

Meeting Between German And Israeli Students in Vain

By ELIYAH SIMON
United Press International
Jerusalem, Israel — (UPI) — The meeting took place in one of the buildings on the Hebrew university campus in Jerusalem.

German and Israeli students sat facing each other across a conference table. The atmosphere was tense.

One of the Germans was speaking slowly in English, choosing his words with care. He proposed holding a joint German-Israeli symposium in Germany on the problem of anti-Semitism.

The Israeli students stirred restlessly. One interrupted the German: "Anti-Semitism is your problem, not ours. Considering that so many people in Israel have experienced the Nazi holocaust, it is morally out of the question for Israeli students to go to Germany."

The Germans offered to hold the symposium elsewhere in Europe. This, too, was rejected by the Israeli students.

Suddenly, an Israeli student jumped to his feet and shouted: "Why don't you go back to Germany? You are not welcome here!"

Turning to his fellow students, he declared: "It is wrong for us to have anything to do with Germans. This meeting is disgraceful!"

Germans Stunned
With these words he left the room, followed by five other students.

The Germans sat perfectly still, shaken by this outburst. One of the German girls burst into tears. Soon after, the meeting broke up in a slightly more cordial atmosphere.

The Israeli press reacted sharply to the incident. Some news papers supported the stand taken by the six students who had stalked out of the meeting. A few strongly condemned the Israel Students association for arranging this meeting with the Germans. But most of the press showed a more moderate attitude.

The Jerusalem Post criticized the Israeli students who had hurled insults at the Germans who are members of a student group called the "Deutsch-Israeilische Studentengruppen" (DIS).

This organization is dedicated to promotion of friendship between Germany and Israel. Those Israelis who disapproved of such contacts would "have done better to have stayed away," the Post said.

The German students were the first to visit Israel this year. Last year, over 1,000 came here. Their trips are largely subsidized by the German government, church groups, trade unions and factories. Carefully selected out of a large number of applicants, they come here well informed about Israel but are nervous about the reception they are likely to get.

Growing Movement
Since the war, a growing movement in Germany, consisting at first of individual Germans with an anti-Nazi past and gradually embracing

student and religious groups, has been searching for some way to bridge the gulf between the two peoples and to atone in some symbolic way for the crimes committed against the Jews in Germany.

These are not tourists in ordinary sense. Many come to "do penance." Members of a group called "action for symbolic penance" have been spending time in European

countries once occupied by the Germans, taking part in constructive building projects.

In Israel, they ask to be allowed to work in border settlements where manpower is scarce.

Out of a total of 273 settlements approached, only 12 so far have agreed to accept Germans as working visitors. These 12 are "young villages" of Israeli-born "Sabras" who

do not share the personal memories of older Jews of European origin who lost parents, brothers, sisters or children in the Nazi holocaust.

Ten years ago meetings such as these student groups would have been impossible. No German was permitted to enter Israel and Israeli passports were stamped: "Not valid for travel in Germany."

Young Israelis Friendly
"Begeister!" — enthusiastic — is the word most frequently cropping up in letters and articles set home by German visitors.

Fearing the worst, they are often pleasantly surprised at the generally friendly reception they get, particularly from young Israelis. Even the older generation, though understandably aloof and cold, have in personal contacts been polite and correct. This is no doubt due to the fact that these Germans, mostly in their early twenties, were too young to have taken part in the Nazi atrocities.

This policy of "controlled tourism" approved by the Israel government is seen by many as the first step in

eventual establishment of full normal relations with Germany. But, as an Israeli official put it, "Israel is not yet psychologically prepared to receive unlimited and unselected masses of German tourists."

Meanwhile, meetings between the Germans and the

Israelis take place, though not always comfortable for the Germans. But they do not usually complain of the Israeli attitude.

"It is much better this way," said one German student, "than for us to have met with a cold barrier of hostile silence."

Dennis the Menace



"HOW DO YA KNOW HE'S BEGGING? MAYBE HE'S PRAYIN'!"

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a women's editor. Each article is a summary of a family disagreement presented to the Council. The Council deals with problems, major and minor, entered by guidance counselors and social workers. Edited by Mrs. Alma Denay. (Copyright by General Features Corp.)

Flora A.—There's no reason why she shouldn't keep our son.

Mrs. L. A.—I have all I can do just keeping myself and my husband.

Flora A.—When our eight-year-old son failed to make proper progress in school, they gave him some tests and transferred him to a special class for the retarded. We know he's a bright child—it's just that the classes are so large, the teachers rush him and scare him. There's a wonderful school in Brooklyn near my mother-in-law. If she'd mind him, he could be admitted.

Mrs. L. A.—I'm 62, my husband is 68. Although I love my grandchild, I'm no replacement for his mother and father, so that even though they'd take him home week ends, Flora's idea is no answer. How can I take the whole responsibility for an eight-year-old boy? I'm a bit rusty on child care, and glad I can keep house for my husband. They should get new tests to show Alan is really smart.

The Council: There's merit in Mrs. A.'s suggestion for

further testing, tacked on to soften her turn-down of her daughter-in-law's proposal.

Examining Alan in depth could turn up several alternate courses. Many children labeled "retarded," for example, are intelligent—even brilliant—but stymied by heavy emotional blocks which keep them from responding normally. Thus, if Alan is found to be emotionally disturbed, but not retarded, he certainly doesn't belong in the new class. He belongs in a special class, a special school, or—if none is available—in his old class, but with special attention for both him and his parents from the school's guidance counselors. On the other hand if the verdict is indeed "retarded," regardless of the chagrin of the family, he should stay where he is. Or if the considered appraisal is "normal," Flora may then weigh the advantages of a transfer to another school for Alan against those of helping him adjust to the difficulties of over-crowding. But leave Grandma out of it—keep him living at home, no matter what the schooling arrangement, if possible.

the food prepared during the demonstrations.

Corinne Florey, Reporter.

Buzzen Duzzen
The Buzzen Duzzen 4-H club met at the home of Judy Gilmore recently.

The meeting was called to order by Connie Weide, president, and the flag salute was led by Cindy Moore and the 4-H Pledge by Rhondi Bender.

The group decided to hold their swim party and picnic July 25. Our leader, Mrs. Weide, gave us information on the fair, and helped us fill out entry forms.

Judy Gilmore, Reporter

4-H Club News

Snappy Cooks
The last meeting of the Snappy Cooks 4-H club was held at the home of Mrs. Florey recently.

We had three demonstrations: Gail Glass made brown sugar drop cookies; Cindy Ryerson prepared deviled eggs; and Diana Craven made snicker doodles.

Jeri Parrish, our secretary, is attending summer camp.

Gail Glass and Cindy Ryerson have received blue ribbons at the fair, and Kathy Ross and Corinne Florey, red ribbons in muffin baking.

Refreshments consisted of



SWIMMING POOL SAVED — An inferno of flames and billowing smoke rise from the old Highlands amusement park in St. Louis, Mo. Firemen fought in vain as every thing except the swimming pool and the roller coaster ride was totally consumed. (UPI)

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