

Naziism remains a potent political force

By DON BOWERMAN

Simon Wiesenthal is no ordinary detective. But then the men he is after are not ordinary criminals.

He is called a Nazi hunter. But he is an information gatherer, collecting facts the way he collects stamps, his only hobby.

The data pours into the shabby two-room office in Vienna that has housed Wiesenthal's Jewish Documentary Center since 1947. Sometimes the letters are delivered with no more address than "Wiesenthal, Vienna."

By patiently sifting that mountain of data, Wiesenthal and a few assistants have since 1947 "caught" nearly one thousand fugitive Nazis.

Twenty years ago it was Adolph Eichmann's turn. Information supplied by Wiesenthal led to Eichmann's capture in Argentina.

Sunday night at Temple Beth El in Bloomfield Township Wiesenthal told an audience of 2,000 gathered to see him receive the temple's annual Himmelfahrt Award for noteworthy contributions to Jewish education that another major Nazi war criminal is close to capture.

DR. JOSEPH MENGELE, wanted for war crimes by West Germany, is flying from country to country and is

only weeks away from capture, Wiesenthal said.

"We're very close to him," he said, adding that Mengele, a former concentration camp doctor, had been hiding until last year in Paraguay under the protection of Paraguayan President Stroessner.

United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim had been responsible for Mengele's expulsion from Paraguay, Wiesenthal said. He had appealed to Waldheim during the UN's "year of the child" on behalf of the children Mengele had killed, Wiesenthal said.

In his memoirs, "The Murderers Among Us," Wiesenthal charges that Mengele killed thousands of children in experiments to change the color of their eyes. Wiesenthal also claims to have testimony that Mengele threw a baby alive into a fire and killed a 14-year-old with a bayonet.

Following the cancellation of Mengele's citizenship last year, Wiesenthal said a reward of \$50,000 was posted by the Jewish Documentary Center for information leading to Mengele's arrest.

IN HIS Bloomfield Township talk, Wiesenthal also charged that hate literature mailed from the United States is fanning anti-semitic violence abroad.

Only last week, Wiesenthal said, anti-semitic leaflets printed in Lincoln,

Nebraska were confiscated by police in West Germany.

Wiesenthal said he has given U.S. Sen. Robert Dole a list of 100 U.S. right wing neo-Nazi organizations and publications.

Two years ago Wiesenthal appealed to the American Bar Association, which had given him its man of the year award, for a law against hate literature emanating from the United States.

Wiesenthal also charged that the United States had lost interest in the prosecution of Nazi criminals with the coming of the cold war.

He also faulted the government's inability to detect organizations in this country devoted to the protection of civilian Nazi collaborators.

The guilt of civilian collaborators with the Nazis exceeded that of the military war criminals, Wiesenthal said.

"They can't say they were ordered," he added.

WAR CRIMINAL is a term Wiesenthal calls misleading. The concentration camps were located 700 to 1,000 miles from the fighting front, he said.

Nazi guards were acting as criminals but not as soldiers since they were never in uniform, he said.

Wiesenthal defended the trial of Nazi criminals as "big historical lectures" to

counteract disbelief in the Jewish tragedy. Until he had uncovered the man who had arrested Ann Frank and her family, many had denied her existence, Wiesenthal said.

Furthermore, he said, the trial served as a warning—perhaps the only possible warning against future war crimes.

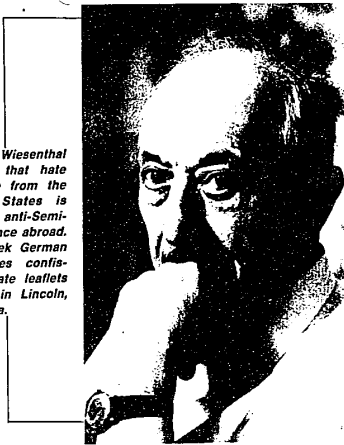
Nazism is still a potent force in world politics, Wiesenthal claimed. The average Nazi is 60 years old today, not an advanced age by present standards. "I am much older," he added.

The struggle against Nazism is not exclusively a Jewish responsibility, Wiesenthal said, adding that Christians had died in the camps along with Jews.

American Jews especially don't understand that "we can't fight alone," he said.

WIESENTHAL SAID he doesn't speak at remembrance days because every day is remembrance day for him.

He had been criticized for not resuming his profession as an architect following the war, Wiesenthal said. But when we come to the next world, the Jews who died in the camps will ask "what did you do," Wiesenthal said. And he will not answer that he was a builder of houses but will say instead, "I did not forget you."



Simon Wiesenthal charges that hate literature from the United States is fanning anti-semitic violence abroad. Last week German authorities confiscated hate leaflets printed in Lincoln, Nebraska.



Legendary violinist slated

Nathan Milstein, who celebrated the 50th anniversary of his debut on the continent last year, will appear in concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, at Orchestra Hall. The concert is part of Friends for Orchestra Hall's recital series "Praeludium 1980/81." Universal-

ly acknowledged as one of this century's great masters of the violin, Milstein has recorded the major works of the violin repertoire over the span of his career. He performs on a Stradivarius dated 1716, considered the best year of the violin maker's golden period.

Milstein is an arranger and transcriber and is deeply interested in politics, philosophy and literature. He possesses a collection of prized bows, including those of Tourte, Peccatte and Voirin. Orchestra Hall is at 3711 Woodward in Detroit. For ticket information call 833-3700.

WICI announces officers

Birmingham resident Barbara Shively has been elected president of the Detroit chapter of Women in Communications, Inc. An account executive at Kenyon & Eckhardt Advertising Inc., Ms. Shively will head the 350-member organization of area women involved professionally in the media, public relations and advertising.

Also elected during a recent meeting of the membership were Suzanne E. Wren, Auburn Heights, treasurer; Lynn Anderson, Rochester, recording secretary; Jeanne G. Paluzzi, Livonia, vice president of public relations; Patricia H. Montgomery, Bloomfield Hills, vice president Matrix; and Eleanor Luedtke, Birmingham, vice president of programming.

THE OFFICERS' educational and professional backgrounds and affiliations reflect the diversity in the membership of the organization.

Ms. Shively holds a bachelor of arts degree from Northwestern University and a master's degree from Indiana University. Her previous experience with WICI includes the chairmanship of the organization's Transition Career Day, an annual event, and the posts of president-elect and director-at-large of the chapter. Her new post will involve working with the national WICI office in Austin, Texas.

Ms. Wren, who is the director of advertising and public relations for Real Estate One, attended Miami University in Ohio. Her duties will be to serve as liaison for the financial and scholarship activities of the organization.

Ms. Anderson is a public-relations associate at the United Foundation. A graduate of Central Michigan University, she will supervise the minutes and maintain the history of the local chapter during the coming year.

Ms. Paluzzi is the president of the JGP Public Relations firm. During the coming year she will coordinate all chapter publicity and communications.

A GRADUATE of Stephens College, Columbia, Mo., and the University of Missouri School of Journalism, Ms. Montgomery is the director of public relations for the Cadillac Motor Car Division of General Motors. As the vice president in charge of Matrix she will be responsible for the annual Matrix meeting featuring a nationally noted speaker and the WICI scholarship-award presentations.

Eleanor Luedtke, who is a graduate of the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Fla., is employed as the vice president of university relations for the University of Detroit. As the vice president of programming she will be in charge of overall programming for the Women in Communications during the coming year.

For information about Women in Communications contact the Detroit chapter, 2630 Book Building, Detroit, 48226, or call 952-7225.

Gift bazaar set Nov. 18

Shalom Group of Hadassah's third annual Gift Bazaar is slated for 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18.

Scheduled for the United Hebrew Schools building at 21550 12 Mile in Southfield, the bazaar will offer leather goods, jewelry, books, candy, toys, kites and other unusual items for gift giving.

Gift wrapping will also be available and a gourmet array of baked goods will be on sale.



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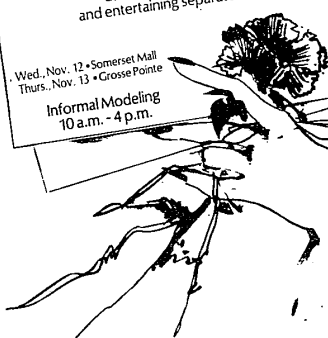
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