

**CJF, UJA LAUNCH STUDY THAT MAY LEAD TO NEW JEWISH FUND-RAISING STRUCTURE**  
By Larry Yudelson

NEW YORK, April 26 (JTA) -- The Council of Jewish Federations and the United Jewish Appeal have launched a joint study of the national Jewish fund-raising structure that could produce dramatic changes in the way philanthropic funds are raised and allocated.

The \$500,000 study was approved by the governing bodies of CJF and UJA recently and announced at a joint news conference here this week by Maynard Wishner of Chicago, president of CJF, and Marvin Lender of New Haven, Conn., president of UJA.

A 28-member committee, representing the constituent agencies involved and local federations, has been appointed to oversee the study. It will be co-chaired by Charles Goodman of Chicago, who is CJF's immediate past president, and Joel Tauber of Detroit, who is UJA's national chairman.

While there has been speculation that the study will lead to a CJF-UJA merger, those involved rule out the "m-word" for now, saying it is far too soon to predict the outcome.

But most agree the study is likely to result in major structural changes in the billion-dollar philanthropic enterprise known as the UJA-federation system.

When the study is completed and its recommendations are adopted, there will not be several "executive vice presidents each making \$250,000 and above," predicted one observer familiar with the federation system.

**Large-City Federations Requested Study**

The study, whose cost will be split by CJF and UJA, comes in response to a request from leaders of several large-city federations around the country.

In a letter last fall to the heads of CJF and UJA, these federation leaders suggested that it was time to explore the "structure, governance and accountability" of the two veteran agencies.

UJA, with an annual budget of \$25 million, is charged with coordinating the national fund-raising campaign for Israel and other overseas needs. CJF, with an annual budget of \$11 million, is the representative body of 189 community federations in the United States and Canada.

In their letter, the federation leaders also suggested it was time to take a thorough look at CJF's and UJA's relationships to community federations and the two primary UJA beneficiaries: the Jewish Agency, which finances immigrant absorption and other social services in Israel, and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, which provides humanitarian aid to Jewish communities around the world.

"Any well-run system ought to be looking at its structures, particularly when they're 50 years old," explained Steven Solender, executive vice president of New York's UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies and one of eight heads of major federations who put the study into motion.

"I think the average contributor wants to be reassured that we're really prepared to look at ourselves carefully, and that will be the case in this study," he said.

The study reflects a recognition that there have been major changes in the way that Jewish philanthropic dollars are raised and allocated since the current system was established half a century ago.

Once upon a time, it was UJA alone that was responsible for raising money for Israel and other overseas needs. Today most of that money is raised by local federations in tandem with money being raised for local needs.

But many of these federations are increasingly feeling a need to keep more of the money they raise at home. They cite ever-burgeoning demands on social services and the need to cope with problems of Jewish education and identity.

**50-50 Split No longer Standard**

Whereas a 50-50 split in funds between local and overseas needs was once standard, today it is held only in the rarest of communities. It is not uncommon for 60 percent of a federation's campaign proceeds to be kept at home.

UJA is pushing a plan that would essentially remove itself from the local federation allocation process, by moving discussions of how much stays at home and how much goes abroad to some sort of national arena. It would like to see a national formula set up to ensure a "fair-share partnership" between local and international needs.

The federations, for their part, would like more say over how funds raised for UJA are allocated.

"If federations had a better sense of the ownership of the UJA enterprise, perhaps some of the allocation difficulties that exist in some places might be less difficult," said the head of one major federation.

This federation director conceded that he does not know what form federation ownership of UJA might take.

But "I can't imagine the national community will ever give away the initials UJA. It's a very powerful set of initials," said this director.

Another insider familiar with the federation system suggested that what may result is an "amalgamation" of the UJA and CJF.

"If I'm right," this insider said, "there will be a new organization called UJA-CJF. Really it will have the UJA as a campaign department with some kind of autonomy but no foreign policy, as part of the CJF family, which probably means you cut the budget in half and save \$12 million."

Speculation aside, leaders of CJF and UJA stress that the study is a testament to the increasing cooperation between their two agencies, which have begun sharing resources, including a common office in Israel.

"The study is being initiated in an era of good feeling and cooperation between UJA, CJF and the federations," said Wishner of CJF.

"We feel good about this study, and we think a lot of good things can come of it," said Lender of UJA.

## **UJA MISSION WARMLY WELCOMED IN AFULA; VISITORS SEE TERRORISM'S PAIN UP CLOSE**

By Cynthia Mann

AFULA, Israel, April 26 (JTA) -- Nearly 400 people spent 36 hours in Israel this week on a mission organized by the United Jewish Appeal to show solidarity with Israelis in the wake of the recent series of terrorist attacks.

The trip, organized in about a week's time, was not intended to make any political statement. Still, many of the participants said they were pained by the high price of the Middle East peace process and fear a continuing cycle of violence.

The group's chartered airplane made a dramatic landing Monday afternoon on a runway at an air force base in the rural Jezreel Valley in northern Israel.

As they descended from the plane, the visitors were greeted with recorded Israeli music, flags, military personnel and dozens of youths from Afula, where a terrorist car bomb exploded April 6, immediately claiming seven lives. Four were local teen-agers.

At around the same time as the landing, the death toll rose to eight, as 37-year-old Ahuva Cohen Onalla died of the wounds she sustained in the blast.

"We felt we had to say we care, so when the opportunity arose, we jumped," said Mark Seiger, from Hartford, Conn. Afula is Connecticut's sister city under UJA's Project Renewal.

"Connecticut has worked very closely with Afula to have a real connection," he added. "We feel the city is part of us. It's family."

"It is incredibly important that American Jews express their solidarity with Israelis as they move forward through the peace process," said Debra Pell, co-chair of UJA's Young Leadership Cabinet.

### **'No Place Safer' Than Israel**

"I also came because I feel it is extremely important that American Jews know that life goes on in Israel and that there is no place safer in the world. They must come in numbers and they must come again and again," said Pell, who lives in San Francisco.

"I know this is a two-edged sword, to parachute in and parachute out in 36 hours," said Rabbi Brian Lurie, executive vice president of UJA.

"There is a sensitivity toward American Jews coming in like voyeurs," he continued, "but there is such an earnestness with this group. They wanted to make a statement about Jewish solidarity and to say it's right, it's safe for Jews to come here."

Virtually all the Israelis approached by a reporter said the UJA visit was a welcome and important gesture.

The UJA mission left the air base in a bus caravan for the center of Afula and the bus stop where the suicide bomb exploded. En route to the site, local teens recounted the incident to the visitors.

"Two of our friends were killed as well as the mother of our friend," said Keren Eloz, 17. "Their legs and arms were blown (off)."

"Afula took this very hard," she continued. "People were very angry and screamed against the government."

One by one, the mission members placed roses at a makeshift memorial site at the bus stop marked by a dried-up wreath bearing a banner which read, "From people who care."

The group was welcomed in Afula with a concert and ceremony at the cultural center across the street from the site of the explosion. Afula's Deputy Mayor Uzi Golan thanked the group for coming, saying, "I am moved from the depths of my heart to see all of you."

He called their visit a "meaningful gesture which has truly lifted our spirits."

The ceremony's official decorum was shattered by a violently emotional outburst from Michel Elharar, father of Maya Elharar, a 17-year-old who was killed in the attack.

In an unscheduled address from the podium, Elharar began to thank the group for the visit, which he said helped to ease the pain. Then he began to attack the government, singling out Tourism Minister Uzi Baram, who sat in the front row, prepared to address the audience about the importance of continuing to travel to Israel for the sake of Israel's economy.

### **A House Divided**

He repeatedly shouted at the minister, saying it was a "disgrace" the government had sent a top-level representative to Afula to greet the Americans but had not sent anyone to the funerals of the victims or to offer condolences.

In fact, Deputy Education Minister Micha Goldman came to the funerals, but had to be evacuated by police because of the angry crowds. Local residents say the government should have sent a more senior representative.

"The house in Israel is divided," Lurie told the clearly shaken assembly, most of whom did not understand the Hebrew but needed no translation of the bereaved father's rage. "We feel the urgency and the pain," he said.

"The peace process is not antiseptic. It's not just a negotiation between leaders," he said later. "It's a painful exercise for the whole polity, and this underscores it. It's frightening."

Lurie, still later, said he had not felt as much grief in Israel since a visit after the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

Meanwhile, the thirst for peace remains. Seventeen-year-old Alon Aflalo, a local high school student, said, "Yitzhak Rabin must continue peace negotiations because the killing must be stopped."

But finalizing the agreement with the Palestinians will not stop the violence immediately, said Aflalo. "After they finish the negotiations, it will take one or two generations before there is real peace."

The UJA group held a brief ceremony at the Western Wall in Jerusalem with Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau, and had meetings with U.S. Ambassador Edward Djerejian, President Ezer Weizman and Knesset Speaker Shevach Weiss.

"I believe we were able to give the participants a sense of what life is like on the ground and the price people are paying for peace," said Marvin Lender, UJA president and chairman of the mission.

The mission was planned in cooperation with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Israel's Tourism Ministry and El Al Airlines.

## RABIN, ON VISIT TO MOSCOW, HERALDS NEW ERA FOR ISRAELI-RUSSIAN RELATIONS

By Lisa Glazer

MOSCOW, April 26 (JTA) -- Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin concluded talks here this week with high-level Russian officials and heralded a new era of cooperation between his country and theirs.

"I hope that we are starting to gradually bring about a change in the relationship between Russia, a great country, and Israel, a small but independent country," he said at a news conference Tuesday.

The Middle East peace negotiations, along with discussions about trade accords and anti-Semitism, were the focus of discussions Monday and Tuesday.

"We want peace in the Middle East and I think that Russian interests correspond with ours," Rabin said after meeting with Ivan Rybkin, speaker of the Russian Parliament's lower house.

Rabin also met with President Boris Yeltsin, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev and Defense Minister Pavel Grachev.

Rabin's four-day trip to Russia, the first ever by an Israeli prime minister, was scheduled to end Wednesday. It came one week after a similar trip by Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The two leaders were invited to Moscow by Yeltsin after Middle East peace talks ground to a standstill following the Feb. 25 massacre of Palestinians in Hebron.

The invitations were widely seen as reflections of Russia's recent attempts to reassert itself as a world power. It is officially a co-sponsor, along with the United States, of the Middle East peace process begun in Madrid in 1991. But Russia has been inactive lately on the diplomatic front, consumed by its own internal problems.

On Monday, Rabin heard assurances from Prime Minister Chernomyrdin that a new wave of anti-Semitism would not surface in Russia.

### 'This Will Not Happen'

Fears of a resurgence of anti-Semitism have arisen in Russia's Jewish community following the surprise victory in last December's parliamentary elections of ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, who has spouted anti-Jewish rhetoric in a number of public speeches since then.

After meeting with Rabin, Chernomyrdin told reporters that "no Zhirinovskiy will be able to incite" a new wave of anti-Semitism in Russia.

"I can tell you unequivocally that this will not happen," he said.

The subject of anti-Semitism had been a topic of discussion in several of Rabin's meetings, the prime minister said.

"In every meeting I reminded everyone to whom I talked that when Hitler wrote 'Mein Kampf' no one believed it would happen -- and it happened," he told reporters.

"Therefore, whenever and wherever we see racism, anti-Semitism, fascism and neo-Nazism raise its head, it's important that people will learn the lessons of the past," he said.

At the news conference Tuesday, Rabin said his Russian hosts had not put forward any new or concrete proposals to push forward the Middle

East peace talks. But he did say the resumption of Israel-Syria negotiations was discussed.

As Syria's longtime ally and arms supplier, Russia has a potentially influential role in negotiations between the two countries.

Russia's first deputy prime minister, Oleg Soskovets, arrived Monday in Syria to discuss "pressing issues of bilateral cooperation" and Middle East peace, according to the Itar-Tass news agency.

During Rabin's one-hour meeting with Yeltsin on Tuesday -- an encounter described by both sides as "very warm" -- the Russian president told him that Soskovets was scheduled to discuss with Syrian President Hafez Assad the issue of Israelis missing in action since the 1982 war in Lebanon.

The deputy premier, Rabin was told, also had directives to encourage Syria to resume peace talks with Israel.

Among other issues discussed by the two men was the rise of Islamic fundamentalism, an issue of deep concern for Israel and for Russia. The latter faces a rising tide of militant Islamic activity in some of the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union.

Yeltsin reiterated assurances given earlier to Rabin that Russia was not going to supply new weapons to Syria but merely provide spare parts.

Rabin stated Tuesday that he had signed six bilateral accords on Israeli-Russian cooperation in areas such as science, technology and agriculture. He added that he expected to sign a wide-ranging trade accord before he left Russia.

In other comments, he said that he had invited many Russian leaders to visit Israel and that Defense Minister Pavel Grachev had in principle accepted the offer.

Rabin was scheduled to spend Wednesday in St. Petersburg, where he was to meet with the Jewish community.

The Israeli leader told reporters that he has direct ties to the city, since his mother left St. Petersburg 75 years ago to move to the land that eventually became Israel.

*(Contributing to this report was JTA correspondent Dvora Getzler in Jerusalem.)*

## NEW GERMAN JEWISH PUBLICATION COMING

By Igal Avidan

BERLIN, April 26 (JTA) -- A new Jewish publication, Synagogen Rundschau (Synagogue Review), is due to appear in Germany in May. The publisher, Karl-Walter Apfelbaum, said the monthly publication will have a circulation of 40,000 and will be financed from advertisements.

He said the Rundschau will be delivered free to all 68 synagogues in Germany.

Apfelbaum said his publication will compete with the biweekly Judische Allgemeine (General Jewish Journal), the official publication of the Jewish federation.

Apfelbaum, who is Jewish, said the Allgemeine is published by non-Jewish journalists and thus lacks "a sensibility to affairs in Germany."

Apfelbaum said his publication will focus on Jewish history, reporting from Israel and on German politics, especially concerning the far right. The paper will employ about 20 free-lance journalists reported from Jewish communities throughout Germany, he said.

## NIXON'S RELATIONSHIP WITH JEWS WAS AS PARADOXICAL AS MUCH ELSE ABOUT HIM

By Deborah Kalb and Steven Weiss

WASHINGTON, April 26 (JTA) -- Richard Nixon's relations with Jews were as controversial and paradoxical as much else about the late former president, who died last week at age 81.

While voicing derogatory attitudes about Jews during his now-infamous White House taping sessions, Nixon hired a number of Jews as key advisers, among them Henry Kissinger, the former Harvard government professor who served first as national security advisor and then as secretary of state.

Nixon was also viewed as a strong supporter of Israel, and, with Kissinger, was the first to involve the United States in "shuttle diplomacy" immediately after the 1973 Yom Kippur War, to improve relations between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

But on the other hand, in a move that Jews found hard to forget, Nixon asked a campaign aide, Fred Malek, to compile a list of Jews in the Labor Department.

A branch of the department had released a study with which Nixon disagreed, and Nixon, notoriously concerned about leaks to the press, immediately turned to Malek and asked how many Jews worked in the department -- implying that Jews had leaked the information to the press.

Nixon-watchers differed this week on the motivations behind the late president's seemingly contradictory views about Jews.

Stephen Hess, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution who served in the Nixon administration from 1969-1971, said that while Nixon made derogatory comments about Jews on his tapes, he often turned to Jewish advisers for help.

"He had tremendous respect for Jews. To the degree that Nixon had best friends, 'some of my best friends were Jews,' " Hess said.

Max Fisher, a prominent Jewish Republican who served as a close adviser to Nixon, said that he had "no sense" that Nixon, a Republican, was suspicious of the Jewish community.

### 'He Did This With All Ethnic Groups'

Fisher said he did not believe Nixon was anti-Semitic, a sentiment echoed by Jack Stein, who was chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations from 1969-1973, during the Nixon presidency.

"I never heard him do or say anything that would lead me to believe that he was anti-Semitic," Stein said. He added, however, that "Nixon might have been fast and loose with his language," which was sometimes interpreted as anti-Semitic by the Jewish community at large.

Gerald Strober and Deborah Hart Strober, authors of an upcoming oral history on Nixon, said that they asked sources about Nixon's derogatory comments about Jews on his tapes.

"There were some references on the tapes, and these were explained away to us, that he did this with all ethnic groups. It wasn't targeting specific groups," Deborah Strober said.

Hyman Bookbinder, former Washington representative for the American Jewish Committee who is now involved with the National Jewish Democratic Council, was on Nixon's famous "enemies

list." Bookbinder, who gave Nixon mixed reviews, said Nixon put him and 80 others who signed a tribute to labor leader Walter Reuther on the list.

"In the Jewish community in general," Bookbinder said, "there was a greater than average amount of concern" about this sort of "guilt by association."

On the other hand, Bookbinder and others said that the Nixon administration was supportive of a strong U.S.-Israel relationship.

"He had very high regard for Israel," said Hess of Brookings. "It had to do with the fact that he thought of the Israelis as fighters."

Sheldon Cohen, a Washington attorney who was general counsel to the Democratic National Committee during the Watergate scandal that brought down the Nixon presidency in 1974, said that Nixon was "good to Israel because of anti-communism, not because he was good to Jews."

Cohen, who serves as treasurer of the National Jewish Democratic Council, said that Nixon backed Israel because Israel was fighting Arab countries supported by the Soviet Union.

Nixon made his name as a fervently anti-Communist member of Congress in the 1950s, during the McCarthy era.

One of the major crises in the Middle East during Nixon's presidency was the 1973 Yom Kippur War between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was ambassador to Washington for part of the Nixon presidency, released a statement saying, "Israel has lost one of its greatest friends."

### 'Driving Force In Mobilizing Airlift'

Rabin said that "during the Yom Kippur War in 1973, Richard Nixon was the driving force in mobilizing the airlift to assist us with weaponry at the most difficult of moments."

There has been debate over Nixon's exact role in assisting Israel in the 1973 war, focusing on the few days that the president waited to act before ordering help for the Jewish state.

Nixon's top aides disagreed about whether to resupply Israel with a massive arms shipment. It was Nixon who broke the deadlock in his administration a few days into the war and ordered the arms sent. Many believe this saved Israel.

Stein, who said that he and Fisher met with Nixon on this issue, recalled that the delay was "largely logistical" and that Jewish groups did not blame Nixon for it.

Another issue of Jewish concern during Nixon's presidency was the plight of Jews trapped in the Soviet Union.

Although a staunch anti-Communist, Nixon pursued a policy of detente with the Soviet Union, and during contacts with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, quietly urged that Soviet Jews be freed. Both Nixon and Kissinger believed that public pressure on the Soviet leadership on the issue of Soviet Jews would be counterproductive.

But Nixon clashed with some in the Jewish community over the issue of the Jackson-Vanik amendment. The 1974 amendment, supported by many advocates for Soviet Jewry including the National Conference for Soviet Jewry, links most-favored-nation trading benefits for Moscow to its emigration policies.

Nixon and Kissinger opposed the statute, seeing it as public pressure on the Soviets and a constraint on dealing with the Soviet Union.