

WORLD ORT UNION

Yearbook 1995

YEARBOOK OF THE WORLD ORT UNION 1995

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WORLD ORT UNION

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THE WORLD ORT UNION IN TODAY'S WORLD



WORLD ORT UNION [WOU] is the largest non-governmental training and educational organisation in the world. A private, non-sectarian, non-political, non-profit organisation, ORT's objective is to meet the educational and vocational requirements of diverse students throughout the world. Founded in St Petersburg in 1880, WOU today operates in 60 countries and has a student body of over 250,000 worldwide, a number that is increasing as ORT centres are opened in Russia and Eastern Europe.

At the cutting edge of modern technology based education, ORT has created its own communications system, ORTnet [*], which sits on the international Internet global electronic information network. ORTnet is available to students world wide, carrying not only the ORT teaching programme, but also linking students and teachers to create interactive participation in multinational computer based projects. Through ORTnet, electronic conferences can be set up and seminars held among widely dispersed locations; ORTnet also guides students through the vast resources of the Internet databases, libraries and museums throughout the world.

In a changing political world, ORT is steadfast in its commitment to helping wherever the need is greatest. In developing countries, ORT assists in the creation and implementation of practical and technological education, providing young people and adults with new skills essential in the modern technological world. Through its Mother and Child Care and vocational self-help projects, ORT assists some of the poorest communities in the world, teaching basic hygiene, health care and nutrition, pre-school education, and training adults in industrial and infra-structure skills so that they can eventually become self sufficient.

ORT has an extensive operational programme in Israel, ranging from ORT Braude College at Karmiel, which has just been formally accredited as an academic institution conferring bachelors degrees, to special courses teaching language and basic skills to recent immigrants, as well as schools for Moslem and Christian Arabs and Druze children. The network of ORT schools offers vocational, technological and academic training for students at all levels of ability. As the peace process continues, ORT will be involved in the development of creative educational programmes for Arab and Jewish youth, and will also connect via the ORTnet system to young people throughout the world.

Founded originally to benefit Jewish communities, ORT now offers its expertise internationally on a non-sectarian basis. As well as running its own schools in many parts of the world, ORT supports training programmes in host schools, creating and developing programmes, providing equipment and software and training local staff. ORT is a founding member of ICVA [International Council of Voluntary Organisations], it has consultative status for information and education with UNESCO and observer status with ILO [International Labour Organisation]. World ORT Union is a registered NGO at the United Nations.

WOU runs a continual fundraising programme which enables it to research, develop and evaluate educational programmes and build and run its schools and projects worldwide, all of which have made it the most respected organisation of its kind in the world.

A MESSAGE FROM DAVID HERMELIN

President of the World ORT Union

Open any ORT classroom door anywhere in the world, and you will see expert teaching and training of girls and boys, men and women, who are being helped to maximise their potential and realise their goals. That is ORT.

A visit to Israel reveals classes with *olim* from the former Soviet Union and from Ethiopia sharing lessons in Hebrew. ORT's long experience in helping people of different backgrounds and cultures to integrate into their new society is at work. I am not sure whether we are the Chosen People, but I am certain that we are the Chosen Generation and our efforts are being repaid with every job that is found by an immigrant, whether as a retrained engineer, teacher, secretary or technician.

A clear educational need, identified ten years ago by industry in Israel, resulted in the establishment of ORT Braude, a fine international college of technology, soon to grant its first academic degrees. I am deeply honoured that a similar college has been inaugurated in my name in Netanya, a rapidly growing town with a large population of *olim*.

We all look forward to the opening of the new ORT schools in Moscow and St Petersburg in 1995. Apart from

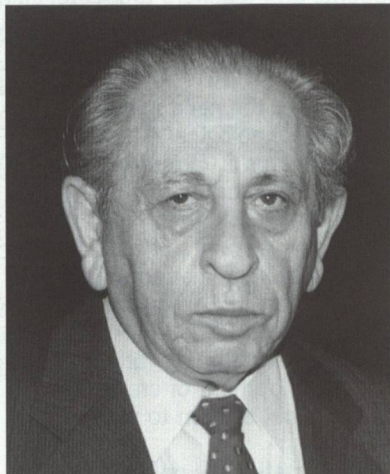


the educational significance, it will be an emotional landmark for an organisation born in that great country, where we are now helping to reshape their educational system.

I feel sure that 1995 will bring much new and innovative development and I look forward to sharing my pride in our work with volunteers, supporters and staff all over the world. My way of explaining O-R-T is being demonstrated in countless places every day - On the Right Track.

A MESSAGE FROM UZIEL STEINBERG

Chair of the Executive Committee



1994 has been characterised by a reassessment of our priorities and goals for the years ahead. As we approach the 21st century, radical changes in curricula commit us to unprecedented investment in refurbishing our buildings and updating our laboratories and equipment in order to provide ORT students with the educational environment needed in a changing world.

Eastern Europe, and especially Russia, together the largest concentration of Jews in Europe and the third largest worldwide, are the focus of special interest. During 1994, ORT opened the Moscow school and the ORT Technology Resource Centre [*] at the St. Petersburg Jewish school. Ten other centres are planned around the CIS.

In Israel, where the largest and most important ORT network is located, we are enhancing the development of the next phase of technological education, enabling students to study towards a Bachelor of Technology degree. In addition to the three colleges already operating in Israel [in Jerusalem, Karmiel and Tel Aviv] we are establishing a fourth college in Netanya; construction is planned to commence shortly.

1994 saw real progress towards peace in the Middle East. The Oslo and Cairo agreements are being implemented, a peace treaty with Jordan has been signed; in spite of all the obstacles, there is no turning back. But new political realities present us with new challenges. There is a huge technological gap between Israel, the Palestinians and the surrounding Arab countries. The solution is education. Are we ready to offer help to our neighbours? Will they welcome this help? Can we face this challenge and mobilise the necessary funds?

Our immediate tasks and future challenges are unique in the history of WOU. I hope that our friends and members worldwide will unite to ensure that the human and economical resources are available to meet these challenges and accomplish the tasks before us.

A MESSAGE FROM RUTH EISENBERG

Chair of the Administrative Committee

1995 will mark many exciting new developments for ORT. Highlighting our re-entry into Jewish life in Russia will be the dedication this spring of a new school in Moscow and an ORT programme in the Jewish school in St Petersburg, where ORT was founded 115 years ago. These will be significant additions to the ORT Resource Centre established a few years ago in Moscow and a continuation of new ORT programmes throughout Eastern Europe.

In Western Europe, we shall soon be training professional and lay leadership for Jewish Communal Service in a new programme at our Anières Institute in Switzerland.

In Israel, ORT is moving on multiple tracks: to meet the nation's new educational agenda; to focus on the development of higher level academic institutions; to train and retrain the thousands of new immigrants, both young and adult; and to help build the peace by training Israeli Arabs.

There is no limit to the contribution that ORT can and must make at this juncture, especially given the advantage of ORTnet, our new vehicle for providing Information Technology and Jewish Education. Our task is two-fold: to develop the high quality content that will keep us at the cutting edge of the new technologies, and to raise the substantial funds required to fulfil the catapulting demands.

The World ORT Union Administrative Committee is determined to build the necessary resources to accomplish our mission and is pressing all ORT organisations and supporters to increase their efforts dramatically. We must seize the extraordinary opportunities of this time to strengthen Jewish life and help to ensure its continuity.



ANNUAL REPORT FROM DR ELLEN ISLER Director General of the World ORT Union

This past year, my first as Director General, has seen significant achievements for the World ORT Union in education, training and humanitarian operations in both the developed and developing worlds. In an intense and exciting year, I have travelled extensively around the worldwide ORT network and have witnessed how our work has enhanced the lives of hundreds of thousands of individuals who have passed through our schools, workshops, training centres and colleges; ORT has brought health, education - and hope - to many of the world's most disadvantaged communities.

One of the many highlights has been the establishment of ORTnet, our part of the Internet, which came on-line early this year, giving a new and highly significant direction to our teaching and training methods. It has enabled us to create communications links with all ORT schools and training centres and increasingly with Jewish communities in Eastern Europe and elsewhere. An example of this is the link we created on May 6 when ORTnet enabled a three-continent electronics conference to take place to celebrate the opening of the CEAT International Cooperation project in Concepción, Chile. I took part in a conversation with the President of Chile, the Director of ORT Chile and the Director of ORT St Petersburg. This effort, masterminded in our London headquarters, required the input of our directors abroad and provided the impetus to put common schools projects onto ORTnet.

In Latin America, I visited ORT programmes in Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Chile and Peru - both the Jewish schools and the International Cooperation projects that we run. The benefits of this two-pronged approach are clear: our Jewish programmes are enhanced by the recognition and support we receive from local authorities because of the work we do with the local underprivileged population, and the humanitarian programmes are supported and improved by the staff and expertise of ORT.

Following on the political changes in South Africa, I recently visited our programmes there and participated in the opening of South Africa's second ORT-STEP [ORT Science and Technology Educational Programme] Institute, this one in Cape Town. ORT-STEP trains teachers, mostly Black, in science and technology, the latter being a new discipline in the education system. A new school for 105 children, affiliated to the first Institute in Midrand, provides hands-on experience for the teachers and has proved, in under twelve months, the success of ORT's methods. More Institutes are planned for the near future. A R60 million Distance Learning project to reach remote Black communities, was developed by ORT-STEP and is expected to be financed by government and private investment. Various meetings I had with government ministers will result in a series of International Cooperation projects, particularly in agriculture and employment. ORT's Chinese Spark Project will be the model for some of these.

After lengthy negotiations with the Russian Minister of Education and the Head of Education in Moscow, ORT opened the ORT Moscow Education Complex on October 1, with 120 Jewish and non-Jewish students. At the same time, our Technology Unit at the St Petersburg Jewish school came on-stream. Emotionally, this "Return to Russia" is significant; educationally, it has important implications in terms of staff and resources.

1994 also saw the opening of a High Tech Information Technology Laboratory [ITL*] and Jewish Studies Centre in Zagreb for the Jewish community; at their request, we also undertook a training programme in various skills for refugees and displaced persons of all ethnic groups in Makarska, Croatia. Once again, it demonstrates to the local Jewish community the importance of being able to call on ORT to help them in the context of the wider society.

We have established several Information Technology Laboratories in Eastern Europe. The Budapest Laboratory, opened last month in the Jewish Community Centre, serves the Jewish community, but will also link, via ORTnet, the three Jewish schools in the area. We are also examining whether ORTnet can provide much needed services for the elderly in Old Age Homes and for those who are housebound. In partnership with Bet Hatfutsot [the Museum of the Diaspora in Tel Aviv] we are creating a "Museum Tour" on ORTnet. Multimedia provides sight, sound, graphics and interactive participation.

As ORT moves rapidly towards the 21st century, the relevance of our activities and the flexibility of our approach continue to recommend us far and wide. As ever, we must consider the educational and employment areas to be included in our curricula, and the areas in which ORT can be of specific help to Jewish communities. By strengthening our efforts, we shall continue to make a difference in tomorrow's world.

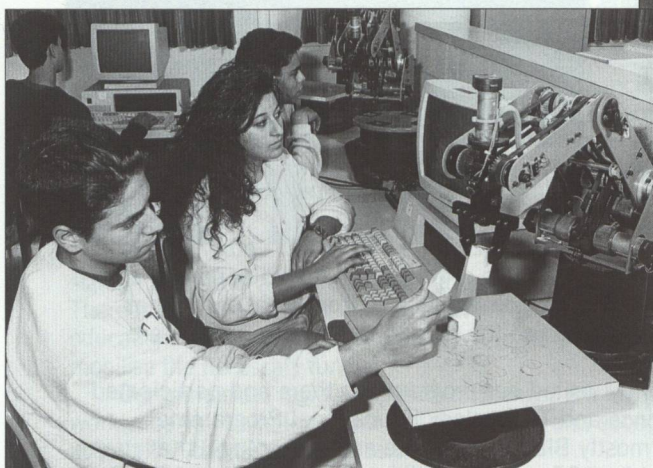


ORT NETWORK REVIEW

Israel

During 1994, the ORT Israel network was strengthened in programme content, equipment, facilities, renovation and construction. Children entering junior high school this academic year will graduate in the year 2001. ORT Israel has therefore concentrated much effort towards education appropriate to the 21st century.

Much time and human resources have gone into the upgrading of science and technology, to stand as part of the general education programme on a par with maths, history and Bible. The ORT Moshinsky Centre brought out software for maths and science teaching and developed a pilot Technology Centre designed to meet the educational needs of children in junior high schools. The Centre is currently working on 70 research and development projects for the teaching of a wide range of subjects.



Students at an ORT robotics laboratory, Israel

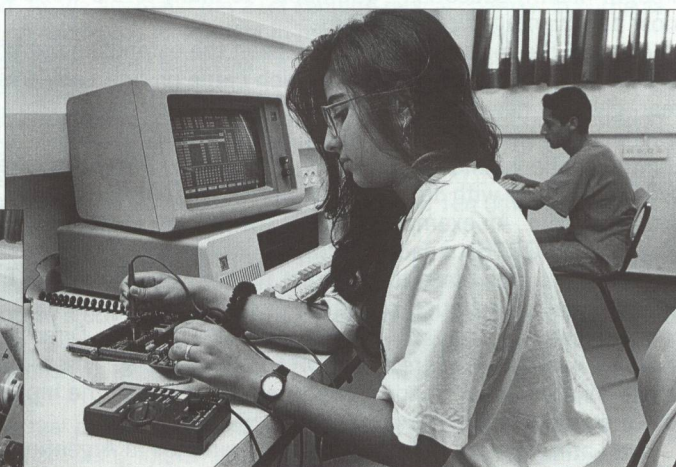
The most important element in this programme of modernisation is the human factor, and time and effort have been invested in upgrading directors, teachers and management staff. To this end, 200,000 seminar hours were given at ORT Moshinsky and elsewhere in the network. An electronic bulletin board was also developed and implemented to enable easy communication between teachers and students throughout the network.

A vital part of the programme for the 21st century is campus renewal, requiring support above and beyond the allocation from government and municipality. ORT Israel is currently managing 14 major construction sites within the network as well as several minor projects.

The effect of the peace process has been to increase the number of Israeli Arab schools wishing to join the network both in the North and in the Negev. ORT Israel welcomes these requests, but in order to meet them, further heavy financial and human investment will be needed.

In 1994, after several years spent designing, developing and implementing an entirely new curriculum for a

Bachelor of Technology degree, ORT Israel was granted the right by the Higher Education Council for the State to grant its own degree in various disciplines at ORT Braude in Karmiel. The main issue now is to acquire the same accreditation for ORT Syngalowsky and ORT Pollak. Plans for the expansion of academic space at the Givat Ram campus are also underway and a new college is to be built in Netanya in the name of David Hermelin, President of World ORT Union. By the year 2,000, these colleges will be the leading institutions in the network, raising the level of science and technology throughout the educational system.



Student at an ORT electronics laboratory, Israel

LATIN AMERICA

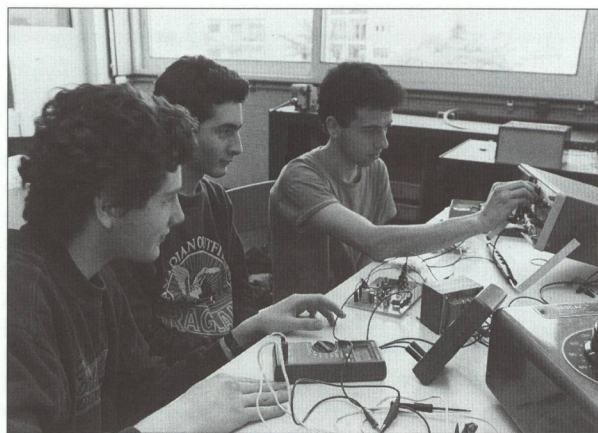
Argentina

Enrolment in ORT Argentina's two technical high schools and three post secondary colleges, including the Shazar Teacher Training College associated with AMIA [the major organisation of the Jewish community in Argentina] surpassed 6,000 students, the maximum number possible in the space available. Women and girls now comprise 37% of the student body, and the percentage is rising steadily. In addition, more than 11,000 primary school children benefited in associated Jewish schools, in creative educational programmes which included the social sciences, Jewish studies, natural sciences and technological subjects.

The ORT high schools offered a comprehensive range of courses including electronics, computers, industrial chemistry, building and construction, media and communications, business studies and industrial design. A music department was also established. The junior colleges' curriculum includes systems analysis, automation, CAD [*], biochemistry, business administration, marketing, advertising and graphic design, communications, and product design.

A review of this past year cannot but mention the terrorist bombing of the AMIA in Buenos Aires, in which 86 people were killed, including seven ORT

ORT NETWORK REVIEW



ORT students in Buenos Aires

students and graduates, and more than 200 were injured. ORT students and teachers were at the forefront of activities in the aftermath of the bombing, helping to trace information on the dead, the missing and the wounded. Many ORT students are still trying to reconstruct what remains of the library and the museum of the AMIA. Life has now returned to its former routine and educators and students at the ORT schools have resumed their normal activities, with exceptional attendance at all levels.

Brazil

The ORT Technical High School in Rio de Janeiro offers courses in computer sciences and electronics and a new specialisation in biotechnology. This latter course received official recognition from the State Council of Education. The students study 40 hours per week, receiving technological, general and Jewish education. There is a significant increase in enrolment for next year.



First year student involved in biotechnology experiment, Rio de Janeiro

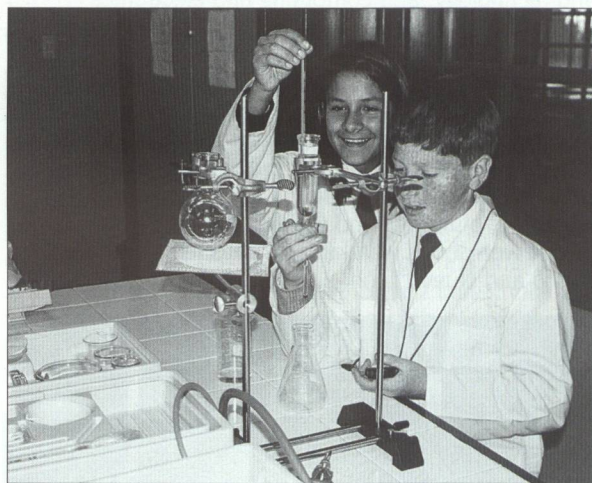
In São Paulo, ORT provided courses in computers, teacher training and high technology in the local Jewish schools, reaching 3,000 students a year. A feasibility

study to create an ORT school in São Paulo is being carried out together with the local Jewish Federation.

Special programmes to assist deprived populations in Brazil's remote provinces were implemented, using Distance Education [*] methodology.

Chile

At the Chaim Weitzman ORT school in Santiago, ORT upgraded the quality of education in technology, science and Jewish studies and provided the school with teaching materials in a range of subjects including physics, chemistry, mathematics and Jewish education. The installation of Macintosh computers provided sound and image manipulation, computational art and desktop publishing. ORT is currently involved in a major overhaul of the computer science curriculum and the completion of an IBM compatible laboratory.



ORT school students in the chemistry laboratory, Chile

Similar assistance in technology and the sciences was provided for the Chaim Weitzman Hebrew Institute in Viña del Mar, 140 kilometres south of Santiago. A training programme for infant school teachers and training for teachers in computer assisted instruction were implemented.

The CEAT [High Technology Educational Centre] Project for a massive teacher training programme in the use of computers in education, supported by the Andes Foundation, has continued successfully. 17 municipal governments are involved in this project. The Catholic Church University of Northern Chile, with the support of the Andes Foundation, has joined ORT in sponsoring post-graduate studies in education, multimedia and administration. ORT Chile also expanded its activities in the Distance Education teacher training system.

In May, the new training centre in Concepción was officially opened in the presence of the President of Chile. At the inauguration, an Internet Relay Chat [*] linked Concepción, St Petersburg and London. The President was duly impressed.

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Costa Rica

ORT continues to organise courses for teacher training in the Jaim Weitzman school which incorporates ORT science and computer laboratories.

Ecuador

At the Albert Einstein school in Quito, ORT provides equipment and teaching materials for the staff and students.

Mexico

ORT Mexico continued to develop its technical-pedagogical support for the 13 Jewish community schools, comprising a student body of some 7,500. Teacher training courses and courses for students were provided in creativity, computing and science and technology, and computing and electronics courses were also run by ORT in the Tarbut School.

In partnership with DIF, Mexico's national welfare organisation, ORT Mexico established ten additional workshops in Mexico City, bringing the total of DIF-ORT workshops to 32. These provide training in such subjects as computer studies, CAD [*], secretarial upgrading, plumbing and welding and electricity. Similar workshops were also established in Zacatecas, Jalisco and Nuevo León.



Adult training programme, ORT Mexico

ORT has continued its ongoing support for CONALEP, the national school network for technical education, and has established three new courses: television and video repair, computer repair and advanced programming, in addition to the six courses already in existence.

With the financial support of Mr Max Shein, a leading Mexican Jewish philanthropist, computation, biology, physics and chemistry laboratories were installed in the Albert Einstein secondary public school; a vocational training centre, with workshops in carpentry, preventive maintenance, and secretarial and computer skills, was established in Tlaxcala.



The London Information Technology Laboratory, a model for Mexico

Mr Shein has recently donated \$1.5 million to establish the Max and Amparo Centro Tecnológico in Mexico City. This will be a large Resource Centre [*] for both Jews and non-Jews, which will train teachers and students, as well as unemployed young adults, in new computer technologies.

The ORT Feminina Committee is being restructured in order to increase fundraising activities and recruit larger numbers of supporters. Three new scholarships were granted to the ORT Braude International Institute in Karmiel and ORT Mexico is enlarging its financial support for local activities in conjunction with DIF.

Paraguay

The Jewish school in Asuncion received teacher training provided by ORT Paraguay and a multi-science laboratory is being established.

Peru

The Distance Education [*] Project was concluded as the external financing came to an end, but a new agreement concerning the future of the system was signed with the local authorities. A new cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Education will enable ORT Peru to implement a new system in three high schools. With a joint enrolment of more than 10,000 students, these high schools will train up to 700 students a year in such professions as plumbing, electricity, secretarial skills and computers.

A new training centre was inaugurated by WOU Director General, Dr Ellen Isler, during her visit to Peru. The Centre has been structured to be self-supporting and, if it proves successful, similar centres are planned in other locations.

1994 saw some changes in ORT's activities with the Jewish Community through the Leon Pinelo High School. A new coordinator was appointed to the department run by ORT and activities are scheduled to be revised and improved. The school is also being connected to ORTnet [*], thereby establishing a direct connection with ORT headquarters in London and with ORT schools worldwide.

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Uruguay

The main priorities of ORT Uruguay this year have been to sustain quality development and attract the majority of Jewish college level students. New areas of college level degrees and post graduate studies were developed. Cutting-edge options were offered in software engineering, telecommunications, marketing, international trade and graphic design. Membership of the relevant international bodies was achieved: the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business [AACSB]; The American Association for Higher Education [AAHE] and The American Society for Engineering Education [ASEE]. Specialised seminars were held in several subjects, including advanced marketing techniques and international finance, one with the financial support of USAID.



Jorge de Grunberg, Director of ORT Uruguay, Dr David Yussim, President of ORT Uruguay, Mrs Yussim, Dr Ellen Isler, Director General of WOU and Dr Alan Isler on the steps of the School of Management and International Studies, Uruguay

A post graduate management course, geared to updating professionals currently holding managerial positions in Jewish non-profit institutions, was launched in May. This programme, co-sponsored with the Joint Distribution Committee, includes human resources development and marketing in service organisations, strategic management, fundraising, computing skills, financial management, negotiation skills and legal and tax issues in non-profit management. Thirty participants representing fourteen local Jewish institutions are attending this new one-year course.

ORT Uruguay has been instrumental in supporting the entire Jewish educational network as a source of technological assistance and leadership; increasingly, it has served as a tertiary level option for its matriculation graduates. The Mother and Child Care Projects and the Distance Education [*] programmes, which have had a strong impact on the lives of thousands of needy beneficiaries, have now come to an end on schedule.



Distance Education Project: working session of the household electric devices repair course in Las Piedras, Uruguay

Venezuela

ORT Venezuela continued to support the Caracas Jewish community schools, providing creative education, natural science and technological studies for primary schools and computer science and biotechnology in the high schools. The computer science centre established in 1986 at the Community High School was updated and a new centre inaugurated there. A biotechnology laboratory was also established. With the help of ORT Argentina and ORT Brazil, courses in computer science and biotechnology were set up for elementary and high school teachers. ORT Venezuela continues to support the local Jewish schools in whichever ways are needed.



Graduating students of the plumbing and electricity workshop, Caracas

In the wider community, ORT Venezuela, together with the Ministry for Family Affairs, set up training schemes for youngsters aged 15 - 24, who neither study nor work. These provided training in electrical installation and domestic appliance repair, plumbing and computing/secretarial skills. Technical training workshops and sports and cultural activities were provided in conjunction with the municipalities of Libertador, Baruta and Petare, the latter an area of dense marginal population.

ORT NETWORK REVIEW

In the three years of its existence, ORT Venezuela has made a strong impact on local life. As a way of extending its options, it has adapted technical instructional manuals to Venezuelan rules and published a labour orientation manual to facilitate the search for jobs. A probable agreement with the Ministry of Labour would send young people to ORT workshops to be trained, and ORT graduates would obtain jobs through the Ministry's employment agencies.

In order to enhance fundraising activities, ORT Venezuela formed a parallel but separate organisation, ORT Associates, which is solely responsible for fundraising. An Academic Council, comprising people well-known in different academic spheres, was incorporated into ORT to provide a "think tank" for developing new ideas and projects.

WESTERN EUROPE

Britain

British ORT organised a number of activities that were highly successful both socially and financially. The guest speaker at the Annual Business Luncheon, held at Claridges, was Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare; the luncheon honoured the memory of Archy Arenson. An evening of Russian music at the Royal Festival Hall raised funds for the ORT Moscow School. Other successful events included a business breakfast at the King David Suite and a golf day at Coombe Hill Golf Club.



Mark Mishon, Vice Chair of British ORT, presenting a plaque to Vicky Arenson to mark the naming of the Archy Arenson School of Technology and Engineering in Tel Aviv

The Women's Division held regular fundraising events including a golf day, a gift fair and a series of arts related lectures for the Lunch and Listen Club. The Cecily Zimmerman 90th birthday lunch proved highly enjoyable, with Sheridan Morley, theatre critic and writer, as guest speaker. The annual raffle and ORT's charity shop in London continued to raise substantial funds.

British ORT Young Leadership held a prestigious first event at the House of Commons and have continued their activities with a series of controversial debates on such topics as business ethics and intermarriage.

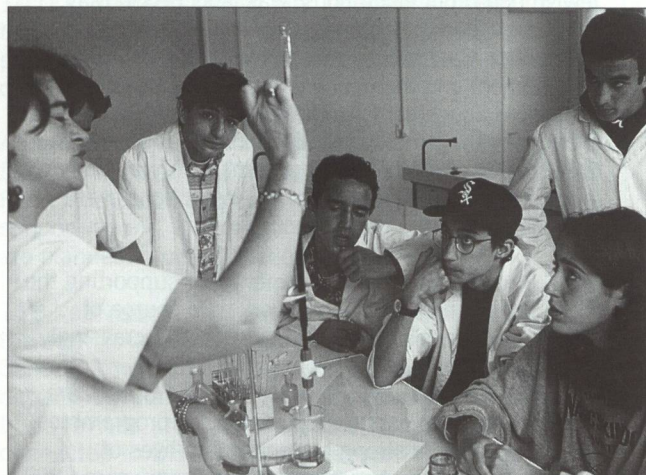
ORT has revitalised its role in Jewish day schools by helping to improve their teaching through the introduction of ORT's state-of-the-art technology. Under the banner of British ORT, supported by the Arenson Trust, the IT [*] department has been running courses for Jewish Care, training the unemployed for today's jobs. A seminar on global networking was held for AJCP [Association of Jewish Communal Professionals], TOSCA [Trusted Open Systems Connectivity Alliance], and ECJC [the European Council for Jewish Communities].

The Board of Deputies, Ravenswood, the Association of Jewish Youth [AJY], members of the House of Commons, and Lords Renwick and Young are connected to ORTnet [*] and have received training in networking. Plans for a major ORT presence in London Jewish day schools are under development.

The World ORT Union continues to advise City Technology Colleges and participates in the CTC Trust and curriculum development committees. A senior World ORT official serves on committees of the Business and Technology Education Council [BTEC], the City and Guilds Institute, the Technical Baccalaureat, the Council for National and Vocational Qualifications [CNVQ] and the Department for Education.

France

ORT France has continued the renovation and modernisation of its programmes and facilities. In Toulouse, the ORT Lycée - Maurice Grynfolgel recently inaugurated a new building which contains ten classrooms and a large assembly hall. The adult education department for secretarial skills and accounting has been totally reorganised to meet the highest modern standards.



ORT students in the science laboratory, Villiers-le-Bel

ORT NETWORK REVIEW

In the Paris region, in Choisy-le-Roi, the education department for computing technicians has been totally reorganised. An investment of FF1,500,000 for new materials and the retraining of teachers was made to enable ORT to set up an experimental training programme, with a view to its approval by the Ministry of Employment. In Villiers-le-Bel, the new general academic track in secondary school [11 to 15 year olds] has proven very successful. At the beginning of the 1994 school year, six classes were in place, and more than 50 candidates had to be referred elsewhere due to lack of accommodation.



ORT students relaxing in Strasbourg, France

At the headquarters of ORT France in Paris, an Information Technology Laboratory and an Educational Resource Centre [*] have been created which will support the schools in the network. A detailed study has been undertaken with the help of WOU for the whole of the ORT network in France, with the object of defining a strategic plan of action for the coming years.

Germany

The founder and long-time honorary Chair of ORT Germany, Mr Max Willner, died in January, deeply mourned by all at ORT. To honour his memory, the Board decided to name the synagogue in the ORT Braude Institute in Karmiel in his name. An annual grant for needy students from Galewski-Stiftung, a Hamburg based trust, and a special grant, were received from the Hypothekenbank Trust to carry out a survey on the career paths of ORT graduates in representative schools in France and Israel.

After an urgent request from WOU, ORT Germany participated in an emergency project to help young refugees from Bosnia who are now living in Croatia by establishing teaching facilities there. In a very short period, 75,000 DM were raised. The EC responded positively to a request regarding a new project in Zaïre and, together with WOU, ORT Germany is preparing a new project in Peru, to commence early in 1995.

A new ORT Germany committee has been established in Berlin, with part time professional help. This should lead to enhanced support from Germany for ORT projects.

Greece

ORT Greece has succeeded in obtaining support from the European Economic Community for an ORT project in Mexico.

Ireland

ORT has provided computer systems and teacher training for Stratford College in Dublin.

Italy

The ORT Community High School in Milan and the ORT Technical High School in Rome are both operated in cooperation with the local Jewish community. The Community High School in Milan is being reorganised and curricula rationalised in anticipation of the government's school reform bill. Both schools are equipped with fine technical and science laboratories, a language laboratory and special classrooms for drawing and typewriting courses, and in both schools Jewish education and Hebrew are compulsory, taught on the same level as all other subjects. Both schools continue to boast excellent examination results.



Students in the language laboratory at the ORT Community High School, Rome

The computer laboratory in the Milan school is shortly to be connected to ORTnet [*], and so become the hub of ORT's Internet and Distance Education activity in Italy. Five smaller Jewish communities will be connected to a central computer in Milan, thus giving all of them contact with Jewish communities and educational programmes worldwide.

ORT NETWORK REVIEW

Luxembourg

The government of Luxembourg has funded two mobile trailers for the ORT displaced persons training programme at Makarska on the Croatian coast of Dalmatia. The City of Luxembourg agreed to co-sponsor the ORT Mother and Child Care Project near Accra, Ghana.

ORT Luxembourg renewed its tradition of annual fundraising activities with a brunch in October. The proceeds will help equip a staff room at the Moscow school.

Netherlands

ORT Netherlands has continued to raise funds for ORT projects in Israel. In particular there has been generous support from the Levy Lassen Foundation in the form of scholarships for Israel.

Norway

The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, NORAD, continued to support the Mother and Child Care Project in Ghana. In addition, NORAD granted funds for a new Mother and Child Care Project in Ethiopia. The Project Director is Mr Martin Bodd, the previous coordinator of ORT Norway. Norway's Ministry of Foreign Affairs again contributed to the Competence Centre in Bratislava, Slovakia.

ORT increased its publicity in order to promulgate knowledge of ORT's activities in Norway and attract funds from private donors. New contacts were established resulting in contributions being made by schools and private enterprises.

Spain

Teacher training programmes at the Estella Toledano School in Madrid and the Colegio Sefardi in Barcelona have continued. Subjects taught included information technology, maths, science, Jewish studies and Hebrew. Courses for adults included computer literacy, word processing, spreadsheets and CAD. The ORT Spain Foundation Committee continues to promote ORT's expertise in the wider society; it is aiming to establish a Resource Centre in Madrid.

Sweden

"Knowledge Seminars" were started by Swedish ORT in order to propagate knowledge of ORT and increase its membership. Well-known professors were invited to talk about their subjects, which included economics and criminology. A seminar about ORT's work in Romania, and one on the environment, were also organised.

Fundraising this year has been quite successful. For the first time in about twenty years, ORT Sweden received money from SIDA [Swedish International Development]: 1,600,000 SEK for the project in Peru. \$10,000 was raised for the St. Petersburg project,

some money was raised to help the former Yugoslavia and 17 scholarships were granted to students in Israel.

Switzerland

ORT Switzerland comprises around 5,000 members, with three groups working in Geneva, Basle and Bern under the presidency of Madame Jacqueline Maus. In 1994, ORT organised a major fundraising event: an international bridge tournament with 300 participants, a tournament brochure in which advertising space was sold and a lottery which was drawn on the last evening of the tournament.

In May, for the second time, ORT Switzerland was present at the Salon International du Livre et de la Presse. In June, the Piaget International SA Society held a ladies lunch at which the guest of honour was Mr Yves Piaget himself. All the proceeds were donated to the accommodation block at Karmiel. A special appeal was also launched in aid of the dormitory at Karmiel, which will be known as the "Friends of ORT Switzerland Dormitory". The Basle Committee contributed to the fitting out of the carpentry workshop of ORT Spivack in Holon, Israel, with an important donation. In Bern, an event was held in May for Mother's Day, and a bridge tournament was held in October. An appeal was launched in aid of former Yugoslavia when contributions were desperately needed. The ORION Fund sponsored the cost of a mobile unit there.

Senior community professionals from all over Europe assembled last May at the newly reopened ORT Institute at Anières, near Geneva, for the first European Conference on Jewish Leadership Development. The Conference was co-sponsored by ORT, the European Council of Jewish Communities and the JDC.

The Federal Swiss government continues to support development programmes in Africa, mainly for Francophone students.



The first European Conference of Jewish Leadership Development, held at the ORT Institute at Anières, near Geneva

ORT NETWORK REVIEW

Turkey

TICA [The Turkish International Cooperation Agency] requested ORT to help them create a Resource Centre [*] for training teachers, instructors and trainers from schools, industrial training centres and other training establishments, in high technology and modern management skills based on information technology. The Resource Centre is to be set up in Turkey and will aim at training/retraining and upgrading participants at various levels selected from the following CIS Turkish-speaking countries: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. ORT and TICA will work together to raise the necessary funds to support such a project.

The successful project for the Kurdish refugees has been handed over to the local authorities.

EASTERN EUROPE

Croatia

The worldwide ORT community responded warmly and generously to the dramatic events in Croatia. As a result, an ORT Information Technology Laboratory [ITL*] was set up to provide a training facility at the Jewish Community Centre in Zagreb. The community building is the centre of Jewish life in Zagreb. This ITL will be used mainly as a Jewish education teaching facility, providing Hebrew and Jewish studies courses to many youngsters and adults. The provision of advanced technological equipment, not available elsewhere in the region, greatly enhances the prestige of the community. The facility is being used to train local community members in vital modern business and industrial techniques and will form the basis for a number of courses to be given at the Centre. In making the facility available to the wider, non-Jewish, population, the local communal leaders see the possibility of generating much needed revenue for the community.

In Makarska, on the Adriatic coast of Croatia, a training programme for displaced persons and refugees was set up by ORT, together with the Croatian government's Office for Displaced Persons and Refugees. The programme is based on the use of mobile units, easily transferable from site to site, each self-sufficient with its own electricity, heating, audio visual equipment and training materials. ORT specialists trained local professionals, who then teach new trainees, so that eventually groups of refugees themselves will be able to take over and run the programme. Courses being taught include English, construction, machine sewing and computing. The project is expected to have an initial duration of two years. A similar project is being set up in the Zagreb area.

Czech Republic

ORT is planning to open a Resource Centre [*] in Prague. This long awaited and much needed project, in



Training in machine sewing for refugees and displaced persons at a mobile unit in Makarska, Croatia

conjunction with the the Prague Jewish Community and Charles University, is expected to open in 1995.

Hungary

In Budapest, which is home to the largest Jewish community in Eastern Europe outside the CIS, ORT has established, at JDC's request, a state-of-the-art ITL [*] in the newly renovated Jewish Community Centre. The Laboratory includes computers for teaching telecommunications and electronics as well as business management, multimedia and various courses in information technology. The three main Jewish schools in Budapest - the Anna Frank School, the American Endowment School and the Lauder School - are now connected via ORTnet [*] to this ITL. It will also serve as a major resource for Jewish education for the Hungarian Community, which numbers over 100,000.

Romania

The President of ORT Romania, Dr Cajal, has been appointed the head of the Jewish Community. An ORT Committee has been established and is negotiating with the government to create a Resource Centre in cooperation with the government and World ORT.

Slovakia

At the ORT-UTAR Technological Resource Centre in Bratislava, Slovakia, the advanced educational technology which had been installed is being fully utilised. Courses for the upgrading and updating of secondary school teachers and managers from industry and commerce are available at this Centre, as are a selection of computer related subjects.

In the two months since the new ITL was installed in Budapest, 3 teachers and 36 students from 3 Jewish schools are using it for ORTnet [*] courses in Jewish education.

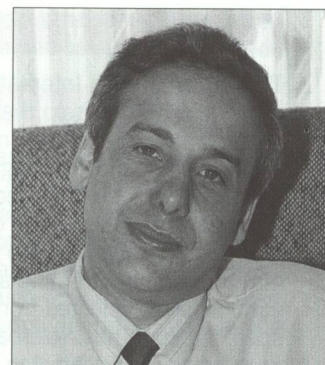
ORT NETWORK REVIEW

COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES [former USSR]

September 1994 marked a milestone in ORT's history - the return to St Petersburg where ORT was founded 115 years ago, heralding a new era in ORT's contribution to Jewish life and education in Russia.

Moscow

The Moscow Resource Centre [*] houses the offices of Mr Yitzhak Rize, Director of ORT Russia, from which the three satellite Resource Centres in Ekaterinburg, Krasnoyarsk and Voronezh are administered. During the last year, teacher training programmes have been launched in computer literacy, word processing and spreadsheets, industrial and digital electronics, international business skills, CAD [*], market economy, robotics and telecommunications. Facilities have been made available to provide in-service training for outside enterprises from the industrial, commercial, educational and governmental sectors. Children of school age from a number of Jewish community schools have participated in courses to introduce them to computer skills and adult education courses are available to the wider community. The total student enrolment for the last year was 2,751, of whom approximately 70% are Jewish. Two rooms in the Moscow Resource Centre are equipped as ORT Technology Centres and one room is equipped as an ITL [*] with Internet/ORTnet [*] connectivity. All computers are multimedia machines.



Dr Alexander G. Asmolov, Deputy Minister of Education and first Chair of ORT in the Commonwealth of Independent States

The new ORT state-of-the-art Educational Complex in Moscow comprises a comprehensive school, a teacher training institute and a Resource Centre, housed in two buildings of four floors each. The project is managed by a committee of representatives of ORT and the Moscow Department of Education. The school provides general secondary level education, Jewish education and technology training. Currently, the school is operating on the premises of the teacher training institute and is scheduled to move to its own premises during the next academic year.

The school opened on 1st September 1994. Facilities include a complete ORT Technology Centre; an ITL will be opened shortly. Equipment for a full electronics laboratory has been delivered and a computerised school management system has been tested. The school will be connected to ORTnet and Internet for Distance Education [*] in Jewish studies and technology subjects. Jewish education, under the *Ma'avar* programme, includes Hebrew, Jewish history and traditions, and folk singing and dancing. Classes on Sundays are provided for both the schoolchildren and their parents. In addition to the regular secondary school curriculum, students are taught industrial automation and control, industrial management, computer skills and fashion design. All Jewish holidays are celebrated. The initial student body, the majority of whom are Jewish, totals 110, in grades 6 - 9. When the school moves to its permanent premises, it is expected that the student population will grow to at least 300 and will serve students through twelfth grade. A total of 22 highly qualified staff includes two teachers from Israel.

The school has received initial funding and cooperation from the Russian Ministry of Education, the Moscow Education Department, the Moscow Institute of Teacher Development, the Moscow Institute of New Technologies in Education, Lishkat HaKeshet *Ma'avar* programme, the Rich Foundation, the Wingate Foundation, British ORT and Mr Maurice Hatter. Substantial funding is still needed to sustain and advance this important project.

Satellite Resource Centres

The three satellite Resource Centres are administered from ORT Moscow and include facilities for in-service training for outside enterprises from the industrial, commercial, educational and governmental sectors. The Centres provide courses for school age children and teacher training programmes similar to those in the Moscow Resource Centre. Between them they have a student body of 390 and employ 28 local staff. All three Resource Centres are connected to Internet/ORTnet and are equipped with a complete ORT Technology Centre and with IBM computers. The Centre in Ekaterinburg also boasts a complete ITL. The three Centres are fully self financing.



Children at the new Moscow school

St. Petersburg

ORT has celebrated its return to the city of its birth with the establishment of a technology department to enhance the general and technical education at the Jewish school in St Petersburg. The school accommodates 300 students and has a locally appointed principal. The agreement between the municipality and Lishkat HaKeshet has been

ORT NETWORK REVIEW

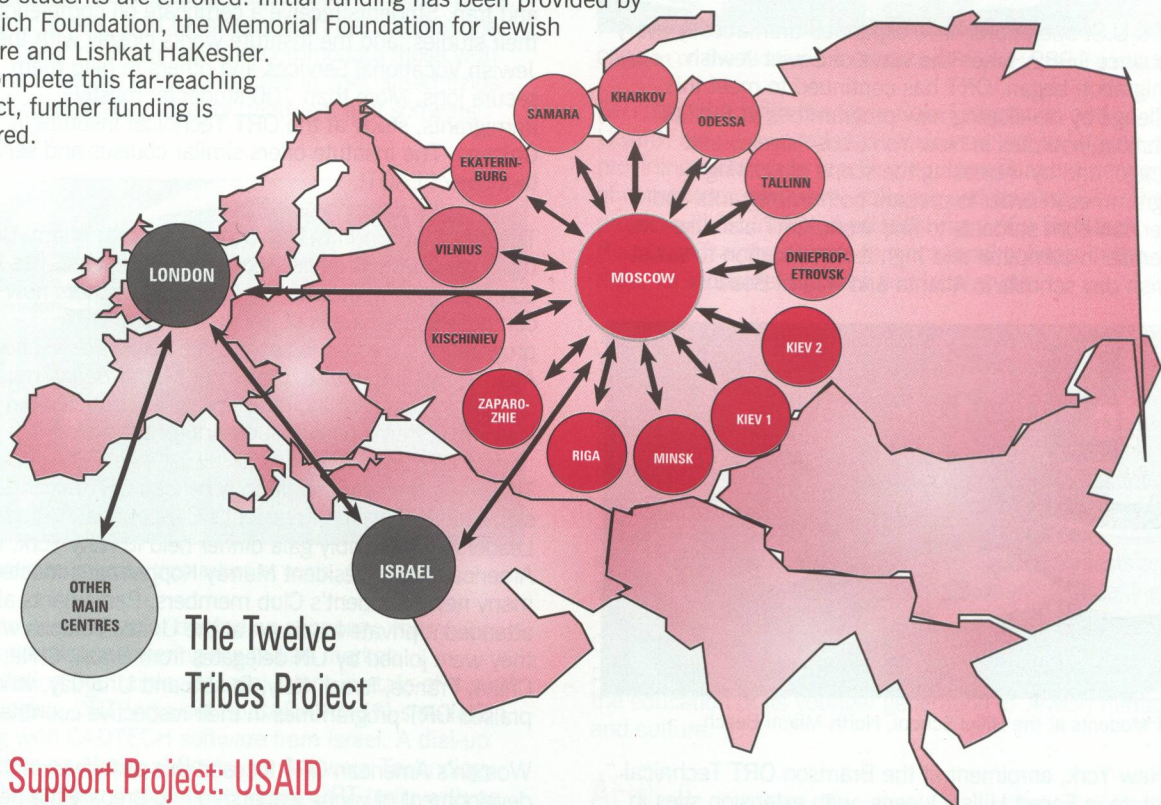
extended to include ORT as a full partner. An ITL will be opened shortly, a computerised school management system has been tested and a separate entrance for the ORT wing of the building has been provided to facilitate adult education and teacher training.

In the past year, the Resource Centre has provided comprehensive courses in computer skills, CAD, computer accounting and multimedia technology. The Hebrew department provides education in Hebrew language, Jewish history and culture, arts and literature. ORT is working together with the teaching staff of the school on methodology for the introduction of computers for the teaching of general subjects. Evening classes and an *ulpan* are held for parents.

The school and ORT Resource Centre receive major funding from the de Gunzburg family [the direct descendants of Baron Horace de Gunzburg, the Founder of ORT in Tsarist Russia in the 1880s]; the St Petersburg municipality provides accommodation, furniture and infrastructure for laboratories, workshops and classrooms; the Doron Foundation and Lishkat HaKeshet also assist. A gala inauguration will be held next May in conjunction with a meeting of the WOU Administrative Committee in St Petersburg. The de Gunzburg family will be honoured guests.

The Twelve Tribes Project

This is a phased project to provide technology learning centres at Jewish schools and community centres all over the CIS [see map]. The project will provide equipment, software, training for teachers and managers and technical and pedagogical support. To date, Riga is operational and equipment is currently being supplied to Kiev 1, Kiev 2, Minsk and Zaporozhie. All the Centres will be connected to Internet/ORTnet. The curriculum includes Jewish education, information technology and technical support for general and technical education. Altogether in all the Centres, some 3,300 students are enrolled. Initial funding has been provided by the Rich Foundation, the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture and Lishkat HaKeshet. To complete this far-reaching project, further funding is required.



NGO Support Project: USAID

The World ORT Union International Cooperation Department is participating in a consortium, headed by Save the Children Fund, in conjunction with Johns Hopkins University, to encourage the development of vital, non-governmental organisations [NGOs] in the CIS. The work will be coordinated by the ICD Washington office.

ORT's function in the programme is to provide training for the staff of the fledgling NGOs and the development and distribution of training materials. As part of its responsibilities, ORT will provide a network of multimedia computers, software and training. It is anticipated that 2,300 people will participate in training programmes. ORT's activities in this project will be based at the ORT Resource Centre in Moscow and satellite Centres in St Petersburg, Ekaterinburg, Voronezh and Krasnoyarsk. These Centres will be expanded to accommodate the programme.

Funding for the project is provided by the United States Agency for International Development [USAID].

ORT NETWORK REVIEW

NORTH AMERICA

Canada

The most significant development of ORT Canada this past year has been the agreement to form a Canadian ORT Federation, joining Men's Canadian ORT, presided over by Dr Mel Schwartz, and Women's Canadian ORT, presided over by Mrs Edie Glazer. The new united organisation brings together the men's and women's groups which in the past have supported ORT separately. This new merger promises greater support for ORT activities worldwide.

United States

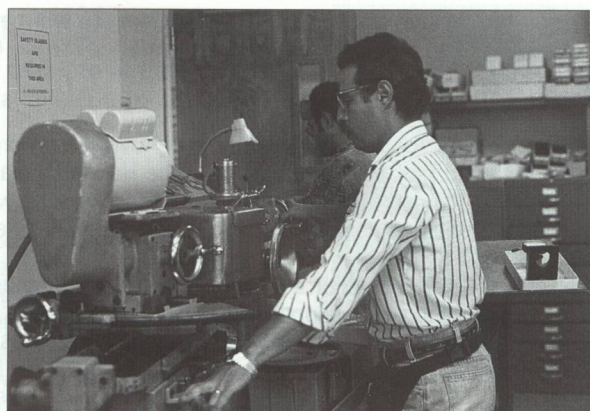
ORT in American continued to make significant contributions to the planning and funding of ORT's international programmes. The scope of fundraising activities was enlarged and supporters throughout the United States provided donations, scholarships and grants to ORT schools and institutions.

ORT's U.S. operations have expanded dramatically every year since 1989, when the wave of Soviet Jewish immigration began. ORT has continued to meet this challenge by developing new programmes at the ORT Technical Institutes in New York, Los Angeles and Chicago, and by increasing the scope of existing programmes in order to prepare both immigrants and American-born students to find work. ORT also uses its expertise in computer and high tech education to assist Jewish day schools in Atlanta and Miami Beach.



ORT students at the Hillel School, North Miami Beach

In New York, enrolment at the Bramson ORT Technical Institute in Forest Hills, Queens, with extension sites in Brooklyn and Manhattan, has grown to more than 2,200 students, the majority of whom are immigrants from the CIS. In addition to English as a second language, courses include business management, computer programming and technology, accounting, executive secretarial skills, electronics and ophthalmics laboratory technology, leading to associate degrees in applied science and occupational studies. Jewish studies are an integral part of the curriculum. Bramson laboratories are equipped with state-of-the-art computer and electronic workstations, and the Institute recently joined ORTnet [*].



New immigrant student at ORT Bramson, New York

Nearly 1,000 students enrolled at the Los Angeles ORT Technical Institute [LAOTI] and its branch campus in the San Fernando Valley. As well as courses in all aspects of computing, LAOTI expanded its teaching of English as a second language and its technical training courses to accommodate new immigrants from former Yugoslavia and Iran. Students receive a certificate on completion of their studies, and the Institute works closely with the Jewish Vocational Services and others to help them secure jobs. More than 700 students, mostly immigrants, study at the ORT Technical Institute in Chicago. The Institute offers similar courses and services to those of LAOTI.

The Hillel Community Day School in North Miami Beach, the largest Jewish day school in the Southeast, has been completely computerised by ORT and teachers now use computers in all areas of instruction. The ORT programmes created to serve three Jewish day schools in Atlanta, fashioned after the North Miami Beach model, continued successfully, developing new educational learning systems based on computer technology.

The ranks of major donors to American ORT expanded significantly with the President's Club annual National Leadership Assembly gala dinner held in New York, where American ORT President Murray Koppelman inducted many new President's Club members. Participants also attended a private luncheon at the United Nations where they were joined by UN delegates from Brazil, Chile, China, France, Israel, Italy, Russia and Uruguay, who praised ORT programmes in their respective countries.

Women's American ORT focused this past year on the development of young leadership – to prepare the next generation of American women to assume major responsibilities for the organisation. In other efforts to move forward, Women's American ORT began to train its first Major Gifts Task Force, to pursue systematically major fundraising opportunities throughout the United States. Women's American ORT's 20th National Board Conference, held in Atlanta, Georgia, last October focused on the organisation's long range strategic plans. 500 Women's American ORT delegates heard Helen Suzman, the distinguished South African political leader and human rights activist, who was the special guest speaker.

ASIA

China

A major project, financed by the World Bank, has been established with the participation of the International Cooperation Department of WOU. It aims to introduce high technology into China's rural industry. ORT continues to strengthen and modernise the training component of the project. Training centres have already been established in the provinces of Jilin, Jiangsu and Shanghai municipality.

India

ORT's part time one year course in travel and tourism is into its second year and has evoked great interest in the local Jewish community. A course in nutrition and food, also a one year part time course, commenced in August. Short term bakery courses, consisting of twice weekly sessions for eight weeks, proved very popular. WOU provided the text books for this course, and a fully equipped food laboratory has top priority in future plans. Modular courses, held in tandem with the ongoing one and two year programmes to accommodate those with less time to study, were conducted in specialised fields such as cosmetology, beauty treatment and software application.



Young children enjoying themselves at camp, ORT India

With the opening up of the Indian economy, many multinationals are entering the Indian market, necessitating the training of local talent in state-of-the-art technologies. ORT India set up CAD/CAM [*] simulation training with CADTECH software from Israel. A dial-up connection on National Centre for Software Technology [NCST] has been installed, providing ORT India with an immediate ORTnet [*] connection to WOU and other ORT centres. An innovative joint programme on ORTnet compiling information on Jewish monuments in India and Argentina is underway.

Under the aegis of ORT India's Jewish Education Resource Centre [JERC], greeting cards for the Jewish New Year were designed and produced. A recent addition to JERC is ORT's kosher bakery, a pioneering effort in the Indian Jewish context, providing Sabbath *challah* and other Jewish favourites.

Philippines

The ORT Dualtech Training Centre in Manila trains teachers, industry workers and students in the advanced electronics technologies. As well as training engineers and technical workers, the project provides free education to more than 700 out-of-school youth in the electronics training programme, which will assure them of employment after graduation.



Children on the Mother and Child Care Project in San Fernando

ORT, together with the Coca Cola Foundation and USAID, set up a vocational training project in Laguna, providing technology teaching equipment and a network of computers, hardware, software and training kits. The project will facilitate the establishment of a high tech Resource Training Centre for vocational schools in the area, for industrial workers and local youth.

The Mother and Child Care Project, consisting of a Central Training Unit at San Fernando and 15 satellites, has successfully moved into Phase II of its development. Alongside this project, an affordable health insurance fund has been established for the poor rural population. The benefits of this ORT health plus scheme include doctor and nurse consultations in the satellites, medicines, preventive and ancillary services and hospital care including in- and out-patient services, laboratory tests and X-rays. In local terms, this is a revolutionary undertaking.

ORT Philippines is currently investigating the need and potential for helping the small local Jewish Community in the education of its younger generation in Jewish heritage and culture.

AFRICA

Morocco

The ORT school in Casablanca continues to serve a diminishing though highly motivated student body. It offered courses in computing, technical drawing and construction, electricity, secretarial skills, hair-dressing and beauty care, and Jewish education for both boys and girls. The courses went from apprenticeship level [CAP] to the Brevet de Technicien Supérieur [BTS] diploma which affords entry to further education.

WORLD ORT UNION

ORT'S Global Network

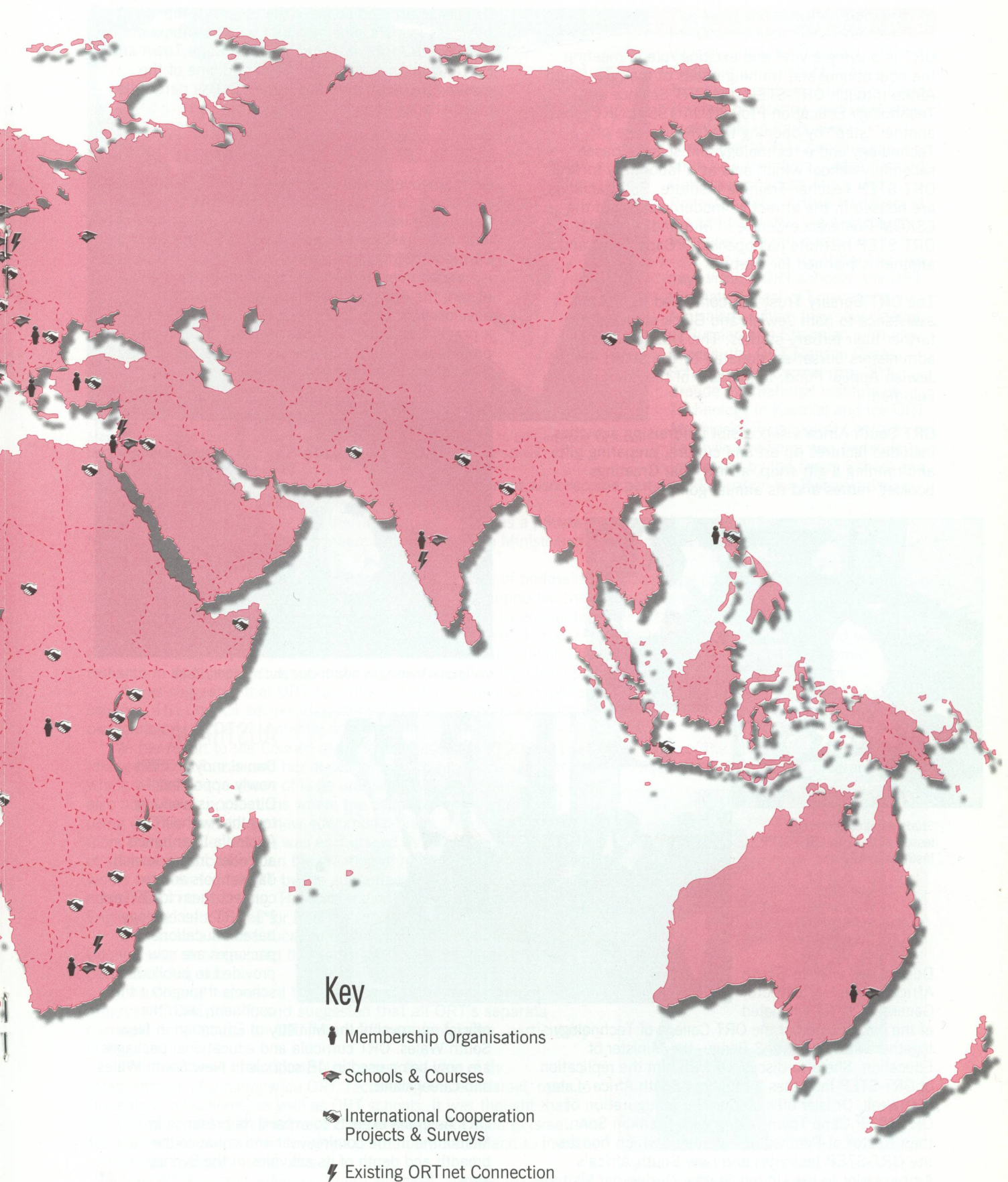
Countries

Albania
 Angola
 Argentina
 Australia
 Bangladesh
 Belgium
 Botswana
 Brazil
 Burundi
 Cameroon
 Canada
 Central African Republic
 Chad
 Chile
 China
 Commonwealth of Independent States
 Costa Rica
 Czechoslovakia
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 Ecowas Countries*
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* Economic Community of West African Countries



WORLD ORT UNION



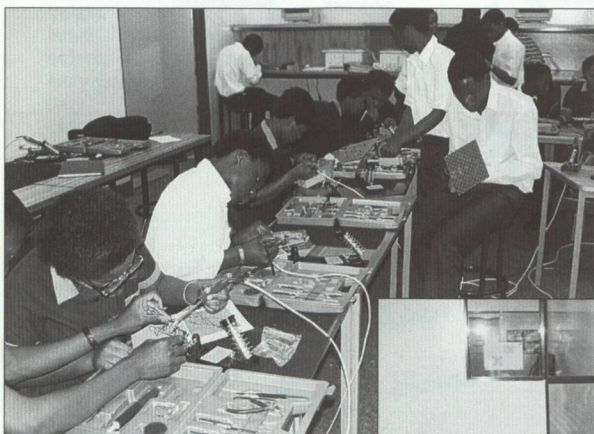
ORT NETWORK REVIEW

South Africa

ORT is playing a vital and exciting role in meeting the educational and training needs of the new South Africa through ORT-STEP [the ORT Science and Technology Education Project]. In 1994, ORT took another "step" by opening the ORT College of Technology and a technology and science based secondary school which acts as a laboratory for the ORT-STEP Teacher Training Institute. Both facilities are housed in the attractive modern setting of the ESKOM Conference Centre in Midrand. A similar ORT-STEP Institute has opened in Cape Town and another is planned for Durban.

The ORT Bursary Trust has continued to provide assistance to both Jewish and Black students to further their tertiary studies. The Trust also administers bursaries, donated by the South African Jewish Appeal Fund, in memory of the late Freda Feldman.

ORT South Africa's successful fundraising activities included lectures on art and culture, preparing gifts and running a gift shop, a New Year Greetings booklet, raffles and its annual golf day.



Students at a technology lesson at the new ORT-STEP Institute in Midrand

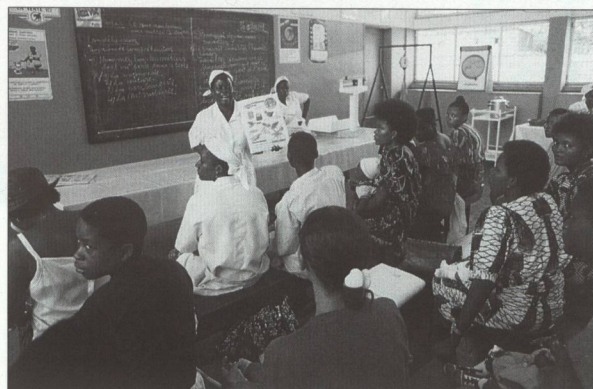
Dr Isler, Director General of WOU, with a group of standard 8 students, at the ORT College of Technology

During her visit to South Africa, Dr Isler, Director General of WOU, officiated at the inauguration of the ORT College of Technology, together with Professor S Bengu, the Minister of Education. She also discussed with him the replication of ORT-STEP Institutes throughout South Africa. Later that week, Dr Isler officiated at the inauguration of ORT-STEP Cape Town, along with Franklin Sonn, then Rector of Peninsular Teknikon [which houses the ORT-STEP Institute] and now South Africa's Ambassador to the United States. During her visit,

Dr Isler addressed some of the country's top business leaders. She also met with members of ORT South Africa in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Port Elizabeth and briefed them on some of the exciting projects undertaken by WOU as part of its International Cooperation Programme.

Zaire

German government support for ORT Zaire's Mother and Child Care Project and the Nutrition and Health Centre in Kinshasa has now ended. Co-responsibility with ORT has been taken up by the European Community for a further two years before the project is handed over to the local community. This will ensure the physical welfare and educational development of 1,332 pre-school age children, and a practical training for their mothers. Other projects provide vocational and literacy training and a road maintenance training programme.



Vocational training in health care and nutrition, Zaire

AUSTRALIA

Daniel Indyk, ORT's newly appointed Director, is working together with ORT Australia to enhance activities in the Jewish day schools and to connect them to ORTnet [*]. ORT's technology based educational packages are now provided to public high schools throughout the continent, with the

official approval of the Ministry of Education in New South Wales. ORT curricula and educational packages are now being used in 48 schools in New South Wales and Queensland.

ORT Australia expects to expand its presence in Melbourne in the coming year and enhance the breadth and depth of its activities in the Sydney area.

ORT ACADEMIC ADVISORY COUNCIL



Mayor Mansour of Usafiya presents a photograph of a Druze village to Eli Ginzberg, Chair of the Academic Advisory Council, during the Council's visit to a Druze school

The tenth anniversary meeting of the Council took place over four days in Israel in November, with Professor Eli Ginzberg in the chair. Two new members, Professor Evald Shpirain of Moscow and Dr Michel Rudnianski of Paris, were introduced to the Council. Two other new members, Judge Richard Goldstone of South Africa and Professor Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg of the United States, were unable to be present on this occasion.

The Council spent the first two days visiting ORT schools: the ORT Harmatz School of Engineering in Jerusalem, where they saw classes of Russian and Ethiopian *olim* and Israelis; the ORT Ronson Druze School on the Carmel; the ORT Braude International Institute of Technology in Karmiel and the ORT Moshinsky Pedagogical Centre in Tel Aviv. Everyone was particularly impressed by the Druze School and

saw it as a model for future schools for Israeli Arabs. It could also become part of an Education for Peace initiative being developed by ORT Israel.

A highlight of the visit for all the Council members was a private meeting with President Ezer Weizman in his home. In other meetings, they were addressed by the Ministers of Education and Absorption and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

The Council encouraged ORT to continue its training of professionals despite the present problems confronting Israel of absorbing professional *olim* from Russia. They supported the plans of the Ministry of Education in opening up more educational opportunities to more young people by encouraging them to gain *Bagrut* qualifications. The Council discussed the trend in Israel of increasing numbers of students studying for academic degrees and warned that ORT should not compete with universities and research institutions by investing too heavily in academic research in its colleges, but rather should devote itself to high level professional training and development.

It was suggested that ORT carefully consider the relative importance of the topics taught in its schools and colleges. The Council advised that computer science and electronics be given a greater emphasis than topics such as biotechnology and environmental science.

In her report to the Council the Director General of WOU, Dr Ellen Isler, spoke of the exciting developments now taking place in Russia and her hopes for the future. The Council advised her to pursue ORT's Russia programmes, which will serve the needs of large and small Jewish communities and also non-Jewish populations where the education authorities were using ORT as a model for new educational plans. The establishment of more Resource Centres [*] was encouraged as a more economical way of spreading education than the creation of more schools. Students would be attracted to ORT by the guarantee of high level training and equipment in the schools. The teaching of foreign languages, especially English, was encouraged for Russian schools.

ORT Israel's Adult Education System was discussed by the Council who recommended that technical English be given priority, particularly for *olim*.

The Council expressed their pleasure in the development and progress of ORTnet [*], and suggested that all ORT's separate curricula be available on ORTnet in different languages, particularly in English.

The members of the Council welcomed the idea of the establishment of a nationwide ORT Technology Prize in Israel, open to students of all schools, as well as ORT schools. It was thought that this would help to raise the image of technology education in Israel. A sub-committee was formed to advise on the parameters and to involve industry as sponsors of the prize.

The ORT Academic Advisory Council will meet next year in Oxford. 



A young student at the ORT Netanya Conservatory entertaining the Academic Advisory Council

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

ORT maintains its reputation for excellence by continuous upgrading of its teaching tools and methodology. The Research and Development department is responsible for generating, testing and evaluating these educational packages for use in ORT schools and training programmes. The department has provided high technology training and equipment for schools, Resource Centres and Training Institutes around the world, as reported in the NETWORK REVIEW.

A major focus of the R & D department this year has been the establishment of the new projects in the CIS, cooperating with several educational and charitable foundations in the installation of advanced computer teaching facilities. [The Twelve Tribes project.]

Research and Development Forum The R & D Forum meets at least once a year and is attended by ORT directors and other representatives from around the world. The aims of the Forum are to discuss the objectives of the R & D department and its relationship with ORT projects worldwide, its educational development programmes, technology education, Jewish education, the development of educational packages, curricula research and the allocation of resources. The theme of this year's Forum was technological literacy.

Road Safety Training Based on the traffic control system developed by the R & D department, an innovative project was set up to harness technology to the important need for training in road safety. A working group from ORT and the Israeli Ministry of Education jointly designed the new curriculum and the adaptations necessary for the ORT traffic control package. Textual materials were designed, prototype systems manufactured and the first order for twenty sets is being placed by the Israeli Ministry of Education. Teacher training was started in September 1994 and a pilot scheme is being undertaken in four schools in Israel. The teacher training will cover both the road safety and the technological aspects of the curriculum. Three cycles of pilot implementation will be carried out and the results carefully monitored and analysed.

The Computer Control Interface [CCI] is a basic component of many R & D products and has remained in its original form for the past eight years. The department has now updated the unit, incorporating new features while retaining the functionality of the original design. In addition to improvements in design, the new unit will be cheaper to manufacture and easier to

service. The CCI language, developed by the department and used to programme the device, is being redeveloped. In future there will be two versions, one for DOS and another for MS Windows. The new CCI will incorporate many improvements, including a range of plug-in application modules which will allow CCI to operate as a stand-alone unit.

Product Reviews As part of a programme of product reviews, many of the existing technology teaching products have been enhanced. This has involved revisions to hardware, courseware and software, and will ensure that products meet the latest requirements of educationalists in the field. Work has been completed on the computerised traffic control system, the robotics course, the industrial simulator course and the sensor technology kit. In addition, course material has been translated from the original Hebrew version for the scanning photometer - an innovative piece of equipment for the physical optics laboratories in schools and colleges.

Establishment of a Product Database Work is underway to provide an on-line database of products and resources developed by the department. The database, which includes text and images, will be made available together with other similar databases on ORTnet, providing immediate access to anyone in any country. Information available will be comprehensive and it will be possible to search the database in many ways including by subject matter, curriculum and age range.

Training Courses In co-operation with the City Technology Colleges Trust, the R & D department provided training courses at ORT House in London for teachers of technology in secondary schools. Teachers attending these courses benefit from seeing and using the latest equipment for technology teaching developed by ORT. At the same time, ORT benefits by maintaining a personal contact with teachers in the field.



Academics from the CIS participating in a training course in multimedia information technology at an ITL in London

GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS

Below is a user-friendly ORT glossary of technical terms and abbreviations in common usage.

GLOSSARY - General

CAD [Computer Aided Design]

System that exploits computer technology in the design processes of engineering, manufacturing and construction.

CD-ROM

Compact Disc - read only memory. A computer readable version of the familiar digital audio compact disc (CD). The CD-ROM can store text, sounds and images, as well as video information. [See Information Technology.]

Distance Education

The means for teaching students who cannot attend conventional schools or colleges. ORTnet, which provides access to remote lesson plans and information as well as tutors, is a Distance Education network. [See ORTnet.]

IT [Information Technology]

The acquisition, processing, storage and dissemination of vocal, pictorial, textual and numerical information by a microelectronics based combination of computing, telecommunications and video. [See CD-ROM.]

ITL [Information Technology Laboratory]

Designed by ORT, the ITL consists of a single or networked computer workstation integrated into ORTnet for distance learning. The ITL supports humanities teaching, as well as advanced computing applications, such as multimedia. [See Distance Education and LAN.]

Internet

A network to which many universities, government institutions and commercial organisations are connected, for person to person communication and information retrieval worldwide. The cost of using Internet is only that of a local telephone call, regardless of distance.

LAN [Local Area Network]

The method of connecting PCs in ORT's ITL. Whereas a LAN is local to an office or building, the Internet is global and is an example of wide area network.

Multimedia

The discipline of integrating audio and pictorial data, in Information Technology, often for education and training applications. This information can be stored on CD-ROM. [See CD-ROM.]

ORTnet

ORT's global distance education service that is accessed via the Internet. ORTnet gives direct access to the world's most important educational databases. [See Internet.]

Resource Centre

ORT educational systems consist of two separate components: the ITL and the Technology Centre, which covers electronics and robotics. Together, they may be combined to form a Resource Centre, which will also include teacher training facilities and a library. [See ITL.]

GLOSSARY - ORTnet / Internet

CU-SeeMe

A slow scan video service which enables networking of up to eight locations with TV cameras. The images of participants appear in small windows on screen.

Discussion Groups

People participate in interest groups, receiving and sending their discussions by e-mail; e.g. German and English pupils studying each other's language participate in a language practice discussion group.

E-mail

Electronic messages sent and received by computer. Very fast, reliable and cheap compared to fax and traditional mail. The cost is only that of a local telephone call, regardless of distance.

Gopher

An information retrieval service with a tree-structure database with pointers to other Gophers. Every university has a Gopher, which is the standard publishing system on the Internet.

Information Superhighway

High capacity global network of high speed computer based communications

IRC [Internet-Relay Chat]

A real-time conference service; the participants have an electronic dialogue. It can be used for holding conferences between people in different continents.

WWW [World Wide Web]

A multimedia information system on the Internet for presenting pictures and sounds. It is very easy to use and to move from one Web system to another via a click of the mouse button.

As an international organisation, ORT contributes to the development and identity of Jewish communities the world over, and to the welfare and education of some of the world's poorest and most disadvantaged groups. ORT trains people in information technology [the convergence of computing and communications technology] and is now using the technology itself as a channel for other forms of learning. The IT department has also developed a communications network, ORTnet, based on the Internet network, which links the World ORT Union, ORT schools, ORT administrative offices and Jewish community centres in a seamless, global connection. [See separate article for details of ORTnet.]

Following the successful training in 1993 of over 100 trainers and academics from the CIS in multimedia techniques, the IT department has continued to market courses and systems nationally and internationally to educational organisations and governments.

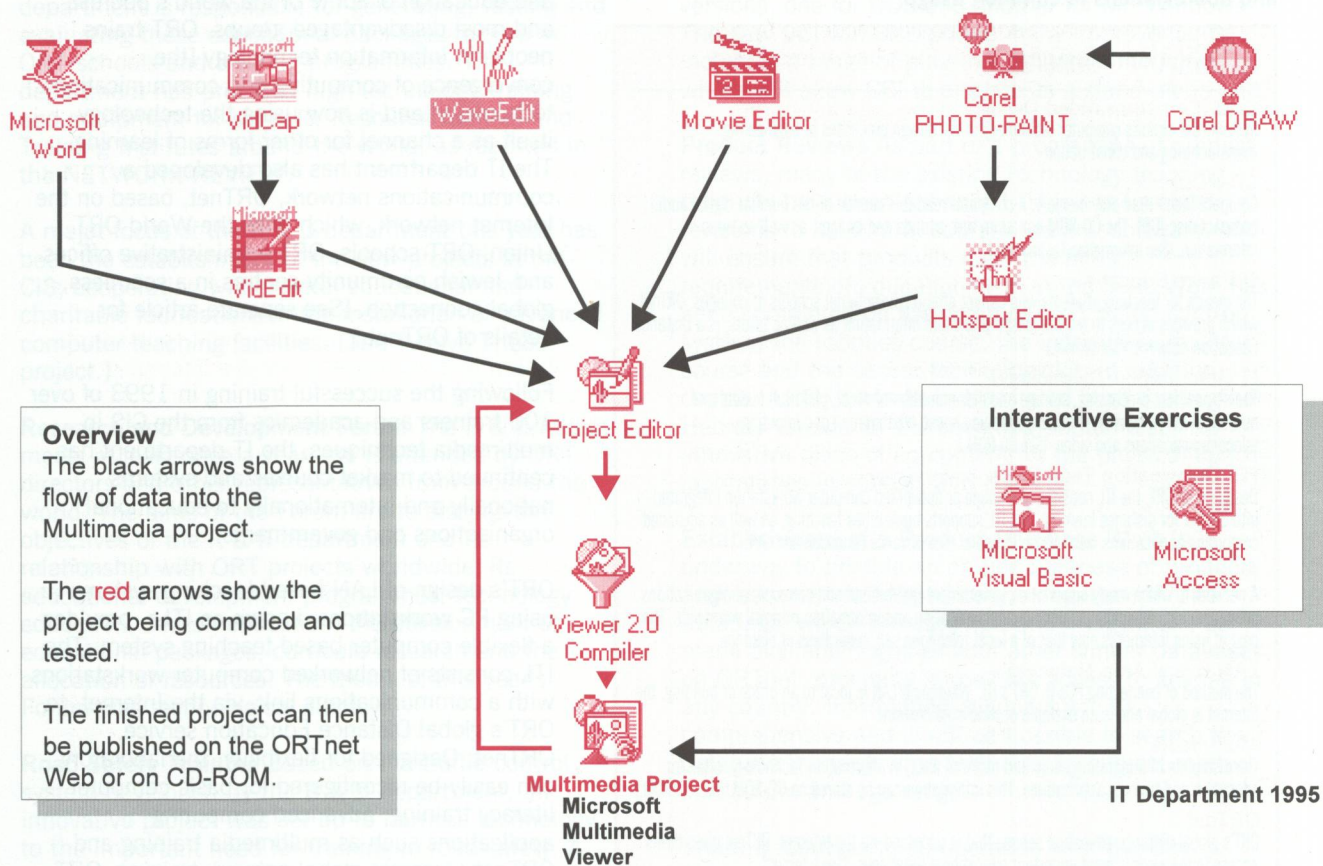
ORT's design of LAN based teaching systems using PC workstations, known as ITLs, provides a flexible computer based teaching system. The ITL consists of networked computer workstations with a communications link, via the Internet, to ORT's global Distance Education service, ORTnet. Designed for flexibility, the laboratory can easily be reconfigured for basic computer literacy training, advanced computing applications such as multimedia training and ORTnet / Internet global network training. ORT established the same ITL in the ORT Training Centre in Anières, Switzerland, in May and will be setting up ITLs in China, Mexico and Eastern Europe in the coming year.

The range and quality of training that the ORT ITL supports has led to an ever increasing demand for it. Courses were delivered this year to school teachers and other educators, Jewish community professionals and Jewish refugees; special courses were provided for the unemployed and disabled. Other activities of the IT department are described in the NETWORK REVIEW.

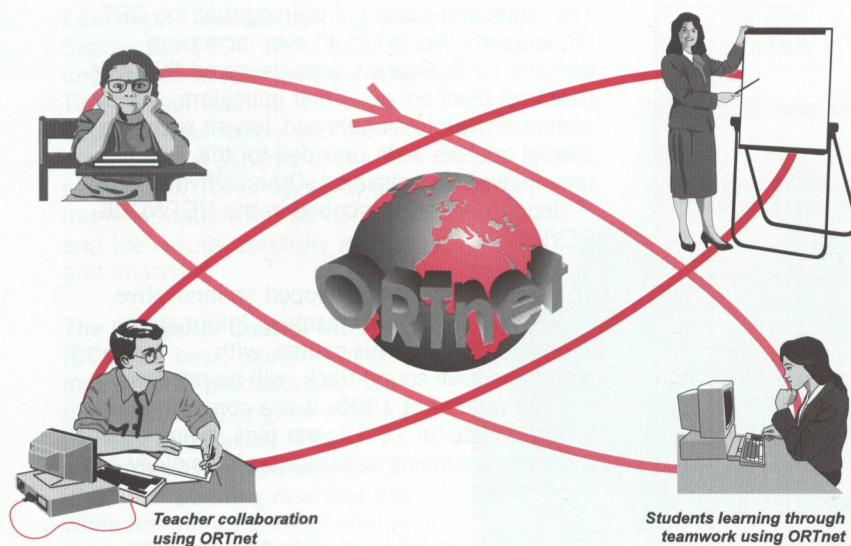
The department has developed an innovative course on CD ROM for teaching Information Technology skills. This course, with comprehensive sound track, will be released in the first quarter of 1995. It is a comprehensive school course for 10-17 year olds, giving them a thorough grounding in computer technology and applications.

The IT department is an important resource for other activities at ORT House, and provides necessary support services for all headquarters operations.

ORT Multimedia Production Environment



Education through ORTnet



ORT has developed a communications network, ORTnet, based on the Internet network. The Internet is a global phenomenon comprising some 27,000 interconnected networks of information resources. ORTnet links the World ORT Union, ORT schools, ORT administrative offices and Jewish community centres in a smooth, worldwide connection. It enables ORT to integrate its activities more fully with Israel and the Diaspora by providing a broad range of educational and community services through the medium of modern communications and software development.

ORTnet is able to link isolated individuals and remote communities. An example is that of a Jewish student near Mendocino, USA, from a non-traditional family

who did not have a Barmitzvah. At nineteen, he decided that he wanted a Barmitzvah but did not want to travel 30 miles to the nearest Rabbi to study for it. Through ORTnet he was able to access a database, enter his date of birth, pull down his *Sedrah* portion modelled by a cantor and learn it. The ORTnet Barmitzvah lesson has been produced as a prototype; it is feasible to develop the project further, combining all the elements of the Internet.

The ORTnet Tour of Bet Hatfutsot [the Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv] is another example of the kind of "Super-highway travel" that enables students, young and old, to explore places they would not normally be able to reach. They can "wander" through the halls of the Museum, viewing electronically reproduced, rich, original pictures and texts from their Jewish heritage and read or listen to explanations about various facets of Jewish life. Other museums are also accessible via ORTnet, such as the Smithsonian Institute which houses the Dead Sea Scrolls. This kind of access to libraries, museums and galleries opens up a virtual world to students and teachers, at their fingertips.

The Internet has a large role to play in general education. From ORT House in London, ORTnet provides a range of distance education facilities based on the established and emerging Internet services, which include e-mail, discussion groups, Internet Relay Chat, CU-SeeMe, Gopher and World Wide Web.

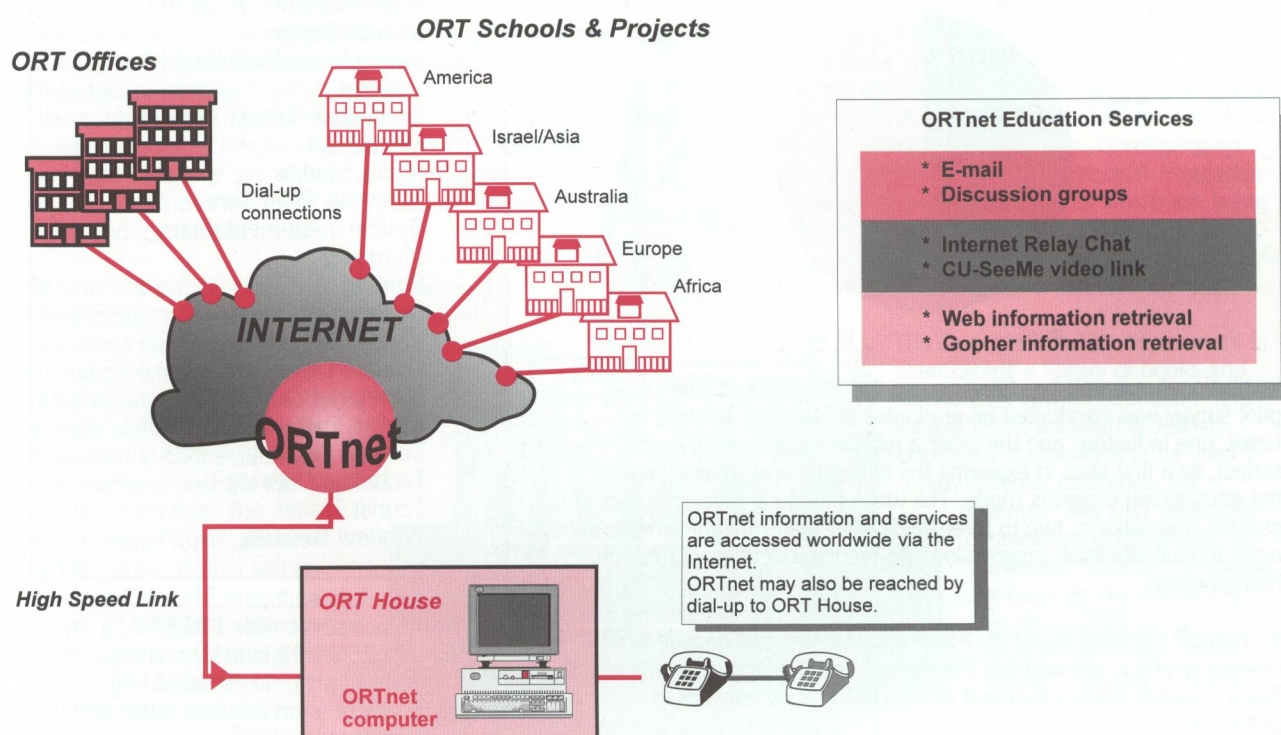
Currently, ORTnet is used primarily for collaborative

projects between schoolchildren in different countries. These are organised by teachers using conferencing facilities to agree on the topics to be covered. Most projects are e-mail based, with results being archived on the database of the ORTnet Gopher and World Wide Web. In the new paradigm for education, with which ORTnet services comply, the student learns how to find information and content, communicate knowledge and influence others, and use information to create knowledge. This is true for both in-school learning and Distance Education.

Continuity through contiguity In the coming year, the IT department, in collaboration with the Jewish Education department, will be initiating projects for Jewish Continuity in Britain using ORTnet. As the number of Jewish communities connecting to the Internet grows globally, questions facing Jewish youngsters such as identity, integration and intermarriage are being addressed by electronic discussion groups across continents. Having access to Jewish and Hebrew education curricula on ORTnet, teachers and students are no longer dependent only on their own school resources. Moreover, pictures such as those from the Diaspora Museum can be down-loaded from ORTnet and integrated into lesson plans and projects.

As the world of information technology becomes increasingly accessible and user-friendly to those of all age groups and educational backgrounds, the impact of ORTnet will become correspondingly stronger. The future of ORTnet looks exciting indeed.

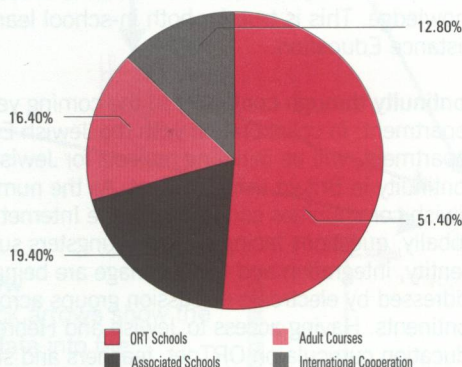
ORTnet Connectivity via the Internet



GENERAL EDUCATION

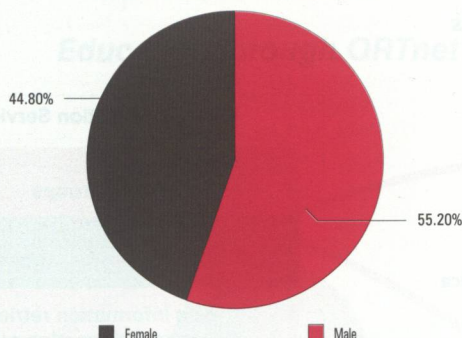
The Education department is responsible for the systematic collection of data from all World ORT operations, e.g. number of students per gender and age, number of classes, subjects taught, number of admissions, dropouts, graduates, teachers and administrators. Statistical analysis of trends, growth and development serves as a key tool in ORT's educational management and as a basis for developing institutional research activities.

Breakdown by Type of Programmes



The Education department's coordination and supportive role of the smaller scale ORT programmes in Italy, India and Morocco has continued and has now been extended to the newly established Learning Centres in Zagreb, Riga, Budapest and Ekaterinburg. These new Centres, operating in different environments from our conventional ORT schools, mainly in the recently established structures of newly organised Jewish Communities, need continuous support, curricula development, advice on income generating activities, staff training, monitoring and evaluation. The forthcoming Learning Centres in the CIS, part of ORT's Twelve Tribes Project, will also come under this project management initiative, illustrating again the inter-departmental cooperation of ORT's work.

Male/Female Enrolment



Institutional research has been carried out in Israel and France. A pilot survey was conducted on graduates of two ORT schools in Israel, one industrial and the other a regular technological high school, as a first step in exploring the strengths and weaknesses of the educational progress made. The idea is to study different types of student populations, two to three years after their military service, in order to evaluate their progression into higher education or into the market place.

A strategic planning study of ORT France for the next decade is now underway which will address the current and anticipated needs of the French Jewish Community and of the ORT France network in particular.

WORLD WIDE ORT CURRICULUM

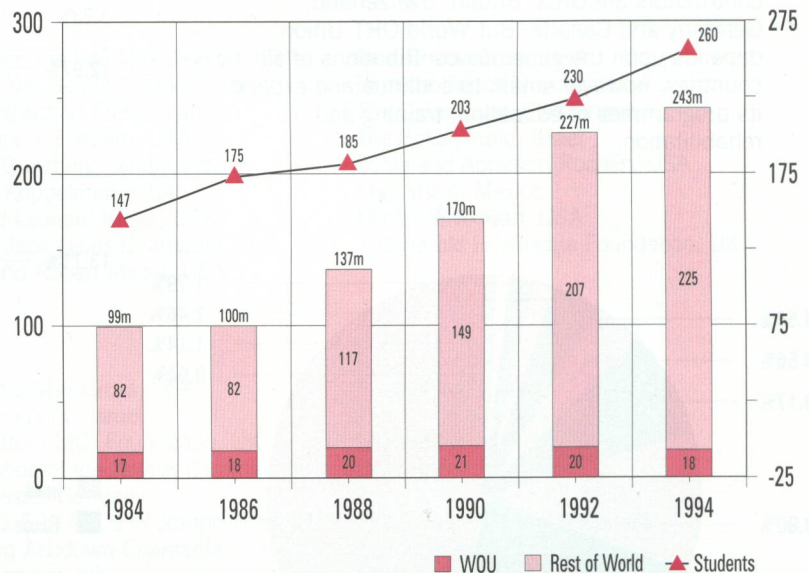
Accounting
Academic Classes
Aeromechanics
Agromechanics
Airconditioning
Applied Arts - Graphics and Design
Architecture
Automation & Control
Automechanics
Autoelectrics
Biotechnology
Building Trades
Business Studies
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Child Care
Computer Aided Design [CAD]
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Creative Education
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Diamond Processing
Environmental Studies
Electromechanics
Electronics
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Floristry
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Industrial Maintenance
Industrial Management
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Instrumentation & Control
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Landscape Design
Mechanics
Media Studies
Mother & Child Care
Optical Instrumentation
Plumbing
Printing
Quality Assurance
Road Maintenance
Science Education
Secretarial Studies
Marine Engineering
Teacher Training
Technical Drawing
Tourist Trades
Window Dressing

In the academic year 1993/94, a total of 251,973 students, studying full or part time, or attending seminars or short courses, received training through ORT

GENERAL EDUCATION

ORT Anières, Geneva, will serve as the major training and meeting centre for LeAtid Europe, the European Centre for Jewish Leadership Development. The Centre, in collaboration with the Joint Distribution Committee [JDC], the Central British Fund [CBF], the European Council of Jewish Communities [ECJC], the Doron Foundation and LeAtid Europe will provide programmes for lay and professional leaders of European Jewish communities. A strong emphasis will be placed on management courses for the emerging new communities of Eastern Europe and the CIS. Among the topics of the various courses and seminars will be community organisations, human resources, communication, finance and administration, Israel-Diaspora relations, international Jewish organisations, contemporary Jewish thought and Jewish identity in the modern world. This programme at Anières is being enthusiastically supported by Keren Yad HaNadiv [the Rothschild Foundation] and the Ashdown Trust.

1984 - 1994: Ten Years of Student Enrolment Progress



JEWISH EDUCATION

The main priority of the new Director of the Jewish Education department, Dr Aviv Ekrony, is the development of innovative teaching methods, putting a special emphasis on the use of multimedia and Internet, the ORTnet [*] Jewish component and the creation of complete models of Jewish studies through ORTnet. These will be used by ORT schools and other Jewish educational institutions worldwide, including Russia and Eastern Europe.

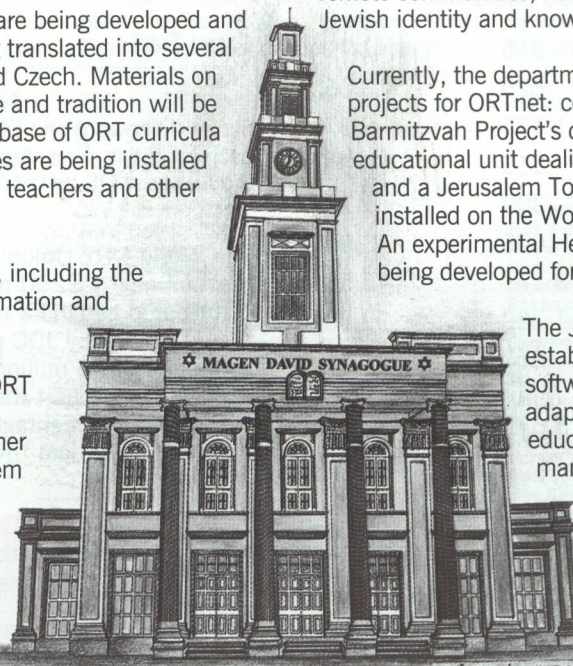
New Hebrew teaching materials are being developed and adapted to ORTnet and are being translated into several languages, including Croatian and Czech. Materials on Jewish history and Jewish culture and tradition will be developed shortly. A current database of ORT curricula and lesson plans of Jewish studies are being installed on ORTnet. These will serve ORT teachers and other Jewish education teachers.

Several new educational projects, including the development of an updated information and evaluation database of Jewish education software packages, are being initiated. New projects in ORT schools worldwide are being developed in cooperation with other organisations, such as Yad Vashem and Bet Hatfutsot. The Monuments Project, initiated by ORT India, is now being developed by ORT Argentina and others. The Project's objective is to research Jewish monuments and historic buildings in different communities by

students who, through carrying out this research, will develop their Jewish roots and strengthen their ties with their Jewish heritage and history within their communities. By sharing this information through ORTnet with other schools in other communities, they also reinforce their global sense of Jewish community.

Another important aspect of the department's mission is working with educators and students living in small or remote communities, helping them to strengthen their Jewish identity and knowledge.

Currently, the department is developing several special projects for ORTnet: contributing to the creation of the Barmitzvah Project's demonstration, developing an educational unit dealing with the *Pessach Haggadah* and a Jerusalem Tour Game, all of which are being installed on the World Wide Web through ORTnet. An experimental Hebrew teaching programme is being developed for the Spiro Institute, London.



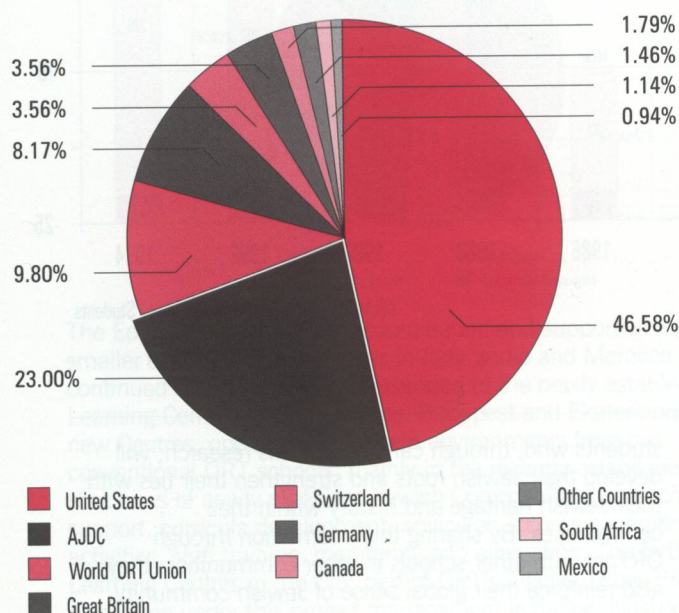
The Monuments Project: The Magen David Synagogue, Bombay

The Jewish Education department is establishing a library of books and software on Jewish education. It is adapting and translating Jewish education courseware to be used in many different countries. For example, the ORT Argentina courseware is being used in the Jewish school in Moscow. An exciting new venture is the preparation of a joint proposal with Yad Vashem, dealing with pre-Holocaust Jewish communities.

FINANCIAL REPORT

As in previous years, ORT's main source of revenue has been the United States. Other major contributors are Great Britain, Switzerland, Germany and Canada. But World ORT Union depends upon the generous contributions of all countries, however small, to continue and expand its programmes of education, training and rehabilitation.

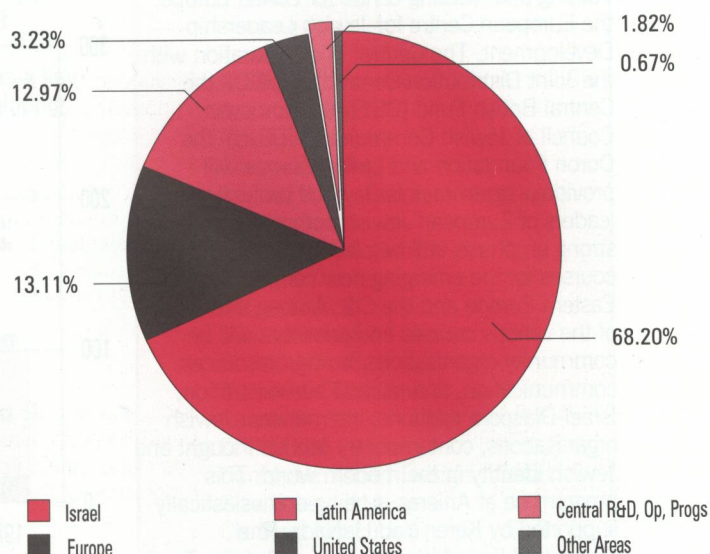
Figure 1



	US\$ 000's	%
Canada	.315	1.79
Germany	.625	3.56
Great Britain	1.435	8.17
Mexico	.165	0.94
South Africa	.200	1.14
Switzerland	.625	3.56
United States	8.177	46.58
World ORT Union	1.720	9.80
Other Countries	.257	1.46
	13.519	77.00
AJDC	4.035	23.00
Grand Total	17.554	100.00

Figure I shows World ORT Union Central Revenue for 1994: each country's percentage contribution, and the amount in thousands of US dollars.

Figure 2



	US\$ 000's	%
Israel	166.090	68.20
Europe	31.936	13.11
Latin Americas	31.576	12.97
United States	7.865	3.23
Other Areas	1.628	0.67
Central Research & Development and support of Operational Programmes	4.432	1.82
Grand Total	243.527	100.00

Figure 2 shows World ORT Union Expenditure for 1994: each country's percentage allocation, and the amount in thousands of US dollars.

The World ORT Union's total expenditure for 1994 reached nearly \$250 million. The \$17.5 million contributed by ORT's national organisations around the world and by JDC provides the leverage that generates \$226 million from local governments and agencies to support the operational programmes. It is this small percentage that enables ORT to maintain its critical "margin of excellence".

World ORT Union expenditure for 1994 totalled nearly \$250 million.

Of this sum, only 1.82% – less than \$4.5 million – was spent on administrative costs.

ROLL OF HONOUR 1994

MAJOR GIFTS TO ORT PROGRAMMES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

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