

# The JEW VOICE

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"You heard it in  
The Jewish Voice"

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20 Pages

## Baker, Shamir make some progress toward peace conference

By DAVID LANDAU

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Israel and the United States appeared to make some progress toward a Middle East peace conference last week but remained at loggerheads on the issue of U.S. guarantees for \$10 billion in loans Israel is seeking for immigrant absorption. That was the situation after more than five hours of talks here September 26 and 27 between Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

Both men described the talks as "good and friendly."

Shamir told reporters after their final 90-minute session that "some progress" had been made on issues pertaining to the Middle East peace conference the United States and Soviet Union would like to convene next month.

Yet a shadow clouds the entire enterprise. Persistent procedural differences over the conference combined with the Bush administration's determination to delay action on Israel's loan request until January has reignited a long-simmering revolt on the far-right wing of Shamir's coalition government, which opposes peace negotiations with the Arab states and especially the Palestinians.



Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir greets U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on September 16. Baker, in Jerusalem to resume his search for Middle East peace, had to deal with Israeli leaders angered by the new toughness in U.S. tactics. (Photo:RNS)

There was mounting speculation that threats by the right-wing parties to defect could provide the pressure—or pretext—for Shamir's government to resign and call for early elections. That would put the entire peace process on hold for an indefinite period.

Nevertheless, Israeli officials who briefed the

local news media on the Shamir-Baker talks maintained that the conference issues are all but wrapped up to Israel's satisfaction. Foreign Minister David Levy, consistently upbeat in his public pronouncements, said most of the major issues were satisfactorily formulated in the draft of a U.S. letter of assurances to Israel.

What remained to be resolved were "minor matters" that Israel wants included, Levy said.

Shamir and Baker said there would be further talks soon, but they announced no date.

Baker left Israel at noon September 27 for Egypt, followed by visits to Jordan and Syria on his seventh diplomatic swing through the region since the end of the Persian Gulf War in March.

His final meeting with Shamir was attended by Levy, Defense Minister Moshe Arens and a retinue of aides on both sides. While it was in progress, U.S. officials held parallel talks with a local Palestinian delegation, headed by Faisal Hussein, at Hussein's East Jerusalem home. It was a follow-up to the meeting Baker had with the same group Monday evening, directly after his three-hour session with Shamir and other senior Israeli ministers.

The East Jerusalem talks also focused on an evolving U.S. letter of assurances to the Palestinians.

The reported language of the letters to Israel and the Palestinians has led some observers to suggest that Baker may have made contradictory promises to both sides. According to unofficial reports, in the letter to Israel, the United States explicitly excludes the Palestine Liberation Organization from the peace process. It upholds Israel's right not to negotiate with any party it rejects. It also stipulates that the conference plenary will not reconvene after its ceremonial opening without the explicit consent of all parties.

That condition has been demanded by Israel, which insists the conference serve only as a ceremonial curtain-raiser for separate, direct bilateral talks between Israel and the Arab states and the Palestinians.

The letter of assurance was also said to reiterate a pledge originally made by President Gerald Ford that the United States would take into account Israel's security needs in the Golan Heights.

No details were released of the draft given to the Palestinians. Reports here said the Palestinians were inclined to forego their demand that East Jerusalem Arabs must be represented at the peace talks, a condition unacceptable to Israel. But the proposed American letter would

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## Bush wins fight over loan guarantees, but at what cost to U.S.-Israel ties?

By DAVID FRIEDMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA)—President Bush has won his battle for a four-month delay in congressional consideration of Israel's request for guarantees covering \$10 billion in loans for immigrant resettlement. But the cost of that fight to U.S.-Israeli relations and the Middle East peace process is not yet clear.

The future of both the loan guarantees and the relationship between Washington and Jerusalem may depend more than anything else on the Middle East peace conference that the United States still hopes to convene during

the last week of October.

Bush said he pushed for a 120-day delay on the loan guarantees in order to avoid a divisive debate that could harm the peace conference. But many in Congress and in the American Jewish community feel the president actually created a divisive debate through his harsh public words about Israel and especially his threat to veto any congressional move to approve the guarantees before January.

Israel and its supporters on Capitol Hill believe the loans, which would be used to help absorb thousands of Soviet and Ethiopian immigrants, are a humanitarian issue that should never have been linked to political issues, such as the peace process or Israeli settlements in the West Bank. But once Bush made the linkage and threatened to veto congressional action, his request for a postponement was assured.

"Bush has never been beaten on a veto," Mark Pelavin, Washington representative of the American Jewish Congress, observed. None of his 21 vetoes has been overridden.

The delay became a certainty when both Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell (D-Maine) and House Speaker Thomas Foley (D-

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## Saudi ambassador elected president of UN General Assembly

By JACKIE ROTHENBERG

UNITED NATIONS (JTA)—Saudi Arabia's low profile at the United Nations moved center stage last week, with the election of Samir Shihabi as president of the U.N. General Assembly. There is little indication yet as to how the election of the Saudi Arabian ambassador will affect Israel, which had supported Papua New Guinea's foreign minister, Michael Somare, for the post.

The other candidate in the three-way race was Abdullah Saleh al-Ashtal of Yemen. Shihabi won handily with 83 of 150 votes cast; Somare followed with 47 votes, and Saleh al-Ashtal trailed with 20.

Israeli Ambassador Yoram Aridor declined to comment on Shihabi's election, other than to reiterate that Israel had supported Somare.

Shihabi himself was cautious on answering questions related to the Middle East. When asked at a news conference about the possibility of rescinding or altering the 1975 General Assembly resolution branding Zionism as racism, he responded: "I don't think the president of the General Assembly has the right to speak about rescinding or discuss-

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## Students celebrate Sukkot



Albert Einstein Academy fourth graders (left to right) Morgan McGee-Solomon, Anika Mamberg, Pamela Rothenberg and Anna Schenker display their sukkah decorations with their art teacher Shoshana Harris (standing). This year, Delaware's only Hebrew day school, has registered more children for kindergarten than in any other year in its history. (See story on Page 7)

## Israel welcomes Bush's call to U.N. to rescind 1975 Zionism resolution

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Israeli and American Jewish leaders have warmly welcomed President Bush's call Monday to the U.N. General Assembly to repeal its 1975 resolution branding Zionism as racism.

Labor opposition leader Shimon Peres said the president's address proves that he is "no foe, but a friend of Israel and of Zionism." Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir praised Bush's words as well, but he and other government leaders also emphasized that the speech would in no way soften their determination to reject American pressure for a freeze on settlement-

building in the administered territories.

In his remarks to the General Assembly, Bush said the infamous Resolution 3379 negates the ability of the United Nations to function as a peace-seeking body. "To equate Zionism with racism is to reject Israel itself," the president said. "This body cannot claim to seek peace and at the same time challenge Israel's right to exist."

Bush said that Zionism is "not a policy." Rather, he said, "it is the idea that led to the creation of a home for the Jewish people, to the State of Israel."

Ironically, the Israeli delegates to the United Nations were not present to hear Bush's call for the repeal because they were observing the holiday of Sukkot.

Among Israeli leaders praising Bush's speech was President Chaim Herzog, who was Israel's ambassador to the United Nations at the time the resolution was passed. He said it would be an "historic moment" if the resolution were now repealed.

Shamir, in a statement issued by his office, said Israel "expresses gratification and appre-

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# Editorial

## Loan guarantees shouldn't be linked to peace process

By linking the approval of a \$10 billion loan guarantee to West Bank settlements and the upcoming peace conference, the United States has gotten the new year off to a politically shaky start as far as the Jewish community is concerned. How nice it would be to look hopefully forward to better relations between Jerusalem and Washington in 5752...but the past 12 months — and the past month in particular — have not given us much reason to do so.

True, things have not been all bad...Israel continues to receive more foreign aid than any other country in the world, the U.S. congress has supported Israel solidly and it looks as though Israel will sit down at a conference table face to face with her Arab neighbors, thanks mainly to the herculean efforts of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

But, on the other hand...serious disagreements have arisen over the settlements in the West Bank and the status of East Jerusalem, there was linkage between Iraq's aggression toward Kuwait and Israel's occupation of land formerly held by Arabs, Israel's \$10 billion loan guarantee is being held up and President Bush is demonstrating an open dislike of Prime Minister Shamir.

The loan guarantee is explained by Jerusalem as a humanitarian issue. Israel is in the process of absorbing hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews. There are thousands of others — from Ethiopia, Albania and other countries where Jews are persecuted. With anti-Semitism on the rise in Eastern Europe, it is likely that there will be even more Jews seeking shelter in Israel. The loans being applied for are private and would cost the American taxpayer nothing. The only cost would be a small percentage of the bank loan, which is set aside in a reserve fund to be used if loan repayment were defaulted. **Israel has never defaulted on a loan.**

Why does Washington look at this as political? After years of urging the Soviet Union to free its Jews, doesn't the United States have a moral obligation to help with the absorption process — establishing homes, creating jobs, etc. — in the Jewish State now that the gates have opened. Israel is eager to absorb the immigrants. If Israel were not, wouldn't it be Washington's responsibility to do so?

From every angle, it appears that Israel is in a situation it can't win. Should the Jewish lobby manage to convince two-thirds of Congress to override a presidential veto on the loan guarantee, it is bound to alienate the White House. And that won't do much for the mood at the peace talks.

But, if Israel were to withdraw its loan request, it would certainly give the illusion of weakness to the Arabs. And that might encourage the Arabs to put more pressure on Israel at the conference table.

Washington hasn't given its strongest ally and only democratic friend in the Middle East a choice. Jerusalem will have to wait the 120 days. Israel is forced to take the U.S. administration at its word and expect approval of the loan guarantee in January.

Washington has determined the reality for Israel. And in so doing it has created another Middle East hostage.

## End of holidays, beginning of commitment

With the fall holiday season coming to a close on Tuesday with the celebration of Simchat Torah, the Jewish community should note that it is not the close of commitment, caring and responsibility. It is the beginning of a new year.

We have just sat in our synagogues and heard our leaders' exhortations: become politically involved in the loan guarantee issue — Israel needs you; participate in local Jewish-oriented programs — your community needs you; support your synagogue, religious school, adult education programs — they can't succeed without you.

The High Holy Days are a time for evaluation. How can we become better people — as individuals and as a community? The holidays are a time for setting directions for the year to come. And once the direction is set, it is our obligation to stay on course.

Let the holiday season that is just ending be a commitment for a new beginning.

## Letter to the editor

### 120 days can be a very long time

There is a little bit of history concerning Soviet Jewry that needs to be acknowledged. Alone and bereft, Soviet Jews were the first to question the inevitability of the Soviet system. We can trace almost all the dramatic transformations now sweeping the Soviet sphere back to their experience, their example.

From the Elbe to the Caucasus, every oppressed minority, ever dissident drew some measure of inspiration from their resistance to the Soviet monolith. In every generation there are the few who stand and refuse to be shackled by leaden canons and iron curtains. Among the few, there were a multitude of Soviet Jews.

Of course, there were other factors, other

actors in this vast unfolding drama. But there remains, nevertheless, an undeniable causal link between the epochal restructuring of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Jewry movement. And now, at the moment of their deliverance, the Soviet Union's most persecuted minority is told by the Bush administration that they must put everything on hold for 120 days.

Well, 120 days can be a very, very long time in Baku or Kishinnev. Who among us is prepared to accept the consequences of such a delay?

Mitchell Finkel  
Silver Spring, MD



## 50 years ago...

The following news items were distributed by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency between September 27 and October 3, 1941

### GERMANY PLANS TO EXPEL ALL JEWS FROM EUROPE

LISBON, Sept. 28 (JTA) — Segregation of Jews in the Lublin reservation and in walled ghettos is only a temporary expedient Germany is employing until it is able to proceed with the complete expulsion of Jews from all Europe, according to an article by Dr. Hohberg, a member of the Reichsinstitute for History of the New Germany, in Das Reich, German monthly, reaching here today.

The Nazis plan to deport all Jews to an isolated spot where they will be cut off from the rest of the world, Hohberg states, although he does not reveal the location of this post which apparently has not yet been selected by the Nazis. "If Jews are capable of existing in their own state created by their own citi-

zenry they will be able to show this when the Reich transports them to the place which will be selected, but Jewish citizenship in foreign countries is ended forever in Europe," the article declares.

### THOUSANDS OF JEWS EXECUTED BY NAZI TROOPS IN THE UKRAINE

LONDON, Sept. 30 (JTA) — Information from various places in Eastern Poland and Soviet Ukraine reaching Polish circles here today reveals a horrible picture of Jewish massacres carried out by Nazi troops behind the front lines.

Thousands of Jews who failed to retreat with the Soviet armies into Russia are simply being mowed down by machine guns, the report states. The German soldiers are under orders "to get the Jews out of the way" since it would take time and trouble to transport them to ghettos.

Detailed data collected by reliable sources discloses that within one week alone 6,743 Jewish men, women and children were executed by the Nazi troops.

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## Op-Ed

## Where does delay leave long-term relations?

By MORRIS AMITAY

Even the most veteran pro-Israel activists here in Washington have been taken aback by the Administration's zeal in seeking delay of Congressional action on the absorption loan guarantees for Israel.

It is difficult to recall the President expending as much political capital, time and energy (not to mention long distance phone charges) on any issue previously before the Congress. Senators incredulously tell of receiving not one, but multiple calls from the President and Secretary of State seeking their support. Much of the frantic White House activity came while Congress was in recess. This meant tracking down legislators all over the country and in some instances around the world. You would

think there were no other global issues to contend with such as events in the "former Soviet Union," Yugoslavia, the Philippines, etc... But excessive Presidential enthusiasm aside, what was deeply disturbing to many Jewish Americans was to hear an American President speak out against "powerful political forces" and "a thousand lobbyists" working against the best interests of the United States. This came as close to the line of inciting anti-Semitism as a public figure can go.

These references were particularly galling because so many groups of American citizens regularly descend on Washington to promote their causes, be they farmers, union members, pro-choice advocates, etc... You do not hear them referred to as "lobbyists" with all of the

negative connotations associated with this description. Someone should inform the President that there are only a total of six lobbyists registered with the U.S. Congress to lobby on behalf of Israel-related issues. The hundreds of people who came to Washington were citizens exercising their constitutional right to express their views to the Congress. Americans do have the right to differ with their President on issues of importance to them — even those which fall in the foreign policy arena. Undoubtedly, this is an area that the President feels is uniquely within his province because of his own resume and the successes he claims to have achieved worldwide.

While the conventional wisdom (articulated by Democrats) is that the President is only vulnerable on domestic issues, a closer examination of some of his foreign policy "successes" reveals serious shortcomings. The most notable failure was his reluctance to topple Saddam Hussein from power. The Iraqi strongman is increasingly thumbing his nose at U.N. inspectors and his secret police are busy at home mopping up any remaining dissent. Kuwait is certainly not any more democratic than it was before the Iraqi invasion and our subsequent intervention. The dissolution of the Soviet Union and the emergence of democracy came about after Bush's initial instinct to go along with the hard line takeover and to get along with Yanayev and there was also his previous reluctance to take Yeltsin seriously. The Chinese regime remains as repressive as ever even after Bush fought so hard to grant it favored trade status. So perhaps President Bush is not the foreign policy "maven" he purports to be, but instead has had a great deal of luck and good press. Certainly his seeking a needless confrontation with the U.S. Congress and with Israel was not a master

stroke of diplomacy.

It is still a mystery as to what "contentious debate" the President said he was seeking to avoid. It is clear there would not have been much of a debate in Congress in approving the guarantees. As one lawmaker put it — "it would have gone through as fast as a hot knife through butter." Now that Bush has injected his ego into getting a delay and has again demonstrated his bizarre obsession with Israeli settlements what could he hope to accomplish?

Inevitably, the end result will indeed be delay in final approval of the loan guarantee legislation. But by raising the stakes to such heights in confronting Israel and its supporters, the United States has lost a great deal of credibility as an honest broker at a Middle East peace conference. By seeking to retain a club over Israel's head during these unprecedented negotiations and by continuing to insist on a freeze on settlement activity it becomes clear to the Arab side that the U.S. position is that Israel has no valid claim to retain the Territories. Coming as it does before the start of any peace conference, it creates an intolerable bargaining position for Israel and demonstrates the unreliability of the United States in protecting Israel's most basic security interests.

The crucial questions observers here in Washington are asking is how do the President's recent actions serve long-term U.S. interests of peace and stability? What can be the rational and motivation behind backing Arab demands at the expense of Israel?

The possible answers may be too depressing to contemplate.

(Morris J. Amitay is a Washington attorney and former Executive Director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.)

## The meaning of Sepharad '92

By ANDRE G. SASSOON

As we approach 1992, questions have been raised concerning the campaign for the quinqucentenary of the expulsion of Jews from Spain.

What or why are we celebrating? Has Spain been exonerated? Why not only recognize Turkey's assistance?

Unfortunately, some of the questioners already have provided their own misinformed answers.

Let me try to put some issues to rest.

The International Jewish Committee for Sepharad '92 was formed to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the expulsion of the Jews from Spain. That event was a tragic occurrence and must remain etched in the historic memory of the Jewish people.

Spanish Jews were forced to choose. Some chose conversion and the loss of their collective identity. About half responded with their feet and undertook a long, painful march to new lands rather than surrender the traditions of their ancestors.

Families were torn apart. Thousands died en route. Those deaths must continue to be mourned, for the tragic loss to individual families and to the Jewish world was immense.

However, Sepharad '92 was created not only to commemorate a tragedy but also to celebrate the Sephardic heritage and its contributions to Jewish and world history. With the forthcoming quinqucentenary, we have been given a unique opportunity. Any educator or publicist would agree that the Jewish contributions to Spanish culture could not be celebrated in any other year as fittingly as it will be in 1992, when public awareness will be at its height.

We are utilizing this unique opportunity to create an awareness of Jewish history and its impact on the Iberian Peninsula and throughout Europe, the Mediterranean basin and the Western Hemisphere.

Through a major traveling exhibition in cooperation with the Smithsonian Institution, as well as through special events and educational projects, the committee is capitalizing on the public attention that will be given to this landmark year. In general, our programs hope to sensitize the world to varied and highly creative accomplishments of Sephardic Jewry, especially during the period known as the "Golden Age."

Under the Moslem caliphate Jewish creativity exploded in such areas as science, religious thought, poetry and music — the poetry of Yehuda Ha Levi, the scientific and philosophic innovations of Maimonides, and, later, the profound contributions to astronomy by Abraham Zacuto.

Certainly, the trauma of the expulsion and the subsequent welcome and resettlement of Jews in other countries, especially in the Ottoman Turkish Empire and in Morocco, are part of the Jewish experience that must be

appropriately recognized.

But that trauma must also teach us something for our time. We therefore are promoting the lessons to be learned from the destructive impact of intolerance and prejudice. This is a propitious moment, for the uncertainty of economic and political changes has unleashed racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia in much of the world.

Our program is also targeted at bringing together Jews, Christians and Moslems, recalling a time when these three faith communities dwelt in harmony in Spain and gave birth to great scientific, literary and religious works. It is not possible that applied to the Middle East, such an effort at reconciliation would be a step toward peace between Israel and its Moslem neighbors?

Many Spaniards now accept the negative impact the expulsion had on their own nation. Spain rejected a uniquely talented minority that had contributed enormously to the development of its daily life. The result was an irreparable loss to its culture, commerce and scientific development.

We can also legitimately recognize that changes are taking place and encourage additional changes. Long identified by its Catholic majority, Spain has recently made Judaism and Protestantism equal to Catholicism before the law. It now has normal diplomatic relations with Israel.

Reacting to the concept that the quinqucentenary should provide the world with greater insight into the devastating effects of prejudice and discrimination, the king agreed that on March 31, 1992, he will move to officially lift the Edict of Expulsion. More recently the crown prince awarded to Sephardim the prestigious Prince of Asturias Concorde Prize, which is the Spanish equivalent of the Nobel Prize.

Do we conclude that because there have been changes in the relations between Spain and the Jewish world, Jews should now be silenced? On the contrary. Not for one instant are we going to paper over the enormous tragedy of the expulsion. But there is also a history of which we can be immensely proud, and I want my children and grandchildren to be proud of their Jewish heritage.

We will reaffirm the resiliency of the Jewish people and its ability to survive and flourish despite heavy odds. We will continue to emphasize the centrality of the state of Israel and its importance to the creativity and well-being of the Jewish people. We will illustrate the contributions Jews have made to the many nations and cultures in which they lived. Are these not worthy of celebration?

Sepharad '92 is an issue in which the entire Jewish world should get involved. And it doesn't stop in 1992.

The message will continue: "Here is your heritage and your history. Carry them with great pride, for you have earned it."

(Andre G. Sassoon is co-president of the International Jewish Committee for Sepharad '92.)



## Israel faces 12 major problems

By CARL ALPERT

HAIFA — At this season of introspection and retrospection, it is not out of place also to look forward to the year ahead. The following is a list of the 12 major problems which will face Israel in the next 12 months, in their respective order of seriousness.

**1. American pressures.** As fruits of the victory in the Gulf War are replaced by the bitter after-effects, the U.S. administration seeks to recoup prestige by pushing hard for a solution of the Middle East crisis, and will continue to put enormous pressures — economic and political — on Israel, seeking to compel acceptance of formulae which this country believes prejudice its security.

**2. The Middle East Conference,** if it meets, will confront Israel with the need to make critical decisions: To attend the conference, with all the dangers that it may become a trap, or refuse to attend, and be labelled as a stubborn opponent of peace.

**3. Immigration.** The problem is dual: To promote effective absorption and integration of the new arrivals, and in this way assure that the stream of immigration will indeed continue.

**4. The Economy.** Steps must be taken to assure economic growth through heightened investments, creation of employment opportunities, revitalization of the banking system, promotion of exports and tourism.

**5. The Government System.** Will the coalition survive the many stresses to which it is subjected, or will the country be faced with a call for new elections — before steps have been taken to alter the faulty electoral system.

**6. The intifada** is lower on the list than in previous years, but it is now characterized by two phenomena: one, increased use of firearms, and two, a growing internal dissent as it turns upon itself. Masked terrorists today kill more Arabs than are lost in confrontations with Israeli soldiers.

**7. Water.** The perennial crisis continues to worsen. If the coming winter does not bring

heavy rains to replenish the aquifers, there will be need for merciless restriction on water use, striking especially at certain agricultural crops which consume large amounts of precious water.

**8. The Health System.** Plans have already been drafted for a complete reorganization of the country's health services, but vested interests have thus far delayed implementation. Further delay will be dangerous.

**9. Road Accidents.** Great effort has been put into the current safety campaign, but only at year's end shall we know if there has been any success in curtailing the carnage on the highways, which takes far more lives than are lost in enemy action.

**Tension may be expected as long as the religious parties retain their political clout.**

**10. Housing.** Bulldozer action has brought about a massive construction and housing program which has averted a catastrophe. The problem still exists, however, and there are many needs on the part of both immigrants and young couples still to be met. Reforms are required in the area of mortgages and rental housing.

**11. Religious influence on public life.** Tension may be expected to continue so long as the religious parties retain their political clout.

**12. Yerida,** the emigration of Israelis out of the country. The sum total of all the problems listed above contribute to dissatisfactions and fears, stimulating some to seek greener pastures elsewhere.

Some of these problems are created by circumstances beyond our control. Others may be eliminated by wise policies on the part of the authorities. When we draw up next year's list of 12 problems, will any of the above be closer to solution?

(Carl Alpert writes from Haifa.)

## Candle Lighting

SEPTEMBER  
27TH — 6:35 PM  
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Shemini Atzeret  
29TH — 6:31 PM  
Simchat Torah  
30TH — 7:29 PM  
\*\*\*

OCTOBER  
4TH — 6:23 PM  
11TH — 6:12 PM

## DELAWARE'S SYNAGOGUES

### ADAS KODESCH SHE'EMETH

(Traditional)  
Affiliation:  
Union of Orthodox Jewish  
Congregations of America  
Washington Blvd. and Torah Drive  
Wilmington  
762-2705  
Rabbi Nathan N. Schorr  
Rabbi Emeritus Leonard B. Gewirtz  
SERVICES  
Friday — 8 p.m.  
Saturday — 8:45 a.m.  
Sundays, holidays — 8 a.m.  
Monday through Friday — 7:30 a.m.  
Monday through Thursday — 5:45 p.m.

### BETH SHOLOM CONGREGATION OF DOVER

(Conservative)  
Affiliation:  
United Synagogues of America  
Queen and Clara Sts.  
Dover  
734-5578  
Rabbi Moshe Goldblum  
SERVICES  
Friday — 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday — 9:30 a.m.  
Discussion of Torah Portion takes place  
following Saturday morning service.

### CONGREGATION BETH EMETH

(Reform)  
Affiliation:  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
300 Lea Blvd.  
Wilmington  
764-2393  
Rabbi Peter Grumbacher  
Assistant Rabbi Sarah Messinger  
SERVICES  
Friday — 8 p.m.  
Saturday — 11 a.m.  
Morning Minyan — 7:55  
Monday through Friday  
A Torah Study group is led by the  
rabbi on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.

### CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM

(Conservative)  
Affiliation:  
United Synagogues of America  
18th and Baynard Blvd.  
Wilmington  
654-4462  
Rabbi Herbert Yoskowitz  
SERVICES  
Friday — 8 p.m.  
Saturday — 10 a.m.  
A Torah discussion is led by the rabbi  
during Saturday morning services.

### MACHZIKEY HADAS CONGREGATION

(Traditional)  
B'nai B'rith Building  
800 Society Blvd.  
Claymont  
798-6846  
Friday — 8 p.m.  
Saturday — 9 a.m.

### TEMPLE BETH EL

(Reconstructionist)  
Affiliation:  
Federation of Reconstructionist  
Congregations & Havurot  
301 Possum Park Road  
Newark  
366-8330  
Rabbi David Kaplan  
SERVICES  
Friday — 8 p.m.  
Saturday — 10 a.m.  
A Torah study group meets  
on Saturdays at 9 a.m.

## Dvar Torah

Sukkot

## A time to rejoice

By JAN KAUFMAN

Wisdom literature was part of the culture of the ancient Near East, which included Egypt, Babylonia and Syria, as well as Judea. In Hebrew, the category of knowledge it imparted was called *hochmah* — practical advice aimed at helping the individual achieve success and well-being. It is into this literary genre that the books of Ecclesiastes, Job and Proverbs fall.

Kohelet (the Hebrew name for the narrator of the book of Ecclesiastes, and for the book itself) is traditionally read on this Shabbat, during Sukkot. Wisdom literature is universal literature, and it has been said the Sukkot is our most universalistic holiday. Sukkot is concerned with our relationship to nature and the environment — to the physical world. Kohelet adds a reflective note to our celebration of Sukkot.

The book begins with the phrase, "All is vanity." In *Four Strange Books of the Bible*, Elias Beckerman writes that all is vain for two reasons: death ends all, and fate has no relation to one's deeds.

Kohelet's upper-class world of the Second Temple period has shifted its focus from collective destiny — in which the individual participated as a member of a family, tribe and nation — to individual fate. If our actions have no effect upon our fate, Kohelet teaches, striving is pointless. We cannot predict or determine our own fate and God does not reveal it to us. Since there is nothing we can do about the twists and turns of our life, it is futile to brood.

The third chapter of Ecclesiastes teaches us, "To everything there is a season, a time and purpose under the heaven" (3:1). This refrain became familiar to us as the theme of a popular folksong in the 1960's. Events such as birth and death, sowing and reaping, as well as emotions such as joy and grief, will happen as part of a cycle, when they are fated to occur. One can understand the relationship to Sukkot. Sukkot is the fall harvest. The harvest depends upon the rhythm of the seasons and makes us aware of the rhythm and fragility of life.

Kohelet explains that contemporary values, whether based on the quest for wisdom or for physical pleasure, are empty. Seeking wisdom was "chasing the wind," and brought him only grief and pain. He then pursued pleasure. Kohelet built grand houses and planted every kind of tree. He had owned cattle and amassed silver and gold. After not denying himself anything, he found that these too are vanity, and there is no advantage to these possessions if one does not enjoy them.

Knowing that after his death his wealth would go to someone who had not earned it, he suffered pain and grief. He then realizes that person's capacity to benefit from wisdom or enjoy wealth is a gift from God, and therefore, the pursuit of wealth or wisdom as an end in itself is "chasing the wind." It is joy alone that makes life worthwhile.

Although Jewish tradition ascribes its authorship to King Solomon, literary and linguistic evidence indicates that the book of Ecclesiastes was probably written during the 3rd century BCE. For all its Greek influence, Kohelet was composed by a deeply devout Jew, alienated from his world. He wrote under the influence of Aristotle, brought to Palestine by Alexander the Great when he conquered the Near East.

He discusses the Greek concepts of pleasure, contemplation and action, but none of these answers satisfy him as being the purpose of life. Kohelet cannot subscribe to the hedonistic philosophy of the Greeks because he is a Jew. For him, "good" and "evil" are not just "pleasure" and "pain," but are defined by God in a way we cannot fully comprehend. Nor can we be certain that by choosing "good" as we understand it that we will necessarily benefit. Kohelet therefore advocates a "golden mean" in human action which avoids the extremes of both saintliness and sin.

As modern Jews living in two worlds, we see the rampant materialism in our society and must try to reconcile it with our Jewish values. Goodness and justice do not necessarily win out over greed and corruption, and people who "do the right thing" and "play by the rules" often have little to show for it. These are some of the same conflicts with which Kohelet struggles.

Perhaps we read Kohelet on Sukkot when we, residing in the sukkah, are removed from the luxuries of our permanent homes. In a temporary shelter we can relate more intimately to the world of nature and confront its vicissitudes. We can also relate to God without interference from the artificiality of modern life.

For all of his despair, Kohelet teaches us during "z'man simchateinu" — the "time of our rejoicing" — that the duty of the human being is "to fear God and keep His commandments" with joy.

(Rabbi Jan Kaufman lives in Washington, D.C. She teaches at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, and is the director of the Jewish Study Center. She davens with the Fabrengen havurah.)

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## New Year services for New Americans held at Beth Shalom

Inspirational for all involved

By PAULA HAIT

Editor of The Jewish Voice

How do you communicate the significance of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to a 65-year-old Jew who has never learned the concepts of "God" and "Sin"?

Karen Morris and Alan Levenson, of North Wilmington, assumed just that task during this High Holy Day season. The couple, together with a committee of lay and professional people, organized special services — with Russian translation — for New Americans at Congregation Beth Shalom in Wilmington on both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

The committee included Howard Hait, Leah Kraft, Michael Yampolsky, Beth Shalom Rabbi Herbert Yoskowitz and Rachel Yoskowitz. Levenson credits Rabbi Yoskowitz and Beth Shalom President Jerome Grossman with the initial idea.

Both Rabbi Yoskowitz and Levenson noted that Yampolsky, as a recent immigrant, was "most enlightening" in discussing the project. Yampolsky "told us even these words [God and sin] are foreign," Yoskowitz recounted. "The word 'sin,' for example, was banned from use in the Soviet Union," he said.

"Originally, we were tempted to use this opportunity to 'define' God for these people who don't have much experience with Judaism," Levenson said. "But Michael Yampolsky cautioned us in the planning stage that 'there wasn't much point.'" Yampolsky pointed out that the Soviet Jews are aware that we talk about something called "God," Levenson said, and that it is, perhaps, only one explanation for things working out so neatly.

So, Levenson reported, since there is the concept of morality in Russia, the committee decided to use the holiday services as an opportunity to suggest "redirecting one's self — and leave it at that."

Levenson said, "We wanted to create a sense of community. These people still identify themselves as Jews. All I wanted to do was give them an opportunity to do something they'd enjoy, something they hadn't been able to do before now."

During Yom Kippur services, Morris asked the group of about 25 New Americans outright: "Do you understand the idea of 'sin' that we are talking about?" From the second row: "Yes, we understand the idea, but for you. It has no meaning for us."

One member of Beth Shalom noted the range of emotion and understanding on the faces of the New American participants. "Listening seriously and intently to what was being said gave way to smiles of recognition among the older participants when certain prayers — like the Sh'ma and Kaddish — were recited. Several of the Russian Jews knew the words to these prayers and they were able to recite them with the leaders. You could see that they had done these things — a long time ago — and that these prayers brought back memories," she said.

The participants ranged in age from senior citizens whose distant past included practicing Judaism to young adults who are trying to understand what it means to be a Jew in a free society to children who arrived in Wilmington within the last year or so and who are currently studying what it means to be a Jew at Albert Einstein Academy.

In preparing for the special services, the congregation purchased Russian/Hebrew *machzorim* — High Holy Day prayer books — for the Russian participants, made arrangements for an additional rabbi to lead services on Rosh Hashanah and Yampolsky served as the translator when English directions or religious lessons were given.

Continued on 14

## True or false?

What do you know about wills? Test your knowledge on the statements below. TRUE or FALSE?

1. Only the rich need a will.
2. Everyone who owns property needs a will.
3. Once a will is written it cannot be changed.
4. A will can be changed up until the time of death.
5. Having a will drawn up is expensive.
6. The cost of a will is inexpensive compared to the costs of not having a will.
7. A good will drawn up by an attorney never needs changing.
8. Tax laws change, children grow up, and new situations mean that wills should be revised.
9. If you die without a will the state will distribute your property the way you wish.
10. The court can only distribute your property according to fixed rules of distribution.
11. If a husband has a will the wife doesn't need one.
12. Both husband and wife have their own property rights and each needs a will to protect these rights.

Now for the answers: the odd-numbered statements are FALSE; the even-numbered are TRUE.

What is equally TRUE is that it is important to have a will. You can name specific beneficiaries and your personal representative (executor) to carry out the provisions of your will. You can establish a trust in your will which will allow you to take care of your beneficiaries and reduce your estate taxes. You can make bequests to charitable organizations which also saves taxes for your estate.

These are just some of the good reasons to have a will. For further information, consult your attorney or call Connie Kreshtool, Endowment Director, 478-6200.

## Link of loans to settlements straining Likud

By DAVID LANDAU

JERUSALEM (JTA)—The worsening political crisis between Israel and the United States has so polarized Israel that the government may have no choice but to resign and call for a fresh mandate in early elections. The far right is actively seeking the downfall of the Likud regime, which, ironically, is the most right-wing in Israel's history.

So far neither Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir nor his closest associates have shown any inclination to dissolve the 12th Knesset before its present term expires a year from now. But the premier is being battered by the right flank of his governing coalition, which threatens to defect if Israel agrees to participate in peace talks with Palestinians.

Shamir is trying hard to mollify them with fire-eating rhetoric vowing the continued mass settlement of Jews in the administered territories. "All of the territories that can be populated will be built up as far as the horizon," he declared Tuesday at the dedication of a new settlement called Tsur Yigal. The territories "belong to Israel," he asserted.

Such talk only further irritates Washington.

The Bush administration, by demanding a four-month delay before Congress considers Israel's request for U.S. guarantees of \$10 billion in loans, is clearly conditioning help to resettle Soviet immigrants on a freeze of Jewish settlement-building in disputed territory.

Israeli newspapers on Tuesday headlined hints from Washington that certain key members of Congress, including Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), have proposed deducting whatever sums Israel spends colonizing the territories from future U.S. aid to Israel. Israel receives an outright grant of \$3 billion in economic and military assistance from the United States each year.

Nevertheless, Defense Minister Moshe Arens, regarded as the closest to Shamir of all his Cabinet ministers, has flatly rejected a settlement freeze. That would be tantamount to freezing Israel's right to the land, which is unacceptable, he said.

Gush Emunim, the militant settlement movement, is prodding right-wing politicians to increase pressure on Shamir "before the government leads the country into the disastrous trap of the peace conference."

Such sentiments are shared by a significant section of Likud — and not only the circle around outspoken Housing Minister Ariel Sharon.

Geula Cohen and Elyakim Haretzni of Tehiya said Tuesday they hoped to persuade their party to leave the government in light of the deteriorating relations with Washington and the fact that the Palestine Liberation Organization is involved, however obliquely, in setting up the peace conference.

If Tehiya leaves, it hopes to take with it the Tsomet and more radical Moledet factions.

Key figures in the opposition Labor Party, meanwhile, are urging their colleagues to oppose the government's stand on settlements and the peace conference unequivocally, even at risk of being branded

Continued on 11

# Bush vows to veto loan guarantees as activists converge on Washington

By DAVID FRIEDMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Israel's battle with the Bush administration to obtain guarantees for \$10 billion in immigrant resettlement loans encountered tough resistance September 12 when the president vowed to veto any legislation authorizing the guarantees at this time.

Bush made the threat at a White House news conference hastily convened after some 1,000 pro-Israel activists from across the country — including 12 from Delaware — converged on Capitol Hill to press Congress to act swiftly on the Israeli request.

Pounding his fist on the lectern, the president repeated his request that Congress delay consideration of the loan guarantees for 120 days, in order to "avoid a contentious debate" that could torpedo his plan to hold a Middle East peace conference in October.

"We are close to being able to convene a peace conference that in turn would launch direct peace negotiation between Israel and the Arab states, something the State of Israel has sought since its inception," Bush said. "A 120-day delay is not too much for a president to ask with so much in the balance," he declared. "We must give peace a chance, we must give peace every chance."

But Shoshana Cardin, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, which is coordinating the lobbying effort on the loan guarantees, rejected Bush's appeal.

"While we regret the president's position," she said, "we will carry forward our effort with our senators and representatives because of our firm belief that prompt consideration of the loan guarantees "is best for peace, best for the American national interest, and best for our friend and ally, Israel."

Observing that Bush "did not state why he thought a delay would improve the prospects for peace," Cardin said, "It is our firm conviction that any further delay would not only cause deep hardship among the hundreds of thousands of new immigrants to Israel. It could also hurt the chances of peace."

She warned that "any delay could send a signal to the Arab side that they could achieve political gains through the exercise of American pressure against Israel rather than in the give-and-take inherent in the negotiating process." Cardin said this could result in "a hardening of the Arab position and thus a lessening of the chances of a successful peace conference."

At his news conference, Bush denied that he was asking for a delay in response to Arab demands. He said he was merely trying to ensure that the peace conference is not jeopardized.

It was the third time in less than a week that the president had appeared before reporters to press for the 120-day delay. His reiteration of that plea at a formal news conference was an apparent attempt to neutralize the effect of 1,000 persons meeting personally with senators and representatives to press for quick enactment of the loan guarantee legislation.

Acknowledging this, Bush said, "I'm up against some powerful political forces, but I owe it to the American people to tell them how strongly

I feel about deferral."

He repeatedly stressed, as he had on the two previous occasions, his belief that "the American people will support me." But he conceded that he does not yet have congressional support and said he had been constantly on the phone with members of Congress urging them to agree to the delay.

Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), a senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, charged that Bush is "politicizing an issue that should be dealt with purely on humanitarian grounds." By threatening a veto, Bush is "playing politics with the peace process," Cranston said.

Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.) accused Bush of having "created an issue where none existed." He said he is joining other members of the Senate Appropriations Committee in urging the "president's continued dialogue with Congress."

Rep. Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.) said Bush "has forced Congress to choose between confrontation or caving in, and I don't believe we are prepared to relinquish our right to vote on important policy matters."

The 1,000 pro-Israel activists, most of them national and local Jewish leaders, were in Washington for National Leadership Action Day, sponsored by the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council and the National Conference for Soviet Jewry, in consultation with the Conference of Presidents.

Before leaving for Capitol Hill, they were briefed by Israeli Ambassador Zalman Shoval and Thomas Dine, executive director of AIPAC, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.

At a morning news conference, Cardin, who is also chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, and Arden Shenker, NJCRAC's chair, stressed that the American Jewish community is not seeking a confrontation with the president. They said the Jewish community is pushing for immediate action, because the loans are needed now to meet the urgent needs of the new immigrants to Israel, who are arriving by the thousands each month.

It would be demoralizing for both the Ethiopian and Soviet Jews in Israel, and those waiting to immigrate, "if they do not see support from their brothers and sisters throughout the world to enable them to meet humanitarian needs now," Cardin said.

Cardin ruled out a compromise effort from the American Jewish community. She said any such deal would have to be worked out in negotiations between Israel and the United States.

Sens. Robert Kasten (R-Wis.) and Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) have not yet introduced a bill they plan to sponsor that would grant the loan guarantees. The Senate Appropriations Committee is expected to delay any action until Baker returns from the Middle East on Sept. 20.

Bush also appeared to rule out any compromise. "We have worked too hard to have this request of mine denied," he said.

Cardin and Shenker said that both Bush and Baker had previously said on many occasions that helping Jews settle in Israel should not be linked to the peace process.

"The organized American Jewish community is united in the firm conviction that Israel's request for loan guarantees is the humanitarian issue that cannot, will not and should not be linked in any way to political developments in the region," Shenker said.

"American Jews, who for 20 to 25

Continued on 14

## Senators urge Bush to separate issues

WASHINGTON (JTA) — A dozen members of the Senate Appropriations Committee have urged President Bush to work with the panel to provide Israel with U.S. guarantees for \$10 billion in loans for immigrant resettlement. "Approval of the refugee guarantees is a humanitarian issue, which is separate and apart from the peace process," the senators said in a letter to Bush drafted by Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.).

"The fate of these refugees should not be held hostage to political differences, over which the refugees have no control, between Israel and the Arab countries," the letter said.

Lautenberg pointed out that ethnic tension is on the rise in the various republics of the Soviet Union while at the same time there is a danger of famine there this winter. "Historically, the combination of these factors spell uncertainty for Jews in the former Soviet Union," he warned.

Among those signing the letter were Sens. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) and Robert Kasten (R-Wis.), who have drafted the legislation to provide Israel with the loan guarantees, and one announced candidate for the Democratic nomination for the presidency, Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa.

Others signing the letter were Sens. Dennis DeConcini (D-Ariz.), Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.), Quentin Burdick (D-N.D.), Harry Reid (D-Nev.), Brock Adams (D-Wash.), Wyche Fowler (D-Ga.), Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.) and Arlen Specter (R-Pa.).

The signers include a majority of the Appropriations subcommittee on foreign operations but not its chairman, Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), who has indicated he will go along with Bush's request for a 120-day delay on consideration of the loan guarantee legislation.

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Saturday, Oct. 5th - Sephardic Supper\* and Service 5:00 p.m.

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The Challenge of Living in Two Worlds"

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# AEA Kindergarten is largest in school's history

By CELIA GANS

Special to The Jewish Voice

The 1991-92 Albert Einstein Kindergarten class numbers 31 active, enthusiastic, eager children — and their equally active and enthusiastic parents. This is the largest Kindergarten class in the 27 year history of AEA, Delaware's only Hebrew day school.

While the school's principal, Eleanor Weinglass, talks about the

excellence of the program and its "healthy mix of academic and social skill development," parents of those kindergartners talk about their commitment to "quality Jewish education and their children's love of going to school."

In many instances, according to Jane Hormadaly, Director of the Pre-School of the Jewish Community Center, Einstein's kindergartners are responding to the increased

Jewish content in the JCC's pre-school program. "We hope to give our youngsters a sense of belonging, a feeling of community — through our celebration of the Jewish holidays and explorations of Jewish culture," Hormadaly said. "Obviously, they are carrying these wonderful experiences with them to Einstein."

The JCC's KIDSPLACE after school care program, directed by Paul Mann, has also made the children and parents more aware of what children can do, Hormadaly pointed out. At AEA, the day is divided into two segments. One half of the day is spent on secular studies, the other half on Hebrew and Jewish culture.

In speaking with Weinglass and Einstein's teachers, parents and children, three common themes occur.

First: fun. Learning should be, as we tell our children through the honey which we traditionally put on their tongues when they receive their first formal Hebrew school textbooks, sweet. "Learning should bring them joy," Weinglass says.

Second, quality. Einstein's educational program, with its balance and challenge, is designed to equip chil-

dren with the skills they need while improving their own "quality of Jewish life," by encouraging them to grow and bloom as Jews, notes Weinglass.

**"In many instances, according to Jane Hormadaly, Director of the Pre-School of the Jewish Community Center, Einstein's kindergartners are responding to the increased Jewish content in the JCC's pre-school program."**

Third, Jewish education, culture and the study of Hebrew. "We're thrilled when our son uses Hebrew words," says Paul Kralovic, whose son, Jeffrey, began attending Einstein's kindergarten in September. "When he asks 'Do you know the word for green?' it brings back my own years in Hebrew school." Also, notes Kralovic, "his learning about the holidays has encouraged our family to be more observant."

Kindergarten teachers Kay Miller

and Barbara Nickey describe a program designed to meet the individual needs of each child through "hands on learning" in small groups on language, math and science units. For example, the class has purchased the new affordable and simple ongoing "Science in a Bag" program, with every child taking home a completed science project after each unit is completed. Both Miller and Nickey predict excitement for both the children and their parents.

The parents of these children detail the "exceptional commitment and caring of Einstein's teachers."

Jessie and Rebecca Neipris (Grades 2 and Kindergarten), daughters of Myrna Ryder and Jonathan Neipris, evidence what's best at Einstein, according to their mother. "The girls benefit from the excellent educational program and from Einstein's emphasis on developing self-esteem and respect for others. Furthermore, as an ex-teacher, I recognize the exceptional commitment and caring of Einstein's teachers. As for our family, we're committed to Jewish education...and to Einstein."

With 31 kindergartners, Ryder is not alone.

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## YLC executive cabinet appointed

"Since it's essential that the Young Leadership Cabinet be led by strong and committed individuals, I am thrilled that our Executive Committee for 1991-92 has been established with outstanding leadership," commented Debra Kattler, 1991-92 YLC Chairperson. The YLC was established in 1989 by the Jewish Federation of Delaware to channel young adults into volunteer opportunities throughout the community and equip them with the skills and experience needed to be effective leaders.

The Community Involvement Committee which will be chaired by Frances Ratner and vice-chaired by Brian Abrams, will focus on "hands-on" types of volunteer opportunities. Steve Paikin will chair the General Programs committee along with newcomer, Pam Sue Schwartz.

The Leadership Development Committee, under Lori Barbanel's Chairmanship and Sharon Mittleman's Vice-Chairmanship, will once again be offering leadership skill sessions to YLC members. Sue Busch and Jerry Weinstein will serve as Co-Chairs of the 1992 Super Sunday as they lead the YLC Super Sunday/Fundraising Committee.

A newly developed committee for 1991-92 is the YLC Mission to Israel/UJA YLC Conference Committee. Under Steve Biener's leadership, this committee will be recruiting participants for the UJA-YLC 8th Annual Conference in Washington, DC, March 15 through 17, 1992. Additionally, the committee will be planning a first time YLC Mission to Israel for Delaware's Jewish young adult community.



The 1991-92 YLC Executive Committee includes (standing from left) Steve Biener, Steve Paikin, Jerry Weinstein and Aaron Gobler; (seated from left) Frances Ratner, Debra Kattler and Lori Barbanel. Not shown are Sue Busch, Sharon Mittleman, Brian Abrams and Pam Sue Schwartz.

Another new feature of the 1991-92 YLC will be the position of YJAD Liaison, designed to help foster stronger relations between the two organizations. Aaron Gobler, Chairperson of the JCC YJAD (Singles), will serve as the YJAD Liaison and will serve as a member-at-large on the YLC Executive Committee.

The YLC will be hosting its inaugural 1991-92 event on Thursday, October 3, at the Jewish Community Center. At the orientation meeting,

the theme of "Grow With Us" will be introduced. "Our theme illustrates the foundation that has been established by the YLC through the past two years, as well as the opportunity available to all young adults to grow with the community as volunteer leaders," added Kattler.

For more information about the YLC or for reservations for the October 3 event, please contact Seth Bloom, JFD Assistant Director, at 478-6200.

## Mazon aids local shelter

A local agency that operates shelters for the homeless has received a \$6,000 donation from a national Jewish anti-hunger group, officials said.

The Ministry of Caring, which runs four shelters in Wilmington that house more than 70 people a night, received the money this month from Mazon, A Jewish Response to Hunger. Mazon has donated over \$1.2 million to agencies nationwide.

"[Donations] are the only things that keep us going," said Sister Anne Marguerite, spokeswoman for the

Ministry of Caring. "It makes us able to face the challenge of caring for the poor."

She said the money will be used to purchase equipment for a new child care center scheduled to open early next year. The ministry also operates a job placement program and two dining rooms. It served almost 200,000 meals last year.

The Ministry of Caring opened its first shelter, a home for women, in 1977 at Eighth and Van Buren streets.

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# Two scholars, tired of waiting, publish unauthorized volume of Dead Sea Scrolls

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN  
NEW YORK (JTA) — Two Bible scholars have reconstructed a portion of the Dead Sea Scrolls from a secret concordance of the text, breaking "the lock a small group of scholars have hitherto maintained on the scrolls," according to Hershel Shanks, editor of the *Biblical Archeology Society* and publisher of the new book.

The Dead Sea Scrolls comprise some of the most extensive documentation extant of life in Judea during the Second Temple period, the era to which both rabbinic Judaism and Christianity trace their roots.

But both the authors of the new volume and members of the committee charged with the scrolls' official publication agree that the version assembled in the newly published "A Preliminary Edition of the Unpublished Dead Sea Scrolls: The Hebrew and Aramaic Texts From Cave Four," contains inaccuracies, and can be only about 80 percent accurate.

"The reliability of such a document is highly questionable," according to Eugene Ulrich, a senior member of the official editorial committee and a professor at Notre Dame University, who was interviewed September 4 on public television's MacNeil-Lehrer NewsHour.

Authors Ben-Zion Wacholder and Martin Abegg reassembled the Dead Sea Scroll texts from a concordance compiled between 1957 and 1960 by four scholars chosen by the committee of editors with official control over the scrolls. That committee kept the concordance secret until 1988 when, according to Shanks, it was made public to a select few.

Shanks also publishes the magazine *Biblical Archeology Review*.

The Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, where Wacholder is a professor and Abegg is a doctoral student, obtained a copy of the concordance in 1989. In 1990, the two scholars began the task of re-creating the fragments.

The concordance alphabetically lists each word in the non-Biblical

texts found at one of the Qumran sites, identifies the document in which it appears and lists the words found adjacent to it. With the aid of a computer, Wacholder and Abegg then pieced together the texts.

The concordance "was not meant to produce a version of the scrolls," John Strugnell of the Harvard School of Divinity told Reuters. He said that he gave Wacholder a copy of the concordance solely for his scholarly use.

Strugnell was removed from his position as chief editor of the Dead Sea Scrolls project after giving an interview published in the Israeli daily *Ha'aretz* in October, 1990, in which he called Judaism "a horrible religion," "originally racist," and said that "the correct answer of Jews to Christianity is to become Christian." His comments have since been attributed to alcoholism and mental illness.

The step taken by Wacholder, Abegg and Shanks in publishing an "unofficial" volume of transcriptions is the latest round in what has been a very political — and public — war over access to the Dead Sea Scrolls.

The scrolls have been under the tight control of the official editors since an original committee of eight was appointed by the Jordanian government, soon after the first scroll was discovered by Bedouins in 1947.

The original scholars, some of whom have since died, claimed the right to bequeath the scrolls to younger scholars, which has had the effect of restricting control over the important documents to a handful of experts, Shanks asserted.

The site of the first scroll discovery, an area then under Jordanian control, came to be known as Qumran Cave One. Between 1952 and 1956, 10 more caves were found to contain 800 manuscripts — scrolls and fragments of scrolls — documenting the life of a group believed by many scholars to have been the Essenes, an ascetic Jewish sect that flourished in Palestine from 200 B.C.E. to 68 C.E.



The Dead Sea Scrolls, from which the unauthorized version has been copied. (Photo:RNS)

The richest of the sites was Cave Four, which contained approximately 575 manuscripts. The first of Wacholder and Abegg's volumes contains 23 of those manuscripts.

Many of the fragments have deteriorated to a "lace-like" state over the last two millennia, Wacholder said.

Only about 20 percent of the scrolls' transcriptions have been published in the nearly four decades since they were discovered, according to Shanks, a figure contested by those connected to the official committee.

"Seventy-five to 80 percent of all the real usable knowledge has long since been available," Ulrich said.

"The Dead Sea Scrolls have been a scandal," Shanks said at a news conference September 4. "They are probably the greatest manuscript discovery of this century, and it has been marred by this scholarly attitude of secrecy. This secrecy is a breach of trust." He added, "These texts do not belong to these men, they are fiduciaries, trustees. The beneficiaries of that trust are you and me."

Shanks said, "The time has come for a little cultural glasnost, some scholarly perestroika in the way these scrolls are doled out by a small group

of men who have enormous power."

In the early 1950s, the contents of Cave Four were collected by Jordan in what was then known as the Palestine Archeological Museum. It is now the Rockefeller Museum. The international team of eight editors, none of them Jewish, was appointed to edit and publish the manuscripts.

"Until the Six-Day War in 1967, Jewish scholars were completely cut out of work on the scrolls under the editing team's authority," Shanks wrote in the March/April 1991 issue of *Biblical Archeology Review*. The scrolls came into Israeli hands during the war, but the committee of non-Jewish scholars, most of whom were "openly and vehemently anti-Israel," remained in control of the scrolls, according to Shanks.

Until the mid-1980s, no Jewish scholar worked on the scrolls. Ironically, it was Strugnell, then chief editor, who began enlisting the aid of Israeli scholars.

When he was removed from his post last year, an Israeli scholar, Dr. Emanuel Tov of the Hebrew University, was appointed to replace him.

The original scroll texts are divided up among about 15 scholars who are working on their transcription, translation and analysis.

The Dead Sea Scroll texts from Cave Four published this month reveal intimate details of the life the Essenes lived, the way they organized their group, whom they admitted and what they believed. The transcribed volumes include an almanac with nine different calendars charting the holidays and other cycles.

Other texts enumerate fines that were levied for various legal offenses, and detail what Wacholder called the world's "oldest social legislation," requiring members of the sect to periodically devote two days of labor to the social welfare of the community.

Those who wanted to join the cult had to serve a one-year apprenticeship, he said, and food was considered holy and handled only by the high priests.

The authors of the Dead Sea Scrolls believed that the people of Israel were profaning the Temple and not fit for holiness, he said. The essence of the group's ideology was based on the concept of "taharah," or ritual purity, and members strove to remove any defilement.

The Dead Sea Scrolls' literary legacy reveals how their authors "understood God, the Torah, the nations around them and who they were," said Wacholder. They provide a rich history of those "who believed they were speaking to God."

In a related development, despite the threat of legal action from Israel, one of the world's foremost research libraries went ahead this week and opened its photographic collection of the Dead Sea Scrolls to all qualified scholars.

The move by the Huntington Library in San Marino, Calif., was hailed by many biblical scholars as the breakup of the tight academic cartel that for the last four decades has controlled the rare manuscripts.

But the move was bitterly attacked by the Israel Antiquities Authority in Jerusalem as tantamount to trafficking in stolen property and as a flagrant violation of a longstanding agreement.

The Antiquities Authority, an Israeli government agency that is the official custodian of archaeological finds in Israel, said it is considering legal action against the library.

Advertisement

## A peek at Israel firms may prove profitable

By PAUL MARCUS  
with DACE BLASKOVITZ  
Special to The News Journal

It is only fitting that today — Rosh Hashanah, the celebration of the Jewish New Year — we examine recent doings in Israel and offer some stock tips.

First, let's put Israel's demographics into perspective: While the country is about the size of New Jersey, much of it is desert so most of its 6 million people are squeezed into an area smaller than Delaware. Immigrants continue to flood in, particularly from the Soviet Union.

Although the concept of "sell war, buy peace" holds some currency, Israel is not especially attractive from an investor's standpoint. It's very socialized, has high tax rates, the government owns much, there is precious little privatization and its economy seems to be mired.

Nevertheless, everybody is looking for another Mexico (the BURS Index is up 100 percent year-to-date), and Israeli stocks

### MAKING MONEY

are picking up a following.

Global money manager David Marvin, chairman of Marvin & Palmer in Wilmington, says that "Israel is not another Mexico. But I am very constructive about it because Israel has a tremendous technological capacity due to its highly trained, well-motivated work force."

In fact, Marvin sees prospect for significant growth in the electronics, computer, defense and pharmaceutical industries because of that work force. He cites the discipline exhibited by Israeli workers and attributes much of it to the fact that all Israelis, male and female, serve two years in the military starting at age 18.

He also contends that the influx of Soviet Jews only increases the talent pool. "They are highly educated and compe-

tent like the German Jews who immigrated to Israel before World War II," he says.

Marvin who just returned from a research trip to Israel, gives us a look at five of the more intriguing companies he investigated:

■ Elron Electronics is a holding company for a number of high tech companies in Israel, which participates in diverse industries from defense electronics to medical imaging equipment. It's well managed and has plenty of capital with which to work.

What makes Elron so interesting, however, is chairman of the board Uzi Galil, who's a savvy market player, and what he's done with Elron's variety of exciting businesses. Galil has shrewdly sold off portions of these businesses to create and realize maximum value in the public market. Annual revenues: \$500 million.

■ Scitex provides turnkey computer solutions for prepress and printing operations, namely color separation and film production.

Marvin likes this stock be-

cause Scitex holds a 60 percent high-end market share worldwide while competing with such companies as the Du Pont Co.'s Crossfield, and is now expanding its product line into the mainstream with lower-priced offerings. Annual revenues: \$400 million.

■ Teva Pharmaceutical specializes in the manufacture of drugs for treatment of multiple sclerosis

and related diseases. While Teva dominates the Israeli pharmaceutical market with a 40 percent share, the real story is its wholly owned subsidiary, Lemmon Co.

Generating up to a third of Teva's revenues, Lemmon is a generic drug manufacturer poised on the brink of superstardom.

Within the next few weeks, about \$10 billion in proprietary

pharmaceuticals will come off patent. At the same time, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is under tremendous pressure from Congress to speed up the interminable new drug application process after the scandal that rocked the agency in 1989.

(New drug applications have dropped from 750 in 1989 to 250 in 1990 to just 90 so far in 1991.)

### An investor sees growth in Israel's electronics, computer, defense and pharmaceutical industries.

Marvin believes the logjam will be broken in the third quarter, and Lemmon just happens to have 108 accelerated new drug applications awaiting FDA approval. Watch this one. Annual revenues \$295 million.

■ ECI Telecom manufactures sophisticated digital voice and fax equipment that can increase a telecommunication network's carrying capacity tenfold without laying any new cable. ECI

promises carriers a full return on investment within nine months. Pretty impressive. Annual revenues: \$100 million.

■ Rada Electronics is a leader in world-class, high-tech avionics. The company is enjoying a growth explosion since converting its primary product line — automatic testing equipment — from military-only to commercial use also. Annual revenues: \$24 million.

Paul Marcus is principal of Paul Marcus Communications in Wilmington. Dace Blaskovitz is vice president/investment officer of Butcher & Singer, a Wheat, First subsidiary in Wilmington.

The following article first appeared in the *Wilmington News-Journal* on September 9, 1991. "Making Money" appears every other Monday in the *News-Journal* and is co-authored by Dace Blaskovitz with Paul Marcus. For further information or comments, please contact Blaskovitz at Butcher & Singer in Wilmington at 658-9161.

## 13 local educators attend conference

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Thirteen Jewish educators from Wilmington took part last month in the Sixteenth Annual Conference on Alternatives in Jewish Education (CAJE) at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York.

The five-day meeting, August 18 through 22, brought together more than 2,200 teachers, administrators, scholars, rabbis, cantors, camp personnel, writers, artists, lay people, and concerned parents from forty-three states and twelve foreign countries including four educators from the Soviet Union as well as Canada, Israel, Hungary, and Latin America.

This was the largest conference in CAJE history.

Judy Goldbaum, a first-time conference participant commented, "There were so many sessions to choose from, I was awed — it was incredible! I'm already looking forward to next year's conference."

The Conference was sponsored by the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE), co-sponsored by the Bureau of Jewish Education of Greater New York with assistance by a grant from the United Jewish Appeal—Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York.

In more than 800 sessions, the conferees explored subjects ranging in diversity from "Educating About Israel" to "Ethics in the Media" and the "Jewish American Immigrant Experience" which examined the unique customs and contributions of immigrant Jews to American culture and society. "Professionalizing Jewish Education and Teacher Empowerment" was another area of emphasis as was "Living Within the American Community" which explored how we interact with the various ethnic groups in North America.

Social action and ecology, tzedakah meeting special needs, and studies in Kabbalah, mysticism and Talmud

were high visible. The importance of Hebrew language was stressed offering more sessions in Hebrew for all levels of literacy than any other conference. In the spirit of alternatives, almost 1,000 conference registrants were bused from the Hofstra campus to over 20 sites in Jewish New York.

Dina Lipschultz, another first time conference attendee, said, "I participated in 'The Current State of America and World Jewry Experience' field trip which included a guided tour of the United Nations and an address by a representative of the Israeli Mission to the U.N. as well as a briefing by an ADL (Anti-defamation League) expert on key issues impacting on the American Jewish Community: perceptions on Israel, the activities of extremist groups targeting Jewish and Jewish institutions in the U.S., intergroup relations and the reduction of racism and anti-Semitism. I came away from this experience deeply moved by its scope and intensity, what I learned I hope to convey to my students."

An Israel Pavilion featured a huge selection of Israeli arts, dancing, storytelling, drama and music. Israeli curricula and resources were exhibited side by side with falafel and pita.

Each evening was packed with a

variety of entertainment choices. Sing-a-longs and storytelling crept into the early hours of the morning. Between sessions, before and after meals, and whenever else they could find a spare moment, the conferees could be found browsing in the Education Resource Center, in the Media and Computer Centers or in the exhibit area where 120 vendors offered their Jewish wares of educational materials, games and Judaica, according to Arlene S. Davis, Educational Director of Congregation Beth Shalom.

Davis summed up the experience by saying, "I am exhausted, but I wish I could feel this kind of fatigue more often. This has been a wonderful, enlightening experience. All Delaware participants are very grateful for the generous support of the Jewish Federation of Delaware and their respective Synagogues for enabling them to partake in this great celebration of Jewish learning."

Participants from Delaware included Natasha Arbeter, Randy Arm, Staci Berger, Arlene Davis, Ilene Gallagher, Judy Goldbaum, Shoshana Harris, Ann Herman, Eta Knepler, Dina Lipschultz, Rebecca McBride, Lynn Sontowski and Gayle Weisman.

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## Adult Education Institute off to an 'exciting' start

Arnold Harris, General Chairman of the Adult Institute of Jewish Studies, is a man of few words. But he has a word for the Institute and it is **EXCITING**.

It's exciting to count the 1991 Institute's current enrollment: already one half the first year's projected goal. It's exciting to hear announcements from synagogue bimas during High Holy Day services about the Institute's various courses. It's exciting, says Harris, to be a pioneer, to help develop and guide Delaware's first community-wide Adult Jewish

Studies program.

"We're all pioneers," says Harris. "Never before has our community committed these resources — seven rabbis, one cantor and two experienced lay teachers — and this amount of time — seven Wednesday evenings beginning October 9 — on adults." But, noted Harris, one never stops learning and "our Jewish heritage grows richer as we bring more life experiences to it."

Materials on the Institute's 11 courses, all of them scheduled to be

held at the Jewish Community Center in Wilmington, were mailed out by all synagogues to their members. They are also available at the JCC. For enrollment information, contact the JCC at 478-5660. At the door registration will also be accepted — if openings remain — on October 9. Courses will be held at 8 and 9 p.m. Cost to register is \$10 and covers up to two courses.

Harris feels that "now that the children are back in school, it's the adults' turn."

## \$2.25 million in grants awarded to help revive Jewish education

NEW YORK (JTA) — Less than a year after a broad-based commission called for a "massive program" to revitalize American Jewish education, a Cleveland-based foundation has awarded \$2.25 million in grants to help get the effort under way.

In all, three grants of \$750,000 each were awarded by the Mandel Associated Foundations to Yeshiva University, the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and the Jewish Community Centers Association of North America. A fourth prospective recipient, the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, received an initial planning grant and is expected to submit a proposal for a full grant some time next year.

The grants are the first to be awarded by a major foundation in the wake of the report issued late last year by the Commission on Jewish Education in North America. Not surprisingly, the commission was chaired by the Cleveland businessman and philanthropist Morton Mandel, who also chairs the foundation that awarded the grants.

In November 1990, following two years of study, the commission issued its report, "A Time to Act." In it, the panel of 44 educators, philan-

thropists and federations until now have kept Jewish education on the "back burner" of allocation priorities.

In this, they were mistaken, Lamm said, because education is virtually the only one of three major factors in the development of the Jewish personality — home, school and society — that can be changed.

"The variable is education," he said. "We can do very little about the others."

"The American Jewish educational system requires innovative new curricula, more qualified and highly motivated teachers, and administrators dedicated to constantly improving the quality of education in their schools," said Schorsch. It also requires a new approach to training educators and administrators, he said.

To that end, both the seminary and Y.U. will use their grants mainly to help support programs that will prepare teachers, principals and other educators for work at the preschool, elementary and secondary levels.

The grant to the Jewish Community Centers Association will be used to establish a training program for recruiting and training executive directors of Jewish community centers.

Another commission member, Yeshiva University President Rabbi Norman Lamm, said that Jewish

education system is beset by serious problems, including "deficiencies in educational content; an underdeveloped profession of Jewish education" and "the absence of a research function to monitor results, allocate resources and plan improvements."

Two areas of Jewish education were singled out for specific recommendations: building the Jewish education profession and mobilizing community support for Jewish education. Such support was obviously lacking, the report said.

The report expressed concern that Jews have "lost interest in Jewish values, ideals and behavior," saying this has "grave implications, not only for the richness of Jewish life, but for the very continuity of a large segment of the Jewish people."

"Can you imagine how sobering it was for us to discover, for example, that six out of every 10 eligible Jewish children in the United States do not receive any kind of formal Jewish education?" said Rabbi Ismar Schorsch, chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary and a commission member.



# Thousands of Jews picking Germany over Israel as refuge

By ALIZA MARCUS

BERLIN (JTA) — Almost 50 years ago, Zilja Feldmann and her parents fled the Ukraine to Siberia, desperate to escape the advancing German army and its fascist sympathizers. Last year, the 62-year-old Feldmann fled again, but this time, with her children, to Germany, a country she now sees as her protector against anti-Semitism and economic ruin.

Sitting around a rickety table in one of the faceless East Berlin housing blocks that hundreds of Soviet Jews are calling home, the Feldmanns recently extolled the virtues of their new state.

"I understand Europe. It is a place for European people, and I feel myself normal in Europe," said Vera Feldmann, Zilja's 34-year-old daughter-in-law. "In Israel, there are many problems, with apartments, jobs. Here, we have a lot of help," she said.

As hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews seek refuge in Israel, a comparatively small but steady number are trying to immigrate to Germany, attracted by the country's wealth and standing in Europe. Over the past year, about 5,000 Soviet Jews have settled here, most of whom arrived before unification last October, when

## Behind the headlines

the former East German regime was actively courting their presence.

Like the Feldmanns, these Jews came on tourist visas with the hope of being allowed to stay. After unification, the German government granted them residency but has since instituted a requirement that those wishing to settle here obtain immigrant visas.

While this new policy has had the effect of slowing down the rate of immigration, at least 11,000 visa applications have been filed in the past seven months, a government spokesman said.

The German government is very sensitive to any suggestion that it might be placing a quota on Jewish arrivals. Officials said there were no plans to institute such a policy, despite the government's worries over the large wave of refugees flooding the country from Eastern Europe.

But this immigration has also become a sensitive issue for Israel, which does not want to see Soviet Jews settling in Germany. "Everyone is free to immigrate where they want to, but we would rather see them in Israel, like any Jew," said Elan Ben-Dov, a spokesman for the Israeli Embassy in Bonn. "The fact that they are leaving the Soviet Union and just going from one Diaspora to another is a mistake," he said.

German officials say they understand Israel's position. "But the Jewish people, like every foreigner, can come

here to Germany if they make an application," explained Paul-Johannes Fietz, a spokesman for the Interior Ministry.

What to do with the 268 Soviet Jews who arrived here from Israel in January, fearing the Persian Gulf War, has been a trickier issue for the two countries to resolve. Israel says the Soviet Jews, who all hold Israeli citizenship, should return to Israel.

Although the German Interior Ministry has agreed, Berlin city officials are refusing to deport the Jews and have extended their stay an additional six months, said Peter Mayer, one of the lawyers for the group. "Nobody wants to see Jews sent out of Germany, so the issue is just hanging in the air," said an official of the Berlin Jewish community.

**"Everyone is free to immigrate where they want to, but we would rather see them in Israel, like any Jew," said Elan Ben-Dov, a spokesman for the Israeli Embassy in Bonn.**

Soviet Jews say their interest in coming to Germany is simple: While they want to escape anti-Semitism, they also want to settle in a country where they can find work and apartments — both of which are in short supply in Israel.

"Israel is a Jewish state, and that's very important, and I can't say anything against that," said Alexander Kogan, a doctor who left the Ukraine last year for Germany. "But the most important thing is that Jews can leave the Soviet Union and feel that they are Jewish. Maybe later their

children will find that Israel is their homeland," he said.

Most of the Soviet Jewish emigres have settled in Berlin, where they are crammed into small apartments scattered in housing projects throughout the metropolitan area.

Under Germany's social benefits system, Soviet Jews receive a monthly stipend, in addition to housing and free language and vocational training classes. The German Jewish community also assists the refugees, mainly with religious and cultural programs and language classes.

Every morning, Soviet Jews crowd a narrow, smoke-filled hallway in one of the community's buildings in the center of Berlin, where they wait for assistance in understanding their new homeland. Walls are papered with signs in German and Russian giving information about films, old-age programs, language classes and synagogue services. Many of the Jews gathered there recently to receive a pre-Rosh Hashanah gift of 100 marks, equivalent to about \$60.

"We would like to do more, but we don't have the money," said Berth Kessler, a social worker with the community.

For Germany's tiny Jewish community — estimated at 30,000 people — Soviet Jewish immigration is an opportunity to re-establish a community decimated by the Holocaust. "Before the war, there was 180,000 Jews in Berlin, and now, we hope to again have another 180,000 Jews here," said Kessler. "Of course, Israel is the Jewish homeland," she said, "but why shouldn't we have again Jews in Germany?"

## Israeli population tops 5 million

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Boosted by mass immigration from the Soviet Union, Israel's population grew more in 5751 than in any single Jewish year in the last four decades.

The population was estimated by the Central Bureau of Statistics to have reached 5 million by Rosh Hashanah, including 4.1 million Jews, 695,000 Moslems, 120,000 Christians and 85,000 Druse.

The Jewish population rose last year by 256,000, about 85 percent of them new immigrants, mainly from the Soviet Union, with a smaller number from Ethiopia. The growth was 6.7 percent, the highest since the end of massive immigration from 1948 to 1951.

Some 350,000 Soviet immigrants have arrived since 1989.

Uri Gordon, head of the Jewish Agency's Department of Immigration and Absorption, said over the weekend that an estimated 1 million new immigrants from the Soviet Union, expected over the next five years, would bring Israel's total population to between 5 million and 6 million. This would make Israel the world's largest Jewish population center, replacing the United States.

Gordon said that since the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, 2,158,408 immigrants have arrived, 1,165,817 of them from Europe, 455,564 from Africa, 360,194 from Asia and 142,013 from North and South America.

The origin of the remaining 34,800 olim is unknown.

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# 5751 ends with no apparent Messiah

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN  
NEW YORK (JTA) — For a full year now Jews have been expecting the Messiah to arrive, as Lubavitch fervor for the day of redemption spread through the Hasidic movement's long-reaching network and sparked a "Mashiach fever" throughout the world's Jewish communities.

But 5751, which was the year of "great wonders" according to the

Lubavitcher rebbe, came and went without the apparent arrival of the Messiah.

Rabbi Manis Friedman, dean of Bais Chana, a Lubavitch women's educational program in Minneapolis, and the author of *Doesn't Anyone Blush Anymore?*, doesn't agree. "This IS the Messianic age," he exclaimed. "Judaism is no longer in exile," he said. "There is no repression of Judaism anywhere in the

## 'Wait til next year'

world."

When asked about the curtailed religious freedom of Syrian Jews, Friedman described their repression as "not an ideological or religious thing. It's just old-fashioned anti-Semitism. And that will end soon. They're going to come to Israel."

To bolster his position that he have already entered the messianic era, Friedman said: "All those miracles that the rebbe predicted came true — Israel was safe from the missiles on Purim, nothing changed in Russia because of the coup."

The great war between Gog and Magog prophesied by Maimonides

for "the beginning of the days of Mashiach" became reality in the form of the Persian Gulf war between Iraq and Saudi Arabia, said the enthusiastic Friedman. "And before the war a great prophet will arise to prepare our heart and guide our thoughts," Friedman said, paraphrasing more Maimonides and alluding to the Lubavitcher rebbe, Menachem Mendel Schneerson, as the great prophet.

If last year's global political changes were the great wonders prophesied by the rebbe, "this year they will be in personal things. There will be no more illness, no more grief, no more hunger," Friedman spoke with the indefatigable faith characteristic of Lubavitchers.

"God will wipe all tears from all faces. Nations will devote themselves

to the production of food, which will put an end to hunger, and medicine, and put an end to disease." There will be "a radical and dramatic increase in health care, in nutrition for Jews and non-Jews."

Friedman also predicted that this year will see the rebuilding of the Temple in Jerusalem. When queried about whether it will happen through the efforts of terrorist groups like the Temple Mount Faithful, Friedman said no.

"To build the Temple and cause animosities is not progress," he said. "Mashiach's role is to resolve the issue of Jerusalem to everyone's satisfaction."

"Mashiach is in progress," he said certainly. "It's not that we are expecting Mashiach. We're watching it unravel."

## Jewish Agency ready to evacuate Jews who remain in Yugoslavia

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Contingency plans have been drawn up to transfer the Jewish community of strife-torn Yugoslavia to Israel, according to Uri Gordon, head of the Jewish Agency's Immigration Department. "The establishment here is prepared. But it depends on the Jews there," he said.

Yugoslavia is in the throes of civil war. Fighting has been especially fierce in the secession-minded republic of Croatia, home to about 2,000 Jews, most of whom live in the capital, Zagreb.

Gordon estimated the total Jewish population of Yugoslavia to be about 5,500, of whom 1,500 live in the national capital, Belgrade; 1,200 in Zagreb; and 1,300 in Sarajevo, capital of the province of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

He said Jewish Agency emissaries have gone to Yugoslavia in recent months to observe the condition of the Jewish population. One is at the moment in the area of the fighting, he said.

In New York, Michael Schneider, executive vice president of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, confirmed that the Jewish Agency has made plans to evacuate the Yugoslav Jewish community, if necessary. "We understand they will be doing everything they can to get people to Israel," he said. He added that JDC officials have also made arrangements with Jewish communities in neighboring Hungary, Austria and Italy to temporarily house Jews fleeing unrest in Yugoslavia.

JDC, meanwhile, has allocated emergency funds to provide additional medicine and food to the Yugoslav community if the fighting worsens. Regular aid to the Jewish community of Croatia, which normally goes through Belgrade, is now being provided directly to the Jews of Zagreb, Schneider said. He also said JDC staff have helped beef up security and otherwise fortify the Jewish Old Age Home in Zagreb, which also houses the local synagogue. Recalling the bombing last month of the Jewish community center in downtown Zagreb, Schneider said, "We're trying to make sure that doesn't happen" to the Jewish Old Age Home.

Gordon of the Jewish Agency described the Yugoslav Jewish community as middle- and lower-middle-class families who live in an impoverished country on the verge of bankruptcy. "There are always Jews in any endangered community who hope that things will improve and that there is always time to leave tomorrow, remaining where they are in the meantime to look after their property," he said.

Gordon said the Jewish Agency and Israel are prepared to help all Jews who wish to leave their countries and come to Israel.

## Arafat 'wants peace'



Gulf War. He maintained he bears no grudge toward President George Bush, despite the fact that "the Americans persist in ignoring the Palestinians."

His interviewer, Guido Barendson, described the PLO chief as a man speaking "the language of diplomacy" these days. "He avoids any propaganda," Barendson wrote. He also retroactively dissociates himself from the Iraqi dictator.

"This story with Saddam Hussein. It is not true, it is not honest," Arafat told *La Repubblica*. "I was not on Saddam's side, I was with the Iraqi people, siding against aggression, against war."

Asked if the PLO would reject the peace conference if the United States did not distance itself from the policies of Israel, Arafat replied, "No, absolutely no. Don't make me say things I don't think. We appreciated the initiative of Bush and the declarations of (Soviet President Mikhail) Gorbachev."

Arafat denied he was isolated and said he would continue to lead the PLO. "I was elected on the basis of my peace platform. I must go forward," he said.

ROME (JTA) — Yasir Arafat is hoping a Middle East peace conference will start without delay, and will include representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

In an interview this month with the daily *La Repubblica*, the PLO chairman also insisted the world's media had been in error when it reported that he supported Saddam Hussein of Iraq in the Persian

## Witness: Schwammberger killed her husband

BONN (JTA) — An elderly Holocaust survivor from Israel told a Stuttgart court September 6 that she actually saw accused Nazi war criminal Josef Schwammberger murder her husband at a concentration camp in Poland during World War II.

Sarah Ehrenhald, 70, of Tel Aviv said her former husband, Leon Pater, was caught stealing bread for a family member. On the next day, he was shot to death in the main square of the Przemysl concentration camp, where Schwammberger was com-

mandant. "I watched the execution," Ehrenhald said. "It was Schwammberger himself, the camp's commander, who killed my husband."

According to the witness, the SS officer took pleasure in randomly murdering and torturing Jews and humiliating them. "He was a sadist. For him, killing Jews was just a game," she said.

Schwammberger, who was extradited from Argentina last year, has been on trial in Stuttgart since June 26. A previous witness, American

Holocaust survivor Leo Berger, told the court on August 16 that he never saw the accused kill inmates at the Przemysl or Rozwadow concentration camps, where he was confined while Schwammberger was commandant.

However, a Canadian survivor, Oscar Hersthal, testified a week earlier that he saw Schwammberger kill prisoners at morning roll call. He swore he saw him murder a rabbi named Fraenkel at Rozwadow on Yom Kippur in 1942.

## German Jews demand swift return of properties taken by communists

BONN (JTA) — The German Jewish community is impatient over the failure to restore its many properties in the area of former East Germany, including what was East Berlin. The community's chairman, Heinz Galinski, used the occasion of a Rosh Hashanah reception to complain that German organizations, including political parties, continue to occupy Jewish property without paying rent.

He demanded swift restitution. Galinsky told an audience of about 1,000 that the community filed claims for the restoration of its property rights immediately after the East German regime disintegrated a year ago.

Community sources said at least 800 units have been claimed, many located in the centers of large cities. More than 100 properties in East Berlin alone have been identified as once belonging to Jewish institutions. They are now used for parking lots, day care centers, police headquarters and electricity-generating plants.

## PLO will stay open in Copenhagen

COPENHAGEN (JTA) — The Palestine Liberation Organization has reversed a decision to shut down its information office here, after announcing in July that it would be closed because of "financial difficulties." The PLO representative in Denmark, Abdul Rahman Allawi, informed the Foreign Ministry earlier this month that the office will remain open but with a reduced staff.

Those apparently were the orders from PLO headquarters in Tunis. The office, from which the PLO covers Denmark and Norway, also will move to a cheaper location.

The German authorities, meanwhile, would like to avoid involvement in an embarrassing conflict within the Jewish community. It concerns buildings in former East Berlin once owned by Adass Jisroel, an independent Orthodox congregation taken over by the Nazis before World War II.

A group led by the Offenber family gained access to the property when the Communists still governed East Germany late in 1989. But the mainstream community, headed by Galinski, has produced documents attesting to the fact that it represents most Adass Jisroel survivors or their heirs.

## London-based unit set to battle anti-Semitism

LONDON (JTA) — Remote Jewish communities around the world can now call on a new London-based unit to help them combat anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism. The Commonwealth Jewish Council, which represents almost 1 million Jews in over 30 countries, agreed to set up the new unit at its biennial conference in Jerusalem.

Called the Rapid Response Unit, it will be headed by former Labor M.P. Renee Short.

Paul Secher, director of the Commonwealth Jewish Council, said the problem was raised by representatives from communities in the West Indies, Central and East Africa, and Asia, many of which have only a handful of members, but face hostility toward Israel and Jews, particularly from the local press.

"They don't have the resources to deal with anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism in the media, much of which is state controlled. The unit will help them to respond to the propaganda."

The Rapid Response Unit would make the skills and experiences of larger communities in the U.K., Canada and Australia available to the outposts of Commonwealth Jewry. But, Secher emphasized the aim was to allow the local communities to defend themselves. "When they contact the unit with a problem, we will advise how best to respond to it or we might draft a reply, but the communities will deal with it themselves. We won't take anything on without their consent."

## Syrian Jewish rally in Rome

ROME (JTA) — About two dozen people carried banners urging "Freedom for Syrian Jews" and "Let My People Go" in a peaceful demonstration outside the Syrian Embassy here September 13.

They prepared a letter for the Syrian ambassador to "transmit to the official organs" in Damascus. It contained a statement explaining the purpose of their demonstration and extended "to the Syrian Jewish community our most sincere and heartfelt wishes for a 'Shanah Tovah' for the Jewish New Year 5752."

The demonstration was sponsored by the Italy-Israel Association, the Jewish Students Cultural Movement, the Young Zionists Union and other groups.

## Six Jewish groups urge Senate to oppose Thomas appointment

By DAVID FRIEDMAN  
WASHINGTON (JTA) — Six Jewish organizations are urging the Senate to reject the appointment of Judge Clarence Thomas to the U.S. Supreme Court, while two Orthodox groups support his confirmation.

The Senate Judiciary Committee, which held hearings on the confirmation last week, was expected to vote on the nomination sometime this week.

Thomas, a 43-year-old black conservative who sits on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, is expected to be approved by the committee and then the full Senate to succeed Justice Thurgood Marshall, the first black to sit on the court.

The Jewish organizations that have voiced opposition to Thomas are the American Jewish Congress, Jewish Labor Committee, National Council of Jewish Women, New Jewish Agenda, Union of American Hebrew Congregations and Workmen's Circle. Agudath Israel of America and the National Council of Young Israel have endorsed Thomas. Agudath Israel was the only Jewish

organization to testify at the confirmation hearings.

David Zwiebel, Agudath Israel's general counsel, told the committee that, as chairman of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission from 1982 to 1989, Thomas demonstrated sensitivity to the rights of Jews and other religious minorities. Zwiebel cited two examples in which Thomas enforced a federal requirement that employers give reasonable accommodation to religious practices after employers misinterpreted Supreme Court rulings.

In one, employers were forbidding the wearing of yarmulkes on the job after the Supreme Court ruled that the military could forbid a Jewish officer from wearing one. In another case, Thomas ruled that the Supreme Court's striking down of a Connecticut law requiring Sabbath observers time off did not apply to other less absolute laws.

These cases not only demonstrate Thomas' commitment to religious liberty, but also "his sensitivity to the potential power of a Supreme Court ruling and its ability to affect the

everyday lives of Americans," Zwiebel said.

But the American Jewish Congress maintained that during five days of testimony, Thomas did not forthrightly declare his views on abortion, civil rights and natural law. "He lacks the vision of the Constitution as an instrument of progress toward a fair society," said Henry Siegman, the group's executive director.

The Union of American Hebrew Congregations, while also citing these issues, expressed concern that "the right of religious freedom, as protected by the wall of separation of church and state, will be placed at even higher risk if he is confirmed to join an ideologically narrow U.S. Supreme Court."

The Workmen's Circle charged that Thomas "has shown contempt for genuine affirmative action programs." It found nothing in his career to show that Thomas "can rise above his ideological biases."

The three other Jewish organizations had expressed opposition to Thomas before the hearings.

## U.S. promised Palestinians no veto of delegates to peace conference

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The United States has promised the Palestinians that the delegation they choose to attend a peace conference with Israel will be of their own selection and not subject to an Israeli veto, Israel Radio reported Tuesday. That was one of the guarantees contained in a letter U.S. Secretary of State James Baker reportedly gave Palestinian representative Faisal Husseini when they met in Jerusalem last week.

The United States also stipulated that the Palestinian delegation would be part of an overall Jordanian delegation.

Representatives of East Jerusalem and the Palestinian diaspora would participate in the negotiations, but only in their final stage, the letter said.

Husseini is believed to have conveyed the letter to the Palestine Liberation Organization for consideration at the meeting of the Palestine National Council, which opened Monday in Algiers. The PNC is expected to decide this week whether Palestinians will attend the regional

peace conference, which the United States and Soviet Union hope to convene next month.

Israel Radio said it obtained a copy of the document Monday, covering the following points:

\* The regional conference will be based on implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and assurance of the legal rights of the Palestinians.

\* The United States seeks a close connection between the Palestinians and Israel, which will ensure the security and political rights of all parties.

\* The regional conference will open with the consent of all parties. Direct talks between the parties will begin not later than two days after the opening, and regional problems will be discussed not later than two weeks after the opening.

\* The Palestinians will choose their representatives, who will form a Palestinian delegation within the Jordanian delegation. There will be no veto of the composition of the Palestinian delegation.

\* Representatives of East Jerusalem and of the Palestinian diaspora will take part in the negotiations only in the second stage of the talks, which will deal with final arrangements for solving the Middle East conflict. East Jerusalem will be represented by Jordan through its delegation.

\* There will be a transitional period of five years intended to ensure the peaceful transition of power from Israel to the Palestinians in the administered territories. The discussion of final arrangements will begin in the third year of this period.

\* A confederation with Jordan is a reasonable possibility for the final arrangement.

\* The United States is opposed to Jewish settlements in the West Bank, which it regards as an obstacle to peace.

According to Israel Radio, the U.S. letter ruled out either Washington or Cairo as the conference site and proposed it be held either in The Hague or in Prague.

## Likud

Continued from 5

"unpatriotic."

Writing Tuesday in the Labor newspaper *Davar*, Uzi Baram, the party's former secretary-general, said the time was past for Labor to try to retain the sympathies of centrist voters by blurring its differences with Likud. It is time "to break the purported national consensus," which is really no consensus but a papering over of deep ideological differences, said Baram.

Labor should condemn the settlements as an obstacle to peace and say clearly that it is ready to negotiate over all the territories, except Jerusalem, he wrote. Israel should agree in principle that the Palestinians "have the same right to determine their fates within negotiated borders as the Croats,

the Moldavians and the Uzbeks," he said.

Similar opinions were expressed Tuesday in the daily *Ha'aretz* by another Laborite, Knesset member Yossi Beilin.

But neither of those relatively young Knesset members can be said to speak for the entire party.

Labor's two veteran leaders, Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin, have tried to steer a middle course. While criticizing the accelerated pace of settlement-building, they have also faulted the U.S. administration for linking the humanitarian loan issue with the political dispute over settlements.

Peres sharpened his rhetoric somewhat Monday when he accused Shamir of "worsening matters with Washington every time he opens his mouth."

But the Prime Minister's Office

took pains to assure the United States that the new settlement just inaugurated was in fact inside Israel's pre-1967 borders, not in the West Bank. It is part of a planned chain of settlements astride the former border zone, long known as the Green Line.

Publicly, Shamir said the Green Line no longer exists and it is therefore of no importance how a particular site is designated.

The ceremonies were attended by Housing Minister Sharon, who railed against "a new White Paper" that he said foreign governments were trying to impose on Israel, aided by forces on the Israeli left. He was probably alluding to the MacDonald White Paper of 1939, imposed by the British Foreign Office, which severely curtailed Jewish immigration to Palestine on the eve of World War II.

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# Glemp says past remarks about Jews were 'based on mistaken information'

**By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN**  
 WASHINGTON (JTA) — Cardinal Jozef Glemp of Poland emerged from a meeting with a dozen Jewish leaders here last Friday saying that "through dialogue" he now understands that statements he made in a homily two years ago "may have caused pain to the Jewish community and were seen as fostering stereotypes of Jews and Judaism."

In the August 26, 1989 homily, Glemp, who heads the Roman Catholic Church in Poland, accused Jews of getting peasants drunk, exerting control over the international news media and introducing communism to Poland.

In a statement September 20, the cardinal said those remarks "were, in many aspects, based on mistaken information." He explained that they had been made during the "difficult and highly emotional events of the summer of 1989," which centered on the dispute over the Carmelite convent at the Auschwitz death camp.

Most of the Jewish participants in the two-hour meeting with Glemp said they accepted his explanation as an apology, although the cardinal did not use the word "apologize" in his prepared statement or during the news conference that followed the meeting.

"The statement indicates he was in error. That indicates an apology," said Rabbi Mordechai Waxman of Great Neck, N.Y., a congregational rabbi and representative of the Conservative movement on the Synagogue Council of America.

In a statement of their own, the Jewish participants described the meeting, which took place at the headquarters of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops here, as "forthright, open and, we believe, a constructive conversation." But they did not say whether they believed the cardinal had adequately apologized for past remarks. And Jerome Chanes, co-director for domestic concerns of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, said that "in terms of substance, there were some serious questions that are as yet unresolved."

Nevertheless, many of the participants felt

Glemp's position was significantly forthcoming.

Rabbi A. James Rudin, director of interreligious affairs for the American Jewish Committee, described Glemp's statement after the meeting as a "clear and unambiguous acknowledgment that aspects of his statements in his homily were mistaken." That acknowledgment "constitutes an enormous step forward," he said.

Rabbi Jack Bemporad of Lawrence, N.Y., who chairs the Synagogue Council's interreligious affairs committee, called the change in Glemp's attitude toward Jews "epochal."

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, a longtime player in the interreligious arena, said he believed that the remarks Glemp made during 1989, which inflamed Jews and Catholics all over the world, were made out of "his misunderstanding of history." Glemp "knows that he has made an egregious error that grew out of his lack of information and experience," he said. He added that many Poles share the cardinal's "difference in the perception of the role of Jews" in history.

During the meeting, the Polish primate said he had never met so many Jews at one time, participants reported.

The cardinal was subdued afterward during a news conference with a dozen American journalists and 10 Polish reporters, in contrast to what the Jewish participants in the dialogue called his animated and frank manner during their meeting with him. "There was a vigorous spirit of give and take, and of candor" during the meeting, according to Rudin of AJCommittee. "I had a palpable sense that a door previously closed had been opened," he said.

Rabbi Jerome Davidson, of Great Neck, N.Y., and president of the Synagogue Council, said some in the Jewish community had made "an idol out of the word 'apologize,' and were using it to justify their own reluctance to participate in dialogue." He was referring to several important participants in Jewish-Catholic dialogue who refused to meet with Glemp because he had not, before departing Poland on Sept. 18, specifically addressed the assertions

he made in the 1989 homily about Jews and Judaism.

One of those who refused to meet with the cardinal was Seymour Reich, who resigned earlier this month — three days before Glemp's arrival — as chairman of IJCIC, the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations, which is charged with representing the world Jewish community in contacts with the Vatican. Reich, who quit in frustration over IJCIC members' inability to reach consensus on whether to meet with the cardinal, said in a telephone interview after the meeting that he was "still disappointed with Glemp's failure to acknowledge the error of the homily, to retract the anti-Semitic statements and to understand the harm that his statements caused. What was really missing was that he didn't make any significant statement in Poland before he left," said Reich. "When he speaks without a script, like he did at the Warsaw airport, his guttural references come forth."

Reich was referring to a September 18 interview with the Polish press, in which Glemp appeared to justify the contentions in his 1989 homily, asserting that they were backed up by literature and sociological research. Glemp "really has many more steps to take, and the Washington meeting may have been one of those steps," he said.

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, went even further. "Glemp demonstrated that he snookered the Jews. He emerged from the meeting to declare there is no anti-Semitism in Poland, just three days after the violent anti-Semitic attack on the Warsaw synagogue." He was referring to a September 13 attack by six drunken teenagers on the Warsaw synagogue, in which an elderly Jewish community staff member was badly beaten.

During the news conference, Glemp was asked if he would restate his position about Jews and Judaism after he returns to Poland

on October 7. The prelate replied that the September 20 statement would be published in his home country. He also said, "We are looking for new forms of cooperation to work for the common good" of Jews and Poles in Poland.

As the cardinal arrived September 20 at the Bishops Conference for his meeting with the Jewish leaders, New York activist Rabbi Avi Weiss tried unsuccessfully to serve Glemp with papers related to the civil suit he has filed against the primate for defamation and libel. In his August 1989 homily, Glemp accused Weiss and his followers of trying to destroy the convent at Auschwitz and to kill the nuns there during a protest they staged the month before.

The cardinal admitted, in a letter last month to Archbishop Adam Maida of Detroit, that the Jewish activists "did not intend to kill the sisters or to destroy the convent." But Weiss called that statement inadequate. On September 20, Weiss and about a dozen of his followers remained just outside the entrance to the building and demonstrated, carrying signs reading "Cardinal Glemp: Dialogue, Not Diatribe" and "Glemp: Apologize!"

Weiss said that his attorney, Harvard Law School Professor Alan Dershowitz, had been in touch with Glemp's lawyer and had asked that they be able to serve the cardinal with the court papers "with dignity."

"If he disagrees, we'll have to surprise him," Weiss said. He pledged to bring his "entire synagogue to Cardinal (John) O'Connor's residence for a peaceful prayer vigil" when Glemp meets with the archbishop of New York on October 6.

Some New York Jewish leaders are now discussing whether to seek a meeting with Glemp when he comes there. And Jewish leaders in Chicago are deciding whether to show up for an appearance the cardinal is scheduled to make at Spertus College there.

The cardinal plans to make stops in 14 cities during his visit to the United States.



## Glemp's statements given wide coverage back in Poland

NEW YORK (JTA) — A statement made last month by Cardinal Jozef Glemp of Poland, expressing regret over his "misunderstandings" with Jews, has been widely disseminated in Poland, according to information from the Polish Episcopate made public by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Glemp's statement was published by the Polish press agency PAP, three daily newspapers, Polish television and all Catholic weekly magazines, according to Hubert Romanowski, Poland's consul general in Chicago.

Romanowski notified Rabbi A. James Rudin, national director of interreligious affairs at the American Jewish Committee, of the Polish Foreign Ministry's information.

Glemp made his statement in the form of an August 12 letter to Archbishop Arthur Maida of Detroit, in which he "restated" that "anti-Semitism is evil and contrary to the spirit of the Gospel." In that letter, he also said that he understood that "the seven members of the Jewish community who disturbed the peace of the Carmelite Sisters in July 1989 ... did not intend to kill the Sisters or destroy the convent."

He was referring to a demonstration at the Carmelite convent at Auschwitz, led by Rabbi Avi Weiss of New York. In a homily Glemp made a month later, on August 26, 1989, he charged that the demonstrators had intended to kill the nuns and destroy the convent.

Glemp also said, in that homily, that Jews were "getting peasants drunk," "spreading communism," and acting "from a position of a people raised above all others," statements which he did not refer to in his letter to Maida.

It is for that reason that Kalman Sultanik, president of the Federation of Polish Jews and vice president of the World Jewish Congress, has urged American Jewish leaders and representatives of American Jewish organizations not to meet with Glemp when he arrives in the United States. "The statement of Cardinal Glemp is reminiscent of the notorious anti-Jewish publication 'The Protocols of the Elders of Zion,'" Sultanik charged.

"A meeting between Jewish leaders and the Cardinal should take place only after Cardinal Glemp clearly and unequivocally repudiates his anti-Semitic remarks of two years ago," Sultanik said September 4.

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## Announcements/Events

### Holocaust committee plans set

The Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Foundation Committee of the Jewish Community Relations Committee "is launching the New Year with great enthusiasm for expanding its services to the community," according to its chairman, Barbara Levitt.

The Holocaust Resource Center, located at the Jewish Community Center, houses a multitude of audio-visual materials, including the Channel 12 Holocaust Survivor Interviews, audio cassettes and printed materials. Additional books have been added for use by teachers and students from intermediate grades through college

as well as for adult study.

Additions to the center include *Father of the Orphans* by Mark Benheim and *Liberators* by Yaffa Eliach and Brana Gurewitsch which are available for older students and adults. *Terrible Things* by Eve Bunting and *Ann Frank: Life in Hiding* by Johanna Hurwitz are suggested readings for younger school-age children. Many other new titles are available to the community. The Resource Center is open Monday and Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment by calling Connie Kresh-tool at the Jewish Federation of Delaware, 478-6200.

Another service of the Holocaust Education Committee is its Speakers' Bureau. Knowledgeable persons, many of them survivors, can be scheduled to address public, private and parochial schools, clubs, service organizations as well as religious and secular groups. If you are interested in a speaker, contact Connie Kresh-tool.

Future plans of the committee include a Curriculum Seminar on Teaching the Holocaust for Social Studies and English teachers. Such a course would be offered in one or two sessions with DPI credit, Kresh-tool said.

### Naches

#### Grumbacher

Rabbi Peter H. Grumbacher of Congregation Beth Emeth was among 67 students from throughout the United States, Canada, Hong Kong and Israel to receive Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degrees July 26 at commencement exercises for the Block Plan of Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work in New York City.

The Block Plan allows students to complete degree requirements for the M.S.W. in three summers of study in New York City while working for social service agencies throughout the world during the traditional academic year.

Grumbacher has done field work with the Tressler Counseling Center, also in Wilmington.

He was also enrolled in Wurzweiler's Clergy Program, designed to equip religious professionals of all faiths with the expertise to respond to personal needs, group concerns and community issues.

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### Chanukah Choopla set

The Jewish Community Center's annual Hanukkah Choopla Gift and Craft Bazaar will be held on Sunday, November 24, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free of charge.

Hanukkah Choopla attracts over 1000 people each year and has virtually "something for everyone," according to this year's Choopla Chairperson, Jane Goldberg. Children will be able to participate in the Dreidel Olympics which will include carnival-type games and activities

centered around a Hanukkah theme. Families will be able to create a lasting heirloom as they construct their own Hanukkiot (menorahs) for use year after year.

Various area merchants, artists and artisans will be displaying their wares and one-of-a-kind gift items for sale. This year's bazaar promises to be the largest in the event's history including hand-crafted jewelry, personalized clothing and Judaic items.

Traditional and no-so traditional

holiday foods including potato latkes, knishes, hot dogs and tuna hoagies will be available for purchase throughout the day.

Highlighting the 1991 celebration is the eight-day Hanukkah raffle. During each night of Hanukkah, a winning raffle ticket will be drawn. The winners each will receive \$100. The first winner will be drawn at the end of Choopla. Tickets are \$5 each or six chances for \$25.

Entertainment will be ongoing throughout the afternoon, culminating in a family sing-a-long.

A limited number of vendor tables are still available for the event. Interested merchants and community organizations should contact the JCC. For additional information on Choopla programs and activities, contact JJ Alter at 478-5660.

### Beth Emeth Sisterhood

There will be a paid-up membership breakfast and meeting of the Beth Emeth Sisterhood at 9:30 a.m., Sunday, October 13, in the Auditorium. Mothers of Religious School students are invited to join Sisterhood.

Dotsy Landau, owner of the Pearl in the Oyster, Ltd., will demonstrate how "the same basic black dress can get you from morning to night with different accessories." Sisterhood members will be her models. Dotsy will also sell some of her accessories and donate a portion of her sales to Sisterhood. All Sisterhood members who attend will have their names placed in a drawing for several prizes.

Reservations may be made by calling Lisa Alpert (477-0321). Cost for guests is \$3; paid-up members are free.

### Beth Shalom sisterhood dinner

Beth Shalom Sisterhood is planning an evening to honor its members. The Paid-Up Membership Dinner will be held on Tuesday, October 15, at 6:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth Shalom, 18th Street and Baynard Boulevard. The evening will be a dinner followed by a discussion led by Myrna Ryder of the Jewish Family Service entitled "Making Jewish Memories." There is no fee for paid-up members; For guests, there is a \$6.50 plate charge. To make reservations call Debbie Grossman (656-9348), Sandye Turnauer (571-1168) or Beth Shalom Synagogue (654-4462) by October 7.

of The University of Delaware's Hillel Chapter, will discuss those problems particular to the U.o.D.

The program is open to the entire community and a question and answer period will follow. For more information about the program, call Ellen Pell at 478-3050 or Cyra Gross at 475-3914.

### Anti-Semitism on campus

B'nai B'rith Women of Delaware, at their next meeting on October 9 at 8 p.m., will hold a program at the home of Ellen Pell to explore anti-Semitism on college campuses. Jerry Heisler from the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League will discuss the problem in general on all college campuses. Ruth Kirshner, Director

### Breast cancer awareness

The Fitness Center of the JCC and Mammography of Delaware have combined efforts to provide an educational program and screening of mammograms for all community members, ages 35 and over.

A screening mammogram is seen as a simple, safe x-ray examination of the breast. Mammography can detect lumps three to five years earlier than a physical exam. Ninety-five percent of breast cancer can be detected at this early stage and can be successfully treated.

The educational/awareness session will be held on Tuesday, October 15, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., and is free of charge. The breast cancer screening session is scheduled for Thursday, October 17, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and registration is required no later than October 10. A sliding fee scale has been set for the screening session.

For more information, contact Eileen Wallach, Recreational Services Director at the JCC.

### Talisman to speak at leadership forum

Mark E. Talisman, honors graduate from Harvard University, fellow at the John F. Kennedy Institute of

Politics, appointed Founding Vice Chairman of the US Holocaust Memorial and founder of the Center for the Study of Jewish History and Culture in Poland, will be the guest lecturer at the Second Biennial Doris & Irving Morris Leadership Forum on Sunday, December 15, in the Sol and Tanya Zallea Auditorium of the JCC.

Talisman's lecture will focus on how people in the community can fit into a leadership role and the commitment and responsibilities necessary for leadership in the Jewish community.

The lecture is free of charge and open to the entire community. For additional information, contact Moises Paz at 478-5660.

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# Obituaries

## Oscar Joseph Goldberg

Oscar Joseph Goldberg, 76, of Wilmington, died September 23 of complications from cancer in St. Francis Hospital where he was a patient.

Mr. Goldberg, born in Philadelphia, had been a car dealer in the Wilmington area for many years.

In his youth, he was a boxer known as "Kid Goldie." Later, he was a boxing referee, his family said. He also served in the Secret Service during World War II, according to his family.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia; a son, Jeffrey, of Florida; three daughters, Carole Araguz and Lois Amalfitano, both of Delaware, and

Hermine Fuhrman of Maryland; a sister, Sylvia Denicoff of Pennsylvania; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

## Aaron Kirshner

Aaron Kirshner, 72, of 2181 Brown St., Brooklyn, N.Y., formerly of 800 E. 17th St., Wilmington, died at home September 23, of apparent heart failure.

Mr. Kirshner, born in Wilmington, had been a loading specialist for the Teamsters union in New York City. He moved from Wilmington about 34 years ago.

His wife, Mary, died in 1986. He

is survived by a daughter, Julia Kirshner-Brynien of Brooklyn; a brother, Sidney, and a sister, Rebecca Bank, both of Wilmington.

Arrangements were made by The Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, Wilmington, or Deborah Heart and Lung Foundation, Wilmington chapter.

## David Schwartz

David Schwartz, 92, of 3501 N.W. 42nd Ave., Lauderdale Lakes, Florida, died September 23 of heart failure in Heartland Health Center, Lauderdale Lakes.

Mr. Schwartz owned a liquor store at Ninth and Pine Streets in Wilmington before his retirement in 1973.

He was a member of Machzikey Hadas Congregation.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley; two sons, Herbert of Los Angeles and Sidney of Pompano Beach, Florida; two brothers, Nathan of Wilmington and Samuel of Lauderdale Lakes; a sister, Ruth Goldstein of Lauderdale Lakes, Florida; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

# Jerusalem court voids marriage by Reform rabbi

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A Jerusalem rabbinical court set a notable precedent recently when it voided the marriage of an American couple performed by a Reform rabbi. The ruling, which has political as well as halachic (Orthodox religious) significance, could affect future cases involving personal status that reach Israeli courts.

The three-man panel of religious court judges decided 2-1 to dissolve the marriage of some years' standing, declaring the wife free to remarry without obtaining a *get*, a Jewish divorce. The married couple were Americans living in Israel who had been in the process of obtaining a divorce. The husband left the country before it became final.

The rabbinical court, headed by Rabbi Shilo Rafael, acted to protect the woman from the status of "agunah," or abandoned wife, which would leave her ineligible to remarry under religious law.

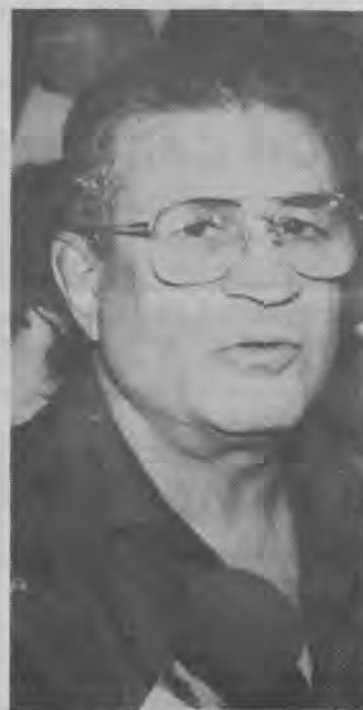
The judges determined that her marriage was invalid, even though the couple had lived together for years as husband and wife.

The judges made their ruling after questioning people who had been present at the wedding ceremony. It was discovered that the bride's relatives had been the official witnesses to the wedding, which halachah does not recognize as valid. They also found that the groom did not pronounce the "harei at" (behold thou art consecrated to me) ritual declaration when placing the ring on the bride's finger.

The majority opinion may have been influenced by the late American Orthodox sage, Rabbi Moshe Feinstein. In a responsum authored in the 1950s, Feinstein suggested that all Reform marriages could be presumed invalid. In that way, a woman would escape the Talmudic burden of *mamzerut* — illegitimacy — if the wife in a Reform marriage has children from a second marriage without having obtained a halachic divorce from her first husband.

That approach has never been applied in Israeli courts, and it has prompted considerable interest in both judicial and rabbinic circles.

# Nathan permitted to travel



TEL AVIV (JTA) — The Tel Aviv District Court, reversing a lower court's order, has decided to allow peace activist Abie Nathan to go abroad, provided that he returns to

Israel no later than October 5 for sentencing. Nathan, who readily admits to violating Israeli law by meeting in June with Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat and other PLO figures in Tunis, has put up his Tel Aviv home as bond to guarantee his return.

He has scheduled appearances in the United States and Canada, and may also travel to India.

The Ramla Magistrates Court, which convicted him September 12, banned Nathan's departure from the country pending sentencing, which it set for next month. In addition to pronouncing a new sentence, the court is expected to enforce a one-year suspended sentence Nathan was given for a 1989 meeting with Arafat. He served four months of a seven-month prison term on that charge last year.

Nathan, 64, was due in Montreal this week to attend a conference on the war against drugs. From there he goes to New York to receive an award for his pro-peace activities. The Indian-born Israeli also has been invited to address India's parliament on the 122nd anniversary of the birthday of Mohandas Gandhi.

# New Americans

## Continued from 4

A Torah scroll was opened on Yom Kippur and the New Americans were invited to gather around it for a close-up look — initial nervousness giving way to broad comfortable smiles. "The Torah was given to the Jewish people once — a long time ago," Levenson told the Russian participants. "But we continue to receive it every week."

This unique outreach to the New American group will continue, beginning in November, with Sabbath services in Russian and Hebrew, according to Rabbi Yoskowitz.

"For me, this was a very satisfying, rewarding experience," Levenson said. It appeared to have the same effect on the New Americans, each of whom left the small chapel expressing their gratitude. "Thank you so very much," said one woman in halting English. It came from the bottom of her heart.

# Bush

## Continued from 5

years pleaded, cajoled, petitioned, protested, demonstrated" for the emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union and Ethiopia, must support

their humanitarian needs now that they are in Israel, Cardin said. She Cardin said that some 350,000 Jews have immigrated to Israel since the end of 1989, and up to a million are

expected in the next few years. There is need for 230,000 new dwelling units, 250,000 new jobs, about 12,000 classrooms, as well as additional sewers, water and electricity.

Cardin thanked Bush for his continued support for the immigration to Israel of both Soviet and Ethiopian Jews.

Bush reminded reporters of that support during his afternoon news conference. "As vice president and president, I have tried my hardest to do everything possible to liberate Jews living in Ethiopia and the Soviet Union so that they could emigrate to Israel," he said.

The president reiterated his support for "a strong and secure Israel."

The president said that his request for a delay will not prejudice any congressional action in January. But he also said he has never promised to guarantee \$10 billion in loans, only to provide additional assistance for the new immigrants.

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# Court considering if U.S. violates terms of Pollard plea agreement

**By HOWARD ROSENBERG**  
 WASHINGTON (JTA) — Judges hearing a motion September 10 to allow convicted spy Jonathan Pollard to withdraw his 1986 guilty plea appeared to be skeptical of his lawyer's argument that the plea was coerced.

But at least one member of the three-judge federal appellate panel seemed persuaded that there may have been collusion between the U.S. government and the judge who sentenced Pollard to life imprisonment in March 1987 for having passed classified documents to Israel.

The motion to invalidate Pollard's June 1986 plea bargain agreement with the U.S. government was heard September 10 by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. A ruling is expected within two months.

During the hearing, Judges Ruth Ginsburg and Stephen Williams appeared to be skeptical of attorney Theodore Olson's contention that Pollard was pressured to enter a guilty plea, according to a report in *The Washington Post*.

But, according to *The Washington Times*, Judge Laurence Silberman said he was troubled by what appeared to be collusion "through winks and nods, almost" to ensure that Pollard would receive the maximum sentence possible.

Silberman asked U.S. Attorney John Fisher how the government



Jonathan Pollard

could condone a plea agreement in which it promised not to be harsh, then submit a document accusing Pollard of treason, a far more serious crime that he was never charged with.

The judge was referring to an affidavit submitted before the sentencing by then Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, which stated that he could not "conceive of greater harm to national security" and that Pollard's punishment "should reflect the perfidy of (his) actions" and the "magnitude of the treason committed."

"It is regrettable that word (treason) was used by the secretary of defense," Fisher reportedly responded, "but I don't think it was a violation of the plea agreement."

The plea agreement limited the government to discussing "the facts and circumstances of the offenses

committed" by Pollard and to correcting "any misstatements of fact." Attorney Olson argued that the government disregarded the agreement by attacking Pollard's character at the sentencing hearing and by seeking a life term indirectly through the Weinberger affidavit, according to the *Washington Times* account.

Fisher responded that Pollard was fully aware that the plea agreement did not preclude the sentencing judge,



Molly and Morris Pollard, parents of confessed Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard, outside the Washington court where a plea agreement in Pollard's case is being considered. (Photo:RNS)

U.S. District Judge Aubrey Robinson Jr., from imposing a life sentence, the *Times* said.

Olson also argued that Pollard's guilty plea was coerced and involuntary because it was linked, or "wired," to a similar plea by Pollard's wife at the time, Anne Henderson Pollard.

The two have since been divorced.

Fisher responded that no guilty plea is truly voluntary but rather a "choice between unpleasant alternatives." He observed that Pollard "didn't have the world's best bargaining power."

Fisher also countered that Pollard had explicitly told Robinson at the sentencing hearing that his plea agreement was voluntary. He suggested that Pollard was now maintaining coercion in a ploy to win a reduced jail term. "Either Mr. Pollard has invented this argument years after the fact, or he purposefully misled the judge at sentencing" about the voluntary nature of the guilty plea, Fisher was quoted as saying.

From the judges' questions and reactions, it appears likely that the case will hinge on whether the panel determines that the government violated its part of the plea agreement. If so, it would open the door to a new sentencing hearing.

Meanwhile, Pollard remains imprisoned in solitary confinement in a federal penitentiary in Marion, Illinois.



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# Israeli computer hacker charged with tapping U.S. army computers

TEL AVIV (JTA) — An 18-year-old Carmiel computer genius was formally charged earlier this month with illegally tapping into secret U.S. Army computer memory banks. The youth's entry into the Pentagon computer reportedly allowed him access to military secrets during the Persian Gulf War.

The unidentified teen-ager was also charged September 5 with organizing and participating in international credit card forgeries.

Local police in Galilee were led to

the suspect by police in the United States and Canada, who had been investigating the theft of thousands of dollars' worth of goods and services by the illegal use of Visa credit card numbers obtained from a contact in Israel.

Computer hackers in North America, arrested after yearlong buying sprees, said their Visa-related information came from Carmiel. But a check of the records of Bezek, the Israeli telephone corporation, showed no calls to the United States or Canada

placed by the teen-ager.

However, a search of his room uncovered sophisticated electronic and computer equipment and software he had built and written himself, which enabled him to penetrate bank, U.S. Army and other secret computer codes. His equipment allowed him to bypass the Bezek exchange switchboard meters while making international calls. Police confiscated diskettes bearing the credit card data.

The youth was released on bail.

# U.S. moves to revoke citizenship of man suspected of war crimes

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The U.S. Justice Department has moved to revoke the citizenship of a Pennsylvania man who is charged with having been an SS guard at three concentration camps during World War II. Denaturalization proceedings have begun against Nikolaus Schiffer of

New Ringgold, Pa., who is said to have served at the Sachsenhausen, Flossenburg and Majdanek camps.

A complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Philadelphia by the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations alleges that Schiffer, 72, willfully concealed his service at the

camps and membership in the SS Death's Head Battalion when applying for U.S. citizenship in 1956.

"Abundant evidence exists concerning the atrocities against civilians at these concentration camps during the period of Schiffer's SS service," Neal Sher, OSI director, said in a statement.

The complaint charges that Schiffer was an armed SS guard from 1943 until the end of the war in 1945. According to the complaint, from about August 1943 until December of that year, Schiffer was a guard at Sachsenhausen, in Germany. It says that during January 1944, he served in the Nazi Waffen SS at the SS training camp in Trawniki, Poland, and that from February 1944 through about July 1944, he served at Majdanek, also in Poland.

It also claims Schiffer was an armed guard of prisoners at the Hersbruck subcamp of Flossenburg, in Germany, from about August 1944 through about April 1945.

# CA adopts anti-boycott bill

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — The California State Assembly has adopted a bill prohibiting the state's huge pension funds from investing in international corporations that participate in the Arab League's economic boycott of Israel.

The main target of the legislation is the Arabs' "secondary boycott" of companies that do business with Israel. While state and federal laws already make such boycotts illegal for American firms, many foreign and international companies are among the boycott's strongest adherents.

"California exercised leadership in 1976, when we made it illegal for companies in this state to participate in the boycott," said Assemblyman Burt Margolin, who introduced the bill. "With this new effort, California can be a leader again in opposing this unjust boycott by targeting foreign companies that participate in this disgraceful, discriminatory practice."

The measure passed by a vote of 57-16, three more than the required two-thirds majority.

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## Loan guarantees

Continued from 1

Wash.) indicated this week they would support it.

Rep. Lawrence Smith (D-Fla.) said in a telephone interview Wednesday that while most of his colleagues in the House of Representatives supported the guarantees on their merits, they did not want to get caught in a political crossfire. At one point, Bush threatened to go to the American people and cast the issue as whether the president should be the

one to control U.S. foreign policy.

Smith said most lawmakers still want to find a way to support the loans in the right "political climate." But he said the House will be following the Senate's lead on how to proceed.

Sens. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) and Robert Kasten (R-Wis.) still plan to introduce legislation authorizing the loan guarantees, with the proviso that it not be taken up until January. The bill will have at least 67 co-sponsors, proving that supporters of Israel have, in theory, the two-thirds majority needed to override a presidential veto. In practice, though, it is not certain the majority would hold after an actual veto.

Meanwhile, the American Jewish community plans to continue campaigning for the guarantees, focusing now on the January date. There remains a lot of enthusiasm for the loan guarantees in the Jewish community, said Jason Isaacson, the American Jewish Committee's director of governmental and international affairs.

But Jewish leaders are also trying to heal the rift between Israel and the United States. In particular, they have tried to cool down the rhetoric between Washington and Jerusalem.

Bush began to tone down his remarks last week and even had his press secretary, Marlin Fitzwater, say that the president would support loan guarantees, although not necessarily for the full \$10 billion. And a group of American Jewish leaders met in New York last Friday with Zalman Shoval, Israel's ambassador to Washington, and urged the Israeli government to do its part to soften the tension.

But Malcolm Hoenlein, executive director of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, denied Israeli press reports that the meeting was a shouting match or that there were demands from the Jewish leaders that Israel freeze its building of settlements in the West Bank.

Kenneth Jacobson, director of international affairs for the Anti-Defamation League, also denied that such demands were made at the meeting. He described it as more of an exchange of questions.

While a number of American Jewish organizations oppose Prime Minister's Yitzhak

Shamir's settlement policy, most believe the issue should be kept separate from the loan guarantees proposal.

David Saperstein, director of the Reform movement's Religious Action Center in Washington, pointed out that the United States has never linked humanitarian aid to political issues. He said the settlement issue should be decided during the proposed peace conference.

Jess Hordes, ADL's Washington director, said that for the next few months, any congressional discussion of the loans will focus on such issues as assurances that they will not be used in the territories and perhaps even the need to insist on certain economic reforms in Israel.

Many expect the settlement issue could be settled by the negotiations at the proposed peace conference. Secretary of State James Baker has long argued that the first step in the peace process should be an Israeli freeze on settlements in return for an end to the Arab League boycott against Israel.

But many in Congress have argued that the president's call for a delay in approval of the loan guarantees could sabotage the conference before it begins. They note that the Palestinians and the Arab countries did not raise the settlement issue as an obstacle to their participation, although now they are doing so.

Some believe that concern about Israel's rapid expansion of settlements may have been one of the reasons that motivated the Palestinians and the Arab states to go to the conference.

## Polish-Israeli double agent story told

TEL AVIV (JTA)—The Israeli High Court of Justice has unveiled a spy story about a double agent with a double name that was a closely guarded security secret for more than 30 years. The Israeli daily *Ma'ariv* earlier this month revealed for the first time details of a closed trial in 1959 at which a "mole" planted by Polish intelligence in 1950 was convicted.

The spy, a Polish Jew named Levy Levy, worked from 1950 to 1957 for Warsaw and for the Shin Bet, Israel's internal security service. The High Court permitted the revelation when it accepted an appeal by the newspaper to publish the story.

According to details now released, Levy worked for the Polish intelligence services monitoring Jewish and Zionist organizations, particularly underground routes to Palestine before Israel gained independence. He immigrated to Israel in 1948, served in the Israel Defense Force and was recruited by Shin Bet in 1950.

Although the secret service knew of his Polish intelligence activities, they decided to "turn" him as a double agent. He was caught with the help of two other Polish Jews who had immigrated to Israel after serving in Polish intelligence.

The court found that Levy did not spy for Poland for ideological reasons but was recruited as an informer, possibly by blackmail. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison in 1959 and served his full time. His present whereabouts have not been revealed.

## Zionism resolution

Continued from 1

ciation for the president's speech. The president's firm words were very encouraging. We hope that other states will raise their voices too against this shameful resolution."

Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy, in New York for the start of the General Assembly session, said Bush's call for a repeal of the resolution was "only natural. It expresses well the common values which Israel and the United States share with other enlightened nations." Levy called for other nations to join the United States in efforts to bring about a repeal.

American Jewish organizations also responded with enthusiasm to Bush's speech. In New York, the American Jewish Committee welcomed Bush's "ringing denunciation" of a resolution it said has "helped spread the virus of anti-Semitism."

What remains to be seen, however, is whether the president's words will provide an impetus for the steps that must be taken to rescind the

resolution. The Bush administration has been urging the resolution's repeal since 1989, but the president did not suggest a timetable in his General Assembly speech.

The Israelis have indicated in the past that they will not go forward on this without assurances that they have a comfortable majority of votes.

Dr. Harris Schoenberg, director of U.N. affairs for B'nai B'rith International, said he believes that support is forthcoming, now that most, if not all, of the Eastern European countries are behind Israel. In addition, a highly-placed Soviet official has offered assurances of Soviet support, he said. Schoenberg suggested that the time is right for the United States, together with other like-minded democratic nations, to go beyond words of support by introducing a resolution.

B'nai B'rith International President Kent Schiner expressed hope that "the renewed initiative spearheaded" by Bush would lead to

movement toward removal of what he and Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, both characterized as an "ugly stain" on the reputation and influence of the United Nations.

In praising Bush's remarks, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations expressed the unlikely hope that the president's appeal would gain the support of the Arab states at the United Nations "and send a dramatic message that Israel's former enemies may at last be prepared to recognize Israel's rightful place among the nations of the Middle East."

Officials in Jerusalem said Bush's speech had plainly been designed, in part at least, to ease tensions between the United States and Israel, and between the administration and Israel's supporters in America. Nevertheless, the crisis atmosphere between Jerusalem and Washington surrounding Israel's request for loan guarantees to help absorb Soviet immi-

grants shows few signs of abating — this despite the Israeli government's tacit acquiescence in Bush's determination to postpone the issue for four months.

Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, a former U.N. envoy, said Tuesday that praise for Bush's remarks "should be kept in proportion," in that every U.S. president since 1975 has spoken out against the Zionism resolution. "Our argument with the U.S. administration is not over our right to a state, which is the essence of Zionism, but over the width and dimensions of that state," Netanyahu said.

American administration officials have characterized Bush's appeal as an attempt to smooth the way for a Middle East peace conference next month.

In a further sign of support for Israel, Bush made no mention of Palestinian rights in his text. A Libyan delegate admonished the president for his failure to call attention to the plight of the Palestinians.

## Baker, Shamir

Continued from 1

contain explicit language to the effect that Washington regards East Jerusalem as occupied territory and considers the principle of withdrawal, as stated in U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, to apply on all fronts.

After the September 17 meeting, Hussein flew immediately to London, where, he said,

## Saudi

Continued from 1

ing resolutions of the General Assembly until they come to the floor."

Shihabi answered a question about the proposed Middle East peace conference in a similar fashion, saying it would be premature for him to comment until the matter was taken up by the General Assembly. However, Shihabi expressed his hope that "steps to find a peaceful solution will continue."

Dr. Harris Schoenberg, director of U.N. affairs for B'nai B'rith International, said Saudi Arabia's move from behind the scenes, where it normally operates, to the limelight constitutes a "remarkable change."

At the news conference, Shihabi acknowledged his country's history of keeping a low profile until now, but said Saudi Arabia "has the right and the obligation to play its full role in seeking positions of the United Nations."

Shihabi, born in Jerusalem, has served as Saudi Arabia's U.N. envoy since 1983.

he would communicate the letter's contents to "Palestinian decision-makers," meaning apparently the PLO.

The proposed U.S. letter of assurances may be introduced for approval. If that occurs, the "heat" will be on Israel to reach agreement with Baker on its U.S. letter of assurance.

It was plain from Shamir's and Baker's brief appearance before reporters and camera crews at the conclusion of their meetings that their governments have not resolved the highly emotional issue of the loan guarantees.

At a September 12 White House news conference, Bush, pounding his fist on the lectern, angrily repeated his request that Congress delay action on the Israeli request for 120 days, until January. He vowed to veto any loan guarantees bill passed before then. To accede to Israel's demand for swift action could jeopardize the delicate peace process, the president insisted.

His anger was obviously aimed at some 1,000 pro-Israel activists from all over the country who converged on Washington that day to lobby Congress to act on Israel's request in defiance of the president's wishes.

On September 15, Israeli Cabinet members reacted angrily to the president's stand. One of them, Rehavam Ze'evi of the extremist Moleket party, even called Bush a "liar" and an "anti-Semite." His statement was quickly repudiated by Defense Minister Arens and denounced in strong terms by Shoshana Cardin,

chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

But it is clear that the confrontation is one of the most serious ever between Israel and its most powerful ally. According to some observers, it stems in no small measure from the Bush administration's antipathy toward Shamir.

The Israelis now are painfully aware that the president will not budge from his position, and there is insufficient support in Congress to force his hand. Jerusalem therefore will have to reconcile itself to a 120-day delay in action but may receive assurances that when the waiting period is up, the administration will back the loan guarantees. At present, it is not formally committed to do so.

Baker, who seemed to have distanced himself from the president's confrontational tactics, said here that he presented Israel with certain proposals for its consideration and heard certain proposals from the Israelis.

Subsequent leaks suggested that the U.S. proposals were essentially the six points set down by Bush last week in meetings with key congressional leaders. They include administration promises to provide a legislative vehicle for the loan guarantees, to seek no further delay beyond January, to support Israel's immigrant absorption effort generally, to help reconcile the U.S. cost of the loans with federal budget reduction constraints and to offset any financial losses Israel might incur as a result of

the 120-day delay.

But the proposal apparently includes no specific administration commitment to provide guarantees for \$10 billion in loans, which Israel would seek from commercial banks.

Meanwhile, the loan guarantee battle and last week's diplomatic developments have raised thunder on the Israeli right. Geula Cohen of the Tehiya party urged Shamir to desist from all further involvement in the peace process lest he bring a Yom Kippur diplomatic disaster down on Israel equivalent to the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

Another Tehiya hard-liner, Elyakim Haetzni, said Hussein's trip to London to report to the PLO showed that Israel's protestations that it will not negotiate with the PLO have little value. He said all other Israeli positions would similarly crumble, and he demanded a cessation of talks with the United States before the Israeli policy-makers make further concessions unacceptable to his party.

One bright note was the announcement September 17 by the new Soviet foreign minister, Boris Pankin, that he will definitely visit the Middle East, including Israel, when the conference modalities are finally worked out. His remarks appeared to confirm indications that Moscow is prepared to resume full diplomatic relations with Israel before the conference opens.



# Jews mark yahrzeit of Babi Yar massacre

NEW YORK (JTA) — At the end of September Jews from around the world will come to the Ukrainian city of Kiev to mark the 50th anniversary of one of the darkest tragedies of the Holocaust: the massacre of tens of thousands of Jews at Babi Yar. On the Jewish calendar, the yahrzeit of that slaughter was Erev Yom Kippur,

which this year fell on September 17.

And so, a small delegation of Jewish leaders, led by Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel, gathered at the site to memorialize those who died there.

Peering into a ravine leached with human blood, they recited the Kad-

dish and the El Moleh Rachamim, the lamentation for the dead, remembering the 33,771 Jews murdered in one day by the Nazis and their Ukrainian collaborators. On that day in 1941, the Jews, stripped naked, were shot in lines, shoved into the pit, bodies layered over bodies, some still alive as the crush buried them.

The tragedy was also marked September 15 at a ceremony at New York's Park East Synagogue.

During their visit to Babi Yar, Wiesel and World Jewish Congress President Edgar Bronfman met two Jewish women from Kiev who had survived the killings, and a gentile woman who had rescued one of them by hiding her. One of the survivors had crawled out from under the bodies. The other had been told to run away by a German soldier, who warned

her of what was about to happen, Elan Steinberg, WJC executive director, related in a telephone call from London.

Joining Wiesel, Bronfman and Steinberg at Babi Yar were WJC Secretary-General Israel Singer and Vice President Kalman Sultanik; Michael Chlenov, co-president of the Vaad, the federation of Jewish institutions in the Soviet Union; and Ukrainian Chief Rabbi Ya'akov Bleich.

A menorah is being built at the site, to be unveiled at the end of this month, when a weeklong series of events will take place to commemorate the killings.

A monument that stands away from the actual site of the massacre now recalls only that more than 100,000 "citizens of Kiev and pris-

oners of war" were killed in that place, over a period from 1941 to 1943. Inscribed in Russian, Ukrainian and Yiddish, that memorial was erected in 1974, in response to the outcry raised around the world about the Soviet government's failure to mark the Babi Yar tragedy.

On September 29, a new plaque will be set, which will state clearly that the principal victims of Babi Yar were Jews. Ukrainian flags will be flown at half-mast, on what has been officially designated a day of remembrance.

That is one of a series of observances being planned by the Ukrainian government, whose own search for its nationalist roots and sovereignty from the Soviet Union have led it to a feeling of kinship with the Jewish people.

## Rev. Sharpton pays quick unpleasant visit to Israel

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Rev. Al Sharpton, the radical black activist from New York, paid a four-hour visit to Israel on the eve of Yom Kippur but failed in his attempt to serve court papers on a Lubavitcher Hasid.

Sharpton, representing the family of a black child accidentally killed last month in New York by the Lubavitcher's car, ended his whirlwind trip September 17 by scrambling to leave Israel before its airport shut down for the Day of Atonement. He landed at Ben-Gurion Airport in the morning and was back at the airport for the noon flight to Frankfurt.

Sharpton was unable to locate the driver, Yosef Lifsh, whose car struck and killed 7-year-old Gavin Cato in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn on August 19. The incident triggered racial violence in the ethnically diverse neighborhood, which culminated in the fatal stabbing of Yankel Rosenbaum, a 29-year-old Hasidic student from Australia.

Immediately after a grand jury found no basis for charging Lifsh in the child's death, the 22-year-old Hasid left the United States, reported by some to have gone to Israel. But Israeli officials denied he was in the country. Some American news re-

ports speculated he may have gone to Canada.

Sharpton, accompanied by attorney and fellow activist Alton Maddox, said he intended to serve Lifsh with a summons from the Brooklyn Supreme Court ordering him to appear last Friday for pretrial depositions in a \$100 million civil lawsuit brought by the Cato family. Unable to find Lifsh, Sharpton presented the summons to U.S. Embassy officials here. He said the officials advised him of the avenues open to prosecute Lifsh under the U.S.-Israeli extradition treaty. They told him, however, that the treaty does not provide extradition for civil proceedings.

During his short stay, Sharpton appeared to insult both Jews and Israel, which he had seemed to describe as hell after some jeering on-lookers told him to "go to hell."

"I already am in hell," he said. He clarified that, however, by saying he had meant the airport, not Israel.

However, when told it was soon to be Yom Kippur, he asked, "This is the Day of Atonement?" and suggested Israel should begin with atoning for the killing of the Brooklyn child, as well as its relations with South Africa. But he said he and Maddox did not intend to desecrate the Jewish holy day.

## Christian cartoon draws fire from Jewish community

By TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — A widely advertised series of videotapes, "Animated Stories From The New Testament," has drawn fire from two Jewish organizations, which charge that the videos abound in grotesque and sinister Jewish stereotypes reminiscent of Nazi caricatures.

The videos were produced by the Family Entertainment Network in Dallas.

Both the Simon Wiesenthal Center and the Anti-Defamation League have protested that the skillfully animated videos, aimed at Christian children, carry the potential of implanting anti-Semitism in young viewers.

Stephen Griffith, chief executive

of the Family Entertainment Network, has agreed to discuss the matter with Jewish leaders. In a statement, Griffith said: "We are saddened that offense was taken ... in regard to our classically animated stories based on the King James version of the Bible. We are in no way an anti-Semitic organization nor would we wish to propagate materials which may serve an anti-Semitic position."

The strongest objection to the videos revolves around the drawings of the characters. Jews who rejected Jesus have long, hooked noses, whining voices and sinister leers, and are portrayed as cunning money lenders, bribe-givers and inhumane doctors and rabbis. For anyone missing the point, these Jews are almost invariably shown wearing prayer shawls and skullcaps.

By contrast, the Jews who accept Christianity have fair, all-American features, Gentile noses, soft voices — and no prayer shawls or skullcaps.

"The message seems to be that God grants nose jobs to Jews who become Christians," observed television critic Howard Rosenberg in the *Los Angeles Times*.

Leaders of both the ADL and the Wiesenthal Center said the animated portrayals are reminiscent of the vicious anti-Semitic caricatures favored by Nazi leader Julius Streicher in his newspaper, *Der Stuermer*.

In addition to the physical distortions of the Jewish cartoon characters, parts of the videos are historically inaccurate, show considerable ignorance of biblical Judaism, and go even beyond the negative portrayals of Jews in the New Testament, according to an ADL analysis by its director of interfaith affairs, Rabbi Leon Klenicki.

The videos are sold in shopping malls and have been heavily promoted on television and cable stations across the country through 30-minute commercials. These commercials carry long excerpts from the videos and enthusiastic endorsements from 14 Christian religious and lay leaders serving on the producer's "executive advisory board."

The set of 12 videotapes, of which seven have been completed, come with a "fully orchestrated musical score to further inspire and lift you to new heights," according to the promotional literature. Also part of the package is an activity book of sug-

gested games and discussions and a coloring book which encourages youngsters to draw the good and bad characters seen in the videos.

ADL, alerted to the videos two months ago by members who saw the television commercial, decided to work quietly with executives at the Family Entertainment Network. "We sensed a readiness on their part to deal in good faith with the issues we raised," said Charney Bromberg, ADL's director of intergroup relations.

The Wiesenthal Center, which also reviewed the first seven videos, took a more public route and, to the chagrin of the videos' producers, alerted the *Los Angeles Times*.

In an interview with the *Los Angeles Times*, Griffin said he was "shocked" by the Jewish criticism and that no slight was intended. "In every story, like in any Disney animation, there are good guys and bad guys," Griffin said. "We didn't mean anything slanderous to our Jewish friends."

Screening of the commercial in its present form has been discontinued by television stations in Los Angeles and Minneapolis, said Rabbis Marvin Hier and Abraham Cooper of the Wiesenthal Center.

Earlier this month, ADL officials in New York and officials of the Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles were sent copies of a modified version of the commercial. The new version does not include the offensive caricatures contained in the original commercial. Other offensive portions of the first version have been excised as well. But the Family Entertainment Network, while agreeing to further meetings, has not committed itself to altering the videos themselves. In a letter to Bromberg, Griffin said only that the network "would review and, if and when possible, revise our material."

Nevertheless, Bromberg, in a telephone interview, said he is convinced that Griffin is acting in good faith. "Their intentions were not anti-Semitic, although the effect is deeply troubling. We believe they are sincere in not wanting to do harm and in wanting to rectify the problem," Bromberg said.

"If they are unwilling or unable to make changes," he added, "we will address it at that time and say so publicly."

## NJF celebrates 90th year

By DAVID LANDAU

JERUSALEM (JTA) — On September 5, Jewish National Fund leaders from Israel and abroad assembled at the presidential residence in Jerusalem for a ceremony launching a months-long celebration of the organization's 90th anniversary.

The date marks another, related anniversary: the 50th yahrzeit of Menachem Ussishkin, the Russian Zionist leader who headed the JNF for 20 years, through its most creative and fateful period of land-purchasing and on-the-ground support for Jewish agriculture in pre-state Palestine.

The 90th-year celebrations come at a time of unprecedented expansion.

In the early years of the state, JNF had to furnish employment in forestry and land reclamation for tens of thousands of new immigrants. Today, to help meet the need for employment among the current wave of new immigrants, JNF is once more hiring olim wherever vacancies arise.

But the thrust of JNF's contribution to the absorption effort is in preparing the infrastructure for huge new housing projects at sites all around the country. "We shall have prepared the grounds for literally tens of thousands of homes this year alone," said Rivlin, long-time JNF chairman. "We are working on a scale which we ourselves have never experienced before."

Rivlin stressed that the basic phi-

losophy of JNF, instilled into it 90 years ago, is now being vindicated. "The idea that the land belongs to the Jewish people has enabled us to address the challenge of absorption," he said.

It has meant, for instance, that the Israel Lands Authority, in which the government and the JNF work jointly on land policy, could resolve to waive ground-rent for immigrant housing projects, in order ultimately to reduce the prices of homes made available to the olim. And the fact that the organization representing the ideal of national land ownership is actually carrying out the earthwork at the new building sites has affected olim and veterans alike, as well as JNF activists overseas, according to Rivlin.

"We feel that young Jews in many countries have a direct and tangible appreciation of what we're doing," he said.

For its 90th birthday, Rivlin announced, JNF has "given itself a birthday present" — a countrywide master plan for forest areas, which is expected to be enacted into law in the months ahead. This plan will demarcate those areas of the country to be designated and protected as the nation's "lungs," Rivlin said.

"The really gratifying thing," he said, "is the way that mayors and local authority leaders actually ask us to come into their communities, earmark areas and plant forests and recreational parks — even though they know from the outset that the

upkeep of these areas will eventually fall on their shoulders. There is a real demand for these areas; people are aware of what forests can provide for their quality of life."

In something of a backhanded victory over the intifada arsonists, JNF has noted a marked rise in this awareness since thousands of trees suffered wanton destruction in 1988-9 at the hands of nationalistically motivated vandals. Cooperative fire-prevention and fire-fighting programs involving JNF, the Israel Defense Force and local authorities have substantially reduced the arson assault.

Israel has more than a quarter of a million acres of forest land, two-thirds planted by the JNF over the years, the remaining third natural growth. Over half of the forested land is in the arid Negev, an achievement that is studied by forestry agencies in other countries.

"Forests have become not just part of the scenery, but part of the culture of the country," Rivlin observed. For most Israelis today, the forests spread over the land are places for picnics and holidays. Many people choose a shaded glade in the countryside to hold family get-togethers, and even weddings and Bar Mitzvah celebrations.

"Why not?" asks Rivlin, "as long as they clean up afterwards. What we want is to serve the public's need for outdoor relaxation."

## Israel, SLA free prisoners, hope to spur hostage release

TEL AVIV (JTA) — In a gesture that could facilitate the release of Western hostages from Lebanon, the Israeli-allied South Lebanon Army on September 11 freed 51 Hezbollah prisoners it had been holding in El Khiam detention camp. Simultaneously, Israel handed over to Lebanon the bodies of nine Hezbollah militiamen who died in captivity in Israel and were buried there.

The gestures earned immediate praise from the White House. In Washington, presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said, "We think this is a positive step." The United States is hopeful, he added, that Wednesday's release will "have ramifications that are helpful to the hostage situation."

The State Department said it had

no information on any other pending release. But Shi'ite sources in Lebanon were quoted as saying that more hostages could be released soon. Last month, the Islamic Jihad group freed hostages John McCarthy of Britain and Edward Tracy of the United States.

Hezbollah, a pro-Iranian Shi'ite Moslem fundamentalist group, has been waging guerrilla warfare on Israeli and SLA troops in southern Lebanon. It is believed to hold Westerners hostage or to have influence with groups that hold them.

Israel handed over the bodies at the Rosh Hanikra border-crossing point on the Lebanese coast.

Uri Lubrani, coordinator of Israeli affairs in Lebanon, said Israel's goodwill gesture followed receipt of infor-

mation September 10 from U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who is in Teheran. The U.N. chief has been talking with Hezbollah and other organizations about the fate of seven Israel Defense Force personnel long held in Lebanon, by either hostile Lebanese or Palestinian groups.

Israel wants them back, dead or alive, and Lubrani has been conducting negotiations, so far without much success. Israel insists on accurate information about the condition and whereabouts of its men before it will consider the release of Arab prisoners in exchange for Western hostages.

Lubrani praised the activities of Perez de Cuellar. But he apparently has not been able to obtain concrete

details about the captive IDF soldiers.

The secretary-general was quoted here as saying, "We are at the beginning of a process of releases and exchanges, but nothing is certain yet."

Lubrani told a news conference here that there is "credible evidence" that IDF soldier Rachamim Alsheikh is no longer alive, and his family has been so informed. But Lubrani said the evidence is much less certain with respect to Yosef Fink, kidnapped in Lebanon along with Alsheikh in 1986. He said further investigation would be required.

Meanwhile, officials here are playing down reports that emerged last month from Amal, the mainstream Shi'ite militia in Lebanon, that it shot down and captured Israel air force navigator Ron Arad and later "sold" him for a half-million dollars to a terrorist group in Teheran where, presumably, he is being held.

The officials underscore that many of the contradictory reports published by various groups recently have been part of a propaganda and disinformation campaign aimed at confusing Israeli negotiators.

## Study: U.S. pursuing peace while Arabs are re-arming

TEL AVIV (JTA) — While the United States seeks to launch a Middle East peace conference, a new arms race has already begun in the region, the head of a prestigious Israeli think tank has warned.

Perhaps the most worrisome aspect of the arms race is Saddam Hussein's renewed effort to acquire nuclear weapons.

Ironically, the arms race is being fueled by aid the United States has provided to the Persian Gulf states and to Egypt in the aftermath of the war against Iraq, according to reserve Maj. Gen. Aharon Yariv, director of the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University.

Also contributing to the arms buildup are recent military sales to the Arab states from other Western countries, as well as North Korea, Argentina and Brazil.

Yariv, a former Israeli chief of military intelligence, spoke at a news conference earlier this month introducing the center's latest in-depth study of the Gulf war, titled, "War in the Gulf: Implications for Israel." A compendium of 18 articles by Jaffee Center specialists, it is published in Hebrew with an English translation due to be released in November.

Yariv said that large quantities of weapons, aircraft and tanks are involved in the new arms race. He mentioned one provider, Czechoslovakia, whose president, Vaclav Havel, promised when he visited Israel "not to sell tanks to Syria, but he did sell tanks to Syria because he needed dollars," Yariv said.

"Therefore, I say that the arms race has already started and, certainly, we are not sitting idle either," he stressed.

But Yariv said he wanted to "turn the spotlight on the arms race and on the potential re-strengthening of Iraq. Why? Because that is where the man who started and survived the war is located, and we must admit it." According to Yariv, Hussein will not rest until he has nuclear weapons. The reserve general disclosed that two years ago, he was asked to study an intelligence document on the developmental and productive efforts of the Iraqis with respect to nuclear weapons.

"I was really shocked by the scope, by the abundance of subjects and their variety and also by the progress. My feeling was that it was exaggerated, but Saddam Hussein proved that it was not inflated," he said.

Yariv believes that Hussein "sub-

ordinates his entire intelligence establishment to the acquisition of technology" and has proved "that every country in the world can get anything it wants for money, and we must take this into account."

Maj. Gen. Shlomo Gazit, one of Yariv's successors as chief of military intelligence, warned that Iraq could get away with violating terms of the cease-fire agreement.

He said he doubted the world would have "the strength, the will or readiness to apply pressure on Baghdad, because the only way to impose such resolution would be to renew the war."

Yariv said that although Iraq is neutralized for the next two or three years, Hussein, if he is still in power, will return Iraq to the level it was at on the eve of the Gulf war."

Iran is also trying hard to obtain nuclear capability, Yariv said. There are no moderates in power in Teheran, "just pragmatists," he said. "In the long-term, the dangers are great and, if this is what was meant by the Israel Defense Force and the defense establishment in their request for a budgetary increase, then in my opinion they were justified," he declared.

The Jaffee Center study examined the implications of the Gulf war from the political, military, economic and social perspectives. The deputy head of the center, Joseph Alpher, reviewed the implications of the war with another researcher, Dr. Shai Feldman. They believe that the war has already produced far-reaching changes in Israel's Middle East policy.

## Morocco expels Jewish Marxist

PARIS (JTA) — A 65-year-old Moroccan Jew, said to be one of the world's longest-held political prisoners, was expelled from Morocco after 17 years in prison there. Abraham Serfaty, who arrived here September 13, was described as a Marxist-Leninist militant opposed to the rule of King Hassan. He was arrested in 1974 for "plotting against the regime" and in 1977 was sentenced to life imprisonment.

He could not explain his release but told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency he thought "the Moroccan authorities are trying to isolate me as

The Likud government's approach to Jordan changed from "Jordan-is-Palestine" sloganeering to support for King Hussein's Hashemite regime, which served the role of a neutral buffer against Iraq during the war, Alpher observed. After the war, Likud became the main champion of the king and urged the U.S. administration to integrate him into the peace process.

Alpher believes there also has been a strategic change in Syrian thinking, less a result of the Gulf war than of global change, particularly the fragmentation of the Soviet Union and the corresponding rise of U.S. power and influence. It is not clear what type of negotiations the Syrians plan to conduct, or whether they really desire direct negotiations with Israel, Alpher said. But clearly, they have changed their rejectionist stand on peace, though how genuine their peace proposals are remains to be seen.

Alpher also detected some change in the Saudi position, expressed in their willingness to end the economic boycott of Israel.

With respect to the Palestinians and the Palestine Liberation Organization, Alpher believes that regardless of their loss of credibility by supporting Saddam Hussein, there is a high probability that the PLO will be brought into the peace process and even be in a position to thwart it. "I think that the possibility of delay in the opening of the (peace) conference (in October) is quite possible, given the changes and problems in negotiations with the Palestinians," Alpher wrote.

## Body of Israeli soldier returned from Lebanon



TEL AVIV (JTA) — The remains of an Israel Defense Force soldier captured in the Lebanon war nine years ago were returned to Israel and given a military funeral Friday at his home village of Beit Jann in Upper Galilee. Samir Assad, a Druse, was kidnapped near Sidon in southern Lebanon in 1983 by members of Nayef Hawatmeh's Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. His remains were flown to Tel Aviv by way of Vienna September 12 under the auspices of the International Red Cross.

They were exchanged for Israel's agreement to permit a living member of the same outlawed terrorist group to return to his West Bank village, from where he was deported to Jordan for terrorist activities five years ago.

Exactly how and when Assad died is a mystery. Pathologists who examined the remains and definitively identified the soldier ruled out claims by his captors that he was killed by an Israeli air force raid on the base where he was being held. His remains showed no evidence of blast damage, the doctors reported.

Israel's foreign minister, David Levy, attended the funeral representing the government. He encountered bitterness from the soldier's younger brother, Nadir, who demanded to know, "Where were you when Samir was still alive?" The reference was to a 1984 offer of a prisoner swap by the terrorist organization holding him, which Israel rejected.

"We worked day and night and tried all possible means to arrive at the holy end: to bring our sons back home," Levy said.

## Militant group banned from laying cornerstone on Temple Mount

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Jerusalem police have intervened to prevent a provocative act by the Temple Mount Faithful, a group of religious fanatics who want to take possession of the Temple Mount in the Old City of Jerusalem. The police said the group would be barred from airlifting a five-ton "cornerstone" for the "Third Temple" to the Temple Mount.

Gershon Salomon, the group's leader, was quoted last week by the *Jerusalem Post* as saying that an unnamed American Jew had contributed the money to hire a giant sky-crane helicopter for the task.

Police are also preventing the group

from entering the huge, elevated compound where the Temples of Solomon and Herod are believed to have stood. It is now the location of AlAksa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, two of the holiest shrines of Islam.

The group had planned a series of demonstrations in and around the Old City during the Sukkot holiday, which began at sundown last Sunday. Police restricted the group's activities to the area in front of the Mughrabi Gate, a principal entrance to the Temple Mount, and to the Pool of Shiloah, in the nearby Kidron Valley.

# Dear Rachel

We — my husband and I — have a Jewish problem that just won't go away. We have been members of a small *havurah* for a few years, and it is getting more and more uncomfortable for us. The group is very P.C. (politically correct, that is) on all issues, definitely anti-ritual. We do holidays together and our kids are friendly with everyone else's.

More often than I care to think about, anti-ritual comes out sounding anti-Semitic. My Jewish credentials aren't great, but I think I know one when I hear one. We have put in our protests, but it doesn't make much difference. We are thinking of quitting the group.

The problem is that this is our only real Jewish connection, besides our oldest son's Sunday school. My own Jewish education never had anything to do with my real life. My husband's education is adult courses, since he wasn't raised Jewish. We don't feel that we fit in in any of the usual places, but we want our kids to have a more comfortable connection to their Jewishness than I did.

What do you suggest?

"Dis" Connected

Dear "Dis" Connected:

The socially correct way to handle your dilemma is to work slowly. Don't phase out your *havurah* until you have something better phased in.

The synagogue that houses your son's Sunday school: have you considered joining it? Not everything will be to your liking of course, but you are likely to find one or two families whose company you enjoy. Eventually they might form the nucleus of a new *havurah* that can help you and your kids connect your real life to your Jewish life. Ditto if you have a local JCC. But as you know, Jewish connections don't just happen; you will have to take an active role. As the gurus of political correctness have taught us, if you aren't part of the solution, you're part of the problem. Persist!

Rachel

Send letters to "Rachel, c/o The Jewish Voice, 101 Garden of Eden Rd., Wilmington, DE. 19803." Names and details will be altered to protect your privacy.

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

October 1991

- 1 9:45 a.m. *Simchat Torah*  
Beth Emeth Sisterhood Board Meeting  
JFS Executive Board Meeting  
JFS Board Meeting  
8:00 p.m. JCC Sampler Week
- 1-4 6:00 p.m. JCC YJAD (Singles) Volleyball  
7:30 p.m. Beth El Board Meeting
- 3 7:30 p.m. Beth Emeth Book Discussion  
7:30 p.m. JFD YLC Opening Event  
7:30 p.m. ORT Paid Up Membership  
Beth Shalom Kraft Education Weekend
- 4-6 9:30 a.m. Beth El Sisterhood New Membership Brunch  
11:00 a.m. JCC Fall Session starts  
2:00 p.m. JCC Children's Theatre  
3:00 p.m. Hadassah/Wilmington Cancer Research Bigger Gifts Event
- 7 7:30 p.m. JCC Board Meeting  
Jewish Historical Society Meeting
- 8 10:00 a.m. Beth Shalom Sisterhood Board Meeting  
12:00 p.m. Beth Emeth Sisterhood General Meeting  
7:15 p.m. JCC YJAD (Singles) Chavurah  
7:30 p.m. AKSE Board Meeting  
7:30 p.m. Beth Emeth Board Meeting  
7:30 p.m. Beth Shalom Board Meeting  
7:30 p.m. Beth Shalom Board Meeting
- 9 6:00 p.m. JCC YJAD (Singles) Volleyball  
7:30 p.m. AEA Open House  
7:30 p.m. B'nai B'rith Women General Meeting  
8:00 p.m. Community Adult Education Series
- 10 7:30 p.m. AKSE Sisterhood Board Meeting  
Beth Emeth Book Discussion  
Beth El Sisterhood General Meeting
- 12 7:30 p.m. Beth El Sisterhood Beef & Beer
- 13 9:30 a.m. Beth Emeth Sisterhood Program  
10:30 p.m. Hadassah/Newark Chapter Membership Brunch  
JCC Senior Center Hilton Head Trip
- 14 7:30 p.m. Hadassah/Wilmington Chapter Paid Up Membership  
Beth Shalom President's Circle Reception  
Beth Shalom Sisterhood Paid Up Dinner & Bazaar
- 15 6:30 p.m. AKSE Regular Board Meeting  
7:30 p.m. NCJW Public Affairs Luncheon Fundraiser: Domestic Violence  
6:00 p.m. JCC YJAD (Singles) Volleyball  
7:30 p.m. AEA Board Meeting  
8:00 p.m. Community Adult Education Series
- 17 7:30 p.m. Beth Emeth Sisterhood Book Discussion
- 20 9:30 a.m. Beth El Men's Club Breakfast  
JCC YJAD (Singles) Trip to Inner Harbor  
Kutz Home Executive Committee Meeting  
JCC Executive Committee Meeting
- 22 7:30 p.m. Beth Emeth Executive Committee Meeting
- 23 6:00 p.m. JCC YJAD (Singles) Volleyball  
7:30 p.m. Beth Emeth Executive Committee Meeting  
7:30 p.m. Beth Shalom PTA  
8:00 p.m. Adult Education Series
- 24 7:30 p.m. Beth Emeth Book Discussion
- 25 8:00 p.m. Beth Shalom Conservative Judaism Shabbat  
BBYO "IT" Convention at Beth El
- 25-27 7:00 p.m. JCC Adult Social
- 27 1:00 p.m. Hadassah/Wilmington Chapter Shop til You Drop Fundraiser  
7:30 p.m. Beth Shalom Musical Program
- 28 7:30 p.m. Hadassah/Wilmington Chapter Board Meeting
- 29 7:00 p.m. Beth Shalom New Member Event  
7:30 p.m. ORT General Meeting
- 30 6:00 p.m. JCC YJAD (Singles) Volleyball  
7:30 p.m. Beth El Sisterhood Board Meeting  
8:00 p.m. Community Adult Education Series
- 31-2 NFTS Biennial, Baltimore MD

The Community Calendar for the Jewish community of Delaware is coordinated and maintained by the Jewish Federation of Delaware. While all information was accurate at time of publication, to confirm and for more information, contact the organization directly. Printing space for this Community Calendar provided by:



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# Lubavitch group demands books from Lenin Library

By SUSAN BIRNBAUM

NEW YORK (JTA) — As recently as the week of Rosh Hashanah, the Lubavitch community thought the return of the 12,000-volume Lubavitch library, confiscated by the Communists in 1916 and now housed in Moscow's Lenin Library, was imminent. But the collection remains in Lenin Library and, to make matters worse, recent occurrences have led Chabad to believe the books are slowly being pilfered, according to spokesman Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky.

The collection was believed to be intact as recently as December, when Russian President Boris Yeltsin agreed that the entire collection legally belongs to Chabad and should

be returned to it.

On September 6, some 30 representatives of Agudas Chassidei Chabad, the umbrella group representing Lubavitch organizations throughout the world, went to the Lenin Library to retrieve the books. Krinsky said reform-minded Alexander Yakovlev had met with the Lubavitchers and introduced them to the chief librarian. The Lubavitchers were led to believe the books were forthcoming at any moment, said Krinsky, who spoke with the group's leader, Rabbi Yosef Aronov, director of the Lubavitch Youth Organization in Israel.

The group, hailing from the Soviet Union, the United States and Israel,

had planned to bring the books back to Brooklyn in time for the Jewish New Year.

But it was not to be.

"As the hours went on with no answer," they told the librarian they

Saturday in scores of years.

In an empty library, the Lubavitchers, prohibited by Jewish law from travelling after sundown, made their Sabbath.

The group had planned to bring

dustrialized nations in July. The library was on the agenda at the follow-up summit meeting with Bush in Moscow, said Krinsky.

He provided an official statement of December 1990 by Injurcollegia, the association of Soviet lawyers, stating that the books are the legal property of Agudas Chassidei Chabad.

The library was begun by the founder of the Lubavitch movement, Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liadi, known as "the alter rebbe."

The collection, which spans the years 1814 to 1916, was discovered intact in the Lenin Library a few years ago, said Krinsky.

Chabad has copies of correspondence from the previous rebbe, Yitzhak Yosef Schneerson, to the Russian authorities, who always responded that they were "looking into it," said Krinsky. "They were looking for about 60 years," he said.

This month, according to Krinsky, Lubavitch representatives in Moscow "found 20 books from that library in the office of a Mr. Boldin, a person who was involved in the coup, which confirms the worst of our thoughts: that the books are being slowly stolen," Krinsky said. Boldin has been identified as Valery Boldin, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's former chief of staff and one of the people who came to Gorbachev's home during the coup attempt to ask him to turn over power to Vice President Gennadi Yanayev. "Finding the 20 books corroborated our worst fears that Gubenko was adamant against returning the books because they were pilfering it," the rabbi said.



A group of American, Israeli and Soviet Jews pass time in the Lenin Library following their demand of the release of thousands of manuscripts they say were seized from their founder 70 years ago. (Photo:RNS)

## Klaus Barbie dead of cancer

NEW YORK (JTA) — Convicted war criminal Klaus Barbie, the Gestapo chief in Lyon during World War II, died Wednesday in the city where his relentless cruelties earned him the epithet "butcher of Lyon." Barbie, a remorseless torturer who seemed to take special pleasure deporting orphaned Jewish children to death camps, succumbed to cancer of the blood, spine and prostate gland, according to a late report from Paris.

He was 77 and was serving a life sentence for crimes against humanity in St. Paul Prison, where many of his victims were once confined and interrogated by the Gestapo. Barbie had been in prison in Lyon since 1983, when he was extradited from Bolivia. He lived and prospered in business there for 33 years under the alias Klaus Altmann, protected by

that country's right-wing dictatorship until it was overthrown.

Barbie not only evaded justice but avoided a death sentence pronounced on him in absentia in France shortly after the war. By the time he stood trial, the statute of limitations on war crimes had taken effect and the death penalty was abolished in France.

His trial began in Lyon on May 11, 1987 and lasted a year. Barbie was defiant and in fact refused to appear in court after the first day, his right under French law.

The testimony against him was damning, offered mainly by Holocaust survivors, among them Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Weisel.

Possibly his most brutal act was to order the arrest and deportation of 44 young Jewish children sheltered at a school in the village of Izieu, near Lyon, in April 1944.

had "to get back for Shabbos," Krinsky related. He said that as sundown approached and the librarian was about to release the books, Culture Minister Nikolai Gubenko abruptly telephoned with instructions that the books not be turned over.

Gubenko, who was dismissed after the coup of Aug. 19 and then reinstated, claimed the books had been nationalized and cannot be released, according to Krinsky. Gubenko also ordered the library closed, probably the first time it had been closed on a

the books to Lubavitch headquarters in Brooklyn, N.Y., in time for the Jewish new year. Instead, they spent Rosh Hashanah in Moscow's Pol-yakov Synagogue, as they wait to resume their pursuit of the Lubavitch library.

Krinsky said that the status of the collection was raised with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev by Presidents George Bush and Francois Mitterand, Premier Giulio Andreotti and Prime Minister Major, at the London meeting of the major in-

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