Corporation. He has served as a Senior Strategic Analyst with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and as Deputy Manager of the National Communications System where he assisted in the writing and implementation of several National Security Policy Directives.
- Fred R. von der Mehden, Ph.D.** Albert Thomas Professor of Political Science, Professor of Administrative Science, and Director of the Program of Development Studies, Rice University. He teaches international management and political development and is considered an expert on East Asia. He has authored several books including *Comparative Political Violence*.
- Hubert Williams** President of The Police Foundation. He served for 22 years in the Newark Police Department where he was Police Director from 1974-1985. He also served as a Research Fellow at Harvard Law School's Center for Criminal Justice and is on the faculty of Rutgers Graduate School for Criminal Justice.

Terrorism and Corporate America: *Vulnerabilities and Countermeasures*

General Information

Co-sponsors: **National Forum Foundation,
Rice University, and
Anti-Defamation League
of B'nai B'rith**

Registration Fee: \$195 (includes lunch)

Schedule: Monday, November 17, 1986
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Check-in begins at 7:30 a.m.

Location and Hotel Accommodations:

Hyatt Regency Hotel - Houston (Downtown). A block of rooms has been reserved at a special conference rate of \$70 per night single or double. For reservations, contact the Hyatt Regency Hotel-Houston directly, (713) 654-1234 or the national toll-free number (800) 228-9000 and indicate that you will be attending the Rice University **Terrorism Conference**. Participants are responsible for paying their own bills. Early reservations are advised.

Cancellation, Transfer, or Substitution:

Recognizing that unforeseen situations do occur which may prevent a registered participant from attending a program, we allow a registrant to transfer to another program, accept a substitute in your place, or refund 100% of your registration fee if we receive your cancellation notice by November 14, 1986. Please, give us as much notice as possible if your plans are unavoidably changed.

Tax Deduction: A tax deduction may be taken for job-related education expenses.

Further Information: Call the Office of Executive Development, Jones Graduate School, Rice University, (713) 527-6060, or the National Forum Foundation, (202) 543-3515.

Rice University seeks to attract to its faculty, staff, and student body qualified persons of diverse backgrounds. In accordance with this policy, Rice does not discriminate in admissions, educational programs, or employment against any individual on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, age, national or ethnic origin, or handicap. University policy also includes affirmative action in seeking to attract to Rice women, minority group members, handicapped individuals, and veterans.

Registration Form

Please register me for: **Terrorism and Corporate America:
*Vulnerabilities and Countermeasures*** November 17, 1986

- Enclosed is my check for \$_____ payable to **Rice University**.
 Bill my company at the address below.
(Payment must be received before the program begins.)

Complete this form (or a reproduction) and mail with your check to :

**OED, Jones Graduate School of Administration
Rice University
P.O. Box 1892
Houston, Texas 77251-1892**

(Please print or type)

Name(s) _____ Title _____

Company _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Bus. Phone _____

- I cannot attend this program but please send information about upcoming programs.
 I am interested in discussing custom-designed programs for my organization.

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Mare —

A step forward?

Pls comment.

Allan.



TERRORISM

memorandum

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date November 1, 1986
to Area Directors and Executive Assistants
from Marc Tanenbaum and Allan Kagedan
subject Programming on International Terrorism

The brutal massacre of Jews in Istanbul, and a succession of bombings in Paris, have put terrorism back in the headlines. Terrorism will remain a key issue for years to come. AJC's International Relations Commission believes that defeating it should be a high priority on the American Jewish agenda.

This memo will discuss the purpose and design of possible chapter activity on terrorism. A number of chapters have already sponsored conferences on combatting terrorism, but others have not thus far, and some may wish to organize another symposium, perhaps enlarging the circle of participants.

European Public Opinion

In many ways, Europe holds a vital key to defeating terrorism, especially terrorism directed against Jews. Terrorists are apt to operate in Europe because it is the home of large Jewish communities,

bad break

and European countries have considerable diplomatic and economic ties to Israel. In addition, European countries, which have historical and commercial ties with Arab countries, have been slow to counter Middle Eastern-based terrorism. While the recent spate of terrorist attacks in France seems to be changing this, a decrease in terrorist incidents can easily lead to backsliding.

American Jews, seen by Europeans as important for their tourism, business, and political activities, may well be able to get a hearing from European officials on the subject of terrorism. In its meetings with European leaders, AJC places international terrorism high on the agenda. We would encourage you to do the same in your consular visits and also through your European professional or business contacts. IRD can provide you with background information on developments in European countries with regard to terrorism to help you with your presentations.

American Public Opinion

Over the past two years, the U.S. government has taken decisive action against terrorism, using diplomatic, economic and military means. But if one considers the long delay in deciding on action and the negative response it engendered from some opinion leaders, one senses the problem: creating a sustained American political will to combat terrorism. The delays in enacting anti-terrorism legislation, the media's tendency to legitimize terrorists as "freedom fighters"; the blaming of

Israel for attacks on Americans and the widely believed "root cause" argumentation that masks the terrorist's responsibility for his actions, (repeated recently by former President Jimmy Carter and others) demonstrates the need to clarify public thinking. Properly informed, the U.S. public can help to eliminate international terrorism; misinformed, it can impede this effort.

Proposal for a 1-day Seminar on Terrorism

International Terrorism: Trends and ~~Targets~~ ^{Responses}

The following may serve as a model for a one-day symposium on terrorism. It can be modified based on time constraints; each segment merits 45 minutes. A choice of speakers is included; it can be supplemented based on local availability of academic or other specialists. *In this field*

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Identifying the Terrorist.

What distinguishes terrorists from resistance fighters? Are terrorists frustrated democrats or clever tyrants?

Eugene Rostow, Yale University Law School

Yoram Dinstein, New York University Law School

Douglas Feith, Department of Defense

II §. Middle Eastern Terrorism.

What is terrorism's place in Arabic history, inter^{Arab} terrorism, "secular" versus fundamentalism-based terrorism? How do Israeli and European policy towards Middle Eastern terrorism differ? What is the explanation for emergence of Syria, Libya and Iran as terrorist states?

Bernard Lewis, Annenberg Center, Philadelphia

Harold Rhode, Department of Defense

George Gruen, Director of Middle East Affairs, AJC

III §. The Terrorist International.

How do Governments support terrorist activities, directly or indirectly? On what basis do terrorist groups make common cause with one another? What are the links between terrorists from Belgium, West Germany, Italy, Northern Ireland, PLO, Spain, Holland, France, Turkey, Greece, Japan and the U.S.?

Michael L^edeen, CSIS, Georgetown University

Paul Henze, Rand Corporation, Washington, D.C.

Jacob Kovadloff, Director of Latin American Affairs, AJC

Allan Kagedan, Policy Analyst, International Relations Dept.,

AJC

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8. Reporting on Terrorism.

Does the media have a responsibility to practice self-discipline, and avoid apologizing for, or romanticizing terrorism?

Local media commentator familiar with coverage of terrorism

Charles Krauthammer, The New Republic, Washington, D.C.

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9. Responding to Terrorism.

What can the U.S. do politically, economically, militarily and legislatively to resist terrorism?

Local Senator, Congressman, Law enforcement official

Official Office Counter-terrorism, State Department

Marc Tanenbaum, Director of International Relations, AJC

