

The JEWISH VOICE

"You heard it in
The Jewish Voice"

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32 P

New Federation President Outlines Two-Year Strategy

By PAULA BERENGUT

(Editor's Note: The annual meeting of the Jewish Federation of Delaware was held on Thursday evening at the Brandywine Country Club. Following dinner, a presentation honoring all past presidents was made and the election of officers was held. The guest speaker was Stuart Eizenstat, . . . The Jewish Voice had already gone to press when the meeting was held and it will, therefore, be covered in the June 2 issue.)

With the election of officers, William Topkis assumed the presidency from Stephen E. Herrmann, who has served in that capacity for two years. Prior to the meeting, Topkis spoke and outlined his hopes and goals for the next two years.)

At the annual meeting of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, on Thursday evening, William Topkis was elected to a two-year term as its President. Other board members elected include Vice Presidents - Richard A. Levine, Steven Rothschild and Henry Topel; Secretary - Leslie Newman; Treasurer - Jerome Grossman; Assistant Secretary - Steven A. Dombchik; and Assistant Treasurer - Nancy Kauffman.

Board members for a three-year term include Martin Berger, Ellen Koniver, Robert Coonin, Jerome Grossman, Nancy Kauffman, Barry Kayne, Daniel

Kreshtool, David Levinson, David Margules, Steven Rothschild, David Singer and Toni Young. Steven Bernhardt has been elected to a two-year term and Stephen E. Herrmann, outgoing president, became a life member on the Board.

In explaining his personal interest in furthering the goals of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, Topkis, who was raised in Wilmington, describes himself as a "committed Jew, not a religious Jew." He has served on the Federation's board for two years and has also served on the board of Congregation Beth Shalom. His family has been an active part of the Wilmington Jewish community for several generations, and were founders of Congregation Beth Emeth. His grandfather, for whom he is named, was an active Zionist early in this century.

His commitments to the Jewish community have "really solidified," he explains, over the past five years when

"the time was right for me to get involved." And his first trip to Israel in 1987 had "a profound influence on my life" (Topkis and his wife, Judy, visited Israel on a Federation-sponsored mission. He visited Israel again in 1988.)

Topkis has spent a good deal of time during the last year developing and studying the Federation and developing a strategy which will help him realize his goals. He is confident that he is beginning his two-year term with a solid foundation which includes three objectives.

First, Topkis says, he will work to create a positive image in the community for the Jewish Federation — through education. If the community is not aware of what the Federation does, he maintains, there will be no reason to support it in any way. Education, he insists, is the only way to get the community 100 percent behind the organization.

His second objective relies heavily on

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William Topkis

WHO Postpones Vote On PLO

By EDWIN EYTAN and TAMAR LEVY

GENEVA (JTA) — The deferral on May 12 of the Palestine Liberation Organization's bid for full membership in the

World Health Organization has severely diminished its chances for admission into the other U.N. agencies to which it planned to apply, according to political observers here. The 166-nation World Health Assembly, the WHO's governing body, voted 83-47 to postpone consideration of the PLO's application for membership as a sovereign state for one year — until its next annual meeting in May 1990.

The vote was one of the rare occasions when an American-led initiative against Palestinian aspirations was supported by the Soviet Union and China. Soviet diplomats explained privately that Moscow believed that American peace efforts in the Middle East should be given a chance to work. Other Eastern European delegates, who followed the Soviet lead in the vote, said they did not want to jeopardize the current American dialogue with the PLO.

Thirty countries, Israel among them, abstained or were not present for the vote. The head of the Israeli delegation, Health Minister Ya'acov Tsur, explained to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency later that Israel abstained from voting to postpone the issue because "we cannot agree to have it re-examined next year." Nevertheless, Tsur called the outcome "a great relief and a great victory."

But he warned Israelis that it "does not mean that many of the member states, including most Western European countries, have changed their stand in favor of Palestinian self-determination."

PLO leader Yasir Arafat blamed the Americans for the Palestinian defeat and accused the United States of resorting to "cheap blackmail."

The United States had, in fact, served notice two weeks ago that it would withhold its assessed \$73.8 million contribution to the WHO's fiscal 1990 budget if the PLO were admitted. That announcement created a crisis atmosphere when the World Health Assembly meeting opened here on May 8.

The American contribution represents about a quarter of the WHO's budget. In addition, the United States is the largest source of voluntary contributions to the agency's special programs combatting AIDS, tropical diseases and diseases

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Knesset Approves Election Plan

By DAVID LANDAU

JERUSALEM (JTA) The Knesset approved the government's plan for Palestinian elections and self-rule Wednesday, and defeated two no-confidence motions on the issue. But it was a tepid endorsement. The 43-15 vote in the 120-member chamber reflected the absence of many in Likud, including senior ministers who oppose the initiative but were loathe to vote against the government.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, calling his plan "a fair, sincere and realistic proposal," made an impassioned appeal for Knesset support. He claimed that the U.S. government and congressional and public opinion in the United States gave it a "clear welcome" and that European governments have shown "interest and some support."

According to Shamir, world Jewry was solidly supportive. He said rejection by various local Arab groups should not be construed as their "last word" and that rejection by the Palestine Liberation Organization is of no consequence. "We address ourselves not to the PLO, but to the local Palestinians," Shamir said. But at this juncture, the most serious obstacle to the prime minister's ideas is the revolt brewing in Likud ministerial ranks. It is led by Ariel Sharon, chairman of the Herut Central Committee; Yitzhak Moda'i, leader of Likud's Liberal Party wing; and David Levy, the housing minister, who holds the rank of deputy premier and has a strong Sephardic constituency. Of the three, Levy is abroad. Sharon and Moda'i absented themselves from the vote.

They share the view of the far right-wing parties and the Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip that the offer of elections and self-rule to the Palestinians in the territories is a recipe of disaster for Israel.

Sharon, who is minister of industry and trade, has announced he will convene the Central Committee next month to seek a grass-roots rejection of the plan.

Shamir conceded that the plan harbors risks for Israel, but he insisted that these were outweighed by its promise. He also argued that it was "premature" to embark on internal domestic disputes, "which only gladden the hearts of our enemies." He told the Knesset it is relatively easy to "take positions" when one does not have "the responsibility for Israel's foreign relations on one's shoulders."

The plan was authored by Shamir and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a Laborite, in close collaboration with Foreign Minister Moshe Arens of Likud and Vice Premier Shimon Peres, who chairs the Labor Party and serves as finance minister.

It is a bipartisan undertaking, but the two coalition partners do not see eye-to-eye on several key issues. These include the eligibility of East Jerusalem Arabs to vote, opposed to Likud but favored by many in Labor. This and other areas of disagreement were skirted by the Cabinet on Sunday, when it voted 20-6 to approve the plan.

Shamir told the Likud Knesset faction Wednesday that East Jerusalemites would not be allowed to vote and that Israel would decide who could vote and who could stand for election.

He also pledged there would be no elections, indeed not even preparations, as long as the Palestinian uprising continued.

But the prime minister was much less specific in his formal Knesset speech,

(Continued to page 6)

U.S. Studying Peace Plan

By DAVID LANDAU

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The first team of experts the Bush administration has dispatched to the Middle East flew home Tuesday night, apparently encouraged that Israel's new peace initiative has some "potential." Dennis Ross, chief of policy planning at the U.S. State Department, who headed the mission, said before the group's departure that there was "reason to believe that there is a potential opportunity" for peace and pledged "hard work" by the United States to build on it.

In addition to its discussions with Israeli leaders, the group visited Egypt and Jordan and met with two delegations of Palestinian leaders in the West Bank.

According to Ross, the other parties in the region are studying the

new opportunity "very seriously."

But his upbeat assessment was not fully shared by the prime minister's spokesman, Avi Pazner. He told reporters after the Americans met with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir that the reactions in Egypt and Jordan to Israel's proposals were unclear and non-committal. "They didn't say yes and they didn't say no," Pazner said. He admitted that the Arab leaders did show "some interest" and "asked for details." But the people directly concerned, the Palestinians in the territories, seem unconvinced.

The Israeli military authorities arrested one of six West Bank dignitaries who was to meet with the Americans. He is Hassan Khatib, a lecturer at Bir Zeit University, who was seized in a roundup of Palesti-

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SAMPLE

Editorial: Talking Peace

On the surface, it's a simple question: If Israel doesn't talk to the PLO, how will she ever get herself on the road to eventual peace? Dig below the surface, though, and you find the issues are myriad and far from simple. Volumes have been written on the subject.

Recently many Israelis and some diaspora Jews have expressed a lot of anger over the opening of dialogue with Yasir Arafat and the PLO on the parts of the United States and the French governments. It is understandably frightening to the Israelis that her friends are beginning to talk to her enemies. While Israel insists that a leopard cannot change its spots, some of her friends seem to be willing to give the leopard the benefit of the doubt.

There is a lot to be said for the argument that unless the Israelis and the Palestinians begin to talk to each other, they're never going to realize peace. No one has ever demanded that Israel itself talk to the PLO or vice versa — others have been willing to act as intermediaries. Why not let them try?

On the other hand, discussion usually means cooperation as well as give and take. Such a situation would mean that Israel would most probably have to give something up. What can Israel, geographically squeezed in between so many hostile neighbors, afford to safely give up?

How long can the status quo continue? Arms continue to be stockpiled and armies continue to be trained. What kind of destruction is possible should the arms and armies continue to be built up?

To whom should Israel talk? Should it be Jordan or another Arab country? Should it be Arafat or another PLO representative? There are constant internal rivalries within the PLO. Is Arafat its spokesman? Arafat has spent much time in the spotlight, but how much weight he actually carries is not clear.

• In January, when the mayor of Bethlehem, Elias Freij, proposed a halt to the uprising in the territories, it was Arafat who said, "Whoever thinks of stopping the *intifada* before it achieves its goals, I will give him ten bullets in his chest."

• On May 2, in Paris, when Arafat called the Palestinian National Covenant "caduque" (which was translated "null and void"), there was an immediate cry from some Palestinians for his death "and the deaths of all traitors to Palestinians."

• On May 3, after his Paris-pronouncement had been highly publicized and praised, Arafat did some double-talking and said that the translation "null and void" did not capture his meaning to all. (See Quote of Note, this page.)

There is great difficulty in communicating with someone who changes his mind or is conducting nothing more than a public relations campaign.

Westerners might view talks between Israel and the Arabs as a symbol and not as a concept to be rigidly adhered to. When intermediaries take the initiative and at least get something of a dialogue started, no commitments need to be made. While we can't help thinking that it is possible, through dialogue, to gain a greater understanding of the needs of the parties involved, we must not forget that the seemingly obstinate Israel understands — better than we ever will — the people, the emotions and the mentality with which she is dealing.

While direct talks are not crucial as a first step in Middle East peacemaking, mutual recognition of the negotiators' legitimacy is. Both the Israelis and the Arabs make their homes in the Middle East and this is something that each must come to terms with if peace is ever to be established. We have only to look back ten years to the Camp David Accords — to Egyptian President Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Begin — to see just how far interested parties can get when they will talk. And we might recall that U.S. President Carter acted as their intermediary — insisting, in fact, that the two leaders be kept apart during the crucial final days of negotiations.

What can talking to each other hurt? When Israel's fragile geographic position and her history in the Middle East are taken into consideration, the little country's apprehension is legitimate. Dialogue should be initiated — carefully. There's a lot at stake.



Quote of Note

The following comments were made by Yasir Arafat, elaborating on his well-publicized statement in Paris earlier this month when he said that the Palestine National Covenant is null and void. The interview with Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic on May 3 was reported by the American Jewish Congress.

Q — You said in French that the Charter is "caduque," that is to say nullified . . .

Arafat — That is your translation. Would it make sense for me to teach you how to translate?

Q — Let's say that it has "expired" (Arabic: Faata alaiha al-zaman) . . .

Arafat — It has aged (Arabic: taqaadamat) . . .

Q — Fine, the translation is "It has aged."

Arafat — The word "taqaadamat" appears in many verses in the Koran with regard to other (earlier) verses. Does this mean that these other verses were nullified? No.

Q — If the Charter can be amended only by the PNC, are you ready to convene a meeting on the issue? Is there a possibility . . .

Arafat — Can anyone claim that it is possible to change something adopted by the PNC not by means of the PNC members, whether it concerns political decisions, the Declaration of Independence or the Charter . . .

Letter to the Editor

A Valuable Cooperative Venture

Cooperation between Dan Thurman, Executive Director of the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home, and Bill Bellman, Administrator of Kamin, enables residents of the Kutz Home to share the Kutz van with the people living at Kamin. An arrangement has been worked out by the directors of both facilities whereby the Kamin residents can use the van, for a fee, when it is not being

used by the Kutz residents.

Kamin is an assisted-living facility for those individuals who do not need skilled or intermediate nursing care but find it increasingly stressful to live independently. It is located in Ardentown on property formally leased by the YWCA. It is owned by the Church Home Foundation which owns Ingle-side Retirement Apartments. The facility is available to everyone regardless of religion.

Phyllis Cobin

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Candle Lighting
MAY
 19th — 7:54 PM
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 2nd — 8:05 PM

The Jewish Voice welcomes signed letters from its readers on subjects of interest to the Jewish Community. For verification purposes, include home address and phone number (day and evening). The more concise a letter is, the less likely it will need to be condensed. A name will be withheld upon request. Send letters typed double spaced, to The Jewish Voice, 101 Garden of Eden Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803.

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 OPINION

The 'Voyage Of The Damned' Provides Bitter Memories For Israel

By RAFAEL MEDOFF

Fifty years ago next week — on May 27, 1939 — the German steamship *St. Louis*, packed with nine hundred and thirty Jewish refugees, cruised into the harbor at Havana, Cuba. This "voyage of the damned," as it has come to be known, was Hitler's way of calling the free world's bluff. "The entire democratic world dissolves in tears of pity, but then closes its heart to the poor, tortured people," the Nazi leader taunted.

Unfortunately, the Fuhrer's accusation was well-founded. The Cuban authorities claimed that the immigration visas of the *St. Louis* passengers were 'invalid' and refused to let them disembark. The *New York Times* described how the refugees were "sobbing desperately," and quoted one as saying, "If we are returned to Germany, it will mean the concentration camps for most of us."

The *St. Louis* lifted anchor and sailed from Havana to the Florida coast, but when it came within three miles of Miami Beach, Coast Guard planes and a patrol boat confronted it and forced it to retreat. The *St. Louis* idled in a position some ten miles from the Florida Keys, in the desperate hope that the U.S. government would have pity. It did not. Anti-immigration sentiment was powerful during the Depression Years; President Franklin Roosevelt was not prepared to make a politically risky move such as letting in Jewish refugees.

American Jewish leaders were reluctant to demand that Roosevelt grant haven to the refugees. Stephen Wise, the president of the American Jewish Congress, said he feared that "any effort that is made at this time to waive the immigration laws will result in a serious accentuation of what we know to be a rising wave of anti-Semitic feeling in this country." This fear of provoking anti-Semitism shaped the hesitant and halfhearted response of major Jewish organizations during the *St. Louis* crisis and throughout the Holocaust years.

The most logical destination for refugees such as those on the *St. Louis* was Palestine, which was then ruled by the British. But during the 1930s, the Arabs in Palestine staged street riots and terrorist attacks to underline their demand for an end to Jewish immigration. Just ten days before the *St. Louis* reached Havana, the Arabs got their wish: Britain issued a new White Paper that severely restricted the entry of Jewish refugees. In the years to follow, that White Paper proved to be a death

sentence for the Jews. In 1942, for example, as the Holocaust raged and millions clamored for haven, the British permitted only 4,026 Jews to enter the Holy Land.

Ultimately the *St. Louis* was forced to return to Europe, and most of its passengers were eventually murdered by the Nazis.

Israelis today recall the bitter events surrounding the "voyage of the damned" and naturally wonder if they should now trust those who so cruelly aban-

doned the Jews in 1939.

Who can blame the Israelis for being suspicious? Fifty years ago, Arab rioters helped seal the fate of Hitler's victims; today's Arab rioters maim and murder Jews in an apparent effort to "finish Hitler's job." Fifty years ago, the Western democracies abandoned the Jews for the sake of political convenience; today Western leaders are embracing Yassar Arafat for the sake of political convenience. Fifty years ago, (Continued to page 32)

The Chemical Threat To Israel

By SENATOR JESSE HELMS

The proliferation of ballistic missiles and chemical and biological weapons in the Middle East poses a serious and immediate threat to Israel. As the United States has a great moral and strategic stake in Israel's security, these threats are of utmost concern to our nation.

Israel may be particularly vulnerable to a chemical or biological weapons attack. Israel's defense forces are made up mostly of reservists. A chemical attack against mobilization centers, or key population centers, would be debilitating. It could cost Israel the time and human resources which mean the difference between successful defense and shattering defeat.

Chemical weapons such as mustard gas, nerve gases and phosgene are relatively easy to produce, hence their nickname, "the poor man's nuclear bomb." With the critical assistance of Free World industrial firms, four of the most radical regimes in the world — Libya, Syria, Iran and Iraq — are acquiring or have acquired these weapons of mass destruction and the means to deliver them.

Within the past month, the world has become aware of an international conspiracy of supposedly legitimate foreign industrial concerns — chemical companies, major electrical firms, construction and engineering firms, major banks, transportation agents, and

various suppliers — all of whom have reaped handsome profits by providing the capability to produce chemical weapons to these radical regimes.

Possibly the most serious implications of this scandal are the allegations of involvement by government officials of West Germany. According to a recent issue of *Der Stern*, the Libyan gas plant was actually designed by a German state-owned engineering firm.

The discovery of this international conspiracy of industrial firms and the possible complicity of foreign government officials in this conspiracy send a clear message to Americans: The United States cannot rely solely on the assurances of foreign government if we are serious about stopping trade in chemical and biological weapons.

Rather, the United States must itself take actions against the companies involved if we are to expect effective action to stem trade in these weapons of mass destruction.

With this in mind, I have introduced legislation which would inform the American people of, and place sanctions on, those companies assisting the chemical or biological warfare programs of Libya, Syria, Iraq or Iran. I am proud to have Senators Clairborne Pell (D-RI), Robert Dole (R-KS) and Rudy Boschwitz (R-MN) as original cosponsors of this legislation.

But the United States must do more

than just place sanctions on companies assisting the chemical or biological weapons programs of Libya, Syria, Iran and Iraq. Our country must monitor the transfer of chemical weapons-capable missiles to these countries, and confront those countries which supply these missiles.

In addition, the proliferation of missiles and chemical weapons in the Middle East underscores the urgent need for missile defenses. The United States must pursue the Strategic Defense Initiative and make a top-priority of working with Israel on its development of the Arrow anti-tactical ballistic missile. A combination of these efforts would provide Israel with the capability to stop chemical warhead-bearing missiles in flight.

The challenge posed by the proliferation of missiles and chemical and biological weapons among radical regimes in the Middle East is grave. If America's vital interests in the Middle East are to be preserved, it will take concerted action on the part of Congress to inhibit the trade of chemical and biological weapons, prevent the transfer of missiles to these regimes, and develop missile defenses.

(Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina is the ranking Republican member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.)

Jewish College Students Confront Propaganda War

By RACHEL WEINBERG

The campaign to discredit Israel on the nation's college campuses has escalated since the start of the intifadah. It is an effort directed specifically toward youth, with the aim of driving a wedge between America's future leadership and the State of Israel.

Israel's detractors distort the truth in a deliberate attempt to influence young Jews. They hope that they can at least confuse them or perhaps even persuade them to abandon their support for Israel.

Anti-Israel activity on campus takes several forms: chants during Palestinian rallies, "Stop Zionist Terrorism," advertisements appearing in the campus press — "Soviet Union, South Africa, Israel... One yardstick for human rights" — and the defacing of displays celebrating Israel's Independence Day. For example, vandals at the University of Kansas spray-painted one exhibit with the words, "Bigots, assassins, murderers, thieves, criminals, Palestinians are Israel's Indians..."

On some campuses, the propaganda war had led to violence. The sound of a bullet smashing through the window of a Hillel building still reverberates through that community. Last month, a student on a California campus was harassed because of her pro-Israel activism. After a campus event, students pushed the coed, yelled anti-Semitic slogans and followed her to her car

before leaving her, alone and frightened.

Such occurrences are taking place with increasing frequency. A study published by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) recently stated that the number of anti-Semitic and anti-Israel incidents reported on the college campuses has increased from 14 in 1987 to at least 54 in 1988. "College students today have grown up in an atmosphere of questions and criticism of Israel," says Rabbi Carol Glass, Hillel director at American University. "And they haven't had the necessary education to respond to the growing examination by the American public of Israel and its activities."

Students who do not know the facts are helpless to formulate effective questions for anti-Israel speakers. Those lacking a knowledge of history are unable to write opinion pieces for the campus press. Those too frightened to speak out cannot educate their peers.

But with the help of national agencies such as the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, ADL and the American Zionist Youth Foundation, as well as local campus Hillels, students can learn to counter anti-Israel propaganda effectively. These organizations help educate students and provide them with the tools they need to get their message across.

Workshops on propaganda response are taught at many AIPAC-Hillel regional student conferences. AIPAC

regularly mails fact sheets to student leaders, and speakers from national agencies are available to address campus groups. When armed with these resources, students can counter Israel's detractors and educate the vast majority of students who know little about Israel.

Recently, Edward Said, a member of the Palestinian National Council, spoke at the University of California, San Diego. Said is one of a group of effective propagandists who frequently visit college campuses. Their arguments are sophisticated and require sophisticated response.

Enlisting the help of professors, community leaders and AIPAC, students at UCSD prepared op-ed pieces for the campus newspaper, offering readers information about the current situation in

the Middle East and Israel's hopes for peace. Students who attended Said's lecture were equipped to ask questions that challenged his interpretation of Middle East affairs. Later that week, a student wrote a letter to the editor listing the questions that Said failed to address during his speech. The cumulative impact of student effort allowed the campus community to hear Israel's side of the debate.

When students like those at UCSD work hard and organize effectively to relay facts and educate their community, the message is clear. Then the sounds that echo through university halls become sounds of reason and hope.

(Rachel Weinberg is the Director of AIPAC's college program.)

Prescription For All Anti-Semites

Editor's note: The late Sam Levinson had an answer to anti-Semitism worth repeating:

It's a free world. You don't have to like Jews, but if you don't, I suggest you boycott certain Jewish products, like insulin discovered by Dr. Minkowski; the vaccine for hepatitis, discovered by Dr. R.J. von Liebig; the Wasserman test for syphilis, streptomycin, discovered by Dr. Selman Abraham Waxman, the polio pill by Dr. Albert Sabin, and the polio vaccine by Dr. Jonas Salk.

Good! Boycott! But humanitarianism requires that my people offer all these gifts to all people of the world. Fanaticism requires that all bigots accept diabetes, hepatitis, convulsions, syphilis, infectious diseases and infantile paralysis.

You want to be mad! Be mad! But I'm telling you, you ain't going to feel so good.

In 'Delaware': Magazine Explores State's Offerings With Eye Toward International Business Audience

By PAULA BERENGUT
The cover story describes Delaware's Chancery Court as "A Referee For Corporate America." Among other pieces are an interview with Russian Poet Andrei Voznesensky who visited Wilmington in March and an explanation of the DuPont's participation in "The Race For Superconductors."

What is it? It's Volume One, Number One of *IN Delaware*, Delaware's new international magazine which is 44 pages of news to be used by the international business community. It's slick, it's intelligent and it's published and edited by two members of the Wilmington Jewish community: Ed Golin and Rita Katz Farrell.

According to the magazine's publisher, Golin, who is President of Gauge Corporation and former Chairman of The Jewish Voice Editorial Committee, 5,000 copies of the premier issue were printed but very few were distributed within the state. The goal of the magazine, he says, is to "attract people to Delaware on an intellectual level" to add to the lifestyle and economy of the state. "We want to make people say, 'I wish I could live there because it's so stimulating.'"

The magazine, which is to be published quarterly, was mailed to the top 1500 CEO's of the Fortune 1500 list, international

banks and law firms, embassies throughout the world, the top 50 major business libraries, some business schools and a small list of potential prospects for relocation to Delaware.

The reaction has been very positive, Golin notes. He's received many requests for subscriptions, including the New York City library. And although the target readership is not local, many Delawareans have expressed an interest in receiving the publication. This, he feels, is because the magazine offers an interesting look at the scientific, academic and industrial sides of life here that *Delaware Today* doesn't necessarily give.

Golin feels the magazine could make a difference to a company thinking about relocating. No company considering relocating "will choose Delaware because we have Winterthur," he says. "You can live in New York and still visit Winterthur." By reporting on the range of intellectual life here, from the University of Delaware to the state's industry and from the local Nobel Prize-winners to the visiting Russian poet, *IN Delaware*, is meant to show the state as "an international crossroads, not a backwoods town."

In the magazine's welcome message, which displays greetings in five languages, its

purpose is put forth by editor Farrell. "Our goal is to publish with insight, independence and integrity, and to capture your interest enough so that you want to keep score on us."

Initial funding for the magazine was provided by the State of Delaware's Development Office with the support and encouragement of Lieutenant Governor Dale Wolf who saw the project as ongoing and under the editorial control of the publisher and editor. But since its inception, Golin explains, others within the state's administration have stepped in and insisted on maintaining editorial control.

Scenic photographs and lots of superlatives describing the state serve a purpose Farrell admits, but maintains that *IN Delaware* was never meant to be a tourist's guide to the state. "A puff piece," Golin agrees, "would lose its impact." So, he says, arrangements are currently being worked out to take the magazine into the private sector for funding.

Farrell, who serves as a member of *The Jewish Voice* Editorial Committee, is an adjunct professor at the University of Delaware teaching writing and speaking, also covers all Delaware corporate litigation and annual meetings for Reuters, Associated Press and McGraw Hill News. She insisted, she says, throughout production, on "good, solid reporting" by writers whom she knew and chose herself. Other states, Farrell reports, have written to her to say that they admire her results.

IN Delaware contains five full-page advertisements. The magazine has had inquiries



from many more advertisers since the publication of the premier issue. But, Farrell says, most magazines are too full of ads. She says she stipulated from the start that the magazine would never contain more than 10 pages of ads and she plans to maintain that.

Sections include History, Technology, Business, Arts, Science, Courts and Politics. A six-page section titled "IN Brief" is a compilation of short

descriptions of some of Delaware's activities, organizations, projects, technologies and small businesses which offers the reader, through the use of a coupon, the opportunity to send away for further information on any of the subjects covered.

Subscription inquiries should be addressed to *IN Delaware Magazine*, 1300 North Market Street, Suite 501, Wilmington, DE 19801.

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Jackson Urges Blacks And Jews: Overcome 'Fears And Prejudices'

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — The Rev. Jesse Jackson, invoking past alliances and biblical imagery, issued a stong appeal last week for reconciliation between Jews and African-Americans. The black leader and former presidential hopeful, who has offended many Jews through an ethnic slur and pro-Palestinian statements, urged 400 guests attending an American Jewish Committee awards dinner to help heal racial divisions in the United States and the world.

Reminding this audience of the common sacrifices by blacks and Jews in the civil rights struggle, he proposed a joint effort to create an

"American investment bank" to help poor communities and create new jobs.

"Tonight we are called to reason, to shift from racial and religious battlegrounds to economic common ground and higher ground," Jackson said. "The cause is to move beyond racism, sexism, elitism, anti-Semitism, anti-Arabism, anti-Hispanicism, to move beyond ancient fears and prejudices," he added.

Dr. Neil Sandberg, regional director of the American Jewish Committee, called Jackson's speech "the most positive statement, as far as I know, he has ever made about the importance of Jewish-black rapprochement."

The choice of Jackson as a dinner speaker was made by Tom Johnson, publisher of the *Los Angeles Times* and chairman of the evening, Sandberg said.

Israeli Colonel Reprimanded For 1988 Beating Incidents

JERUSALEM (JTA) — An Israel Defense Force colonel in the West Bank has been severely reprimanded for brutality toward Arab villagers and will soon be relieved of his duties, it was announced here last week.

Col. Yehuda Meir, former commander of the Nablus district, was reprimanded by the IDF chief of staff, Gen. Dan Shomron. Meir has been charged with exceeding his authority in incidents that occurred in two Arab villages last year.

In January 1988, he allegedly ordered soldiers to beat Arabs in Huwara and Beita villages. According to witnesses, four officers and more than 30 soldiers arrested 12 residents

of Huwara. They allegedly tied their hands and feet, shoved rags in their mouths and broke their arms and legs with clubs. The battered villagers were left in the orchard where the beatings took place.

A military police investigation, ordered in response to complaints from the International Committee for the Red Cross and a letter from an officer who took part in the incident, found that Meir had ordered the beatings.

Knesset member Yossi Sarid of the Citizens Rights Movement expressed outrage that Meir was not court-martialed. More junior soldiers have stood trial for less serious offenses, he said.

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Remark On 'Ophrah' Draws Wrath And Dismay Of Jewish Organizations

By SUSAN BIRNBAUM

NEW YORK (JTA) — Producers of "The Oprah Winfrey Show" and the star herself met May 9 with Jewish leaders in Chicago to deal with the fallout from statements on an edition of the talk show accusing Jews of ritual murder.

The program's production company, Harpo Inc., requested the meeting and asked the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith to assemble Jewish leaders to discuss the program. It was broadcast May 1 and watched by an estimated 8 million households. Participating in the session were representatives of ADL, the Jewish Community Relations Council of Chicago, Greater Chicago Board of Rabbis, American Jewish Committee and American Jewish Congress.

Winfrey's popular syndicated show, known for delving into controversial subject matter, went off on an unexpected tangent, when a guest dubbed "Rachel" alleged that she had witnessed infanticide practiced ritually in Jewish homes.

The subject of the program was satanic killings. It focused on the ritualistic slayings that took place recently in Matamoros, Mexico, where 15 bodies were unearthed from a mass grave. Guests on the show discussed ritualistic killings they claimed to have

witnessed.

Winfrey introduced "Rachel" as someone who was in psychiatric treatment for a multiple personality disorder. The inclusion of an identifiably mentally troubled person whose responses could not be predicted has drawn criticism and was the heart of the discussions that took place.

"Rachel" described herself as Jewish and said she had witnessed ritual sacrifice of children by her family. She went on to say that ritual sacrifice takes place in "other Jewish families across the country. It's not just my family."

The switchboards of ADL offices in Chicago, Pittsburgh, other cities and national headquarters in New York lit up immediately, as viewers saw the syndicated program, said Jeffrey Sinensky, director of the ADL's civil rights division.

Barry Morrison, director of the Chicago ADL office, until recently of the Philadelphia office, which received the first calls of protest, called the program's producers immediately to convey viewers' distress. Sinensky wrote to Winfrey and her producers, who expressed willingness to convene on the problem. Morrison said the meeting with Winfrey, her producers and chief executive officer produced several things, including "a greater understand-

ing on the part of Oprah Winfrey and her producers about the sensibilities of the Jewish community.

"It hopefully created a greater commitment to scrutinize invited guests for potential to exacerbate relations between groups." The Jewish representatives "felt very strongly that she intended no harm and was not maliciously motivated, did not want to see the Jewish people portrayed in a negative light and was sorry for whatever harm was rendered or offense taken," said Morrison.

Winfrey and the staff agreed to call the Jewish groups in the future if a similar situation appeared likely to arise. Winfrey, not "Rachel," first brought up the woman's religion, but also expressed disbelief that Jews practiced ritual killing.

Winfrey asked, "Does everyone else think it's a nice Jewish family from the outside? You appear to be a nice Jewish girl."

"Rachel" pointed out that "not all Jewish people sacrifice babies. It's not a very typical thing."

Winfrey responded, "I think we kind of know that."

The talk-show host also said, "This is the first time I heard of any Jewish people sacrificing babies. But anyway, so you witnessed the sacrifice?"

Rachel said that when she "was very young, I was forced to participate ... to sacrifice an infant."

Winfrey also interviewed another panel member, Tina Grossman, identified as a counselor of ritual abuse victims. Saying she was Jewish, she described the Passover seder. Grossman said, "But before there was Christ and before there was a system of one God, there was paganism, and it still exists in the world." Morrison commented that Grossman "mentioned the rituals of Passover in such a way that it was very easy for listeners to confuse those rituals with the rituals of satanic worship, and that compounded the problem."

At the meeting, the Jewish representatives explained the history of blood libel against Jews, Morrison said. They then suggested that in the future the producers "use very stringent standards in judging the advisability of using various guests on their show. We recommended not using Jews or Judaism in an irrelevant or potentially compromising context," he added.

ADL Officials Cancel Audience With Pope

By RUTH GRUBER

ROME (JTA) — The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith backed off from a confrontation with Pope John Paul II last week over the presence of a Carmelite convent on the grounds of the former Auschwitz death camp.

In a highly unusual and uncharacteristic move, the ADL canceled an audience with the pontiff scheduled for May 12. "It was mutually understood that some items on the ADL agenda had the potential for exacerbating tensions, and it was considered more productive to reschedule the meeting for a later time," the ADL said in a statement released here by Burton Levinson, its national chairman, and Abraham Foxman, its national director.

Rabbi Leon Klenicki, head of interfaith affairs for the ADL, said, "It was evident to us that the pope was not comfortable in considering the question of the convent in Auschwitz."

He stressed, however, that the matter should not be considered a setback in the Catholic-Jewish dialogue. "The dialogue will continue. This is one event in our relationship. The Vatican knows of our friendship, and it is in the nature of friendship to be critical," Klenicki said. He added, "the audience is not canceled. It was postponed. There is a difference between the two, and the Vatican knows it."

One purpose of the audience was to introduce Klenicki and Rabbi David Rosen to the pope as ADL's new liaisons to the Vatican. Rosen is director of interreligious affairs in ADL's

Jerusalem office.

Levinson had planned to read a statement urging the pope to involve himself personally in having the convent removed from the Auschwitz grounds. Instead, he made the text of his statement available to the news media. It urged the pope to "find an effective reply to the tragic misunderstanding" over the convent.

"For the Jewish religious conscience, this defiled plot of land, where nearly half of the six million were murdered, is synonymous with the Shoah (Holocaust) and must cry out in stark silence to all future generations," his statement said. Auschwitz should be "inhabited only by memories." Jewish groups all over the world are dismayed that the convent has not yet been relocated. A February 1987 agreement, signed in Geneva by Jewish leaders and leading European cardinals, specified that the convent would be moved within two years.

Klenicki said that the canceled audience does not mean the ADL supports a boycott of the pontiff over the Auschwitz affair, which some Jewish leaders have advocated. He said that he and Rabbi Rosen would be in Rome for contacts with the Vatican every six months.

Levinson's statement acknowledged the pope's earlier expressions of friendship and good will towards Jews. "We are aware, your Holiness, for your many statements, of your total abhorrence of the Shoah," the statement said.

Jewish Federation Pooled Income Fund

The Jewish Federation Pooled Income Fund is a simple "charitable income" program organized by the Council of Jewish Federations for its member Federations. It works like a mutual fund providing income in quarterly payments to the donor or his/her beneficiaries for life.

The Pooled Income Fund provides donors with fixed income means to maintain (or even increase) their income and in many cases reduce estate taxes and avoid capital gains taxes.

While the donor benefits the community also benefits. Upon death the beneficiaries' share is separated from the Pooled Income Fund and transferred to the Jewish Community of Delaware Endowment Fund for programs and projects of the donor's choice.

The annualized rate of return for the first quarter 1989 for the Jewish Federation Pooled Income Fund was 8.57%. The new IRS mortality tables become effective on July 1, 1989, and take into account higher life expectancies. Donations to the Fund before June 30 will give a significantly larger deduction than in 1990.

For additional information call Connie Kreshtool, Endowment Director, 478-6200.

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Israeli Peace Initiative

General

1. This document presents the principles of a political initiative of the Government of Israel which deals with the continuation of the peace process, the termination of the state of war with the Arab states, a solution for the Arabs of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District, peace with Jordan and a resolution of the problem of the residents of the refugee camps in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District.

Basic Premises

2. The initiative is founded upon the assumption that there is a national consensus for it on the basis of the basic guidelines of the Government of Israel, including the following points:

A. Israel yearns for peace and the continuation of the political process by means of direct negotiations based on the principles of the Camp David Accords.

B. Israel opposes the Establishment of an additional Palestinian state in the Gaza District and in the area between Israel and Jordan.

C. Israel will not conduct negotiations with the PLO.

D. There will be no change in the status of Judea, Samaria and Gaza other than in accordance with the basic guidelines of the government.

Subjects To Be Dealt With In The Peace Process

3. A. Israel views as important that the peace between Israel and Egypt, based on the Camp David Accords, will serve as a cornerstone for enlarging the circle of peace in the region, and calls for a common endeavor for the strengthening of the peace and its extension, through continued consultation.

B. Israel calls for the establishment of peace relations between it and those Arab states which still maintain a state of war with it, for the purpose of promoting a comprehensive settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict, including recognition, direct negotiations, ending the boycott, diplomatic relations, cessation of hostile activity in international institutions or forums and regional and bilateral cooperation.

C. Israel calls for an international endeavor to resolve the problem of the residents of the Arab refugee camps in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District in order to improve their living conditions and to rehabilitate them. Israel is prepared to be a partner in this endeavor.

D. In order to advance the political negotiation process leading to peace, Israel proposes free and democratic elections among the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District in an atmosphere devoid of violence, threats and terror. In these elections a representation will be chosen to conduct negotiations for a transitional period of self-rule. This period will constitute a test for coexistence and cooperation. At a later stage, negotiations will be conducted for a permanent solution, during which all the proposed options for an agreed settlement will be examined, and peace between Israel and Jordan will be achieved.

E. All the above mentioned steps should be dealt with simultaneously.

F. The details of what has been mentioned in (D) above will be given below.

The Principles Constituting The Initiative: Stages

4. The initiative is based on two stages:

A. Stage A — A Transitional period for an interim agreement.

B. Stage B — Permanent solution.

5. The interlock between the stages is a timetable on which the plan is built; the peace process delineated by the initiative is based on resolutions 242 and 338, upon which the Camp David Accords are founded.

Timetable:

6. The transitional period will continue for five years.

7. As soon as possible, but not later than the third year after the

beginning of the transitional period, negotiations for achieving a permanent solution will begin.

8. The parties participating in the negotiations for the first stage (the interim agreement) shall include Israel and the elected representation of the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District. Jordan and Egypt will be invited to participate in these negotiations if they so desire.

9. The parties participating in the negotiations for the second stage (permanent solution) shall include Israel and the elected representation of the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District as well as Jordan. Furthermore, Egypt may participate in these negotiations. In negotiations between Israel and Jordan, in which the elected representation of the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District will participate, the peace treaty between Israel and Jordan will be concluded.

10. During the transitional period the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District will be accorded self-rule, by means of which they will, themselves, conduct their affairs of daily life. Israel will continue to be responsible for security, foreign affairs and all matters concerning Israeli citizens in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District. Topics involving the implementation of the plan for self-rule will be considered and decided within the framework of the negotiations for an interim agreement.

11. In the negotiations for a permanent solution, every party shall be entitled to present for discussion all the subjects it may wish to raise.

12. The aim of the negotiations should be:

A. The achievement of a permanent solution acceptable to the negotiating parties.

B. The arrangements for peace and borders between Israel and Jordan.

Details Of The Process For The Implementation Of The Initiative

13. First and foremost, dialogue and basic agreement by the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District, as well as Egypt and Jordan if they wish to take part, as above mentioned, in the negotiations on the principles constituting the initiative.

14. A. Immediately afterwards will follow the stage of preparations and implementation of the election process in which a representation of the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Judea, Samaria and Gaza will be elected. This representation:

i. Shall be a partner to the conduct of negotiations for the transitional period (interim agreement).

ii. Shall constitute the self-governing authority in the course of the transitional period.

iii. Shall be the central Palestinian component, subject to agreement after three years, in the negotiations for the permanent solution.

B. In the period of the preparations and implementation there shall be a calming of the violence in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District.

15. As to the substance of the elections, it is recommended that a proposal of regional elections be adopted, the details of which shall be determined in further discussions.

16. Every Palestinian Arab residing in Judea, Samaria and the Gaza District, who shall be elected by the inhabitants to represent them after having submitted his candidacy in accordance with the detailed document which shall determine the subject of the elections may be a legitimate participant in the conduct of negotiations with Israel.

17. The elections shall be free, democratic and secret.

18. Immediately after the election of the Palestinian representation, negotiations shall be conducted with it on an interim agreement for a transitional period which shall continue for five years, as mentioned above. In these negotiations, the parties shall determine all the subjects relating to the substance to the self-rule and the arrangements necessary for its implementation.

19. As soon as possible, but not later than the third year after the establishment of the self-rule, negotiations for a permanent solution shall begin. During the whole period of these negotiations until the signing of the agreement for a permanent solution, the self-rule shall continue in effect as determined in the negotiations for an interim agreement.

Knesset Backs Plan —

(Continued from page 1)

which has the status of an official government document. He made no reference to East Jerusalem eligibility, nor did he say categorically that the uprising must stop before the electoral process begins. He promised only that there would be "no violence during the implementation" of the plan.

The purpose of the elections, according to the government, is to choose Palestinian delegates with whom Israel would negotiate over self-rule and, subsequently, on the final status of the administered territories.

While the government has repeatedly ruled out the creation of a Palestinian state or talks under any circumstances with the PLO, many Israelis are nervous, particularly those on the right.

Votes of no-confidence were cast by four members of parties belonging to the governing coalition; Hanan Porat of the National Religious Party and three from Agudat Yisrael. Under normal parliamentary procedures, those parties should now resign from the coalition.

U.S.: Peace Plan Has Potential —

(Continued from page 1)

nian activists only hours before the meeting was to take place.

A spokesman for the other five, Dr. Sari Nusseibeh, also a member of the Bir Zeit faculty, told reporters afterward that they had categorically rejected the election proposals offered by the Israeli government. "On the other hand, we are for elections as a principle," Nusseibeh said. But they would have to be "part of a process that would clearly lead to the realization of Palestinian rights," including "the right to statehood."

The American visitors had a separate meeting with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a principal author of the Israeli peace plan. Rabin, for his part, met with Palestinian leaders from Gaza. He urged them not to reject the plan out of hand. According to an aide, at least some of them seemed willing to give it a chance.

Canada Offers To Assist Israel In Supervising Proposed Elections

By MICHAEL SOLOMON
MONTREAL, (JTA) — "Canada is ready to assist Israel with supervising eventual elections" in the West Bank and Gaza Strip "should the government of Israel ask for it," External Affairs Minister Joe Clark told members of the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee in Ottawa on Friday. He also suggested that the Palestine Liberation Organization has a long way to go to assure Israel of its good intentions.

"The Palestinian movement first must take steps to dissipate the anxieties of the Israelis," Clark said.

What PLO leader Yasir Arafat told French President Francois Mitterrand in Paris two weeks ago "is not enough to convince the Israelis of the PLO's sincerity, because he ex-

pressed his personal view and not that of the whole, entire Palestinian movement," Clark said.

He was referring, among other things, to Arafat's statement that the 1964 Palestine National Covenant, which calls for the destruction of Israel, is "null and void."

Clark, who on March 13 authorized Canadian diplomats to meet with PLO representatives, also stressed that "Canada must encourage those elements favorable to Arafat inside the PLO, because if they fail in their efforts, the radicals will take over, and we don't like them."

But he was sharply criticized by Jewish deputies on the committee, representing the opposition Liberal Party, for initiating talks with the PLO in the first place.

Among them were Sheila

Finestone and David Berger, representing Montreal constituencies, and Robert Kaplan of Toronto, a former solicitor general.

Another Liberal from Montreal, Andre Quellan, who is not Jewish, drew Clark's attention to the fact that the Jewish electorate and the Canada-Israel

Committee have severely criticized Clark's PLO initiative. Quellan noted that public opinion is against the government on this issue.

Shamir: Palestinians Will Eventually Back Plan

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir believes Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip will eventually accept Israel's proposal for elections in the territories. Israel knows, from quiet contacts, that some in the territories want to reach an accord, Shamir told *The Jerusalem Post* in a pre-Independence Day interview published last week.

"So I hope the forces will be found, perhaps with the help of neighboring Arab states, which will enter the process with us," the prime minister said.

He said the Palestinians must be made to realize, through military and diplomatic firmness, that they have "only one alternative — and it is a fair and reasonable one," said Shamir.

He said the Palestine Liberation Organization was exhorting the populace of the territories to spurn the Israeli election plan, telling them independence is just around the corner. But "you can't lie to everybody all the time. The people in the territories will eventually realize that these tales are groundless — lies and illusions," he said.

The prime minister expressed anger at the news media for alleged "misrepresentation of events in our country."

Greeting a visiting Keren Hayesod mission, Shamir said Israel would not sacrifice its vital interests "in order to get a good press. We should do whatever possible to improve it," he told the overseas fundraisers.

"Above all, we must remember that we cannot, we will not, risk our survival in order to get a good press," Shamir said.

JOIN THE COMMUNITY FOR THE GRAND RE-OPENING OF THE JEWISH FAMILY CAMPUS

Friday, May 26th

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Family Campus Shabbat Dinner

Start your Memorial Day Weekend at the Jewish Family Campus! We will be having a traditional Shabbat dinner of chicken, salad, juices and soda. It's guaranteed to be a lot of fun! Not only will there be food, but there will also be a sing-a-long of your favorite Shabbat songs. Please make your reservation at the JCC Front Desk by Thursday, May 23, 1989.

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Sunday, May 28th

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| 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Co-ed Softball Game for Adults |
| 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Scuba Diving Show |
| 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Lunch tickets on sale |
| 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Dave Saddeh's One Ring Circus |
| 11:45 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Family Cookout at the Campus |
| 1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Dave Saddeh's One Ring Circus |
| 1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Mom and Tot Sing-a-Long |
| 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. | Tennis Carnival |
| 2:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. | Pool Games for all ages |
| 3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. | Children's T-Ball World Series |
| 4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. | Snack Time by the Pool |

Saturday, May 27th

1:00 pm. - 8:00 p.m.

Family Activities All Day Long

Join us for a fun-filled day at the Family Campus. Many activities have been planned including two performances by The Party Troop - Acrobatics Extrodinaire!

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| 1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. | Ribbon Cutting Ceremony |
| 1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. | The Party Troop Performance |
| 2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. | Balloon Release |
| 2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. | Penny Toss in the Pool |
| 2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | The Party Troop Performance |
| 3:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. | Parent and Child Kickball Game |
| 4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Children's Art Project (Carrot Art) |
| 4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Water Aerobics Class (Sample) |
| 8:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m. | The Second Annual Teen Bash! |

Monday, May 29th

11:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Spend your Memorial Day with us at the Family Campus!

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Benzo the Clown |
| 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Water Aerobics Class (Sampler) |
| 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. | Children's Peanut Hunt |
| 2:15 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Bingo for the Entire Family |
| 3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. | Co-ed Conditioning (Sampler) |
| 3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. | Kite Flying and Relay Races
(Kids: Bring your kite today!) |
| 4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. | Snack and Kite Fashion Show |

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Sunday, July 30, 1989 - 1:00 p.m.

The U.S. Holocaust Museum's Struggle To Decide What It Should Be

By ROBERT GREENBERGER
Special to The Jewish Voice

WASHINGTON — On May 2, the ninth annual Holocaust Remembrance Day, a presidential honor guard marched into the Capitol Rotunda bearing the flags of the 14 U.S. Army divisions that liberated the Nazi concentration camps in Europe 44 years ago. In the audience were a number of survivors of those dark days and others who have worked tirelessly to construct a national memorial to those who perished.

It is rare that such non-government events are permitted beneath the imposing Capitol dome. Indeed, use of the site requires an act of Congress. But, getting that authorization was the least of the problems confronting this effort to memorialize the Holocaust. Far more daunting was the task of actually building the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, which will begin to rise in May at the other end of the National Mall after a decade of planning.

In the beginning, the idea of building a center to memorialize the victims of Nazi Germany seemed simple. The Holocaust survivors in America, mostly Jewish and reaching the end of their natural lives, would leave a testament to what they had witnessed. Their brethren would support the effort to build a bridge to future generations.

But like many seemingly simple ideas, this one did not convert easily into reality. The Jewish survivors who led the effort were tied to the past. They alone had endured an unimaginable horror and they trusted no one to build this museum and fill it with their story.

The leader of this solemn brotherhood was Elie Wiesel, Nobel laureate and bard of the Holocaust. But he was not the activist needed to manage the effort to translate these nightmares meaningfully for others. An inspirational leader with an almost mystical view, he was less interested in such details as deadlines and fundraising.

"I believe too much in its sacredness to make it routine," he once said. "We should never let it be commercialized or cheapened. That is a sacred territory that one enters like Moses in the presence of God. Barefoot. Trembling. That era of fire and silence."

Such haunting imagery was puzzling to the affluent, Jewish real estate developers whom Wiesel reluctantly brought in as partners when he realized after four years that the work might never be completed. Albert "Sonny" Abramson and Harvey "Bud" Meyerhoff, born far from the killing fields of Nazi Europe, had accumulated great wealth in America and had an ability to accomplish their goals.

A bitter clash between the dreamers and the doers was inevitable.

"They kept pushing Elie for permission to move ahead. But Elie didn't seem to be sure that what he conceived of as the memorial could ever be set down in plans or construction," says Congressman Sidney Yates, D-Ill., who is close to the project.

Wiesel says he was not in a hurry. "So what if it takes

another year? We're dealing with a monument for centuries."

Finally, one bleak December afternoon in 1986, Wiesel, tired of the constant combat, stood before a stunned audience and resigned, ending his six-year tenure as chairman of the U.S. Holocaust Council.

The real estate men now had the power. Plans were finalized, bids were let and construction was set to begin.

But even now, as the ground is being prepared for the beginning of construction, some of those involved in the project have some concerns about how the story will be depicted. Some want the focus of the museum to be the actual artifacts from that dark period — a Torah smuggled into Auschwitz, mounds of forgotten children's shoes. They worry that plans to add computerized systems to attract mass audiences might commercialize the Holocaust.

"Sometimes electronic gimmicks can help," concedes Fred Diament, a Holocaust sur-



Elie Wiesel, former chairman of the Holocaust Memorial, believed "too much in its sacredness to make it routine." He has resigned after a bitter clash with museum developers.

visor and member of the museum committee monitoring its content. "But it has to be used with restraint. We have to make sure the Holocaust isn't turned into a dignified Disneyland."

Over the years, other questions have been raised about the project. What place shall there be for non-Jewish victims? Is a museum the proper memorial for Hitler's victims? And does it belong on the National Mall, which celebrates humanity's brightest achievements?

From the beginning, Wiesel became enmeshed in a fundamental ambiguity concerning which victims of Nazi atrocities should be commemorated in the museum. The Council's mandate calls for a memorial to the six million Jews and other victims of Nazism, without offering specific guidelines. But the issue raised the first delicate political questions for this museum that would be built on U.S. soil.

To the Jewish survivors, Hitler's war to exterminate the Jews was the central element of the Holocaust. To be sure, many others died in the Nazi killing machine. But in Hitler's maniacal plan, only the Jews were singled out as an entire race for destruction. Yet, the representatives of other Nazi victims wanted their people



Senate Minority Leader Robert J. Dole, center, lights a memorial candle with Holocaust survivor Joseph S. Gruss of New York at the National Civic ceremony commemorating the Holocaust in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda as Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell looks on.

commemorated, too. In the end, Wiesel produced a formula that helped balance the debate: All the Jews were victims, he said, but not all the victims were Jews. Hence, all would be represented in the museum.

If Elie Wiesel was able to mediate the dispute between Jews and non-Jews, he was less successful in managing the daily operations of the overall project so he turned to the developers.

Initially, Meyerhoff and Abramson saw the project a charitable activity but they soon gravitated toward playing more active roles. Although Wiesel welcomed their participation, the developers aroused his suspicions. Wiesel and many of the survivors began to feel they were losing control over the project. As a result, the issue of which decisions could be made without consulting the Council became the focal point of the struggle between the two groups.

In the end, after threatening to quit, Abramson and Meyerhoff prevailed, and it was Wiesel who resigned. Two months later, Meyerhoff was named chairman and he set out to unify the Council.

Virtually everyone involved in the project was enthusiastic about plans for the design of the building. James Freed, a partner in the New York firm I.M. Pei & Partners, was named architect. After a visit to Auschwitz in 1986, Freed, a German Jew who escaped the war, had an epiphany of sorts. While walking near the site of the crematoriums, his foot kicked up some earth, exposing small pieces of human bones.

Freed was moved by the fact that even four decades later, the earth refused to absorb the evidence of the foul crimes committed there. He said he then knew how the museum should look. His design bridged the gap between the Council's dreamers and builders, and the plan was approved unanimously.

But there were other problems. Apprehensions were aroused when Abramson retained an Israeli interior designer, Jeshajahu "Shaike" Weinberg, as a consultant on the project. Weinberg was a founder of Tel Aviv's Diaspora Museum, which extensively uses modern technology.

Raul Hilberg warned of the danger of creating "a sound

and light show." He believes that since the museum is being built thousands of miles from the scenes it will depict, it is important to give it an immediacy by emphasizing artifacts over technology.

But will artifacts be meaningful to the thousands of tourists, most of them non-Jews, who will visit the Holocaust museum on the Mall? Shomer Zwelling, who is directing work on the museum's "learning center," believes that these artifacts must be combined with modern techniques of story-telling.

Computers will present visitors with real dilemmas from the Holocaust period. For example, a family is in hiding and German soldiers are knocking on the door. The family baby begins to cry. "We want people to understand the terrible consequences of making choices," Zwelling says. At the end of the exercise, the visitor sees a videotape of the actual person involved in the incident explaining what choice was made.

Some worry that for the modern generation, such techniques threaten to turn the Holocaust into a video game. Indeed, knowing the limits of technology offers the strongest justification for why this museum belongs on the National Mall, experts say. The message of the nearby Air and Space Museum, for example, is that technology can overcome enormous obstacles to achieve goals. The Holocaust museum, says Michael Berenbaum, the museum's project director, reveals the dark side of technology. When applied at the death camp Treblinka, it permitted 150 people to kill 900,000 human beings in 18 months, cost efficiently.

The museum itself, its supporters contend, will not trivialize the Holocaust but will serve as a painful reminder of a dark period.

The black metal over part of its entrance will warn visitors they are entering a darker place than the surrounding museums. Inside the main entrance an in-

(Continued to page 32)

Increase In Number Of Museums Has Negative And Postive Side-Effects

A Yiddish wag once observed that there's no business like "Shoah" business. And judging from the proliferation of Holocaust institutions in the United States, the pun appears to be true.

In addition to the major facility now under construction in Washington on the National Mall, there are currently 98 Holocaust-related institutions in the U.S., according to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council's 1988 directory. The list includes 19 museums, 48 resource centers, 34 Holocaust archival centers, 12 Holocaust memorials, 26 research institutions and five Holocaust libraries.

Michael Berenbaum, the U.S. Holocaust Museum's project director and a Holocaust scholar, sees a bright side to this burgeoning interest. In 1969, he says, there were only two American universities offering courses that were teaching college students about the Holocaust. A decade later, there were 210 such courses being offered, and, he estimates, there has been a ten-fold increase since then. Such a spread of teaching serves as a natural and strong anecdote, particularly as time passes, against revisionist theories that question whether the event took place.

But other scholars worry that such proliferation could distort the view of Jewish culture. Hillel Levine, professor of sociology and religion at Boston University, says that "Within the context of Jewish history, mourning the Holocaust is significant. But that this should be the public expression of Jews — their brand name — I don't think is the best way to represent Jewish interests, and educate our children."

Moreover, he is concerned that the kind of conflicting interests that manifested themselves in Washington's Holocaust museum project can create unforeseen problems. For example, he says, in Boston there is a pitched battle over a Holocaust project. One group advocates building a monument to American soldiers who liberated the camps. But some survivors complain that such an approach would be too narrow.

Meanwhile, says Levine, "onlookers are totally baffled. The mayor, who thought he was doing a good deed, is being attacked by other groups and people. It's brought out a lot of viciousness."

The rapid growth of Holocaust projects also is touching off a bidding war for artifacts. For example, says one Holocaust scholar, recently two letters written by Anne Frank sold for \$165,000, far above the expected price. And competing projects also are tapping the same sources for funds. In Los Angeles, says Fred Diament, a Holocaust survivor who is active in the Washington project, "We are now moving our museum of the Holocaust to bigger quarters. The same people concerned about the Holocaust are being approached from everywhere," he says.

—RG

Federal Court Upholds Iowa Ruling Barring Overnight Menorah Display

By ANDREW SILOW CARROLL

NEW YORK (JTA) — The state of Iowa did not discriminate against the Lubavitch movement in 1986 when it refused to allow the organization to leave a Hanukkah menorah standing on the grounds of the state Capitol overnight, a federal court ruled last week. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit affirmed a lower court ruling allowing the state to ask Lubavitch to take down its 20-foot candelabrum each evening after a public candlelighting event on the Capitol grounds in Des Moines.

Chief Justice Donald Lay said there was no evidence that the state had allowed any other religious symbols to remain on

state grounds overnight. "We find Lubavitch's claim borders on the frivolous," Lay wrote in a four-page ruling.

But the court acknowledged that it did not rule on the free speech or constitutional questions raised in this and other cases involving the display of religious symbols. When Iowa first moved to revoke permission for the menorah, it was acting on the state attorney general's advice that the display of unattended religious symbols on state Capitol grounds might violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment. The clause prohibits government establishment of religion. Lay's ruling only upheld a state ordinance calling for a "thorough clean-up" after an event on Capitol grounds is concluded.

Paul Zoss, attorney for Lubavitch of Iowa, said the state at first objected to the menorah as a violation of church-state separation, later changing course to invoke the "overnight" restrictions. "Restrictions on speech should be content neutral," he said. "These restrictions are the result of the fact that it was a religious event."

"Naturally we're very disappointed in the court's decision," said Rabbi Moishe Kasowitz, director of Lubavitch of Iowa. "And we're a bit offended by the court's implication that we were bringing a frivolous suit. The lower courts did not seem to find it frivolous."

A number of Jewish groups lined up against the Lubavitch position in a friend-of-the-court brief written by the American

Jewish Congress.

Marc Stern, co-director of the AJCongress Commission on Law and Social Action, said that by only prohibiting overnight displays, the Iowa ordinance did not infringe upon a group's right to speak or hold a religious ceremony of limited duration. He said other municipalities have begun to draft similar "overnight" ordinances in order to circumvent the church-state issues raised by seasonal menorah and nativity scene displays.

Stern acknowledged, however, that some groups, including the American Civil Liberties Union, object to the ordinances on free speech grounds. The ACLU actually fil-

ed briefs on both sides of the Iowa case, supporting Lubavitch's free speech claims and AJCongress' church-state stance.

The AJCongress brief was filed on behalf of the Jewish Federation of Greater Des Moines, several local synagogues and two Reform organizations: the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

The U.S. Supreme Court is now reviewing a case involving the display of religious symbols, including a menorah erected by Lubavitch, on municipal buildings in Pittsburgh. A decision is expected by July 1.

Arab Free Access To Israel Abolished

By DAVID LANDAU JERUSALEM (JTA) — Free access into Israel for Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip was abolished late Tuesday, by order of the Israel Defense Force and police. For the first time in the 22 years since Israel took control of the territories, Arab residents will require individual permits to enter Israel for work or other reasons.

They may not stay in Israel overnight without special permission.

Arabs with records of criminal or security offenses will be permanently barred.

The new regulations took effect Tuesday night for the Gaza Strip, which is under a blanket curfew of indefinite duration. The far-reaching policy change was spelled out by top officials

Wednesday, in reports to the Knesset's Legal Committee.

Shmuel Goren, coordinator of government policy in the territories, told the committee that all workers from Gaza have been ordered to leave Israel, return to their homes and stay indoors until further notice.

Goren and Deputy Police Commissioner Yehoshua Caspi said the restrictions will eventually apply to the West Bank, although given the many more crossing points into Israel, different arrangements would have to be worked out.

Committee Chairman Uriel Lynn of Likud said persons with criminal records would not be allowed into Israel and that the others would require permits to enter and work. Permits to sleep over would be needed as well. That rule has existed

for some time, but has been only erratically enforced.

Meanwhile, the IDF chief of staff, Gen. Dan Shomron, proposed to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Tuesday that the territories be sealed off for several months as a form of economic sanction and deterrence. Some 100,000 Palestinians with jobs in Israel would be deprived of their livelihood under the plan.

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U.S. Rejects 'Retraction' Will Hold Iran Responsible If Anyone Acts On Death Threat

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The United States warned Iran's leaders that they would be held responsible if anyone responds to a call from the speaker of the Iranian parliament to kill Americans. "We will hold the Iranian leadership responsible for any attacks on American interests or citizens," State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said May 5.

She was reacting to a statement earlier in the day by the speaker, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, urging Iranians to kill five Americans or other Westerners for every Palestinian killed by the Israelis in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He said the target should be Americans, because they were more difficult to kill than Israelis.

This "call for murder and terrorism marks another step backward for Iran away from the community of civilized na-

tions," Tutwiler said. "So long as the support of terrorism remains an instrument of Iranian policy, the Iranian government will guarantee its isolation and the continuing hardships of the Iranian people."

Tutwiler added that "Rafsanjani's statement is an attack on all who are trying to bring peace to the Middle East. His incitement to terrorism should be rejected by all who are committed to a negotiated settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict."

News reports from Tunis indicated that Palestinian officials had rejected the Iranian call for murder. "We are against this poisoned advice to the Palestinian people to commit international terrorism against innocent people," a Palestine Liberation Organization spokesperson was quoted as saying.

An Iranian official's

withdrawal of his death threat against Westerners "falls far short of any disavowal" of terrorism, the State Department said last week. Deputy department spokesman Richard Boucher was reacting to what he called a "so-called retraction" of the death threat made by Ali Akbar Rafsanjani, speaker of Iran's parliament.

Rafsanjani made the threat early this month, when he called for five Americans or other Westerners to be murdered for every Palestinian killed by Israeli soldiers.

The *New York Times* quoted Rafsanjani as saying on Teheran radio, "I really do not advise this and consider it a weak point." The *Times* said Rafsanjani clarified that "what he had meant was that Israeli oppression of Palestinians could lead to violence."

Boucher used the occasion to criticize the affirmation of a death threat against "Satanic Verses" author Salman Rushdie by Iranian President Sayed Ali Khamenei in Beijing, China, on May 11.

"The bullet has been shot," the Iranian leader said. "It has his name on it, and sooner or later it will reach the target," Boucher quoted him as saying. That statement "is further evidence of Iranian incitement to terrorism."

"Our view of Iran's support for terrorism has not changed," Boucher said. If it wants to



Hashemi Rafsanjani, who was endorsed on May 7 by the outgoing Iranian President Ali Khamenei to succeed him, called on Palestinians to "retaliate against Zionist brutality" with "attacks against Americans and other Westerners and their interests around the world."

join "the community of civilized nations, it must unconditionally rescind all of its death threats and exhortations to violence and cease its sponsorship of terrorism in all forms."

Boucher added that Iran should use its "admitted influence with the kidnapers in Lebanon to secure the immediate and unconditional release of all of the hostages."

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College Board Will Give Test In Modern Hebrew

By MICHAEL KELLMAN

NEW YORK (JTA)—On Sunday, June 4, the College Board will be administering an achievement test in modern Hebrew for the first time. This marks a departure from the past, when the only test given was in biblical, or classical, Hebrew. This change has been in the works a long time, said Gretchen Rigol, the executive director of the College Board's Admissions Testing Program.

"The test we had been offering was for a student who had studied for 10 to 12 years," she explained. However, the new test is geared more toward students "who have only three or four years of schooling in Hebrew."

This change has come about because Hebrew has begun to be offered in public high schools in recent years. According to Rigol, "the old test did not take into account

modern Hebrew as a living language."

This problem was called to the attention of the College Board by the Board of Jewish Education, which realized that the test was out of date. "Representatives from the BJE encouraged us to make the test more appropriate to today," she said.

In order to do this, the College Board conducted a curriculum survey of all the schools that had given the test in the past. Based on the results of this survey, they gathered the material for this new test. After three years of work, the test has been welcomed with open arms by schools and faculty from all over the country.

Although the test was created to benefit those students with less schooling in the language, Rigol feels that "students will improve on this test regardless of their background and education."

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ASHER RUBIN

Psychologist Urges Israelis Not To Repeat The Past

A Massachusetts psychiatrist, using psychoanalytic approaches to evaluate the Israeli response to the Palestinian uprising, has warned Israel that it must free itself "from the compulsion to repeat the past" if peace is ever to be achieved. That analysis and recommendation were made by Steven Adelman, who teaches psychiatry at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center at Worcester and who holds dual U.S. and Israeli citizenship. He discussed his psychological approach to the Israeli-Palestinian impasse in a recent issue of *Sh'ma*, the independent Jewish journal.

Adelman declared that the historical record of unending attacks on Jews, culminating in the European Holocaust and the murderous Arab assaults on Jews before and after statehood, had compelled Israel to acquire the tools considered essential for survival.

Adelman said these tools — "a thick skin, vigilance, cunning and suspiciousness" — constituted "street smarts," which he said served Israel well during the 1950s and 1960s.

But things changed with Israel's impressive military victory in the 1967 Six-Day War, which "propelled Israel into adulthood, suddenly, perhaps prematurely." For Israeli Jews, "living by the sword was transformed" by that stunning victory "from a survival mechanism into a seemingly effective technique for achieving a variety of national, spiritual,

territorial and economic objectives."

The psychiatrist added that in addition to meeting "pragmatic needs," occupation of the territories seized during the Six-Day War and the "subjugation" of the Arab population "addressed deeper collective psychological needs of the Israeli people."

He dismissed as "fantasy" what he called the Israeli belief that the Palestinian Arabs "could be mollified" by humane policies to "the point of wanting to remain forever under Israeli rule." He added that an understanding that the Israeli Jews had such a fantasy "clarifies the psychological issues which have helped to perpetuate the Israeli occupation."

"Haunted by memories and ghost of recent and past persecutions," Israel's Jews "naively believed" they could rewrite their history "by dominating another people in a manner they considered to be gentle and humane — this was their attitude in the early years" of the occupation.

If the "benign occupation" had worked, Adelman declared, the Israeli Jews "might have been able to purge from their consciousness the shadowy image of past persecutors."

When the Israeli dream of "a psychologically liberating 'benign occupation'" was shattered by the Palestinian uprising, that failure was seen by the Israelis as proving that "once again," peaceful coexistence had been demonstrated by the

Arabs to be an illusion and that the only effective solution on which the Israelis could depend was a military one.

The psychiatrist contended that Israel must recognize that its post-1967 hopes of a "benign occupation" were "naive" and have, in fact, con-

tributed to a vicious cycle of violence.

Adelman suggested that Yasir Arafat's recent overtures, an apparent reference to his Geneva statement last December recognizing Israel's right to exist and renouncing terrorism against Israel, were

cause "for cautious optimism." He said Israel needs to understand and acknowledge its own role in the ongoing hostilities, to free itself "from the compulsion to repeat the past, and to take in earnest the current opportunity to explore the prospects for peace."

Israelis Look At Past And Future During Independence Day Holiday

By DAVID LANDAU and GIL SEDAN

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israelis, marking Memorial Day for their war dead on May 9 while preparing for the May 10 Independence Day festivities, received mixed messages from their national leaders.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, in a brief speech at the military cemetery on Mount Herzl, suggested that bereaved families might be consoled by the knowledge that there are "better days" ahead. But Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, addressing a memorial gathering at Kiryat Shaul, near Tel Aviv, said nothing has changed since Israel fought for its independence in 1948.

"We are still involved in the battle over the right to have a hold here," Rabin said. "This is the same war which began in 1948 and has not yet been ended. Our enemies have the same goal — to get rid of us — even if rifles, tanks and airplanes have been replaced by stones, knives and petrol bombs," the defense minister said.

President Chaim Herzog, in a televised Independence Day address, said he was "profoundly disturbed" by the "polarizing tendencies" he has witnessed, "particularly among the youth who have been ensnared by the attitudes of fanatical marginal groups completely alien to the Jewish spirit."

Herzog also warned against vigilantism. "Let's be wary of attempts by unauthorized bodies to take the law into their own hands and act in place of the bodies authorized to do so," he said.

"That way lies the ruination of the delicate fabric of our democracy, and if we damage our democratic system, our very existence is endangered," the president warned.

"We celebrate this Independence Day in the midst of a struggle for our right to live in our land, for the justice of our cause, for the preservation of the values of the precious freedom, bought by the blood of the sons and daughters in whose memory we have stood

in reverent silence," Herzog said.

An ugly incident developed at the military cemetery in Sde Warburg, demonstrating the polarization Herzog warned about. Knesset member Dedi Zucker of the dovish Citizens Rights Movement was hounded out of the cemetery because of his support for dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization. "I thought that in our military cemeteries we are one big family, that one cannot distinguish between the dead of the right and the dead of the left," a shaken Zucker said.

Women Pray At Wall

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A group of women succeeded in conducting prayer services on May 12 at the Western Wall, without being assaulted or harassed by the ultra-Orthodox, as has occurred in previous attempts.

The group, which calls itself the Women's Kotel Tefillah, recited the prayers for Rosh Hodesh, the new month.



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Review

'Incommunicado' At Wilma Theater Is 'Powerful'
Look At The Life Of Ezra Pound

By CECIL EHRICH
It was a delight for me to discover Philadelphia's "Off Broadway" theatres. Located at Sansom and 20th Street, these small, intimate theatres encourage a new generation of playwrights with their experimental and innovative plays. Though the theatres are quite small, the plays can make a big impression.
Incommunicado, a play about Ezra Pound, the poet and virulent anti-Semite, now at the Wilma Theatre, is a powerful story, both dramatic and forceful. It was written by Tom Dulack and directed by Blanka Zyka, and its engagement has been extended, by popular demand, until May 28. This production was awarded a major grant from the Fund for New American Plays.

Ezra Pound, as outstandingly portrayed by David Hurst, is a man of contradictions; a brilliant poet and scholar warped by ego, arrogance, and dogmatism. As his friend Wyndham Lewis wrote, "Pound was a pedagogic volcano whose molten matter was language that seared through a 'tragic fracture' in his personality." The play is built around these dramatic contradictions.
Pound is charged by the United States government with treason for his pro-Axis radio broadcasts from Italy during World War II. Incidentally, his pronouncements were virulently anti-Semitic. As the play begins, Ezra Pound is confined to a cage in a military detention camp in Pisa, Italy, struggling to survive and maintain some vestige of dignity in order to

"create."
As the play progresses, we also see his cunning and manipulative nature which exploits others, while blatantly evading and denying his own guilt. Pound asks rhetorically, "Where was a man supposed to look for moral guidance?"
As Dulack, the playwright, notes, "The history of anti-Semitism in the West is long and lamentable. No country, no people, including the United States of America can plead innocent. Anti-Semitism is woven into the fabric of our culture and has been from the beginning of time."
The impact of the final scene of the play is gripping, overwhelming, and devastating. As William Collins, *The Philadelphia Inquirer* critic states, "*Incommunicado* is a

work of imagination and the most powerful thesis on stage in recent memory. It is a drama of revelation, rather than conflict."
The bare, grimly stark set and the lighting effects add greatly to the mood, and coupled with the intimacy of the theatre, the play grips the audience and makes it a participant in the drama. It is a play worth seeing, a play to ponder, a play with an impact that rouses the conscience of man. To Tom Dulack, "Pound embodies (and symbolizes) the moral failure of Western man in the 20th century." The playwright feels "we need to look at what Ezra Pound represents, because we need to look at ourselves. Until all of us can say with perfect conviction 'never again!', it can happen again."

Interview:
'Arab And Jew' Author Explores Relationships

BY MORRIE WARSHAWSKI
Special to The Jewish Voice

David K. Shipler has just finished shepherding his Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *Arab and Jew: Wounded Spirits in a Promised Land* to television. During a recent phone conversation he sounded very much like the father of a new child.

"It has come out to be a very powerful film and has accomplished something that I had hoped it would," Shipler says with pride. "Namely it carries the viewer beyond the political and diplomatic and military conflict into a compassion for individual people on both sides who are caught up in the struggle."

Shipler is currently a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. For almost 20 years he worked for *The New York Times* in a number of capacities including bureau chief in Jerusalem, correspondent in Saigon, Moscow Bureau Chief and, most recently, as chief diplomatic correspondent in the Washington bureau.

As a journalist with a deep commitment to the written word, Shipler had to learn the process of translating his ideas to the visual language of film — a process he calls both frustrating and educational.

"One of the things I've learned is that you can reach an understanding of issues by means other than discussing the issues in explicit ways," admits Shipler. "there is an aesthetic dimension to this film that makes it something more than a documentary, that provides a level of engagement with viewers in which they understand something about what's going on almost without realizing that they are understanding it."

As an example he points to the section of the film with Galila Barkai, a right wing activist and Jewish high school teacher. During Shipler's interview for the book Barkai presented a much more openly radical and strident position than she does for the camera. But, as Shipler notes, audiences see a true Barkai despite herself. "In the film because people are talking they send lots of messages . . . their tone of voice, their facial expressions — these have turned out to be very powerful."

Shipler found particularly frustrating the impossibility of packing everything from the book into the documentary. "We wanted to do something on the Bedouins because it is such a rich subject from a photographic viewpoint. I wanted very much to include mixed Arab-Jewish marriages, but mixed couples would not talk to us on film . . . They value their privacy and were worried about possible harassment."

The experience of living in the Middle East has made Shipler increasingly aware of the power of ethnic and religious fundamentalism. "I've become much more afraid of it and begin to be sensitive when I see it in my own society. For instance Protestant fundamentalism in America in some of its forms I find rather terrifying . . . The degree to which national leadership neglects to deal with this, fails to deal with it is also disturbing."

Although not a Jew himself, Shipler feels strongly about the importance of a continuing and open American Jewish dialogue about Israel. "American Jewish leaders should feel free to speak out. It's healthy to have a spectrum of opinion. It's not good to tiptoe around and be afraid if you criticize Israel you're going to undermine American governmental support."

Shipler points to the fears that keep American Jews from being vocal. "There is a deep historical sense of vulnerability of the Jewish people and a sense of aloneness, which has not been relieved even by the fairly widespread support of Israel in the U.S. A sense that this is a fragile support and that Jews shouldn't be the ones to undermine it."

These are fears to which Shipler does not subscribe. "American support of Israel goes far beyond the Jewish community and has



David K. Shipler's Pulitzer Prize winning book, "*Arab and Jew: Wounded Spirits in a Promised Land*," is the basis of a two-hour public television documentary of the same title, airing on PBS on May 29 at 10 p.m. Through intensely personal interviews, Shipler explores the roots of the highly charged relationship between Arabs and Jews living in Israel, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

to do with much more broadly societal issues such as the affinity for democracy, the fact that most of us come out of a Judeo-Christian tradition and have an affection for that part of the world, that there is still a recognition of the horror of the Holocaust and a desire to see a Jewish state thrive. But thrive as an open place, and not as a place in which oppressive methods have to be used."

Even though Shipler himself confesses to no emotional or mystical connection to any point of geography, he has always felt that there is something beautiful in an attachment to land. "I felt it in Vietnam, I felt it among the Jews of Israel, among the Palestinians and in Laos — something noble about someone feeling that his roots were in a particular place."

"The trouble is when two groups compete for the same piece of land," Shipler cautions. "In pragmatic terms, as someone who had dealt with diplomacy a lot and likes conciliation, compromise and resolution, the absolutist version of the land does not seem to be very workable, practical or desirable. You can't wish it away, or negotiate it away. You have to respect it and treat it as something that is there as a fixture in the conflict and work around it to reach a point where people reconcile themselves to their inability to have everything they want."

The 2-hours documentary, *Arab and Jew: Wounded Spirits in a Promised Land* can be seen on PBS — WHYY on Monday, May 29, at 10 p.m.

(Morrie Warshawski is a writer based in San Francisco whose articles appear in publications throughout the U.S. and Canada.)

Review

Fiction Deals With The Arab Experience In Israel

Confessions of a Good Arab. Yoram Kaniuk. George Braziller, 60 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10010. 1988. 215 pages. \$17.50.

Arabesques. Anton Shammas. Harper & Row, 10 East 53rd Street, New York, NY 10022. 1988. 263 pages. \$16.95.

Reviewed By
BENJAMIN NELSON

Both of these fascinating novels dramatize life in contemporary Israel. Both also intertwine past and present into a dramatic tapestry which forcefully and powerfully presents the difficult and often tragic paradoxes that constitute

modern Israeli life. And both are written from an intriguing perspective: as the titles suggest, the viewpoint is essentially Arab.

Confessions of a Good Arab is the latest effort of one of Israel's leading writers, Yoram Kaniuk. Like his colleagues Amos Oz and A. B. Yehoshua, Mr. Kaniuk adamantly refuses to view the Israeli-Arab conflict in simplistic or sentimental terms. Rather, he sees it as an ongoing and deeply despairing situation which only perpetuates increasing anger and anguish.

The protagonist and first-person narrator is Yosef

Rosenzweig/Sherara, the son of Hava Rosenzweig, a Jewish refugee from Nazi Germany, and Azouri Sherara, an aristocratic Palestinian Arab. Yosef is thus the ambivalent inheritor of two cultures and a pariah in each of them. His struggle to find an identity in this tragic interlock is the central odyssey of the novel.

Confessions of a Good Arab contains the elements of powerful drama, and it is a work of great skill and ability. Individual sequences such as the humiliation of Yosef's maternal grandfather at a German medical school, the initial meeting of his grandfather and father in the opulent garden of Yosef's uncle, and Yosef's bizarre attempt to paint the desert red as a gesture of protest and anger, all pulsate with shimmering vitality. And certainly the main idea of the novel is profoundly challenging: the idea that Israel, like Yosef, is torn asunder by a conflict that takes its deadly toll on both Arab and Jew.

However, something is lacking in this complex and intriguing drama — a solid, flesh-and-blood core to the characters who move through it. They are less individuals than attitudes, and Yosef himself carries a load of symbolic tonnage that constantly tends to flatten out his individuality. He is Israel divided, a personified theme statement, and since the other characters are filtered through his perception and memory, they too become abstractions.

Their tale is often hauntingly told, and Mr. Kaniuk is obviously a highly gifted teller, but although his work is one of profound integrity, it does not engage the heart as deeply as it should. Too often it seems to be a demonstration of a moral dilemma rather than a human drama. It is about tragedy, but it falls short of being tragedy.

Arabesques also deals with the difficulties of life in modern Israel, essentially from the Arab perspective. It too presents a protagonist in quest of his identity as an Arab, an Israeli, and a human being in a land of flux and turmoil. The tone of Shammas's novel is gentler, less bitter and corrosive than that of Kaniuk's tale, but the plight of his autobiographical narrator is still an uncertain and painful one.

As its title indicates, *Arabesques* is a complex and ornate design of intertwined characters and situations, extending across time and space, and involving various generations of a family fragmented by circumstances yet attempting to maintain connection through tradition and memory. The story teems with life and color as Mr. Shammas guides the reader from present to past, across various countries, and across the borders that seem to but do not always separate reality from illusion.

The novel is an intricate and ingenious piece of writing. It is always interesting, and in numerous sequences it dazzles

Confessions of a Good Arab

A NOVEL BY
YORAM KANIUK

the reader with images of a troubled yet vital land, replete with vivid characters and events.

Its strength, however, may also be its weakness. Too often, *Arabesques* seems enamored with its own intricacies and invention. Style overwhelms content, and the overall effect, though quite exhilarating, is also one of precocity. Reading it is something like eating an extraordinarily rich and creamy concoction of sweets. It tastes delicious, but it may not be all that good for you. The book is at its best when it artfully conveys the basic motifs of Israeli life and literature — family, homeland, connection and dispersion — now also a vital

(Continued to page 32)

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If You're Not Going To Buy, Don't Ask The Price

By DENNIS PRAGER

There is a law in the Talmud with which very few Jews are acquainted. Yet it is among the most ethically beautiful laws in Judaism. When properly understood and practiced, this law can have a measurable impact on a person's behavior. The law reads: "One is not permitted to ask the storekeeper the price of an item if he knows he will not purchase it" (Bava Metziah 58b).

Asking the price of an item that one has no intention of buying is considered "verbal oppression." According to Jewish law, it misleads, disappoints and can easily involve transgressing the commandment against stealing.

Before analyzing the law, a brief explanation of it is necessary.

First, the law does not say that in order to be able to ask the price of an item, one must know that one will purchase it. The Talmud allows comparison shopping. One can inquire as to the price of an item from as many stores as one needs to. Only if you know that you will

not buy the item from that particular store are you forbidden from inquiring its price.

Among this law's many virtues is that it is as applicable today as it was when it was formulated. A number of years ago, a friend who leased many cars for his business told me that he could arrange for his car-leasing company to lease me a car at cost.

When I responded that I didn't know what make of auto I wanted, he told me to go around and test drive various car models. His idea was a practical one, but it is precisely the type of practice forbidden by the storekeeper law.

To cite another widespread violation of this law, some women go to a store to try on dresses, knowing that they have no intention of buying any of those dresses at that store. They only want to find out which ones they want, and then purchase them elsewhere at wholesale prices.

And many men who desire to buy photographic equipment will visit a retail camera store, take up the store's time in order to decide which equipment they want, and then order that equipment from a less expensive mail-order house.

Why do such practices violate Jewish law? The most obvious reason has already been noted — a seller's hopes have been raised in vain. But though this reason should suffice, it goes deeper than that: We are deliberately misleading people about one of the most important concerns in their life — their income.

We should not delude ourselves into thinking otherwise. Whenever we try on a dress, take a test drive, or merely ask the price of a camera, we are implying the possibility of buying the item — and this is precisely what the salesperson infers.

This is easily proved. How would a sales person react if we told her the truth? "Miss, I want you to know at the outset that though I will be trying some dresses here, I will not buy any of them here." Obviously, if we said this, the salesperson would cease working with us, and the store would certainly be morally right in asking us to leave. The store does not exist in order to show items for people to buy elsewhere.

In addition to preventing us from engaging in deliberate deception, the storekeeper law teaches a deeper lesson. It makes us keenly aware that we have obligations toward people whom in general we regard as beyond our obligation.

Having learned of this law some 20 years ago, from my co-author Joseph Telushkin, I have never regarded people who work in stores the same as I did before. Every time I have entered a store in the past 20 years, I have been automatically forced to recall my obligations toward those working in the store. And I know this to be true for the many others to whom I have taught this law.

This in itself would make this law particularly useful in contemporary society. While our society is obsessed with rights, Judaism is obsessed with obligations.

For example, Americans are frequently made aware of consumer rights. Yet, here we have an instance where Judaism teaches consumer obligations. Deeper yet, the storekeeper law forces one who observes it to see salespeople in a different light. Cognizance of this law immediately transforms salespeople from people whose sole function it is to answer our questions into individuals with feelings and hopes for earning a living.

One way of describing the genius of this law is that it forces us to establish an I-You relationship with the person behind the counter, rather than retaining the usual I-It relationship that we have with people whom we meet only once, in a service capacity.

Finally, the law can easily be applied to much else in life. If you know you are not going to buy, don't imply that you might.

The powerful ramifications of this principle were made clear to me when, after I spoke about this law, a young woman told me how she wished the men whom she dates would live by this law: So often, men imply interest that is in fact not there. Thus, for men who are dating women, a simple application of this law would read: Do not sleep with a woman if you know that you have no intention of committing to her.

To many women, sexual intimacy implies the possibility of a man's lasting commitment to her. (If a man disagrees with this assessment, let him, then, simply state the truth: "I want to sleep with you, but honesty demands that I tell you now that I will not commit to you.")

This law keeps you honest. The storekeeper law is a superb example of Judaism's unique approach to making people better. It does not attempt to do so through general principles such as Love or Compassion, but through laws that teach and enforce love and compassion. This is Judaism's greatness.

The next time a non-

observant Jew tells you that since he is already a good person, he has no need to observe Jewish law, tell him about the storekeeper law.

(Dennis Prager is co-author of "The Nine Questions People Ask About Judaism" and is the editor of "Ultimate Issues," a quarterly publication from which the above is reprinted with permission.)

Dvar Torah Parashat Behar, May 20

Ethical Ecology

By RAE LEVINE
Special to The Jewish Voice

Some years back there was a television commercial for a particular brand of margarine which ended with a clap of thunder and a voice proclaiming: "It's not nice to fool Mother Nature!" This week's parsha, *Behar*, contains a similar warning.

Lost amid the dos and don'ts of the Sabbatical and Jubilee Years, the whens and hows of house and land redemption, and the whos and whys of bondservants and slaves, is the principle of human responsibility. Man as divinely-appointed caretaker of God's creation is a thread woven throughout the Torah fabric from *Beresheit* to *Devarim*.

While we have, for centuries, given lip service to the ideal of man's stewardship, too often the verse giving man "dominion over the fish of the sea, the fowl of the air, the cattle, and over all the earth," has been used as a justification for bulldozing forests, polluting rivers, and exterminating whole species.

Forgotten is the passage from *Behar* which warns us "for the land is Mine, for you are strangers and sojourners with Me." And the words of the psalmist, "the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein." Too many times we get caught up in the legal intricacies of the text and lose sight of the moral values with which the Torah is imbued.

At the very start of this parsha we are reminded of God's ownership — and some of the conditions of our tenancy! "When you come into the land which I give you, the land shall observe a Sabbath of the Lord. Six years you may sow your field and six years you may prune your vineyard and gather in the yield, but in the seventh year the land shall have a Sabbath of complete rest, a Sabbath of the Lord. You shall not reap the aftergrowth of your harvest or gather the grapes of your untrimmed vines; it shall be a year of complete rest for the land."

This belief — that man is merely a tenant on the earth and not its owner — is a philosophy which has found expression among other societies and cultures, most notably the American Indian. Their lack of traditions regarding individual property ownership enabled the early colonizers to appropriate vast tracts of real estate wilderness. When confronted by this quaint notion, tribal chieftains were astonished that anyone could conceive of possessing what the Great Spirit had created for all.

The parsha continues to tell us to "observe My laws and faithfully keep My rules, that you may live upon the land in security; the land shall yield its fruit and you shall eat your fill, and you shall live upon it in security."

Do we, in this era of polluted waters and acid-rainwashed forests, live upon the land in security? How much produce do we take off the grocers shelves because of chemical contaminants? How much pesticide residue clings to the fruit of our fields? How much industrial waste do we ingest with every bite of fish? How long can we continue to poison ourselves and our earth before the planetary ecosystem collapses?

Marshall McLuhan said that we were all inhabitants of the same global village; Buckminster Fuller likened us to passengers on Spaceship Earth hurtling through the universe. No longer can we afford the luxury of allowing ourselves and our neighbors to cut down the rain forests, weaken the ozone layer, pollute the oceans, and hunt animals to extinction. There are man-made substitutes for ivory but when the last elephant dies, can man make another?

Time and again throughout the Torah, we are told that the land belongs to God, and it is only ours to use as long as we care for it properly. Implicit in this is the notion that if we are unruly and destructful tenants, the landlord will come one day and rightfully evict us. Parshat Behar is part of God's instruction manual for the Earth; disregarding operational instructions usually leads to performance malfunction.

(Rae Levine is a writer, story teller and student of Rabbi Zalman Schachter Shalomi of the P'nai Or Fellowship in Philadelphia.)



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NOAH'S ARK

A newspaper for Jewish children

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Yom Yerushalayim Game

This year, Yom Yerushalayim, Jerusalem Day, is celebrated on June 2, 1989, which is the 28th day of the Hebrew month of Iyar.

Yom Yerushalayim is in honor of the day when, in 1967, Israel's army won control over the old city of Jerusalem. Before that, from 1948 to 1967, Jerusalem was divided between Israel and Jordan. Jordan did not allow Jews to enter the old part of Jerusalem and to pray at the Western Wall.

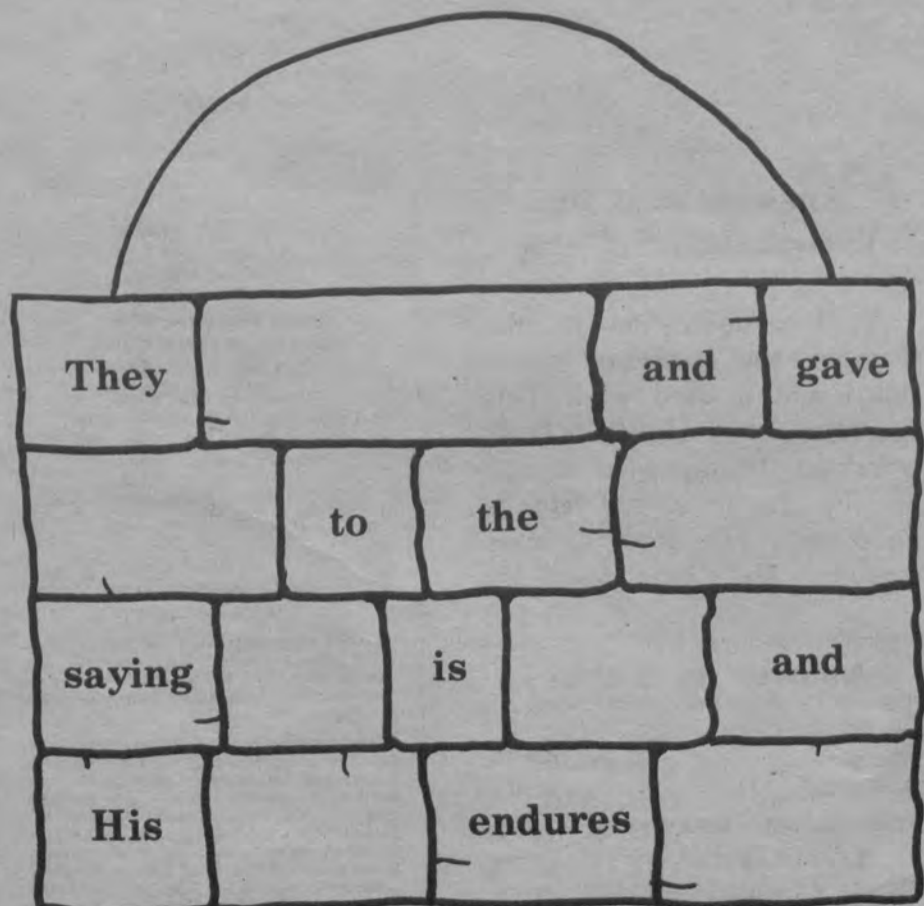
The Western Wall was the last remaining wall of the area around the Holy Temple, first built by King Solomon during the days of the Bible. Today, when Jews pray at the Western Wall, they remember the Holy Temples.

In honor of Yom Yerushalayim, complete the Temple below by filling in the missing words on the stones. When you do, you'll learn what the Israelites said when the Temple was first dedicated to God.

- Game by Marilyn Senterfitt, copyright 1989.

forever
good
He
Lord

love
thanks
worshipped



- Answers on next page.



The Whole Megillah

The third part of the Bible is called Ketuvim, or "Writings." Ketuvim includes the Book of Psalms, the Book of Proverbs, the Book of Job, and five Megillot.

When most Jews hear the word "Megillah," they think about Purim. Since the word Megillah means "scroll" (Megillot are scrolls), most people think about the Scroll of Esther. Actually, there are four more Megillot, and each one is read during a different Jewish holiday.

The first Megillah is called The Song of Songs. This scroll tells the story of two lovers in the springtime. The Rabbis who wrote the Talmud explained that God and the Jewish people are the two lovers in the story. This Megillah is read during Passover. It is said that King Solomon wrote this Megillah when he was a young man.

The second Megillah is called the Book of Ruth. It is read during Shavuot, when we remember that the Jewish people accepted God's gift of the Torah. That is the perfect time to read about Ruth, who also accepted the Torah and chose to be a Jew. The Book of Ruth also talks about the spring harvest, which is celebrated during Shavuot.



The next Megillah is a sad one. It is called the Book of Lamentations. Lamentation means crying or weeping because one feels very sad. This book tells about the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem. Even though it has many sad poems in it, it ends with the hopeful prayer that the Jewish people will turn to God and that our days will "be once again like the old days."

The fourth Megillah is read on Sukkot. It is called Ecclesiastes (Ec-lee-zee-as-tees) or Kohelet. This book teaches that the purpose of life is to fear God and to follow the commandments. It is said that King Solomon wrote this book when he was an old man.

Sometimes people use the expression "the whole Megillah," which is like saying "the whole story." The next time you hear people say that, ask which Megillah they mean!

תַּחְרוּת
(Tah-chah-root) – Contest!

To enter this contest, imagine that you are one of the people standing at the foot of Mt. Sinai when God gave the Torah to the Jewish people. Write a letter to someone who wasn't there. Here are some things you could include in your letter:

What was it like to be there, to receive the Torah in person? Were you excited, happy, or afraid? What would you especially want other people to know about that experience, or about the Torah? Is there some law that you think was left out? You can make your letter serious or funny. You could include a drawing, too, but it won't count in the contest.

Send your entry with your name, complete address, and age to: Letter Contest, c/o NOAH'S ARK, 7726 Portal, Houston, Texas 77071. Entries will not be considered unless you include your age. All entries become the property of NOAH'S ARK and cannot be returned. **DEADLINE:** June 15, 1989.

מְלוּנִי
(Me-lo-nee) – My Dictionary

אָבִיב
 (ah-veev)
 spring

פִּיקְנִיק
 (peek-neek)
 picnic

אָכַל
 (oh-chehl)
 food

סַל
 (sahl)
 basket

שְׂמִיכָה
 (s'mee-chah)
 blanket



Tree Contest Winners

Thanks to everyone who entered the Tu B'Shvat contest. Readers were asked to make new words from the words "plant a tree."

The first category was for readers aged 6-8, who had to find at least 15 words. The second category was for readers aged 9-12, who had to find at least 25 words. A drawing was held from all of the correct entries and a winner was chosen in each category.

The winner in the first category is Alison Corwin, 8-years-old, from Heulett, New York. Alison found 32 correct words. The winner in the second category is Adrienne Stern, Daled Class, Temple Beth Shalom Hebrew School, from Mahopac, New York. She found 45 words.

רִבּוּס
Rebus – (Ree-boose)

After Moses brought the Torah down Mt. Sinai and gave it to the Israelites, what did the Israelites say?



- B +



- SH



+



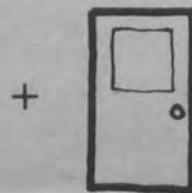
- BA +



- G +



- H



- KN

+



- K =

"All that the Lord has spoken . . .

Answer to Yom Yerushalayim Game

At the dedication of the Temple, the Israelites bowed down and praised God. This is what they said: "They worshipped and gave thanks to the Lord, saying He is good and His love endures forever." (II Chronicles 7:3c)

Answer to Rebus

Web - b + wishbone - sh - bone + ball - ba + dog - g + hand - h + knob - kn + key - k = "All that the Lord has spoken, we will do and obey."

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חברים לעט

(Chah-veh-reem L'et) - Pen Pals

Dear Readers:

Here are some readers who would like to hear from you! If you are 6-12-years-old and want a pen pal, you may fill out the form below or write to one of these names. To send a letter to one of the names listed below, first write your letter. Be sure to include your complete name and address in your letter. Then, put a stamp on a **blank envelope**. Put your letter and the **stamped** blank envelope in another envelope which is addressed to: the name of your pen pal, c/o NOAH'S ARK, 7726 Portal, Houston, Texas 77071. We are sorry that we cannot print every letter we receive.

- Kanga

Noah Weiskoff
Natick, Massachusetts
Age: 6 Grade: Kindergarten
Likes swimming, bike riding, sleepovers, animals, and making cookies.
Wants a boy pen pal, aged 6-8.

Elissa Buxbaum
Brooklyn, New York
Age: 6 Grade: 1st
Likes piano, ballet, dolls, stickers, art books, stationery, pens, school, and camp.
Wants a pen pal, aged 6-8.

David Eichholz
Savannah, Georgia
Age: 7 Grade: 2nd
Likes sports, karate, and chocolate.
Wants a boy pen pal, aged 7.

Gina Caplan
Glenview, Illinois
Age: 7 Grade: 2nd
Likes drawing, music, and dancing.
Wants a girl pen pal, aged 7-8.

Jacob Hakak
Beverly Hills, California
Age: 8 Grade: 3rd
Likes TV, math, soccer, eating, reading, swimming, and fun.
Wants a boy pen pal, aged 7-9.

Dave Lewanda
Farmington, Connecticut
Age: 8 Grade: 3rd
Likes TV, sports, biking, skating, clubs, skateboards, and math.
Wants a boy pen pal, aged 8-10.

Jodi Meyer
St. Louis, Missouri
Age: 8 Grade: 3rd
Likes books, dance, gymnastics, ice cream, animals, and movies.
Wants a girl pen pal, same age.

Susan Rosenthal
Sausalito, California
Age: 9 Grade: 3rd
Likes swimming, sports, Girl Scouts, acting, TV, animals, and collecting baseball cards.
Wants a girl pen pal, aged 8-10.



Micah Wallet
Rutherglen, Virginia
Age: 9 Grade: 4th
Likes computers, TV, traveling, swimming, and collecting stamps.
Wants a pen pal, aged 8-11.

Dustin Ricce
Los Cruces, New Mexico
Age: 10 Grade: 5th
Likes tennis, soccer, football, and baseball.
Wants a boy pen pal, aged 10.

Ashley Stern
Montgomery, Alabama
Age: 10 Grade: 5th
Likes Nintendo, shopping, having parties, telephone, and candy.
Wants a girl pen pal, aged 10 or older.

Robert Baskind
Bluefield, West Virginia
Age: 11 Grade: 5th
Likes soccer, basketball, trumpets, jazz, diving, and Italian and American food.
Wants a boy pen pal, aged 10-11.

Sigrid Statz
Delavan, Wisconsin
Age: 11 Grade: 5th
Likes music, talking on the phone, and dancing parties.
Wants a girl pen pal, same age.

Tracy Lore
Houston, Texas
Age: 12 Grade: 6th
Likes roller skating, stuffed animals, gymnastics, volleyball, and playing the oboe.
Wants a girl pen pal, any age.

משחק

(Mees-chahk) - Game

The Shavuot holiday has three other names. One is Chag Ha-Katzir, which means the "festival of the harvest." Another is Zaman Mattan Toratenu, which means "the time of the giving of our Law." The third name is Chag Ha-Bikkurim, the "holiday of the first fruits."

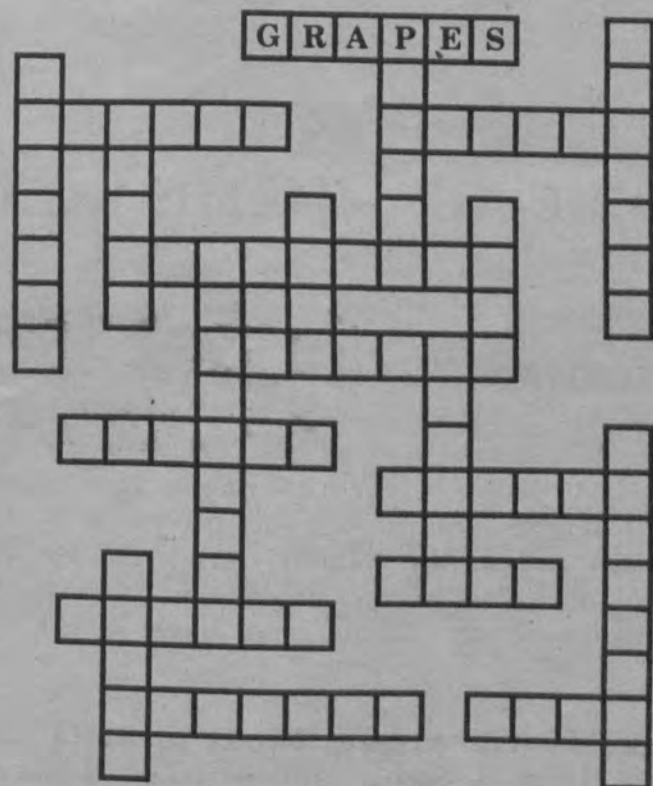
During the time of the Bible, most of the Jewish people used to be farmers. Every spring, they traveled up to Jerusalem to the Holy Temple, to thank God for their good harvests. They gave the first fruits of the crop to the Kohanim, the priests of the Holy Temple. Today we celebrate Chag Ha-Bikkurim by decorating our homes with flowers and leaves and by eating fruits and vegetables.



In honor of Chag Ha-Bikkurim, play this game. Fit the words below into their correct places. Use as clues the number of letters in each word and the letters linking the words to each other. The words are listed in alphabetical order, grouped by the number of letters.

The first word is filled in for you. Next you need to find a six letter word, beginning with P. Continue like that until you use all of the words. It is helpful to use a pencil, in case you need to erase. Check off each word as you use it.

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 4 letters | 6 letters | 7 letters | 9 letters |
| corn | apples | bananas | cantelope |
| lime | celery | carrots | nectarine |
| pear | grapes | oranges | |
| peas | potato | peppers | |
| | radish | | |
| 5 letters | squash | | |
| lemon | tomato | 8 letters | |
| peach | turnip | cherries | |



If you would like your name printed in the pen pal column, send this form to Kanga, c/o NOAH'S ARK, 7726 Portal, Houston, Texas 77071. (We are sorry that we cannot print every letter we receive.)

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Age: _____ Grade: _____
 Likes: _____
 Wants a pen pal who is: (check) a boy _____ a girl _____ aged _____

- Answers on next page.

A Chief Rabbi Who Is Also A Knight and A Baron!

When Rabbis in Canada, Australia, England, or Ireland have a question about Jewish law, whom do they ask for advice? They ask the Chief Rabbi, Lord Jakobovits of London, England.



The oldest of seven children, Immanuel Jakobovits was born in Germany. His father was the Chief Rabbi of Berlin. When Immanuel was 16-years-old, he came to London to be safe from the Nazis. He finished high school in the United Kingdom. He then studied to become a Rabbi, because that's what his father wanted him to do. What his father thought was always important to him.

Later, he married the daughter of the Chief Rabbi of Paris! She was also the oldest of seven children! They now have six married children and 38 grandchildren!

Chief Rabbi Jakobovits has had a lot of experience being a Rabbi. He was Rabbi for three synagogues in London, Chief Rabbi of Ireland, and then the first Rabbi of New York's Fifth Avenue Synagogue.

Then, in 1967, he began his job as Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the British Commonwealth of Nations. He is the religious authority for over 200 synagogues in the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth!

The Chief Rabbi is chosen by members of a special council. He will be Chief Rabbi for another two years, until his 70th birthday. Then the council will meet again to select a new Chief Rabbi.

(Having a Chief Rabbi is usual in many countries, including Israel. However, the United States does not have a Chief Rabbi.)

The Chief Rabbi loves children and Jewish education. Whenever he travels on business, his first stop is always to a Jewish school. He especially likes to see the students' work, and he often asks them questions about their studies.

In 1981, Queen Elizabeth II made the Chief Rabbi a knight! In Great Britain, a person is appointed a knight after he has achieved something very important. When a person is a knight, he uses the title "Sir" before his given name. The Chief Rabbi, was then called Sir Immanuel. Seven years later, in 1988, the Queen made him a baron. As a baron, his new title became Lord Jakobovits.

Lord Jakobovits has many different duties. As Chief Rabbi, he is the spokesperson for all of the Jewish communities that he represents. He gives the Jewish viewpoint on many different topics. He talks with leaders of the government and other religions. As an English Lord, he is also part of the British Parliament, where England's laws are made.

The Chief Rabbi's main message to all Jewish children is to "be a moral light to the nations." That means that everyone should obey the commandments and set a good example for other people.



שְׁגִיָּאָה

(SH'GEE-AH) - A MISTAKE!

In the March issue of NOAH'S ARK, the winner of the "Who Is A Jew?" contest was announced. In the article, it said: "... Reform Jews consider a person a Jew if either the mother or the father is Jewish." It should have also said "... if the child is raised as a Jew." Here is the ruling of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (the national organization of Reform Rabbis): If one parent is a Jew and the other is not a Jew, the child is considered Jewish if the child is raised as a Jew. For example, the child should have a Hebrew name, study Torah, and have a Bar or Bat Mitzvah.

We apologize for this mistake. Thanks to Rabbi Elbert L. Sapinsley and Religious School Superintendent Susan Sapinsley (Congregation Ahavath Sholom, Bluefield, West Virginia) for bringing this to our attention.

Answers to Meeschak

- B GRAPES P
- APPLES O E
- N E A P
- A A P T P E
- N CANTELOPE R
- A H E A A S
- S CARROTS
- T O
- SQUASH M C
- R RADISH
- I T E
- L N CORN R
- CELERY R
- M I
- ORANGES LIME
- N S



This child is in Ladispoli, Italy with hundreds of other Jews who used to live in the Soviet Union. They are waiting for permission to come to the United States. The child is in a Purim costume. This year, many Jewish children in Ladispoli celebrated Purim for the first time! (Photo by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.)

Precious Legacy Of Pre-War Vilna Found In Lithuanian Storehouse

NEW YORK (JTA) — A vast storehouse of rare and precious Jewish books and letters that predate the Holocaust has been found in the Lithuanian city of Vilnius, according to Samuel Norich, executive director of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. YIVO is hoping to be given access to the material.

Before the Nazis decimated the city's Jewish community, Vilnius — then known by its Polish name, Wilna — was called "the Lithuanian Jerusalem" as a tribute to its intellectual leadership among the Jewish communities of Eastern Europe.

True to its reputation, the new-found treasures include approximately 5,000 Jewish books, 20,000 issues of more than 150 Jewish newspapers, 70 Torah scrolls and the correspondence of prewar Jewish luminaries such as pioneering Yiddish linguist Max Weinreich and the legendary Rabbi Israel Meir HaCohen, revered the world over as the Chofetz Chaim.

Some papers contained the autobiographies of young Jewish children who responded to a YIVO autobiography contest in the 1930s. Norich said that some of the autobiographies were book-length and "contained rich historical detail."

YIVO was founded in Vilna by Weinreich in 1925 and moved to New York City at the onset of World War II.

A major portion of the new-found archives, discovered in an old, white, Franciscan monastery now used as a warehouse, belonged to YIVO's prewar collection. In the chapel of the monastery were stacks of Jewish newspapers in Lithuanian, Polish and Yiddish. According to Norich, the neatly wrapped and labeled papers contained what appeared to be the complete publishing run of numerous Jewish newspapers from the early 1920s through 1939. Sadly, Norich added, "Everything ends in 1939," the beginning of the war.

Some of the treasures recent-

ly found are thought to be from the Nazi collection, while others appear to have been smuggled away from the Nazis and buried from safekeeping by slave laborers, including some non-Jewish Lithuanians, working at the risk of their lives.

In June 1945, the U.S. Army identified a portion of the YIVO collection in a suburb outside Frankfurt, where the Nazis had shopped it. In 1947, some 80,000 books and archival documents and photos were sent to YIVO headquarters in New York.

In 1946, the Soviets took what the Nazis had left in Vilna as the centerpiece for a Jewish museum of their own. That museum closed in 1949, and Norich speculated that some of its holdings ended up at the monastery book center.

Norich said the New York archive was like a paginated book whose unnumbered missing pages were suddenly found.

"It is up to the Lithuanian authorities what will become of this material," Norich said. "But the very fact that they have kept this material all this time, that some people have risked their lives to save it, that they took the initiative to show it to YIVO representatives, indicates that there is a positive attitude toward Jewish affairs in Vilna."



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50 Years Ago In Jewish History

May 5-18, 1939

CUBA MOVES TO HALT JEWISH IMMIGRATION

HAVANA, May 5 (JTA) — A move to halt Jewish immigration to Cuba got under way in Congress today with the introduction of a bill by Congressman Pedro Mendieta, chairman of the Immigration Committee. The bill coincided with a conference between Dr. Mendieta and President Laredo Bru, in which the former asked for a presidential decree banning immigration of Jews from Europe until Congress could act on his measure. Dr. Mendieta also demanded that the decree be made to cover 1,000 German Jews scheduled to arrive in Cuba this month on the steamer San Luis.

MEDICAL CENTER DEDICATED ON MT. SCOPUS; HENRIETTA SZOLD LEADS SIMPLE CEREMONY

JERUSALEM, May 9 (JTA) — Climaxing a quarter century of endeavor by thousands of American Jewish women, the most splendid medical institution in the Middle East was inaugurated today when the million-dollar Medical Center atop Mt. Scopus was dedicated.

The dedicatory ceremonies were without pomp. Miss Henrietta Szold, pioneer American Zionist leader and founder of Hadassah, opened the Center with a silver key crowned with the Hadassah pin, handed to her by Dr. Chaim Yassky, director of the Hadassah Medical Organization.

BOLIVIAN VISAS STILL BEING ISSUED IN WARSAW J.T.A. TOLD

WARSAW, May 10 (JTA) — The Bolivian Consulate, commenting on La Paz reports that a six-month suspension of immigration had been decreed, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that it had received no instructions and was granting visas as usual without distinction as to race or religion. **8,000 REFUGEES IN SHANGHAI, 2,000 ON WAY, SASSOON REVEALS**

SHANGHAI, May 14 (JTA) — There are now 8,000 Jewish refugees in Shanghai and 2,000 more are due shortly, Sir Victor Sassoon, Jewish banker and philanthropist, declared today. The daily cost of feeding each refugee has been reduced to six cents, he said, but unless more houses are found the newcomers will have to sleep in the streets.

WHITE PAPER FIXES JEWS AS ONE-THIRD MINORITY IN PALESTINE STATE

PROVIDES 10-YEAR TRANSITION PERIOD;
SETS 75,000 ENTRY QUOTA FOR 5 YEARS;
ARAB CONSENT TO FURTHER IMMIGRATION REQUIRED;

LAND SALES CURBED;

JEWS DECLARE WAR ON POLICY;
WILL NEVER SUBMIT, AGENCY WARNS

LONDON, May 18 (JTA) — The British Government, amid Jewish warnings of resistance and indications of Arab rejection, announced this evening its decision to establish an independent Palestine state in which the Jews will be restricted to a one-third minority.

An official White Paper declares that it is hoped to attain statehood after a ten-year transition period during which self government will be developed. It is proposed to admit 75,000 Jews in the next five years to bring the Jewish population to the one-third ratio, after which Britain will feel free of its obligations to facilitate entry and a new principle that Arab acquiescence is necessary for Jewish entry will thereafter prevail.

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Announcements/Events

Reception For Cohen Family



A farewell reception for Rabbi Kenneth and Hedy Cohen (above with their children, from left, Michael, Jonathan and Gabriel) will be given by Congregation Beth Shalom at the synagogue on Sunday, June 11, from 3 to 5 p.m. The rabbi is leaving the congregation after 13 years to pursue his doctorate. Marlene Ornston is chairing the reception and has extended an invitation to the entire community to attend.

Jewish War Veterans Memorial Day Events

The Jewish War Veterans of the United States have announced the following events for the month of May.

On May 28, a convention breakfast will be held at the Temple Beth Shalom at 9:15 a.m. Following the breakfast, at 11:30 a.m. services will be held at the Jewish Community Cemetery in a tribute to the departed Veterans. The community is invited to attend.

On May 30 at 10 a.m.,

memorial services will be held at the Delaware Memorial Bridge for all departed veterans. A floral presentation will be made by the Jewish War Veterans. All members are urged to attend wearing their caps.

On May 30 at 5:30 p.m., Wilmington will hold its annual Memorial Day parade at the end of Delaware Ave. All veterans are invited to participate in this parade. Commander Israel Wiener will be the parade's Grand Marshall.

Young Jewish Adults

The Young Jewish Adults of Delaware will hold a "double header of fun" evening on Thursday, June 1. Starting at 5:30 p.m., the group will meet for dinner at Peppers (Mexican-American Restaurant), 1709 Delaware Ave, Wilmington. At 7:45 p.m. the group will meet at Comedy Cabaret, 410 Market Street Mall, for drinks and comedy show (\$5 admission).

Reservations are essential by May 31, and are limited to 30 people. Call Mike Cook 368-1982 or Pam-Sue Katz 737-0958 to make reservations.

The group has a free monthly newsletter which highlights activities and events. It is mailed out to over 300 Jewish Singles in Wilmington. To be added to the mailing list, call the JCC at 478-5660.

Cafe Tamar



Cafe Tamar, scheduled for Sunday, June 4, at 7:30 p.m., in the Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Social Hall, is a combination of dance and song — in Hebrew, Yiddish and Ladino. The dance group performs both new and old dances in authentic costumes. The choral group will be accompanied by soloists Cindy Goldstein, Elayne Soltz Penn, Jane Hormadaly and Sylvie Shain. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children under 13. Reservations must be made in advance by calling Sylvia Silverman (658-5689) or the synagogue office (762-2705).

Beth Shalom Religious School Celebrates Holidays, Graduations

On Monday and Tuesday, May 8 and 9, the students of the Beth Shalom religious school celebrated Israel's 41st Anniversary with original poetry, skits and traditional Israeli songs.

On Saturday, May 20, the children of the Elementary Department, Aleph through Hai classes, will attend a "special Junior Congregation finale." A breakfast will be held followed by services.

"The Scholar's Holiday," Lag B'Omer, commemorating the Jewish people's fight for freedom, will be celebrated in the spirit of the original Lag B'Omer when the students disguised themselves as athletes and went into the hills to study. The students will "venture" across the street to the hills of Brandywine Park to participate in various sports activities and enjoy refreshments.

The students in the Dalet and Hai, Classes will be participating in the annual Knowledge of Israel test sponsored by the Department of Education and Culture of the World Zionist Organization. This activity enables the students to learn the personalities and some of the events which led to the founding of the Zionist Movement, as well as the challenges which the pioneers and leaders faced in establishing and securing the State of Israel. This year the students will be studying about Israeli Settlements, the Sights, Climate, Life, the Important Personalities, System of Government and the gathering of Exiles to Israel.

The Hay class will graduate from the Elementary Department on Friday evening, May 26. The students will conduct the entire service and will be awarded their certificates of graduation. The Hai Class

Teacher Training

Arlene Davis, Educational Director at Congregation Beth Shalom, and Suzanne Paul, Educational Director at Temple Beth Emeth, are conducting a class for those interested in teaching full or part time, or substituting, in a Synagogue Religious School. The course will focus on effect teaching in a Hebrew and/or Judaic classroom, from Primary Class through Confirmation.

Classes will begin in the fall of 1989. Call Arlene Davis, 654-4462, or Suzanne Paul, 762-5858, to show your interest or for further information.

B'nai B'rith Women

The next regular meeting of the local chapter of B'nai B'rith Women will be on Monday, June 5, at 7:30 p.m. in the Lodge meeting room at the B'nai B'rith House building. The speaker will be Perry Feig. Feig will be speaking on relaxation techniques to use counteracting frustrating situations in the home as well as on the job. Refreshments will be served and there is no charge. Members and non-members are welcome.

teachers are Mrs. Arlene Davis and Mrs. Ivy Kaplan. Aimee Peltz, one of the Beth Shalom 1989 Gratz Hebrew High School Graduates, will be the guest speaker.

An Oneg Shabbat sponsored by the parents of the graduates and the Sisterhood will take place in the Gibstein Auditorium following services.

Members of the class are: Andrew Berman, Heather Cohen, Dana Edell, Jessica Gleich, Jessica Krupnick, David Miller, Michael Oppenheimer, Britton Saffer, Michael Schneider and Jaimie Sobel.

The Primary II class graduation will also be held on Friday evening, May 26. The children will participate in a graduation program sharing a variety of experiences they have enjoyed

during the past year. The students, taught by Mrs. Ivy Kaplan, are: Sarah Cohen, Avigail Dadone, Brian Gold, Hannah Grossman, Margo Jaffee, Jay Levy, Joel Lipschultz, Emily Pressman, Michael Ray, Chad Strauss and Rachel Zahn.

The students and their families will be honored at an Oneg Shabbat following services.

Closing Assemblies for the Elementary Department will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, May 31 and June 1. Certificates of Excellence in Hebrew, Bible, General Studies, Attendance and Participation in Junior Congregation will be awarded.

Refreshments will be provided by the PTA.

Naches

Strauss

On April 18, Governor Michael N. Castle appointed Harvey Michael Strauss, a north Wilmington Public Accountant to a three year term on the Delaware State Board of Accountancy.

This appointment compliments Mr. Strauss's other activities and achievements within the Accounting profession, those being a two term President of the Delaware Association of Public Accountants, a member of the Board of Directors of the Delaware Association of Public Accountants, Assistant State Director to the National Society of Public Accountants and a member of the Federal Taxation Committee of the National Society of Public Accountants.

Mr. Strauss is a partner in the Accounting firm of Harvey M. Strauss, P.A. & Associates, and has been in practice since 1981.

Hoffman

David Hoffman, formerly of Wilmington and a correspondent, for *The Washington Post*, has won the Gerald R. Ford prize for distinguished reporting on the presidency. He won the award for his coverage of Vice President Bush's campaign last year. The award will be presented by former President Ford on June 5.

The panel of judges said his reporting "opened a window to George Bush as a person and his relations with the people around him that helped us understand what his presidency would be like."

Mr. Hoffman is the son of Beverly and Howard Hoffman, of Wilmington.

Lubin

Peggy L. Lubin, of Wilmington, received the Pearl and Oscar Bregman Award at the Honors Day program, held May 9, at the University of Delaware. The award is given to a Masters of Counseling degree student who has

demonstrated a master of theories, techniques and research associated with excellence as a professional counselor. Lubin is the wife of Andrew Lubin and the mother of Laura and Kim.



Harvey M. Strauss

Tenenbaum

Nicole Tenenbaum has been selected Brandywine High School's DECA's Outstanding Student of the Month for April.

DECA stands for Distributive Education Clubs of America.

A marketing III student, Tenenbaum placed first in general merchandising retailing and second in her finance and credit manual at the recent DECA state conference. She will go next to the DECA national conference in Orlando, Fla.

In preparation for the conference, she used her clerical and computer knowledge in typing questionnaires for her fellow students.

She has been involved with the drama league for four years, has participated in two musicals on stage, and has helped behind the scenes in other productions.

She also contributes time to the AFS program, the Ski Club and Yearbook Jewish Youth Groups and conventions.

Tenenbaum, daughter of Joel and Leah Tenenbaum, has been on Brandywine's honor roll for the past three years.

Seminary Chancellor: Jews Too Concerned With History

By HOWARD ROSENBERG
WASHINGTON (JTA) — Jews are too preoccupied with history and not concerned enough about nature, the chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary has charged. Rabbi Ismar Schorsch — himself a professor of Jewish history at JTS — said preoccupation with history “cripples our political judgment and makes us blind to the opportunities of the new era.” Speaking to 600 Conservative rabbis at the Rabbinical

Assembly convention here last month, Schorsch said preoccupation with the biblical legitimacy of the West Bank “impedes our abilities to address the real issues of the continued occupation of that territory.” He said a preoccupation with the Holocaust has made Jews “see a Nazi behind every critic and an anti-Semite behind every tree.” As a result, “We project the immediate past onto the present and are unable to identify allies and new situations.”

“What gentiles did to Jews is what tickles the Jewish imagination, what deepens our identity,” but “does not serve us well religiously or politically.”

He noted that courses on the Holocaust are among the most popular Jewish studies courses at colleges, “and when the Jewish Museum (in New York) recently had its Dreyfus exhibit, the public came in record numbers.” (Capt. Alfred Dreyfus was a Jew who was falsely accused of treason by

the French army, in what became one of the most famous cases of anti-Semitism in the 19th century.)

“Concern with the past may yet well sink us, may leave us unequipped to handle the novelty and the opportunity of the present and the future,” he said.

The bigger problem, he said, is the environment, and the damage being done to it in the name of progress. Judaism “is a rich environmental religion,” Schorsch said. “We in our arrogance over progress and the achievement of history have done a disservice to our religious sensibility by suppressing the beauty of that natural life motif.”

Schorsch recommended a renewed emphasis on Shabbat

and the Jewish festivals to help address “the centrality of natural rhythm in the lives of men,” he argued. He said that observing Shabbat and abstaining from work is a way of showing “That we may not do whatever we please to the world in which God put us.”

“Sabbath is the way that God links us to our role in the cosmos,” he said. “The religious revival of our day is a response to the excesses of modernity, to the dangers of self-extinction.”

In an interview later, Schorsch argued that emphasizing the environmental aspect of Shabbat can increase its appeal. “Jerusalem is a lot cleaner on Shabbat because there are a lot fewer cars running around,” he said.

Great Zionist Personalities

Moses Hess

Fifth in a series.

By PHILLIP REDELHEIM
Special to The Jewish Voice

Moses Hess was born in Bonn, Germany, in 1812 and was one of the first Zionist philosophers. He was descended, on both side of his family, from rabbis and scholars but by the time he was in his twenties, he was imbued with a Socialist-Communist ideology. He was mockingly referred to as the “Communist Rabbi.” He was a friend of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels and together with them published a newspaper. He was engaged in other literary endeavors. In 1837, he published his first book, “The Holy History of Mankind,” in which he set forth his ideology based upon the principles of morality and justice. In 1841, he published a second book, “The Triarchy,” in which he was the first to give expression to the idea of the unification of all the countries of Europe into one state.

His writing brought him into greater contact with the radical circles in Germany who, at that time, still lacked a clear conception of Socialist principles. Hess was able to define these principles for them in clear, simple terms.

After the revolutionary disturbances in 1848, he was forced to leave Germany. Hess wandered from country to country for a few years until he found haven in Paris.

Those new national movements in Italy, Poland and the Balkans stirred him profoundly. He was also impressed with the activities of the Orthodox rabbi and ardent Zionist, Zvi Hirsch Kalischer and his book “The Demands of Zion.” These factors combined to turn Hess’ mind to serious thought of the historic fate of

his people and to the principles of Judaism which he had observed during his youth.

In 1862, he published his famous book “Rome and Jerusalem.” In this book, he addressed a number of vital issues. Beginning with the premise that a Jewish State was necessary, he first answered the question “why?” His answer: The Jews must again secure “a center of activity” where their talents and genius would contribute to the culture of the world. These talents can best be developed when Jews are independent and in their own land. He stressed the eternal cultural values of Judaism and he hoped for a spiritual rebirth of his people.

To the question “where a Jewish State?” he said, Jews have prayed for the return to Palestine over the millenia and have suffered for it. Palestine, as the Jewish homeland, will make all Jews, wherever they are, feel that they have a home of their own. This feeling would make even those not returning to Palestine healthier inwardly.

“How would we obtain the land?” By raising a fund sufficient to buy as many towns, fields and vineyards in the Holy Land as possible. While Hess does not state any connection between the necessary Jewish homeland and a specific language, of Hebrew, he said, “it is the only language of our fathers . . . an expression of the collective Jewish spirit.”

His conclusion: “If we have already lived to see the liberation of Rome from the fetters of the Middle Ages, logical reasoning requires that freedom be granted to Jerusalem, that is to say, the Jewish people.” Hence the ti-

tle of his book, “Rome and Jerusalem.”

Moses Hess died in 1875, leaving us a legacy of Zionist thought and action. In his diary, Theodor Herzl, the founder of the Zionist movement, wrote, referring to “Rome and Jerusalem,” “all that we are now trying to do is already to be found in this book.” No better epitaph could be written to the memory of Moses Hess.

(Phillip Redelheim is Executive Director of Congregation Beth El in Cherry Hill. He has been in the field of Jewish social service for 42 years. A student of Jewish history, Redelheim has studied with particular emphasis on the Zionist movement and the State of Israel.)

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Tenement Museum Offers Look At Jewish Immigrant Life

By HAL KLOPPER
Special to The Jewish Voice

On 97 Orchard Street in New York City's Lower East Side, a five-story condemned tenement building is being converted into a "living history museum," of tenement life between 1864 and 1935.

The Lower East Side Tenement Museum is a bold and innovative undertaking in a neighborhood of Manhattan that has never reaped the financial benefits gracing other parts of the city; it is, in a sense, a museum that both preserves the interior tenement life of yesterday and reflects the exterior street life of today.

Today the Lower East Side is a conglomeration of ethnicity: a slowly decreasing Jewish population lives side-by-side with a growing Hispanic and Chinese community.

But between 1881 and the beginning of World War I, the tenement at 97 Orchard Street — and most of the Lower East Side — was almost completely a Jewish area. Immigrants from Europe streamed into Lower Manhattan to escape from the threat of pogroms and head for the fortunes of America.

This period was preceded and followed by waves of residents from Italy, China, Germany and Ireland, as well as Free Blacks.

The Lower East Side Tenement Museum is the brainchild of Ruth J. Abram, who serves as its president and director.

"Museums are a way we memorialize people, events, things," she said. "Tenement life still has attached to it a

modicum of shame. But that is beginning to dissipate. The climate is ready to remember, to be passed on. It's important to realize that it wasn't their shame. It was, is, our nation's shame that we must put up with this sort of living."

Tenement life often was intensely impoverished. As many as 18 people lived in each apartment, plumbing was either non-existent or primitive, and disease ransacked large segments of the population.

But as a result of the over-



Sharon Rosner, who stars in the living history programs at the Lower East Side Tenement Museum.

crowding, the neighborhood also was intensely communal. Vendors lined the sidewalks, their pushcarts side-by-side. Yiddish theater thrived at landmarks such as the Loews Canal Street Theatre. And the *Daily Forward*, the largest Yiddish daily paper in America at the

time, was written with a fervor that incited the people to protest, organize and debate on many topics.

"It was an intense, lively, amiable neighborhood," said Dr. Jenna Joselit, a scholar at the YIVO Institute who has been hired as a consultant by the museum to research Jewish aspects of the Lower East Side.

"There was plenty of popular culture and leisure, aspects that tend to be overlooked today. The Lower East Side had upwards of 200 coffee and cake parlors."

The Lower East Side Tenement Museum has captured this polarity of immigrant experience via a series of living history programs, including:

- "It's Tough to Make a Nickel" — a two-character play depicting the life of children on the Lower East Side at the turn of the century. The title refers to their efforts to afford the admission price to a movie on Saturday night.

- "Family Matters" — a dramatic recounting of the true story of the Scheinberg family, who lived on Eldridge Street around 1910. Dr. Louis Scheinberg, now in his early 80s, related his childhood anecdotes to Abram, who combined them with an engaging slide presentation for the hour-long show.

- The "Peddler's Pack" Walking Tour. Also based on the Scheinberg's family history, participants trace the historic neighborhood on foot, with actors dressed in period costumes serving as guides. The tour runs April through October and covers streets such



The Scheinberg Family, subjects of the "Peddler's Pack Walking Tour" and the "Family Matters: An Immigrant Memoir," held every Sunday at the Lower East side Tenement Museum in New York.

as Orchard, Hester, Eldridge, East Broadway, and Canal.

The museum is arranging for funds to purchase the entire building and convert the apartments on the upper floors to their original conditions.

The refurbished rooms will include actors in period dress who tell stories describing their lives while going about their jobs, such as laundering, tailoring, and cooking.

"The response to the museum has been extraordinary," said Larry Fried, public relations director for the museum. "Everything we do is authentic, researched by a team of more than two dozen architectural historians and scholars from around the country. Restoration will include the smallest details, including food, clothing, and wallpaper."

Even before restoration, the building still carries traces of its embellished Jewish history.

Most notable are doorframes of the apartments, where outlined of mezuzahs that have been removed are still visible through the chipping paint.

The museum has been visited by swarms of schools, churches, temples, sisterhoods, fraternal organizations, tourists, and curious passersby.

"More people have shared the roots of tenement life than have shared the log cabin or the farm," said Abram. "We have not yet really understood that as a nation."

"If you offer Americans the opportunity to examine history with a hundred years' distance, many more will take to it. We are a nation of immigrants. The big question is how will we be one nation and, at the same time, how will we appreciate and be aware of the sometimes profound differences between us."

JCC ANNUAL MEETING TO INCLUDE ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The 55th Annual Meeting of the Jewish Community Center will be held on Sunday, June 11, 1989 at 5:30 p.m. at the Jewish Family Campus Amphitheatre, 101 Garden of Eden Road. A picnic dinner will be served, call in reservations, (302) 478-5660.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Judy Levy, has nominated the following individuals for election to the Board of Directors of the Jewish Community Center.

The following have been nominated for election of officers for a one year term:

President	Martin I. Lubaroff
Vice President	Jerome Grossman
Vice President	Cindy Imber
Vice President	Deane Kattler
Vice President	Richard Levin
Treasurer	David Margules
Assistant Treasurer	Stan Ross
Secretary	Mark Caplan
Assistant Secretary	Denyse Lieber

The following have been nominated for a three year term:

Robert Akell	Jerome Grossman	Martin I. Lubaroff
Jean Blumenfeld	Dr. Paul Imber	Stan Ross
Philip Cherrin	Deane Kattler	Myrna Ryder
Michael Cook	Daniel Klein	Barbara Schoenberg
Robert Coonin	Richard Levin	Dr. Leonard Seltzer

The following has been nominated for a two year term:

Leah Tenenbaum

The following have been nominated for a one year term:

Barbara Malin
Brian Mand
Matthew Meyer

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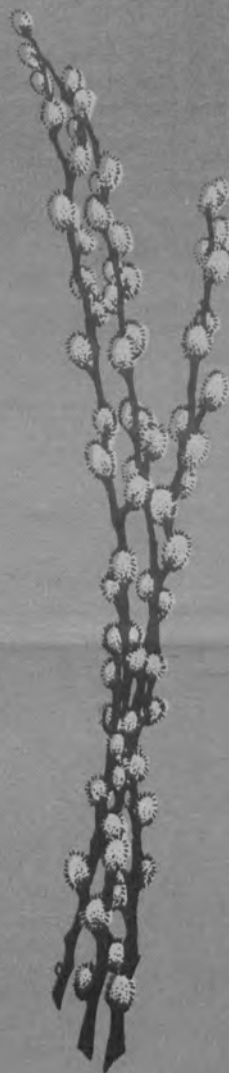
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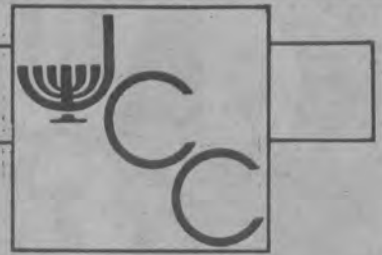
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Jewish Community Center



Camp Aquatics Program Planned

Plans are currently underway for the JCC's day camp aquatics program, which include an American Red Cross supervised curriculum and a certified staff of instructors. "This year, campers will receive instruction in small groups, allowing staff to provide individualized attention to campers requiring some additional help," says Camp Aquatics Director, Mindy Goldberger. "Campers will be tested during the first few days of camp to assure the proper placement in these small groups," added Goldberger.

Goldberger, who comes to Camp JCC after several years of directing aquatics programs at residential camps, states the focus of this year's program is on personal safety around the waterfront, as well as skill development. "Programs are being planned for each age group, which will allow the children to feel confident about their skills in and around the water," says Goldberger. "At the end of each session, children will again be tested, providing their parents with a report on their child's progress," she added.

As the swim component of a camp program is so vital, Goldberger has spent a lot of time interviewing candidates for the camp aquatics staff. "In order to reach the goals of the swim program, each instructor must be well qualified not only

in teaching skills, but also in understanding the needs of our campers. We are focusing on providing each camper with a positive experience at the waterfront," Goldberger stated.

In addition to instructional swim, each camper will participate daily in a recreational swim. This will allow children to participate in pool games, which are aimed at further development of skills as well as fun. "The new aquatics program is yet another example of the high standards for our upcoming camp season," says

Cindy Imber. Imber, along with her husband, Paul, serve as Co-Chairs of the Camp Committee. "Much attention has been placed on the individual components of the camp program, such as aquatics, so that campers will be provided a well rounded summer experience," she added.

Parents are encouraged to call 478-5660 for more information regarding Camp JCC. Registration deadline without penalty is May 26. Spaces are still available in many of the camp programs.

Safety Is Priority

Rob Schlecker, Aquatics Director of the JCC, reported that on Sunday, April 19, an In-Service Training Program was held at the Center's pool to strengthen the aquatics staff's techniques of prevention of head, neck and spine injuries. Highlighting the training program was the demonstration of new American Red Cross injury-prevention techniques, as well as the review of older methods. In addition to those given by Schlecker and staff person, Mark Tirone, a brief demonstration on safety procedures was given by the Talleyville Fire Department.

Another feature of the program was the participation by the aquatics staff in timed swims. There were many fine performances, including an outstanding one by Tirone. Among those in attendance were Burton Bernstein, Recreational Services Director; Mindy Goldberger, Camp Aquatics Coordinator and other staff members ranging in age from 16 year old Sheila Chalmers to 68 year old Ralph Biloon.

This in-service program was part of the JCC's on-going effort to ensure that the most up-to-date safety procedures are utilized in all of the JCC's aquatics programs.

Annual Meeting Scheduled

"A Family Event" will be the theme of the 55th Annual Meeting of the JCC, which will be held on Sunday, June 11, from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Center's outdoor amphitheatre. Chaired by Richard Levine, the event will not only signify the continuity of the Center, as the baton of leadership is passed from the current board to the new board, but will also be an opportunity to thank the JCC's board and staff for their role in enriching the life of Wilmington's Jewish community. Serving as chairperson of the Nominating Committee is Judy Levy, past president of the JCC.

Martin Lubaroff, President of the JCC, stated, "What will make this upcoming meeting especially eventful is that this is the first year that it will be intergenerational event!" A family dinner at 5:30 p.m. will precede the annual meeting at 7 p.m., followed by excerpts from "Grease," presented by the Teens of Delaware. Concluding the event will be a delicious dessert, compliments of TCBY.

Dinner is free to members and their children, but reservations are required. Call the JCC at 478-5660 to make reservations.

November Book Fair Needs Chairperson

"November is National Jewish Book Month and today is not too early to start planning for a spectacular month of Jewish enrichment," stated Moises Paz, Assistant Executive Director of the JCC. "We are seeking a motivated chairperson to develop this program with our Adult Division Director, Lynn Greenfield."

ranging from children's books to adult novels. This year we plan to invite guest authors as lecturers, explore international trends in Jewish books and create an environment for Jewish knowledge and awareness. The Center has access to national and international resources for Jewish Book Month.

Interested parties may contact Moises Paz at 478-5660. Committee members for this project are also sought.

In previous years, the JCC has displayed and sold books

Facelift For Playground



The Jewish Community Center's PTA members initiated a move to spruce up the Pre-School's playground recently. Michelle Margules, PTA President organized a group of more than a dozen parents and some children to give the playground a facelift. Equipment was painted by the parents and a new sandbox was constructed by Art Trickey, JCC Building Superintendent. The next repainting is scheduled for the Fall and future improvement plans will include the reseeding of the grass surrounding the playground area.

Yugoslavia Presentation

Eleanor Graeve will present a slide presentation of her travels through Yugoslavia on Tuesday, June 6, at 1 p.m. During her three week stay last October, Graeve visited Apatia, the Island of Hvar and Dubrovnik. Her slides include points of interest, scenery and the people of Yugoslavia. Graeve is retired from The Medical Center of Delaware's account-

ing division. She has a chemistry degree from Syracuse University.

This presentation is part of the Academy of Lifelong Learning Outreach Program. The program is free of charge and open to the entire community. For more information, contact Ray Freschman, Senior Center Coordinator, at 478-5660.

Wheels Are Greased

Blocking has begun, songs are being sung, lines are being learned and instruments tuned. The wheels of the play are in motion. Dedicated teens meet Sunday afternoons and Mon-

day nights here at the JCC and put in hours of hard work on the play "Grease." Our play this year may just be the best one ever, but you be the judge! Support our cast by advertising

in the playbill and/or helping out with costumes, props or the like. For more information contact your closest Greaser or the Teen Dance Department at the JCC.

'Fiddler On The Roof'

A block of orchestra seat tickets has been purchased by the Jewish Community Center for members who wish to attend the November 12 performance of "Fiddler on the Roof" at the Playhouse. The starring role of Tevye will be

portrayed by renowned actor, Chaim Topol. The matinee performance is scheduled for 3 p.m.

Members of the JCC may purchase the orchestra seat tickets for \$39 each. There is a limited number of seats

available at this price. Tickets may be picked up at the Center two weeks prior to the performance.

Contact Lynn Greenfield, Adult Program Director at the JCC for more information.

Cultural Caravan

The Jewish Community Center is offering a trip to New York City to attend a matinee performance of Jerome Robbins' "Broadway" on Wednesday, November 15. From 1944 to 1964, Jerome Robbins conceived, choreographed and directed a series of landmark musicals. Robbins' show defines "The Golden Age of Broadway."

The cost of the trip and admission to the "The Best of Broadway" is \$80 for members and \$100 for non-members. The bus will depart from the Center at 8 a.m. and will return at approximately 7 p.m.

Reservations and payment are currently being accepted at the JCC Front Desk. Call Lynn Greenfield at 478-5660 for more information.

Camp Winners Announced



As a result of a drawing held recently at a camp information night program, five families who took advantage of the JCC camp's early bird registration incentive were selected as this year's winners of four free weeks of camp.

Suzy Grumbacher (above) pulled the registration forms of Ashley A. Rowell, K'TonTon Unit; Beth Hardy, Kochavim Unit; Emily Pressman, Chaverim Unit; Peter A. Mazur, Chalutzim Unit; and Elana J. Mamberg, Giborim Unit.

Camp registration is still being accepted and space is available. The deadline for registration is May 26. For more information on Camp JCC, call the JCC office at 478-5660.

Jewish Family Service of Delaware

Jewish Family Service is a constituent agency of the Jewish Federation of Delaware and a member agency of the United Way of Delaware.



Suicide Is Preventable

Dear Rachel,

"Dear Rachel"

When my friends and I were younger, we all talked about what we wanted to do when we got old. Would we move in with our children if we had to?

I am a very old lady now, and most of my friends are gone. When they got sick, some of them moved in with their children; some stayed home until the end, and some went to nursing homes. Several years ago, I got sick and I gladly moved into my daughter and son-in-law's house.

My children have made a wonderful place for me. My daughter cooks special for me. They drive me to all my doctor appointments, they include me when they invite friends over. I have my own room and bathroom. Nevertheless, I have to say: be careful what you wish for because you might get it.

My middle-aged daughter isn't free to do things her own way, and neither am I. There are two bosses in the kitchen, feelings of confinement, and responsibility for each other. There is no real privacy to have a fight or walk around in your underwear. Too often, we just rub each other the wrong way. I retreat to my room to give them privacy, and then I feel trapped.

My children are the kindest, most giving people, and they make me proud. But I would advise older people to consider alternatives long and hard before moving in with their children.

Wise Old Owl

Dear Wise,

Relationships are hard work. The closer the relationship, the harder the work. Parent, child, and in-law are close enough to require hard work at any age. Beside the emotional baggage each of you undoubtedly carries with you, all of you are old enough to be set in your ways. The combination is sure to make it stressful to live together under one roof.

I am sure that you have long since worked out "rules" for insuring a modicum of privacy and space for each of you. This generation has many options: retirement homes; buildings with one or more meals a day; community services to maintain people in their own apartments or homes. I urge each older person and his/her family to consider all options before making a decision.

Rachel

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



By **ARNOLD LIEBERMAN**
Executive Director
Jewish Family Service

We live in a time when the media latch onto "catch phrases," "gimmicks" and "in-things." A topic becomes a "hot issue," and you can't read a newspaper or magazine, or turn on your television, without seeing and hearing about it.

Not too long ago, "Adolescent Suicide" was such an issue. Specific cases were analyzed in detail, countless articles were written, prevention and treatment programs were publicized, and everyone became very aware of the tragic circumstances.

As all topics do in the media, this one also ran its course, and was relegated to less and less printed air space. However, this is one topic that cannot be pushed out of sight and mind. Adolescents still go

through this stormy period of development, and many still become depressed and far too many still attempt and commit suicide.

Parents, teachers, other family members, friends, and anyone else who comes in contact with adolescents should be aware of possible symptoms or warning signs of suicide. They should also have an idea of how to deal with the person in a manner that may be of help.

There are four basic strategies for helping a potentially suicidal adolescent:

1. Listen to what the person is saying is making him upset, and take it seriously.

2. Be honest and share your concern openly.

3. Let him know that everyone can feel sad or depressed at times, and it isn't abnormal.

4. Get help. The cardinal rule of suicide prevention is: Do Something. Get Help.

The following are possible warning signs:

- Noticeable changes in eating or sleeping habits
- Unexplained or unusually severe violent or rebellious behavior
- Withdrawal from family or friends
- Running away
- Persistent boredom and/or difficulty concentrating
- Drug and/or alcohol abuse
- Unexplained decline in the quality of schoolwork
- Unusual neglect of appearance
- Radical personality change
- Psychosomatic complaints
- Preoccupation with themes of death
- Giving away prized possessions
- Expressing suicidal thoughts, even jokingly

Adolescent suicide is preventable, and depression can be relieved. The key is to get help, and one place that can help is Jewish Family Service. Call us at 478-9411.

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U.S. Jewish Groups Welcome Bush's Conditions For Jackson-Vanik Waiver

By HOWARD ROSENBERG
WASHINGTON (JTA) — American Jewish groups have welcomed President Bush's announcement of conditions the Soviet Union would have to meet before a waiver of U.S. trade sanctions against that country could be considered.

"Should the Soviet Union codify its emigration laws in accord with international standards and implement its new laws faithfully, I am prepared to work with Congress for a temporary waiver of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment, opening the way to extending most-favored-nation trade status to the Soviet Union," Bush said in a commencement address May 12 at Texas A&M University.

Bush's statement came a day after Secretary of State James Baker told a news conference in Moscow that he told Soviet leaders that it would be appropriate to consider waiving Jackson-Vanik as well as the Stevens Amendment, which withholds U.S. government credits, should Soviet emigration reforms to "institutionalize."

Shoshana Cardin, chairwoman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, said she welcomed Bush's "setting of criteria which the Soviet Union should meet prior to the recommendation of a waiver."

Bush's position is consistent with the conference's "continuing reassessment of its position, initiated on January 10," she said.

The group's preconditions for consideration of a waiver

are a sustained high level of Soviet emigration; codification of Soviet emigration laws; progress on resolving the cases of long-term refuseniks; and reversal of emigration refusals to those who allegedly had access to state secrets.

A National Conference delegation will visit the Soviet Union from May 23 to 28, to meet with refuseniks and Soviet officials, Cardin announced. The group's executive committee and board of governors will consider advocating a waiver of Jackson-Vanik penalties at a meeting in Washington on June 12 and 13. The group's preconditions are in line with those announced by the Washington-based Union of Councils for Soviet Jews. Officials of that group said they were "relieved, joyful and full of gratitude" for Bush's statement.

Pamela Cohen, president of the Union of Councils, said Bush's statement is in "strict compliance" with previously stated U.S. positions on a waiver and with her group's own position.

Micah Naftalin, the organization's national director, who was given an advance briefing of the president's speech by a White House official, praised Bush for not easing the conditions for a Jackson-Vanik waiver. He credited Bush with "resisting the euphoria of glasnost" by not "crossing the critical Rubicon by granting a one-year waiver."

Cohen called Bush's statement a "first-round victory" against those "pressing for a

premature waiver in the absence of Soviet legislative guarantees of institutional reform, leading to high and sustained levels of emigration. The president has put the Jackson-Vanik ball right where it belongs, in (Mikhail) Gorbachev's court," Cohen said. She added that the Union of Councils is now waiting for the Soviet leader's emigration reforms, promised for late May, and verification of their implementation.

"If all goes well, the UCSJ will be among the first to advocate a one-year waiver," she added.

Even the normally hard-line Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry "warmly welcomed" Bush's remarks and announced it was sending a delegation to the Soviet Union to join refuseniks to drafting proposed emigration reforms to present to the Kremlin.

The grass-roots groups said any legislation enacted by the Soviets must guarantee "unhindered exit to anyone who wishes." The group suggested that a period of time equal to the duration of a waiver be set aside to test implementation of the legislation before a waiver is granted.

Seymour Reich, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said Bush had set "fair and firm conditions" for the granting of a waiver. "Those conditions offer a test of Soviet intentions," he said in a statement. "We trust that the USSR will meet that test and institutionalize by law the

reforms it has begun to put into effect in its emigration practices."

Stephen Silbiger, Washington representative of the American Jewish Congress, which in January announced its support of a one-year waiver, also welcomed Bush's statement. But he called on the administration to "move expeditiously" to propose the waiver. David Harris, Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee, called Bush's statement "a welcome balance between continued American commitment to the principle of free and unobstructed emigration and the recognition of the need for a flexible response."

Harris pointed out that repeal of Jackson-Vanik "is not an issue." The law allows the president to recommend to Congress an 18-month waiver, followed by annual renewals.

A White House fact sheet on Jackson-Vanik, released May 12, said Bush could propose a one-year waiver by notifying Congress. It added that an interagency review is under way in the Bush administration to determine whether legislative approval of a waiver is required.

Harris played down any possible negative reaction from Congress should the interagency review determine Bush does not need congressional approval. He noted Bush's statement that he is "prepared to work with Congress."

"Clearly the administration understands that the best way to move forward is through a

broad consensus of the administration and the Congress, and the relevant interest groups, including the Jewish community," Harris said.

Jackson-Vanik watches have also discussed the possibility of granting an 18-month waiver, but the White House fact sheet made no mention of that possibility. The fact sheet also stated that a waiver of Jackson-Vanik would have to be followed by a U.S.-Soviet trade agreement.

Among other things, the agreement would have to clarify that an annual review of Jackson-Vanik would still occur and that the United States "still has the right to withdraw" the waiver, Harris said.

Harris speculated that Bush might "dust off" a 1972 U.S.-Soviet trade agreement, rendered inactive after Jackson-Vanik went into effect in 1975. The United States currently has waived the amendment against two communist countries, China and Hungary, according to the fact sheet.

Harris cited no particular reason for the timing of Bush's and Baker's statements, except to say it "seems to flow quite naturally from what is a slowly ascending relationship" with the Soviet Union. But Silbiger of AJCongress said the administration felt it had to counter criticism for its "failure to respond" to various initiatives by Gorbachev, especially in the area of arms control.

AJCongress To Fight School Prayer Amendment

By ANDREW SILOW
CARROLL

NEW YORK (JTA) — The American Jewish Congress has vowed to fight an amendment adopted last week by the U.S. House of Representatives that requires schools receiving federal funds to allow voluntary prayer. The amendment is unnecessary and unconstitutional, AJCongress charges.

The amendment was attached at the last minute to the Carol Perkins Vocational Education Act, passed late on the night of May 9 by a vote of 269-135, with 30 abstentions. It was proposed by Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Calif.) late into the House debate on federal funding of school training programs.

The amendment states that funds available under the program would not be available to any school "which has a policy of denying or which effectively prevents participation in prayer in public schools by individuals on a voluntary basis." The amendment appears to have little practical effect. As AJCongress points out, there is little evidence that there is now widespread interference with students' right to pray privately.

But the Supreme Court has ruled since 1962 that the Constitution does not permit schools to set aside periods specifically for voluntary prayer. Advocates of church-state separation fear that a school could justify a period of voluntary prayer under the amendment, especially if it claimed such a period would be the only way to guarantee a stu-

dent the opportunity to pray.

Dannemeyer told lawmakers last week that "there is no effort on my part as the author of this amendment to mandate that we have voluntary prayer in the schools."

But he criticized the 1962 Supreme Court decision banning school prayer, linked a host of social bills to a lack of school prayer and quoted a 1931 Supreme Court justice's opinion that the United States is "a religious people, Christian nation."

And on Monday, an aide to Dannemeyer said the conservative congressman now hopes to introduce a constitutional amendment that would "soon turn things back to pre-1962."

"We got what we wanted: a roll-call vote on school prayer in the House of Representatives, which will act as a springboard for what we intend to do," Paul Mero, a spokesman for the congressman, said in a telephone interview.

Critics bristled at the amendment's vague wording and the haste with which it was inserted into the debate on training programs. "Are we somehow or other mandating that (schools) state a certain time that you have voluntary prayer?" Rep. John Goodling (R-Pa.) asked during the brief debate.

Goodling, like other representatives who were not enthusiastic about the prayer amendment, nonetheless voted for the vocational funding bill.

Also voting for the amended bill was Rep. Dan Glickman (D-

Kan.) Glickman, who is Jewish, said he strongly supports the separation of church and state, but felt the amendment "does not have a practical effect. Very few districts take active and deliberate steps to oppose voluntary prayer," he said in a telephone interview from Washington.

But according to Steven Silbiger, Washington representative of the AJCongress, the

amendment "opens up the debate" on school prayer. "By a 2-1 majority, the House of Representatives has voted somewhat for school prayer, and that's a problem," said Silbiger.

"If Dannemeyer sees he has an opening, he'll put it on lots of bills. There has to be a campaign of people who are opposed to school prayer," he said.

The National Commission on

Law and Public Affairs, which represents the interest of Orthodox Jewish groups on church-state matters, had no comment on the legislation. The amendment is expected to go through a number of versions before being voted upon by the Senate. Opponents hope it will die in the Senate Labor and Human Relations Committee.

Jewish Heritage Week Commemorated For First Time In Four Years

By HOWARD ROSENBERG

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Jewish Heritage Week was commemorated at the White House last week, marking a return of the observance to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. The annual week, sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, had not been marked with a White House ceremony since April 1985.

It was at that ceremony that then President Reagan was strongly criticized by Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel for planning to visit the Bitburg military cemetery in West Germany, where Nazi Waffen SS soldiers are buried.

Michael Miller, the JCRC's executive director, refused to "fault anybody" over the absence of ceremonies the last three years. He noted that the 1984 and 1985 events were planned by Marshall Breger, Reagan's Jewish liaison, who

resigned shortly after the Bitburg visit. Breger attended the ceremony this year, as did State Department legal adviser Abraham Sofaer.

The ceremony featured speeches by James Billington, librarian of Congress, and Lynne Cheney, chairwoman of the National Endowment for the Humanities. A prayer for President Bush's health was delivered by Rabbi Abraham Shemtov, national director of American Friends of Lubavitch. Bush, who underwent a physical examination on Wednesday, "should receive a clean bill of health and God should grant him health and the ability to govern this country," Shemtov prayed.

For his part, in a proclamation mandated by Congress, Bush praised Jews for making "important contributions to every sphere of American life." May 7 through 14 was designated as Jewish Heritage

Week in bills approved by Congress, sponsored by Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R-N.Y.) and Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.). The proclamation was presented by Bobbie Greene Kilberg, director of the White House's public liaison office, to Martin Begun, a vice president of the New York JCRC, who is also dean of New York University Medical School.

Kilberg said Bush, at a White House meeting recently with U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council members, "talked about the extraordinary spirit and faith of the Jewish people."

Meanwhile, at a Jewish Heritage Week ceremony at City Hall in New York on Monday, A.M. Rosenthal, columnist and former executive editor of *The New York Times*, and Bernard Charles, liaison on black affairs to Gov. Mario Cuomo, were honored for contributions to helping people "overcome differences."

POEMS BY LOUISE F. WEALTH

The following poems were written by Louise Wealth, currently a resident of the Kutz Home, who has written poetry for many years. Mrs. Wealth was born in Dolga, Russia, around 1899, immigrating to the United States with her family in 1907, and has lived in Wilmington most of her adult life. The subjects for her poetry are varied.

WHAT I ASK FOR AT 84

Oh, Lord, there's not much more
I ask from this world.
Tho I'm not fond of home.
Yet, for me, no expensive useless trappings—
Not even gold.
What I want mostly is happiness.
And if I'd be asked what kind it is?

My answer would be —
That the love I feel for my daughters
That it be returned to me.
And tho I know it's impossible
To do it in equal measure
I learned it thus is in all families.

Yet just as they are I treasure.
And to see them each look their best
And for their needs — enough and more —
And free from pain and sorrow is my request.
This is most important to me every day.

And, kind Lord, for this I pray.
Therefore now at 84
Diamonds and such for me have no attraction.
And if I had it
I would trade it for family affection.

WE MORTALS

Just because someone implied to me
That I lacked religion
Who lacked it much more than me,
I took my first opportunity to remind another
That their observances of religion lacked endeavor.

And the first I met happened to be you,
The very one.
Therefore of you I ask forgiveness for what I've done.
I know I've many faults — in this and many other things too.
Then with the Lord's aid, I could correct my own
Instead of what you do.

A LIGHT IN THE DARK

One night while preparing to retire
I thought the Sabbath candles had burned out all their fire.
Yet after all other lights were out,
I learned that
One candle had a tiny flame
And burned yet.
And I could see all the objects
In that room by just that light.
Which brought to mind
How little things could help one's plight.
When we know one's lonely
Let's do things to please them
With all our might.
And tho apparently nothing to gain by such action,
Our conscience will keep saying "Well done."
By just a smile and kindly words given
Folks will be cheered
And we'll enjoy more our living.

WHEN FOLKS ARE OLD

(Written 12 years ago.)
Tho at 75 my money is enough to make ends meet
I'm learning being old is not such a treat
Tho I used to think it is.
Yet now I declare:
That life is not what I thought yet I love every day of it.
And I am making every effort to live long in it.
Yet the loneliness at holidays is hard to stand.
And I'm learning how very important is a good friend.
And especially in sunset years friends are few.
And when asked most of us deny it.
Yet in fact I tell you.
Tho in youth we could not understand why folks were lonely at all.
Yet it is a fact we welcome more than ever when friends come to call.
And tho I know that cooking is a tiresome yet pleasant chore,
I'm really happy with it.
May none of us be forgotten and visit us as before.
And I'm determined to be around and could be in years ahead
Things of even more importance will be found.

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Obituaries

Max Podolsky

Max Podolsky, 79, of 514 W. 38th Street in Wilmington, died May 8.

Mr. Podolsky is survived by his wife, Jeanette. He is also survived by a son, Arthur, of Wilmington; a daughter,

Rochelle Kristol, of Scarsdale, N.Y.; two brothers, Sam, of the Bronx, N.Y., and Morris, of Sepulveda, California; and four grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the American Heart Association, 4-C Trolley Square, Wilmington, DE 19806.

Esther G. Rieur

Esther G. Rieur, 96, of Kutz Home, 704 River Road, died there May 9 of leukemia.

Mrs. Rieur was a retired teacher and former principal of Sabbath School in the Jewish community in Montclair, N.J.

She was a graduate of Teachers Institute of the Jewish Theological Seminary, New York City.

She was a life member of Hadassah and B'nai B'rith.

Her husband, Jacques, died in 1983. She is survived by two sons, Jack of Belle Mead, N.J., and Renan of Palm Beach, Fla., a daughter, June R. Kleban of Arden; seven grandchildren

and seven great-grandchildren. Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Kutz Home, Wilmington.

Edwin J. Levy

LA MESA, Calif. — Edwin J. Levy, 77, of 5353 Baltimore Ave., died May 15 of heart failure in Alameda Hospital.

Mr. Levy is survived by a son, Roger M. of Wilmington, Del.; a daughter, Malvina Levy Gomberg of Oakland; and six grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Kutz Home, Wilmington.

Eileen Jo Berger

Eileen Jo Berger, 42, of 8106

Society Drive, Claymont, died May 15 of kidney failure in Boca Raton (Fla.) Community Hospital. She was in Boca Raton visiting her mother.

Ms. Berger was a member of Brandywine Social Club and Congregation Beth Shalom. She was involved with the Special Olympics.

She is survived by her mother, Sybil Berger of Boca Raton and Wilmington, Del., and two sisters, Suzanne Berger of New York City and Sharon Weiler of Wilmington.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to National Kidney Foundation-Delaware Inc., Wilmington.

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Shamir Reveals How Family Died During The Holocaust

By DAVID LANDAU

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Yitzhak Shamir has always been known as a man who plays things close to his vest, whether it be of a political or personal nature. So his revelation about the death of his family in Nazi Europe was met with much surprise, as well as arm-chair debate on the psychological nature of the Israeli prime minister's motivations and fears.

While reading out loud the names of his family members killed by the Nazis, Shamir disclosed that his father was killed by Polish childhood-friends in his own village, after he succeeded in escaping from a German death train. "My father, Shlomo Ysernitzky, who escaped before the train left for a death camp and while seeking shelter among friends in the village where he grew up, they, his friends from childhood, killed him," Shamir said in a trembling voice.

Shamir revealed this on Holocaust Remembrance Day, while participating in a day-long public reading of names of Holocaust victims at the Knesset.

He also listed many other members of his family who died at the hands of the Nazis. His mother Pearl and a sister apparently died in death camps, while another sister was shot dead by the Nazis.

Shamir's family experiences have often prompted conjecture about his political motivations. In last week's *New York*



Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir stands outside parliament and reads out the names of Holocaust victims, including his mother and father, as part of the state ceremonies on May 2, which marked Yom HaShoah.

Times Magazine, the paper's former Jerusalem bureau chief writes that Shamir's purported intransigence is the result of an obsession with the Holocaust. Shamir "exemplifies those Israeli leaders whose vision of tomorrow is yesterday," wrote Thomas Friedman.

An aide said he was unsure

what prompted Shamir to go public with the information about his family.

Shamir, 73, was born and raised in the village of Rozinoy. He left it in the early thirties to study, going first to Jewish high school and later to University in Warsaw. He left for Palestine in 1935.

Working Mothers And Mothers-To-Be Subject Of Jewish Women's Study

NEW YORK (JTA)— Supervisors in the work place play a key role in easing stress for pregnant employees and working mothers, according to a new study by the national Council of Jewish Women's Center for the Child. The study was conducted with a nationwide sample of 2,620 working women during the third trimester of pregnancy and again, with 1,916 of the same women, four to seven months after childbirth.

Early findings from the survey indicated that formal

work-place policies that accommodate the needs and concerns of pregnant workers have a large positive impact on employee job satisfaction and productivity during pregnancy. Benefits considered included flexible scheduling, health insurance coverage, job-protected leave and child care.

The most recent results showed that the salutary effect of these work place policies increases enormously when the worker's immediate supervisor is helpful and understanding of the difficulties women ex-

perience in pregnancy. A sympathetic supervisor significantly influences job satisfaction and two measures of work productivity — frequency of illness at work and continuation of work during pregnancy. For the working mother, the impact of the supervisor can rival that of the supportive husband in some areas, the survey found.

In the sample of 713 married employees, levels of support from husband and supervisor was strongly predictive of the ability of working mothers to cope with stress.

Teen Scene

Wilmington AZA Chapter Elections

The results of the Wilmington AZA Chapter Elections for the 1989-90 term are as follows: Marc Blumberg, President, Dan Weinstein, 1st Vice President, Craig Koniver, 2nd Vice President, Neil Warshafsky, 3rd Vice President, Ricky Lubaroff, Moren, Bob Schwartz, Mazkir, Scott Berger, Gizbor, Marc Wishkoff, Shoter Godol, Matt Meyer, Cohen Godol.

Wilmington BBG Chapter Elections

The results of the Wilmington BBG Chapter Elections for the 1989-90 term are as follows: Staci Levin, President, Ariane Mamberg, 1st Vice President, Cheryl Morganstein, 2nd Vice President, Sandra Rapkin, 3rd Vice President, Allison Meyer, Mit-Mom, Holly Berkowitz, Treasurer, Stacy Hochheiser, Secretary.

Congratulations to all new board members!

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER TEEN DEPARTMENT IMPORTANT NUMBERS

For more information on membership or youth group activities contact these numbers.

Dover BBYO	Marc Wintjen	President	734-1089
Newark BBYO	Jennifer Prybutok	President	454-7546
Wilmington AZA	Marc Blumberg	President	475-6839
Wilmington BBG	Staci Levin	President	479-5449
BESTY (9th-12th grades)	Joy Ellick	President	478-6471
BESTY Jrs. (7th-8th grades)	Cong. Beth Emeth		762-5858

BESTY

BESTY is on its way to gaining membership and planning ahead for the future. Several important upcoming events were planned at our recent board meeting. Also, I have started a new BESTY Bulletin. If you are a member of BESTY you will be receiving this on a monthly basis.

Thanks to all BESTYITES that were involved with the first bake sale for Mitzvah Corps. We raised \$83.00 in a matter of an hour and a half. It proved to be a success because we were supported by Temple Beth Emeth and parents.

Mitzvah Corps is being held on May 26-29, 1989. It is a four day camp sponsored by MAFTY for El Salvadoran and Guatemalan refugee children. This event will be held at Camp Kutz in New York State. BESTY is raising \$100,000 for

Mitzvah Corps. For an application to be a counselor at Mitzvah Corps call any board member.

Spring Conclave was held in Baltimore, Maryland on April 27-29 and there was a huge turnout. Elections and the graduations of seniors took place at this event.

The Sweethearts Dance was held on February 11, 1989 in Potomac, Maryland. There was a live band and lots of food. The dance was semi-formal and all transportation was provided by the Kline's and the Weisberg's. It was a chance to see all of your MAFTY friends before the sub-regional. The charge for the dance was \$7.00, all of the money went to Mitzvah Corps.

On April 15, 1989, BESTY threw a Progressive Party. The

This page is written by teens for teens.

Second Annual Teen Bash (Grades 7-12)

If you had a great time last year ... expect a smashing good time this year! Join us for a poolside dance and swim party at the Family Campus. Bring you swimsuit and dance under the stars to the latest tunes. Food will complete the evening!

Date: Saturday, May 27, 1989

Time: 8:00 p.m. - 12:00 midnight

Fees: \$5/Members, \$7/Non-Members

Registration Deadline: May 24

Junior Teen Happy Hour (Grades 7 & 8)

Break the routine of dinner and homework by joining your friends at the JCC. Dinner will be served and surprises are always in store. A ping-pong tournament will complete out get-together.

Date: Tuesday, June 6, 1989

Time: 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Fees: \$5.00/Members, \$8.00/Non-Member

Registration Deadline: June 2

party began a Joy-Dara Ellick's house with appetizers. Then we moved on to Beth Gamiel's house for the main course. The evening concluded at Rachel Weisberg's house for dessert. Every member of BESTY had to bring a Jewish friend that was not a member of BESTY. The party was a great success.

If you have any questions or comments about BESTY feel free to contact any of the BESTY Board Members: Joy-Dara Ellick, President, 478-6671; Tara Barasch, Vice President, 478-2010; Troy Barasch, Treasurer, 478-2010; Marci Levithan, Secretary, 478-6892; Alyssa Weinberg, Social Action Chairperson, 475-4962; Rachel Weisberg, Social Action Chairperson, 475-4517; Roxanne and Peter Kline, Advisors, 998-3379.

Wilmington BBYO

Shalom Jewish Teens and Parents,

Wilmington BBYO (B'nai B'rith Youth Organization) has started its membership drive for the 1989-90 season. The B'nai B'rith Youth Organization helps young Jewish people to achieve personal growth according to their individual capacities so that they may lead personally satisfying and socially useful lives in the Jewish community and in the larger community which they are a part. This purpose is attained through the membership

and participation in democratically functioning groups under the guidance of professionally qualified staff. All Jewish male teens entering 9th grade through 12th grade are eligible for membership to Aleph Zadik Aleph (AZA), the largest international Jewish High School fraternity. Female teens in or entering High School can join B'nai B'rith Girls (BBG), the female counterpart in BBYO. Central Region East BBYO holds over half a dozen weekend conventions a season along with many

inter-cities. Wilmington BBYO will be running the first major convention of the season and will be held in the fall. Prior to this convention there is a "in training" convention for all new members to adjust them to BBYO. If you are interested in joining AZA or BBG please contact us.

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Roots & Branches

Miriam Weiner

Exploring Sephardic Roots Can Be Challenging

By MIRIAM WEINER
Special to The Jewish Voice

Family stories have always intrigued me, with the idea that one day further research would lead to the "truth." Although my known roots are in the Ukraine, one persistent family story describes a Spanish Catholic named Del Pozo from a wealthy finance family who

joined Napoleon's army. Amidst battles in the Ukraine around 1812, fell in love with a Jewish girl whom he later married. The family name then became "Undelpozo." Thereafter, a Russianized version of the name emerged as "Undelpozov," finally evolving through the years to "Odnopozov" — the maiden name of my maternal grandmother, Miriam Odnopozov Rabkin.

When the Spanish National Tourist Office and Iberia Airlines offered to coordinate a research trip for me to various cities where Jews once lived, and in some cases, still do, the "Del Pozo" story immediately came to mind and I renewed my determination to discover my Spanish ancestry.

Although Senor Del Pozo was described as a Spanish Catholic, it was difficult to know what his ancestry might have been. According to Samuel Toledano, president of the Jewish Communities of Spain, "practically all Spaniards have at least one Jewish ancestor. More Jews converted than were massacred or who fled the Inquisition."

In Madrid, I received an extensive indoctrination to Jewish roots in Spain from Toledano whose own ancestry dates back to Yusef Toledano, father of Rabbi Daniel Toledano who left Toledo at the time of the expulsion in 1492 along with six grown children as recorded in the family chronicles and his ketubah. "In the Sephardi tradition, the family tree is very important and is a source of pride and inspiration," explained Toledano.

A few days later, while in Grenada, I spotted a sign on a jewelry store "Lopez Del Pozo." I entered the shop and to the great amusement of other English-speaking customers, tried to explain in my rusty college Spanish that I was studying the history of my family in Spain, the name was Del Pozo and could I please see "Senor Lopez Del Pozo." My "cousin-to-be" was not in and the fractured conversation

was proceeding fairly well until I said "mi familia es Judio" (my family is Jewish). Amidst great antinomy and head-shaking, the employee emphatically declared "Senor Del Pozo NO JUDIO!!!!" By this time, the other customers could no longer contain themselves and were laughing with much abandon. I gave up trying to explain the details and resolved to communicate by letter upon returning home.

Visits to five cities reflected a wide spectrum of Jewish history. For instance, in Toledo, Seville and Cordoba, the Jewish history and presence have been preserved or restored. On the other hand, in Grenada, there is virtually nothing left of the once thriving Jewish community of an estimated 20,000. My knowledgeable guide pointed out the site of the old Jewish quarter then known as "Garnata Alyehud" from which the entire city eventually took its name.

While in Madrid, I attended services at the first synagogue built in Spain since the 14th century. At Beth Yaakov, located at the end of a small alley, I was questioned extensively about my visit, any local connections and had my purse thoroughly searched, all necessary precautions because of terrorist activities in the past.

The encounters within the Jewish communities led to typical adventures for the family historian. For instance, in Madrid, there was a meeting with Dr. Jacob M. Hassan, director of Sefardic Studies at the Arias Montano Institute. A few days later, while visiting in Seville, there was a meeting with Simon Hassan, president of the Jewish community. I produced the business card of Jacob Hassan, intent of joining two previously unknown families together — an ultimate goal of all genealogists. Simon Hassan smiled when he read the card and said "mi hermano!" (my brother). So much for that new family reunion.

The Spanish Government Tourist Office publishes two booklets which can be helpful:

"A Journey Through Jewish Spain" and "Exploring the Jewish Heritage in Spain." To obtain them, write to 665 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10022. A beautifully illustrated book, Jewish Roots in Spain (published by Iberia Airlines) is available from Sephardic House, 8 West 70th St., New York, NY 10023 (\$20 plus postage).

The recent trip produced invaluable additions to my library including two volumes of the Jews of Toledo by Pilar Leon Tello (1979, Madrid) with an index of names and biographical data. This important work consists of a chronological inventory of documents dating back to 590, but primarily from 1081 to 1578. A typical entry from 1492...

"Cimha, wife of Symuel Abenmajor, deceased, Jusef his son and Yanto, his nephew, son of Jacob Abenmajor and Ysaque Annobueno and Moses Pardo, as executors of Symuel Abenmajor and of Jacob Abenmajor, sold a country estate through right of perpetual ownership to Martin de Hinojosa, who lives near Toledo, and half of the houses that belong to Cimha, her son and her nephew. The houses are close to those of Yuda Alazra, the tax is payable to Ferrand Perez de Ayala; the houses have two rooms, well and stable and they are bordering the houses of Abenbaruel and the houses of Abengato, the old man."

Although Jewish "roots" in Spain date back many centuries, on-site research is more difficult than in other parts of

the world. In Spain, we are dealing with very old records and frequently are not aware of name changes taken by Jews who became "new Christians" or "Marranos." Usual sources throughout the world include synagogue records, Judaic libraries and archives, organizational records, vital record offices and the typical record-keeping repositories. However, in Spain, the cathedral archives and church records house many official records which could also be useful.

While walking the narrow streets and alleys in the Jewish quarters of Toledo and Cordoba, I experienced an eerie feeling of having been there before, or perhaps just retracing the footsteps of our Sephardic ancestors. Subsequent research in Spain will form the basis of a continuing series of articles on sources for exploring Sephardic "roots" and hopefully lead to documentation of the ancestry of my elusive "cousin," Senor Del Pozo.

EVERY FAMILY NEEDS AN HISTORIAN

Miriam Weiner, a certified genealogist, has prepared a beginner's guide (55 pages) on how to research family history that includes charts, list of archives and libraries, bibliography, maps, family group sheets and more. It can be ordered for \$10 & \$2.50 postage/handling by writing to her at 136 Sandpiper Key, Secaucus, NJ 07094.

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Jewish Vocal Troupe A Sell Out With Soviet Jewish Audience

MOSCOW (JTA) — In a further test of the Soviet policy of glasnost, or openness, Soviet Jews thronged concert halls in Moscow and Kiev for a taste of Jewish music, during a concert tour last month by the London School of Jewish Song Boys Choir.

The series, sponsored by the Vaad L'Hatzolas Nidchei Yisroel of the Agudath Israel World Organization, was a complete sellout. Organizers were forced to add two shows to the original four to handle the overflow. Agudath Israel said some 15,000 attended the concert series.

The tour was the brainchild of Mendel Goldberg, an American Agudath Israel emissary to the Soviet Union. He took the idea to Mordechai Neustadt, chairman of the Vaad, Agudath Israel's Committee for Soviet Jewry, who decided that the time was ripe to try approaching the Soviet authorities with the idea.

According to Agudath Israel, hundreds joined in singing and dancing with members of the

choir at each of the performances.

On the Shabbat, the choir went to the main synagogue of Moscow, where they were greeted by a rush of hundreds of Soviet Jews.

The rush led the director of the choir, Yigal Calek, to change the program of the concert. Instead of singing its regular songs, the choir performed a "model Shabbos" in song. The singers led the audience through many of the Saturday prayers while the audience sat listening to an explanatory translation.

Among the attendees at the concerts were Moscow's minister of culture, who invited the choir back for another tour, and the chief minister of culture for the Republic of Georgia, who called it "an incredible ensemble."

Said Goldberg: "We had two main goals in mind: giving Soviet Jews a renewed sense of pride in their Jewishness and fanning the little spark called 'a pintele Yid' — that love for Judaism that exists in every Jewish soul."

U.S. Jewish Leader Gives Bush High Marks On Middle East Policy

By DAVID FRIEDMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA) — While President Bush's first 100 days in office have been getting generally unenthusiastic reviews, a Jewish leader said recently that the president should receive 98 percent approval for his policy toward the Middle East and Israel.

Seymour Reich, chairman of

the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said the reason he did not give the president a 100 percent rating is Bush's public call for an end to Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which he issued during Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's visit to the White House last month. While Bush's remarks were "consistent with prior policy,"

the context in which it was made "was harsh," since the president did not provide historical background about why Israel administers the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Reich said.

His comments were made to reporters at a National Press Club breakfast on the eve of the 41st anniversary of the State of Israel. "Israel occupies these territories, not because of aggression that it engaged in, but because of defensive actions that it had to take as a result of wars begun by neighboring Arab countries," he said.

Reich, who is also president of B'nai B'rith International, praised Bush for having "reaffirmed the basic alliance that exists between the United States and Israel, militarily, culturally, strategically." The president was also lauded for telling Mubarak that he did not favor an international peace conference until there are "positive accomplishments" in the Middle East.

Reich was especially pleased that Bush supports a step-by-step approach in the Middle East and has embraced Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's proposal for elections in the territories to allow Palestinians to choose representatives for negotiations with Israel on self-rule.

The Jewish leader also gave high marks to Shamir and his election proposal. "The overwhelming number of American Jews and Jewish organizational life is supportive of this election process," he said, contending that "opponents are a distinct minority."

Past divisions in the American Jewish community over Israel were the result of a situation in which the Israeli government spoke with two voices, that of Shamir and that of Shimon Peres. "It is now clear that Shamir speaks for the government of Israel," Reich said. "I think that the American Jewish community is solidifying behind Shamir," the Jewish leader said. "They are saying, 'Give this man a chance. Let him stand or fall, his government, based on his ability to bring peace to the region.'"

Reich said the elections in the territories would provide an interim period of autonomy that would allow "some living together in peace to see whether these peoples can indeed share a common area without the threat of war and terrorism." But he stressed that the elections "have to be conducted in a free atmosphere

of speech without the threat of violence or intimidation." He said those running "can espouse any position they want to, including 'land for peace,' including an independent Palestinian state... as long as they are not terrorists or identified as such."

Reich also had high marks for the Bush administration's warning that if the Palestine Liberation Organization is admitted to the World Health Organization, the United States will cut off funds to that international organization. "For the PLO to come into the United Nations through the back door does not enhance the cause of peace," he said.

Reich gave low grades to PLO leader Yasir Arafat, whom he criticized for the confusion he caused by seemingly saying in Paris that the sections of the Palestine National Covenant calling for the destruction of Israel were "null and void," and then later rejecting this view. "Again we've seen an example of rhetoric rather than action," Reich said. He said the sections can be repealed only by a two-thirds vote of the Palestine National Council. The PNC had that opportunity at its meeting in Algiers last fall and did not take it, he added.

Until this is done, the PLO position can only be seen as "first the West Bank and Gaza, and then Tel Aviv and Haifa," he said.

Reich said that Arafat also has not demonstrated the ability to control factions of the PLO from attempted incursions into Israel, which have only been stopped by luck and the skill of the Israeli army.

The Soviet Union can play a useful role in the Middle East if Moscow uses its influence in the area to try to moderate the PLO and Syria, Reich said. He said it should start by trying to get Syria to end its shelling in Lebanon, which kills people daily. He also urged the Soviets to convince Syria to enter the peace process. "I don't think that peace can come to the Middle East unless Syria is brought into the process," he said.

Times Acknowledges Inaccurate Headlines

NEW YORK — In response to a letter of criticism by Milton S. Shapiro, President of the Zionist Organization of America, Bernard Gwertzman, Deputy Foreign Editor of the *New York Times*, acknowledged that "inaccurate headlines do not serve anyone's interests. There is no question but the headline was wrong."

Shapiro had questioned the recent headline in the *Times* which stated, "For the first time, Israel restricts Palestinians' Freedom of Worship" which implied that Israel imposed restrictions on the right of Palestinians to worship at Al Aqsa Mosque, as a matter of policy when, in fact, it limited

entry to the mosque to prevent a recurrence of the violence of the previous week.

"This unusual acknowledgment by the *New York Times* that it erred, thereby unfairly placing Israel in a negative posture, was a welcome and responsible act by the editors of this important publication." Shapiro also pointed out, "Too often in recent months Israel has been subjected to bias and inaccurate news reporting and it's important that each and every instance be challenged so that the media will display a greater sense of responsibility in the future. The ZOA will continue to remain vigilance and take action accordingly."

Former SS Officer Gets Four Years For Killing Of Jews In Majdanek

By DAVID KANTOR

BONN (JTA) — A former SS officer has been sentenced to four years in prison for complicity in the murder of at least 60 Jews in the Majdanek death camp near Lublin, Poland. He may also have been involved in the killing of 380 other inmates. But the Bielefeld court that passed sentence last week decided that 77-year-old Karl-

Fredrich Hoecker would be allowed to stay at home, pending a possible appeal. The court was sure the prisoner would not try to escape, because he has strong personal ties in town and is undergoing medical treatment.

After nine months of deliberation, a panel of judges found May 3 that Hoecker was an "armchair culprit" whose job was to order the deadly Zyklon B gas used in the Majdanek gas chambers, where some 250,000 Jews perished.

Hoecker served at the camp in 1943. Witnesses at the trial described him as a cruel man who gladly resorted to sadistic practices in dealing with Jewish inmates. But he told the court last month that he did not kill or hurt a single inmate during his service in Majdanek.

In 1965, Hoecker drew a seven-year sentence for his role in killings of at least 3,000 inmates, mostly Jews, in Auschwitz. He was released in 1970, after serving five years.

Atwater To Visit Israel

By HOWARD ROSENBERG

WASHINGTON (JTA) — When Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was in town last month, he invited Republican National Committee Chairman Lee Atwater to visit Israel. Atwater has accepted the invitation and plans to visit Israel in the next few months, according to Leslie Goodman, Atwater's press secretary.

"Both men have very similar styles," she responded, when asked if one of the visit's purposes would be to have Atwater teach Shamir a thing or two about running political campaigns. Atwater, after all, ran President Bush's presidential campaign in 1988.

"Lee is very excited by the trip," Goodman said, especially because it will be his first to Israel. "He is looking forward to learning more about Israel's people, its strategic situation and its close bond with the United States," she added.

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WHO Postpones Vote On PLO—

(Continued from page 1)
fatal to children. Dr. Hiroshi Makajima, the Japanese physician who is director general of the WHO, said the loss of American funding would be "a bigger danger to world health than the AIDS epidemic."

The Israeli delegate, Tsur, may have been referring to this when he remarked that "the circumstances were in our favor."

Arafat, for his part, insisted that the "Palestine state" will continue to seek admission to other specialized U.N. Agencies. These include the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organization, the International Labor Organization and the International Telecommunications Union.

But observers believe the PLO's chances are doomed, at least for the time being, by the setback in the WHO. Unlike the World Health Assembly, where a simple majority is sufficient, the other U.N. agencies require a two-thirds majority vote for admission.

In New York, American Jewish groups were quick to welcome the WHO vote. The

Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations praised the leadership of President Bush and Secretary of State James Baker in rejecting the PLO demand for admission to the health body.

"Their strong stand gave courage to other countries to vote against the PLO in a secret

ballot," said Seymour Reich, chairman of the conference, which represents 46 national Jewish groups. He also lauded the Soviet vote to delay consideration of the PLO's request. "We hope it is a sign of future cooperation between our two countries in the difficult task of encouraging a process that will lead to Middle East

peace," he said.

"The PLO had no legitimate claim to membership," Thomas Neumann, executive vice president of B'nai B'rith International, said in a prepared statement. "We commend the United States and those governments who stood fast in denying this cynical maneuver for recognition."

Topkis—

(Continued from page 1)
the first. Topkis wants to significantly raise the level of the Federation's annual campaign, which he believes is currently too low for this particular community. The community should not be pushed into giving, he says, but should want to give because it has been educated and is understanding of Jewish needs.

And the third goal Topkis had formulated, is a strengthening of this community's young leadership — planning for the future. The involvement of this community's young people is something on which Topkis puts a great deal of importance and plans to put a great deal of his efforts.

These goals, Topkis explains, will not be reached singlehandedly. His board, he says, will be a "working board." Each member, according to the new president, will have a portfolio, or a specific assignment. There are 12 new members on this board whom he sees as enthusiastic and willing to work hard.

Financially, Topkis is taking over a number of problems, like the Kutz Home and the JCC. But he is also concerned with our financial commitments beyond the community.

It bothers Topkis that so much of the campaign money raised is used to meet this community's needs and that more does not go to Israel. "Israel must be supported," he says, whether you're liberal or conservative, Orthodox or Reform. "The only way our government is going to support Israel," he maintains, "is if we do the same." All the federations, Topkis says, "have to do their fair share" when it comes to supporting the Jewish state.

And, while he doesn't see more help from this community in the immediate future, the Soviet Jewry problem, he says, must also be dealt with. "It's a dilemma," Topkis says, because we have to prioritize needs, taking care of our own community first. He notes that it always comes down to the campaign and a need for a change in the level of giving.

Topkis feels he is prepared for the challenges facing him along the way and says he is eagerly looking forward to meeting them.

Israel: WHO Health Report Biased

By TAMAR LEVY

GENEVA (JTA) — A report on health conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, which Israel says is biased, was circulated to the delegates from 166 countries attending the annual meeting of the World Health Assembly here on May 11.

The assembly is the governing body of the World Health Organization. The report will be used by the Arab states as the basis for a resolution condemning Israel, which the U.N. agency will be asked to adopt when debate on it opens Monday. The report was prepared by three doctors, from

Romania, Indonesia and Senegal, who were recruited by the Arab bloc.

Israel refused to let them visit the territories, claiming they were prejudiced. Israel has not cooperated since 1985 with medical teams sent to examine conditions in the territories for the WHO.

The report, focusing on the Palestinian uprising, states that 49 percent of the Arab casualties were caused by beatings, 39 percent by bullets and 8 percent by tear gas. It states that 69 percent of the casualties are youths and 23 percent are women, some of whom had to abort pregnan-

cies. It claims that since 1985 there have been no improvements in health services in the territories.

According to the report, conditions have worsened in the Golan Heights, which Israel annexed from Syria in 1980. There are only four dispensaries and no hospital in the Golan, it says.

An Israeli diplomat here denounced the report as lopsided. He said it omitted any mention of the many health services the inhabitants of the territories receive from the Israeli Health Ministry.

Damned—

(Continued from page 3)

American Jewish leaders failed to take to the streets to protest on behalf of European Jewry; are today's Jewish leaders taking to the streets to defend beleaguered Israel?

Like the *St. Louis* before it, Israel is adrift in an ocean of broken promises and shattered illusions. Those are rough waters to navigate, and in the years to come the task will not get much easier.

(Rafael Medoff is the author of "The Deafening Silence: American Jewish leaders and the Holocaust," which was published in 1987 by Shapolsky Books.)

This museum is being built so that future generations will have to believe.

Robert Greenberger is a reporter for the *Wall Street Journal*. This article was made possible by a grant from The Fund For Journalism on Jewish Life, a project of the CRB Foundation of Montreal Canada. Any views expressed are solely those of the author.

What Should Holocaust Museum Be?—

(Continued from page 8)

formation booth will be placed in such a way as to separate visitors into two lines, just as families were separated immediately at the concentration camps into lines of who would live and who would die. The glass on part of the ceiling is deliberately warped, showing that some natural catastrophe abides here.

After a decade of squabbling and false starts, the museum has survived its painful birthpangs. Construction is ex-

pected to take three years and cost \$60 million. Now, as the museum rises on the National Mall, its presence bears witness to Elie Wiesel's warning for those who would forget history. In his book, "A Beggar in Jerusalem," a character escapes execution only to be taunted by his executioner: "One day you'll regret it. You'll speak but your words will fall on deaf ears. You'll try to incite people to learn from the past... but they will refuse to believe you."

Gambling Is Thriving Off Eilat Coast

By CATHRINE GERSON

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Egyptian-owned gambling ships are earning as much as a million dollars a day in Israeli waters, and their number is increasing, despite a bad accident last week in the Gulf of Eilat.

Two launches carrying gamblers to a floating casino off Eilat collided, hurling five

people into the water. All were rescued, though one was badly injured. The mishap did not deter the Israeli authorities from allowing the Egyptian company to position another gambling ship, the *Sea Princess*, in the Mediterranean.

The Transport Ministry gave the green light. The ship will now cruise back and forth between Tel Aviv and Ashdod

while its passengers play games of chance.

Ezra Tisona, who manages the casino, said the vessel has been outfitted with every luxury and can carry 600 people. At a meeting last week, Tisona assured Interior Ministry and police officials that the *Sea Princess* will be operated to the same standards as the floating casinos off Eilat.

Six gambling ships are currently operating off Eilat and two more are being readied for what has proven to be a lucrative business. The cost of outfitting a vessel for gambling is about \$1 million, which is usually recouped in a week.

During the Passover holidays, the estimated income of each Eilat ship was \$1 million a day.

Israel's Anniversary Celebrated In Moscow

By WILLIAM SAPHIRE

NEW YORK (JTA) — For the first time in 22 years, Israel's Independence Day was officially celebrated in Moscow on May 10 with a diplomatic reception. The guests included representatives of the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

The reception was hosted by the Israeli consular delegation, headed by Aryeh Levin, which has been in the Soviet capital since last summer, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was informed by Rabbi Arthur Schneier of the Park East Synagogue here.

Schneier, who just returned from the Soviet Union, received the information by telephone from Rabbi Adolf Shayeitch, religious leader of Moscow's Choral Synagogue, which has a sister relationship

with Park East.

Shayeitch said he marked Yom Ha'atzmaut by affixing a mezuzah to the door of the building at 56 Bolshaya Ordinka, in central Moscow, where the Israeli consular

delegation is located. The building was the Embassy of Israel until the Soviet Union severed all relations with the Jewish state in 1967.

Shayeitch told Schneier that the reception was held at the

Mezhdorodnaya Hotel, one of Moscow's better hostels. About 60 people attended, including many Soviet Jews, reported Shayeitch, who attended the reception with his wife.

Britain Won't Sell Israel Gas Masks

LONDON (JTA) — Several members of Parliament have demanded that the British government explain why it rejected an Israeli request to purchase gas masks to protect its civilian population from the threat of chemical warfare.

The members, not all of them supporters of Israel, were incensed by a report that the gas masks Israel wanted were child-sized. They directed their

questions to the Foreign Office and the Department of Trade and Industry.

According to reports, an informal request by the Israeli Defense Ministry was rebuffed because the equipment is among the items banned under the arms embargo Britain imposed when Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982.

A Foreign Office source told the *Jewish Chronicle*, "It was

made clear that, in the present climate, Britain would refuse to export to Israel any equipment related to chemical warfare."

An Israeli official here said the gas masks were being purchased from several countries in a major civil defense effort to meet the threat posed by the Arab world's growing chemical warfare arsenal. "We were surprised by the British response," he said.

The Arab Experience—

(Continued from page 13)

part of the Arab experience within Israel. Arabesques falters when the art lapses into artifice, and form takes precedent over meaning.

Both novels are flawed. They are also powerful and pertinent additions to the increasing and dynamic output of meaningful literature from a beleaguered but brave nation. Their outlooks are not very optimistic; their honesty is.

(Benjamin Nelson is professor of English and Comparative Literature at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, N.J. *Jewish Books in Review* is a service of the JWB Jewish Book Council. Reprinted by permission.)