

Anti-Semitic Members Active In West German Opposition Party

BONN (WNS) The opposition Green Party in West Germany is wrestling with manifestations of blatant anti-Semitism by some members and avowed opposition to anti-Semitism by others. It held an anti-Israel demonstration recently at which participants carried placards defaming Jews and in a blatantly anti-Semitic cartoon in a newspaper published by the Green Party in West Berlin. The cartoon drew angry protests from the Jewish community and

several organizations which found it reminiscent of the style of Der Stürmer, the newspaper of the Hitler era published by the infamous Julius Streicher which caricatured Jews as vile monsters. It triggered a sharp debate within the Green Party which has been accused in the past of harboring anti-Semites, though it also has individual Jews among its members.

The cartoonist, identified only as "Michael," offered no apology. He claimed he was unaware his drawing bore any resemblance to Der Stürmer's depiction of Jews and advised his Jewish colleagues in the party not to be over-sensitive. But many members of the Green Party take the incident seriously and have vowed to fight any anti-Semitic tendencies in the party's ranks.

The cartoon was inspired by a recent political scandal in which several prominent real estate operators, only one of whom is Jewish, bribed politicians and municipal officials. The

cartoon shows a speculator offering a bribe. The figure is unmistakable "Jewish" in the Nazi sense. It was reproduced on a placard carried in the recent demonstration by a Green group against Israeli Premier Shimon Peres. Other placards suggested that Jews be confined to synagogues, questioned the existence of a Jewish people and claimed that the Palestinians, not Jews, were the real victims of Auschwitz. In a series of discussions among party groups, much was said about how to

detect and combat latent anti-Semitism, of which many party members claim to be unaware. It was also suggested that many people confuse the Green Party's opposition to Israeli policies in the Middle East with anti-Semitism.

Klinghoffer Forest Dedication



A forest of 10,000 trees at American Independence Park, near Jerusalem, was established by the Jewish National Fund in memory of Leon and Marilyn Klinghoffer. Formal dedication of the forest was marked by the presentation of a scroll by Manhattan Congressman Ted Weiss (right) to the daughters of the late couple, Ilisa (second from left) and Lisa. Also participating in the ceremony was Rabbi Joseph P. Sternstein, JNF president, who hailed the "unprecedented" outpouring of support for the forest from persons throughout the country.

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