## JDC REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

FROM YUGOSLAVIA....

"The current Jewish population of Yugo-slavia is approximately 6,000. Half live in the three larger communities (Belgrade, Zagreb and Sarajevo), the rest live in some 30 smaller communities. About 60% is over 60 years of

age.
"Jewish leaders (here) are an impressive group, mostly former partisans who today are either retired from or continue to be engaged in (National) life. A serious concern regarding future leadership, however, is the almost total absence of Jewish population between the ages of

"The Camp at Pirovac is probably the most vital program operating in the country, and is of importance for the continued survival and support of Jewish communal life."

#### FROM ARGENTINA....

"JDC'S work with the Vaad Hachinuch (Educational Council) is expanding to 12 schools, and the professionals assigned are also helping the schools meet the economic challenge.

"The Vaad Hachinuch recommended that the schools charge the same tuition as last year, as a result, there is a higher registration and great enthusiasm, but the tremendous economic diffi-culties remain."

#### FROM MOROCCO ....

There are now only 18,000 Jews remaining in Morocco, out of a population that numbered 300,000 thirty years ago. The decline has reduced the number of qualified people in Jewish communal service.

"During the past year, three (Kindergarten) teachers in Casablanca left the program -- one from Alliance Israelite Universelle and two from Ozar Hatorah, none of the new teachers can begin to take the place of the experienced individuals who have left: It is this pattern which is dis-

turbing, for there is now no real cadre of trained teachers remaining -- and a minority of women now teaching are the last of the group trained by JDC in the 1960's..."

#### FROM TUNISIA....

"(The Peace Corps Volunteer). Barbara has been spending every Monday afternoon at Foyer La Goulette (The Old Age Home). Barbara has tried her best to interest the elderly in 'Projects,' but had given up in despair. Finally she decided they really just want to visit with her, and this she is doing. Everyone loves this vibrant young American who speaks excellent Arabic. When this consultant visited La Goulette, everyone spoke of Barbara, projects aside, the visits of Barbara are important, since visitors are so few and far between in La Goulette, particularly of young, attractive people.'

#### FROM FRANCE ....

"In 1980 JDC agreed to share (with the Fonds Social Juif Unifie, France's Central Social Welfare Agency) in the cost of a (three year) manpower development program. The focus of the training of the first two classes was for work in the FSJU and its subvented agencies; the emphasis of the current class is on fund raising.

"In the...(Current) class of 11 trainees/in-terns, the average age is 31. There are six men and five women. Their professional backgrounds include experience in business, medicine and teaching.

"The local communities have taken total or partial responsibility for the salaries of three of the first class graduates and ten of the second class graduates. The Appel Juif Unifie, France's National Jewish Appeal, will hire all the current interns when they graduate. (This is part of an effort to increase the number of donors to the Franch Campaign from the current total of 30,000.)°

#### FROM ISRAEL....

"The sheltered housing project in Gilo has

been operating since November, and out of 51 apartments for the aged, 24 are already occupied, as the first residents have moved in. The JDC/Brookdale Institute has been providing reports on the range of problems encountered, the feelings of the residents in their new homes, the social relations that are developing, and the interaction between the aged and the young couples and children that share the neighboring apartments. These reports will serve as a basis for action by the authorities in charge of the pro-ject's operation and by the local staff. The lessons learned may have applicability in other

### THATCHER CABINET SHAKE-UP MAY CURB PRO-ARAB LEANINGS

LONDON (WNS) --Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has fired Foreign Secretary Francis Pym and promoted two young Jewish ministers in a Cabinet reshuffle following her landslide victory. Pym, who succeeded Lord Carrington only 14 months ago, has been replaced by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is especially close is especially close to Thatcher, According to observers, the change consolidates the Prime Minister's personal control over foreign policy and might curb the Foreign Office's pro-Arab tendencies that have caused Thatcher some embarrassment in recent months.

Howe was replaced at the Treasury by Nigel Lawson, 51, a Jewish former

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journalist. Another Jewish minister, Leon Brittan, 43, elevated to the office of Home Secretary. Brittan, the son of a Lithuanian - born doctor whose parents died in the Holocaust, is the youngest Home Secretary since Winston Churchill held that post early in the century.

Howe and Brittan are considered rightwing in their economic views but liberal on social issues. Neither has been as vocal in their expressions of friendship for Israel however as Cecil Parker, promoted to the office of Secretary for Trade and Industry. Parker, as guest speaker at last month's dinner of the British-Israel Chamber of Commerce, delivered one of the most effusively pro - Israel speeches heard in London since the 1967 Six - Day War.

His many Israeli friends will be watching to see whether he will favor a tougher stand against the That Arab boycott. could also be a test for the new Foreign Secretary, Howe. Generally, the new Parliament is potentially more sympathetic toward Israel, largely because of the vastating defeat sufby the Labor fered which at its Party last annual conference supported Palestine Liberation Organization's call for a "secular mocratic state Palestine." of

eve of the On the elections, Thatcher affirmed her personal support and admiration for the State of Israel." But she also defended her government's contacts with PLO, ruled out moving the British Embassy to Jerusalem and denied that Jews had "an unconditional right" to settle on the West Bank Gaza Strip.

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