

ISRAEL MARKS MEMORIAL DAY

By Hugh Orgel

JERUSALEM, May 6 (JTA) -- Sirens wailed shortly after sundown last night to mark the beginning of Memorial Day, 24 hours of solemn retrospection, muted ceremonies and private grieving for the fallen soldiers in each of the wars Israel has fought since its founding in 1948.

The sirens sounded again this morning, at precisely 11 a.m. local time to announce the start of the main memorial services on Mt. Herzl in Jerusalem and at some 140 military cemeteries throughout the country. Speaking on Mt. Herzl, Premier Yitzhak Shamir declared that "Israel never wanted to live by the sword, but her enemies offered only annihilation or capitulation and Israel chose to live."

He said he was sure peace will come and there will be a day when Israel will not be forced to fight for its freedom. "We are ready to fight for freedom while yearning for peace," the Premier said.

At another memorial ceremony in Nahariya, Shimon Peres, leader of the opposition Labor Party, noted that a war is still going on north of Israel (in Lebanon) where "evil men" had sought to wreak destruction on Galilee's settlements. He said he hoped the danger would soon be contained, along the temporary line inside Lebanon and from bases within Israel.

There is now peace on Israel's southern border, Peres observed. "Not yet a complete peace, but better a partial peace than a total war," he said, referring to the "cold peace" now prevailing with Egypt.

Ceremonies At The Western Wall, Tel Aviv

The ceremonies last night centered on the Western Wall where President Chaim Herzog and Defense Minister Moshe Arens addressed a throng of mourners. "Nothing can console those who lost loved ones during Israel's wars," Herzog said. Arens added, "All one can do is keep in mind what would have happened if Israel did not face up to the challenges confronting it."

At the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv, Asher Ben-Natan, a former Israeli Ambassador to France and a member of the Labor Party, spoke critically of the war in Lebanon. "There was no other war in Israel like the Lebanon war, with its wide gap between the front and the rear areas, a war in which they (the soldiers) fought at the front while life continued normally in the rear," he said.

Ben-Natan, who himself lost a son in Lebanon, was interrupted by a heckler who shouted "no politics." The man seemed to have the sympathy of the audience. He was calmed by ushers but apparently not removed.

Memorial Day ends at sundown tonight and will be followed immediately by Independence Day, celebrating the 36th anniversary of the Jewish State. It is a festive occasion, following a day of mourning. The sudden change of atmosphere has, in the past, created emotional problems for the grieving families of fallen soldiers and others, espec-

ially since Memorial Day is preceded by the Days of Remembrance for the Holocaust victims.

But frequent suggestions that the Holocaust remembrance and Memorial Day be shifted to another occasion, such as Tisha B'Av, a day of mourning for the destruction of the Temple, have been rejected by the authorities.

This year's Independence Day will be on a somewhat smaller scale than previous Independence Days, mainly because of budgetary problems. There will be no military parade. The main event will be a football (soccer) match at the Ramat Gan Stadium accompanied by an Air Force display and free-fall parachute exhibition.

PROBE OF ATTEMPTED SABOTAGE OF ARAB OWNED BUSES NETS FIVE MORE SUSPECTS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, May 6 (JTA) -- The investigation of the attempted sabotage of Arab-owned buses in East Jerusalem broadened over the weekend as security services arrested five more suspected members of a Jewish underground organization believed responsible for acts of violence against Arab civilians.

A news blackout still surrounds the operation which netted about 20 suspects a week ago, all of them still in custody and under interrogation. None has been identified yet to the public. Six have been permitted to contact their lawyers but the rest remain incommunicado as allowed by the law in the early stages of a criminal investigation.

Most of the suspects are said to be residents of the West Bank and Golan Heights and to include among them army officers trained in the use of explosives. Security forces reportedly discovered an illegal cache of arms and explosive last Thursday in Kiryat Arba, the Gush Emunim stronghold adjacent to Hebron, and in the quarter of Hebron taken over some time ago by Jewish settlers from Kiryat Arba.

According to the reports, the search yielded a variety of arms, grenades and explosives, all of Israel army issue. The recovered weapons were said to have been issued to the settlers as part of the regional defense program and subsequently reported missing.

Settlers Won't Aid Sabotage Suspects

The settlers, meanwhile, are apparently trying to distance themselves from the suspects. The Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza decided over the weekend not to provide legal aid to anyone charged in the bus sabotage case.

That decision followed a week during which Gush Emunim spokesmen first denounced the arrests, then denounced the scope of the arrests but finally admitted that the settlers will have to do some "soul-searching" in response to mounting evidence of the existence of a Jewish terrorist underground based in the occupied territories.

Discovery of the group and of the bombs planted in the six Arab-owned buses, timed to explode during the rush hour on Friday, April 27, has been credited to an inside informant. According to press reports today, the informant was one of the alleged perpetrators of last year's attack on the Islamic College in Hebron in which four Arab students were killed and more than

a score wounded. The press reports claimed that the security services had in fact solved that crime two months ago but refrained from acting at the time because one of the perpetrators, turned informant, was willing to provide further information about the Jewish underground network and its activities. It was this informant, some press reports said, who alerted the authorities to the bus sabotage attempt.

None of this has been confirmed by any official sources. Nor was there any confirmation of reports that the investigation is seeking evidence to link the suspects with bomb attacks that maimed two West Bank Arab mayors in Hebron and with an alleged plan to attack the Arab university at Bir Zeit, north of Ramallah.

SETBACK FOR SHARON IN THE HERUT CENTRAL COMMITTEE VOTING FOR JULY 23 ELECTION LIST

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, May 6 (JTA) — The Herut Central Committee has selected 35 candidates from which it will draw up its July 23 election list in another secret ballot later this week.

The voting Thursday night was a weeding out process from among 140 party members who presented themselves for election to the next Knesset. But while the order in which the candidates were selected does not necessarily correspond to the order in which they will be presented to the voters, the outcome was an unexpected setback for former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon.

On the basis of votes cast, Sharon drew ninth place. Only two weeks ago he surprised politicians and the country at large by winning more than 40 percent of the Central Committee's votes in a two-man contest with Premier Yitzhak Shamir for leadership of Herut and the top place on its ticket. It was widely expected that he would place high among the candidates and that at least four of his supporters would gain places on the final list.

Arens Is The Most Popular Candidate

In the event, only one, David Magen, made the list and that in itself was considered a rebuff to Sharon whose supporters had predicted an even greater show of strength on the basis of his strong challenge to Shamir. The most popular candidate among the 35 was Defense Minister Moshe Arens whose policies have been publicly criticized by his predecessor, Sharon.

Arens won 571 votes, followed by Deputy Premier David Levy with 521 and former Finance Minister Yoram Aridor with 469. Aridor easily topped his successor, incumbent Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Ornan who placed seventh in the popularity contest. Herut's final election list, when it is completed this week, will be dovetailed with the election list of its Likud partner, the Liberal Party, according to a formula established some 20 years ago when Herut and the Liberals joined forces to form the Gahal alliance, which later became Likud.

Herut loyalists have been touting the party's internal election process as the most democratic anywhere in the world. But observers noted that of the 140-would-be candidates, only five were women, only six were Druze or Arabs and only 50 were Sephardim.

QUESTIONNAIRE DROPS RELIGIOUS QUERIES

LOS ANGELES, May 6 (JTA) — A company

which asked questions about religious beliefs in a test for people wanting to become security guards at the Olympic Games has agreed to drop the questions after the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith complained that the questions were offensive to some and irrelevant to the job. Applicants were asked five questions, among 160 in test, including whether they believed in the Second Coming of Christ and whether "everything is turning out just like the Prophets in the Bible said it would." The security firm which prepared the questionnaire signed the queries were part of a widely accepted screening process to determine patterns of thinking.

CELINA SOKOLOW DEAD AT 97

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, May 6 (JTA) — Dr. Celina Sokolow, daughter and secretary of Nahum Sokolow, one of the giants of the Zionist movement, died here last Thursday only a month before her 98th birthday. She will be buried on Tuesday at the Progressive Jewish Synagogue's cemetery in Golders Green in London, alongside the grave of her late brother Florian.

She died in a hospital after being admitted suffering from bronchitis. She had remained alert and involved in Zionist activities until shortly before her death. Dr. Sokolow's death severed the last direct personal link with the generations which secured the Balfour Declaration.

Born in Warsaw, she was the fourth of seven children of Nahum Sokolow, whose Zionist activities as writer, journalist and politician left a deep imprint on her earliest memories. Her elder sister Maria had accompanied their father to the first Zionist Congress in Basle in 1897.

A gifted artist, Celina Sokolow had initially wished to be a painter, but at her father's instigation, she studied medicine, qualifying as a pediatrician in Zurich, Switzerland. It was from there, in the middle of World War I, that she moved to London to join her parents, who had settled in England in December 1914.

Until the war broke out, Nahum Sokolow had been the secretary general of the World Zionist Organization which had been based in Berlin.

After her father's death in 1936 at the age of 76, she devoted herself tirelessly to keeping his memory alive, supported by her eldest brother Florian. This was no simple task, since Nahum Sokolow, the author of more than 30 books, left a vast literary estate and private and political archives filling the house from top to bottom.

Celina Sokolow always felt that her father's contribution to Jewish life and letters had been given insufficient recognition by the leaders of modern Israel. After much persuasion she finally permitted his papers to be transferred to the Zionist archives in Jerusalem. But the State of Israel has yet to honor her request that they should be housed in a special building facing the Knesset in Jerusalem.

Nevertheless, she never allowed such disappointments to cool her enthusiasm for Israel. In a Jewish Telegraphic Agency interview to mark the 60th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration in 1977, she saluted the then Premier Menachem Begin as a worthy political heir of Zeev Jabotinsky, for whom she had an undying affections and admiration.

Her final satisfaction came a year ago when hundreds of people came to her house to witness the unveiling of a plaque commemorating its historic connection with her late father.

SOME 150,000 PEOPLE RALLY IN SUPPORT OF SOVIET JEWS

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, May 6 (JTA) — Hoisting banners and placards calling on the Soviet Union to allow Jewish activists, Prisoners of Conscience and refuseniks to emigrate tens of thousands of persons today joined with national and state legislators, Jewish community activists and leaders in a mass human rights rally in support of Soviet Jewry.

Under hazy skies, some 150,000 persons gathered across from the United Nations in Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza in a dramatic display of support and solidarity with Soviet Jewry, a community under increased government harassment and intimidation as well as subjected to a government sponsored anti-Semitic campaign in the Soviet media.

As the current rate of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union continues to drop — 74 were permitted to emigrate in April — 1984 will be the worst year on record for Jews seeking to emigrate, according to the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry (GNYCSJ), sponsors of the 13th annual Solidarity Sunday for Soviet Jewry.

Only 1,314 Jews were granted exit visas during 1983, as compared to 51,320 Jews who emigrated in 1979, a peak year in Jewish emigration, according to the GNYCSJ. "Forty years from now, let it not be written of the Jewish community today that we failed to press the case of our fellow Jews, that we were disunited in our action and purpose or that we were afraid or felt powerless to stir up public opinion," said Herbert Kronish, GNYCSJ chairman.

Says 400,000 Jews Seeking To Emigrate

Of the estimated Soviet Jewish population of two-and-a-half million, more than 20,000 have been denied exit visas, many of who have been waiting for as many as 15 years, according to the GNYCSJ. Kronish said that some 400,000 have begun the process of applying for permission to leave the Soviet Union.

Those who have applied for emigration visas and are denied permission to leave are subjected to persecution by Soviet authorities and loss of employment. Failure to maintain a job in the Soviet Union can lead to arrest for "parasitism," a frequent tactic used by police against Jews wishing to emigrate.

March Greeted By Archbishop

Before gathering in the Plaza across from the United Nations, thousands marched for one mile along Fifth Avenue, led by Mayor Edward Koch who lit a "Torch of Freedom." He along with other officials were greeted for the first time in the history of the Solidarity Sunday rally by the New York Archbishop as the entourage passed St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Newly installed New York Archbishop John O'Connor greeted the marchers and expressed his support with the aims of the rally. He told Koch and other elected officials that "You are doing good work" for Soviet Jews. O'Connor indicated that he would participate in the Solidarity Sunday rally next year if his schedule permitted.

Kronish read a telegram from President Reagan expressing the Administration's support and concern for the human rights of Soviet Jews. "Both privately and publicly American representatives have repeatedly expressed our concerns to the Soviet leadership," Reagan said.

"It is our intention to focus public attention on this issue," the telegram continued. "I assure you of my commitment to do all that I can to ease the suffering of Soviet Jews and secure their human rights." But Kronish, after reading Reagan's telegram to the mass of people, criticized the President for failing to send a "high-ranking" official to today's rally.

Governor Mario Cuomo stated: "By declaring their right to the exercise of their conscience, the refuseniks have called attention to the same right of millions of other Soviet citizens, Catholics, Baptists, Orthodox, Moslem.

"By insisting on being Jews, they have questioned the very uniformity of thought and belief that the entire apparatus of gulags and mental asylums and interrogation centers has been put in place to maintain. That's why the Soviet authorities are so frightened and threatened by these men and women, by what they represent — the persistence of dissent, the tenacity of belief, the will to freedom."

U.S. Policy Toward USSR Attacked

Sen. Daniel Moynihan (D. N.Y.) questioned U.S. policy toward the Soviet Union and declared: "The time has come to consider whether the U.S. should continue to turn a blind eye to the Soviet Union's flagrant disregard for the letter and spirit of the Helsinki Accords. Our continued silence implies an almost obscene acquiescence to the Soviet's continued violation of human rights."

Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R. N.Y.) noted the Soviet government campaign to "undermine the very legitimacy of the Jewish people. Linking Zionism to racism, the Soviets are seeking to dehumanize their Jewish citizens repeating for all the world to see the Nazi efforts of debasing the very tenants of civilization. In squeezing off the flow of Jewish immigrants they attempt to cynically use them as pawns in the world of international diplomacy."

'All Of Mankind Has A Stake ...'

Among the speakers was Avital Shcharansky, whose husband Anatoly has been in a Soviet prison since 1977 for his Jewish emigration movement activities and who has become a symbol of the Soviet Jewish emigration movement. Mrs. Shcharansky called for the immediate release of the some 20 Soviet Jewish Prisoners of Conscience now being held on a variety of charges in Soviet jails and camps or in internal exile.

"Anatoly finds the courage to continue his struggle against the most powerful tyranny the world has ever known because he knows that Israel, its people, its land, its law — in all generations and in all places — is bound up with his struggle," she declared. "The spirit of the indivisible unity that is Israel shares the cell of the solitary prisoner in Chistopol Prison, my husband. All of mankind has a stake in the outcome of his struggle."

Koch Scornful of Chernenko's Book

Koch, in his remarks to the rally, noted with scorn a book written by Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko titled, "Human Rights in the Soviet Union." In it, according to Koch, the Soviet leader, for example, noted that the people of the Soviet Union read more books than anywhere else in the world.

"How many of those books and booklets had anything to offer to Jewish citizens of the Soviet Union and how many of them were filled with ridicule and hatred for Jews and Jewish culture," Koch asked. He suggested that Chernenko re-read his book professing human rights to all Soviet citizens.

AJCOMMITTEE LEADER SAYS JACKSON'S 'RAINBOW COALITION' APPEARS TO BE RALLYING POINT FOR BLACK SEPARATISM

NEW YORK, May 6 (JTA) — Howard Friedman, who was re-elected as president of the American Jewish Committee at its 78th annual meeting, deplored the fact that the so-called "Rainbow Coalition," which Democratic Presidential hopeful Jesse Jackson has sought to organize, instead of bringing diverse groups together "increasingly appears to be a rallying point for Black separatism."

Friedman told the gathering that Jackson's candidacy "has been laced by an attitude toward Jews, which if not anti-Semitic itself is certainly viewed by Jews as not anti-anti-Semitic—a position which if expressed by most other candidates would have long ago spelled the end of the candidacy, and oblivion for the candidate as a public figure."

The AJCommittee, like others in American society, Friedman stated, hesitated to express its profound disagreements with Jackson. This reluctance, he said, reflected its desire "not to exacerbate Black-Jewish relations and comes from our conviction that the ties that bind our two communities—our shared goals of equality of opportunity and social justice—are stronger than those that divide us."

Nevertheless, Friedman continued, Jackson's failure "to repudiate the ongoing embrace and intimidation tactics and extremist positions of Louis Farrakhan and other Black separatists is a failure which cannot be countenanced by people of good will whatever their politics."

The tendency of the Jackson campaign and its supporters to regard lack of support among whites as racism, and among Blacks as disloyalty to the Black community, strikes at the heart of what American pluralism is all about, Friedman asserted. "A campaign that asks Blacks to 'vote Black,' regardless of politics or position on issues," he said, "is a formula for divisive and polarized politics in America which can only be destructive of the interests of all Americans, including Blacks."

Says Jackson's Agenda Must Be Taken Seriously

Discussing the Democratic primary campaign, Theodore Ellenoff, chairman of the AJC's Board of Governors, stated that the American political community, including the American Jewish community, "must take seriously Jesse Jackson's agenda, which has much broader support than his controversial style would suggest."

"By underscoring the needs of the permanently poor, the recently unemployed and the shrinking opportunities for minorities and others, Rev. Jackson has illuminated some of the bleaker landscapes of the American scene."

Ellenoff added: "His solutions may not be correct and we have been appalled at the bigotry and insensitivity of some of his and his supporters' remarks, but the needs he dramatizes must be addressed."

On the foreign scene, however, Ellenoff said he believed that "Jackson dangerously places in the public arena a new discussion of themes which have been broadly supported by both parties for 30 years, and challenges the previous consensus." He continued: "Rev. Jackson would reduce defense appropriations to a level below the need seen by both parties, redistribute foreign aid to Third World antagonists of U.S. policy, and establish

a neutrality toward Israel that is at variance with the position of both parties." Ellenoff pointed out that Jackson is the first candidate for national office in the Democratic Party who has taken a neutral view of Israel's role in the Middle East and as a bastion of Western values. "Adopting such a position would diminish American capacity to defend Western values in the Middle East and elsewhere."

Presentation Of Awards

At the AJCommittee's annual dinner last Thursday night, Philip Hoffman, AJC honorary president, received the agency's Distinguished Service Award for his "decades of outstanding service." The AJC's Media Award went to Theodore White for "his lifelong commitment to enhancing public understanding of the nation's democratic principles and institutions." Dr. Gerson Cohen, chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, received the AJC's Akiba Award for "outstanding contribution to the enrichment of Jewish life through scholarship, leadership, literature and communal activity."

UN CHIEF PLANS TO GO TO THE MIDEAST ON A 'WORKING VISIT'

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, May 6 (JTA) — United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar announced that he plans to go to the Middle East "in the coming weeks" on a "working visit." He outlined his plans in an address to the 78th annual meeting of the American Jewish Committee here, attended by more than 1,000 guests at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel last Thursday night. The announcement was a departure from his written statement as distributed to the press.

De Cuellar, who appeared for the first time before a Jewish group since he assumed his post two-and-a-half years ago, said he believes that a solution to the Middle East conflict can be reached only through a settlement "which encompasses the security of Israel and the other states in the area, as well as the political and human rights of the Palestinians."

The Secretary General said the Mideast conflict "is an immensely difficult, controversial and emotional problem, and there is no easy solution." He said that the UN peace-keeping operations in the Mideast are very important because without them "the situation would be infinitely worse." He added: "I believe they provide a basis for experience and technique which can be built upon and could prove even more useful in the future."

Noting that he is aware that the UN is not "the best loved organization these days" by many Jews, de Cuellar stressed that the UN Secretariat, which he heads, "strives to avoid partisanship, while maintaining principle." He added: "The Secretariat is sometimes accused of unfairness. I sincerely believe that we are only for peace and for the future."

De Cuellar was received warmly by the audience. He was welcomed by a standing ovation. A UN spokesperson told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that no further information is yet available on de Cuellar's upcoming visit to the Mideast.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Israel's 100 Shekel paper banknote, bearing a portrait of Ze'ev Jabotinsky, has been replaced by a coin of the same denomination. It is worth about 55 cents at the current rate of exchange.