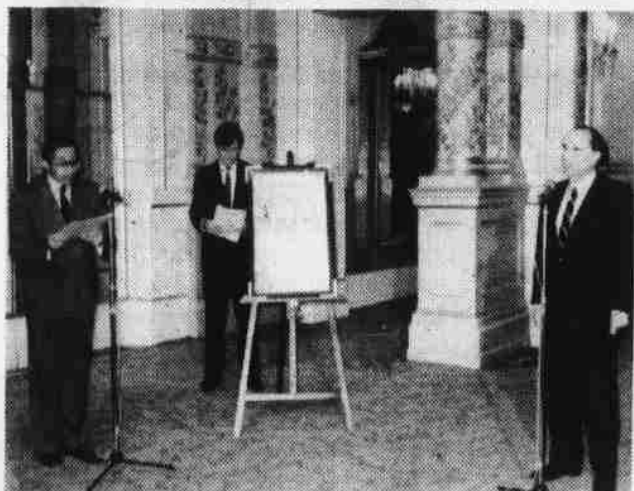


Simon Wiesenthal Center Mission Urges New Soviet Jewry Initiatives In Meetings With French President And Foreign Minister



HONORING FRENCH PRESIDENT — Francois Mitterrand (right). President of France, was presented with the Simon Wiesenthal Humanitarian Award by Rabbi Marvin Hier, founder and Dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, at a ceremony at Elysee Palace in Paris. The award was made in the presence of the 25-member Wiesenthal Center 1984 "Mission of Remembrance and Renewal," as well as the Chief Rabbi of France, Rene Samuel Sirat, and the President of the French Jewish community, Theodore Klein. The award cited Mitterrand for his "lifelong friendship to the Jewish people and commitment to human rights."

LOS ANGELES — French President Francois Mitterrand and Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson were urged by a 25-member North American delegation of the Simon Wiesenthal Center to launch specific new initiatives on behalf of Soviet Jewry. The two meetings were held in Paris in conjunction with the Wiesenthal Center's 1984 "Mission of Remembrance and Renewal" to West Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and France. It also came just before word that President Mitterrand would be meeting with Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko in Moscow for the first time.

At an Elysee Palace ceremony bestowing the Wiesenthal Center's Humanitarian Award upon the French President -- for his lifelong friendship to the Jewish people and commitment to human rights -- Rabbi Marvin Hier (founder and Dean of the Los Angeles-based Wiesenthal Center) urged President Mitterrand to personally take up the plights of human rights activist Andrei Sakharov and refusenik Anatoly Shcharansky.

He told the President that the Wiesenthal Center's delegation had just come from Budapest, where they honored the heroic mission of Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg. Rabbi Hier

urged Mitterrand "To do all you can on behalf of these two great people to see that the Soviets will not be able to do to Sakharov and Shcharansky what they succeeded in doing to Raoul Wallenberg."

He added that "We also hope that you will confront Soviet President Cherenko with the cultural genocide which characterizes the official Soviet policy toward its Jewish citizens. Ask him why his country virtually prohibits the study of Bible, silences teachers who want to teach, considers it a crime to speak the language of Isaiah and Jeremiah -- all this while the U.S.S.R. seals its borders with artificial restriction and continuously harasses the nearly one-fifth of the world Jewish population that lives there with a relentless barrage of officially-inspired anti-Semitism."

At a later meeting at the French Foreign Ministry with Foreign Minister Cheysson and Chief Political Counselor Jacques Andreani, France was urged, by Wiesenthal Center delegation spokesman Ira Lipman of Memphis, to follow the U.S. lead and openly assign French diplomats in Moscow and Leningrad to attend services at synagogues which, he said, would "offer a flicker of light to those who live in such darkness."

The French officials promised to consider the request and acknowledged that some additional concrete gestures to the embattled Jewish community in the Soviet Union should be taken.

New 'Peace List' For Knesset Elections Stirs Controversy

JERUSALEM (WNS) — The "Progressive List for Peace," a new faction of Israeli Arabs and Jews, which seeks to take part in the July

23 Knesset elections, had become the target of sharp controversy.

Security forces have called it subversive. Premier Yitzhak Shamir, as acting Defense Minister, outlawed it. Defense Minister Moshe Arens, who was in the United States, was notified of the issue on June 1. He was scheduled to meet with representatives of

the new list on his return and decide on whether or not to outlaw the list, which only a Defense Minister can do to a political threat to state security.

Security sources also charged the faction was an attempt to introduce PLO supporters in the Knesset, noting that its platform refers to a future independent Palestinian state without defining its borders. Moshe Kochanovsky, Defense Ministry legal advisor,

said participation of Jews in the list was an attempt to camouflage the faction's "real purpose."

Spokesman for other parties have condemned the moves to outlaw the list, notably Interior Minister Yosef Burg of the National Religious Party.

Meanwhile demands have been made to outlaw Rabbi Meir Kahane's radical right-wing party. The Central Elections Committee said it would consider those demands soon.

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Maurice Grynfogel, European Jewish Leader, Dead At 55

Dr. Maurice Grynfogel, Chairman of the European Branch of the World Jewish Congress, died suddenly in his home here.

Born in 1928 in Nancy, France, Maurice Grynfogel went to Toulouse in June 1940 at the start of the German offensive and remained in that city until December 1942, when the Germans invaded the so-called Free

Zone. He escaped to Spain through the Pyrenees and remained in Barcelona from December 1942 to April 1943, when the free French government sent him to Morocco. He remained in Casablanca from 1943 to 1945. With the liberation of France, he returned to Toulouse and has lived there since.

Dr. Grynfogel

graduated from the University of Medicine in Toulouse. He was awarded the University's Golden Medal for his thesis. From 1959-1960 he was a French government research fellow at the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York. Since 1961, Dr. Grynfogel has been in private practice as an obstetrician and gynecologist in Toulouse. His articles and publications on subjects related to his specialty number more than one hundred.

He was with the French army in the 1956 Suez campaign as a young doctor.

Dr. Grynfogel is survived by his wife Judith and two children.

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