

# Mengele believed still alive, Israeli police report indicates

JERUSALEM (AP) — Josef Mengele, the infamous Nazi doctor at the Auschwitz concentration camp, may still be alive despite claims that he drowned in Brazil in 1979, a never-published Israeli police report says.

The report points to discrepancies in the medical findings that led American, German and Brazilian forensic experts to conclude jointly that the skeleton exhumed from a Brazilian cemetery was "within a reasonable scientific certainty" that of Mengele.

The report was submitted to the Israeli Justice and Police Ministries in 1986 but was never published. An English version of the report was distributed this week to journalists by CANDLES, Children of Auschwitz Nazi Deadly Lab Experiment Survivors, which campaigns to continue the hunt for Mengele.

Mengele, known as "the Angel of Death," is accused of sending about 400,000 people to the gas chambers and of conducting cruel

medical experiments on camp inmates.

He fled to South America in 1949, and lived in Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil. In 1985 it was announced that Mengele had drowned six years previously, and his friends directed police to a grave marked "Wolfgang Gerhard" in the Embu cemetery near Sao Paulo.

The police report was written by Menachem Russak, formerly Israel's chief police investigator of war crimes. In it he claims that enough inconsistencies exist to "suggest an assumption that the body discovered ... is not that of Josef Mengele."

Russak was the Israeli on the multinational team of experts that went to Brazil in 1985 to verify the announcement of Mengele's death.

The U.S. Office of Special Investigations also has not published the findings, according to Ephraim Zuroff, head of the Israeli branch of the Nazi-hunting Weisenthal Center.

Zuroff says the Russak report raises questions. But he said he does not think it undermines the forensic evidence.

Russak confirmed the report's authenticity but declined to elaborate on it.

Miriam Zeiger, a survivor of Mengele's experiments and head of the Israeli branch of CANDLES, said the report was handed to her twin sister by an anonymous person at a Jerusalem conference earlier this year.

She said Israeli Justice Minister Dan Meridor met the group last month and rejected a request to publish the Russak report.

The Justice Ministry said the report was "never adopted by the government." Spokeswoman Etti Eshed said the government is still trying to discover the truth, "but in the interest of the efforts cannot give further details."

The 60-page report questioned several forensic findings from the bones at Embu cemetery.

# Bush reaffirms U.S. advocacy of Gorbachev

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush warmly welcomed radical reformer Boris Yeltsin to the White House on Thursday but immediately reaffirmed U.S. support for the man often targeted by the new Russian president's criticism — Mikhail S. Gorbachev.

"I want to be very clear about this: The United States will continue to maintain the closest possible official relationship with the Soviet government of President Gorbachev," Bush told Yeltsin at the opening of their talks.

Yeltsin, capping a triumphant visit to Washington, arrived at the White House in a chauffeur-driven limousine led by a procession of motorcycle police. It was in sharp contrast to his 1989 visit, when Bush refused to give Yeltsin a formal appointment, though he did see him briefly.

Congratulating him on his election as Russian president, Bush said, "He won by a landslide."

"We have been heartened and encouraged by President Yeltsin's commitment to democratic values and free-market principles, and we look forward to working with him," Bush said.

At the same time, Bush underscored his support for Gorbachev, who is struggling to keep his nation from political and economic chaos.

Bush said Yeltsin, in the first minutes of their meeting, told him that "he and President Gorbachev are in very close contact

and working cooperatively together to achieve these ends.

"He knows that I have respect for President Gorbachev as I do for him," Bush said.

"And our ability to work together has produced, I think, enormous benefits for both our countries, and it has seen the cause of world peace and stability in the world."

Yeltsin told Bush that his election — which was the first presidential balloting in Russia's 1,000-year history — was a date for democracy and "found economic and social form."

Yet, Yeltsin said "We still help forces back at home that want to go back to the times of stagnation."

"I assure you this will not happen," the populist leader told Bush through an interpreter.

"Russia, which accounts for 12 percent of the gross national product of the Soviet Union, is firmly committed to democracy and will not allow any revision."

Yeltsin's Russian federalism has urged a cutoff of all Soviet foreign aid, including money to Cuba.

Bush, replying to a report question, said "They know we've had differences on Cuba and it wouldn't hurt my feelings a bit if they cut off all foreign aid to Cuba."

In addition to Bush, Yeltsin met with Commerce Secretary Robert A. Mosbacher and a group of American business executives to discuss expanding trade and investment in the Russian republic.

He also stopped at the Pentagon for talks with Defense Secretary Dick Cheney.



Boris Yeltsin assures Bush the Soviet Union won't go back to "stagnation."

## Assorted Russian spacecraft on display Fort Worth museums host 'Soviet Space' exhibition

FORT WORTH (AP) — "Soviet Space," a "blockbuster" exhibit of Russian space rockets, rovers and orbital wonders, opens a six-month run June 29 in the city's cultural district.

The Soviet display is the cornerstone of a visual spectacular that includes "Blue Planet," a film featuring footage from five American space shuttle missions.

The spacefest also showcases a traveling exhibit of space artifacts, called Space Spinoffs, and a new Noble Planetarium program, "SpaceRace," which highlights the U.S.-Soviet race to the moon.

"There truly is something for everyone to see and enjoy," says Don Otto, executive director of the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History.

The museum, which is presenting the space show, is in the heart of the west side cultural district and will house all but the "Soviet Space" exhibit.

Some 80 tons of Russian space equipment will be on display at the nearby Carter Exhibits Hall in the Will Rogers Memorial Complex.

The multimedia show is expected to draw more than half a million visitors to the cultural district before it closes Jan. 1, 1992.

"We are very excited about "Soviet Space" and the possibilities this multiple programming gives us," said Otto, noting that the show celebrates the museum's 50th anniversary.

"Many Americans may be unaware that the Soviet space pro-

gram has accomplished an impressive list of 'firsts' in space over the years, including the first human flight in space, the first space flight by a woman and the first space walk."

The exhibit includes a full-scale model of Sputnik, the first artificial satellite to orbit the earth, and a modified Vostok descent capsule similar to one that returned Yuri Gagarin from the first manned space flight.

Also on display is Lunokhod 2, a test model of the unmanned automatic moon rover that explored 23 miles of the lunar surface in 1973.

Throughout the exhibit, a Soviet technician will operate the rover on a simulated lunar landscape.

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