

# Israel ups price for Mengele by million

FROM COMBINED DISPATCHES

JERUSALEM — Israel offered a \$1 million reward yesterday for Dr. Josef Mengele, the Auschwitz "Angel of Death" who conducted sadistic experiments on inmates and sent hundreds of thousands to gas chambers.

Justice Minister Moshe Nissim, announcing the reward in Parliament, said Mengele's capture would combat "expressions of conciliation and forgiveness" toward the Nazis. He made clear that he was referring to President Reagan's visit Sunday to the military cemetery at Bitburg, West Germany, whose 2,000 graves include those of 49 Nazi SS soldiers.

It was the first time Israel put a price on the head of a Nazi war criminal and was part of a campaign to find aging Nazi fugitives. Million-dollar rewards have been offered by The Washington Times and the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center, and the West German government has offered 1 million marks, more than \$300,000, for information on Mengele's whereabouts.

Mr. Nissim said the offer for information leading to Mengele's capture would stand for two years, and public servants of any country acting in their official capacities are not eligible.

Mengele fled to South America after the war and obtained Paraguayan citizenship in 1959, which was revoked in 1979 under international pressure. He has not been definitely sighted since he vanished in Paraguay in 1962.

Recent revelations that the U.S. Army may have knowingly freed Mengele from a prisoner camp after the war have revived the debate over his whereabouts 40 years after the liberation of Auschwitz.

The governments of the United States, West Germany and Israel are cooperating in an effort to bring Mengele to justice.

In Washington, the U.S. Marshals Service was assigned to the hunt for Mengele by Attorney General William French Smith on Feb. 6. Howard Safir, associate director for operations, said the marshals service is finishing the preliminary stages of putting together information before it can "do anything operationally."

Mr. Safir told The Washington Times yesterday there have been no confirmed sightings of Mengele in 20 years and termed the mounting rewards for new leads "a two-edged sword."

"They act as incentives and help bring in all kinds of information. Much of it is not credible," but still has to be evaluated and checked, he said. Mr. Safir said one of the bases of the marshals' involvement is that Mengele may have entered the United States or passed through en route to Canada in the 1960s. As the U.S. representative to Interpol, the Marshals Service would pursue its investigation abroad in cooperation with host countries, he said.

The Israeli government has captured other fugitive Nazis in the past. In 1960, Israeli agents kidnapped Adolf Eichmann in Argentina and brought him to Israel, where he was convicted of crimes against humanity and hanged.

Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal of Vienna has said he believes Mengele is in a jungle hideout living under the protection of the Paraguayan government. Alfredo Stroessner, president of the South American country, has denied Mengele lived in his country after he was declared a war criminal.

In Paris, Beate Klarsfeld said yesterday that she would visit Paraguay later this month and make a public television appeal for information on Mengele's whereabouts. Mrs. Klarsfeld, who was born in Germany and is not Jewish, has spent much of her adult life tracking down Nazi war criminals.

Israel relaxed its quest for Nazi fugitives after Eichmann was convicted and hanged, but became more active a few years ago to counter claims that accounts of the Holocaust were "Zionist propaganda."

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# Barbie's captor turns to Mengele

By Charles Wheeler  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A French Nazi hunter whose most recent success was the capture of Gestapo leader Klaus Barbie will arrive this week in Paraguay to arrange a televised appeal to the nation for information about Auschwitz "Angel of Death" Dr. Josef Mengele.

Beate Klarsfeld will arrive May 16 in Paraguay, where government officials have agreed to broadcast a short film showing pictures of Men-

gele describing his death camp atrocities and notifying Paraguayans of the millions in reward money offered for his capture and conviction, said Serge Klarsfeld, her husband, by phone from Paris.

Mrs. Klarsfeld succeeded in tracking down Barbie, known as "the Butcher of Lyon," the most notorious member of the Gestapo in France. After years of hiding in South America, Barbie was arrested in Bolivia and extradited to France in 1983.

Mrs. Klarsfeld was born a Protes-

tant in Berlin in 1939, the daughter of a Wehrmacht soldier. Her husband was born a Jew in Bucharest, Romania, in 1935. Mr. Klarsfeld's father died in Auschwitz in 1944. Together they have tracked down hundreds of Nazi war criminals, but Mengele remains at the top of their list.

Mengele, who would be 74 if still alive, was last seen in Paraguay and still is believed to be hiding there, even though authorities in the South American country have denied that. Mr. Klarsfeld said that because of press censorship, Paraguayans know little of the search for Mengele.

"The Paraguayans do not see the publicity in American papers about Mengele," he said. "And since we cannot go knocking from door to door... CAPTOR page 1A

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door looking for him, the only way is to ask Paraguayans to come forth."

Attorney General Edwin Meese said Friday that several American law enforcement officials, including representatives of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations, met in Frankfurt, West Germany, last week with West German and Israeli authorities to "reinforce and maximize" the search for Mengele.

"The parties to the discussion resolved to open direct lines of communication at both prosecutorial and investigative levels," Mr. Meese said. "With increased cooperation, the three countries will continue to work together with the aim of locating Mengele, arresting him and bringing him to trial for crimes against humanity."

Neal Sher, director of the OSI, visited Mr. Klarsfeld Thursday in Paris to discuss Mengele, said Mr. Klarsfeld. "I gave him all the assistance and documentation I had about Mengele."

Rewards totaling nearly \$3.4 million have been offered for the capture of Mengele, the doctor at the Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland who is accused of performing horrible medical experiments on inmates and sending at least 400,000 Jews to their deaths.

The 2½-minute film to be shown on Paraguayan television contains photos of a young Mengele from military files and at age 50. The film also shows footage of the liberation of Auschwitz, explaining the atrocities conducted there, and tells of the reward money offered for Mengele's capture and conviction.

"We ask the people to look for a 74-year-old man speaking Spanish

Klarsfeld. "We say to them, 'You have to open your eyes.'"

Last week, Israel offered a \$1 million reward for Mengele's capture. That reward is being offered jointly by the Israeli government and the World Zionist Organization.

A \$1 million offer has been made by Friends of the Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies in Los Angeles, and \$1 million has been offered by The Washington Times.

The West German government has offered a reward of \$300,000 and separate rewards of \$50,000 and \$25,000 have been offered, respectively, by Simon Wiesenthal and the Klarsfelds.

Mrs. Klarsfeld has traveled to Paraguay twice before to pressure government officials into pursuing the search for Mengele, her husband said. After each visit, Paraguayan officials have agreed to further steps.

"First they said they had no information at all, then they said they would arrest him if they could," said Mr. Klarsfeld. Now the government has agreed to the televised appeal.

The Klarsfelds will pay \$4 per second for the first showing of the film, but then Mrs. Klarsfeld will pressure the government to pay for repeated broadcasts, Mr. Klarsfeld said.

"She will ask the Paraguayan government to show good faith by televising the film several times," he said.

When Mengele fled Europe after World War II, he settled in Argentina, living there openly under his real name from 1954 until 1959. He then moved to Paraguay and was given citizenship, also under his real name. Under intense international pressure, Paraguay revoked Mengele's citizenship in 1979.

Mengele dropped from sight in Paraguay after the West German government requested his extradi-

### Secret Nazi Societies Protect Mengele

To the Editor:  
The statement by Hans-Eberhard Klein, procurator general of Frankfurt, that he believes the "Butcher of Auschwitz," Dr. Josef Mengele, is in Paraguay warrants further comment ("West Germans Believe Mengele Is Still Living," news item, April 25).

If Dr. Mengele is in Paraguay, there can be no doubt of protection by Gen. Alfredo Strössner's regime and members of Nazi shadow organizations. The most powerful and far reaching of these Nazi groups has been Kameradenwerk, founded in April 1946 by Hitler's most decorated airman, Col. Hans-Ulrich Rudel. Colonel Rudel obtained postwar funds by pressuring West German companies and industrialists who were on lists of Nazis. He also acted, until his death in Rosenheim, as a funds courier to South America, was a crony of Juan Perón, Alfredo Strössner, et al., and was the driving force behind his organization until Dec. 20, 1982.

Although Odessa symbolized in the public mind the Nazi rescue organizations because of the novel "The Odessa File," it started as a file, but never reached the significance of Kameradenwerk or the other key worldwide group, Die Spinne (The Spider). Die Spinne was formed by a small group of fanatical SS prisoners in the Allied war-prisoner camp at Glasenbach, Germany, in 1948. The first head of Die Spinne was Gen. Paul Hausser of the SS, and it soon spread its web around the world, becoming La Araña in South America. Also strong in the Southern Hemisphere was Das Reich, largely centered in Chile at Valparaiso, Santiago and in the enclave of Die Kolonie or La Dignidad at Parral.

These groups operate mostly in the background and under cover. Their members do not need membership cards in the common sense, since they all know one another among the Nazis, neo- and pro-, in such countries as Paraguay. Protection of such key surviving refugees as Dr. Mengele has become one of the prime functions of these shadow groups. There is a list of Nazi hunters who have been assassinated when they got too close to Dr. Mengele. Thus, La Araña and groups like it compound the two-part problem of finding and arresting Nazis such as Dr. Mengele.

R. H. HODGES  
Pelham, N.Y., April 25, 1985  
The writer, a major in the Air Force Reserve, has researched and tracked the subject for over 30 years.

### The Public's Right to Tune In Crime Trials



Mark Kostabi

To the Editor:  
Prof. Stephen Gillers cites two reasons why the media should not give so much attention to criminal trials, e.g., the Claus von Bülow and Jean Harris cases (Op-Ed, May 5).

Mr. Gillers says the media can only provide highlights of the trial, "snippets that tell almost nothing." Cable News Network is carrying 4½ hours of the trial live daily. Whether we should is another matter.

He also says the public is getting the wrong impression because Mr. von Bülow can afford the best defense, and the state is going all out to convict him. Somehow, Mr. Gillers implies, this is all bad.

One assumes a professor of law at New York University understands

that an accused person is entitled to a public trial and has the right to put on whatever defense he wishes; further, he must put on some kind of defense, or the court will appoint a lawyer to do it for him.

The public is concerned about crime. Fear of crime is inevitably among the top 10 concerns of Americans when they are polled. A survey by the Bureau of Justice Statistics this week says an individual has one chance in 133 of being killed in his or her lifetime. Little wonder we are concerned about crime and punishment.

The professor implies that the public makes no good use of most criminal trial coverage. How does he know? Who is he to determine what good (or bad or nothing at all) the public makes of information provided by the media?

News is the unusual, the intrusive, the deviant from the expected norms. The Claus von Bülow trial has real drama, a true story about living people. It is not a soap opera. The country did have a Scopeslike trial, and we carried it live from Sacramento, Calif., in March 1981.

We would prefer to have Professor Gillers's help in opening up the nation's courtrooms to more coverage, not reducing the activities of the third branch of government to highlights and snippets. Who cares? Many of us do and so should the would-be lawyers he is teaching.

ED TURNER  
Executive Vice President  
Cable News Network  
Atlanta, May 6, 1985

### Eliminate Incentive for Malpractice-Suit Delays

To the Editor:  
"What's the Cure for Bad Medicine?" (editorial, April 26) presented a good analysis of the malpractice claims and awards dilemma facing physicians and insurers. I noted particularly: "What especially worries the actuaries is the time it takes to settle a suit: now more than eight years. Claims being paid for past malpractice average about \$150,000 today. Inflation will push the figure to \$450,000 for malpractice occurring now."

Under the statutes, interest on awards or settlements does not start to accrue until the award is made. This encourages both physicians and insurance carriers to delay the cases.

Perhaps New York's Governor Cuomo could ask the Legislature to

change the laws so that interest accrues from the date the malpractice occurs, thus eliminating the incentive for delay. This would reduce the number of cases settled on the courthouse steps or in the courtroom as the jury is being selected.

HOWARD DIAMOND  
Union, N.J., April 29, 1985

### Dial 1 (800) OPINION?

To the Editor:  
It is important for citizens to communicate easily with their representatives. Isn't it time for the White House to install an 800 number for citizens to voice their feelings to the President?

EDWARD S. DERMON  
Roslyn Heights, L.I., April 30, 1985

### It Is Time to Take Another Look at the Fuel-Economy Law

To the Editor:  
"Reject the Plea From Ford, G.M." by Senators Daniel J. Evans and John Heinz (Op-Ed, April 20) was disappointing in view of their well-earned

fuel-economy family — not just luxury — cars, station wagons and utilitarian trucks that many of the authors' constituents need. The econ-

that are neither in their own interest nor that of the economy and to consider even more sourcing of products

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