

# **JESSE JACKSON URGES RECONCILIATION IN SPEECH TO ANTI-SEMITISM CONFERENCE**

By Michel Di Paz

BRUSSELS, July 7 (JTA) -- In a speech clearly aimed at reconciliation with the Jewish community, the Rev. Jesse Jackson this week condemned anti-Semitism, praised Zionism as a "liberation movement" and called for Jews and blacks to renew their joint fight against racism.

The black civil rights leader spoke Tuesday at the World Conference on Anti-Semitism and Prejudice in a Changing World, convened here this week by the World Jewish Congress under the theme "My Brother's Keeper."

The three-day conference, which opened Monday, brought together several heads of state along with representatives of hundreds of Jewish communities in more than 60 countries.

An appeal to humanity, authored by Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel, was signed by President Bush and three dozen other heads of state and presented at the opening of the conference by WJC President Edgar Bronfman.

Wiesel's appeal proclaimed "our faith in tolerance as an essential lesson (that) events of this dying century have taught our civilization."

In his speech to the capacity crowd of over 1,000 people, Jackson urged the Jewish community to take action, with blacks, against racism.

"I call us to joint action -- bold and courageous action," he said. "The shrill voices of the extreme, often the most pained and least informed, must not take our eyes off the real institutional threats."

"Let us organize a mechanism, a safety net for resolving disputes and minimizing public confrontation," he said. "Let us discern between different methods while supporting a common mission."

"Let us not turn closed scars into open wounds in the name of freedom and candor. Let us be wise enough to act our way into a way of thinking, and not just think and talk ourselves into not acting," the Baptist minister said.

## **'Proved To Be Wrong'**

He suggested that blacks and Jews "share church and synagogue experiences, share our holy days, so that we might have a greater appreciation of each other."

Jackson's remarks could help heal his rift with the Jewish community and prompted Jewish leaders, even those who initially opposed his appearance, to express hope about working with the activist and two-time presidential hopeful.

Jackson and the Jewish community have been at odds since his 1984 reference to New York as "Hymietown" and his embrace in 1983 of Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat.

"I was definitely opposed" to Jackson's appearance, said Isi Leibler of Australia, co-chairman of the WJC's governing board.

"I was opposed because of Jackson's long record on anti-Semitism and on Israel, and because I thought there was a massive risk involved."

"But I was proved to be wrong," Leibler said. "I do see genuine opportunities now, if we move forward, to some sort of a rapprochement."

Abraham Foxman, national director of the

Anti-Defamation League, who also addressed the conference, was more cautious. He welcomed Jackson's remarks, but said that the African-American leader's reputation "is not a result of one word, one sentence or one speech."

"It is a record that has been marred by insensitive statements and a troubling unwillingness to condemn certain black extremists who repeatedly use anti-Semitism as a bludgeon against the Jewish community."

"It is a record," Foxman added, "that has been marred by an insensitive view of Jewish history, the Holocaust, Zionism and the modern Jewish state, its government and their policies."

## **One Speech Is Not Enough**

"One speech to the Jewish community in the Palace of Congresses in Brussels will not repair it," the ADL leader said.

"Rev. Jackson's opposition to anti-Semitism, to be meaningful, will have to be delivered in Bedford-Stuyvesant of Brooklyn and at black students meetings in Berkeley," he said, adding: "I reach out to him as a ready and willing partner."

Bronfman of the WJC told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he invited Jackson to address the conference because he "couldn't see how one can have a conference on racism and anti-Semitism and xenophobia without looking at racism in the United States. And I can't think of anybody who is more qualified to speak on behalf of the most oppressed people in the U.S. than Jesse Jackson," he said.

"I'm not sure that controversy is all that bad," he added. "This man is brilliant, he is a leader. Do I trust him totally? Of course not. Because he is not a Jewish leader, he is a black leader, he's got a different agenda."

"Do I think that he and I can work together to bring the black and Jewish communities together to fight against racism? Yes, I think we will," said Bronfman.

Jackson also spoke about Israel's recent elections and said the Labor Party's victory "is a breath of fresh air for peace and security for Israel."

Jackson said that he spoke with Labor Party leader Yitzhak Rabin by phone to express his happiness "that the people of Israel have spoken with courage for change and peace. It is significant that Rabin's election is seen as a sign of hope within democratic Israel, as well as within the Palestinian community," he said.

## **ARENS TURNS DOWN SETTLEMENT REQUEST, BUT MORE UNITS SLATED FOR JERUSALEM**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- As the Likud government marked its final days this week, Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek lost another round in his battle against Ariel Sharon's Housing Ministry to prevent the building of Jewish homes in the heart of Arab neighborhoods of East Jerusalem.

But at the same time, Defense Minister Moshe Arens rejected a request from Jewish activists to convert two army-run Nahal settlements in the West Bank into civilian ones.

According to the Israeli daily Ha'aretz,

Arens voiced anger at the request, saying the Israeli people had "spoken its word" at the ballot box -- namely that Israel should shift its resources from settlement-building to creating jobs and absorbing immigrants.

But that reasoning apparently did not prevail when it came to the question of building Jewish housing in Arab areas of Jerusalem.

Plans to build 200 housing units in the Wadi Joz neighborhood of Jerusalem were approved Tuesday by the Regional Planning and Construction Committee, despite Kollek's attempt to prevent the panel from convening.

The committee rejected a city plan to build a school for handicapped Arab children on the same site, with representatives of the Housing and Interior ministries proposing to build a Jewish neighborhood instead.

Another panel, the government committee for speeding up housing projects, was scheduled to meet Thursday to consider a second new housing project, this one in the Ras el-Amoud neighborhood, near the Arab village of Silwan.

Kollek sent an urgent cable to Interior Minister Arye Deri, protesting the speedy convening of the two committees, on less than 24 hours' notice, which he said was tantamount to "a last-minute political hijack."

He argued that approving the new housing plans was beyond the scope of the planning committee's authority and that it ran counter to the will of the Israeli people, as expressed in the recent elections.

"Why does one have to build a new Jewish neighborhood on the site which was designed to be an Arab school?" the mayor asked in a radio interview Tuesday.

#### **Request Was Made To Shamir**

Eli Swissa, the Interior Ministry official in charge of the central region, rejected the allegations. He charged that representatives of the city are the ones responsible for politicizing the committee's considerations.

Supporters of the Jewish housing argued Tuesday that the new enclave in Wadi Joz would be built on the border between western and East Jerusalem, in a strip between the Shimon Hatzadik Tomb and Mount Scopus, which is not heavily populated by Arabs.

The request for two new civilian settlements in the West Bank was made by Uri Ariel and Ze'ev Hever, two members of the Council of Jewish Settlements of Judea, Samaria and Gaza, at a meeting last Friday with outgoing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

They maintained that the Likud government had committed itself to creating seven new civilian settlements and that the two Nahal outposts -- one near Jenin and the other in the Etzion bloc -- were among the sites on the list.

While Shamir may have been persuaded by the activists' case, it is Arens, as defense minister, who has the final say over the building of settlements in the territories.

Arens, who announced after Likud's defeat in the June 23 elections that he was quitting politics, was quoted in the Israeli press last week as criticizing the "Greater Israel" movement for pursuing settlement-building relentlessly and ignoring the necessity of reaching an agreement with the Palestinians.

His refusal to approve the two new civilian settlements may have been his last chance to translate this conviction into action.

#### **LABOR COALITION COMING TOGETHER, WITH FOCUS NOW ON CABINET POSTS**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- Yitzhak Rabin seems to have nearly all the pieces in place to form a governing coalition, with most of his potential partners apparently in agreement on how to bridge their political differences.

Now the final, but trickiest, part of the coalition patchwork is under way: assigning the Cabinet posts. At stake in this stage is no longer principle, but power and pride.

"It's a complex puzzle," said Labor's Haim Ramon, who is expected to be named health minister. "It will take a couple of days, but I believe we will present our government to the nation on Monday next as scheduled, when the Knesset opens its first session."

The first public fight over the Cabinet erupted Tuesday, as Rafael Eitan, leader of the right-wing Tsomet party, seemed in line to be named minister of education. This incited vigorous objections from the left-wing Meretz bloc.

Meretz claims that as the largest of Labor's potential coalition partners, it should have the pick of the ministries up for grabs. Meretz believes the gruff-spoken Eitan, a former army chief of staff, is a poor choice for education.

Meanwhile, two outgoing Likud ministers, Justice Minister Dan Meridor and Police Minister Ronni Milo, spoke out Tuesday against Shas leader Arye Deri joining the new government.

Deri had deposited a letter with Rabin on Monday pledging to suspend himself from the Cabinet if criminal charges were filed against him. Investigations have been under way for two years concerning allegations of both public and private financial improprieties.

Outgoing Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir had drawn criticism for allowing Deri to continue serving as interior minister once he was under investigation, especially after Deri refused to cooperate with the police.

But Meridor and Milo said that appointing Deri to a new government was different than not firing him from the old one.

"This is a new norm for Israel," Meridor said, "and not in the right direction."

But Ramon of Labor dismissed this argument as hypocritical. He said Deri's letter to Rabin represents a new norm in the right direction.

#### **CHILE SAYS IT WON'T RECOGNIZE PLO**

By Victoria Verlichak

BUENOS AIRES, July 7 (JTA) -- Chile's vice president has assured the Latin American Jewish Congress that his government is not going to recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization.

After meeting with the Representative Committee of Chilean Jewish Entities, Enrique Krauss said, "The Jewish community can rest assured that this situation is not going to happen."

He told the group that "any intent to translate the Mideast conflict to Chile is due to fail."

The vice president's encounter with Chile's Jewish community followed several weeks of rumors and petitions by some legislators that the government give diplomatic status to the PLO.

The Jewish leaders who attended the meeting were also able to voice their concern that no progress had been made in the investigation of the attack on a Jewish cemetery in Temuco, where about 100 tombs were desecrated in April.

**MAN IDENTIFIED BY VISA AS JEWISH  
DECIDES NOT TO GO TO SAUDI ARABIA****By Tom Tugend**

LOS ANGELES, July 7 (JTA) -- After a month of off-again, on-again negotiations, a Los Angeles businessman has decided not to go to Saudi Arabia because his visa identifies him as Jewish.

John Schwartz sought early last month to fly to Saudi Arabia to enter bids in an auction of U.S. war surplus materiel left behind at the end of the Persian Gulf War.

On his initial visa application, Schwartz listed his religion as Jewish, and in return was notified by the Arab auction firm that a non-Jew should be sent in his stead, as "it is difficult to get the visa for a person who is Jewish (sic)."

After the Simon Wiesenthal Center lodged protests with the Pentagon and Saudia Arabia's ambassador to Washington, Prince Bandar Bin Sultan, the Saudi Embassy issued the visa, claiming that the kingdom does not discriminate on the basis of religion.

Schwartz picked up the visa at the Saudi Consulate in Los Angeles and prepared his travel plans.

Part of the visa was in English and part in Arabic, and shortly before his planned departure, Schwartz asked a bilingual friend to translate the non-English part.

"It says Yahood, which is Arabic for Jew," the friend told Schwartz, a Holocaust survivor and a U.S. combat veteran of the Korean War.

Schwartz canceled his travel plans. "I didn't like it, and to travel to Saudi Arabia with 'Jew' in my passport, I was concerned for my safety," Schwartz said in a telephone interview.

He then wrote a letter to the Saudi ambassador, saying, "This is unacceptable."

A Saudi diplomat in Washington, contacted by the Los Angeles Times, said it is necessary to identify a visitor's religion, because non-Moslems are barred from entering Mecca.

**ISRAELI EMBASSY WON'T BE REBUILT  
ON SITE DEMOLISHED BY TERROR BOMB****By Victoria Verlichak**

BUENOS AIRES, July 7 (JTA) -- Yitzhak Shefi, Israel's ambassador to Argentina, has confirmed that the embassy will not be rebuilt on the site it occupied before it was blown up by a terrorist bomb on March 17.

"We are looking for a safer place," the ambassador said on his return from a trip to Israel.

The embassy is temporarily housed on the ninth floor of a skyscraper in the heart of the city. Some building occupiers and former neighbors had publicly protested any intention to rebuild in the same place because of fear for their safety.

Thirty people were killed and some 250 injured when the bomb rocked the embassy.

"We still have to define precisely the new building's characteristics" and "how much we are going to spend," Shefi said.

He admitted for the first time that "the Israeli experts invited by the Argentine government to take part in the investigation couldn't determine if the explosive that caused the tragedy was inside or outside the building."

Shefi's statement did not, however, support versions on the street immediately after the

explosion that claimed it had been the embassy's own "arsenal" that had blown up.

After the bombing, Argentine President Carlos Menem said it was not clear whether the bomb had exploded inside or outside the embassy building. Construction had been going on at the site, and the president noted that explosives could have been brought in with construction material.

The Interior Ministry had said the blast was probably caused by a car bomb.

The Argentine government's official report, published May 7, said 12 pounds of plastic explosives, made from a material not available in Argentina, were concealed in a pickup truck outside the embassy.

**ISRAELI CONSULATES NOW REQUIRE  
SOME VISITORS TO TAKE AIDS TEST****By Hugh Orgel**

TEL AVIV, July 7 (JTA) -- Israeli consulates in a number of foreign locations have begun asking visa applicants planning on extended stays in Israel to be screened for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

Consulates in the Far East, Eastern Europe and Africa are requiring that HIV antibody testing be done before applicants are allowed into Israel for long visits.

And officials say the screening policy may soon be extended to other locations, or possibly to all foreign nationals wishing to stay here for extended periods.

The program to limit the spread of AIDS in Israel was disclosed Monday by Dr. Moshe Mashiahi, director general of Israel's Health Ministry, during a news conference at Ben-Gurion Airport.

The briefing was called to introduce an AIDS information display designed to inform Israeli travelers of the dangers of HIV infection abroad.

The display, which will be posted at the entrance of the airport's duty free shop, is directed toward the growing number of young Israelis departing on what has become a virtual rite of passage for those completing their military service: a backpacking trip abroad, usually to an exotic destination in the Far East or South America.

Mashiahi said that "with our young people going abroad by the thousands, it is crucial that we remind them of the risk of this fatal disease at the crossroads of this departure terminal."

Health Ministry officials said they were cautiously optimistic about containing the spread of AIDS in Israel. They said that since January, only two new AIDS patients have been admitted to Israeli hospitals.

The officials hope the new foreign testing program and the information campaign for travelers going abroad will help prevent the outbreak of additional cases.

But activists of the Israel AIDS Task Force have criticized the Health Ministry's approach, saying that time and money would be better spent on a broader local AIDS information program inside the country, especially among young people.

Pointing out that according to Health Ministry figures, there are now 1,000 confirmed carriers of HIV in Israel, the activists said the government should be trying to heighten awareness of how to prevent disease transmission.

The group also criticized the testing program at diplomatic missions abroad, which it called a "selection process with scary historical precedents and a violation of individual rights."

**JEWS ANGRY AT LONDON TIMES FOR CHOICE OF REVISIONIST TO TRANSCRIBE GOEBBELS**

NEW YORK, July 7 (JTA) -- Jewish groups are appalled at a decision by the Sunday Times of London to appoint a Holocaust revisionist the task of transcribing the diaries of Nazi propagandist Josef Goebbels.

The diaries have recently been uncovered in a Moscow archive.

Large crowds in front of the London Times offices this past weekend protested the paper's choice to assign the task to David Irving, a once-mainstream British historian who has turned all his efforts to trying to disprove that there were gas chambers used to kill Jews during World War II.

The choice was deemed "outrageous and grotesque" by the Anti-Defamation League, which called on the Sunday Times to reverse its decision.

"It's like using the fox to guard the chicken coop" said Kenneth Jacobson, ADL's director of international affairs.

The ADL, in its publication "Holocaust Revisionism -- Reinventing the Big Lie," exposed Irving as a pseudoscholar.

His "findings" include the charge that Adolf Hitler neither ordered nor knew about the policy to exterminate the Jews.

Irving has also called the diary of Anne Frank, a Jewish teen-ager hiding from the Nazis in Amsterdam, a forgery.

In Ottawa, B'nai Brith Canada's Institute for International Affairs sent a letter to Sunday Times Editor Andrew Neill challenging the paper's arrangements with Irving.

**B'nai Brith 'Astounded And Dismayed'**

"We were both astounded and dismayed" to learn about the decision, wrote Gabriel Nachman, B'nai Brith Canada national president.

"David Irving has used his historical research to a wrong end.

"We believe it to be most unfitting of the Sunday Times to contribute to Irving's financial well being and claim for respectability through arrangements as reported. The people of Britain have already paid enough to push back the scourge of Nazism," he wrote.

Irving has been commissioned to copy and translate the Goebbels diaries from glass photographic plates in Moscow's Central Government Archives.

B'nai Brith also wrote to Russian Ambassador Alexander Belonogov, urging the Russian government to deny Irving access to its archives.

In Brussels, at a conference convened by the World Jewish Congress to deal with anti-Semitism, WJC President Edgar Bronfman called the London Times' decision "unbelievably disgusting."

However, the choice "does serve a certain purpose," said Bronfman.

"It keeps the memory alive. Every time one person says it didn't happen, that makes 20 others say it did," he said.

In 1977, Irving's book "Hitler's War," which was published by Viking Press in New York, said that Hitler "didn't know" about the "Final Solution" to eliminate the Jews.

In his book "Churchill's War," published in Australia in 1987, he wrote that Churchill, not Hitler, had been to blame for the death of millions of civilians and Allied soldiers, ADL reported.

**CHILDREN OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS COME TO ISRAEL TO SHARE FEELINGS**

By Michele Chablin

JERUSALEM, July 7 (JTA) -- Rosic, an Australian woman in her mid-30s, told her parents she was visiting Israel this week but did not tell them why.

"It would only upset them if I told them the truth," she said.

The truth is that Rosic was attending the second International Conference of Children of Holocaust Survivors.

The four-day conference, held July 6-9, addressed many issues through a series of workshops and seminars, among them how to best educate the younger generation, and how to fight present-day anti-Semitism.

Perhaps even more important, the participants came here to share their own unique feelings and experiences.

For more than a decade, mental-health professionals have acknowledged that many children of Holocaust survivors suffer from emotional problems associated with their parents' experiences during the war.

Known as "Child of Survivors Syndrome," the list of "symptoms" is long but varied. Many of the children felt they had to be perfect, so as not to hurt their already suffering parents. Most were overprotected by their parents, who had lost the rest of their loved ones. Almost all yearned to ask about the past but were afraid to hear the answers.

The result has been a generation of over-achieving children, now in their 30s and 40s, who suffer the effects of the Holocaust without having lived through it.

**Parents Will Not Discuss The Past**

"Being a child of a Holocaust survivor isn't easy," said Rosic. "My parents will not discuss their past, so I feel that I am also missing a past. I came to this conference to meet other people in the same situation. In some ways, I think we are all looking for our identities."

Ellie, who immigrated to Israel from the United States many years ago, remembers that "there was always a sense that my siblings and I were different. We always felt apart from the American Jews who didn't go through the Holocaust.

"We and our parents had a mutual, unspoken agreement never to bring up the past," she said, "and the house felt like it was full of ghosts. There was a sense of suffering at home, perhaps because my parents felt guilty for surviving when their families hadn't."

She recalled feeling "that we weren't supposed to enjoy ourselves. Unlike my friends' folks, my parents almost never went to a restaurant, to a movie or on vacation. They were terribly overprotective, perhaps because we were all they had."

Ellie's own children, she said, have been affected by their grandparents' experiences 50 years ago. "One day my Israeli-born son said to me, 'Mom, if we were living during the Holocaust, you would give me your last piece of bread, and I would give it back to you.'"

Her children, said Ellie, have also served as a bridge between the generations. "My son persuaded my mother to sit down before a tape recorder so he could hear her experiences. They sat together for four hours," she said.