



WORLD ORT UNION



REPORT 1996

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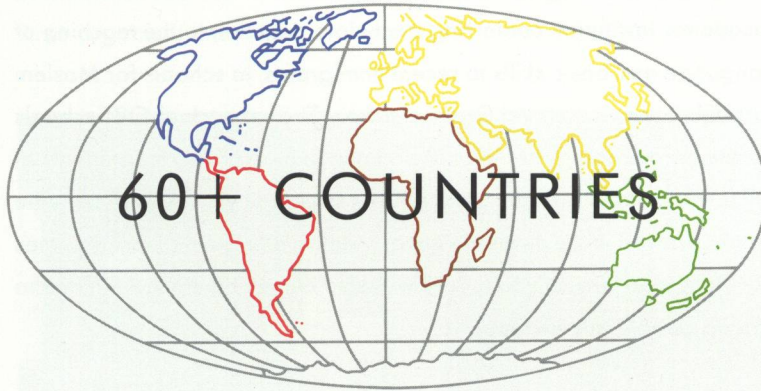
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World ORT Union [WOU] is the largest non-governmental education and training organization in the world. A private, non-political, non-profit organization, ORT's objective is to meet the educational and vocational requirements of diverse students throughout the world. Today, WOU operates in more than 60 countries with a student body of over 250,000 worldwide.



At the cutting edge of modern technology-based education, ORT has created its own communications system, ORTnet – its gateway to the Internet. ORTnet not only carries multimedia ORT teaching programmes in several languages, but also links students and teachers interactively in multinational computer-based projects. ORTnet also guides students through the worldwide resources of the Internet databases, libraries and museums.



Skills training,
Venezuela

ORT's commitment is 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,

THE WORLD ORT UNION IN TODAY'S WORLD

ORT assists some of the world's poorest communities, teaching basic hygiene, healthcare and nutrition, pre-school education, and training adults in industrial and infrastructure skills necessary for self sufficiency.

ORT has an extensive operational programme in Israel, ranging from ORT Braude College at Karmiel, which is formally accredited as an academic institution conferring bachelors degrees, to the teaching of language and basic skills to recent immigrants, to 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 become more involved in the development of creative educational programmes for Arab and Jewish youth, and will also connect them via ORTnet to young people everywhere.

Founded in 1880 to benefit impoverished Jewish communities in Russia, ORT now offers its expertise internationally on a non-sectarian basis. ORT runs schools of its own and supports training programmes in other 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 Organizations]; it has consultative status with UNESCO and observer status with ILO [International Labour Organization]. World ORT Union is a registered NGO at the United Nations.



Learning computer skills at the newly resited Minkoff Junior High School, Jerusalem

WOU runs a continual fundraising programme that enables it to research, develop and evaluate its global educational and training programmes, all of which have made it the most respected organization of its kind in the world.

Situated in an elegant Georgian Terrace north of London's Regent Park, the new World ORT headquarters also house British ORT and the ORT Trust. It is the first time in its history that World ORT Union has owned its own premises. The building, formerly the King's Fund Conference and Training Centre, is appropriate as the headquarters of an international organization, with space to accommodate the present and foreseeable future training and administrative functions of all three organizations.



The reception area of
WOU's new headquarters
in Camden Town,
London

The specially designed and networked Information Technology Laboratory will enable ORT to train people in a wide variety of employable skills, such as Computer Literacy, Internet skills and multimedia publishing. The Data Communications Centre at the new ORT Headquarters will be the hub of the ORTnet system, linking all ORT's schools, colleges and projects around the world to each other through the London base.

The entire first floor is devoted to a spacious multimedia Conference Centre comprising state-of-the-art technology with electronic, video and Internet Relay Conferencing and work group interaction via the Internet. As well as meeting ORT's needs, this makes the Centre attractive for hire by commercial and Jewish communal organizations. Kosher catering is also available.

The London Jewish Museum is opposite ORT House and cooperative arrangements have been made for the two organizations to share certain facilities and direct guests to one another. We anticipate a much higher profile for ORT in Britain and greater efficiency in all our operations.



I think of 1995 primarily as a year of new beginnings that are leading ORT into an era full of promise.

We opened our operations in Russia last May in grand style. Already the applications for places, both in the St Petersburg and Moscow ORT schools, are outstripping availability six-fold. We put a great deal of energy and resources into developing and expanding ORTnet, especially the programming in Jewish Education. Reports back from the global network confirm that it is stimulating and enlarging the horizons of our students and staff and attracting the attention of many other seekers after Jewish knowledge. We have begun work in many new communities of the former Soviet Union, some small and some more substantial. It is wonderful to hear of young people and adults learning how to gain access to the Internet through our Resource Centres and Information Technology Laboratories and finding out about their ancient Jewish heritage through the medium of high technology.

In Israel, we welcomed three major new projects – the resited Beverly Minkoff School in Jerusalem, the ground-breaking of the David Hermelin Netanya College and the dedication of the Max and Ampara Shein School in Rehovot.

ORT worked more closely than ever last year with other Jewish communal organizations, thus exploring new opportunities and fulfilling ORT's commitment to maximizing the impact of public Jewish funds. However, we are all keenly aware that our own fundraising efforts need new emphasis if we are to maintain our historic determination to respond whenever and wherever the need arises.

Just after Rosh Hashanah, in September 1995, World ORT made another new beginning by moving into an impressively functional new headquarters building together with British ORT and the ORT Trust. For the first time, we are able to demonstrate our operations in our own premises. This move, as much as anything else, will surely heighten the awareness of our work in the eyes of the British and international public who visit us on an increasing basis.

I am convinced that ORT is one of the most relevant and essential educational and training organizations in the world today and have no doubt that our 116th year will be as challenging and rewarding as all those that have gone before.

A MESSAGE FROM DAVID HERMELIN President of the World ORT Union

One of the highlights of my year as President was to participate in the dedication of ORT St Petersburg and ORT Moscow. No-one who was there will ever forget the emotion of these special occasions which we shared with visiting Israeli dignitaries and distinguished members of the Russian educational establishment. What a thrill it was to see young Russians communicating with Israelis and Argentinians on ORTnet! Those faces – descendants, perhaps, of the very first ORT students – were alive with intelligence, eagerness and pride. Now that the wheels have been set in motion, we look forward to reaching many thousands of others in different parts of that great country.



Students in Strasbourg

The experience that ORT has gained over 115 years enables us to create new educational networks like the one now developing in Russia and Eastern Europe. This is the uniqueness of ORT. This is why we all work so hard to ensure its success. Thank you for helping ORT to turn its visions into reality.

A MESSAGE FROM UZIEL STEINBERG Chair of the Executive Committee

As I write this, Israel is still recovering from the terrible blow of the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Just weeks ago, he spoke on the campus of an ORT school in Israel, saying that the country needed 14,000 more skilled technicians to maintain its developing economy. He looked to ORT to provide this training. Throughout the country and throughout the world, ORT schools teach and train to the best of their ability, bringing more skilled people to contribute to their local economy at a uniformly high standard.



A MESSAGE FROM UZIEL STEINBERG

Jewish Education is also being given close attention as ORT develops new systems designed to attract both youngsters and adults to study the language, heritage and traditions of Judaism.

Every volunteer and professional in our worldwide organization should be proud of ORT's international achievements. Our goal should be to strive for excellence, to communicate the importance of our work and to gain the recognition and support it deserves.

A MESSAGE FROM RUTH EISENBERG Chair of the Administrative Committee



1995 was another important milestone in ORT's history – the year that ORT returned to the country of its birth. The students and staff at the St Petersburg school welcomed us with songs in Hebrew and Russian; plaques were unveiled to dedicate the ORT centre; the Russian Minister of Education joined the ORT leadership on the dais. A second significant celebration took place in Moscow in the beautiful school building provided by the Moscow Department of Education and furnished by ORT with the most advanced technological equipment. The newest members of the ORT family demonstrated their new skills and we were proud to welcome them to our international network.



Computer Studies,
Russia

We look forward to close ties among the students in all our schools, old and new, and to carrying out the task that the founders of ORT articulated 115 years ago in St Petersburg – to educate and train people in skills for life.

1995 was an innovative year for ORT Israel, whose student body expanded to 86,500. Specially designed science and technology centres were established in 28 junior high schools, many of them in development towns. The programme used was developed and produced by the ORT Moshinshy Pedagogical Institute in Tel Aviv.

ISRAEL

86,500
student body

Two of ORT's high schools in the north, Migdal HaEmek and Ma'alot, were the first to be authorized by the Ministry of Education and the Council of Higher Education to teach academic courses leading to advanced standing credits towards a university degree. In towns such as Kiryat Motzkin, Kiryat Bialik, Akko and Arad, where ORT serves most of the local secondary school teaching needs, efforts were made to improve the standards of teaching methodology and equipment, thus ensuring that children in more remote areas receive educational opportunities equal to those of their big city counterparts.



The Automechanics
Laboratory at the ORT
Oleiski High School,
Jerusalem

In the Naoura Comprehensive school in Emek Israel, which was developed by ORT together with local Arab villages, the student body rose from 100 to 1,400, giving students for the first time the opportunity to complete their high school education locally. ORT Israel is examining the possibilities of upgrading the ORT school in Nazareth, with the help of the local municipality and the Ministry of Education, to enable a greater number of students to graduate with *Bagrut* [Israeli matriculation]. ORT has also received requests to take over other schools in the Arab sector and a Bedouin school in the Negev. These requests are being given serious consideration, commensurate with the importance that ORT attaches to raising educational standards in this sector.

1,400
student body

At ORT Braude in Karmiel, the academic departments are being expanded to include the disciplines of computer science and quality

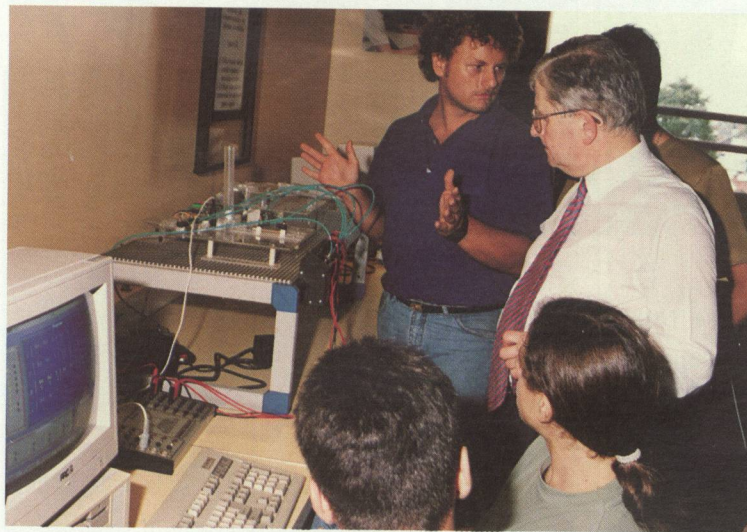
ORT NETWORK REVIEW

ISRAEL

control. At the Joseph Hartz ORT School of Engineering in Jerusalem, the academic department is concentrating on training teachers for junior high schools. At the ORT Hatzor school, the campus has been expanded to include a primary school and a junior high alongside the well established senior comprehensive. This is only the second school of its kind in Israel. Building of the new ORT Hermelin College in Netanya is set to begin soon. The campus will serve students from all over the central region.

LATIN AMERICA

ARGENTINA: The two ORT technical high schools, the two most prestigious and advanced secondary schools in the country, are now full to capacity, and the two ORT junior colleges are also enjoying great success. Students have been granted academic awards in a variety of subjects including maths, physics, chemistry, computing, media and communications, industrial design, musical production, information technology and administration. ORT Argentina has continued its educational support of both the Jewish community and the population at large.



Integrated Technology
Workshop, Argentina

Three new books on Jewish topics have been produced, and a book on technological education, written by an ORT teacher, received a prize at the 1995 International Book Fair in Buenos Aires.

BRAZIL: The new premises at the Rio de Janeiro ORT Technical High School have already reached saturation point and new expansion plans are being studied. The successful biotechnology track has

LATIN AMERICA

achieved official state recognition and enrolment is increasing steadily. On graduation, students receive the ORT diploma which enables them to continue university studies or work in their chosen field. A new laboratory for advanced technology, providing short courses in computer studies, was opened.

ORT Sao Paulo is running computer literacy courses in six local Jewish schools, reaching 2,800 students. A fundraising campaign is being planned in Sao Paulo with the Jewish Federation to raise money for the construction of a science and technology high school.

2,800
students

CHILE: ORT Chile has inaugurated a new educational project to create a network of 40 technical schools to promote and support innovative processes based on educational computing. Funding from the Coca-Cola Foundation has furthered a new project to provide new equipment and modernize the teaching of science at the Instituto Nacional, the nation's most prestigious centre of education.



Training Centre
for Operators and
Mechanics
of Agricultural
Machinery in Apan,
Estado de Hidalgo,
Mexico

MEXICO: During the last year, ORT Mexico was active in four main areas: technical-pedagogical support for the Jewish community schools, projects with government institutions, projects assisting the general Mexican community and fundraising activities. New projects were developed in six community schools, involving the training of teachers and administrative personnel, the supply of software, high-tech and physics equipment, and connection to ORTnet/Internet.

A technology transfer agreement for the production of ORT high-tech equipment has been signed with CONALEP [the Mexican national network for technical education]. A new ORT-DIF [social welfare organization] Training Centre is training people in the operation and maintenance of agricultural machinery. ORT also works with PEMEX

ORT NETWORK REVIEW

LATIN AMERICA

10,000+
students

[the largest Mexican oil company]. Over 3,000 people were trained in DIF, PEMEX and CONALEP ORT centres this year.

PERU: A cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Education has enabled ORT Peru to implement a new project in three high schools, with a joint enrolment of over 10,000 students. The occupational training project will teach such subjects as household appliances repair, plumbing, electricity and secretarial skills. The Mother and Child Care projects continue steadily.

URUGUAY: ORT Uruguay continues to support the entire Jewish educational network in this country, offering technical assistance and leadership and serving as a tertiary level option for its matriculation graduates. ORT Uruguay was asked to coordinate the national Academic Commission for the purpose of restructuring the private higher education sector. Cooperative and joint activities with industry, state bodies and ministries also expanded. A symposium on Jewish Education, organized by the Jewish Agency with ORT's cooperation, has led to a research project on Jewish schooling in Uruguay.

2,200
students

VENEZUELA: ORT Venezuela continues to support the Caracas Jewish community schools, providing creative education, natural science and technology studies. Some 2,200 students benefited from the ORT programmes. Projects in computer science and biotechnology have been developed in the community high school. A new project in business education was added in September.

ORT is also working with youngsters living in some of the most poverty stricken areas. An agreement signed in August between ORT and the Ministry of Family Affairs aims at teaching 850 underprivileged youngsters the skills that will enable them to enter the labour market. In the first five years of its existence, ORT Venezuela has grown markedly and will contribute effectively to relieving some of the country's problems.

WESTERN EUROPE

BRITAIN: British ORT Fundraising: British ORT is already drawing benefit from working jointly with ORT Trust and World ORT in their new premises. Through its full programme of social and cultural events, British ORT has continued its successful fundraising efforts. Several of its functions were graced by eminent guest speakers: Lord Sterling of

WESTERN EUROPE

Plastow addressed the Annual Business Breakfast; Peter Sutherland, Chairman of Goldman Sachs International, spoke at the Business Lunch. The annual golf day and a private screening of the prize-winning film "Carrington" added to a successful year. British ORT has continued its initiative in developing new leadership.

The Women's Division held regular fundraising events including a musical soiree, an outing to Waddesdon Manor, a fashion show at Selfridges and a Celebrity Lunch at which Bernice Weston was guest speaker. The Lunch and Listen Club met regularly throughout the year, with guest speakers from the worlds of art and literature.

ORT Developments in Britain: Under the banner of British ORT, supported by the Arenson Trust, the Information Technology department has been running ORT Care courses for Jewish Care, training the unemployed for today's jobs. WOU also trains the administrative staff at Ravenswood Foundation. Seminars on global networking were held for AJCP [Association of Jewish Communal Professionals], TOSCA [Trusted Open Systems Connectivity Alliance] and ECJC [European Council for Jewish Communities]. The Board of Deputies, Ravenswood, the Association of Jewish Youth [AJY] and members of the House of Lords are connected to ORTnet and have received training in networking.

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 Baccalaureate, the Council for National and Vocational Qualifications [CNVQ] and the Department for Education.



British ORT's
Business Lunch:
left to right:
Peter Sutherland,
Janet Suzman and
Mark Mishon

WESTERN EUROPE

FRANCE: Following the success of the Villiers-le-Bel school near Paris, the schools in Strasbourg and Marseilles opened high school classes in general education for 11-year olds. ORT added courses to its existing national curriculum programmes in technology, PC software, word-processing and spreadsheets.

The ORT Resource Centre, recently established in the ORT France headquarters in Paris, serves as a meeting place and training centre for ORT teachers and for teachers of all interested Jewish schools. It also coordinates the installation and development of programmes for all schools in the ORT France network. A work programme for 1995/96 includes courses for the retraining of adults and a series of beginners' courses on the use of ORTnet/Internet resources.

GERMANY: The state of Baden-Württemberg funded the construction of the new CD-ROM library at ORT Braude in Karmiel. This project will greatly enhance the possibilities of research and communications at ORT Braude.



Science Workshop,
Villiers-le-Bel,
France

Student exchanges between ORT schools in Israel and vocational schools in Germany have gathered momentum. A group from ORT Braude visited a school in Mülheim/Ruhr, and students from a vocational school in Soest visited ORT Molton in Bat Yam. Convinced of the importance of these visits, ORT Germany will continue to develop student exchanges.

ORT Germany succeeded in securing two new Mother and Child Care projects with the EC, one in the Philippines, the other in Senegal.

ITALY: In anticipation of government reforms, school programmes in the community high schools in Milan and Rome have been geared to

WESTERN EUROPE

respond promptly to curricula innovations. Jewish education programmes and Hebrew are compulsory in all classes. The Milan school is now the hub of the ORTnet connection in Italy. Venice is the first Italian Jewish community to be linked to the ORTnet system in Milan; other small communities will follow.

The Milan ORT High School organized a trip to England during which the students visited the ORT headquarters in London and saw for themselves the various educational projects being developed. They also had the opportunity of using the ORTnet facilities and were particularly impressed with the possibilities it offers of uniting Jewish communities around the world – a major factor in a country made up of many small and isolated communities.

NETHERLANDS: In March of this year, ORT Netherlands celebrates its 50th anniversary. Among other fundraising activities, the Levi Lassen Foundation has sponsored special training for gifted *olim* in Israel. This project is under the auspices of the Israeli Ministry of Education, which provides enriched courses for young people with great potential.

NORWAY: ORT Norway continued its support for two major Mother and Child Care projects, one in Dangbe, Ghana and the other in Akaki, Ethiopia. Phase one of the Ghana project was completed in 1994. ORT Norway is seeking funding from NORAD [Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation] to finance phase two, which will include income-generating activities. NORAD continues to support the project in Ethiopia, which was started at the end of 1994.

SPAIN: ORT has installed a multimedia station connected to ORTnet at the Estella Toledano School in Madrid and the Colegio Sefardi in Barcelona, providing a link to Jewish databases worldwide. Subjects taught include information technology, maths, science, Jewish studies and Hebrew. Adult courses included computer literacy, word processing, spreadsheets and CAD. Teacher training programmes continued in each school.

SWEDEN: ORT Sweden has been successful in consolidating its relationship with the Swedish authorities. Funding has been made available through the Swedish International Development Agency [SIDA] for the ORT project in Peru, and for a three year training project in South Africa. The ORT leadership was successful in raising funds for the ORT St Petersburg school where a Swedish room has been inaugurated.

WESTERN EUROPE

Jacqueline Maus at the celebration of her 85th birthday, being presented with a gift by Dr Ellen Isler, Director General of WOU



SWITZERLAND: For ORT Switzerland, 1995 was sadly marked by the death in September of its distinguished and long serving President, Jacqueline Maus, who had held office for 35 years. In June, her 85th birthday was celebrated at a gala evening attended by family and friends, which raised funds for a dormitory wing in the Braude Institute in Karmiel; this was inaugurated on 19 October in the presence of members of the Board of Governors.

ORT Zurich is on the ORT map again! A search for new leadership was successful and a new committee has been established. This committee has pledged support for ORT's global programmes and has already commenced its fundraising activities.

An international bridge tournament organized by ORT Geneva, held in November, has become a major annual event. Gazette ORT, a glossy information bulletin, is produced by ORT Geneva twice a year. The committee in Basle gave a large donation towards the carpentry workshop in the Lvovitch School in Netanya. The Bern group, after a celebration for Mothers' Day in May, organized its usual bridge tournament.

ORT INSTITUTE AT ANIERES

LeAtid, the European Centre for Leadership Development, was established by ORT at Anières, in cooperation with JDC, European Council of Jewish Communities, Doron Foundation, Rothschild Foundation, World Jewish Relief and Fond Social Juif Unifié. The main objective of LeAtid is to train young lay leaders and professionals from European Jewish communities, mainly from Eastern Europe and the FSU.

During the past year, the Institute made great strides in its leadership training, in its organization of conferences and in upgrading seminars for Jewish institutions around the world. An average of one seminar a month was held, in collaboration with AJDC, WZO, EAJY, and ORT Israel, ORT France and ORT Moscow. The community seminars concentrated on developing managerial skills and the use of ORTnet as a link among the various communities.

The Institute provides training to meet specific needs. A group of ORT Israel teachers updated their knowledge of multimedia applied to education. Another group of teachers, from ORT Moscow, followed intensive English conversation courses, combined with a course on publishing on ORTnet. The Institute also provides courses in multimedia and Internet navigation skills for the local Jewish community and the community at large.

ORT Anières has become a meeting place where representatives from Jewish communities in Eastern and Western Europe can exchange ideas, compare experiences and gain a wider perspective on the issues that involve them. ORT Anières intends to expand its activities to other fields in order to attract large numbers of local people to the Institute.

ALBANIA: In 1992, at USAID's request, ORT set up a training programme for ex-political prisoners teaching management skills, construction trades, textile industries and small enterprise development. The programme was so successful that it has been expanded to include computer training, secretarial skills, tourism, fashion, cosmetology and English courses, and is available for

ORT INSTITUTE AT ANIERES

EASTERN EUROPE



Fashion and Design
Workshop, Albania

EASTERN EUROPE

anyone seeking employment. There are now six training centres throughout the country.

In June 1995 ORT was requested by USAID to implement the three year Albania Democracy Network Programme. This programme is developing and strengthening the democratic basis of Albanian society through an incremental integrated package of technical assistance, training and financial grants. The funding will be strategically directed towards public policy-oriented NGOs in four priority sectors: democracy, environment, economic growth and social safety nets.

Children in the new ORT ITL at the Jewish School in Sofia, Bulgaria



From left to right:
Dr Gideon Meyer,
Director of Education WOU,
Mr Mordechai Mevorach,
Director Doron Foundation
and Mr Moshe Yahoda,
JDC Director for Bulgaria,
at the inauguration of
the ORT ITL in Sofia

BULGARIA: In the same year that ORT returned to St Petersburg, operations also began in Sofia, once an important centre of ORT activities. In 1949 ORT Sofia closed and the staff and students joined the mass emigration of Bulgarian Jews to Israel, re-establishing their school in Jaffa. This school later developed into the famous ORT Syngalowski Centre in Tel Aviv.

In December 1995 ORT installed an Information Technology Laboratory [ITL] in the Jewish school in Sofia, with a donation from the Doron Foundation and the support of JDC. It was inaugurated in the presence of the Bulgarian Deputy Minister of Education and other dignitaries from the government and the Jewish community. This is the first school in Bulgaria to have such a laboratory and be connected to the Internet. The coordinator was trained at the ORT Institute at Anières. This ITL is connected to ORTnet and serves not only the school but also the whole Jewish community.

CROATIA: The ITL set up by ORT in the Jewish Community Centre in Zagreb, in response to the critical situation in Croatia, is used mainly as

EASTERN EUROPE

a Jewish education teaching facility, providing Hebrew and Jewish studies courses to youngsters and adults. ORT has developed new courses in the last year, particularly in Jewish studies using ORTnet. The ITL is also used to train members of the local community in business and industrial techniques, and is available to the community at large.

ORT has developed a training programme to help refugees from Bosnia and displaced persons from Croatia, currently living in temporary accommodation in Croatia. The aim is to provide them with skills which will lead to employment, either locally or on their return to their homes. The project is based on the use of mobile units, fabricated in Croatia, and offers courses in English and tailoring; further courses are planned in the construction trades and computing. Two units are now operating in Makarska and a third in Zagreb.

HUNGARY: The state-of-the-art ITL, established by ORT in the Jewish Community Centre in Budapest, now offers courses in telecommunications, electronics, multimedia, information technology and business management. The three main Jewish schools in Budapest have been connected to the ITL, and through it to ORTnet/Internet. It also serves as a major resource for Jewish education for the whole community. An additional computer has been installed on the ground floor of the Jewish Community Centre for the use of the elderly; through this connection to the global Jewish world, these seniors are given a whole new lease of life.

RUSSIA

The inauguration of the ORT Technology Centre in St Petersburg, and the official opening of the ORT Education Complex in Moscow, heralded a new era in ORT's contribution to Jewish life and education in Russia. The Russian Minister of Education, speaking at both inauguration ceremonies, emphasized the importance of ORT's contribution to the reform of education in Russia. He stated his intention to use the two schools as one model for the Russian education system.

The ORT Moscow Education Complex comprises a technology school, a teacher training institute and a Resource Centre [RC]. The technology school has a current enrolment of 250 students in grades 6-10. It offers general education in compliance with the national curriculum of Russia, plus cutting-edge computing skills and information technology, enabling students to acquire the knowledge and skills essential for

250
students

RUSSIA

250

students

employment in a modern industrialized economy. Hebrew and Jewish studies are central to the programme. There are plans to expand the school, increasing the enrolment to 350 and the number of classes to cover grades 6 through 11. In 1995/96 there were six applicants for every available place.

St Petersburg: the ORT Technology Centre at the International State School and the Resource Centre continue to grow. 250 students study computer skills and information technology at the school, for 21 hours per week. Courses for parents and other adults are provided in the evenings. The RC continues to offer comprehensive courses in word processing, computer technology, multimedia, computer design and graphics and desktop publishing.

THE "TWELVE TRIBES" PROJECT

ORT St Petersburg is being developed as the centre for the twelve Jewish communities of the Former Soviet Union [FSU], where ORT Resource Centres are being established. They will link the communities together, providing them with a variety of educational resources. The RCs, providing equipment, software, training for teachers and managers, and technical and pedagogical support, are already operational in St Petersburg [school], Moscow [school], Riga, Kiev, Minsk and Zaparozhe. Other RCs are being installed in Dnepropetrovsk, Odessa, Kharkov, Vilnius, Samara and Kischiniev.

Maintained and monitored by the staff of ORT St Petersburg, the Centres will provide a valuable service to the local communities, also giving them access, through ORTnet, to the wealth of information on the Internet, and to other ORT Centres around the world. Each Centre is to be equipped for technological and Jewish education. The Twelve Tribes Project will help to spread Jewish learning and culture throughout the FSU.

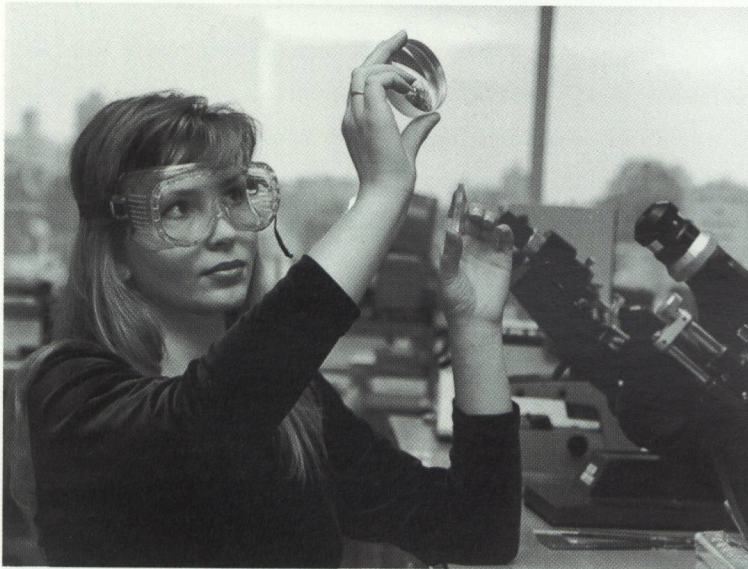
NORTH AMERICA

CANADA: Canadian ORT and Women's Canadian ORT have joined forces to create one organization, ORT Canada, which officially came into being on 1 January 1996. Dr Sylvia Ostry and Mr Bernard Ostry, a distinguished academic couple and both holders of the Order of Canada, have been appointed as the Honorary Co-Presidents of this

NORTH AMERICA

new body. This merger promises even greater support from Canada for ORT activities worldwide.

A partnership has recently been formed between ORT and the North York Board of Education to sponsor jointly a 'Creative Technology Centre' in a North York [Toronto] high school. This historic partnership will blend ORT's state-of-the-art teaching modules and training methodologies with the North York Board's innovative approach to teaching technology-based subjects. It is anticipated that the Centre will become a model for others across Canada.



Ophthalmic
Laboratory,
ORT Bramson,
New York

UNITED STATES: American ORT pursues an active fundraising and membership programme with chapters around the country. 1995 was a year of rebuilding, with a new President, new Campaign Chair, Executive Vice President and several new regional directors. American ORT took the lead in establishing the capital campaign to purchase the Joyce and Stanley Black Family LAOTI building in Los Angeles and a separate campaign to fund the David Hermelin College of Technology in Netanya, Israel.

Women's American ORT has continued its efforts to restructure the organization so as to approach the 21st century with renewed strength and purpose. A new mode of governance, together with a revamped system of national committees, began operating following the 33rd Biennial National Convention in October. Emphasis was placed on leadership development at all levels, and particularly the preparation of the next generation of leaders at area, chapter and national level. A special Young Leadership Development Department was created.

NORTH AMERICA

Among the year's highlights were expanded membership outreach programmes, new fundraising campaigns and communications materials, a more activist approach to advocacy for quality education in America and the founding of the Baroness de Gunzbourg Society. Other successes include a Major Contributors Mission to Jordan and Israel, highlighted by the dedication of the new ORT Beverly Minkoff Junior High School in Jerusalem. Fundraising efforts focused on specific projects including ORT Braude, the new ORT facilities in Moscow and St Petersburg, the 'last chance' schools in Israel, ORT Syngalowski, the Joseph Harmatz ORT School of Engineering and ORT Operations in the USA.

US Operations: At the Bramson ORT Technical Institute in New York, and at the Los Angeles ORT Technical Institute [LAOTI], students, many of whom are immigrants from the CIS and former Yugoslavia, are offered courses in business management, computer programming and technology, accounting, secretarial skills, electronics and ophthalmics laboratory technology, leading to associate degrees in applied science and occupational studies. English as a Second Language and Jewish studies are an integral part of the curriculum. The Joyce & Stanley Black and Family Building, the new site of LAOTI's main campus, is being renovated. The Zarem/Golde ORT Technical Institute in Chicago offers similar coursework and services to those at LAOTI, to its 700 students, mostly immigrants.

The Hillel Community Day School in North Miami Beach, the largest Jewish day school in the Southeast, has been fully computerized by ORT. New educational learning systems, based on the Hillel model, have been developed by ORT, using computer technology to serve three Jewish day schools in the Atlanta area. The ORT USA Resource and Development Centre is being established to develop programmes and curricula with the day school network.

ASIA

CHINA: Through the China Spark project, the International Cooperation department of WOU offers technical assistance to the State Science and Technology Commission of the People's Republic of China. This project introduces high technology into China's rural industry. ORT continues to strengthen and modernize the training component of the project. Training centres have been established in the provinces of Jilin, Jiangsu and Shanghai municipality.

INDIA: ORT India's Vocational Training and Computer Centre at Worli and the Industrial Training Institute at Mazagaon offer courses in electronics, mechanics, desktop publishing, multimedia, computer networking, CAD-CAM, Hebrew and Jewish studies. Students can also train as draughtsmen, beauticians, secretaries and tour operators. A new 'Food and Nutrition' laboratory has proved a major asset. The department of cosmetology produces in-house the cosmetics required in the beauty and hair salon run by ORT India. A multimedia programme has increased the total number of students.



Beauty Classes,
India

ORT India is at the centre of the Indian Jewish community and is a major convenor of community events. The ORT India Travel and Tourism department, in association with the Jewish Education Resource Centre and Kosher Bakery/Kitchen, provides travel-related services to Jewish tourists. These include tours of the earliest cemetery of the Bene-Israel Jews, whose ancestors settled near Bombay as early as the second century.

With the opening up of the Indian economy and the establishment of Indo-Israel diplomatic relations, ORT India is making efforts to establish a centre for corporate and industrial seminars and training.

PHILIPPINES: ORT Philippines has two high-tech vocational training projects now operating, aimed at upgrading the quality of teaching offered in skills relevant to the needs of Philippine industry. These projects also aim to improve the vocational training capability of other technical schools in the areas.

The Mother and Child Care project in the Province of La Union has pre-school day-care activities operational in 14 satellites. Other projects

ASIA

provide employment for women, the emphasis being on adapting products to meet market demands. The ORT Health Plus Scheme [OHPS], set up to meet the pressing needs for basic health care at an affordable family price, has reached over 300 families after one year in operation. The viability of the scheme has led to interest from the provincial government and local health care providers.



ORT Mother and Child
Care project,
Philippines

AFRICA

34,000
technicians

MOROCCO: The success of ORT Morocco throughout its history has been due to the unstinting hard work and dedicated commitment of the staff and the ORT Morocco Committee. But although the mission of ORT Morocco is sadly coming to an end after 50 years of service – having trained more than 34,000 Moroccan technicians and enabled young Jewish people to have the chance of a dignified and productive life – ORT Morocco is not really finishing. The expertise and good name of ORT in Morocco, as well as the large network of contacts of the ORT Morocco Committee, are now being put to excellent use in the field of International Cooperation across the whole of Africa.

SOUTH AFRICA: With committees established in all the major centres of Jewish life, ORT South Africa conducts an active fundraising and membership programme. Lectures on art and culture, a gift shop, competitions, annual golf days and New Year Greetings booklets are among the activities, with Johannesburg Women's ORT as the largest group. A special committee of lawyers and accountants seeks

AFRICA

bequests. A programme has been initiated to upgrade the skills of Jewish adults seeking job opportunities.



Students at work on
an ORT-STEP project,
South Africa

ORT South Africa promotes technology education through its rapidly growing ORT-STEP [ORT Science and Technology Education Programme] Institute, headquartered near Johannesburg, and by acting as a consultant to government, liaising with industry and participating in educational conferences and seminars. ORT-STEP has developed six satellite centres with technology laboratories in different parts of the country; they will also serve as centres to train teachers from local communities in science and technology. The ORT College of Technology at Midrand, a secondary school with 200 students, will enrol a further 100 students in 1996.

AUSTRALIA

ORT's main activity in Australia is providing equipment to technology high schools. So far, 21 schools have purchased equipment, including the Emanuel School in Randwick. The King David School in Melbourne is interested in having an ORT technology laboratory, which would mark ORT's first in Melbourne.

ORT Australia researched, developed and presented a "Jewish" tour of the Internet for a Jewish exhibition, "Shalom Sydney", held at the end of the year. The exhibition has spread awareness of ORT's local and international activities among Australia's Jewish community.

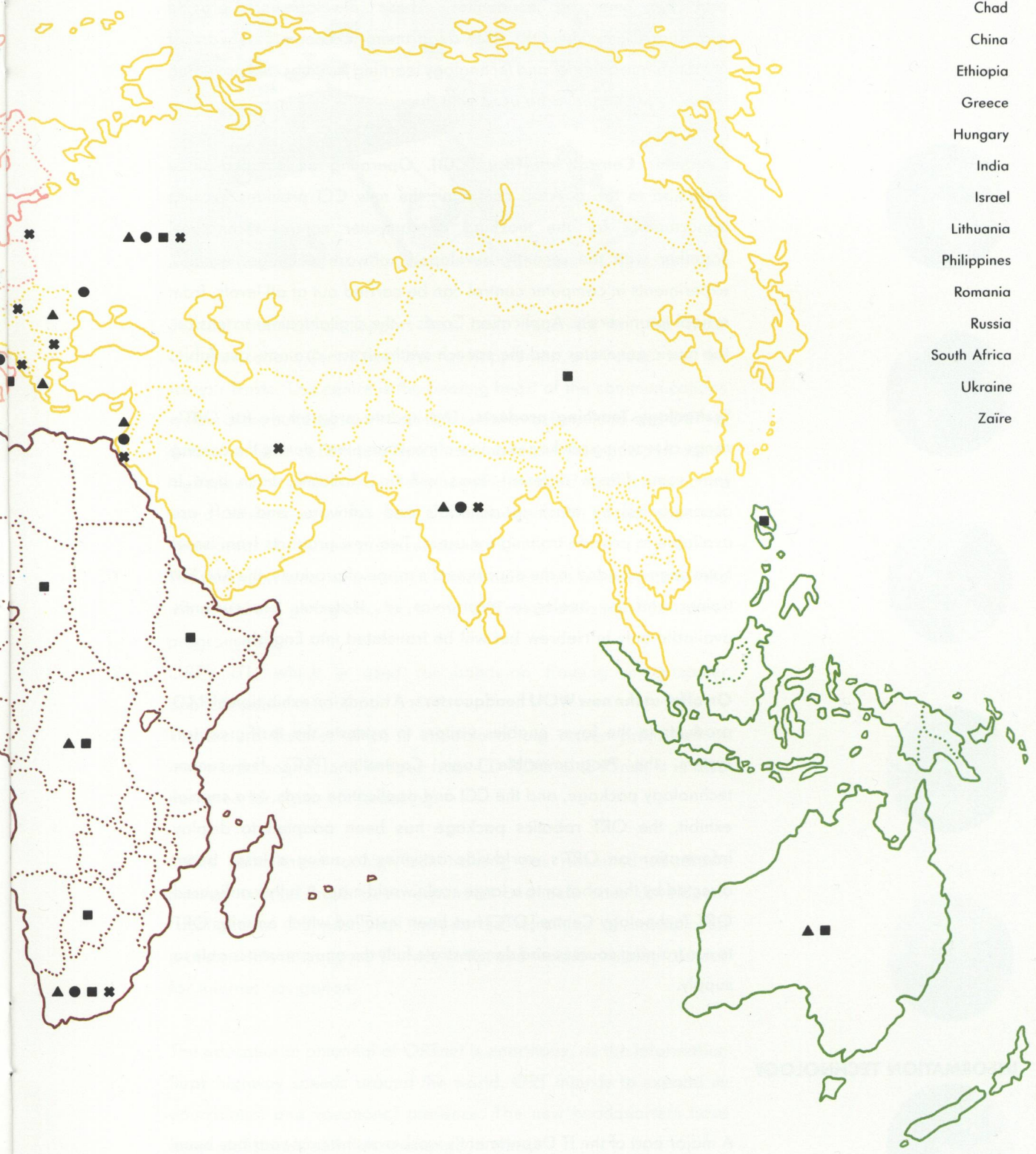
ORT'S GLOBAL NETWORK

KEY

- ▲ Membership
- Schools & Courses
- ICD
- ✱ ORTnet



- Albania
- Australia
- Botswana
- Bulgaria
- Chad
- China
- Ethiopia
- Greece
- Hungary
- India
- Israel
- Lithuania
- Philippines
- Romania
- Russia
- South Africa
- Ukraine
- Zaire



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Many countries are increasingly recognizing the importance of providing sound technological education for their students in order to prepare them for a rapidly changing employment marketplace. New initiatives and frameworks are being established both in the developed and the emerging economies. These developments provide opportunities for the ORT R&D department to continue its work of establishing computer and technology learning facilities and providing teaching packages to be used with them.

Computer Control Interface [CCI]. Operating as a stand-alone extension to the desktop computer, the new CCI provides exciting opportunities for the teaching of computer control technology. Together with the recently developed software package, *winCCI*, experiments in computer control can be carried out at all levels, from school to university. Application Cards – the digital trainer extension, the music generator and the speech synthesizer – are now available.

Technology Teaching products. The update programme for ORT's range of teaching packages is now almost complete; during the coming year some fifteen different items will be available. Each item is accompanied by teaching materials and software, and staff are available to provide training for users. Two new products from Israel have been included in the department's range of products: the AM/FM trainer and the analogue electronics kit. Materials are currently available only in Hebrew but will be translated into English.

On offer at the new WOU headquarters: A hands-on exhibition of R&D products in the foyer enables visitors to operate the traffic control system, the Programmable Logic Controller [PLC], the sensor technology package, and the CCI and application cards. In a special exhibit, the ORT robotics package has been adapted to display information on ORT's worldwide activities by using a laser beam directed by the robot onto a large scale world map. A fully-configured ORT Technology Centre [OTC] has been installed which enables ORT to run training courses and demonstrate fully the equipment it is able to supply.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

A major part of the IT Department's work over the past year has been the design and implementation of the IT service infrastructure for the new headquarters to meet the World ORT Union's needs into the next

ITL in ORT's
new headquarters,
London



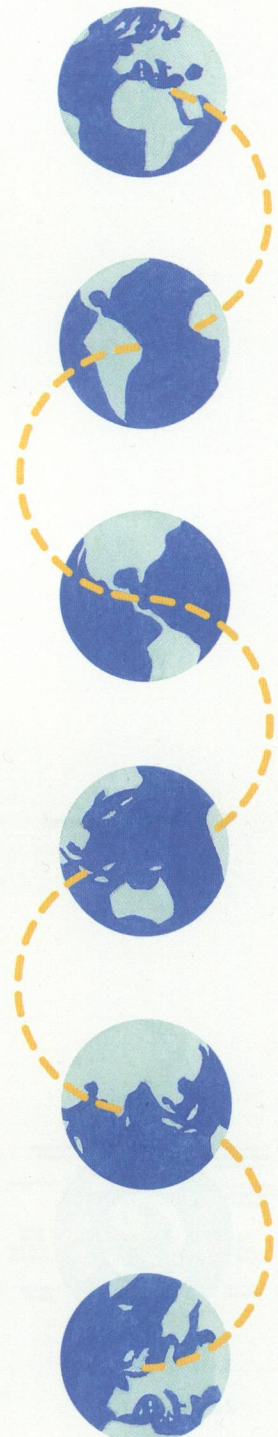
decade. Substantial support has been received for the Data Communications Centre from Murray Koppleman, a UK donor and the Joseph Trusts. This centre is the beating heart of the communications system of the building into which flow telephone, fax, video and ORTnet data over fibre optic lines. These messages are then pumped out at high speed to computers and telephones in the building and around the world. While most of this activity is invisible to the casual observer, three areas in the new premises stand out:

- 1 The reception area, where touch screen computers are located for the use of visitors, giving easy access to ORTnet and Distance Education programmes;
- 2 ORT's ITL, which is used for hands-on training in computer applications;
- 3 The lecture theatre, which is capable of big screen projection of multimedia sounds and images from CD-ROM or ORTnet; it is also designed for video conferencing.

ORT's commitment to high-tech training has remained steadfast: existing courses have been expanded and new ones developed. Highlights of the past year include the retraining of unemployed professionals in computer literacy skills, and teacher training courses for Internet navigation.

The educational potential of ORTnet is enormous; as the Information Superhighway speeds around the world, ORT intends to expand its educational and vocational presence. The new headquarters have been redesigned with this challenge in mind.

For further IT/ORTnet projects, see Jewish Education on page 30.



GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS

A user-friendly ORT glossary of technical terms and abbreviations in common usage.

GLOSSARY – ORTnet/Internet

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 organizations 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 intergrating 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, accessed via the Internet. ORTnet gives direct access to the world's most important education databases. [See Internet.]

RC [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 an RC, which will also include teacher training facilities and a library. [See ITL.]

GLOSSARY – General

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 in which 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.

ORT has developed its own communications network, ORTnet, based on the global Internet Network, comprising some 50,000 interconnected networks of information resources. ORTnet links the World ORT Union, ORT schools, ORT administration offices and Jewish community centres in a smooth, world-wide 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 technology.

The aims of ORTnet are threefold:

- 1 Outreach to Jewish communities worldwide, especially to isolated communities, providing a global connection to Jewish education, heritage and culture;
- 2 Distance Education, providing Jewish education, technological education and general humanities studies;
- 3 Publicity of WOU activities.

Through ORTnet, data bases can be searched all over the world.

An example of ORTnet:



Figure 1: ORTnet Home Page. Press on Jewish Community for –

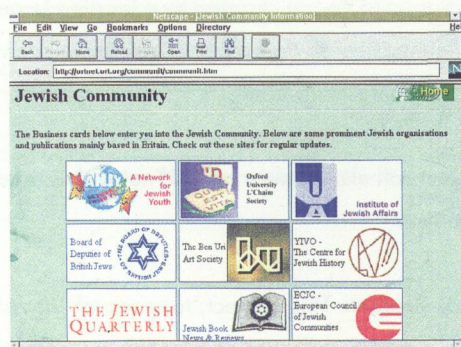


Figure 2: Jewish Community: Business cards. Press on ANJY for –

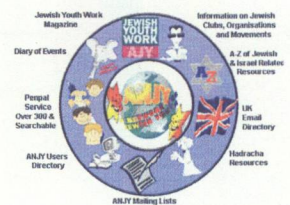


Figure 3:
ANJY – A network
for Jewish Youth

Further pages of information may be called up in a similar manner.

One of the most significant recent developments at ORT has been the way in which Information Technology and ORTnet, developed by the IT department, have been used by the Jewish education department to create innovative and stimulating projects. Three of the most exciting projects developed during the last year, exemplifying cooperation among different departments – and indeed different countries – are Navigating the Bible, the Monuments Project and ORTnet in Russian.

Preparations for
Chanukah decorations
at the St Petersburg
School, Russia



Navigating the Bible: [expanded from the Bar Mitzvah Project] ORT has embarked on the first stage of this mammoth project to publish the entire *Torah*, *Haftarot* [weekly portions of the prophets] and Commentaries on the Web, in interactive multimedia, accessible from anywhere in the world at the cost of a local phone call. The project offers many approaches to the Bible – as history, literature and religion – and includes a Biblical atlas and a section on varied religious practices. The Bar Mitzvah Project is now one of the most exciting sections of this project, in which an individual may call up his/her Bar/Bat Mitzvah portion, see it on screen in Hebrew, in English translation and transliteration, and hear it chanted by a leading Israeli cantor. This project is fully interactive, so that an isolated student can learn his/her portion without moving from home.

The whole project will also appear on ORTnet with Russian translation and transliteration.

The Monuments Project: This project, to research Jewish monuments and historic buildings in different communities, was initiated by ORT India and is being developed by ORT Argentina and ORT Uruguay. Its purpose is twofold: by involving Jewish students in the research, it serves to strengthen their ties with their Jewish heritage and history

within their communities; and by sharing this information through ORTnet with other communities, they reinforce the feeling of the global Jewish family while building a usable database for others. So far, a Sephardi synagogue in Montevideo, and a Holocaust Memorial and a monument in the name of Albert Einstein, both in Uruguay, have been researched; a synagogue in Argentina was refurbished by ORT students and was inaugurated in Buenos Aires on Yom Kippur.

ORTnet in Russia: Cooperation between WOU in London [Jewish Education and IT departments] and ORT St Petersburg, has resulted in the creation of new programmes of Jewish interest on ORTnet in Russian. These include:

Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Succot and Pessach: The main aspects of the Jewish New Year, Day of Atonement, Tabernacles and Passover are presented in cyberspace. The material presented includes history, family life, traditions, Biblical sources, poems and paintings;

The Flag of Israel: This depicts the history of the Jewish flag from the early *tallit* to the present day flag of Israel. This programme includes a quiz for students;

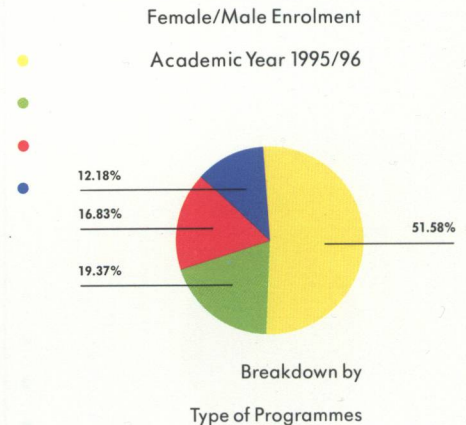
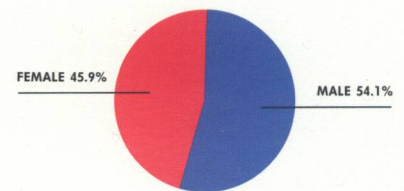
Chanukah: This project, including work prepared by ORT students themselves in St Petersburg, has just come on-line in Russian. It shows the main customs and traditions associated with the Festival of Light.

ORT education projects around the world have continued to expand and new ORT schools and training programmes have been established. A particular emphasis has been placed on increasing the number of female students.

	STUDENT BODY	ENROLMENT
ORT SCHOOLS	78,405	130,200
ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS	34,353	48,900
ADULT COURSES	29,842	42,490
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	18,130	30,750
TOTAL	160,730	252,340

World Wide ORT Curriculum: Accounting. Aeromechanics. Agromechanics. Airconditioning. Applied Arts – Graphics & Design. Architecture. Automation & Control. Automechanics. Biotechnology.

ORT WORLD EDUCATION



Building Trades. Business Studies. Carpentry. Computer Aided Design [CAD]. Computer Literacy. Computerized Communications Networks. Creative Education. Data Processing. Dental Assistants' Courses. Dental Technicians' Courses. Diamond Processing. Environmental Studies. Electromechanics. Electronics. Fashion Design. Floristry. General Education. Hairdressing & Beauty Care. Industrial Chemistry. Industrial Maintenance. Industrial Management. Information Technology. Instrumentation & Control. Interior Design. International Marketing. Jewellery. Landscape Design. Mechanics. Media Studies. Mother & Child Care. Optical Instrumentation. Plumbing. Printing. Quality Assurance. Road Maintenance. Robotics. Sciences. Secretarial Studies. Marine Engineering. Teacher Training. Technical Drawing. Telecommunications. Tourist Trades. Window Dressing.

REMEMBRANCE

World ORT Union mourns the recent passing of leaders and friends. Among them are: **David Alberstein**, of France and Switzerland, Chief of Operations of WOU; **Norman Asher**, Board Member of ORT Chicago, a founder of ORT Braude; **Charles Bensley**, Hon Vice President of American ORT, former Chair of Executive Committee and Member of Central Board of WOU; **Adolpho Bloch**, veteran supporter of ORT Brazil; **Saidye Bronfman**, generous donor to ORT Canada over many years; **Ralph Codikow**, former Executive Committee Member, American ORT; **Sydney Einfeld**, Hon Member of the Central Board of WOU, former President of Australian ORT; **Kai Feinberg**, Board Member of ORT Norway; **Lord Goodman**, Patron of British ORT, Hon Member of the Central Board of WOU; **Dr Vladimir Halperin** of Geneva, descendant of Baron Horace de Gunzburg, former Director of WOU; **Joan Jaffit**, former President of ORT Toronto; **Abe Kasvan**, Vice President of Montreal Men's ORT; **Edna Robinson Kurzrok**, Hon Vice President of Women's American ORT; **Zvi Luboshitz**, Member of the ORT Israel Committee, former Member of the Central Board of WOU; **Anita Malamud**, founder and past President of ORT Brazil Women's Committee; **Jacqueline Maus**, President of Swiss ORT, Secretary of WOU, a leading figure in ORT for over 40 years; **Hilda Milestone**, WOU staff member, London; **Sara Rassin**, Member of the ORT Israel Committee; **Harry Saul**, Member of American ORT Executive Committee, a founder of ORT Braude; **Mordechai Surkiss**, Member of the ORT Israel Committee; and **George Weaver**, former Washington Director of ORT International Cooperation.

ORT's major sources of revenue are the United States, Great Britain, Switzerland, Germany and Canada. However, World ORT Union increasingly depends upon contributions from all its member countries, however small.

The World ORT Union's global budget for 1995 reached \$250 million. The \$17.2 million contributed by ORT's national organizations around the world and JDC provides the leverage that generates \$233 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".

Figure 1 shows WOU Central Revenue for 1995: each country's percentage contribution and the amount in US dollars.

	US \$000's	%
CANADA	.285	1.65
GERMANY	.665	3.86
GREAT BRITAIN	1.474	8.56
MEXICO	1.300	7.56
SOUTH AFRICA	.170	0.98
SWITZERLAND	.840	4.88
UNITED STATES	6.427	37.32
WORLD ORT UNION	1.578	9.16
OTHER COUNTRIES	.483	2.80
	13.222	76.77
AJDC	4.000	23.23
GRAND TOTAL	17.222	100.00

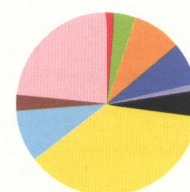
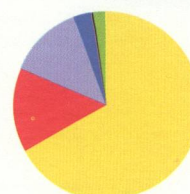


Figure 2 shows WOU Expenditure for 1995: each area's percentage allocation, and the amount in US dollars.

	US \$000's	%
ISRAEL	167.759	66.96
EUROPE	36.146	14.43
LATIN AMERICA	32.734	13.06
UNITED STATES	8.230	3.28
OTHER AREAS	.636	0.25
CENTRAL R&D AND SUPPORT OF OPERATIONAL PROGRAMMES	5.061	2.02
GRAND TOTAL	250.566	100.00



ROLL OF HONOUR 1995 Major Gifts to ORT Programmes throughout the World

Details are correct according to information supplied at the time of going to press

*Deceased

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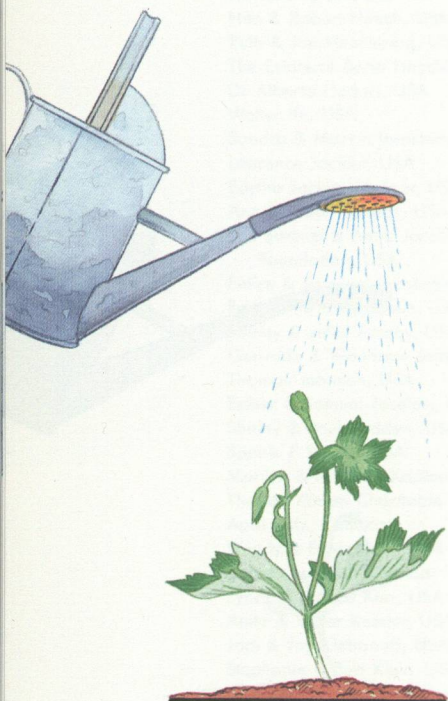
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