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"You heard it in
The Jewish Voice"

Breakthrough in reach but Israel not celebrating - yet

ANALYSIS

By DAVID LANDAU

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The sudden prospect of real peace talks with the Arabs has not enveloped Israel in the dreamlike euphoria that greeted Anwar Sadat's surprise announcement in 1977 that he was coming to Jerusalem.

This week there was no explosive drama, no consciousness of a historic event such as overwhelmed the populace when Sadat's plane taxied to a halt on the tarmac at Ben-Gurion Airport and Israel's prime minister, Menachem Begin, stepped forward to greet yesterday's enemy, the president of Egypt. There has been no dancing in the streets.

"A big 'if' hovers over unfolding developments"

But that does not mean that people are not happy. It is just that everyone, from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to the ordinary Israeli, is taking time to absorb the significance of this week's diplomacy.

Without the accompanying theatricals, it takes a little longer to comprehend that now, once again, the Middle East is on the verge of a momentous turning-point. If the negotiations being assembled succeed as planned, they will be no less cataclysmic than Sadat's personal odyssey, which resulted in peace between Israel and Egypt.

But a big "if" hovers over the unfolding developments.

Not all the elements are in place that would allow President Bush to realize his desire to announce a Middle East peace conference during his summit with Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow next week.

Beyond the procedural technicalities, doubts still gnaw at the participants in the peace process, no less than the observers, over whether the key figures in this game genuinely want to reach the negotiating table. The two regional strongmen, Syria's President Hafez Assad and Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, have each aroused suspicion by suddenly relaxing positions on which they had long refused to compromise.

Assad has unexpectedly backed the idea of direct negotiations. And while Shamir has not given a final response, he has indicated that he is prepared to support a peace conference with international involvement. But several procedural issues remain unresolved.

First, there is the question of a United Nations role at the proposed peace conference. The Syrians and the other Arab parties have agreed to the U.S. compromise proposal that a U.N. official attend the plenary with observer status, on par with the diplomat who will represent the European Community.

Though Israel has not yet formally replied, observers expect Shamir to set aside his longstanding reservations over a U.N. role, as long as it remains a minor one.

Similarly, Shamir is likely to consent to the

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Jewish groups scrutinizing Thomas' record

By DAVID FRIEDMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Jewish organizations are preparing to take a close look at the record of Clarence Thomas, the 43-year-old black conservative President Bush has nominated to the U.S. Supreme Court. Bush named Thomas to succeed Justice Thurgood Marshall, the only black to have served on the court, who announced his retirement on June 27.

Thomas frequently expressed his opposition to minority hiring quotas or any type of racial preference during the time he was chairman of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission from 1982 to 1989. But his views on other issues important to the Jewish community, such as abortion and the separation of church and state, are largely unknown. He has not dealt with any of these issues since becoming a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in 1989.

During a news conference July 1 outside Bush's summer home in Kennebunkport, Maine, Thomas refused to answer specific questions until he has his confirmation hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee. But he did note that his remarks on quotas were made when he was in a "policy-making role" and he has not yet had to deal with the issue as a judge.

Jewish groups rarely take stands on Supreme Court nominees and, in this case, are reserving judgment until they know more about Thomas' positions. Some are submitting suggested questions for Thomas to the Senate Judiciary Committee.



Clarence Thomas

But one organization, the American Jewish Congress, has already expressed strong reservations about the nomination, though it has not decided whether to oppose it. Henry Siegmans, the group's executive director, called

Bush's choice "a disappointing one." In nominating Thomas, the president "seems to have deliberately, with malice of forethought, nominated a man who has been a thorn in the side of the entire civil rights community," said Siegmans.

"It is an ungracious act at best and one that does not honor the legacy of Thurgood Marshall," he added.

The American Jewish Committee was more reserved. "We expected the president to nominate a man or woman who was basically conservative," said Samuel Rabinove, the agency's legal director, but Rabinove said he should be closely questioned like other nominees for the high court. "His being black should not insulate him from critical scrutiny," he said.

AJCommittee and Thomas agree on their opposition to numerical quotas. But AJCommittee supports "realistic goals and timetables" while Thomas believes they are de facto quotas, Rabinove said.

Sammie Moshenberg, Washington representatives of the National Council of Jewish Women, also expressed concern that Thomas had no record on such issues as the right of privacy and the separation of church and state. She also said the National Council is "dismayed" by the record Thomas did have at the EEOC, in which he displayed a lack of sympathy about attaining equal pay for women. She said the organization is also troubled that during his tenure Thomas had left 13,000 age-

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Soviet immigration up in June

By CHARLES HOFFMAN

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Rushing to leave the Soviet Union before new passport regulations went into effect, more than 20,000 Soviet Jews immigrated to Israel in June, the largest number so far this year. During the last weekend of June alone, about 8,000 Soviet immigrants arrived here on dozens of flights, bringing Soviet aliyah for the month to 20,473.

That is still considerably smaller than last December's record immigration of around 35,000. But it is a big improvement over Soviet aliyah so far this year, which had been averaging about 16,000 a month.

The June total represents a 28 percent increase over the May figure and brings Soviet Jewish aliyah for the first six months of 1991 to 86,667, according to the Soviet Jewry Research Bureau of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry in New York. By comparison, 49,575 Soviet Jews immigrated to Israel during the first six months in 1990. Nearly 400 immigrants from other countries arrived in Israel during June, bringing total aliyah to 20,853.

Unlike in prior months, no Ethiopian Jews arrived in Israel during June, following the massive Operation Solomon airlift in late May. There are several hundred Jews in Addis Ababa waiting to leave, and as many as 2,000 more in the north.

Officials of the Jewish Agency for Israel, which coordinates aliyah, now expect Soviet immigration here to drop sharply. New Soviet regulations that went into effect Monday require all Soviet citizens leaving the country to obtain passports.

Top officials of OVIR, the Soviet emigration authority, have promised Israeli officials and American Jewish leaders that Jews with exit permits will get priority in receiving passports.

About 130,000 Soviet Jews now hold exit

permits issued by OVIR. Of this number, some 60,000 have also obtained entry visas to Israel from the consulate in Moscow.

"We trust that the Soviet authorities will fulfill their pledge to grant the required documents to Jews departing for Israel in an expeditious manner, and we look forward to hearing in the next few days that the new emigration process is proceeding smoothly," said a statement issued by Shoshana Cardin, chair-

Passport laws, no jobs seen as reasons for Soviet aliyah slowdown

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The flood of Soviet immigrants arriving in Israel has dwindled to a mere stream since new Soviet regulations requiring all people going abroad to have Soviet passports took effect July 1. No more than 1,000 landed at Ben-Gurion Airport during the first week in July, compared to 4,000 to 5,000 arrivals a week in May and June.

The first weekend in July was the first time in years that not a single immigrant landed.

Israeli officials say they were justified in voicing concern before the regulations took effect that the sudden massive demand for passports would overwhelm the Soviet bureaucracy, delaying the departure of Jews for Israel.

But they admit that the bottleneck is not the only reason for the suddenly diminished number of olim. Lack of jobs and affordable housing in Israel has caused many potential emigres to delay their departure. Not a few of them have been advised to do so in letters from relatives and friends who came to Israel in the huge wave of Soviet aliyah last year.

Soviet Jews who come here as tourists for a

man of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

But Israeli officials expect that even under optimal conditions, it will take at least several months before the bureaucratic machinery of OVIR can cope with the sudden massive demand for passports. And senior Jewish Agency officials said there are other factors that could slow Soviet aliyah this year.

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week or so to survey the scene are for the most part deciding not to immigrate for the time being.

Uri Gordon, chairman of the Jewish Agency's Immigration and Absorption Department, said earlier this month that agency officials now predict that no more than 5,000 passport-holding Soviet Jews will make it to Israel in July. Gordon spoke in a telephone interview from Warsaw during a tour he was taking of transit centers in Eastern Europe, where Soviet Jews stop off en route to Israel.

Meanwhile, an undisclosed number of Soviet Jews who immigrated to Israel in the past two years have returned to the Soviet Union in recent months because of absorption problems, lack of jobs in their professions and lack of housing. Some who came here without Soviet passports are trying to obtain temporary laissez passer documents to return to their former homes.

There is also reason for concern that Soviet Jews, especially professionals, will be attracted to other countries seeking highly skilled people. A typical case is that of a woman who came

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Editorial

Israel should proceed with talks - cautiously

"Israel inches closer on peace talks" was just one of the headlines printed on front pages around the country this week. There were variations on the same theme everywhere. All the world's eyes are on the Jewish State at the moment, making it seem as though peace in the region is solely up to Israel.

Living as it does, under constant threat by aggressive neighbors, what other country could wish for peace more passionately and seriously than Israel? At the same time, what country stands to lose as much as Israel might should things go sour around the conference table? There is a very thin line between Arab-Israeli peace and Israel's destruction. And no one is more aware of that than the Israelis.

The little Jewish country is reluctant to sit down at a conference for fear that it would be forced to surrender land it captured in 1967. This is what the Arabs claim to want in exchange for peace.

As Shoshana Cardin, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said earlier this week in an interview with *The Washington Post*, "We're all hoping for a breakthrough, but we have to make sure it's not a sellout."

This appears to be a unique opportunity to gather the Middle Eastern countries around the table. And, for a number of reasons, it is no time for Israel to be absent from that table.

In the wake of the Persian Gulf War, the Arab countries are divided. Also, the potential alliance of all Arab countries supported by the United States and the Soviet Union could be regionally and internationally devastating to Israel. And, for the first time, Israel has Arab partners willing to engage in negotiations. There have been a number of significant positive changes in the Arab world.

In light of current events in the area, Israel should grasp the opportunity to join her neighbors around that table. She should listen to her neighbors. She should certainly take advantage of the opportunity to have them listen to her. The world is watching. The time is right to speak and to listen.

And Israeli settlements in the territories — seen as a huge obstacle to peace negotiations — should not be a barrier to discussions. They did not block the way to an accord with Egypt in 1979. In fact, Israel showed a willingness to bend at that time. Mr. Baker would do well to ignore the settlement issue for now and to urge the Arabs to do the same.

Yes, Israel should grasp the opportunity. But Israel should do it with *caution* as her watchword.



Letters to the Editor

Justice Herrmann's role in JCC ignored

I was disappointed in your coverage of former Chief Justice Daniel Herrmann's death. The story made no mention of the key role that the Justice played in the development and the construction of the J.C.C. building on Garden of Eden Road. I assume the oversight was due to the limited time that was available between his passing and the publication date of *The Voice*.

Justice Herrmann played a major role in the raising of the prodigious sums of money that was contributed to the Building Fund by the non-Jewish foundations and corporations in Delaware. He along with an outstanding group of communal leaders (their picture is posted in the J.C.C. lobby) shared the responsibility for creating the award winning building which has served our community for over twenty years. Long after the hoopla of the dedication of

the new building was over, only two members of that committee continued to dedicate their efforts to making sure that the building was working in the manner it should. One was Dr. Martin Yalisove who worked tirelessly in that regard, and the other was Justice Herrmann.

For at least two years after the building was in use, I met with the Chief Justice once or twice a month as he pursued the final items on a "punch list" with the Architects and the builders. He was strong of will and determined in his conversations with them, and he made things happen. He loved the building, and years afterward, when visiting it, would say to me, "We did well Irv, didn't we?"

He was a great man, — a gentle soul. Knowing him was one of the great pleasures of my years as Executive Director of the J.C.C.

Irving Kaufman

Choral festival was joyous experience

Reflecting upon a just-concluded conference which has left our spirits still soaring and which will continue to affect us for some time to come, we feel the need to share our experience with our Wilmington friends.

From July 7 to July 11, we attended the Second Annual North American Jewish Choral Festival and Conference at Concord Resort Hotel, Kiamesha Lake, N.Y. The founder and director of the Festival is Matthew Lazar, artistic director of the Heritage Series of Jewish Music at Merkin Concert Hall in New York City, and is universally acknowledged as a pre-eminent authority of Jewish Choral Music.

Over 300 persons from across the U.S., Canada and South America attended the conference as participants in chorus singing, choral conducting, Israeli dancing, tof (drum) playing, Torah chanting, Jewish music history and other workshops.

We rubbed shoulders with university professors, cantors (male and female), rabbis, conductors, playwrights, dancers, singers, lecturers, authors, composers — experts in their fields — and students whose interests were developing.

It was a joyous experience, and everyone was at a high level during the entire period. We heard outstanding choral groups and were astounded by their beauty of tone and masterful performances — Zamir Chorale of Boston, Zamir Chorale of New York, Begeg Kefet, Zemer Chai of Washington, Selah and others.

We heard the glorious voice of Alberto Mizrahi — often referred to as "the Jewish Pavarotti." Max Wohlberg, acknowledged worldwide as an expert in the field of Ashkenasic nusach, and Hugo Weisgall, president of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters presented lectures; Zalman Mlotek, music director of the Tony-award hit, "Those Were the Days," presented a marvelous workshop that showed why he is the leading exponent of Yiddish music. They and many others made this conference a memorable experience which was topped off by three dynamic Choral presentations by all who attended the conference.

For all who love to sing and who want to know about Jewish music — religious, secular, theater, folk-all of it — the Annual Conference should be a *must* next summer. Take our word for it!

Sarah F. Goldstein
Bert Tanzer

Jewish Population Statistics

Since 1985, 52% of all marriages involving Jews have been interfaith; in 1964, only 9% were interfaith marriages.

Three quarters of the children of interfaith marriages are not raised as Jews; 41% are raised in other religions, usually Christian, and 31% with no religion.

The Jewish community has lost more members through conversion (210,000) than it has gained (185,000).
(Source: CJF Population Study, 1990)

Subscriber writes

Enclosed is my check for my subscription renewal to *The Jewish Voice*.

I am a native Wilmingtonian and recently retired from the Federal Government. *The Jewish Voice* keeps me in touch as to what is going on in the Wilmington Jewish community.

Morris P. Blumenfeld
Rockville, Maryland

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.

The Jewish Voice

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Op-Ed

It's time to stop worrying about unaffiliated Jews

By GARY ROSENBLATT

At the risk of sounding blasphemous, I suggest that we in the American Jewish community spend too much time worrying about attracting unaffiliated Jews. Perhaps it's time to ignore them and spend that energy on improving our product.

Ironically, that's the best chance we have of appealing to these Jews we fear we are losing.

Consider: for years now, the primary concern of synagogues, federations and men's and women's organizations has centered on what we can do to attract the majority of American Jews, who do not belong to any of the above institutions.

Of course, it is only natural to try to draw such a large, demographically important segment of our population, many of whom are young adults and marrieds, particularly when there is great concern about our diminishing numbers.

But we haven't been very successful and, more importantly, by concentrating so heavily

on the unaffiliated, we may be short-changing those who are affiliated.

We have diluted our programs, searched for the least common denominator or de-emphasized the Jewish component of a theme in the mistaken belief that this would attract The Unaffiliated.

We think of these people as marginal Jews who must be approached, and snared, with great caution, never letting on that what we are "selling" is a religion, heritage and history unique to the world.

So our Jewish community centers stress handball rather than Halachah, our supplementary schools focus on Jewish experiences (baking challah, lighting candles) rather than historical texts (too boring), and our synagogues emphasize fellowship more than scholarship or spirituality.

No wonder The Unaffiliated are staying away in record numbers. What they see presented is a watered-down form of Judaism, when perhaps they would be more interested

in authenticity and depth.

We in the Jewish newspaper business are certainly guilty of this thinking, as well. How many times have we at the Jewish Times attempted to think of story ideas to attract readers from outposts like Towson or Cockeysville, scratching our brains to come up with angles that would appeal to them and not be, God forbid, "too Jewish."

But the flip side of the equation is the unanswered question: why should these people choose to read about secular topics in the Jewish Times, when they can read about them in the daily paper or a variety of magazines?

Maybe, we decided, we should stick to writing about issues of particular concern to Jews, and the Jewish community. And when and if these unaffiliated people become interested in what we are writing about, they'll start reading us.

But in the meantime, we in the organized Jewish world would be better off concentrating on improving the quality of our Jewish content

rather than diluting it in the false hopes of attracting marginal Jews through marginal Jewish programs.

There are numerous examples of affiliated
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A lesson to learn

By MORRIS J. AMITAY

Washington is proving to be no exception when it comes to failing to learn from past mistakes. And, as the saying goes — "those who fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it."

In the Middle East, beyond verbal declarations, the Bush Administration is doing nothing as a practical matter to prevent Syria from building up its offensive might with anticipated shipments of the latest weaponry from the Soviet Union and China. Just as it watched a similar buildup and failed to credibly warn Iraq, our policy makers are surely encouraging Syria's Hafez Assad that we will overlook a great deal in order to get Syrian cooperation in the Baker "peace" process. The advice contained in a no longer secret cable from the U.S. Ambassador to Iraq, after meeting with Hussein, would seem to be followed to the letter in the State Department's current dealing with Syria.

The cable, recently obtained by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, read "I believe we would now be well-advised to ease off on public criticism of Iraq until we see how negotiations develop." Substitute Syria for Iraq here and you have the current policy of U.S. appeasement of Syria. For example, U.S. Government leaks now encourage speculation that it was Lybian not Syrian complicity in the terrorist destruction of Pan Am Flight 103.

No matter how reprehensible Arab conduct, the State Department Arabists continue to make excuses for it and argue that we must avoid criticism and be ever so sensitive to Arab sensitivities. This, as if criticism of autocratic rule, religious fundamentalism, persecution of minorities, and mistreatment of foreigners is taboo for American policymakers for fear of alienating our loyal Arab friends.

As time goes by, it becomes more apparent that now that the dust raised by Desert Storm has settled, little has really changed in the region. The Saudis still won't permit the stationing of American troops on their sacred soil. Saddam Hussein is still firmly in power and is actively seeking to develop nuclear capability. Kuwait is still ruled as a feudal monarchy. Arab enmity toward Israel is as strong as ever. The Kurds are still in perilous straits. And, finally, the Bush Administration still views Israeli settlements in the so-called West Bank, including housing projects in Jerusalem for that matter, as major obstacles to peace in the Middle East.

But it is not only the Administration which has failed to learn valuable lessons from the events of the past six months. There is still strong opposition in the Congress to steps moving us toward greater energy independence. By failing to adopt energy policies which would include exploration of potentially significant oil resources in Alaska and by giving insufficient encouragement to the development of renewable energy sources such as solar power, Congress is being shortsighted. After each oil crisis there have been some half-hearted measures taken to lessen our nation's dependence on Middle East oil, inevitably followed by growing disinterest and inertia in tackling this problem for the longer run.

Similarly, in the aftermath of the military successes of the Gulf War, even declining defense budgets face deeper cuts in Congress. It is particularly disheartening to see

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Marshall's resignation, Thomas' appointment signal new era in Court's jurisprudence

By ALAN DERSHOWITZ

Justice Thurgood Marshall's resignation from the Supreme Court and the nomination of Judge Clarence Thomas as his successor mark the end of one era and the beginning of another.

The Marshall era was characterized by a vindication of the rights of the downtrodden, the underdog, the minority and the unpopular. It was personified by the only Supreme Court justice in American history whose entire distinguished career at the bar was in the service of the poor, the disenfranchised and the victims of discrimination.

Thurgood Marshall was the only real lawyer on the current high court — the only courtroom advocate who practiced his profession in the trenches and the emergency rooms of our legal system. As a lawyer for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, he was a driving creative force for equality and against racial and economic injustice. Almost single-handedly, he leveled the playing fields of law, politics and even public opinion.

He marched and worked hand in hand with Jewish civil rights activists and lawyers to break down the barriers of segregation. Among his closest judicial and legal colleagues were Arthur Goldberg, David Bazelon, Jack Greenberg, Abner Mikva and other Jews who themselves played pivotal roles in the civil rights movement.

His was an era of checks and balances, when the judiciary stood tall against discriminatory practices mandated by the legislative and executive branches of the federal and state governments.

The era that will almost certainly begin with President Bush's appointment of Justice Marshall's successor may witness the suspension — at least for a generation — of our valued system of checks and balances.

President Bush's replacement of Justice Marshall with Judge Clarence Thomas will help solidify the high court's statist majority. I say "statist" because the emerging majority is neither conservative nor judicially restrained in any meaningful sense of those terms. It is an activist majority eager to centralize power in the elected branches of government particularly in the executive branch of the federal government.

Big government is beginning to win nearly every case in which the rights of individuals are pitted against the power of governments. This is especially true in criminal cases, where defendants rarely have petitions for review granted and almost never win on the merits. Virtually the entire criminal justice "revolution" of the Warren Court has now been overruled. And there is no reason to believe that the rights of criminal defendants will be vindicated by legislative action, as the rights of those denied abortion advice may soon be.

In the area of separation of church and state,

we are also likely to see decreasing sensitivity toward the rights of religious minorities. Even before Justice Marshall's resignation, the Rehnquist Court affirmed the power of government to demand that an orthodox Jewish army officer remove his yarmulka.

Justice Marshall could always be counted on to support minority religious practices and to oppose the establishment of Christianity through prayers in the schools and religious displays in public places. It is uncertain whether Justice Thomas — who is of Catholic background — will be as strongly supportive of minority religious equality.

The structural changes on the horizon transcend particular political issues or even judicial philosophies. They endanger the basic protections long afforded by our system of checks and balances. If the high court sees its "constituent" as identical with those of the elected branches of government, it will cease to exercise its proper constitutional function of checking and balancing those branches. It will instead simply rubber-stamp the expressed wishes of the majority and soon find itself of marginal relevance in American life.

If this scenario were to prove true, who would then vindicate the constitutional rights of minorities who lack the political power to have their rights enforced by the popular branches?

It is a mistake to see the emerging Court as

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The challenge facing world Jewry

By TONI YOUNG

Editor's note: Toni Young visited Israel on the UJA Realization Mission, June 17-21, to witness the absorption of Ethiopian and Soviet olim.

"Jewish destiny will be determined in this decade," Deputy Foreign Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told a group of UJA leaders on June 20 in Jerusalem. The central decision is whether Israel will be able to successfully absorb two million Jews from the Soviet Union and Ethiopia in order to guarantee a lasting peace and a firm foundation for the twenty-first century, he explained.

I believe Netanyahu's remarks, made towards the end of our brief mission to Israel, succinctly capture the essence of the challenge facing world Jewry. In the next five to eight years, Israel has the opportunity to successfully absorb one to two million Jews and to transform itself into a scientific, medical and economic center for the entire Middle East. The impact on world Jewry of a regionally strong Israel with a solid Jewish majority will be profound. The alternatives are frightening.

The best way to describe the Israel I saw in

June 1991 is "charged with excitement and challenged by the implications of the absorption." As Colonel Raanan Gissin, IDF spokesman said, "If you had asked me this winter, I would have said Israel is the land of the Scuds and the home of the Patriots. Today Israel is the land of the Flying Jews." Gissin's comment may strike you as glib, but it captures the upbeat enthusiasm of Israeli leaders today. Israel was created as a home for all Jews in need. By flying Jews in from everywhere, Israel is fulfilling its *raison d'être*. In one moment on May 25, all Israelis understood this, says Gissin.

According to Gissin and Itan Raz, Commander of Operation Solomon at Lod Air Force Base, Operation Solomon was so emotional because the Ethiopians "walked out of a biblical legend frozen in space and time." An ancient Ethiopian legend promised that rescue and redemption would come from heaven, that the long arms of an eagle would come and take the Jews home to Jerusalem. When the airplanes with outstretched wings arrived in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopians put on their finest white robes and returned home

with complete trust in the Israelis.

In the early weeks, Israelis responded generously to the new olim. So many clothes were donated in the first two weeks, that officials now say they don't need anymore. Volunteers, including soldiers and reservists, offered their assistance at absorption centers. The early weeks were spent gathering vital statistics about the Ethiopians, who arrived with no birth or marriage certificates. They only knew that they had been born before the famine or married during the Emperor's reign. The Ethiopians had to be taught even the most basic things, like what traffic lights and cross signals mean, before they could be allowed out alone. During the latter part of June, the Israelis were dedicating themselves largely to basic concerns of safety, food, diet and health. The Israelis' task is to move the Ethiopians from the thirteenth century to the twentieth century in a few short months.

Uri Lubrani, who, as special envoy to Prime Minister Shamir, coordinated Operation Solomon, has been working with Ethiopian Jews since 1967 when they first came to the em-

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Candle Lighting

JULY

26TH — 8:04 PM

AUGUST

2ND — 8:04 PM

9TH — 7:49 PM

16TH — 7:40 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.

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)

Affiliation:

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

Parashat Vaetchanan, July 27th

Asking God for what I need

By MITCHELL CHEFITZ

Special to The Jewish Voice

This week's parasha contains the *Sh'ma* which begins, "Hear Israel, Ha-shem is our God, Ha-shem is One," and continues with the remainder of the first of the three paragraphs that complete the *Sh'ma* meditation in the prayerbook, "You shall love Ha-Shem your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your might..."

One might conclude then that the *Sh'ma* is among the most important of the prayers in the prayerbook. And indeed it is taught as such in liberal congregations, so much so, that when a Jew is asked, "Name a prayer, any prayer," it is the *Sh'ma* which is most often mentioned.

But the *Sh'ma* is not a prayer at all. It is a meditation.

There is no prayer other than asking for something, and the *Sh'ma* asks for nothing. The *Sh'ma* is a meditation on the unity of God, a *yichud*.

Jews who daven only on Shabbat (when there is little in the way of petition in the service) and Jews who do not daven at all often have little comprehension of prayer. Not only do they not understand that prayer is asking God for something, they often consider it inappropriate to ask God for anything. And if they should ask, they ask for "peace for all peoples" or "a cure to all illnesses" or something else so distant from their own needs as to be beyond comprehension.

But if you look to the beginning of our parashah, you will find there an example of prayer. Moses, speaking before the assembled people of Israel in the first person recounts how he himself had petitioned God: "I besought (va-ethanan) God at that time saying: Adonai Eloheem (using both aspects of approach to God — the merciful Adonai and the constant Eloheem) — You have already begun to show your servant your greatness, your mighty power. What other god could there be in heaven or on earth who could do deeds or mighty acts like yours? Please let me cross over and let me see this good land on the other side of the Jordan..."

This is prayer. Moses is asking something for himself. And his prayer is partially answered. He is not permitted to cross over, but he is permitted to see. He goes to the summit of Mount Pisgah at God's direction, and there he looks across and sees the land.

The word Moses uses to describe the act of petitioning God is *va-ethanan* which is translated above as "I besought." The root of the Hebrew is *hanan*, "grace", and the word occurs in the reflexive form, first person singular, and more accurately might be translated as: "I look into myself and find myself in need of grace, for there is something missing in me which I cannot provide for myself."

If a person requires nothing, is self-sufficient, then there is no need to pray. But what person is self-sufficient? Only God is self-sufficient (*Shadai*). If we should ever have such *hutzpah* to consider ourselves self-sufficient, that would be tantamount to denying the existence of God. "I need nothing. I rely on nothing. Everything I need exists within me." Such *hutzpah*!

And yet, ask a Jew unfamiliar with the discipline of prayer to write or voice a petition to bring before God. It is the most difficult task in the world at that moment and all sorts of defensive barriers are hurled in the way: "I'm not supposed to ask for myself. I can only ask for others. Jews don't pray for personal needs. It's a sin to pray for things I want. God doesn't answer anyway. Prayers don't work."

For Jews who know nothing of the discipline of prayer, no more should be expected. But what of those who daven regularly on Shabbat? *Minyanim* in liberal communities meet all across the country inside and outside of synagogues, most of them only on Shabbat when petition is not encountered. Instead of the 13 petitionary prayers that one finds in the daily morning *amidah*, the prayer voiced when one stands in the presence of God to list one's needs, one finds only one prayer on Shabbat, *yismach Moshe*, "Moses rejoiced in his portion," anything but a petition.

It would be best of the discipline of prayer were practiced on a daily basis, so that six days a week one would be reviewing one's needs and placing them before God. But if only on Shabbat, then *minyanim* might consider occasionally opening to the daily *amidah*, for study if not for prayer, to assure the *haverim*, the members of the *minyan*, that asking is all right, and even more than all right — mandatory.

(Mitchell Chefitz, a liberal rabbi, is Director of Haurah of South Florida, and a past chair of the National Haurah Committee.)



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Nuns to be gone by October 1992 says new Carmelite head

By MICHEL DI PAZ

PARIS (JTA) — The newly elected superior general of the Carmelite order of nuns and friars predicted this week that the nuns at Auschwitz will move to their new location in October 1992, but no sooner.

"It would be unrealistic to view this transfer at an earlier date," Father Camilo Maccise stated in a warmly conciliatory letter to Theo Klein, former president of the European Jewish Congress and of CRIF, the representative council of French Jewish organizations.

The letter expressed his regret "for the lack of understanding and respect owned to the Jewish memory that may have been demonstrated by members of the Carmelite family."

Klein was one of the Jewish leaders who signed an agreement with the European cardinals in Geneva on Feb. 22, 1987, establishing a two-year deadline for the relocation of the Carmelite nuns from their controversial convent on the grounds of the former death camp in Poland. The deadline, Feb. 22, 1989, passed unobserved, and relations grew increasingly strained between Jews and the Roman Catholic Church.

Father Maccise stressed in his letter to Klein that he was "determined to see" the Geneva agreement implemented "as soon as possible." He said that also was the "personal desire" of Pope John Paul II.

Observers here emphasized that this is the first time a leader of the Carmelite order has taken such a firm stand on the Auschwitz convent.

Maccise, who is a native of Mexico, acknowledged in his letter that Auschwitz has come to symbolize the Holocaust in all its horrors, which

gives it a special meaning to Jews. "The Hitlerian tragedy that struck Europe left a name that identifies the unspeakable. Auschwitz now defines a unique, inconceivable, unthinkable, inexpressible thing — the Holocaust," the Carmelite friar wrote.

His letter stated that "united with my Polish brothers and sisters, I seek Christian fidelity to the memory of the martyrs of Poland under National Socialism."

"This fidelity and the Catholic faith do not require that Carmelite nuns should pray at the places of the martyrs' extermination. Remembering, with Saint Paul, that the whole of the Law and of the Prophets are summed up in the word 'charity,' I totally join with those who signed the Feb. 22, 1987 agreement."

The Carmelite leader added that he has met with the person in charge of building a new convent off the Auschwitz site, which will also contain an ecumenical center for prayer, study and meditation.

"Having given much thought to the difficulties and the state of the new convent, I think it reasonable to forecast that the nuns will be installed in their new location in October 1992. It would be unrealistic to view this transfer at an earlier date," he wrote.

Many participants in an international gathering of Catholic youth, slated for Aug. 13-15 in Czestochowa, Poland, to coincide with the pope's visit to his homeland, are expected to continue onto the site of the new convent, where they will camp in tent cities.

It is not yet known whether the programs they will participate in will explicitly detail the unique Jewish nature of the Holocaust.

Holocaust museum campaign

WASHINGTON, DC — Rabbinical leaders from the four major Jewish movements (Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and Reconstructionist) recently visited The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to plan a nation-wide Congregational Campaign.

The campaign will encourage synagogue congregations to contribute to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, which has raised \$115 million of its \$147 million goal. A similar outreach campaign to churches of many Christian denominations is also planned.

Every church or synagogue in the United States will have an opportunity to commemorate a destroyed synagogue in Europe by donating \$50,000, payable over five years. The names of the congregations will appear on a special wall in the Museum. Those congregations which

are unable to contribute at that level will have an opportunity to make smaller gifts, and will be acknowledged in special books in the Museum.

Rabbis who attended the planning meeting included representatives of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association, Rabbinical Council of America, and Rabbinical Assembly of America.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, which will open in the Spring of 1993, will be the only national Holocaust Museum in the United States. The privately funded Museum was created by an act of Congress in 1980, and has attracted international support. The Museum will house a permanent exhibition telling the story of the Holocaust, two galleries for special exhibits, two theaters, a library, archives and an interactive learning center.

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Sununu denies he's blaming Jews for controversy over his travel

By DAVID FRIEDMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA) — White House Chief of Staff John Sununu has denied that he blames Jews and other supporters of Israel for the controversy raging over his travel practices. Sununu telephoned the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations after *The Washington Post* reported June 26 that Jews were among those he blames for his recent troubles.

Sununu's use of government jets and limousines for personal travel has sparked widespread calls for his resignation and has prompted President Bush to order strict controls on his travel.

The Post quoted sources saying that Sununu believes Jews are after him "because he is Lebanese-American" and because they "don't like my call for evenhandedness" in U.S. policy in the Middle East.

In a telephone call to the Conference of Presidents, Sununu said he never made the allegations quoted in the press and does not believe them, said Malcolm Hoenlein, the conference's executive director.

Sununu's call was a reply to a letter Hoenlein and Shoshana Cardin, the conference's chairman, sent after an earlier report said Sununu was blaming Jews for stirring up the controversy. The earlier report was contained in a piece by conservative syndicated columnists Rowland Evans and Robert Novak.

But Sununu also denied the statements attributed to him in Wednesday's *Washington Post* article, Hoenlein said.

The Post said that Sununu did not blame the Jews as much as the liberal media, and liberals in general, because he is considered the leading conservative conduit in the administration. He also was quoted as blaming Republicans close to Bush such as Robert Teeter, one of Bush's senior advisers; Peter Teeley, a former Bush aide; and Craig Fuller, who was Bush's chief of staff when he was vice president. All three are expected to play a



John Sununu

crucial role in Bush's re-election campaign and may be viewed as rivals by Sununu.

While Jewish leaders are privately outraged that Sununu may have sought, despite his denials, to blame Jews for some of his problems, they have been uneasy about him since Bush named him as his chief of staff.

In 1986, as governor of New Hampshire, he was the only one of the 50 governors to refuse to sign a proclamation condemning the 1975 U.N. General Assembly resolution denigrating Zionism as a form of racism.

Sununu was active in the National Association of Arab Americans, a group that has been sharply critical of Israel. *The Post* noted that in a 1984 speech to the group, Sununu urged a more "evenhanded approach" to the Middle East.

"Others with perspectives very different from us have influenced the decision-making process" to the "detriment of this nation's foreign policy," Sununu said at the time.

But, as he did June 26, Sununu has sought since coming to the White

House to try to reassure American Jews that he is not anti-Israel. He apparently has never completely allayed these suspicions. At the same time, most believe that Sununu is not a major player in the administration's Middle East policymaking. His chief influence appears to be over domestic policy and relations with Congress.

Concern about Sununu's position became public again earlier this month when he presided over a White House ceremony honoring surviving members of the USS Liberty, a Navy intelligence ship bombed by Israeli aircraft during the 1967 Six-Day War.

The Anti-Defamation League issued a statement expressing concern about the motivation for the ceremony, which was also attended by Brent Scowcroft, the national security adviser. "ADL hopes that the reason for the White House reception was simply to honor the Liberty crew members, not to give a stamp of approval to those seeking to malign Israel," the statement said.

The group pointed out that while governor, Sununu signed a 1988 proclamation that called the attack on the Liberty "vicious and unprovoked" and the work of "belligerent aircraft and torpedo boats."

There has been astonishment in some government circles that Sununu, who is credited with having a genius IQ, has refused to accept that his own behavior may be responsible for his present difficulties.

The controversy started when it was revealed that Sununu used military planes for private trips, including one to see his dentist in Boston. He then was also faulted for seeking private planes from corporations for his trips. This was capped when he had his government limousine take him to a postage stamp exhibition in New York.

Throughout the controversy, Sununu has maintained that he cannot use regular transportation since he must keep in constant contact with the White House.

Bonior's election as majority whip not expected to hurt Israel in House

By DAVID FRIEDMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Rep. David Bonior (D-Mich.), elected by Democrats this month to become the party's new whip in the House of Representatives, is generally regarded as a critic of Israel. But pro-Israel lobbyists doubt his election to the party's third-ranking leadership post in the House will have much impact on the level of congressional support for Israel.

They stress that Israel was not an issue when Bonior defeated Rep.

Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) by a 160-109 vote in the Democratic Caucus.

Bonior, 46, whose ethnic, blue-collar district includes many Arab Americans, will become whip in September, when Rep. William Gray (D-Pa.) leaves to become head of the United Negro College Fund. He is considered close to the National Association of Arab Americans and in 1982 met with Yasir Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

But Jewish groups have worked with Bonior and believe they can continue to do so, said Jess Hordes, director of the Washington office of the Anti-Defamation League. Hordes said there is no reason to believe that there is any change in the "bedrock of support" for Israel in Congress.

Most observers believe that Bonior was elected in the secret ballot because he is better liked than Hoyer and because he is considered less conciliatory toward the Bush administration than are House Speaker Thomas Foley (D-Wash.) and Majority Leader Richard Gephardt (D-Mo.).

Bonior differs from most of his Democratic colleagues not only on Israel but in his opposition to abortion. Supporters of Israel point to Bonior's remarks on how he plans to deal with the abortion issue in his new job, which entails lining up members behind the party's positions and counting the votes.

He said as whip he will support the view of the vast majority of Democrats who support women's right to reproductive choice. "But I will reserve to myself the ability to vote my conscience on the issues," he added.

Anti-boycott legislation

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Legislation to prohibit the U.S. government from awarding contracts to foreign companies that comply with the Arab League boycott against Israel has been introduced in the Senate and House of Representatives.

The bill, originated by Sen. Timothy Wirth (D-Colo.) and Rep. Sam Gejdenson (D-Conn.), would require foreign firms bidding on U.S. government contracts to certify that they do not comply with the Arab boycott.

Wirth and Gejdenson said the Arab boycott is "pure poison" for the Middle East peace process. "If the State Department wants to get serious about 'confidence building measures' in the Middle East, reversing the Arab boycott is the place to start," they said in a joint statement.

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Bloom named JFD Assistant Director

Robert N. Kerbel, Executive Vice President of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, has announced that Seth Bloom of the Federation staff has been promoted to Assistant Director as of July 1. Bloom has served as Director of Community Development since 1989. His additional responsibilities will include directing the 1992 Annual Campaign and the leadership development program. He will be involved in all aspects of the Federation's activities, according to Kerbel.



Seth Bloom

Bloom joined the Federation as a staff assistant upon graduation from the University of Delaware in 1986. He received one of eight scholarships from the Council of Jewish Federation's Federation Executive Recruitment and Education Program to pursue a master's degree of Social Work in Jewish Communal Organization at Yeshiva University, Wurzweiler School of Social Work, in 1987. His field placements included the Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey and the Federation of Jewish Agencies of Greater

Philadelphia.

As an intern with the JFD in 1986, Bloom helped develop the Jewish Singles program of Delaware (now administered by the JCC). The pro-

gram has grown from four to over 300 members.

Bloom's various responsibilities as Director of Community Development included the staffing of the Federation's annual campaign, Super Sunday phonathons and reactivating the Young Leadership Program. In addition, he has staffed the Federation's Marketing Committee and the Group Work Services Task Force of the Budget & Planning Steering Committee. Bloom is on the program committee of Leadership Delaware of the United Way and serves as the Federation staff advisor to the Hillel Student Center at the University of Delaware.

He and his wife, Kathy, are volunteer advisors of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization Newark Chapter.

Bloom stated, "I want to help to give people the opportunity to feel good about their Jewishness and not take it for granted, and to stand up and be counted in the Jewish community. Accepting this position is a key part of translating that goal into action."

JNF to honor Alan Levin

Alan B. Levin, president and chief executive officer of Happy Harry's Inc., will be honored by the Jewish National Fund, Maryland/Delaware region, on Thursday, September 5. A 6 p.m. cocktail hour will precede the 7 p.m. dinner at the Radisson Hotel in Wilmington.

JNF regional executive director Diane Scar announced that Levin will be presented with the Tree of Life Award, JNF's highest honor. In conjunction with JNF's Operation Promised Land campaign, land for homesites for Soviet and Ethiopian Jews immigrating to Israel will be established in Levin's honor. Currently, JNF is developing land for 70,000 housing sites at 55 locations throughout Israel.

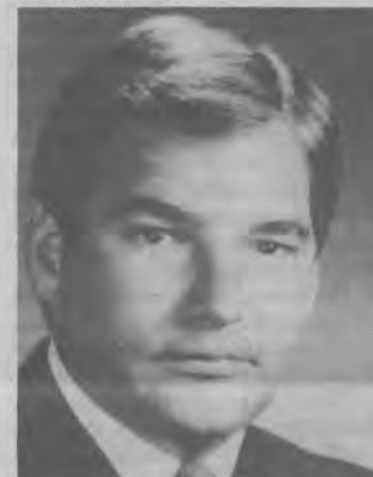
The Tree of Life Award is a humanitarian award, given in recognition of outstanding community involvement, dedication to the cause of American-Israeli friendship and devotion to peace and the security of human life, according to Scar. The

award "symbolizes JNF's efforts to reclaim and develop the land of Israel from its former barrenness into a land of lush green forests and fields."

A Wilmington native, Levin earned his B.A. from Tulane University and a Juris Doctor degree from the Delaware Law School of Widener University.

He is a Board member of the First State School of the Medical Center of Delaware, Junior Achievement of Delaware, Child Care Connection, and the Bank of Delaware, as well as a member of the bank's Audit Committee. A member of First Staters of the United Way of Delaware, he is a trustee of the Medical Center of Delaware, vice chairman of Delaware Business Roundtable and a member of the Governor's Task Force for Indigent Health Care.

Levin is a former National Chairman of the Law Student Division, American Bar Association, and is a member of the Delaware and American Bar Association. He is chairman of the Small Chain Committee National Association of Chain Drug Stores and Small Chain Liaison to NACDS Board of Directors.



Alan B. Levin

Levin is married to the former Ellen Kauffman. They are the parents of three sons.

Honorary co-chairpersons for the dinner are: Martin Grass, Rite Aid Corp.; Packy Nespeca, American Greetings Corp.; and the Hon. William V. Roth, Jr., U.S. Senator. JNF regional president is Leonard J. Attman.

For reservations or additional information, call the JNF at 655-5995.

Karen Venezky elected to HIAS board of directors

Karen Venezky, of Newark, is among 27 Jewish communal leaders recently elected to serve two-year term on the Board of Directors of HIAS, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society.

HIAS, founded in 1880, is the international migration agency of the organized American Jewish community and the largest refugee agency in the world. Since its beginning, HIAS has rescued and resettled more than four million Jewish and thousands of non-Jewish refugees.

Venezky, who owns Artwork Enterprises, an advertising agency in Newark, also serves on the national board of Hadassah as its National Chair of the Communications Department.

She has served on the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Delaware and is currently a member of the Federation's Marketing Committee. Venezky has also served on the Public Relations Committee of the Delaware Division of the American Cancer Society and is Chair of



Karen Venezky

the Marketing Committee of the Grand Opera House in Wilmington.

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UJA combining special campaigns into single, billion-dollar drive

By CHARLES HOFFMAN

JERUSALEM (JTA)—The United Jewish Appeal is planning to combine its special campaigns for Soviet and Ethiopian aliyah into a single, billion-dollar drive that will run over the next three to four years, UJA National Chairman Marvin Lender announced here late last month.

Lender told the annual assembly of the Jewish Agency for Israel here June 25 that this mega-campaign, which he referred to as the "continuing Exodus challenge," combines the initial \$420 million target of last year's Operation Exodus drive; the \$450 million additional drive for Soviet aliyah approved recently, known unofficially as Exodus II; and a \$130 million campaign to cover the costs of rescuing and resettling more than 14,000 Ethiopian Jews airlifted here last month in Operation Solomon.

Some \$574 million has been pledged for Operation Exodus, Lender said, with \$478 million of it destined for Israel. The rest is being used by federations for the resettlement of Soviet Jews in America.

About \$283 million in cash was raised in one year for Exodus, which Lender called a "major accomplishment." Cash collections got a big boost because of the concern for Israel generated by the Persian Gulf War, he said. The regular annual

UJA-federation campaign for 1990 brought in \$765 million, and this year's campaign is expected to top that figure by \$5 million, he said.

In the wake of Operation Solomon, UJA was asked to raise \$40 million in cash quickly. About \$29 million was raised in two weeks, Lender said, all of it "new money."

Keren Hayesod, which raises money for the Jewish Agency in countries outside the United States, brought in \$300 million in cash for Israel during the past 12 months.

Its chairman, Philip Granovsky of Toronto, told the assembly that this is a considerable sum, in light of the fact that there are only 2 million Jews in Keren Hayesod countries, and that fund raising for Israel is illegal in some of them.

A key topic of discussion at the assembly was the need to create new jobs for the immigrants at a time when Israel's unemployment rate stands at 10 percent.

Dov Lautman, president of the Manufacturers Association, told the assembly Israel has "the infrastructure to create new jobs. What is missing is the belief by industrialists that the government will implement the appropriate policies" to stimulate investment.

Many delegates to the assembly were disappointed that in his ad-

dress, Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i did not present a plan for job creation, nor did he explain what steps had been taken to reduce bureaucratic obstacles for investors and to cut back government control of the economy. Moda'i declined to answer questions from the floor after he finished his address, which dwelt on the "historic challenge" of the mass aliyah.

The chairman of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors, Mendel Kaplan, stressed that Jewish entrepreneurs like himself should invest in Israel for purely financial reasons. "There are ample opportunities to make profits here in advanced industries," he said.

Kaplan, who is a steel magnate from South Africa, said the Jewish Agency could help the economic absorption of the immigrants in three ways: "pestering the government" to adopt policies designed to promote economic development; launching programs to help create employment, such as vocational training and "incubator" projects for new businesses; and using Diaspora connections to mobilize funds for Israel's economy.

Kaplan was elected by the Board of Governors to a second four-year term as chairman, despite discontent with his candidacy within the World Zionist Organization. The WZO is a

partner with UJA and Keren Hayesod in running the Jewish Agency.

The agency budget for this year is \$546 million, with 60 percent of it going for immigration and absorption. The 1991 budget is for nine months, because the agency's fiscal year is being switched to the calendar year. Last year's budget for 12 months was \$843 million.

To provide more money for immigration and absorption, allocations for other areas of agency activity — settlement, youth aliyah, Jewish education and Project Renewal — have been cut. Two departments, Rural Settlement and Project Renewal and Development, are to be merged by 1993.

The chairman of the Jewish Agency Budget and Finance Committee, Paul Berger of Washington, said that the agency is projecting a deficit of at least \$92 million this year, because of the unexpected arrival of 14,000 Ethiopian Jews in Operation Solomon.

The deficit could go as high as \$116 million if there is a large number of immigrants from the Soviet Union.



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French teachers protest exam

PARIS (JTA)—The French Teachers Union is up in arms over a high school history examination given in Toulouse which, they say, extols the economic progress made by Nazi Germany before World War II.

"The subjects (of the questions) led the pupils to praise Hitler's regime," the union contended in letters of protest to President Francois Mitterrand and the Education Ministry.

But Pierre Cadars of the ministry's Toulouse branch in southwest France said the union had gone too far. "The pupils had occasion during the academic year to study Nazism, and they learned perfectly well that behind the appearance of economic success, there lurked a monstrosity," Cadars

said. He added that, after all, the questions had not been written by French Holocaust rejectionist Robert Faurisson.

But the teachers were not satisfied. They said it is impossible that the commission controlling the curriculum and the persons in charge of choosing examination subjects were unaware of the kind of answers the questions elicited.

"We assume it was not a mistake, especially as those who wrote the questions belong to the local branch of the Ministry of Education, which the extreme right wing is known to influence," they wrote.

Five exam questions related to the

economy of the Third Reich included parts of a speech by Hitler to the Reichstag in 1939 and charts showing the improvement of Germany's economy since the Nazis took over in 1933.

The students were required to base their answers on that material which, according to the teachers union, conveyed the message that Hitler set Germany on the road to recovery from the depression and that fascism can resolve economic problems.

Richard Venezky to head government literacy panel

University of Delaware educational studies professor Richard L. Venezky has been appointed chairman of a panel advising the U.S. Congress on technologies to improve literacy, the university has announced.

Venezky, Unidel professor of educational studies and a professor of computer and information sciences, will head the Office of Technology Assessment's Advisory Panel on Technologies for Literacy.

The panel will explore how computer, video and telecommunications technologies can be used in adult and family literacy programs and report those findings to committees in the House and Senate by Fall 1992.

Venezky, 53, is internationally known for his work on English spelling and computer applications in education and in writing dictionaries.

He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Delaware and its Budget and Planning Steering Committee and Overseas Task Force.



Richard Venezky

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Jewish delegation visits Ethiopia but cannot reach Jews in Gondar

By ALIZA MARCUS
NEW YORK (JTA) — Two months after the successful completion of Operation Solomon, the secret airlift

that brought over 14,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel, a few thousand Jews remain in the isolated northern region of the country. The Jews are

mainly located in the Kwara region, in the western part of Gondar province, which previously was home to most of the country's Jews, said officials of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

But JDC, which has undertaken relief efforts in Ethiopia for years, has been unable to visit the Kwara area because of the unstable political and military situation there, said Gideon Taylor, special assistant to JDC's executive vice president. "Once the area becomes stable, we will be in the position to judge how many Jews are there and their situation," he said. "We are already helping in the process of bringing them out."

Taylor recently traveled to Ethiopia as part of a delegation that also included officials of the Jewish Agency for Israel and other Jewish groups. It was the first Jewish delegation to visit the country since Operation Solomon.

An estimated 350 Jews remain in the capital of Addis Ababa, as the victorious rebel forces that toppled the regime of Mengistu Haile Mariam on May 21 prepare to announce the formation of a new government.

Although some of the remaining Jews arrived in Addis Ababa after the

airlift was over, most of them missed their flights for one reason or another.

JDC and other Jewish officials monitoring the situation hope that the Jews will shortly be allowed to leave for Israel.

The Jews are now being cared for by JDC, which is also assisting the estimated 2,600 converts who gathered in Addis Ababa months ago in the hope of being allowed to immigrate to Israel, said Taylor. "We felt that, on a humanitarian basis, these people needed help," he said.

Estimates of the number of converts, or Ferris Mora, as they are called, range from 15,000 to over 70,000. The converts, who are mainly located in Gondar, seem to have converted between 20 and 100 years ago.

Even before the 30-hour airlift May 24, Israeli officials had to struggle with issue of what to do with the converts, most of whom want to immigrate to Israel.

Israel's Chief Rabbinate has been planning to send a delegation to Ethiopia to investigate the status of the converts, but no date has yet been set for the trip.

U.S. Jewish organizations have

expressed concern that much more of a delay could be detrimental to the situation of the converts. "It's unfair to them, because these people are in limbo and they don't know what sort of plans to make for the future," said a Jewish official, who asked not to be named.

JDC, meanwhile, has reopened its office in Gondar, and "we're reassessing the overall situation in the north and restarting our non-sectarian programs," said Taylor.

One thing that remains unclear is why exactly these people converted to Christianity. While some claim they were forced to, observers closely connected to Ethiopia say the overwhelming majority converted voluntarily.

Israeli officials feared that in the chaos of the expected rebel takeover, Jews might be singled out as retribution for Israel's reported arming of the Mengistu regime. In fact, it was not until after Mengistu fled that the emergency airlift was allowed to begin, completing the rescue mission that began in 1985 with Operation Moses, in which over 10,000 Jews were spirited out of the country.


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UN labor panel scores Israel for treatment of Palestinians

By TAMAR LEVY

GENEVA (JTA) — Israel's treatment of Palestinian workers in the administered territories came under a bitter attack during this year's annual International Labor Organization conference. The attack, led by Arab countries with dubious records concerning their own trade unions and workers' rights, occurred during a special session dealing with a report on workers in the administered territories.

Still, monitors of the conference said the attack was less heated than in years past, and they noted that Arab countries did not try to push through any resolutions formally censuring Israel. But the special session itself was disturbing to many supporters of Israel, who believe Israel is being singled out for political reasons. The ILO conference was held from June 4 through June 27.

Rabbi Menachem Porush, the Israeli deputy minister of labor and social affairs, asked why Israel alone was the subject of discussion and said, "Are there no problems, no problems at all in other countries?"

The delegate from the Histadrut,

Israel's labor federation, said the organization was trying to educate Palestinians in the administered territories about their rights and was willing to give them whatever help or information they needed.

"Instead of fighting the mosquitoes, let us dry up the marshes," the delegate, Yousfi Kara, said, quoting a proverb. "Let us drain the swamp of hostility and hatred."

But most Arab delegates refused to address the topic of Palestinian workers' rights, and instead chose to use the session as a way to argue against U.S. and Israel policy in the region.

"We clearly see that peace cannot possibly be achieved in Palestine, the land of peace, as long as Israel continues to pursue its aggressionist policy and as long as the United States does not bear pressure on Israel," said Farouk Kaddoumi, the Palestine Liberation Organization representative.

"The extent to which the Israeli occupation authorities flout international conventions and agreements is obvious," charged the Syrian delegate, whose country is considered

one of the worst violators of human rights.

Since 1978, the report on the administered territories has been a regular addition to the ILO's annual study of trade union and workers' rights around the world.

In New York, Michael Perry, assistant director of the Jewish Labor Committee, said he was "greatly disturbed that Israel has been singled out for special criticism." Perry, whose organization recently issued a report on trade union rights in Arab League countries, pointed out the virtual absence of such rights in the Arab world.

But despite the usual charges leveled against Israel by Arab countries, Israel emerged relatively unscathed this year. "On the positive side, nothing official was passed and no resolution against Israel came out of the conference," said Perry, whose organization monitored the meeting.

In the past, important ILO business has been held up by Arab countries' insistence that the organization take up proposed anti-Israel resolutions.

Japanese firms shaking off Arab boycott strictures

NEW YORK (JTA) — Japanese corporations are beginning to shake off the strictures imposed by the Arab boycott and show increased willingness to do business with Israel, an American Jewish Committee delegation reported after returning from a week of meetings with Japanese officials in Tokyo.

The change began with the Persian Gulf War, according to AJCommittee President Alfred Moses, who headed the delegation, made up of members of the organization's Board of Governors.

"Japan's limited response to the

Gulf war led to some alienation from their longtime friends, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait," Moses said. "Arab markets are now less attractive to Japanese business, and the Japanese government has consciously looked to other countries in the area, including Israel, for economic opportunities and expanded cultural and diplomatic ties," he said.

Japan is also anxious to diversify its petroleum sources, making it less dependent on the Middle East, the AJCommittee leader observed.

Another factor is the desire to improve Japan's image in the United

States, where Japan's compliance with the boycott has been widely criticized, Moses pointed out.

AJCommittee reported that talks are expected soon between Israel and Japan on a possible Export-Import Bank loan to help finance development in Israel, as well as discussions beginning this summer to give El Al, Israel's national airline, landing rights in Japan.

In a meeting with the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, it was confirmed that the long-awaited assignment of a Japanese commer-

Continued on 13

JCC summer camp has an international flair

By PAULA HAIT

Editor of The Jewish Voice

Wilmington's Jewish Community Center's 400 campers are learning English this summer.

Of course, there is the almost-mandatory Hebrew. But there is French this year. And English — which appears to be the biggest hit among the campers. That's London

Wilmington. Kelli Moss, who lives in North London, and Jessie Mimonni and Karine Oualid, both from Paris, are living in Wilmington and working at the JCC for eight weeks.

According to JCC Camp Director JJ Alter, the three young women are among 25 who are spending their summer in this area through a cooperative program begun in 1990. The

involved in similar day-camp programs in their home communities."

Campers are learning English

Besides teaching each other English (Moss notes that, after three weeks at camp, she has added words like "dude" to her vocabulary), Oualid and Mimonni are teaching some French to their charges. Oualid said she has had her campers perform in skits in which she translates some of the English words to French.

These staffers recently celebrated their first Fourth of July. And so it was only natural that on July 15 — the day after Bastille Day — the French counselors planned and produced a program that taught campers some French history and culture.

Alter called the exchange program "an incredible experience" for all who are involved. And that goes beyond the counselors and their campers because the three women are living with host Jewish families in Wilmington.

"There are a few different levels of experience," Alter said. "The counselors are able to grow and gain skills. They have a commitment to the children's needs. And they also have the opportunity to socialize," Alter said. The counselors recently returned from a trip to Washington, D.C., with other foreign staff.

"I truly believe that these young women wouldn't have the same experience in America if they weren't in a camping environment," he stressed.

But, Alter notes, the children in camp and the host families also have the opportunity to learn about an-



The three international counselors at the JCC's summer camp this year include (from left) Karine Oualid, Kelli Moss and Jessie Mimonni.

English and "We are...the moity moity JCC," is one of a number of mighty, mighty favorite songs being taken home at the end of the day, according to parents.

This is because of three counselors — imported from abroad for the camp season through the cooperative effort of five area JCC camps — who are spending their summer in

other JCC facilities involved are Margate, Trenton, Cherry Hill and Monmouth County. Last summer, there were also three international counselors at the Wilmington JCC.

"The program, which is designed to explore cultural differences, is different from other programs," Alter maintains, "because those involved are all Jewish young adults who are



One of the JCC campers participating in the Bastille Day celebration was Yelana Reznik who recently immigrated from the Soviet Union and has lived in Wilmington since March 1990. (Photo: P. Hait)

London and Paris. "Jewish kids are the same. They have the same needs, they act the same and they have the same values," says Moss, 18. Moss is working with a group of seven-year-old girls this summer.

But there is a sense of wonder at the size of the camp, the number of activities scheduled and the number of staff members available to the children. "The kids back home wouldn't have the chance to do half of what these kids do," said Oualid, 19, who is working with eight-year-old girls. In France, camps are small, she said, "with no schedule and one counselor does it all — sports, arts & crafts, nature." That is also true of English camps, Moss agreed.

Mimonni, 21, said she is most impressed with the fact that American children are so independent and need a lot less attention than her French campers. Here, she noted, nine-year-old girls don't want help in their routines.

"The children, the host families and the counselors are learning that, while we are different, deep down we're the same," Alter noted. Jewishly, according to Alter, "when you see how another culture celebrates Shabbat, you see the commonality. Things are not that different."

Having these visitors to our community — working with our children and living with our families — "puts the bigger picture into focus," said Alter. A "moity, moity" pretty picture for those who have had an opportunity to see it.

other culture.

For their part, the counselors are in agreement that there are no major differences between their Jewish children in Wilmington and those in

Focus on Federation Agencies

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By ARNOLD LIEBERMAN

Executive Director

Jewish Family Service of DE

No frills, nothing fancy; just plain, solid help at a time when you need it! Without any fanfare, Jewish Family Service has been helping numerous individuals and families in our community year in and year out, for the past 30 years. Each year, without a lot of noise, about 600 families receive the help they need through our Family Counseling and Services to the Aged Programs.

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In fact, each and every client who comes to Jewish Family Service for help is treated with concern, respect, courtesy and dignity, regardless of the circumstance or problem.

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More Jewish children get Jewish education, census shows

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A census of Jewish schools in the Diaspora has disclosed a sharp increase in recent years in the number of Jewish children getting a Jewish education.

The gains exceeded the overall increase in the school-age Jewish population, according to the second international census of Diaspora Jewish schools, conducted in 40 countries between 1987 and 1989. The results were compared with the first census, taken between 1981 and 1983.

The sharpest rise was in places with large concentrations of Orthodox Jews.

The census was conducted under the auspices of the Project for Jewish Educational Statistics at the Hebrew University's Institute of Contemporary Judaism. The head of the institute, Professor Sergio DellaPergola, made the results public at a conference on Diaspora Jewish education convened in Jerusalem.

The conference was co-sponsored by the Jewish Agency's Louis Pincus

Fund for Diaspora Jewish Education and the Joint Program for Jewish Education of the Israeli Ministry of Education and Culture. The World Zionist Organization also participated.

Gains in enrollment over the last census were as high as 25.6 percent in the United States and 23.3 percent in France.

In the United States, the increase was due almost entirely to enrollment in Jewish day schools, whereas in France the gain was about equal between day schools and supplementary schools, the census showed. Canada, Argentina and Brazil experienced little gain in the same period.

Orthodox day schools made the strongest showing in the New York metropolitan area. About 52 percent of the enrollment is under strict Orthodox sponsorship and 42 percent under mainstream Orthodox auspices. Outside New York, strictly Orthodox schools accounted for only 1.5 percent of the total and mainstream Orthodox schools 66 per-

cent. Schools of the Conservative movement amounted to 15 percent and another 15 percent were community schools.

In France, 25.9 percent of the day schools are under strict Orthodox sponsorship and 30 percent are mainstream Orthodox. Community schools account for most of the rest.

DellaPergola explained the increase of Jewish education in the United States at least in part by the "echo effect" of the American "baby boom," which began after World War II and continued until the early 1960s. Despite a high rate of intermarriage, there is a larger pool of school-age Jewish children than in previous years, he said. Della Pergola also cited the higher birth rate in the strictly Orthodox sector and the trend away from public to private schools.

In France, he said, there was a "catch-up" in the late 1980s because of the large-scale immigration of Jews from North Africa.

Groups split on S.A. sanctions

By **JOSEPH POLAKOFF**

Special to The Jewish Voice

WASHINGTON — Major Jewish organizations are divided on the Bush Administration's decision to lift U.S. sanctions imposed on South Africa the past five years over the apartheid policy.

Noting it was the first Jewish organization to recommend sanctions, the National Council of Jewish Women said it "urges Congress to vote its disapproval" of the Administration's action.

The council said the U.S. Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986 declares specific criteria must be satisfied to lift sanctions. The NCJW added that it "believes that some of these basic conditions have not been met." It referred to political prisoners reportedly not released from jail, the majority of South Africans cannot vote or run for office because they are black, and "there is no plan to provide redress for seven million black people who were stripped of their citizenship and dumped" in "nomi-

nally 'independent' homelands."

B'nai B'rith International, however, expressed support for the suspension of sanctions. Its president, Kent Schiner, said "much remains to be accomplished in the struggle to dismantle apartheid, efficacious implementation of recent legislation, enfranchisement of the black population. Nevertheless, verifiable progress has been made and the U.S. Administration's decision is certainly correct, proper and in compliance with the U.S. law."

Senate bill urges repeal of resolution condemning 1981 Israeli attack on Iraq

WASHINGTON (JTA) — A majority of the Senate supports a resolution urging the Bush administration

Jewish seat on OPEC?

An oil strike near Ashdod this month sent hopes soaring that Israel may yet join the ranks of oil-rich Middle-East countries. "It's only a matter of time and money," Israeli oil experts said. The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange halted trading in domestic oil shares for one week as soon as the strike was announced to avoid speculation.

tion to seek the repeal of a U.N. Security Council resolution condemning Israel's pre-emptive strike against Iraq's Osirak nuclear reactor in June 1981.

If Israel had not destroyed the reactor, "there is a strong possibility that Saddam Hussein would have had nuclear weapons in hand" when Iraq invaded Kuwait last year, said Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.), who introduced the resolution July 17.

The resolution has 53 co-sponsors, but Specter hopes to enlist even

more supporters before it comes up for a vote, one of his aides said. It points out that Israel's "legitimate and justifiable exercise of self-defense" in 1981 "may have saved the lives of millions of people, including thousands of U.S. servicemen and women deployed in the Persian Gulf region after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990."

A similar resolution was included in the Foreign Aid Authorization Bill adopted last month by the House of Representatives.

Spanish king will visit Israel

MADRID (JTA) — King Juan Carlos I of Spain has accepted an invitation from President Chaim Herzog to visit Israel next year.

The invitation was delivered by Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy, who met with the king June 26 in Granada. Juan Carlos agreed that March 31, 1992, would be the symbolically appropriate date for his visit. It will be the 500th anniversary of the signing by Queen Isabella of the decree expelling the Jews from Spain. The date is subject to approval by the Spanish government.

Levy quoted the king as saying he recognized Spain's past mistakes and the resultant tragedy visited on the Jewish people. "The king told me that this statement may astonish many people," Levy said. "The king is courageous enough to recognize" the wrongs done the Jews in 1492 and said Spain "looks forward to a partnership with the Jews and Israel," Levy reported.

He said he and the king discussed the situation in the Middle East and both agreed that King Hussein of Jordan and King Hassan of Morocco are under heavy pressure from Islamic fundamentalists.

The Israeli foreign minister also met in Madrid with Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez Marquez, who he said accepted an invitation to visit Israel next fall.

"So far, the meetings I had in Spain met all our expectations," Levy said. He said no controversial subjects were raised by either Gonzalez or in a meeting with Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordonez.

Rabbis against smoking

SPRING GLEN, N.Y. (JTA) — The dangers of passive cigarette smoke have moved from the pages of the scientific journals to the agenda of the Rabbinical Council of America.

During its annual conference here this month, the Modern Orthodox rabbinic group passed a resolution calling smoking a desecration of God's name and banning smoking from all public council functions and meetings. The resolution also called on its members "to sensitize their congregations to the severity of the halachic prohibition of exposing people to second-hand smoke," and accordingly to establish a smoke-free environment in the synagogue at all times.

Senate panel votes to bar use of passports stamped 'Israel Only'

WASHINGTON (JTA) — A Senate subcommittee has voted to bar the use of U.S. diplomatic or tourist passports that are stamped with the words "Israel only." U.S. consular officials currently issue such passports to citizens wishing to travel to both Israel and Arab countries, which routinely forbid the entry of those carrying passports with Israeli visa stamps.

But some members of Congress feel the practice of issuing the "Israel only" passports reinforces the Arab nations' political ostracism of Israel.

State Department officials said July 9 that they would be concerned with any new law that inconveniences tourists to Israel by having their current "Israel only" passports invali-

dated.

If an amendment sponsored by Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.) became law, such passports would become null after a 90-day grace period. The amendment was approved by the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on commerce, justice, state and judiciary as part of the 1992 State Department appropriations bill.

The version of the bill that passed the full House last month does not contain the language, but pro-Israel activists hope it will be added to the final version of the bill.

Earlier this year, Lautenberg was traveling on a diplomatic passport when Saudi Arabia

and Kuwait barred his entry because the passport contained an Israeli entry stamp. To circumvent the problem, Lautenberg obtained a second U.S. diplomatic passport.

The Lautenberg amendment would bar U.S. diplomats from using separate passports, so that "Arab countries would have to take them or leave them," said Mark Medin, assistant Washington representative of the Anti-Defamation League.

Steven Schlein, Lautenberg's press secretary, conceded that if members of Congress were rebuffed and still wanted to enter an Arab country, they could use a tourist passport that did not have an Israeli entry stamp in it.

Likewise, diplomats who had traveled to Israel on a diplomatic passport could probably get around the restriction by using a tourist passport that had no Israeli stamp on it, Schlein said.

Will Maslow, general counsel at the American Jewish Congress, called the Lautenberg amendment "symbolic, and it helps — but it's a fringe effort." He said Congress should place "potent pressure" on Arab countries that do not recognize Israel. "They need to concentrate on the major things," such as blocking U.S. arms sales to those countries, said Maslow, who also edits the newsletter "Boycott Report."

Baker's talks create rift in territories

JERUSALEM (JTA) — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's talks with a group of Palestinian leaders here Sunday opened a deep rift in the Palestinian political community in the West Bank and Gaza Strip on the issue of peace talks with Israel.

The rejectionist camp has mounted a bitter personal campaign against Faisal Husseini, the East Jerusalem activist whom it considers too prone to compromise.

Husseini headed the group that met with Baker, which apparently agreed to the secretary's proposal for a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to negotiate directly with the Israelis. Jordan's King Hussein had given his assent to Baker earlier.

But the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Women's League in the administered territories denounced the plan at a news conference here Monday.

They called it "an American conspiracy to push the Palestine Liberation Organization out of negotiations and fill their places with local representatives."

Speakers for the rejectionist front warned that if the fate of the Palestinian people is determined by a joint delegation, a Palestinian autonomy plan dictated by Israel will be the result.

They demanded instead negotiations that would lead to an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

The rejectionists said they were preparing a petition against the Baker initiative among supporters of Al Fatah, the largest and strongest PLO faction.

The Popular Front is said to have made death threats against Husseini. Leaflets have appeared in East Jerusalem opposing his talks with Baker.

Husseini insisted, however, that he did not get the impression from Baker that the U.S. administration had abandoned the idea of Palestinian representation at a regional peace conference.

Nor are the Palestinians dropping their demand to include representatives from East Jerusalem in their delegation, Husseini said. Israel, for its part, refuses to negotiate with East Jerusalem Arabs on grounds that it would compromise Israel's claim to sovereignty over the united city.

EC-Israel relations improve

BRUSSELS (JTA) — Developments this month confirmed a marked improvement in Israel's relations with the European Community, which had been one of the most severe critics of

PLO closes in Scandinavia

COPENHAGEN (JTA) — Economic pressures are forcing the Palestine Liberation Organization to shut down its information offices in Copenhagen and Oslo, the Danish and Norwegian capitals.

The PLO representative in Denmark, Abdul Rahman Allawi, informed the Danish Foreign Ministry of the closures. There was no official reaction from the ministry or from the Israeli Embassy here.

Allawi cited the PLO's deteriorating economic situation since the Persian Gulf War. The Palestinians who worked in Kuwait are without jobs and cannot pay their regular tithe to the PLO.

Saudi Arabia and the Gulf emirates also cut off support to the PLO when it sided with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, he explained.

Allawi said the PLO's representation in Denmark and Norway would be continued by offices in other countries, which he did not name.

The PLO opened its office in Copenhagen in 1985. It was never granted full diplomatic status by the Danish authorities.

Jerusalem's policies on peace and the Palestinians.

A substantive and symbolic gesture was the invitation extended to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to address the European Parliament, the E.C. legislative body that sits in Strasbourg, France.

The invitation was extended by the president of the Parliament, Enrique Baron Crespo, to a visiting Knesset delegation and promptly reciprocated by Knesset Speaker Dov Shilansky, who invited Baron Crespo, a Spanish Socialist, to visit Israel.

Meanwhile, another E.C. official from Spain, Abel Matutes, the European commissioner for Mediterranean affairs, made his long-delayed

visit to Jerusalem to discuss E.C. economic cooperation with Israel and the welfare of the Palestinians in the administered territories.

Shamir also received Edouard Brunner, an emissary of the U.N. secretary-general, who vainly tried to convince him that the United Nations only wants to help advance the Middle East peace process and would never try to impose its will.

In Brussels, the diplomatic community was surprised to learn that Avi Primor, Israel's ambassador to both Belgium and the E.C., is leaving two years before his term expires. Israel plans two envoys in Brussels, one accredited to Belgium and Luxembourg and one to the E.C.

Fine for boycott compliance may rise

WASHINGTON (JTA) — American exporters have been put on notice that the U.S. Commerce Department supports increasing fines against companies that participate in the Arab boycott against Israel from \$10,000 to \$50,000 for each civil violation.

Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher backed the five-fold increase July 9, in a speech to 600 representatives of U.S. exporters attending a conference sponsored by the department's Bureau of Export Administration. The Office of Anti-Boycott Compliance is part of the bureau.

Israeli battery for electric cars set for trial run on West Coast

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — Development in Israel of a "refuelable" battery to power electric cars has been greeted with cautious optimism by American experts.

The battery uses a syrupy zinc slurry mixed with oxygen in the air to produce electricity. It is designed to be recharged at a filling station by replacing the old slurry with a freshly charted dose, a procedure that can be done in five minutes. By contrast, most electric car batteries developed so far require overnight recharging.

The new battery was announced by Luz International, based in Los Angeles, which produces 95 percent of the world's solar energy. Actual development is under way at Luz Electric Fuels in Israel, a subsidiary of Luz International.

Yehuda Harats, who heads the Israeli technical team, said that "the battery is in its final stages of test, and its performance is beyond expectations." The company plans to give the battery its first full-scale tryout early next year in a Sacramento-to-Los Angeles test run of 385 miles.

"The concept of refueling the

battery is a rather elegant one in technology," said Alan C. Lloyd, chief scientist for the South Coast Air Quality Management District. He added, however, that the district "would have to look at everything closely" before lending the project its support.

There are currently some 30 to 40

battery technologies under development around the world, as efforts heat up to find an electric replacement for the polluting internal-combustion engine. Research has been accelerated with the approach of the 1998 deadline, set by the State of California, for automakers to start selling "zero pollution" cars.

Jewish feminist directory published

NEW YORK (JTA) — The first International Jewish Feminist Directory has been published by the American Jewish Congress, the group has announced. It contains the names, addresses and telephone numbers of Jewish feminists all over the world along with their occupations, interests and organizational affiliations.

The directory was an outgrowth of the first International Jewish Feminist Conference held in Jerusalem in 1988. Its publication was intended to ensure continued close contacts and communications among the hundreds of women who participated in the conference.

The first edition was compiled on the basis of a questionnaire formulated by the AJCongress' International Advisory Committee chaired by former U.S. Rep. Bella Abzug and Judith Stern Peck.

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Book Review

'Chutzpah' is antidote to passivity

By HOWARD GOOTKIN
"Chutzpah"

by Alan Dershowitz.
Little, Brown, New York,
384 pp., \$22.95,
ISBN 0-316-18137-4.

Like Theodor Herzl in his Zionist classic, "The Jewish State," Alan Dershowitz dreams of ending the second-class status of Jews — at least in the United States. However, where Herzl sought to remove the political barriers to Jewish equality by founding a Jewish state, Dershowitz seeks to remove the psychological barriers preventing Jews from asserting their legitimate rights as equal citizens of this country.

According to Dershowitz, Jews, while they have contributed enormously to the growth and development of the United States, Jews too often see themselves as guests here. They fear that if they are too assertive or too noisy, they will be disinvented by their hosts, the "real Americans."

This attitude, which for Dershowitz is epitomized by the Yiddish phrase "shanda fur de goyim" (an embarrassment in front of the gentiles), can have tragic consequences. During World War II, American Jews were paralyzed by it. Fearful of being too vocally Jewish, they did not exert the necessary pressure on the governments of the United States and the other Allies to either take affirmative steps to rescue the Jews from the clutches of the Nazis or, at the very least, hamper the death machine through strategic bombing.

For Dershowitz, the antidote to this passivity is chutzpah — an untranslatable Yiddish term and the title of Dershowitz's new book.

The book does not attempt to provide a systemic program for the

American Jewish community. Instead, Dershowitz describes — in a witty and lucid style — his own efforts and those of others with whom he has joined to fight for Jewish interests unencumbered by the fear of becoming a shanda fur de goyim. Unfortunately, these attempts at chutzpah have oftentimes been undermined by the Jewish establishment, still hobbled by the fear of gentile reaction.

Perhaps the clearest example, and by far the most interesting, of this new, assertive style are Dershowitz's efforts on behalf of Jonathan Pollard, currently serving a life sentence in a maximum security prison for turning over classified materials to Israel.

Because Pollard embodied their worst fears about becoming a shanda fur de goyim, American Jewish leaders either maintained an icy silence about the affair, even after Pollard received the maximum sentence for spying, or vilified him. Dershowitz, however, makes a strong argument on civil libertarian grounds for Pollard's release. He argues convincingly that the government's behavior has been deplorable, breaching its plea bargaining agreement with Pollard, interfering with his right to counsel, and possibly leaking false information to the sentencing judge which could only inflame him against Pollard. Worse, Pollard has already served more time (six years) than the average defendant convicted of spying for a U.S. ally (five years).

Although these facts argue for Pollard's release on legal grounds, Dershowitz is convinced that Pollard will be released or have his sentence reduced only if the government is pressured to do so by the organized Jewish community, which, until very

recently, has shown no interest in that direction. That attitude, however, is beginning to change as a result of Dershowitz's efforts and those of others at the grass roots. Whatever the outcome, the Pollard incident confirms Dershowitz's thesis that even 40 years after the Holocaust, many Jews, particularly the Jewish establishment, remain victims of the shanda fur de goyim complex.

The Pollard case, however, raises a basic ambiguity in Dershowitz's argument for Jewish activism. In virtually every instance, the Jewish interest that Dershowitz seeks to advance is fully consistent with some larger, universal moral principal. Hence, Dershowitz can argue convincingly that pursuing Jewish interests is in fact good for America.

But what if the Jewish interests cannot be reconciled with some larger good? Should Jews nevertheless pursue their interest because it is good for them, even if it is not good for anyone else? For example, what if in the Pollard case, the sentence Pollard received could not be attacked on civil libertarian grounds, either because the government did behave properly or because the sentence was consistent with the treatment accorded other convicted spies? Under such circumstances, should the American Jewish community nevertheless pressure the government for Pollard's early release?

Dershowitz's position is far from clear. At times he seems to suggest that if they were a healthy people — i.e., free of the shanda fur de goyim complex — Jews would unabashedly pursue their self interest like any other group in the United States and presumably push for Pollard's release.

Unfortunately, this conception of politics as the clash of individuals and groups, each pursuing its own narrow interest, has been disastrous for the United States. The current paralysis of the federal government is due in no small measure to the competing pressures of these special interest groups. Because these groups push their own agendas without regard to any transcendent national interest, the most serious problems facing the country, such as the budget deficit, are allowed to fester because politicians, fearful of the reaction of special interest groups, dare not tackle them.

This criticism of American politics has been made so frequently and is

so widely accepted that it seems odd that in 1991 anyone, let alone a law professor, should be urging that special-interest politics be intensified.

If, in his defense of Pollard, Dershowitz has freed himself from the shanda fur de goyim complex, in his chapter on Israel, the weakest part of the book, Dershowitz exhibits the same symptoms of the complex that he condemns in others. How else is one to explain the glaring omissions and euphemisms in his analysis of Israel's human rights violations? Indeed, even before he gets to the substance of his comments, Dershowitz imposes limits on his ability to criticize Israel. First, he will not criticize Israel as a Jew, since such criticism in the past has been used by anti-Israel forces in their campaign to delegitimize Israel. More importantly, Dershowitz appears to waffle on the issue of whether Israel's geopolitical positions, as opposed to any particular action taken by Israel, may be subject to public criticism, even though, as he himself acknowledges, a series of individual actions may ultimately flow from the geopolitical strategy.

Even within the parameters he has set for himself, Dershowitz's scrutiny of Israel's record is less than exacting. Although the most serious human rights violations by Israel have taken place in the context of the intifada, Dershowitz discusses the uprising only in passing. Instead, he focuses on his investigation of alleged human rights violations by Israel years earlier.

Thus, in discussing the Israeli practice of administrative detention under which the authorities may imprison a suspect for up to six months without ever charging him with a crime, Dershowitz discusses the practice as part of a study he undertook in 1970 for the Ford Foundation, at a time when Israel apparently subjected only 24 Israeli Arabs to administrative detention. However, the real abuse of administrative detention has taken place in suppressing the intifada. Throughout this period, Israel has been holding several thousand West Bank Arabs under administrative detention in a makeshift prison in the Negev under primitive conditions. Yet Dershowitz mentions this fact only in a footnote, although, in fairness, he does condemn it. Similarly, in discussing the use of the torture against prisoners by Israel's security forces, Dershowitz prefers the euphemism "physical pressure" to the more forthright "torture."

Dershowitz claims that Israel cannot be expected to apply the same legal safeguards to the West Bank as it provides its own citizens because no occupying power has ever done so, including the United States when it occupied Japan and Germany after World War II. That argument, however, is misleading in two respects.

First, Israel applies a double legal standard not to the territory which it occupies, but to the population which is occupied. Thus, an Israeli citizen living on the West Bank is accorded far greater legal protection than an Arab from the West Bank and is far likely to receive a lighter sentence for the same crime, as the Israeli attorney general concluded several years ago in a report the Israeli government tried to suppress.

More importantly, the U.S. occupation of Japan and Germany was temporary and was always intended to remain so. That is not the case with the Israeli occupation. While the Arabs have certainly tied Israel's hands in negotiating an end to the occupation, the current government of Israel is just as intransigent about changing the status quo. It is led by Yitzhak Shamir, who voted against the Camp David accords, and made up of parties like Moledet, whose platform expressly calls for the expulsion of the West Bank Palestinians, and Tsomet and Tehiya, which forced Shamir to abandon his own limited peace plan. If Israel intends to remain permanently on the West Bank, which is the current government's position, it is not at all inappropriate for it to accord the native population the legal protection it accords its own citizens.

Aware perhaps of these flaws in his analysis, Dershowitz attempts to deflect any criticism by accusing those Jews who rush to condemn Israel as doing so out of a shanda fur de goyim mentality. They want to show their gentile neighbors that they, unlike Israel, are good Jews. However, it is just as easy to claim that Dershowitz's obvious reluctance to criticize Israel is merely the flip side of the same mentality, a reluctance to show the darker side of the Jewish State, lest the gentiles think ill of it.

Of course, to criticize Mr. Dershowitz's book as being too gentle on Israel is to criticize it for being too infused with ahavat Yisrael and that, in our tradition, is no criticism at all. (Howard Gootkin, an attorney practicing in New York, was a student of Professor Dershowitz at the Harvard Law School.)

National Jewish Book Awards

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Twelve authors and one illustrator have won the 1991 National Jewish Book Awards, announced Dr. Leonard Singer Gold, President of the Jewish Book Council. The Jewish Book Council is sponsored by the Jewish Community Centers Association of North America.

The awards were presented at a ceremony to be held on Wednesday, June 12, at the 92nd Street YM-YWHA, 1395 Lexington Avenue, New York City.

The complete list of winners in the various categories follows:

Autobiography/Memoir (The Sandra Brand and Arik Weintraub Award): Irving Louis Horowitz, *Daydreams and Nightmares: Reflections of a Harlem Childhood* (University Press of Mississippi).

Children's Literature (The Shapolsky Award): Nava Semel, *Becoming Gershona* (Viking Penguin).

Contemporary Jewish Life (The Ronald Lauder Foundation): co-authors Daniel J. Elazar and Harold M. Waller, *Maintaining Consensus: The Canadian Jewish Policy in the Postwar World* (The Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs/University Press of America).

Fiction (The William and Janice Epstein Award): Chaim Potok, *The Gift of Asher Lev* (Alfred A. Knopf, Inc.).

Holocaust (The Leon Jolson Award): Leni Yahil, *The Holocaust: The Fate of European Jewry—1932-1945* (Oxford University Press).

Israel (The Morris J. and Betty Kaplan Award): Sergio I. Minerbi, *The Vatican and Zionism: Conflict in the Holy Land—1895-1925* (Oxford University Press).

Jewish History (The Gerrard and Ella Berman Award): Elisheva Carlebach, *The Pursuit of Heresy: Rabbi Moses Hagiz and the Sabbatian Controversies* (Columbia University Press).

Jewish Thought (Donor Anonymous): Neil Gillman, *Sacred Fragments: Recovering Theology for the Modern Jew* (Jewish Publication Society).

Scholarship (The Sarah H. and Julius Kishner Memorial Award): Gavin Langmuir, *History, Religion & Antisemitism* (University of California Press).

Visual Arts (The Ita and Joshua Aber Award): Shalom Sabar, *Ketubah: Jewish Marriage Contracts of Hebrew Union College Skirball Museum and Klau Library* (Jewish Publication Society).

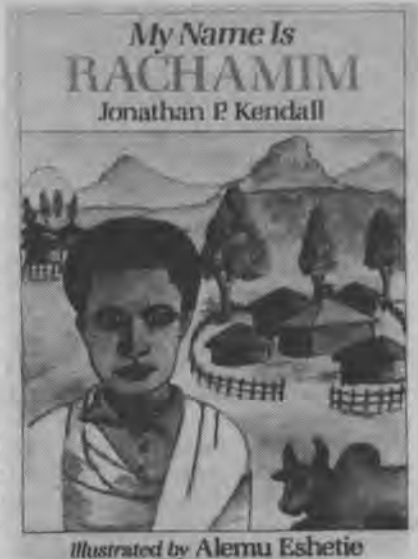
Childrens book takes look at Ethiopian Jewry

The Union of American Hebrew Congregations reports that since Operation Solomon there has been an upsurge in demand for "My Name Is Rachamim," the first children's book published about Ethiopian Jewry. It tells the first-person story of a Jewish youngster who reaches Israel with his family after a dramatic flight. The text also provides interesting historical and cultural information about this long isolated Jewish community.

Published in 1987, after Opera-

tion Moses — the first major evacuation of Ethiopian Jews to Israel — the 32-page book was written by Rabbi Jonathan P. Kendall, who was active in that earlier rescue operation. The illustrator was Alemu Eshetie, a young Ethiopian now in Israel.

"My Name Is Rachamim" is for elementary school children and is available from the UAHC Press, 838 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY at \$9.45 a copy, including postage and handling.



Illustrated by Alemu Eshetie

Israeli Perspective

Immigrants become capitalists

By **NECHEMIA MEYERS**

Special to The Jewish Voice

Though they grew up in a Socialist society, some 10 percent of Soviet immigrants become practicing capitalists within a few years of their arrival in Israel.

Most set up businesses without any particular training, but a growing minority initially participate in special courses, the two most important of which are organized by the Hebrew University and Tel Aviv University. There the newcomers study, among other things, the principles of Western economics, interpersonal and business communication, entrepreneurial risks and tax regulations.

In addition to theoretical studies, participants also have the opportunity to become acquainted with specific factories and businesses, as well as to prepare plans for ventures of their own. These plans are subjected to the scrutiny of real businessmen, so that the would-be entrepreneurs can learn the strengths and weaknesses of their schemes — before the learning process costs them money.

But certain things cannot be taught. As Prof. Eitan Miller of Tel Aviv University's Faculty of Management puts it: "We do not teach initiative, because that it usually inborn or the result of early education, not something that can be acquired later."

Russian immigrants entering the business world are likely to seek out fields where their special background is of value, as has advertising consultant Stanislav Tomski. He was associated with advertising in the USSR and thus is well qualified to help local ad agencies make an effective pitch to consumers whose thinking was shaped by the Soviet experience.

It is not enough, says Tomski, to merely translate a Hebrew-language advertisement into a Russian-language one. For example, contractors trying to sell apartments to veteran Israelis will typically emphasize the size of the apartments, the number of rooms and the availability of nearby parking space. But immigrants, Tomski goes on, are apt to be more interested in the character of the neighborhood than in the layout of the apartment. They'll particularly want to know if it is near good schools (where their children can study), and to decent-sized parks (where their aged parents can stroll or play chess).

Moreover, in the case of consumer goods, immigrants must often be persuaded that a product is of value before an attempt is made to convince them that one brand is better

than another. After all, there were no disposable diapers or frozen foods in Moscow.

Unlike Tomski, Yuri Volovsky entered a new field — albeit linked to his Russian background — when he came to Israel. After he found that there

were no disposable diapers or frozen foods in Moscow, but many newcomers are attracted by the personal attention they get from Volovsky.

Russian immigrants who have been here for some years are more likely to embark upon ventures where their Soviet background is of scant impor-

an annual turnover of some \$6m. — originally concentrated on work in English, French and Spanish. Now, emphasis has switched to Eastern European languages, including Russian, Polish, Rumanian and Bulgarian.

Sasha Klein, whose film company has made over 100 documentaries, has also turned eastward of late. Among other things, Klein was among those involved in "Whispering Embers," Israel TV's brilliant eight-part series on Soviet Jewry.

The most recent indication that immigrants from the USSR are now part and parcel of the local commercial scene was the appearance last month of Israel's first Russian-language classified phone book, which lists 10,000 businesses. There is nothing like it in Russia itself, so perhaps immigrant entrepreneurs can start preparing such volumes for their former home towns.

“In the case of consumer goods, immigrants must often be persuaded that a product is of value before an attempt is made to convince them that one brand is better than another. After all, there were no disposable diapers or frozen foods in Moscow”

was no work for him as an engineer, Volovsky set up his own private absorption office to help newcomers deal with their most immediate problems: renting an apartment, registering their children at a suitable educational institution, buying basic appliances and, where possible, finding a job. Most of these things are also handled by official

tance. Thus Vladamir Starkman created a company which sells \$300,000 a year worth of devices that cut down the water consumption of toilets, while Alexander Popov has established a firm which does everything from multimedia presentations and graphics to translations and typesetting.

Popov — with 28 employees and

Cural Calendar

PHILADELPHIA

The National Museum of American Jewish History is the recent recipient of a collection of handmade dolls that had been thought lost, most depicting Biblical characters. The dolls are the work of Diana Slavin Forman, well-known from the 1940s through the 1960s as a lecturer, teacher and artist. In August, the museum will open an exhibition of approximately 45 of the dolls and other objects created by Forman entitled "Diana S. Forman: The Bible Doll Lady." The exhibit will run through the spring of 1992.

A collection of photographs by Philadelphia native Laurence Salzmann, entitled "Anyos Muchos y Buenos: Photographs Celebrating 500 Years of Spanish Jews Living in Turkey," is currently on display at the University Museum of the University of Pennsylvania. The exhibit features a 60-piece selection from the thousands Salzmann took over a six-year period beginning in 1986 and serves as a record of that community of about 21,000 Jews, 19,000 of whom live in Istanbul. The exhibit will run through August 10.

NEW YORK

Sixteen silkscreen prints by teachers at the Bazalel Academy in Jerusalem will be on exhibit at UJA-Federation Headquarters, 130 East 59th St., in Manhattan, from 2 to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in July and August. The participating artists came from Romania, South Africa and other parts of the world to teach at the academy.

The Lower East Side Tenement Museum is presenting "Meddling with Peddling: The Pushcart Wars" through January 5, 1992. This exhibit is a look at both historical and contemporary aspects of street peddling and merchants on the Lower East Side.

"The Sephardic Journey: 1492-1992," an exhibit which chronicles the history and lives of Jewish communities throughout the world whose members are descendants of Spanish and Portuguese Jews, will be on display at the Yeshiva University Museum through November 1992. The exhibit will include more than a thousand religious and cultural objects, photographs, paintings and costumes, commemorating the 500th anniversary of the expulsion of Jews from Spain during the Inquisition.

More than 50 original posters illustrating Jewish history make up a new exhibit at Yeshiva University Museum. The exhibit, "Witnesses to History: The Jewish Poster 1770-1985," displays major themes such as the changing status of Jews in Europe, the anti-religious sentiment of Stalinist Russia, and the support of the American Jewish community for Israel.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

"From the Ends of the Earth: Judaic Treasures of the Library of Congress," an exhibition of some 240 items reflecting America's hospitality to different peoples and cultures, will be on view at the Library's Madison Gallery through August 25.

The role of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) in accomplishing social reform in America will be highlighted in a new exhibit at the Smithsonian's Museum of American History. "From Parlor to Politics: Women and Reform in America, 1890-1925," features NCJW's efforts in the area of social welfare. The exhibit will continue indefinitely.

The B'nai B'rith Klutznick Museum has opened a new exhibit entitled "Stars of David: Jews in Sports." The exhibit highlights the careers of outstanding Jewish American athletes while noting the accomplishments of Jewish athletes worldwide. Among the memorabilia are Sandy Koufax's Cy Young and Most Valuable Player awards, Hank Greenberg's uniform and Sid Luckman's leather helmet. The exhibit will continue through November.

For more information on these events, contact the sponsoring organizations.

Japanese

Continued from 8

cial attache to Tel Aviv will take place this fall, when a ministry delegation is expected to visit Israel to expand economic relations.

"Although this progress is very encouraging, and Japan is slowly emerging from its undimensional Middle East stance," Moses said, "the Japanese government has yet to assert its full influence toward combatting the Arab boycott."

Japan seeks to be more actively involved in the Middle East peace process, but its participation will not be fully accepted until it is seen as more forthcoming in its dealings with Israel.



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Announcements/Events

AKSE get-together

Congregation Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth, the Traditional synagogue in Wilmington, will hold a social get-together on Sunday, August 18, at 7 p.m., for prospective members and current members who joined the synagogue during the last two years. The get-together will be held at the home of Marilyn and Dick Harwick, 501 West 37th Street in Wilmington.

Rabbi Nathan Schorr, officers of the congregation, members of the Membership Committee and the principal of the synagogue's religious school will greet and welcome those attending.

To make reservations or for further information on the congregation, call Marilyn Harwick at 762-2473.

Guide to the Delaware Jewish community to be published in October

The Jewish Voice will publish its annual Guide to the Delaware Jewish community in the October 25 issue. This guide, a pull-out supplement to The Voice, is distributed to all Jewish newcomers to the Delaware area during the year following its publication.

Presidents or publicity chairmen of all local Jewish organizations and local chapters of national organizations are asked to check last year's guide and make any corrections and/or addition to their organizations' descriptions and lists of officers. The format for these short articles will remain the same this year. The deadline for any change is Friday, September 20.

For more information on this Guide to the Jewish community, call Paula Hait, Jewish Voice Editor, at 478-6200.

AKSE board elected

Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth has announced the election of its Board of Directors. They are: Alan Goldberg, President; Jeffrey Seidel, Vice

President (Finance); Harriet Aimbinder, Vice President (Education); Lex Vega, Vice President (Religious Affairs); Marilyn Harwick, Vice President (Membership); Mark Wagman, Vice President (Community Affairs); Steve Rudnitsky, Vice President (Ways and Means); Josef Baruch, Treasurer, and Helen Winslow, Secretary.

In addition, there are 37 members appointe to the Board of Governors.

The Sisterhood co-presidents are Lena Elzufon and Linda Cutler-Smith. Steve Rudnitsky is the Men's Club President. The advisor is Sara Berlin and the special assistant to the president for cultural affairs is Sara Goldstein.

YJAD August calendar

The Young Jewish Adults of Delaware, for singles in their twenties and thirties, has planned several events for August. To be included on the mailing list for their monthly newsletter, call the Jewish Community Center at 478-5660.

On Saturday, August 3, at 9 p.m., the YJAD will play miniature golf at the Valleybrook Miniature Golf Course, just north of the Delaware/Pennsylvania state line. Members will meet afterward for ice cream. The rain date for this event is Sunday, August 4, at 7:30 p.m. To reserve a place, call David Bernstein at (609) 678-8029 by August 1.

The YJAD will play co-ed volleyball on the JCC Family Campus on Monday, August 5, 12, 19 and 26. Games will begin at 6 p.m. and are non-competitive. Admission is \$1 for JCC members and \$2 for non-members. (Beginning on September 4, the volleyball games will move inside to the JCC gym.) For more information, call Mike Schenk at 475-4981.

On Sunday, August 18, the YJAD will sponsor (co-ed) evening softball on the JCC Family Campus. The game will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will continue until dusk. Admission is \$1 for JCC members and \$2 for non-members. Call Robin Strassner at 652-1219 for more information.

A "Weekday Escape" cookout is scheduled for Wednesday, August 14, at the home of Marci Muskin at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are required by August 7 and may be made by calling Muskin at 292-0379. The cost for the barbecue is \$11 per person.

A "Summer Bike Hike" is scheduled for Sunday, August 18, beginning at 9:30 a.m. The three-hour ride will originate from the Newark Shopping Center, Main Street, in Newark, and will cover primarily flat countryside. Participants are encouraged to bring water and money for lunch. A helmet is also suggested. Cost to participate is \$1 and reservations may be made by calling Howard Zwick at 737-7471.

Naches

Blumberg

Marc Andrew Blumberg, son of Nancy and Jay Blumberg of Wilmington, was selected as one of two Delaware delegates to the National Youth Science Camp held near Bartow, West Virginia. The camp, designed to honor and encourage some of the nation's most outstanding science students, is now in its 28th year. Each year, two students from each state, chosen for excellence in science, leadership and community involvement, are selected to participate.

Blumberg recently graduated first in his class from Concord High School. He is listed in "Who's Who Among American High School Students" and is a member of the National Honor Society. In the fall, Blumberg plans to attend the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.

Kerbel

Ruth and Bob Kerbel of Wilmington have announced the birth of a grandson, Judah Ari, on June 23. The parents are Rabbi Paul and Melissa Kerbel of Bowie, Maryland.

Klein/Metnick

Dr. and Mrs. Charles Klein announce the marriage of their daughter, Wendy, to Alan Metnick in Providence, R.I., on July 4. The grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harry Klein of Wilmington and Mrs. Ann Rudman of Philadelphia.

Dear Rachel

My son is all excited about going to camp. I'm upset. There is one kid his age whom he really likes, who also happens to be the son of the first woman my ex-husband had an affair with while we were still married.

The kid's a nice kid, and I don't mind if they play together in camp. What I can't stomach is the idea of having to smile at her and arrange play dates with her as though nothing ever happened. Who pays the price for my ex's sins? Me, by having to look at her smug lying face, or my son, who can't see his friend after camp hours unless I arrange it with her?

Sick to my Stomach

Dear Sick,

The odds are good that if your son and his friend are the same age, you'll be seeing a lot of his mother over the years. If you fall apart each time you see her, every trip to the supermarket or the JCC is a potential trial by ordeal (like the Maidenform woman, you never know where she'll turn up). You have a problem whether or not you further your son's friendship.

You might as well get yourself used to seeing her by deliberately meeting her eye when you bump into her at pickup time. Disconcert her a bit by smiling. Leave her wondering what you know that she doesn't, while you look like a lady.

If this seems hard to do, try this mental trick recommended by the Fathers According to Rabbi Nathan (Chapter 41). "...if your fellow has done you a slight, favor, let it be a great thing in your eyes; if your fellow has done you a great evil, let it be a little thing in your eyes." She is only a symptom of the problems in your marriage, and she did do your son the favor of producing a child worthy of his friendship. The marriage is over; let the children's friendship begin.

Rachel

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

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JCC Board Announces Plans for New Fitness Center

"The JCC Board of Directors voted to make renovations to the existing JCC fitness facilities and to purchase new equipment at their last meeting", said Richard David Levin, JCC President.

"The Board decided to make the renovations after an intensive study of the JCC membership, which revealed a variety of concerns regarding the condition of the current fitness facilities", said Levin. "A task force, headed by Bob Coonin, was organized to address these concerns and make recommendations for modifications to the area. Many committees have also been involved in the planning and decision making process", he added. The construction of the new Fitness Center is currently in the design phase. Please watch for more information on this new and exciting project!

High Holiday Luncheon for Seniors Planned

The seniors will celebrate the New Year with a High Holiday Luncheon in the Sol and Tanya Zallea Auditorium of the JCC on Thursday, September 12 at 12:00 noon.

Traditional foods will be served during the luncheon, followed by a musical program presented by Rabbi Jeffrey Eisenstat.

Please reserve this date on your calendar now. Reservations are required by September 4 and can be made by calling 478-5660.

Broadway Bonanza

"Miss Saigon"

Wednesday, October 2
\$ 95.00/Members
\$ 110.00/Non-Members

"Lost in Yonkers" by Neil Simon

Wednesday, November 13
\$ 85.00/Members
\$ 105.00/Non-Members

"Will Rogers Follies"

Wednesday, December 18
\$ 95.00/Members
\$ 120.00/Non-Members

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

Children's Dinner and Theatre

The Jewish Family Campus presents, "The Invisible Dragon", a special family-style theatre presentation on Sunday, August 4 on the grounds of the Family Campus. An Italian style dinner will be served at 4:30 p.m., followed by the performance at 6:00 p.m.

The cost is \$ 7.00 for adults and \$ 5.00 for children (includes dinner and performance).

Pre-registration is required and can be made at the outdoor campus control desk or at the indoor JCC Front Desk.

In the event of rain, the dinner and performance will be held indoors. For additional information, please call Eileen Wallach, Recreational Services Director at the JCC.

Jewish Great Books Group Meetings

Third Tuesday evening of each month
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

FALL READINGS

9/19 - "Last of the Just",
Andre Schwarz-Bart
(May be ordered from Walden)
10/15 - "God in Search of Man",
Abraham Heschel
(Excerpts)
11/19 - "The Shal and Rosa",
Cythia Ozick

The group is open to all interested adults. Please call Lynn Greenfield, Adult Program Director at 478-5660 for additional information.

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the entire community, "L' Shana Tova".*

JCC Children's Center Programs Give Mom "A Break"

Two Children's Center programs are designed to give parents a breather from the everyday stresses of parenthood.

"Love 'Em and Leave 'Em", is a pre-registered hourly child care service available on a pay as you go hourly basis. We'll love 'em while you leave 'em on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between the hours of 8:45 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. Registration is accepted at the JCC Front Desk.

"Mother's Day Out" is a new program coming this fall for children ages 10 months to 3 years. Children will be registered for two and half or four hours on Fridays from September 13 through November 22. What a wonderful opportunity for at-home parents to have a break at the week's end! For additional information, contact Jane Hormadaly, Children Center Director at 478-5660.

Senior Center Trip to Hilton Head October 13 - October 18

Members of the JCC Senior Center will travel to Hilton Head, South Carolina from Sunday, October 13 to Friday, October 18. They will visit various points of interest including Harbor town in the Sea Pines Plantation, Palmetto Bay Marina, Savannah, Georgia and the old part of Beaufort.

The trip includes transportation, hotel accommodations, breakfast and dinner for three days and admissions to all planned attractions and gratuities. For more information, please call Ray Freshman, Senior Center Coordinator at 478-5660. Reservations must be confirmed by August 15.

THERE'S STILL TIME LEFT TO ENJOY CAMP FUN!



Sign-up today for Post Camp I and Post Camp II
August 19 through August 31

Please call the Camping Services Office
at the JCC for more details!

Obituaries

Berta Nussbaum

Berta Nussbaum, 89, of 4013 Greenmount Road, Talleyville, formerly of New York City, died June 26 of respiratory failure in Wilmington Hospital, where she was a patient.

Mrs. Nussbaum, a homemaker, moved to Delaware in 1987.

She was a member of Congregation Beth Emeth in Wilmington and Liberty Lodge of Free sons of Israel in New York City.

Her husband, Max, died in 1979. She is survived by her daughter, Stella Mandel, with whom she lived; a grandson and a great-grandson.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Congregation Beth Emeth or Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah.

Esther K. Seidel

Esther K. Seidel, 76, formerly of 604 Lea Blvd., Wilmington, died June 27 of heart failure at Kutz Home,

704 River Road, Brandywine Hundred, where she was a patient.

Mrs. Seidel was a secretary for Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, Wilmington, the oldest synagogue in Delaware, for 25 years. She retired in 1986.

She was a member of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation and its sisterhood.

Her husband, Benjamin, died in 1976. She is survived by a son, Carl, of Far Rockaway, N.Y.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, Wilmington.

Max R. Twer

Max R. Twer, 81, of 9908 Bustleton Avenue in Philadelphia, died June 28.

Mr. Twer is survived by his wife Kate; a son, Sheldon M. Twer of Oakdale, California; a daughter, Joan M. Reichwald of Chalfonte; two

brothers, Charles Twer of Heathergreen Commons and Aaron Twer of New Hope, Pennsylvania; a sister, Sophie Rubin of Philadelphia; and three grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Holy Redeemer Hospice, 12265 Townsed Road, Philadelphia.

Miriam Medgebow

Mariam Medgebow, 69, of 2406 Kingman Drive, Chalfonte, died June 29 of cancer at home.

Mrs. Medgebow was a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, Irving; a son, Jeffrey, with whom she lived; two daughters, Linda Siegel of Wilmington and Marcella Frimmel of Scottsdale, Ariz.; five sisters, Mary Bratspis, Henrietta Kaplan, Elizabeth Hershman, Anne Becker and Lena Korson, all of Philadelphia; and four grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Delaware Hospice Inc.

Lillian Coopersmith Cramer

Lillian Coopersmith Cramer, of 1301 N. Harrison St., Wilmington, died July 2 of cancer at home. Her age was not disclosed.

Mrs. Cramer had owned and operated Park Distributing, a liquor wholesale firm, which she sold a few years ago.

She was a member and former president of Hadassah and member of Congregation Beth Emeth.

Her husband, Paul, died in 1972. Surviving are a sister, Zena Aber of Milford and Palm Harbor, Fla., and a nephew.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to charity.

Mary H. Weinstein

Mary H. Weinstein, 73, of North Bradford Street, Dover, died July 2 of cancer at home.

Mrs. Weinstein, a homemaker, was a member of Beth Shalom Congregation of Dover.

Her husband, Julius A., died in 1986. She is survived by two sons, Allan of Ocean City, Md., and Ron of Denver; four brothers, Joe Hanovice of Los Angeles, Harry Hanovice of Houston, Texas, David Hanovice of Fort Lee, N.J., and Itzok Hanovice of Partess Hanna, Israel; and three sisters, Jennie Key of Galveston, Texas, Chana Stern of Ramat Gan, Israel, and Yonah Eckstein of Partess Hanna.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Delaware Hospice Inc., Central Division, Dover.

Sol Toumarkine

Sol Toumarkine, 85, of 522 Marsh Road in Penny Hill, died July 4 of progressive heart disease in Wilmington Hospital.

Born in Russia in 1905, Mr. Toumarkine and his parents survived the pogroms and fled to France later that year.

Pogroms were mob attacks, condoned by the Russian government, against persons and property of a religious, racial or national minority. The first extensive pogrom followed the assassination of Czar Alexander II in 1881. From 1903 to 1906, pogroms were common throughout the country.

The family came to the United States in 1920.

Mr. Toumarkine was a 1924 graduate of Wilmington High School and worked his way through Harvard University. He graduated in 1928.

He returned to Wilmington after

graduation and began working as a salesman at Ogden-Howard Furniture Co., Wilmington, eventually becoming president in 1953. He retired in 1982.

He was director of Brandywine Country Club, Home Savings and Loan and the Jewish Federation of Delaware, and was vice president of Jewish Community Center.

He is survived by his wife, Sadie Cohen Toumarkine; a son, David of Burlington, Vt.; a daughter, Elaine Bermas of Roslyn Heights, N.Y.; a sister, Zelda Schuller of North Miami Beach, Fla.; and four grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to charity.

Nathan Porter

Nathan Porter, 83, formerly of 2100 Tremont St., Philadelphia, and 39th and Monroe streets, Wilmington, died July 8 in Philadelphia Geriatric Center, 5301 Old York Road, Philadelphia, his residence for several years.

Before retiring in 1970, Mr. Porter had owned and operated Union Street Hardware store, Eighth and Union streets, and Harvey's Diner on Maryland Avenue, both in Wilmington, and B&W Deli in southwest Philadelphia.

He was a former member of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation. He moved to Philadelphia in 1961.

His wife, Rose M., died in 1976. He is survived by a son, Harvey of Philadelphia; three daughters, Sheila Berman of Claymont, Del., Maxine Judge of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and Marian Carol Kessler of Philadelphia; and nine grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, Wilmington.

Nathan Heiligman

Nathan Heiligman, 80, of 904 W. 21st St., Wilmington, died July 9 of heart failure in Wilmington Hospital, after being stricken at home.

Mr. Heiligman had been a lab technician at Du Pont Co.'s Experimental Station. He retired in 1976 after 24 years.

He was a member of Congregation Beth Emeth, B'nai B'rith Lodge 470 and Du Pont Country Club. He enjoyed bridge, bowling and golf.

He is survived by his wife, Veronica Scherry Heiligman; three daughters, Helen Brown of Kanata, Ontario, Canada, Maxine Feldman of Larchmont, N.Y., and Linda Day of Wilmington; a brother, David of Lebanon, Pa.; a sister, Zelda Seere of Forest Hills, N.Y., and six grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Congregation Beth Emeth or American Heart Association, Wilmington.

Martin Slutsky

Martin Slutsky, of Stuart, Florida, died July 19 in Christiana Hospital. He was 67.

Mr. Slutsky is survived by his wife, Frances C. Slutsky; a son, Dennis Slutsky; a daughter, Ilene Garvey; and three grandchildren.

Rashelle Goldberg Altschul
Rashelle Goldberg Altschul, 82, of Forwood Manor Retirement Community, died July 19.

Mrs. Altschul was the widow of Herbert Bernard Altschul. She is survived by three daughters, Deborah Resnick of Wilmington, Jill Lion of Baltimore and Beth Hurwich of Piedmont, California; and five grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to The American Heart Association, Delaware Division, Inc., 4C Trolley Square, Wilmington, DE 19806.

Benjamin Gershman

Benjamin H. Gershman, who co-

founded Norm Gershman's Things To Wear, died July 20 of cancer at Christiana Hospital, where he was a patient. He was 78.

Mr. Gershman, of 4100 Hillcrest Drive, Hollywood, Fla., and his son, Norman L. of Newark, opened the family business in Rehoboth Beach in 1966. The discount store offers brand-name men's, women's and children's clothing. A second store opened in Newark in 1969, and a third in Wilmington's Market Street Mall in 1985.

After heart surgery in 1987, Mr. Gershman, formerly of Wilmington, remained a full-time consultant and worked part time at the store.

Earlier, he was the buyer and manager in the women's sportswear department of the original Wilmington Dry Goods Co. He was known worldwide for his ladies \$7 suit sale, described in McCall's magazine in the early 1960s, his son said.

He created the store's mailing list as a result of this sale. J.M. Lazarus, owner of Wilmington Dry Goods, rewarded Mr. Gershman with several vacations.

He worked at Wilmington Dry Goods for 31 years and retired in 1968, when he began working at Norm Gershman's Things to Wear store in Rehoboth.

He was a member of Montefiore Mutual Benefit Society, Lafayette Lodge AF&AM and Delaware Consistory, all of Wilmington, Temple Beth El, Newark, and Nur Temple Shrine, New Castle.

In addition to his son, he is survived by his wife, Sylvia H.; a brother, Jack of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; a sister, Reba Katz of Philadelphia; and two grandsons.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Temple Beth El, Newark.

Leopold Birnbaum

Leopold Birnbaum, longtime owner of Birnbaum's Home Furnishings Co. in Wilmington, died at Riverside Hospital, where he was a patient. He was 84.

Mr. Birnbaum, of 711 W. 37th St., retired from his home furnishings business in 1986, after about 30 years.

Born in Germany, he moved to the United States in 1936.

He was a member of Mach Zikay Hadas and Temple Beth Emeth, both in Wilmington.

He is survived by his wife, Frances of Wilmington; a son, Dr. William of Corona Del Mar, Calif.; a daughter, Judy Perlman of Carlisle, Pa.; a stepson, Phillip Wolfsheimer of Germany; a stepdaughter, Joan Almon of College Park, Md.; and six grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Temple Beth Emeth.

Irving Zetlin

Irving Zetlin, 78, of 1407 W. Fourth St., Wilmington, died of heart failure on July 21 at St. Francis Hospital, after being stricken at home.

Mr. Zetlin, a leather grainer at Allied Kid Co., Wilmington, for 39 years, retired in 1976.

He was a member of Machzikey Hadas Congregation and Montefiore Mutual Benefit Society.

He is survived by his wife, Jean E.; a son, Steve of Liftwood Estates; a daughter, Nancy Ruth Zetlin of Wilmington; a sister, Beatrice Zetlin of Boston; and three grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to American Lung Association or American Heart Association.

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Police bungled Temple Mount riots but did not break law, judge finds

JERUSALEM (JTA) — An investigative judge announced last week that there is insufficient evidence available to incriminate any of the police officers who fired live ammunition at stone-throwing Arabs on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem last year, killing 17 and wounding scores more. But Judge Ezra Kama's lengthy report on the so-called Temple Mount massacre of Oct. 8, 1990 was sharply critical of certain police conduct, especially of experienced senior officers who he thought could have avoided the episode.

Kama was appointed to investigate possible police culpability for the deaths after families of the deceased expressed dissatisfaction with the results of an investigation conducted last year.

A special commission of inquiry headed by former Mossad chief Avi Zamir failed to recommend legal measures against any of the police personnel, although it criticized the performance of some senior officers.

Kama's report stressed that lack of evidence, not approval of the way the police acted, ruled out legal measures at this time. It noted that if additional evidence turns up, the state prosecutor should consider pressing

charges for "negligence which endangered human lives."

The Jerusalem police were obviously relieved by the report. At least a few had feared a recommendation for legal action. Police Inspector General Ya'acov Terner said that his department would study the full report and draw the proper conclusions. But whatever changes are made are expected to be operational rather than in personnel.

The Temple Mount massacre seriously hurt Israel's image in world opinion and intensified the intifada. It is believed to have touched off the wave of random stabbings of Jews by Arabs, in quiet neighborhoods and main thoroughfares of Israeli cities as well as in the administered territories.

The Temple Mount is an area in the Old City sacred to pious Jews and Moslems. The compound contains the Dome of the Rock and Al Aksa mosques, two of the most sacred shrines of the Moslem faith.

Since Israel captured the Old City in 1967, Jews have not been permitted to worship there in order to preserve peace and good order. But a militant Jewish group known as the Temple Mount Faithful have tried

repeatedly to defy the ban. On Oct. 8, rumors filled the mosques that Jewish activists were on their way to the Temple Mount. Despite police assurances to the contrary, crowds of Arabs gathered on the height overlooking the Western Wall and began stoning Jews worshipping there.

The police reacted by storming the Temple Mount and firing their weapons directly into the crowd. "There is

no doubt that because of this shooting, people were killed," the judge wrote.

One police officer testified that he fired a full rifle clip into the crowd. But the judge could not find direct evidence that his shooting caused anyone's death.

"It is possible that the behavior of some police deviated from rational behavior to the degree of negligence.

Nations agree on need for disarmament

PARIS (JTA) — The five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council agreed here July 9 on measures needed to eliminate weapons of mass destruction from the Middle East.

The two-day meeting between representatives of the United States, Soviet Union, Britain, France and China, concentrated on chemical, biological and nuclear weapons, as well as delivery systems, such as ground-to-ground missiles. The five nations, which together account for 85 percent of the world's arms exports, said they would like to see those weapons frozen and eventually banned.

Participants at the conference here agreed on the need for all countries in the region to submit all of their nuclear activities to the control of the Vienna-based U.N. International Atomic Energy Agency.

But I do not see fit to press charges against any of them," the judge wrote. He was sharply critical of "senior and experienced officers who failed to curb in advance the outbreak of events."

The bulk of his criticism was aimed at the special riot police, who he said "fired unnecessarily" while advancing on the crowd.

Avigdor Feldman, a lawyer representing the parents of an Israeli citizen killed in the riot, said he was satisfied with the judge's ruling. He noted, however, that Kama found "strange" discrepancies in the testimony of police officers.

Albanians want ties with Israel

NEW YORK (JTA) — Diplomatic relations could soon be established between Israel and Albania, until recently a Communist dictatorship in self-imposed isolation from both East and West.

That is the opinion of Rabbi Arthur Schneier of New York, president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, who led an interfaith delegation to the Albanian capital of Tirana this

month. Although no country was named, observers here immediately predicted pressure on Israel to submit to international scrutiny of its nuclear activities, which it has so far refused to accept.

Schneier said he found "good feelings toward Israel" among members of both the Albanian government and the opposition.

President Ramiz Alia, who like most Albanians is Moslem, voiced the hope that diplomatic relations between Albania and Israel would be established soon, Schneier reported.

Challenge

Continued from 3

bassy in Addis Ababa seeking help. According to Lubrani, Emperor Haile Selassie once told him that he could not let the Ethiopian Jews out because "by letting the Jews out, we would lose an element of genius." The emperor was right, Lubrani says. In five to seven years, they will be a rehabilitated, productive community, he predicts.

In addition to the acculturation process, the

Unaffiliated

Continued from 3

Jews responding positively to a clear and well delivered Jewish message of substance and point of few. Rabbis, Jewish thinkers and Israeli leaders with something to say often draw well among thoughtful young Jews who otherwise would not attend a synagogue or community lecture.

What they are seeking is quality and depth, not glitz and superficiality, however well intentioned.

That is a positive sign, one we must pursue, and the issue to focus on is how Judaism can relate to the modern world. In other words: why be Jewish?

Surveys indicate that the point of entry, or re-entry, into the Jewish community for many young families is when their own children are old enough to begin some form of Jewish

two biggest absorption problems are housing and employment. Housing is such a monumental problem because the immigrants are arriving in overwhelming numbers, Housing Minister Ariel Sharon explained. "From the beginning of 1990 until this morning (June 20) we have received 322,000 immigrants. By the end of the year, the number will be more than 400,000." In five years, we must build a half million apartments. To emphasize the enormity of the task, he stated, "Currently 100,000 apartments are under construction."

education. That's when the parents, often in their thirties, consider joining a synagogue in preparation for a future bar or bat mitzvah for their children.

Their own bar or bat mitzvah may have been the last ritual they performed, and the preparation for that day is often recalled with bitter memories of learning to read and chant a language they did not understand. But the pull of tradition leads these adults back into the organized Jewish world so that their own children can repeat the experience.

It is up to us to provide more meaningful answers so that we do not lose the next generation to the notion that Jewish life has nothing to offer.

(Gary Rosenblatt is the editor of the Baltimore Jewish Times in which this originally appeared.)

Creating hundreds of thousands of new jobs is another overwhelming task, which cynics might claim is impossible. But Israeli leaders of varying political persuasions demonstrated a clear understanding of the importance of new jobs and an eagerness to meet the challenge. Meir Shitrit, treasurer of the Jewish Agency, emphasized the importance of creating jobs so that people earn their own livings. "When a person is hungry, don't give him fish. Teach him to fish," he said.

Simcha Dinitz, chairman of the Jewish Agency, explained that the problem of employment was so great it would have to be addressed by both the private and public sectors. Aware of the potential of the highly educated new immigrants, Dinitz said, "unless we give the new immigrants what they need in jobs, we will waste their resources."

Former Prime Minister Shimon Peres described the challenge with the broadcast vision. "We must elevate the country to the level of the immigrants. We must create necessary jobs; the immigrants must not feel that they are being pushed aside. We must make Israel into a scientific, economic and technological center for the entire region."

Even those affected by the job market showed an understanding of the problem.

Former refusenik Vladimir Kislik, a renowned nuclear scientist in the Soviet Union, is now employed as a chemist in Jerusalem. He told me he misses his nuclear work, but he understands why, as a newcomer, he can't be trusted

to work in the top secret nuclear field in Israel. And at a program run by the Joint Distribution Committee to upgrade the skills of Soviet dental technicians, a young dental technician admitted that he might have trouble getting a job because "there are too many of us; it was easier two years ago." But there was no resentment in his voice, just a recognition of reality. Then he smiled and said life was good in Israel.

Absorbing 1 or 2 million people in a country with a population of 6.3 million will not be easy. But as Shimon Peres reminded us, "in the early 1950s, the population was 650,000 and we took in 700,000. We can do it again." Israel will bear tremendous financial responsibility for the absorption. This year, 20 percent of Israel's budget, about six billion dollars, will go towards absorption. But Israel can't do it alone. Israel needs the help of world Jewry. Simcha Dinitz said it best: "We can't solve all the problems with money, but we can't solve any of them without it."

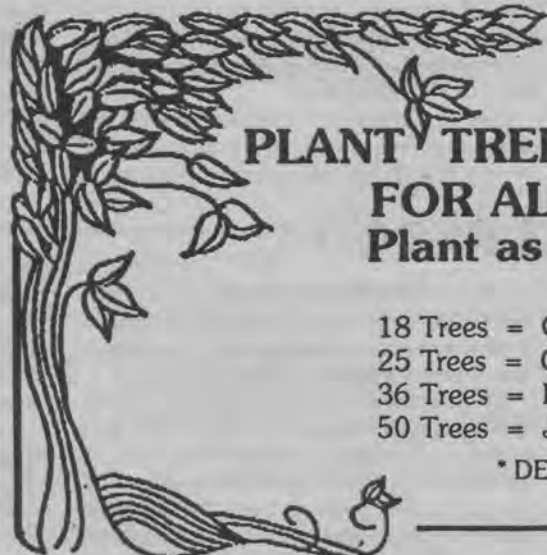
We are all poignantly aware of what Jews did not do for their fellow Jews during the Nazi era. Unlike the 1940s when people "didn't know," this time the facts are clearly in front of us. Israel stands poised to fulfill its mission as a haven for all Jews in need and as a light unto the nations. This is the moment to ensure the future of the Jewish people by building a strong state of Israel. Jewish destiny will be changed in this decade. Will you be part of it?

(Toni Young is a Vice President of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.)

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Breakthrough

Continued from 1

U.S. proposal that the conference reconvene periodically after direct negotiations have begun, to hear reports from the working groups. This would occur only with the consent of the negotiating parties.

Until now, Shamir has insisted that the plenary disband after the initial opening session, while the Syrians wanted it to stay in continuous session for the duration of the talks. But Israel can hardly reject the U.S. compromise now that Syria, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon have accepted it.

A last major sticking point is the vexed issue of Palestinian representation.

Shamir claimed Monday that he had a solid agreement with Washington that only Palestinian residents of the West Bank and Gaza Strip would be allowed to participate in the conference as members of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. He remains adamantly opposed to any "diaspora Palestinians," meaning those living outside the territories or

in East Jerusalem cannot be included.

That would rule out the most prominent local Palestinian leader, Faisal Husseini, who has been the Palestinians' senior representative at meetings with Secretary of State James Baker on all of his visits to Jerusalem, but whom Israel sees as a pawn of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Husseini himself proclaimed Monday that if there were no spokesman for East Jerusalem, the conference would not take place. He meant, presumably, that the Palestinians would refuse to attend on those terms.

But two of Baker's top State Department aides stayed on in Jerusalem this week to help nudge the parties over the final hurdles. They were said to be applying severe pressure on the Palestinians, here and in Tunis, not to be the spoilers.

The important thing, in the U.S. view, is to get the conference off the ground. Therefore, the Americans were telling all parties this week to pay no attention to public statements by other parties. That might account for the silence in Damascus that

followed a string of declarations by Israeli leaders, including former Prime Minister Menachem Begin and leading figures in the Labor Party, that Israel would never give up the Golan Heights.

The remaining obstacles seem to be relatively minor. But they could give Shamir, Assad or indeed the fragmented Palestinian leadership sufficient grounds to scuttle the entire process.

Shamir said Tuesday that Assad is "undergoing a process similar to that which Sadat underwent." The Syrian president, he said, understands that the Soviet Union is no longer the supportive superpower that once backed and bankrolled his military ambitions against Israel.

But does this mean that Shamir is preparing to treat Assad the way his predecessor, Begin, treated Sadat? Would Shamir cede to him the entire Golan Heights as Begin returned Sinai to Sadat? Does it mean that Shamir is prepared to make any territorial concession at all to win peace, whether on the Golan or in the West Bank and Gaza Strip?

Within his own coalition, the hard-liners

warned Shamir this week that at the first sign of wavering, they will walk out of his government. But that is an ineffective threat. Unless Shamir wants his government to fall and call early elections, he knows he can count on the Labor opposition to support him as long as he pursues a peace policy.

Does Assad, for his part, genuinely believe that his chances of conducting a successful war against Israel have evaporated because of the new global alignment brought about by the Soviet Union's collapse? Or is he playing for time, seeking to improve his political standing in the West, in order to gain aid while steadily building up his military forces for a future test of strength? Do the mainstream Palestinians comprehend their less-than-enviable position in the wake of Saddam Hussein's defeat? Or are they still trapped in their bitter fantasies?

Pundits can mull over these unknowns. But ultimately it is for the protagonists themselves, Shamir, Assad and the other main players to come up with the answers.

If those answers are positive, the Israeli-Arab conflict may be closer to a negotiated solution than it ever has been.

Thomas

Continued from 1

discrimination charges lapse without acting on them.

But "it is important that his views on such issues as the separation of church and state, free exercise of religion, freedom of expression and the constitutional right to privacy, on which the right to abortion is based, be thoroughly examined during the confirmation process," it said. The statement was signed by Melvin Salberg, the group's national chairman, and Abraham Foxman, its national director.

While Orthodox groups agree with secular Jewish organizations that they have to find out more about Thomas' views, they seem ready to offer their approval now. "We have a sense he is somebody we can be very comfortable with," said William Rapfogel, director of the Institute for Public Affairs of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America. Rapfogel said that Thomas displayed an "incredible sensitivity to the Jewish people" while he was at the EEOC. In 1986, the organization presented him with its Humanitarian Award.

During his EEOC tenure, Thomas also was "sensitive to the rights and concerns of Sabbath observers," said David Zwiebel, director

of governmental affairs for Agudath Israel of America. Zwiebel said Agudath Israel feels "a sense of kinship" with Thomas for "debunking the myth" that the black community is monolithic, just as Agudath Israel has sought to demonstrate that the Jewish community does not take a single stand on all issues. He said it is very healthy to show that there is diversity in the black community as in every community.

Thomas has "a very strong streak of independence, which has been honed by being very much an outsider within the black leadership group," said Murray Friedman, Middle Atlantic states director of the AJCommittee. Friedman, who served as vice chairman of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission from 1986 to 1989, said he has enormous respect for Thomas. "I have never seen a more towering intelligence," he said.

Soviet immigration

Continued from 1

Moshe Nativ, director general of the agency, told its annual assembly here last week that Soviet Jews contemplating aliyah are "rationally weighing their options." They are "carefully planning their steps, choosing when and in what way to make aliyah.

"The feeling that they are running for their lives, which was characteristic of the early period (of the mass aliyah), is no longer there, at least for now," said Nativ, who recently visited the Soviet Union.

Information from Israel about "absorption difficulties, and particularly unemployment, resound deeply among Soviet Jews," he said. "They are also searching for alternatives, based on rumors that the U.S., Germany and other countries might soon open their doors to Soviet immigrants."

New business opportunities under perestroika are also persuading some Soviet Jews

Friedman said that while Marshall ably represented the black community in its fight for civil rights, the struggle today is for "empowerment," which calls for different kind of strategies. He believes Thomas will be more suited for today's agenda.

Thomas grew up in poverty in Savannah, Georgia, but managed to graduate from Holy Cross College and Yale Law School. Rabinove said that when he met Thomas, he described the hardship of his early life and stressed that he was a self-made man. At his news conference with Bush, Thomas said he wanted to "be an example to those who were where I was and to show them that indeed there is hope."

Bush denied that he had selected Thomas because he is black, stressing that he considers him the best man for the job. "I don't feel that there should be a black seat on the court or an

ethnic seat on the court," the president said.

Most Jewish leaders also do not believe there should be a seat set aside for Jews on the high court bench.

But New York attorney Seymour Reich said that while he agrees with that position, he is "troubled by the failure to find qualified jurists of the Jewish faith. Certainly there is an abundance of Jews sitting in the federal courts." Reich, who is immediate past chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, pointed out that there has not been a Jew on the Supreme Court since Abe Fortas resigned in the beginning of the Nixon administration. He indicated that if Bush has another Supreme Court nomination, he may feel pressure from within the Jewish community for a Jewish nominee.

Laws

Continued from 1

here from Soviet Georgia a year ago and works part time as a cleaning woman to make ends meet. She says her husband did well as a dentist in their hometown, where, she claims, they owned a large house and two cars. But in Israel, her husband cannot find work because of the low regard for Soviet dental training.

The woman works mornings at a pharmacy and afternoons as domestic help in order to earn the \$300 a month her family pays for a two-room apartment on Herzl Street, in a rundown section of Tel Aviv. She says she and her 21-year-old daughter regret coming to Israel. "Maybe we should go back, even though we have nothing left there because we had to sell everything before we left," the woman said. They would return "if we could pay back the debts we have already amassed here," she said.

The woman said she has a house guest, a relative from one of the Baltic republics, who came on a Soviet passport and Israeli tourist visa. She likes Israel, the woman said, but is uncertain about immigration because of the difficulty of finding a job in her profession as a construction engineer.

Science and Energy Minister Yuval Ne'eman and other officials say they are worried about a reported decision by the government of Brazil to allocate \$100 million to absorb immigrant scientists and professionals in that country. They warn that if the Israeli government does not take adequate steps, Israel not only will fail to attract trained professionals from the Soviet Union but will lose those who have already come here.

Marshall

Continued from 3

the right-wing mirror image of the Warren Court, or as the result of an inevitable swing of the pendulum. The Warren Court was counter-majoritarian. It enforced desegregation against the wishes of popularly elected legislatures and governors. Indeed it changed the very process of electing legislatures, by demanding equal voting power for all voters. There was never a danger that the Warren Court could run amok, because it was always checked and balanced by the other branches. Nor could its views run roughshod over majorities or minorities which disagreed with them. The current court does not check and balance nor is it checked or balanced.

It is unclear where Judge Thomas will stand on either the structural issues of checks and balances or on specific issues such as abortion. We do know that he stands firmly against racial quotas and other forms of race-specific af-

firmative action. As a man who himself felt the sting of minority status, he may prove more sensitive to issues of concern to the Jewish community than Chief Justice Rehnquist and some of his colleagues.

Only a probing confirmation process will assure that he is a real conservative who will remain true to the high court's mission: to firmative action. As a man who himself felt the sting of minority status, he may prove more sensitive to issues of concern to the Jewish community than Chief Justice Rehnquist and some of his colleagues.

Only a probing confirmation process will assure that he is a real conservative who will remain true to the high court's mission: to

do it."

A survey commissioned by the agency found that 30 percent of the Soviet immigrants said they would tell others not to come to Israel. But about 60 percent said that despite the difficulties here, they would tell others to come, particularly for the sake of the children and their future.

In New York, meanwhile, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society reported that 3,204 Soviet Jews immigrated to the United States as refugees in June, a 35 percent jump over the preceding month. The figure, while an improvement, brings refugee admissions for the first nine months of the 1991 fiscal year to only 16,674.

The U.S. government has agreed to pay for up to 40,000 Soviet Jews to come to the United States this fiscal year. But it appears unlikely that anywhere near that number will come by Sept. 30, when the fiscal year ends.

serve as a tribunal of last resort for Americans without the political power to enforce their constitutional rights through political or economic means.

(Alan Dershowitz is professor of law at the Harvard Law School in Cambridge, Mass. His most recent book is "Chutzpah," published by Little, Brown.)

Lesson

Continued from 3

opposition to those programs where technological advances seem the most promising in developing future weapons systems.

Despite the poor performance of Saudi ground and air forces in the Gulf War — (still a well kept secret) — major new sales of advanced U.S. weaponry to the Kingdom are on the horizon. Here, at least, the Congress is likely to play a positive role in limiting those sales to items which can realistically be as-

simulated locally and will not be used in the future against Israel. But Administration support for these sales demonstrate that yet one more important lesson has not been learned: don't expect Saudi gratitude to be expressed in lessening hostility toward Israel. In fact, don't even expect any gratitude. (Morris J. Amitay is a Washington attorney and former Executive Director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.)

Indian Jews making aliyah through Cairo

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Jews from India are immigrating to Israel by way of Cairo, according to a recent report in the Israeli daily *Yediot Achronot*.

According to the newspaper's Arab affairs correspondent, Smadar Peri, the Egyptian authorities confirmed for the first time last month that immigrants from India are using Cairo as a transit point.

The Egyptian government was denying the movement up until mid-June.

The Egyptian opposition magazine

Al Sha'ab has disclosed that 130 Jews from Bombay have landed in Cairo in June on the way to Israel. It published their names and passport numbers. According to the magazine, 70 Jews from Bombay passed through Cairo on June 16 and another 60 on June 23.

Israel and India have low-level diplomatic relations. Israel maintains a one-man consulate in Bombay, but has no representation in New Delhi, the capital. India has no mission of its own in Israel.

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ИНТЕРЕСНЫЕ ЗАМЕТКИ

This month's Russian-language column discusses what HIAS sees as the need for American families to pass along certain information to their immigrating families in the Soviet Union regarding the immigration interviews with INS. Reports circulating in Washington, according to reports, claim that the immigrants are showing up for their interviews unwilling to provide information and/or refusing to respond to their interviewers.

The immigrants are urged to present clear and concrete examples of their past persecution or fear of future persecution without resorting to exaggerations. Immigrants are told that it is not in their best interest to demonstrate their knowledge of the Lautenberg legislation. HIAS also notes that the demeanor and attitude of the immigrant is important as the manner in which they conduct themselves is as important as the substance of the interview itself.

ИММИГРАЦИЯ СЕГОДНЯ СООБЩЕНИЕ МЕЖДУНАРОДНОГО ХИАСа

Две недели назад в Вашингтон начали поступать сообщения о том, что многие советские евреи, обратившиеся в Американское посольство в Москве за статусом беженцев, на интервью с представителями Службы иммиграции и натурализации демонстрируют нежелание предоставить информацию, необходимую для получения этого статуса.

Суть поступающих сообщений заключается в том, что советские евреи отказываются отвечать на вопросы сотрудников Службы, утверждая при этом, что они имеют право считаться беженцами на основании закона Лаутенберга и обнаруживая подробные знания по вопросам своих прав, к удивлению людей, ведущих интервью.

Несмотря на тот факт, что подобные сообщения противоречат информации, полученной за последние месяцы от сотрудников Международного ХИАСа, присутствовавших на интервью в Американском консульстве во время своей поездки в Москву, ХИАС занялся исследованием характера и глубины подозреваемой проблемы. В настоящее время группа экспертов ХИАСа находится в Москве для выяснения ситуации.

В настоящий момент очень важно, чтобы родственники в Америке предупредили тех, кому уже назначено интервью в Москве о следующем:

1. Как и прежде, решающим моментом для получения статуса беженцев являются явные и конкретные примеры преследования интервьюируемого (интервьюируемой) в прошлом или страх преследования в будущем. Информация на интервью должна излагаться правдиво и без преувеличений. Недостаточно утверждать, что Вы испытываете "обоснованный страх преследований" Необходимо привести конкретные примеры и обосновать страх преследований для Вас лично.

2. Для получения статуса беженца во время интервью — не в интересах интервьюируемого демонстрировать сотруднику иммиграционной службы свою осведомленность о поправке Лаутенберга вне зависимости от того, насколько важным он (она) считает этот момент. Обращающиеся за статусом беженца могут не сомневаться в том, что лицо, проводящее интервью, до мельчайших подробностей знакомо со всеми положениями закона Лаутенберга и ему не надо цитировать выдержки из этого закона.

3. Справедливо или нет, но у сотрудников иммиграционной службы, проводящих интервью в Москве, создается в некоторых случаях такое впечатление, что интервьюируемые ведут себя с пренебрежением, не проявляют заинтересованности в беседе и даже упорствуют в нежелании отвечать. Хотя такое поведение свидетельствует о различии культур интервьюируемого и интервьюирующего и может быть неправильно истолковано как специфически "советская манера поведения", очень важно в настоящий момент, чтобы обращающиеся за статусом беженцев понимали, что манера их поведения играет не менее существенную роль, чем само содержание интервью. На все вопросы сотрудника Службы иммиграции и натурализации, проводящего интервью, следует отвечать вежливо, четко, и, насколько это возможно, полными ответами.

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