

Central Europe

Federal Republic of Germany

Domestic Affairs

ON JULY 1, 1979 Karl Carstens of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) took office as the new president of the Federal Republic. He had been elected by the federal parliament to succeed Walter Scheel. Also in July CDU and the Christian Social Union (CSU), the opposition parties in the federal lower house, chose Franz Josef Strauss as their candidate for chancellor in the 1980 elections.

In the state parliament elections in Berlin and Rhineland-Palatinate on March 18, the governing parties retained their majorities; the results in Berlin were CDU, 44 per cent; Social Democratic party (SDP), 43 per cent; and the Free Democratic party (FDP), 8 per cent; the results in Rhineland-Palatinate were CDU, 50 per cent; SPD, 42 per cent; FDP, 6 per cent; and the National Democratic party (NPD), .7 per cent. In the parliamentary election in the state of Schleswig-Holstein, on April 29, CDU maintained its absolute majority against SPD and FDP; the results were CDU, 48 per cent; SPD, 42 per cent; FDP, 6 per cent; and NPD, .2 per cent. In the election for the city-state parliament in Bremen, on October 7, SPD retained its absolute majority, while CDU and FDP lost a number of seats. The election for the first European parliament, in June, produced the following outcome in the Federal Republic: SPD, 40 per cent; CDU, 39 per cent; CSU, 10 per cent; FDP, 6 per cent; and the German Communist party (DKP), .4 per cent. The voter turnout was 66 per cent.

On the 40th anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War, Federal Chancellor Helmut Schmidt declared:

September 1, 1939, is a date that influences the lives of all of us . . . No other event in the 20th century has so radically, so brutally, and so lastingly altered the political situation in Germany, in Europe, and the world . . . The territory of Poland became the scene of the greatest crime: the annihilation of the European Jews . . . Long, all too long, the states of Europe had stood idly by, putting a good face on their own, mostly inactive, behavior, while the German Reich forcibly expanded at the expense of its neighbors . . . This war, begun for the sake of German hegemony in Europe, was at the same time a war against the great traditions of European history . . . We know that we must do everything possible

so that the horrors of the past can not recur. From this obligation follow three great political tasks: the task of securing peace; the task of neighborliness, that is, of coming to terms with all neighbors; the task of political, economic, and cultural cooperation in Europe. By far most Germans living today were still unborn in Hitler's day, or were children. They certainly are not responsible for Hitler's crimes. But all Germans—whether in the Federal Republic of Germany or the German Democratic Republic—are responsible for fulfilling these three tasks, so that the horrors of the Second World War may never recur.

Economic growth in the Federal Republic intensified during 1979. The gross national product increased by 4.4 per cent, as against 3.5 per cent in 1978 and 2.6 per cent in 1977. The overall cost of living rose by 5.4 per cent, due primarily to markedly higher energy costs. Unemployment averaged less than one million (4.3 per cent).

Extremism

Early in the year, Minister of the Interior Gerhart Rudolf Baum stated that organized right-wing extremism did not constitute a danger to the Federal Republic; right-wing extremist groups were meeting with decisive rejection by the electorate. However, he noted that excesses by fanatics, especially neo-Nazis, had increased. A heightened tendency toward the use of force was evident; hence, vigilance was called for. As of the first of the year, Baum reported, the number of organized right-wing extremists was about 17,600, fewer than in the preceding year. Membership shrinkage was especially great in the National Democratic party (NPD), whereas membership in neo-Nazi groups had grown. Experts noted that the legal bases for combatting right-wing extremism were generally adequate, but that determined neo-Nazis were not being deterred by the increased number of convictions and the more severe penalties being imposed.

Radical right-wing groups such as NPD and its youth organization, the Young National Democrats, pursued anti-constitutional aims and glorified the Nazi regime. The National-Freiheitliche Rechte (National Right Wing for Liberty), led by Gerhard Frey of Munich, editor of the *Deutsche National-Zeitung*, acclaimed Hitler; Frey's various publications were aggressively antisemitic. Similarly, neo-Nazi organizations such as the Deutsche Bürgerinitiative (German Citizens' Initiative), the Bürger- und Bauerninitiative (Citizens' and Farmers' Initiative), the Kampf-bund Deutscher Soldaten (German Soldiers' Combat League), and local NSDAP (Nazi party) groups openly embraced Nazi ideology. At least 91 publishing houses produced and distributed literature that was either neo-Nazi in character or glorified war; 53 newspapers and magazines did the same.

In September Minister Baum announced that nearly as many violent acts had been committed by right-wing extremists during the first half of 1979 as in all of 1978. According to government agencies, the number of neo-Nazi activists increased by 300, to a total of 1,300, during the first half of the year. Some 300 of these reportedly were part of a hard core, which did not shrink from terrorist acts.

Cooperation with like-minded persons in such countries as the Netherlands, Belgium, France, and the United States was reported to be growing.

In November the federal criminal investigation office released new statistics on neo-Nazi manifestations during 1979, noting three assassination threats; three other threats; three bomb attacks; five cases of arson; eight cases in which explosives or explosive devices were confiscated; 18 cases involving confiscation of weapons; 22 instances of mayhem; 24 cemetery desecrations; 447 daubing episodes; 41 instances of other damage to property; 3,400 incidents involving dissemination of newspapers, magazines, posters, or flyers; 1,691 cases in which printed matter and recordings were confiscated; and 276 cases concerning manufacture, distribution, or wearing of Nazi emblems. During the same month, Minister of Justice Hans-Jochen Vogel reported that 139 persons had been convicted of neo-Nazi activities, while hundreds more faced criminal proceedings. The minister announced that the federal government was planning a number of legal steps to make the fight against neo-Nazi activities even more effective.

According to Defense Minister Hans Apel, right-wing extremism was demonstrably weak in the armed forces. In May he suspended from active service Major Karl-Heinz Lindner, who during the previous month had been elected chairman of NPD in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. At the same time, disciplinary proceedings were initiated to remove Lindner from the army.

The year's most important conviction of right-radical culprits took place at Bückeberg in September. Six defendants, belonging to a clique centered around a former Bundeswehr lieutenant, Michael Kühnen, founder and leader of the Aktionsfront Nationaler Sozialisten (National Socialists' Action Front), were found guilty of activity in a terrorist organization and of engaging in neo-Nazi agitation. Kühnen received the smallest penalty, four years detention, because he could not be proved to have participated in violent acts. The most severe penalty fell to a former non-commissioned officer of the Bundeswehr, Lothar-Harold Schulte, who was sentenced to 11 years detention for robbery, extortion, and mayhem. Prison sentences were also meted out to Lutz Wegener (eight years), Uwe Rohwer and Klaus-Dieter Puls (nine years), and Manfred Börm (seven years). One of the witnesses at the trial was the American neo-Nazi Gerhard (Gary) Lauck, who had been granted immunity by the authorities to testify, even though he was wanted by the German courts.

In February a court at Fürth sentenced Erwin Schönborn, chairman of the German Soldiers' Combat League and other neo-Nazi groups, to five months detention and a DM 1,000 fine for defaming the state and personal insult; in June a Frankfurt court sentenced him to 18 months detention for insult, slander, and coercion. In November Karl-Heinz Hoffman, leader of a neo-Nazi "martial arts" group in Bavaria, was sentenced by a court in Fürth to a year in prison and a DM 3,000 fine.

On the ultra-leftist scene, the situation continued to calm down during 1979; there were no spectacular events. Several persons believed to be involved in terrorist

groups were arrested, among them Rolf Clemens Wagner, who was apprehended in Switzerland during the fall. Siegfried Haag, the ringleader of a left-wing terrorist association, was sentenced to 14 years imprisonment by a Stuttgart court, in July; Roland Mayer received 12 years, and Sabine Schmitz two years and eight months. In another terrorist trial, a Stuttgart court, during October, sentenced Marion Folkerts to two years and three months imprisonment. A Düsseldorf court, in November, gave terrorist Angelika Speitel a life sentence for murder.

During the first half of 1979, German authorities arrested 11 members of, or sympathizers with, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) who had been apprehended carrying explosives. German security agencies were concerned about possible Palestinian acts of terror to obtain release of the arrested individuals, but no such violent incidents occurred. In July a court in Passau sentenced two of the arrested persons, both Lebanese, to two-and-a-half years imprisonment; two Iranians who were tried at the same time received four-month sentences. Reportedly at the insistence of the federal government, the two Lebanese were released and deported. The trial of the remaining seven defendants—five Lebanese, one Algerian, and one German—began in October before a West Berlin court.

Turkish ultra-leftist and ultra-rightist groups, engaged chiefly in fighting each other, were increasingly in evidence on the political scene. The ultra-rightist groups were openly antisemitic; at a protest march through West Berlin, Turkish demonstrators carried a poster with the exhortation "Kill all Jews!" Various groups, the labor unions among them, called on the government to take energetic measures against the Turkish extremists, demanding a ban of the most radical groups.

Antisemitism

An increase in antisemitic incidents was noted in 1979. The perpetrators included extreme right-wing groups, mini-groups of neo-Nazi and antisemitic activists, and fanatic loners. A major pretext for antisemitic excesses was the showing of the American TV film *Holocaust*; its depiction of the mass murder of Jews was pilloried by antisemites as "enemy propaganda" and "Jewish lies." In addition, the trials of Nazi criminals, with their revelations of inhuman treatment of Jews, continued to afford German ultra-nationalists and antisemites occasion for attacks on Jews.

The country's highest court of law, the Supreme Court in Karlsruhe, handed down a precedent-setting decision in October intended to facilitate judicial measures against anti-Jewish propagandists. The court ruled that whoever denies the murders of Jews in the Third Reich insults each and every Jew, and that the guarantee of freedom of speech does not cover such utterances. The ruling came in response to a lawsuit by a young Jew who claimed he had been insulted by the utterances of a neo-Nazi; the latter had denied the Nazi crimes against Jews, asserting they were a Zionist hoax.

In Stade, during February, a teacher was suspended because he had represented the annihilation of European Jewry as a phony atrocity story. In Bad Berleburg,

during the same month, a teacher was suspended because she had spoken approvingly of the destruction of the Jews. In Hanau, again in February, a teacher was suspended because he had given pamphlets to his students in which the mass murder of Jews was denied; in the fall he was transferred to another school. In West Berlin schools a number of antisemitic incidents were noted; in one, a Jewish teacher requested to be transferred to another school after students made anti-Jewish remarks.

Two leading anti-Jewish propagandists, Erwin Schönborn and Edgar Werner Geiss, were tried in Hamburg in November for publicly describing the Nazi crimes against Jews as lies. They were convicted of criminal agitation, incitement to race hatred, and slander; Geiss was sentenced to a year's detention, Schönborn to eight months. The penalties did not deter either from continued propaganda efforts.

In West Berlin, Michael Pohl, a businessman who described himself as a Nazi, was sentenced to six-and-a-half months in prison for criminal agitation. In the same city, in September, three right-wing extremists, aged 17 to 26, were sentenced to terms ranging from two weeks to seven months for insulting Jews and beating up persons who objected to their utterances. Again in Berlin, during October, two students aged 15 were tried for criminal agitation; they had written on a blackboard, "There is nothing greater on earth than seeing Jews gassed." The judge viewed the episode as a silly prank and sentenced them to write an essay about their behavior.

In July a Frankfurt court, on pain of a DM 500,000 fine, forbade Heinz Roth, a right-radical propagandist, to assert that the diary of Anne Frank was a forgery. Frankfurt police, in February, apprehended three men who had prepared *Das braune Bataillon* (*The Brown Battalion*), an incendiary piece of Nazi propaganda in the style of the *Stürmer*. In September the Frankfurt prosecutor's office indicted Manfred Heidenfelder for attempting to reproduce *The Brown Battalion*. A Dortmund court, in March, sentenced a soldier, Richard Taube, to a year's detention for anti-Jewish, right-radical propaganda. A Cologne court, during March, sentenced Wolf-Dieter Eckart to nine months in prison for incitement to race hatred, criminal agitation, and voicing approval of Nazi crimes. In Bremen, during April, a laborer was sentenced to six months in prison and a DM 1,200 fine for criminal agitation and incitement to race hatred. A Kaiserslautern court, in December, sentenced a businessman to two years detention for disseminating Gary Lauck's neo-Nazi propaganda materials; the defendant had also sent threatening letters to numerous Jews.

Jewish cemeteries in Frankfurt, Freiburg, Hochberg, Höchst, Hungen, Krumbach, Steinbach, and West Berlin were desecrated during the year. In the Krumbach case, the culprits were four 15-year-old students who said they had acted "just for kicks." In Hochberg, three students aged 13 and 14 stated that they had perpetrated the desecration as a "test of courage." In Freiburg, three young neo-Nazis, who were members of the militant Priem Action Group, admitted the desecration.

In December the Munich prosecutor's office indicted two officers at the Bundeswehr academy in Neubiberg; they had neglected to report to their superiors an

antisemitic incident in February 1977 in which officer trainees had staged a mock "burning" of Jews. Some of the participants had been suspended at the time, but all were now returned to active service.

Foreign Relations

East-West relations and the situation in the Middle East stood at the center of the government's foreign policy concerns during 1979. The Federal Republic played a leading role in the Western allies' attempt to relax tensions in Europe. As to relations with the German Democratic Republic, hesitant steps were taken to improve the political atmosphere.

With respect to the Israel-Arab conflict, the government continued to strive for a comprehensive solution that would satisfy all parties, including the Palestinians. During the summer, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher visited Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, and Egypt. In his talks there, he stressed the Palestinians' right to self-determination and a homeland; the foreign minister repeatedly voiced criticism of Israel's settlement policy. In Bonn, it was emphasized that Europe had a decisive interest in a Middle East settlement that would allow for an uninterrupted flow of oil. Chancellor Schmidt described the Egyptian-Israeli treaty as an event of historic significance, but pointed out that it was merely a first step. The government, he said, could not ignore the fact that the majority of Arab countries rejected the treaty on the ground that it left important problems unsolved.

Chancellor Schmidt's visit to Israel, planned for several years, did not take place in 1979. In May Erik Blumenfeld, president of the Deutsch-Israelische Gesellschaft (DIG, German-Israeli Society), declared that if the visit were not paid this year, relations of the Federal Republic with the Arab nations and Israel would become unbalanced. In June Jürgen Wohlrabe, the chairman of the German-Israeli parliamentary group in Bonn, appealed to the chancellor to pay the long overdue official visit. Returning from a trip to Israel, Wohlrabe reported widespread lack of understanding of the posture of the head of the German government, and warned that estrangement between the two countries might result. In August a government spokesman explained that the chancellor wanted his visit to Israel to produce progress in the Middle East discussions.

In July SPD chairman Willy Brandt, who was also chairman of the Socialist International, met in Vienna with PLO chief Yasir Arafat, in the presence of the Austrian chancellor, Bruno Kreisky. Brandt subsequently commented that first-hand knowledge of an organization so influential in the Arab world was preferable to just reading about it. With what he described as differing emphases, the discussion partners had agreed, he said, that the Middle East peace process must go on, and the Palestinians' right to self-determination must be realized. The three had also agreed, he added, that "the forced settlement policy in the territories occupied by Israel cannot really be termed helpful as far as the preparation of a comprehensive peace settlement is concerned." Brandt stressed that he and Kreisky had not

committed themselves to any specific organizational forms for realizing Palestinian self-determination; that, he said, would have to grow out of the negotiating process. Brandt's meeting with Arafat prompted Chancellor Schmidt to declare that he welcomed any step likely to serve the course of peace in the Middle East and to help bring about recognition of Israel by the Palestinians.

Besides Brandt, other West German politicians also met with Palestinian and PLO representatives. This development, together with continuing German criticism of Israeli policies, gave rise to tensions between the two countries, which found expression on such occasions as the visit of Israeli foreign minister Moshe Dayan to Bonn in September. Dayan was openly critical of German politicians who championed the Palestinians' right to self-determination, noting that the posture of the Germans even went beyond the Middle East declaration of the foreign ministers of the European Economic Community, which Israel had sharply rejected. Bonn's demand for implementation of the Palestinians' right to self-determination contained an opening for the establishment of a Palestinian state, something which Israel would never accept, Dayan asserted. The West German government, nevertheless, took a positive view of Dayan's visit, asserting that, despite continuing disagreements, it had been possible to remove several points of misunderstanding. Bonn particularly appreciated Dayan's statement that he continued to view the Federal Republic as a friendly country.

One of the severest West German critics of Israel, Helmut Schäfer, foreign policy spokesman for the FDP delegation in the Bundestag, declared that Israel's posture—especially her settlement policy and her refusal to enter into negotiations about the Golan Heights, Jerusalem, and Palestinian self-determination—was incomprehensible to friends of the Jewish state. During November Schäfer called on the Bonn government to begin official talks with the Palestinians. The Arabs must be made to understand, he stated, that Germany was just as concerned about the fate of the Palestinians as about Israel.

Relations with Israel

Notwithstanding the generally critical German attitude toward Israel's foreign policy, German-Israeli contacts remained intensive during 1979. More German tourists than ever visited Israel—145,000 as against 132,000 in 1978. Trade, scientific collaboration, and cultural exchange between West Germany and Israel flourished.

West Germany became Israel's second biggest trading partner; Germany accounted for one-quarter of Israeli trade with the EEC. However, German concessions in the agricultural sector were felt to be insufficient, even though farm products headed the list of exports to Germany, reaching a volume of \$98 million in 1978; Israel wanted to compete on the same terms as the Mediterranean member countries in the EEC. Exports of consumer goods and technology from Israel to Germany were steadily growing. Shipments of metal products during the first half of 1979 totaled \$24 million, five times as much as during the same period the year before.

In October Daimler-Benz received an order for 1,050 buses from the Egged transport company in Israel, at a price of more than \$100 million.

Strengthening German-Israeli cooperation in vocational education was the aim of an official visit to Bonn by Israeli minister of labor and social betterment Israel Katz, during October. Arrangements were made to enlarge exchanges of vocational teachers during 1980, when some 50 Israeli experts were to visit the Federal Republic. In March Education Minister Jürgen Schmude presented the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot with a charter establishing a chair for cancer research in memory of SPD Bundestag deputy Bertram Blank; the federal government took the occasion to provide an additional DM 150,000 to insure staffing for three years. In September the Bundestag budget committee appropriated DM 1.5 million to establish an Albert Einstein Center at the Weizmann Institute, which was to intensify further the close relationship between German and Israeli physicists. The committee also voted to provide DM 500,000 for the chair in German history at Tel Aviv University; previous financing by the Volkswagenwerk Foundation had terminated. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, in November, established a chair in economics named after Walter Hesselbach of Frankfurt, a banker, economist, and friend of Israel.

In September West Germany and Israel signed a highway traffic agreement creating a mutual contractual basis for international freight transport by road between the two countries. Several German cities concluded partnership agreements with Israeli cities and localities, among them Dortmund in the Ruhr region with *moshav* Ein Vered, and Düsseldorf with Haifa. In the course of talks held in Israel, Minister of Family Affairs Antje Huber agreed to expand the German-Israeli youth exchanges.

Berlin's German Opera visited Israel during the summer with a guest performance of Verdi's *Nabucco*. The Munich Motet Choir also toured Israel. The 12 cellists of the Berlin Philharmonic were honored with the Israeli government's Music Prize, awarded for the best interpretation of a contemporary Israeli work of chamber music.

Restitution

Up to July 1, 1979 restitution payments by the Federal Republic for the consequences of Nazi persecution totaled DM 60.284 billion. Of this amount, DM 47.250 billion came under the federal restitution law; DM 3.884 billion under the federal indemnification law; DM 3.450 billion under the indemnification agreement with Israel; DM 1 billion under global indemnification agreements with 12 countries; and DM 4.700 billion under other disbursements, including payments to former civil servants. According to official estimates, a total of about DM 25.016 billion remained to be paid for various forms of restitution.

During the year, agreement was reached between the government, the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, and the Central Council of Jews in Germany on a concluding restitution measure to satisfy hardship cases not covered

by the settlements to date. The political parties in the Bundestag declared themselves ready for a final payment of DM 440 million, but no resolution was passed in the budget debate during December. Instead, the three party delegations—CDU-CSU, SPD, and FDP—at the third reading of the budget passed the following motion:

In view of the chancellor's declaration of May 17, 1974, to the effect that the government considered legislation concerning restitution and the consequences of the war as complete, as well as of the authorization for 'disbursements on behalf of German-French reconciliation' (earmarked in Draft Plan 05 with a total sum of DM 250 million) and the pending concluding restitution measure for a 'final disbursement to settle hardships in individual cases,' the federal government is requested to inform the Bundestag by March 31, 1980, what conclusions it expects to draw with respect to remaining hardships to former displaced persons and refugees in the legislation on consequences of the war, especially in the Equalization of Burdens Act, in the restitution provisions of the law adopted pursuant to Article 131-GG of the Basic Law, and in the law on aid to formerly imprisoned persons. The federal government is requested to submit a supplementary budget for the 1980 fiscal year, thereby creating the basis for a final disbursement (concluding restitution measure) for settling hardships in individual cases. In this way, the Central Council of Jews in Germany and the country's Jewish communities, as well as the Claims Conference, are to be enabled to make good for hardships in individual cases. The total disbursement is to amount to DM 440 million, to be paid in three installments: DM 240 million in 1980; up to DM 100 million by 1982; up to DM 100 million by 1983.

Nazi Trials

After months of vehement debate concerning the impending deadline for the prosecution of Nazi crimes at the end of 1979, the Bundestag repealed the statute of limitations as applied to murder. The opposition parties, CDU and CSU, voted almost unanimously against the measure. Repeal of the statute was championed mainly by SPD.

Numerous groups, agencies representing Nazi persecutees and resistance fighters, the German Jewish community, as well as foreign organizations and governments, including Israel, had appealed to the Bundestag to insure that it would remain possible to prosecute Nazi crimes after 1979. The International Auschwitz Committee demanded repeal on the ground that a deadline for prosecution would be equivalent to *ex post facto* approbation of the crimes which had been committed, and would thus serve as an impetus to neo-fascist forces. Israeli president Yitzhak Navon stressed the point that what was at stake was not the fate of individual criminals, but rather the principle that there was no forgiveness or means of atonement for genocide.

Before the vote in parliament, Chancellor Schmidt spoke in favor of repeal, but stressed that he respected contrary opinions on the matter. He added that the airing of *Holocaust* had made an essential contribution to the debate. The German Federation of Labor Unions, favoring repeal, declared that "our democracy, young as it

still is, will lose credibility if it exempts these crimes, through a statute of limitations, from further prosecution and punishment." It would be intolerable, the organization said, if Nazi culprits who had gone underground could live without fear in the Federal Republic, next door to individuals who had been persecuted by the Nazis and to the surviving families of the victims. The same aspect of the problem was underscored by Jewish spokesmen.

Among the German public, as evidenced by opinion polls and utterances in the press, opinions were clearly divided. To make an end of the Nazi past was the avowed desire of a right-radical *Volksbewegung für Generalamnestie* (Popular Movement for a General Amnesty) founded in Munich by persons close to Gerhard Frey, the editor of the *Deutsche National-Zeitung*. The German Judges' Association took an unusual position in opposing repeal of the statute of limitations, citing mainly practical considerations. In the opinion of the Association, any change in the law would only force prosecutor's offices and courts to cope indefinitely with cases in which, judging by experience to date, convictions seemed practically impossible. Because of the long time span between the criminal acts and prosecution, cases would constantly be quashed or end in acquittal, earning the administration of justice and the country as a whole unmerited reproaches of leniency toward Nazi acts of violence.

The head of the West German Central Office for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes, Adalbert Ruckerl, countered criticism alleging that proceedings against Nazi criminals were being delayed. He said he saw no realistic chance of shortening the proceedings (some of them extending over decades) if groups of crimes that belonged together were to be dealt with in context. Except in a few cases, there was no cause for charging delay, he said. According to Ruckerl, the agency instituted 83 new proceedings between repeal and the end of the year. From 1958 through 1979, the Central Office had conducted a total of 4,364 preliminary investigations, which generated some 12,000 preliminary proceedings by prosecutors' offices.

During October the chief prosecutor in West Berlin ordered the resumption of preliminary proceedings against former judges and prosecutors of the Nazi People's Court. The local top official in the administration of justice, Gerhard Meyer, gave assurances that every effort would be made to indict judges and prosecutors who had played a role in unjust verdicts, but doubted whether it was still possible to obtain convictions.

The government asked Brazil to extradite Gustav Franz Wagner, former *SS* sergeant and deputy commander of the Sobibor extermination camp. The effort proved unsuccessful, however, when the Brazilian Supreme Court, in June, denied extradition. Bonn pointed out that in 1967 Brazil had extradited Franz Strangl, former *SS* first lieutenant and chief of the Sobibor and Treblinka extermination camps, who was subsequently sentenced to life imprisonment. The president of the Jewish community in Berlin, Heinz Galinski, declared that the Brazilian court decision constituted nothing less than governmental aid to a Nazi mass murderer.

One of three German war criminals imprisoned in the Netherlands, former SS member Joseph Kotälla, died in Breda prison during August, at the age of 71. He had been deputy commander of the Amersfoort concentration camp from 1942 to 1945. A special court in Amsterdam had condemned him to death after the war, but later commuted the sentence to life imprisonment. Two Nazi criminals, Ferdinand aus der Fünten and Franz Fischer, were still in Breda prison.

During June the prosecutor's office in Baden-Baden indicted Aribert Heim, former SS physician in the Mauthausen concentration camp, on charges of killing an undetermined number of inmates, mostly Jews, through injections. Heim had been a fugitive since 1962. A de-nazification court in West Berlin, the last such court in existence, declared Heim to be a principal Nazi criminal, and imposed a DM 510,000 fine. This amount was equivalent to the value of a Berlin apartment house which Heim owned and from which, as recently as the first of the year, he had received rental income through his lawyer. The house was released for auction by the court, and a reward of DM 15,000 was offered for the apprehension of Heim, now 64 years old.

Cologne: In a criminal court, proceedings began on October 23 against three former members of the SS and the Nazi security service (SD) in occupied France—Kurt Lischka, Herbert Hagen, and Ernst Heinrichsohn. According to the indictment, they were responsible for the deportation of some 70,000 Jews from France to the annihilation camps in the East. The proceedings against them were made possible by a German-French agreement in 1971 enabling German courts to try Nazi criminals convicted in absentia by French courts after the war. A Jewish lawyer in France, Serge Klarsfeld, and his wife Beate, a German, had gathered numerous documents to substantiate the guilt of the three men as well as others. All three of the Cologne defendants pleaded not guilty as charged, claiming not to have known or suspected that death was to be the fate of the deported Jews. Sentence was pronounced on February 11, 1980: Lischka, former deputy Gestapo chief of Paris, received ten years; Hagen, former consultant to the SS head in Paris, received 12 years; and Heinrichsohn, an official in the Jewish section of the security police in Paris, received six years. Following his conviction, Heinrichsohn resigned as mayor of Bürgstadt, a small municipality in Franconia. He had held this office for nearly 20 years, retaining it during the trial at the behest of his party (CSU) and townspeople despite massive public protests by French Jews and Jewish groups in West Germany, among others. When convicted, Heinrichsohn also resigned from CSU.

Düsseldorf: In the Majdanek trial, begun in November 1975, a criminal court, in April, acquitted four former SS members—Heinrich Schmidt, Charlotte Meyer, Hermine Böttcher, and Rosa Süß—of charges of murder. The acquittals were due to lack of proof. Among former persecutees, the decision gave rise to perplexity and indignation. Polish observers objected especially to the requirement that defendants, even if shown by the testimony of witnesses to have been involved in mass murder,

be proved guilty of having killed particular individuals. Furthermore, critics charged, the acquittals had a symbolic dimension and could lead to trivialization of Nazi crimes. Following the four acquittals, the Düsseldorf court continued the proceedings against the remaining nine defendants, including two women.

Stuttgart: In April a former SS member, Richard Paul, was acquitted of murdering two Jews. He had appealed a 1974 conviction in which he had been sentenced to eight years detention.

Hanover: In January proceedings began against a former SS sergeant, Josef Michalsky, for assisting in the murder of Jews in Latvia. In April former SS first lieutenant Kurt Heinemeyer was acquitted of charges of murdering and abetting the murder of Poles and Jews. Proceedings against his fellow defendants, Rudolf Körner and Max Olde, were temporarily halted because of their unfitness to stand trial. In July a former SS auxiliary guard and *kapo* in the Majdanek concentration camp, whose name was not released, was sentenced to seven years of juvenile detention for murder and attempted murder. Also in July Heinrich Niemeier, one-time SS guard in a sub-camp at Auschwitz, was sentenced to six years detention for ten acts of murder.

Bochum: In April two former members of the security service in the Soviet Union, Josef Lenge and Johann Förster, were acquitted for lack of proof and because they acted under binding orders. Their fellow defendant, Georg Hasenkamp, was sentenced to four years imprisonment for murdering an undetermined number of Jews. In May former SS staff sergeant Helmut Krizons went on trial for murdering Jews. In October proceedings began against two former SS members, Siert Bruins and August Neuhäuser, for the murder of two Dutch Jews.

Munich: In June Hitler's expert on counterfeiting, Friedrich Schwend, was sentenced to two years imprisonment for abetting manslaughter. In November former SS lieutenant colonel Kurt Christmann was arrested; he was thought responsible for the murder of numerous Jews and other persons on the Russian front.

Cologne: In July former SS master sergeant and concentration camp commander Walter Knop was sentenced to nine years imprisonment for abetting murder.

Bielefeld: During November the former German regional commissar of Vladimir-Volynsk in the Ukraine, Wilhelm Westerheide, and his one-time secretary, Johanne Zelle, were acquitted of participation in the murder of thousands of Jews, because of lack of proof.

Hamburg: In December Viktor Arajs, former SS major in the Latvian legion and major in the police, received a life term for participation in the murder of at least 13,000 Jews. In July proceedings against former SS lieutenant colonel Hermann Bischoff for the murder of at least 26 Jewish inmates were halted on the ground that the defendant was not fit to stand trial. The Polish Chief Commission for the Prosecution of Nazi Crimes nevertheless continued to demand that Bischoff, one-time Gestapo chief in Poznan, be punished, pointing out that he had been responsible for mass executions.

Limburg: In January former SS sergeant Ludwig Klemm was arrested on suspicion of having participated in the shooting of Jews and Poles. In May the defendant committed suicide in his cell.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Demography

On January 1, 1979 the 66 Jewish communities in the Federal Republic and West Berlin had 27,295 members—13,063 females and 14,232 males. Their average age was 45 years. Jews who were not members of a Jewish community were estimated to number between 10,000 and 15,000. On January 1, 1980 there were 27,768 registered community members—13,306 females and 14,462 males. During 1979, 1,154 immigrants and 340 emigrants were registered, as were 80 births and 444 deaths; 55 persons were converted to Judaism.

The largest communities were West Berlin, with 6,145 members; Frankfurt, with 4,931; Munich, with 3,920; Düsseldorf, with 1,691; Hamburg, with 1,375; and Cologne, with 1,248.

Communal Activities

The Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland (Central Council of Jews in Germany) repeatedly turned its attention to developments in the Federal Republic, voicing particular concern about the increasingly militant activities of ultra-rightist groups. The Central Council welcomed the predominantly positive reaction to *Holocaust*. However, in view of the information gap, particularly among young Germans, about the history and crimes of the Nazi era which *Holocaust* had shown to exist, the Central Council advocated more detailed teaching about the Third Reich in German schools. In collaboration with the Union of Teachers and Scholars, it appointed a committee to develop recommendations for a more satisfactory history curriculum. After the statute of limitations on Nazi murders was repealed, the Central Council thanked the Bundestag deputies, saying their decision was an act of conscience that would contribute toward reconciliation of Germans and Jews.

At a press conference in April, Werner Nachmann, chairman of the Central Council's board of directors, complained that the German courts were reluctant to convict ultra-rightist culprits—a short-sighted policy which failed to take account of the dangers of neo-Nazism. Also responsible for the development of right-wing radicalism, he said, were the democratic parties and the information media, which to date had either ignored the phenomenon or dealt with it only superficially. Since the followers of right-wing extremist organizations were mostly young people, it was particularly necessary to sensitize the new generation so as to keep German

democracy from harm. Churches and labor unions also were duty-bound to fight neo-Nazism, Nachmann said.

At the convention of the Zionist Organization of Germany, held in November, Heinz Galinski, president of the Berlin Jewish community, made an impassioned plea for strong support for Israel by the Jewish community in the Federal Republic, the "accidental survivors." The delegates to the convention deplored the lack of understanding of Zionism among Jewish youth.

Rabbi Manfred Lubliner of Berlin was elected president of Keren Kayemet Le'Yisrael in the Federal Republic. He succeeded Louis Henry Farnborough, who in 20 years as president of Keren Kayemet in Germany had quadrupled donation receipts. In May a Keren Kayemet delegation visited Israel and presented a \$100,000 check to the organization's head office in Jerusalem.

Keren Hayesod in the Federal Republic staged a series of events in various cities during October with Israel labor minister Israel Katz and Keren Hayesod international chairman Abraham Avi-Hai participating. Magen David Adom observed its tenth anniversary in the Federal Republic in June.

The larger local communities offered their members a variety of cultural events—speakers on political issues concerning Jews and Israel, discussions of religious problems, Yiddish performances, and exhibitions by Jewish artists. The seven B'nai B'rith lodges in the Federal Republic and West Berlin scheduled regular lectures for their members, with speakers discussing topics of Jewish or general interest.

Youth

In September, at Hanover, the Central Council of Jews in Germany held its third youth conclave; the theme was "On Moses Mendelssohn's 250th Birthday: German Jews and Jews in Germany." About 100 young Jews from all parts of the country participated in discussions which examined the distinctive problems of German Jewry down to the present. Among the speakers were the vice president of the World Jewish Congress, Rabbi Joachim Prinz, formerly of Berlin, and the Jewish philosopher, Professor Hermann Levin Goldschmidt, of Zurich.

Various Jewish youth activities were undertaken by the League of Jewish Youth and the Federal Association of Jewish Students in Germany. The former, every few months, conducted workshops or weekend seminars devoted to particular subjects, with 30 to 40 participants; the topics included "Prayer in Judaism," "*Holocaust* on TV," "Moses Maimonides," "Yiddish: The Language and the Culture," and "Judaism in Literature." In addition, the League held several "festivals," with each drawing about 100 young people. The Federal Association of Jewish Students, at its convention, deplored the difficulties of arousing interest and activity among Jewish students, as well as the lack of funds for long-term projects. Nevertheless, the organization reaffirmed its determination to remain active in cultivating contacts with the various Jewish student organizations in Europe, and in informing the public, especially the younger generation, about the goals and activities of the

PLO. During November the Federal Association expressed solidarity with its Swedish sister organization in the latter's attempt to clarify the fate of the Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg. In June the group held a seminar on "Ideologies of Zionism: Structures and Tendencies of the State of Israel"; in November a seminar was devoted to "Self-understanding of Jewish Youth and Students in the Federal Republic."

During the summer young Jews from England, the Netherlands, Israel, and Switzerland met in Bendorf on the Rhine at the annual conference of the youth section of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. The theme was "The High Holy Days: Commitment and Renewal."

Religious Life and Education

In November the regional rabbi in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, Emil Davidovic of Dortmund, was elected president of the ten-member Conference of Rabbis in the Federal Republic of Germany. The Cologne rabbi, Israel Meir Levinger, finished his term of office and became rabbi of the Israelite Congregation of Basel in Switzerland. In December Rabbi Abraham Hochwald, until then chief cantor and teacher of religion in the Israelite Congregation of Munich, took office as rabbi of Hanover and regional rabbi in the state of Lower Saxony.

During October agreement was reached between the City of Worms and the Rashi Association for the Preservation of Jewish Cultural Movements in Europe to restore the historic building in which Rashi had taught. Two floors were to be used as a Jewish museum and for lectures and exhibitions, while the rest of the building was to house the Worms city archives. The cost of the restoration was to be borne by the city, the state of Rhineland-Palatinate, and the federal government.

The Academy for Jewish Studies at Heidelberg began its activities in October. Initiated by the Central Council and financed by West German state agencies, it was the first institution of its kind established in German-speaking territory since the Second World War. The purpose of the Academy was to train religious leaders, cantors, educators, and social workers for the Jewish community, and to offer non-Jews an opportunity to learn about Judaism. The Academy had cooperative arrangements with the University of Heidelberg and with teaching institutions in the United States and Israel. Alexander Ginsburg, secretary-general of the Central Council, described the Academy as a long overdue contribution to moral restitution.

Christian-Jewish Cooperation

The most important event of the year in terms of Christian-Jewish relations was the airing in January of *Holocaust* on the regional programs of the country's television stations. About 20 million residents of West Germany and West Berlin viewed the program; an estimated 48 per cent of adult citizens saw at least part of it. The response was found to be particularly strong among middle-aged people; 34.5

per cent of men and women aged 30 to 49 turned on their TV sets during each of the four segments. In contrast, barely one-fourth of persons over 50 looked at the program. Discussions by experts and eyewitnesses, broadcast after the showing of the film, were viewed by about 12 million persons. Nearly 16,000 viewers reacted directly to the program through telephone calls or letters. Analysis showed that 68 per cent of the reactions were favorable, 13 per cent unfavorable, and the rest neutral. *Holocaust* gave rise to vigorous political and emotional debates among the public concerning the Third Reich and its crimes.

The extent of historical ignorance disclosed by the airing of *Holocaust*, notably among the young, surprised politicians, educators, and media people. It was noted that this emotional treatment of the Nazi crimes had prompted millions of Germans to confront the facts for the first time, even though for three decades a multitude of publications and films on the subject had been available. *Holocaust* triggered an unprecedented demand for information about the Third Reich among the nation. Many public conferences, seminars, and discussions on the subject were held. Documentary material on the Nazi regime and its crimes, compiled and published by public agencies for political education, was distributed in tens of thousands of copies to schools, youth groups, organizations, and influential persons. The teachers' union demanded more intensive treatment of the Third Reich in history classes. A conference of history teachers, held in May in Freudenberg, explored "Implications of *Holocaust*" for the work of the schools. The City of Frankfurt bought five copies of the film for classroom use. Students in West Berlin made a film about the reaction of Berliners to *Holocaust*. A film-lending service offered a movie version of the TV film to all appropriate state and local agencies for use in adult education. Youth groups and school classes visited Jewish communities to inform themselves about Jewish life and Jewish ways, attended trials of Nazis, and went on pilgrimages to memorial sites at former concentration camps. Thus, the memorial at Dachau had more visitors—764,000—in 1979 than ever before. In the wake of *Holocaust*, many new books were published about the Nazi Reich and its crimes, and earlier books were reissued.

By the end of the year optimistic forecasts asserting that *Holocaust* would provide the impetus for a thorough and lasting confrontation with the history of Nazism were meeting with skepticism among observers. A survey of the Sample Institute in Hamburg found that *Holocaust* did not remain in the public consciousness for long; before the airing of *Holocaust*, 31 per cent of citizens had opposed a statute of limitations for Nazi crimes; in February 1979, following *Holocaust*, the proportion rose to 51 per cent; but by the end of the year it was down to 34 per cent. Jewish spokesmen warned against overestimating the positive effects of *Holocaust*. They felt that reflection about the Nazi era had pretty much waned by the end of the year, and demanded measures to make confrontation with Nazism an integral part of public education.

Under the impact of *Holocaust*, the German Conference of Catholic Bishops emphasized that as early as 1930 the German episcopate had declared the central

tenets of Nazi philosophy to be irreconcilable with the teaching of the Church. The Pope concluded the 1933 concordat with the Hitler government not in order to give moral sanction to Hitler and his rule, the bishops asserted, but in order to insure unabridged dissemination of the Christian message, then threatened by the pull of Nazi "coordination." Though itself persecuted, the Church began early to help others suffering persecution insofar as it was able, the Conference recalled, stating that according to reliable estimates "about 70 to 90 per cent of the 950,000 European Jews who survived the Nazi regime owed their lives to steps taken by Catholics." However, the bishops also stressed that the behavior of the Catholic Church in the face of particular phases of the persecution of the Jews "calls for critical examination." Among large segments of the German population, "and thus also among Catholics," there was a tradition of antisemitism, it was noted, though the attitude of the Church was based on the traditional opposition of Judaism and Christianity, "not on a racist ideology." The bishops acknowledged that it was hard to understand today that no "adequately clear and relevant position" was taken by the Church against the boycott of Jewish businesses in April 1933, the promulgation of the Nuremberg race laws in 1935, or the excesses of November 1938.

With respect to the Oberammergau passion play planned for 1980, the archbishop of Munich, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, declared early in the year that there were no theological objections to the text to be used, based upon that by Joseph Alois Daisenberger. He added, however, that "some additional improvements" had been discussed for the sake of orienting the text as exactly as possible to the spirit and words of the Bible, as well as in order to avoid any statements which might be thought to contain antisemitic tendencies and thus violate the Second Vatican Council's declaration on Jews and Christians. In Oberammergau, reports about continued Jewish criticism of the passion play and about discussion in American Jewish circles of a possible boycott were calmly received. It was stressed in the Bavarian village that Jewish objections had been complied with as far as possible, but that there could be no question of departing from the testimony of the Bible. At the end of the year, it was announced in Oberammergau that the 1980 performances were already sold out.

In October the eighth conference of the liaison committee, combining representatives of the Roman Catholic Church's Vatican Secretariat for Religious Relations with Jews and the International Jewish Committee on Religious Consultation, was held in Regensburg. It was the first time that this private dialogue was held in the Federal Republic. Speaking for the Jewish group, Professor Shemaryahu Talmon of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem voiced gratitude and satisfaction with the efforts of Catholics and Protestants to correct distorted images of Jews and Judaism in the eyes of believers. Chancellor Schmidt sent a telegram of thanks for holding the meeting on German soil; this, he said, would strengthen hopes that, even against a background of great historic liabilities, efforts for a new beginning would prove not to have been in vain. The Regensburg meeting focused particularly on the issues of religious freedom and education for Christian-Jewish dialogue.

In a joint statement on the 40th anniversary of the outbreak of World War II, the German Protestant Church and the Federation of Protestant Churches in the German Democratic Republic declared: "The German responsibility for touching off the Second World War is manifest. The question of who is guilty demands that we inquire into our share of this guilt and into our own entanglements. The Protestant Church's Stuttgart Acknowledgment of Guilt was, among other things, an attempt to help us accept the consequences of this war and to make a new beginning."

The Protestant Church's Study Commission on the Church and Judaism prepared a workbook, *Christians and Jews*, during the summer. The workbook offered material enabling groups desirous of exploring the subject of the Church and Jewry to inform themselves more accurately. Jewish observers paid tribute to *Christians and Jews* as an important step toward better mutual understanding. The volume contained basic information, not only on Judaism and its history, but also on the roots it shared with Christianity. Particularly significant were the sections on anti-semitism, persecution, and genocide under the Nazi regime, and on the common responsibilities of Christians and Jews in the world.

Christian-Jewish mutual understanding was discussed at the 18th convention of the German Protestant Church, held in Nuremberg during June. A widely noted presentation by Professor Albert H. Friedländer of London, delivered before more than 2,000 participants, dealt with "Jewish Faith After Auschwitz."

Brotherhood Week, conducted yearly across the country by the Coordinating Council of 47 local Societies for Christian-Jewish Cooperation, focused on the topic "Toleration Today: 250 Years after Lessing and Mendelssohn." At the opening of the main event in Hanover, Manès Sperber, the writer, was awarded the Coordinating Council's 1979 Buber-Rosenzweig Medal. In October the Coordinating Council named the recipient of the 1980 Buber-Rosenzweig Medal—Professor Eugen Kogon, German political scientist and former inmate of Buchenwald concentration camp, who was the author of *The Theory and Practice of Hell*.

Professor Kogon was one of the speakers at an international seminar of the Aspen Institute, held in West Berlin during December, on the topic of German-Jewish-Israeli relations. Numerous politicians and intellectuals from Israel, the United States, and West Germany took part, among them: Nahum Goldmann; Israel's first ambassador in Bonn, Asher Ben-Natan; Bonn's ambassador in Israel, Klaus Schütz; Tel Aviv mayor Shlomo Lahat; Moshe Meron, vice president of the Knesset; and Jacques Torczyner, member of the executive committee of the World Zionist Organization.

In June 750 former Jewish citizens visited Berlin at the invitation and expense of the city. It was the tenth anniversary of the visitors' program. In July the City of Frankfurt appropriated DM 100,000 for a ten-day visit of former Jewish citizens. Other cities organized similar programs.

In recognition of their valor, the West German president awarded the Distinguished Service Cross of the Federal Order of Merit to a number of non-Jewish

German citizens who during the Nazi period had aided persecuted Jews—Franziska Wütscher, Elly Enke, Erika Patzschke, Fritz Clemens, Romuald Malinowski-Probog, and Erika Schempp. In Freiburg, Gertrud Luckner was named an honorary citizen of the city; she had saved many Jews, and for this had been sent to a concentration camp.

Plaques commemorating murdered Jewish citizens were unveiled during 1979 in Meinerzhagen, Puderbach, Rödelheim, Saarlouis, Sprendlingen, and Staufenberg-Treis.

Martin Buber's former home in Heppenheim was given landmark status in April, and was inaugurated as the headquarters of the International Council of Christians and Jews. Numerous persons prominent in political, religious, and cultural life attended the opening. The building also contained a Buber Memorial Room.

The Volkswagenwerk Foundation made DM 300,000 available for the archive of the Leo Baeck Institute in New York. In memory of the cultural and art historian Aby M. Warburg of Hamburg, who died in 1929, the Hamburg Senate established a DM 30,000 prize, to be awarded to individuals who made important contributions to cultural life. The prize of the German Janusz Korczak Society in Giessen was awarded to a Polish physician, Boguslaw Halikowski.

At the 29th International Film Festival in West Berlin, the main prize—the "Berlin Golden Bear"—was awarded to *David*, a film by the Jewish director Peter Lilienthal which deals with a rabbi's son in Nazi Germany.

The municipalities of Pulheim, near Cologne, and Freudental, in Württemberg, decided to restore ancient synagogues which had become dilapidated. In Koblenz, during restoration of Our Lady's Church, fragments of early 15th-century Jewish gravestones were found.

Publications

German-language publishers issued many books on the subjects of Nazism and the persecution of the Jews, among them: Georg L. Mosse, *Ein Volk—ein Reich—ein Führer: Die völkischen Ursprünge des Nationalsozialismus* ("One People, one Reich, one Führer: The Folk Origins of National Socialism"; Athenäum-Droste, Düsseldorf); H. G. Adler, Hermann Langbein, and Ella Lingens-Reiner, editors, *Auschwitz: Zeugnisse und Berichte* ("Auschwitz: Testimony and Reports"; Europäische Verlagsanstalt, Cologne); Heiner Lichtenstein, *Majdanek: Reportage eines Prozesses* ("Maidanek: Report on a Trial"; Europäische Verlagsanstalt, Cologne); Floris B. Bakels, *Nacht und Nebel: Der Bericht eines holländischen Christen aus deutschen Gefängnissen und Konzentrationslagern* ("Night and Fog: Report of a Dutch Christian from German Prisons and Concentration Camps"; Fischer, Frankfurt); Krystyna Zywułska, *Wo vorher Birken waren: Überlebensbericht einer jungen Frau aus Auschwitz-Birkenau* ("Where Once There Were Birch Trees: A Young Woman's Report on Her Survival in Auschwitz-Birkenau"; Kindler, Munich); Zacheusz Pawlak, *Ich habe überlebt . . . Ein Häftling berichtet über Majdanek* ("I

Survived: An Inmate Reports on Majdanek"; Hoffmann und Campe, Hamburg); Ger van Roon, *Widerstand im Dritten Reich: Ein Überblick* ("Resistance in the Third Reich: A Synopsis"; Beck, Munich); Peter Hoffmann, *Widerstand gegen Hitler: Probleme des Umsturzes* ("Resistance Against Hitler: Problems of Revolution"; Piper, Munich); Christabel Bielenberg, *Als ich Deutsche war 1934–1945: Eine Engländerin erzählt* ("When I was a German, 1934–1945: An Englishwoman's Story"; Deutscher Taschenbuchverlag, Munich); C. Heubner, A. Meyer, and J. Pieplow, *Lebenszeichen: Gesehen in Auschwitz* ("Signs of Life: Seen in Auschwitz"; Lamuv, Bornheim-Merten); Anne Frank Foundation, Amsterdam, editor, *Anne Frank: Eine Dokumentation* ("Anne Frank: A Documentation"; Lambert Schneider, Heidelberg); Uwe Dietrich Adam, *Judenpolitik im Dritten Reich* ("Policy toward Jews in the Third Reich"; Athenäum-Droste, Düsseldorf); Eberhard Busch, *Juden und Christen im Schatten des Dritten Reiches* ("Jews and Christians in the Shadow of the Third Reich"; Kaiser, Mainz); Alfred Läßle, *Kirche und Nationalsozialismus in Deutschland und Österreich: Fakten, Dokumente, Analysen* ("The Church and National Socialism in Germany and Austria: Facts, Documents, Analyses"; Pattloch, Aschaffenburg); Hans Erik Hausner, *Der Zweite Weltkrieg 1939–1945: Das erste Sachbuch für Jugendliche über das Dritte Reich* ("The Second World War, 1939–1945: The First Nonfiction Book for Youth About the Third Reich"; Ueberreuter, Munich); Hans Askenasy, *Sind wir alle Nazis? Zum Potential der Unmenschlichkeit* ("Are We All Nazis? On the Potential of Inhumanity"; Campus, Frankfurt); Heinz Albert Raem, *Pius XI. und der Nationalsozialismus: Die Enzyklika "Mit brennender Sorge" vom 14. März 1937* ("Pius XI and National Socialism: The Encyclical 'With Burning Care' of March 14, 1937"; Schöningh, Paderborn); M. Bosch: *Antisemitismus, Nationalsozialismus und Neonazismus* ("Antisemitism, National Socialism and Neo-Nazism"; Schwann, Düsseldorf); Herbert Rosenkranz, *Verfolgung und Selbstbehauptung: Die Juden in Österreich 1938–1945* ("Persecution and Self-Preservation: The Jews in Austria, 1938–1945"; Herold, Vienna); Jürgen Seifert, editor, *Der Unrechtsstaat: Recht und Justiz im Nationalsozialismus* ("The Rule of Injustice: Law and the Administration of Justice under National Socialism"; Europäische Verlagsanstalt, Cologne); Else R. Behrend-Rosenfeld, *Ich stand nicht allein: Erlebnisse einer Jüdin in Deutschland 1933–1945* ("I Did Not Stand Alone: Experiences of a Jewish Woman in Germany, 1933–1945"; Europäische Verlagsanstalt, Cologne); Christian Zentner, *Anmerkungen zu "Holocaust": Die Geschichte der Juden im Dritten Reich* ("Footnotes to Holocaust: The History of the Jews in the Third Reich"; Delphin, Zurich); Amos Elon, *Schrei ohne Antwort: Die Mission des Joel Brand, 1 Million Juden gegen 10,000 Lastwagen zu tauschen* ("Cry Without Answer: Joel Brand's Mission to Exchange One Million Jews for 10,000 Trucks"; Molden, Vienna); Volker Dahm, *Das jüdische Buch im Dritten Reich* ("Jewish Books in the Third Reich"; Booksellers' Association, Frankfurt); Immanuel Geis and Wolfgang Jacobmeyer, editors, *Deutsche Politik in Polen 1939–1945: Aus dem Diensttagebuch von Hans Frank, Generalgouverneur von Polen* ("German Policy in Poland, 1939–1945: From the Office Diary of Hans Frank,

Governor General of Poland"; Leske, Leverkusen); Rolf Fricke-Finkelnburg, *Nationalsozialismus und Schule: Amtliche Erlasse und Richtlinien 1933–1945* ("National Socialism and the Schools: Official Decrees and Guidelines, 1933–1945"; Leske, Leverkusen); Adalbert Rückerl, *NS-Vernichtungslager im Spiegel deutscher Strafprozesse* ("Nazi Annihilation Camps As Mirrored in Criminal Trials in Germany"; Deutscher Taschenbuchverlag, Munich); Alfred Grosser, editor, *Wie war es möglich? Die Wirklichkeit des Nationalsozialismus* ("How Was It Possible? The Reality of National Socialism"; Fischer, Frankfurt); Peter Märtesheimer and Ivo Frenzel, *Im Kreuzfeuer—Der Fernsehfilm "Holocaust": Eine Nation ist betroffen* ("Crossfire—The Holocaust TV Film: A Nation Is Appalled"; Fischer, Frankfurt); Wieslaw Kielar, *Anus Mundi: Fünf Jahre Auschwitz* ("Anus Mundi: Five Years in Auschwitz"; from the Polish; Fischer, Frankfurt); Günther Schwarberg and Daniel Haller, *Der SS-Arzt und die Kinder: Bericht über den Mord vom Bullenhuser Damm* ("The SS Physician and the Children: Report on the Murder on Bullenhuser Damm"; Gruner und Jahr, Gütersloh); Erich Cramer, *Hitlers Antisemitismus und die "Frankfurter Schule": Kritische Faschismustheorie und geschichtliche Realität* ("Hitler's Antisemitism and the 'Frankfurt School': The Critical Theory of Fascism and Historical Reality"; Droste, Düsseldorf); Wilhelm van Kampen, editor, *"Holocaust": Ein Medienereignis und die Öffentlichkeit* ("Holocaust: A Media Event and the Public"; Hammer, Wuppertal); Ernst Loewy, editor, *Exil: Literarische und politische Texte aus dem deutschen Exil 1933–1945* ("Exile: Literary and Political Texts from the German Exile, 1933–1945"; Metzler, Stuttgart); Ann Charbey, *Dobryd: Eine polnische Kindheit 1940–1950* ("Dobryd: A Polish Childhood, 1940–1950"; Kerle, Freiburg).

Topics related to neo-Nazism were dealt with in the following books: Werner Habermehl, *Sind die Deutschen faschistoid? Ergebnisse einer empirischen Untersuchung über die Verbreitung rechter und rechtsextremer Ideologien in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland* ("Are Germans Fascistoid? Findings of an Empirical Inquiry Into the Prevalence of Rightist and Ultra-Rightist Ideologies in the Federal Republic of Germany"; Hoffmann und Campe, Hamburg); Alwin Meyer and Karl Klaus Rabe, *Unsere Stunde, die wird kommen: Rechtsextremismus unter Jugendlichen* ("Our Time Will Come: Right-Wing Extremism Among Youth"; Lamuv, Bornheim-Merten); Henryk M. Broder, *Deutschland erwacht: Die neuen Nazis—Aktionen und Provokationen* ("Germany Awakes: The New Nazis—Actions and Provocations"; Lamuv, Bornheim-Merten).

Israel and the Middle East were the subjects of Christoph von Imhoff, editor, *Krisenquadrat Mittelost* ("Middle East, Square of Crisis"; Osang, Bonn); Udo Steinbach, Rolf Hofmeier and Mathias Schönborn, editors, *Politisches Lexikon Nahost* ("Political Dictionary of the Middle East"; Beck, Munich); Werner Richter, *Israel und seine Nachbarräume: Ländliche Siedlungen und Landnutzung seit dem 19. Jahrhundert* ("Israel and Neighboring Areas: Rural Settlements and Land Use Since the 19th Century"; Steiner, Wiesbaden); Raymonda Tawil, *Mein Gefängnis*

hat viele Mauern: Eine Palästinenserin berichtet ("My Prison Has Many Walls: A Palestinian Woman Reports"; Neue Gesellschaft, Bonn); Shlomo Erel, *Aus dem Tagebuch eines Kibbuz-Sekretärs* ("From the Diary of a Kibbutz Secretary"; Bleicher, Gerlingen); Carl Alpert, *Farbiges Israel* ("Colorful Israel"; Herbig Langen-Müller, Munich); Kazuyoshi Nomachi, *Sinai: Land der Verheissung* ("Sinai: Land of Promise"; Reich, Lucerne); Julian J. Landau, *Israel: Ein Reise- und Kulturführer* ("Israel: A Travel and Cultural Guide"; Athenäum, Königstein); Herbert Fasching, *Gelobtes Land: Begegnung mit Israel* ("Promised Land: Encounter With Israel"; Verlagsgruppe Engagement; Munich); Annemarie Ohler, *Israel: Volk und Land* ("Israel: The People and the Land"; Katholisches Bibelwerk, Stuttgart); Benjamin Mazar, *Der Berg des Herrn: Neue Ausgrabungen in Jerusalem* ("The Mountain of the Lord: New Excavations in Jerusalem"; Lübke, Bergisch-Gladbach); Friedrich Laubscher, *Jerusalem—Widerspruch und Verheissung: Geschichte einer Stadt* ("Jerusalem—Paradox and Promise: History of a City"; Bahn, Constance); Eli Rothschild, *König Davids Kinder—Eine Heimkehr: Chronik der Juden* ("King David's Children—Their Return: A Chronicle of the Jews"; Hase & Köhler, Mainz); Shalom Ben-Chorin, *Ich lebe in Jerusalem: Ein Bekenntnis zur Geschichte und Gegenwart* ("I Live in Jerusalem: A Pledge to History and to the Present"; Bleicher, Gerlingen); Flavius Josephus, *Jüdische Altertümer* ("Antiquities of the Jews"; Fourier, Wiesbaden).

The following publications were devoted to the Jewish religion: Günter Stemberger, *Das klassische Judentum: Kultur und Geschichte der rabbinischen Zeit* ("Classical Judaism: The Culture and History of the Rabbinic Era"; Beck, Munich); Herbert Donner, *Pilgerfahrt ins Heilige Land: Zur Geschichte der wechselseitigen Beziehungen zwischen Israel und seinem Land in alttestamentlicher Zeit* ("Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: On the History of the Mutual Relations Between Israel and Its Land in Old Testament Times"; Katholisches Bibelwerk, Stuttgart); Franz Mussner, *Traktat über die Juden* ("A Treatise on the Jews"; Kösel, Munich); David Gibbon and Ted Smart, *Das Heilige Land* ("The Holy Land"; Delphin, Munich); Heinz Kremers, *Judenmission heute? Von der Judenmission zur brüderlichen Solidarität und zum ökumenischen Dialog* ("Missions to the Jews Today? From the Jewish Mission to Brotherly Solidarity and Ecumenical Dialogue"; Neukirchener, Vienna); Rüdiger Bartelmus, *Heroentum in Israel und seiner Umwelt: Abhandlungen zur Theologie des Alten und Neuen Testaments* ("The Role of the Hero in Israel and Its World: Studies in Old and New Testament Theology"; Theologischer Verlag, Zurich); Rolf Rendtorff, editor, *Arbeitsbuch "Christen und Juden": Beitrag zum christlich-jüdischen Dialog* ("A Workbook on Christians and Jews: A Contribution to Christian-Jewish Dialogue"; Mohn, Gütersloh); Werner Georg Kümmel, editor, *Jüdische Schriften aus hellenistisch-römischer Zeit* ("Jewish Writings of the Hellenistic-Roman Era"; Mohn, Gütersloh); Hans Hermann Henrix, editor, *Jüdische Liturgie: Geschichte, Struktur und Wesen* ("Jewish Liturgy: Its History, Structure and Essence"; Herder, Freiburg); Hans Jochen Gamm, *Das Judentum: Eine*

Einführung ("Judaism: An Introduction"; Campus, Frankfurt); Amric Brauer, *Die Pessach-Haggadah* ("The Passover Haggadah"; Piper, Munich); Leo Baeck, *Das Wesen des Judentums* ("The Essence of Judaism"; Fourier, Wiesbaden).

Biographical publications included these volumes: Julius H. Schoeps, *Moses Mendelssohn* (Athenäum, Königstein); Alexander Altmann, *Moses Mendelssohn: Briefwechsel der letzten Lebensjahre* ("Moses Mendelssohn: Correspondence of His Last Years"; Frommann, Stuttgart); Hans Kohn, *Martin Buber: Sein Werk und seine Zeit* ("Martin Buber: His Work and Times"; Fourier, Wiesbaden); Leopold Marx, *Jehoshua, mein Sohn: Lebensbild eines früh Gereiften* ("Yehoshuah, My Son: Portrait of One Who Matured Early"; Bleicher, Gerlingen); Miron Sima, *Lebensabend und Abschied von Else Lasker-Schüler in Jerusalem: Zeichnungen und Erinnerungen* ("Else Lasker-Schüler in Jerusalem—Late Years and Farewell: Drawings and Memories"; Baedekersche Verlagsbuchhandlung, Wuppertal); Arnost Kolman, *Die verirrte Generation—So hätten wir nicht leben sollen: Eine Biographie* ("A Generation Gone Astray—We Should Not Have Lived Like This: A Biography"; Fischer, Frankfurt); Henryk M. Broder and Michel R. Lang, editors, *Fremd im eigenen Land: Juden in der Bundesrepublik* ("Strangers in Their Own Land: Jews in the Federal Republic"; Fischer, Frankfurt); Friedrich Dürrenmatt, *Albert Einstein* (Diogenes, Zurich); Albert Einstein, *Aus meinen späten Jahren* ("Out of My Later Years; Deutsche Verlagsanstalt, Stuttgart); Rolf Vogel, editor, *Das Echo: Widerhall auf Simon Wiesenthal* ("The Echo: Response to Simon Wiesenthal"; Seewald, Stuttgart); Saul Friedländer, *Wenn die Erinnerung kommt . . .* ("When Memory Comes . . ."; Deutsche Verlagsanstalt, Stuttgart); Henry A. Kissinger, *Memoiren 1969–1973* ("Memoirs, 1969–1973"; Bertelsmann, Munich); Lilli Palmer, *Umarmen hat seine Zeit* ("A Time to Embrace"; Droemer Knaur, Munich); Yehudi Menuhin, *Unvollendete Reise: Lebenserinnerungen* ("Unfinished Journey: Recollections"; Deutscher Taschenbuchverlag, Munich); Eva Mendelssohn, *Zwischenzeit* ("Interval"; Knaus, Hamburg).

Outstanding among literary prose works were Isaac Bashevis Singer, *Leidenschaften: Geschichten aus der Neuen und der Alten Welt* ("Passions: Stories from the New and the Old World"; Deutscher Taschenbuchverlag, Munich); Edgar Hilsenrath, *Gib acht, Genosse Mandelbaum* ("Watch Out, Comrade Mandelbaum"; Langen-Müller, Munich); Ephraim Kishon, *Paradies neu zu vermieten: Neue Satiren* ("Paradise Newly for Rent: New Satires"; Langen-Müller, Munich); Stefan Eisner, *Tödliche Liebe: Ein Schauspiel über die unerlaubte Liebe zwischen einer Jüdin und einem jungen Nazi im Dritten Reich* ("Deadly Love: A Drama of the Forbidden Love of a Jewish Woman and a Young Nazi in the Third Reich"; Ellenberg, Cologne); Max Brod, *Reubeni, Fürst der Juden: Ein Renaissance-Roman* ("Reuveni, Prince of the Jews: A Novel of the Renaissance"; Fischer, Frankfurt); Hans Habe, *Drei über die Grenze* ("Three Across the Border"; Walter, Olten); Meir M. Faerber, editor, *Stimmen aus Israel: Eine Anthologie deutschsprachiger Literatur in Israel* ("Voices from Israel: An Anthology of Literature in German From Israel"; Bleicher, Gerlingen).

Personalia

Hermann Lewy, editor-in-chief of the Düsseldorf *Allgemeine jüdische Wochenzeitung*, the only nationwide Jewish weekly in the country, was awarded the Great Cross and Star of Merit of the Federal Order of Merit. The Cross of Merit With Ribbon was awarded to Simon Snopkowski, president of the State Association of Israelite Congregations in Bavaria; Henryk Ingster, a leading representative of the Israelite Congregation in Munich; and Marian Rogovski, a Jewish writer in Frankfurt. The Cross of Merit was awarded to Ernst Simon, a public school administrator and leading member of the Cologne congregation, and to Ernst J. Cramer, a noted Berlin publicist.

The Bavarian Order of Merit was presented to David Schuster, vice president of the State Association of Israelite Congregations in Bavaria, who was also president of the Würzburg congregation, and to Julius Spokojny, the Augsburg manufacturer and president of the local Jewish congregation. Heinz Galinski, president of the Berlin congregation, a leader in many Jewish organizations, and co-publisher of the *Allgemeine jüdische Wochenzeitung*, received the Gold Award of the League of Brain-damaged Persons in Germany for "outstanding merit" on behalf of this group of handicapped individuals.

In Frankfurt, the widow of Jewish writer and historian Paul Arnsberg (deceased December 10, 1978) received in his name the rarely awarded Goethe Plaque.

Stefan Schwarz, president of the Jewish community in Straubing, was awarded the city's Citizen Medal in gold, as well as the Bavarian Historic Landmark Protection Medal. Since 1945, Schwarz had contributed greatly to the preservation of Jewish cemeteries in Bavaria.

In recognition of his efforts on behalf of Jewish education and culture, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem awarded the Honorary Fellow title to Hans Lamm, president of the Israelite Congregation in Munich.

The American violinist and conductor, Yehudi Menuhin, was awarded the Peace Prize of the Organization of German Booksellers.

For their contributions to German-Israeli understanding, Shalom Ben-Chorin, Inge Deutschkron, Felix E. Shinnar, and Walter Katz received the Rudolf Küstermeier Prize, donated by the German publisher Axel Springer.

In the former synagogue at Michelstadt in Hesse, a museum named after the late Rabbi I. E. Lichtigfeld was opened.

The president of the Minden Jewish community, Emil Samuel, died on January 4, aged 85. The president of the Frankfurt Jewish community, Ignaz Lipinski, died on January 6, aged 72. The rabbi of the Jewish congregations in Baden-Württemberg state, Fritz E. Bloch, died on September 27, aged 76.

FRIEDO SACHSER

German Democratic Republic

DURING 1979 the German Democratic Republic (DDR) observed the 30th anniversary of its founding. On this occasion, the Federation of Jewish Communities in the DDR, with eight local affiliates, issued a declaration which stated:

Thirty years of the German Democratic Republic means, to us citizens of the Jewish faith, thirty years of life in security and safety. It means, to us, thirty years of unqualified equality and it means, not least, thirty years of religious freedom, guaranteed by our socialist constitution. With pride and joy we observe the thirtieth anniversary of the founding of our German Democratic Republic. We, the survivors of the grim era of Nazi fascism and concentration camps, have taken part with all the fullness of our hearts in the successful building of our state. With all the strength we could still muster, under the leadership of the party of the working class, a home was created in which we are fully integrated. In this state of ours we live free and undisturbed; antisemitism and race agitation are strictly punished here. New synagogues and prayer rooms have been built, with resources provided for us by the state. We citizens of the Jewish faith honor the steady, single-minded struggle to maintain and secure peace which our socialist republic has for thirty years carried on, undeviatingly and successfully, alongside the Soviet Union and the other socialist brother nations, and we take part in this struggle. In the Pentateuch, the Five Books of Moses, we are bidden, "Love thy neighbor as thyself," and this commandment obligates us to respect every human being, no matter what his skin color, what his religion or philosophy of life may be. Never may his human dignity be profaned or trodden underfoot. This is the spirit in which the younger generation in our republic is educated. We see with horror that in some parts of the world, particularly in the Federal Republic of Germany, fascism and agitation for war boldly raise their heads, with antisemitism following in their wake. Why those in power do not uproot these alarming developments is impossible to understand. By failing to do so, they make themselves accomplices in the threat to peace . . . We citizens of the Jewish faith are loyal citizens of our German Democratic Republic, for in its thirty years it has given us what we always longed for: safety, equality, and a life in freedom and security. We work and fight for our country's lofty goals, for the happiness of all humans, for reconciliation of nations and for peace.

On the Jewish New Year, the deputy minister for church affairs in the DDR, Hans Seigewasser, stated in a message to the Federation of Jewish Communities: "You may observe the New Year in the certain awareness that our Jewish fellow citizens have helped to shape, during the past three decades, the first truly humanistic, socialist German state, a state definitively free of racism. They have done so, in part, through their own great achievements, in comradeship with all citizens. You may rest assured that this republic of ours, having become a place of security and safety for the members of Jewish communities, will unwaveringly uphold its anti-fascist principles and will continue to view peace, disarmament, human well-being and the happiness of its citizens as its highest maxims in political action."

There were fewer than 800 Jews in the DDR, most of them aged. Ninety per cent were recognized victims of Nazi persecution or fighters against Nazism. Indemnification payments such as were provided in the Federal Republic did not exist; in lieu of a restitution annuity, persons with a claim received an honorary pension. Helmut Aris, the president of the Federation of Jewish Communities, reported that there were practically no poor Jews.

None of the eight communities in the DDR (Berlin, Dresden, Erfurt, Halle, Karl-Marx-Stadt, Leipzig, Magdeburg, and Schwerin) had a rabbi or cantor. The quarterly *Nachrichtenblatt* and the annual Jewish calendar were bought by Jews in the DDR and by emigrants abroad who wanted to maintain contact with their former homeland.

During 1979 the DDR held numerous commemorative events in connection with the 250th anniversary of the birth of Moses Mendelssohn and the 100th anniversary of the birth of Albert Einstein. In September the memorial day for the victims of fascism was observed with a large-scale demonstration in East Berlin, attended by tens of thousands, including leading figures of the state. Memorial gatherings were also held in other locations, including the former concentration camps at Nordhausen and Ravensbrück. In May a memorial for the approximately 1,000 victims of the Laura sub-camp of Buchenwald was inaugurated at Schmiedebach.

Referring to the debate on the statute of limitations in the Federal Republic, a spokesman for the chief prosecutor's office in East Berlin noted in January that the DDR had no such statute. The spokesman indicated that since 1945 a total of 12,681 persons had been convicted in the DDR of war crimes and crimes against humanity. It was stressed that the DDR would continue to evaluate all documents about Nazi criminals, and would expand its contacts abroad, so as to bring to justice all guilty individuals.

In February it became known that in October 1978 three former members of a police battalion under SS command, Arno Schumann, Kurt Melzer, and Rudolf Miksch, had been sentenced to terms ranging from 14 years to life for murdering at least 15,000 Jews in White Russia. The public had been excluded from the proceedings.

In February *Neues Deutschland*, the organ of the Socialist Unity party (SED), printed extracts from decrees and reports of the Third Reich concerning the persecution of Jews. A preface pointed out that such documents exploded the notion, often suggested in the Federal Republic, that the mass murder of Jews had been carried out by a small handful of fanatics. In fact, it was noted, a huge judicial apparatus had taken part, as had the foreign office and the military. In the Federal Republic, the preface continued, the truth about the nature of German fascism and its crimes had been distorted or passed over in silence, whereas in the DDR, not only had the truth been told, but fascism had been completely uprooted.

The DDR ministry of culture declined to broadcast the American TV film *Holocaust* on the ground that it did not present the full truth about Nazi crimes.

However, many DDR citizens were able to see the film on their television screens when it was aired in the Federal Republic.

The DDR continued its policy of unwavering support of the Arab rejectionist front in the Middle East conflict, and most particularly of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). In May a "week of solidarity with the anti-imperialist struggle of the Arab peoples" was conducted throughout the country. On this occasion, a joint declaration by the government and numerous organizations demanded a comprehensive Middle East peace settlement, including the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. The separate agreement between Egypt and Israel, achieved under the aegis of the United States, was condemned. PLO chief Yasir Arafat thanked the DDR for its aid. The PLO maintained a permanent bureau in East Berlin.

FRIEDO SACHSER