

Central Europe

Federal Republic of Germany

Domestic Affairs

NINETEEN SEVENTY-SEVEN was a challenging year for the federal government in Bonn. The main challenge was to safeguard domestic security and combat terrorism. In addition, the government sought to breathe new life into a stagnant economy.

Left-wing extremism dominated the news during the year. In comparison, right-wing extremism remained a marginal phenomenon, although its intensification made for added unrest, particularly among Jews and others who had been persecuted by the Nazi regime. The political leadership systematically sought to curb excesses on the left, while keeping a watchful eye on the right.

A chronology of events relating to left-wing extremism includes the following: on January 8, two terrorists opened fire on a Swiss official at a German-Swiss border crossing; on March 24, law offices in Frankfurt were bombed; on April 7, in Karlsruhe, terrorists killed Chief Federal Prosecutor Siegfried Buback; on April 28, in Stuttgart, terrorist leaders Andreas Baader, Jean-Carl Raspe, and Gudrun Enslin were sentenced to life in prison for murder; on May 9, Hans-Joachim Klein, a wanted terrorist, revealed a plot to assassinate the presidents of the Jewish congregations in West Berlin and Frankfurt; on June 2, in Kaiserslautern, terrorists Manfred Grashof and Klaus Jüscke were given life sentences; on July 20, in Düsseldorf, terrorists Hanna Krabbe, Lutz Taufer, Karl-Heinz Dellwo, and Bernhard Rössner received life sentences; on July 30, terrorists in Oberursel shot and killed Jürgen Ponto, board chairman of the Dresdner Bank; on September 5, terrorists in Cologne kidnapped Hanns Martin Schleyer, president of the West German Confederation of Employers' Associations, killing three policemen and a chauffeur in the process; in exchange for Schleyer's release, the Rote Armee Fraktion (RAF; Red Army Faction), the most important and most fanatical German terrorist organization, demanded the release of 11 imprisoned terrorists, and the Government responded with delaying tactics, negotiating with RAF through a Swiss attorney; on September 22, in Utrecht, the Netherlands, two German terrorists, Knut Folkerts and Brigitte Mohnhaupt, killed a policeman, after which Folkerts was

sentenced to 20 years in prison; on October 13, in connection with the Schleyer affair, four Palestinian terrorists hijacked a German passenger plane; five days later in Mogadiscio, Somalia, German commandos stormed the hijacked plane, freeing all the hostages and killing three of the hijackers, and Baader, Raspe and Ensslin, the three RAF leaders, committed suicide; the following day Schleyer was found dead; on November 12, Ingrid Schubert, a terrorist, committed suicide in a Munich prison; on December 20, two terrorists, Christian Möller and Gabriele Kröcher-Tiedemann, were arrested in Switzerland.

Right-wing extremists also intensified their activities, which consisted of reviling democracy, extolling the Hitler regime, and white-washing Nazi crimes. With growing boldness, right-wing elements exploited the liberality of the democratic system to promote pro-Nazi and anti-democratic views in public. Law-enforcement agencies, for the most part, took only hesitant steps against them, and often displayed disquieting leniency in sentencing the culprits.

Together with these extremist tendencies, a so-called "Hitler wave" made itself unpleasantly felt. It took the form of films, records, books, pamphlets, and magazine features seeking to gloss over or even glorify the Nazi dictatorship, as well as Hitler's influence and personality. An important role in this connection was played by a documentary film, *Hitler: A Career*, based on a book by the historian Joachim C. Fest which made its debut during the summer and promptly became a box-office success. Three months after its first showing, the film had been seen by more than a million viewers in West Germany; it was also a success in Austria and Switzerland. Critics charged that the film presented a distorted view of the Nazi regime and a white-washed Hitler. They regarded it as dangerous, especially for the poorly-informed younger generation. The radical right welcomed the film.

Three young Germans in Hamburg, assisted by prominent musicians, produced a two-disc "rock opera" about Hitler, portraying him as an occult figure. According to the producers, English and American firms expressed interest in marketing the records. A growing, openly-conducted trade developed in Nazi paraphernalia, photos, and literature. The official ban on this trade was ignored; the authorities rarely intervened.

Toward the end of the year, West German toy stores offered quantities of military toys with Nazi emblems. Bundestag deputies and others vainly demanded legal measures against the manufacturers and distributors.

Records of speeches by National Socialist leaders, and Nazi songs and marches appeared in increased quantities. They were offered by both German and foreign producers, and were sold by right-wing radical enterprises, as well as by department stores and other retail outlets, reportedly with considerable success. Though the distribution of Hitler speeches and similar recordings was illegal, law-enforcement agencies hardly ever interceded. At the end of the year, Herbert Wehner, leader of the Social Democratic faction (SPD) in the Bundestag, felt compelled, in the wake of protests from abroad, to emphasize to the legislature that effective measures against such distribution of Nazi materials were urgently needed.

Organizations of Third Reich veterans held dozens of conventions. In particular, HIAG (Hilfsorganisation auf Gegenseitigkeit), the organization of former SS members, kept holding rallies. In more than a few instances, members of the Bundeswehr (West German armed forces) took part in such events. Ulrich Rudel, an unrepentant Nazi officer who had been awarded the Third Reich's highest military decoration, was feted at various veterans' meetings and at rallies of radical right-wing youth organizations. Rudel was lauded in the pages of the Munich weekly *Deutsche National-Zeitung*, whose editor-in-chief, Gerhard Frey, carried on a pro-Nazi, anti-democratic, anti-Israel, and anti-Jewish campaign with increasing boldness.

In July, Werner Nachmann, chairman of the board of the Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland (Central Council of Jews in Germany), warned against the dangers of the "Hitler wave." He felt that young people were being exposed to a totally false image of Hitler, and that Hitler's responsibility for the death of millions was being deliberately ignored. Nachmann stated that the glorification of Hitler might well be followed by a new wave of antisemitism. He added that greedy profit makers and certain radical political interests stood behind the Hitler nostalgia. The Koordinierungsrat der Gesellschaften für christlich-jüdische Zusammenarbeit (Coordinating Council of the Societies for Christian-Jewish Cooperation) voiced deep concern "over the growing distribution of writings extolling National Socialism." The Bund der Verfolgten des Naziregimes und Antifaschisten (League of Nazi Persecution Victims and Anti-Fascists) demanded dissolution of all neo-Nazi organizations and confiscation of all neo-Nazi propaganda. The organization of persecution victims in Bavaria protested the SS veterans' rallies, viewing them not only as a danger to the democratic state, but also as a provocation against those who had fought against National Socialism. The Social Democratic Party (SPD) called on the Federal Government to act against neo-Nazi groups and the distribution of neo-Nazi literature. Antisemitic preaching, in particular, the SPD maintained, should be rigorously prosecuted. SPD chairman Willy Brandt, criticizing the rising number of nationalist war veterans' rallies and other neo-Nazi meetings, charged that the communal authorities were much less watchful of neo-Nazi dangers than they were of left-wing attacks on the democratic order.

The Federal Government did not share Brandt's concern. A spokesman averred that there was no justification for the charge that the agencies concerned were remiss in watching right-wing extremist groups. In October, the Government declared that it did not consider right-wing extremism a danger to the security of the Federal Republic, but stressed that, because of their stepped-up activities, extreme rightist movements would continue to need careful watching. The Government, it was stated, would continue to see to it that no right-wing extremists were admitted to public service positions. At the same time, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt asserted that both left- and right-wing extremism played only a minor role in the country.

An opinion survey conducted by the Elections Research Group in Mannheim found that one third of the voting public constituted potential radical-right sympathizers, a proportion that had remained constant for 10 years. Active sympathy with

the Nazi regime had declined, but the rejection of such democratic essentials as the multi-party system, the division of powers, and parliamentary give-and-take held steady.

Antisemitism

Radical tendencies and occurrences could hardly be separated from antisemitic incidents, since most extremist groups also disseminated anti-Jewish ideas. The anti-Jewish manifestations of the extreme left, assuming the form of anti-Zionism, were directed mainly against Israel, and only in exceptional cases against Jews in Germany. Agitation by right-wing extremists, on the other hand, was openly aimed at Jews in general and against the Jewish minority in the Federal Republic in particular. Anti-Jewish utterances on the right, evidencing growing militancy, included demands that Jews remove themselves from Germany, and even threats of murder.

The most conspicuous anti-Jewish group in 1977 was Gary Lauck's NSDAP Foreign Organization, headquartered in Lincoln, Nebraska. Lauck succeeded in filling a growing number of young Germans with enthusiasm for his hate campaign against Jews. The German authorities were unsuccessful in stopping the activity of the NSDAP, or in putting a halt to the illegal importation from the United States of antisemitic literature. Lauck's group was most active in southwestern Germany, around Frankfurt, Hanover, and Hamburg.

Toward the end of the year, Hanover became the center of the Lauck group's agitation. Not only were Nazi and antisemitic slogans daubed on walls and anti-Jewish pamphlets distributed, but Jews were also provoked, threatened, and attacked in public. Members of the Hanover Jewish congregation received telephone threats. On several occasions, young people appeared in the streets wearing Nazi-type garb. The police arrested a number, who admitted to being members of the NSDAP. The Lower Saxony state government, however, sought to represent the events in Hanover as the acts of a few outsiders, and as politically insignificant.

Another group that publicly agitated against Jews was Erwin Schönborn's German Soldiers' Combat League. The League asserted that not one Jew had been gassed by the Germans. The group distributed its pamphlets throughout the country, even in armed forces posts, and in front of courthouses where Nazi criminals were being tried. To bring its campaign to the attention of the public at large, the group attempted to hold what it called "Auschwitz conventions" in Nuremberg and Frankfurt. Following protests by democratic organizations and victims of Nazi persecution, the municipal authorities banned these events, whereupon Schönborn arranged to replace them with meetings behind closed doors.

A publisher in southern Germany issued a book by a Catholic teacher of religion, Manfred Adler, entitled *Söhne der Finsternis—Weltmacht Zionismus* ("Sons of Darkness: The World Power of Zionism"). The book was based on the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* and dedicated "to the victims of Zionism, in human

fellowship." In July, a German edition of *The Hoax of the Twentieth Century*, by Arthur R. Butz, an American professor, was issued in West Germany and promoted by the radical right. Dr. Gerhard Frey, editor of the *Deutsche National-Zeitung*, invited Butz to Germany, where he was introduced to German sympathizers and awarded a prize. A pamphlet, *Did Six Million Really Die?*, by British author Richard E. Harwood, was also marketed by groups on the far right.

Antisemitic episodes were also noted in the armed forces. The high point was a symbolic "Jew burning" at the Bundeswehr Academy in Neubiberg in February. A number of officer candidates sang Nazi songs at a party and burned scraps of paper bearing the word "Jew." As a result of the incident, six men were discharged from the army. Previously, two officer candidates in the same academy had been discharged for right-wing extremist activities. Other Nazi episodes were reported from barracks in Nuremberg and Rheine, and from the Bundeswehr Academy in Hamburg. In November, following press criticism of right-wing extremist and anti-Jewish tendencies and manifestations in the armed forces, a spokesman for the Defense Ministry stated that antisemitism was not a problem in the Bundeswehr. At the same time, however, he deplored the fact that "no one so far has succeeded in getting the experiences and lessons of the Nazi era across to the young."

During 1977, Jewish cemeteries were desecrated in Schorten, Hamburg, Hanover, Cham, Affaltrach, Warburg-Ossendorf, Billerbeck and Havixbeck. In Hanover, a member of the Lauck group was convicted as one of the desecrators and sentenced to 15 months' detention. In April, a court in Celle sentenced four defendants to penalties ranging from nine months' imprisonment to a DM 1,000 fine for defacing the memorial at the former Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in May 1976.

Foreign Relations

In summing up the year's events in the area of foreign affairs, the Government stated that its goal had been to reduce international tensions. This policy found expression in Chancellor Schmidt's visit to Poland, and in efforts to solve the problems between the two Germanies.

Schmidt was the first German chancellor to visit the former Auschwitz extermination camp. While there, on November 23, he stated: "We have come to Auschwitz to remind ourselves and others that without knowledge of the past there is no path to the future, and no way to a new, unconstrained relationship between Germans and Poles. The crimes of Nazi fascism, the guilt of the German Reich under Hitler's leadership, lie at the bottom of our responsibility. We Germans of today are not guilty as individuals, but we must take upon us the political heritage of those who were guilty. In this lies our responsibility."

The Middle East conflict figured large in West German foreign policy. In his address to the General Assembly of the United Nations on September 29, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher emphasized:

A just and lasting peace settlement must start out from Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and must implement the following principles: It must respect the right of all states in the region, including Israel's, to live in peace within secure and recognized boundaries. It must terminate the territorial occupation Israel has maintained since 1967. It must consider the legitimate rights of the Palestinians . . . to self-determination and effective expression of national identity. Thus, any solution must take the need of a homeland for the Palestinian people into account. The Palestinians must take part in the peace negotiations, which must not be blocked by unilateral *faits accomplis*. For this reason, the Federal Government goes on record in this forum as opposing the creation of Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

The Government welcomed the peace initiative launched by Egyptian President Anwar el-Sadat. Chancellor Schmidt, on an official visit to Cairo in late December, praised Sadat's courage and reaffirmed Bonn's view that the Palestinian people must not be denied "the right to self-determination." Both sides in the Middle East conflict, he pointed out, would "have to bend their energies to self-denial, modifying their heretofore irreconcilable postures and views enough to make a rapprochement possible." He assured President Sadat: "My government supports any steps that will bring peace nearer."

West German politicians had a number of contacts with representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) during the year. In November, leading members of the SPD met with PLO representative Dr. Issam Sartawi. Following criticism by Friedrich Zimmermann, a Christian Social Union (CSU) Bundestag deputy, Hans-Jürgen Wischniewski, state minister in the office of the federal chancellor, declared that the discussion had served to air the views of a "political power that is decisively relevant" to the future of the Middle East. The Bonn PLO bureau chief, Abdallah Frangi, was included in a delegation of Arab ambassadors to Bonn who were invited to Hanover by the prime minister of Lower Saxony, Ernst Albrecht of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), to engage in discussions with politicians in that state. A few days earlier, Frangi, at a rally organized by German left-wing extremists in West Berlin, had advocated the destruction of the state of Israel.

Relations with Israel

The victory of Likud leader Menachem Begin in Israel's parliamentary election on May 17 threatened new tensions in German-Israeli relations. Though the head of CDU, Dr. Helmut Kohl, was the first West European politician to congratulate Mr. Begin on his victory, government circles worried about the future of German-Israeli relations because of Begin's well-known unfavorable attitude toward Germany in past decades. Almost without exception, the German press published critical comments and offered gloomy prognoses in regard to both relations between Germany and Israel, and resolution of the Middle East conflict. Only toward the end of the year, in the face of the Egyptian-Israeli peace initiative, did these critics

arrive at a milder, if still skeptical, assessment of the Begin government and its negotiating posture.

A few weeks after Begin's victory, the German ambassador to Israel, Per Fischer, was assured in a conversation with Likud functionaries that the new Israeli government not only wished to maintain relations at the present level, but was hoping to expand them further, especially in the economic sphere. During September, Begin, for the first time, commented on German-Israeli relationships, saying they were normal. He indicated that he felt it had been a mistake to sign a restitution pact as early as 1952. Since relations between Israel and Germany were a reality, however, he made it clear that he contemplated no changes.

The first German government representative received by Prime Minister Begin was the new ambassador, Klaus Schütz, 51, who had been mayor of West Berlin from 1967 to 1977, and had been named in August to succeed Per Fischer. In presenting his credentials to President Ephraim Katzir, Schütz stated that the Federal Republic was happy that relations between the two countries had developed in a spirit of mutual trust, despite the painful past.

Bonn's posture on the Middle East question was severely criticized on several occasions by Israel as being too pro-Arab. Jerusalem signaled to Bonn that keeping silent would be a wiser course than asking political sacrifices of Israel. However, the federal government persisted in its view that the Middle East conflict touched directly upon the interests of Germany and the other states of the European Economic Community and that taking a clear position was, therefore, indispensable. A visit by Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan to Bonn in late November did not alter this posture.

Simcha Ehrlich, Israeli minister of finance, visited Bonn in early December. The Government replied negatively to Israel's request for an increase in capital assistance above the previous level of DM 140 million per year, on the grounds of budgetary strains and numerous obligations to developing countries. However, Bonn declared itself ready to guarantee German investments in Israel, and to promote further investment in the Jewish state. At the end of June, German direct investments in Israel amounted to DM 547 million; German credits to Israel totaled DM 1.65 billion.

The Federal Republic was Israel's second biggest export customer. During 1976, merchandise worth \$201 million was imported from Israel, 25.3 per cent more than in 1975. Simultaneously, the Federal Republic consolidated its position as the leading importer of Israeli goods among the countries of the European Economic Community; its share of such imports amounted to 22.7 per cent. However, this positive development continued to be impaired by Israel's high deficit in her trade with West Germany; though reduced by more than 44 per cent since 1974, it remained substantial.

During the fall, Mayor Shlomo Lahat of Tel Aviv spent two weeks in West Germany. A delegation of Israel's Council of Local Municipalities, invited by its German counterpart, traveled in the Federal Republic to inform itself about

communal institutions and industrial planning. A youth delegation of the Magen David Adom, invited by the German Youth Red Cross, visited the country during August. In July, a delegation of the German organization had attended an international Red Cross Youth Conference in Israel. Several groups of Israeli teachers and secondary-school students came to West Germany during the year. A number of Israeli artists presented their work to the German public, among them the painters Rafael Rila, Samuel Bak, Arie Ogen, Raphael Uzan, Yeshayahu Scheinfeld, Itzhak Roman, and Simon Karczmar. The Israeli Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra toured West Germany during the fall. A DM 25,000 International Prize for Research in Communications endowed by a German publisher, Dr. Hubert Burda, was presented in Essen, during November, to an Israeli researcher, Dr. Eliahu Katz.

In May, the Deutsch-Israelische Gesellschaft (German-Israeli Society) in Bonn elected Erik Blumenfeld of Hamburg, a CDU Bundestag deputy, as its new president. He replaced another Bundestag deputy, Heinz Westphal of the SPD. Westphal was elected a vice-president, as were Detlef Kleinert, Hans Stercken, and Walter Hesselbach. Blumenfeld had been interned in a concentration camp during the Nazi era because of his Jewish descent. His election was surrounded by controversy, touched off by the question of whether the Society was free to adopt a posture critical of Israel. A minority advocated "critical solidarity," with the right of dissenting from official Israeli policy. A majority, led by Blumenfeld, thought that such criticism of Israeli policies would not be opportune. The controversy led to a split. The minority formed a new group, dedicated to serving German-Israeli understanding and cooperation according to its own principles. Named Deutsch-Israelische Arbeitsgruppe für Frieden im Nahen Osten (German-Israeli Working Group for Peace in the Middle East), the new body was headed by Professor Rolf Rendtorff, a Social Democrat, who was one of the founders of the German-Israeli Society and who vigorously denied pro-Arab tendencies. In October and November, the German-Israel Society and its Israeli sister organization conducted a workshop conference to discuss joint tasks and objectives. On this occasion, the German body sharply protested the Bonn government's attitude vis-à-vis Israel in the UN and in the European Economic Community.

Yad Vashem in Jerusalem awarded the honorary title "Righteous Among the Peoples" to three German citizens, Gerhard Radke, the late Carl Hermann, and Eva Hermann, for helping persecuted Jews under the Nazi regime. To date, about 100 Germans have been awarded this distinction.

The president of the Federal Republic, Walter Scheel, honored another West German citizen, the publisher Axel Springer, for his consistent championing of German-Jewish and German-Israeli reconciliation and cooperation. In May, on the occasion of his 65th birthday, the publisher was awarded the Grand Cross of the Federal Order of Merit. In January 1978, Springer was the first German citizen, other than a diplomat, to be received by Prime Minister Begin.

Thousands of West German citizens visited Israel. The volume of German tourism jumped with the inauguration of charter flights. In March, a delegation of the

German Union of Teachers and Scholars met in Israel with representatives of the Israel Union of Teachers to discuss revision of school textbooks in Germany and Israel. About 100 German book publishers joined in a display at the International Book Fair in Jerusalem during April and May. In June, the president of the Bavarian Youth League, Adolf Waibel, together with a leadership delegation of the German Federal Youth League, came to Israel as guests of the Council of Youth Movements. The president of the German Athletic Federation, Willi Weyer, and the organization's secretary general, Karlheinz Gieseler, were guests at the Tenth Macabiah Games during July. They also met with Israeli government representatives and took part in the consecration of a memorial for the Israeli athletes killed at the Munich Olympics.

Restitution

September 10, 1977 marked the 25th anniversary of the signing, in Luxemburg, of the agreements by which Bonn obligated itself to pay a total indemnity of DM 3 billion to the Jewish State, and DM 450 million to the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany. Annemarie Renger, a prominent SPD politician, wrote in the government weekly *Das Parlament*:

The Federal Republic of Germany has sought to stress the special nature of the Restitution Agreement and to keep it apart from commercial settlements with other creditor nations. The Republic did not look upon restitution as a way of lessening Germany's guilt; rather, it was to help the Germans come to grips with their past . . . In addition to its moral significance, the Luxemburg agreement carried much political weight. From the destruction and expulsion of the Jews, the State of Israel had arisen. Therefore, restitution was a form of aid, born of a special obligation, to the building and the survival of the State of Israel . . . The Restitution Agreement and its correct implementation, especially in political situations difficult for Israel, was the premise for a new beginning between Jews and Germans. Since then, many personal encounters have awakened an awareness in Israel of a different, democratic Germany and have led to a changed attitude. With the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1965, the political relationship between the two states became normalized. Yet a moral obligation vis-à-vis the Jewish people remains. The agonizing experiences of history cannot, and shall not, be forgotten.

Of 4,318,000 applications for indemnification filed under the Federal Indemnification Law, which governs recompense for persecution suffered by individuals, 4,298,000 had been settled. Approximately DM 42 billion had been disbursed for this purpose. Future obligations under this law, especially annuities to be paid, could amount to an additional DM 30 billion. Under the Federal Restitution Law, which governs compensation for illegally confiscated property, some 732,000 applications had been filed. Of these, 730,000 had been settled, at a cost of about DM 3.9 billion. After a change in the law in 1964, an additional 291,000 applications for special benefits in hardship cases were received. About 237,000 of these had so far been settled. In the future, approximately DM 400 million more was to be disbursed

under this law. Pursuant to other restitution laws and special arrangements, about DM 4.3 billion had been paid out, among other things, for restitution to former members of the public service, in benefits to war victims, in social insurance, to provide for former employees of Jewish communities, and to look after racial persecution victims not of the Jewish faith, as well as survivors of medical experiments on humans. It was expected that DM 2.4 billion more would be paid out on behalf of these victims. In addition, the Federal Republic had concluded restitution agreements with 12 European states for the benefit of persecuted nationals of these states and of their survivors. About DM 1 billion had been disbursed on this account. Total expenditures for righting Nazi wrongs had thus far come to about DM 54 billion. By the time the annuities expired, the total was expected to exceed DM 85 billion.

Nazi Trials

The Central Office for the Investigation of National Socialist Crimes in Ludwigsburg reported in July that since the end of World War II a total of 6,425 persons had been sentenced in Nazi trials held on West German soil; 151 of them had received life sentences. Since May 1945, well over 80,000 Germans had been charged with participation in Nazi crimes. Since 1958, 352 legal proceedings had ended in a verdict, involving 832 defendants; 560 of these had been sentenced (128 to life imprisonment), while 218 were acquitted, and proceedings against 54 were terminated. Early in 1977, the Central Office was still investigating 289 cases of Nazi crimes against 4,600 persons. New proceedings were added during the year, partially because new incriminating evidence continued to arrive from Poland. The work of the Central Office was to officially terminate on December 31, 1979, when the Statute of Limitations would take effect.

Kiel: In July, a former police captain, Werner Heinrich Pöhls, 61, was acquitted of having assisted in the murder of several hundred Jews in the Soviet Union in 1942. The reasons given for the verdict were that the defendant had acted "under wartime conditions" and out of a "sense of duty," and that no cruelty on his part could be proved. The prosecutor's office in Kiel filed accusations against three former SS officers, Ernst Ehlers, Konstantin Canaris, and Kurt Asche, who were charged with having assisted in the deportation of some 26,000 Jews to the Auschwitz extermination camp between 1942 and 1944.

Darmstadt: In April, a former police sergeant, Friedrich Rondholz, was acquitted of having murdered four Soviet prisoners of war.

Hanover: In September, a trial began against former SS officers Kurt Heinemeyer, 69, and Max Olde, 69, who were charged with jointly committing murder in extermination actions against Jews in southern Poland between 1942 and 1944. Proceedings against Rudolf Körner, 70, were separated from the trial and temporarily suspended, on grounds that he was ill. In October, a criminal court which since August 1976 had been trying three former police officers, Heinrich Rathje, Reinhold

Witt, and Friedrich Keller, for mass murder of Jews in Poland suspended proceedings against the chief defendant, Johannes von Dollen, 78, because he was ill. For the same reason, proceedings against two other co-defendants, Michael Gerhardt and Karl Irle, had been halted earlier.

Frankfurt: In July, former SS sergeant Hubert Gomerski, 65, was sentenced, in a retrial, to 15 years' incarceration for abetting the murder of more than 100,000 Jews in the Sobibor extermination camp. Gomerski had already received a life sentence for the same crimes in 1950. In September, former SS members Horst Czerwinski and Josef Schmidt went to trial. They were accused of murdering several inmates in the Lagischa sub-camp at Auschwitz and during an evacuation march from a camp at Golleschau to Loslau.

Hamburg: In July, former SS and police major Viktor Arajs, 67, went to trial for abetting the murder of more than 35,000 Latvian Jews and other civilians in the Riga district. In August, a former police and SS officer, Gerhard Maywald, 64, was sentenced to four years' detention for abetting the murder of 320 Jews from Riga. In November, the Federal Constitutional Court ruled that the case of former SS sergeant Wilhelm Eickhoff must be retried because of a grave procedural error. A Hamburg court, in 1976, had sentenced Eickhoff to 12 years' detention for murdering Jews, and the Federal Court had subsequently imposed a life sentence. Wilhelm Rosenbaum, a former SS member who had been sentenced to lifetime detention for the murder of more than a hundred Jews, but had been released for six months under a clemency grant in December 1976, had to go back to prison in June, when the Hamburg Senate refused further clemency.

Düsseldorf: A trial of 14 former guards at the Majdanek extermination camp, begun in November 1975, continued with no end in sight. In April, the court began to examine surviving camp inmates, mainly Poles. By the end of the year, about 150 witnesses had been examined; well over 100 remained on the waiting list. All of the defendants were free on bail. The court traveled to Poland to examine witnesses and visit the site of the former Majdanek camp.

Aschaffenburg: Proceedings commenced in September against former SS members Hans Olejak, 59, and Ewald Pansegrau, 56, for murdering at least 50 internees in the Jaworzno sub-camp at Auschwitz. The defendants received greetings in the form of flowers from unnamed "fellow veterans." The head of the neo-Nazi German Soldiers' Combat League, Erwin Schönborn, distributed pamphlets outside the courthouse, as he had done elsewhere during Nazi trials. The pamphlets denied that Jews were killed in gas chambers, and offered a DM 10,000 reward to anyone who could conclusively prove that one Jew had been gassed. Schönborn also accused Jewish witnesses of lying. He was, nevertheless, heard by the court as a witness concerning the gassing of Jews in Auschwitz. In his testimony, he again called the gassings the biggest lie in history.

On August 15, Herbert Kappler, former SS police chief of Rome, who was serving a life sentence in Italy for his responsibility in the shooting of hostages, some of them Jews, was removed by his wife from a prison hospital in Rome and taken

to Germany. He subsequently lived there as a free man, and was given police protection after threats were made against his life. The Bonn Government, on constitutional grounds, refused to extradite him to Italy. Chancellor Schmidt and the SPD expressed disapproval of Kappler's abduction to freedom and condemned his crimes. Groups of foreign persecution victims and resistance fighters, as well as others, accused the Federal Republic of sympathy for Nazi criminals, especially after the freeing of Kappler was widely hailed by the West German public.

In August, a former SS officer, Eduard Roschmann, died in Asunción, Paraguay. He had been wanted for crimes against Jews in Riga, and had lived in South America under the name of Federico Wegener.

JEWISH COMMUNITY

Demography

On January 1, the Jewish community in the Federal Republic numbered 27,379 members, 12,976 of them women. Their average age was 45 years. During 1977, 922 immigrants and 408 emigrants were registered, as were 74 births and 491 deaths. Thirty-nine persons converted to Judaism. The largest communities were in West Berlin (5,626), Frankfurt (5,033), Munich (3,859), Düsseldorf (1,671), Hamburg (1,344), and Cologne (1,213). Jews living in the Federal Republic without being registered as members of Jewish communities were estimated to number between 10,000 and 15,000. It was estimated that the intermarriage rate in the Federal Republic was as high as 60 per cent.

Communal Activities

The effects of right- and left-wing extremist acts in the Federal Republic were repeatedly discussed and scored by the Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland (Central Council of Jews in Germany). The Council regarded the flood of antisemitic pamphlets, attempts in sectors of the press to minimize or deny the mass murders in ghettos and concentration camps, and frequent rallies of former SS members as serious causes of concern. At its annual meeting, held in Hanover during June, the Council stated its "unconditional determination to strengthen the Jewish community in the Federal Republic" and resist any attack on freedom and democracy.

In February, Werner Nachmann was elected to his fifth consecutive term as chairman of the Central Council's board. In the spring, Nachmann accompanied Foreign Minister Genscher on his visit to Israel. He and the Council's general secretary, Alexander Ginsburg, represented the organization at the convention of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany and the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, held in Amsterdam during June, as well as at the meeting of the General Council of the World Jewish Congress in Washington during

October and November. In December, at the invitation of the Hungarian Government and the Central Federation of Hungarian Jewish Communities, Nachmann and Ginsburg took part in a celebration marking the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Rabbinical Seminary in Budapest.

Representatives of the Central Council entered into frequent conversations with leading politicians and attended the conventions of the CDU, SPD, and Free Democratic Party (FDP). In October, a conversation with Federal Defense Minister Georg Leber dealt with various antisemitic and anti-democratic manifestations in the West German armed forces. In June, the Council affirmed its readiness to support any measures that might ease the plight of Syrian Jewry. During the same month, the Council appealed to the West German government and to President Tito of Yugoslavia to use their influence at the Belgrade Conference on behalf of security, cooperation, and the reduction of tensions in Europe, so that Jews might be accorded their internationally recognized human rights.

Late in November, representatives of the Central Council met in Bonn with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. In December, the Council appealed to the German government and the European Economic Community to support the initiatives taken by prime ministers Sadat and Begin.

In January, Hans Filbinger, prime minister of the state of Baden-Württemberg, paid an official visit to the Jewish community in Stuttgart. In February, the president of the Berlin Chamber of Deputies, Peter Lorenz, visited the Berlin Jewish community; and in June the federal minister for economic cooperation, Marie Schlei, was a guest there. In December, the prime minister of Hesse, Holger Börner, visited the Jewish community in Frankfurt.

Religion

At a plenary meeting held in Munich during January, the Rabbinerkonferenz in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland (Rabbinical Conference in the Federal Republic of Germany), numbering 10 members, decided that in view of the small number of rabbis in the country and the large territory each had to serve, it would limit itself to specifically religious tasks.

In November, members of the Rabbinical Conference and the United Lutheran Church of Germany held a workshop in Hanover. The session focused on ways of representing Jews and Judaism in Protestant religious teaching, particularly in textbooks. It was felt that, in view of the growing number of antisemitic incidents, efforts had to be made to overcome the widespread ignorance of Judaism among Lutherans, and to reduce deep-seated prejudices that were often unconscious. The Lutheran representatives were asked to request of the appropriate church agencies that future ministers and teachers of religion be given basic information on Judaism and Christian-Jewish relations while in training. Furthermore, they were requested to urge that these matters receive greater attention in advanced and in-service

training of church functionaries, and in the various branches of church-sponsored programs for young people and adults.

Education and Youth Work

"The Future of Our Communities" was the theme of a youth convention of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, held in Würzburg during March. Seventy young Jews from the Federal Republic and West Berlin were given an opportunity to discuss their problems with rabbis, educators, and experienced community members. The participants agreed that Jewish survival depended primarily on the quality of religious life. At the same time, it was noted that young people tended to be alienated from Judaism. To bring about any improvement in this situation, it was argued, more rabbis and teachers would have to be put to work at the congregational level, and regular study seminars would have to be conducted at the regional level. One such seminar, on the subject "The Sabbath and Its Various Aspects," took place during June in Cologne.

A conference of delegates of the Bundesverband Jüdischer Studenten in Deutschland (Federal Association of Jewish Students in Germany), meeting in Munich during May, reaffirmed the tasks of the organization: to work for effective cooperation among Jewish organizations; to promote the well-being of the Jewish people; to support the State of Israel as the cultural and national home of the Jewish people; and to combat antisemitism. The apathy of many Jewish students was deplored. In July in Aachen, the Association conducted a weekend seminar on the current political situation, focusing mainly on the Middle East. "Policies for Israel's Security" was the theme of another weekend seminar of the Association, held in West Berlin in November.

The Bundesverband Jüdischer Jugend (National Federation of Jewish Youth), centered in the Ruhr region, also conducted a variety of programs. A one-day seminar was devoted to "Pairing Problems of Jewish Youth," a theme which had great urgency in view of the high rate of intermarriage.

In March in Munich, a seminar of the European Young Leadership Cabinet was conducted on the theme "Jewish History from 1880 to 1980." Eighty delegates from 11 European countries participated.

In July, Maccabiah Germany, the Jewish sports organization, took part in the Tenth Maccabiah Games in Israel, with a delegation of 45 persons. The delegation won six gold medals, four silver, and three bronze, and took seventh place in the team standings. The most successful athletes were Hanka Rohan, Blanka Rohan, and Hanna Slama, who won four gold medals in table tennis. Dany Leder, a gymnast, took the other two gold medals, as well as two silver and one bronze.

Christian-Jewish Cooperation

In July, the Ullstein publishing house in Berlin celebrated its 100th anniversary. The occasion was marked by a gathering of persons prominent in German public life and representatives of the Jewish community. A message from President Walter Scheel noted that Jews had brought the house its prestige, influence, and prosperity, and that Jewish journalists, scholars, and artists had contributed significantly to its success. At the 17th German Protestant Church convention in West Berlin, during June, a working group on "Jews and Christians," with Jewish participants, discussed problems of German-Jewish and Christian-Jewish coexistence. A joint Jewish-Christian service was also held. The Coordinating Council of Societies for Christian-Jewish Cooperation chose "Martin Buber: Dialogue Today" as its theme for 1978. The 1978 Brotherhood Week, scheduled for early March, was also to be devoted to this theme.

The President awarded the Federal Order of Merit to several German citizens who had risked their lives to help persecuted Jews during the Nazi era: Gerda Knöfler, who had provided asylum and other aid to numerous Jews between 1937 and her arrest in 1941; Georgette Gruschke, who for two years of the war hid a Jewish writer; and Anton Skerlownik, who hid three Jews in his home during the war years.

In June, the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York awarded an honorary doctorate to Dr. Gertrud Luckner, 76, a German Catholic who risked her life during the Nazi years to aid Jews, and who, since the war, has championed Christian-Jewish understanding.

Publications

German-language publishers issued many new books dealing with Jewish life during the Nazi era: Leo Sievers, *Juden in Deutschland: Die Geschichte einer 2000-jährigen Tragödie* ("Jews in Germany: The History of a 2,000-Year Tragedy"; Stern Buch-Verlag, Hamburg); Gerda Luft, *Heimkehr ins Unbekannte: Eine Darstellung der Einwanderung von Juden aus Deutschland nach Palästina vom Aufstieg Hitlers zur Macht bis zum Ausbruch des Zweiten Weltkrieges 1933-1939* ("Going Home Into the Unknown: An Account of Jewish Immigration from Germany to Palestine, from Hitler's Ascent to Power Until the Outbreak of the Second World War, 1933-1939"; Hammer, Wuppertal); Margarete Sallis-Freudenthal, *Ich habe mein Land gefunden: Erinnerungen* ("I Have Found My Land: Memoirs"; Knecht, Frankfurt); Rolf Vogel, *Ein Stempel hat gefehlt: Dokumente zur Emigration deutscher Juden* ("A Stamp Was Missing: Documents of the Emigration of German Jews"; Droemer Knaur, Munich); Charlotte E. Zernik, *Im Sturm der Zeit: Ein persönliches Dokument* ("In the Tempest of the Times: A Personal Document"; Econ, Düsseldorf); Jürgen Serke, *Die verbrannten Dichter* ("The Burned Poets"; Beltz, Weinheim); Hans Sahl, *Die Wenigen und die Vielen: Roman einer Zeit* ("The

Few and the Many: Novel of an Era"; Fischer, Frankfurt); Kurt Tucholsky, *Briefe aus dem Schweigen 1932-1935* ("Letters from Out of the Silence, 1932-1935"; Rowohlt, Reinbek).

On Jewish history: Carl Cohen, *The Impact of the Protestant Reformation on the Jews* (Schneider, Heidelberg); Bruno Kirschner, *Deutsche Spottmedaillen auf Juden* ("German Medals Satirizing Jews"; Battenberg, Munich); Hans Liebeschütz and Arnold Paucker, *Das Judentum in der deutschen Umwelt 1800-1850* ("Jewry in the German Environment, 1800-1850"; Mohr, Tübingen); Eugen Taeubler, *Aufsätze zur Problematik jüdischer Geschichtsschreibung 1908-1950* ("Essays on Problems of Jewish Historiography, 1908-1950"; Mohr, Tübingen); Jacob Toury, *Soziale und politische Geschichte der Juden in Deutschland 1847-1871: Zwischen Revolution, Reaktion und Emanzipation* ("Social and Political History of the Jews in Germany, 1847-1871: Amid Revolution, Reaction and Emancipation"; Droste, Düsseldorf); Ulrich Dunker, *Der Reichsbund Jüdischer Frontsoldaten 1919-1938: Geschichte eines jüdischen Abwehrvereins* ("The National League of Jewish Combat Veterans: History of a Jewish Defense Agency"; Droste, Düsseldorf); Joachim Freyburg and Hans Wallenberg, *Hundert Jahre Ullstein* ("A Hundred Years of the House of Ullstein"; Ullstein, Berlin).

On National Socialism: Adalbert Rückerl, *Nationalsozialistische Vernichtungslager im Spiegel deutscher Strafprozesse: Belzec, Sobibor, Treblinka, Chelmno* ("Nazi Extermination Camps in the Mirror of German Criminal Trials: Belzec, Sobibor, Treblinka, Chelmno"; Deutsche Verlagsanstalt, Stuttgart); Hans Robinsohn, *Justiz als politische Verfolgung: Die Rechtsprechung in "Rassenschandefällen" beim Landgericht Hamburg 1936-1943* ("Administration of Justice as Political Persecution: Court Rulings in 'Miscegenation' Cases Before the Hamburg Regional Court, 1936-1943"; Deutsche Verlagsanstalt, Stuttgart); Avraham Barkai, *Das Wirtschaftssystem des Nationalsozialismus: Der historische und ideologische Hintergrund 1933-1936* ("The Economic System of National Socialism: The Historical and Ideological Background, 1933-1936"; Wissenschaft und Politik, Cologne); Werner Maser, *Nürnberg: Tribunal der Sieger* ("Nuremberg: Tribunal of the Victors"; Econ, Düsseldorf); Viktor E. Frankl, . . . *Trotzdem ja zum Leben sagen: Ein Psychologe erlebt das Konzentrationslager* (" . . . And Yet Say Yes to Life: A Psychologist Experiences the Concentration Camp"; Kösel, Munich); Karl Sauer, *Die Verbrechen der Waffen-SS* ("The Crimes of the Waffen SS"; Röderberg, Frankfurt); Lieselotte Maas, *Handbuch der deutschen Exilpresse 1933-1945, Band II* ("Handbook of the German Press in Exile, 1933-1945," Vol. II; Hanser, Munich).

Ancient Jewish History: Shmuel Safrai, *Das jüdische Volk im Zeitalter des Zweiten Tempels* ("The Jewish People in the Era of the Second Temple"; Neukircher, Neukirchen-Vluyn); Gerhard Prause, *Herodes der Grosse: König der Juden* ("Herod the Great: King of the Jews"; Hoffmann und Campe, Hamburg); Svend Holm-Nielsen, *Die Psalmen Salomons: Jüdische Schriften aus hellenistisch-römischer Zeit* ("The Psalms of Solomon: Jewish Writings from the Hellenist-Roman Age"; Mohn, Gütersloh); *Gott sprach zu Abraham: Die Geschichte des*

biblichen Volkes und seines Glaubens ("God Spoke to Abraham: The Story of the People of the Bible and Its Faith"), with 72 pictures in full color by Erich Lessing and introductory text by Claus Westermann (Herder, Freiburg).

The Jewish religion: Pinchas Lapide, *Auferstehung: Ein jüdisches Glaubenserlebnis* ("Resurrection: An Experience in Jewish Faith"; Kösel, Munich); Simon Schoon and Heinz Kremers, *Nes Ammim: Ein christliches Experiment in Israel* ("Nes Ammim: A Christian Experiment in Israel"; Neukircher, Neukirchen-Vluyn); Hugo S. Bergmann, *Die dialogische Philosophie von Kierkegaard bis Buber* ("The Philosophy of Dialogue from Kierkegaard to Buber"; Schneider, Heidelberg); Bernhard Uhde, *Judentum im Religionsunterricht: Sekundarstufe II—Einführung, Unterrichtsmodell, Arbeitsmaterial* ("Judaism in Religious Instruction: Secondary Level II—Introduction to the Subject; Model Study Plan; Study Materials"; Don Bosco, Munich).

Biography: Rivka Horwitz, *Buber's Way to "I and Thou": An Historical Analysis and the First Publication of Martin Buber's Lectures*; Schneider, Heidelberg); Wiebrecht Ries, *Transzendenz als Terror: Eine religionsphilosophische Studie über Franz Kafka* ("Transcendence as Terror: A Study of Franz Kafka in Terms of the Philosophy of Religion"; Schneider, Heidelberg); Heinrich Graetz, *Tagebuch und Briefe* ("Diary and Letters"; Mohr, Tübingen); Ernst Pinchas Blumenthal, *Diener am Licht: Eine Biographie Theodor Herzls* ("Servant of the Light: A Biography of Theodor Herzl"; Europäische Verlagsanstalt, Cologne); W.P. Eckert, H.L. Goldschmidt, and L. Wachinger, *Martin Bubers Ringen um Wirklichkeit* ("Martin Buber's Struggle for Reality"; Bund, Cologne); Gerhard Wehr, *Der deutsche Jude: Martin Buber* ("A German Jew: Martin Buber"; Kindler, Munich); Margarete Buber-Neumann, *Milena, Kafkas Freundin* ("Milena, Kafka's Woman Friend"; Langen-Müller, Munich).

Prose and Poetry: I.Z. Kanner, *Jüdische Märchen* ("Jewish Fairy Tales"; Fischer, Frankfurt); Edgar Hilsenrath, *Der Nazi und der Friseur* ("The Nazi and the Hairdresser," a novel; Literarischer Verlag Braun, Cologne); Heinrich Heine, *Die Wahl-Esel: Ein satirisches Lesebuch* ("The Donkey Electors: A Satirical Reader"; Satire Verlag, Cologne); Heinrich Heine, *Gedichte* ("Poems"; Diogenes, Zurich); Ephraim Kishon, *Mein Freund Jossele: Auch Schwindeln will gelernt sein* ("My Friend Yossele: Also Fakery Needs to Be Learned," satires; Langen-Müller, Munich); Salcia Landmann, *Marienbad: Ein Roman in Briefen nach Scholem Alejchem* ("Marienbad: A Novel in Letters, after Sholom Aleichem"; Herbig, Munich); Mascha Kaleko, *Der Gott der kleinen Webefehler: Spaziergänge durch New Yorks Lower East Side und Greenwich Village* ("The God of Small Flaws: Walks Through New York's Lower East Side and Greenwich Village"; Eremiten-Presse, Düsseldorf); Jurek Becker, *Schlaflose Tage* ("Sleepless Days," a novel; Suhrkamp, Frankfurt).

Personalia

Rose Ausländer, 70, a poet, originally from Czernowitz and now residing in Düsseldorf, was awarded the DM 10,000 Andreas Gryphius Prize for East German Literature by the Artists' Guild in Esslingen. She also received the Ida Dehmel Prize for Literature of the Federation of Societies of Women Artists and Friends of the Arts in Hamburg.

The DM 20,000 Lessing Prize of the city of Hamburg was awarded to writer Jean Amery, born in Vienna in 1912, a resident of Brussels since 1945. The writer Hermann Kesten, born in 1900, now living in the United States, received the DM 20,000 Nelly Sachs Prize of the city of Dortmund for his services in promoting understanding and reconciliation among nations. Lorin Maazel, now leader of the Cleveland Orchestra, was awarded the Federal Cross of Merit, First Class, by President Scheel, in recognition of his services to the cultural life of Berlin, where he was chief music director of the German Opera and conducted the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra from 1965–1971.

The Central Council of Jews in Germany awarded its DM 3,000 Leo Baeck Prize for 1977 to a former member of its board of directors, the late Josef Neuberger, an SPD politician and former minister of justice in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. Hermann Lewy, 72, of Düsseldorf, the long-time editor-in-chief of the *Allgemeine jüdische Wochenzeitung*, the only national Jewish weekly in West Germany, was awarded the Great Cross and Star of the Federal Order of Merit by the President for his services to German-Jewish reconciliation. The Federal Cross of Merit, First Class, was awarded to Heinz Bär of Düsseldorf, for his services in reviving Jewish sports in postwar Germany and in consolidating Jewish communal life. Max Willner, director of the Central Welfare Agency of Jews in Germany, was named an honorary fellow of Tel Aviv University in appreciation of his services on behalf of the university, and his activities in support of culture and research for the benefit of Israel and the Jewish people.

Hans Wallenberg, a journalist who had played a significant role in the revival of a free press in postwar Germany, had been editor-in-chief of the *Neue Zeitung*, and for years had occupied leading positions at the daily *Die Welt* and other major publications, died in Berlin on April 13, at the age of 69.

FRIEDO SACHSER

German Democratic Republic

THE EAST BERLIN Jewish community had 369 members at the end of June, 248 of them 60 years or older. The other seven communities in the country had about 350 additional members.

In November, a Jewish communal library was opened in East Berlin in the presence of numerous public officials. The library comprised about 1,000 volumes and was to be expanded. At the opening, Peter Kirchner, chairman of the East Berlin Jewish community, expressed the hope that the new library would help promote Jewish cultural life in the country.

Representatives of the Federation of Jewish Communities in the German Democratic Republic took part in the World Conference of Religious Representatives for a Durable Peace, Disarmament, and Just Relationships Among Nations, held in Moscow during June; in the regional convention of the European Section of the World Jewish Congress in Milan in September; and in the Third European Conference of the International Council of Jewish Women in London during October. Also in October, the president of the Federation, Helmut Aris, stated in a message to the 14th party congress of the Christian Democratic Union of Germany: "Antisemitism and racism have been overcome and no longer have a place in our republic, in contrast to events of fascist and racist cast in the Federal Republic of Germany and other capitalist countries." In May, the new Jewish cemetery in Dresden had been desecrated.

During a visit to the Netherlands in February, Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer stated that the problem of restitution to victims of Nazi persecution had been concluded, as far as his government was concerned. The German Democratic Republic, he said, had met all its obligations.

On December 19, Jurek Becker, 40, a well-known Jewish writer who had grown up in the Lodz ghetto and been interned in a German concentration camp with his parents, left East Germany for political reasons. Becker, a winner of the East German National Prize, is best known for *Jacob the Liar*, which was made into a film.

In the area of foreign policy, the German Democratic Republic continued to support the radical forces in the Arab campaign against Israel. East Germany accused Israel of numerous crimes against the Palestinians. The press compared Israelis to Nazis; cartoons repeatedly pictured Moshe Dayan as a disciple of Hitler. The PLO was enthusiastically supported. In a congratulatory telegram to Yasir Arafat on his reelection as chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, Party Secretary Erich Honecker praised the "long-standing fraternal cooperation and anti-imperialist solidarity" between East Germany and the PLO.

In connection with the Israeli-Egyptian peace negotiations, the German Democratic Republic openly backed the opponents of President Sadat, especially Syria and Libya. The Foreign Ministry voiced "surprise and regret" over the "unexplained and unjustified" closing of the East German consulate in Alexandria, Egypt. In the opinion of Werner Lamberz, a member of East Germany's Politburo, the solution of the Middle East conflict was not to be found in an "imperialist-Zionist sham peace," which "in reality would contain the germ of new wars, but only in a comprehensive peace settlement." For this reason, Lamberz said, the German Democratic Republic would continue to favor reconvening the Geneva Conference.

FRIEDO SACHSER