

At The Republican Party Convention: JEWISH REPUBLICANS, LONELY NO MORE By David Friedman

DALLAS, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- It may be hard to be a Jew, as the old Yiddish saying exhorts, but for years it has been hard to be a Jewish Republican, or at least lonely.

"We are not lonely any more," Richard Fox of Philadelphia, chairman of the National Jewish Coalition, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency yesterday at a reception that the group, which is organized to help re-elect President Reagan and Vice President George Bush, gave for Bush.

Fox and other long-time Jewish Republicans with whom the JTA spoke, believe that Reagan can increase the 40 percent of the Jewish vote he received in 1980. As a sign of growing Jewish support for the Republicans, the number of Jewish delegates and alternates total 104 out of the 4,470 alternates and delegates or 2.3 percent, according to official Republican figures. In previous years there were never more than 40.

The National Jewish Coalition said that as a sign of the growing Jewish participation in the Republican Party, it expects to be extremely active in the upcoming campaign. Fox said the Coalition will have seven fully staffed offices in New York, New Jersey, Florida, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Illinois and California, and will have a state chairman in 20 states.

Bush praised the coalition leaders yesterday for making the Administration aware of the views of the Jewish community and then taking the Administration's views back to the community. Stressing the Administration's strong support for Israel, Bush noted that this position came from the President's "heart."

A 'Revolution' In Jewish Participation In The GOP

Max Fisher, of Detroit, who has been active in Republican campaigns since 1960, said a "revolution" has occurred in Jewish participation in the GOP. He said he believes the major reason is that Jews have become more conservative and are troubled by such issues as quotas and the recent signs of anti-Semitism expressed by Rev. Jesse Jackson during the Democratic campaign for the Presidency.

Many Jewish Republicans seem to stress the Jackson campaign and the failure of the Democratic National Convention to adopt a plank condemning anti-Semitism as one of the reasons they expect increased Jewish support for Reagan this year.

George Klein of New York said he sees the growing number of Jewish Republicans as a sign of "maturity" and "political wisdom." He explained that the Jewish community has begun to realize that if they only vote for Democrats they will be taken for granted.

Klein said that in addition, Jews "realize" that a strong America guarantees a strong Israel, and that a strong American economy guarantees the U.S. ability to provide economic assistance to Israel.

Another long-time Republican, Gordon Zachs of Columbus, Ohio, said Jewish Republicans are actually the natural state of things since most Jews

were Republicans before 1932 and the election of Franklin Roosevelt. He said 50 years later, Jews feels more secure in the American society and have a feeling of affinity with the Republican philosophy on economic and social issues. He said the Republican Party is now making an effort to enlist Jews and Jews are more willing to be "pulled in."

Embassy Move Is 'A False Issue'

None of the Republicans felt that Reagan's opposition to moving the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem will hurt the Reagan campaign in the Jewish community. The Democratic Party platform calls for moving the Embassy and the party's candidate, former Vice President Walter Mondale, is on record as saying he would order the move if elected.

But Fox called it "a false issue," noting that when the Democrats were in office, they did not move the Embassy even though a call for the move was in the 1976 platform. Klein noted that most Jews want the Embassy move but they understand it is a "sensitive issue" and a "question of timing."

Not Concerned With Evangelicals' Role

The strong influence that evangelical Christians have had at the convention, particularly on the party's conservative platform, did not seem to concern the Jewish leaders. Fox denied there really was any such influence, saying that the platform reflected the feeling on various issues of the delegates.

Fisher said that he is "always worried" about protecting the constitutional guarantees of separation of church and state. "But I don't feel that it is an issue at this time," he said.

Rabbi Seymour Siegel, executive director of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, said he does not accept the proposition that if evangelicals get more influence that necessarily Jews and others get less. Klein stressed that for Jews to have more influence in the Republican Party and its platform, Jews should become more active in the party.

The real proof of whether Jews are going over to the Republican Party will of course come on Election Day, November 6. Zachs said he believes 1984 will see the "restructure of the allegiance" of American Jews that will continue into 1988 and beyond.

ISRAELI ATHLETES' POOR SHOWING IN OLYMPIC GAMES BEING INVESTIGATED

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- The poor performance of the Israeli athletic delegation at the Los Angeles Olympic Games earlier this month where Israel failed to bring home an Olympic medal will come under the scrutiny of government and sports officials.

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer announced today that he would initiate a thorough discussion on the performance of the Israeli Olympic team. The meetings will take place as soon as Yairiv Oren, director general of the Sports Authority, returns from a trip abroad. Also attending the meetings will be representatives of all sports branches in the country.

The poor performance of the Israeli athletes in Los Angeles and the relatively large Israeli delegation--56, including 38 athletes, 12 coaches and 6 officials--

came under sharp public attack. Critics of the sports authorities charged that Israel should invest much more in preparing a strong sports infrastructure at home, before diverting resources to the Olympic Games, where the results were disappointing.

Although Hammer's initiative was undoubtedly directed to drawing lessons from the Los Angeles Games, he said in a communique that there was no doubt of the political and competitive importance of continued participation in the Olympic Games.

The Israeli delegation did not fare well in the summer Games, and Israel has yet to win a medal in any competition since the Jewish State began participating in the Olympic Games in 1952. Israel's best hope this summer for a medal was in the 470 class yachting competition. But Shimon Brokman and Eitan Friedlander finished in seventh place in this event, well behind the winning score of Spain.

In other events, for example, Yehuda Atedji, finished in 14th place in the board sailing competition. Maya Bentsur was eliminated in the preliminaries in the women's broad jump. The Israel athletes in women's gymnastics finished in the 59th and 60th spot in their competition, while the men's gymnasts finished in 42nd and 43rd place in their respective events.

JOBLESSNESS IN ISRAEL REACHES A THREE-YEAR RECORD HIGH

JERUSALEM, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- Unemployment nationwide has reached a three-year record high, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday. According to their figures, joblessness rose by 45 percent during the past nine months, from 27,000 at the beginning of the year to 85,000 now, a rise from 4.9 percent of the work force to 5.9 percent.

According to the Bureau, the present rate of unemployment is the worst since the period of economic slowdown that preceded the 1967 Six-Day War. The situation, some economic analysts noted, is in stark contrast to Likud statements during the preelection campaign that the trend toward higher unemployment would be halted, if not reversed.

Bureau figures showed that unemployment among women is considerably higher -- 7.2 percent -- than it is among men -- 5.2 percent. In a number of development towns, the percentage of men seeking work is considerably higher than the national average, in some cases more than 15 percent of eligible male workers. A Bureau spokesman said that the exact numbers of the unemployed and the total work force during the nine-month period surveyed were still being collated.

Employment agency officials said that full employment continues in most high-tech industries, with a strong demand for engineers and skilled workers in many fields. They said most of the unemployed are among the unskilled and semi-skilled.

The unemployment rate is part of the nation's growing economic woes which include a 408 percent annual inflation, a rising foreign debt and a decline in the foreign currency reserves. The severe economic problem is one of the sticking points in the negotiations between the Labor Alignment and Likud for the formation of a new government.

3 MKs WHO DEPARTED FROM FORMAL OATH OF OFFICE CAN'T BE OUSTED

JERUSALEM, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- Three newly-elected members of Knesset departed from the required form of the oath of office when they were sworn in at the opening of the 11th Knesset last week, but Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir has

ruled that the three must be regarded as valid members of Knesset. But he stressed that, in the future, new members should adhere to the principle that oaths be taken according to the wording of the law without change.

Under that law, each elected Knesset member must declare, "I undertake," after the full text of the oath is read by the Knesset secretary. Avraham Verdiger of Morasha and Elizer Waldman of Tehiya added the words: "God willing." Rabbi Meir Kahane of Kach added the words: "And I will safeguard your Torah always and forever."

Zamir declared, in his formal opinion yesterday, that the three should have been asked to take the correct oath at the time but now it was too late and their oaths of office could not be nullified.

DULZIN: ONLY A UNITY GOVERNMENT CAN DEAL WITH THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- Leon Dulzin, chairman of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, said here last night only a unity government could be strong enough "to deal with the stringent economic problems" in Israel.

Speaking at the Saydie Bronfman Center here as a guest of the Canadian Zionist Federation and of the Harvey Golden Institute, Dulzin asserted that the solution of Israel's economic impasse required a reduction of "the present \$22 billion national budget by \$1.5 billion at least."

The other major problem a new government must tackle quickly is Israel's fragmented election system. He predicted that "in two years we will have new elections."

Dulzin said Israel must also "reduce our military budget and our standard of living which went up by 20 percent during the last four years. We cannot afford it."

Referring to predictions than an austerity regime would bring unemployment, Dulzin said "we must be very careful about unemployment because we will have to absorb some 20,000 new immigrants this year and therefore full employment is mandatory."

"So is encouraging new investments and expanding our exports," he added. He insisted that Israel's economy is basically healthy and that the individual Israeli had not been crushed by inflation because wages are indexed.

He said he did not think withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon was a "major problem" and added that peace with the Arabs would come "when the Arabs will decide to negotiate with Israel."

Dulzin expressed the hope that the free trade zone, now in final stages of United States-Israel negotiations, would make possible an expansion of Israeli exports to the U.S. market up to \$10 billion in a few years. He said achievement of that goal would solve all the financial and economic problems of Israel.

ISRAELI SOLDIER A FINALIST IN GENEVA COMPETITION FOR YOUNG PIANISTS

TEL AVIV, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- A 19-year-old Israeli soldier has been selected as one of the three finalists in the 40th Geneva competition for young pianists, the America-Israel Cultural Foundation has announced.

It said that Danny Gortler, of Ramat Gan, had been one of the four Israeli contestants from among the 90 who entered for the competition. Two Israelis were eliminated in the first round, and another in the second round. The field was narrowed Sunday to Gortler, and a Brazilian and a Japanese. The winner will be announced on August 29.

PORTUGAL SAYS NO COUNTRY HAS ASKED FOR TRIFA'S EXTRADITION

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- Portuguese officials said today that they have received no request from any country for the extradition of Rumanian Orthodox Archbishop Valerian Trifa who was deported from the United States for his role in the fascist Iron Guard that killed thousands of Jews during World War II.

Trifa arrived in Lisbon last week with a short-term visitor's visa and has applied for a permanent resident's permit. The officials said "Portugal will apply the law," but added that for the time being there are no legal obstacles for Trifa's stay there. Portuguese officials said they were unaware of Trifa's Iron Guard activities when they agreed to let him enter, but that they will investigate his past. Since entering Portugal, Trifa has denied any involvement in the pogrom in Bucharest in January, 1941.

Rumanian Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen said today that Rumanian Jews are "deeply grateful to the American government for having at long last exposed Trifa's past and expelled him." Rosen, who began a campaign against Trifa in 1961, also thanked the Rumanian government and the Rumanian Orthodox Church in Bucharest for constantly backing the demands for Trifa's exposure.

Rosen told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "43 years later it is legally impossible to punish Trifa for his crimes under the statute of limitations. The survivors of Rumania's Jewry now wish him long life, a life of wandering across the world with the mark of Cain inscribed on his forehead."

SPECIAL INTERVIEW AN OLD MAN IS DISAPPOINTED WITH TRIFA'S ENTRY INTO PORTUGAL

By Kevin Freeman

NEW YORK, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- The 87-year-old dentist, Charles Kremer, who has been involved in the years-long efforts to have Archbishop Valerian Trifa deported from the United States for his wartime activities as a leader in the Rumanian Iron Guard, said today that he was "deeply shocked and disappointed" that Trifa has been allowed to gain legal entry into Portugal.

Trifa, who is held responsible with the deaths of thousands of Jews and other citizens in wartime Rumania, left the U.S. last Monday under the escort of Justice Department officials. He had been stripped of his U.S. citizenship for having concealed his past activities when he entered the U.S. in 1950.

At the news conference last week announcing that Trifa had left the country, Neal Sher, director of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations, cited Kremer's activities before the legal proceedings began as one of several people who had sought to bring Trifa to public attention. Kremer was the only one cited by name.

Besides his activities in the fascist Iron Guard, Trifa wrote inflammatory newspaper articles, and gave speeches that incited pogroms against the Jewish community in Bucharest. The government's legal efforts to have Trifa deported ended after eight years when he boarded an airplane for Lisbon at Kennedy International Airport.

In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Kremer questioned the propriety of the government in Lisbon for having allowed a man with Trifa's past enter the country. "On what basis did

the Portuguese government give him a visa?" Kremer asked, noting that the Lisbon government said it did not have previous knowledge of his wartime activities.

Kremer was born in the village of Braila, Rumania in July, 1897. He studied medicine in Rumania until he says an increase in anti-Semitism caused him to leave his homeland. He stowed away on board a boat to Port Said, Egypt, and eventually made his way to New York, where he finished his medical training and was a dentist in New York until just recently.

Despite his bitterness that Trifa has been allowed to enter Portugal, Kremer said he is relieved that he is now out of the United States. "At least the United States got rid of a man who poisoned the minds of many people," Kremer said, and who "maligned American democracy."

Kremer feels that Trifa should be brought up on war crimes charges, in perhaps Rumania, or even Israel. The Justice Department had reportedly asked Israel to accept Trifa. No former Nazi or Nazi collaborator has yet been deported by the United States to Israel.

BANK LEUMI IN PARIS BOMBED

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- A bomb exploded last night outside the Bank Leumi LeIsrael, slightly damaging the main entrance and window panes. The bomb, described by police as small but highly professional, went off shortly before midnight while neighboring cafes and restaurants were crowded.

Because of the exceptionally warm weather, many people were sitting at the time of the blast at outdoor sidewalk cafes. A police spokesman said it was "a miracle" no one was injured.

Police investigators say it is evident the bomb was set off by anti-Israeli terrorists but no group has yet claimed responsibility for the attack. The Minister of Interior Pierre Joxe, and the head of the Paris police department viewed the damage and said the police department has been instructed to spare no effort to try and identify the terrorists.

Last night's blast was the third attack against the Paris branch of the Israeli bank. An extremist leftwing French terrorist, Frederic Oriach, was sentenced in June 1983 to a six-year prison term after he was found guilty of having instigated several anti-Israeli attacks, including one against Bank Leumi. Oriach said at the time he was "an anti-Israeli Marxist revolutionary" but denied a role in the attacks.

SUMMER TIME ENDS IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- Summer time ends in Israel at midnight (local time) next Saturday, when clocks will be put back one hour. Israeli time will then again be two hours in advance of GMT and seven hours in advance of New York standard time.

Summer time was observed in Israel for just over three months after Interior Minister Yosef Burg was finally forced to give way to popular demand and advance clocks by an hour "on an experimental basis."

He and observant Jews complained that the move would make life more difficult for religious Jews wishing to pray at regular solar times. A special committee is to examine the financial savings made by the reduction in electricity consumption following the later sunset hours.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES ARAB UN DELEGATES READYING THEIR FIRE AT ISRAEL IN UPCOMING SESSION By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 21 (JTA) -- Diplomats at the United Nations say that the Arabs will concentrate their attack on Israel during the upcoming 39th session of the General Assembly on two issues: Israel's continued occupation of south Lebanon and Israel's refusal to join an international peace conference, with the Palestine Liberation Organization, to solve the Mideast conflict.

The General Assembly is scheduled to open here September 18 and its agenda is already crowded with scores of items on the Mideast conflict and its ramifications.

According to the diplomats, the relative quiet between Israel and its Arab neighbors in the past year makes it more difficult for the Arabs to accelerate their yearly offensive on Israel in the General Assembly.

"They are expected to assail Israel for its continued occupation of south Lebanon, but they are likely to draw attention to the subject only if there is peace and quiet in other parts of Lebanon. They will not get the attention of the international community on the issue of Israel's presence in south Lebanon while the Lebanese are shooting each other in other parts of the country," one diplomat explained.

Issue Of An International Peace Conclave

The Arabs and the PLO hope to make the issue of an international peace conference a major topic at the General Assembly, believing that Israel's opposition to the conclave will further isolate it in the international community.

"The issue of an international peace conference to solve the Mideast conflict has been gaining momentum in the last year," an Israeli diplomat said. He pointed out that the International Conference on the Question of Palestine, held from August 29 to September 7 last year in Geneva under UN sponsorship, called for the convening of an international peace conference on the Mideast under the auspices of the UN with the participation of all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the PLO, the United States and the Soviet Union, "on an equal footing."

Recently, the Soviet Union renewed its call for an international peace conference, which Israel and the United States promptly rejected.

"The Arabs will try to lure the West European countries to support the idea of an international peace conference in order to leave Israel and the U.S. the only countries opposed to the idea. If they succeed, they will score a major propaganda victory," the diplomat noted.

Attacks On Many Issues

During the three-month Assembly, Israel will be targeted for attacks on many issues that have surfaced in previous assemblies. They include the following items, as they appear in the provisional agenda of the 39th General Assembly:

- * "Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy."

- * "Israeli nuclear armament."

- * "Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the population of the occupied territories."

- * "Israel's decision to build a canal linking the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea."

The major yearly debates on the Question of Palestine and the Situation in the Mideast will also serve as platforms for the Arabs and their allies against Israel. Israel's name is also certain to be dragged into the debate on apartheid, with many Arab speakers recalling the 1974 General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism.

Composition Of The Israeli Delegation

The composition of the Israeli delegation to the 39th General Assembly is somewhat unclear at the moment. Yehuda Blum, the outgoing Israeli Ambassador to the UN, leaves in a few days for Israel after completing six years of service as the chief Israeli delegate.

Because of the political uncertainty in Israel, no new Ambassador has been named to replace Blum. If an Israeli government is not formed soon, no new Ambassador will be sent to New York to head the Israeli delegation. It is expected, in that event, that Arie Levin, Blum's deputy, will serve as acting Israeli Ambassador during the Assembly.

NEW YORK STATE PLANS TRADE MISSION TO ISRAEL IN DECEMBER

ALBANY, N.Y., Aug. 21 (JTA) -- New York State will undertake a second Trade "Mini-Mission" to Israel in December, State Commerce Commissioner William Donohue announced today.

"The week-long mission, December 17-21, will give New York manufacturers a splendid opportunity to explore the profit and sales potential of the steadily expanding Israeli marketplace," Donohue said. "We expect interest in this mission to be brisk. A similar trade mission in December 1983 was highly successful, with some 23 manufacturers from across the State participating."

Sponsored by the State Commerce Department's Division of International Commerce as part of its continuing program to promote and expand sales of Empire State products throughout the world, the trade mission to Israel is being planned with the cooperation and support of the United States Foreign Commercial Service, the Israeli Ministry of Industry and Trade and the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce.

To illustrate the broad range of sales opportunities available in Israel, Donohue cited a recent report of the American Embassy in Israel, which points out that "non-defense imports from the United States increased to over \$1.5 billion in 1983, about 20 percent of Israel's total imports."

"There could be no better time for New York State firms to capitalize on this expanding market," Donohue said. He noted that Israel's industrial policy is currently emphasizing further growth of its high technology exports and, therefore, prospects for sales by New York State companies would most likely be in product lines complementing this focus of Israeli industry.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Caution: fresh vegetables may be hazardous to your health, doctors at the Haemek Hospital in Afula warned in an article published recently. The doctors traced a so far unknown phenomenon of toxicity to an overdose of pesticides in victims after eating a large quantity of fruit and vegetables -- even though they were carefully washed. The doctors found that despite the washing, the pesticides remained embedded in the produce, causing diarrhea, heartburn, stomach aches, insomnia and nervousness -- which were mistakenly diagnosed as psychosomatic and neurotic symptoms.