

# The JEWISH VOICE

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"You hear  
The Jewish Voice"

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32 Pages

## Bush urges anti-bias laws that don't lead to quotas

WASHINGTON (JTA) — President Bush, asserting that every individual has a responsibility to combat bigotry, said January 29, that he would support legislation to strengthen laws against discrimination. But the president was vague in his State of the Union address about what type of legislation he wants and whether he would again veto the civil rights bill being pressed by the Democratic majority in Congress and supported by most Jewish organizations.

"Every one of us has a responsibility to speak out against racism, bigotry and hatred," Bush said. "We will continue our vigorous enforcement of existing statutes, and I will once again press the Congress to strengthen the laws against employment discrimination without resorting to the use of unfair preferences."

Bush vetoed a major civil rights bill last year because he said it would lead to hiring quotas. The legislation sought to circumvent recent Supreme Court rulings making it harder for victims of employment discrimination to win legal relief.

Most Jewish organizations supported the legislation and denied that it would result in quotas. Jewish organizations, while supporting affirmative action, have opposed quotas, because they were used against Jews to keep them out of schools and employment.

Only Agudath Israel of America supported

Bush's contention that the legislation would lead employers to institute de facto quotas to avoid costly law suits.

Supporters of the civil rights bill introduced in the new Congress are stressing additional protection for women rather than the benefits for victims of racial discrimination.

The bill would allow women to seek financial damages for job discrimination. It would also for the first time allow damages for religious discrimination. Up to now only victims of racial or ethnic discrimination could sue.

Bush also called for the elimination of political action committees in order "to put the national interest above the special interest."

Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell (D-Maine), delivering the Democratic response to Bush's speech, said that not only should PACs be eliminated but there also should be a cap on political spending. The Republicans, who generally raise more money than Democrats, have opposed any such limit.

There are a number of pro-Israel political action committees, and Jewish voters are among the largest contributors to political candidates.

While Bush did not directly call for limits on the length of service for members of Congress, he pointed out that "one of the reasons there is so much support for term limitations is that the American people are increasingly concerned about big-money influence in politics."

## Record \$202,000 raised on Federation Super Sunday



Super Sunday Co-chairpersons Steve Biener and Debra Kattler used their groggers to announce Super Sunday's

totals on the hour. By the end of the day, \$202,000 was raised - a 37% increase.

Nearly 1800 individuals made pledges totalling more than \$202,000 on Super Sunday. When the tally-board indicated that the goal of \$200,000 had been exceeded, groggers sounded and cheers went up from the volunteers manning the phones. "The response was super," stated Debra Kattler, co-chair of Super Sunday.

The card-for-card increase was 37 percent. Steve Biener, co-chair said, "The Jews of Delaware answered 'If Not You... Who?' by saying, 'Hineni - Here I am.'"

This was the largest amount ever raised on Super Sunday. The 120 volunteer solicitors in New Castle County were aided by the coordinated effort of the Dover Jewish Community which solicited contributors in southern Delaware.

Steven Dombchik, 1991 Campaign Co-Chair stated that the response to the needs of Jews in Delaware, Israel, the Soviet Union, Ethiopia and throughout the world has been gratifying. Solicitation of the Federation Board of Directors has resulted in a 45 percent increase in those solicited and workers in the Advanced Gifts division increased their gifts by 34 percent, he said.

The campaign has been spurred on by the events of the war in the Gulf, the threat to Israel, Soviet resettlement in Israel and in Delaware and the needs of the Jews in Delaware, according to Dombchik.

Toni Young, 1991 Campaign Co-Chair, noted that "even as the missiles fell in Israel, 13,360 Soviet Jews and 1000 Ethiopians arrived at Ben Gurion Airport during the month of January. The first thing that they were given were gas masks. They were willing to risk their lives to start a life in the free world. The least we can do is provide them with funds for the necessities of life." She said she was gratified that Delaware's Jews were willing to do so.

The 1991 Campaign goal is \$1,600,000. According to Dombchik, "Hundreds of volunteers have been mobilized to insure that the needs are met. Every gift is important, every person, crucial." Phone-a-thons will be taking place every week so that all the Jews of Delaware will have the opportunity to participate, he said.

## Ethiopian aliyah sharply up but Soviet immigration down

By CHARLES HOFFMAN

JERUSALEM (JTA) — More than a thousand Ethiopian Jews made aliyah last month — the highest number since the end of Operation Moses six years ago. But immigration from the Soviet Union dropped by more than 60 percent, apparently because of the Iraqi missile attacks on Israel.

According to the Jewish Agency for Israel, a total of 14,456 immigrants arrived in Israel in January, including 13,360 Jews from the Soviet Union, down from an all-time high of 35,000 in December. The National Conference on Soviet Jewry in New York reported an identical figure. In addition, 1,300 Soviet Jews

immigrated to the United States last month, according to the New York-based Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society.

While Jewish Agency officials were pleased with the high Ethiopian aliyah total, up from 530 in December, they said the situation of some 20,000 Jews waiting in Addis Ababa is still desperate. One official said it would be technically possible for more Ethiopian Jews to leave, but the Ethiopian government has set an unofficial quota and issues exit visas on that basis.

In New York, Rabbi Daniel Allen, assistant executive vice chairman of the United Israel

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## Poll shows Israelis are confident with U.S.' role in Middle East

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A significant number of Israelis believe the United States could act as Middle East peace broker after the Persian Gulf war is over, according to a telephone poll taken last week.

American initiative in this war has apparently bolstered Israeli confidence. While 76 percent of the respondents said they had always trusted the United States to some degree, 33 percent said the Gulf crisis has led them to "trust the Americans more" as future mediators.

The poll also showed that 97 percent of Israelis believe the United States is committed to Israel's security, 68 percent saying "strongly

committed" and 29 percent "somewhat committed." Only 3 percent thought the American commitment was low or negligible.

The poll was conducted for the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith during the period of Jan. 28 to 30 by Mina Zemach of the Dahaf Research Institute. It sampled the opinions of 583 Israelis with a 2 to 4 percent margin of error.

Commenting on the results, Harry Wall, director of ADL's Israel office, said, "The sharp rise in confidence of the United States expressed by Israelis in this poll can only be the result of the greatly enhanced close working relationship between the United States and

Israel that has come about since the first Iraqi Scud attack on Israel."

The increased trust in the United States was most evident among 18- to 25-year-olds, and among those disposed to trust the Americans prior to the Gulf crisis.

According to Wall, the survey "shows that Israelis are proud of their friendship with the United States and readily express appreciation of U.S. assistance. This is one country in the Middle East that doesn't have to hide or downplay its relationship with Washington for fear of stirring resentment in the streets," the ADL official said.

Other poll results showed that 78 percent of Israelis are "very appreciative" or "thankful" to the United States for its help in defending Israel against the Iraqi missiles.

A quarter of the sample believed, however, that the United States could do more, and 21 percent said they were convinced the Americans were helping Israel only to serve their own narrow interests.

The poll found that 57 percent thought the allied coalition was "doing all that could be done" to eliminate the Iraqi missile threat. But 41 percent credited the coalition with doing good work but "not everything possible" to prevent further attacks on Israel.

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# Editorial: Where we stand on the war in the gulf

We pray for an early and successful end to the fighting in the Gulf, and for the safe return of our forces there.

We support the goals spelled out by the Bush Administration calling for the complete and immediate withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, the restoration of the legitimate government of Kuwait in its land and the dismantling of Iraq's military arsenal, including its huge supplies of conventional arms and poison gas, and the biological and nuclear weapons it has been developing.

An Iraq in possession of such armaments — and prepared to use them, as Saddam Hussein did and boasted he would again — would represent not only a destabilizing force in the Middle East, where the United States has vital interests, but a clear and present danger to American security. A defiant and driven Saddam Hussein, powerful enough to control the huge oil resources in the Gulf region, would jeopardize the economic interests of the entire world.

And an Iraq that escaped unpunished for the rape and plunder of a smaller and weaker neighbor would imperil the goals that President Bush and the free nations of the world hope to achieve for a new and peaceful world order.

The Iraqi attack against Kuwait shattered many myths of the Middle East. It exposed the illusion of Arab unity, the idea that the Arab world stands together in brotherhood and community, with common interests, mutual understanding and loving fraternity. Only on one issue are the Arab states (except for Egypt) united: that Israel must be destroyed. Here Saddam Hussein, Hafez el-Assad and Yasir Arafat seek only to outdo each other in their anti-Israel venom.

The invasion of Kuwait by Saddam Hussein also invalidated the idea that the presence of Israel and the continuing problem of the Palestinians are the root causes of the volatility and hostility that describe the region. It is in fact the powerful ambitions and lust for power of tyrants like Hussein and Assad that pose the greatest threat to the peace of the region — along with the continuing refusal of the Arab states (again, except for Egypt) to recognize Israel's right to exist.

The crisis in the Gulf has also underscored some long-forgotten truths that need to be kept in mind as the crisis continues:

- Israel remains the one true and reliable ally as well as the only democracy in the Middle East. Unlike Saudi Arabia, which despite billions of dollars spent for military hardware called on the U.S. military for protection against an expected Iraqi offensive, Israel has never asked for American troops to defend its people.

- Appeasement of tyrants always fails. It failed against Mussolini and Hitler in the 1930's, and it failed against Saddam Hussein in 1990, when many governments — including our own — hoped that by ceding Iraq, by providing him with military hardware, advanced technology and agricultural credits we could discourage him from the course of war that he had threatened.

- The ever-mounting arms race in the Middle East does not deter attack but rather encourages those with the ambition for conquest to use the weapons at their disposal. It happened in 1967 and 1973, when heavily-armed Arab states invaded Israel, and it happened again on August 2, 1990.

- Israel's need to maintain its qualitative superiority over the Arab states that threaten it has acquired a new urgency. For years, American policy has held that Israel is strong enough to defeat the combined armies of all its Arab neighbors. Yet when it came time to confront Iraq, a great international coalition was deemed necessary to put together the most powerful naval armada, the greatest number of warplanes and the greatest number of troops ever assembled in one battle area — all to fight a single, landlocked Arab country.

- The growth of Islamic fundamentalism in the Arab world contributes to the anti-Western and anti-American temper in the region. Saddam Hussein, never previously identified with the fundamentalists, has now tapped into these passions by adding the call for "jihad" — holy war — to his battle cry.

- The PLO has proven once again that it is disqualified from any participation in the Palestinian peace process. By allying himself with Saddam Hussein's most gruesome threats against Israel and the West, Yasir Arafat confirmed that the PLO's charter — the Palestinian National Covenant — remains intact and that its purpose abides. As Article 15 put it: "The liberation of Palestine, from an Arab viewpoint, is a national duty... to repel the Zionist and imperialist aggression against the Arab homeland, and aims at the elimination of Zionism in Palestine..."

- Peace in the Middle East requires not only a dialogue between Israel and the Palestinian Arabs but also direct bi-lateral negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors. The Israeli government has called for such talks. We urge the Bush Administration to support them.

- Instead of reducing our reliance on foreign oil, America's energy policy over the past decade has increased it. U.S. dependence on oil from abroad is not only a major cause of our country's huge trade and budget deficits; it also incited Saddam Hussein to believe that he could place an economic stranglehold on the West by seizing Kuwait and threatening Saudi Arabia.

- There is no "linkage" between Iraq's brutal assault against Kuwait in 1990 and Israel's defense against an Arab onslaught in 1967. The true similarity is between Kuwait as the victim of Iraqi aggression and Israel as the victim of Arab aggression. The difference is that while Kuwait was overrun, Israel successfully resisted an unprovoked military assault by Arab states. President Bush and Secretary Baker have correctly pointed out that Saddam Hussein did not crush Kuwait in order to liberate the Palestinians.

Like all Americans, we pray for an early and decisive end to the hostilities now under way in the Gulf region. Yet we recognize that there are moments in history when the use of force is the only way to defend peace. In this America is not alone; a worldwide coalition supports our country, morally and militarily.

Expelling Saddam Hussein from Kuwait, ending his threat to our country, to the region and to world peace; nullifying a cruel and ugly act of aggression and securing a new and peaceful world order — these are worth fighting for.

(Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations)



## Letters to the Editor

### On the accomplishments of Rabbi Stephen S. Wise

Terry Danneman expresses admiration for Rabbi Meir Kahane (Letter to the Editor, Dec. 7, 1990), and then goes on to credit him partially with the start of "the eventual collapse... of the Communist economy and the Cold War," and the release of Soviet Jews. That is a bit much.

First, and extremely effective, were the "Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry," who were joined by the activist Rabbis Lookstein, Riskin, Weiss, etc., and then the support of the larger Jewish community.

More distressing to me is the gratuitous insult to Rabbi Stephen S. Wise. "I wish there had been a Rabbi Kahane in 1938-44 instead of Rabbi Wise." I realize the letter writer was a young child in Poland in the 30's and later suffered the terrors of "Hitler's War Against the Jews" — from 1939 till liberation. She could not have known the struggles and accomplishments of Rabbi Wise. I could talk to Terry Danneman privately, but I write because so many Jews today do not know them — perhaps even those in the Reform movement.

Until May 14, 1948, a majority of the American Jewish community was, at best, indifferent and uninterested in a Return to Zion or a Jewish State. Today it is difficult to realize that organizations like the American Jewish Committee and even American B'nai B'rith, insisted on professing a "neutral policy" on Zionism in any of their expressions. The Reform movement had only a few rabbis who advocated Zionism (Wise, Silver, Brickner, Newman). The rest were opposed or neutral.

Stephen S. Wise was born in 1874 in Budapest and arrived in the United States one and a half years later. He earned a B.A. at 18 and a Ph.D. at 27 from Columbia University. Ordained as a Reform rabbi at 19, he held pulpits in Portland, Oregon, and New York City.

Wise worked closely with Theodore Herzl from 1895 on, leading in the formation of the Federation of American Zionists. In 1917, with Louis Brandeis and Felix Frankfurter, he helped formulate the text of the Balfour Declaration. At the Versailles Peace Conference 1918-19, he spoke on behalf of Zionist aspirations. Though he worked very closely with Chaim Weizman, David Ben-Gurion and Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, they came to disagree with him on policy. Nevertheless, he always sought a spirit of unity for the Zionist movement, which did not have much backing from the American Jewish Community.

Representatives from religious, Zionist, fraternal organizations and "Landsmannschaften" were brought together in 1920 by Wise to work on the issues facing the American Jewish community, Eretz Yisrael, and the world Jewish community. This grassroots, activist organization, named the American Jewish

Congress, aroused anti-Nazi public opinion in the 30's, organized the boycott against German goods, and rallied the Jewish masses to the Zionist banner. Dr. Wise served as president from 1925 until his death in 1949.

Rabbi Wise came into national prominence in 1906, when, after preaching pro-Zionist "trial sermons" in Temple Emanuel in New York City, he responded to its disapproving Board of Trustees with the demand for a "free pulpit" — and was rejected. A year later he formed the Free Synagogue based on freedom in the pulpit, among other democratic principles.

Wise established the Jewish Institute of Religion in 1922 in N.Y.C. where he wanted to see rabbis from all branches of Judaism and communal leaders educated. He served as president till 1948 when the Institute merged with Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati.

In 1934, shortly after Hitler's rise in Germany, Rabbi Wise sounded the first warnings of danger to Europe's Jews from Nazism, and tried to organize opposition and ways to rescue them. Tirelessly he presented Zionist and anti-Nazi causes to President Roosevelt, the State Department and the general public. He did not succeed with the first two, and only with a part of the Jewish masses. The wealthier Jews were generally anti-Zionist and considered his reports as exaggerations and Zionist propaganda.

Not widely known are Rabbi Wise's personal efforts on behalf of individual Jews mired in the anti-Semitism and poverty of Poland in the 30's. The U.S. Polish quota was small and hopelessly oversubscribed. Stephen Wise knew the loophole which could grant a visa to a young man if a congregation or educational institution in the U.S. requested his services as rabbi, cantor, teacher or Torah reader. He set about finding and convincing congregations — Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform — to request and save the young students and scholars who wrote to him. Until Wise's last years, poor Jewish scholars knocked on his door for funds for research and publication, and he found a sponsor for them.

He was responsible for the physical rescue of many of Poland's Jews, and for the subsequent enriching of large segments of American Jewry. He responded to people who needed his "contacts" for a variety of reasons. Still, he did not allude to this activity in his addresses or conversations. I knew of it from my father, who was told by some of those who had received this help.

Stephen Wise worked *respectfully* with the full spectrum of the World Zionist leadership. In the end he was treated poorly by those who blamed him for not succeeding with F.D.R. It was not for lack of trying. In his efforts and

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## Op - Ed

# Winning the war and losing the peace

By IRVING GREENBERG

In the past few weeks, George Bush has given the United States a masterly and courageous presidency. He correctly identified the Iraqi threat to immediate national self-interest — control of vital oil and destruction of American allies — as well as the threat to long-term national security — eventual chemical and nuclear assault.

He skillfully steered between the urge to "go it alone" and the temptation to allow the European nations to buy "peace" by appeasement. He declined to evade responsibility for action by offering the empty hope that sanctions would move Saddam Hussein.

The United States is well on the way to winning the war. Yet, unless the fundamental aims of this war are upheld, there is a real danger of losing the peace.

America's goal is larger than liberating Kuwait. It is to achieve a post-cold-war world order with

the promise of peace and security for all nations. That promise is based on two factors:

•The end of a bipolarized world in which each side supported dictatorships and aggression to protect its own interests. (The Soviet Union, being a dictatorship, sinned far more grievously and frequently.)

•The emergence of democracies and decentralized economies as people showed an overwhelming desire to live in freedom.

A democracy's highest priority is to meet the internal challenge of making a better life for its citizens. There is no need to distract the population or deflect resentment outwardly by military adventure. Therefore, democracies are reliable peace partners. If the collective will of the world can punish and/or deter would-be aggressors, peace can become the international norm. As illegitimate force is interdicted, more and more democracies will emerge.

The new structure can come into being only if dictators understand that their use of force

will be overridden, by force if necessary. This was Saddam Hussein's miscalculation. He assumed that democracies treasure life so much and America's will was so weak that it would yield rather than go to war.

Bush understood the tragic truth of history. Without steadfast will to stop aggression — even at the cost of lives now — there will be many more wars and many more lives lost later.

Unless Iraq is now stripped of its extraordinary military resources and its chemical and nuclear machinery dismantled, it will emerge from this war as a greater threat. Yet the European and Arab nations that sought to appease Hussein to the very end now urge a settlement that stops with the evacuation of Kuwait. Any agreement that allows Hussein to escape with most of his military might (and possibly with an imposed settlement on Israel as well) could turn his defeat in the Gulf war into a triumph.

To avoid this danger, Bush must correct a central weakness of American policy: the impression that he fears to make democracy and peace the decisive criteria of policy.

Examples: Bush's embrace of Syria's Hafez Assad, with his unrenounced terrorism, even as he ostentatiously avoided telephoning Yitzhak Shamir; the 'concealment' of the American soldiers (and all Christian and Jewish symbols) lest Saudi Arabians be offended; America's verbal protest without taking substantive action as the Soviet Union moves to crush Baltic independence.

All this does is give the impression that he so much needs allied approval that he will do anything or swallow any national policy, however wrong, to keep the allies on board.

Nowhere is this inner conflict of American policy more visible than in its treatment of Israel during the past six months. Arab hostility to Israel was a given and not to be challenged — as if our Arab allies were doing us a favor.

Instead of affirming that support for democracy is the bedrock of our policy and stipulating that our armies must be able to call upon the resources of our militarily strongest ally, America pressed a 'low profile' on Israel. At times, America came close to treating Israel like a pariah.

From Jan. 15 to Jan. 20, the entire focus seemed to be on keeping Israel from retaliating if it were attacked, lest the coalition be undone. But which allies were at risk of jumping ship? Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, which can only be saved by American armies? Egypt and Turkey, which are at peace with Israel and affirm its right to self-defense? Only Syria and those Palestinians and Jordanians driven by blind hatred for Israel would be offended. In any event, Syria has made clear that its limited contingents will not fight in any strategically useful way.

From long historical experience, we Jews have learned that treatment of the Jews is a litmus test of nation's health. It is equally a highly accurate early warning of soundness of sickness in policy.

The weakness which this shabby treatment of Israel revealed, combined with the desperate, fawning European attempts at appeasement, may well have convinced Saddam Hussein that he would get his way. If America feared to offend the Arabs by mentioning Israel, would it not be afraid of offending Arabs even more by bombing Iraq? If so, then this weakness has already cost very dearly in lives and war material, as well as in human anguish everywhere.

The move to supply Israel with Patriot missiles must be more than an attempt to encourage it not to retaliate. Sending in American troops to man the missiles carries the overtone of open embrace of Israel as an ally and an end to the fear of Arab reaction. Arabs and Soviets, even the Europeans, will deeply respect the dignity and integrity of this gesture, especially if it is followed by further acts of open cooperation. Unhappily, there are reports of continuing hesitation to undertake such coordination.

This first gesture should become an important turning point toward a firmer American policy. American military might is so great that it can assuredly win any war with Iraq. Combining power with a new integrity and moral leadership can assure an American policy strong enough to win the peace worldwide. (Irving (Yitz) Greenberg is president of CLAL, the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership.)

## Scorecard: How will it look after the war?

By MORRIS J. AMITAY

Though an end to the war against Iraq is not yet in sight, attention is already being focused in Washington on the aftermath of the war. Even at this early stage, it is possible to predict who the winners and losers will be among the major players in the conflict. Here is a scorecard of how it looks so far:

**The United Nations:** After 175 resolutions over the years condemning Israel, it finally took action against an Arab state. But given its history of anti-Israel bias, the U.N.'s role in any post-war peace arrangements in the region must be carefully circumscribed by the power that really counts — the United States. While the U.N.'s role in the "new world order" is yet to be defined, it has gained somewhat from the attention focused on its

reaction to the invasion of Kuwait.

**Egypt:** Definitely a winner — assuming President Mubarak can keep his indigenous extremist elements under control. Continued U.S. aid and the forgiveness of billions of dollars of debt, should be able to keep Egypt relatively moderate and afloat economically.

**Syria:** A probable loser. Militarily, because Israel now has a functioning anti-missile Patriot defense a few years before it can field its own superior Arrow anti-missile system. If it ever agreed to face to face negotiations with Israel, it could be a winner. But given President Hafez Assad's implacable enmity towards the Jewish State, Syria will probably remain an odd man out in the Arab world, with Assad openly relishing the defeat of his Iraqi rival.

**Jordan:** Having allied itself with neighbor-

ing Iraq, and previously announcing that the future of the West Bank was up to the PLO, King Hussein is becoming largely irrelevant. A former favorite of our State Department's Arabists and President Bush, the PLK (plucky little king) will come out a big loser, with the odds on his continued survival further reduced.

**Saudi Arabia:** With Iraq no longer a menace militarily or petropolitically, Saudi Arabia should emerge as a big winner. The question remains, however, whether it will permit, a residual U.S. military presence and to what extent the sight of so many female G.I.s will have impacted positively on Saudi society. More importantly, the question remains whether greater U.S. influence can bring about real moderation in Saudi attitudes

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## Saying 'yes' to tzedakah

By RABBI PAUL D. KERBEL

This month, on Super Sunday, thousands of Washington area Jews will receive a phone call — a phone call which is a life line for Jews around the world, basking for a pledge to the 1991 United Jewish Appeal Federation Campaign.

How we respond to that phone call will say a lot about our commitment to the Greater Washington Jewish community, to the historic exodus of Soviet Jews and the support of Jews around the world — especially in Israel, where the sounds of air raid sirens are being heard nearly every night.

How we respond indicates our commitment to tzedakah — which is very different from the concept of charity. The word "tzedakah" comes from the word "tzedek," which means "justice." The word "charity" comes from the Latin "to be benevolent." The difference is crucial. We do not give tzedakah based on the desire "to be nice" or "to be caring." We do not give tzedakah because "we are (or are not) in the mood." To give tzedakah is an act of justice. It is the right thing to do; it is an essential requirement and responsibility of every Jew, young or old, rich or poor. No one is exempt.

Not to give tzedakah, therefore, is an act of injustice and a sin in the eyes of Jewish law. A few sources:

•"Even a poor person who lives entirely on charity must also give charity to another."

Maimonides, Mishneh Torah.

•Rabbi Assi said, "Tzedakah is as important as all the other commandments put together."

Babylonian Talmud Baba Batra 9a.

•"Anyone who gives tzedakah in a surly manner with a gloomy face completely nullifies the gift of tzedakah."

Maimonides, Mishneh Torah.

How we respond is crucial to meeting the needs of our people here and around the world. Let me tell you how I am going to respond. The largest check that I write to any cause is to UJAF. While I care about many individual agencies, organizations and causes, to me, UJA is paramount. It is responsible for the full funding of some of our agencies and the partial funding of over 20 local agencies. UJA Federation, along with Federations across the country, in Canada, and around the world, is raising money to fund the largest exodus of the Jewish people since the Exodus from Egypt. UJA Federation raises funds vital to the immi-

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## The Jewish Voice

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# Candle Lighting

FEBRUARY

8TH — 5:10 PM

15TH — 5:19 PM

22ND — 5:27 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)  
B'nai B'rith Building  
800 Society Blvd.  
Claymont  
798-6846  
Friday — 8 p.m.  
Saturday — 9 a.m.

### TEMPLE BETH EL

(Reconstructionist)  
Affiliation:  
Federation of Reconstructionist  
Congregations & Havurot  
301 Possum Park Road  
Newark  
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# Dvar Torah

Parshat Mishpatim, February 9th

## Programming the just society

By SUSAN GULACK

Special to The Jewish Voice

Several weeks ago, I had the opportunity to speak with a group of young men in a Juvenile Detention Center about Judaism. What evolved was a discussion on comparative religion. We talked about the Hebrew Scripture, the Christian Scripture and the Koran.

One of the points of discussion was why the terms "Old Testament" and "New Testament" were a problem. I explained that to say that there is a need for a new contract implies that the old contract is worn out, no longer valid, and needs to be replaced.

Several of the students were very confused about how I could view their Bible as a sacred document and still say that it was not binding upon me. I had just been on a brief tour of the facility, and the computers they use in their business class inspired me to create an analogy.

I do most of my writing on my computer. I have software that allows me to do Hebrew and English word processing, and the documentation to back up my software. They use computers for math and accounting programs, and have the software and documentation for their needs. Each of our programs have some common elements, and some parts of our documentation are the same. Other parts are unique to our needs and are not relevant to the needs of the other.

So it is with religious scripture. There are parts of our Bibles that are the same, and there are times when reading the "documentation" from another religion makes one's own clearer. On the whole, my needs are best met by using my own "software," but this does not mean that there is a flaw in their programs. We still access the same computer, we just relate to it differently.

Last week's *parsha* contained some of the most famous programming that most religions have in common. This week's portion has some that is unique to us. Last week we read about the experience of being at Sinai, when we finite mortals came as close as we could to experiencing the Infinite — direct contact with God. This week we learn how to make that message work in the real world.

David Ben-Gurion once said that he knew we had a real Jewish state when the first Jewish thief and the first Jewish prostitute were arrested by a Jewish policeman in Tel Aviv. Immediately after Sinai, we are back in the real world where we must deal with the problems of poverty and slavery, theft and carelessness, and the harm that results from them. We can't live in Sinai forever: we have to take the mystical and transcendent and make it work in an imperfect world. We are given the task of translating the spiritual into the physical.

This week's *parsha* begins with the laws concerning a Hebrew slave. How does a Jew become a slave to another Jew? By selling himself (or his children) into slavery to pay off his debts. Even in a society where everyone starts out equal, with the same amount of property, some people come out ahead and some behind. Our Jewish legal structure required that we treat both the person who finishes first and the one who finishes last with a fairness and respect.

Respect is even shown to a person who is so desperate as to have to resort to theft. If a man steals an ox or a sheep, and sells it or kills it, he must pay back five oxen for an ox and four sheep for a sheep. The idea that restitution should be the punishment for theft both humane and rehabilitative.

The traditional punishment for theft in the Arab world has been to cut off the thief's right hand. This is not only painful and disfiguring, but serves to permanently separate the thief from the rest of society. In the absence of modern sanitary systems, the left hand is used for personal needs, and the right hand to eat from the communal food bowl. A one-handed person cannot eat in company.

Even under British Common Law, upon which our own American law is based, theft was seen as a crime against the Crown, and not against the victim. The punishment was therefore extreme — pickpockets were hung as recently as the nineteenth century. While thieves are no longer hung, the United States has one of the highest percentages of its population in jail, in comparison to other countries (and is second only to South Africa in the percentage of blacks in prison). We would do well in our exploration of alternative sentencing to consider what the Torah has to reach.

The Mishna asks why there is a difference between a sheep and an ox in terms of repayment. The answer given is that the thief has to lower himself to steal a sheep. An ox will follow anyone who leads it, but sheep, being herd animals, must be carried away. The thief has already served part of his punishment because of the nature of the crime.

The *parsha* deals with the difference between burglary and robbery. The robber is more likely to harm people, while the burglar is just after property. How far may a victim go in defending his or her property, as opposed to his or her person? This issue continues to be hotly debated in America today. (Ask any member of the NRA.)

The next section of the *parsha* deals with the rights of the poor. How do we work to improve the world? How can we prevent those who live in poverty from sinking into the hopelessness that leads to crime? These may be three thousand year old questions, but they are as current as today's newspaper.

## Papal encyclical on conversion is troubling

By

DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN

NEW YORK (JTA) — Pope John Paul II's recent call for more active efforts to convert non-Christians to Roman Catholicism does not seem to be a mandate to convert Jews, say Jewish specialists on interfaith affairs. But according to Jewish and Catholic leaders, the papal encyclical raises some troubling questions that require clarification.

The encyclical, which carries the highest level of papal authority, is titled "Redemptoris Missio" (The Church's Missionary Mandate).

It reportedly was issued in response to the weakened position of missionary work as a central Christian goal and the rapid growth of Islam in areas in the Middle East and Africa that were once strongholds of Christianity. It also was prompted by barriers placed in the way of church work in Asia and the rise of Protestant denominations in Latin America, where fundamentalist groups are targeting Catholic audiences, according to Sister Mary Boys, a Catholic theologian and associate professor of theology at Boston College.

The encyclical refers "to the mission ad gentes," or "to gentiles," a term that has its roots in the Christian Bible and literally means "to the nations," but is usually used in church circles to mean non-Christians and non-Jews.

The Vatican's position on Jews since the Second Vatican Council's "Nostra Aetate" statement of 1965 has been that the Jewish people maintain a special relationship with God and that God's covenant with the Jews has not been revoked.

Since the latest encyclical men-

tions Moslems, Buddhists and Hindus but does not specifically mention Jews, Jewish leaders in interfaith dialogue are not worried about Jews being targeted for an overt missionary campaign.

"The Vatican-Jewish dialogue of the past 25 years since 'Nostra Aetate' has given no evidence of a Catholic intent to convert the Jewish people," said Rabbi Jack Bemporad, chairman of the Synagogue Council of America's Interreligious Affairs Committee.

But some Jewish leaders are concerned about statements in the encyclical, such as one saying that "interreligious dialogue is a part of the church evangelizing mission." The encyclical goes into some detail about the need for interreligious dialogue while insisting there is "no conflict between proclaiming Christ and engaging in interreligious dialogue."

"These two elements must maintain both their intimate connection and their distinctiveness; therefore, they should not be confused, manipulated or regarded as identical, as though they were interchangeable," the encyclical says.

The document is not clear on the relationship between dialogue and evangelization, Rabbi A. James Rudin, national director of interreligious affairs for the American Jewish Committee, said in a statement issued after a preliminary reading of the encyclical.

He said the encyclical does not answer whether it is "possible to fully affirm one's own unique and sacred religious tradition without seeking, either actively or passively, the conversion of those who do not share that tradition."

## New York JCRC wins suit brought by Jews for Jesus

NEW YORK (JTA) — The New York State Supreme Court has upheld a lower court's ruling that the Hebrew-Christian missionary group Jews for Jesus was not a victim of discrimination when a Jewish communal agency circulated a warning about its activities.

The unanimous decision by the Supreme Court's Appellate Division last month ended six years of litigation that began when Jews for Jesus filed suit against the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York in 1985.

The litigation concerned a memorandum written on JCRC stationery distributed in February 1985 that urged Long Island rabbis to ask their Christian colleagues to "immediately disapprove" of Jews for Jesus.

The memorandum encouraged rabbis to ask local restaurants and catering halls not to rent their premises to Jews for Jesus.

According to Dr. Joseph Sternstein, chairman of the JCRC's Task Force on Missionaries and Cults, the purpose of the memo was to discourage the endorsement of Hebrew-Christian or other Messianic Jewish groups which seek to attract unsuspecting Jews to deceptive Passover sedarim.

Jews for Jesus then sued in Manhattan Supreme Court, charging that circulation of the memo violated New York State anti-discrimination statutes and the U.S. Constitution. The suit was dismissed in January 1989 by Justice David Edwards, who found that the memo was protected by the First Amendment and that Jews For Jesus failed to prove discrimination.

The JCRC won the case when Edwards' ruling was upheld by the higher court.

## Double your money

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For additional information on how you can help Israel and our Delaware community call Connie Kreshtool, Endowment Director, 478-6200.

# Judith Drexler, 5 others, to be honored by NCCJ

The Delaware Region, National Conference of Christians and Jews will recognize six outstanding volunteers at its annual Peoplehood Celebration Luncheon on Wednesday, February 20. NCCJ presents the Community Builders Award each year to honor those individuals who give of themselves to meet the needs of others. This year's honorees have worked with troubled families, the elderly, the poor, the homeless and the unemployed. Together they have given over 170 years of volunteer service to the community.

Judith Drexler, of Wilmington, is a Board Member and Chair of the Public Policy Committee for the YWCA of New Castle County and is Past President and Advisor to the Board of the Wilmington Section, National Council of Jewish Women. She is a Board Member of the American Civil Liberties Union, Co-Chair of the 1991 Women's Conference Program, Board Member and Fundraising Chairperson for Volunteers for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention, Secretary for the Leadership Council of Agenda for Delaware Women, and a member of the Coalition for Choice. She has served on the Allocations and Community Needs Committees for United Way of Delaware and currently is on the Government Relations and the Alternatives to Incarceration for Youth Committees.

Drexler helped start two day care centers and chairs the Daycare Center Advisory Group for the YWCA. She played a leading role in establishing NCJW's emphasis on domestic violence and organized Mock Trial '89 and Conference '90. She is also Past President and a current Board Member of the Mount Holyoke Club of Delaware, the Delaware Bay Marine Institute and the Christina Cultural Arts Center.

Retha Simpson Fisher, of Wilmington, is the founder and President of Food Conservers, Inc. and has supervised the distribution of over \$4 million worth of food to agencies serving the needy over the past four years. She started a social service program and a tenant council with the Wilmington Housing Authority and is also a Board Member of the Layton Home, Children's Home, the Delaware Community Foundation and the Delaware Council on Crime and Justice.

Lionel Hunter, of Claymont, is an Advisor and Center Manager for Junior Achievement. In this capacity he has provided to over 150 young

people each year invaluable hands-on experience and knowledge of how capitalism works. Hunter has also served as Citizens' Advisory Council Chairperson and PTA President at the Darley Road Elementary School, as Vice President and President of the Claymont Youth Athletic Association, and as Fundraising Chairperson and Troop Leader for the Boy Scouts. He has worked with eight families through the Casa San Francisco Crisis Center for Rural Low-Income program and is an active member of the Radnor Green Town Watch.

Eugene Mayhew, of New Castle, is a member of the Board of Trustees and Treasurer of the Delaware Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. He has, for the past five years, organized and chaired the annual "MS-150 Bike to the Bay" which raises nearly \$300,000 in pledges yearly to benefit MS research and treatment and to promote better understanding of persons with disabilities in the community. Mayhew is also a Faculty Member of the Judicial Training Center, a Board Member and Treasurer of the Citizens' Alliance for Public Education, a member of the Governor's Advisory Council on Corrections, and a frequent guest lecturer at the Alcohol Detoxification Center of Delaware State Hospital. He serves as Deacon, Elder and Sunday School teacher at the New Castle Presbyterian Church, is a volunteer for the Emmanuel Dining Room, and he is an active fundraiser for their annual International Night.

Ronald V. Robertson, of Wilmington, is an active member of fourteen community organizations. He is a Board Member of Calvary Episcopal Church, West Center City, and the Police and Community Advisory Council. As an Elder at First and Olivet Presbyterian Church he started a summer day camp for children and he was instrumental in getting the Church designated as a polling place. He has organized the anti-drug marches and activities in the Hilltop area and has, for the past eighteen years, actively encouraged citizens to get control of their lives through personal action and political involvement.


Regina Biggs Killoran, of Wilmington, is a Founder of the Catholic Welfare Guild, now Catholic Charities, and served as Chairperson of its Service Committee for fifteen years. She is also a Founding Board Member of the Delaware Interfaith Coali-

tion on Aging and a Board Member and Chair of the Service Committee for Gilpin Hall Home for the Aged. Killoran has served as Vice-Chair and on the Board of Directors of Bayard House, as President of the Travelers' Aid Board, now Family Services of Delaware, as Co-Chair for USO Delaware and for the Infantile Paralysis Society/March of Dimes, and she is on the Board of the Visiting Nurse Association of Delaware. She is an active volunteer in St. Joseph-On-The-Brandywine Parish Outreach Program and is a docent and guide at Hagley Museum.

The Peoplehood Celebration Luncheon, which highlights Brotherhood/Sisterhood Week in Delaware, will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel, Seventh and King Streets in Wilming-


ton. In addition to the presentation of the Community Builders Awards, the event will feature a series of musical selections performed by the Concord High School Chorale under the direction of Richard Curry.

The entire community is invited to attend this "Celebration of Our Diversity." Reservations should be made as soon as possible and tickets are \$15. Call the Delaware Region, NCCJ office at 655-0039.



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## BBI opens in Prague

PRAGUE (JTA) — The first B'nai B'rith lodge in Czechoslovakia since the Nazi occupation 53 years ago was inaugurated January 27 at quiet ceremonies attended by B'nai B'rith leaders from the United States and western Europe. It was named the Renaissance Lodge because it will resume the educational, social and charitable activities cruelly ended after Czechoslovakia was forced to cede the Sudetenland, its fortified western region, to the Third Reich in September 1938.

The Nazis occupied the rest of the Czech republic the following March, dooming the 17 B'nai B'rith lodges that had been active in Czechoslovakia during the interwar years.

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## Walesa will set up task force on anti-Semitism in Poland

By DAVID FRIEDMAN  
WASHINGTON (JTA) — Polish President Lech Walesa has agreed to name a permanent task force to combat anti-Semitism in his country, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council announced here.

Walesa agreed to the task force during an hour-long meeting on January 25 at his official residence with Miles Lerman, a Holocaust survivor and chairman of the Memorial Council's international relations committee. Lerman, a native of Poland, had proposed the task force during a meeting January 9 with Kazimierz Dziejanski, the Polish ambassador in Washington.

"As someone who has lived through the Holocaust, I came to President Walesa to speak candidly about issues that had been weighing heavily on my heart," said Lerman, who led a resistance group in southeastern Poland during World War II. "The reappearance of various forms of anti-Semitism, in a Poland that has hardly any Jews left, that resurfaced in Poland's recent election campaign must be eradicated."

Walesa was himself accused during the election campaign of allowing anti-Semitic innuendoes to be used in his successful bid for the presidency.

The task force will be made up of members of the Polish government, professors, journalists and at least one prominent Polish Catholic clergyman. The establishment of the panel will be "a giant step toward healing the dangerous misunderstandings between our two peoples," Lerman said.

Walesa also told Lerman that on his first visit to the United States he would meet with officials of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, which the council is establishing, and with Polish Jewish survivors of the Holocaust. No date has been set for the visit, which is expected to occur in the spring.

Lerman negotiated an agreement with the Polish government in 1988 to provide the museum, scheduled to open in 1993, with access to the Polish archives on the Holocaust.

The Polish government, the state museums at Auschwitz and Majdanek, and the Polish Jewish Historical Institute have provided several important artifacts to the museum. These include a prisoners barracks from Auschwitz-Birkenau, a railroad car used to deport Jews to the Treblinka death camp, cobblestones from the Warsaw Ghetto and hundreds of items that had belonged to victims.

## Focus on Federation agencies

Focus on Federation Agencies is a new column in The Jewish Voice. In an effort to allow the Federation agencies to let the community know what they're doing, what their issues are, how they serve the Delaware Jewish community, five agencies will share this space on a rotating schedule, beginning in this issue with the Kutz Home. Other agencies to be highlighted in this space will be Jewish Family Service, the Jewish Community Center, the Albert Einstein Academy and Gratz Hebrew High School. The column will be written by the individual agencies.

## Questions most often asked about The Milton and Hattie Kutz Home

By SHEILA JABLONER  
Kutz Home Social Worker

The decision to enter a nursing home, faced by increasing numbers of older people and their families, is a very difficult one. I am often asked if there is a right time to begin application for admission to the Kutz Home, can emergency admissions be arranged, who is eligible for admission, how does one pay for nursing home care, etc.. This article will attempt to answer some of the more frequently asked questions.

**When should I consider entering a nursing home?** The answer to this question depends on the individual and his or her physical and mental health, living situation, family resources, and services available in the community. For example, there are a variety of services available to assist people to remain in their own homes. These include meals-on-wheels, health aide and homemaker services, and adult day care. Nursing home care should be considered for those elderly persons experiencing serious illness, significant mental changes and the need for continuous care and medical supervision.

**Who is eligible for admission to the Home?** Any person, 65 years or older who is either a resident or the parent or sibling of a Delaware resident. The age requirement may be waived.

**How quickly can a person gain admission?** Sometimes there is a short wait (perhaps a few weeks) for an appropriate room to become available. At other times admission can be immediate. Priority is shown those candidates who can best benefit from the Home's comprehensive nursing care, social programs and religious observances. Admission to the Home is facilitated by early application.

When beds are available, we can arrange admissions for short-term, respite care or emergency situations. At a minimum, we need some medical information.

**How does one pay for care at the Kutz Home?** Those residents and their families who are able to pay the actual cost of care in the Home do so. Some residents are eligible for Medicaid payments. (Medicaid is a State and Federal benefit program for residents with low monthly in-

comes and no assets.)

If after confidential financial disclosure it is determined that an applicant is not eligible for Medicaid benefits and lacks the resources to pay the Home's full charges, other financial arrangements may be made. The Home receives allocations from the Jewish Federation of Delaware, the United Way and the Auxiliary of the Milton & Hattie Kutz Home, all of which help offset the deficit created when a resident cannot pay the full cost of care.

### Is there any charge or obligation connected with making application to the Kutz Home?

Absolutely not. I will meet with any one who has questions about the Home or services available to older people in our community. Please do not hesitate to call me during the week at 764-7000 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. I will gladly schedule an evening appointment if daytime is inconvenient. Home visits can also be arranged.

## Portrait of a resident

Pictured is Mrs. Rose Fabian celebrating the arrival of 1991 at the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home, 704 River Road, in Wilmington. The New Year's party was one of the many activities enjoyed by the Home's residents in recent months.

Mrs. Fabian has lived at the Home for three years and she often has a twinkle in her eye. She says she is always busy, "because there isn't time to be lonely. I'm a very pleased resident." She adds, "the food is very good."

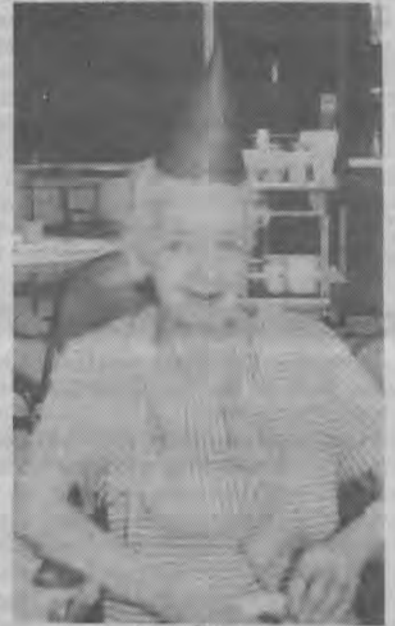
Mrs. Fabian paints with watercolors, listens to classical music and participates in the discussion groups at the Home. The "Word Game" that she plays with other residents is rather challenging and she excels at "Rummyque."

When the weather permits, Mrs. Fabian likes to sit and read in the Martin Sloan Garden, which is just outside her room. She said she is grateful to Mrs. Sloan for having recently restored the garden.

Mrs. Fabian was born in Providence, Rhode Island, in 1914 and was graduated from Brown University in 1934 with a B.A. in Teaching. She had three brothers and three sisters, all of whom were graduated from college. Only one brother, in Tallahassee, Florida, is still alive.

After college, Mrs. Fabian taught grades one to twelve. Her favorite subject was mathematics, and her eyes twinkle when she remembers her students.

In 1948, Mrs. Fabian went to Arkansas to visit a niece and met and married Rabbi Tibor Fabian in the small synagogue where he worshipped with his congregants. He had just arrived from Hungary from where her parents had emigrated. Mrs.



Mrs. Fabian

Fabian helped him learn the English language and American customs.

They moved to Dover, Delaware, in 1955 and to North Carolina a few years later. She smiles when she describes that her role as the wife of a rabbi was prestigious and extremely gratifying.

After Rabbi Fabian died, Mrs. Fabian's niece convinced her to return to Delaware and she became a resident of the Home. Mrs. Fabian feels it was a wise move, being close to her niece, nephew and their family, especially their granddaughter, Zoey, age 2. All visit her frequently. Her niece and nephew often take her to special events in the community.

It is a good life here for Mrs. Fabian and, with a smile she says, "the only fear I have in life is flying in an airplane."

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# One last vigil marks suspension of 20-year Soviet Jewry protest

By NEIL RUBIN

Washington Jewish Week

WASHINGTON (JTA) — With an odd juxtaposition of Jewish and Soviet symbolism, a 20-year-old daily Soviet Jewry vigil came to an end here on January 27.

A diverse crowd of more than 100 longtime local Soviet Jewry activists attended a ceremony marking the suspension of the vigil, which had been drawing lunch-time protesters to the Soviet Embassy every Monday through Sunday since December 1970.

A Soviet flag flapped in the breeze as Jews sang "Am Yisrael Chai," and a Soviet official joined local Jewish and political leaders in marking the achievements of the Soviet Jewry movement. Hundreds of thousands of Jews have been able to leave the Soviet Union in recent years.

The Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, sponsor of what some believe may have been the longest-running organized protest of any kind in the United States, said it was suspending the vigil be-

cause face-to-face discussions with representatives of the Soviet Embassy had become possible.

"At least now we don't have to stand across 16th Street and shout," said Marcia Weinberg, council president. "We come together now and talk. We have taken a very important step today."

Representing the Soviet embassy at the event was its press secretary, Georgi Oganov. Oganov thanked the Jewish community for "putting this message across to us."

But Oganov took issue with some of what was being said. "I really don't think we should use the term to 'liberate, to let people free,' but to let people emigrate, which is just one of the rights of people living in different spheres in all countries," he said.

Weinberg said that the decision to suspend, not cancel, the vigil was made after informing local representatives of the Baltic states, where independence movements are facing a crackdown by Soviet authorities.

Murray Tenenbaum, the council's

executive director, said after the ceremony that the Baltics issue "is an issue that troubles us." Addressing the issue of Soviet Jewry, he added that "there are still problems, there are still refuseniks, but there has been a change. I don't think we can ignore that."

For years, participation in the 15-minute vigils was standard fare for Jewish organizations holding meetings here. At times the vigil attracted several hundred participants, although more often there was only a handful of stalwarts — no matter what the weather — encouraging passersby to raise issues of Soviet Jewry with their Congressional representatives and the Soviets.

Taking part in the suspension ceremony were District of Columbia Congressional Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton, the Rev. John Steinbrink, and representatives of the International Union of Electrical Workers, who were honored for allowing Soviet Jewry protesters to demonstrate on their building's steps across from the embassy since the

vigil began.

"You should all congratulate yourselves for coming out here every day for 20 years," said Evan Krame, chairman of the JCC's Soviet Jewry Task Force.

Despite the congratulations, however, there were grim reminders that the struggle for Soviet Jewry is not yet over.

Peter Genis, who also addressed the crowd, emigrated to Silver Spring, Md., from Moscow last spring, but had to leave his father behind in the

Soviet Union. Genis' family made 29 appeals to emigrate in the last 15 years. He said he knew of the vigil when he was still in the Soviet Union and that its existence comforted him.

"This is very helpful because Jews in the Soviet Union can feel that they are not alone," he said in an interview after the ceremony. "Just imagine yourself behind the Soviet border and you are alone and you hear that some activity for Soviet Jewry is helping you. It is a very good feeling."

## Activists, policy makers to examine U.S.-Mideast policy at AIPAC conference

Over 2,000 people from all 50 states will participate when the nation's pro-Israel community assembles from March 17 to 19 in Washington for the 32nd Annual Policy Conference of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). Registration for the conference is now open. Members of Congress, Administration policy makers and Israeli officials will join delegates to focus on current concerns facing the United States-Israel partnership. AIPAC is America's pro-Israel lobby.

AIPAC's conference convenes as important issues challenge Israel and the US-Israel relationship, said Toby Dershowitz, AIPAC Director of Media Relations. Participants will be briefed on diverse subjects such as the unfolding Gulf crisis, Soviet Jewish immigration, and scenarios for Mideast peace. Delegates will take part in issue-oriented and "how to" workshops on the Persian Gulf, working with the media, and grassroots political activism, she said.

The conference opens on Sunday, March 17, with a keynote address by Yitzhak Shamir, Prime Minister of Israel. He will be followed by Congressman John Murtha (D-PA) who will give a perspective on Congress' role in shaping US Middle East policy. AIPAC's Executive Director, Thomas A. Dine, will present "The State of AIPAC" report on Sunday evening.

Marina Furman, a leading Soviet-Jewish activist in Israel, will address the conference on Monday morning. The banquet, on Monday night, March 18, will feature Senators John D. Rockefeller (D-WV) and Phil Gramm (R-TX), both considered strong supporters of Israel. Ambassador Zalman Shoval, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, will also address the gathering. The conference will conclude on Tuesday, March 19, with remarks by General Colin Powell, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, on the future of US-Israel relations follow-

ing the Gulf Crisis.

"The challenges for the United States and Israel in the Middle East are great, and American pro-Israel political activism is fundamental," said Dine. "Activism begins with knowing the facts about the issues and how to be effective in our political system. Building this knowledge base is the goal of the conference. In these uncertain times, it is more important than ever to understand the complex problems challenging Israel and to demonstrate our commitment to Israel's safety and security."

This year's conference will introduce AIPAC's Young Leadership Program, which will take place on Friday, March 15 and Saturday, March 16. This event, designed for people between 25 and 40 years old, will include VIP tours of the White House, State Department, and Capitol Hill, and a cocktail reception with Members of Congress.

"This year's conference theme is 'In shifting sands, America's friendship is Israel's strength,' and this has never been more true than it is today," said Sanford Solomon of Dover, Delaware Chairman of AIPAC. "Each year, many of America's most influential decision makers come to the AIPAC Policy Conference. By attending the conference, American supporters of Israel can show their representatives in Washington how they feel about maintaining strong US-Israel ties."

College student participation is an integral part of the policy conference. In addition to social events, student leadership from around the country will participate in workshops on campaign politics and student involvement in the legislative process. There will be a special workshop for students on responding to anti-Israel propaganda. Students may attend the conference at reduced rates. Limited subsidies are available for qualifying students. Call Rachel Weinberg for information (202)639-5241.

One-day rates are available, as well as special rates for those wishing

to attend only the banquet. The conference will be held at the Sheraton Washington Hotel. Special room rates and air fares are available for conference participants. To register and for more information on the conference, please contact Helene Godin at AIPAC (202)639-5200.

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## Crisis in the Middle East

## Delaware's synagogues, schools respond to crisis

By CELIA GANS

Special to The Jewish Voice

"Measured" best describes the current response of Delaware's synagogues and religious schools to the current Persian Gulf war. A strong sense of commitment to Israel, to the United States government and to the Allied Forces is being expressed, but there is no undertone of vindictiveness or hysteria.

All synagogues — Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth, Temple Beth Emeth, Temple Beth El (Newark), Congregation Beth Shalom, Beth Shalom Congregation — have added prayers of support for the State of Israel, the government of the United States and its president and the Allied Forces and prayers for peace to their daily and Sabbath service.

At AKSE, Psalms 120, 121 and 125 from the group of 15 psalms identified as "Songs of Ascent," have been added. These psalms include the passages "I am all peace;/But when I speak, they are for war" (PS 120:7); "Behold, He that keepeth Israel/Doth neither slumber nor sleep" (PS 121:4); and "But as for such as turn aside unto their crooked ways,/The LORD will lead them away with the workers of iniquity./Peace be upon Israel." (PS 125:5).

Temple Beth El has, for the past two months, concluded its services with the singing of the State of Israel's national anthem *Hatikvah*, and the "Star Spangled Banner" or "American the Beautiful," according to Rabbi David Kaplan.

On Monday, January 29, Rabbi Moishe Goldblum of Beth Shalom Congregation delivered the Benediction at a "Support the Troops" rally in Dover. "The rally was a true cross section of the community," says Rabbi Goldblum, "with over 1,500 attendees. I found the choral selections from a variety of Dover choirs particularly moving." Within his own congregation, says Rabbi Goldblum, a high level of anger is being expressed about the attacks on Israel, and, reports the rabbi, "it has been suggested that Israel's response should be through its intelligence services. Let them target Saddam Hussein!"

On the religious school level, special assemblies have been held, and the prayers in support of Israel and for peace have been added to Junior Congregation rituals at all synagogues. At Temple Beth Emeth, a special program for Grades 3 through 6 drew a parallel between God's advice to Moses, that prayer gives us

comfort and strength, but actions keep us safe, to the Allies' actions in Gulf war. As Beth Emeth's Directors of Education, Rabbi Sarah Messenger, explains, "We stressed the fact that, while it is everyone's responsibility to pray, it is the adults' responsibility to keep children safe. And it is our children's responsibility to talk about their concerns or fears, to ask questions and to find information about the events taking place in Israel and the Gulf."

"This is not our youngsters first experience with military forces in the gulf," says Messenger. "Part of our Hanukkah program included making tapes to send to Jewish soldiers and Jewish chaplains in the gulf region, including our Congregation members' children stationed with the Gulf forces."

At Congregation Beth Shalom, Education Director Arlene Davis reports that classroom discussions have focused on current Torah readings, including the bondage in Egypt, the ten plagues, and the Egyptian pharaoh who "hardened his heart" and refused to "Let my people go."

Both Rabbi Nathan N. Schorr of AKSE and Rabbi David Kaplan of Temple Beth El spoke to special Hebrew school assemblies about the

Gulf war. Schorr focused on the children's concern for those in the region — their safety and the safety of the state of Israel, while Rabbi Kaplan acknowledged his — and his congregation's — support for the war, but discourages his youngsters from becoming "absorbed with hating."

Students from all five synagogue religious schools have been observed with yellow ribbons on their backpacks and book bags.

During the week of January 21, Rabbi Herbert Yoskowitz of Congregation Beth Shalom addressed a community seminar at which he gave

parents and staff of the Jewish Family service, the JCC and Albert Einstein Academy some guidelines on helping children deal with the war and its threats to the state of Israel.

At present, only Temple Beth El in Newark has congregation members on active duty in the Gulf region; Beth Shalom Congregation has many congregants who work at the Dover Air Force Base, and Temple Beth Emeth has congregants' children with the Allied Forces. All five congregations have members with family or close friends who are current residents of Israel.

## At the university; students 'will be actively involved'

University of Delaware students are due to return to campus on February 12, after the 6-week Winterim Session, says Hillel Director Ruth Kershner, C.S.W., and Hillel's level of involvement with all phases of the war in the Gulf will "increase significantly" as students address issues of war, peace, and a possible draft.

"We are ready to provide war-related counselling of all kinds to students," says Kershner, "and will be actively involved in chapter, campus and community events focusing on the war."

To date, Hillel has co-sponsored, with AIPAC's Delaware representation on campus and the Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity, a Sunday, February 3rd afternoon "Rally for Israel" in support of Israel and the American troops; and on January 28, the chapter held a Tu B'Shevat "Seder for Peace."

## As war erupts, volunteers offer themselves to Israel

By JONATHAN MARK

The New York Jewish Week

NEW YORK (JTA) — Tel Aviv once tried to lure tourists by billing itself as a "city that never sleeps." Recently, as the nighttime wailing of air raid sirens make that slogan seem as eerie as the empty streets, hundreds of New Yorkers told Israel they were coming nevertheless, to help out at army bases and hospitals, washing dishes and washing tanks.

Mordecai Yedid, Israel's deputy consul general in New York, reported that a pilot who had flown in Vietnam

called the consulate and said he wanted to fly for Israel. The pilot was soon on his way. "We are interested in doctors, drivers and anyone who is able to help," Yedid said.

On the morning after the missiles hit Israel, Sheila Wohl, 50, a manager in a computer company, was another of those who called the consulate, wanting to help Israel, wanting to be there. She was willing to do anything. The consulate told her to call Volunteers for Israel at (212) 643-4848. Wohl says she is one of those many Jews here who,

although not religious and unaffiliated with any Jewish organization, feel a primal connection with the Jewish state.

Walking into the Volunteers for Israel office — where she was immediately put to work answering the phone until an adviser could speak to her — she laughed at the realization that she had yet to inform her employer that she'd be flying to Israel a few days from now. "I hadn't spoken to friends or anyone," she says. "I just woke up and called."

At the Volunteers for Israel offices, which except for one person is fully manned by volunteers, the phones have been ringing non-stop. About 200 volunteers flew to Tel Aviv on January 27, and similar flights are expected at least twice a month.

Last year, 5,500 volunteers flew to Israel, up from an estimated 4,000 in 1989. Since the program started in 1982, some 27,000 volunteers

have put themselves at Israel's service.

Arthur Stern, a volunteer at VFI, says the volunteers will work a two- or three-week stint, while sleeping on a cot at an army base, "getting three glatt kosher meals a day," although the diet is army-sparse, little more than eggs, cheese, bread and salad.

Stern said that the workday, usually eight hours, has been stretching to 12 hours in the current emergency situation. The volunteers, clothed in army fatigues, are being used in army warehouses, supply and repair systems and other non front-line facilities, freeing up Israeli army personnel for other duties. Volunteers are warned that living conditions are "rugged and sometimes primitive — but you will survive."

The volunteers, who are included in all of the social activities on the base, pay \$649 for a round-trip ticket on El Al or Tower Air, and a \$50

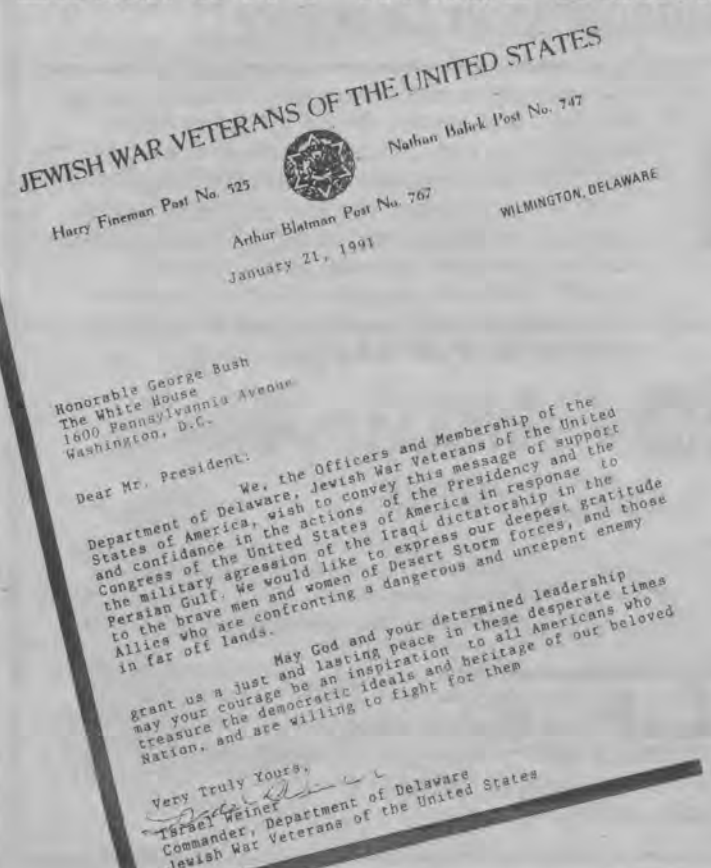
registration fee for other costs. The work-week is Sunday through Friday noon.

Volunteers for Israel started during Israel's Lebanon War in 1982, when crops were going unharvested because farm workers had been called to military duty.

Former Paratroop Gen. Aharon Davidi, in charge of communal services in a northern Israeli town, says he sent Israelis to "street corners in Brooklyn and Queen" to "harangue the Jews. In the end, we got over 650 (volunteers) and saved our crops."

The volunteers range in age from teen-agers to septuagenarians. The older people are used in jobs that are not physically demanding. Stern says the volunteers are "hot to trot. Even after the SCUDs hit Israel, not only haven't we had a cancellation, but people want to go even sooner than scheduled."

## Local JWV writes Bush



## NY mayor visits Israel, talks of unity

JERUSALEM (JTA) — New York Mayor David Dinkins ended his 24-hour goodwill visit to Israel on Monday saying, "We learned that people can be united, despite differences of color and language."

His remark came after he met with a group of immigrants from Ethiopia and the Soviet Union at the Mevaseret Zion absorption center near Jerusalem. During his visit, he was a guest of an immigrant family that arrived only three weeks ago.

Shortly before leaving the country with his traveling partner, Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.), a prominent member of the Congressional Black Caucus, the mayor said the world is now clearly aware of the danger Israel faces. "The moment we stepped off our airplane, we were handed gas masks and were told how to use them. We learned a lesson in patience and endurance," he de-

clared.

Dinkins, the first black mayor of New York, was criticized by elements of the black community for going to Israel. They contended he was pandering to the Jewish community while neglecting his black constituency.

But Dinkins brushed that aside. He said the vast majority of Americans, including African-Americans, understand that Israel has exercised tremendous restraint. The dissenting

voices come from a small but vocal minority, he said.

Dinkins met with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and visited a Patriot anti-missile battery to speak to the soldiers operating it. "We are proud to see you. You conduct an important mission, especially in light of Israel's restraint. You must feel great getting up in the morning with the important mission you are conducting," he told them.

**Middle East Crisis  
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# Crisis in the Middle East

## Bush: U.S. won't force Israel on peace

WASHINGTON (JTA) — President Bush personally assured American Jewish leaders recently that the United States would not seek to impose its will on Israel as it tries to bring about a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the aftermath of the Persian Gulf crisis. He also said there would not be any intermittent cease-fire until Iraq leaves Kuwait and abides by all the U.N. Security Council resolutions.

Doubts on both points were raised when Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh issued a joint statement January 29 offering a "cessation of hostilities" if Iraq makes an "unequivocal commitment to withdraw from Kuwait" and promising to vigorously "promote Arab-Israeli" peace once the Persian Gulf war has ended.

The statement, which the Bush administration has appeared to retreat from in recent days, was originally seen by some as an abandon-



George Bush

ment of Bush's insistence that the Gulf war not be linked with the Arab-Israeli conflict.

But a delegation of leaders from the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations emerged from a White House meeting with the president January 31 convinced the statement reflects no change in U.S. policy. Bush "reiter-

ated the fact that there is no linkage" and stressed that the United States will not seek to impose its will on Israel or anyone else, Shoshana Cardin, chairman of the Conference of Presidents, reported afterward.

Once the war is over, the United States will work for peace and stability in the region, but this requires cooperation from the Arab states as well as Israel, Cardin said.

Israeli Ambassador Zalman Shoval received the same assurances from Baker on January 30, when the two met at the State Department. Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said that Shoval was meeting with Dennis Ross, director of the department's policy planning staff, when Baker called the ambassador and said, "Why don't you come down and I'll buy you a drink?"

The two "had a ginger ale together" and met in Baker's office, Tutwiler said. She said the secretary told Shoval, "There is nothing new in this statement." When Shoval left

the meeting, he told reporters: "The United States is consistent in its approach. It does not contain a substantive change, possibly no change at all."

The friendly exchange over what could have been a troubling issue for Israel appeared to reflect the cooperative spirit that has marked U.S.-Israeli relations since the war in the Gulf began.

Indeed, the Conference of Presidents delegation left the White House confident that the U.S.-Israeli relationship is closer than ever.

"We learned there is a strengthened relationship between the United States and Israel, that there is a

recognition that the alliance which has existed for years be a credible one," Cardin told reporters after the hour-long meeting. "I think it is high level, I think on a personal level it is far better," she said.

Cardin said the president said he is keeping in close contact with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. Prior to the start of the Gulf war, there had been a great deal of animosity between the two. But since the first Iraqi Scud missile hit Tel Aviv, Bush has telephoned the prime minister at least three times.

Shamir is scheduled to come to Washington on March 17 to address

Continued on 21

## \$127 million in Israel Bonds sold during two-week emergency campaign

By ALIZA MARCUS

NEW YORK (JTA) — Israel's friends in the United States and elsewhere are showing their support with their pocketbooks, helping the emergency State of Israel Bonds campaign surpass its two-week goal of \$100 million.

Meir Rosenne, former Israeli ambassador to the United States and president of the Bonds organization, announced Monday that the campaign, which began shortly after Iraq's first missile attack on the Jewish state, netted \$127 million.

"As has happened during previous periods of danger, the Jewish people mobilized their time, energy and resources to ensure Israel's continued economic stability," he said at a news conference here.

About 7,000 people bought bonds, which range in price from \$500 to \$1 million, joining an estimated 70,000 Israel bonds holders around the world.

Rosenne said the campaign was part of a larger, \$500 million Israel Bonds campaign that would continue through the end of March, another effort to help support Israel during its times of financial hardship.

Israel's economy has been battered by the Iraqi missile attacks, which, in addition to injuring people, have damaged thousands of buildings and disrupted business. This takes place along with the continuing Soviet Jewish immigration, which could bring as many as 400,000 new immigrants to the country this year. They join 200,000 who arrived in 1990, many of whom are already suffering from Israel's lack of affordable housing and lack of new jobs.

All money raised through bonds sales will go toward the absorption costs of the new immigrants, specifically in the areas of housing and employment opportunities, Rosenne said.

Elie Wiesel, who attended the news conference, said the bonds sales give the people of Israel hope, showing them they have not been abandoned in their time of trouble. "The mood in Israel is very sober," said Wiesel, who just returned from a trip to Israel, "and every mark of solidarity is important."

The Noble Peace Prize-winner, writer and Holocaust survivor added, "I have rarely felt so gratified as I feel now, knowing what the entire (Bonds)

organization has done for our people."

Meanwhile, the United Jewish Appeal's emergency cash drive to aid Israel, which has set out to gather \$400 million in cash by the end of March, has so far collected about \$90 million. A spokesman said local federations around the country are responding admirably to the call for people to pay up the balance of their pledges to UJA's regular campaign and its special Operation Exodus drive for Soviet Jewry.

The Baltimore Associated Jewish Charities and Welfare Fund presented UJA officials with a check for \$2.9 million, while the Jewish Federation of New Haven, Conn., was able to give \$1.96 million, said a spokesman for UJA.

He said the relatively small Jewish Federation of Central New Jersey sent in a check for \$300,000, and the Jewish Federation of Allentown, Pa., came up with \$669,000 in cash and promised to forward another \$1 million within six weeks.

## At least 11 Swiss firms violated Iraq arms embargo

GENEVA (JTA) — At least 11 Swiss firms have violated the arms embargo on Iraq, selling that country substances with which it could build chemical weapons, according to charges last week leveled in the Swiss Senate.

The charges reflect growing dissatisfaction with what is perceived by much of the public and the news media to be a pro-Iraqi tilt by the government, which has invoked Switzerland's traditional neutrality in the Persian Gulf war.

The Foreign Ministry in particular has come under criticism.

Two Swiss newspapers, *Tribune de Geneve* and *Le Journal de l'Emploi*, observed that Foreign Minister Rene Felber exercised Swiss

neutrality by closing its air space to allied aircraft.

At the same time, Felber, a Socialist not known to be friendly toward Israel, has called for an international peace conference to settle all Middle East issues, which was one of Saddam Hussein's conditions to pull out of Kuwait.

Meanwhile, Switzerland announced it was sending \$10 million in humanitarian aid to Egypt, Turkey and Jordan. It is, however, not sending any aid to Israel.

The Israeli lobby here is trying to persuade the Israeli ambassador to Bern, Yehuda Horam, to react strongly to the government's apparent pro-Arab tilt.

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## Crisis in the Middle East

# Israel Civil Defense Forces are emerging as the unlikely heroes of Iraqi bombings

By LARRY COHLER

Washington Jewish Week

TEL AVIV — Hand out gas masks and nerve gas antidote injections to almost five million people; tell them to seal their rooms against all air leaks; and teach them how and when to use these defenses, in dozens of different languages — and there's bound to be some questions.

Sooner or later, most of them end up here, at the Israel Civil Defense Forces 24-hour hotline.

For example, a man calls in to complain that he is half bald, and the straps of his government-issue gas mask which must be pulled back tightly are digging painfully into his bare pate.

More importantly, he reports, the constant anxiety of living under crisis conditions, since Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein sent conventionally equipped Scud missiles slamming into numerous sites in Israel, have plunged him into a deep, paralyzing depression. It is a complaint the hotline specialists have heard often in the past week.

A hotline psychologist administers some brief phone therapy and tells the man where to go to get a prescription for pain relievers for his head and, if necessary, anti-depressants for his mind.

Another caller, a mother of two retarded children, called in to ask how she will know when to administer injections of atropine, the anti-gas agent, since they may not be able to signal they're in trouble.

You'll be able to spot the symptoms of nerve gas exposure, which are the same as with adults, a hotline physician assures her: tearing eyes and obvious trouble breathing.

"There are people phoning in here who know exactly what to do," says Lt. Col. Shmuel Hershkowitz, director of the Civil Defense Forces National Information Center. "They just want reassurance, someone to tell them, 'Yes, that is exactly what you should do.'"

The truly tough questions came earlier, he explains, when people, including many responsible for their neighborhoods, called in about the numerous technical aspects of setting up their civil defense. These early queries required an eclectic team of highly specialized experts in fields ranging from civil engineering to chemical war defense.

The challenge of equipping and educating the citizens of an entire country to defend themselves against bomb or chemical attacks has been an unprecedented one for the Civil Defense Force — a military backwater known until now as a sleepy repository for aging, paunchy reservists nearing the end of their annual obligations to the Israel Defense Forces.

But it is thanks to these sad sacks, as they are popularly perceived, that virtually everyone in the country is now equipped with his or her own gas defense kit, neatly slung around their shoulders wherever they go.

It has also been under this force's tutelage that almost every resident created his or her own sealed room according to meticulous instructions for taping up doors and windows. Those unable to do this, such as the homeless residents of the tent cities from two or three crises ago, have

been located and assured access to a sealed room wherever necessary.

In the wake of these achievements, the Civil Defense Force's image has undergone a radical transformation. It's as if Beetle Bailey suddenly metamorphosed into Steve Canyon.

By shepherding an unruly anarchic democracy through an act of collective discipline hardly known outside of Fascist states, the Civil Defense Force has become the surprise hero of this war.

Part of the reason lies in quiet changes the Israeli military has been making in the force since it first perceived that Israel's next war was likely to directly involve the country's civilian population.

Hershkowitz, the energetic 39-year-old chief of the Civil Defense Force's National Information Center, for example, seems the antithesis of the group's popular stereotype. Indeed, the position was thrust upon him only last August, after Iraq invaded Kuwait. Israeli military leaders then, acutely aware of Saddam Hussein's threat to burn half of Israel, sent reform plans for the civil Defense Forces into high gear.

"I was one year in the university, studying public administration," recalled Hershkowitz. "And then, in mid-August they came to me and said, 'Hey, you're here.'"

Similarly, 44-year-old Col. David Klivanski, who was responsible for distributing the gas defense kits to every citizen and then educating the country on how to use them, only came to his job last July, after finishing a Haifa University program in political science.

But Klivanski also served three and a half years previously in the Civil Defense Force, or Haga, as it is known by its Hebrew acronym. As with Hershkowitz, it was not a duty he sought.

"Before Haga, I was in the infantry," Klivanski related. He served there in the 1967 and 1973 wars, the latter as a waves, and became a reluctant media hero in the process. Trouping into the studio once a day to give an instructional session he scripts himself, the trim, silver-haired officer projects an authority that has led his superiors to extend his TV series for the duration of the crisis.

"My mother sees him on TV and talks about how good-looking and articulate he is," says one of the female Haga aides working with him.

Inevitably, despite Klivanski's best efforts, there have been educational failures. Some Ethiopian Jews who were illiterate were unable to read the Amharic subtitles that have accompanied some of his TV shows. When the emergency radio announcement failed to broadcast the "all clear" message in Amharic during one air raid last week, one Ethiopian family continued to sit in their sealed room with the stifling gas masks on for some eight hours before they were discovered.

More seriously, five people also died of suffocation during the early air raids when they failed to remove the plastic plug that covers each gas mask filter.

Some of the most rigorously Orthodox, often anti-Zionist Jewish communities have resisted using the gas masks despite a ruling by the chief rabbinic permitting male Jews to

shave their beards to that the gas masks fit air tightly.

"So far, no one has died from Saddam Hussein," said one resident of Jerusalem's Mea Shearim religious quarter on Israel television. "But five people have died from gas masks."

Some have also criticized the force for insisting that people go during air raid alerts to their sealed above ground rooms in anticipation of a gas attack, despite the fact that they have so far all been conventional bomb attacks. Citizens would be safer in the underground shelters designed for such attacks in every Israeli neighborhood, these critics say.

This criticism will probably increase after the bomb attack January 21 when scores were injured sitting in their sealed rooms. But the commander of Haga's rescue unit, who cannot be identified under military rules, maintained that the safety differences between being above ground or in the basement in the event of a direct hit were marginal in a conventional attack. Meanwhile, he said, the number of lives saved in case of a gas attack would be crucial. With gas, which sinks to the ground, he noted, the worst place to be is underground.

Despite these reservations, overall response to the Civil Defense Force Campaign has been phenomenal. Their achievement has been regarded as all the more striking in light of the fact that almost all of the 10,000 Haga soldiers are reservists.

Asked how the work he and his colleagues have done during this crisis had affected morale within Haga, Klivanski replied by thumbing his chest and saying, "It's now like King Kong."

In fact, the move to upgrade Haga began some two years ago, according to Israeli military officials, when they began to listen to what Saddam Hussein was saying, even then, and to take his threats seriously.

Quietly, the Haga budget was increased and standards for some of its key departments were raised.

The Civil Defense Force's prestige also got a boost thanks to the work of its most elite group, the emergency rescue company commander. "I was a regular, normal officer, and a regular officer always prefers the front," he paused. "I never dreamed this would be the front."

Like most people in Israel, said Klivanski, before coming to Haga, "in 20 years I thought about it maybe five minutes. Mostly, I thought of Haga as checking old ladies' bags at the cinema," one of the numerous tedious duties Haga reservists perform as part of the daily routine against terrorism.

When he came to his current duty, Klivanski applied the penchant for detail and thoroughness that served him as an infantry officer, after an extended and typically divisive Israeli debate on whether to distribute the gas masks was settled last fall.

Then, said Klivanski, "It was important to distribute them quietly, with dignity, not like a flea market. It had to be seen as something done by a government, a nation, not a regime."

Klivanski's second challenge was then to make sure every resident knew how to use the gas mask and the accessories that came with it.

Neatly packaged in a cardboard box and weighing about 2.5 lbs., complete with handy black plastic shoulder strap, the gas kit also contains a disposable atropine injection device, to be used when heavy nerve gas exposure penetrates the mask's seal.

There is also a desiccant powder to be used in case of a mustard gas attack, as well as gauze to lift the powder from the skin once it is saturated by mustard gas aerosol.

As part of his campaign to educate the public on how to use the equipment, Klivanski has taken to the television air unit that went to Arme-

nia in 1989 and helped save Soviet Armenians after the disastrous earthquake there.

In the current crisis, says Col. Moshe Galili, the chief of the emergency unit, his unit stands ready to move someone caught in a gas attack from the site of the disaster to a decontamination site nearby, and onward to a hospital for treatment, all within one hour of the attack.

"We give this information that we developed to the world," said Galili, "including to the Soviet army in Armenia. That's our policy. To show how to save people, not kill people."

## Ongoing missile attacks produce exodus, stories

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The exodus from Tel Aviv goes on as Iraqi missiles continue to rain down on the metropolitan area.

Every evening, tens of thousands of Tel Aviv residents jam the exits from the city to get out of Scud range in the evening hours, when most of the Iraqi missile attacks have occurred. By late afternoon, thousands of cars clog the roads and highways out of Tel Aviv. Most of them, crawling northward bumper-to-bumper as dusk falls, seem to contain just the driver, usually male. Many men must still work here everyday but have temporarily moved their families to Jerusalem or other safe havens.

Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat, a former Israel Defense Force general, has generated controversy in recent days by branding people who flee the city "deserters."

"I was not talking about families with young children," Lahat explained January 28 to a delegation of American Jewish leaders whom he took on a tour of badly damaged neighborhoods. "My main problem is with older families whose children are grown. People who leave their city will also leave their country. What we need now is more self-control and a sense of duty to our country," he told members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Another aspect of the missile attacks came up January 27 when the Cabinet resolved to give civil defense ordinances the force of emergency legislation. That means people are required to obey the civil defense orders instead of choosing their own protective measures.

The Cabinet decision also will serve as a legal basis for property compensation claims, which could become a major issue in the months and years ahead.

There was a lively response January 28 to information broadcast throughout the day by the income and property tax authorities. They advised residents who sustained missile damage to take advantage of the property insurance provisions that most citizens were unaware of or had forgotten about.

The broadcasts were a reminder that while the government automatically insures all buildings and structures against war damage, private insurance companies do not cover war risks for loss or damage to removable property. They do not cover

furniture and household effects damaged or destroyed by acts of war, even if covered by policy against fire and theft.

But residents were told that for an additional charge of 0.3 percent, taxpayers can take out specific war risk coverage, up to \$150,000 per apartment. Moreover, it is retroactive for damage already done by a missile attack. Premium payments will be accepted at all post offices and banks until mid-February.

The Scud attacks have produced some bizarre tales.

One newspaper reported about a man who underwent surgery before the U.N.-imposed January 15 deadline for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait. American and allied forces started their air assault on Iraq on January 17 as the first Scud missile fell on Tel Aviv the following day.

The surgical patient did not regain consciousness for over a week. When he came to, it was in the middle of an air raid alert. The patient saw what seemed to be devils who looked like ants, and he concluded he was dead.

The man was not hallucinating. The doctors and nurses attending him wore gas masks, which made them resemble arthropods. When they saw his bewilderment, they removed the masks to reassure him.

But the patient reportedly fainted from shock when the doctor said his father and mother were waiting outside to see him. The man's mother had died five years earlier, and he was now surely convinced he was dead, the newspaper reported. As it turned out, the doctor had been only slightly mistaken. The woman waiting with the patient's father was the man's second wife.

Another story making the rounds is of a family that was taping their favorite television show, "The Cosbys," when an air raid alert sent them scurrying into their gas-proof room.

After the "all clear," they resumed watching the show, this time on videotape. When it came to the point where it was interrupted by the air raid alert, the family forgot they were watching a recording and went back to the sealed room.

According to the newspaper story, they sat there for an hour wondering why no "all clear" was broadcast on their transistor radio.

# Crisis in the Middle East

## Analysis: Saddam's strategy of last resort

By DR. ALON BEN-MEIR

Though the United States' victory in the Gulf War is almost assured, it must not be marred by heavy casualties or by dragging Israel into the conflict either directly or through Jordan. The "Israeli option," in fact, is the key to Saddam Hussein's strategy of trying to emerge as a hero in the eyes of the Arab masses.

Hussein's strategy in dealing with the allied countries — and specifically, the United States — has been based on four premises:

- Stalling, which he managed to do rather successfully for five months, would enable him to entrench his ground forces along the Kuwaiti-Saudi border.

- Defiance of the United States would elevate his political stature in the Middle East and expand his popular support among Arabs outside Iraq, including the Palestinians.

- A direct challenge to the United States, on the assumption that President Bush could not muster the political resolve to wage a war for the sake of Kuwait.

- Finally, expanding the conflict beyond Iraq and Kuwait by dragging Israel into the war, thereby trying to change it from a war between Iraq and the international community to an Arab war against the "Imperialists" and the "Zionists."

All this helps explain why for five months Hussein rejected all offers, deals and requests to withdraw from Kuwait. Indeed from his vantage point, had he withdrawn under pressure without substantial compensation, he would have had everything to lose and nothing to gain.

Iraq at the time was in serious trouble, debt ridden to the tune of some \$80 billion, factories running

out of raw materials and a restive army living on bare necessities. Billions of dollars were needed for economic reconstruction. To be sure, short of receiving significant material compensation, that is, a big chunk of Kuwait, Hussein saw the war scenario as the lesser of two evils, the option which offered the better chance for political survival.

To deny Hussein the fruits of his ploy, the United States will have to continue to pursue the current military strategy of relying heavily on air bombardment; to systematically destroy his military assets and military-related industrial complexes; soften his military fortifications in Kuwait; destroy his supply routes; and finally, smash remaining communication and command centers.

Though the air campaign will considerably weaken the Iraqi defenses, it may not lead to capitulation

until Hussein has committed his main military asset — his ground forces.

Nor has Hussein's effort to engage Israel ceased by any means. Notwithstanding his failure thus far to provoke an Israeli response through Scud missile attacks on Israeli urban centers, those attacks will not be his last attempt to involve Israel in the war. He may still execute additional air or missile attacks — possibly with chemical warheads — or he may drag Jordan into the conflict. Israel's sensitivity about either provocation is extremely high, and could trigger the "long delayed" Israeli retaliation.

Although King Hussein of Jordan may attempt to stay out of the conflict, he may eventually, and perhaps unwittingly, succumb to pressure brought to bear by Iraq and his pro-Iraqi population.

For this reason, in addition to close coordination and the development of a joint strategy with Israel, the United States must make it clear to King Hussein that it will not tolerate voluntary or coerced Jordanian involvement. To that end, the United States should now offer to protect Jordan from Iraqi incursions and thus prevent King Hussein from succumbing to Iraqi intimidation.

Moreover, the United States will have to resist the temptation of introducing ground troops sooner than later for the political benefit that a swift victory might bring. Air power may not destroy every bunker in Kuwait; it could, however, inflict such massive damage that a substantial number of Iraqi soldiers might be induced to surrender, especially if the supply lines of food and ammunition are completely cut.

The psychological warfare intended to demoralize the Iraqi troops should be extended to cover the civilian population. Though the United States — correctly — is trying to avoid inflicting large scale civilian casualties, the destruction of visible and essential targets in Baghdad, such as the two main bridges over the Tigris River, could inflict a devastating psychological blow to the Iraqi population.

These and other steps can prevent

Saddam Hussein from finding a way out of the disaster he brought upon himself and his people. It will also deny him the opportunity to reap the most important benefit from his strategy of last resort, that is, dragging Israel into the conflict and inflicting such heavy American casualties that the American people will force President Bush to make a deal. (Dr. Ben-Meir, born in Baghdad, Iraq, is the author of several books on the Middle East. He has just returned from an extended visit to the region.)

## German foreign minister in Israel hears criticism from Levy over gas

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Germany's foreign minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, arrived January 24 in Israel on a visit he called "moral, not political," and promptly received a tongue-lashing from his Israeli counterpart. Foreign Minister David Levy, at a joint news conference with his guest, accused Germany of supplying Iraq with both conventional and chemical weaponry.

German aid to Israel will not change Germany's responsibility for Iraq's armament, Levy said. He seemed to be referring to the \$165 million grant

announced last month by Chancellor Helmut Kohl to help Israel with its economic problems.

Levy said he had told Genscher months ago that it was shameful for Germany to supply Iraq with know-how and technology for its military industry. He said he appreciated the Bonn government's efforts to track down and punish German businessmen who helped Saddam Hussein develop chemical weapons. But Germany still is not doing enough, Levy complained. He said it was a "nightmare" that gas originating in

Germany should be menacing the Jewish state.

Genscher said in response that his country never permitted the export of chemical weapons to Iraq. There were those who broke the law, he said, and vowed that his government would do its utmost to press charges against them. He assured that Israel could rely on Germany "at this difficult hour."

Immediately upon their arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport, Genscher and his entourage were given gas masks. The German foreign minister said his visit was motivated by the "historic and moral obligation of Germany to the Jewish people."

He joined Levy and Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat on a tour of one of the sites hit by an Iraqi SCUD missile. At the end of the tour, Genscher handed Lahat a \$3.3 million check, which he said was a "symbolic contribution" to rebuild the devastated area and to indicate that "Germany is affected by everything that happens in Israel."

The visitors then drove to Ramat Gan, a suburban township just east of Tel Aviv, which suffered the worst damage and casualties from a missile strike on Jan. 22.

Genscher received a hostile reception from many Israelis and pro-Israel activists from abroad as he toured the stricken areas.

The foreign minister is leader of the Free Democratic Party, Kohl's junior coalition partner. He was accompanied to Israel by Lothar Ruhl, secretary-general of the ruling Christian Democratic Union, and Carl-Dieter Spranger, a minister representing the Christian Social Union, the CDU's Bavarian sister party. Hans-Jochen Vogel and Johannes Rau, leaders of the opposition Social Democratic Party, plan a separate visit to Israel.

Meanwhile, about 200 people, mostly Jewish students, demonstrated Thursday in Bonn in support of Israel and the U.S.-led war on Iraq. Pro-Israel and pro-American demonstrations are planned by Jewish students Friday in Frankfurt, Vienna and Paris.

But a huge German demonstration against American military intervention in the Persian Gulf is shaping up for Saturday in Bonn. Organizers said at least 150,000 people would attend.

## German proposal to provide Israel with \$200 million in aid splits the E.C.

BRUSSELS (JTA) — A German proposal to provide Israel some \$200 million in economic aid for the damage it suffered from Iraqi missile attacks has split the European Community. The issue was to be discussed here Monday at a meeting of the foreign ministers of the 12 member states.

Reservations have been expressed by Britain, France and Spain, which believe Israel should be aided within the framework of the overall financial package the E.C. has earmarked for Egypt, Jordan and Turkey.

Those countries are described as the "front-line states" whose economies suffered most from the U.N.-imposed embargo against Iraq.

Israel's economy has not suffered to the same extent, and "Israel's level of development is higher than that of these three countries," diplomatic

sources explained.

The sources said any aid Israel gets should be in the form of loans, not grants, and bilateral rather than from the E.C. as a unit. They pointed out that the E.C.'s financial resources "are not infinite."

Opponents of E.C. aid to Israel seem to fear it would jeopardize their relations with the Arab states that are part of the anti-Iraq coalition.

They argue that the E.C. has already made an important gesture toward Israel by rescinding an embargo on scientific exchanges, imposed last year to protest harsh measures taken by Israel to suppress the Palestinian uprising.

Greece, Denmark, Holland and Belgium appear more open to the German suggestion.

The aid would come on top of \$165 million in emergency economic assistance that Germany has already pledged to extend to Israel, as well as nearly \$700 million in military equipment that it began sending to Israel late last week. The military equipment includes Patriot and Hawk missiles.

In Bonn, German government spokesman Dieter Vogel said the ruling coalition would soon open talks with the opposition to reach common ground on how to finance the construction of two submarines the Israeli navy has long wanted but cannot afford.

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# Crisis in the Middle East

## Psychological impact of SCUDs taking toll on Israelis

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The Iraqi SCUD missiles that have three times wreaked havoc over the Tel Aviv area are a terror weapon that appear to have a more serious psychological than physical impact on Israelis.

But the shooting down of a SCUD January 23 over Haifa by a U.S. Patriot anti-missile battery has restored public confidence in the American weapon, which failed to neutralize the missile that hit Ramat Gan on the previous evening.

It is hoped the new sense of reassurance will slow down the exodus from the greater Tel Aviv area, which has borne the brunt of the missile attacks, and reduce disruption to the economy caused by absenteeism and anxiety. If those are indeed the results, they will strengthen Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's efforts to avoid being dragged into the Persian Gulf war by Saddam Hussein.

Militarily, the SCUDs are ineffective, with their 550-pound, high-explosive warheads having the destructive power of a car bomb, a terror weapon known to Israelis. They leave a big crater in the ground and scatter metal splinters and glass shards over a wide area.

Psychologically, however, their effect has been to make many residents of the Tel Aviv area ardently

wish they were elsewhere. There has been a major exodus from the city's environs since the first SCUDs struck on January 18. But it is hard to say just how many have departed Israel's largest urban area.

Half the town has left, according to some, surely an exaggeration. Nevertheless, considerable numbers of Tel Aviv "refugees" are turning up at hotels in Jerusalem and Eilat, or at scattered kibbutzim, which are unlikely targets of missile attacks. They usually say they are "visiting friends." A corresponding phenomenon is the proliferation of bumper stickers in Tel Aviv announcing "I've stayed on."

The fortitude of the general population and its ability to weather the strains of the present situation without disrupting the economy are a key element in Shamir's policy-making considerations. He can more easily maintain the government's policy of restraint if he is confident the central area of the country is holding firm.

Before the Patriot success, this was palpably not the case, with droves of Tel Aviv residents flying out to Eilat, motoring up to the north with their families in tow or checking in with friends and relatives in Jerusalem and the West Bank settlements. Many breadwinners, in a pattern

reminiscent of Londoners during the Blitz, have moved their families out of the Tel Aviv region while they themselves commute to work.

Homebound traffic jams are smaller, but the evening rush hour now begins in the afternoon.

Since the emergency began, banks, businesses and many shops close early. Nightlife has come to a virtual halt. Movie houses have canceled their evening shows. Virtually no night clubs, restaurants or cafes are open because of lack of customers. No bars stay open at night, except those frequented by singles who don't want to be alone.

Proud Tel Aviv residents cite Londoners who endured the Blitz 50 years ago and say, "They lived through six years of war. We can take it for a few weeks."

But beyond its effect on national morale, the Patriot success helped solidify the informal accord between

Shamir and President Bush, whereby Israel will stay out of the war as long as the attacks remain conventional and as long as the United States and its allies can show concrete progress in reducing the missile threat.

Significantly, pollsters and reporters have found a high degree of support for Shamir's policy of restraint among the public.

The ordinary Israeli is fully aware of the military and political complexities facing the prime minister and the Israel Defense Force. Israelis seem as reluctant as Shamir to give Saddam Hussein the prize he seeks, which is Israeli involvement in the war.

On Thursday morning, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger called on Shamir before leaving Israel, for what the prime minister's spokesman, Avi Pasner, described as a particularly friendly meeting. It reflected in tone and tenor

the steadily closer cooperation between Washington and Jerusalem that has evolved during this crisis.

Israeli leaders stress they have decided in principle to exact punishment from Iraq for its attacks. But the clear signal emanating from Jerusalem is that Israel's move will be carefully planned and designed to achieve maximum effect. It will be launched only if and when it does not endanger the cohesiveness of the U.S.-led coalition or disrupt the ongoing allied campaign.

If the Patriots can ward off all or most of what Hussein can still fling at Israel, the impairment of its deterrent posture and the private pain and loss caused by attacks will be eased. The allies, meanwhile, can get on with their job without having to worry constantly over the political and military complications of an Israeli intervention.

## Solidarity missions arrive in Israel

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Despite the ongoing Iraqi missile threat, Jewish leaders and non-Jewish politicians have been arriving here in recent days to demonstrate solidarity with Israel.

President Chaim Herzog met here February 3 with a delegation of 1,300 French Jews who arrived last Thursday on five flights from Paris and Nice. They were by far the largest group from any country to arrive here since Israel came under Scud missile attack two weeks ago, but they were no means the only group.

Herzog also met February 3 with Mayor David Dinkins of New York, who flew to Israel on a personal mission of good will and solidarity.

A number of Jewish groups have been arriving regularly for meetings with Israeli leaders and tours of missile damage sites.

A 42-member Hadassah delegation, led by Carmela Kalmanson, president of the women's Zionist organization, wound up a four-day visit over the weekend. Hadassah held its midwinter board meeting in Jerusalem instead of Washington, where it had been scheduled originally. The group met with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Simcha Dinitz, chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive.

Kent Schiner, president of B'nai B'rith International, arrived in Israel on the last leg of a 17-day B'nai B'rith mission that included stops in Eastern European capitals. His visit here is to demonstrate solidarity and to review Israel's preparations to absorb large waves of immigrants.

A delegation of nine public figures from Czechoslovakia arrived February 3 on a solidarity visit. It included members of Parliament, the chancellor of Prague University, the president of the Writers Association and several members of the clergy. Their trip was arranged by the WZO's Foreign Relations Department at the initiative of Kalman Sultanik, a member of the WZO Executive.

An international group of 30 rabbis from nearly a dozen countries was expected February 4 on a visit organized by the WZO's Bureau for Spiritual Services. Among them are the chief rabbis of communities in Argentina, Uruguay, Ecuador, Colombia, Britain, Austria, Italy, Sweden, Greece, Turkey and South Africa. They will hold several sessions on the subject of "spiritual leadership at a

time of crisis" and will outline their individual communities' plans to assist Israel.

The mass delegation of French Jews has experienced three air raid alerts since its arrival on a five-day visit. The group is led by the chief rabbi of France, Joseph Sitruk, and Paris Chief Rabbi Alain Goldmann. A week earlier, Jean Kahn, president of CRIF, the representative body of French Jewish organizations, led a group of French political figures on a goodwill visit to Israel.

The current expedition was initiated by the Paris Consistoire, the body in charge of the religious affairs of French Jewry whose president, Jean-Paul Elkann, preceded the larger group to Israel last week. One purpose of the visit is to hand over to the Israeli authorities funds collected by the Consistoire to help Israel absorb Soviet Jewish immigrants.

Herzog told his French guests that the best way world Jewry could demonstrate its commitment to Israel at this time is by making aliyah. He repeated his criticism of the French government's Middle East policy, especially its apparent reluctance to destroy the regime of Saddam Hussein once Iraqi forces are ousted from Kuwait. Herzog said he hoped once the Gulf war is over, the allies will not forget its lessons.

Another solidarity visit was made by a group of French Socialists, led by former Prime Minister Pierre

Mauroy, who met in Tel Aviv last week with Shimon Peres, chairman of the opposition Labor Party. Their reception dinner at a hotel was interrupted by an air raid alert.

Top Anglo-Jewish fund-raisers and religious leaders were in Israel last week on a five-day solidarity mission led by Sir Trevor Chinn, president of the Joint Israel Appeal and member of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors. Chinn was accompanied by a distinguished group, including Britain's chief rabbi, Lord Immanuel Jakobovits, Chief Rabbi-elect Jonathan Sacks and the Israeli ambassador to London, Yoav Biran.

Dinkins, New York's first black mayor, was accompanied on his three-day visit by Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.), a prominent member of the Congressional Black Caucus. After the mayor's conversation with Herzog, he told reporters that one purpose of his visit was "to demonstrate that we in New York care very desperately about this issue, that we deeply appreciate the restraint that is being exercised beyond what anyone could have hoped for in extreme circumstances."

Dinkins was referring to Israel's restraint in not striking back against Iraqi missile attacks. When he landed at Ben-Gurion Airport several hours earlier, he commented wryly that turning the other cheek was commendable as long as it was someone else's cheek.

## French firms provided Hussein power to launch SCUDs against Israel

PARIS (JTA) — Two French companies were named late last month as the providers of the technology and training that enabled Saddam Hussein of Iraq to endow his Scud missiles with the capability to hit targets in Israel and Saudi Arabia.

According to the current edition of the weekly L'Express, a French company, SAGEM, supplied the technological know-how while another French firm, Interspace, supervised the training of Iraqi engineers, which took place in Brazil.

The transfers took place between 1987 and 1989, L'Express said, adding that SAGEM delivered highly complex guidance systems to a secret consortium made up of 16 companies that was based first in Monaco and later in Switzerland.

Known as CONSEN, it was ostensibly Argentine but actually an Iraqi front which the Baghdad government established with a \$5 billion investment, the weekly said.

Other companies involved were Messerschmidt-Bolkow-Blohm of Germany, the Italian SNIA-BPD, a subsidiary of Fiat, and the Swedish BOFORs. Iraqi engineers who improved the Scuds were trained by the Brazilian Center for Aerospace Technology. But they were under the direct supervision of Interspace, whose shareholders include French state-owned companies and the French National Center for Space Studies.

## Humor in the face of war



While living under the constant fear of Iraqi attack, many Israelis are coping by restoring to a time-honored Jewish tradition: humor. Saddam jokes are abundant. This page of jokes, which bears the line "Published by SCUD-Baghdad," was sent by fax last week from Israel to a Wilmingtonian. One of the jokes: The mashgiach makes a visit to a kibbutz and, upon seeing pigs on the farm, expressed his outrage to the kibbutz leader. The kibbutznik tells the rabbi not to worry. "They're not pigs, Rabbi. They're sheep with gas masks."

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# Crisis in the Middle East

## War permissible in Jewish law if conducted morally

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN

NEW YORK (JTA) — As war casualties mount in the Persian Gulf, religious leaders continue to debate the morality of the conflict. While some religions consider war inherently immoral, the Jewish theological position is that war is justified and even mandatory in certain circumstances, say scholars of Jewish law.

"War ipso facto is not essentially immoral," said Rabbi Leonard Kravitz, professor of Midrash and homiletics at Hebrew Union College, the Reform movement's rabbinic seminary, and a former army chaplain. "Judaism is a pacific tradition. We look at peace as the best thing," he said. "We pray for peace. We greet each other with peace. But the world is unredeemed."

"Mashiach (the Messiah) hasn't come. The world where nations don't learn war any more hasn't happened yet. Where evil still exists, what does the individual do? War is sometimes necessary in an unredeemed world."

After the destruction of the Second Temple, rabbinic exegesis recognized three categories of war: milchemet reshut (Permissible war), milchemet chovah (obligatory war) and milchemet mitzvah (commanded

war). Ironically, these laws were codified during a time when Jews were under Roman rule and not able to make decisions of state.

The first rabbinic category, reshut, is understood as "optional war," a war initiated to conquer territory, for example some of the wars undertaken during the era of Jewish kings.

There are several requirements before beginning milchemet reshut, including obtaining the approval of the Sanhedrin, which cannot be fulfilled in the modern era.

Milchemet chovah, according to Kravitz, is war "to enhance the land or to expand the land."

Rabbi Arthur Green, president of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, defines it differently. Milchemet chovah, he said, is "something you are obliged to do to save the life of your society when its existence is threatened."

Milchemet mitzvah, according to Green, means war that is commanded by Scripture. That definition is "limited to wars of conquest in the time of Joshua, to rid the land of the seven Canaanite nations, and war for the destruction of Amalek."

"Since the Talmud says that the Canaanite nations no longer exist in recognizable form, there is no longer

any reason for milchemet mitzvah," Green said.

Other Jewish authorities disagree, defining milchemet mitzvah as war of self-defense, the one legitimate reason for war in the modern era.

"The only type of war permissible in this historical epoch is a defensive war," said Rabbi David Bleich, rosh yeshiva of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary at Yeshiva University.

This war is not only permitted, but is halachically required, said Bleich and other scholars.

Unlike milchemet reshut, divine approval is not required in cases of self defense, say these rabbis, nor is anyone exempt from the effort.

Deuteronomy lists several reasons why soldiers may be exempted from fighting in a required war: if a soldier has built a house he has not yet dedicated, if he has not yet dedicated, if he has not yet harvested his crops, if he is newly married or even if he is afraid.

But in the case of milchemet mitzvah, said Kravitz, "even a hassan (groom) from under the (wedding) chuppah goes."

And while every attempt to avoid war is supposed to be made, there are circumstances where negotiation

is not required, according to some authorities.

"when you're dealing with an act of aggression, you're not obligated to negotiate. You're permitted to strike," according to Bleich.

Jewish law also dictates the behavior of a Jewish army during wartime, emphasizing the sanctity of life in Judaism.

"Even in war, the means by which it is fought must be moral," according to Rabbi Harlan Wechsler, assistant professor of philosophy at the Conservative movement's Jewish Theological Seminary and religious leader of Manhattan's Congregation Or Zarua.

An army is required to "try to avoid injuring non-combatants," he said, adding that if there is a choice of weapons, the one which would target enemy soldiers without hitting innocents is preferred.

"You are not allowed to mistreat a prisoner of war," said Rabbi Aharon Soloveitchik, rosh yeshiva of Yeshiva Brisk in Chicago and a professor of Talmud at Yeshiva University in New York.

POWs have to be "treated fairly, a concept which preceded the Geneva Convention by 22 centuries," said Soloveitchik.

And according to Wechsler, "Maimonides says that when you lay siege to a city, you surround it only on three sides, allowing those who are innocent to flee. It illustrates the need to protect innocent life, because Torah prohibits murder as a capital crime."

Behavior during war is regulated even down to the obligation to protect trees, according to Deuteronomy 20:19-20. "Thou shalt not cut them down, for the tree of the field is man's life to employ them in the siege."

Only if a tree is known not to be one which provides food may it be cut down, and then only to be used to fortify areas under siege by the enemy.

Wechsler cited Nachmanides as saying that "it is well known that when armies go out to war, they will eat anything, they will plunder and commit wanton violence, and they will have no shame even to commit rape. 'therefore, when you camp against your enemy you should be wary of all evil. Scripture wants to make sure that even in war, it is conducted morally.'"

## In secret, Israel and Iraq fostered ties in mid-80s

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Some time back in the mid-1980s, discreet contacts between Jerusalem and Baghdad were established through Washington, the Jerusalem weekly *Kol Ha'ir* recalled over the weekend.

Nizar Hamdoun, Iraqi ambassador to the United States at the time, was cultivating American Jews.

The so-called "Iraqi option" was in vogue in certain political circles in Israel, the magazine reported.

They saw Saddam Hussein as leaning toward the moderate Arab camp and certainly preferable to the fanatical anti-Zionism of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini of Iran, with whom Hussein was locked in mortal combat.

Recollections of the "Iraqi option" contain bitter irony now, Israel has been hit by 30 Iraqi missiles in little more than two weeks and lives under threat of the chemical and biological weapons Hussein may possess.

But to a number of respected Israeli politicians and academicians, peace with Iraq seemed at one time logical and possible. As far as can be pinpointed, the "Iraqi option" dates back to 1987.

Its proponents included Moshe Shahal, then the minister of energy;

Labor Knesset member Binyamin Ben-Eliezer; Professor Amatzia Bar-Am of Haifa University; and, to a degree, Ran Cohen, A Knesset member of the Citizens Rights Movement.

Iraq seemed to be winning its war with Iran. Although it remained the only Arab combatant not to sign an armistice with Israel after the 1948 War of Independence. Baghdad was on friendly terms with Jordan and Egypt, supporters of the moderate wing of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The situation seemed ripe for the emergence of a moderate Arab bloc in the Middle East, anchored in Cairo and Baghdad. Israelis who thought so saw it as the natural closing of a circle.

Israel was one of the strongest supporters of the U.S.-backed regime of the Iranian Shah, which was overthrown in 1979.

The Jewish state continued to clandestinely supply arms to non-Arab Iran despite the anti-Israel virulence of its Islamic fundamentalist leadership.

The Israeli air raid that destroyed Iraq's nuclear reactor in 1981 was indeed a gift to the Khomeini regime.

But after the establishment of a Labor-Likud national unity government in 1984 with Laborite Shimon Peres as its first prime minister, Khomeini was seen to be far more dangerous to Israel than Saddam Hussein.

Professor Bar-Am reported in a 1987 article that the Iraqi ambassador to Washington was actively courting the American Jewish leadership, even giving a dinner in honor of a group of mostly Jewish academicians and business leaders.

The Iraqi envoy surpassed himself when, speaking at Jewish-sponsored Brandeis University, he asserted that the Palestinian problem was a matter for Israelis and Palestinians to solve, not a problem for Iraq.

The Iraqi option collapsed because Saddam Hussein preferred crude ideology to pragmatism, Bar-Am told *Kol Ha'ir*.

According to Ben-Eliezer of Labor, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was also partly to blame. His hostility toward the Jordanian option pursued by his foreign minister, Shimon Peres, wrecked the secret "London Accord" between Peres and King Hussein of Jordan.

Had that agreement, reached at a

secret meeting in the British capital in 1988, been adopted by Israel, it would have had a positive influence on the PLO and Iraq, Ben-Eliezer believes.

He thinks Saddam Hussein would have become part of a comprehensive peace process in the region under U.S. leadership. He would have enjoyed generous American economic aid and probably given up his designs on Kuwait.

In any event, Ben-Eliezer claims, Shamir was directly responsible for pushing King Hussein into the arms of Saddam Hussein.

Ben-Eliezer said the Jordanian ruler cast his lot with Iraq because he feared that the right-wing Likud regime intended to implement "by force" the doctrine enunciated by its most outspoken hard-liner, Ariel Sharon, that Jordan is a Palestinian state, which would spell the end of the Hashemite monarchy.

To most observers, the "Iraqi option" stands as further proof that events in the Middle East are about as predictable as the patterns the wind makes on the desert sands.



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# Russian Resettlement: One Year Later

By CELIA GANS

Special to The Jewish Voice  
An Overview

From October 1, 1989, to September 31, 1990, the Jewish Family Service of Delaware, under the tireless — and often inspired — direction of Russian Resettlement Coordinator Roberta Burman, resettled 43 New Americans in the Wilmington community. For many families, the journey to Wilmington began with an exit visa from the Soviet Union to Israel. With little notice, whole families reduced their lives to 45 pounds of baggage per person and boarded flights to Vienna. From Vienna, they moved on to the U.S. Immigration encampments outside Rome. And there they waited — in some cases, for almost a year — for permission to enter America.

In Wilmington, there were joyous — often tearful — reunions with their sponsoring families — relatives who had become only disembodied voices over long-distance telephones or smeared faces from blurred photographs.

In Wilmington, there were furnished apartments — with privacy, an unknown concept for those subject to Russia's chronic housing shortage.

In Wilmington, there were employment opportunities. True, not always on the professional levels which these New Americans had attained in the USSR, but jobs.

In Wilmington, thanks to loans from the Jewish Federation, there were cars, which provided the mobility to explore the community, attend religious, cultural and social events, visit friends and get to and from work.

In Wilmington, there were schools for the children. At present, six of the 15 New American children participate in the JCC Day Care and Pre-School programs, three children are students at Albert Einstein Academy and four attend Wilmington public schools. One young woman is currently enrolled at the University of Delaware.

In Wilmington, there were schools for the

adults. Many have attended English classes at Delaware Technical and Community College or CITE of Delaware. Some took vocational courses leading to certification and employment.

What did they bring to our community? Many things, according to Burman. An indomitable spirit. The will to succeed. A determination to put their years of persecution and pain behind them, to learn a new language and a new culture, to practice Judaism, and to become useful, productive citizens.

## Community Contributions

The success of Wilmington's Russian Resettlement program, says Jewish Family Service Director Arnold Lieberman, is not only due to the resourcefulness and dedication of JFS staff, but to the community's commitment and caring. "The 2,400 hours of volunteer time, from a community the size of Wilmington, is impressive," notes Lieberman. "But not as impressive as the level of commitment." Once a community member or community family becomes involved with a New American, claims Lieberman, they actively seek additional areas in which to be of assistance.

In several instances, says Lieberman, volunteers in the medical professions became so concerned about a New American patient's employment situation that they personally began circulating the New American's resume among their own contacts.

According to Resettlement Coordinator Burman and Ruth Balick, Chair of JFS Resettlement Committee, the incoming families have been overwhelmed by the community's openness and generosity. A steady flow of new and used articles, from household goods to children's clothing and toys, including a baby layette for the newest New American, Wilmington-born son of Michael and Eugenia Pivovarov, have been directed to incoming families.

At present, Russian Resettlement's primary needs are for volunteers to provide transportation, to help with job searches (from the writing

## THE FACTS

Dates: October 1, 1989 to September 30, 1990

<b>Total Number Resettled:</b>	<b>43</b>
Children 0-18 years	15
Adults 18 and over	19
Senior Citizens 65-plus	7
<b>Total Number of Family Units:</b>	<b>13</b>
Three-generation families	
Grandparents, parents, children	4
Two-generation families	
Parents, children	9
<b>Total Number Employable Adults:</b>	<b>23</b>
Currently Employed Full Time	10
Currently Employed Part Time	
(One or More Jobs)	6

## THE FIGURES

<b>Total Funds Expended</b>	<b>\$75,000</b>
Source: Jewish Federation of Delaware	
<b>Total In-Kind Goods &amp; Services</b>	
Furniture & Clothing	\$14,000
Medical & Dental	\$9,000
Children's Services	
including JCC day care, summer camp, Albert Einstein Academy scholarships	\$6,000
<b>Volunteers</b>	
Total Hours	2,400
Estimated Value at \$5.00 per hour	\$12,000

of resumes to practice in interviews) and to provide more acculturation opportunities for New Americans. "Just including a New American family in your everyday activities is a mitzvah," says Burman. "A trip to the supermarket, for example, can be an endurance contest if your English is limited, you haven't yet mastered Food Stamps, and you're trying to translate Soviet rubles into American dollars and cents."

**The Long View:**  
A Special Sunday Program

On Sunday mornings, the Acculturation Program for New Americans, under the volunteer chairmanship Rachael Yoskowitz, meets at the Jewish Community Center on Garden of Eden Road. Open to all New Americans — a total of 121 since 1975, including those who came to Wilmington directly, and those who moved here from other U.S. cities — the program features brunches provided by local organizations and synagogues, as well as speakers, discussions, field trips and social events.

The programs focus on survival skills, according to Resettlement Coordinator Burman, with topics such as the American monetary system, the American legislative and judicial systems, and how to prepare your income taxes; a tour of the Wilmington Medical Center and a visit to a doctor's office have also been included. A extensive range of Jewish experiences has been provided, from discussions on the Jewish life cycle from *brit*, *bar/bat mitzvah* and wedding through funeral customs, to Model Seders, Purim parties, and celebrations of Israel's national holidays, including *Yom Yerushalyim*.

Part of the Sunday group — the "Old Timers," as they call themselves — has formed a study group to learn about their religion through a Russian-language edition of *Nine Questions Jews Ask About Judaism*.

## In Summary

Between October 1, 1989 and September 31, 1990, the Jewish Family Service of Delaware and the Wilmington community have provided 43 New Americans from the Soviet Union with the housing, medical services, employment and educational counselling, and acculturation programs they need to help them become useful, productive citizens. In return, our New Americans might have reminded us of our blessings to live in a free and open society, which celebrates our differences and encourages the development of our unique talents and abilities.

## 1991's first 'New Americans' arrive in Delaware

By CELIA GANS

Special to The Jewish Voice

Izya Gomer from the Ukrainian city of Krivoy Rog is a tough, resourceful man, with well-developed survival skills. A self-confessed Jack-of-All-Trades, Izya was a professional driver of taxis and trucks (a man who understood "If you have a car in Russia, you repair it yourself"), a technician in the electrical field, a butcher in the food industry, a worker in a metallurgical plant, Gomer has no illusions about Jewish life in Russia.

"Jews were insulted in public places, at work, and in the shops. When the older Jews gathered to read or study, they were harassed. Maybe 40 or 50 years ago, during the 1940's, there was some Jewish life in Krivoy Rog, but now it's gone. Now people shout 'Jews, go to Israel!' at us, and our young people know nothing about their religion or heritage. We have no synagogue, no Jewish books."

It wasn't just the insults, says Svetlana Gomer Shulkov, Izya's daughter, her father was beaten by his fellow workers at the metallurgical shop, and, 18 months ago, when she and her family filed papers to leave Russia, Svetlana and her husband Andrey were expelled from Leningrad's University of Technology before completing degrees in Pulp and Paper Industry Technology.

During their year and a half of "internal exile," Andrey helped support the family by taking part-time building maintenance and painting jobs, while Svetlana and her mother, Klara Gomer, who retired after 15 years as an economist in the energy field, stood in endless lines for the family's food, or cared for Raisa



From left to right, Steve Gestevac, his grandmother Elizabeth Ayzenshteyn, Anna, Malvina and David Gesterak. (Photo: Celia Gans)

Shulkov, now 3. The entire family of five lived in a 33 square-meter apartment, often festooned with hand-washed diapers: on the balcony, in the kitchen and all over the bathroom. Soap was scarce, washers and dryers almost non-existent, and disposable diapers are unavailable in Russia. (Maybe if the Shulkovs had completed those pulp and paper industry degrees...?)

Since arriving in Wilmington on January 12, the adult family members, who have nothing but thanks and praise for the Jewish Family Service and Russian Resettlement Director Roberta Burman, and the local Jewish community, have enrolled in English classes at CITE, while Raisa, an exuberant bundle of energy, is attending pre-school at JCC. Though Svetlana and Andrey would like one day to return to school for professional training — Svetlana is

interested in a career in the health care field — both are anxious to find work, as is Izya Gomer.

Says Izya, sitting at his dining room table under a computer-generated sign prepared by Klara's sister Bella Glazamitsky's now American family which reads "Welcome to America - It's about Time!" as he rolls up his sleeves, miming a worker digging with a shovel, "I'll never retire."

The best advice David Gesterak has received since deplaning in the United States on January 16, came from his boyhood friend — and fellow New American — Soviet comedian Yaacov Smirnov. "When Yaacov called this week to see how we were doing, he said 'step by step by step,'" smiles Gesterak, "From Odessa, to Moscow, to New York, to Philadelphia, to Claymont. Step by step by step, we're building our new life in America."

In their Green Tree Apartment, grandmother Elizabeth Ayzenshteyn, a retired physical therapist, watches proudly as son-in-law David plays the accordion — he has played professionally on Black Sea cruise ships — and granddaughter Anna, 4, who currently attends JCC Kindergarten

number 3, the Gesteraks in number 9.

Steve Gesterak and his cousin Polina, both 15, joke — in English and Russian — about life at Mount Pleasant High School and about the American customs and slang of their classmates. His class, says Steve, is



Raisa Shulkova, left, with her family, grandfather Izya and grandmother Klava Gomer, and her parents Svetlana and Andrey Shulkova. (Photo: Celia Gans)

while her parents and grandmother attend CITE English classes, dances in her new hoop-skirted velvet dress. On this evening, the Gesterak's visitors include Rita Grinberg, Ayzenshteyn's other daughter, a 1989 New American, her daughter Polina, and two of Rita's American friends. It's like old times, they admit, when they all lived in the same building in Odessa, the Grinbergs in

studying Anton Chekov, and he is asked to pronounce all the unfamiliar Russian names. In Russia, Steve played ping pong, basketball and swam. Here, insists Steve, in his best mock-serious manner, he and Polina will become the next "Boris Becker and Steffi Graf" after they master tennis in the spring. And next summer? A part-time job, says Steve,

**Continued on 29**

## Jewish groups raise concern over Arab-American discrimination

By ALIZA MARCUS

NEW YORK (JTA) — At least two American Jewish organizations have voiced concern about harassment of Arab-Americans stemming from the conflict in the Persian Gulf.

Since the start of the Gulf crisis five months ago, Arab-Americans say they have been subjected to discrimination on the basis of their ethnic and religious backgrounds. Some have encountered merely greater mistrust, while others have been threatened or physically attacked.

The Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August led to a rise in anti-Arab sentiment here, which translated into a large jump in the number of hate crimes against Arab-Americans, according to the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, or ADC.

The ADC has also expressed fear that recent interviews of Arab-Americans by the Federal Bureau of Investigation work to promote the misconception that Arabs are anti-American.

FBI agents have been conducting interviews with Arab-American leaders as part of its domestic anti-terror-

ist campaign. But the interviews, which concentrate on racist attacks against Arab-Americans, also include questions about personal and political views, say ADC officials and those who have been interviewed. Such questions, they believe, unfairly question the loyalty of Arab-Americans.

The FBI interviews have also attracted the attention of the American Jewish Congress and American Jewish Committee, along with several members of Congress, who have called for the FBI to curb its questioning.

The ADC and the two Jewish groups have issued statements questioning the FBI interviews, admonishing the FBI to ensure that the civil rights and liberties of Arab-Americans are not violated in the process.

"It is our belief that whether intended or not, this decision (to interview Arab-Americans) gives the appearance that the Arab-American community is suspect," ADC President Albert Mokhiber wrote in a Jan. 8 letter to FBI Director William Sessions. "We further believe that this will allow others who have acted

against the Arab-American community justification for their continued suspicions and acts of violence against us," he wrote.

The interviews, which took place in the wake of threats that Iraqi terrorists might try to attack U.S. sites, brought up old fears of dual loyalty and the worst excesses of U.S. policy during World War II, when Japanese-Americans were interned in camps for the duration of the war.

"This could happen again," David Harris, AJCommittee's executive vice president, said in a statement issued Jan. 11. "It must not. Necessary actions taken by our law enforcement authorities to protect U.S. security must at the same time be protective of the civil rights and liberties of Arab-Americans."

AJCongress has called upon FBI officials to exercise "sensitivity and respect" as they carry out their interviews, and in a letter urged the FBI director to ensure the interviews were in fact essential to prevent terrorist attacks. "We recognize, as a minority community, that when the federal

government steps in and starts identifying minority communities it raises grave concerns," said Mark Pelavin, Washington representative of AJCongress.

Pelavin said his organization shares the concerns of the ADC and believes "that the FBI program interviewing Arab-Americans comes dangerously close, if not crossing, the line of permissible activity."

Meanwhile, fears among Arab-Americans that they will increasingly become victims of hate crimes as the crisis continues have already proven correct.

In the six months prior to the Iraqi invasion, the ADC identified at least five "hate attacks." Since that time, the number of attacks has jumped to at least 42. Overall, the ADC has catalogued 72 incidents of racist behavior and violent attacks against Arab-Americans, ranging from negative portrayals in the media to bomb threats.

Arab-Americans are increasingly receiving abusive and threatening letters and phone calls, and they report being harassed in public for

the way they look.

One Arab-American family moved out of its Cleveland home after repeated threats, including stink bombs thrown at the property, the ADC reported. A talk show host in Houston received a package containing what turned out to be a fake bomb, while the ADC office in Washington has itself received telephoned bomb threats.

Many of the incidents are reminiscent of hate crimes against Jews. An official from AJCommittee, which is concerned with protecting the human rights of Jews and other peoples, said discrimination against Arab-Americans is something that has to be monitored during the Gulf war, as "times of great stress" lead to minority targeting.

"I think it's important for everyone concerned with pluralism and what it means to live in a multicultural society to speak out about this," said Kenneth Stern, a specialist on anti-Semitism and extremism with AJCommittee, "because when one minority group is picked out it is a danger to all groups."

## Number of anti-Semitic incidents sets record for fourth straight year

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN

NEW YORK (JTA) — For the fourth year in a row, a record number of anti-Semitic incidents was committed in the United States, according to a national survey conducted by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. ADL's Audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents revealed that 1,685 incidents took place, including 927 acts of vandalism and 758 acts of harassment. The overall number represents an 18 percent increase over 1989's figures.

There was a particularly dramatic rise in campus bigotry last year, according to the report, up more than a third over the number of incidents in 1989. Ninety-five anti-Semitic incidents of all types were reported on 57 college campuses. Over the past three years, the number of anti-Semitic incidents on campuses has jumped 72 percent, the report noted.

More vandalism — arson, bombings, cemetery desecrations and swastika daubings on Jewish-owned and public property — took place in 1989 than in 1990, making last year the second-highest year recorded since ADL began auditing anti-Semitism in 1979.

Harassment is at an all-time peak. Forms of harassment include assault and mail or phone threats, verbal abuse, and at least 30 cases of physical violence against Jews, most notably the assassination of Rabbi Meir Kahane in November.

"There is greater sensitivity to harassment like slurs," said Alan Schwartz, director of ADL's Research and Evaluation Department. "There is greater sensitivity to the harm of things that used to pass simply as pranks or jokes."

New York and California, the states with the most Jews, were by far the states with the most anti-Semitic activity. There were 296 incidents in New York, and 220 in California. New Jersey had 162 incidents, Massachusetts 134, Florida 125, and Maryland 112.

"Several traditionally most-active states — New York, New Jersey,

Massachusetts and Michigan — have reported slight decreases for 1990. However, this is more than offset by combined increases of reported incidents from Maryland, Illinois, California and Pennsylvania, as well as from generally less active areas — e.g., Colorado, Wisconsin, New Mexico," the report states.

Nine states did not report any anti-Semitic crimes in 1990. These are: Wyoming, which also did not report any for 1989, Arkansas, Iowa, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont and West Virginia.

One important source of anti-Semitism, neo-Nazi Skinheads, was less of a factor in 1990, though the report indicates that "the violent crimes of such gangs remain a matter of serious concern."

A civil lawsuit won last year, brought by ADL and the Southern Poverty Law Center against Tom and John Metzger, leaders of the California-based White Aryan Resistance, and two neo-Nazi Skinheads in Portland, Ore., "should put a dent in the ability of old-line hate groups to recruit young Skinheads and incite them to commit hate crimes," said Abraham Foxman, ADL national director.

The suit awarded \$12.5 million in damages to the family of Mulugeta Seraw, an Ethiopian student beaten to death by Portland Skinheads in 1988. And though Seraw's family will probably never be able to recover the entire judgement, the judgment will "hopefully deter other" right-wing extremists, the report states.

"Another factor that had virtually disappeared in 1989 after leaping to prominence in 1988 — i.e. anti-Semitic acts linked by their perpetrators to events in the Middle East — again came to wide attention in 1990; such politically-related anti-Semitism calls for especially intensive monitoring," according to the report.

In the first eight months of 1990, there were approximately 20 anti-Israel/pro-Palestinian threats made against Jews and graffiti on synagogues and other Jewish property.

By the end of the year, another 25 incidents contained references to the

Persian Gulf crisis and efforts by anti-Israel forces to link Iraq's invasion of Kuwait to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

A decline in civility, increasingly crude popular culture and a troubled economy are some of the factors contributing to the increase in anti-Semitic incidents, according to the Civil Rights Division of ADL, which compiled the report. "When millions of kids buy albums that contain violence toward women or ethnic slurs, it sends a degrading message which legitimizes that mentality," according to Schwartz. "It's something we should speak out against. Not to favor censorship, but everybody has the right to free speech, including those who want to criticize so-called art."

ADL recommends "firm enforcement of appropriate laws, regular and creative educational programming against prejudice, and enhanced public awareness: as additional ways to combat the trend toward increasing hate crime."

ADL's own efforts include cooperation with law enforcement agencies and educational institutions locally and nationally, and coordinating police and local institutional leadership through seminars and conferences.

Law enforcement authorities are more receptive to reports of hate crimes in general than they were in the past, Schwartz observed. He pointed out that much of the progress to be made in discouraging such crimes is through leaders with influence in society. "Along with firm law enforcement, this sends an important message to the hate movements."

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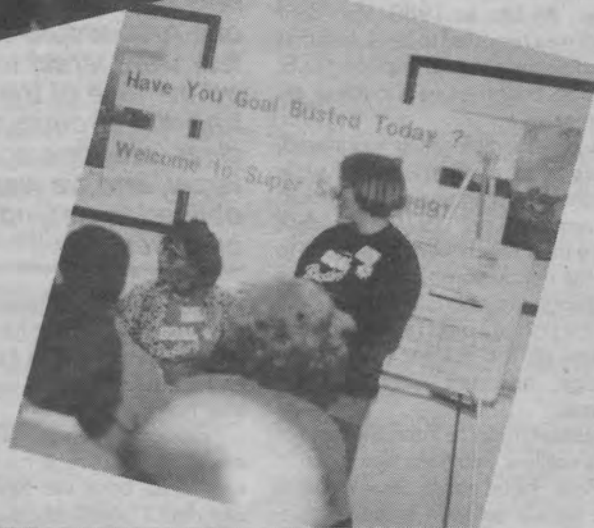
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## Behind the headlines

## Menachem Begin and the plan to destroy Iraq's nuclear reactor

By JASON MAOZ

Special to The Jewish Voice

Shortly after 5:30 p.m. on June 7, 1981, Israel saved the world from the threat of nuclear blackmail. In less than two minutes' time, 14 planes of the Israeli air force laid waste a nuclear reactor on the outskirts of Baghdad, and so deprived a madman of his potential for mass destruction. The world was outraged.

Voices that had been silent for years — as Iraq's brutal dictator Saddam Hussein courted the feckless nations of the West in his quest for nuclear bombs — were suddenly raised in a chorus of indignation.

"We don't think (Israel's) action serves the cause of peace in the area," said French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, whose country had supplied the ill-fated reactor.

"Provocative, ill-timed and internationally illegal," claimed Sen. Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.).

"Armed attack in such circumstances cannot be justified; it represents a grave breach of international law," scolded British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Said a *New York Times* editorial, "Israel's sneak attack... was an act of inexcusable and short-sighted aggression."

*Time* magazine informed its readers that Israel had "vastly compounded the difficulties of procuring a peaceful settlement of the confrontations in the Middle East."

Someone unfamiliar with the machinations of international relations would be forgiven for wondering about all the uproar. Wasn't the act of preventing a ruthless tyrant from developing a nuclear arsenal a good thing? Hadn't Hussein earned his nickname of the "Butcher of Baghdad?" Wasn't he, at the very moment of the Israeli attack, almost a year into his bloody invasion of Iran?

The answer, it should be fairly obvious, lies with the source of the attack on the reactor: Israel. More specifically, the Israel of Menachem Begin.

For years after its establishment, Israel had the sympathy and support of the West's opinion-making elites. The democracies, stuck in a seemingly no-win cold war with the Soviet Union, admired Israel's fighting spirit, while Socialist governments and parties in non-Communist Europe felt a kinship with Israel's ruling Labor Party.

This widespread support reached its crest with the 1967 Six-Day War. The media in the United States and Europe virtually celebrated Israel's victory; huge demonstrations were held in Israel's support; and everyone from mayors to movie stars jumped on the Israel bandwagon.

Israel would soon learn, however, that the media giveth and the media taketh away. The portrayal of Israel in the media, so favorable in the years leading up to the Six-Day War, became increasingly critical thereafter. To many journalists, Israel was no longer the underdog worthy of enlightened support, but rather a military colossus that refused to make peace with the weaker countries in the vicinity.

It was hardly surprising, then, that by the mid-1970s, the media's favorite descriptions of Israel were "intransigent" and "militaristic." The "plight of the Palestinians" was "in," and Israel was definitely "out." Even the frequent terrorist operations

carried out by the Palestine Liberation Organization and its offshoots did little to win back media support for Israel; the atrocities were invariably blamed on Israel's handling of the "Palestinian problem."

Despite the media's antagonistic treatment of Israel, polls showed that most Americans weren't swayed: a sizable majority still favored Israel over its Arab enemies. And of course, Israel enjoyed the near-unanimous support of American Jews and the many influential Jewish organizations.

**"Someone unfamiliar with the machinations of international relations would be forgiven for wondering about all the uproar. Wasn't the act of preventing a ruthless tyrant from developing a nuclear arsenal a good thing?"**

Then came Begin.

By 1977, Israel had been governed by the Labor alignment for 29 years. A series of corruption scandals involving Labor officials convinced a significant number of Israelis that a change was needed. The scandals only served to highlight a growing discontent among the electorate; the country seemed adrift and Labor had run out of answers.

Even so, election of Menachem Begin on May 17, 1977, set off shock waves, in Israel as well as the world.

The quintessential outsider in Israeli politics since his days as head of the underground Irgun in the 1940s, Begin was a man reviled by the Labor-dominated Israeli media. Aside from his right-wing politics, his very dress and demeanor set him apart from the first generation of Israeli leaders.

The reaction of the American media to Begin's ascension was one of disbelief, followed by unremitting hostility. The media in Western Europe were, if anything, even more critical than their American counterparts. Not even the peace treaty signed by Israel and Egypt in 1979 bought better press for Begin, who was portrayed as the "intransigent" (the word again) stumbling block to Anwar Sadat's noble quest for peace.

While the world media were preoccupied with Begin, one of Israel's antagonists was busy assembling a nuclear bomb factory. Iraq's first involvement with nuclear technology goes back to 1959, when the Soviet Union, looking to expand its influence in the region, agreed to provide Baghdad a reactor, enriched uranium and the necessary scientists and engineers.

After numerous delays — the Iraqis accused the Soviets of dragging their feet — the Russian reactor went operational in 1968. And while the Soviets upgraded the reactor's output in 1971 from two to five megawatts, they refused to supply any material that could be used to manufacture nuclear bombs.

By the early 1970s, Iraq was under the control of a veteran of political intrigue named Saddam Hussein. Officially second in command to General Ahmed Hassan-al Bakr, Hussein was, in reality if not title, firmly in charge.

Described by those who knew him as "power-hungry to the point of insanity," Hussein destroyed all political opposition, raising the tactics of torture to an art form. His professed goal was to take up the mantle of the late Egyptian dictator Gamal Abdel Nasser as "leader of the Arab world."

Possession of nuclear weapons was central to Hussein's dream, but since the Soviets had, to their credit, turned Iraq down on that score for several years, the search was on for a country willing to deal. Fortunately for Hussein, his rap sheet of torture, bloodshed and megalomania meant nothing to the French in their desire to make a new friend, particularly one flowing with oil.

The years 1974 and 1975 saw a flurry of diplomatic activity and ceremonial visits between French and Iraqi officials. In 1974, France's foreign minister, Michel Jobert, went to Baghdad and pledged any assistance Iraq might need to build up its technological infrastructure. "I am happy," said Jobert at the conclusion of his visit, "that your great country will now have the means to restore its past glory."

Not long after that, France agreed to build an Osirak reactor for the Iraqis — for "research" purposes only, both countries claimed.

"Research" was, of course, not in the plans of Hussein, who went about the business of procuring a "hot cell," a piece of equipment that, in the words of *Newsweek* magazine, "could enable Iraq to develop weapons-grade plutonium."

The government of Italy was more than happy to sell Hussein his badly needed "hot cell," and only the blind or the French could not see what Iraq had in mind.

Meanwhile, Israel had been keeping a wary eye on Iraq's nuclear ambitions, and when Menachem Begin took office in the spring of '77, he stepped up behind-the-scenes diplomatic efforts to prevent the Iraqis from becoming a nuclear threat.

The United States was Begin's best hope, but the Carter administration, for all its talk of wanting to stop the spread of nuclear weapons, was less than energetic in pursuing the matter. As late as 1980, President Carter was reported to have said that he had no intention of imposing U.S. views on countries with nuclear capabilities.

As Israel's diplomacy foundered, pressures of a different sort were brought to bear against Iraq's nuclear program. In April 1979, just days before the French were scheduled to ship the nearly-completed reactor to Iraq, saboteurs infiltrated a warehouse near the port of Toulon and attempted to blow up the reactor's core. The damage, however, was relatively minimal.

Fourteen months later, the head of Iraq's nuclear program was killed in his Paris hotel room. Israeli agents were widely believed to be responsible for both acts.

The sabotage and assassination not withstanding, work continued as planned on the Osirak reactor. By the autumn of 1980, Menachem Begin saw no alternative to direct Israeli military action. The only question remaining was when exactly the raid would take place. Begin postponed the attack several times in the face of opposition from some of his own cabinet members, who worried about U.S. response.

For his part, Begin expected a sharp reaction from Washington, maybe even a U.S. vote to condemn Israel at the United Nations. But it would amount to so much window dressing, he thought; the U.S.-Israel relationship would remain solid. Ronald Reagan was the new American president, and Begin regarded him and his secretary of state, Alexander Haig, as warm friends of Israel.

It was now the spring of 1981, and as Begin braced himself for the final decision to strike at Iraq, he had one more headache to contend with. He had informed the leader of the Labor opposition, Shimon Peres, of the top-secret plan to attack the reactor. The response was predictable: Peres was against it. Begin thus knew the raid would bring a harsh reaction not only from the outside world, but from within Israel as well.

Clouding the whole scenario even further was the matter of the Israeli election to be held in just a few weeks. Begin was running for re-election against Peres, and the race was considered too close to call.

Begin knew he would be accused of staging the raid to help get himself re-elected. But he had an even greater fear, one that convinced him of the need to act before the election — and a possible Peres victory. "He really believed that Peres would never have the guts to order the raid," said a Begin aide. "And Begin couldn't bear the thought of Israel living in terror of an Iraqi bomb."

There would be no more postponements. In the early afternoon hours of Sunday, June 7 — the eve of Shavuot — Israeli pilots went through one last rehearsal, and just after 4 p.m. the planes took off from an air base in the south of Israel. The flying armada consisted of eight F-16s, each carrying two, 2,000-pound bombs, and six F-15s forming a protective umbrella.

Begin summoned the members of his Cabinet to his home in Jerusalem. "Welcome, my friends," he greeted the assembled group. "At this very moment, our planes are approaching Baghdad."

**"The late Moshe Dayan may have put it best: 'Not one Arab would shed a tear were Israel to vanish off the face of the map... Iraq was producing nuclear weapons against Israel, and we were obliged to defend ourselves.'"**

Less than 90 minutes later, Begin received the message he was waiting for: the operation was a total success and the Israeli planes were on their way home.

"Baruch Hashem" (Thank God), exclaimed the prime minister, "what wonderful boys we have!" Begin's wonderful boys had flown hundreds of miles through Arab airspace without detection and, dropping 16 tons of TNT, crushed the reactor's dome and flattened the main building. "The precision of the bombing was stupefying," said a French technician who viewed the wreckage.

In Israel, news of the raid created an atmosphere of celebration not unlike the euphoria felt after the 1976 hostage rescue at Uganda's Entebbe airport. As expected, the Labor opposition was highly critical,

but that criticism was toned down somewhat as Peres and his colleagues recognized how out-of-step they were with the typical Israeli voter.

The United States reacted much the way Begin thought it would. The Reagan administration voted to condemn Israel in the United Nations, and four F-16s scheduled for shipment to Israel were held back a few weeks. Behind the scenes, Reagan assured Israel of his continued support.

Begin survived the firestorm of criticism from the world and his Labor opposition, and won re-election. His defense of his action was blunt and emotional.

"The Iraqis were preparing atomic bombs to drop on the children of Israel," he told representatives of the world media several days after the attack. "Haven't you heard of one-and-a-half million little Jewish children who were thrown into the gas chambers? Another Holocaust would have happened in the history of the Jewish people. Never again, never again. Tell your friends, tell anybody you meet, we shall defend our people with all the means at our disposal."

Many of Begin's critics in Israel would admit to having second thoughts in the weeks and months following the raid. "Up to this point in time, the fact is that I was not right," said Labor's Mordechai Gur. "It was a triumph, no diplomatic harm was caused, as Israeli deterrence was reinforced," stated Abba Eban. "I admit to having been wrong with respect to the diplomatic fallout I foresaw on the part of the United States," said Yeshua Saguy, who as director of military intelligence had expressed reservations about the raid.

The late Moshe Dayan may have put it best: "Not one Arab would shed a tear were Israel to vanish off the face of the map... To me, the raid was a positive action. Iraq was producing nuclear weapons against Israel, and we were obliged to defend ourselves."

Back in 1981, the Soviet Union characterized the destruction of the Iraqi reactor as "an act of gangsterism"; nine years later, the Soviet chief of staff called Israel's action understandable. And not a few commentators have made the point that if not for Israel, American troops in Saudi Arabia would now be facing Hussein's nuclear missiles.

Unfortunately, any recount of Israel's attack on Iraq's nuclear reactor cannot end on an altogether happy note, for Israel or Menachem Begin. Israel remained isolated from the community of nations throughout the 1980s, a state of affairs dramatically evidenced by recent events in Jerusalem.

As for Menachem Begin, he left office in 1983 a broken man, haunted by the death of his wife and the high number of casualties suffered by Israel in the 1982 invasion of Lebanon.

Nevertheless, the story of Israel's destruction of Hussein's nuclear reactor is, more than anything else, the story of Begin's moral and political courage. For history shall forever show that when the choice came down to saving Jewish lives or escaping worldwide condemnation, Menachem Begin rained fire from the skies of Baghdad — without apology.

(Jason Maoz is a reporter for *Good Fortune* magazine, where this article first appeared.)

# Serious housing shortfall expected in Israel

**By CHARLES HOFFMAN**  
**JERUSALEM (JTA)** — Israel will face a serious housing shortage during the second half of this year, according to a report issued by the Finance Ministry earlier this month. The report found that the emergency immigrant housing program adopted by the Israeli government last August has fallen behind schedule. It also found that the massive wave of Soviet immigrants that arrived in Israel over the last year has pushed up the number of jobless. The housing and employment situations are expected to worsen as an estimated 300,000 to 400,000 Soviet immigrants arrive here this year. By comparison, a total of 199,751 immigrants arrived here

last year, including 184,493 from the Soviet Union, 4,000 from Ethiopia, 6,400 from other countries of distress and 6,600 from Western countries. Last year, the Israeli Consulate in Moscow issued 233,308 visas. But Israel sent out over a million "invitations" to Soviet Jews, the affidavits they must submit to the Soviet emigration bureau in order to get visas. Anticipating that this could produce an even larger flood of immigrants in 1991, the government launched a crash housing program last August. It set a target of 45,000 housing starts for the current fiscal year, which ends March 31. By the end of December, how-

ever, preliminary planning was completed for only 25,000 of these units. Land for only 12,900 of these units had been allocated by the end of December. The government's program also included plans for 49,500 temporary housing units for 1990 and 1991, to provide shelter until regular housing is built. By the end of December, only 680 mobile homes and 110 prefabricated houses had been set up. Only 10,000 orders for temporary housing had been placed by this time, about 60 percent of them abroad. To meet demand for increased construction of permanent units this year, another 50,000 workers are

needed. On Jan. 13, the Cabinet approved a proposal by Housing Minister Ariel Sharon to bring in 3,000 foreign construction workers who are experienced in rapid building techniques. The use of foreign workers comes at a time when the unemployment rate in Israel is around 10 percent and rising, mainly because of the influx of new immigrants. In November, 109,900 persons came to the state employment service in search of work, while in December the number rose to 112,000. And those levels are about 20 percent higher than the rate of a year ago. The increase in the number of job-seekers reflects the fact that the tens of thousands of Soviet immigrants who came during the first few months of last year have now finished their Hebrew studies in ulpan and have entered the labor force. The Finance Ministry report found that along with an increase in job seekers, there also was a significant increase in requests from employers for workers — but not enough to keep pace with the rapid expansion of the labor force. About 55 percent of the Soviet immigrants are expected to join the labor force after their first year in the

country, and the number will eventually rise to 60 percent. There is a high proportion of engineers, architects, medical professionals and university graduates in the humanities and social sciences among the immigrants — more than the economy can absorb in its present state. The report projected that about 180,000 new jobs will be created during 1991 and 1992. About 100,000 veteran Israelis are expected to enter the labor market during this time, along with about 200,000 immigrants. According to these projections, there will be a shortage of about 100,000 jobs in two years' time, unless the economy grows at a much faster rate. Concerning the demographic characteristics of the Soviet immigrants, the report found that they tend to be older on the average than veteran Israelis and to have smaller families. For example, about 10 percent of veteran Israelis are 65 and older, while 12 percent of the immigrants are elderly. The report projects that by the end of 1991, 95,000 of the 600,000 Soviet Jews who will have arrived since January of last year will need special welfare services or special housing due to age, infirmities or family problems.

## U.S. warns U.N. human rights panel it won't back anti-Israel measures

**GENEVA (JTA)** — The United States has warned the U.N. Human Rights Commission that it will not support "one-sided resolutions which single out the policies of Israel in the occupied territories and fail to call for equal restraint by other parties in respecting the personal safety and other human rights of Israeli citizens."

here, reiterated the American belief that "settlement activity in the occupied territories is an obstacle to the achievement of a just and lasting peace. We have repeatedly urged the government of Israel to refrain from establishing more settlements or expanding existing settlements," he said. The American delegate nevertheless called attention to the "very real and serious security concerns which

Israel faces." He said "Iraq's current unprovoked attacks on Israeli population centers with resulting civilian casualties are an ample demonstration of the threat Israel has faced since its foundation." Blackwell added that he hoped the Human Rights Commission would "take account of these concerns and advance the search for a comprehensive solution and true peace between Israel and its neighbors."

But Kenneth Blackwell, U.S. representative to the commission, now holding its annual six-week meeting

## One out of every six Canadian Jews now lives in poverty, study says

**By BRAM D. EISENTHAL**  
**MONTREAL (JTA)** — A surprising one out of every six Jews in Canada lives in poverty, according to a study just released by the McGill University School of Social Work. The study, conducted by Professor Jim Torczyner, soundly debunks the myth that "all Jews are wealthy." The study, released late last year, was conducted by Torczyner in association with the Canadian office of the Council of Jewish Federations and with the assistance of Statistics Canada. The poor Jews constitute some 50,000 individuals, many of whom are classified as "invisible poor" — they are a minority among Jews because they are poor and a minority among the poor because they are Jews. Released under the title "The Persistence of Invisible Poverty Among Jews in Canada," the study began as a major research project funded by the CJF. Its purpose was to examine the dynamics and changing demographic nature of Jewish families in nine selected Canadian cities. A databank derived from the 1981 census was created for use by the university's School of Social Work Demographic Studies Center, initiated in 1981 with a grant from the Graduate Research Council. At the conference, Torczyner stressed that things are very different today than they once were. "In the 1940s, everyone knew who was poor and also who was pretending to be rich. It's different today." He highlighted that poverty among Jews is scarcely known, particularly because these people tend to be elderly, women and persons living alone or in smaller family units than their Canadian non-Jewish counterparts. Additionally, these individuals generally have fewer contacts with Jewish philanthropic institutions. Shame is also a factor, leading to a

reluctance to seek assistance. Three out of 10 of the Jewish poor are elderly, while only 15 percent of Canada's non-Jews are elderly. In fact, 15.8 percent of all Canadian Jews are over the age of 65, while 9 percent of non-Jews are 65 and over. One out of three elderly Jewish women are poor, and two out of three who live alone are poor, affecting almost 10,000 Jewish women. Interestingly, educational achievement is not a significant factor. Some 25 percent of all Canadian Jews have completed college, compared to 8 percent of the non-Jewish population. Fifteen percent of the Jewish poor have completed college, compared to 3.4 percent of the non-Jewish poor. Poverty rates among Jews are significant in all of Canada's regions, and fluctuate alongside and in the same direction as poverty rates of all Canadians. "If we look at the characteristics of the Jewish poor, these are not so different from those of the Canadian poor," said Torczyner. "It is in part due to certain stereotypes that the Jewish poor in Canada are at such a high level." At times, he said, "these stereotypes have generated prejudice." The Jewish community as a whole has taken action in response to the alienation of the Jewish poor. Bert Abugov, director of the Canadian office of the CJF, spoke of this response. "The report has proven to be a valuable resource," he said. "The condition (of poverty) is much more pervasive than we once realized." He said that some of the data had been made available before. "The fact that this data is reliable and identifiable provides us with an important dynamic to alleviate the situation." Abugov mentioned several pro-

grams in effect across Canada, varying from community to community, such as services for new immigrants, relief supplementation, scholarships, summer camp subsidies, food bank services and advocacy groups. In Montreal, Project Genesis is an important community outreach organization. Funded in part by Montreal's Jewish federation, Allied Jewish Community Services, it provides information, referral and advocacy for the disadvantaged. The homeless can also receive welfare checks at this address, whereas in the past, a residential address was required in order to qualify for such benefits. Project Genesis Executive Director Alice Herscovitch commented on one major problem today, the unavailability of low-income housing in Montreal. "The situation is very bad. People on welfare receive \$470 per month. After paying the rent, many have only \$70 left to live on." In light of the current recession and a forecast of even rougher economic times ahead, the consensus was that the Jewish community is doing what it can to help the poor, but the only government could solve the problem. "It is only government that has the resources required to solve the problem of poverty," said Torczyner. "The community can work at getting government more involved." He also said discussions have been initiated with the office of the Secretary of State to expand the database to include other ethnic groups beginning in 1991. Peter Wolkove, immediate past president of the Montreal federation and a member of the executive of the CJF, reiterated one important fact. "The criteria for determining the Jewish poor or other poor are the same. I hope I won't have to remind people of a line in 'The Merchant of Venice': 'We are not different.'"



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# When chips are down, Americans chip in for Israel

By ALIZA MARCUS

NEW YORK (JTA) — In times of crisis for Israel, the American Jewish community, its own financial constraints notwithstanding, tends to rally behind Israel with whatever money it can find, according to the results of a new study which, as seen recently, is backed up by real-life events.

"Israel is among the strongest motivators for participation in Jewish philanthropy in times of peace and becomes even more compelling for American Jews if they feel that Israel's security is threatened," Gary Tobin, director of the Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University, says in a statement about his study, released last month.

But the study found that the almost reflexive tendency of older American Jews to support Israel cannot be taken for granted among younger Jews. "Among these younger, more Americanized Jews, basic good feelings for Israel are present, but building on these feelings and translating them into financial support for Israel can be a greater challenge," writes Tobin.

In the wake of the Persian Gulf war and the Iraqi SCUD missile attacks on Israel, American Jews have galvanized in support of Israel, holding rallies nationwide, raising cash anew for the embattled Jewish state and besieging the Israeli consulates with calls offering everything from masking tape to help for the army.

A whole new round of money hunting also has begun, with an emergency \$100 million campaign for State of Israel Bonds and a move by the United Jewish Appeal to call in campaign pledges totaling \$400 million. Officials say they are optimistic about the results.

Tobin's study, which brought ear-

lier demographic research on American Jewish communities together with personal interviews and new research among Jewish leadership and others, found that despite people's concern over particular Israeli governmental policies, Israel remains an important part of their lives.

According to the study, "Israel and American Jewish Philanthropy," which appeared in the "Policy and Planning Papers" published by the Cohen Center, those interviewed said Israel made them feel stronger and prouder as Jews. The survey found that caring about Israel remains a crucial aspect of American Jewish identity, and that overall, the stronger the tie to Israel, the larger the level of giving to all Jewish philanthropies.

In times of crisis, people tend to donate more money, particularly to programs or projects in Israel, the study found. "but this has positive effects in the long term on all philanthropic levels, because it heightens the level of awareness," says Tobin.

He pointed out that the unwavering support for Israel by American Jewish leaders can no longer be taken for granted, although it remains extremely strong, according to interviews conducted with Jewish leaders. "American Jewish philanthropic leadership needs to be reassured and nurtured as much as less committed groups of Jews," he writes.

Tobin's study has isolated a few areas in which emphasis should be placed to increase American Jewish ties to Israel, with the side effect of positively influencing the rate of philanthropic giving.

The study suggests that an emphasis should be placed on visits to Israel as part of the Jewish educational program in the United States.

# Israeli conduct in territories criticized, but called 'improved'

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The State Department's annual report on human rights has again criticized Israel's handling of the unrest in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Specifically, the report faulted Israel for travel bans, deportations of Palestinian leaders, administrative detention, the prevention of family reunions, and the closing of Palestinian universities and businesses.

But Richard Schifter, assistant secretary of state of human rights and humanitarian affairs, told reporters Friday that there had been a decrease in clashes between the Israel Defense Force and Palestinians because last spring the IDF began limiting its patrols for the most part to major roads. These improvements deteriorated during the last three months of 1990 because of increasing violence, attributed partly to the Persian Gulf crisis.

"The United States remains con-

cerned about continuing violence, death and injuries on both sides," the report said. The report pointed out that 165 Palestinians were killed by other Palestinians as compared to the 130 Palestinians killed by Israeli forces.

The survey of 168 countries, which was submitted to Congress on Jan. 31, found Iraq to be one of the worst human rights abusers in the world, Schifter said. Its poor record was compounded by atrocities committed after Iraq invaded Kuwait, the report said. But the report also cited Syria, one of the U.S. Gulf allies, as a major abuser of human rights, with such practices as "torture, arbitrary arrest and detention, and denial of freedom of speech, press association and the right of citizens to change their government."

In Saudi Arabia, the study found discrimination against women and foreign workers, torture and mis-

treatment of prisoners and restrictions on freedom of religion, press and political practices.

The report also found abuses in Kuwait before the Iraqi invasion, including "restrictions on freedom of assembly and speech, the rights of citizens to change their government, women's and workers' rights, and instances of arbitrary arrest, mistreatment of prisoners and lack of due process in trials of security cases."

Schifter noted, however, that in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other Gulf states, these practices come out of religious and cultural traditions rather than being imposed on the country because of totalitarian regimes, such as in Saddam Hussein's Iraq.

While Egypt has a better record than most Arab countries, the report does cite its holding of political prisoners, the torturing of detainees and the persecution of Islamic fundamentalists.

# Jerusalem court cuts detention of Palestinian activist by half

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Jerusalem District Court on Sunday reduced by half the six-month administrative detention order against Dr. Sari Nusseibeh, a leading Palestinian nationalist alleged by the Israeli military authorities to have passed intelligence to Iraq.

The move took the security establishment by surprise inasmuch as Israeli jurists have rarely if ever intervened against military decisions to exercise punitive measures against Palestinian activists. But the authorities apparently will not appeal the court's ruling.

Sympathizers with the 41-year-old academician seized upon the court's action as proof that Nusseibeh was detained Jan. 29 for political not security reasons.

A statement issued by the Israeli

movement Peace Now noted that the court reduced Nusseibeh's detention after studying the classified material alleged to incriminate him. The fact the authorities accepted the decision without appeal proved they had no "substantive case" against Nusseibeh, Peace Now said.

But Danny Naveh, media spokesman for Defense Minister Moshe Arens, who signed the detention order, said the defense authorities stood by their charge that Nusseibeh maintained contact "with an official Iraqi element and with Palestine Liberation Organization activists who were trying to obtain intelligence information for Iraq." He said in the course of those contacts, Nusseibeh passed on war-related information.

The Oxford-educated lecturer at Bir Zeit University in the West Bank, which has been closed since the ini-

fada began three years ago, was accused by Israel of letting the Iraqis know where their Scud missiles landed, information of great value to them.

Naveh said the defense authorities would now review the feasibility of pressing formal charges against Nusseibeh while he is serving his three-month detention.

According to Naveh, the decision not to try him for his alleged contacts with "hostile elements" was made for security reasons. A trial might have exposed "legal sources," he said, meaning sources of the information that led to Nusseibeh's arrest.

Administrative detention, a hold-over from the emergency regulations of the British Mandate, permit a suspect to be kept in custody for up to six months at a time with neither trial nor specific charges.

# Far right party joins coalition

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Brushing aside vocal opposition from his most powerful Cabinet colleagues, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir named Rehavam Ze'evi, leader of the far right-wing Moledet Party, to the government Sunday as a minister without portfolio. The 64-year-old Ze'evi, an Israel Defense Force reserve major general, has publicly and repeatedly called for Israel to enter the Persian Gulf war and strike back at the Scud missile sites in western Iraq.

Contending that the government's policy of restraint, urged by the United States, has gravely eroded Israel's deterrent credibility, Ze'evi declared Sunday that he would continue fighting for his view "from within." The fact that he will have a seat on the policy-making Inner Cabinet heightened fears from his opponents in that regard.

But the right-wing militant achieved notoriety at home and abroad long before the Gulf war by his advocacy of "voluntary transfer" of the Palestinian population out of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, a proposal sharply at odds with Likud policy and widely regarded as a euphemism for expulsion.

Opponents of Ze'evi's appointment expressed serious concern that it would jeopardize Israel's newly won

international good will and impair any future peace efforts with the Palestinians. But Shamir assured the Cabinet on Sunday that the government's policies on both the war and the Palestinians would remain intact and unaffected by Ze'evi's joining it.

Shamir, nevertheless, had to face down a near revolt in his 19-member Cabinet. In a rare split with Shamir, his closest ally, Defense Minister Moshe Arens, spoke strongly against Ze'evi's appointment and abstained in the Cabinet vote.

In an interview later with the NBC-TV affiliate in New York, Arens described Ze'evi's ideas as "totally abhorrent to the vast majority of Israelis." He said if Ze'evi wants to be part of the government, "he will simply have to leave these ideas behind."

Joining Arens in abstaining was another senior colleague, Finance Minister Yitzhak Moda'i. Foreign Minister David Levy was the most senior member of the government to vote flatly against Ze'evi's appointment. He warned that this Cabinet reshuffle at this time would weaken rather than strengthen the governing coalition.

Justice Minister Dan Meridor and Health Minister Ehud Olmert, veteran Likud loyalists, also voted against

Ze'evi. Both made statements calling his "transfer" policy "morally wrong" as well as politically impractical. Meridor was quoted as terming Ze'evi's ideas "a moral abomination," and Olmert stressed to the media that "transfer" is opposed to everything Likud traditionally has stood for and believed in.

Ze'evi's joining the government gives "transfer" a certain legitimization and brings the idea into the political mainstream, despite the prime minister's and the Cabinet's disavowal, Olmert said.

Shamir was quoted as telling his young Cabinet proteges: "Do not grieve; that's politics."

Education and Culture Minister Zevulun Hammer of the National Religious Party supported Shamir. He explained to reporters later that he did so only because the prime minister had made an unequivocal statement at the Cabinet meeting that the government would never discuss, let alone endorse, the idea of "transfer."

Moledet's two seats will give the government a more comfortable majority of 66 in the 120-member chamber.

The Knesset is expected to ratify Ze'evi's appointment and the rumor is that Shamir will give him a Cabinet portfolio.

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# Announcements/Events

## Intermarriage workshop

Jewish Family Service in conjunction with Jewish Community Center, is providing an intermarriage workshop which will be held on four consecutive Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in March, beginning March 5. Interfaith marriage create unique situations for couples and their families — from wedding plans to holiday celebrations, from raising children to relating to parents, in-laws and other relatives. This four session workshop on intermarriage is designed to help families cope with the stresses these relationships can bring about.

Topics to be discussed include religious and ethnic traditions, memo-

ries and beliefs, children and the future, shaping identity, understanding and dealing with differences, handling holidays and family celebrations, relating to parents, in-laws and others and a model seder.

The fee for this four part series is \$20 per couple or \$10 per person. The deadline for registration is Friday, March 1. Registration may be made at the Jewish Community Center. For more information, contact Myrna Ryder at Jewish Family Service, 478-9411 or Lynn Greenfield at the Jewish Community Center, 478-5660.

## Bus trip to Ellis Island

The Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah and the Women's Division of Jewish Federation of Delaware are co-sponsoring a field trip to the Ellis Island Immigration Museum on Sunday, March 17.

Departure will be at 7:15 a.m. from the J.C.C. and the group will return to Wilmington by 5:30 p.m. The price is \$25 per person covers round trip bus fare, round trip ferry tickets and snacks and beverages on the bus. (Smoking is prohibited on

the bus.)

You may either bring your own lunch or use the restaurant facilities on Ellis Island. There is also a gift shop there.

Reservations should be made early since bus space is limited. To reserve, mail a check covering \$25 per person (payable to Hadassah) by February 15 to Debbie Zussman, 2627 Epping Road, Wilmington, DE 19810.

## JHS archivist schedule

Beginning on February 11, 1991, Julian H. Preisler, the Archivist for the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware will be in attendance at the Archives every Monday evening from approximately 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Preisler recently accepted a position with the Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia and will be available at the archives on Monday evenings only. Community members who wish to donate materials or

documents at other times, should call Mr. Preisler at his home, 655-0365.

The Archives of the Jewish Historical Society are located within the Research Library of the Historical Society of Delaware at 505 Market Street Mall. The Library hours are: Monday, 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The phone number at the Library is 655-7161.

## Baltimore JCC offers 'Elder Experience'

Elder Experience is a five day, four night learning experience for retirees who want to expand their horizons in an academic setting. The program takes place at Western Maryland College in Westminster with lodging at the Quality Inn College Conference Center from June 10 to 14.

Don Shaffer, Associate Professor of History and Political Science Department at Dundalk Community College, will give an in-depth analysis

of world affairs with emphasis on Israel and American relations. Cantor Sam Berman from Baltimore Hebrew Congregation will instruct a course in Jewish Music of the 20th Century in America.

The week also includes daily exercise, sports, swimming, nightly entertainment, kosher meals and a day trip to Harper's Ferry. For further information or reservations, contact Eileen Berman at (301) 356-5200.

## Bush

Continued from 9

the annual policy conference of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. Although no meeting with Bush has been scheduled, it is expected that the two will meet.

The Conference of Presidents meeting with Bush was scheduled two days earlier at the president's request, according to Malcolm Hoenlein, executive director of the umbrella group of 46 organizations.

Cardin and Hoenlein led another delegation to a meeting a few hours earlier with Secretary of State Baker. That meeting had been scheduled since January 3.

The Jewish leaders at the White House meeting, most of whom had returned January 30 from a three-

day fact-finding and solidarity mission to Israel, described the situation there to Bush, Cardin said. She said the damage inflicted on Israel by Iraq's Scud missiles was described to the president, and he was told how people live in fear of a poison gas attack. There is virtually no night life, since people want to stay close to their homes.

In this context, the Jewish leaders praised the recent visit to Israel by Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger.

At the State Department meeting, they were joined by several former chairmen of the Conference of Presidents. Also participating in the White House meeting were representatives of 12 national Jewish organizations that had participated in the mission to Israel.

## 'Day of the Jewish Woman' planned

How Tonica Marlow, a preacher in a British evangelical church, became Tova Mordechai, a Chassidic homemaker, might be one of the stranger tales of returning to one's roots. Her mother was Jewish, yet she was raised as a Christian, and proceeded to rise through the ranks of the church hierarchy to become an ordained minister. That was before she began an incredible journey that led her back to her roots.

Mordechai will be the guest speaker at the Fourth Annual "Day of the Jewish Woman," which will take place on Sunday, March 10, in the JCC Auditorium. The title of her presentation will be, "From the Pentecostal Steeple... Back to her People - One Woman's Incredible Odyssey."

The annual event is planned in connection with the International Week of the Jewish Woman, a series of programs and activities focusing on the Jewish woman's role and relating issues. Delaware's Day for the Jewish Woman has, in the past, attracted women with diverse backgrounds from all over the state.

Mordechai's talk will be preceded by a light luncheon at 12:30 p.m. The moderator for the program is Karen Moss. Reservations should be made by March 1, and the cost is \$15 pre-paid, \$17 at the door. To reserve, or for more information, call Lena Elzufon (984-2228), Debbie Grossman (656-9348), Molly Ganz (738-3593), Terry Dannemann (734-8138), or Oryah Vogel (478-4400).



Tova Mordechai

## Beth Shalom Sisterhood dinner

The annual Beth Shalom Sisterhood Paid-up Membership Dinner will be held on Thursday, February 21, at 6:30 p.m. in the Gibstein Auditorium at Congregation Beth Shalom. The featured speaker will be Dr. Penelope Neckowitz, a licensed psychologist.

The topic for the evening will be "Women in the 90's: Coming to terms with ourselves, our roles, relationships, and how we deal with stress." Neckowitz has over 17 years of clinical experience working with a wide range of individuals (both adults and adolescents), couples and families. One of her areas of expertise is the treatment and eating disorders and Neckowitz has served as a Clinical Research Associate at the Center

for the Treatment of Eating Disorders at the Mental Research Institute in Palo Alto, California. She also coordinated an eating disorders community support network in the Sacramento area and participated in the Connecticut task force for Eating Disorders Awareness, Inc.

In addition to her general psychotherapy practice and speciality in

treating disorders, Neckowitz has considerable expertise in designing stress-reducing intervention for individuals and groups.

For reservations and information, contact Sharon Rosen, 479-0766, or Danna Levy, 478-7853, by February 15. There is no charge for paid-up members and new members. The charge for guests is \$7.50.

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# Announcements/Events

## Finger speaks to 'New Americans'

Dorothy Finger spoke to a large group of New Americans on a recent Sunday morning as part of their acculturation program. She presented a video of an earlier interview in which she described her own experiences during the Holocaust. A lively discussion followed during which many of the New Americans told of their own experiences in Russia during World War II.

The presentation was part of "Brunch and Learn," a program directed by Rachel Yoskowitz, Chairman of the Resettlement Committee. The program is designed to provide an introduction to American Jewish life with the assistance of guest speakers. The series concluded with a program of Jewish music by Cantor Norman Swerling of Congregation Beth Shalom on January 27.

Because of the genuine interest of the group and their desire to continue learning more about Judaism, Yoskowitz said, a follow-up series is being planned under the direction of Yvette Rudnitsky.

So far in 1991, two new families

have arrived in Wilmington from the Soviet Union. They are both three generation families and total ten people. It is hoped that the others who are scheduled to arrive this year will soon be here, but exact arrival dates are not certain.

A Purim party for the New Americans is scheduled for February 24 and a model Seder is set for March 17. The committee would like to find home hospitality for each new family for a Seder again this year, according to Yoskowitz. "Please consider this enriching experience of sharing your Seder with a new American family," she said. Call Marilyn Harwick at 762-2473 if you are interested.



Dorothy Finger

## Naches

### Rappaport

David Ian Rappaport, son of Dr. Jay and Bryna Rappaport of Wilmington, has been chosen to be a congressional page in Washington, D.C. He was sponsored by Congressman Tom Carper and will be one of 66 young adults who will serve as apage for the spring term, January through June, 1991.

David and his family lived in Wilmington from 1975 to 1983, after which time he lived in Richmond, Virginia, and then spent 3 years in Geneva, Switzerland. He is currently an eleventh grade honors student at Brandywine High School. He is a member of the National Honor Society, the French Honor Society, the Math League and the school's televised Academic Bowl Team.

David is also a member of B'nai B'rith Youth Organization and attends Gratz Hebrew High School. He enjoys playing piano, tennis and basketball.

## Women to celebrate Adar

Women's services to celebrate Rosh Hodesh Adar will be held at Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth on Thursday, February 14, at 7:30 p.m. (not at 8 p.m. as previously announced). All women and teenage girls in the community are invited to join in prayer, song, learning and a light snack.

Future Rosh Hodesh celebrations will be on Shabbat morning, March 16 (Nissan), Sunday early afternoon, April 14 (Iyar), Monday evening, May 13 (Sivan), and Wednesday evening, June 12 (Tammuz).

## Chabad will celebrate Purim in variety of ways, places

Chabad-Lubavitch of Delaware will sponsor its annual "Purim Champagne Community Dinner" at the JCC on Thursday, February 28, at 5:30 p.m. The Dinner will be preceded by a late Megillah reading at 5 p.m. for anyone who didn't have the opportunity to hear in the morning. The Dinner will include a children's masquerade contest, live L'Chayim, singing, jugglers, dancing and festive, warm Purim atmosphere, with Purim costumes optional but encouraged.

### ORT meeting

ORT Brandywine Chapter-At-Large will hold its February general meeting at La Grande Restaurant on Wednesday, February 13, at 7 p.m. All new members and those members who have been unable to attend other events are encouraged to attend, as is anyone who wants to learn more about ORT. For more information, call Debby at 475-9505.

### ORT Purim party

ORT Brandywine Chapter-At-Large will make traditional shalchmones ("sending gifts") baskets for the Kutz Home and will share these and other treats with Kutz residents on Sunday, February 10, at 3 p.m. The community is invited to attend and is encouraged to wear a costume. For more information, call Sylvia at 475-5831.

### ORT party

ORT Brandywine Chapter-At-Large will be holding its Third Annual Cocktail Party on Saturday, March 2, at 8 p.m. Those attending should bring a dairy hors d'oeuvre or dessert. Prizes will be awarded for the best dishes. The cost will be \$15 per person, and \$20 per person for non-members. For more information, call Sandy at 475-6302.

"Our Community dinner has earned a reputation as the place to be when celebrating Purim," says Rabbi Vogel, Director of Chabad-Lubavitch. In the spirit of Purim, Vogel reminds the community, "It's the last one till next year!" The cost of the Dinner is \$13 per single, \$25 per couple, \$36 per family, and reservations must be made as soon as possible. To reserve, call the Chabad office at 478-4400.

Chabad will also hold a downtown Wilmington Megillah reading on Purim day in the law offices of Elzufon, Austin and Drexler at 12:15 p.m. The offices are located in the Bank of Delaware Building at 222 Delaware Ave.

Chabad will also hold a "Grand Purim Blast" for students at the University of Delaware, at the Chabad House, 630 Lehigh Rd.,

Wednesday evening, February 27, at 6:45. The Megillah will be read followed by a "full-scale Purim celebration," according to Vogel. Parents wishing to send Shalach Manot to students on campus, can use the Chabad United Purim Service (U.P.S.) to brighten up their students' Purim day. For reservations and more information, call Chabad at 478-4400.

Volunteers will once again be distributing hundreds of Shalach Manot to students, schools, hospitals, nursing homes, the Kutz home and prisons, in order to bring "the beautiful Purim spirit to all," Vogel said. "The message is clear. We want everybody to feel part of the Purim festivities," said Oryah Vogel, one of the coordinators. To volunteer to bring the Purim spirit to other people, call Oryah at the Chabad office, 478-4400.

## NCJW meeting planned

NCJW will hold its next meeting on Wednesday, February 13, at the home of Yetta Chaiken. An open board meeting at 10 a.m. will be followed by a lunch and program at 11:30. At that time, Rabbi Sarah Messinger from Congregation Beth Emeth will speak on "The Rise of Anti-Semitism in the United States." A \$3 luncheon fee will be charged.

For reservations, call either Ethel Parsons (762-6407) or Ari Bodnar (479-9655).

On February 9, at 8 p.m., NCJW Wilmington Section will be hosting "The Pleasure of Your Company," a social evening for members, prospective members and their spouses. To attend, call Jean Blumenfeld (478-3835).

## Support group focus: Israel and the Gulf

A support group for people who have family and friends in Israel or the Persian Gulf has been established by Jewish Family Service. The group has been meeting on Wednesday nights at the J.C.C. to share information and concerns. For further information, contact Myrna Ryder at Jewish Family Service, 478-9411.

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Write a letter to the editor

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## Look for Our Page...



**Richard David Levin**  
JCC President

"The Jewish Community Center has purchased a full page in sixteen issues of the *Jewish Voice*", reported Richard David Levin, JCC President. "The purchase of this space will enable the Center to inform *Voice* readers about important community events as well as news and information about programs being offered at the JCC", he commented. The JCC will continue to publish the monthly *On-Center* which is mailed to JCC members as well as insert the four program guides in various issues of the *Voice*.

"Since this page will appear in the *Voice* on a regular basis, we encourage readers to 'get into the habit' and turn to this page for JCC news and information.", he added.

## Teen Programming Fund Established

The Jewish Community Center Board of Directors have approved a new fund, The Stanley W. Ballck Memorial Fund for Teen Programming. This fund has been designated to provide an annual education program for teens at the JCC.

Contributions to this new fund can be made at the JCC Front Desk.

## Israel Desk Established at the JCC

The JCC takes delight in announcing that an Israel Desk has been established in the main lobby area. Information about Israel, kibbutz life, Israeli camps, maps, books, etc. will be available to the entire community during regularly scheduled JCC hours.

Under the direction and guidance of Nurit Katziry, JCC Shlichah, and the Israel Desk Committee, the Israel Desk will serve as a community resource for information pertaining to Israel. Those individuals who would like to serve on the Israel Desk Committee may contact Lynn Greenfield, Adult Program Director at the JCC.

## Children's Center Open House

Parents of toddlers and pre-school age children who are not currently enrolled in the Children's Center programs at the Jewish Community Center are invited to observe the Children's Center in action at their open house, Friday morning, February 22. The Children's Center, under new directorship, offers a child centered approach within a carefully planned, age-appropriate environment. The children receive a solid foundation for cognitive, social and emotional growth, guided by trained, nurturing early childhood educators. A renewed emphasis on Jewish culture and values has generated exciting programs including the weekly Kabbalat Shabbat, a communal sing-a-long to welcome the Sabbath.

Opportunities for enrollment in enrichment classes include gymnastics, music, drama, swimming, cooking, ballet and more.

Children's Center programs, which include child care from 7:15 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. for children ages one to five, and pre-school programs for children two to four years old, provides parents with "one-stop" child care and education in warm familiar surroundings from age one through the elementary school years. The Open House schedule will be as follows: At 9 a.m., parents of prospective students will meet Jane Hormadaly, Children's Center Director, and will view a videotape of the Center's programs. From 9:30 to 11 a.m., participants will have the opportunity to observe classes and will tour the facility with parent guides. At 11:15 a.m., parents will join the pre-school children, friends, teachers and Jewish Community Center staff for a very special Kabbalat Shabbat Celebration.

Registration for new students begins March 15. Reenrollment of current students began last month and must be completed no later than March 15. For further information, contact the Children's Center of the Jewish Community Center at 478-5660.

## Academy of Lifelong Learning Sing-A-Long

Arthur Nordin, an Instructor at A.L.L. will present a sing-a-long of America's favorite songs at the Center on Wednesday, February 20 at 12:45 p.m. Nordin plays the piano and accordion and has taught in Wilmington schools for the past 25 years, 5 years as a music teacher. He is a familiar sing-a-long leader at many community centers. This program has been rescheduled and is open to the entire community, free of charge.

## JCC Children's Center Remembers Martin Luther King

By Karen Moss



Less than 24 hours after Iraq sent tremors through the worldwide Jewish community by launching its first SCUD missiles into Tel Aviv, more than 150 Jewish pre-schoolers sat in the lobby of the JCC singing "We Shall Overcome... We Shall Live in Peace, Someday."

No mention was made of the recent bombing, but the connection wasn't lost on the several dozen adults, teachers, parents, seniors and JCC staff - who joined the children in song.

"I was teary eyed," commented Debbie Grossman, mother of 4-year-old Mami, "and I looked over at David Sorkin (JCC Executive Director) and noticed his eyes were moist too."

The children and their parents have come to look forward to the weekly Kabbalat Shabbat celebrations initiated this fall by Jane Hormadaly, Children's Center Director.

"I love the Kabbalat Shabbat programs," said Wendy Shlossman, mother of 3-year-old Debra. "They add a strong Jewish dimension and reinforce the things our kids learn in school. I always come away with a warm feeling and a sense that we really are a family, just like the song says!"

As always, candles were lit, Kiddush was chanted, Motzi was said. This week children in Natalia Vekker and Barbara Kurin's class led the prayers. "Hevelnu Shalom Alechem" and "Shabbat Shalom" were sung with great gusto, led by Hormadaly on her guitar and Sara Berman, Senior Center Outreach Worker, on the piano. But this particular morning, the Children's Center director had an additional message for her young charges.

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"When Martin Luther King was a boy, he lived in Georgia," Hormadaly told the youngsters. "He had lots of friends, both black and white," she continued, "until one day a white boy said, 'We can't come and play with you anymore. You have a different color.' "He went home and told his mom, and she answered, 'Martin, some people do things that aren't fair, and some people have laws that aren't fair.' "So Martin Luther King told his mother he was going to get those laws changed when he grew up."

Many eyes grew misty as children and adults linked arms and sang "We Shall Overcome" in English, and then listened to Preeti Mathur, a Children's Center teacher born in India, offer a rendition of the same song in her native tongue.

In the light of current world events, each song, each plea for peace, took on an added layer of meaning. "We're a family," the children sang, and thoughts of the assembled adults turned to our larger, global family enmeshed in a war not of their choosing.

Commenting after the program, Cindy Goldstein said, "This is a really important time for us to come together as a community, and I'm especially glad they've introduced subjects like racism and freedom." Goldstein's children, Jared, 2, and Lora, 4, both attend the JCC Pre-School.

As Cantor Samuel Mandelberg, grandfather of 5 year-old JCC preschooler Ailsa Bartash, concluded the program with "Hatikvah", and the thoughts and prayers of everyone present turned toward Israel, and the group, deeply moved, walked slowly out of the building to the waiting carpool line.

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# The Jewish Voice Wedding Guide

## Should you say 'I do'?

By ALAN KELLERMAN

Special to The Jewish Voice

"How do I know if I'm making the right decision?", 27 year old Judy asked me when she came for counseling. "Some of my friends tell me my doubts about marrying David are normal and I should ignore them. Other friends tell me they are important and I should take them seriously. I'm confused."

Judy and David have been dating for almost a year. She finds David to be handsome, intelligent, and irresistibly romantic. In the early months of the relationship, Judy was sure she had found "Mr. Perfect," but in the past few months she has become increasingly aware of things she dislikes about David. When he comes home from work, for example, he has no energy and motivation to do anything but watch television. She has also noticed that he constantly complains about any number of things: his job, his finances, his friends, etc. But the thing that bothers her most is that he seems to be less interested in her. "When we talk, he often looks bored and disinterested." On the other hand; Judy says, "there are times when he can be very giving."

Judy's experience is not uncommon. Many of the couples that I have seen over the years in premarital counseling have expressed the same kind of doubt and uncertainty about their partner. At some point in the relationship each discovers the other's undesirable traits. Ironically, those same traits that once were so appealing, become irritating and annoying. What was once viewed as creative

and spontaneous can easily be experienced later on as impulsive and irresponsible. Similarly, "He really knows how to manage his money," has a way of turning into, "He's so cheap." "I love how she keeps everything so neat," annoyingly becomes "Her compulsive neatness is driving me crazy."

How can we account for these upsetting changes? The love relationship is a psychological journey which begins with the ecstasy of attraction and romance, is followed by a period of questioning and critical examination, and culminates in the creation of genuine intimacy between two separate and imperfect people.

In the early weeks and months of a relationship, while in the throes of romance and attraction, there is a natural tendency to see only the positive and to deny the negative. Once the novelty of the relationship wears off, and we are feeling secure, we begin to notice the negative traits which have been denied. This can be especially disturbing after such a blissful period where our partner seemed

to meet our every need so effortlessly.

This latter phase of the relationship is actually more realistic, and naturally creates questions about the relationship that can be quite disconcerting. However, it is only at this point in a relationship that one is able to begin the process of realistically assessing whether to marry or to end the relationship. How does one go about making such a monumental decision? It may be helpful to evaluate your relationship by looking at how compatible you both are with regard to three important areas: your feelings, values, and behavior styles.

### Are The Feelings Between Us Right?

In answering this question you must not only be concerned with whether you love each other, but also with such questions as do you have fun together? Do you trust each other? Additionally, it is very important for couples to be compatible in their level of emotional intimacy. There are instances, as with Judy and David, where one partner is constantly pursuing the other for emotional closeness, time, and communication.

"He doesn't seem to want to talk much anymore," Judy said sadly. "He often seems preoccupied. I find myself constantly questioning if he still cares."

David on the other hand, feels that having some time to himself is important and that he still cares a lot for Judy. "It seems that anytime I want to do something without her, she feels rejected. I try to reassure her, but nothing short of spending all my time with her seems to make a difference." With the help of counseling, Judy has learned to rely on herself more to meet her own emotional needs, while David has learned to become increasingly more comfortable with emotional closeness.

### Do We Have Similar Values?

Values and beliefs guide our behavior and life goals. They are hard to change and therefore, it is essential to evaluate how compatible you and your partner are in this area. Although your attitudes towards religion, money, work, and having and

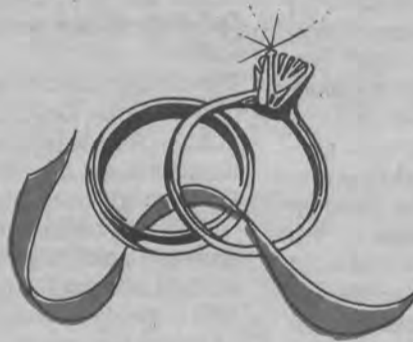
raising children don't have to be identical, the closer your values are, the less conflict you are likely to experience. While you and your partner will differ on some of these issues, you must ask yourself how well you think each will be able to cope with the differences. Learning to accept and respect each others' differences is a key ingredient in being able to successfully handle the challenges that marriage presents.

### How Compatible Are We In Every Day Living?

Differences in behavior styles create issues around such areas as neatness, punctuality, and conscientiousness, and have the potential for being a source of constant bickering in a relationship. However, if you and your partner learn to communicate well with each other, these differences in behavior styles can lead to satisfying compromises. Try to express clearly and openly to each other your needs and desires. You should be able to listen to each other and feel understood and accepted. Accepting responsibility for your own feelings and not blaming the other is central to a mature relationship.

If you have evaluated your relationship but are still feeling stuck, professional counseling can assist you in making a decision that's right for you. And while there are no guarantees for happiness, this additional insight can help you decide whether to let go of a familiar relationship and move on, or whether to commit to a future together.

(Dr. Alan Kellerman is a clinical psychologist in private practice who works with couples, individuals, and families in Houston, Texas.)







## Use the calendar correctly to plan your Jewish wedding

How can you check the exact calendar dates of these days? Get yourself a Hebrew calendar (a Luach), which sets forth all the major and minor Jewish holidays, gives candle-lighting time, and much other useful information.

The year starts at Rosh Hashanah (September) in these calendars. You will find it helpful also in selecting other party dates that will not pose problems for observant guests.

Weddings may not take place during the thirty days of mourning observed for a brother or sister or the eleven-month period for a parent. Reform congregations keep the thirty-day rule for all periods of mourning.

A wedding may not be postponed, once the date is set, however, even if their is a death in the family, since not even mourning is permitted to interfere with a wedding, the highest of mitzvot. Usually, however, the music is eliminated in these circumstances and the whole scale of the reception reduced.

### SEPHARDIC AND REFORM practice:

•Sephardim allow marriages during Sefirah from Lag B'Omer on.



•Reform groups allow marriages during both these periods, except for the 9th of Av.

•Before you set a date for your wedding, you must take into account certain times when marriages may not be performed.

•Reform groups allow marriages during both these periods, except for the 9th of Av.

Before you set a date for your wedding, you must take into account certain times when marriages may not be performed.

### WEDDINGS ARE NOT PERMITTED (in all groups) on:

•the Sabbath (Friday evening to Saturday after sundown)

•the major holidays (Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Passover, Shavuot and Succot — sundown to sundown).

### ORTHODOX AND CONSERVATIVE congregations also exclude:

•the Three Weeks (the period between the 17th of Tammuz and the 9th of AV — usually during July and August)

•the Sefirah period (the seven weeks between Passover and Shavuot, except for Lag B'Omer — usually in April and May)

These times are held to be periods of national mourning.

(From "Your Jewish Wedding" by Helen Latner.)

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## Checklist for the wedding

- Checklist**  
**6 TO 12 MONTHS AHEAD**
- Determine budget and type of wedding
  - Visit your rabbi and set a date
  - Plan the reception
  - Draw up the invitation list
  - Select florist, photographer and music
  - Choose your dress
- 4 MONTHS AHEAD**
- Order invitations
  - Plan the honeymoon
  - Set date for blood test
  - Register for gifts
- 2 MONTHS AHEAD**
- Address invitations
  - Choose attendants' gifts
  - Buy wedding ring(s)
  - Set date for marriage license
- 1 MONTH AHEAD**
- Have final fittings of the dresses
  - Arrange rehearsal dinner



- Make hotel reservations for guests
  - Mail invitations
  - Buy groom his gift
- 2 WEEKS AHEAD**
- Record and write notes for gifts
  - Send announcements to newspaper
  - Arrange seating plan for reception
  - Check trousseau
  - Move belongings to new home
  - If needed, change name on credit cards, license, etc.
- 1 WEEK AHEAD**
- Have final meeting with caterer
  - Give bridesmaids' luncheon
  - Confirm rehearsal plans
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The bride begins to acknowledge gifts as soon as they start arriving, in the order in which they are received. People understand that a busy bride may not be able to write immediately, but if they do not hear from her in a month or two, they may fear that the gift has gone astray.

The bride would be wise to arm herself with a special notebook in which to record her gifts. If she keeps it in a handy place, it is a simple matter to jot down the necessary

information as soon as a gift is opened. There is not much point in keeping an alphabetized list, since the important thing is to have a chronological record of the gifts as they are received.

**THE THANK-YOU NOTE.** A handwritten note is the only gracious way to acknowledge a gift. It should be written on fine writing paper or on informals with the bride's name. If the bride is writing before the wed-

ding takes place, she signs her maiden name — "Phyllis Waldman," or "Phyllis Schein Waldman" for easier identification.

The style of the acknowledgement is a matter of individual taste. If the bride is doing her job properly, though, she will refer to the actual gift, and not just the giver for "your beautiful gift."

(From "The Jewish Wedding Book," Lilly S. Routtenberg and Ruth R. Seldin)

## The ring is essential

The wedding ring is a relatively modern substitute for the gold coin or other article of value with which a man literally purchased his wife from her father.

According to custom, the ring is of plain metal and without stones, though not necessarily of pure gold. The original purpose of the requirement for plain metal was to eliminate any possible doubt in the minds of the bride and her family as to the true value of the object.

According to Jewish law, the giving and accepting of the ring in the presence of witnesses is the most important part of the ceremony, and the marriage is in fact legalized when the groom places the ring on the bride's right forefinger and says: "Behold thou art consecrated unto me with this ring, according to the law of Moses and Israel."

A double-ring ceremony is fre-

quently performed at Reform, Conservative and even many Orthodox weddings. The bridegroom receives his ring after he has recited the blessing and has placed the ring on the

finger of the bride; she in turn slips his ring on the ring finger of his left hand. She need not recite anything, but many rabbis use a special declaration for the bride to recite as well.

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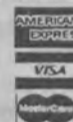
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### •Priorities

When deciding on a budget, establish which aspect of the wedding is most important to you — band, flowers, food, etc. Figure on spending the largest amount on the food. Then allot sums of money to other areas in order of importance.

### •Plan Ahead

While a wedding can be planned to four to six months, most people feel more comfortable with a nine to twelve month time frame. As soon as



you select a wedding date, line up the ceremony and reception sites, caterer, photographer and band since these services are often booked as many as two to three years in advance.

### •Organize

Use a system to organize your plans. Keep written records in a folder or book, to help you keep track of deposits, receipts, deadlines, schedules and appointments. Devise a system of lists, tables or charts to remember everything you have to do for the wedding.

### •Band

Try to hear the band in person before you hire them. Videotape does not necessarily do justice to some bands. Make sure to have in writing that the band leader will be at your wedding. Keep in mind that the music should encompass a wide range of guests' tastes.

### •Photographer

The bride and groom should meet with the photographer before he or she is hired, to make sure all are on the same wave length at the wedding. Discuss when and where formal portraits will be taken. Discuss the importance of candid as well as how much of a presence you want the photographer to be.

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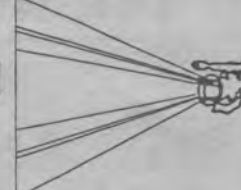
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## Roots & Branches

### Organize your family tree by computer

By MIRIAM WEINER

Special to The Jewish Voice

Over 20 years ago in Des Moines, Iowa, I began a trek through my family history which ultimately led to New York where I met many cousins previously unknown to me. To keep track of "who's who", I began making family tree charts by hand.

There are many problems with these hand-drawn charts beginning with the obvious: in a short time it becomes necessary to tape several sheets together resulting in a cumbersome and tacky chart. Nevertheless, virtually every family historian known to me began charting their ancestors in much the same manner.

A more serious problem than "looks" with these hand-drawn charts becomes apparent each time you make significant changes/additions to your tree. I would hate to estimate how many times I had to re-draw my charts in order to accommodate the new information. However, during the last 5-10 years, a number of computer programs specially designed for sorting and charting family history data have come on the market.

Life is much simpler now — it now takes a few minutes to add a new branch of cousins to my database and produce a revised chart reflecting all the new information. Each of my four grandparents has a separate family chart and in one case, the chart exceeds over 25 feet in length — a virtually impossible task without a computer software program.

The last few years have produced

many publications, seminars, genealogy software programs and experts all focused towards educating the genealogist in computerized genealogy. As a result, many hours previously devoted to laboriously revised family charts can now be devoted to discovering new sources of information, family reunions, visiting ancestral towns and ultimately publishing the family history.

There are many features of a genealogy software program which enable you to print standard reports such as the following:

>Family group sheets — includes everything known about each family member

>Pedigree chart — all direct ancestors of an individual (parents, grandparents, etc., with name, dates of birth, marriage and death)

>Descendancy chart — shows all descendants of an individual (name, birth and death dates)

>Ascendancy chart — shows all ancestors of an individual

>Lists — the ability to print lists from user-defined fields (categories) of information about selected persons in a sequence (alphabetically, date, place, zip code)

>Special facilities — some programs allow you to print surname indexes, birthday and anniversary lists and indexes by locality (such as all people born in Poland, buried in New York, immigrated through Boston, etc.)

As an example, I can print a listing of members of my family who perished during the Holocaust. Another

report which has been surprisingly helpful to me is a listing by first name which enables me to detect duplicate entries and establish naming patterns between generations.

There is one myth I probably should dispel now. In the beginning, I naively thought by computerizing my family history data, I could discard many papers which were overflowing my filing cabinets. Somehow, it didn't work that way. The reports and charts generated from the computer have added to the paper collection, but have also simplified the retrieval of data.

Having my family charts on computer has also brought more cooperation from family members in the quest for information. Years ago, when I pestered relatives for information, copies of documents and old photos, there were times when cooperation was "limited" or in a few cases, non-existent. However, when I began producing family trees on computer which I could send to my many relatives, suddenly I found them more receptive to sharing information. First, they were anxious to correct entries (often the date of birth which seems to come in many variations) and also to add branches of the family entirely unknown to me.

Once your family tree is computerized, you may want to send it to the many Jewish archives and libraries which collect family histories. Some years ago, I was able to track down a missing branch of my family by writing to the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati and requesting a copy

of a family tree from its extensive genealogy collection.

Without question, the most important addition ever made to my family tree occurred a few years ago when my cousin, Ricardo Odnoposoff, who lives in Vienna sent me a hand-drawn chart on cardboard which he brought from Leningrad while visiting without mutual relatives there. The chart was compiled by Leonid Odnopozov, my newly-discovered Soviet cousin and listed names of over 50 members of my family, all descendants of or related to my great-grandparents. It was with much pleasure and a few tears of joy that I entered this new data into my computer.

It is my intention to personally deliver copies of this 25-foot chart to these newly-discovered cousins now living throughout the U.S.S.R. On the other hand, I would be just as happy to deliver the charts in Israel. (Miriam Weiner is a columnist and lecturer specializing in Jewish genealogy and Holocaust research. She also is coordinator of "Routes to Roots" Genealogy Tours offered by ISRAM Travel in New York. For information on genealogy software programs and how to research your family history, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to Weiner at 136 Sandpiper Key, Secaucus, NJ 07094.)

### Dear Rachel,

My sister has had a very difficult life, raising three children by herself and without a whole lot of money. I was delighted when she retired to Florida, figuring that at last she could live for herself instead of for everyone else. Instead, when I call her I hear the same old stuff. Oldest kid was down, needed help buying a car, Mom redeemed a CD. Child #2 dropped her kids off with Mom while she and her husband took an island cruise. My sister isn't a well woman, and I wish her precious children would stick to giving her naches.

Can I say something to the kids at an upcoming family event?

Big Brother

Dear Big Brother,

It is really difficult to impose on someone without their consent. It sounds like your sister's view of world is more akin to the Hasidic rabbi Solomon he-Kohen Rabinowich of Radamsko's than it is to your view of retirement as "the golden years." He tells the following story:

"A passenger on a ship impatiently awaited the day when it would reach port. When the ship neared the harbor, a storm drove it back to sea, much to the dismay of the traveler.

"In the same way, a man is filled with anxiety for his sons and daughters until he succeeds in rearing them to maturity. Then he hopes to be freed from worry about them. But his oldest son comes with his troubles, seeking paternal advice, and the father's retirement is delayed. The daughter also comes with her problems, and once more his hope for a quiet life is postponed.

"Few of us are ever entirely freed from worry and the necessity of continuous labor in this world."

Don't say anything to the kids until and unless your sister complains. Even then, your most important role would be to support your sister in her efforts to say "no" when she means "no."

Rachel

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

### IDF shells PLO bases in Lebanon

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The Israel Defense Force and its allied South Lebanon Army continued to shell Palestinian bases in southern Lebanon over the weekend. The continuous pounding with heavy artillery was in response to intensified Katyusha rocket fire almost every night last week.

The IDF and SLA shelling reportedly created havoc near Iklim al-Toufik village and at Palestine Lib-

eration Organization bases inside the Rashidiya refugee camp east of Tyre. Some 6,000 refugees were reported to have fled the camp.

Reports from Beirut said the PLO suffered five dead and dozens wounded over the weekend.

No Katyushas were fired February 2. IDF sources expressed hope that the people in the path of the artillery barrages prevailed on the PLO to cease its hostile activities.

According to the Israelis, the PLO initiated the Katyusha attacks after Saddam Hussein appealed to Yasir Arafat to attack Israel in support of Iraq in the Gulf war. But the rockets fell short of Israel and exploded harmlessly in the southern Lebanon security zone.

Hussein also reportedly appealed to terrorists abroad to attack American, Israeli and allied installations all over the world.

### New Americans

Continued from 14

probably at a fast food outlet.

On a comfortable couch, Rita and her sister Malvina Gesterak, who worked as a secretary for a construction company in Russia and is (says

her sister) an excellent cook, laugh over old family pictures, taken in Odessa, which show blond baby Steve and blond baby Polina who were often mistaken for twins. Rita's older son, called "Rusty," whose early portraits depict a reserved, thoughtful young boy, is absent from the

evening's gathering, attending a week's training course in New York, paid for by his employer, Union Park Pontiac.

As David, who plays mostly by ear, segues into *Hava Nagila*, everyone claps and sings; then he switches to

ates smiles. Music, explains Gesterak, who also plays the piano and organ, is his hobby; he is by profession a construction foreman, and spent 16 years supervising tile setters, painters and carpenters. He hopes to find Yiddish song in celebration of his mother-in-law, and Elizabeth radi-

similar work in America.

Being surrounded once again by his family is wonderful says David, and next fall he hopes his father, sister, brother-in-law, and two nieces from Odessa will immigrate. "That's what we'll work for," he says, "to reunite everyone in Wilmington."

### Tzedakah

Continued from 3

gration and absorption of the Jewish people to Israel, to support youth and education programs, community centers and essential community services in Israel, Eastern Europe, and throughout the world. UJA dollars take care of the 4,000 remaining (mostly elderly) Jews in Poland and reunite Ethiopian Jews with families in Israel.

I already know some of the excuses I'll hear when I man the phones on Sunday. "I don't like the politics of the Israeli government," someone will say, to which I'll respond, "UJAF dollars support the people of Israel, not its government." Not only that, by cutting a pledge or refusing to give at all on this basis is penalizing Russian, Ethiopian, South American and other Jewish immigrants from receive-

ing necessary assistance to begin a new life in Israel. It jeopardizes services to kosher kitchens in Warsaw and Bucharest, Prague and Budapest. A cut in your pledge affects programs that bring Jewish youth to Israel and keeps the new Conservative kubbutz in the Galilee from setting up its Educational Center. Please don't cut your pledge or refuse to give based on who is prime minister or a law that is passed in the Knesset. It is the wrong response to a legitimate concern.

"I am angry with UJAF (or one of its agencies) because..." See my answer to the person who is unhappy with Israeli politics. When we remember that our contribution to UJAF provides for the needs of all age groups, here and abroad, it is petty and mean-spirited to refuse to give or reduce a pledge on these grounds. Whether it is a perceived slight by an

overburdened staff member of an agency or a decision made by the community to fund or defund a program, should all of the innocent suffer because of the alleged "insult"?

UJA Federation has run many successful campaigns. But \$21 million can only go so far. Some 23,600 individuals contribute to the UJAF campaign, but Washington has a Jewish population estimated to be in excess of 160,000! If each Jew who said "no" changed their "no" to a "yes" and if each of us who do contribute reexamined our priorities and our checkbooks, we could raise much more.

Once you sit on an agency board or sit on the Budget and Allocations committee of UJA Federation you have a different view of the Jewish community. In agency after agency, services are being cut, valuable programs sitting on the drawing board go unfunded; the

recognized need to expand services to all age groups and throughout the metropolitan area remain but a dream.

Each of us makes a difference. Each of us counts. Every call counts. So when we receive a phone call on Feb. 3, let us respond as did Abraham and Moses before us with the word: "Hineni." Here am I, ready to respond, ready to fulfill the ultimate of mitzvot, ready to receive the reward of *simha shel mitzvah*, the joy that comes from knowing that you have done your share (and maybe a little more than your share) to fulfill the needs of our people wherever they may be.

(Rabbi Paul Kerbel is the spiritual leader of Nevey Shalom Congregation in Bowie, Md., and a member of the UJAF Rabbinical Cabinet.)

# Obituaries

### Joe Minor

Joe B. Minor, 82, a member of the U.S. Army detachment that liberated the Nazi death camp at Buchenwald, died Dec. 20 at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Perry Point, Md. He lived in New Castle.

Mr. Minor was born in Hart County, Ga. He was a private first class in the Third Army, commanded by Gen. George S. Patton, which plowed through the barbed wire of Buchenwald on April 11, 1945.

The experience of finding the walking skeletons and piles of corpses

at the camp, near Weimar, Germany, shattered his nerves and stayed with him for the rest of his life, according to his wife of 53 years, Mary A. Ashley Minor.

"He told me it just tore him all to pieces when he saw that," his wife said. "He said that dogs shouldn't be treated like that."

Because of the shock, Mr. Minor was hospitalized for six months in Paris and then for two months in Virginia, his wife said.

Mr. Minor was the subject of a 1987 interview done by the Halina

Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee, a videotape of which can be found in the JCC's Holocaust Resource Center.

Mr. Minor retired in 1973 as maintenance supervisor at a New Castle apartment complex.

He was an elder in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and a member of Colonial Post 838, Veterans of Foreign Wars, New Castle.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are three daughters, Barbara G. Snow, Nancy A. Fry and Shirley Hughes; two sons, Billy J. and Roger D.; two sisters; 15 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

### Wilmeta Dora Engelson

Wilmeta Dora Engelson, 69, of 25 N. Rosemont Circle, Elkton, Md., died February 2, of cardiopulmonary arrest at Laurelwood Nursing Home, Elkton, where she was a patient.

Mrs. Engelson, a homemaker, was an amateur painter. She painted still life and portraits in oil, charcoal and water color, a family member said.

She is survived by her husband, Irwin; a son, Stroube William Lander of Elkton; three daughters, Sarah W. Hawks of Newark, Del.; Deborah Dale Beldyk of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and Lyn Dora Limpert of Viola, Del.; six grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to American Cancer Society, and Temple Beth El, Newark.

### Sol Polotsky

Sol Polotsky, 84, of 702 W. 29th St., Wilmington, died February 5 of a blood infection at Christiana Hospital, where he was a patient.

Mr. Polotsky was an insurance salesman at John Hancock Insurance Co., Wilmington, for 35 years, retiring in 1965.

He was a Philadelphia native and a former editor for the Sunday Star. He also was a member of Congregation Beth Shalom and its Men's Club; a member of Congregation Beth

Emeth and Montefiore Mutual Benefit Society; and a former president of Jewish Historical Society.

He is survived by his wife, Betty Polotsky; a daughter Marian P. Leighton of Reston, Va.; and five grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Congregation Beth Shalom.

### Benjamin Steinberg

Benjamin Steinberg, 88, of 2606 Society Drive, Presidential Towers Apartments, Claymont, died February 5 of heart failure at The Kutz Home, where he was a patient.

Mr. Steinberg had been a court clerk at the Media (Pa.) Courthouse.

He is survived by his wife, Sadye; two sons, Martin of Wilmington; and Steven of Prospect, Ky.; a brother, Harry of Wallingford, Pa.; and two grandchildren.

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

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## Israel: Perspective

### Non-Israelis who stayed are true friends

By NECHEMIA MEYERS

Special to The Jewish Voice

If Conductor Zubin Mehta wanted to be President of Israel, he would be elected — citizenship permitting — by a landslide vote.

This is because Israelis are so grateful to him for dropping everything else and flying in to join them when Iraqi missiles began falling on Tel Aviv and Haifa in mid-January.

Another, less famous non-Jew who did exactly the same thing is German chemical engineer Herbert Zimmermann, now on the campus of the Weizmann Institute of Science for his 15th visit.

A researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Medical Research in Heidelberg, Zimmermann was scheduled to come to the Weizmann on February 12th for consultations with his Israeli colleagues. But within an hour of hearing that war had broken out in the Middle East, he decided that he must leave for Israel immediately.

Zimmermann rejects any suggestion that he is some kind of hero. "It was the least I could do to show my support for Israel," he declares.

These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of men and women.

Tom Paine  
"The Crisis"  
Dec. 1776

At the very moment that Zimmermann was deciding to come to the Weizmann, two graduate students who had been there since August 1989 — Morgan and David Hirschberg — were on the verge of leaving for their home in Seattle. It was only after a night of heart-searching that they decided to stay put. Now they are glad they did so.

"It has given us the opportunity,"

said David, "to see Israelis at their best, to witness their extraordinary desire to help us and one another in a time of crisis."

Prof. Irving Listowsky, a researcher at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, knew something about Israeli reactions to emergencies, having previously visited the country on other tense occasions. But never before had he heard the blast of a falling missile, which, he admits, left him "scared stiff".

That temporary sense of discomfort has passed and Listowsky feels more than compensated by his heightened sense of belonging; indeed, you can now hear him speak of "we Israelis."

There are dozens of other overseas scientists and students presently in the labs of the Weizmann Institute, where three-quarters of the visitors have rejected pleas — from their parents and embassies — to leave the country.

At the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, which runs a special one-year program for 500 young people from overseas, the picture is rather different. Only 140 of the 1990-91 contingent is still here following the January exodus.

One of the 140 is Dovid Coplon, a 21-year-old from the San Francisco area. Dovid couldn't bring himself to leave at a time that Israel was being threatened. Gil Schreier, a Torontonian, likewise felt that he must stay and is sorely disappointed with the 380 "who ran home when Israel needed them most."

A large majority of the American Blacks playing with local basketball teams certainly left when Israel needed them most, namely in the midst of European tournaments. But those who remained have been hailed as heroes.

Earl Williams, among the latter, was extremely pleased this week when passersby called out to him: "Good for you Earl!"

One thing for sure: the people of this country will not soon forget those non-Israelis who, by choosing to be here during a period of considerable danger, have proven that they are more than fair-weather friends.

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- In Gratitude
- Other



# Scorecard

Continued from 3

towards Israel. What also remains is the Saudis' immense oil wealth.

**PLO:** Yasir Arafat, his PLO and the Palestinians should be among the biggest losers. Throwing in his lot with Saddam Hussein and threatening U.S. interests throughout the world, it is difficult to see how Arafat can be resurrected as a "partner" in the peace process. The jubilation with which the Palestinians greeted the Scud attacks on Israel also demonstrated to all what Israel must face.

**The Soviet Union:** The Gulf crisis offered dramatic evidence that there is now only one remaining superpower in the world. Largely uninvolved, the Soviet presence was largely confined to its previous supplying of Scuds and other lethal equipment to Iraq. The USSR will not have much to say about the shape of the

Middle East after the war, and given her internal problems, will have enough to worry about.

**France:** Another loser. Having tried to sabotage the U.S. plans to move against Iraq at the last minute — France will not have done quite enough for the extremist Arab side to please them, but at the same time has earned the scorn of many. A country which regularly strikes deals with Arab terrorists, France has again shown that it is willing to sell out friends and allies in pursuit of its own perceived narrow interests.

**The United Kingdom:** Definitely a winner as the British lion has shown its remaining teeth are still sharp. As America's closest ally and most militarily effective coalition partner, Britain should be able to count on U.S. support and friendship in the future. It is hoped that

when the more pro-Arab members of the European Community seek to pressure Israel, that Britain, despite its traditional "Lawrence of Arabia" view of Arab, will be a moderating force.

**Germany:** Despite its offer of humanitarian assistance and the dispatch to Israel of its Foreign Minister, Germany will come out a loser. Its extensive contributions to Iraq's military potential, and particularly its prominent role in developing Iraq's military potential, and particularly its prominent role in developing Iraq's chemical and gas warfare capabilities have further harmed Germany's moral standing. Its insufficient economic support for the Coalition has also been noted.

**Israel:** With Iraq's military machine smashed and warming of U.S.-Israel relations (unfortunately as a result of Israel's willingness to

assume a traditional victim's role), Israel could be a big winner. A great deal depends on whether the Bush Administration will feel it must do even more for Arab coalition partners by squeezing Israel in the future — or will use its new found influence with them to help resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict on a bilateral basis.

**The United States:** Potentially the biggest winner of all and in a position to exert real world leadership and spread the spirit of democracy. Some feel our own country could embark upon a new era of Pax Americana. Whether the Bush/Baker team is up to this formidable task, given our economic and budgetary problems, remains to be seen.

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

# Wise

Continued from 2

failure he was joined by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Henry Morgenthau, then Secretary of the Treasury. President Roosevelt followed the advice of others.

It was a dark day early in 1943 that Rabbi Wise informed a group of representatives of the Zionist organizations about the terrible reports he had received from "the man in Geneva", and of President Roosevelt's poor response to Wise's entreaties to bomb the rails to Auschwitz and to press England to open Palestine's doors. There were marches in the big cities as the bad news spread; letters were

sent to senators and congressmen. But, sadly, many could not believe what they heard. In his long fight for the Jewish People, Stephen Wise clung to some policies that were no longer valid — but he was challenged and outvoted on them; President Roosevelt strung him along but no other Jew at that time could have changed that.

From 1895 to 1949 Stephen Wise was a courageous worker for the Jewish People and a proud Jew. We should remember such people in the historical context of their work and accomplishments, and not for their failures alone.

Gladys S. Gewirtz

# Ethiopian aliyah

Continued from 1

Appeal, said the Jewish Agency is now drawing up a budget that anticipates the arrival of 15,000 Ethiopian Jews between April 1 and Dec. 31, and 225,000 Soviet Jews during the same period.

The war in the Middle East and the Iraqi missile threat appear to be the main causes of the dip in Soviet aliyah, which nevertheless was still almost three times as high as the total for January 1990.

Recent Soviet immigrants have said that while Soviet television is not taking an anti-Israeli slant in its coverage of the war, the reports of damage in Israel have been exaggerated, thereby causing some prospective olim to delay their departure.

The Jewish Agency decided last Friday to send special emissaries to the Soviet Union to provide a more balanced explanation of the war's impact in Israel and to allay fears among prospective immigrants.

The Israeli Consulate in Moscow last month

issued about 650 visas each day, down from about 1,000 a day in the last three months of 1990. The Jewish Agency expects an average of 500 to 600 Soviet immigrants to arrive each day for the near future, until the emergency footing in Israel has ended.

Between 80,000 and 100,000 Soviet Jews now hold Israeli visas and are expected to depart over the next few months.

The government's immigrant housing program has been hard hit by the emergency, which has shut down major businesses throughout the country, but particularly in the Tel Aviv area.

Housing Minister Ariel Sharon said last week that the construction industry is operating at about 25 percent of its normal capacity.

Economic activity in general was slowed by the emergency, and construction was particularly affected because Arab workers from the administered territories, who make up over half of the labor force in this industry, have been kept under curfew.

# Torah

Continued from 4

The Torah's answer is to break the cycle before it starts. Give people a way out before they start to drown. An interest-free loan helps a person without stealing his self-respect. In the Jewish community, which has always been known for taking care of its own, free-loan societies developed, and they may still be found in most Jewish communities even today. These free-loan societies have a repayment rate many banks and savings-and-loans would envy. Maimonides lists free loans at the top of his list of levels of *tzedakah*, along with teaching a person a trade: both enable a person to set him or herself up in business, and become self-supporting.

One is not obligated to extend a loan to a person who has a history of poorly handling money, and other ways must be found to help. I know of synagogues which support soup kitchens and shelters, and this is indeed praiseworthy. But we need to go beyond that into community mentoring and Project Literacy, while not neglecting those good old free loan societies.

All of these programs work, no matter what software or hardware you run them on, and no matter what documentation you use. The point is that the system we all subscribe to reminds us that working for a just and caring world, where everyone is treated with respect, is not a programming option, but the whole purpose of the program.

(Rabbi Susan Gulack lives and works in the greater Rochester, NY area, where she serves Temple Beth Am. She works hard for a better world and tries to remember that it is not her job to complete the work, but neither is she free to refrain from it. She thanks her Mac, without which this article would not have been written.

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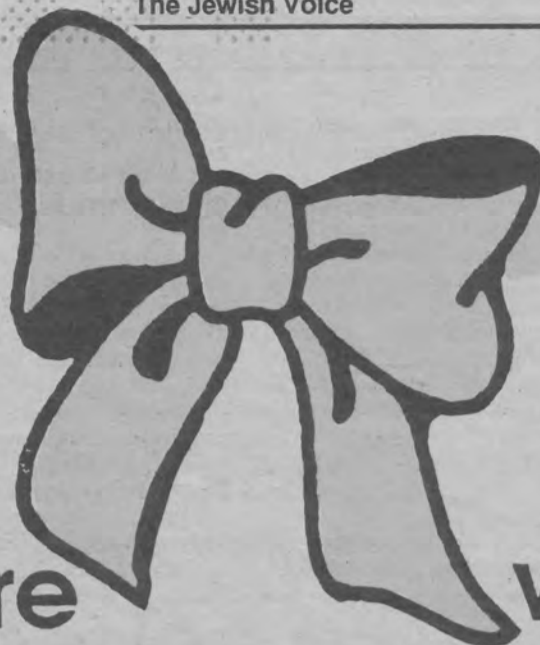
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