

**LEADING AMERICAN JEWISH FIGURE  
URGES JEWS TO FOCUS ON CONTINUITY****By Larry Yudelson**

NEW YORK, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- One of the most prominent leaders of the organized American Jewish community has called on that community to treat Jewish renewal and continuity with the same seriousness that it devotes to its fund-raising campaigns.

Shoshana Cardin, outgoing chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, made that plea in a groundbreaking speech to the 61st General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations.

Her remarks Thursday contained more than a hint of criticism of the organized Jewish community, which, she said, must tear down the barriers that have kept Jews away.

She urged as well that Jewish knowledge and spirituality take its place with political action on the Jewish agenda, and that federations must recognize synagogues as partners.

Her address came as the G.A. began a day devoted to the issues of Jewish identity and continuity, and the role the federation movement can play in the process.

And it came as Cardin herself is moving from the world of Jewish statecraft, exemplified by the Conference of Presidents, to the world of Jewish soulcraft preached by CLAL, the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership.

Cardin, who has just finished a stint as chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, will now assume the CLAL presidency.

Cardin began by reciting the federation movement's long history of promising to battle assimilation and its short record of following through on those pledges.

"What is different now," she told several thousand delegates to the organized Jewish community's national convention, "is that you in this room, your leaders, your peers, your co-workers, your colleagues, have agreed that this is in fact the priority.

**'Willing To Make It Our Priority'**

"We have said yes, and are willing to make it our priority, to inject the funds necessary, and to reach out to those who are willing to help."

What has also changed, said Cardin, herself a former president of the CJF, is that the federation movement has begun to act as a whole.

"We did it when it came to issues of our brethren outside the U.S.," said Cardin.

She was referring to the arrangements by which a national system was established to pay for the resettling of Soviet immigrants in the United States, and by which \$900 million in loans to Soviet immigrants in Israel were backed by federation assets.

"Now we must address, with the same commitment and focus, the issue of Jewish identity," she said.

The trend toward "collective and continental responsibility" by the federations is at the heart of the new bylaws of the CJF that were scheduled for a vote on Friday.

Cardin also addressed herself implicitly to the fears that the federation movement in gener-

al, and the CJF in particular, is seeking to take control of American Jewish life.

"The process this time must be different," she said. "Federations cannot control the process (of renewing Jewish identity). The CJF cannot own the process.

"It belongs to all of us. To those of us who are spiritual by nature, and believe the synagogue is the one and only place for a spiritual revival.

"And it belongs to those of us who are far, far afield, whose voice is dissonant, and wants to join the community.

"We must learn to accept everyone who defines himself, or herself, as a Jew," she said.

"It may not be comfortable, it may not be easy. But every Jew has a right to belong, every Jew has a right of entry, and must not have any barriers -- and we do. We need not follow their dictates, but we must let them belong."

**Looking For 'Soul-Building'**

Cardin, consciously echoing the student protesters who more than 20 years ago disrupted the G.A. with their demands that attention be paid to Jewish education, warned that remembering the Holocaust cannot move the Jewish people into the 21st century.

"That will not motivate the next generation to be Jewish. What will motivate them is pleasure, joy and pride," she said.

To transmit that joy, she said, it is necessary to "understand what it is to be Jewish."

And she suggested that Jewish knowledge be considered among the criteria for selecting Jewish leadership, in addition to organizational and financial skills.

"We must recognize that where there is no knowledge, there is no understanding. We are not looking for buildings, but for personal soul-building. A return to that which makes us human, a return to what makes us different as Jews, a return to the spirituality we see in others and cannot define," she said.

Cardin said that the problem of continuity cannot be solved just by a national commission or the plan of a national organization.

"In this age of high tech, we have to start with low touch. We must do it one to one.

"You and I can make a difference, from sharing what we believe."

**DINKINS ASKS G.A. LEADERS FOR HELP  
IN HEALING RIFT WITH BLACK COMMUNITY  
By Debra Nussbaum Cohen**

NEW YORK, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- In remarks to several thousand Jewish federation leaders gathered here for the Council of Jewish Federations General Assembly, New York City Mayor David Dinkins asked for their help in repairing the rift between blacks and Jews.

In his welcoming statement to the delegates, Dinkins said he needed their aid "in healing the wounds that have opened up between our communities, because many more things bind us together than keep us apart."

He announced that Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel has agreed to spearhead a citywide campaign against anti-Semitism and hatred.

The rift between the Dinkins administration

and parts of the Jewish community has widened considerably in New York since the acquittal last month of the only person thus far charged in the August 1991 murder of Hasidic scholar Yankel Rosenbaum in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn.

Dinkins offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of Rosenbaum's murderer, after the verdict was handed down Oct. 29, but did not go to Crown Heights to address the angry Jewish community, as many there hoped he would.

At the G.A. on Wednesday, the mayor promised that newly installed New York Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly and he "are completely committed to finding the people who took part in the lynching of Rosenbaum."

But many in Crown Heights, as well as Jewish activists like Rabbi Avi Weiss of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, blame Dinkins for ordering police to hold back during the rioting in 1991, a charge Dinkins has consistently denied.

According to Weiss, Dinkins or another city official ordered police restraint during the rioting, and if he himself did not issue the orders, says Weiss, then the mayor has a responsibility to find out who did.

Police officials and Dinkins have said that police were simply caught unprepared by the outbreak of rioting by blacks in Crown Heights, which began after the driver of a car in the Lubavitcher rebbe's entourage accidentally hit two black children playing on the sidewalk, killing one and injuring the other.

#### Protests 'Overheated Language'

The New York Board of Rabbis joined the African-American Clergy Council on Nov. 4 and commended the mayor for his efforts.

Dinkins, however, seems frustrated by the fact that Jewish leaders in Crown Heights, and Weiss, continue to point to him as being responsible for what has happened in the Crown Heights case.

In his address to federation leaders, Dinkins asked for an end to what he called "overheated language," apparently referring to recent statements by Weiss and some Lubavitch leaders.

On Sunday, Weiss led about 300 demonstrators in a mock funeral in front of the mayor's residence.

"I know that the overheated language of the last few days can only divide our city further -- and that it must give way to goodwill and understanding if we are to get beyond the terrible events in Crown Heights last year," Dinkins told the CJF plenary.

The mayor added that "no member of the African-American community has spoken out more forcefully and consistently against anti-Semitism than I -- even when my own life was threatened for doing so, several years back, by a community leader who made anti-Semitic remarks.

"But so far, despite the best efforts of the best police department in the world, for the family of Yankel Rosenbaum and his community, there has been no justice. And the verdict rendered a week and a half ago by a Brooklyn jury only plunged them more deeply into grief and sharpened their pain.

"As a father and grandfather, as a son and a brother, I have some sense of the pain they feel -- and I can hardly blame them for lashing out at any target in sight -- even if that target is me."

#### CLINTON NAMES A JEWISH ADVISER TO HEAD FOREIGN POLICY TRANSITION By Cynthia Mann States News Service

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- President-elect Bill Clinton has named Samuel (Sandy) Berger, his longtime friend and trusted campaign foreign policy adviser, to head the national security policy board of his transition team.

The appointment of Berger, who is Jewish, was one of several transition posts announced by the Clinton operation Thursday. Other Jews appointed to prominent posts include Eli Segal, as chief financial officer; Al From, as assistant director for domestic policy; and Rahm Emanuel, as coordinator of the inaugural.

At a news conference in Little Rock, Ark., Clinton said the appointment of policy chiefs puts the transition process into "high gear" and reflects "the most qualified and diverse people available."

Clinton said he will appoint a secretary of state who "understands the obligations of continuity and change" in foreign policy. He said the "pillars of our national security" must be an altered but strong defense, promotion of democracy, and global and domestic economic growth.

The president-elect singled out the Middle East peace process, saying he is committed to keeping it "on track and doing whatever I can to make sure there is no break in continuity."

Clinton delivered his briefing flanked by Vice President-elect Al Gore and stressed that their relationship throughout the transition has been and will be a "partnership" that is "perhaps unprecedented."

That should please the pro-Israel community, which has found the Tennessee politician to be a supportive voice in the Senate.

#### 'A Very Positive Choice'

Berger, 46, served as deputy director for policy planning at the State Department in the Carter administration. Now a partner in the Washington law firm of Hogan & Hartson, he has kept his hand in foreign policy in the interim by serving as an adviser to Democratic think tanks.

The naming of Berger, who is known as a centrist, an internationalist and a consensus-builder, was welcomed in several quarters.

"He's a superb professional," said Gail Pressberg, co-director of Americans for Peace Now, several of whose board members are close to Berger.

"He'll be able to balance the Clinton-Gore team's wish for change with continuity in the national security arena," she said.

"It's a very positive choice," said Judith Kipper, Middle East scholar with the Brookings Institution, who has associated with Berger socially and professionally.

"He is very balanced, thoughtful and experienced, and very close to the president-elect," she said.

Kipper said the appointment sends a signal that is important for the process of putting together a foreign policy team. She said he is "inclusive and open-minded," thoughtful and "steady as the Rock of Gibraltar."

Berger is a member of the board of trustees of his Washington synagogue, Temple Sinai, where he served as vice president last year.

Rabbi Fred Reiner, the temple's senior rabbi, called Berger "a real pillar of the congregation."

## ISRAEL REJOINS REFUGEE TALKS AFTER ALL-NIGHT NEGOTIATIONS

By Bram D. Eisenthal

OTTAWA, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- Israel returned to multilateral peace talks on Middle East refugees here after receiving assurances that the head of the Palestinian delegation was no longer a member of a group affiliated with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The Israeli delegation had walked out of the talks Wednesday because it objected to participation by Mohammad Hallaj, a member of the Palestine National Council.

"Hallaj is not currently a member of the PNC," said Israeli delegation spokeswoman Ruth Yaron, after all-night negotiations to resolve the crisis.

Israeli officials said they had received written assurances from the United States concerning Hallaj's current status.

Canadian government spokesman Rodney Moore told reporters that Hallaj's membership in the PNC had "lapsed" in 1991. His statement was in contrast with Hallaj's own reiteration upon his arrival here that he was a member of that body.

The formula for overcoming the impasse came after Israel charged the Palestinians with violating an understanding reached Oct. 9 through Egyptian mediation.

Under that understanding, Israel agreed to lift the ban imposed by the previous Likud government on participation by Palestinians living outside the territories, in return for assurances on the exclusion of those directly associated with the PLO.

Israel had boycotted the earlier round of refugee talks held here last May.

Joining the conference table on Thursday, Israeli delegation head Shlomo Ben-Ami called on Palestinians to join as "full partners" in the international peace effort.

He pointed out Israel's own status as a haven for refugees. "A nation of refugees like ours must be actively involved in the search for humane solutions to the plight of refugees," he said.

He said the two days of multilateral talks attended by 38 nations helped bolster the negotiations taking place at the bilateral level in Washington.

Israel came to Ottawa prepared to discuss substantive issues raised in its absence at the previous round, said Yohanan Bein, co-chairman of the delegation.

"We have plans for all the subjects that were discussed here last May; job creation, public health, family reunification among them," he said.

## ISRAEL-LEBANON BORDER HEATS UP WITH VOLLEYS FROM HEZBOLLAH, IDF

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- Israel and pro-Iranian guerrillas continued their gun duels in southern Lebanon as Hezbollah terrorists killed a Nepalese U.N. peacekeeper.

The Moslem fundamentalists fired Katyusha rockets at an Israeli army position in the security zone Thursday, following air and artillery bombardments by Israeli forces on their bases.

Israeli planes on Wednesday night destroyed a Hezbollah base in the village of Siddikin, south of Tyre. The attack was followed the next day by artillery bombardments of Hezbollah positions

from the Israeli-controlled buffer zone in southern Lebanon.

A U.N. spokesman said Hezbollah guerrillas used Katyusha rockets, machine guns and rocket-propelled grenades in their attacks on three Nepalese U.N. posts Thursday.

The spokesman said one Nepalese soldier was killed and another wounded at the village of Sribbine and two others were wounded near the village of Kafrae.

Hezbollah gunners also fired at a French armored vehicle on its way to support the beleaguered Nepalese, reports said.

Israeli troops and armor massed in the buffer zone include 65 medium and heavy long-range guns, according to sources in the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

Israeli planes flew supersonic passes over Beirut and other towns and villages in Lebanon, with their sonic booms panicking many residents, news reports said.

Meanwhile, the northern Galilee remained quiet but tense. Many Israelis along the border, from Nahariya to Kiryat Shmona, spent a fourth night in underground shelters, despite a continued lull in the Katyusha attacks launched earlier in the week from Lebanon.

## VIOLENCE ERUPTS IN TERRITORIES; CHILDREN IN SCHOOL TARGETS, TOO

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- As Israelis focused on tensions along the Lebanese border, violence escalated this week in the administered territories.

In the Gaza Strip, Israeli troops killed a wanted terrorist and shot dead two Palestinians during a violent demonstration called to protest his death.

The turbulence erupted in the town of Khan Yunis, where Israeli soldiers on Tuesday night shot and killed Nihad Muamar as he prepared to throw a hand grenade. Muamar is a member of the Red Eagle terror group, which is affiliated with the hard-line Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

The following morning, masked men used loudspeakers to summon residents to a confrontation with Israeli troops as a start to three days of mourning for the "sacred hero."

Hundreds of residents waving Palestinian flags took to the streets, hurling bottles and rocks at Israeli soldiers. Israeli fire killed two persons before the demonstration dispersed.

Israeli border police at about the same time apprehended another wanted terrorist in the Gaza Strip: Wajih Mahmoud Mohammed Ziyad, 21, of Rafah, a member of the Hawks terror group, which is affiliated with the Fatah faction of the Palestine Liberation Organization. He is suspected of murdering Palestinians accused of cooperating with the Israeli authorities.

Tension continued this week as well in the West Bank town of Hebron.

Israel posted army guards on a rooftop overlooking a kindergarten in the Jewish Quarter, where attempts were made earlier in the week to injure children.

A 4-year-old girl sustained a slight eye injury when a bottle of acid was thrown at the kindergarten. Settlers say it was the latest in a series of attempts to harm the children with weapons of stones, iron bars, bottles of acid and empty bottles.

## POPE CONDEMNS ANTI-SEMITISM IN MEETING WITH WJC LEADER

By Ruth E. Gruber

VATICAN CITY, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- Pope John Paul II opened a half-hour audience with Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, by condemning anti-Semitism.

During the meeting Thursday, the two men discussed issues ranging from Vatican relations with Israel to a condemnation of anti-Semitism.

Bronfman said he presented the pope with a copy of the Declaration of Tolerance, written by Elie Wiesel and to date signed by about 65 heads of state, which the pope indicated he was anxious to sign.

Bronfman said that during the audience he raised the possibility of the pope going to Washington for the inauguration of the new Holocaust Museum and Memorial in April, a ceremony also to be attended by President-to-be Bill Clinton.

He also raised the possibility of the pope accepting Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Peres' recent invitation to visit Israel.

They also discussed the continuing progress on the new Carmelite convent that will replace the one at Auschwitz. Bronfman said he "acknowledged with gratitude" the pope's stand on the issue.

The pope told Bronfman that everything was on track for the construction of the new convent and the nuns will be moving into the new building as soon as it is finished.

"It was a great honor and an enormous privilege" to have the audience, Bronfman told reporters afterward.

Also in attendance were Israel Singer, secretary of the WJC, and Cardinal Edward Cassidy, president of the Pontifical Commission on Religious Relations with the Jews.

Bronfman was in Rome in his dual role as president of the WJC and chairman of IJCIC, the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations.

On Thursday, the steering committee of the IJCIC/Vatican Liaison group working toward improving Jewish-Catholic relations held a scheduled meeting. Bronfman and Cassidy are co-chairmen of this consultative group and were received by the pope in that capacity.

## AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS TAKE INITIATIVE IN FORGING GOOD CHRISTIAN-JEWISH TIES

By Jeremy Jones

SYDNEY, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- Australia has surged to the forefront of Jewish-Christian relations with the publication of a new guide urging Catholics to foster better ties with Jews.

"Guidelines for Catholic-Jewish Relations" was officially launched by Bishop Bede Heather at a ceremony here last week at the Crypt of St. Mary's Cathedral, in the presence of religious and communal leaders of both communities.

Its publication comes against the background of a warming in relations between the Vatican and Israel and follows guidelines issued by the Vatican for teaching about Jews and Judaism.

Incidents of anti-Semitic violence and an upsurge in Christian fundamentalism also bolstered an initiative to issue the guidelines, according to the Bishops Committee for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations.

Last week, Pope John Paul II denounced the resurgence of anti-Semitism in Europe and said

every form of racism was "a sin against God and against man."

A further incentive may have been a close tie with a Vatican prelate heading church relations with Jews. Cardinal Edward Cassidy, president of the Pontifical Commission on Religious Relations with the Jews for the past three years, is an Australian.

Modern church scholarship, citing the Jewish roots of Christianity, was reflected in Bishop Heather's remarks. He said a "special bond" exists between Catholics and Jews, based on a recent recognition that Catholics can "find Jesus of Nazareth intelligible" only within the context of the Hebrew Scriptures.

He said a "reappraisal" of some elements in the New Testament, and particularly in the Gospels, was taking place, based on the understanding that "parallels to the teachings of Jesus could be found in rabbinic writings."

The Catholic document criticizes much of the missionary activity directed toward Jews, although Bishop Heather said that "to be Christian is to be called to spread the Gospel."

A Jewish leader welcomed the document as representing "momentous progress" in "the cultivation of an international social conscience."

Leslie Caplan, president of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, applauded the developing relationship between the Vatican and Israel and said "recognition (of Israel) is a necessary prerequisite for a substantive relationship with the Jewish world."

## HUNGARIAN MINISTER SAYS CAMPAIGN AGAINST ANTI-SEMITISM BREEDS IT

By Agnes Bohm

BUDAPEST, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- A defensive Hungarian foreign minister asserted this week that "the more anti-Semitism is mentioned, the more difficult it is to smooth the problem."

Geza Jeszensky was responding to American Jewish leaders who urged forceful condemnation by the government of slurs against the Jews voiced by a leader of the Hungarian ruling party.

The meeting with a delegation of the American Jewish Committee here came amid growing international focus on the anti-Semitic utterances of a vice president of the Hungarian Democratic Forum, Istvan Csurka.

Jeszensky, who said he plans to visit Israel soon, urged an attitude of tolerance toward Csurka, who last August published an anti-Semitic tract in the party newspaper and has spoken out in his weekly radio program against what he sees as undue Jewish influence in various spheres.

"The only way to solve this problem is to not to exaggerate it, but to show Csurka the error of his ways," the foreign minister told reporters after meeting with the Jewish group.

The delegation discussed with Jeszensky various Hungarian policy positions at the United Nations with respect to Israel, according to the delegation's head, Rabbi Andrew Baker, director of European affairs at the AJCommittee.

Baker said his group was on a fact-finding mission to ascertain how the 100,000-strong Jewish community in Hungary, the largest in Central Europe, copes with bigotry and prejudice in the post-Communist era.

The eight mission members were to meet Thursday with Jewish communal leaders in Budapest before going on to visit the Jewish communities in Belarus and Latvia.