## **Upswing Seen In** Israel-Austrian Relations

VIENNA (WNS) - Austrian-Israeli Austria's relations with Israel have taken a turn for the better, both respect to trade, according to Gideon Patt, Israel's Minister of Commerce and Industry, who arrived here at the head of a right to exist at all his trade delegation.

Patt, the first Israeli government official to visit Austria since the 1973 Yom Kippur War, said he left for Austria with misgivings because of the long strained relations between the two countries. "But now those feelings have been replaced with good ones," he told a press conference.

Chancellor Since Bruno Kreisky left of- Austrian initiatives in fice last year, to be suc- the Middle East were ceeded by Chancellor often suspect in Israel. Fred Sinowatz,

relations have improved, at least in atmosphere and the tone of talks is politically and with much more friendly, Patt said.

> He noted that Sinowatz has promised that he would stress the principle of Israel's meetings with Arab diplomats, and in fact did so recently in Abu Dhabi during a visit to United Arab Kreisky, Emirates. though Jewish, had consistently been critical of Israeli and policies maintained cordial relations with Arab countries and with Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat.

For that reason, But Austria will soon

undertake new initiainitiatives in the region. Foreign Minister Erwin Lanc told a press conference here that the government expects to increase its activities in the next few months to contribute toward an easing of tensions in the Middle East.

Lanc, reporting on Austrian foreign policy during 1983, would not specify what the newinitiatives might be. But he made it clear that Austria views the Palestinian question as the basic problem to be solved in the region and hinted that whatever new initiatives might be taken will be aimed in that direction. The war

Lebanon was a distraction, Lanc said. "Maybe now there will be a time of thinking instead of fighting."

## Alleged Killer Of 'Peace Now' **Activist Goes On Trial**

Yona Avrushmi went on trial charged with throwing a hand grenade that killed Peace Now activist Emil Grunzweig during a domonstration outside the Prime Minister's Office in February,

The first witness for hand galoff, a former police agent, testified that he had sold the grenade to Avrushmi shortly before the demonstration at which Grunzweig was killed. Schengaloff also admitted he had 500,000 received

JERUSALEM (WNS) Shekels from the police for his part in exposing the suspect.

Avrushmi denies that he threw the grenade. An Israeli soldier, David Shem-Tov, who was arrested as an accomplice, testified that he had delivered a number of Israel army issue grenades the State, Amos Schen- Schengaloff. Shem-Tov was not accused of taking part in the attack.

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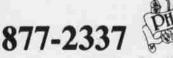
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