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"The Dream Requires New Involvement." 1983.

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"THE DREAM REQUIRES NEW INVOLVEMENT"

Speech given at 20th Anniversary of Young Leadership Cabinet

by

RABBI HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

at

Washington, D. C.

MAY 21, 1983

FRIENDS, STUDENTS, CHERISHED DISCIPLES, MEN AND WOMEN, COMRADES-IN-ARMS:

WE HAVE FOUGHT MANY A GOOD FIGHT TOGETHER OVER THESE YEARS, NOW DECADES. THE GREENING OF THE YOUNG LEADERSHIP CABINET HAS TAKEN PLACE. YOU ARE WELL PLANTED ALL OVER THIS COUNTRY, WITH STRONG ROOTS PLUNGING DEEPLY INTO THE SOIL OF ORGANIZED AMERICAN JEWRY. YOU ARE ITS TRUNKS AND YOUR CHILDREN ARE ALREADY ITS BRANCHES. YOU HAVE AN IDEOLOGY, A POINT OF VIEW, A SET OF GOALS, AN INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK. ALL THIS WE DID TOGETHER, AND TODAY YOU ARE A WONDROUS CREATION TO BEHOLD - MODEL TO THE WHOLE DIASPORA, A SOURCE OF JOY TO ISRAEL. EACH OF YOU SHOULD BE FILLED WITH A DEEP SENSE OF SATISFACTION, AND THOSE OF YOU WHO WORKED THE HARDEST MUST FEEL IT THE MOST. YOU HAVE DONE WHAT WE SET OUT TO DO - TO RECRUIT AND INSPIRE AND TRAIN A GENERATION OF LEADERS. FROM YOU IT WILL CONTINUE. THERE IS A CHINESE PROVERB WHICH SAYS, "IF YOU ARE PLANNING FOR A YEAR, PLANT GRAIN. IF YOU ARE PLANNING FOR A DECADE, PLANT TREES. IF YOU ARE PLANNING FOR A CENTURY, PLANT MEN." I HOPE WE HAVE DONE THIS - PLANTED MEN WHO WILL LAST FOR A CENTURY.

BUT CELEBRATION MUST NOT BLIND THE EYE. I HAVE COME HERE TONIGHT TO SALUTE YOU - AND TO CHALLENGE YOU ANEW. IN SPITE OF ALL THE PRIDE WE FEEL IN EVERY ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR PAST RECORD, FULL RECOGNITION OF THE PRESENT TRUTH REQUIRES US TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE FLAWS AND FAILURES IN THE DREAM WHICH HAS BOUND US TOGETHER. THAT ISRAEL - THAT ISLAND IN THE SEA OF HOSTILITY - THAT PRECIOUS TINY VESSEL HOLDING OUR DEEPEST AND FONDEST HOPES FOR A JEWISH RENAISSANCE AND REBIRTH, IS NOT PERFECT AND MAY EVEN BE IN URGENT NEED OF REPAIR WHICH WE, AS A SELF-CHOSEN ELITE, ARE OBLIGATED TO PROVIDE. LET US BACK OFF NOW AND LOOK AT OUR LADY LOVE WITH EYES UNBEDAZZLED, WITH



MINDS CLEAR AND OPEN.

ZIONISM IS A REVOLUTION AGAINST JEWISH HISTORY OF THE PAST TWO MILLENIA, AGAINST THE CONDITIONS OF JEWISH LIFE IN EXILE WHEREIN JEWS LIVED ON THE MARGINS OF ALIEN SOCIETIES, AND ACCOMODATED IN THEIR POWERLESSNESS TO THE HARSH REALITIES OF POGROMS AND EXPULSIONS. ZIONISM IS A REVOLUTIONARY EFFORT TO ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT POLITICAL AND MILITARY SOVEREIGNTY, TOGETHER WITH A SYSTEM OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE, INFUSED WITH A SPIRITUALITY AND SENSE OF UNIQUENESS STEMMING FROM AN ANCIENT RELIGIOUS TRADITION.

"THIS REVOLUTION DENIES CLASS DISTINCTION AND RACIAL ANTAGONISM. ITS STRUGGLE IS FOR THE DIGNITY OF MAN AND HIS RIGHT TO EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND SPIRITUAL INDEPENDENCE." THUS WRITES PROFESSOR KLUBACK OF CUNY IN THE CURRENT (SPRING 1983) ISSUE OF JUDAISM, WHERE HE ANALYZES THE RECENT BOOK OF SHLOMO AVINERI ENTITLED "THE MAKING OF MODERN ZIONISM."

BUT THE REVOLUTION APPEARS TO BE FAILING OR FALTERING. ISRAEL IS BECOMING A MIRROR-IMAGE OF DIASPORA LIFE. INSTEAD OF BUILDING A SYSTEM BASED UPON VALUES WHICH COULD MAKE IT A MORAL LEADER, SHLOMO AVINERI SAYS IN HIS NEW BOOK "THE MAKING OF MODERN ZIONISM": "TWENTY YEARS AGO, THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN ISRAEL AND DIASPORA JEWRY - SOCIALLY, INTELLECTUALLY AND ECONOMICALLY - WAS FAR GREATER THAN IT IS TODAY. NOT THAT DIASPORA JEWRY BECAME SIMILAR TO ISRAELI SOCIETY, BUT ISRAEL CAME TO RESEMBLE THE DIASPORA.

KLUBACK SAYS: "THE ZIONIST REVOLUTION PRESUPPOSED A RADICAL SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE: THE EXILE WAS TO BE ROOTED OUT OF THE PEOPLE, THE PARASITIC QUALITIES ELIMINATED. THIS DOES NOT SIMPLY MEAN A CHANGED LAND, LANGUAGE OR POLITIC; IT SIGNIFIES A REVOLUTION OF THE SOUL."

AVINERI SAYS: "WHEN ISRAEL WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1948, IT WAS MUCH NEARER TO THAT IDEAL THAN TODAY, AS PRACTICALLY ALL THE WORK DONE IN THE ECONOMY WAS CARVED OUT BY JEWS. TODAY SIZABLE SECTORS OF THE ISRAELI ECONOMY HAVE SEEN THE DISAPPEARANCE OF JEWISH WORKERS FROM MANUAL JOBS AND THEIR SUBSTITUTION BY ARAB LABORERS WHO FLOW IN



DAILY FROM THE WEST BANK AND GAZA. IN WHOLE AREAS OF AGRICULTURE, THE BUILDING INDUSTRY, AND CERTAIN MENIAL SERVICE OCCUPATIONS, MOST OF THE MANUAL WORK IS DONE BY ARABS."

THIS CREATION OF A SERVILE CLASS WILL ERODE AND EVENTUALLY DESTROY ISRAEL'S SOCIAL UNIQUENESS. WE SEE ALREADY THE LOSS OF SO MANY VALUES SO DEEPLY TREASURED ONLY 50 YEARS AGO BY A. D. GORDON AND BEN-GURION. WE HAVE TODAY A GENUINE MORAL CRISIS ON OUR HANDS, OF THE SAME MAGNITUDE OF DANGER AS ANY MILITARY THREAT. IF WE LOSE SIGHT OF THE IMPULSES WHICH INSPIRED THE FOUNDERS - i.e. TO BUILD A STATE BASED ON THE EQUALITY OF MEN AND THE VALUE OF LABOR - THEN ISRAEL WILL BECOME MERELY ANOTHER SMALL NATION, NOT POSSESSED OF THE POWER TO THRILL, EXCITE OR MORALLY INSPIRE. IN SUCH A CASE, SHE WILL OFFER NOTHING TO THE JEWISH DIASPORA, WILL NOT AFFECT THE DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD JEWRY AND THE ZIONIST REVOLUTION WILL HAVE FAILED. ISRAEL TODAY FACES A HUGE MORAL CRISIS, AND ALL OF US TOGETHER, THOSE WHO LIVE THERE AND THOSE WHO LIVE IN THE DIASPORA BUT ACKNOWLEDGE ISRAEL AS THE CENTER OF JEWISH EXISTENCE, MUST WORK TOGETHER VERY DILIGENTLY AND SKILLFULLY TO RE-NAVIGATE THE COURSE TO MAKE SURE WE DO NOT CRASH.

THE VERY PHRASE - ISRAEL AS THE CENTER OF JEWISH EXISTENCE - IMMEDIATELY RAISES A PROBLEM. THERE ARE ISRAELIS WHO SAY THAT THE WORD CENTRALITY DESCRIBES THE REAL SITUATION - i.e. THE JEWS WHO LIVE THERE ARE THE ONLY ONES ENTITLED TO SPEAK ON SUBJECTS OF SEMINAL IMPORTANCE, SUCH AS SECURITY, POLITICS, INTERNAL SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND THE LIKE. ALL OTHERS, WHO LIVE OUTSIDE ARE PERIPHERAL TO THE CENTER AND MAY, AT BEST, MAKE MARGINAL COMMENTS. THERE ARE DIASPORA JEWS WHO SAY EXACTLY THE SAME THING IN REVERSE - i.e. WE WHO DO NOT LIVE THERE, NOR SERVE IN THE ARMY, NOR PAY THE TAXES NOR SHED OUR BLOOD, HAVE NO RIGHT TO SPEAK OUT AND EXPRESS OUR OPINIONS ON ANY ISSUES WHICH SUBSTANTIALLY AFFECT THE LIFE AND DEATH OF THE STATE AND ITS INHABITANTS.

BOTH ATTITUDES ARE WRONG. ISRAELI OFFICIALS, WHETHER IN THE GOVERNMENT OR THE JEWISH AGENCY OR THE ARMY OR ANY MAJOR INSTITUTION OR NEWSPAPER OR PUBLIC BODY, WHO SAY THAT DIASPORA JEWS SHOULD NOT TAKE PART IN EXPRESSING OPINIONS OR TRYING TO INFLUENCE POLICY ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND WHO RATIONALIZE THAT ATTITUDE BY THE CONVENTIONAL



WISDOM THAT JEWS WHO STAY OUTSIDE THROUGH FREE CHOICE CANNOT, AT THE SAME TIME, ACT AS INSIDERS, HAVE DECIDED THAT UNITY IS A MYTH AND THEY ARE WILLING FRANKLY TO SAY THAT THERE ARE TWO DISTINCT CATEGORIES OF JEWS WHO, LIKE REMOTE COUSINS, FIND THAT THEY REALLY DO NOT HAVE MUCH TO SAY TO EACH OTHER WHEN THEY MEET INFREQUENTLY ON SOME FAMILY OCCASION.

WOE TO THOSE OFFICIALS WHO MAKE SUCH A DECISION, FOR THEY ARE DOOMING THE FUTURE OF ISRAEL, OR AT LEAST RELEGATING IT TO SOME BALKAN EXISTENCE. ISRAELI OFFICIALS WHO TAKE SUCH A POSITION, NO MATTER HOW HIGHLY PLACED THEY MAY BE, ARE BLIND IN THEIR CHAUVINISM, MYOPIC IN THEIR NARROW NATIONALISM, AND ARROGANT IN THEIR JUDGEMENT. NO MATTER HOW FRUSTRATED ISRAELI OFFICIALS MAY BE BY THE FAILURE OF WESTERN AND RUSSIAN JEWS TO MIGRATE TO ISRAEL IN LARGE NUMBERS; NO MATTER HOW ANNOYED THEY MAY BE AT THE UNFAIRNESS OF THE SHARE OF THE DEFENSE AND ECONOMIC BURDEN THEY MUST CARRY COMPARED TO THE DIASPORA SEGMENT; NO MATTER HOW WEARY OR HEARTSICK THEY MAY BE AT THE DIFFICULTY OF THE STRUGGLE TO GROW AND PROGRESS; NO MATTER THE LEGITIMACY OF ALL THESE AND MANY MORE EMOTIONS THEY MAY FEEL - THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR LEADERS IN ISRAEL TODAY TO HAVE LOST THEIR SENSE OF HISTORY, WHICH SHOULD TELL THEM THAT A DIVIDED KINGDOM IS WEAK AND DOES NOT ENDURE WHILE A UNITED KINGDOM PRODUCES GLORY AND CREATIVITY. NO - WHEN ISRAELI JEWS DISPLAY A TURNING INWARD AND A DENIAL OF EQUALITY, DIASPORA JEWS MUST SPEAK OUT BLUNTLY AND STRONGLY THAT THIS IS NOT THE WAY TO THE UNITED FUTURE, BUT WILL LEAD TO IRREVOCABLE FRAGMENTATION.

BUT THE PROBLEM WITH DIASPORA JEWS IS THAT THEY DO NOT SPEAK OUT BLUNTLY AND STRONGLY, AT LEAST NOT UNTIL VERY RECENTLY. IF THE ERROR IN THE ISRAELI ATTITUDE IS ONE OF TENDING TOWARD ARROGANCE, THE ERROR IN THE DIASPORA ATTITUDE IS ONE OF TENDING TOWARD SUBSERVIENCE. THE DIASPORA JEW "COPS OUT" IN THE VERNACULAR, BY HIMSELF SHRINKING BEHIND THE SAME CLICHES. THE DIASPORA JEW SAYS - "I DON'T SERVE IN THE ARMY, SO WHAT RIGHT HAVE I TO SAY WHETHER ISRAEL SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT GO INTO WEST BEIRUT." HE SAYS - "I DON'T VOTE AND ELECT A GOVERNMENT, SO WHAT RIGHT HAVE I TO SAY WHAT ISRAEL'S FOREIGN POLICY SHOULD BE TOWARD AMERICA OR CHINA OR ANY PLACE ELSE."



HE SAYS - "I DON'T LIVE OR SPEAK THE LANGUAGE OR KNOW THE INNER DETAILS OF DAILY LIFE, SO WHAT RIGHT HAVE I TO EXPRESS OPINIONS OR TRY TO SHAPE SOCIAL OR ECONOMIC OR ETHNIC OR EDUCATIONAL MATTERS. ALL OF THIS COYNESS AND WITHDRAWAL AND SELF-IMPOSED RETICENCE ON THE PART OF THE DIASPORA JEWS IS THE MIRROR-IMAGE OF THE CHAUVINISM OF THE ISRAELI JEWS AND IS EQUALLY WRONG. IF THE DIASPORA JEWS CONTINUE FOR LONG ALONG THE LINES OF KEEPING SILENT AND WITHDRAWING, THEY WILL BE JUST AS GUILTY AS THEIR ISRAELI COUNTER-PARTS OF SPLITTING THE JEWISH NATION.

DIASPORA JEWS MUST OVERCOME THEIR SHYNESS: ISRAELI JEWS MUST WELCOME THEIR PARTICIPATION; AND THE PRICE OF THIS CLOSENESS WILL BE CONFLICT, WHICH WOULD BE WONDERFUL, FOR OUT OF SUCH FRICTION WILL COME PROGRESS AND GROWTH.

RABBI HERMAN SCHAALMAN, BORN IN GERMANY, PRESENTLY IN CHICAGO, WROTE A TRENCH-ANT PARAGRAPH IN HIS RECENT VALEDICTORY SPEECH AS PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE OF REFORM RABBIS. HE SUGGESTS DISCARDING THE IMAGE OF A CIRCLE WITH ISRAEL AT THE CENTER AND EVERYTHING ELSE ON THE PERIPHERY, SUBSTITUTING INSTEAD THE SYMBOL OF AN ELLIPSE WITH TWO MORE ACTUAL POINTS. HE SAYS: "INTENTIONALLY, THIS STATEMENT OF THE CENTRALITY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL IS A JUDGMENT. WHAT IS NOT IN THE CENTER OF THE CIRCLE IS BY DEFINITION PERIPHERY. AND WHETHER SUCH NON-CENTER AREAS ARE CALLED TEFUTZOT, GOLA, GALUT, OR DIASPORA, THE UNMISTAKABLE IMPLICATION IS THAT OF DEPENDENCY, INFERIORITY, AND IMPERMANENCE. TO THIS CLAIM OF THE CENTRALITY OF THE JEWISH STATE, AMERICAN JEWRY'S RESPONSE HAS BEEN LUKEWARM, IF NOT NEGATIVE. IT IS NOT A USEFUL ASSERTION. IT MAY, IN FACT, TURN OUT TO BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE.

THERE IS A TRUER SYMBOL TO DESCRIBE THE RELATION BETWEEN THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND NORTH AMERICAN JEWRY, AS PERHAPS ALSO OF OTHER SEGMENTS OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE. IT IS THE ELLIPSE FORMED AROUND TWO FOCI, TWO CENTRAL POINTS, HELD IN TENSION OVER AGAINST EACH OTHER WITH NEITHER CLAIMING NOR POSSESSING AN INHERENTLY PERMANENT PRIORITY OF STATUS. THE ELLIPTIC SYMBOL REFLECTS A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POTENTIAL EQUALS AND THEIR INTERACTION. IT CONSIGNS NEITHER TO INFERIORITY. RATHER, IT POINTS TO THE



INEVITABLE MUTUALITY AND NECESSARY RECIPROCITY BETWEEN THE TWO FOCAL POINTS. MOREOVER THERE CAN BE AS MANY SUCH RELATIONSHIPS AS THERE ARE VIABLE, ACTIVE JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN THE WORLD WHO WISH TO MAINTAIN THEIR RELATION TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL IN THIS MANNER, EACH BEING ONE FOCUS OF THIS ELLIPSE WITH THE STATE OF ISRAEL IN EVERY CASE BEING THE OTHER.

GONE WOULD BE THE VOCABULARY AND, HOPEFULLY THEREAFTER, ALSO THE ATTITUDE OF PRESUMED SUPERIORITY AND INFERIORITY. IN PLACE OF WHAT IS OFTEN MONOLOGUE THERE MIGHT BE GENUINE DIALOGUE WITH FAR GREATER LISTENING, GREATER CONSIDERATION OF THE POSSIBLE FALLOUT BY THE STATE'S ACTION ON WORLD JEWRY, MORE PERVASIVE, REGULAR, SENSITIVE CONSULTATION THAN NOW IS CARRIED ON. WE COULD EXPLORE AND LEARN TOGETHER THE USES OF POWER AS BAFFLING AND EXHILARATING TO JEWS IN ISRAEL AS IT IS WONDROUS AND STILL OFTEN UNSETTLING TO US. WE COULD BE SEEN AS PARTNERS NOT ONLY MATERIALLY, BUT ESPECIALLY IN A SHARED CONCERN OF ROOTING AND EXPANDING THE JEWISH PEOPLE IN THE WORLD AS WELL AS IN THE STATE OF ISRAEL. SHELILAT HAGOLA WOULD BE REPLACED BY A MUTUAL ENCOMPASSING, EMBRACING, STIMULATING AND NURTURING PARTNERSHIP. WE WOULD TRULY BE AM ECHAD BOTH USING OUR BEST RESOURCES AND WILL TO INSURE: "AM YISRAEL CHAI."

LET US UNDERSTAND CLEARLY - WE CAN HELP BY SPEAKING OUT - NOT BY SHRINKING BACK INTO A RESENTFUL SILENCE WHICH CAN LEAD TO ALIENATION. DISSENT IS NOT TREASON; QUESTIONING IS NOT HERESY; DISAGREEMENT IS NOT DISLOYALTY. THE LEBANESE WAR OPENED THE DOOR - A FLOOD OF WORDS AND EMOTIONS WAS RELEASED. THE HIGH PRICE IN DEATHS - THE CONFUSION AS TO WAR AIMS - THE SUDDEN MORAL ISSUE INVOLVED IN THE SABRA-SHATILA CAMP MASSACRES - ALL THESE AND MORE BROUGHT ISRAELIS THEMSELVES TO THE STREETS IN HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS TO PROTEST, ARGUE, DEMAND EXPLANATIONS; AND BROUGHT DIASPORA JEWS TO THE BRINK OF DOUBT, HESITATION AND A SEARCH FOR SOME WAY TO RE-AFFIRM THEIR LOVE FOR ISRAEL. PEOPLE WALK AWAY ONLY WHEN THEY DESPAIR. NO ONE DESERTS A CAUSE, ONCE BELOVED, EXCEPT WHEN THERE APPEARS TO BE NO ALTERNATIVE.

THE ALTERNATIVE IS THAT WE MUST DEEPEN OUR INVOLVEMENT. WE CAN HELP RE-NAVIGATE



THE COURSE BY GETTING MORE DEEPLY INVOLVED IN ISSUES WE SELDOM TOUCHED OR THOUGHT OF BEFORE. A FEW WEEKS AGO, WHEN THE YACHAD MISSION WAS IN ISRAEL, A GROUP OF 20 MEMBERS OF THAT MISSION MET WITH 4 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT TO DISCUSS THIS VERY BASIC QUESTION. BOTH THE AMERICANS AND THE ISRAELIS FELT THE NEED TO TALK ABOUT THINGS LIKE: "WHO IS A JEW?"; THE STATUS OF REFORM JEWRY; ALIYA; YERIDA; THE USE OF UJA FUNDS; AND MANY SUBJECTS WHICH WOULD FORMERLY HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED TABOO, AS BEING INFRINGEMENTS ON ISRAEL'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. NOTHING SHOULD BE TABOO. OPEN UP EVERY CAN OF WORMS.

I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT A HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT THIS WOULD BE. IT WILL LEAD TO TRUE PERSONAL FRIENDSHIPS WITH THE ISRAELI LAWMAKERS AND GREATER MUTUAL RESPECT. AS YOU EDGE CLOSER TO THE REAL PROBLEMS, TAKING POSITIONS, EXPLAINING WHY, YOUR ISRAELI COUNTERPARTS WILL SENSE THE GROWTH OF DEEP CONCERN ON YOUR PART FOR THE SAME ISSUES WHICH BOTHER THEM. YOU WILL NOT BE VISITORS, PARADING UNDER THE SLOGAN: "WE ARE ONE PEOPLE," BUT YOU WILL BE TRANSFORMING YOURSELVES INTO TRUE BROTHERS BY INTERNALIZING ISRAEL'S PROBLEMS INSTEAD OF ONLY THROWING MONEY AT THE PROBLEMS. SOME MATTERS ARE SIMPLY NOT AMENABLE TO SOLUTION BY MONEY.

UP TO NOW, YOU HAVE DONE BASICALLY TWO THINGS. YOU HAVE WORKED IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD THROUGH PHILANTHROPY, LOANS, INVESTMENTS; AND YOU HAVE WORKED IN THE POLITICAL FIELD THROUGH ADVOCACY OF ISRAEL'S NEEDS VIS-A-VIS PERSONS IN THE CONGRESS, WHITE HOUSE OR OTHER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AND MEDIA. BOTH THESE APPROACHES ARE INDISPENSABLE. YOU PERFORM THEM BRILLIANTLY, WITH SKILL AND CONVICTION. BUT THEY ARE NOT ENOUGH FOR YOU, THE LEADERSHIP. THEY DO NOT GO DEEPLY ENOUGH. THAT PERFORMANCE DOES NOT BRING YOU INTO A DEEP ENOUGH INVOLVEMENT WITH ACTUALLY SHAPING THE COURSE OF ISRAEL'S FUTURE, SO THAT YOU CAN CLOSE THE GAP BETWEEN THE PRESENT REALITY AND THE UNFULFILLED DREAM.

TO FULFILL THE DREAM REQUIRES A NEW INVOLVEMENT. LET ME BE SPECIFIC CONCERNING THREE SUBJECTS I SUGGEST AS REQUIRING DEEPER INVOLVEMENT. YOU MUST IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE CULTURAL LIFE, THE DAILY EVENTS OF LIVING, AND THE INSTITUTIONAL INFRA-STRUCTURE OF THE COUNTRY. IF YOU TRULY SUCCEED IN PENETRATING THESE THREE AREAS,



COMPREHENDING AND PARTICIPATING IN THEM, THEN YOU WILL COME AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO THINKING AND ACTING LIKE AN ISRAELI, OR AT LEAST UNDERSTANDING THE ISRAELI. FAILURE TO ACHIEVE THIS IMMERSION WILL LEAVE YOU A PERMANENT STRANGER AND OUTSIDER, NO MATTER HOW MANY MISSIONS YOU ATTEND, HOW MUCH MONEY YOU RAISE, AND HOW MANY ISRAELI FRIENDS YOU ACCUMULATE ALONG THE WAY. THEY WILL NEVER BE MORE THAN ACQUAINTANCES.

LET ME ANALYZE EACH POINT. FIRST, ENTERING THE CULTURAL LIFE MEANS LEARNING THE LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGE MEANS HEBREW. THERE IS SIMPLY NO AVOIDING THIS CHORE. THERE WERE ONCE OTHER GREAT INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES WHICH LINKED THE JEWISH PEOPLE TOGETHER ACROSS THOUSANDS OF MILES AND DOZENS OF COUNTRIES. YIDDISH SERVED FOR MORE THAN A MILLENNIUM IN CENTRAL EUROPE, AS DID LADINO IN THE MAGHREB AND PARTS OF ASIA MINOR. THESE TONGUES ARE ESSENTIALLY FINISHED. THEY HAVE RUN THEIR COURSE. IN THE CENTURIES AHEAD, THE LANGUAGE WHICH WILL TIE A JEW IN SWEDEN TO A JEW IN ARIZONA TO A JEW IN BEERSHEBA WILL BE HEBREW. BROADENED FROM A LANGUAGE OF PURELY PRAYER AND BIBLE, MODERN HEBREW IS WRITTEN IN NEWSPAPERS, SPOKEN ON THE STAGE AND TELEVISION, TAUGHT IN THE SCHOOLS, AND CORRUPTED IN THE SUPERMARKET, ON THE FACTORY FLOOR AND THROUGHOUT EVERY STREET IN THE COUNTRY. IT IS THE MOTHER TONGUE OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE AND THE ONLY TONGUE OF MOST OF THEM. ISRAEL IS AN INTERNATIONAL CROSSROADS AND MANY LANGUAGES INCLUDING ENGLISH ARE AT HOME THERE, BUT AS THE DECADES ROLL FORWARD THE PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION SPEAKING FLUENT ENGLISH WILL DECREASE.

INCIDENTALLY, THE MATTER OF HEBREW ALSO ESTABLISHES COMMUNICATION BETWEEN TWO DIASPORA JEWS, NOT EVEN INVOLVING ISRAELIS. THE OTHER DAY I FOUND MYSELF AT A MEETING SPEAKING HEBREW WITH A JEW FROM MEXICO. I HAD NO SPANISH, HE HAD NO ENGLISH - BUT WE HAD OUR OWN COMMON LANGUAGE. IT IS A PHENOMENON OF THE MODERN WORLD THAT THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY OF MEXICO, ADULTS AND CHILDREN ALIKE, HAVE DELIBERATELY AND CONSCIOUSLY LEARNED HEBREW IN THE 35 YEARS OF ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE. THEY ARE THE ONLY COMMUNITY IN THE WORLD TO HAVE DONE SO.

LANGUAGE OPENS THE DOOR TO LOVE, TO ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIPS, TO JOINT POLITICAL ACTION, TO HUMAN SYMPATHY, TO EATING TOGETHER AND HUGGING AND DREAMING AND FEELING



AS ONE. LANGUAGE IS SECOND ONLY TO THE EYE AS THE WINDOW OF THE SOUL - AND WHEN TWO PEOPLE OR TWO FAMILIES CAN SHARE THOUGHTS AND EMOTIONS, THEY CLOSE THE VOID BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND CREATE A COMMON UNIVERSE. LANGUAGE IS LINKAGE - WITHOUT IT THERE IS BLANKNESS AND BLACKNESS AND DISTANCE.

LEARNING A LANGUAGE IS A MATTER OF MOTIVATION AND PRACTICE. THE MOTIVATION MUST COME FROM WITHIN YOU. IF YOU WANT TO, YOU CAN. THE PRACTICE IS ANOTHER STORY, WHICH TAKES US INTO THE SECOND AREA OF EXPLICATION, NAMELY ENTERING THE DAILY EVENTS OF LIVING IN ISRAEL. IF YOU LIVE IN PEORIA, YOU CAN PRACTICE HEBREW THERE, BUT IF YOU LIVE IN PETACH TIKVAH, YOU WILL PRACTICE YOUR HEBREW BETTER. AND, YOU WILL SOAK UP MINUTE BY MINUTE THE MYRIAD MILLION TINY HAPPENINGS WHICH MAKE UP THE HUGE MOSAIC CALLED LIFE WITH A CAPITAL L. YOU ARE DOING YOUR LAUNDRY, OR PLAYING CHESS, OR MAKING LOVE, AND THE NEIGHBOR'S CRY FROM THE ADJOINING BALCONY INTRUDES WITH ITS MESSAGE OF DANGER OR TRIUMPH OR FEAR, AND YOU ARE INSTANTLY PLUNGED INSIDE SOMEONE ELSE'S LIFE. LET THIS HAPPEN ONE HUNDRED TIMES PER DAY FOR THE 100 DAYS YOU HAVE DEDICATED TO A LONG SUMMER VACATION IN ISRAEL AND YOU WILL HAVE EXPERIENCED 100,000 LITTLE NERVE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN YOU AND THE LOCAL POPULATION. STAY ANOTHER 100 DAYS AND YET ANOTHER AND YOUR FAMILY WILL HAVE BEGUN TO SUBMERGE TOTALLY INTO THE ENVIRONMENT.

I AM SUGGESTING THAT IMMERSION WILL SOAK YOU AND STEEP YOU THOROUGHLY SO THAT YOU WILL BECOME A REAL PERSON, LIKE EVERYONE ELSE IN THE SOUP, INSTEAD OF A STEREOTYPE. AS IT IS NOW, YOU ARE LOOKED UPON AS SOME SORT OF FRIENDLY CREATURE WHO COMES FROM FAR AWAY TO STAY A FEW DAYS, MAKES GESTURES OF HELPFULNESS, SPEECHES OF SENTIMENT, EXPRESSIONS OF IDENTIFICATION AND GENEROSITY - AND THEN DISAPPEARS UNTIL THE NEXT RED BUSLOAD OF YOU SHOWS UP, PUZZLINGLY THE SAME ALTHOUGH FROM DIFFERENT CITIES WITH DIFFERENT NAMES. SOMEHOW YOU ALL LOOK THE SAME, AS CHINESE DO TO OCCIDENTALS. THEY FEEL YOU LIKE THEM, AND WANT TO HELP, BUT THEY REALLY DON'T KNOW YOU. AT WORST, THEY ARE ARROGANT TOWARDS YOU - AT BEST THEY ARE PATRONIZING. ONLY A VERY, VERY FEW, THROUGH YEARS OF EXPERIENCE OR INTUITION, UNDERSTAND YOU.



AND, OF COURSE, THE SAME IS TRUE OF YOU TOWARD THEM. YOU DEAL WITH THEM THROUGH SLOGANS AND STEREOTYPES. YOU DO NOT SEE THEM OR FEEL THEM AS REAL PEOPLE WITH HUMAN AND JEWISH PROBLEMS.

YOU MUST MAKE A CONSCIOUS EFFORT TO LIVE THERE FOR A PERIOD OF TIME. IT TAKES MASSIVE REARRANGEMENT OF ONE'S PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, REQUIRING PLANNING FAR IN ADVANCE. FOR EXAMPLE, A FAMILY MIGHT MAKE A DECISION 5 OR 10 YEARS IN ADVANCE, THAT WHEN ONE OF THE CHILDREN IS OLD ENOUGH TO SPEND A YEAR AT AN ISRAELI UNIVERSITY, THE WHOLE FAMILY WILL MOVE TOGETHER. THE EARNING CAPACITY OF THE FAMILY FOR THAT YEAR MUST BE PLANNED; LEAVES OF ABSENCE FROM OCCUPATIONS ARRANGED; SCHOOLING ORGANIZED FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN; A PLAN OF LIFE MADE FOR THE YEAR IN ISRAEL; AN APARTMENT RENTED; A SCHEDULE ORGANIZED. FOR NOW YOU ARE NOT TOURISTS. YOU WANT TO ENTER INTO THE VERY BLOODSTREAM OF THE NATION. YOU HAVE LEARNED THE LANGUAGE - NOW LEARN HOW TO GRUMBLE AND COMPLAIN IN IT LIKE EVERYONE ELSE. NOW LEARN HOW TO SING AND REJOICE IN IT LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.

GO TO THE GREAT PUBLIC CEREMONIES ON INDEPENDENCE DAY OR MEMORIAL DAY IN THE MIDST OF THE GREAT STREAMS OF PEOPLE WHO WALK OR BUS TO THE CEMETERIES AND THE STADIA AND THE PARADES - NOT SITTING IN SPECIAL RESERVED SECTIONS IN THE BLEACHERS WHICH THE UJA HAS ARRANGED FOR YOU - BUT MIXED IN WITH THE MASSES. SPEND THE FRIDAY EVENINGS AT FRIENDS' HOMES WORRYING ABOUT THEIR KIDS IN THE ARMY AND WAITING FOR THEM TO COME HOME ON A RARE SHABBAT LEAVE AND TALKING ABOUT THE CHANCES OF THE NEXT WAR. STAND IN THE ENDLESS LINES CREATED BY STUPID BUREAUCRATS AND FIGURE OUT HOW TO ALTER THEM. THRILL TO THE MAGIC OF THE SUDDEN SUNSET IN JERUSALEM AND THE HUGE RED GLOBE SLIPPING INTO THE MEDITERRANEAN IN TEL AVIV WHILE WALKING ON THE BEACH IN JEANS AND SNEAKERS INSTEAD OF LOOKING THROUGH THE TOURIST WINDOWS OF THE HOTEL.

TASTE THE LAND, SMELL IT, LOVE IT, HATE IT - LIVE IN IT, FROM READING THE MORNING NEWSPAPER TO WALKING THE MIDNIGHT TOUR OF THE CIVIL GUARD. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY THAT YOU WILL EVER COME TO FEEL THAT IT IS REALLY YOURS IN A HARD TRUE PRACTICAL WAY, RATHER THAN JUST LOVING IT IN SOME DISTANT SLOPPY SENTIMENTAL MANNER.



NOT ONLY WILL THIS BE BETTER FOR YOU, BUT ALSO FOR THE COUNTRY. BECAUSE AS YOU LIVE THE PROBLEMS, YOU WILL WANT TO SOLVE THEM. AND ONLY BY STAYING THERE WILL YOU MAKE A DENT. THROUGH YOUR AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN CREATING VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS AND MAKING THINGS HAPPEN, YOU WILL ESTABLISH A SIMILAR TRADITION IN ISRAEL. MOST ISRAELIS THINK IN CONSERVATIVE AND CENTRALIZED PATTERNS. THEY BELIEVE THAT IF THERE IS A PROBLEM, THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD SOLVE IT. THERE ARE ONLY THE PRIMITIVE BEGINNINGS OF CITIZEN ORGANIZATIONS TRYING TO TAKE THINGS IN THEIR OWN HANDS. WHAT IS A HALF-CENTURY OLD PRACTICE IN THE UNITED STATES HAS YET TO CATCH ON IN ISRAEL - BUT IT CAN BE DONE.

REALLY MAJOR MATTERS, LIKE CHURCH-STATE RELATIONSHIPS, RACIAL AND ETHNIC SUSPICIONS BETWEEN POPULATION GROUPS, CIVIL RIGHTS, RECREATION PATTERNS, POLITICAL ELECTIONS, RELIGIOUS RIGHTS ARE ALL WAITING SOLUTIONS, IMPROVEMENTS, ADJUSTMENTS WHICH CAN COME ABOUT SLOWLY BUT SURELY IF THERE IS A CONSTANT TURN-OVER OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU COMING INTO THE COUNTRY, SENSING THE PROBLEMS QUICKLY, AND SEEKING SOME CHANGE.

I AM NOT TALKING ABOUT THE HEAVY PORTENTOUS MATTER OF "MAKING ALIYAH" FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE. THAT MAY HAPPEN, BUT RIGHT NOW I'M TALKING ABOUT A NEW KIND OF ALIYAH - ORGANIZING YOUR LIFE TO COME AND SPEND A PERIOD OF TIME - A YEAR, TWO, EVEN A HALF - LIVING INSIDE THE ISRAELI'S SKIN, SPEAKING THE HEBREW LANGUAGE. IT WILL BE MARVELOUS FOR YOU, MAGNIFICENT FOR THE COUNTRY - AND HELP RE-NAVIGATE THE COURSE. I'M NOT SUGGESTING IT ONLY AS A PLEASURE - RATHER MORE AS A DUTY. THIS IS A CALL TO DUTY, LIKE SO MANY OTHER CALLS TO WHICH YOU ARE TRAINED TO RESPOND.

THE THIRD AREA I REFERRED TO AS REQUIRING YOUR INTENSIVE PERSONAL PARTICIPATION IS WHAT I CALLED THE INSTITUTIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE NATION. BY THAT I MEANT THE INTERLOCKING NETWORK OF ORGANIZATIONS WHICH CONSTITUTE THE ANATOMY OF A CITY - ITS SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES, MUSEUMS, SYNAGOGUES, HOSPITALS, CAFES, THEATERS, BOOKSHOPS, POLITICAL CLUBS, RESTAURANTS, PUBLIC PARKS - ALL THE PLACES WHERE PEOPLE JOIN, MEET, INTERACT, REACT, SHAPE EACH OTHER'S OPINIONS, LEARN FROM EACH OTHER, RUB OFF ON EACH



OTHER, LOVE AND HATE EACH OTHER. THIS NETWORK OF INSTITUTIONS IS THE MATRIX, THE MOLD IN WHICH THE NATION IS SHAPED. ANYONE WHO WISHES TO HAVE INPUT IN THE SHAPING PROCESS MUST POSITION HIMSELF OR HERSELF TO BE OF INFLUENCE. SITTING IN SOME ENGLISH-SPEAKING TOURIST ENCLAVE PUTS YOU OUTSIDE THE KITCHEN WHERE THE STEW IS BREWING.

ISRAELI UNIVERSITIES MUST HAVE THE BENEFIT OF WESTERN YOUNGSTERS AND ADULTS ALIKE TO ADD AN INGREDIENT TO THE CAMPUS. ISRAELI CITIZENS WHO HEAR AMERICAN-ACCENTED HEBREW COMING FROM THE COUPLE SITTING NEXT TO THEM ON THE HARD BENCH OF THE KUPAT CHOLIM CLINIC WILL FEEL BETTER, BECAUSE THESE AMERICANS ARE ACTING NOT AS SUPERIORS BUT AS EQUALS, TAKING THE SAME POTLUCK. YOU CAN GO TO A DIFFERENT SYNAGOGUE IN JERUSALEM 750 SHABBATOT IN A ROW, AND BY THAT TIME YOU WILL HAVE SEEN AND HEARD EVERY KNOWN VERSION OF A BAR MITZVAH, INCLUDING FOOD, CLOTHING, MUSIC, DANCE, THAT THOUSANDS OF YEARS OF EXPERIENCE HAVE PRODUCED. THE GREAT SYNAGOGUE FOR TOURISTS LOOKS LIKE THE ONE IN SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA AND QUEENS IN BROOKLYN.

DIG DEEP - GO TO POLITICAL PARTY MEETINGS - LISTEN TO THE ARGUMENTS - LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT THE BOSSES - SMELL OUT WHAT DOESN'T SMELL GOOD - AND SPEAK YOUR PIECE. ARGUE FOR IDEALISM - ARGUE AGAINST EXPEDIENCY - PLEAD FOR HIGHER MORALITY - TALK ABOUT JEWISH ETHICS AND PROPHETIC JUSTICE - EXPRESS THE THINGS YOU BELIEVE AND DON'T LET ANYBODY MOCK OR SCORN YOUR NAIVETE. SOMEONE MUST STAND UP FOR ALL THE VALUES WHICH RELIGION TEACHES. AND THE SOMEONE MUST NOT BE A FOREIGNER, EVEN A JEW VISITING ON A MISSION. THE SOMEONE MUST BE SOMEONE WHO LIVES THERE, AND CAN SPEAK AS AN EQUAL.

TRUE, IF YOU LIVE THERE FOR 5 YEARS, YOU WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED THE EQUAL OF SOMEONE WHO CAME FROM A DP CAMP IN 1948 - BUT YOU NEVER WILL BE, EVEN IF YOU LIVE THERE FOR 55 YEARS. SO DON'T FALL PREY TO THE INFERIORITY COMPLEX. THE MINUTE THAT YOU TAKE ROOT AS ANYTHING MORE THAN A TOURIST, A FEW-DAY VISITOR, GRASP YOUR RIGHTS AND EXERCISE THEM. A LITTLE AGGRESSION NEVER HURTS.

YOU MAY SAY TO ME THAT ISRAEL'S PROBLEMS OF THE FAILING DREAM ARE SO REAL - POTENTIAL CIVIL WAR ALONG ETHNIC LINES; INTENSE RELIGIOUS CLASHES; A MILITARY



ECONOMY FOR THE LONG FORSEEABLE FUTURE; A PRECARIOUS AND EVER-WORSENING FINANCIAL STRUCTURE; POPULIST GOVERNMENT, POSSIBLY TENDING TOWARDS FASCISM - THE PROBLEMS ARE SO REAL THAT THESE REMEDIES I AM SUGGESTING ARE INFANTILE, EVEN LUDICROUS AND MEANINGLESS. SO WHAT IF SOME WESTERN-EDUCATED ELITE LEADERSHIP-TYPES LEARN HEBREW AND COME TO LIVE AND PARTICIPATE IN WAVES AND RELAYS, SPENDING A YEAR, OR TWO OR EVEN FIVE. HOW CAN THIS POSSIBLY RE-NAVIGATE THE COURSE?

DEAR FRIENDS - DEAR COMRADES-IN-ARMS - ONCE AGAIN EVERYTHING COMES DOWN TO THE STRENGTH OF AN IDEAL. THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT LOSS IN ISRAEL TODAY IS THE LOSS OF BELIEF. THERE IS STILL DEEP CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY OF THE ARMY TO DEFEND THE COUNTRY. BEYOND THAT ALMOST EVERY IDEAL HAS BEEN ERODED. YOUR COMING TO LIVE FOR A WHILE AND TO SHARE AND SHAPE, NOT BECAUSE YOU ARE RUNNING IN FEAR FROM SOME OPPRESSIVE REGIME, BUT THROUGH CHOICE, BECAUSE YOU SIMPLY WANT TO, IS THE GREATEST RESTORATIVE ISRAEL COULD HAVE. YOUR RE-STATEMENT OF THE IDEAL WHICH MOTIVATES YOU TO WORK FOR ISRAEL ON THE OUTSIDE, IN THE FORM OF COMING TO LIVE WITH ISRAEL ON THE INSIDE, IS THE MOST ELOQUENT ACT OF HEALING YOU COULD POSSIBLY PERFORM. YOU COME AND YOU HELP RESTORE FAITH IN THE IDEAL. IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THAT.

THE NATION NEEDS THIS FROM YOU NOW. MALAISE IS DEEP, BOTH INSIDE ISRAEL AND THROUGHOUT THE DIASPORA. THE EVENTS OF THE PAST YEAR HAVE CAUSED THE LAMP OF FAITH TO BURN LOW. TURN IT UP BRIGHT AGAIN WITH THE ENERGY OF YOUR YOUTH AND THE POWER OF YOUR CONVICTION. THE PASSIONS ARE THE ONLY ORATORS WHO ALWAYS PERSUADE, SAID A FRENCH PHILOSOPHER. THEY ARE LIKE SOME MAGICALLY INFALLIBLE LAW OF NATURE AND THE SIMPLEST MAN, ENDOWED WITH PASSION, PERSUADES BETTER THAN THE MOST ELOQUENT MAN WHO LACKS IT.

THERE ARE ONLY TWO INGREDIENTS OF TRUE LEADERSHIP: EARTHLY REALISM AND SKY-SCRAPING VISION. VISION IS NEEDED NOW, FOR REALISM APPEARS TO BE DETERIORATING INTO PESSIMISM.

LISTEN TO SHIMON PERES' WORDS OF EUGLOGY ABOUT HIS BELOVED MENTOR. THESE WORDS ARE YOUR SPUR TO ACTION.



"BEN GURION'S APPEARANCE ON THE STAGE OF JEWISH HISTORY CAME ABOUT AT A FATEFUL HOUR FOR OUR PEOPLE. THEY WERE A PEOPLE ACCUSTOMED TO DISASTER; HE WAS A MAN ACCUSTOMED TO FAITH. HE TRANSCENDED THE DISASTER OF HIS PEOPLE AND INSPIRED THEM WITH HIS EXTRAORDINARY FAITH. HE GAVE THEM A NEW SECURITY, A CREATIVE PRIDE. HE CONQUERED THEIR DESPAIR, AROUSED THEIR DYNAMIC INSTINCT AND APPEALED TO THEIR LATENT HEROISM; HE DEMANDED OF THEM HARD WORK AND DETERMINATION AND JUSTICE. HE LED THEM IN THEIR WARS, HE FOUGHT THEIR NEGATIVE HABITS. HE GUIDED AND CONSOLED, WARNED AND ENCOURAGED, HE TOLD THE TRUTH AND HE TOLD OF HIS VISIONS. HIS ARM WAS STRONG AND HIS SOUL WAS PURE. BUT ABOVE ALL ELSE HE EMBODIED THE SPIRIT OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE; A GREAT AND OBSTINATE SPIRIT, A REBELLIOUS AND STORMY SPIRIT, A SPIRIT THAT CHALLENGES THE RULES OF CREATION, A BELIEVING AND CREATIVE SPIRIT. AND DAVID BEN GURION, ALONE OF HIS GENERATION, NOT ONLY SYMBOLIZED THIS SPIRIT, HE WAS ITS GUIDE. THE WIND BLEW AND HE MAINTAINED ITS STRENGTH; HE GAVE IT DIRECTION AND HE ROSE WITH IT TO THE HEIGHTS WHERE THE PAST AND THE FUTURE MEET AGAIN, WHERE THE VAST PERSPECTIVES DO NOT DIMINISH MANKIND BUT ENDOW HIM WITH NEW ENERGY AND THE WILL TO FIGHT.

IN MIGHT AND IN SPIRIT. HE STOOD UP TO BOTH. HE DISTINGUISHED BETWEEN THEM. AND THROUGH THEM HE TAUGHT US THAT THE TIME FOR SATISFACTION HAD NOT YET ARRIVED; THAT WE STILL HAD A LONG WAY TO GO, AND THAT IF WE SPREAD THE SAILS WITH CARE, THE WIND OF HIS SPIRIT WOULD CONTINUE TO FILL THEM, GUIDING US ON TOWARD THE NEW DAWN OF THE JEWISH NATION."

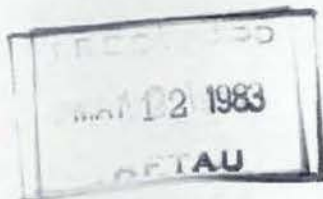
THAT OLD TRUTH MUST BECOME YOUR NEW INVOLVEMENT.

GIVE ISRAEL ALL YOU HAVE - YOURSELVES - AND YOU WILL HELP STEER THROUGH THE PRESENT ERA OF DOUBT AND CONFUSION TO A CLEARER MORE CONFIDENT FUTURE CLOSER TO THE DREAM OF WHAT WE WANT HER TO BE. YOU CAN DO IT.



For additional information,  
call United Jewish Appeal  
in New York, (212) 757-1500  
or

Norman Weiser  
Ext. 250



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UJA SCHEDULES NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE  
FOR MAY 20-23 IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

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Annual Gathering of American Jewish Leadership  
To Study Worldwide Jewish Needs,  
Salute Israel's People for 35 Years of Progress  
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ARCHIVES

NEW YORK, N.Y., May 9 -- The 1984 United Jewish Appeal campaign will be formally launched at the annual UJA National Leadership Conference, May 20-23, 1983, in Washington, D.C., UJA National Chairman Robert E. Loup announced today.

Conference highlights will also include an in-person version of the television public affairs program, "Agronsky and Company"; the annual Louis A. Pincus Memorial Lecture, delivered by Dr. Yehuda Bauer, a world expert on the Holocaust; a special luncheon honoring Yehiel Admoni, former Director General of Project Renewal; a Jewish Agency update with Agency Treasurer Akiva Lewinsky and Ra'anan Weitz, Director General of its Settlement Department, and a Salute to Israel's 35th anniversary with Israel's Acting Ambassador, Benjamin Netanyahu; U.S. Senators Carl Levin (D-Mich.) and Arlen Specter (R-Pa.), and actress Liv Ullman.

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The UJA National Chairman said that the 1984 campaign plan is a result of the cooperative efforts of leaders in communities across the nation to meet the "unprecedented and dramatic challenges that face us in the year ahead. We must meet our responsibilities to the world Jewish family by achieving our full capacity to give and our full capacity to serve."

Loup will present the plan for the 1984 campaign at the opening plenary, at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, May 20, in the Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. He will be followed by UJA Executive Vice Chairman Irving Bernstein, who will report on worldwide Jewish need in the coming campaign year.

Throughout the Conference, participants will examine issues of major concern to world Jewry and take part in workshops and topical seminars to sharpen their campaign leadership skills in implementing the national and community programs included in the 1984 plan.

The special version of "Agronsky and Company," with journalists Martin Agronsky, George Will and Anthony Lewis, will be a feature of the Friday evening program.

Loup, who begins his second term as UJA National Chairman, will be formally installed with other 1984 campaign officers on Saturday morning, May 21.

Following the installation ceremony, Professor Bauer, head of the Holocaust Studies Section of the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, will deliver the annual Pincus Memorial Lecture. This lecture series, covering topics of fundamental significance to Jewish life and history, is dedicated to the memory of the late

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Chairman of the Jewish Agency, who built bridges of understanding and partnership among world Jewish communities. Previous lecturers have included author Elie Wiesel, former Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Yigael Yadin, former Israeli Minister of Defense Shimon Peres, and Abba Eban, former Israeli Foreign Minister and Ambassador to both the United States and the United Nations.

The special Project Renewal luncheon plenary on Saturday, honoring Yehiel Admoni, former Director General of Project Renewal, will also introduce his successor, Gideon Witkon, who currently serves the Jewish Agency as Deputy to the Director General of its Settlement Department, in charge of the Planning Division.

Later on Saturday, Jewish Agency Treasurer Akiva Lewinsky will present an update on the Agency, and Ra'anan Weitz, Director General of the Settlement Department, will discuss "One Hundred Years of Settlements."

The Agency and the American Joint Distribution Committee, whose work in 34 nations worldwide will be the subject of a breakfast meeting on Sunday, May 22, are the principal beneficiaries of the annual UJA/Community campaigns.

A salute to the UJA Young Leadership Cabinet on the occasion of its 20th anniversary, and to its founder, Rabbi Herbert Friedman, will highlight the Saturday evening dinner. Actor-singer Theodore Bikel will entertain.

At a luncheon on Sunday, May 22, "New Strategies on Behalf of Soviet Jewry" will be discussed by Irwin Cotler, Professor of Law at McGill University in Montreal, and Father Robert Drinan, a former U.S. Congressman from Massachusetts.

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Afterwards, Conference participants will join the Washington, D.C. Jewish community in an outdoor festival concluding the community's March for Israel Day.

In a Sunday evening banquet to be attended by many members of the United States Congress, Benjamin Netanyahu, Acting Amabassador of Israel to the United States; U.S. Senators Carl Levin and Arlen Specter, and internationally acclaimed actress Liv Ullman will participate in a program to mark Israel's 35th anniversary. Thomas A. Dine, Executive Director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, and Mark Talisman, Director of the Washington Action Office of the Council of Jewish Federations, will preside at a Monday, May 23 in-depth "Washington Update."

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There are only two <sup>attributes</sup> ~~things~~ which count:  
Strength and justice

From strength flows conviction, goal, purpose, motivation,  
determination

From justice flows sensitivity, love of people, ethics,  
fair forms of society.

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There are only two ingredients of true leadership:  
earthly realism and sky-scraping vision

Pines -  
p. 72

"Security, science, statesmanship and settlement -  
these were the factors that he believed would do justice to the  
Jewish people. He once described the objective of Israel's policy as follows:  
"It is a policy aimed at establishing links with every state in which  
Jews live, so that the Jews who live there can maintain their links  
with Israel." Similarly, the aim of Ben Gurion's domestic policy was to  
create a state to which Jews would be able, willing and eager  
to immigrate."

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Also quote last p - pg. 76-77.



# Will to be involved

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH / Jerusalem Post Reporter

THE OLDER generation were content to make out a cheque and let Israelis spend it as they wished without interference. The younger generation, dissatisfied with the status quo, want to have a say, no longer content to be absentee landlords or silent partners.

Members of the recent "Yachad" mission of the United Jewish Appeal's Young Leadership said last week that they had neglected their duty in the past, having merely helped to raise money for the Jewish Agency.

"We've never taken the time to study the workings of the Agency," admitted Stephen Greenberg, chairman-designate of the UJA's Young Leadership Cabinet, "but we intended to do so in the near future, and some of us will take part in the Agency Assembly meetings in a few months."

The occasion for the "confession" was a luncheon at the Knesset hosted by four MKs — Ehud Olmert and Meir Shitrit of the Likud and Micha Harish and Adi Amorai of the Alignment — for 20 members of the mission. The encounter was not a formal one, since the MKs had participated in UJA Young Leadership "retreats" in the U.S. — intensive four-day dialogues — or will take part in them the coming year.

Harish said that his experiences at a retreat in Chicago were "indescribable, beautiful and exciting." Shitrit seconded that, saying that of all his visits to the U.S., the UJA event was "the most memorable I've ever experienced."

BOTH THE ISRAELIS and the Americans said they felt a need to discuss problems like "Who's a Jew," the status of Reform Jewry, aliya, emigration and the use of UJA funds.

While the founding generation of the state had cultural backgrounds that were similar to those of American Jews at that time, today most Israelis in their 20s to 40s either were born, or grew up here, and served in the army. They don't



UJA Young Leadership with MKs in the Knesset. At the head of the table is MK Ehud Olmert and then (clockwise) Stephen Greenberg of the UJA, MK Micha Harish, Michael Reiner of the UJA, MK Meir Shitrit, Carl Kaplan of the UJA. MK Adi Amorai, in a suit, has his back to the camera. (Israel Sun)

have as much in common with their American counterparts, said Harish, and thus a dialogue is important.

Amorai added that American Jews couldn't begin to comprehend how Israelis live until they realized what it's like for an independent businessman to spend at least six weeks a year in the army reserves; for a high-school pupil to leave his studies for three years, only to resume them after army service; and for a mother to worry about sons and wonder whether it would have been better to have had only daughters.

Olmert said that just as the leadership of American Jewish organizations is rapidly changing hands, and being run increasingly by the post-World War II generation, Israeli politics, too, are changing. When he entered the Knesset 10 years ago, he was the only MK under 30, and there were only one or two between 30 and 40. But today, "I can't begin to count the number under 40." Today, MKs of opposing parties go to soccer and basketball games together, and often to parties "where we dance with each others' wives." This creates mutual understanding that didn't exist in the previous generation.

Shitrit, who is also mayor of Yavne, said that he viewed defence as Israel's number two priority, the top one being the preservation of

the Jewish people. He suggested that all UJA money should be spent in the Diaspora rather than being sent to Israel, and invested in Jewish education and other means of preventing the "disappearance" of large numbers of Jews through assimilation and intermarriage.

The young Likud MK also iconoclastically called for the abolition of the Jewish Agency in its present highly political form. "Maybe they haven't heard that the State of Israel was established in 1948; they go on as if it hadn't existed."

Until American Jews come on aliya, said Amorai, they can get closer to Israel by investing here, building a second home, and visiting regularly. Only then will they feel a personal stake in the country.

THE 90-MINUTE meeting had been envisioned as a "dialogue," but it was more of an introduction to a dialogue, with the Israelis doing most of the talking. The Americans announced that a conference between young Israelis and American Jews will be held here this year, with frank discussions on controversial issues between the two groups.

Michael Reiner, director of UJA's young leadership office in Israel, said it was important to find Israelis who are not politicians, but representative of all streams of life, to attend the conference.