

The JEWIS VOICE

Jewish Historical Society
Mr. Julian H. Preisler
505 Market Street Mall
Wilmington, DE 19801

"You heard it in
The Jewish Voice"

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF DELAWARE 101 Garden of Eden Rd., Wilmington, Delaware 19803

Vol. 25, No. 3

3 Cheshvan 5752

October 11, 1991

20 Pages

JFD wins national publicity awards

By PAULA HAIT

Editor of *The Jewish Voice*

The Council of Jewish Federations has announced that the Jewish Federation of Delaware has received a total of five awards (one gold and four silver) in the 1991 CJF Public Relations Awards competition.

The Gold Award, in the "Best Special Brochures" category, was given for the album entitled "In Celebration of Freedom" which contained the family photographs of immigrant relatives of Delaware Jews. The album, produced during the Operation Exodus campaign, was designed by Karen Venezky based on a concept and text by Toni Young. The album's photographic reproduction was done by Mitchell Young.

The Silver Awards were won in the following categories: "Best Newsletter" for the JFD&U newsletter; "Best Newspaper Advertising" for campaign advertisements designed for publication in *The Jewish Voice*; "Best Campaign Brochures" for the JFD's brochure entitled "If not you...Who?" and "Best Invitations" for the Young Leadership Cabinet's invitation entitled "We're Building a Puzzle."

The JFD newsletter was conceived by the

JFD & U



Helping a family build a NEW LIFE in the First State



Above, the JFD newsletter and, at right, a page from the commemorative brochure.

Federation's Marketing Committee, made up of volunteers: Karen Moss, David Sorokin,

Norman Tomases, Bill Topkis, Karen Venezky and Toni Young. Sonia Bernhardt served as the professional consultant to the committee and "was instrumental in the development" of the newsletter, according to the JFD Assistant Director Seth Bloom. The logo was designed by Debbie Heaton and Gregg Siegel served as the professional writer.

Two of the newspaper ads were designed

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Gorbachev condemns anti-Semitism in speech

By JACKIE ROTHENBERG
and SUSAN BIRNBAUM

NEW YORK (JTA) — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's unprecedented acknowledgment and condemnation of anti-Semitism has received a welcome response from Jewish organizational leaders, who now want to see words followed up by deeds.

Gorbachev acknowledged the existence of Soviet anti-Semitism in a statement read on his behalf at a ceremony Saturday night commemorating the murder of tens of thousands of Jews 50 years ago at Babi Yar, on the outskirts of Kiev. In a statement read by Alexander Yakovlev, one of Gorbachev's top political aides, the Soviet leader expressed regret that anti-Semitism is causing so many Soviet Jews to emigrate.

Gorbachev's remarks were the strongest condemnation of anti-Semitism ever made by a top Soviet leader. A similarly forceful statement against anti-Semitism was made at the

vened by the Appeal of Conscience Foundation that the Ukraine aims to create a favorable environment for Jews, one which they would not feel they have to leave. The Ukraine wants

More than half of Soviets want Jews to leave - Story on page 18

Babi Yar gravesite by Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, who acknowledged Ukrainian collaboration in the Nazi massacre. Kravchuk accepted "part of the blame" for his republic's collaboration and asked the Jewish people for forgiveness.

Last week in New York, Kravchuk told a gathering at the Park East Synagogue con-

to write "a new page in (its) history," Kravchuk said. "We have to relate many things to Jewish

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Syria, Iran reported collaborating on venture to produce Scuds

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Iran is about to join Syria in a joint venture to manufacture surface-to-surface Scud missiles in Syria, according to Ha'aretz's military correspondent, Ze'ev Schiff, who attributed his information to reliable American sources last week.

If correct, it would be the first time Iran worked with an Arab country to produce a weapons system, Schiff reported October 1.

Syria has been making significant efforts to increase its surface-to-surface missile strength as a result of lessons taught by the Persian Gulf War, Schiff wrote. After the war, Damascus signed an agreement with North Korea to acquire the more accurate Scud-C missiles, which exceed the range of standard Scuds by nearly 125 miles. The first shipment of new Scuds reached Syria from North Korea early last summer, and the second is due in the next few days, Schiff reported.

He said the deal differs from Syria's past missile contracts with the Soviet Union, because North Korea is committed to setting up a missile production plant in Syria.

Iran, in the midst of a long-term project to improve its military strength, is prepared to invest in the Syrian plant to assure itself of a steady supply of surface-to-surface missiles, Schiff said.

He said that in the past, Syria tried to acquire from China M-9 missiles with a range of 300 to 370 miles. China also negotiated to sell them to Pakistan.

The United States tried to prevent the deal, and the Chinese claimed the M-9s were still in the developmental stage. But knowledgeable circles believe the negotiations between China and Syria, and between China and Pakistan, are in the final stages, Schiff wrote.

Another disturbing development he reported is an alleged agreement between Syria and India on chemical weapons development. Details are unknown at this time. But Washington reportedly has raised the matter with New Delhi. The Americans are trying to convince India to refrain from any activity in the area of chemical weapons, especially where a Middle Eastern country is involved, Schiff reported.

Bush restores \$21 million in arms aid to Jordan

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The Jewish War Veterans of the United States has sharply criticized President Bush for releasing nearly \$21 million in U.S. military aid to Jordan. The aid was frozen by Congress in April because of Jordan's support for the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. Bush informed Congress on September 27 that the funds were being unfrozen in response to Jordan's help in the Middle East peace process.

Albert Cohen, the JWV's recently elected national commander, called Bush's action "manipulative and without merit."

Jordan will be eligible for \$20 million in financing for arms purchases and up to \$783,000 for military training.

"How can President Bush justify opening U.S. coffers to Jordan for military purposes when that country stood on the side of Saddam Hussein during the Gulf war?" the head of the 100,000-member veterans service organization asked.

"Clearly, the president is attempting to manipulate the players of a future Mideast peace conference with this move," Cohen said. "Apparently, our enemies deserve greater consideration than given to our real friends."

The JWV commander may have been alluding to Bush's successful pressure on Congress to delay consideration of Israel's request for U.S. guarantees covering \$10 billion in loans needed for immigrant resettlement.

Cohen also charged that the administration was bowing to Saudi Arabia's objections when it decided not to send helicopters and combat aircraft there in case of another confrontation with Iraq.

Baker planning Mideast trip to resolve peace conference issue

By HOWARD ROSENBERG

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Secretary of State James Baker, hoping to get a Middle East peace conference going this month, is returning to the region next week for the eighth time this year, the State Department announced Tuesday. Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said Baker, who will visit Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Syria, plans to deal with issues "that must be resolved before the issuance of invitations" for a Middle East peace conference.

She did not say what those issues are, except to comment that Baker is "working on a number of letters of assurances with various governments."

But the key outstanding issue to be resolved is the composition of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks. In addition, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on Monday said his government is still seeking reassurances on certain procedural issues, including its request that the peace conference not reconvene once direct negotiations begin.

President Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev this summer called for the peace conference to take place in October, and "that's still what we're working toward," Tutwiler said. She refused to confirm a report in the Israeli daily *Yediot Achronot* that the conference will take place in the Hague on

November 5 and not, as rumored in some quarters, on October 29 or 30 in Switzerland. "I have nothing for you on venue, and I have nothing for you on timing," Tutwiler said.

The Bush administration is trying to form a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation that would represent the Palestinian position at the peace talks. To further that goal, Baker will be meeting soon with Palestinian representatives Hanan Ashrawi and Faisal Husseini in either Washington or Jerusalem, Tutwiler said. In Jerusalem, Husseini was quoted Tuesday as saying that he and Ashrawi would leave Wednesday for Washington.

Israeli law enforcement authorities on Tuesday met with the two to question them about charges that they attended a meeting in Algiers last month of the Palestine National Council, the Palestine Liberation Organization's so-called parliament-in-exile. Israeli law forbids Jews and Arabs under its administration from making contact with the PLO.

An official at the Israeli Embassy here confirmed Tuesday that the two were interrogated in Israel. "I'm aware of the fact that there was a police investigation and nothing beyond that," the official said.

Tutwiler would not comment when asked about the Israeli inquiry. "That is a matter for

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Editorial

Strength in diversity, not in isolation

There are those who say that the strength of the Jewish community is in its diversity. We have said it on this page in the past — we mix and cross-pollinate our ideas and our commitments for the enrichment and strength of our People.

The strength of the community is a direct result of the strength of its individual members and organizations.

As this new year begins, we would all do well to recall, reconsider and reaffirm that concept, to draw ourselves together to be strong in the face of whatever the year might hold in store for us. And in so doing, we should remember that there is a huge difference between diversity and isolation.

Locally, our strength is in all of this community's organizations standing together. Obviously, we need not all assume the same *raison d'être*. For example, the traditional, conservative, reconstructionist and reform synagogues should, obviously, cater to the particular needs of their memberships. Organizations should certainly continue to concentrate on the support of their individual interests. Our community's Hebrew schools should, of course, focus on the education of our Jewish youth.

Two recent examples of the Delaware community standing united are the remarkably successful Adult Institute of Jewish Education, begun last Wednesday, which is being co-sponsored by the synagogues and the Jewish Community Center and the Jewish Women's Coalition which is made up of members of all of Delaware's women's organizations.

On the other hand, there are also occasional examples of organizations throughout our community that do not work together, unfortunately, and sometimes even work against each other. We suggest that they reevaluate their positions.

Nationally and internationally, the picture is the same. Each organization and each Jewish leader has an individual agenda, but with the main objective the same: the enhancement, strengthening and survival of the Jewish community. There are many examples of this as a successful concept — the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, for example, unifies all Jewish organizations and uses its collective energies for the benefit of the entire American Jewish community.

But on the national and international scene, too, there is the occasional and unfortunate lack of harmony. Just last weekend, we watched — horrified and ashamed — as Jerusalem's ultra-Orthodox Jews stoned their secular Jewish brothers who chose to drive on an new Israeli highway on the Sabbath.

The bottom line is that we *should* have personal commitments to certain groups and organizations; and our organizations *should* maintain their own individual commitments. But the larger picture must stay in focus...we are the Jewish COMMUNITY — of Delaware, of the United States, of the Diaspora, of the world.

It is our tradition.

Kol Yisroel areivim zeh le zeh. All Israel is responsible one for the other. Meeting the challenge of this responsibility is the key to our survival — here in Delaware and around the world.



Letters to the editor

Domestic violence is a Jewish issue

Alcoholism is not a Jewish problem — Right? Drug abuse is not a Jewish problem — Right? Domestic violence is not a Jewish problem — Right? Well, wrong. On all three counts.

Of every three women who are murdered in the United States, one is killed by her husband or boyfriend, according to FBI reports. When mothers are battered, the father is about three times more likely to be the children's abuser than in families where battering does not occur. Children are the most vulnerable and perhaps the least noticed victims of domestic violence.

The Jewish community can no longer pretend that it is somehow immune from the ravages of domestic violence. Statistics show that abuse occurs in 15 to 19 percent of Jewish homes.

A recent issue of the publication, *Sh'ma*, that discusses domestic violence reminds us that denial is part of human nature. We often deny that which we cannot understand or

refuse to understand. But times seem to be changing. The organized Jewish community is beginning to respond.

Jewish Family Service agencies report an increase in requests for treatment by adults who report having been physically and sexually abused by their fathers and mothers, by grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, stepmothers, stepfathers, teachers, rabbis, neighbors and others. These requests come from all segments of the community, from Lubavitch to the secular, from the Sephardic to the Ashkenazic. No denomination and no occupation or social status is exempt.

Right now, B'nai B'rith Women of Delaware, along with a number of other concerned organizations is currently planning several projects for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October. B'nai B'rith Women are collecting toileteries that will be given to a local women's shelter. Your donations are needed.

Sheila Weinberg

In response to a New York Times story

In *The New York Times* of October 9 there is a front page story entitled "For Refugees in Jordan, Misery Without End." The author, Youssef M. Ibrahim, states that 250,000 Palestinians have arrived in Jordan from Kuwait. Many of these "refugees" had lived in Kuwait since 1948. None ever received Kuwaiti citizenship, all were deported after Desert Storm as undesirable by Kuwait to Jordan where most have relatives. One hundred thousand more are expected.

The unemployment rate in Jordan is more than 32 percent for the total population and 83 percent for the refugees. People are living

in their cars, have no funds for food or shelter. The Arab world, with its hundreds of million people are doing little or nothing to help.

How fortunate we Jews are to have a land of refuge — *Israel* — where all refugees are welcomed. There is housing, food, job training, medical services and hospitals — all at a tremendous cost to the State of Israel. We American Jews have in the past and must in the future do our share. How fortunate we are that the Jews of the world are "their brothers' keepers."

Nahum Reuven

50 years ago. . .

The following news items were sent out by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency between October 11 and 17, 1941.

CONDITION OF BALTIC JEWRY DETERIORATING UNDER NAZI RULE

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 10 (JTA) — Condition of the Jews in the Baltic countries has so deteriorated since the Nazi invasion that their situation rivals the conditions in German-held Poland, it was revealed today by usually reliable sources.

Jews of Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia must wear a yellow Mogen David; they are forbidden to walk on the sidewalks and they must proceed in single file. All Jewish enterprises and property have been confiscated and able-bodied males have been mobilized for compulsory labor battalions. Jewish newspapers and schools have been closed down and the radio and the Nazi newspapers constantly harangue against the Jews. Hundreds of Jews have been arrested, allegedly for having been "Bolshevik employees." In Riga, alone, 3,800 have been seized.

The German anti-Jewish propaganda, however, is meeting with no success as far as the non-Jewish population is concerned. The people are horrified by the Nazi excesses committed against the Jews and find ways of expressing their sympathy.

TRAINS ASSEMBLED TO TRANSPORT CZECH JEWS TO UNKNOWN DESTINATION

ZURICH, Oct. 14 (JTA) — Prague newspapers reaching here today report that "trains have been assembled and stand ready" for transporting Jews from Czech towns to unknown destinations, while Prague radio today reported that two Jews, Hugo Beck and Maximilian Fredlander, were among those executed yesterday.

Welcoming the expulsion of Jews from the larger cities in the Czech Protectorate, the Nazi-controlled newspapers comment upon it as being "the first step toward a final solution of the Jewish problem" in the Protectorate. "The yellow Mogen David will soon disappear altogether from our towns," the *Narodni Prace* writes.

The Jewish Voice

Published semimonthly, and monthly in July and August, by the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

Editorial opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of the newspaper and not those of any individual. Signed editorials do not represent the view of the newspaper, but rather express the view of the writer.

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No material will be accepted by the Jewish Voice which is considered against the best interests of the Jewish community.

Jewish Federation of Delaware
101 Garden of Eden Road
Wilmington, DE 19803
(302) 478-6200

Subscription Price: \$10

Circulation: 4,200

Member of the American Jewish Press Association

The JewishVoice does not guarantee the kashruth of any of its advertisers.

DEADLINE

The next issue of The Jewish Voice will be published FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25. The deadline for stories and photos is noon, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18. Material should be sent or brought to the Jewish Voice office at the Jewish Federation of Delaware, 101 Garden of Eden Rd., Wilmington, 19803. (302) 478-6200. All articles must be typed, double spaced.

THE JEWISH VOICE (USPS-704160)

Second class postage paid at Wilmington, De. Published semi-monthly, and monthly in July and August, by the Jewish Federation of Delaware, 101 Garden of Eden Rd., Wilmington, De., 19803. Subscription price \$7.50. Mailed to subscribers who are contributors to the Jewish Federation of Delaware. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Jewish Voice, 101 Garden of Eden Rd., Wilmington, De. 19803. (302) 478-6200.

Op-Ed

Israel on campus 1991-92:

The good, the bad and the ugly

By ERIC ESSES

"Predictions," an astute humorist once commented, "are difficult to make — especially when they're regarding the future." With this in mind I put to paper the following thoughts and ideas about what pro-Israel student activists and, by extension, the American Jewish community, will do, and have to contend with, during the upcoming academic year. The issues can be divided up into three tidy categories: The good, the bad, and the ugly.

The Good:

Pro-Israel activists will be hard pressed to find a better year on campus than the one ahead. After a very successful, albeit tumultuous, year of activism, the pro-Israel crowd will capitalize on significant events that have occurred over the summer and historic dates during the course of the year. For example, the Jewish students and the Jewish community at large will and should educate everyone about Israel's phenomenal 36 hour airlift of Ethiopian Jews from war-torn Addis-Ababa in Operation Solomon. Furthermore, students will continue to highlight the immigration from the Soviet Union and will begin to push for the release of the 4000 Jews forced to remain in Syria under the watchful eye of Hafez al-Assad's brutal secret police, the *mukhabarat*.

Information campaigns regarding these two great *aliyot* and the plight of Syrian Jews will

remind the world that Jews are still persecuted and help to educate the campus community about Israel's commitment to humanitarianism and freedom for persecuted minorities.

Congruent with this information campaign will be the repeal and repudiation of the U.N.'s infamous resolution #3379 that equates Zionism with racism. Since last year's push for the repeal was clouded by legitimate fear and worry about Saddam Hussein's unsolicited desert crossing, this year, concerned students, in conjunction with the organized Jewish community, will rally on campuses across the country and amass thousands of signatures on petitions calling for the resolution's repeal. Furthermore, those same students will actively educate others about the true, humanitarian nature of Zionism and Israel using the aforementioned *aliyot* as indisputable proof. The date set for the rallies: On or around the resolution's 16th (and last!) anniversary, November 10, 1991.

Important dates that Israel activists will commemorate during the school year include the 14th anniversary of the late President of Egypt, Anwar el-Sadat's, historic trip to Jerusalem on November 19th, as well as the 13th (Bar Mitzva!) anniversary of the Camp David Accords that resulted in the only formal peace agreement between Israel and an Arab state on March 26th.

Also, students will implement an effective

information campaign heralding in the 25th anniversary of the reunification of the "City of Peace," Jerusalem. Students will spearhead the movement to erase from the vocabulary of the world the words "East" and "West" as adjectives when describing Jerusalem — especially because divided cities are not in vogue since the Berlin Wall fell and chunks were sold as souvenirs on the streets of America. Pro-Israel students will each others the truth about the tragedies the partitioning of the city created and of the guarantees the Israeli government has made regarding the right of all people to worship freely in Jerusalem since its reunification in June 1967. The anniversary of Jerusalem's 25th reunification is May 31, 1992. Of course, activists will implement a comprehensive campaign to educate about the opportunities to travel, work or study in Jerusalem (or Israel in general) long before May rolls around.

The Bad:

The Israeli government's policy of erecting settlements in the West Bank and its insistence on certain procedural aspects before participating in a Middle East peace conference will continue to get much press coverage. This will lead to articles and discussions on campus and in the general community decrying the radicalism and intransigence of Israeli society and their right-wing government. Israel's detractors will be reminded of their selectivity by pro-Israel activists as the latter will correctly point out the following:

1) The policy of establishing settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, albeit controversial, is the policy of the *current* government of the State of Israel and the view of the opposition parties in Israel is well known.

By labeling "settlements" as the primary obstacle to Mideast peace, James Baker obfuscates more salient barriers to peace: Recalcitrant Arab nations whose *only* policy towards Israel has been dictated by a fundamental philosophical believe that Israel has no right to exist and, thus, must be eradicated. Which is more an obstacle to peace: The policy of the democratically elected government of the day or a fundamental philosophy that has guided the one and only policy towards Israel — a policy of rejection and aggression that has led to six Arab-Israeli wars and tens-of-thousands of dead?

2) Israel has made significant concessions regarding the idea of a regional peace conference as envisioned by James Baker. The most prominent of Israeli concessions include a sincere desire to attend and actively participate in the conference, accepting European participation despite Europe's hostile view of Israel and allowing Soviet participation although Gorbachev has not even restored formal diplo-

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On keeping all Jews in the tribe

By ALEXANDER M. SCHINDLER

At the present rate, Israel will absorb 1 million Soviet immigrants within the next several years. An estimated 30 percent of these immigrants, including the children of intermarried couples in which the woman is non-Jewish, are not considered Jews according to *halachah*. These children, numbering in the tens of thousands, will share the fate of the Jewish people — speaking Hebrew, attending Israeli schools, celebrating Jewish festivals, serving in the army. But unless they yield to the stringent requirements of Orthodox conversion, the rabbinic courts will bar them from marrying Jews within Israel's borders. Given the sheer numbers of Soviet immigrants in this predicament and their estrangement from ritual observance, the conversion option is as unfair as it is impractical.

The Israeli government must find a realistic solution, and fast. Otherwise a large minority will be consigned needlessly to the margins of society, becoming a caste of untouchables. Fortunately, the Reform rabbinate, in struggling with the dilemma of intermarriage in America, has passed a historic resolution on Jewish identity that is as relevant in Israel as it is in the Diaspora.

This resolution states: "The child of either Jewish parent is under the presumption of Jewish descent. This presumption of the Jewish status of the offspring of any mixed marriage is to be established through appropriate and timely public and formal acts of identification with the Jewish faith and people. The performance of these *mitzvot* serves to commit those who participate in them, both parent and child, to Jewish life..."

The Reform decision on patrilineal descent eliminates the distinction between men and women, between fathers and mothers. It holds that, insofar as genealogy is a factor in determining Jewishness, the maternal and paternal lines should be given equal weight. By adopting a similar resolution, the Knesset could guarantee that all children of intermarried immigrants admitted to the country under the Law of Return would be presumed to be Jews, regardless of whether the Jewish parent was the mother or the father — so long as the children were raised as Jews.

When first proposed, patrilineal descent was condemned in certain Jewish quarters as a radical departure from every Jewish law and tradition. Today, according to a recent survey

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Presidential contenders to date paint grim picture

By MORRIS J. AMITAY

The foreign policy fallout from President Bush's infamous press conference continues even as Congressional action on the loan guarantees will only come in the new year. However, the domestic political ramifications of the President's actions are also becoming apparent. Except for the sop thrown to the Jewish community in the President's otherwise unremarkable address to the U.N., it is clear that GOP strategists have discounted Jewish support for their Presidential ticket in 1992. This comes as no surprise given the traditional liberal voting patterns of American Jews and the conventional wisdom at this point that the President's reelection is all but assured — with or without Jewish votes and support.

For Democrats — and particularly the Presidential contenders — only more tentative conclusions can be drawn at this time. With

some 70 U.S. Senators cosponsoring the bipartisan legislation granting loan guarantees to Israel unfettered by unacceptable restrictions or conditions, we have the first real test of support for Israel for some of the Presidential hopefuls. An early cosponsor, (not surprisingly given his overall fine record) was Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa. In addition, Governor Bill Clinton of Arkansas came out with strong public statements of support for the guarantees, both in Arkansas and Iowa. However, Senator Bob Kerrey of Nebraska (not to be confused with Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts) refused to become a cosponsor. This came as little surprise to insiders here who had received reports of his meeting this past summer with Israeli Prime Minister Shamir, where the junior Senator from the Cornhusker State expressed strong reservations over settlements activity.

Kerrey, as governor of Nebraska before coming to the Senate came to public attention

at the time because of his romantic relationship with actress, Debra Winger. This, plus the medal of honor he received in Vietnam will undoubtedly attract media attention, giving him a leg up on his more pedestrian competition. However given the strong Jewish representation in the ranks of the Democratic Party activists and fundraisers, Kerrey's act of omission could well cost him — literally and figuratively. While he still has time and will have other opportunities to express his views more positively — his nomination prospects have suffered.

As for the 1992 Senate elections, both Senators Kasten of Wisconsin and Inouye of Hawaii, the prime sponsors of the loan guarantee legislation, are up for reelection. The former is facing tough competition, the latter, no serious challenge. One Democratic incumbent who will be in a tight race who declined to cosponsor the pro-Israel initiative was Sen.

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Solidarity can uproot anti-Semitism

By MARC H. TANENBAUM

Cardinal Josef Glemp, primate of the Polish Catholic Church, looked around the large conference table at 12 American Jewish leaders, who were joined by leaders of the American Catholic Church, and said: "This is the largest group of Jewish people I have ever met."

His statement was a telling revelation early in an historic meeting in Washington. It left the clear feeling that the cardinal — center of a controversy in the Jewish community — can be educated, or re-educated, about Jews and Judaism.

Both his biography and his remarks made it evident that the primate of Poland was ignorant about the elementary facts of Jewish history, religion and culture in his own country. In that vacuum, the vicious stereotypes of Polish folklore have filled his mind and his vocabulary. And having had virtually no contact with any living Jewish community, there had never been a serious challenge to his caricatures and gross misinformation.

The meeting on September 20 at the offices of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops was a fundamental encounter. As Rabbi Mordecai Waxman of Great Neck, L.I., put it: "There was an exchange and there was change."

The more scholarly of our colleagues reviewed both "the grandeur and the misery" of Jewish existence in Poland since the 13th century:

*) How Polish kings — Boleslav V in 1264 and Casimir the Great in 1364 — invited the Jews of Germany and Central Europe to come to the impoverished peasant land and help build an urban, commercial and industrial economy.

*) How, by the first census in 1765, Polish Jews had already made up ten percent of the population, practiced all trades and were prominent in many aspects of urban life. From the 16th century until the Holocaust, Poland was the chief world center of Judaism.

*) How the Christian bourgeoisie came to envy and resent the Jewish merchants, and how the Catholic clergy, particularly the Jesuits in the 17th century, became the chief architects of slander and riots that later degenerated into bloody pogroms, with the oppressed and illiterate peasants rallying to the cause.

Glemp was confronted by that survey of the glory and the tragedy of Jewish history in Poland. He was asked how the primate of the Polish Catholic Church could reduce that complex, noble and terrible history to three or four slogans that mirror the worst stereotypes of peasant lore. He was told that Jews have a right to expect the head of the Polish church not to bear false witness.

Cardinal Bernard Law, archbishop of Boston, described his experience with the American Jewish community as a great blessing in his life. He said he wished that the experience could be implemented in time in Poland, given the realities of the Catholic majority and the small surviving Jewish community.

The importance of the conversation, in which some Jewish organizations had declined to take part, was that Cardinal Glemp emerged determined to change.

He said: "I have learned that certain of my own statements have caused pain to the Jewish community... but were... based on mistaken information... I regret sincerely that this unfortunate situation occurred, and recommit myself to working with you now and in the future... in combating anti-Semi-

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Candle Lighting

OCTOBER

11TH — 6:12 PM

18TH — 6:02 PM

25TH — 5:52 PM

DELAWARE'S SYNAGOGUES

ADAS KODESCH SHEL EMETH

(Traditional)

Affiliation:

Union of Orthodox Jewish
Congregations of America
Washington Blvd. and Torah Drive
Wilmington
762-2705

Rabbi Nathan N. Schorr
Rabbi Emeritus Leonard B. Gewirtz
SERVICES

Friday — 8 p.m.

Saturday — 8:45 a.m.

Sundays, holidays — 8 a.m.

Monday through Friday — 7:30 a.m.

Monday through Thursday — 5:45 p.m.

BETH SHOLOM

CONGREGATION OF DOVER

(Conservative)

Affiliation:

United Synagogues of America
Queen and Clara Sts.
Dover

734-5578

Rabbi Moshe Goldblum

SERVICES

Friday — 7:30 p.m.

Saturday — 9:30 a.m.

Discussion of Torah Portion takes place following Saturday morning service.

CONGREGATION

BETH EMETH

(Reform)

Affiliation:

Union of American Hebrew Congregations
300 Lea Blvd.
Wilmington
764-2393

Rabbi Peter Grumbacher
Assistant Rabbi Sarah Messinger
SERVICES

Friday — 8 p.m.

Saturday — 11 a.m.

Morning Minyan — 7:55

Monday through Friday

A Torah Study group is led by the rabbi on Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.

CONGREGATION

BETH SHALOM

(Conservative)

Affiliation:

United Synagogues of America
18th and Baynard Blvd.
Wilmington
654-4462

Rabbi Herbert Yoskowitz
SERVICES

Friday — 8 p.m.

Saturday — 10 a.m.

A Torah discussion is led by the rabbi during Saturday morning services.

MACHZIKEY HADAS

CONGREGATION

(Traditional)

B'nai B'rith Building
800 Society Blvd.
Claymont
798-6846

Friday — 8 p.m.

Saturday — 9 a.m.

TEMPLE BETH EL

(Reconstructionist)

Affiliation:

Federation of Reconstructionist
Congregations & Havurot
301 Possum Park Road
Newark

366-8330

Rabbi David Kaplan
SERVICES

Friday — 8 p.m.

Saturday — 10 a.m.

A Torah study group meets on Saturdays at 9 a.m.

Dvar Torah

Parshat Lech Lecha, October 19th

Walk with me and be 'tamim'

By WALLIS A. CHEFITZ

In the beginning of our Torah portion God commands Abram to "get up and walk in the land, the length and the width." Towards the end of the parasha God again commands Abram to walk, but this time with God, and to be "tamim." What does it mean for Abram to walk with God and to be "tamim?"

Abram's mission is to walk, to journey, to become pure. He is given tasks and trials to prove his faith, and he is carried along by God's promises of land and descendants.

The stages of Abram's journey may be divided as follows:

1. To leave his land and journey into the unknown
2. To descent into Egypt and find food during famine
3. To wage a war to rescue his nephew Lot
4. To divide animals in a mystic rite and submit to a vision of history

5. To perform Brit Milah (circumcision) on himself and others. In the first task he gives up childhood, the familiar, and takes his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all his belongings with him, including the "nefesh," the souls he has made. "Nefesh" may refer to the other people with him, or to the spiritual acquisition of a family, with all of its relationships.

Abram's journey to Egypt is for food. He wants to get out of Egypt alive, and is rewarded with riches. When he asks Sarai to pose as his sister, is he less than honest, seeking his own gain, much as an adolescent would be? He certainly is not "tamim" yet, but then he has not yet been asked to be. His concern seems to be making a name for himself, accepting the riches bestowed upon him by Pharaoh. This is Abram, no longer the child but the spiritual adolescent.

In the next stage, the adult Abram is victorious in war, but now he refuses any reward, taking not so much as a shoelace as payment, whereas before he was ready to accept huge gifts he had not earned.

The mature Abram is prepared for a mystical experience, a deep encounter with God between the split carcasses of the animals, dark, fiery, frightening. Abram is given a vision of what will happen to his descendants for generations to come. He is told he will die at an old age. At age 86, he is about to become a parent through Hagar.

And at age 99, God says to him, "I am God Almighty. Walk before me and be tamim," and Abram is given a change of name to Abraham, by the addition of the letter "hey," a letter from the Divine name.

He is qualified now to be "tamim." What is "tamim"? Perfect, pure, innocent, honest, whole? Abram has grown into Abraham, enough to attempt to fulfill God's word.

"Tamim" is plural. One cannot be "tamim" alone. It is only in relationship with God that one becomes "tamim." Everyday walking is done side by side, not standing before God as we do on Yom Kippur. If God is a conscious partner as we "walk the land," then our actions have a holy and joyous dimension. The result of this is like having an outside agent fixing something we cannot fix by ourselves.

At this time Abraham learns of the child promised through Sarah. When he learns she laughs: she will laugh. Is this the laughter of cynicism, or the laughter that comes out of the state of being "tamim?" If you hear, instead of cynicism, a cosmic, joyous laughter, you are hearing the "tamim."

Abraham is told to circumcise himself and the males of his household. How does being "tamim" relate to circumcision? Circumcision is considered a perfection, left for Abraham and his male progeny to fulfill in their pursuit of becoming "tamim."

How do we follow in the footsteps of Abraham and Sarah? We have to take our own journeys through childhood and adolescence, through adulthood toward maturity, and pray that God will bless us as well. We will not have the feeling of being "tamim" until we, too, have that connection to God.

(Wallis A. Chefitz is an occupational therapist and mother of three sons.)

**Deadline for the next issue
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to the Jewish community
to be published on
October 25th**

LOCAL

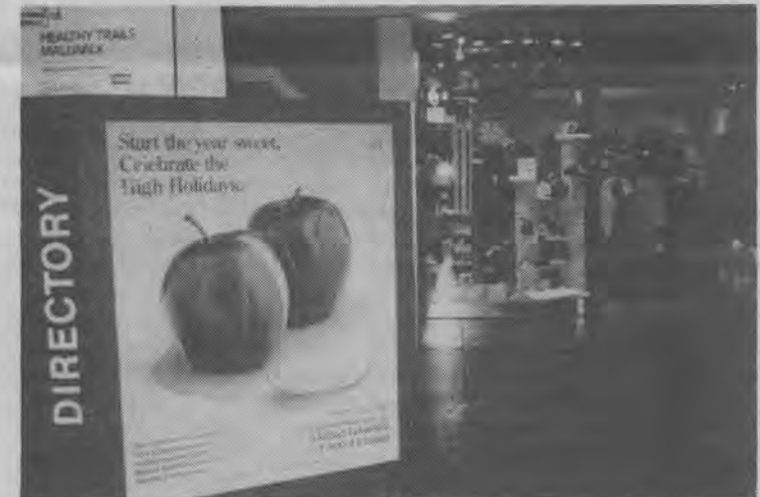
Sukkot on campus and in school



At left, students in the Albert Einstein Academy kindergarten eagerly await a turn to say the blessing over the lulav and esrog with Rabbi Vogel, Director of Chabad-Lubavitch of Delaware. Below, Jewish students at the University of Delaware celebrated Sukkot in Chabad's travelling "Sukkah-mobile." According to Vogel, over 100 students participated in the various stops around the campus.



Gentle reminder



Shoppers at the Concord Mall in North Wilmington were reminded of holiday dates and times by this sign sponsored by Chabad-Lubavitch of Delaware. The purpose of the sign was to "create awareness," according to Rabbi Chuni Vogel, director of the local Chabad House. The sign was also posted in the Dover Mall.

Tax savings with trusts

Recent tax reform measures have left taxpayers with almost no way in which to shift income to a lower-bracket taxpayer. The gap between the highest and lowest brackets is sharply reduced, unearned income over \$1000 of a child under 14 is now taxed at the parents' marginal rate and the Clifford Trust is virtually useless.

Trusts, however, still offer ways to effect income-tax savings even when children under 14 are involved.

Trusts also offer a way to reduce the impact of successive federal estate taxes. Two trusts that offer both income- and estate-tax savings are the charitable remainder trust and the donor pooled income fund. Each pays a life income to one or more beneficiaries. Then upon the death of the last beneficiary the trust property is distributed to a designated charitable organization.

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You need not be a millionaire to take advantage of the tax savings with trusts. For more information consult your tax advisor or call Connie Kreshool, Federation Endowment Director, at 478-6200.

Let Off Steam... Write a letter to the editor

LOCAL

Two Delawareans attend UJA conference

Pat Sloan and Toni Young, both of Wilmington, joined some 70 other women from eight neighboring states to attend the United Jewish Appeal's fourth annual Ruby Lion of Judah Event in Washington, DC, on September 26.

The day-long event began with briefings by members of the Israeli Embassy at the home of Israeli Ambassador Zalman Shoval and his wife, Kena Shoval. Michael Shiloh, Israeli Minister of Foreign Affairs, described the status of the peace conference negotiations, outlining those areas that had been previously agreed upon and those still under discussion, according to Young. Shiloh, she said, told the group that Israel expected to receive a letter of assurance from the United States in the near future and predicted that the peace conference would be underway by late October or early November.

Congressional liaison officer Judy Dranger met with the group to review the status of the ten billion dollar loan guarantee. Dranger told the women that congressional leaders believed they had the votes needed to override a veto by President Bush but chose, instead, to pull back the re-



Toni Young and Pat Sloan

quest in order to avoid a confrontation.

Delaware's Congressman Tom Carper was among 30 senators and congressmen who addressed the UJA group during a two-hour lunch meeting on Capitol Hill. According to Sloan and Young, Carper said he was ready to vote in favor of the loan guarantees. He reportedly told the group that he felt the United States had a moral obligation to assist now in the resettlement process after supporting the fight for years to free the Soviet Jews. Carter emphasized that "Jews should have the right to live anywhere in Israel," according to

Young. She said Carper also told the group that he had communicated with the president in an effort to try to understand Bush's reasons for asking for the delay.

Some of the other legislators who stated their positions in support of the loan guarantees were Senators Bradley (D-NJ), Kerry (D-MA), Dodd (D-CT), Lautenberg (D-NJ) and Spector (R-PA) and Representatives D'Amato (R-NY), Lowey (NY) and Mikulski (D-MD).

The day concluded with an address by Asher Naim, Israel's ambassador to Ethiopia. Naim gave a first-hand account of the dramatic rescue of Ethiopia's Jewish community last May.

With the needs of world Jewry discussed throughout the day, the participants expressed their commitment to Israel and their local communities by pledging a total of \$996,000 to the 1992 UJA annual campaign and \$250,000 to the continuing Operation Exodus campaign.

Sloan and Young agreed that the day was "exciting and informative." Young said she hoped other Delaware women would join them for the annual event next year.

Community-wide symposium on abortion held at JCC



Over 75 women from the Delaware Jewish community gathered at the Jewish Community Center (above) in Wilmington on Sunday, September 29, for the first program organized by the Jewish Women's Coalition. The program, entitled "Choice and the Jewish Woman," was chaired by Judy Goldbaum. Goldbaum explained that the Coalition is "not another membership organization, but a group made up of all of the Jewish women's organizations in the state." Its purpose is to provide community programs of special interest to women, to provide a more cohesive and educated community, to increase communication among the groups and to provide inservice and leadership training for presidents and officers of coalition-member organizations, she said. The group was organized, facilitated and staffed by the Jewish Federation of Delaware Women's Division under the guidance of the immediate past-president, Judy Topkis, and the current president, Jean Blumenfeld.

The panel of speakers on the subject of choice and reproductive rights were (top left) Dr. Susan Forster

(of OB-GYN Associates in Dover) and Marga Hirsch (member of the Board of Governors of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation); (bottom left) Connie Kreshtool (member of the Beth Emeth Congregation Board of Directors), Martha Macris (Executive Director of Planned Parenthood of Delaware), Nell Maier (an attorney with Bayard, Handelman and Murdoch, P.A.) and Aida Wasserman (an attorney with Wasserman and Demsey); and (bottom right) Susan Greenstein (of the Agenda for Delaware Women).

The panel discussion covered the religious, medical and legal aspects of the topic and was followed by a brief session on advocacy techniques, led by Greenstein. These techniques, she said, were most useful in reaching elected professionals. The audience participated with commentary and questions on various points.

Topkis said, the coalition "is looking forward to working within the community to provide further stimulating discussions of special interest to women."

The JCC was a co-sponsor of this event.



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LOCAL

Artist wants to strike a blow for fairness

By PAULA HAIT
Editor of The Jewish Voice

Who among us has not considered that the Postal Service is discriminating against all non-Christians when, during the Christmas season, it publishes stamps depicting messages of the holiday? It is seen by many as blatant discrimination. It is seen by one Washington, DC, area artist as anti-Semitism. And he's trying to do something about it.

So, when Avrum Ashery visits Wilmington next month as a guest lecturer at the Jewish Community Center, he is likely to tell this community not to blame him when the stamps they affix to their Hanukkah cards have a Christmas tree rather than a menorah printed on them. After all, he's done what he could.

In 1987, Ashery designed a Hanukkah stamp and submitted it for consideration to the 14-member citizens review committee of the Postal Service. It was swiftly and flatly turned down by the committee. And the artist is angry.

The reason given for the stamp design's rejection, according to Ashery, is that it avoids designs that honor specific religions because of the constitutionally-imposed separation of church and state. Why then, he asks, does the government agency issue Christmas stamps, annually including one depicting the Madonna and baby Jesus — a religious icon if ever there was one? For that matter, are a decorated evergreen and Santa Claus integral parts of any other

holiday than Christmas?

Ashery and his supporters have no good answers. So they keep pushing.

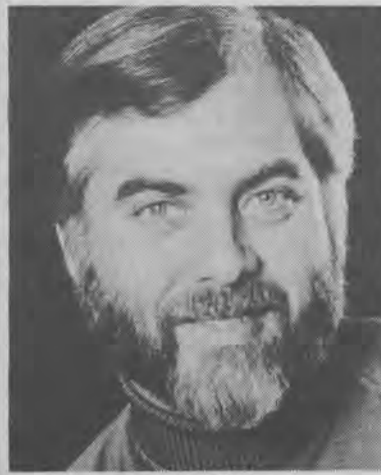
The artist is a strong believer in the concept that a picture is worth a thousand words. And on that score, he has a bone to pick with American Jewish organizations: they just don't understand the importance and po-



tential impact of visual arts, he says.

Ashery cites as examples the negative perceptions of Israel conveyed in media images of, for example, the West Bank. Jewish groups, he complains, generally respond with lengthy reports in full-page ads in major newspapers. "These groups devote little or no effort to the media to educate the American public to the Israeli position."

He is on a mission to convince Jewish organizations to include art in the communications and campaigns. "Communications is not a high priority for Jewish organizations," Ashery feels. "We have many issues we want understood, but our attempts to explain them are failures. There are many tools available to us. An op-



Avrum Ashery

ed piece does not communicate effectively."

The simple graphic Ashery created for the Hanukkah stamp, is a good example of how he would like to see messages presented. The design contains a lamp, flame and the words "Freedom of Religion." His design is meant to set the record straight on Hanukkah, he maintains, which is always seen as a "Jewish Christmas." The holiday is minor,

Will address local community next month

Ashery says, but it is a commemoration of the first struggle recorded in history for religious freedom.

So, not only does Ashery want to commemorate the ancient Jewish holiday, but, equally important to him, he wanted to strike a blow for fairness today. A fairness, it seems, that he is not being given.

Representatives of the post office have explained that the stamps are seasonal rather than religious. "If we did issue a stamp for Hanukkah, we would have to issue a stamp for every religion," Ashery has been told. That would suit the Jewish artist just fine, he says, because it would teach people about other faiths.

Apparently, another reason the panel gives for the rejection is "a consideration of what would sell." According to Marilyn Millstone, one of the supporters of Ashery's efforts, the money issue has been a real "snag." According to newspaper reports, Millstone was told by a

member of the advisory committee that the belief is that a Hanukkah stamp would not pay for itself.

According to *Moment* magazine, a monthly magazine on Jewish life and issues, Hanukkah is the 11th most popular card-sending holiday in this country. The magazine reported about 11 million Hanukkah cards mailed annually.

Stories about Ashery's campaign to publish the Hanukkah stamp have appeared in numerous Jewish newspapers across the country and in *The New York Times*. And he has gotten a lot of mail from people who would like to be able to mail their Hanukkah cards with stamps that do not have a Christmas theme. Their 1991 cards will be mailed without the Hanukkah lamp. But support is mounting for the Jewish holiday stamp. And Ashery hasn't given up.

Avrum Ashery's work will be on display and for sale in the Jewish Community Center's Art Gallery from November 10 through 30. The controversial artist will speak at the JCC on Sunday, November 10, at 11:30 a.m. The lecture is free and open to the community.

Kristallnacht program at UofD will explore black-Jewish relations

The Hillel Student Center at the University of Delaware, the Center for Black Culture and Temple Beth El in Newark are the co-sponsors of a program on prejudice to be presented next month on the University of Delaware campus. Scheduled for Sunday, November 10, from 1 to 4 p.m., in the Student Activities Building's Ewing Room, Kristallnacht Commemoration — Building Bridges for the Future will feature two speakers and will include discussion groups.

Dr. Leon Bass, a black Christian American who helped liberate the Buchenwald death camp at the end of World War II, will deliver the

opening address. Bass will compare and contrast prejudice against Jews and blacks.

Dr. Mary Johnson, of the program entitled Facing History and Ourselves, will then share written material about the Holocaust, including the testimony of survivors.

Following the speakers, the audience will be divided into smaller groups to discuss such issues as: How is an environment of mass conformity and racism created? Why and how did some individuals defy the power of the state despite the dangers? and What are the consequences of avoidance, denial and distortion of



Dr. Leon Bass

history to society? Along with Bass and Johnson, two university professors — Dr. Vivian Klaff, a Jewish South African, and Dr. Sara Horowitz, Director of the Judaic Studies Program — will lead these discussions.

The objective, according to Hillel Director Ruth Kershner, "will be to teach an understanding of prejudice as it pertained to the Holocaust as well as a more universalist view of prejudice and persecution, to open dialogue between Jews and blacks on campus, and to develop positive interactions." She said the program is also meant to "create an awareness for the Jewish students regarding the impact their history has on their lives today."

This program is open at no cost to the entire community, Jewish and non-Jewish. All Jewish students and faculty as well as the Black Student Union and the Center for Black Culture will be invited. For more information, call the Hillel office at 453-0479.

Levin honored by JNF



Alan B. Levin (left), President of Happy Harry's, Inc., was honored last month by the Maryland/Delaware Region of the Jewish National Fund. At a dinner held in his honor, Levin was presented with the JNF Tree of Life Award for his "dedication to the community and the State of Israel." Presenting the award is Packy Nespeca, Senior Vice President, Corporate Trade Development, American Greetings Corporation.

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Announcements/Events on page 19

NATIONAL

Polish cardinal served with papers for defamation suit

NEW YORK (JTA) — Rabbi Avi Weiss was successful late last month in serving court papers for defamation and libel on Cardinal Jozef Glemp of Poland. The papers were served September 25 in Albany by a court officer as the Polish primate left a cathedral in the New York state capital.

The suit was filed in Supreme Court, which in New York state is a trial court, rather than the highest appellate court.

The charges against Glemp are based on a homily he gave in August 1989, in which he accused Weiss and accompanying Jewish activists of trying to kill nuns living at a Carmelite convent situated on the site of the Auschwitz death camp. The cardinal also accused the activists of trying to destroy the convent, and his speech was laced with references to Jews getting Polish peasants drunk, introducing communism to Poland and controlling the world news media.

Weiss's attorney, Alan Dershowitz, called the suit "really quite historical." In a telephone conversation from his office at Harvard Law School,



Jewish-American protesters turned up at every appearance by Polish Cardinal Glemp during his tour of the United States. (Photo: RNS)

Dershowitz said it was "the first time ever that a cardinal has been sued by a rabbi for defamation relating to anti-Semitic statements."

He said the suit has "an airtight jurisdictional base," particularly because on Sept. 18, Glemp gave an interview to the Polish press in which he reiterated his 1989 remarks, claiming his statements were supported by

literature and sociological research. "Now he has an opportunity to summon those historians and sociologists, to see if they will back up his statements. He also has to explain to the American court why he falsely accused Rabbi Weiss, when he knew they were coming for a peaceful prayer vigil," said Dershowitz.

He said Glemp has "no immunity

whatsoever," despite his high clerical office and citizenship of another country.

The summons gives Glemp 20 days to answer the charges in an American court. "In case of failure to answer, judgment will be taken by default for the relief demanded," said Dershowitz. "If we get the default, we will then enforce it in a Polish court," he said.

Weiss is not seeking monetary award. Money awarded in the case would be donated to charity, the rabbi said. "We would be satisfied if he issued a full and complete retraction that was widely circulated in Poland, as his original remarks were circulated in Poland and throughout the world," said Dershowitz.

"And while he is at it," he added, "it would be nice for him to retract his statements about Jews causing alcoholism and communism. It's one thing for him to say he is not an anti-Semite, but to in the same breath blame all of Poland's ills on Jews certainly incites anti-Semitism."

The lawsuit in a U.S. court was

enabled by the distribution by Glemp's office of copies of his offensive speech. "He knowingly made it in



Cardinal Jozef Glemp

front of the world press. So under New York law, he knew, or should have known, that his statements would be published in New York," Dershowitz said.

When the court officer served Glemp with the papers on September 25, the cardinal unsuccessfully tried not to accept them, said Weiss, who watched the proceedings from around the corner. The court officer walked right up to him and tucked it right under his arm, said Weiss. "The cardinal said 'No, no, no, no,' but the court officers said, 'Yes, yes, yes yes,'" the rabbi recounted.

Weiss said the paper dropped from his arm but was retrieved by an accompanying priest.

Momentum building for repeal of Zionism resolution

By JACKIE ROTHENBERG

NEW YORK (JTA) — Momentum for repealing the 1975 U.N. General Assembly resolution denigrating Zionism as racism has been picking up steam, buoyed by President Bush's recent endorsement.

Sixteen years after it surfaced, the resolution remains on the books at the United Nations as a constant reminder of the challenge to Israel's very existence.

The Bush administration has been voicing its commitment toward repeal since December 1989. That commitment was reinforced last week, when John Bolton, assistant secretary of state for international organization affairs, said the administration was pushing for a vote during the current General Assembly session.

While Bush called for the repeal in his September 23 address to the General Assembly, he did not specify a timetable for pursuing such action. In meetings October 3 with members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and the World Jewish Congress, Bolton said the administration is "ready to go" and is intent on

pursuing a repeal before the end of the current session, according to Malcolm Hoenlein, executive director of the Conference of Presidents.

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the WJC, said no "magic date" surfaced, but that Bolton noted the possibility of introducing a repeal resolution on November 10, which would have symbolic meaning in that it is the date the Zionism resolution passed in 1975. Steinberg said that, according to Bolton, the only factor that would keep the administration from pursuing a repeal this session would be a determination that it did not have the votes to win.

Bolton told the Jewish leaders that the United States is seeking a broad-based geographical group of countries to co-sponsor the measure, including nations that have previously opposed Israel on this topic.

In his remarks before the General Assembly, the president said the standing resolution negates the ability of the United Nations to function as a peace-seeking body.

"To equate Zionism with racism is to reject Israel itself," Bush said. "This

body cannot claim to seek peace and at the same time challenge Israel's right to exist."

The resolution, among the most controversial adopted by the General Assembly, characterizes Zionism as "a form of racism and racial discrimination."

Some world leaders taking the rostrum at the General Assembly have followed Bush's lead in calling for repeal. The Israelis got an additional boost last month when the Soviets announced their support of such an effort.

But Egypt, Israel's only ally among the Arab states, continues to reject the notion.

When Levy and Egyptian Foreign Minister Amre Moussa emerged together from a meeting at the United Nations October 3, Moussa was asked about the resolution and responded that the issue was not before the General Assembly at this point. Moussa said "this is not the time" for Egypt to act on it, reflecting the position he has taken that the confrontational nature of a debate on the resolution could jeopardize the peace process.

In Jerusalem, Israeli Prime Minis-

ter Yitzhak Shamir said last week that by opposing the move to rescind the resolution during preparations for a peace conference, Egypt is maintaining an "anti-peace atmosphere" that runs counter to the effort.

And in Los Angeles, the Simon Wiesenthal Center charged that Egypt is "actively working to thwart" efforts to rescind the resolution. In a telephone interview, Rabbi Abraham Cooper, the center's associate dean, questioned the feasibility of Arab leaders sitting across the negotiating table from Israelis while at the same supporting a resolution that "legitimizes anti-Semitism."

The question of support for the resolution's repeal is a "litmus test" of whether the Arabs are serious about peace, Cooper said, adding that the Egyptians are the most pivotal players in the Arab world.

Cooper maintained that siding with Israel on this issue would cost the Arabs nothing in terms of economics, political standing or negotiating power.

Loan guarantee action delayed

By DAVID FRIEDMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA) — An amendment to provide Israel with U.S. guarantees for \$10 billion in immigrant resettlement loans was introduced October 2 in the Senate, but it will not be acted upon until January. Sens. Robert Kasten (R-Wis.) and Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) thereby agreed to President Bush's demand that the legislation be delayed until next year so as not to harm the chances of convening a Middle East peace conference later this month.

Kasten told the Senate that the decision was worked out as a compromise between senators and the Bush administration. The deal "keeps faith with 350,000 Soviet and Ethiopian refugees," while avoiding a clash between Congress and the administration, he said. "I believe that

America will uphold this commitment to Israel and to millions of refugees who have looked to us for hope for over 45 years," he said.

By introducing the amendment with 70 co-sponsors, Kasten and Inouye put the president on notice that they have more than the 67 votes needed to override a presidential veto.

Bush threatened to veto the legislation if it was not postponed. He later said he would support loan guarantees eventually, although not necessarily for the full \$10 billion.

The president has denied that his request for a delay was linked with Israel's policy of continuing to build Jewish settlements in the West Bank, which the administration has called "an obstacle to peace." But Bush is expected to demand conditions for his support of the guarantees, per-

haps even a freeze on settlements.

Tom Dine, executive director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, expressed gratitude for the strong backing that the Kasten-Inouye measure received in the Senate. "We are extremely pleased with the overwhelming bipartisan support in the Congress for securing the refugee guarantees," he said.

Kasten said he and Inouye will continue to work on the proposal to provide the guarantees to Israel so it can settle the new immigrants. He stressed that the guarantees are not a grant to Israel, but assurances to private banks that if they loan the money to Israel, the U.S. government will assure that the loans are repaid.

"Under our loan guarantee bill, the U.S. taxpayer will not be sending any funds to subsidize Israeli housing," he stressed.

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NATIONAL

New Supreme Court term may see church-state separation redefined

By DAVID FRIEDMAN
WASHINGTON (JTA) — Jewish groups concerned with maintaining a strict separation between church and state in America are fearful that the U.S. Supreme Court may lower the constitutional barriers to governmental involvement in religion during its 1991-92 term, which opened Monday. They are carefully eyeing court action on a Rhode Island case, which they fear could seriously weaken the clause of the First Amendment that bars government establishment of religion, in the same way that the court last year weakened the clause guaranteeing free exercise of religion.

Orthodox groups, on the other hand, are looking forward to such a move as a way of bolstering their long-fought campaign for government aid to parochial schools.

The case in question, *Lee vs. Weisman*, on which the court will hear oral argument November 6, is a seemingly innocuous one involving whether prayers can be allowed at public school graduation exercises. The Providence (R.I.) School Committee has asked the high court to reverse a decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals in Boston, which ruled that a rabbi's benediction during a 1989 Providence middle school commencement was an unconstitutional advancement of religion.

The suit against the school board was filed by Daniel Weisman, a professor at Rhode Island College, whose daughter, Deborah, was one of the graduates. While his family is Jewish, Weisman maintained that non-Jewish students might have been offended by the prayer, in which God

was mentioned.

Weisman complained three years earlier, when his older daughter, Merith, graduated from the same school, because a commencement speaker thanked Jesus for the students' accomplishments.

The American Jewish Congress, the American Jewish Committee the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council have joined in a friend-of-the-court brief supporting Weisman.

The Orthodox position is in a brief filed by COLPA, the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs, which asks the Supreme Court to overturn the appellate decision.

While both sides differ on whether the commencement prayer should be allowed, they agree that this is not their major concern in the case. What is important for both sides is whether the ruling will do away with the so-called Lemon test, used for two decades to determine whether a public religious practice constitutes an unconstitutional establishment of religion.

The test, established in the Supreme Court's 1971 *Lemon vs. Kurtzman* ruling, says that in order to be considered constitutional, such a religious practice "must have a secular purpose"; "it's principal or primary purpose must be one that neither advances nor inhibits religion"; and it must not foster an "excessive entanglement with religion."

COLPA supports the position of the Bush administration, which wants a new test asking whether anyone who does not want to participate in a religious practice feels coerced into

doing so. "We welcome a re-evaluation" of the Lemon test, said David Zwiebel, general consul for Agudath Israel of America. "We think that the Lemon test often led to inequitable and nonsensical decisions."

But Marc Stern, co-director of the AJCongress Commission on Law and Social Action, said abandoning the Lemon test would be a "sea change and the end of an era." He said it would obliterate the separation of church and state.

"Lemon vs. Kurtzman is a pretty good test and draws an intelligent line on what is permissible and what is not," said Samuel Rabinove, legal director for the AJCommittee. "Those unhappy with it want to have more intrusion by the government in religion." Rabinove said the opponents of the Lemon test see it as a bar to school prayer, parochial aid and the setting up of religious symbols, such as creches and menorahs, on public property. He said many church-state cases are not being brought to the Supreme Court until the decision in *Lee vs. Weisman* comes down.

Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas was questioned about his views on Lemon during his Senate confirmation hearing, as was Justice David Souter last year. Both indicated general support while acknowledging the test has problems.

The split this year between secular and Orthodox Jewish groups is a change from last year, when they were united in opposing the court's erosion of the "free-exercise clause" of the First Amendment, in the so-called "peyote case," *Oregon vs. Smith*. In that ruling, the court ended

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U.S. Jews' attitudes have shifted to right

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
NEW YORK (JTA) — American Jewish attitudes toward Israel's security needs and the Middle East peace process have shifted noticeably to the right in the aftermath of the Persian Gulf War, according to the results of a study released October 3 by the American Jewish Committee. While American Jews still seem to have more positive views about dovish Israeli leaders than hawkish ones, they are more wary of the Palestine Liberation Organization, less inclined to support territorial compromise and more in favor of expanding Jewish settlements in the West Bank, the study found.

The study was conducted by Steven Cohen, a professor of sociology at Queens College, for AJCommittee's Institute on American Jewish-Israeli Relations. He analyzed the results of a survey sent by mail in July and August to a cross-section of 1,159 Jewish respondents nationwide. The survey is the seventh in a series of studies on American Jewish opinion that the AJCommittee institute has conducted since 1983.

Comparing the data from this summer's survey with the last one, taken two years ago, Cohen found that Jewish responses to several of the same questions had hardened. For instance, the share of respondents agreeing that the PLO is "determined to destroy Israel" increased from 62 percent in 1989 to 83 percent this summer. Two years ago, 30 percent of respondents said they

were "not sure" how to respond to that question; this year, only 13 percent could not make up their minds.

Similarly, while 38 percent of respondents in the 1989 survey agreed, and 30 percent disagreed, that Israel should exchange territory in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for "credible guarantees" of peace from the Arabs, this year the margin shrank to a bare plurality of 35 percent in favor and 34 percent opposed.

Moreover, slightly more American Jews now favor expansion of Jewish settlements in the West Bank than those opposing it. Whereas 35 percent opposed expansion in 1989 and 25 percent favored it, the latest poll puts the margin at 30 percent in favor to 29 percent against.

Concern that Israel's continued administration of the territories is eroding the Jewish state's democratic and humanitarian character has also diminished.

While 30 percent of American Jews surveyed expressed that concern in 1988, after the Palestinian uprising had begun and was featured prominently in the news headlines, the number decreased to 26 percent a year later and fell to a mere 14 percent this summer, in the aftermath of the Gulf war.

This year's survey asked a number of question specifically designed to gauge the war's impact on Jewish public opinion. When asked, nearly a quarter of the respondents, 24 percent, said the war had changed their opinions regarding "Israel's political

and security situation." Of those whose minds were changed, 11 percent said they were more hawkish regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict, while 4 percent said they were more dovish.

Thirteen percent said they were less in favor of Israel making compromises with the Arabs, while 8 percent said they were more in favor.

The responses, according to sociologist Cohen, indicate that "in the world of public opinion, moderation begets moderation, and extremism begets extremism. In July 1991, American Jews were perceiving the Arab world as much more threatening than they'd seen it before."

Cohen, who spoke at a news conference called to announce his findings, said, "Heightened threat and vulnerability are accompanied by more hard-line attitudes; diminished threat and diminished vulnerability, even if only hypothetical, generate a greater willingness to support Israeli compromise."

A plurality of 41 percent of American Jews surveyed this year said the United States should continue to urge Israel to adopt a more flexible stance toward the Arabs. Thirty-seven percent said the United States should not, and 22 percent were not sure. But a full 80 percent of the respondents said they were opposed to threats to reduce U.S. foreign aid to Israel unless the Jewish state adopts a more flexible stance toward the Arabs, and 54 percent said Washington should stop criticizing Israel for

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NATIONAL

More Jewish groups urging freeze on settlement in territories

By DAVID FRIEDMAN
WASHINGTON (JTA) — An increasing number of American Jewish leaders and organizations, mainly on the political left, are publicly urging Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to announce a freeze on building and expanding settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The latest to do so is Project Nishma, an organization of some 100 influential Jewish communal leaders that aims to educate the public about Israel's security needs and the Middle East peace process.

A statement issued October 2 by Project Nishma's 10-member executive board urged a temporary freeze "in the interest of larger national goals: immigrant absorption, a stronger economy and progress toward security and peace." It said that Shamir should announce the freeze and "state that the moratorium will be extended if Arab states and the Palestinians respond with reciprocal actions and commence good faith bilateral negotiations."

Project Nishma's board includes a former chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Theodore Mann of Philadelphia; two former chairpersons of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, Jacqueline Levine of MetroWest, N.J., and Michael Pelavin of Flint, Mich.; and a former president of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, Edward Sanders of Los Angeles, who also served as White House liaison to the Jewish commu-

100 Jewish leaders have asked Shamir for a temporary moratorium

nity in the Carter administration. On October 3, some 50 members of Americans for Peace Now fanned out on Capitol Hill to urge members of Congress to speak out in support of a settlement freeze while backing Israel's request for U.S. guarantees covering \$10 billion in immigrant resettlement loans.

The Project Nishma statement also stressed the importance of the loan guarantees for the absorption of Soviet and Ethiopian Jews in Israel. "President Bush should refrain from divisive rhetoric and make a commitment, in principle, to provide loan guarantees for immigrant absorption," the statement said.

Project Nishma said that if Shamir introduces a moratorium, "the prime minister can count on the enthusiastic support of the vast majority of Israelis and Diaspora Jews."

The Peace Now group also sponsored a panel discussion October 3, during which the group's Israeli spokeswoman, Hebrew University Professor Galia Golan, pointed out that every recent poll shows that the overwhelming majority of Israelis, including Likud voters, support a freeze on settlements. She said that the opposition to settlement-building is motivated less by ideology than by anger at the funds being used in the territories at a time when the rest of Israel is suffering economic burdens. David Cohen, co-director of the

Americans for Peace Now's Center for Israeli Peace and Security, said members of Congress must learn that there is support for a settlement freeze in the Jewish community. Representatives and senators must be able to speak out publicly without losing campaign support in the Jewish

community.

That Jewish leaders are beginning to speak out publicly, not just privately, can be seen in a recent article by Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, in which he stressed that Israel must face the present reality in the United States. "There is no doubt that the American Jewish community will do its part to maintain support for Israel and to see that assistance to Israel is

achieved," Foxman wrote.

But he warned Israel that "to think that the administration and the president, who has always taken personally Israel's continuing settlements, will not use this unique moment to exert their influence is to fool oneself."

Foxman said Israel will have to choose whether the loan guarantees are more important than the current settlement policy.

Bill would ban Pentagon contracts to foreign firms supporting boycott

By DAVID FRIEDMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The American Jewish Congress is urging a Senate-House conference committee to adopt an amendment to the defense appropriations bill denying military contracts to foreign companies that adhere to the Arab League boycott against Israel.

The amendment, introduced by Sen. Timothy Wirth (D-Colo.), was adopted September 26 by the Senate, which voted 99-0. The House bill approving Defense Department appropriations for 1992 did not contain the provision, and the conference committee must now resolve differences between the House and Senate versions.

In a letter to the members of the conference committee, AJCongress points out that the provision would

"eliminate or reduce the advantage foreign firms now enjoy over their American competitors subject to the U.S. boycott laws and would weaken the impact of the odious boycott law."

The letter was signed by Will Maslow, AJCongress general counsel and editor of its monthly newsletter *Boycott Report*, and Mark Pelavin, the organization's Washington representative.

Wirth said that while the Arab primary and secondary boycotts "have been a shackle on the Israeli economy," the secondary boycott also has meant economic losses for American firms that trade with Israel. "The very government that enforces anti-boycott legislation for its own American companies should not be in the business of rewarding foreign companies that comply with the boy-

cott by allowing them to receive government contracts," the senator said.

The Wirth amendment would deny Pentagon contracts over \$25,000 to foreign companies that comply with the secondary boycott of Israel. The firms would have to certify that they are not complying with the Arab boycott when bidding for a contract.

The amendment was co-sponsored by Sens. Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.), Harris Wofford (D-Pa.), Paul Simon (D-Ill.), Arlen Specter (R-Pa.) and Connie Mack (R-Fla.).

Wirth and Rep. Sam Gejdenson (D-Conn.) introduced legislation in July to require foreign firms bidding for any U.S. government contract to certify they are not complying with the Arab boycott. The legislation is awaiting action in the Senate Government Affairs Committee.

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NATIONAL

Democratic presidential contenders mostly pro-Israel

By DAVID FRIEDMAN
WASHINGTON (JTA) — Most of the candidates seeking the Democratic nomination for the presidency in 1992 have strong pro-Israel records. But there is still a question mark about Sen. Robert Kerrey of Nebraska, who announced his candidacy last week, and who pundits are already calling the Democratic front-runner.

While Kerrey has supported Israel in the Senate, the former Nebraska

governor is not considered in the forefront of the pro-Israel lawmakers. And he is not among the majority of senators who have agreed to co-sponsor legislation that would provide Israel with guarantees for \$10 billion loans for immigrant resettlement.

Former Sen. Paul Tsongas of Massachusetts, who until recently was the only announced Democratic loan guarantees into a personal fight with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak

Shamir.

"What I don't understand is why he has gone out of his way to pick this fight," Tsongas was quoted by the *Atlanta Journal* as saying after he met with former President Jimmy Carter in Georgia on September 16. "No Arab state has made this a major issue," he said.

Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa had been critical of Bush's treatment of Israel even before he announced his candidacy September 8.

Harkin has argued that before the United States agreed to lead the military coalition to drive Iraq out of Kuwait, Washington should have gotten a promise from the Arab countries that after the war they would recognize Israel, end their economic boycott and begin negotiations with the Jewish state.

He has said that it is the Arab candidate, has accused President Bush of turning Israel's request for

refusal to take these steps that is the obstacle to peace and not, as the Bush administration has said, Jewish settlements in the West Bank. He has also repeatedly said that the United States should support Israel and not try to be even-handed in the Middle East.

The two governors in the race, Douglas Wilder of Virginia, who announced earlier this month, and Bill Clinton of Arkansas, who is expected to enter the race, have records of reaching out to the Jewish communities in their states.

Wilder, the first black to be elected governor since Reconstruction, has particularly sought to contrast himself with the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who is not considered supportive of Israel. Jackson has not yet ruled out making a third effort at the Democratic nomination.

Both Wilder and Clinton have supported aid for Israel. Clinton was critical of Bush's request for delaying

the loan guarantees until next year.

Former Gov. Jerry Brown of California, who has said he will enter the race, was considered a supporter of Israel while governor and during his unsuccessful attempt at the presidency in 1976.

Another announced candidate is Larry Agran, the former mayor of Irvine, Calif., who is Jewish. Agran entered the race when his first choice, former Sen. George McGovern, who lost to Richard Nixon in 1972, said he will not make another try. Agran said he wants to stress in his campaign the problems faced by the cities and towns.

The positions of the candidates on Israel will be made clearer as the race gets under way. But the candidates, facing a president who has high marks on foreign policy, are expected to stress domestic issues, which the Democrats charge have been neglected during the 11 years of the Reagan and Bush administrations.

Israeli requests for loan guarantees not posed as provocation, Levy says

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
NEW YORK (JTA) — Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy expressed frustration last week at the way the Bush administration's disagreement with Israel over its request for U.S. loan guarantees has been framed as an estrangement between the two governments.

Levy, speaking here to members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said that the request for guarantees covering \$10 billion in loans "should not be posed as a kind of provocation against the president of the United States." He said, "We haven't sinned against anybody" with our request. "These are but guarantees. We should repeat it over and over again. This is not a present. These are funds we're going to pay back. Why did they have to put it in

such a manner? Only God knows the answer," he said emotionally.

"We don't want to go head to head with friends like the United States," he added.

The foreign minister was alternately angry and conciliatory, first protesting that President Bush is making new demands of Israel, in advance of the peace conference slated for later this month, and then urging that tensions between the Bush and Shamir administrations "be played down."

"We hope that this wave will somehow pass. We must act together in order that relations between the two countries not be undermined," Levy said. "We ought not to create a situation where Israel is enfeebled" by preconditions, he said. "This would drive peace away. Israel and the United States, standing together, are

a guarantee for Israel's strength and peace."

The foreign minister expressed bewilderment that Bush had reportedly changed his mind about backing the loan guarantees because of Jewish settlement in the administered territories, when the Likud government's position promoting such efforts is nothing new.

"This is not really a provocative step when we are doing these things," he maintained. The Shamir government "is very well defined. We know its identity, we know its platform. Is it suddenly something new that turned out?" The Bush administration's attitude toward the Israelis' position on settlements "is strange," he said, adding that it should not be a critical issue for the American administration, especially before the peace conference even convenes.

"We don't want the American administration to support Israeli policy or to deny its own positions. These issues should be brought to the negotiating table with the Arabs," Levy said.

"We'll discuss these issues among the different parties" participating in the peace conference, Levy said. "We are not going to negotiate with the Arabs the American position. This must be remembered."

Levy also said that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker had agreed that during peace negotiations, Israel could define U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 "the way it feels fit." The resolution calls on Israel to return territory seized in the Six-Day war, in exchange for Arab recognition of its right to exist. "Everyone has the right to interpret this in his own way," Levy added firmly.

If, as the American administration insists and the Israeli administration demands, there are no prior conditions to a peace conference, why should settlements in the territories be viewed as a provocation? Levy queried. "Mr. Baker told me that the Arab states have claimed it is up to Israel to stop the settlements before the convening of the conference. He has told me he has rejected it," the foreign minister said. "If this is being said by the secretary of state, who do we hurt, really?"

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INTERNATIONAL

German police seem helpless in face of neo-Nazi violence

By DAVID KANTOR

BONN (JTA) — Scenes reminiscent of the Hitler era are occurring in Germany, with intensive violence by neo-Nazis and Skinheads leading to injuries and, last month, even death.

In one of several attacks against foreigners in Germany, an African asylum-seeker was killed and two others seriously injured September 19, in a fire attack on a hostel in Saarlouis, a town in the Saarland near the French border. The hostel, which housed some 30 asylum-seekers, was badly damaged. No arrests have been made in that case.

The same hostel was attacked recently, but all inhabitants had had ample warning to evacuate before that assault. Saarlouis has seen several neo-Nazi attacks recently.

And another furious assault took place September 21 in Hoyerswerda, in former East Germany, close to Poland. It, too, was the latest of a series of attacks in the same town.

In the most recent attack, another heavily guarded hostel housing foreigners was attacked by neo-Nazis. Hundreds of townspeople cheered them on. Five refugees were injured, two of them seriously, in that assault. There were 16 arrests.

On September 22, police in Hoyerswerda evacuated about 60 foreigners from the hostel as a protective measure. More than 20 people have been hurt in Hoyerswerda, and property damage there has been estimated at \$1.3 million.

Attacks on foreigners seeking political asylum have also been reported in Hamburg and Stuttgart, both in former West Germany. In suburbs near Dresden, police barely prevented attacks on two other hostels for foreigners.

On September 22, a convoy of human rights activists came from Berlin to demonstrate solidarity with the Hoyerswerda refugees, but found most of them too frightened to stay. "There is no place for us in Germany," one evacuee said. "This is a dangerous place for non-Germans."

The peril has been greatest in former East Germany where neo-Nazi groups apparently enjoy wide popular support and sometimes even get help from local police chiefs. Such

conditions were commonplace in Germany in the early 1930s. Even before Hitler came to power, brown-shirt thugs beat up Jews, leftists and others on the streets, while bystanders applauded or looked away.

But it seems to observers that the government's current response to the situation has been to try to mollify the neo-Nazis instead of cracking down on them.



A protester kneels in front of the riot police in Hoyerswerda, Germany, to show his desire to peacefully demonstrate against racism. (Photo: RNS)

Late last month, Interior Minister Wolfgang Schauble urged the opposition Social Democratic Party, to support government legislation that would drastically limit the entry of foreigners into the country. It is the only way to prevent the escalation of hatred against them, he pleaded.

In August, the government rejected proposals by the Jewish community to tune up the legal machinery to deal swiftly with neo-Nazi violence. The proposals were repeated by Heinz Galinski, the Jewish community chairman, in the aftermath of the latest violence in Hoyerswerda.

The heat is apparently on. On September 23, the German government issued a statement condemn-

ing the violence, but blamed it largely on the legacy of communism in former East Germany. Spokesman Dieter Vogel told reporters, "The German government strongly condemns the riots against foreigners that occurred...It needs to be taken into account that attacks by radical right-wing groups on asylum-seekers in the former German Democratic Republic have their roots in 40 years

of SPD policy. However, there cannot be the slightest acceptance of violence directed against foreigners. The German government feels there is an urgent need to reach an agreement on asylum policy as soon as possible."

On September 19, Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the state premiers held a meeting on the issue. They agreed that the situation had to be addressed. Since that meeting, far more violence has transpired, confirming their statements. The various political parties have agreed to counteract the right-wing violence. However, the German government also called for the asylum-seekers to return to their countries of origin.

Neo-Nazi party fares well at polls

BONN (JTA) — The unexpected electoral success of a neo-Nazi party in the September 29 local elections has added to the deep concern felt throughout the country over the escalation of right-wing violence against immigrants and other foreign refugees.

The German Peoples Union, or DVU, headed by anti-Semitic publisher Gerhard Frey, polled 6.3 percent of the popular vote in Bremen, enough to win its first seats in the legislature of that northern German city-state. Frey is editor and publisher of the Munich-based *National Zeitung*, which has been largely dedicated to attempts to prove the Holocaust never occurred.

Neo-Nazi and extreme right-wing fringe parties have flourished briefly in past local elections, only to fade from the political scene. The Republican Party, led by a former Nazi SS officer, was a recent example.

But the DVU's showing in Bremen

has political observers troubled, because it can be linked to the influx of refugees, many from the Third World, an issue that has polarized Germans since their country was unified a year ago.

Some commentators have likened the wave of violence against foreigners to the hatred of Jews that flared when the Third Reich was formed. Rita Sussmuth, speaker of the Bundestag, Germany's lower house of Parliament, said last week that these attacks "reawaken fears" that "are nourished by our past."

Sussmuth and Henning Voscherau, mayor of Hamburg and president of the Bundesrat, the upper house, laid wreaths October 3 at the site of a former Nazi concentration camp in Neuengamme, near Hamburg.

Although Jewish institutions have not been targeted by the right-wing extremists, police in many cities have beefed up the protection of synagogues and other Jewish communal

buildings.

At least 30,000 asylum-seeking refugees entered Germany last month and, according to government estimates, immigration for the whole year may reach 200,000.

Significantly, much if not most of the violence against foreigners has occurred in former East Germany. (See related story on this page.)

Over the last weekend in September alone, neo-Nazi and Skinhead youths attacked hostels and other buildings housing foreigners in 20 German towns. A hostel for foreigners was attacked September 30 in Bad Honnef, just southwest of Bonn. It was repeatedly hit by lead balls, but no injuries were reported.

Quarters occupied by foreigners were set on fire in the town of Herford, southwest of Hanover. In Recklinghausen, near Dortmund, police arrested 15 people between the ages of 14 and 19 for violence against

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INTERNATIONAL

Slovak Jews keeping low profile as nationalist strife rages

By JOSEF KLANSKY
PRAGUE (JTA) — Jews in the Slovak half of Czechoslovakia seem to have become uneasy bystanders at

best and sometimes victims in the escalating battle between increasingly provocative Slovak separatists and federal authorities determined to hold the country together. The strident voices of the separatists, calling for dismemberment of the state, which only recently emerged from 40 years of Communist rule, has been accompanied by anti-Semitic graffiti and desecrations of Jewish cemeteries.

While it is pleased by President Vaclav Havel's unequivocal condemnation of anti-Semitic utterances and cemetery vandalism, the Slovak Jewish community seems most anxious to keep a low profile at this time.

Havel used his weekly television address September 29 to call on the former Slovak prime minister, Vladimir Meciar, to speak out against anti-Semitism and fascism and to condemn the anti-Jewish slogans on the walls of Slovak towns. Havel observed that while Meciar had no qualms about attacking Czech and Slovak politicians who do not share his extreme nationalist views, he has been reticent about racist outrages and vandalism in Slovakia.

The Czechoslovak president also spoke out against the prevailing nostalgia for the Nazi puppet state of Slovakia that existed from 1939 to 1945. It was the only instance in history of an independent Slovakia and owed its existence to Adolf Hitler, who selected a pro-Nazi Catholic priest, Jozef Tiso, to be its leader. Tiso, eventually executed as a war criminal, dutifully slaughtered and deported Slovakia's Jews.

Havel reminded Slovakia's politicians that Tiso's state was one of Hitler's defeated allies.

But he called repeatedly for a referendum on the issue of Slovak sov-

ereignty. Slovak politicians and political parties aiming for the dismemberment of the republic oppose a popular vote because they fear a majority of the population rejects their adventurism.

Robert Kardos, director of Slovakia's Union of Jewish Religious Communities, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that while fascist and anti-Semitic slogans are often shouted at demonstrations for Slovak independence, the leader of the separa-

list Slovak National Party, Jozef Prokes, apologized in the press for the cemetery desecrations. In addition, one of the most radical leaders of the nationalist party, Mayor Jan Slota of Zilina, has assured local Jewish leaders that he repudiates anti-Semitism.

Jews in Slovakia, nevertheless, feel uncomfortable in the prevailing political atmosphere. "We are being criticized by some people for not being more outspoken. But together

with the president of the Union of Jewish Communities, Juraj Reich, we believe that in the present turmoil, one would be well advised to act with restraint," Kardos said.

Lubavitchers get books

NEW YORK (JTA) — A three-judge panel of the Russian Supreme Court ruled last week that the Lenin Library in Moscow must turn over to the Chabad Lubavitch movement some 12,000 books that were confiscated by the Communists in 1916. The unanimous decision was obtained after a marathon of meetings between four Lubavitch rabbis and various Moscow bureaucrats.

But the order still remains to be issued in writing, cautioned Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky, spokesman for the Lubavitcher rebbe, Menachem Schneerson. That written decision was expected this week, he said.

In December, Russian President Boris Yeltsin agreed that the entire collection legally belongs to Chabad and should be returned to it. Since then, the four rabbis have been in Moscow trying, with the help of Moscow lawyer Veronica Irina, to recover possession of the books.

Following 10 months of wrangling with both Soviet and Russian officials, the rabbis were led to believe that they would finally be given the books the Friday before Rosh Hashanah. But after a day's waiting and seemingly countless last-minute discussions among various high-level officials, Culture Minister Nikolai Gubenko ordered that the books not be released.

Meanwhile, Lubavitch fears that books from the collection were being pilfered from the Lenin Library have been confirmed, Krinsky said. The fears arose when some Lubavitch books were found in the office of a man removed from his position following the aborted August coup.

And only a week ago, he said, several Hebrew books from a valuable 400-year-old collection were found by a librarian in a garbage can near the library. Putting books in the garbage is believed to be one method of surreptitiously removing books from the library. In this case, those stealing the books presumably hoped to sell them later.

According to Krinsky, one reason behind official reluctance to release the books may well be the fact that some of the books have been spirited away. "We won't know what is missing until we have the whole collection," he said.

Yugoslav Jews won't leave

ROME (JTA) — Despite Yugoslavia's raging civil war, Jews in the breakaway republic of Croatia are rejecting offers to be evacuated. Although the fighting and accompanying tensions have disrupted their spiritual and communal life, and threatened bodily harm and property damage, Jews in Croatia are going to stick it out, according to Srdjan Matic, executive vice president of the Jewish Community in Zagreb, the Croatian capital.

"This kind of mass evacuation is completely unrealistic," Matic told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency by telephone October 1.

The offer to evacuate Yugoslavia's estimated 6,000 Jews to Israel was made last month by the Jewish Agency for Israel. Particularly steadfast are the Jews of Osijek, a Croatian town especially hard-hit by the fighting. Matic reported that the Jews in Osijek are no different than their countrymen, saying, "This is our city. We will stay here and share the fate with our neighbors."

About 200 Jews live in and around Osijek, a town whose Jews were massacred during the Holocaust. Matic said that the Jewish community leadership knows of no Jews who have been killed or injured to date.

Some Jewish families in the area of Osijek have joined thousands of non-Jews fleeing the war zone into neighboring Hungary, said Matic. But the number of Croatian Jews departing for Israel is lower than usual, he said.

There are about 2,000 Jews in the republic, which has seceded from Yugoslavia and is fighting for independence. The 1,200 Jews who live in Zagreb have suffered severe hardship.

"This situation is very difficult," Matic told JTA. "We could not hold religious services on Yom Kippur and Sukkot in Zagreb because of air raids. Some of the worst raids were on Yom Kippur itself. Our people spent the night in their cellars."

In addition, the Jewish community center in Osijek suffered serious damage from federal army artillery bombardments, he said. "There were two hits. The first explosion hit a building next door, but this broke all the windows in the Jewish community building," Matic said. "The second was a direct hit to the building, which destroyed the roof."

Jewish homes and other private property have also sustained considerable damage from the fighting, he said. "Today, we are trying to call all the localities where Jews live to find out what damage has been done."

The civil war has severed most contact between the Croatian Jewish community and other Jewish communities in Yugoslavia, particularly with the Federation of Jewish Communities, which is headquartered in the national capital, Belgrade. In fact, it is too dangerous to hold community meetings in Belgrade. The community's official meetings have been relocated out of the country, to Vienna.

Matic said, "We are cut off from the federation. Phone lines between Zagreb and Belgrade are cut. We are able to speak with Belgrade once a week through the Joint Distribution Committee office in Paris. So we are carrying on autonomously."

He said that representatives of the Geneva-based International Red Cross and observers from the Brussels-based European Community have met with the local Jewish leadership.

According to Matic, the international Jewish community can help in two ways. One would be with emergency relief and, eventually, help with the repair and reconstruction of damaged property. The second way would be to actively work to end the civil war, Matic said. "Personally, I think the war cannot be stopped without a strong military intervention from abroad," he said. "The Jewish community can raise its voices to support this. Diplomatic intervention has not done anything."

Bolivian PLO office closes

NEW YORK (JTA) — The Palestine Liberation Organization has blamed "economic difficulties" for the decision to close down its office in Bolivia after 11 years.

But the Anti-Defamation League says it is just "another sign of the PLO's loss of credibility." According to I. Barry Mehler, chairman of ADL's Latin American Affairs Committee, "the loss of PLO's credibility in Latin America and its growing irrelevance in an era that has witnessed the return of democratic governments throughout the region" are the main reasons for the pullback.

But George Salame, the PLO's representative in La Paz, attributed the decision to "a series of economic difficulties which the PLO is facing in consequence of the war in the Persian Gulf." By siding with Saddam Hussein of Iraq, the PLO forfeited its subsidies from Saudi Arabia and other oil-producing Gulf states.

Mehler predicted that the PLO offices in Mexico and Peru would be next to go.



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INTERNATIONAL

Israel would retaliate if Iraq attacked again

TEL AVIV (JTA)—If Iraq launched another missile attack on Israel, there is no question that Israel would retaliate, Lt. Gen. Ehud Barak, the Israel Defense Force chief of staff, indicated in interviews published September 29. Israel would not be bound by the restraints it voluntarily assumed during the Persian Gulf War to help the United States hold together a coalition that included several Arab states, Barak made clear in interviews with *Ma'ariv* and *Yediot Achronot*.

He estimated that Iraq still has hundreds of surface-to-surface missiles. But Israel has the capability to operate against them at their source, he said. "I hope Saddam Hussein fully understands the difference between the current situation and that of the time of the Gulf war," the chief of staff said.

The question arose in connection with the possibility that Iraq might strike Israel again if the United States were to use military means to force

Baghdad to dismantle its nuclear weapons program.

Barak said the U.N. inspectors' exposure of Iraq's advances only confirms that Iraq must be stripped of every capability for making nuclear weapons and prevented from renewing its efforts in the foreseeable future.

"As citizens of the Middle East, we are far from a situation without dangers," he said when asked about President Bush's sweeping cuts in

the U.S. nuclear arsenal, announced Friday.

The chief of staff declined to say whether he thought the United States ended the Gulf war too soon last March, leaving Hussein in power in Baghdad. But he is convinced that the Iraqi nuclear threat will continue as long as Hussein remains in power, and believes the United States also understands the danger of Hussein's making a comeback in a few years, armed with nuclear weapons.

Soviet official: USSR to restore ties with Israel

By DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN
NEW YORK (JTA)—Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin's assertion here late last month that his country will restore full diplomatic relations with Israel before the planned Middle East peace conference appears to remove one of the key issues obstructing the proposed peace talks, observers say.



Soviet Minister Boris Pankin

Pankin's confirmation of Soviet intentions, which was welcomed by Israel's supporters, came September 27 after meeting here with Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy. The two foreign ministers were in New York for the beginning weeks of the new U.N. General Assembly session.

The Soviet foreign minister confirmed that "there will be re-establishment of diplomatic ties in the very near future," and said that it will occur "surely before the peace conference." The two foreign ministers emerged from their half-hour meeting pleased with the exchange.

"We had a productive and fruitful discussion," Pankin said. "There are no obstacles to re-establishing relations, and no matters that remain outstanding."

"We had a very good and friendly conversation," said Levy. "We cleared things up that needed to be cleared up, and decided to maintain contact," he added, not elaborating on what it was that had been cleared up. "The minister has been invited and promised to visit Israel," Levy said. "All the preparations are under way to open up the (peace) conference."

The Soviet Union has indicated for some time that it plans to normalize relations with Israel in the near future. But Pankin's announcement is significant in that it is the first time a specific time frame has been set, said Malcolm Hoenlein, executive director of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Shalom Sputnik

TEL AVIV (JTA)—Israel and the Soviet Union are engaged in a joint space project, according to a report by Israel Radio which government officials have refused to confirm or deny.

Israel Radio broadcast information last month, according to which seven Israeli scientists in the fields of space, aviation and electronics have been working with Soviet colleagues at Baikanor, a Soviet space research and launch center in Central Asia. The Israelis are engaged in what was called "space technologies."

According to the report, the joint project was initiated and financed by a consortium of Jewish millionaires from the United States and Europe, following talks they had with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev a year ago.

"This is the most definitive statement" so far from the Soviets, he said.

And like Pankin's call at the United Nations last month to repeal the 1975 General Assembly resolution branding Zionism as a form of racism, "it represents a change in Soviet policy," Hoenlein said. "There are many areas of potential cooperation" between the two nations, he said. "It's the kind of enlightened policy we had hoped for, for a long time."

The unambiguous reaffirmation of Soviet intentions to restore full diplomatic relations with Israel is one of "the most important remaining mat-

Human rights infringements cost Syria

BRUSSELS (JTA)—Concern over the low status of human rights in Syria seems to have cost the Damascus regime a \$175 million economic aid package from the European Community. The package, part of the third E.C.-Syria financial protocol signed in February, needs to be approved by at least 280 of the 518 members of the European Parliament, the E.C.'s legislative body, which convenes in Strasbourg, France, next week for its monthly session.

But the Parliament's committee on external economic relations refused to send the measure to the plenum because of the human rights issue. The committee is chaired by a liberal Belgian deputy, Willy de Clercq, who also presides over the Europe-Israel parliamentary group.

According to diplomatic sources, Syria is still perceived in European circles as a country where human rights are violated, even though Damascus' political position has improved since it participated on the Allied side in the Persian Gulf War.

ters for resolution" before convening the Middle East peace conference, said Marvin Feuerwerker, a senior strategic fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, a pro-Israel think-tank. It "is very helpful in assuring us that we will be able to get the other issues resolved," Feuerwerker said.

He pointed out that it would clearly be a political plus for the recently weakened Soviet Union to be active in the international arena with an effort considered as historic and

positive as a gathering convened for the purpose of attaining peace in the Middle East.

Pankin also met September 29 with a delegation of World Jewish Congress officials, led by Edgar Bronfman, its president. They asked the Soviet foreign minister to press Syria to allow thousands of Jews living there to emigrate. Pankin said he was unfamiliar with the plight of Syrian Jews but promised to look into it, said Elan Steinberg, WJC executive director.

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INTERNATIONAL

Soviet panel reportedly established to resolve refusenik cases

MOSCOW (JTA) — The plight of long-term Jewish refuseniks may be resolved in the near future, according to reports emanating from an international human rights conference here.

According to official sources at the conference, held under the auspices of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Soviets have agreed to set up a five-member commission of experts to review the cases of Jews who have been refused permission to emigrate for more than five years. Soviet Jewish activist Roman Gefter reportedly has been asked to serve on the commission.

News of the Soviet decision was reported by Shoshana Cardin, chairman of the National Conference on

Soviet Jewry and a public member of the U.S. delegation to the CSCE meeting. She said she had learned of the development from sources in the various delegations to the conference.

If the reports are correct, they would be an indication that the Soviet government now wants to resolve the issue of Jewish emigration once and for all.

The Soviet legislature passed an emigration reform law in May. But Soviet Jewish advocacy groups in the West expressed concern that the bill contained a number of loopholes that would allow Soviet authorities to continue denying emigration visas to Jews for such arbitrary reasons as

access to state secrets or financial responsibility to "poor relatives."

More than 200 Soviet Jewish families have been denied permission to emigrate, according to recent estimates. But the number of long-term cases is considerably smaller. Even the 200 figure is tiny compared with the 11,000 refusenik cases that existed in the mid-1980s.

Cardin said that while Western delegates to the CSCE meeting have been pressing the Soviet government

to resolve the long-term cases prior to the conference's end on Oct. 4, Soviet officials say it is unlikely that case reviews can be completed by that date. She also expressed concern about reports that the Soviet government claims that there are only 10 unresolved long-term cases. Soviet Jewry activists say the number of remaining long-term cases is higher.

"We will ask the Soviet authorities to check very carefully whether the

roster of long-term refuseniks is complete," Cardin said. But she stressed that the National Conference is "gratified at this indication of the potential resolution of these cases, a step which likely has been made possible by the failure of the August coup attempt" in Moscow.

"We believe that positive action on these cases is further evidence of the Soviet intention to comply with their human rights obligations as defined in the Helsinki Final Act," she said.

Priceless Judaica stolen in Johannesburg

NEW YORK (JTA) — The World Jewish Congress has sounded an international alert to antiques dealers, pawnbrokers and the general public to be on the lookout for priceless items stolen from the Jewish Museum in Johannesburg late last month. They include irreplaceable religious artifacts rescued from Nazi Germany during World War II, the WJC reported here October 3.

The WJC was informed of the theft by Seymour Kopelowitz, national director of the South African Board of Jewish Deputies, which operates the museum.

The WJC called on dealers and the public to contact the police if they are offered anything which might have come from the museum. The items include silver crowns and breastplates used to adorn the Torah scrolls, antique silver spice boxes, pointers and candelabras used on Hanukkah, and antique handwritten marriage contracts, one of them signed in Mantua in 1750.

"The collection represents all facets of our Jewish heritage and, in purely educational terms, can never be compensated for," Kopelowitz said.

Israel calls for conference to resolve scrolls dispute



TEL AVIV (JTA) — Backing down from a legal threat, the Antiquities Authority has called for an international conference of scholars in Jerusalem to resolve a dispute over access to more than 3,000 photographs of fragments of the Dead Sea Scrolls. The authority's director, Amir Drori, said a compromise formula would be sought to protect the rights of those scholars who have long worked on the scrolls and others who until now were unable to gain access to them for research.

He proposed that the conference be held in December and attended by representatives of the four institutions that hold negatives of the photographs and the international team already involved in the research.

The Huntington Library in San Marino, Calif., touched off the controversy last month, when it opened its photographic collection to all qualified scholars, despite strong objections from Jerusalem. Israel maintains that Huntington, one of the world's foremost private research libraries, was contractually obliged to serve only as a repository of photocopies made as a precaution against the originals in Jerusalem being lost or destroyed.

Above, William Moffett, director of the Huntington Library, views some color slides of the scrolls with the library's photographer, Bob Schlosser. (Photo:RNS)

Ultra-Orthodox protest against highway

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Four policemen were hospitalized for injuries sustained October 5 during a violent demonstration by ultra-Orthodox Jews protesting the use by Sabbath drivers of a new highway that runs near their neighborhoods. Several policemen and two news cameramen were struck by rocks. One of the protesters was hospitalized, a number were hurt and several were arrested by the police.

The fracas erupted suddenly from what began as a peaceful demonstration by local residents with a police permit. Leaders of the religious community, who had promised there would be no violence, apparently lost control. Young religious activists knocked down police barriers and began hurling rocks at passing cars. No cars were reported damaged or drivers injured.

Jerusalem Police Chief Haim Albalades said his forces were under orders to exercise maximum restraint.

But when the situation got out of hand, mounted police entered the fray using clubs. One of the leaders of the demonstration, Yehuda Meshi-Zahav, complained that there had been no need for such measures.

The police had tear gas and water canon on hand, but neither was used. Some Arabs complained that the police had never showed such restraint dealing with Arab disturbances. But most Arab residents watched the spectacle with a mixture of astonishment and amusement.

Police Minister Ronni Milo praised the police for showing "overall restraint." He warned, however, that a repetition of the violence would be

met by "aggressive" police measures.

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek said the demonstrators "violated both the law and the call of their own rabbis." But he suggested that they were only a minority within the religious community.

The new highway, which cuts the distance between downtown Jerusalem and the northern suburbs, opened October 1 to a chorus of protests and threats by ultra-Orthodox Jews, whose neighborhoods it skirts. Kollek pointed out that the highway does not pass through any religious neighborhood.

Evacuation from Zaire

TEL AVIV (JTA) — About 130 Israelis and other Jewish evacuees from Zaire arrived here by air September 27, leaving only a skeleton staff at the Israeli Embassy in riot-torn Kinshasa. A mutiny by unpaid troops touched off rioting and looting in the Zaire capital, which escalated last week into a full-fledged revolt against the 26-year rule of President Mobutu Sese Seko.

The Israeli ambassador, Shlomo Avital, who stayed at his post, sent word of the bravery of two members of his staff, who helped the Israeli community leave when it became clear the Central African nation was degenerating into chaos.

The exodus of Israelis followed that by Belgian, French and Portuguese nationals.

At great risk, the Israeli envoys personally visited homes and helped Israeli families move to assembly points on the banks of the Congo River, which were secured by French and Belgian troops who had been

rushed to Zaire to protect foreigners. The Israelis, under some danger of gunfire from rioting soldiers, crossed the river to Brazzaville, in neighboring Congo, in a boat owned by a member of the local Jewish community. The group comprised some 100 embassy staffers, military and economic attaches, and their families.

Israel has maintained a relatively large establishment in Zaire because of the agricultural and public health projects and military training it undertook at Mobutu's invitation.

The evacuees also included Israeli businessmen and about 30 members of Zaire's permanent Jewish community, which numbers under 200. Jews, many of them originally from the island of Rhodes and a number from Belgium, lived in Kinshasa when it was still Leopoldville, capital of the former Belgian Congo, which achieved independence in 1960.

Many of the evacuees said they would return to Zaire when the situation normalized.

Jewish women win Nobel Prize

NEW YORK (JTA) — Nadine Gordimer, a South African-born author who has portrayed the injustices of apartheid society in many of her novels and short stories, is the 1991 recipient of the Nobel Prize in Literature, the Swedish Academy, which bestows the award, announced in Stockholm last week.

Gordimer, who is Jewish, is the first woman in 25 years to be a sole recipient of the prize and one of only a half-dozen Jews in the last three decades to be named a Nobel laureate in literature.

Other Jewish recipients include Joseph Brodsky of the Soviet Union in 1988; Isaac Bashevis Singer in 1978 and Saul Bellow in 1976, both of the United States; and Israeli novelist Samuel Joseph Agnon, who shared the 1966 prize with Nelly Sachs, also Jewish, of Sweden.

Gordimer, 67, was born near Johannesburg in 1923 to Jewish

immigrant parents. Her father came from Lithuania and her mother from England. Her first short story was published when she was 15.

She has since published 10 novels and nine short story collections. For the Swedish Academy, her novels, particularly "July's People" published in 1981, form the decisive body of her work. Set in South Africa after a hypothetical black revolt against apartheid, "July's People" depicts the efforts of a black man to shelter the white family that formerly employed him as a servant.

The academy's brief citation described the winner as "Nadine Gordimer, who through her magnificent epic writing has — in the words of Alfred Nobel — been of very great benefit to humanity."

Gordimer has always acknowledged her Jewish heritage but is not known to be actively involved in matters of specific Jewish concern.

French Jews celebrate their freedom

STRASBOURG, France (JTA) — French Jewry, the fourth largest Jewish community in the world, celebrated the bicentennial of its emancipation here this week with expressions of pride in its French and Jewish heritage and confidence in its acceptance as full-fledged members of French society. And President Francois Mitterrand took the opportunity to remind the assembled leaders of France's 700,000 Jews that a resurgence of European anti-Semitism is not impossible.

The chief of state flew to this ancient city in eastern France, long a center of Jewish life, to address a commemorative conference marking the anniversary. He used the occasion to question whether tolerance and the cause of human rights have really triumphed in the half-century "since the martyrdom of French Jewry."

The bicentennial commemorates the September 27, 1791, decree by the French Revolution's Constituent Assembly that granted citizenship and full rights to French Jewry after centuries of oppression. At the time, there were barely 40,000 Jews in France, most of them poor peddlers and shopkeepers.

Although there have been episodes of naked anti-Semitism in France, especially during the Dreyfus trial in the late 19th century, the rights granted in 1791 have been suspended only once during the past 200 years, from 1940 to 1945 by the Vichy regime, which stripped French Jews of all their rights and abandoned them to the Nazi occupiers of France.



Anthony Lewis

By MATTHEW BUDMAN

Northern California Jewish Bulletin
Anthony Lewis is used to critics calling him a "self-hating Jew."

"I'm perceived by many American Jews as hostile, and that's partly because of what I see as the gradual takeover of American Jewish opinion by the right in Israel, by the Likud," said the *New York Times* columnist in a recent phone interview. "Because it's the majority opinion in Israel, people here say, 'We'll just go along with it.'"

Lewis has few qualms about criticizing the Jewish state; he readily admits he expects more from Israel than from other countries.

"I expect more in the sense that Jews are people who understand the underdogs of life," said Lewis, in the Bay Area on a publicity tour for *Make No Law*, his new Random House book on the First Amendment. "I expect that of Israel; it's a Jewish state. I think the notion that Israel is bound to take over other people's land by force is not a Jewish one."

"I'm very sympathetic toward Israel. On the one hand, I want Israel to thrive, and it faces some very menacing enemies around it. But I'm also very sympathetic toward the Palestinians, who are the genuine underdogs, with no land and no government."

Tall and thin, a spry 64, Lewis is

Anthony Lewis is used to his critics who call him a 'self-hating Jew'

soft-spoken and articulate in front of an audience, apologizing for interrupting himself, and continually taking eyeglasses on and off as he needs to read.

An unabashed liberal — and a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter — he writes a nationally syndicated column twice weekly from his Boston home on a variety of topics.

Most readers, familiar with his widely publicized views on Mideast politics, are unaware of Lewis' Jewishness. "As a generality, I don't trumpet it about," he says. "But I don't conceal it. I come from a semi-Orthodox background; we had a kosher home. My son had a bar mitzvah. But I'm not observant."

"I have a Jewish view of life and culture. I have been all my life interested in the fate of the underdog, the person who is abused. I think that is very much a Jewish characteristic."

Though the subject of the Middle East has been "a considerable focus" for years for Lewis, he hadn't written about it for some months. "Recently I didn't have a sure sense that there's anything to say. I have been very discouraged by the stalemate in the peace process."

Recent events have changed balances of power quickly, and late last month Lewis was still mulling over ideas for a column on the loan guarantee crisis that ran September 24. "There's no reason for [Israel] pushing the loan guarantees for right now. The big wave of Soviet immigration is over."

"I think the crisis was forced by the Shamir government to remove any possibility of the administration applying pressure to stop settlement building. There's no effective way that the United States can push Israel into stopping settlement building, and you can't have peace if you go on taking other people's land."

Lewis' column, reprinted in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, began, "It is important to be clear about the issue in the dispute between the United States and Israel. It is whether Israel is going to annex the West Bank and Gaza Strip in the years ahead without meaningful objection by the United States."

The pull-no-punches article, he says, is one of his first to praise President George Bush, calling him "courageous."

During the phone interview, he said that "I think he has done the right thing, from the point of view of Israel's genuine long-term interests, which is not to be masters of another people. The matter could be resolved today — if Shamir said he would stop building settlements, Bush would give the loan guarantees today."

Though credited with being one of the country's top opinion-makers, Lewis is unsure how much impact a columnist actually has on public opinion. "You have opinions and you hope you succeed in shaping opinion but it's difficult to see if you actually have any impact. It's a funny business."

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Dear Rachel

I'm living in Beirut on the Delaware. My husband and my 16-year-old daughter snipe at each other constantly. Even basic conversation is impossible between the two of them because they take offense at anything the other one says, no matter how innocuous. Each one feels that if the other one would only change, everything would be all right. Each one is expecting the other to make all the changes. My home life has become one long mission for the U.N. peacekeeping force. And I'm the officer in charge.

Right now, he is giving her driving lessons, which could pass for combat. When he comes into the house after going out with her, he swears he will never do anything with her again. He claims he never yells at her; she claims he never does anything but.

The personality chemistry between them is just all wrong. I drive with her myself and she slows down when I tell her to and basically does what I ask. We will all probably live through her getting her license. The thing I really worry about is their long-term relationship. Is it just a phase they will outgrow or do I have to watch them destroy each other's peace of mind — and mine?

Mother in a Beirut Minefield

Dear Beirut Mother,

Obnoxious and contrary teenagers were not invented yesterday. In fact, Rabbi Israel ben Eliezer, the Ba'al Shem Tov, offered this advice to a man whose son had abandoned religion altogether:

"What shall I do, Rebbe?" asked the distraught man.

"Do you love your son?"

"Of course I do."

"Then love him even more."

If both you and your husband can love your daughter just another couple of years, she will outgrow these battles. Peace will spontaneously break out on the Delaware and the U.N. peacekeepers will feel at home again.

Rachel

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Obituaries

Bertha Tenner

Bertha Tenner, 94, of The Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Bellefonte, died September 24 of heart failure at the home, her residence for three years.

Mrs. Tenner, born in Baltimore, was a member of Congregation Beth Shalom, Wilmington, and its Sisterhood.

She was a member of Kutz Home Auxiliary; Hadassah and Deborah Heart and Lung Foundation. She was a life member of American Medical Center of Denver; a member of Atlantic City Link 17, Order of the Golden Chain; and Jewish Consumptive Relief Society.

In recognition for her work as president of National Multiple Sclerosis Society of Atlantic County, Mays Landing, N.J., she received a hope chest from National Headquarters in New York.

Her husband, Harry, died in 1985. She is survived by two sons, Emanuel of Wilmington and Morton of Los Angeles; two daughters, Rita Horwitz of Claymont and Carol Sigmund Goldstein of Boca Raton, Fla.; nine grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and a great-great-grandson.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

Abraham Josephs

Abraham Josephs, of Boca Raton, Florida, died September 27. Mr. Josephs was formerly a resident of Philadelphia.

He is survived by a son, Jeffrey

Josephs; two daughters, Suzanne Prybutok of Newark and Jerilynn Milgram; two brothers, Marty Josephs and Jules Josephs; two sisters, Rose Fenster and Frances Werbock; and eight grandchildren.

The family asks that contributions in Mr. Josephs' memory be made to the Hospice by the Sea, Palmetto Park Road, Boca Raton, Florida.

Frances M. Zaret

Frances M. Zaret, of Colony North Apartments, 8 Colony Blvd., Wilmington, died September 27 of leukemia at Christiana Hospital, where she had been a patient about three months. Her age was not disclosed.

Mrs. Zaret, an administrative assistant at Du Pont Co., Wilmington, for nine years, retired in 1974.

Born in Wilmington, she was a member and past board member of Congregation Beth Shalom, Wilmington and its sisterhood, past president of Hadassah, Wilmington and a member of Delaware Link Order of the Golden Chain, Wilmington.

She studied piano at Philadelphia Academy of Music.

She is survived by her husband, Louis S.; a son, Stephen of Fort Lee, N.J.; a daughter, Marcia Gordon of East Brunswick, N.J.; and four grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Leukemia

Society of America Inc., Delaware Chapter, Wilmington.

Ethel Hecht

Ethel Hecht, 94, of 7618 Society Drive, Thomas West House, Claymont, died September 28 of congestive heart failure at home.

Mrs. Hecht had been a homemaker. She moved to Claymont three years ago from Brooklyn, N.Y.

Her husband, Maurice, died in 1961. She is survived by two sons, Bert of Wilmington and I. Ronald of Sayerville, N.J.; and five grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

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

Jacob Weiner

Jacob Weiner, 76, of 2200 Cypress Bend Drive South, Pompano Beach, Fla., formerly of Wilmington and West Chester, Pa., died September 28 in his sleep at home, a family member said.

Mr. Weiner owned a furniture business in Wilmington from 1964 to 1970 and earlier for 30 years in West Chester.

He was a member of Ardensingers.

He is survived by his wife, Adele; three sons, Robert of Wilmington, Steven of Denver and Larry of Wilmington; and six grandchildren.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

Ethel Paul

Ethel Paul, 87, of The Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, died there October 2.

She was the widow of Joseph Paul who died in 1971. She is survived by her daughter, Rita Silberman of Wilmington; two sisters, Ann Moskowitz of Wilmington and Ida Goldstein of Claymont; a brother, Michael Polsky; two stepchildren, William Paul of Potomac, Maryland, and Bertha Baranson of Tequesta, Florida; one grandson and four step-grandchildren.

Mrs. Paul was a member of the Adas Kodesch Sisterhood, Eastern Star, Deborah, Hadassah. She was a Life Member of the Kutz Home Auxiliary and was once named Volunteer of the Year at the A.I. duPont Institute.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Kutz Home or other charity.

Leonard B. Goldentyer

Leonard B. Goldentyer, 55, of 45 Sturbridge Drive in Dartmouth Woods, died October 8.

Mr. Goldentyer is survived by his wife, Frances; a daughter, Elizabeth Anne Goldentyer; his mother, Edna M. Goldentyer; and a brother, Bernard, of Philadelphia.

Arrangements were made by the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Diabetes Foundation, 2713 Lancaster Ave., Wilmington, DE 19805.

Six-Day War general dies

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Former Maj. Gen. Shmuel Goren, whose brilliant military career was clouded by Israel's reverses in the first stage of the 1973 Yom Kippur War, died of a heart attack last week while attending a business meeting in Milan, Italy. He was 61.

The Lithuanian-born Goren, who was brought to Palestine by his parents in 1933 at the age of 3, distinguished himself as a career soldier in Israel's 1948 War for Independence and in the 1967 Six-Day War, when

Continued on 20



Focus on JFD Agencies

Our community high school

Delaware Gratz, a branch of the Jewish Community High School of Gratz College, is more than just a school; it is an educational environment where conditions have been set to meet the growing needs of today's Jewish teenagers.

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dents is that they will understand the basic values and practices of Judaism in its diverse forms and will incorporate them into their lives.

Delaware Gratz Welcomes 22 New Students

Sixty-seven students have enrolled for the 5752 school year at Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School, a branch of the prestigious Gratz College of Philadelphia.

Nineteen of the twenty-two newly registered students are in the eighth grade or "Prozdor" class. Marc Douek, Daniel Franklin, Joshua Lewis, Iris Oren, Neal Schatz, Jason Shurak and Brian Weisberg are from Beth Emeth; Sarah Cabelli, Alison Holob, Hana Kopolovic and Daniel Tolpin are from Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth; Danielle Harad, Marc Hochman, Brett Levy, Alan Miller, Danielle Pearlberg, Jared Weiner and Alan Weissman are from Beth Shalom while Tami Harris is from B'nai Jacob

in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania. Maya Kasowski, from West Chester, joins the tenth grade class.

These students choose courses from a variety of subjects including Contemporary Jewish Issues, Jewish Beliefs, Bible, Literature, Ethics, and History.

New to the I.M. Wise Teacher's Certification program are David Grumbacher and Denise Jonas from Beth Emeth. Both serve as cadet-aides on Sunday mornings at Beth Emeth and take a Teacher's Education course and a Contemporary Jewish Issues class on Thursday evenings.

The Board, faculty and student body at Gratz welcome all of these new students and wish them a successful and fulfilling school year.

Gratz Graduates Earn College Credits

Through an arrangement with Gratz College, of which Delaware Gratz is a branch, selected senior level courses are accepted by the College for up to 14 advanced placement credits and transferred to many other colleges and universities.

Several graduates have received college credits for work completed at Delaware Gratz. One recent graduate was awarded 12 advanced placement credits at Beaver College in Pennsylvania, thereby enabling her to save a semester of credits and thousands of dollars in tuition fees.

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For further information, call Elaine Friedberg, Principal, at 478-5026.

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INTERNATIONAL

Postponement of Vienna conference could further sour ties

NEW YORK (JTA) — Relations between Austria and world Jewry, which many thought would improve with President Kurt Waldheim's decision not to run for re-election, could be further soured by Vienna's decision to postpone a conference on anti-Semitism.

The issue, which is receiving considerable news coverage in Austria, simmered at the surface of a breakfast news conference with the Austrian foreign minister held here last month at the offices of the American Jewish Committee. During the session, Foreign Minister Alois Mock also stood steadfastly behind Waldheim, who has been shunned by most Western leaders since revelations surfaced that he had served during World War II in a Nazi army unit linked to atrocities against civilians.

Mock was a guest of the AJCommittee as part of its annual program of bringing together the Jewish community with international political figures, many of whom are here to attend the opening weeks of the U.N. General Assembly session.

The foreign minister was challenged to explain the Austrian government's role in what has now become a third postponement of a conference on "Countering Anti-Semitism in Central and Eastern Europe." The conference, a joint project of the AJCommittee and the city of Vienna that has been in the planning since October 1989, was last slated to have been held October 27 to 29.

Asked if he favored the Austrian government becoming a co-sponsor of the conference, Mock replied carefully. He said he "would be in favor that this conference takes place." But that goal seems so far to be elusive. A principal coordinator of the conference, Rabbi Andrew Baker, Washington area director of the AJCommittee, says he was rebuffed by Mayor Helmut Zilk after he flew there last month to finalize arrangements.

In Vienna, Baker was placed in "a very awkward situation" between two

aides to the mayor who disagreed on the reasons for the postponement. And Zilk, for unclear reasons, would not meet with him.

AJCommittee figures involved in the planning, as well as Austrian journalists, say the Austrian government is displeased with a survey on anti-Semitism in Austria that the AJCommittee has been conducting. The survey, designed by AJCommittee together with the Gallup research organization and the University of Vienna, is the latest poll on anti-Semitism that the Jewish group has been conducting in countries of

Central and Eastern Europe.

It was made clear to Baker that the poll was eliciting anxiety. "I had, at the end of August, a frantic telephone call from an aide to the mayor, who expressed the sentiment that this was a survey designed to portray Austria in a bad light," he said.

But he was told that the reason for postponing the conference was its proximity to parliamentary elections, which have been called for November 10. The postponement could have a ripple effect far beyond the tremendous disappointment it has already created.

"This isn't just a conference in Vienna on anti-Semitism and xenophobia," said Rabbi A. James Rudin, director of interreligious affairs for the AJCommittee. "This has an effect on Austrian-U.S. relations in the post-Waldheim era, has implications for Austria and Israel, has tremendous implications for Austrian-Jewish relations and Austria's relations with Austrian Jews."

So far, Rudin said, "Austria is just beginning to face up to its Nazi past. And this conference would have been a chance to move this issue forward."

Sizeable portion of Likud panel would trade land

TEL AVIV (JTA) — A majority of Likud's Central Committee would trade territory for peace, a formula sharply at variance with official party policy, according to a secret poll taken six weeks ago. The surprising results, published October 6 in the Israeli daily *Ma'ariv*, were based on a survey of 730 of the Central Committee's 3,000 members.

Presumably they are a representative sampling of the governing party's central body, which elects the leadership and is called on to approve or reject its policies.

The poll showed that 53 percent would be ready to give up parts of the Golan Heights for a peace treaty with Syria, provided the surrendered area was demilitarized; 42 percent would oppose any territorial concessions there and 4.3 percent would re-

turn all of the Golan to Syria in exchange for peace. It also showed that 44 percent was willing to cede parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip for peace with Jordan and the Palestinians.

Political observers pointed out that if the body of Likud opinion favoring concessions was added to similar views in the Labor and left-wing opposition parties, it would command a large majority in the Knesset.

The poll disclosed further that 48 percent of the Central Committee members questioned said they would be willing to accept a freeze on new settlements in the administered territories during a Middle East peace conference, though only 4 percent said they would accept a freeze on moving new settlers to existing settlements.

While 58 percent of the respondents opposed any form of Palestin-

ian state, 20 percent were prepared to accept such a state in the administered territories or parts thereof, after a peace treaty.

Another 34 percent favored some form of Jordanian-Palestine federation.

The poll also indicates that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir remains far and away the most popular leader. Of the Central Committee members polled, 71 percent said they would support him should he choose to seek another term as prime minister.

Only 11 percent would support a bid by Foreign Minister David Levy, who was followed closely by Housing Minister Ariel Sharon with 10.8 percent backing.

Defense Minister Moshe Arens polled only 5 percent support if he were to stand against Shamir. But if Shamir decided not to run, Arens would be backed by 34 percent,

Sharon by 27 percent, Levy by 25 percent and Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu by 3 percent.

Support for other Likud figures was negligible, even with Shamir out of the race.

Moshe Nissim, the minister of industry and trade, drew 7 percent support; Binyamin Begin, son of former Prime Minister Menachem Begin, 5 percent; Justice Minister Dan Meridor, 3 percent; and Netanyahu, 1 percent.

Asked to name the Likud personalities the committee members would most like to see in the next Knesset, the first 10, in descending order, were Netanyahu, Arens, Shamir, Eliahu Ben-Elissar, Levy, Begin, Police Minister Ronni Milo, Economic Planning Minister David Magen, Transport Minister Moshe Katsav and Sharon.

Court

Continued from 8

a 27-year-old practice that required any federal or state law to show a "compelling state interest" if it infringed on religious practices.

A bill by Rep. Stephen Solarz (D-N.Y.) to restore the compelling interest requirement, which initially had wide support, has been bogged down by opponents of abortion, who fear it could be used to overturn anti-abortion laws as an infringement on a woman's religious right to an abortion.

The new Supreme Court term will also consider one other major case in which Jewish organizations have a major interest. In the case, *RAV vs. St. Paul*, the Minnesota State Supreme Court said a St. Paul municipal ordinance that prohibits anyone from placing a racist symbol, such as a burning cross or a swastika, on

someone's property does not violate the constitutional protection of freedom of speech.

ADL and AJCongress have filed opposing briefs in this case, which involves the burning of a cross in front of someone's house. Steven Freeman, ADL's legal director, said his group supports the Minnesota Supreme Court's ruling, since it was made on narrow grounds that dealt only with expressions of hatred or harassment, which the First Amendment does not protect.

But Stern of AJCongress said the ordinance was badly crafted to infringe on freedom of speech. He said that anti-hate measures can be enforced through other means.

During the court term, other cases affecting the Jewish community may come up, including ones dealing with abortion.

Attitudes

Continued from 8

expanding West Bank settlements.

When asked, 34 percent said they think President Bush is "generally friendly" toward Israel, 41 percent rated him "mixed or neutral," 15 percent called him "generally unfriendly" and 10 percent had no impression.

Among the poll's other interesting findings:

* A whopping 63 percent of respondents said they had never been to Israel.

* Only 26 percent said they consider themselves Zionists.

* Seven percent identified themselves as Orthodox, 38 percent as Conservative, 31 percent as Reform, 1 percent as Reconstructionist and 23 percent as "just Jewish."

* Sixty percent identified them-

selves as Democrats, 16 percent as Republicans, 21 percent as independents, and 4 percent were unsure.

* Just under half (49 percent) agreed that the recent immigration of Soviet and Ethiopian Jews to Israel "has made me feel a special responsibility to contribute to charities that help settle Jews in Israel." Thirty percent disagreed with that statement and 21 percent were not sure.

* Forty-five percent said they were unfamiliar with the Jonathan Pollard spy case. Of the 55 percent who were familiar, 29 percent said his life sentence was too harsh, compared to 9 percent who said it was not. Twenty-two percent said American Jewish organizations ought to campaign to reduce his sentence, while 13 percent disagreed.

Lahat, Sharon battle over housing

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Tel Aviv's maverick Likud mayor, Shlomo Lahat, has openly defied a powerful member of his own party, Housing Minister Ariel Sharon, on a matter involving housing immigrants in Israel's largest city. Lahat announced his decision not to connect the municipal water supply to the temporary mobile homes that he says Sharon planted in a south Tel Aviv

slum district without getting a license and in disregard of opposition from the mayor and City Council.

The mayor, who is accountable to the voters who elect him, not his party, said he was all for housing immigrants in Tel Aviv. "Indeed, the city has probably done more for immigrant housing and integration than most other cities," he told reporters October 3. "But what I want

for the newcomers is permanent housing and good facilities," the mayor said. "They shouldn't be dumped in small caravans for a year or so and then moved off somewhere else, with the caravans degenerating into slum areas."

Lahat said he has been trying, so far unsuccessfully, to arrange a meeting with Sharon to discuss the issue.

Nathan gets 18 months in jail

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Abie Nathan was sentenced by a Ramla court last Sunday to 18 months in prison for violating the law banning contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The 64-year-old peace activist

readily admitted meeting with PLO chief Yasir Arafat in Tunis last June and said he would do it again because talking to "the enemy" is the only way to peace. He called the ban a "political and legal monstrosity." Nathan said he would appeal his sen-

tence, which includes an additional 18 months suspended that can be activated at any time within three years.

He vowed, nevertheless, to seek another meeting with Arafat whenever he is released.

Jewish choir sings at the Bolshoi

MOSCOW (JTA) — Soviet citizens got a rare opportunity to sample chazzanut, or Jewish cantorial singing, during a 40th day commemoration ceremony September 29 for the three young Russians killed fighting

off Soviet tanks during the failed coup of August 19 to 21. The JDC-Moscow Synagogue Choir, an all-male chorus founded by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, wore kipot as they sang a

prayer from the Yom Kippur service for the three martyrs, one of whom, Ilya Krichevsky, was Jewish.

A seven-branch candelabra burned on the stage of the Bolshoi Theater, whose 2,000 seats were all filled.

Neo-Nazi

Continued from 11

Asian and African refugees. Two men were arrested in Hagen, south of Dortmund, suspected of attempting to murder asylum-seekers.

The attacks generally appear to be in response to a perception that guest workers and immigrants from Asia, Africa, the Soviet Union and elsewhere in Eastern Europe are taking jobs, housing and government subsi-

dies away from native Germans. Right-wing and neo-Nazi parties play on those fears to arouse dormant racism.

The federal government is upset by the phenomenon. The response of Chancellor Helmut Kohl has been to lobby for a constitutional amendment limiting the present blanket right to asylum in Germany.

Kohl warns that the situation could get worse unless the major political parties agree on ways to halt the flood of immigrants.

Foreigners are attracted to Germany because of its superior living standards. In order to gain access to social and financial benefits, one must claim to have been a victim of political prosecution in one's homeland.

Fear of anti-Semitism still strong in Soviet Union

MOSCOW (JTA) — Anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union, including the potential for pogroms, remains a major concern of Soviet Jews, according to participants in a seminar devoted to the phenomenon held here late last month.

In fact, according to a survey released at the conference, more than half of 4,200 Soviet citizens interviewed would like all Jews to leave the Soviet Union. More than 10 percent said the Jews should be transferred to the Far East. And more than half of those polled called for intensified struggle against Zionism.

The conference, attended by nearly 200 people from the Soviet Union and abroad, was organized by the Vaad, the umbrella body of Soviet Jewish organizations, and the World Conference on Soviet Jews, assisted by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, an American organization.

The seminar, held at the Shalom Theater, was a parallel activity to the international human rights conference being held in Moscow under the auspices of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. It was chaired by Roman Spektor, a member of the Vaad presidium. Participants included representatives of non-governmental organizations attached to the CSCE.

There were five hours of presentations by specialists on anti-Semitism from the United States, Canada, Britain and the Soviet Union, and statements from the floor, mainly by Soviet Jews.

One of them, Col. Yuri Sokol, who established the first Soviet-Jewish museum in Moscow some years ago, spoke on behalf of Jews who lived in ghettos or were incarcerated in concentration camps. Displaying samples of anti-Semitic publications in circulation, he said

the upsurge of Jew-baiting "reminds us of what happened in fascist Germany" before the Holocaust.

The colonel implied that the national leaders were loathe to deal with the subject. Mikhail "Gorbachev and (Boris) Yeltsin have great difficulty in pronouncing the word 'anti-Semitism,'" he said, referring to the president of the Soviet Union and the president of the Russian republic.

A paper presented by Deborah Lipstadt, a professor at Occidental College in Los Angeles and author of a book on how the Holocaust was glossed over in the media, addressed the

who represents Jewish activists and is the Vaad's legal adviser, spoke of the January 1990 break-in by members of the rabidly anti-Semitic Pamyat into the House of Writers, in Moscow.

He said the prosecution of the late Pamyat leader Konstantin Smirnov-Ostashvili for his part in the raid, under Article 24 of the Soviet Criminal Code, was enabled only through the pressure of "world public opinion."

Also speaking at the seminar was Shoshana Cardin, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, who was in Moscow as part of the official U.S. delegation to the CSCE

Councils, said anti-Semitism is being reported in the Soviet Union's Moslem republics, but Jews are so afraid they are reticent to admit troubles. "We had enormous difficulty getting Jews to admit they were being threatened," he said. Ironically, he said, information on dangers to Jews in those republics was more forthcoming from Christian human rights leaders in that region.

Israeli cameras in orbit

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Israel will soon have the capability of sending satellite-mounted cameras into orbit, according to experts quoted last month in the Israeli daily *Ma'ariv*.

Israel's Ofek (horizon) program has to date launched two satellites into orbit, neither of which, according to the Israeli government, carried cameras or was intended for military use.

Foreign sources, however, have claimed that the Ofek-2 probe, launched April 3, 1990, was a spy probe and did, in fact, carry a camera.

This past March, Defense Minister Moshe Arens made a surprise announcement that Israel would soon be launching its own spy satellite. His remark was the first public disclosure by a senior Cabinet member that Israel had a spy satellite program.

Arens' announcement followed criticism by members of the opposition that Israel's intelligence services had not performed well during the Persian Gulf crisis.

During the Gulf crisis and the Persian Gulf War, Israel had to depend on U.S. satellite data for intelligence about Iraqi troop movements and Scud missile launchers.

In spite of new climate, more than half of Soviets want Jews to leave

issue of "Denying the Holocaust: From Babi Yar, 1941, to Lithuania, 1991."

"How history is written determines a society's future," said Lipstadt, a scholar of the technique of Holocaust revisionism. "Relativising" the Holocaust leads, ultimately, to its denial or at least to minimizing Jewish genocide, she said. Lipstadt blamed the Soviet authorities for denying the fact of Jewish genocide after an initial acknowledgement of it, and journalists of the time who were reluctant to believe accounts of the Jewish experience for lack of "eyewitness" testimony.

Irwin Cotler, a law professor at McGill University in Canada, spoke of anti-Semitism as a threat to world peace. Mark Batunsky of the Soviet Union delivered a paper on Islam and anti-Semitism.

David Akselbant, a Soviet Jewish attorney

session. Cardin, who is also chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, praised the CSCE, known also as the Helsinki Commission, for its past efforts to create "a common document" on human rights, including a condemnation of anti-Semitism. "Many of our aspirations have been met, but many have yet to be achieved," she said.

Leaders of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews attended early sessions of the CSCE conference, after holding a preliminary meeting in Vilnius with other human rights groups, such as the Moscow Helsinki Monitoring Group; the Sakharov Congress, led by Yelena Bonner; and Memorial, a group designed to rehabilitate and document the crimes of the Holocaust.

Micah Naftalin, director of the Union of

Gorbachev

Continued from 1

history."

He also said the Ukraine would "publish a book of the names of all those who perished" in Babi Yar, and name, too, "all those who helped Jews hide from their death." In keeping with that pledge, the Ukrainian government erected a large bronze menorah at the exact site in Babi Yar where the Nazis killed more than 33,000 Jews in about 36 hours beginning on September 29, 1941. Some 100,000 people, including Gypsies, communists and homosexuals were killed in the mass grave in subsequent months. But most of the victims were Jews.

Ukrainian officials also amended the wording on the large marker erected some way down the ravine, to say that the majority of the victims at the site were Jews.

Meanwhile, statements praising Gorbachev's stance on anti-Semitism were issued Monday

in New York by a number of groups, including B'nai B'rith International, the Appeal of Conscience Foundation and the Workmen's Circle.

Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League and a member of the American delegation to the four-day commemoration at Babi Yar, said that the Soviets took a "courageous, clear position" in denouncing anti-Semitism at a time when "it is not such a popular thing to do."

Foxman also said it was important for Jews to accept and welcome the Soviet position. Foxman and another member of the American contingent, Benjamin Meed, president of the American Gathering/Federation of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, both said they were particularly pleased to see exhibits in the streets of Kiev that showed graphic photographs and provided information to the public about the massacre.

The fact that people were stopping to look and to read the material was of major importance, Meed said. While Meed said he came away with a feeling that the Soviets genuinely appeared to "want to come to terms with the truth of the black chapter" in their history, he also espoused a wait-and-see attitude, saying, "We want to see what the future will bring."

On a similarly cautious note, Pamela Cohen, national president of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, suggested that Gorbachev made his remarks because he was pressured by the West to do so and said that any real progress for Soviet Jews was not soon to be expected. But she conceded that Gorbachev's remarks were historic in that "he spoke openly about Jewish genocide in the Soviet Union."

The killings at Babi Yar were commemorated on October 5, when about 3,000 people gathered in a semi-circle on the edge of the ravine. There, Yevgeny Yevtushenko read the

poem he published in 1964 which broke the silence about Babi Yar. American actors Tony Randall and Cliff Robertson read translations in English, while Israeli actor Topol read a Hebrew translation.

And on October 6, some 50 Jewish delegates from the United States, Britain, Canada and Israel gathered in bright sunshine at the edge of the ravine and said Kaddish. And then spontaneously, several people made remarks honoring the dead.

Shoshana Cardin, chairman of both the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said, "Through us they will be silent no more." The existence of Israel, she said, "will make such horrors impossible in the future."

And then the crowd sang "Hatikvah," the Israeli national anthem.

Baker

Continued from 1

the Israeli government," she said.

Israel has made clear it will refuse to participate in any peace conference that involves

Palestinians claiming to represent the PLO. On that issue, Tutwiler said Tuesday that Israel will not have to sit down at the peace conference with "anyone they don't want to."

But when asked if Israel might interpret that to mean it can exercise a veto power over possible participants, Tutwiler would only say that U.S. policy has not changed.

Baker is reportedly considering issuing invitations to a peace conference at the end of the month, even if his trip to the region next week fails to close the gap on the outstanding issues. When asked about that possibility, Tutwiler said, "That will be a decision for him to make and something I couldn't prejudge."

She also would not say whether this will be Baker's final trip to the region before invitations are issued.

The invitations will be sent by Bush and Gorbachev. While there is speculation that the two will preside at the conference, a more likely scenario is that their foreign ministers will attend instead.

The Israeli government has yet to make a "firm decision" about requesting from Washington either a letter of assurances or a memorandum of understanding that would help lay out the two countries' positions going into such a conference, Tutwiler said. "I have not ever heard it discussed," she said. The differ-

ence between the two is that a memorandum of understanding is signed by two parties, whereas a letter of assurances would be a unilateral statement, from the United States to Israel.

An Israeli Embassy official said Tuesday that the issue has yet to be worked out between Baker and Shamir. Baker "has said publicly in his last visit that whichever each government wants, it's up to them, and he will work on whichever it is they decide," Tutwiler said.

Tutwiler also denied a news report that Jordan has had its letter of assurances spelled out. "I have seen so many reports of what is in so many different letters of assurances. Bits and pieces might be correct, but so far I have never seen anything that comes close to being totally correct," she added.

Meanwhile, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater had no particular response when asked about Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's statement Monday that by requesting a delay in congressional action on a package of loan guarantees for Israel, Bush had caused the Jewish state "disappointment and grief." Fitzwater said, "It serves no purpose to respond to his comments."

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ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

October YJAD Calendar

The Young Jewish Adults of Delaware (for singles in their twenties and thirties) has planned several activities for October. Call the JCC at (302) 478-5660 to be included on the mailing list for their monthly newsletter.

On Wednesday, October 16, 23, and 30, the YJAD will play coed Volleyball in the JCC gym beginning at 6 p.m. Games are non-competitive. Admission is \$1 for JCC members, \$2 for non-members. Call Mike Schenk for more information at 475-4981.

On Sunday, October 20, the YJAD will take a day trip to Inner Harbor, Maryland. Carpools will leave the Wilmington JCC at 9:30 a.m. sharp. Cost is \$8 per person and reservations are requested by October 16. Call Julie Scher at 792-1237 or Steve Paikin at 421-9411 to make a reservation.

Hadassah boutique set

On Sunday, October 27, the Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah will present an event called "Shop 'til You Drop," where vendors will display and sell boutique-type items. The sale will take place from 1 to 5 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emeth, 300 W. Lea Boulevard, Wilmington. A percentage of the dollars raised will benefit Hadassah's Youth Aliyah.

The sale, which is open to the entire community, will include such things as women's clothing, hand-painted children's clothing, fine and

fun jewelry and personalized books.

There is a \$10 admission charge (both advance sale and at the door) and the admission price includes lunch. For reservations, call Sharon Rosen at 479-0766 or send a check to her at 3211 Lansdowne Drive, Cardiff, Wilmington, DE 19810.

The co-chairpersons for this event, Carrie Littman, Joan Lubitz and Sharon Sternberg, have called this a "one-time opportunity to have fun with friends while browsing through collections of unusual boutique items."

Beth Emeth open house

The Membership Committee of Congregation Beth Emeth will hold a breakfast and open house for all new and potential members on Sunday, October 20, at the temple, 300 W. Lea Boulevard. The breakfast will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will be followed by short presentations on the various activities with Beth Emeth. Babysitting will be provided at no charge.

Co-chaired by Verna Schebker and Harry Wolpert, the event is designed to give new and prospective members a chance to meet Rabbi Peter Grumbacher, Rabbi Sarah Messinger, the temple's board of trustees and committee members.

Reservations should be made by October 11 by calling Bob and Dottie Akell at 478-6660.

Turkish Jewry to be discussed

The Yoni Netanyahu unit of B'nai B'rith will sponsor a brunch and lecture on the history of Jews in Turkey on Sunday, October 20, at the Keshet Israel synagogue in Philadelphia.

Turkish Jewry has a long history, dating back at least to 1492 when Sephardic Jews fleeing Spanish inquisition were offered refuge by the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire. Today, the Jewish community in Turkey numbers about 20,000.

The speaker, Dr. Heath Loewry, a historian whose main interest is the Ottoman Empire and director of the Washington-based Institute of Turkish Studies, will discuss the past, present and future of Turkish Jewry, focusing on the history of Jews in the Ottoman Empire, their Zionist movement and their contribution to the

State of Israel.

Registration will begin at 10:45 a.m. at the synagogue, 420 Lombard Street, Philadelphia. The brunch will begin at 11 a.m. Admission is \$10 for students and Yoni Netanyahu

unit members and \$12 for non-members. Admission includes brunch and refreshments. For reservations or further information, call Leslie Balick at 478-5939. Reservations are not required.

Beth Shalom to welcome new members

The Membership Committee of Congregation Beth Shalom has planned a gathering for all new and prospective members that has been called "A Chocolate Event Not To Be Missed." The event will be held on Tuesday evening, October 29, from 7 to 9 p.m., at the home of Roger and Danna Levy, 19 Perth Drive in Wilmington.

For more information or to make a reservation, call Lynne Sklar at 475-3097.

Singles Service

Friday evening services and an Oneg Shabbat are held on the first Friday of every month at Keshet Israel, 412 Lombard Street, Philadelphia, sponsored by the Yoni Netanyahu Unit of B'nai B'rith. The following dates have been set for this service: October 4, November 2, December 6, January 3, February 7, March 6, April 3, May 1 and June 5. There is no charge and singles are especially welcome. For more information, call Leslie Balick at 478-5939.

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Awards

Continued from 1

for the JFD's Operation Exodus campaign and one for its general annual campaign. All three were designed by Bloom.

The winning brochure was designed by the Federation's Marketing Committee with assistance from professionals Rina Marks and

Barbara Pessell of Sprint Quality Printing, Inc. Bloom designed the YLC invitation.

According to Dulcie Rosenfeld of Detroit, who served as chairman of the Awards Committee, the number of communities receiving awards increased significantly over last year, "indicating an outstanding and continued

improvement in the quality of public relations materials created by Federations."

Karen Venezky of Newark was one of the 30 members of the Awards Committee which judged entries in nine categories, including newspapers, newsletters, newspaper advertising, invitations, special brochures, campaign brochures, annual reports, worker training kits and posters. Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards, as well as Honorable Mention recognition

were announced late last month.

The awards will be presented during the 60th General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations, November 19 through 24, in Baltimore where all of the award-winning materials will be on display.



General

Continued from 16

he commanded an armored brigade. But he fell victim to the anger and recriminations that followed on the heels of the Yom Kippur War. An inquiry commission faulted him for tactical errors.

Though later exonerated by Israel Defense Force historians, Goren was passed over for reserve status at his rank and quit the army in disgust to start a business career. But none of his ventures was successful.

Goren was buried with full military honors at the Kiryat Shaul military cemetery in Tel Aviv.

Solidarity

Continued from 3

tism at its very roots." He said that the "pastoral letter that was read [in January 1991] in all the parishes of Poland ... was written in the spirit of repentance, *teshuvah*, on the part of Polish Catholics and reconciliation [with] the Jewish people."

He added, in his official statement: "In our pastoral [letter], my fellow bishops and I unanimously condemned anti-Semitism in all its insidious forms, and expressed our sincere regret for all the incidents of anti-Semitism which were committed at any time or by anyone on Polish soil, as well as our sorrow for all the injustices and harm done to Jews."

We felt it was both wise and responsible to receive his "teshuvah" as such, and not seek foolishly, in the prudent comment of Rabbi Jack Bemporad of Lawrence, L.I., to compel the cardinal to "grovel."

To reinforce his changing attitudes, Glemp then reported that he had publicly condemned a recent synagogue desecration in Warsaw, but that "regrettably the international press had ignored" his statement.

Following the Washington meeting, Cardinal Glemp issued a formal statement in Boston expressing appreciation for the talks and pledging "to invite a continuation of this dialogue in Warsaw in 1992."

The proposal won the agreement of Archbishop William Keeler of Baltimore, modera-

tor of Catholic-Jewish relations of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Bishop Henryk Muszynski, his Polish counterpart, to organize the effort.

If American Jewish leaders can manage some measure of effective cooperation and solidarity we may be able to uproot the sources of anti-Semitic caricatures in Poland, especially with Cardinal Glemp.

(Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, for 30 years director of interreligious relations for the American Jewish Committee, was the only rabbi present as a guest observer at Vatican Council II between 1962 and 1965. He is also a former chairman of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations.)

Campus

Continued from 3

matic relations between Israel and the U.S.S.R. The Arab states, despite America's supposed leverage with them since the Gulf War, have consistently rejected the idea of even participating in a conference — with Egypt being the notable exception. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, the two nations that should be the most grateful to the Bush Administration's commitment to save them from brother Saddam, insult all Americans by 'courageously' volunteering to be "observers" at the peace conference — and that only in the context of a general observer mission from all the Persian

Gulf States. Surely pro-Israel activists will pounce on this bogus stance (even if the media called "significant") because they know that to make peace participants and vibrant negotiations are needed, not voyeurs and diplomatic cowardice!

The Ugly:

Surely one of the most malicious and ill-fated attacks on Israel will be led by the radical anti-Israel crowd on campus. South Africa is finally instigating significant reforms in their system of racial discrimination, apartheid. And, since the detractors of Israel on campus have long

bashed her by incorrectly comparing Israel to South Africa and Zionism to apartheid, we'll see an attempt to transfer the entire evil of legalized racial discrimination onto the Jewish State. Slogans such as "South Africa is Free, Now Free Palestine" or "Apartheid: Alive and Well in Israel" will reverberate off the walls of academia — that is if pro-Israel activists don't prepare for this inevitability. We all must know the facts about Israel and Zionism and the fundamental differences between the histories, societies and policies of Israel and South Africa.

The Final Word:

Every year Israel's supporters encounter situations that challenge the intellect and emotions. Yet, if the pro-Israel forces on campus continue to educate the student community aggressively, the issues facing the Jewish community in general will be more manageable. By reviewing the past and peering into the future, student activists and the Jewish community will have the power to set the agenda regarding Israel and determine the issues affecting both.

(Eric Esses is the National Director of the University Student Department of the American Zionist Youth Foundation.)

Tribe

Continued from 3

by prominent Jewish sociologist Stephen Cohen, about 80 percent of the American Jewish laity, including some Orthodox, accept the principle. They recognize that Jewish survival depends on adaption to changing circumstances, no less today than in times past, and that this broadened definition of who is a Jew does not in fact represent a break with tradition.

True, for the past 2,000 years or so, Jewish identity has been determined by the maternal line alone. But in the early days of our history, children were considered Jewish primarily because their fathers were Jewish, even if their mothers were not. In the Torah, genealogical tables are overwhelmingly patrilineal; it was the male line that determined descent and status. In matters of inheritance, the patrilineal line alone was followed. Perhaps more to the point, the Jewishness of the children of non-Jewish mothers is never questioned. Moses, for example, married Zipporah, the daughter of a Midianite priest; yet her children were considered Jews, following the line of the father. And Joseph married Asenath, daughter

of a priest of On; her children too were regarded as Jews. To this day male Jewish children receive the blessing that they be like Ephraim and Menasseh, the sons of Joseph and a non-Jewish mother!

Significantly, both the Torah and rabbinic law hold the male line absolutely dominant in matters affecting the priesthood. Whether one is a *cohen* or a *levi* depends on the father's priestly claim, not the mother's. If the father is good enough to bequeath the priestly status, why isn't he good enough to bequeath Jewishness? Reform has concluded that he is; hence its old-new definition of who is a Jew.

The time has come for Israel's rabbinate to admit that Judaism allows for more than one interpretation of law and custom. The most authentic interpretation, I believe, reflects not only the wisdom of Torah but its heart, which is precisely why we must embrace all the children of the Soviet immigrants, matrilineal and patrilineal Jews alike.

(Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler is president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, central body of Reform Judaism in North America. This article was reprinted with permission of the Jerusalem Report.)

Contenders

Continued from 3

Terry Sanford of North Carolina. Again, there was little surprise here since he had compiled a lukewarm record at best, and his pronouncements on Middle East subjects as a member of the Foreign Relations Committee have been a subject of concern.

The four Republican Senators whose reelections are considered high priorities for the pro-Israel community — the aforementioned Kasten, Packwood of Oregon, Specter of Pennsylvania and the outspoken D'Amato of New York were predictably early cosponsors.

It is worth noting that while the Republican leadership in Congress could be expected to rally around their President, the Democratic leadership (with the possible exception of Majority Leader Dick Gephardt) were disappointingly acquiescent to the Administration's

requests regarding the loan guarantees. The Democrats reluctance to oppose the Chief Executive on foreign policy issues in general may well come back to haunt them at the polls in 1992, particularly if Saddam Hussein is still in power and no advantage was taken of this. Far more troubling, however, were the positions an statements of the two chairmen of the subcommittees which have jurisdiction over the guarantees — Democrats Senator Pat Leahy of Vermont and Representative David Obey of Wisconsin. Fortunately, these two legislators did not and do not reflect the attitudes of the vast majority of their Congressional colleagues who while seeking to avoid a direct confrontation with a popular President, still stood up to be counted in support of Israel. (Morris J. Amitay is a Washington attorney and former Executive Director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.)

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