

Conductor reprimanded for Wagner performances

By **MARCUS ELIASON**
Of the Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel — Of all the brickbats hurled at Zubin Mehta for conducting Richard Wagner's music in Israel, the unkindest came from an Israeli official who suggested that the maestro go home.

"But I am at home," said Mehta when he read the remark.

The conductor was born in India, then moved to America where he conducts the New York Philharmonic Orchestra and has directed the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra for 12 years.

"So where is he telling me to go? Home is everywhere. Home is America, Israel and India," he said in an interview with The Associated Press.

The "go home" remark by Dov Shilansky, deputy cabinet minister, crowned an ugly controversy over Mehta's efforts to perform Wagner's music in Israel.

The 19th-century German composer's works have been taboo here for 43 years because Wagner was a Jew-hater and Hitler's favorite composer.

"They say you (Mehta) have contributed a great deal to our orchestra," Shilansky said in a radio interview. "But we too have contributed to you, because when you came to us you weren't as famous as you are now. So if you mean to spread division in the nation — go home."

Says Mehta: "Wagner was an anti-Semite and a very second-class human being. But that

doesn't mean you stop playing the music of a revolutionary genius. We need these creators. They are our spiritual food."

Two attempts to cap concerts with Wagner encores have been disrupted by survivors of the Holocaust. And while public opinion is mostly on Mehta's side, the Philharmonic plans to poll its subscribers on whether to go on performing his work.

Nuclear attack blasted in poll

By **TIMOTHY HARPER**
Of the Associated Press

NEW YORK — A majority of Americans think the United States should not respond with nuclear weapons if the Soviet Union launches a limited nuclear attack in Western Europe,

according to the latest Associated Press-NBC News poll.

The poll of 1,598 adults, chosen in a scientific random sampling, also showed that an overwhelming majority believe neither the United States nor the Soviet Union could win a nu-

clear war against each other.

Half the respondents said Pres. Reagan — under recent criticism for his statements about use of arms in Western Europe — has made United States foreign policy clear to America's allies in Western Europe.

Twenty-five percent said Reagan has not made U.S. policies clear to Western European allies, and said it is a serious problem. The remaining 25 percent either were not sure or said unclear policies in Western Europe are not a serious foreign policy problem.

The poll showed 52 percent do not think the United States should respond with nuclear weapons if the Soviet Union launches a limited nuclear attack on an American ally in Western Europe.

If there were a tactical Soviet nuclear strike in Western Europe, 16 percent said the United States should counter with a limited strike against an Eastern European country, while 13 percent said the U.S. response should be an all-out nuclear attack on the Soviet Union.

Nineteen percent said they were unsure how the United States should respond to a Soviet nuclear attack in Western Europe.

If there were a nuclear war between the United States and the Soviet Union, 78 percent said, neither side could win. Ten percent said the United States would win, 3 percent said the Soviet Union would win and 9 percent were not sure.

In addition, the latest poll showed Reagan's approval rating for foreign affairs remained consistent with the August and September AP-NBC News polls: 45 percent said the president is doing either a good or excellent job in handling foreign affairs.

Sixty percent said they believe Reagan has set the right tone in his dealings with the Soviet Union, and 70 percent said they favor a new agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union to limit nuclear weapons.

As with all sample surveys, the results of AP-NBC News polls can vary from the opinion of all Americans because of chance variations in the sample.

For a poll based on about 1,600 interviews, the results are subject to an error margin of 3 percentage points either way because of chance variations. That is, if one could have talked this past week to all Americans with telephones, there is only 1 chance in 20 that the findings would vary by more than 3 percentage points.



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