

Israelis, Palestinians hold successful talks

Syrian negotiations are strained

By GIL SEDAN

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel's first direct talks with Palestinians in Madrid went off remarkably well, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir told Knesset members Monday.

The biggest threat to the future of peace negotiations is Syria, he made clear.

The initial round of talks was devoted to discussing where to hold future bilateral sessions. Nothing apparently was settled on that score, Shamir told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Nevertheless, the session with the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation was a historic breakthrough. It was the first time ever that Israelis and Palestinians negotiated around the same table in the context of formal diplomatic talks.

The talks began Sunday morning and ended early in the evening with a long break in the afternoon.

For the first event of its kind in history, it was successful, said Shamir, who was not present but had reports from his negotiating team.

Shamir led the Israeli delegation to Madrid for the ceremonial opening of the peace con-

ference last week. He returned to Jerusalem on Friday and briefed his Cabinet on Sunday.

On Monday, he reported to the Knesset panel how the bilateral talks with the Palestinians went. They were conducted by an Israeli negotiating team headed by Elyakim Rubinstein, the Cabinet secretary and one of Shamir's most trusted aides.



Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir talks with cabinet member Elyakim Rubenstein (right) during the first talks in Madrid last week. (Photo: RNS)

stein, the Cabinet secretary and one of Shamir's most trusted aides.

They were held in a "positive, relaxed atmosphere" and jokes were exchanged by both sides, Shamir reported.

He said that contrary to published reports, the Jordanian-Palestinian team acted as one. Issues raised with one of the participants are discussed by the entire delegation, and the relevant party is free to express its own views, he said.

After hours of delay, the talks with the Syrian negotiators began Sunday evening and concluded in the wee hours of Monday morning. That Israeli delegation was headed by Yossi Ben-Aharon, director general of the

Prime Minister's Office and another of Shamir's most senior aides.

Shamir described the talks as "correct," which in diplomatic parlance connotes a frigid atmosphere. At times the head of the Syrian delegation even raised his voice, he reported.

The Syrians rejected all Israeli compromise proposals, Shamir said. One, for example, was to hold the bilateral talks on a rotating basis at Syrian and Israeli embassies in European capitals.

Syria also balked at Israel's proposal that both countries announce their commitment to continue the talks and that the Syrians declare their recognition of the State of Israel.

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Arabs and Israelis must now move from rhetoric to cooperation

Analysis

By HOWARD ROSENBERG

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Arabs and Israelis have broken new ground in Madrid by talking with each other, both publicly and privately. But in the hoped-for second round of direct talks, to take place at a still-unresolved place and time within a few weeks, the parties will have to do more than just talk. They must begin discussing specific solutions to the Arab-Israeli and Israeli-Palestinian disputes.

With the parties now gone from Madrid, the issues of place and time will dominate the coming days. Secretary of State James Baker is working toward an agreement on this as soon as possible.

Procedure was the main agenda item in Israel's separate, face-to-face talks Sunday with Syria, Lebanon and the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Israel wants the direct talks to alternate between Israeli and Arab cities. Syria strenuously opposes doing so, because this would mean official recognition of Israel.

On issues of substance, Baker told reporters that each side in Madrid staked out "maximalist positions" from which they would only back off in private, one-on-one negotiations.

The one gesture most acknowledged as an ice-breaker by the other side was the Palestinian position, backed by Jordan, of accepting some interim autonomy arrangement in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Of course the Palestinians hinged that position on being assured that a Palestinian state would eventually be created. But even that appeared to be reasonable, compared with Syria's demand that Israel return the Golan Heights before discussions could take place on any other issue, including future security arrangements there.

In addition to the face-to-face procedural talks that began this week, Israel wants to jump into multilateral negotiations involving such regional issues as water resources, arms control and economic cooperation. But Baker has also yet to announce arrangements for those talks to begin.

The Arab delegates said they did not care about negotiating on any of those issues unless they got their land back. Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa charged that Israel is



In response to Israeli Prime Minister Shamir's reference to Syria as "one of the most oppressive and tyrannical regimes in the world," Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa brandished an old leaflet with a "wanted" picture of Shamir, saying he was wanted at the time for terrorist assassinations. (Photo: RNS)

"only interested in entering bilateral negotiations on economic cooperation."

In general, the Arabs have shown little interest in confidence-building gestures until Israel indicates a willingness to give up territory.

Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi dismissed the idea of suspending the four-year-old Palestinian uprising in the territories in exchange for a halt to new Jewish settlements. Ashrawi said the two are not equal.

Syria repeatedly invoked U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, which it interprets as

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Most Israelis back Shamir

But unsure where talks will lead

By CATHERINE GERSON

TEL AVIV (JTA) — A national consensus of sorts has developed in Israel over the last week in support of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, whose popularity is riding higher than ever since he led the Israeli delegation at the opening round of the Middle East peace conference in Madrid. Although Israelis on the left and the right have different reasons for backing the hard-line premier, there is little question that he now enjoys most of the population's support.

Although no poll has been taken for two

weeks, Shamir would likely emerge with a 70 to 80 percent public approval rating, according to Professor Avraham Diskin, head of the Hebrew University's political science department and a professional pollster.

It would be a measure of personal regard, Diskin pointed out, considering that the coalition government Shamir heads controls barely more than 50 percent of the Knesset.

According to political analysts, Shamir's popularity arises from the image in the eyes of his beholders.

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Some 30,000 Israelis demonstrated in Tel Aviv in support of the meetings in Madrid between Israel and its Arab neighbors. They urged Shamir to "take an olive branch and outstretch a hand to peace." (Photo: RNS)

Editorial

The beginning of peace?

In an atmosphere of skepticism mixed with hope, both Israelis and Palestinians seem to sense that the conference in Madrid marks a new era. Ancient enemies shared a table — something that no one would have thought possible a year ago, even a few months ago. Beginning with the moment Israeli, Arab and Palestinian representatives sat down at the same table in a palace in Madrid, the Middle East will never be the same.

Israel, backed into a corner, bravely agreed to attend the meetings with hostile neighbors in spite of the fact that there would be no balance around the negotiating table. Not only was she outnumbered by the Arab delegations allied against her but, more importantly, Israel was the only attendee being asked to relinquish anything tangible — to give up territory for promises.

The first positive step toward peace in the region must be an end to the violence that has plagued it for so long. That would come with the recognition of Israel's right to exist within safe and secure borders. By taking seats around the same table, the Arabs and the Palestinians have essentially done that. Now, with that acknowledgement, the process can begin of building the trust that must exist in order for any peace to be lasting.

Some seven centuries ago, Rabbi Levi Ben Gershon wrote: "A peace which comes from fear and not from the heart is the opposite of peace."

The democratic state of Israel is negotiating with dictatorships. The reality of this situation is that, while we are privy to all Israelis' points of view on the matter of negotiation and peace, we do not have any real sense of anything but the Arab leaders' desires. Where, for example, would Israel stand, after any negotiation, should the leadership of any participating Arab country change?

Now that the meetings in Madrid have ended and the delegates have returned to the Middle East, the framework will begin to be built. The success of this process depends on the philosophy. There will be nothing achieved by an "all or nothing" concept. Compromises will have to be made by all of those involved.

No one came to Madrid expecting to solve all of the difficult problems of the Middle East. For all intents and purposes, the Madrid meetings were ceremonial. A beginning. President Bush called it "a mission of hope."

But peace has been Israel's dream for 43 years. And she has never been as close to the road to peace as she appears to be now. May we realize the dream, may peace settle on the troubled Middle East in our time and may it last forever.



Letters to the Editor

Anti-Semitism on the rise

Late in the 20th century, anti-Semitism is alive and growing throughout the world. A recent excellent book on the Wall Street scandals, "Den of Thieves," only points to the Jews and their Jewishness when describing the principal characters involved. Alan Dershowitz, the well-known attorney, complains that, when the WASP establishment ruled Wall Street, they had their own "den of thieves".

A recent election in Germany saw the neo-Nazi garner eight percent of the vote. This coalition of Hitler apologists, Skinheads and various extremist groups want to throw out all foreigners in Germany and some of their tactics are reminders of the days in Germany shortly after Hitler came to power. Incidentally, Hitler had less support in 1933 when he was made Chancellor than the neo-Nazis had in the recent election.

Nearer to home, as you have printed in *The Jewish Voice* (October 25, 1991), David Duke has placed second in the Louisiana governor's race primary and he stands a chance of being elected governor of that state. He expressly hates Jews and blacks, but he says he has changed. Only his stripes have changed. He has swapped the robes of the KKK for so-called respectability. He is a threat to all that we hope America stands for — and the Jewish Community especially.

Lately, the Jew-hating Jewish journalists try

to hide their Jewishness by claiming that Jews are too pushy and assertive in American society. Alan Dershowitz, in his recent book *Chutzpah*, criticizes these Jews and claims that Jews aren't assertive enough. Michael Kinsley, in the *New Republic* (September 1991), disagrees with Dershowitz, citing the lobbying for the loan guarantees for Israel as being too pushy and creating anti-Jewish feeling in some quarters of the population.

The current downturn in the economy of the western countries and the collapse of Communism in Russia have brought back the ugly head of anti-Semitism, even in countries that don't have any number of Jews. There have been incidents in Japan. How many Jews are there in Japan? After all, there has to be a scapegoat. And what can be more popular than blaming everything on the Jews?

Samuel Kagel

Don't miss the train

The historic peace conference in Madrid was the beginning of a long journey in which the next stations are the bilateral negotiations and multilateral meetings. The venue has yet to be agreed upon.

In picking the right location, we should look for convenience and accessibility. We should follow the example of the young lovers who were searching for a place where they could inconspicuously embrace. The boy suggested that they use the railway station. Standing on the platform, they would enjoy a long embrace as if one of them was departing. After repeating this four or five times, a sympathetic conductor strolled up and whispered to the lad, "Why don't you take her home? It would certainly be more convenient there!"

I hope the Arabs will not miss the Middle East train, as we want to be on track and not allow peace to be derailed. The first stop on the main line of the double tracking negotiations is in the Middle East and we don't necessarily have to see long embraces. . . shaking hands will suffice.

Israel Peleg, Ph.D.
Consul General of Israel

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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50 YEARS AGO

The following report was filed by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency 50 years ago this month.

MASS-EXECUTION OF 25,000 JEWS IN ODESSA REPORTED IN LONDON

LONDON, Nov. 13, 1941 (JTA) — The mass-execution of 25,000 Jews in Odessa by Rumanian troops was reported today in a British radio broadcast.

The report said that after 220 Rumanian soldiers were killed by a Soviet time bomb, 25,000 Jews in Odessa, including women and children, were herded into military barracks and mowed down by squads of Rumanian machine-gunners. The barracks were then set on fire. The British radio termed the massacre as "one of the biggest mass executions in history."

CORRECTION

The Jewish Voice Guide to Jewish Life in Delaware, published October 25, should have listed Jeffrey Furman as President of Albert Einstein Academy. Incomplete information was supplied to The Jewish Voice.

DEADLINE

The next issue of The Jewish Voice will be published FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22. The deadline for stories and photos is noon, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15. Material should be sent or brought to the Jewish Voice office at the Jewish Federation of Delaware, 101 Garden of Eden Rd., Wilmington, 19803. (302) 478-6200. All articles must be typed, double spaced.

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Let off steam
Write a
Letter to the Editor

Op-Ed

Harassment: Jewish communal life's secret scandal

By DIANA AVIV and GARY RUBIN

NEW YORK (JTA)—Anita Hill's charges of sexual harassment have precipitated a flood of assertions by millions of women in the United States that they have been similarly victimized. Regrettably, sexual harassment is also rife within Jewish communal organizations.

Since the scandal broke, we have been inundated with stories from women who work within Jewish agencies, anxious to share their experiences of sexual harassment by lay and professional men. These are some of their stories:

*A high ranking professional was invited by the agency's president to review policy papers relating to an upcoming meeting. The papers were in his hotel suite, and thus he requested that they hold their discussions there. In the middle of their discussion, he grabbed her and attempted to pursue a sexual relationship.

*A mid-level worker was having a substantive debate with her supervisor over a policy matter when he asked whether they could stop arguing and have her sit on his lap.

*A worker at a Jewish camp was approached by a rabbi to go out with him. When she refused, he persisted in asking her in ways that included sexual innuendos. She complained to the camp administration, which did nothing. The situation became so unpleasant that she, rather than he, felt forced to leave the camp.

*A young Jewish worker applying for a

grant necessary to running her program discovered that she would receive money only in return for sexual favors.

*An entry level professional was working in her office when the agency executive came in, stood behind her and massaged her shoulders and her arms. The woman was not only appalled, but at a loss to know how to respond in a way that did not jeopardize a career that was just beginning.

*A woman professional, when greeted by professional and lay leaders, reports that they insist upon kissing her on her mouth and have accused her of being cold and hard for refusing to go along with such a practice. At quarterly meetings, some of the out-of-town leaders, more than 20 years her senior, continually invite her to keep their hotel beds "warm."

These stories could be multiplied almost without end. All the women we spoke with believed that sexual harassment is endemic and deeply ingrained in the Jewish community. Some question whether the men in these situations are even aware that their behavior is inappropriate, illegal and extremely disruptive to the victim.

Harassment on the basis of sex is a violation of Sec 703 of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Included within the definition of sexual harassment are unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature

when such conduct is made as a condition of function of employment; where submission to or rejection of these advances will affect decisions regarding the employee's work; or where the conduct has the effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment. (EEOC sex discrimination guidelines)

agency often hold positions in a number of other Jewish organizations, they are in a position to support or damage opportunities for growth. Since the Jewish communal world is a small one, and since most people in leadership know one another, it is quite easy for a vengeful lay or professional leader to ruin the career path of a female employee who charges him with sexual harassment.

“Many female professionals hold positions in which they have to relate regularly to men with power over their careers, advancement and salaries. Potential abuse inheres in relationships of workers to supervisor, staff to board, fundraiser to donor, and organizational representative to foundation. The fact that many young professionals entering the field are women, while most top executives, board members and donors are men, provides fertile ground for sexual harassment.”

The way Jewish communal structures are organized creates opportunities for harassment. Other communal structures may reflect similar patterns, in which the majority of the leadership, both professional and lay, is male, and where the same leaders occupy many positions within a single network of communal structures.

Many female professionals hold positions in which they have to relate regularly to men with power over their careers, advancement and salaries. Potential abuse inheres in relationships of worker to supervisor, staff to board, fundraiser to donor, and organizational representative to foundation. The fact that many young professionals entering the field are women, while most top executives, board members and donors are men, provides fertile ground for sexual harassment.

The women with whom we spoke expressed the fear that if they made their charges public they would not be believed by those in charge, most of whom are men, and their names would be besmirched and careers derailed.

It is the nexus of power and opportunity that accounts for the prevalence of the problem. In Jewish communal life, men hold power over women in a myriad of ways and have used their position to find expression for their sexual interests.

Moreover, since men in leadership of one

Jewish women professionals suggested that there is collusive "eye winking" among many men, even by those who are not perpetrators of sexual harassment. One woman asserted that there is a culture within Jewish organizations, particularly where few women hold leadership positions, that condones relating to working women as objects of sexual interest.

We are not asserting that all men in leadership positions engage in this practice. The majority do not. Those that do, however, engage in this behavior with sufficient frequency to create a very stressful working environment for most women.

Few are optimistic about the prospect for relief. One woman told us that in her organization there would be no change this century.

We believe that the current state of affairs must not be tolerated. No woman should have to face a hostile work situation caused by the unwanted sexual attentions of others. The EEOC guidelines note that an employer "may also be held responsible for the acts of non-employees with respect to sexual harassment of employees in the work place, where the employer knows or should have known of the conduct and fails to take immediate and appropriate corrective action."

We can do more, including:

*A campaign by communal leaders, lay and

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U.S. Administration is out-of-touch regarding Israel

By MORRIS J. AMITAY

In late 1968, at the behest of then President-elect Richard Nixon, former Governor of Pennsylvania William Scranton journeyed to the Middle East. He returned with a recommendation for a more "even-handed" U.S. policy toward Israel and the Arab states. At the time — and since then, "even-handed" has universally been interpreted as a code word not for impartiality, but for pro-Arab policies. At this point, however, it is fairly certain that Israel's supporters would gladly settle for genuine even-handedness by the Bush Administration in its policies. The Bush-Baker-Sununu-Scowcroft team is increasingly being described as being the most hostile Administration ever toward Israel, with only mild comparison to the post-Suez period. It can be argued, however, that what we actually have is not the presence of malice, but an abundance of ignorance about the realities of the Middle East.

One of the most obvious manifestations of the inability to grasp some of the basics is the pronounced U.S. tilt in recent months toward Syria — and increasing criticism of Israel. We have witnessed the wooing of a dictatorial regime which ruthlessly suppresses any dissent and which still harbors active anti-U.S. terrorist groups — as well as the most-wanted Nazi war criminal. Israel, the region's only functioning democracy, on the other hand, has been held to a standard of behavior no other nation is held accountable for. While there are no parliamentary, media, or political constraints on Syria's Hafez Assad, the same surely cannot be said for Prime Minister Shamir. Cartoonist "Dry Bones" put this into focus in his own inimitable way with his Arab character declaring "squashing aid for Russian immigrants — demanding a freeze on Jewish settlement — these days George Bush could win a democratic election in any Arab State."

But then again support for democratic movements — whether they be in the Soviet Union, Kuwait, Iraq or China, has never been a hallmark of the Bush Administration. There doesn't seem to have been a dictator anywhere that George Bush was not ready to do business with. The fallacy with denigrating democracy in international relations is that dictators are not only inherently untrustworthy, but that dictatorships are also inherently unstable with

no institutions for continuity when the regime crumbles. Hence, there is reason to argue that "territory for peace" in the Middle East context can better be described as "territory for paper" — a dictators signature on an agreement which does not commit his successors.

Another basic factor which seems to be ignored by Bush and Co. is the reality of Israel's security concerns. When Israel sends its aircraft to observe what is happening in Western Iraq — it should not have to hear U.S. complaints about these overflights. Having directly experienced 40 SCUD missile attacks, and still not retaliating at the request of our government, U.S. criticism is not only misplaced, it is gratuitously insulting. More importantly, U.S. pressure on Israel to relinquish territory blithely overlooks recent history, strategic necessities and the logic of geography. While Israel's security surely does not depend on ruling the lives of 700,000 Arabs in the West Bank, it surely must have security control over this area if it is to defend itself. Given ongoing Arab attitudes toward the very existence of a sovereign Jewish State, can Israel realistically be expected to relinquish the modicum of strategic depth and the early warning this area provides?

The Bush Administration must be aware of the order of battle arrayed against Israel by its Arab foes — particularly now that our own country significantly contributed to the growing imbalance. Since the capabilities are there, our policy makers must believe that Arab intentions toward Israel must be benign. If that is so — all the threatening rhetoric, vicious propaganda and terrorist attacks against Israel have to be discounted. Israel, however, can ignore the known capabilities and stated intentions of its enemies, only at its peril. As for U.S. intentions — the pursuit of peace is always a worthy goal. As for our capabilities to bring about real peace in the Middle East, a healthy dose of realism is needed. As long as Saddam Hussein rules in Baghdad, Hafez Assad rules in Damascus, and the Palestinians can't do better than Yasir Arafat, Israel cannot take the kind of risks, a well-meaning, but out of touch Administration seems to be demanding.

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

Suing Cardinal Glemp: 'It had to be done'

By RABBI AVRAHAM WEISS

Never before has a cardinal been sued by a rabbi. Unfortunately, it needed to be done; there was little choice.

The suit results from Polish Primate Jozef Glemp's August 1989 homily in which he accused me and six of my colleagues — who had come to Poland a month earlier, to peacefully protest against the Auschwitz convent — of coming with intention to murder the nuns there and to destroy the convent. In the homily — delivered before 150,000 Poles and the international media — Cardinal Glemp also charged that "the Jews" controlled the world's "mass media," and that they are responsible for "spreading communism," for "collaborating" with the Nazis, for "plying [Polish peasants] with alcohol" and for "provoking" anti-Semitism in Poland.

As the plaintiff, I have been accused of being vindictive, of being a Catholic basher, of jeopardizing the remnant of Polish Jewry, of wrongly insisting that the issue of the Auschwitz convent remains unresolved, and of falsely claiming to represent the Jewish community.

Vindictive? Indeed Cardinal John O'Connor — speaking at a Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York — proclaimed: "[Cardinal Glemp] has made clear his deep regret for any pain he may have caused." But the only words we have heard from the mouth of Cardinal Glemp belie this. As he boarded the plane to the U.S.

Cardinal Glemp told Polish national T.V. "I don't feel the necessity to apologize toward the group of seven who attacked the monastery." When asked whether he would retract his statements that Jews intoxicated Polish peasants and control the mass media, he said: "The general complaint should be left to the sociologists and historians. I did not invent these, they are widely spread in our history and sociology." That's not regret. It's the stuff of Nazism.

These expressions of bigotry and hatred, especially coming from the primate of Poland on national Polish TV, are incendiary, incitement of violence and amount to nothing less than verbal terrorism. We don't negotiate with terrorists. We should not negotiate with Cardinal Glemp unless there is evidence of true expressions of Christian contrition.

Catholic bashing? God forbid. This is not a conflict between the Jewish and Catholic communities or the Jewish and Polish-American communities. It is rather a conflict between the voices of decency in each of our communities and the voice of bigotry and anti-Semitism that Cardinal Glemp represents. I felt sorrow when serving Cardinal Glemp with legal papers. As a rabbi, I understand the message of universality of souls. I have love for people of all faiths. But our common religious principles demanded that it be done. We are all

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Candle Lighting

NOVEMBER
8TH — 4:35 PM
15TH — 4:29 PM
22ND — 4:24 PM
29TH — 4:21 PM

DELAWARE'S SYNAGOGUES

ADAS KODESCH SHEL EMETH

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

BETH SHOLOM CONGREGATION OF DOVER

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

CONGREGATION BETH EMETH

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

CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM

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

MACHZIKEY HADAS CONGREGATION

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

TEMPLE BETH EL

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

Dvar Torah

Parshat Toldot, November 9th

Two brothers and two blessings

By MITCH MARCUS

This week we read the tale of Jacob and Esau, twin brothers who vie for supremacy over one another while still in the womb. We know the outline of the story from our childhood: Jacob insists on his older brother Esau's birthright as the price for a bowl of lentil stew, a deal which the impetuous Esau, who cares far more for hunting than for his grandfather Abraham's covenant, readily accepts.

Later, Jacob fools Isaac by pretending to be Esau and thereby gaining for himself the blessing intended for his brother. In the parshiyot that follow, Jacob is repeatedly repaid in kind for this deception of his father as he is forced to painfully earn what he extorted from his brother.

First, he is tricked by his uncle Laban into marrying Leah, the elder of his cousins, after working seven years for the hand of Rachel, her younger sister. Later, he is deceived by his older sons into believing that his favorite son, Joseph, has been torn apart by wild beasts.

But the text appears to leave unanswered the question of how our patriarch Isaac could have been willing to pass on the legacy of the covenant that God had made with Abraham to a brutish elder son totally rooted in the physicality of this world.

The contemporary biblical commentator Nechama Leibowitz points out that this question can be answered by a careful comparison of two blessings: the blessing that Isaac believes he is bestowing upon Esau, and the blessing that Isaac bestows knowingly upon Jacob before he leaves home.

The blessing Isaac intended for Esau bestows upon his firstborn material success, wealth, prestige and power within Esau's own lifetime. His blessing for Jacob, on the other hand, consists of the spiritual blessings of the covenant with Abraham, the blessing of knowing that his descendants will eventually become a great nation, and the blessing of the promise that his children's children will ultimately inherit the land which God had promised Abraham.

The differing natures of these two blessings reveal how clearly Isaac understands the natures of his two sons. The birthright of his firstborn is to be a material birthright, as befits Esau's nature. Isaac intends to bless his firstborn with everything this man of the fields wants and desires.

But while Esau is to be granted mastery over the physical world, he understands the world of the spirit not at all. It is only after his father explicitly forbids his younger brother to marry a Canaanite woman, for example, that Esau realizes how much pain his taking to wife two idolaters has caused his father.

As much as Isaac prefers his firstborn, he knows that he must give the spiritual blessing inherited from his father, Abraham, to his younger child, who has within him the potential of becoming a deserving conduit for the covenant that is destiny of the Jewish people.

Despite the dimming of his vision, Isaac sees clearly that the material birthright passes to the son whose claim is established by the physical fact of prior birth, while the spiritual birthright passes to the son with the strongest claim of the soul.

Our question, then, is no question, because our assumption that Isaac was planning to pass along the covenant of Abraham as part of the birthright of the eldest son is not borne out by the text. Instead, we see that Isaac saw the physical world and the world of the soul existing side by side, each calling for its own unique blessing.

At the end of our parsha, Jacob has received both the physical blessing, which he gained by subterfuge and which he will only later come to deserve, and the spiritual blessing which his father had always intended for him. By the end of his life, Jacob will have seen both the physical and the spiritual blessings fulfilled.

(Mitch Marcus teaches Computer Science at the University of Pennsylvania, and is a member of the Dorshei Derech Minyan at the Germantown Jewish Center in Philadelphia. This column was provided by the National Haverah Committee and the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.)

The Rabbi Writes

With thanks to Columbus

By RABBI HERBERT E. DROOZ
 Rabbi Emeritus of Congregation Beth Emeth

As I sit down at my desk to write, a glimpse of my calendar reminds me that yesterday was observed as Columbus Day, and that, next year, 1992, marks the 500th anniversary — half a millennium — since Christopher Columbus discovered the "new world" of the North and South America continents.

More than three score years ago, my dad sat me beside him on a railroad coach in Albany to ride to New York City to see some of the sights that had played so important a role in his life. Arriving at Grand Central Station, Dad led me to the subway and then to a trolley car, from which we got off at New York Harbor. Pointing to Ellis Island and the great flag that flew from a tall mast, Dad said to me: "Herb, the moment I saw that flag flying over there was the most important moment in my life."

Hardly more than a decade later, tens of thousands fleeing Adolph Hitler and fortunate to escape to these shores, offered their own prayers of thanksgiving when they stood beneath that flag to liberty.

Alas, not all the lands of Central and South America are lands of lavish, liberty and democracy. However, strong hope lives in the hearts of many.

Education and ready communication are vitally important to success in this world of industrial revolution. And these grow and prosper only when nurtured by the vitamins of liberty.

Liberty has been defined as "the power to choose the right". And that

power lays a vital, vast and critical burden upon every free person. It has drawn torrents of blood from the best of the people.

With the breakdown of the Soviet Russian Empire, mankind has opportunity for peace for the first time in this twentieth century. America is overwhelmingly the most powerful nation in the world — founded upon liberty, with the power to choose the right. The daily prayers of every American and every decent human being in our world is for peace, with food and sustenance for all.

All the blessings of a true world peace can be achieved in the years ahead. Peace is not an idle dream today. And God will judge us if we fail Him, and ourselves, in the quest for peace!

Shalom, the Hebrew word for peace, has profound meaning. It means more than the absence of war, as important as that is. *Shalom* means good health. The Hebrew greeting *Mashlamcha?* means "How are you feeling?" *Shalom* means "health", your flesh at peace. With its use as a political statement as well as a state of being and personal greeting, *Shalom* is, no doubt, the most frequently used word in the Hebrew language, the holy tongue. We close with special words of gratitude, O Lord.

How might our lips utter the ocean of thanks we ought render?

In gratitude to Christopher Columbus for this millennium. He brought us half way around the world to settle in! Our hearts are his for all his vision brought us. Grant us a touch of what his courage and decision has taught us! Amen.

The 'rebbe of Tibet' looks to Jews for insight

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN

NEW YORK (JTA) — You might say that he's the rebbe of Tibet. Followers of the Dalai Lama, the saffron-and-maroon-robed, 56-year-old spiritual and political leader of Tibetan Buddhists, revere and adore him in a way very similar to the way Hasidim feel about their rebbe.

During a trip to New York last month, thousands of the Dalai Lama's adherents filled the Paramount Theatre in New York's Madison Square Garden to listen to him "farbrenge" — expound upon the essential teachings of the faith.

And like the followers of the Lubavitcher rebbe, Buddhists travel from around the world to be near him, flocking to Dharamsala, the North-western Indian city which is serving as the Dalai Lama's headquarters-in-exile, to receive his blessings.

Tibetans have been in exile from their homeland since 1959, when they fled occupation by the People's Republic of China. Now they are dispersed across the continents. About 130,000 live in India, according to Thubten Sanphel, a spokesperson for the Office of Tibet here. Many more live in Nepal and Bhutan, especially in the Himalayas, and others are in Western nations.

All told, the Dalai Lama has about 6 million Tibetan followers, Sanphel said.

He confers blessings on the people who come to him and on the food they bring, and he hands out "bless-



The Dalai Lama

ing strings." The Buddhists then consume the blessed food and wear the strings around their neck, as if to ingest the Dalai Lama's enlightenment and to be guarded from illness by the strings made holy by his blessing.

It's not too different from the way people keep the crisp dollar bills given out by the Lubavitcher rebbe for tzedakah and donate another to charity, or line up for hours to get a piece of the honey cake that the rebbe passes out at holiday time.

"If people eat what was blessed by the lama (superior one), they themselves become blessed," explained Sanphel.

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LOCAL

Super Sunday chairpeople appointed

The Jewish Federation of Delaware has announced the appointment of Sue Busch and Jerry Weinstein as chairpeople of Super Sunday 1992 which is scheduled for Sunday, February 9, 1992. In recent years, the Young Leadership Cabinet (YLC) has assumed responsibility for the Super Sunday effort. Both Busch and Weinstein have been actively involved in Young Leadership for several years.

Both of the chairpeople have moved to the Delaware Jewish community from other communities.

Busch and her husband, Barry Thaler, moved to West Chester from Texas two years ago. She works for QVC Network, Inc., an in-home shopping firm. Both have become involved with the Federation's YLC upon their arrival.

Weinstein, a ceramic engineer, left



Sue Busch and Jerry Weinstein

New Jersey six years ago to join a Newark, Delaware, company making ceramic composites and is currently the technical manager for Alanx

Products L.P. Weinstein first became involved in the Jewish community by joining the Soviet resettlement effort and later joined the YLC.

Both Busch and Weinstein agree that their involvement with Super Sunday stems from their recognition of "the dire need for support funding in all aspects of the Jewish community." In their cases, they said, they felt that active giving through *tzedakah* was not enough and that it is important for them to become "pro-active" givers — "helping and inspiring others to give and to support the local Jewish community as well as Israel."

Members of the community who would like to join the Super Sunday committee or who would like to offer suggestions should call Lelaine Nemser, staff associate at the JFD, at 478-6200.

Russian acculturation chair named

Barbara Yalisove of Wilmington has accepted the position of Russian Acculturation Chairperson for Delaware. This program is currently being run under the auspices of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

Yalisove has served as Special Events chairperson of the Jewish community's acculturation efforts during the past year. Besides her immediate involvement with the Soviets, Yalisove "has been deeply involved in the Jewish community for many years," noted Lelaine Nemser, JFD staff associate.

She was a teacher and then Director of the Jewish Community Center's Pre-School from 1962 through 1974, a period of transition for the school as it moved from the campsite to the Garden of Eden Road location.

She was also co-producer (with Ruth Siegel) of a series of film strips for children about the Jewish holidays. The filmstrips have been used in schools all over North America and abroad and were recently transposed into video form.

Following her work at the JCC, Yalisove was a co-owner of The Gazebo, a Wilmington gift and jewelry shop. She is currently on the Board of Directors of Congregation Beth Shalom and the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home.

Yalisove says her activity in the Jewish community is a legacy from her parents, Dora and the late Sam Eisenstat. Both were "active in community affairs and taught their children to participate, emphasizing that their contributions could make a



Barbara Yalisove

difference." Her activity with the acculturation effort brings her "full circle," she points out, because her own mother arrived here from Russia as a five-year-old child.

Yalisove's plans for the acculturation effort include establishing committees for special events, tutoring, education, communications and public relations as well as special populations. The effort will be coordinated among the various agencies which have daily interactions with the New Americans in the Delaware community.

"We worked so hard to get the Soviet Jews out of the USSR," Yalisove notes, "and we now have the opportunity and challenge to welcome them and integrate them into America and into our own Jewish community. Our relationship with the New Americans and the resulting friendships have been extremely rewarding. I look forward to a continued and amplified program to acculturate all our newcomers."

Community participation in the acculturation effort is encouraged and inquiries may be made to Nemser at the JFD, 478-6200.

JFS gets high marks for resettlement program

A mid-September on-site visit to Jewish Family Service by two representatives of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) left Russian Resettlement Program Coordinator Roberta Burman both exhausted and exhilarated. HIAS field service representatives Joan Meister and Jeff Mittelman combed through the case records of 49 individuals settled between January 1990 and May 1990. Their verdict: "Excellent case recording."

The HIAS representatives evaluated JFS programs including acculturation activities at the JCC and in conjunction with local synagogues, resume preparation and employment searches, English as a Second Language course enrollments, promptness in registration for public assistance, including food stamps and medical care.

In addition, interviews were conducted with the immigrants regarding their experiences. Questions included: Was their housing satisfactory? Were they received well by the community? and What problems did they encounter in the resettlement process and how were those problems solved?

Volunteers in the resettlement program were also interviewed. Questions regarding the orientation program, their understanding of their responsibilities, their relationships with the immigrant families, and their methods of coping with "volunteer burn-out" were asked.

The HIAS representatives also met with Jewish Federation of Delaware Executive Vice President Robert N. Kerbel. Between October 1989 and September 1990, the Federation matched federal funding of Russian resettlement costs in Delaware. They also met with the JFS board members. HIAS's conclusion: "Case management and documentation of core services are excellent."

During the last week in October, Burman resettled two more families. Mariya Gokhman — who hadn't seen her sister Ida Glazamitskaya in 14 years — and her daughter and granddaughter arrived on October 26. Gregory Bluesteins's parents, Bronislava and Abram Bluestein, arrived on November 4.

More families are expected, according to Burman, who has requested donations of household goods as well as help with transportation and employment searches. Anyone wishing to participate in the resettlement effort should contact Burman at 478-3906.

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LOCAL

The Bayit of UofD - A Jewish home away from home

By PAULA HAIT

Editor of The Jewish Voice

We the students at the University of Delaware, do hereby form the Hebrew Bayit for the purpose of creating a community devoted to learning the Hebrew language and the Israeli culture, society and history.

The words are the preamble to the constitution of the Hebrew Bayit, a Jewish cultural community established this fall at the University of Delaware. With a cultural focus—on speaking Hebrew and promoting Israel—rather than on religious Judaism, the Bayit is one of 13 special interest "communities" living in a new dormitory on Ray Street in Newark. (Spanish, Technology and Honors are examples of others.)

"Everything we are doing is new and experimental," says sophomore Michael Posner, President of the Bayit.

The 13 students who live in the Bayit community have a wide range of Jewish/Hebrew experience. "We are a group who tend to want to do a lot of Jewish-oriented things," Posner noted. That is the common denominator between them and it is what gave junior Shira Rubin the idea to form the Bayit last year when the university solicited applications for special interest groups to fill its new dorm. Rubin was Israeli Affairs Chairman for Hillel at U of D last year. Posner said that a number of people came to mind when the opportunity arose. And most of them are now

residents of the community.

Politics and religion have very little to do with their lives as members of the Bayit, Posner stresses, but each

has his or her own agenda. Several members were responsible for the establishment last year of DIPAC, a Delaware student member organiza-

tion of AIPAC, the American Israeli Public Affairs Committee.

And regarding religious practice, Posner said that "religion is part of

the culture [in Israel], so, naturally, things like building a sukkah are a part of our lives in this community." But as far as actually practicing religion, he added, "there are other organizations—like Hillel and Chabad—that are meeting those needs on this campus."

Posner said that he is a beginning Hebrew language student while others are almost fluent. Annie Landis, a junior who has visited Israel several times and is "the most fluent", holds a Hebrew language class every two weeks. The goal, Posner explained, is to speak Hebrew by the end of this school year; the university requirement, however, is for each member of the community to take at least one

Hebrew class during the school year or over the summer. Posner said "Hebrew II" is currently being offered and is too advanced for him. He hopes to take "Beginning Hebrew" next semester.

Another of the requirements imposed on the communities by the university is attendance at each others' events. "We are asked to attend ten different activities of other cultural groups during the year," Posner said. "But we are motivated and want to experience other communities." The events are advertised by flyers posted in the dorm's lounges.

The Bayit is planning an Israeli Cafe in November and held a Hebrew-speaking-only dinner in the dining hall last month. They have also manned an Israeli table in the Student Center to promote Israel and establish a mailing list. Israeli dancing and educational activities are also scheduled.

The Spanish Fiesta was well-attended and the "Technology Ball, sponsored by the Technology community was interesting," Posner offered. "Everyone was asked to bring their own lighting. It was an event that wouldn't attract many students from the general population, but in this dorm, where we are all interested in learning about each other, it worked."

The Bayit is seven students short of its 20-student quota established by the university. Posner said the community is collecting names of other students who might be interested in making the commitment to live culturally Jewish in the future.

And the group is looking for an advisor. Steven Palley, a graduate student in the English Department, is currently serving in that capacity. "But we need someone who can give us more time and who has more experience with this kind of thing," Posner said. "We 13 students have a myriad of obligations, not only to other organizations, but to academic work as well. We have a limited amount of time in which to plan, organize and put together events."



Above, Bayit President Michael Posner, a beginning Hebrew student, relaxes while reading "The First Thousand Words in Hebrew." Below, Bayit resident Miriam Gelfand enters her room through the door decorated with Hebrew notes and Israeli and American flags.



Posner would like to see members of the university and the general Jewish community become involved in the Bayit venture. Letters of introduction to the synagogues in northern Delaware and to the Jewish Community Center went unanswered, he said. "We would like to involve speakers from the community who have Israel experience and to establish an advisory board to help us reach out to the community and extend into the community," he added.

"We have a lot of excitement from the students who are involved and we get excitement from the people who hear about the Bayit," Posner said. "I hope it will just continue to grow."



The 13 members of the Hebrew Bayit at the University of Delaware are (standing, left to right) Eric Jacobs, Shirah Rubin, Elan Keller, Michael Posner, Brad Buchman, Lori Barbag, Jason Steele and Dana Negrin; (seated, left to right) Amy Cohn, Miriam Gelfand, Natasha Arbeter, Ruth Lonton and Annie Landis.

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First joint synagogue sponsored trip to Israel planned

Rabbi Herbert Yoskowitz of Congregation Beth Shalom and Rabbi Peter Grumbacher of Congregation Beth Emeth have announced that they "will join forces" in the summer of 1992 and plan to lead a family-oriented trip to Israel. This cooperative effort is the first such tour from the Delaware community. Participation is open to the entire community regardless of synagogue affiliation.

On Thursday, November 21, at 7:30 p.m., details of the trip will be discussed and a film will be shown at Congregation Beth Emeth, 300 West Lea Blvd., Wilmington.

According to the rabbis, highlights of the tour will include bus and walking tours of old and new Jerusalem, Jaffa, Tel Aviv, Haifa and the Galilee; climbing through the caves in which Bar Kochba's contemporaries hid; planting a tree in a JNF forest; a visit to a military base; meeting olim at an immigrant absorption center; a visit to the new Jerusalem Museum at

Jaffa Gate; participating in an archeological dig; and visiting the fields and factory that the Grumbacher family once called home.

One unusual feature of the trip, noted Rabbi Yoskowitz, is the built-in flexibility through "a myriad of personal options." These options, he said, which will be offered on the basis of the participants' interests, will allow young and senior adults as well as families with children to tailor the trip to meet their needs.

The rabbis have each led several previous trips to Israel. In addition, both families have spent extended periods of time in Israel and will be able to share first-hand knowledge of the Jewish State, Rabbi Grumbacher noted.

The trip is scheduled to leave July 2 and return July 15. The cost will be \$2,350 per adult and the rates for children are reduced. All breakfasts and some dinners are included.

Preschoolers make music together



Children of the Jewish Community Center's Pre-School class of Natalie Vekker and Elyse Green were treated recently to an unusual musical program when Rami Groen, a parent and professional musician, entertained the children with his assortment of homemade musical instruments made from things like shoe boxes and soda cans. The lesson was designed to teach the fundamentals of music. The pre-school invites parents to share their particular interests and hobbies with the children, according to Jane Hormadaly, Director of Early Childhood Services at the JCC.

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LOCAL

Visiting speaker portrays Israel as oppressive regime

By PRISCILLA SIEGEL

"I want to see Israel secure, but the best way to be secure is to have good relations with your neighbors." Speaking to an audience of about 35 at a noontime slide/lecture presentation sponsored by the Wilmington Pacem In Terris organization last week, Maxine Kaufmann Nunn described the efforts of peace organizations in Israel to bring about reconciliation and peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

Nunn, an American now living in Jerusalem, has, since 1979, devoted her energies toward working for a "just peace, coexistence and equality on both sides of the green line." She is involved with such groups as *Women in Black, Palestinians and Israelis for Non-violence* and the *Israeli Committee to Change the Method of Taxation in Gaza*. According to Nunn, there are about 70 peace and justice movements in Israel, a trend which she finds most encouraging. Each group, she said, has a particular focus which usually involves practical assistance to Palestinians.

While she has little hope for the current Middle East Conference, Nunn said she believes that ongoing, grassroots efforts through non-violent means are essential for achieving peace in the region.

Through slides and discussion, Nunn presented the Israeli Jewish treatment of Palestinians in an essentially negative light. Contrasting the Palestinians living in Israel to the Jews, Nunn stated that the Palestinian citizens of Israel are law-abiding and that "Israeli Jews have the guns and not the Arabs." She cited a variety of repressive and discriminatory actions by Israelis toward Palestinians and reiterated her belief that if people are treated equitably they are not going to get violent.

Nunn further criticized Israel's in-

transigence concerning the occupied territories. "You can't just decide to stake out an area. Nobody has the right to displace a people."

By presenting information to American audiences about Israeli-Palestinian initiatives and by disseminating information about specific rights abuses, Nunn hopes to garner support to bring about changes in the ongoing conflict between Palestinians and Israelis. In an "off the cuff" comment, Nunn indicated that she would like to see the American public put pressure on the U.S. government to withhold the loan guarantees, and presumably other aid, until Israel makes land concessions and human rights adjustments.

Cora Carlis of Wilmington was in the audience. Nunn's "presentation was lopsided," Carlis said. "We know that there are nice Palestinians, but one must look at the leadership. I am distressed that a Jewish person making a public presentation doesn't have enough historical concept of the broader political picture and focuses only on person-to-person relationships, using that as a political tool." Carlis said she felt Nunn's talk was "naive." Condemning Israel for its treatment of Arabs without a broader context creates a climate of anti-Israel sentiment, she added.

"I was shocked at the one-sidedness of the report of this woman who the audience saw as a Jewish Israeli," said Leni Markell of Newark who was also in the audience. Markell said she was surprised that Nunn never mentioned "any of the terrorist acts that the Israelis experience. Her sympathy toward the Arabs and her overt hostility toward the Israeli government was offensive. She even made a subtle comparison between the Nazis and the Israelis!" Markell said she was sorry that "a prepared knowledgeable representative of the Jewish community was not there" to re-

spond to Nunn's talk.

Another audience member, Ruth Kolber of Wilmington, said she thought Nunn was a "very sincere person who was perhaps misunderstood by some people." Kolber said she thought Nunn's "main thrust was to show positive ways of achieving peace — she did a fine job." Peace cannot be achieved until people learn to live together, Kolber added. "There should be equal treatment for people — justice for all people."

It just gave the Arab position, according to Rabbi Herbert Drooz of Wilmington, who attended the lecture with his wife. She agreed. "It was a complete Arab position and didn't represent the Israeli position at all," stressed Florence Drooz. Mrs. Drooz said she was very upset that Pacem In Terris would only present one side of the issue. The organization, she said, "is always one-sided."

In a telephone interview, Donna Irwin of the office staff at Pacem In Terris, said, "I thought she gave a really good talk from both points of view — a side not often heard and, therefore, unpopular. We have to look at everyone as human beings and not as Jews or Palestinians, or whatever." The reason it was seen by some as lopsided, Irwin said, "was because it is not a popular point of view." There are good people on both sides, she added, and "it is always uncomfortable when a group to which you belong does bad things." Pacem In Terris is "always open to give all points of view," she maintained.

Let off steam

Write a letter to the editor

From the Gross Family



Thank You

Sidney, Ron, and Phil Gross extend a heartfelt thank you for all the condolence messages, contributions in Toba's name, attendance at morning and evening services, gifts of prepared food and fruit, and the assistance of the AKSE Sisterhood in our home during shiva. Due to the outpouring of cards, visits, and contributions, it is physically impossible to thank each and every one of you by card. We hope you will accept this token of gratitude for the love you have shown us in Toba's memory and throughout her illness.

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Local sixth grade chef wins national competition

Joshua Schoenberg of Wilmington, a sixth grade student at P.S. duPont, was named one of six finalists in the Ziploc National Sandwich Day Contest when his "Nose Opener" sandwich was selected from more than 2,500 entries nationwide.

In addition to a \$150 savings bond for Schoenberg and an equal amount of cash for his school, he will travel with his mother to Beverly Hills, California, on November 12 to compete with the other five finalists. At that time, celebrity judge Dave Coulier of television's "Full House" and "America's Funniest People" and a panel of judges will determine what is "America's Favorite Sandwich" at the Carnegie Deli.

Schoenberg's creation consists of a garlic bagel layered with 2 slices of salami, 1 slice of bologna, 1 leaf of lettuce, 2 slices of tomato, 3 slices of onion, 1 slice of Swiss cheese, 15



Joshua Schoenberg

squirts of mustard and 6 squirts of ketchup.

The sixth grader is the son of Barbara and Alan Schoenberg of Wilmington. Another creation of his that did not win was "The Atomic Ulcer." We can just imagine...

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ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND EVENTS
ON PAGE 21

NATIONAL

CUNY trustees reappoint anti-Semitic professor

By STEWART AIN

The New York Jewish Week

City College Professor Leonard Jeffries, whose allegedly anti-Semitic remarks in July ignited a firestorm of protests and heightened racial tensions in the city, has been reappointed chairman of the school's black studies department for another academic year.

The action by City University of New York trustees came at the end of a stormy six-hour meeting October 28. Although department chairmen have in the past been appointed to three-year terms, City College President Bernard Harleston requested the appointment until June with the support of university Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds.

Three of the five Jewish members of the 15-member board voted against extending Jeffries' tenure. The fourth abstained, and the fifth, former New York State Assembly Speaker Stanley Fink, voted with the majority in the 10-4 vote. The other vote against Jeffries' appointment was cast by former New York City Deputy Mayor Herman Badillo.

After the vote, several Jewish board members and Jewish leaders said they had been double-crossed by Gov. Mario Cuomo because his office had assured them that those he appointed to the board would vote against Jeffries. But Michael Del Giudice, Cuomo's former counsel, voted in

favor of extending Jeffries' appointment.

"He [Cuomo] is in the doghouse with the Jewish community," said board member Harold Jacobs.

Del Giudice did not return phone calls. His vote and that of another board member who reportedly switched at the last minute would have denied Harleston the votes needed for the one-year appointment.

"What was really shocking about it is that [Del Giudice] showed up quite late, after the vote and the discussion had already been held, and asked to vote," said fellow board member Blanche Bernstein. "He had the nerve to vote without listening to the debate!"

During the trustees' closed-door deliberations at the CUNY Administration Building in Manhattan, about 100 mostly white anti-Jeffries demonstrators stood in the cold night air chanting "Jeffries must go." Another group of about 200 mostly black supporters of Jeffries also demonstrated. The two factions were kept apart by about 30 police officers.

Jeffries has gained a reputation on the City College campus for his oft-repeated contention that blacks are intellectually superior to whites and that Jews have kept blacks from advancing in America. But it wasn't until he spoke at a state-sponsored black cultural festival in Albany that

his views polarized the city. In his remarks, Jeffries said: "I grew up as a youngster just like you did, going to the movies where the African peoples were denigrated. That was a conspiracy, planned and plotted and programmed out of Hollywood where... Russian Jewry had a particular control over the movies, and financed by their financial partners, the Mafia, put together a system of destruction of black people."

He also insisted the Jews were partly responsible for the "slave trade" and made derogatory remarks about prominent Jews.

Neither Jeffries nor his attorney, C. Vernon Mason, could be reached for comment.

Although a spokesman for City University denied that the one-year extension for Jeffries was designed to allow tensions to abate, several board members confirmed that such an implication was conveyed during the meeting. Trustees said that at the time they voted they were unaware that a Harvard University student newspaper editor would later charge that during an interview he had with Jeffries, the professor insulted two prominent black scholars and threatened to kill him if he published it. The student, Eliot Morgan, said one of Jeffries' associates confiscated his tape of the interview. Jeffries reportedly denied making the comments.

In a statement issued after the vote, James Murphy, chairman of

the board, said the trustees decided to grant the one-year extension and thus "support Harleston's administrative judgment and assessment in the best interests of the college."

Murphy added that the trustees "remain deeply disturbed by the irresponsible and inflammatory statements made by Professor Jeffries during the summer at a forum in Albany. Professor Jeffries' remarks served only to fuel the furies of bigotry and disharmony at a time when we need to encourage people of every racial and ethnic background to work together."

Trustee Jacobs said during the board's discussion it was pointed out that one Jewish student in Jeffries' class "who wanted to study African history was picked on because she is a Jew and she finally felt compelled to walk out of his class and lose the entire semester." He said a professor who had been hired to teach at the college turned down the position "when he saw what was going on."

"The kids are afraid to go to school — Jews and Italians," said Jacobs. "I've been a trustee 14 years, and what's happening with the university is very disturbing. I've never seen it so racist." He said the chairmanship question will be discussed again in June and that he believes it is only "going to fester until then. By June it will be worse." But he said Harleston told the board that he hopes to "try to talk to Jeffries and get him to willingly

resign his chairmanship" before then.

Board members Edith Everett and Badillo said in a joint statement that the board's action did nothing more than postpone a "major problem" and "cloud the issue." The problem "is not going to disappear until responsible officials act decisively. Let me be very clear — there can be no compromise with any form of racism at the City University of New York."

Kenneth Bialkin, president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, said after the vote that the "mere fact that a racist can help to create [racial tensions] and then use them to intimidate a major public institution proves that there is something drastically wrong with the process."

Assemblymen Dov Hikind and Dan Feldman, both Democrats from Brooklyn, called the one-year extension a "compromise with bigotry, racism and anti-Semitism." Both men had been among the demonstrators on October 28. Another demonstrator, Mordechai Levy, founder of the Jewish Defense Organization, said the trustees' decision had "not been based upon Jeffries' academic credentials but upon a fear of mob rule. They were more worried about what would happen in the street than what happens in the classroom."

(Stewart AIN is a staff writer with *The New York Jewish Week*, where this article first appeared.)

White supremacist Metzger convicted for cross-burning

By TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — Veteran white supremacist Tom Metzger, leader of the White Aryan Resistance, was convicted October 28 for his role in a 1983 cross-burning ceremony in suburban Los Angeles. Although a Superior Court jury found Metzger guilty on only one misdemeanor charge of unlawful assembly, the verdict represents his first criminal conviction during decades

of anti-black and anti-Jewish activities. He faces up to six months in jail.

After an 11-week trial and six days of jury deliberation, jurors deadlocked on two other counts, including a more serious felony charge of violating fire codes. Prosecutors have not yet decided whether to retry Metzger on the two charges.

He stood trial with three other men, who were convicted on felony and misdemeanor counts and face

up to four years in prison. They are Stanley Witek, leader of the neo-Nazi National Socialist American Workers Party; Erich Schmidt; and Brad Kelly.

The trial of Metzger, a former grand dragon of the California Ku Klux Klan, stemmed from a ceremony in December 1983 during which 15 men joined in shouting racist slogans, giving Nazi salutes and burning three huge crosses in a canyon overlooking the community of Lake View Terrace. Prosecutors charged that the cross-burning ceremony was intended to provoke violent clashes, unite several white racist groups, and intimidate black and other residents of the racially mixed community.

The cross-burning was videotaped by a free-lance journalist who had infiltrated the group, and the tape was introduced at the trial.

One scene showed Richard Butler, head of the Idaho-based Aryan Nations, leading a "prayer" in which he told participants, "So long as the alien occupies your land, hate is your law and revenge is your first duty. We light these crosses in the name of God, over the Luciferian scum of the Earth."

Throughout the trial, prosecutors bored in on the goals of the white supremacist movement. During cross-examination of Butler, who appeared as a defense witness, he emphasized the need for a separate white state and maintained that the Holocaust

never happened.

Although Metzger has never faced criminal charges before, last year he lost a \$12.5 million judgment in a civil suit brought by the family of an Ethiopian man who was beaten to death by Oregon Skinheads allegedly inspired by Metzger.

Metzger, 53, appeared pleased by the outcome of the trial, which, he claimed, was politically inspired to punish him for his private beliefs. Deputy District Attorney Dale Davidson said that while Metzger deserved a harsher sentence "for the amount of evil he has caused in the world," the verdict sends a message that racist behavior will not be tolerated in Los Angeles County.

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Hate-crimes laws now in 46 states

By JOSEPH POLAKOFF

Special to The Jewish Voice

WASHINGTON — Hate-crime laws now exist in 46 of the 50 states, the Anti-Defamation League's new status report says. Not yet having passed such statutes are Alaska, Nebraska, Utah and Wyoming. In the last year, 13 states adopted legislation. They are Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Texas and Vermont.

The report said that more than half of the statutes, which include bias-motivated violence and intimidation, institutional vandalism and cross-burning "among other crimes of hate", are based on ADL's model hate-crime legislation. A federal law "to provide for the acquisition and publication of data about crimes that manifest prejudice based on certain group characteristics" was enacted April 23, 1990.

In 1990, ADL National Chairman

Melvin Salberg noted in the report, 1,685 anti-Semitic incidents were reported in 40 states and the District of Columbia, the highest total in the 11 years that the league has compiled such figures.

"Although prejudice and hatred cannot be legislated or prosecuted

out of existence," Salberg said, "there is a growing awareness that government can do more to deter and redress bigotry-motivated violence. Such statutes are widely recognized as essential in addressing the widespread problem of steadily increasing hate-crimes."

Israel hires American PR firm

By JOSEPH POLAKOFF

Special to The Jewish Voice

WASHINGTON — The State of Israel's Ministry of Industry and Trade has retained the public relations firm of Hill and Knowlton, Inc., of Washington and New York, for a one-year "communications program" directed at the United States business community and designed to expand Israel's export trade and business relations with North America.

In announcing its retention, Hill and Knowlton said the program's overall objective is to promote greater knowledge and awareness among U.S. businesses of Israel's potential for direct investment, export-import trade, joint ventures and research and development cooperation.

Meir Rubin, Israel's trade commissioner to the U.S., was quoted as saying "Israel is the only nation today which has a Free Trade Area Agreement with both the United States and the European Community. We therefore have a unique attraction as a business partner."

The Hill and Knowlton announcement said the "total value of the contract is in excess of \$1 million, including out-of-pocket expenses."

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NATIONAL

Reform body calls for greater religious adherence

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
BALTIMORE (JTA)—The Reform movement is at a critical juncture.

The movement has grown by 25 percent over the last 20 years and with the rapid growth has come a crisis of faith, a push to ensure that the core of Reform Judaism is not lost in the process of being "inclusive."

Reform is bigger than ever, with 856 affiliated congregations and nearly 300,000 member families. Forty-two percent of American Jews identify themselves as Reform, according to a recent study.

As a movement, Reform has succeeded like no other in welcoming converts and the intermarried who, until recently, have been virtually ignored by the other denominations. And the social action programs, unique to the Reform movement in their breadth and scope, are firmly established on the national and local Reform agendas.

But along the way, something of the religious aspect of Reform Jewish life has been left behind. In its effort to embrace the unaffiliated, to be inclusive, the definition of Reform Judaism has become perhaps too elastic.

As a result, Jewish children attend religious school with non-Jews and, in some temples, non-Jews are the congregational leaders.

And many Reform Jews interpret the ideological pillar of the movement — individual autonomy from binding halachic authority — to mean that they take little responsibility for

practicing Judaism.

It probably did not surprise anyone, therefore, that calls for ideological coherence and religious adherence were interspersed throughout speeches, presentations and workshops at the biennial conference of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the congregational branch of Reform Judaism, held here Oct. 31 through Nov. 4.

"The greatest challenge to our movement is to take our manifest numeric growth and to make sure this burgeoning is accompanied by equally great inner growth in knowledge and in deed," Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in an interview.

Rabbi Simeon Maslin of Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park, PA, phrased that challenge in more urgent terms. "Unless we Reform Jews accept the idea that we must do something, we will disappear," he warned in one workshop. "Unless we start specifically Jewish acts, we've given the heritage up."

In his address to the 4,000 delegates, Schindler called for an intensification of efforts to gain converts both before and after marriage, and conceded that the Reform movement has not placed enough emphasis on converting non-Jews who are interested in participating in Reform Jewish life. "We need to move away from the 'neutral,' non-proselytizing stance that has hitherto informed our outreach effort," he said to the delegates. "Our desire to welcome con-

verts should be made explicit rather than only implicit in our work. We need to affirm our Judaism frankly, freely, proudly, and without fear that it will offend the non-Jewish spouses," he said. For "if we lack in missionary zeal, they are bound to surmise that we have no message at all."

Delineating that message means defining the boundaries of Reform Judaism, which are, Schindler acknowledged, "most difficult to draw."

"We have autonomy and therefore we have chaos. We need a greater sense of discipline and sense of direction. Build-your-own Judaism is absurd."

"But we cannot be all things to all people," he said.

He suggested the creation of a synod, a deliberative council of rabbinic scholars and highly educated lay people who would help form a consensus about Reform ritual and ideology, he told the delegates. This synod's role would stop short of having legislative authority.

"Perhaps it is time for us to visualize a movement, sufficiently matured and with a sufficiently educated laity, that might risk a little autonomy in the name of commitment," Schindler said.

Rabbi Walter Jacob, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the movement's rabbinic arm, and chairman of the Freehoff Institute for Progressive Halachah, agreed that codification of Reform position

and practice is needed, as is more centralized Reform authority.

"We have autonomy and therefore we have chaos," Jacob said in an interview. "We need a greater sense of discipline and sense of direction. Build-your-own Judaism is absurd."

The sense of direction will come, in part, out of reliance on Reform halachah, "which may take 100 years to develop into something clear in every area," Jacob said. And the degree to which Reform halachah should be binding is still being debated, he said. "It should be more than guidance and less than governance. It will be a guide to Reform Jewish life."

This is not the first time the Reform movement has tried to jettison some individual autonomy for the sake of the common good, he noted. A century ago, each congregation had its own prayerbook. People realized that was a problem and, though it took 50 years for the transition to a common prayerbook to be completed, it did happen, he said.

Schindler and others called for a return to the texts that are the very foundation of the Jewish religion. "Deeds, however good, when detached from Torah study are trivialized and denied their Jewish moorings," Schindler said in his address. "Without such a mooring, deeds become entirely non-obligatory. They can be accepted or rejected at whim."

The problem, articulated Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, senior scholar at Holy Blossom Temple in Toronto and chairman of the Reform movement's

Committee on Responsa, is that "in the name of openness and tolerance, we are stressing Reform at the expense of Judaism."

The consensus at the conference seemed to be that the rationality which informed those who established classical Reform is no longer enough to bind today's Reform Jews to their Judaism or to provide them with what they seek in their religious lives. Now they are hungering for an education in the underpinnings of Jewish spirituality.

That need was evident in the titles of some of the seminars and workshops at the conference, among them: "Looking for God in Ordinary Places — Recovering the Spiritual Dimension of Every Day Life;" "How to Study the Weekly Torah Portion;" "Bringing God Back into our Lives;" and "Educating Adult Jews — A Time for Literacy."

"There is a much greater thirst for the holy" in Reform than ever before, said Schindler. Reform Jews "want to feel, they are searching for that which may not necessarily be seen, but which is nonetheless real."

While the focus on spirituality is not a new element of Reform gatherings, it is getting increasing attention. "There is much more emphasis on the spiritual at this biennial" than there has been before, Schindler explained, "because we realize the impact it can have."

But a reconsideration of its fundamental direction does not mean that Reform is trying to become like Ortho-

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NATIONAL

Bay Area Jewish community mobilizes in wake of fire

By TAMAR KAUFMAN

Northern California Jewish Bulletin

OAKLAND, Calif. (JTA) — The Jewish agencies and institutions serving Oakland and Berkeley, the areas devastated by last month's fire, have been quick to organize and take advantage of the money and offers of aid that have been pouring in.

Spearheading the effort is the Jewish Federation of the Greater East Bay, which by October 29 had already received between \$12,000 and \$15,000 in fire relief donations. The funds will be divided between the Jewish and general community.

Rabbis, federation staffers and representatives of the various agencies met October 28 to coordinate their response to a disaster that was known by that time to have cost one Jewish life and destroyed 120 Jewish homes.

Ami Nahshon, the federation's executive vice president, estimated that as many as 350 Jewish households may have been displaced by the fire. But he said the federation can expect to discover only 150 to 200 of them, "because so many are disconnected from the Jewish community." Nevertheless, he added, "we'd like to hear about all of them and would like to offer the Jewish community's assistance." Aid also is going to the

general community through cooperation with the Red Cross, United Way, Salvation Army and local churches and governments.

Irwin Wiener, executive director of the Hebrew Free Loan Association, reported that, as of last week, a total of \$36,000 had been distributed in disaster-related interest-free loans and that he has allocated \$100,000 "to start with."

"Our concern is for people to be able to get their lives back on track and put this all behind them," he said. "Anything we can do to assist, financially or otherwise, that's what we're here for."

While much has been made of the affluence of the devastated neighborhoods, not everyone who lived there was affluent. For that reason, the federation is offering emergency grants of up to \$1,000 through Jewish Family Service. Haig Agigian, executive director of JFS, said the grants are for the uninsured or underinsured, who "typically will be renters."

JFS also printed more than 8,000 brochures for parents and teachers helping children cope with the disaster, 5,000 of which were distributed by the Red Cross. Another 4,000 information sheets for adults have been prepared and distributed by

JFS.

JFS counselors have also been in demand, especially by schools and community centers. Individuals are concentrating on insurance claims, housing, and replacing belongings, Agigian said, adding that emotional needs will probably become more pressing later. Once they do, however, people may find themselves dealing with an accumulation of stress that has been building up since the 1989 earthquake and the Persian Gulf War, he said. What's more, this latest crisis has been more immediate than the previous two.

"Just about everyone I know knows someone who lost a home," Agigian said.

That may account for the continuous outpouring. Every synagogue, Jewish community center and agency contacted early last week reported similar generosity, with people not only donating money and goods, but opening their homes and volunteering their time and skills.

Insurance adjusters, lawyers, architects, therapists, social workers — and others with specialties they think might be helpful — have been offering free advice and guidance. The federation and JFS have both assigned staffers to deal with the offers. Personal outreach is another important part of the community effort, with the federation contacting each Jewish household affected by the

disaster. People still are being urged to call the federation with information of Jewish fire victims "so we can establish links with them and so they can tell us how the Jewish community can help," Nahshon said.

Not a synagogue or Jewish community center in Oakland or Berkeley escaped unscathed. But the hardest hit was Temple Sinai.

Thirty-seven member families were burned out of their homes and the Oakland congregation has mobilized a variety of responses geared to every level of need. Late last month, for example, some 20 displaced families attended a Shabbat dinner, Rabbi Steve Chester reported, and on the following Sunday morning two therapists helped religious school children deal with the tragedy.

By the beginning of last week, the congregation was putting together "ritual baskets" for displaced members, each containing Shabbat candlesticks and candles, a kiddush cup and a menorah. An information packet was to have been sent to each displaced household at its current address.

In addition, the congregation has organized a "buddy system," pairing people with specialized skills with those who need them. "Most of the people that I've spoken with haven't expressed specific needs," Chester said of the victims. "Most have a pretty good support system and

they've been taking care of details. I think in the weeks and months to come, more emotional needs will emerge."

Long-term needs already were on the agenda at a recent meeting at the federation, when agency heads formed a Task Force on Jewish Community Fire Disaster Response which will remain in place for two years. Soon the task force will begin organizing technical assistance seminars and assembling printed information on home rebuilding and legal and insurance issues, all of which will be provided to the general as well as Jewish community.

In addition, Nahshon said, information on replacement housing and other resources will be provided to victim households with regular updates.

Rabbi Ira Book of Temple Beth Shalom in San Leandro was specifically sought out for the task force because he lost his home to fire 10 years ago, and can offer his personal experience. He said the most important thing for his family, especially the children, had been to resume "something of a normal routine" as quickly as possible.

"School becomes a very important resource," but "there are a lot of deferred scars that come later, especially for children," he said.

Moslem-Jewish dialogue on interreligious agenda

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN

BALTIMORE (JTA) — For American Jews, interreligious relations have long been conducted primarily with Catholics, less often with mainstream Protestants and Evangelicals, and only occasionally with Buddhists, Hindus and Bahai. In fact, outside of the political arena, there has not been much of a relationship in modern times between Jews and Moslems.

But that may be changing.

At the Union of American Hebrew Congregations' biennial convention, held here Oct. 31 through Nov. 4, a Reform Jewish leader and a Moslem leader announced the beginning of a new interreligious effort between the two faiths, already being termed "the new frontier" by the Reform movement.

"We must remove the political agenda which stands as a roadblock on the path of reopening a relationship with our Moslem brothers and sisters," Rabbi Gary Bretton-Granatoor, director of the interreligious affairs department of the UAHC, said in announcing the new interreligious effort.

Bretton-Granatoor was joined by Gutbi Ahmed, North American director of the Muslim World League, a Mecca-based, non-governmental Sunni Moslem organization, who noted that "there are a lot of things to learn from our history (together) before the State of Israel came into being."

The movement will have an initial version of a guide to Moslem-Jewish programming by next June, according to Bretton-Granatoor, which will contain background information about Jewish and Moslem history, bibliographies and programming suggestions.

A relationship is important, Bretton-Granatoor said, because Moslems in North America, who number about the same as Jews here, "have

a palpable feeling of discrimination," and because "when we understand and appreciate our neighbors, we better understand and appreciate ourselves."

Ahmed agreed, pointing out that Jews and Moslems share an experience as minorities in a society in which there is another dominant culture. He urged "more cooperation between our two communities to see common concerns addressed for the good of society."

Ahmed came to the convention with a mandate from his organization to immediately begin the national dialogue. He suggested forming a joint body "to act as goodwill ambassador to both communities, and to be there (to mediate) in case of any problems." Ahmed also noted that his organization is starting a program to educate its imams (religious leaders) about Jewish and Christian traditions.

According to Bretton-Granatoor, there are only six or seven ongoing Moslem-Jewish relationships around the country. By comparison, nearly every city and town where there is a Jewish community relations council or chapter of the National Conference of Christians and Jews can boast of some form of Jewish-Christian dialogue.

Both speakers agreed that discussion of the Middle East will quickly derail any attempt at dialogue. But local dialogue can begin with a look at concepts common to both faiths that are included in the religious literature of each, according to Rabbi Martin Lawson, senior rabbi of Temple Emanu-El in San Diego, which has a continuing relationship with the local Moslem community.

Bretton-Granatoor urged Jews everywhere to get involved in the new effort, and not leave it to the rabbis and community leaders. "Dialogue must occur in the pews," he said, "and not in the pulpits."

Sociologist says American Jews becoming less liberal, assimilated

WASHINGTON — American Jews are becoming more like their neighbors, and as a result their support of liberal causes is likely to weaken. Nathan Glazer, Harvard sociologist, advanced this theory at the opening session of a conference on "Self-Interest, Common Interest and Public Life," sponsored by the Los Angeles-based Wilstein Institute of Policy Studies.

Glazer conceded that "liberalism may have become the feared 'L' word for politicians, but it remained mother and apple pie for American Jews" — in large part because of "a continuing sense of insecurity, which led them to see government as their potential protector against discrimination and to sympathize with minority, dissident and unpopular elements."

More recently, however, he said, Jewish allegiance to the Democratic Party is weakening. He listed two main reasons for this shift: 1) The opinions of Jews have come to resemble more and more those of other Americans of the same income and

education level; 2) The soaring rate of intermarriage among Jews, now close to 50 percent, means that there are more Jews who are only in some degree Jewish, again weakening the traditional Jewish liberal stance.

In addition to these changes, which have resulted in American Jews resembling more and more their fellow citizens on other political issues, Glazer cited the declining American Jewish population. As a result, he said, "in the long run American Jews who can be called on for the defense of Israel must decline in numbers." He noted that between the 1920's and the 1950's Jews made up more than 3.5 percent of the American population, while today they constitute less than 2 percent.

Responding to Glazer's keynote address, Prof. Arnold Eisen of Stanford University argued that "Jewish distinctiveness as a group is far from eliminated, and so long as it is not there will be a need for action to protect it." He added, "Jews will always need to pursue a separate agenda, so long as the word Jew bears any relation whatever to the

world Judaism. The high rate of disaffection from the community — evident in low membership and high intermarriage — is to a large degree the result of the religious movement's inability to formulate compelling models of later 20th century Jewish commitment and attract Jews to them. The pull from the outside is clear and strong. The counter-pressure from the inside has been weak and ill-defined. Ethnic identity alone will not do the job, and will do it less and less as distance from the Holocaust and the founding of Israel increases.

"Even if the majority of American Jews will never be able to resist the cultural and societal forces taking them away from identification with Jewry and Judaism, more could resist than do so at present, if the intellectual and institutional resources they need are available to them. They should be our target in coming years. Barring their increased affiliation, our ability to sustain the level of communal initiatives we have going now, let alone American support for Israel, is in serious jeopardy."

Court judge can't begin session with prayer

By DAVID FRIEDMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Jewish organizations have welcomed a federal appellate court's unanimous decision to bar a North Carolina judge from opening each day's court session with a prayer. The U.S. Court of Appeals in Richmond on October 29 upheld a ruling by the federal district court in Charlotte, N.C., that by allowing such prayers, Judge William Constangy violated the First Amendment to the Constitution.

A lawsuit against the Greensboro trial judge was brought by several

defense attorneys who objected to Constangy opening each day's session with a non-sectarian prayer that he composed. Constangy argued that he was doing nothing different than the chaplains who open sessions of the U.S. Congress with a prayer each day.

The appeal court's decision "is a welcome affirmation of first principles," said Marc Stern, co-director of the American Jewish Congress Commission on Law and Social Action. AJCongress filed friend-of-

the court briefs in support of the suit in both the district and appeals courts. "The Constitution not only separates church and state, but also imposes a special obligation on judges to administer justice without creating the appearance of religious partiality," Stern said.

The decision was also welcomed by Steve Freeman, legal director of the Anti-Defamation League, which filed a separate brief against the judge when the case reached the appeals court.



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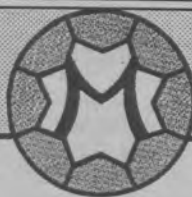
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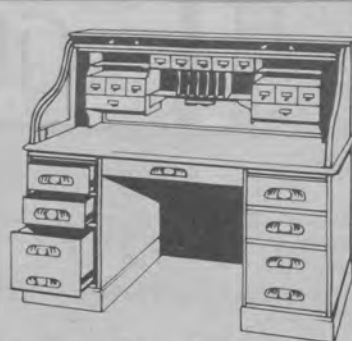
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NATIONAL

Cheney praises Israel's destruction of Iraqi nuclear facility

By **HOWARD ROSENBERG**
 WASHINGTON (JTA)—Defense Secretary Dick Cheney praised Israel last week for having bombed Iraq's planned Osirak nuclear reactor a decade ago. Cheney's praise comes a few weeks after he criticized Israel for having sent surveillance planes into western Iraq in September to search for Scud missile launchers.

At the annual dinner of the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs, Cheney received loud applause when he thanked an Israeli defense official for the "bold action" that "Israel took in 1981 with respect to the Baghdad reactor."

The official, David Ivri, director general of Israel's Defense Ministry, was in Washington for the annual bilateral meetings to discuss foreign aid and military cooperation. "No country can be expected to take risks

for peace unless it is confident about its security," Cheney said, referring to the Middle East peace conference in Spain.

But earlier last month in New York, Cheney said the Israeli surveillance flights over Iraq were "not helpful," especially since they came at a "delicate moment, when so much is at stake" in the Middle East. Cheney was speaking then at a news conference before receiving the Appeal of Conscience Foundation's annual award.

On October 28, the defense secretary received JINSA's Henry M. Jackson Distinguished Service Award, named for the late Democratic senator from Washington who was a strong supporter of Israel. The group gave its leadership award to Abe Pollin, a philanthropist who owns



Dick Cheney

the Washington Bullets and Capitals sports teams.

ADL applauds new civil rights bill

By **DAVID FRIEDMAN**
 WASHINGTON (JTA)—The Anti-Defamation League has expressed pleasure over two little-known provisions of the civil rights bill, approved by the Senate on October 30 by a 93-to-5 vote.

The bill, which will make it easier for women and religious minorities to seek compensation for job discrimination, was expected to be approved by the House early this week and quickly signed into law.

Melvin Salberg, ADL's national chairman, and Abraham Foxman, its national director, said they were pleased that the bill bars "race-norming," the practice of adjusting scores on federal job tests based on the applicant's race. They were also pleased that the bill would extend federal protection against job dis-

crimination to American workers abroad.

The bill whizzed through the Senate after Bush accepted a compromise, worked out by Sen. John Danforth (R-Mo.), between an administration bill and a Democratic bill. Bush said he believes the bill would not promote quotas. The president vetoed a similar civil rights bill last year, saying it would lead to quotas in hiring.

The new bill puts a limit of \$300,000 on the damages a woman or member of a religious minority can receive in compensation for job discrimination, but Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), the principal sponsor of the civil rights bill, has already announced plans to introduce legislation that would remove the cap.

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NATIONAL

Books: The Jewish heritage

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The poster designed for Jewish Book Month 1991, which began on November 2 and runs through December 2, is a watercolor designed by Neil Waldman, a fine artist and award-winning children's book illustrator. Waldman's design depicts the fluttering pages of a translucent book superimposed on the domes and walls of the Old City of Jerusalem. A rainbow completes the picture of serenity. The theme for this year's Jewish Book Month is "Books, the Heritage of the Jewish People."

The history of Jewish Book Month goes back to 1925, when Fanny Goldstein, a Boston librarian, set up a Judaica exhibit to mark the first Jewish Book Week. The idea later gained national acceptance and popularity. By 1943, when the Jewish Book Council was formally organized, the week-long event had expanded into Jewish Book Month. This year, in the State of New York, the event will be proclaimed as an official observance.

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U.S. Evangelists denounce Bush policy of land for peace

By JOSEPH POLAKOFF

Special to The Jewish Voice

WASHINGTON — An overwhelming majority of American Evangelical Christians don't like the Bush Administration's policy of "land for peace" to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict. In a nationwide publicity campaign, conservative activists are encouraging Israel to maintain control of the West Bank and unified Jerusalem which "is its capital and not subject to negotiation."

Three days before the Mid-East peace conference in Madrid, a coalition of 25 pro-Israel activists, called "Friends of Jerusalem", emphasized in a full-page advertisement in the *Washington Times* that the "land for peace" policy proposed by President Bush is a "failed policy."

"Since 1919, Israel agreed to or actually exchanged land for a promise of peace," the New York-based

coalition said in its ad on October 27. "That policy has failed every time. Yet it continues to be put forward as a part of American foreign policy."

The State of Israel, the ad read, "is the only nation in the region which shares our value system, encourages true religious pluralism, has biblical, historical, legal and political right to Judea and Samaria — the so-called West Bank."

The message added that, "Since the framework of the proposed settlement is taken from UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, we wish to remind all concerned that Israel is the only party to these resolutions — with the possible exception of Egypt — which has fulfilled all its tenets." It noted that Israel has returned 91 percent of the territory it had taken in "the defensive war" in 1967.

On the day after the publication of

the message, the coalition held a news conference at the National Press Club at which Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT), one of Bush's foremost congressional supporters, backed the coalition as well as the \$10 billion U.S. loan guarantee Israel has requested to help settle its immigrants.

The advertisement was signed by a number of Christian leaders, including the Rev. Jerry Falwell, chancellor of the Liberty University and for years a leader of conservative Christians, and Ed McAteer, of Memphis, founder and head of the Religious Roundtable, a group that annually holds prayer breakfasts in honor of Israel.

McAteer told the *Washington Times* he believes 80 percent of the 63 million Christians in the United States support the conservatives' position toward Israel. "We're here to express our love, concern and support for Israel," he said.

Jewish heritage can empower women former governor tells conference

By L.E. SCOTT

Jewish Exponent

PHILADELPHIA (JTA) — Jewish heritage is the critical ingredient that will lead Jewish women to achieve equality and power, according to the former governor of Vermont, Madeleine Kunin. "My religious heritage has given me a compass," said Kunin, keynote speaker at a conference called "The Empowered Jewish Woman: Awareness and Action" at the Philadelphia Hilton last month.

"The compass doesn't work perfectly," she said. "We all wish we always knew exactly when we should speak out and (knew) right from wrong. But, at certain times, it wakes me up; that is the critical ingredient."

"It isn't so much your skills at public speaking," she said. "It isn't so much how you do all the things that need to be done. It's this inner drive, your sense of outrage, your sense of morality, your sense of justice that really leads to empowerment."

About 200 people attended the conference, which was sponsored by the American Jewish Congress and the Jewish Coalition on Women's Issues. The daylong conference featured eight workshops and a panel by the five recipients of the Rosh Pinah Awards, which are presented locally to individuals who have shown outstanding leadership and service. The awards are sponsored by the Commission on Women's Equality of AJCongress' Pennsylvania Region.

Kunin, who immigrated to America from Switzerland when she was nearly 7, said relatives from France, Holland and Germany perished in the Holocaust. "The Holocaust is still considered to be for us the central experience of our time," she said. "There really is no safety in standing back from danger. There is no safety in not standing up, in hoping that one can be safe at the sidelines, invisible and silent."

At the same time, she quickly added, the victims of the Holocaust had no choice. "We cannot blame them for not being the political people that we have the potential to be today," she said.

"The real protection in times of

danger, in times of oppression, in times of injustice, clearly arises through activism and through long-term strategies of prevention, which means you stand up for human rights, you stand up against social injustice whenever and wherever it appears."

Kunin, a three-term governor who now holds the position of distinguished visitor in public policy at the Bunting Institute at Radcliffe College, explained why she had testified against the Supreme Court nomination of Clarence Thomas. "I thought, as many of us did, that this is a pretty hopeless situation. It's a done deal. The skids are greased and this man's going to be confirmed. Is it really worthwhile to go to Washington and be grilled by a committee and go through all that, to make a point that will not be heard?"

"I realized there was another reason to do it, and that was to speak for those women precisely because their voices weren't being heard, and that I was able to be the vehicle for those frustrated people out there who wanted their say at that table in that committee room in the United States Senate of this country."

Marion Wilen, chairwoman of the conference, set the stage for the day, noting in the event's opening remarks that equality for women has yet to be achieved. "U.S. Secretary of Labor Lynn Martin announced a recent study showing that roadblocks

faced by women and minorities are pervasive in moving up the corporate ladder," Wilen said. "The study reveals that the glass ceiling is as real as steel."

Wilen said women hold 3 percent of the top jobs in Fortune 500 companies, 8 percent of federal and state judgeships, and 6 percent of law partnerships. "In the area of health, only 13 percent of the (National Institutes of Health) budget is spent on women's health issues — this despite the fact that breast cancer has doubled since 1960 and is killing more than 44,000 women a year."

Yet another issue for women, Wilen said, is domestic violence. "In our state of Pennsylvania, 800,000 women last year were victims of domestic violence. Of these, 100 were killed. Every 15 seconds in the United States, a woman is beaten by a man she knows."

"The problem for us as Jewish women," Wilen said, "is the rampant denial that these figures are equally true in the Jewish community. Domestic violence does take place in Jewish families. Do we have a Jewish shelter? A Jewish counseling center? A Jewish hot line? A Jewish rehab for batterers?"

Wilen also said there are only 200 female rabbis in the United States, even though it has been 20 years since the Reform movement ordained its first woman rabbi.

NYANA helps resettle Tibetans

NEW YORK (JTA) — Although generally noted for its efforts in the resettlement of Jewish immigrants, the New York Association for New Americans has undertaken responsibility for the resettlement of 100 Tibetan refugee families over the next two years. NYANA, an affiliate of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, was approached by the National Tibetan Resettlement Project to participate in its plans for the resettlement of over 1000 Tibetan refugees this year.

Funding for this operation, and for other non-Jewish resettlement projects, comes solely from private sources.

According to Mark Handelman, executive vice president of NYANA, hundreds of refugees from a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds arriving since 1975 have been resettled with the association's help. Among those refugee groups aided by NYANA are Cambodians, Vietnamese, Cubans and Haitians.

Still, resettlement of Jews remains its first priority. "The number of non-Jewish refugees we resettle is in the hundreds," explained Handelman, "but our number of Jewish immigrants resettled is in the thousands."

INTERNATIONAL

Germany sets fund for Polish victims, but reduces pensions to persecutees

By DAVID KANTOR

BONN (JTA) — Germany has moved to establish a \$300 million foundation with Poland to compensate Polish slave laborers and others who suffered under the Nazi occupation of that country. The foundation will be administered like the German fund that pays out reparations to Jewish persecutees in other countries.

In accepting the plan, the Polish government agreed to refrain from making further demands for compensation from Germany for sufferings inflicted by the Nazis during World War II.

The announcement was made as

the two countries moved to ratify a friendship treaty.

But while setting up this new fund, Germany has also moved to cut by half or more the pensions that the former East German government paid for four decades to victims of the Nazis, most of them former Communist officials. That decision, announced October 17, has raised the hackles of German Jewry and drawn protest from the opposition Social Democratic Party.

The German Jewish community sharply protested the decision to cut the pensions, which were paid to Jews as well as others. "I am shocked by the lack of sensitivity on the part of the government," community

Chairman Heinz Galinski said in Berlin. "This is a very complicated and delicate issue. They should have consulted the persons who are directly affected."

The move was made in keeping with Bonn's efforts to equalize financial arrangements and legal systems of the two former German states, which were reunited in October 1990. The payments, which were made to "fighters against fascism," or "persecutees of fascism," often exceeded those made by the former West Germany.

Among those who received hefty pensions from the former German Democratic Republic was ousted Communist Party boss Erich

Honecker, who had been imprisoned by the Nazis.

The Social Democrats accused the German government of trying to depict all those who received the special pensions as collaborators of the former Communist dictatorship. According to the government, some 10,000 individuals over 70 years received the special pensions, with the so-called "fighters" against fascism receiving the larger of two amounts. As of January 1, 1992, the monthly payments of \$825 and \$1,025 will be sliced to \$445.

Galinski has proposed that each case be examined individually to determine if the pension was paid to individuals who were part of the Communist apparatus, which persecuted East Germany. He argued that Jewish recipients of the special pen-

sion were never otherwise compensated for their sufferings under the Nazis.

In West Germany, no special pensions were paid to Jews or other persecutees who passed the age of 70. However, victims of Nazism received reparations, which sometimes included reinstatement of their claims to the state-run pension fund.

Galinski urged the German government to "either adopt the system of paying reparations to those who lived in former East Germany and were denied compensations in the West, or accept the system of special pensions as had been practiced here for so many years. "We believe the government has made a mistake. Let's hope it will be ready to study the matter and correct its decision," he said.

Jewish and Christian missions to Israel

A mission that has already signed up more than 1,500 people heads the list of major mega-missions to Israel scheduled for November. Israeli Ministry of Tourism officials are citing such pilgrimages and other developments as part of a resurgence in tourism to Israel.

Jaffa-born Pastor Benny Hinn of the Orlando (Fla.) Christian Center will head the 1,500-member mission under the name "Miracle Crusade Holy Land 1991", on a 10-day tour of Israel from November 4-13. Hinn has organized several appeals to promote the mission and he's planned

similar appeals in 1992 in California, Illinois, New Mexico and Texas, for another such mega-mission.

Another major mission to Israel, from November 7-17, will be headed by singer and evangelist Pat Boone. Though Pat Boone has headed several pilgrimage groups to Israel before, this is the first to come under the auspices of Pat Robertson's Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN). Among other mega-missions to Israel this month and next are The United Jewish Appeal Federation of Miami is sending a delegation of 800 people the second consecutive year;

the UJA-Federation from South Palm Beach and UJA-Federation from New Jersey, 500 people each; and the UJA-Federation from Washington and Baltimore, 400 people.

"It is extremely encouraging to see these groups and others returning to Israel in such large numbers," said Raphael Farber, Israel's Consul and Tourism Commissioner for North America. "Jewish and Christian groups are deeply committed to Israel, and the fact Jewish communities were able to assemble such significant missions bodes well for the continued rise in tourism."

Direct flights may eliminate need for transit points, Dinitz says

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The establishment of regular direct flights from Soviet cities to Israel will increase the flow of immigrants from the Soviet Union, Jewish Agency Chairman Simcha Dinitz predicted last week. It will also diminish the need for transfer points in Eastern European capitals, Dinitz told a meeting of the Jewish Agency Executive here.

Dinitz, who also chairs the World Zionist Organization, said there has already been an 11 percent increase in visa applications from the Soviet

Union. Today, 35,000 Soviet Jews hold entry visas to Israel, and another 50,000 have gotten exit permits from the Soviet authorities, he said.

Dinitz reported that since a new commercial airline named Aerolicht began flying olim directly from Kishinev to Tel Aviv in chartered Soviet aircraft, the number of immigrants who travel via Bucharest has declined.

Dinitz said there would be a significant reduction in operations at Eastern European transit stations after El

Al and Aeroflot, the Soviet national air carrier, begin direct immigrant flights to Israel from the Soviet Union this month.

Meanwhile, Uri Gordon, head of the Jewish Agency's Immigration and Absorption Department, reported that some 4,000 Jews are still in Ethiopia, about 2,500 of them in Gondar province. Gordon said the Jewish Agency will continue its efforts to bring them to Israel at a rate of 100 to 150 a week.

March against anti-Semitism in Austria

VIENNA (JTA) — At least 5,000 people marched through the rain October 25 in a silent protest against anti-Semitism in Vienna. The demonstration, occasioned by recent vandalism at a historic Jewish cemetery, may also have been a response to a new poll showing pervasive anti-Semitism at most levels of Austrian society (*The Jewish Voice*, October 25).

The march, organized by the Austrian Students Association, had the support of almost all of the national political parties. Many members of Parliament participated. They marched through a heavy downpour from the Judenplatz to the Memorial Against Fascism and Racism, where Professor Anton Pelinka, a political scientist, addressed the crowd.

In the past two years, 72 Jewish graves have been destroyed in the Vienna area. The most recent desecrations occurred during the night of October 10. Several gravestones were toppled and remains scattered at Tor I (Gate 1) of the Zentralfriedhof, or Central Cemetery, where no Jewish burials have taken place since 1938, the year of Adolf Hitler's annexation of Austria.

Since the vandals struck, security

has been tightened around Jewish institutions and cemeteries. Pelinka referred to that when he observed, "It is sad enough that members of the Jewish community have to sit in their synagogues while armed police forces are watching over their security. Now, in addition, the unguarded graves are being desecrated."

The march against anti-Semitism was supported by President Kurt Waldheim, who has served his six years in office under the shadow of a Nazi past. It had the backing of the Social Democratic Party, the Conservative Party, the Greens and various youth organizations. Only the center-right Freedom Party remained aloof. Its chairman, Jorg Haider, labeled the cemetery desecrations mere "vandalism."

Similarly inclined was Mayor Helmut Zilk of Vienna, who insisted that the upturned gravestones were just a "boy's prank" and not a sample of "Viennese anti-Semitism." Zilk is known to have been distressed by an American Jewish Committee-Gallup Institute poll taken in Austria last summer and released last week, which disclosed strong currents of anti-Semitism in a substantial portion of the population. In reaction, he can-

celed a conference based on the poll findings that was to have opened here Sunday under the joint auspices of the Vienna municipality and the AJCommittee.

Zilk gave as his reason the decision to advance the date of the City Council elections to November 10. His attitude was surprising, considering that Zilk recently played host to Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem and was made an honorary member of the Senate of Tel Aviv University.

Johannes Voggenhuber, head of the Green party, charged that "this kind of minimizing is the most common form of anti-Semitism."


The vandalism occurred on the day Kollek's Austrian-born wife visited the grave of her grandfather, Adolf Schwartz. Some sources suggested that Zilk was resentful because the desecrations would not have been widely publicized had they not coincided with Kollek's visit.

Meanwhile, a special police task force is watching the area until Election Day.

Tor I of the Zentralfriedhof is the oldest part of the cemetery. It is famous for the Jewish writers, musicians, intellectuals and their families buried there.

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INTERNATIONAL

Olive branches and Uzis share West Bank podium

ARRABA, West Bank, (JTA) — The courtyard of the elementary school in this Palestinian village was filled October 31 with exhilarated youths, chanting nationalist slogans in front of walls covered with Palestinian flags and portraits of Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat.

It was a rare phenomenon in the territories — not only because the crowd of several hundred mainly youthful Palestinians blatantly ignored the official Israeli ban on political gatherings, but also because it was a conspicuous local expression of support for the peace conference in Madrid and the pro-PLO delegates participating in it.

In terms of internal Palestinian politics, the significance of the rally, one of several held the same day in various parts of the West Bank, was that it came in response to a general strike in the territories staged successfully by Palestinian rejectionist groups. The strike was called to protest the "surrender" of the Palestinian delegation and Arafat's wing of the PLO to American and Israeli dictates.

Arafat supporters have claimed that the near total observance of the strike was more a result of fear of violence by the hard-liners than an indication of agreement with their line.

Arraba has long been a stronghold of Arafat's Al Fatah wing of the PLO. But pro-Arafat rallies were also held elsewhere throughout the territories.

In Ramallah, hundreds took part in

processions through the streets of the city, following the speech in Madrid by the head of the Palestinian delegation, Haider Abdel-Shafi. A noisy motorcade of cars tooting their horns set out on the main road from Ramallah to Jerusalem, while Palestinians on foot covered military jeeps with olive branches, as smiling border police looked on.

In Arraba, army soldiers were not on the scene, and for a while it almost seemed as if the rally were taking place inside an already independent

Palestinian entity. Only a small force of soldiers manned a regular checkpoint at the entrance to the village, a mile from the center of town.

Speakers at the rally, mostly local activists of the Shabiba, the outlawed youth movement of Al Fatah, outdid each other with nationalist speeches. They expressed support for the Madrid peace conference, but at the same time stressed their determination to continue the intifada and the armed struggle against Israel.

As if to prove they meant business,

during one of the speeches, a car drove into the school courtyard, carrying two youths on its bumper, each brandishing an Uzi submachine gun. To the cheers of the crowd, they strode up to the podium, rifles in one hand and olive branches in the other, imitating Arafat's gesture in his famous 1974 speech to the U.N. General Assembly.

As a reporter tried to leave the scene, a local youth pounded on the car window to ensure that he would not leave with the mistaken impres-

sion. "Don't get us wrong. The message that should come out of here is one of peace, not war," he said.

Nevertheless, it is clear that, along with new hopes for peace, the rifles and pistols are out there in the territories, and they are being used more than ever in the past. Last week two Israelis, a mother of seven and a father of four, paid with their lives as another segment of the Palestinian population made its views on the peace process starkly clear.

Iran's call for war against Israel protested in letter to U.N. chief

UNITED NATIONS (JTA) — Israeli Ambassador Yoram Aridor has charged Iran with violating the U.N. Charter by calling for an Islamic holy war against Israel. In an October 31 letter to U.N. Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar, Aridor pointed to remarks at the International Conference to Support the Islamic Revolution of the People of Palestine, held October 19 to 22 in Teheran, under the auspices of the Iranian government.

Aridor cited the official Iranian news agency, which quoted Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani as telling conference participants that "Iran is even ready to dispatch troops to fight Israel along with the Palestinians."

The conference concluded with a 28-point declaration which called for the "elimination of the Zionist existence" and cited "the need for an all-out jihad (holy war) against the Zionist regime."

Aridor said Rafsanjani's remarks, and similar statements by spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, violate Article 2(4) of the U.N. Charter, which requires member states to "refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force" against other states.

Describing the conference as "a blatant effort to undermine efforts to promote peace in the Middle East" on the eve of the Madrid peace conference, Aridor pointed out that the

Palestine Liberation Organization was represented by Sheikh Abd el-Hamid al-Sayeh, speaker of the Palestine National Council.

Also taking part was Ahmed Jabril, head of the Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, whom the Iranian news agency quoted as declaring, "Peace will only be justified when Palestine returns to its pre-1948 status."

Peace fever seems to sieze Palestinians

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Peace fever seized the Palestinian population in East Jerusalem and throughout the administered territories last weekend. Crowds, among them scores of former security prisoners, marched through streets bearing olive branches. Israeli security forces stood by, but for the most part did not interfere.

The Palestinians' jubilation was over the appearance of their delegation at the Middle East peace conference, which opened October 30 in Madrid's Royal Palace. Although it is officially a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, the 14 Palestinian delegates representing the territories were in the limelight of the world news media.

For the first time in history, the Palestinians had a validated identity. Thousands at the peace demonstrations saw it as the herald of independence.

Israeli authorities cooperated to the extent of lifting the curfew in Gaza and removing the roadblocks that had kept West Bank Palestinians from entering Jerusalem during the opening of the Madrid conference opening. The curfew and the barriers were aimed at the anti-peace element, notably the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas, which exhorted Palestinians to continue the armed struggle.

Clashes between pro- and anti-peace activists left 50 wounded in the Gaza Strip over the weekend.

The biggest peace demonstration was held Friday afternoon in a schoolyard in Ramallah. The main speakers were such Palestinian notables as Dr.

Sari Nusseibeh and Ziyad Abu-Ziyad. They could very well have gone to Madrid as part of an unofficial group advising the Palestinian delegates. But they preferred to stay home. Nusseibeh appealed to the superpowers to take an active role in the peace process, not be mere observers.

The common theme of the speeches was to urge the populace to

take to the streets with olive branches, the universal symbol of peace, instead of rocks, the principal weapon of the intifada, which will be four years old next month.

Observers noted that the leaders of public opinion in the Palestinian towns mostly were former inmates of Israeli prisons. Having earned their spurs, they are now influencing policy.

The rally ended with a large pa-

rade down the main street, which was awash with olive branches.

Similar demonstrations took place in other West Bank towns, though on a small scale.

The only confrontation was in East Jerusalem, where police dispersed peace demonstrators outside the Rockefeller Museum and detained several Palestinians who "violated public order."

Syria not ready to move on immigration

By TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — If Syria is contemplating measures to build confidence with Israel, they do not include extraditing a notorious war criminal or withdrawing a viciously anti-Semitic book, according to the official spokesman of the Syrian delegation to the Madrid peace talks.

In a 30-minute interview October 31 with a representative of the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal

Center, spokesman Mohammed al-Jannan also ruled out letting an estimated 4,000 Jews remaining in Syria leave for the United States or Israel until "after peace."

Shimon Samuels, director of the Wiesenthal Center's European office, obtained the interview in Madrid in his capacity as an accredited reporter for the center's Page One radio program.

Samuels showed Jannan newspa-

per interviews with Austrian war criminal Alois Brunner, who has been living freely in Damascus for decades, and asked why Syria would not honor extradition requests for Brunner from Germany, France and Austria.

"I don't know him," replied Jannan. "This is not an issue of the peace conference."

Jannan also proved unenthusiastic when asked if Syria might withdraw "The Matzah of Zion," a book written by Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Tlas that resurrects the blood libel against Jews with gory graphics.

"Have you read the book?" asked the spokesman. "We do not allow anti-Semitism; we are a tolerant society. Read the book — it is true. Read it, then come back to me."

Asked whether Syria would allow its remaining Jews to leave for the United States, Jannan said, "We have no problem. The Jews are prosperous businessmen in Syria — but let the Americans take them."

"Could they go to Israel?" asked Samuels.

"No, Israel is our enemy," responded Jannan.

"But if you boycott the multilateral talks, peace is not nearby. Can they leave now for the U.S.?" asked Samuels.

"No," answered Jannan, "only after peace."

Arafat promises new wave of terror if talks fail

ROME (JTA) — Yasir Arafat hinted at a new wave of Arab terrorism against American and European targets if the Madrid peace conference ends in failure. That was how many interpreted the Palestine Liberation Organization chief's remarks in an interview published Saturday in the daily *Corriere della Sera*. He was clearly not optimistic about the outcome of the peace talks, although his interview was given before all the Arab delegations in Madrid, including the Palestinians and Jordanians, sat down with Israel to discuss where subsequent talks would be held.

Arafat dismissed the speeches made by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir in Madrid as "the same old slogans, the old dreams, the old language." According to Arafat, Shamir is out of tune with the post-Persian Gulf War world.

If the conference fails, "there will be a great instability in the entire region. Many problems for everyone," Arafat said. "Americans and Europeans would pay a very heavy price," he warned. Asked to elaborate, Arafat said, "Imagine what the extremist groups that operate in the region will do. These groups of fanatics represent a formidable force and will not sit with their hands folded."

He referred specifically to Hamas, a violence-prone Islamic fundamentalist movement that cropped up in the Gaza Strip shortly after the intifada began in December 1987.

The PLO chief was evasive when asked if he was in full control of the Palestinian movement in the Israeli-administered territories.



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INTERNATIONAL

Israeli school children don't meet school standards, study finds

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Israelis have suddenly been confronted by a problem all too common in some of the great industrialized countries of the West: Large proportions of its school-children do not meet minimal standards for their grades in arithmetic and reading comprehension.

That situation was exposed by a recently concluded random study of third- and fourth-graders. The study showed that about 50 percent of the student population in those grades showed deficiencies in arithmetic and reading comprehension.

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer was so alarmed he called a news conference to disclose the findings.

He said the ministry decided to publicize the unpleasant facts so that something could be done about them.

The study was conducted among 152,000 elementary school pupils all over the country by two reputable authorities: Professor Yosef Bashi, the Education Ministry's chief scientist, and Zehava Shesh of the Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem.

They discovered that in about 13 percent of Israeli schools, a majority of students in the grades studied failed minimum standard tests in arithmetic and reading comprehension. In another 15 percent of the schools, the failure rate was 41 to 50 percent. In one third of the schools, the failure

rate ranged from 21 to 40 percent; in 39 percent of the schools, it was under 20 percent.

The study found that the failure rate was higher in the religious school system because 25 percent of its students are from the lower socioeconomic brackets and need "special educational support." Only 10 percent of the students in the secular schools fall into that category.

The study found the situation in Israel's Arab schools to be even worse. The failure rate among them was between 80 and 90 percent. Hammer suggested the reason was that the Arab students lacked the educational framework for children with learning

problems which does exist in the Jewish sector.

In any event, the education minister said he would provide every school in the country with the names of students who failed and ask them to take specific action to correct the situation.

"The poor results are proof of the plight of the educational system," said Yitzhak Velber, secretary-general of the Teachers Association. "We must mobilize our resources quickly to correct it," he said.

HEMDAT, the Council for Freedom of Science, Religion and Culture, criticized the Education Ministry's policy of pouring hundreds

of millions of dollars into the Orthodox school system while neglecting the much larger general education system.

Education Minister Hammer is a veteran of the National Religious Party.

"Such a disproportion in the national ladder of preferences causes the inevitable result of the emergence of an entire generation of students who lack the most basic skills," said Professor Hillel Shoval, chairman of HEMDAT.

Tanks and material to Israel, raising hackles in Germany

BONN (JTA) — The clandestine shipment to Israel of Soviet-built tanks and other military equipment from the stocks of the defunct East German army has become a political issue here. The opposition Social Democratic Party has demanded the resignation of Defense Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg. He allegedly turned the arms over to the German intelligence service, BND, which arranged to have them sent to its Israeli counterpart, the Mossad.

The "smuggling" operation was exposed a week ago when Hamburg harbor police found the tanks and several containers of military equipment aboard the Israeli freighter Palmach II listed on the manifest as "agricultural equipment."

According to leaks from a report prepared by Stoltenberg and the head of the BND, Konrad Porzner, the Germans and Israelis have been engaged in under-the-table arms exchanges since 1967, when Israel

captured large quantities of Soviet-made equipment from the Arab armies it defeated in the Six-Day War.

The Germans were given access to Israeli-captured Soviet equipment over the years.

On Oct. 8, members of the German and Israeli intelligence agencies inspected the East German equipment to decide what Israel would want for testing and intelligence purposes. The Israelis agreed to bear the shipping costs, and delivery was scheduled between Oct. 23 and 26. The Hamburg police, not privy to the deal, seized the illicit cargo on the night of Oct. 26.

Until now, there has been no serious criticism of the actual shipment of the materiel to Israel. The anger is over the avoidance of political channels. It has led to demands to tighten control over the Munich-based BND.

Porzner, meanwhile, has offered to resign, if asked.

The leaked report said the BND operatives who organized the shipments to Israel thought it was unnecessary to involve the political leadership.

A secret government committee for defense matters decided in March to make the former East German

equipment available to Israel. The Israelis were not supposed to get battle tanks, but only radar and anti-aircraft systems mounted on armored vehicles. They were committed to return the equipment after a series of tests to measure its effectiveness and durability.

Soviet aliyah currently declining

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Despite a recent downturn in aliyah, the Soviet Union is continuing to pump thousands of immigrants into Israel, and officials of the Jewish Agency for Israel expect the numbers to increase in the coming months.

According to figures released this week by Israel's Absorption Ministry, 10,584 new olim arrived in October, including 9,845 from the Soviet Union and its former Baltic republics.

In New York, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported that an additional 8,861 Soviet Jews were granted Israeli entry visas in October.

And the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society reported that another 3,891 Soviet Jews entered the United States in October under the American government's refugee program, a slight dip from last month's high of 4,163.

NCSJ's Soviet Jewry Research Bureau noted that the October Soviet aliyah figure represents a slight decrease from September, when 9,877 Soviet Jews arrived in Israel.

Soviet immigration here has been declining since June, when it surpassed 20,000. Nevertheless, the cumulative figure for the year to date stands at 125,402, up from 1990's corresponding figure for the period of 121,503, the National Conference said.

Israel, Soviet Union ties



At left, Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin and his Israeli counterpart David Levy toast the renewal of diplomatic relations between

Israel and the Soviet Union after a signing in the Foreign Ministry office in Jerusalem on October 18, ending a 24-year break in normal relations. The Soviet Union is the last country within the Soviet bloc to renew full diplomatic relations with Israel. Bottom left, Israeli ambassador to the Soviet Union Arye Levin raises the Israeli flag at the embassy in Moscow on October 24. (Photos: RNS)



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INTERNATIONAL

Danish diplomat says intended interpretation of 242 benefits Israel

By ELI KOHEN
COPENHAGEN (JTA) — A Danish diplomat who helped draft U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 maintains that the English text of the resolution, which allowed a broader interpretation of Israel's exchanging territories for peace, was the intended version of the document when it was drafted in 1967.

Hans Tabor, currently Denmark's ambassador to Norway, described the resolution as favoring Israel's position, in an interview he gave to the Danish daily *Politiken*. "The English version was the result of a compromise between opposing positions, and it was not possible to attain agreement for another version, given the power relations then prevailing in the Security Council. The English version of Resolution 242 is the original one," said Tabor, who was president of the Security Council at the time the resolution was drafted.

While the English version, introduced by Britain, calls for an Israeli withdrawal "from occupied territories," the French translation, made later, could be construed as saying "from the occupied territories."

The definite article "des," in this case preceding the word "territoires," is commonly used in French, a language that almost always uses definite articles. But the addition of the article could imply that the resolution calls for Israel to exchange all the territories it acquired after it was attacked on June 5, 1967. This interpretation is the one favored by the Arabs.

Nevertheless, "the English version is the one we formulated at the Security Council," Tabor told *Politiken*. "The French translation of the resolution," said Tabor, "came later and is based on the English version," Tabor explained.

His remarks were made in connection with the Israeli-Arab peace conference in Madrid, whose every turn focused on the interpretation of the call for exchanging land for peace.

"The controversial Resolution 242 does not demand Israeli withdrawal from all of the territories that it captures in 1967," said Tabor. "On the contrary, the resolution permits Israel, due to security considerations, to hold on to some of the territories."

A few months after Tabor headed the Security Council as its rotating president, he was named Denmark's foreign minister and led his country's delegation to the Security Council meeting where, on Nov. 22, 1967, Resolution 242 was adopted. The resolution, and its companion Resolution 338, which makes 242 legally binding, are recognized by all parties as the basic formula for an Arab-Israeli peace settlement.

"It had to be done that way, so that all the parties could vote in its favor," he said. "There are territories that Israel cannot withdraw from for security and strategic reasons. I still believe this is the meaning of the resolution," Tabor said.

Tabor's interpretation was recently supported by another of the resolution's authors, Eugene Rostow, who was U.S. undersecretary of state for political affairs from 1966 to 1969. In an article in the Oct. 21 issue of *The New Republic*, Rostow wrote that although the resolution has been deemed to be "deliberately ambiguous," in fact, "nothing could be further from the truth."

Rostow, who is now a distinguished fellow at the United States Peace Institute, said that Resolution 242 "allows Israel to administer the territories it occupied in 1967 until a just and lasting peace in the Middle East is achieved."

"When such a peace is made, Israel is required to withdraw its armed forces 'from territories' it occupied during the Six-Day War — not from 'the' territories, nor from 'all' the territories, but from some of the territories, which included the Sinai Desert, the West Bank, the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip.

"Five-and-a-half months of vehement public diplomacy in 1967 made it perfectly clear what the

missing definite article in Resolution 242 means," he wrote. "Ingeniously drafted resolutions calling for withdrawal from 'all' the territories were defeated in the Security Council and the General Assembly. Speaker after speaker

made it explicit that Israel was not to be forced back to the 'fragile' and vulnerable Armistice Demarcation Lines, but should retire once peace was made to what Resolution 242 called 'secure and recognized' boundaries, agreed to by all the

parties."

The resolution, wrote Rostow, "leaves the issue of dividing the occupied areas between Israel and its neighbors entirely to the agreement of the parties in accordance with the principles it sets out."

Palestinians celebrating after meetings

By GIL SEDAN
JERUSALEM (JTA) — Although little substantive progress was made at the peace conference in Madrid, its powerful imagery had an electric effect on Palestinians in Jerusalem and the administered territories.

While Israelis puzzled over the meaning of the historic weekend and were only cautiously hopeful about its consequences, euphoria reigned among the Palestinians.

The contemplative mood in Zion Square, the center of Jewish western Jerusalem, contrasted sharply with the carnival atmosphere on Saladin Street, the main drag of the city's heavily Arab eastern section. And in the refugee camps and villages of the West Bank, the hurled rocks of the intifada were replaced by olive branches, the universal symbol of peace.

Waving them in the faces of stunned Israeli soldiers and border police were many of the same youths who only recently were engaged in pitch battles with the same soldiers and police.

They celebrated, despite the fact that the nitty-gritty negotiations have not yet started and despite the fact that the Israelis have not budged from their refusal to yield an inch of territory in exchange for peace.

The Palestinians seem to feel that history turned a corner in Madrid with favorable portents for them. They are celebrating the fact that for the first time in history, Palestinians had a recognized leadership which sat down as equals with ranking Israelis to talk about when and where they will discuss their political future.

In short, the Palestinians already smell independence in the air. And while they have a propensity to read much from very little, the fact is that they have won respectability in the international community, which less than a year ago made them pariahs for supporting Saddam Hussein.

The new atmosphere is making Israeli security forces nervous. There was fear by midweek that the numerous peace demonstrations could get out of hand and become an olive-branch intifada.

Lt. Gen. Ehud Barak, the Israel Defense Force chief of staff, said Tuesday, during a tour of Hebron, that the army would not allow "any sort of demonstrations." But Barak's tough words seemed intended more for nervous Jewish settlers in the territories than the Palestinians. He said that if a demonstration is peaceful, he would leave it up to the local commander to decide whether to interfere.

The chief of staff reported that there has been a drop in the number of stonings in the territories since the Madrid conference, but he said it is too early to tell whether the change is permanent. "I have no doubt that extremist elements will try to escalate the level of violence," he said.

In fact, the Palestinian camp is far from united, with many activists still holding to maximalist positions and crying for the continuation of armed struggle. Just two days before the Madrid conference opened, two Is-

raelis were killed and five wounded in a West Bank bus ambush.

Murders inside the Palestinian community continue, some of them using a nationalist "cover" to cloak criminal intent or crimes of vengeance.

Despite the meeting of Israelis and Palestinians in Madrid, the Palestinian rejectionist camp is vocal and influential, especially the Moslem fundamentalist Hamas movement and other radical groups.

Nevertheless, Yasir Arafat's mainstream bloc in the Palestine Liberation Organization seems to have gained from the Madrid conference, which it supported. Arafat supporters won substantial victories in the Gaza Strip Chambers of Commerce elections this week.

Talks**Continued from 1**

Shamir described the Syrians as "very hard, very rough, very extreme." He said they were "doing their utmost to foil any progress." But "they don't always succeed," the prime minister added.

He said the Arab camp in general is divided, which is positive from Israel's point of view because that prevents "the creation of a united front against Israel."

Shamir warned, however, that there is no guarantee this situation will continue.

Asked if he would suspend settlement-building in the administered territories as a gesture of good will while peace talks are under way, Shamir said, "This should not be a gesture; this is part of the negotiations." What should be stopped is the intifada, he said. "The settlements should not be stopped."

Shamir won a vote of confidence from his Cabinet on Sunday for his leadership of the Israeli delegation at the Madrid conference. At the Knesset committee meeting, he was praised by his two political opponents, Labor Party leaders Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin.

"There is room for hope," said Peres.

"This is a great opportunity," echoed Rabin.

Shamir, meanwhile, is seeking to patch up his differences with Foreign Minister David Levy, who refused to go to Madrid after Shamir announced at the last minute that he would personally head the Israeli delegation.

The two men met for a half-hour Sunday and agreed to meet again.

Levy denied reports that he ordered his Foreign Ministry people to return from Madrid on Monday. Reports of a Foreign Ministry walk-out are "imagination," he said, adding that there were about 20 Foreign Ministry officials still in the Spanish capital.

Levy rejected a proposal by Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan at Sunday's Cabinet meeting to appoint Levy's arch rival, Deputy Foreign

Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, to be minister of information, in recognition of his masterful organization of Israeli propaganda at Madrid. "Information does not create policy," Levy remarked. "When the policy is good, so is the information."

Israelis fear they will not have much time since their ally, the United States, is expected to push and prod them toward the next round of bilateral negotiations, which, this time, will have to yield some substance.



David Levy



Benjamin Netanyahu

Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, to be minister of information, in recognition of his masterful organization of Israeli propaganda at Madrid. "Information does not create policy," Levy remarked. "When the policy is good, so is the information."

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NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL

Wofford win in PA welcomed by Jewish democrats

By HOWARD ROSENBERG
WASHINGTON (JTA) — Democratic Jewish activists are relishing Tuesday's victory in Pennsylvania by interim Sen. Harris Wofford over former U.S. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh, a Republican closely linked to the Bush administration. And pro-Israel activists are welcoming the defeat Tuesday of a referendum in Washington state that would have limited the terms of its congress-

sional delegation to 12 years for senators and six years for members of the House of Representatives.

In the Pennsylvania race, there is no clear-cut gain for the Jewish community, as Wofford and Thornburgh appear to be equally supportive of Israel. For example, they both supported unconditionally approving Israel's request for U.S. guarantees covering \$10 billion in loans to

resettle Soviet Jews, the Philadelphia weekly *Jewish Exponent* reported.

But Morris Amitay, treasurer of the Washington Political Action Committee, said his group, which is one of the largest pro-Israel PACs, helped Wofford in part because it thought he would win. In addition, Amitay said he was concerned that Thornburgh, who served under Bush,

"owed the president too much to break with him on any issue." That could have spelled trouble if Bush continues to block the loan guarantee package.

While Wofford's populist message apparently won the day in Pennsylvania, such sentiment appeared to work on both sides of the referendum issue in Washington state.

"There are people who want the freedom to choose whoever they want," regardless of how long they have served, while others want to "throw the rascals out," explained Steve Gutow, executive director of the National Jewish Democratic Council.

The ballot measure was defeated by a vote of approximately 55 percent to 45 percent. Had it been approved, it would have effectively ended the term of House Speaker Thomas Foley in January 1995.

While Gutow's group did not take a position on the referendum, he said term limitations would likely hurt Democrats more than Republicans, simply because they hold an overwhelming majority of the 435 House seats: 267 versus 167 for the Republicans. An independent seat is held by Jewish Rep. Bernard Sanders of Vermont, who describes himself as a Socialist.

Approval of the referendum also would have set the dozens of pro-Israel PACs abuzz, as they generally like to see incumbents from both parties re-elected, unless the incumbents have anti-Israel records.

In a victory letter to Wofford, Gutow wrote, "Your campaign underscored

our need to aggressively remind these voters that the GOP is out of touch with the American public when it opposes extended unemployment benefits and favors tax cuts for the rich."

Matthew Brooks, executive director of the National Jewish Coalition, a Republican group, had no comment on the Wofford victory, the first in that state by a Democratic candidate for the Senate since 1962.

Wofford was appointed last spring to replace Sen. John Heinz, a Republican who died in a helicopter crash. His re-election helps the Democrats retain a 57-43 edge in the Senate going in the 1992 elections, when 20 Democrats and 15 Republicans will be up for re-election.

Among the 15 Republicans is Arlen Specter (R-Pa.), one of eight Jews in the Senate. But Thornburgh has no plans to run against Specter in the 1992 primary, said Thornburgh campaign spokesman Dan Eramian.

Two House races were also decided on Election Day. In Pennsylvania, Lucien Blackwell, a Democrat, defeated three candidates to win the traditionally Democratic House seat vacated by Rep. William Gray, who resigned to become president of the United Negro College Fund. In Virginia, George Allen, a Republican, defeated Democrat Kay Slaughter to win a Republican seat being vacated by retiring Rep. French Slaughter Jr.

There were also a number of mayoral races decided Tuesday. In Philadelphia, Edward Rendell became the first Jewish mayor of the "city of brotherly love."

Bush administration confirms it waived sanctions for Israel

By HOWARD ROSENBERG
WASHINGTON (JTA) — The Bush administration has confirmed reports that it refrained from punishing Israel for violating an international convention by selling ballistic missile components to South Africa. According to administration officials, President Bush waived congressionally mandated sanctions after Israel promised not to violate the convention again.

A State Department official said that when confronted in September, Israel pledged to abide by the 1987 international Convention for the Limitation of the Spread of Missile Technology. The convention's goal is to deter Third World nations from acquiring the missiles.

To help promote the treaty, Congress last year gave the president

authority to impose sanctions against countries that violate it. But, as it usually does, Congress included an escape clause that allows such sanctions to be waived if it serves U.S. national security interests. By pledging to abide by the treaty, Israel "wipes away any past transgressions," explained a pro-Israel lobbyist.

Ruth Yaron, the Israeli Embassy spokeswoman, said that when Israel signed the agreement with the United States a few weeks ago, it also told the United States that it will continue its 1987 policy of phasing out existing military contracts with South Africa.

The administration's response to the Israeli violation was first reported over the weekend by The Washington Post. When asked about the report Sunday on the ABC-TV news

program "This Week With David Brinkley," Secretary of State James Baker said the administration has been adhering to the congressional statute.

Because of the transfer, the administration on October 15 imposed sanctions on the South African company that received the missile components, Armaments Corp., the Washington Post reported. Armscor is barred for two years from exporting or importing products from the United States, the Post said.

But Coenraad Snyman, a spokesman at the South African Embassy here, said those penalties are "superfluous" because a 13-year-old U.N. embargo imposed against South African firms because of Pretoria's apartheid policy already blocks such activities.

Worldwide quinquennial celebration to mark Jews' arrival in Turkey

NEW YORK (JTA) — The expulsion of Jews from Spain 500 years ago is well remembered, but not so their welcome in Ottoman Turkey. Plans to mark that welcome with a worldwide quinquennial celebration of Turkish Jewry were disclosed at a

meeting of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations here in October.

Jak Kamhi, the Turkish-Jewish businessman coordinating the plans, asked the U.S. Jewish organizational leaders to lend their "moral support"

to the project. Officials of the American Sephardi Federation and Turkey's cultural consul in New York attended the meeting.

Kamhi is board chairman of the Quinquennial Foundation, founded by Turkish Jews and Moslems in 1989. He noted that Jews lived in Turkey long before the Spanish expulsion.

As counselor to the Turkish chief rabbi and president of the foreign relations committee of the Chief Rabbinate in Turkey, Kamhi reported on the cultural and educational events planned for the quinquennial. They will include symposia, concerts of Judeo-Spanish folk music, dramatic works on Turkish-Jewish history, contests, exhibitions, documentary films, the restoration of Byzantine synagogues, the planting of a commemorative forest and the establishment of a Jewish museum.

Kamhi praised his country's "centuries-long history of humanitarianism and its open-door policy." He observed that "at a time when the concept of tolerance was practically unknown, the Ottoman Empire welcomed hundreds of thousands of refugees who were strangers to their language, religion and culture."

That policy continues today, Kamhi said, noting that "Turkey has welcomed 1.5 million refugees in the aftermath of the Persian Gulf War."

Kamhi also observed that Turkey's role as a regional power "can serve as a bridge between Jews and Moslems, Israel and the Arab world, and as a counter to extremism in the region."

Israel film available to students

"The Middle East can't be seen as a snapshot. It must be seen as a video. And the video has to start early enough and go long enough," stated Harvard Law School Professor Alan Dershowitz. Dershowitz and a group of Boston-area college students are part of a recently released 20-minute video designed to answer some of the toughest questions about Israel being posed on college campuses today.

Israeli Issues and Answers with Alan Dershowitz covers many subjects, including human rights in the

West Bank and Gaza, the history of the Palestinians and the peace process.

"Principles, teachers and parents can benefit from this video by helping to prepare high school and college students answer the tough questions posed in campus life," noted Rachel Weinberg, Student Liaison Director of AIPAC, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. More information is available and the video can be purchased by contacting AIPAC, 440 First Street NW, Washington, DC 20001.

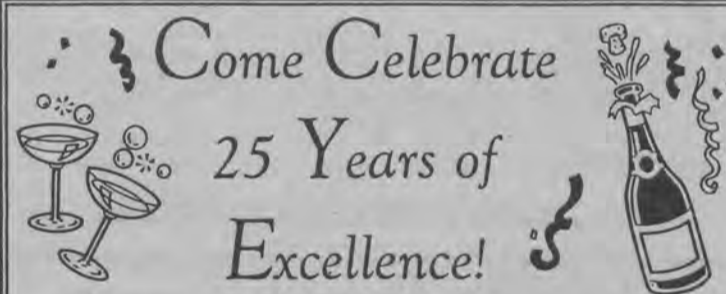
Czech president gets award

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — President Vaclav Havel of Czechoslovakia was presented with the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Defender of Freedom Award after an hour-long visit to the center's Holocaust museum here October 25. Havel, a human rights activist and outspoken foe of anti-Semitism, inspected the museum's collection of diaries, documents, artifacts and artwork from the Theresienstadt concentration camp, which the Nazis established in Czechoslovakia during World War II.

The collection also includes the original 1940 correspondences, never before shown publicly, between Anne Frank and two American pen pals.

Havel's entourage included Rita Klimova, Czechoslovak ambassador to the United States, and filmmaker Milos Forman.

At a computer station where Havel viewed samples of neo-Nazi video games currently popular in Austria and Germany, he told his hosts: "You have my assurances that I will continue to do everything in my power to combat bigotry, intolerance and anti-Semitism."




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Obituaries

Sidney C. Kirshner

Sidney C. Kirshner, 77, of 3210 N. Madison Street, Wilmington, died October 24 in Wilmington Hospital after becoming ill at home.

Mr. Kirshner, a salesman at Cooper's Furniture in Wilmington for 20 years, retired in 1979.

He was a member of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation and its Men's Club.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy;

a son, Herbert of Wilmington; and a sister, Rebecca Bank of Wilmington.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel. Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation or the Arthritis Foundation.

Miriam Gish

Miriam Gish, 81, of the Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Bellefonte, died November 1 of heart failure in St. Francis Hospital where she was a patient.

Mrs. Gish, a religious school teacher at Congregation Beth Shalom, retired in 1966. She and Dr. Philip Birnbaum founded Hug Ivri, a

Hebrew-speaking group in Wilmington.

She was a member and a former president of Southeastern Seaboard Region of Pioneer Women.

Her husband, Oscar Brodinsky, died in 1966. Her husband, William Gish, died in 1987. She is survived by a son, Robin Brodinsky of Baltimore; a daughter, Faith Brown of Brandywood; a sister, Hilda Chesler of The Cliff House, Naamans Road; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel. Instead of flowers, the family suggests

contributions to Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation or the Kutz Home, Bellefonte.

Leonard Brooks

Leonard Brooks, 81, of Thomas West House, 7413 Society Drive, Claymont, died November 3 in Wilmington Hospital where he was a patient.

Mr. Brooks had been a civil engineer at the DuPont Company, retiring in 1975 after 35 years.

He was a member of Congregation Beth Shalom and its Men's Club, and the Society of Professional Engineers. He was a 1932 graduate of Lehigh University and attended the University of London, England.

He is survived by his wife, Bertha; two daughters, Candy Weiss of Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania, and Jane Brooks of Ardmore, Pennsylvania; two brothers, Milton of Marion, Pennsylvania, and Eugene of Pennsylvania; a sister, Harriet Ladov of Wyncote, Pennsylvania; and four grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel. Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Congregation Beth Shalom or Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association, Greater Philadelphia Chapter Inc., P.O. Box 568, Ardmore, Pennsylvania 19003.

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Media tycoon Maxwell found dead at sea

NEW YORK (JTA) — Media tycoon Robert Maxwell was found dead Tuesday night, when his body was

recovered in the Atlantic Ocean, off the Canary Islands, near Spain. He was 68.

Maxwell, the flashy press baron whose passion was acquiring newspapers around the world, had been cruising on his yacht, the Lady Ghislaine, following a round of business meetings.

His death followed allegations in the news media in recent weeks that he had ties to the Mossad, Israel's foreign intelligence service.

Maxwell was party to a libel suit filed two weeks ago against American author Seymour Hersh, whose new book, "The Samson Option," claims an editor of one of Maxwell's papers spied for Israel and helped arrange the sale of Israeli arms to Iran and other countries.

The editor, Nicholas Davies, was fired last week from his position as foreign editor of The Daily Mirror, a leading British tabloid, after photographs surfaced placing him in Ohio where, Hersh alleged, he had been on an arms-buying trip.

Hersh told British Television that he had more information about Maxwell.

Maxwell, a British subject, was a Czechoslovak Jew born Jan Lodvik Hoch in 1923 in a small village in Slovakia, to a poor family. He escaped there during the war, served in the French underground and British army, and changed his name several times.

Maxwell's mother died in Auschwitz. His father was arrested by the Germans and was never heard from again.

Maxwell himself was awarded a British medal for valor in fighting the Germans during World War II.

After the war, Maxwell founded Pergamon Press, which published magazines dealing with scientific issues. He went on to build a newspaper company listed as one of the top 10 communications businesses in the world. In 1984, he bought Mirror

Group Newspapers, in Britain.

His Maxwell Communications Corp., which owns the U.S. publisher Macmillan as well as the Berlitz language schools, was reported to be heavily in debt.

Earlier this year, Maxwell rescued the New York tabloid Daily News from certain death. In August, he gained total control of Ma'ariv, Israel's second-largest circulation daily. He bought 50 percent of the Israeli paper in 1990.

This past March, he launched a Russian-language paper in Israel, Vremya. He was also discussing acquiring Turkish paper Hurriyet.

Another of his publications, the English-language European, was sponsoring a meeting of the International Association of Jewish Lawyers in Brussels at the time his body was found.

Maxwell was prominent in many Jewish causes. He was honorary president of State of Israel Bonds Organization for the United Kingdom and was seen frequently at dinners for various Jewish groups.

He had only recently attended a dinner here hosted by the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity, honoring the king of Spain.

He was scheduled to be honored by the Zionist Organization of America on Nov. 23.

He had been scheduled to address the Anglo-Israel Association in London on Monday. But the group's organizers were told a half hour before the event that he had been taken ill. However, a British rabbi who spoke to him by telephone on Monday said he had found him "as robust as ever."

Maxwell stepped in when a Lubavitch organization, Lishkas Ezras Achim, provided an airlift for 196 Jewish children from the area around Chernobyl, USSR, the site of a 1986 nuclear accident. Maxwell provided

his own plane to airlift the crew members needed to complete the mission, after a snafu caused by the Persian Gulf War prevented the swift transportation of the ailing children to Israel.

Only yesterday, Maxwell had been involved in discussions about recovering 12,000 Lubavitch books still being kept at the Lenin Library in Moscow.

Rabbi Faivish Vogel, director of Lubavitch in Britain, spoke to Maxwell on Monday from the Lubavitch headquarters in New York, and asked that he approach Soviet leaders for help in expediting the return of the books.

Maxwell, "sounded as direct and robust and healthy as in any of the conversations I've had with him," Vogel told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

"He was not distraught. We had a very level-headed conversation," Vogel said.

In June 1990, Maxwell said in an interview with JTA: "Israel cannot rely on London, Washington, Moscow, or anybody else except themselves. We have been disappointed too often. The Holocaust has taught us never to trust anybody."

Although he was a member of the Labor Party in Britain and once served as a Labor member of Parliament, he formed close ties to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir of Likud. (JTA correspondent David Friedman in Washington contributed to this report.)

Davening in outer space

TEL AVIV (JTA) — A theoretical question debated in yeshivot for years was how would an observant Jew traveling in space fulfill religious obligations governed by the earthly progressions of dawn and dusk. A practical answer was recently sought from Israel's Sephardic chief rabbi, Mordechai Elisha, by an American astronaut who happens to be an Orthodox Jew.

Scheduled for an upcoming NASA space shuttle flight, the unidentified astronaut wanted to know when he should put on tefillin (phylacteries), a ritual that is part of the morning prayers. The astronaut in orbit will experience several dawns and dusks during a 24-hour period. The chief rabbi, after due deliberation, instructed him to put on his tefillin every 24 hours by his watch, corresponding to the start of the terrestrial day.



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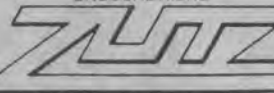


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ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

AKSE sets adult education calendar

Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth synagogue has instituted a new education program. Called "Learn at AKSE", the program is designed to offer opportunities for learning in a variety of formats, on every night of the week and "including something for everyone with any interest in Jewish life in the twentieth century."

Four classes are being offered on a continuing basis. Faith Brown will teach a weekly Hebrew reading class on Tuesday evenings. The goal of this course is to have students reading texts from the siddur in a short time. Every other Tuesday evening, Lex Vega will lead a lecture and discussion group on a variety of customs and traditions. AKSE Rabbi Emeritus Leonard Gewirtz will con-

duct a Talmud study group weekly on Wednesday evenings. A discussion of the weekly Torah portion will be led by AKSE Rabbi Nathan Schorr weekly on Thursday evenings.

A four-segment program, entitled "Four Friday Nights", will begin on December 13, when Dr. Barbara E. Wachs will speak on "Tzedakah: The Jewish Way of Giving". On January 17, David Brown will give a talk entitled "Replenish the Earth: A Glimpse Into the Ecology of the Bible". "Jewish Music: Harmony in the Jewish Community" will be the title of the lecture given by Ofer Ben-Amots on February 14. These talks will take place at the conclusion of services with questions and discussion held during the Oneg Shabbat.

On the fourth Friday, March 13, just prior to Purim, "an eminent panel will convene to debate one of the questions of the ages — *The Latke or the Hamantaschen: Which is Superior?*"

The third component of the adult education program is a year-long series of seminars on the holidays and Shabbat. Meeting on a Monday evening approximately one month prior to each holiday, these seminar/workshop sessions will feature study of Biblical text as well as hands-on crafts and cooking instruction and preparation for the festival. The sessions will be led by Rabbi Schorr and Marga Hirsch as well as specialists from the community. The Hanukkah workshop is scheduled for

November 25 at 7:30 p.m.

There are also a number of one-time-only events being planned.

On Saturday evening, January 11, a program entitled "Bimah Behavior" will explain the etiquette of the rituals that take place during a service. With demonstrations, hands-on practice and a question and answer period, Schorr will teach men and women what to do when called up to the Torah, when asked to open the ark, when asked to raise up the Torah scroll, etc. Families anticipating a bar or bat mitzvah celebration in the near future are especially encouraged to attend this class.

On Sunday evening, February 23, artist Judith Schwab will share her experiences in a recent visit to Soviet Georgia as part of an ongoing cultural exchange program.

This adult education program is open to the entire community. A detailed program brochure with registration information is available through the synagogue office, 762-2705.

Naches

Goldfein/Preston

June Goldfein Feinsilber and Marshall Feinsilber of Wilmington are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Rondee Goldfein, to David Lee Preston, son of George E. Preston of Wilmington and the late Halina Wind Preston. A March wedding is planned.

Ms. Goldfein is an attorney living in Philadelphia. Mr. Preston is a reporter with *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Helfand/Bolog

Sally Helfand of Wilmington announces the marriage of her granddaughter, Debra Helfand, to Erik Bolog of Rockville, Maryland. Both the bride and groom are graduates of the American University Law School.

Wagman

Mark and Sylvia Wagman of Wilmington announce the birth of a son, Jeffrey Isaac, on October 7. Jeffrey is a brother for Rina Esther.

Torah Fund event at Beth Shalom

On Sunday morning, November 17, at 11:30 a.m., the Sisterhood of Congregation Beth Shalom will host its annual Torah Fund Brunch at the synagogue at 18th Street and Baynard Boulevard. This event provides funds for the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, the seat of learning for rabbis and cantors of the Conservative movement.

This year the featured speaker is Shelley Metzger Buxbaum, the daughter of Ann Metzger of Claymont. Buxbaum is a graduate of Beth Shalom's religious school and a former student of the late Rabbi Jacob Kraft. The topic of her address will be "Advancement for Learning...A Most Important Investment in the Future." Buxbaum holds a Ph.D. in the Philosophies of Judaism from the Jewish Theological Seminary and is currently employed by the Women's League for Conservative Judaism based in New York.



Shelley Metzger Buxbaum

This event will honor the memory of Rheva Cook, former chaplain of the Medical Center of Delaware, who is a past president of the Sisterhood.

For reservations, call Beth Shalom, 654-4462.

Festival of songs in thanksgiving

The Second Annual Festival of Joy and Thanksgiving musical fundraiser for the Interfaith Housing Task Force will be held at the Grand Opera House on Sunday, November 17, at 7 p.m. The program will feature six area choirs including Bethel African Methodist Episcopal, Congregation Beth Emeth, First Unitarian, Grace United Methodist, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd and Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, as well as the Hispanic Ministry Quartet.

In addition to individual choir selections, the massed choir will sing Mozart's *Laudate Pueri* (Psalm 113),

Pachelbel's *Magnificat* and Bach's *Dona Nobis Pacem* and others. An audience sing-along with the massed choirs will end the program.

This year's guest conductor is Dr. Elaine Brown, professor emerita at Temple University and the first American woman to conduct the

Philadelphia Orchestra.

Tickets are \$10 and may be obtained by calling the Interfaith Housing Task Force at 654-7180. Proceeds will benefit the organization's effort to provide quality and affordable housing for families of moderate and low incomes.

Dear Rachel

It has been six weeks since my doctor told me I have cancer. With this particular kind, my chances of living five years are fifty-fifty. Everyone in my family, me included, doesn't know whether we are coming or going. Mostly I just spend my time waiting and crying in doctors' offices and treatment rooms. My mother knows I had an operation, but she doesn't know what for or what the results were. She lives in Florida and is not in such great shape herself. Do I tell her the truth or pass this off as something less serious? The only thing I can imagine worse than what is happening is something happening to one of my kids. And I don't want to do that to my mother.

Wish I weren't here

Dear Wish,

Your family is being pulled in so many directions now. You are turning inward to deal with the threat to your own survival. Your husband and children may well be used to turning to you for comfort; now is a hard time for you to give it. Your husband may be torn between comforting you as well as the children and helping himself deal with this threat to himself. With all this turmoil, it says a lot for you that you have the strength to worry about your mother's feelings at this time.

Secrets inevitably distort the fabric of a family's life. Big secrets can tear them apart. If your relationship with your mother is at all close, if you can use her for support or if she would be terribly hurt not to know, then tell her. If she is too sick to cope or help or if she will become an additional burden on you, consider not telling her. Everything depends upon your relationship.

Remember: YOUR chances are 100 percent or zero. Do whatever it takes to win this battle. I wish you a *refuah shlema* (complete recovery).

Rachel

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

Israeli book fair on U of D campus

On Thursday, November 21, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday, November 22, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Delaware Israel Public Affairs Committee (DIPAC) will hold an Israeli book fair and photo display in the Perkins Student Center at the University of Delaware. On sale will

be Israeli books, tapes, movies, T-shirts and other items pertaining to Israel. The DIPAC members on campus are hoping that the event will educate the university community about Israeli culture, according to member Jeffrey Stein. The event is open to the entire community.

AEA open house

Albert Einstein Academy, Delaware's Hebrew day school which serves students from kindergarten through sixth grade, has scheduled an open house for prospective parents on Tuesday, November 12, at 7:30 p.m. Teachers and parents currently involved in the school will

describe the secular and Judaic programs and parents will also be available to answer questions. For more information call Eleanor Weinglass, AEA Principal, at 478-5026, Tammy Rosner at 215-444-6172 or Fran Sawicki at 475-3649.

Adult Hebrew classes

Hebrew classes for adult beginners will be offered at Albert Einstein Academy by the school's principal, Eleanor Weinglass, on Thursdays, from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. The classes will focus on learning to read and understand prayers. The first class will be held on November 21. The class is open to the community at no charge, except for the cost of the

book.

AKSE board

The congregation of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth will install its new officers and officially welcome and initiate its new members in Friday evening, November 22, at 8 a.m. The community is invited to attend. An Oneg Shabbat will follow services.

ORT Hanukkah meeting set

ORT will sponsor a Hanukkah meeting with latkes and a sale of lingerie, just prior to the holiday, on Tuesday, November 19, at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call Debby Jacobson at 475-9505.

ORT donor program

ORT's first donor craft program, featuring jewelry making, will take place on Thursday, November 14, at 7:30 p.m. The event is open to the community. For more information, call Debby Jacobson at 475-9505.

AKSE sisterhood membership event

The Sisterhood of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth will hold its annual Paid-Up Membership Program on Thursday evening, November 21, at 8 p.m. All new members and current members who pay their dues by that evening are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served. Reservations must be made by Monday, November 18. To make a reservation, call Lena Elzufon (984-2228) or Vivian Goldberg (478-7250).

The next deadline for announcements is Friday, November 15th

Rebbe of Tibet

Continued from 4

The Dalai Lama feels a real affinity with Jews, from whom he wants his people to learn "the secrets" of survival in exile. "For more than 20 centuries the Jewish people in exile kept your tradition, your culture, in some cases under hostile circumstances," said the Dalai Lama at a reception given in his honor by Jewish organizations on October 17. "We must study this experience. Sometimes I tell my Jewish friends 'you have a secret thing and it is that which we want to steal because we, too, are facing extinction,'" he said.

"Wherever the Jewish community lived they not only preserved their identity," he said, "but the more

suffering they had, the more inner strength."

The reception was organized by the American Jewish World Service, which raises and distributes funds for development and disaster relief projects in Jewish and non-Jewish communities world-wide. The group has granted more than \$48,000 to the Tibetan community in India to help it develop economic self-reliance and preserve its cultural heritage.

Elie Wiesel, addressing his fellow Nobel Peace Prize winner and the hundreds of Jews attending the reception, said: "As Jews, we must be sensitive to other people's ambitions and aspirations."

Author and Orthodox feminist Blu

Greenberg, who attended the reception and had met with the Dalai Lama at a Tibetan retreat in Washington, N.J., in 1988, and in Dharamsala last year, noted that Tibetans and Jews share more than the experience of exile.

They share the challenge of "integrating modernity and not abandoning our particularist traditions and roots," she said. "We share also a convergence of spiritual, religious, national and political concerns." And not least among the reasons for the collegial relationship between the Dalai Lama and Jews "is that he likes the Jewish people," Greenberg said. "That's no mean feat among religious and political leaders in our time."

German Jews

Continued from 23

bury — and I bury quite a few — there's no replacement." He fears that the newcomers will never find their Jewishness in Germany. "If they would ask my opinion, I would tell them not to come here," he says.

Stein and his wife Ruth soon will be leaving this community of ambiguity to retire in America. When

asked what his parting message might be, he replies: "I'm not satisfied there should be Jewish communities in Germany. Hitler may have been defeated, but he won anyway."

(Bulletin editor and publisher Marc S. Klein spent 10 days in Germany last month on a press mission sponsored by the German government.)

Reform

Continued from 9

dox — or even Conservative — Judaism, Schindler assured.

Even speaking about God or about religious identity is something that many Reform Jews find threatening, he said.

It is as if "we are but resident aliens amid the true citizens of Judaism," a place where the "true citizens" are "the bearded man" and "the bewigged woman," he said. "This mind-set is entirely self-defeating," Schindler said. The manner in which Reform "recasts tradition, deliberately and openly," its vision of Judaism "as a dynamic and not static faith," is authentic Judaism, he said.

And even as discussions were under way here on solidifying the porous borders of Reform Judaism, Schindler refused to shrink from challenging tradition, urging UAHC members to consider the membership application of a congregation whose participants identify themselves as Humanistic Jews and have excised from their liturgy all references to God. The Union's president urged that the delegates consider their application "not because I have in any sense prejudged this controversy," Schindler said. "But rather because I deem the debate which it will generate a boon to our community."

Glomp

Continued from 3

obligated to stand up and raise a moral conscience against those who preach hate.

Jeopardizing Polish Jewry in that our suit and protest will incite anti-Semitic activities in Poland? That sounds like what Western Jewry was told 50 years ago during the Holocaust. "Don't raise your voice or you'll make it worse for European Jews." If we've learned anything from the Shoah, it is that the "sha shtill" — don't make waves — policy doesn't work; that the more world attention is focused on a beleaguered community, the more that community is protected.

Is the convent issue resolved? At a meeting at the Polish consulate, Father Stanislaw Musial, a leading figure in the Polish church told me that no commitment had been made to move the 24 foot cross adjacent to the Auschwitz convent. And I have now been able to confirm that the parish established at the perimeter of Birkenau (Auschwitz II) with three large crosses overlooking the Birkenau landscape is in the very building that once housed the commandant of Birkenau. These items must be addressed. There is great concern in the Jewish community that the Vatican's secret agenda is to erect crosses and to build convents, parishes, churches and chapels at death camps. With the camps decaying, 200 years from now, all that will remain there will be Catholic houses of worship. People will then assume that the Holocaust was a uniquely Catholic tragedy, or, that the Vatican was engaged in protecting Jews during the Holocaust. In fact, not only did the Vatican by and large, fail to help Jews — but after the War, the Vatican was openly involved in aiding fleeing

Nazis escape to South America and elsewhere. Holocaust revisionism is unacceptable.

Am I unrepresentative of the Jewish community? The truth is that major mainstream Jewish American organizations such as B'nai B'rith and the World Jewish Congress boycotted Cardinal Glomp. These groups understand that caving into anti-Semitism inspires greater anti-Semitism.

Cardinal Glomp has left the U.S. but our suit has been filed in the courts. My attorney, Professor Alan Dershowitz has indicated that the cardinal has 20 days to respond. Failing to do so will result in a judgment taken by default for the relief demanded. The judgment is enforceable in any court including the Polish court.

Positive Jewish-Christian relations are based upon mutual trust. This trust cannot exist as long as there are those like Cardinal Glomp who fail to understand the lesson of the Holocaust, and the Vatican continues its effort to deJudaize it. Unless there is a point by point disassociation from the anti-Semitic remarks in his homily, the cardinal will have his day in court. And unless the Vatican ceases its project of erecting convents and crosses at the death camps, all people of moral conscience will continue speaking out.

If the Holocaust has taught us anything, it is that we must never return to the days of silence.

(Avraham (Avi) Weiss is spiritual leader of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, New York, and assistant professor of Judaic Studies at Stern College, Yeshiva University. He is president of AMCHA, The Coalition For Jewish Concerns.)



Israelis

Continued from 1

The Israeli left praises him for agreeing to direct negotiations with Palestinian leaders, something they have been urging for years. But if they assume Shamir suddenly has turned dovish, it is wishful thinking, analysts say. Those on the left ignore the fact that Shamir agreed to talks only if the Palestinians were blended into a Jordanian delegation and only if he could control to a great extent their choice of representatives.

The Israeli right, on the other hand, is delighted that Shamir remains unmovable on the issues of land for peace and a freeze of Jewish settlement-building in the administered territories. "The moderate right supports him because he has not agreed to anything," said one political analyst. "On the left, it is not so much support as a sigh of relief that he didn't do anything foolish over there" in Madrid.

Many Israelis now feel there is no option but to talk to the Palestinians and to consider giving up at least part of the strategic Golan Heights, which probably is the main condition for any sort of peace with Syria.

"The question is, would they be satisfied with that?" Anat Levy, a 27-year-old graphic artist, wondered when questioned on the street. "I know it's easy to talk about giving up the Golan Heights, but I don't really know what it was like to live here before we had them," the

young woman said, smiling apologetically.

"I do know," interrupted an older man who would not give his name or age. "I remember what it was like doing miluim (army reserve duty) a few kilometers east of Netanya in 1965. 'I remember how the Syrians every day shelled kibbutzim north of the Golan,' he said.

Nevertheless, this man, who once was a target of Syrian shells lobbed from the Golan Heights, was a strong supporter of the peace process. "It is obvious that we can't continue this way," he said. "Something has to be done, and we have to reach agreements with our neighbors. But we have to be careful, very careful," he added.

Other citizens of Tel Aviv, questioned Monday as the first of the winter rains lashed the city, expressed similar views.

"I certainly want Israel out of the West Bank, but not from Jerusalem," said Lea Tomkin, a literature teacher in her early 50s. "But while I don't want Israel to waste more time and money in the territories, I still can't decide how I feel about the possibility of an independent Palestinian state next door," she said.

Tomkin's ambiguous feelings seemed representative of how many Israelis are thinking. On one hand, they want a settlement with the Palestinians; on the other, they ask: "Can we trust them? Or are they going to want Haifa, Tel Aviv and Ashkelon next?"

Cooperation

Continued from 1

requiring Israel to give up all land acquired in 1967.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, on the other hand, maintained that "the issue is not territory but our existence."

With little inclination toward compromise on either side, the parties resorted late last week to discussing their own countries' virtues and enumerating their enemies' faults, however irrelevant. This war of words took place not only on the floor of the majestic Hall of Columns, but also over the airwaves and in the pages of newspapers around the world.

Israeli officials reportedly gave over 2,500 interviews in Madrid, and the Arabs showed no less interest in courting the Western news media.

The ball may have started rolling when Deputy Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu began extolling Israel's democratic virtues and berating the Arab world's support of terrorism and less "humane" way of treating citizens. Sharaa of Syria snapped back during a CBS News interview last week when he compared Shamir with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, calling both intransigent, undaunted by U.N. resolutions and unpopular around the world.

The nadir occurred at last Friday's closing of the plenary session, when Shamir called Syria

"one of the most oppressive, tyrannical regimes in the world." Sharaa responded by unveiling an old photograph of a 32-year-old Shamir, saying he was wanted at the time for terrorist assassinations.

Despite the polemics, Sharaa indicated a recognition that Israel would have to be given security guarantees if Syria was ever to get back the Golan Heights.

Acknowledging the legitimacy of Israeli fears, he said, "As far as Israel concerned, this is strategic territory," because the Golan is "way above sea level."

"We are not against the idea of security agreements once Israel has withdrawn from the Golan Heights," he said. "If it desires to establish an arms-free area, this should be along both sides of the national boundary, a demilitarized zone."

His remarks indicated that Syria still considers the prospect of getting back the Golan within the realm of possibility. That may explain why Syria ultimately showed up Sunday for direct talks with Israel, after engaging in a prolonged procedural fight.

The Israeli-Syrian talks were reportedly strained. But they lasted five hours, and afterward, Syrian chief negotiator Muafiq Alaf said that "although we are not at all satisfied, we will continue talking with them."

Before leaving Madrid, the sharp-tongued

Sharaa put in a nice word, saying that "the Israelis as a people desire peace." The problem, he said, is that the Israeli government is "more hawkish, more intransigent than its people."

Harassment

Continued from 3

professional, to educate the community about the problem and take a strong stand against abuse.

*The creation of objective mechanisms within our agencies enabling women who have suffered harassment to lodge complaints without fear of ridicule or threats to career advancement.

*Swift action against anyone found to engage in sexual harassment. Any person found to be guilty of this offense should be deemed ineligible for communal leadership.

*A systematic campaign to ensure the advancement of women to the most senior levels of lay and professional leadership of organizations so that the structural imbalances that feed

that may or may not be true. But it is clear, nonetheless, that for the moment, Syria is prepared to negotiate with that hawkish government and still sees a chance at reconciliation.

this problem will be corrected.

* Board training and personnel practices that seek to enhance teamwork and understanding between men and women so that Jewish organizations become models for constructive relationships rather than sites of exploitation.

* The establishment of support groups for victims of sexual harassment.

The challenge is to each and every one of us not to tolerate sexual harassment in the work place.

(Diana Aviv is Associate Executive Vice Chair of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council. Gary E. Rubin is Director of National Affairs for the American Jewish Committee.)



German Jews have trouble maintaining Jewishness

Life is full of ambiguities

By MARC S. KLEIN

Northern California Jewish Bulletin

In Berlin, for instance, the choir that sings each Friday night at services in the Liberal synagogue is made up entirely of non-Jews. In Frankfurt, the Jewish museum has 50,000 visitors a year, 95 percent of them not Jewish. Cultural events at the \$13 million Jewish community center annually attract up to 55,000 visitors, 70 percent of them not Jewish.

In Bonn, the manager of Germany's largest Jewish newspaper is a non-Jew because there reportedly are hardly any qualified Jewish journalists in Germany. And in Munich, the executive director of the Jewish community tells of a steady

economic well-being than in building a Jewish community. And he says little has changed.

Stein and other Jewish leaders estimate there may be as many as 60,000 or 70,000 Jews in Germany, but only 33,000 to 35,000 are officially registered. The government taxes people of all faiths 8 percent of total income taxes paid — approximately \$1,200 a year for a middle-income person — and passes that money on to the various religious communities.

Stein maintains that many of those who don't register don't want to be known as Jews.

But what upsets the rabbi most is the growing rate of intermarriage.

'Reverse anti-Semitism'

"They treat us so nice it's disgusting," says one Jew in Germany, describing relations with the majority of German people.

In city after city, Jew after Jew described the phenomena of German philo-Semitism an over-abundant, almost obsessive love for Jews and anything Jewish.

Its manifestations date back to postwar days when Germany entered its mea culpa stage. Today, Germans who still feel guilty over the Holocaust aren't sure how to talk to a Jew — if they happen to meet one. The number of registered Jews, after all, is only some 35,000 in a country of 80 million people.

As one German official explains it, "With all our guilty feelings about Auschwitz, it's difficult to have a cup of coffee with a Jew and not apologize."

Germany's Jews encounter such over-compensated emotions from their neighbors every day. The director of Frankfurt's Jewish old-age home, for instance, notes how "people say they are 'thrilled' to meet me as soon as I identify myself as a Jewish director. It's just not normal."

Casting it in another light, another Jewish leader of Frankfurt says, "A Jew has to be nice all the time, because that's what is expected from a Jew." Philo-Semitism is "the other side of the mirror of anti-Semitism," that leader says.

At the same time, Jews say that by experiencing it, they are constantly reminded they are different from everyone else.

—MARC KLEIN

influx of young Israeli men who come in search of a better economic climate, end up marrying non-Jewish German women, and settle in Germany. In each of those cities, night classes are offered in Hebrew and religion, but the majority of students are non-Jews.

But the biggest ambiguity of all is how Germany's 35,000 or so registered Jews can maintain Jewish life in an almost non-Jewish land.

They don't do it very well, according to Rabbi Ernest Stein, who with the perspective of both an insider and outsider can ably analyze the community and its many ambiguities. Stein, 63, is a German-born American Jew who for the past 13 years has served as the community rabbi in Berlin and head of its Liberal congregation. In fact, he only decided to become a rabbi in the early '70s after visiting Belin and finding a Jewish community in need of a spiritual leader. He returned at the end of the decade after being ordained in Britain and holding a couple of small pulpits elsewhere.

Now, 13 years later and on the brink of his retirement, Stein reflects on his experiences in Berlin.

"If I should now add up what I succeeded in doing in 13 years, it was very little," he muses. Stein says his hands were tied by a congregation "that's more of an organization rather than a community." Moreover, "Germany is a very conservative country and so are the Jews."

As Stein sees it, the Jews who returned to Germany after World War II were more interested in eco-

ИНТЕРЕСНЫЕ ЗАМЕТКИ

This Russian-language column, provided as a service for Delaware's New Americans, contains two news items from the American press, translated by HIAS, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society. The first is an announcement of an Aeroflot-El Al cooperative effort to fly emigres directly to Israel from the Soviet Union. The second is a brief description of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's October 6 denouncement of anti-Semitism. The third article is an announcement of the beginning of Congregation Beth Shalom's "Learners' Shabbat," a once-monthly service led by volunteers from the community from 9:15 to 10 a.m. which teaches the basics of the Sabbath service for New Americans not familiar with it.

АЭРОФЛОТ БУДЕТ ДОСТАВЛЯТЬ НОВЫХ РЕПАТРИАНТОВ В ИЗРАИЛЬ

Еврейское агентство в Израиле на прошлой неделе подписало договор с Москвой о том, что Аэрофлот в сотрудничестве с израильской авиакомпанией Эль-Аль будет доставлять советских евреев прямо в Израиль. О точной дате начала полетов станет известно после переговоров Аэрофлота с Эль-Аль. Президент Эль-Аль Рафи Харлев заявил в Нью-Йорке, что советское министерство иностранных дел прекратило выдвигать свои возражения против прямых полетов. Рейсы, по всей вероятности, будут формироваться в Москве или других городах Советского Союза, а также на Балканах. Латвия согласилась на прямые полеты в Израиль из Риги.

Новое соглашение принесло разочарование израильскому бизнесмену Яакову Нимроди, который надеялся, что доставка иммигрантов из Москвы в Израиль будет осуществляться при помощи недавно основанной им авиалинии "Aerolicht". Несмотря на то, что первый полет, осуществленный в октябре, начался в сумбуре и неразберихе, Нимроди пообещал, что прямые полеты в Израиль будут проходить ежедневно из разных городов Советского Союза, и за ближайшие два года удастся перевезти 300 000 олим. Президент Эль-Аль Харлев утверждает, что новая авиалиния рассчитана на перевоз 400 иммигрантов в день.

ГОРБАЧЕВ ПУБЛИЧНО ОСУДИЛ АНТИСЕМИТИЗМ

По сообщению корреспондента Нью-Йорк Таймс Фрэнсиса Клайнса, Михаил Горбачев впервые публично в решительной форме осудил антисемитизм. Руководитель советского государства признал, что ненависть к евреям все еще существует "в нашей повседневной жизни" и что "наш народ может только сожалеть о сотнях и тысячах талантливых и инициативных граждан", которые по этой причине уезжают.

"Проявление антисемитизма в нашей повседневной жизни играет на руку некоторым реакционным кругам," — предупредил советский президент. "Я должен искренне признаться, что мы, общество, жалеем о том, что наши соотечественники уезжают," — говорится в заявлении Горбачева. Это заявление было прочитано во время траурной церемонии, посвященной памяти жертв Бабьего Яра в Киеве.

УЧЕБНЫЙ МИНЬЯН ДЛЯ НОВЫХ АМЕРИКАНЦЕВ

Начиная с субботы, 3 ноября, синагога Beth Shalom предлагает Вашему вниманию Учебный Миньян, специальную службу для Новых Американцев. Служба будет происходить каждую первую субботу месяца с 9:15 до 10:00 утра. Служба переводится на русский язык и предназначена для того чтобы познакомить людей со всеми ритуалами субботней службы. Все желающие приглашаются на Учебный Миньян в также на регулярную службу в Beth Shalom, которая начинается в 10 часов утра. Синагога Beth Shalom находится на углу 18 St. и Baynard Blvd. Информацию по телефону 654-4462. Резервация не нужна.

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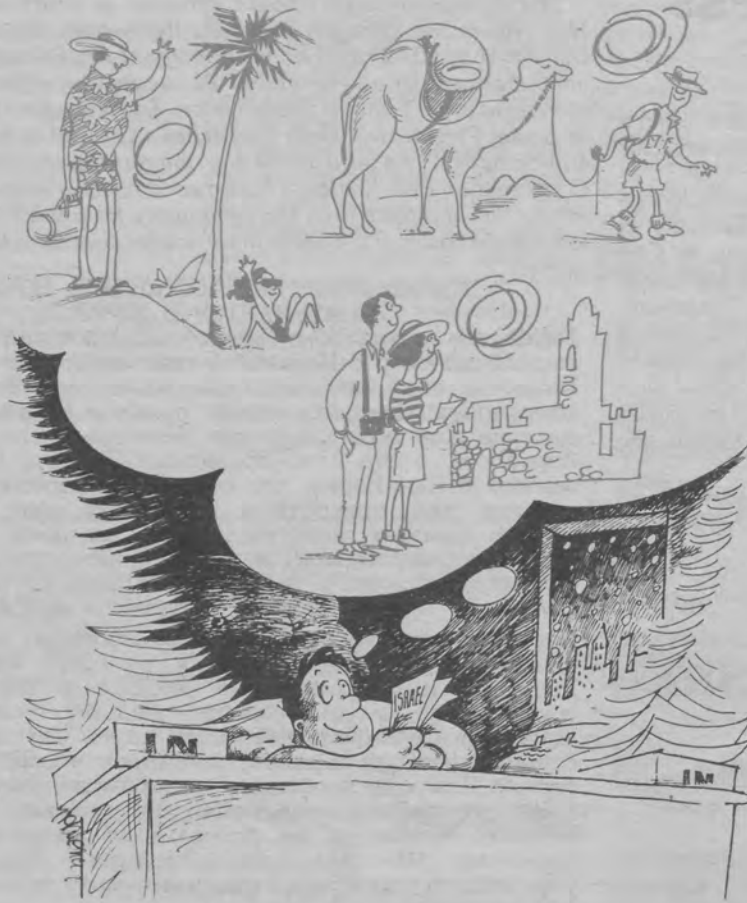
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