



## NEWS AT A GLANCE

■ **The Middle East Peace Facilitation Act expired at midnight Tuesday, jeopardizing the short-term future of U.S. aid to the Palestine Liberation Organization and forcing the closure of the PLO's Washington office.**

■ **The \$12.1 billion foreign aid bill moved toward a state of legislative flux after pro-life members of the House of Representatives voted to include a measure banning U.S. funds to international family planning programs. President Clinton has vowed to veto any foreign aid package that includes such a measure. The bill designates \$3 billion in U.S. aid to Israel.**

■ **Jewish groups in Quebec hailed the defeat of a referendum to separate the province from the rest of Canada. They also reacted with dismay to anti-ethnic comments made by Quebec's premier, who later resigned from his post. [Page 3]**

■ **Israel and Qatar signed an agreement in principle under which the Persian Gulf state would sell \$2 billion of natural gas to Israel. Energy Minister Gonen Segev predicted that the two countries would soon establish formal relations.**

■ **Plans for a Middle East regional development bank were discussed at the final session of the regional economic conference in Amman, Jordan. The bank would be headquartered in Cairo, which represented a coup for Egypt.**

■ **Members of Congress and Jewish groups stepped up pressure on Turkey to drop charges against an American Jewish journalist who is facing trial on charges of racial incitement. [Page 4]**

■ **Campaigning for the Palestinian elections will begin Dec. 28, said Saeb Erekat, the Palestinian official in charge of organizing the elections. Erekat said voting would be held Jan. 18 or Jan. 20.**

■ **Israeli and Palestinians officials held talks on coordinating the transfer of civilian responsibility in the West Bank to the self-rule government. Some 40 spheres of responsibility were on the agenda, as well as the issues of water, electricity and border crossings.**

## Giving to Jewish charities lags behind national trend

By Cynthia Mann

NEW YORK (JTA) — The United Jewish Appeal and 15 local Jewish federations rank among the top 400 charities in the United States, but their income increases last year lagged behind the rise in income of other philanthropic causes, a new survey shows.

Jewish community leaders caution against misinterpreting these findings, published this week by The Chronicle of Philanthropy.

Although America's 400 largest charities saw an increase of 6.3 percent in donations in fiscal 1994, giving to "Jewish fund-raising groups" rose a mere 0.3 percent last year, according to the Chronicle's annual survey.

Still, the survey placed the United Jewish Appeal fourth on the list of 400 for the second year in a row and included 15 local Jewish federations as well as a number of other Jewish agencies.

Holly Hall, the survey's director, conceded in an interview that the wording in the article explaining the survey "might have been misleading."

She said the 0.3 percent increase reflected giving only to the UJA-federation system and did not reflect giving to other Jewish causes, including the Jewish National Fund, which made this year's list for the first time.

In 1993, overall charitable giving and giving to UJA-federations both were up 4 percent over the previous year, the Chronicle reported last year.

This year's survey reported the UJA's total income last year at \$382 million, a 6 percent drop from 1993.

But Jewish fund-raisers say the survey's income tables are misleading. They say the apparent drop in contributions to the UJA-federation system reflects the end of the highly successful \$1 billion five-year Operation Exodus campaign to help resettle Jews from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia.

"It is inappropriate and misleading to suggest [by these numbers] that something is wrong" in the federation system's campaigns, said Donald Kent, director of planned giving and foundation relations at the Council of Jewish Federations.

"When you get into the capital campaign business, there are always ups and downs," he said. "The numbers reflect the net impact of trailing-off pledges" ending in 1994.

Nonetheless, the regular annual joint UJA-federation campaign — about \$725 million in the United States — is flat and has been flat for a number of years, said Gary Tobin, director of the Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University and an expert on Jewish philanthropy.

Tobin also said the survey does not reflect the totality of giving to Jewish causes.

The survey does not show the \$1 billion pledged to the federation system's endowment funds, he and others said.

"Outside the regular annual campaign, the amount of [Jewish] giving in practically every realm continues to rise," Tobin said.

Overall "giving to Jewish causes is way up, whether it's to the New Israel Fund, to synagogues or to universities," he added, declining to give a figure.

"But that's not to minimize there are real problems," said Tobin. "The annual campaign is key to the system and one of the key problems is how to revitalize the campaign."

### Evidence of a resurgence

"'Flat' is the word that a lot of communities are using to describe the campaigns," said Bernard Moscovitz, UJA national marketing director, who nonetheless also found the survey's figures misleading because they did not account for the end of the Exodus campaign.

But he said there is evidence of "the beginning of a resurgence of the annual campaign," a trend that is logical now that "the Exodus giving is close to the payout period."

He pointed to the pledges totaling \$32 million at last week's UJA International Leadership Reunion in Washington, which showed an 11 percent "card-by-card" rise over pledges at the same time last year.

In Baltimore, Darrell Friedman, president of The Associated, the city's federation, said he was "upbeat and optimistic" about the survey. His

agency was No. 255 on the Chronicle's list, with \$30.5 million in reported income.

"I am pleased and impressed that in these difficult times we were able to achieve" that response, he said.

"When you look at the amount of Jewish giving compared to the rest of the universe, I don't believe we're lagging," he added.

"We are in the middle of our annual campaign and it looks like it will be a record campaign," he said.

Meanwhile, among the 30 groups new to the list of 400 top charities were three Jewish charities, including the N.Y.-based Jewish Communal Fund, the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco and the Jewish National Fund.

No Jewish charities were dropped from the list.

The survey was based on data from charities' tax returns — Internal Revenue Service Form 990 — and from audited financial statements, annual reports and questionnaires.

Jewish groups and their rankings in the survey included UNA-Federation of New York at No. 25, with \$180 million; the United Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago at 73, with \$88.6 million; the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland at 142, with \$57.5 million; and American Friends of the Hebrew University at 294, with \$24.2 million.

Other federations in the top-400 list were: Los Angeles, Boston, Philadelphia, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Metro West (N.J.), the District of Columbia, Atlanta, Miami and West Palm Beach, Fla.

National agencies on the list included the Anti-Defamation League and Hadassah. The American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel also was included.

Nearly all the UNA's income comes from allocations by local federations for programs in Israel and elsewhere overseas.

This year, 46 of the largest United Ways also defied the upward trend by suffering a drop in income, albeit of less than 1 percent. □

## **CJF sounds warning bells against advocacy legislation**

*By Matthew Dorf*

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Legislation rapidly making its way through Congress could force many Jewish organizations to choose between political advocacy and millions of dollars in federal grants used to aid refugees, seniors and poor Americans.

A new version of the measure, which would restrict advocacy and lobbying activities by federal-grant recipients, emerged last week. It is legislation whose impact has moved, in the words of one Jewish activist, from "bad to devastating" for many Jewish organizations.

"This is a major crisis" that could affect many Jewish organizations," said Diana Aviv, director of the Council of Jewish Federation's Washington Action Office. "This would be a totally new ball game."

The House of Representatives could vote as early as this week on the measure. The battle would then shift to the Senate.

With this in mind, Jewish activists and their counterparts in the not-for-profit community — the major targets of the legislation — have launched an all-out campaign to stop the measure from becoming law.

In a just-issued action alert to local federations, Council of Jewish Federation officials said it is "essential" that local Jewish officials contact their senators and representatives to vote against the measure.

The restrictions under consideration "could

severely limit CJF's member federations' and their agencies' ability to communicate with public officials at the federal, state and local level," the communique warned.

The latest version of the Istook amendment, named after its chief sponsor, Rep. Ernest Istook (R-Okla.), would limit total spending on political advocacy on the federal, state and local level to a maximum of \$1 million annually.

More significantly, it lumps together spending by all affiliated organizations that receive federal dollars.

Thus, all money spent on advocacy by local federations and their constituent agencies that receive federal funds — such as the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society and Jewish vocational services — would be combined with activity by the Council of Jewish Federations in calculating the total amount spent.

Proponents of the measure charge that federal grants free up organizational resources for lobbying and campaigns against the same Congress that grants the money in the first place.

This amounts to "welfare for lobbyists," they charge.

Opponents argue that existing law prevents not-for-profits from spending federal dollars on lobbying and that advocacy is an integral part of their mission.

The measure is "a rather blatant attempt to silence dissent and to muffle the diversity of opinion in the forum of public debate," Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.) told his colleagues last week.

Under the latest proposal, which is an amendment to the Treasury-Postal appropriations bill, the entire Jewish federation system would be in violation of the spending limit, according to CJF officials.

### **Earlier version also set off alarm bells**

Although officials said they could not begin to calculate the total amount now spent on lobbying and advocacy by all federally funded Jewish organizations, they said there is no doubt that it exceeds \$1 million.

An earlier version of the legislation, which had also set off alarm bells, sought to cut off funds to individual organizations that spent more than 5 percent of their budgets on advocacy.

Under the new scenario, federations could face a choice between millions of dollars in federal funds or advocacy, activists say.

The measure expands existing restrictions on the political activism of not-for-profits.

Currently, the Internal Revenue Service limits the amount of time and money not-for-profits can spend lobbying members of Congress.

Under current IRS tax codes, individual not-for-profits organizations are limited, according to a sliding scale, to up to a \$1 million cap on lobbying activity.

The new measure not only expands these restrictions to include political advocacy in general — such as action alerts and grass-roots activism. It also includes advocacy on the state and local level.

The measure could impact all Jewish organizations that receive any federal money, no matter what the amount.

For example, when HIAS officials meet with State Department officials on immigration issues, that would be considered advocacy.

Anytime an elected state official requests information from a Jewish federation agency, that, too, would be considered advocacy.

Beyond federation agencies, B'nai B'rith is another major Jewish organization that would be severely affected by the legislation.

President Clinton has told members of Congress that he would veto the bill if it includes the current restrictions of advocacy. □

**NEWS ANALYSIS****Jewish Quebecers hail vote but are stung by remarks***By Bram D. Eisenthal*

MONTREAL (JTA) — The war is over, but the battle is just beginning.

This was the consensus among members of Montreal's Jewish community — and among many in the province at large — as the eyes of the entire world were focused on the outcome of a Quebec referendum to determine whether to remain a part of Canada.

The slender margin of victory for the anti-separatists — some 50,000 votes out of an estimated total of 4.67 million ballots cast — was hardly a ringing endorsement for keeping Quebec a part of the 128-year-old Canadian federation.

The closeness of the vote indicated that the separation issue was certain to remain on the politically charged landscape here for some time to come.

Further amplifying the drama and tension that has gripped the province in recent days, the separatists' loss prompted the premier of Quebec, separatist leader Jacques Parizeau, to resign a day after the referendum was held.

The voting left a feeling of deep divisions here — particularly after Parizeau blamed the province's ethnic voters for the separatists' loss.

Parizeau stunned everyone, including many French Quebecers, during a speech late Monday night. In conceding that the separatists had lost, he sounded a distinctly combative note that included a blatant message of revenge.

The separatists, said Parizeau, had been "beaten by money and the ethnic vote."

"We will reap our revenge in our own country," he added, promising that the day would come when his forces would triumph.

**'Disdain for minorities'**

Some observers felt that Parizeau knew exactly what he was doing in his intemperate remarks — that he wanted to prompt uneasy ethnic voters to move out of Quebec so that he could hold another referendum some two to five years from now when they were safely gone.

Jewish organizations, which had labored hard to get out the anti-separatist vote among the region's 101,000 predominantly English-speaking Jews and hailed the outcome, were particularly stung by Parizeau's comments.

B'nai Brith Canada expressed "outrage" at the premier's anti-ethnic remark.

"Parizeau's disdain for minority communities is extremely harmful," Frank Dimant, the organization's executive vice president, said in a statement.

Jack Silverstone, national executive director of the Canadian Jewish Congress, was equally critical.

"To differentiate between classes of voters as Parizeau did is reprehensible and racist," Silverstone said.

Some Quebec politicians also voiced criticism.

Parizeau's comments were "a speech by a demagogue and a fascist," said federal politician Marc Lalonde, who added that the speech was "a disgrace to Quebec."

On Tuesday evening, as some had expected he would do if the separatists lost the referendum, Parizeau resigned the Quebec premiership, saying he would step down at the end of the fall parliamentary session in December.

He also said he would step down as leader of the separatist Parti Quebecois.

Parizeau also referred to the comments he made in Monday's concession speech, saying, "I used words that were too strong last night." But far from apologizing, he reiterated his stand that, no matter what words he chose,

the fact remained that ethnic groups had voted overwhelmingly against secession.

Reacting to Parizeau's resignation speech, Silverstone said, "It's unfortunate that at the end of a long and important career, Mr. Parizeau didn't display the moral courage to make right the terrible error" he made in Monday night's speech. He added: "He regrettably will be remembered for that rather than anything else."

Parizeau's concession speech was not the first occasion that the issue of race and ethnicity surfaced in connection with the referendum. On more than one occasion, the debate over separation has taken on a racial tinge, given the sharp differences over the issue between Quebec's English- and French-speaking populations.

Earlier this year, Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith officials reacted sharply when Philippe Pare, a member of the separatist Parti Quebecois in the Canadian Parliament, urged ethnic minorities to step aside and let "old-stock Quebecers" decide the fate of the province.

Another leading separatist, Pierre Bourgault, was applauded in Quebec City last year for saying that the overwhelming support of non-French speakers for federalism was "a straight racist vote."

The organized Jewish community, which is 80 percent English-speaking, was heavily involved in the campaign against the separatist option. By all accounts, Quebec's Jews — who are predominantly of European background and include one of the highest percentages of Holocaust survivors in North America — provided an overwhelmingly anti-separatist vote.

Likewise, the community's 10,000 French-speaking Sephardi immigrants from Morocco also voted in large proportion against separation, according to Jewish officials.

For example, the largest Jewish voting district, D'Arcy McGee, which includes a portion of Montreal along with other communities, voted 97-3 against separation. Although not all the district is comprised of Jewish voters, the result provides a representative sense of Jewish sentiment.

Had the separatists won, the leaders of Quebec would have been able to embark on a secessionist course after first attempting to negotiate a partnership agreement with the rest of Canada.

But in a vote that was too close to call right to the bitter end, preliminary official results indicated that the federalists won with 50.56 percent of the vote, while the separatists garnered 49.44 percent.

The referendum attracted a record turnout of more than 93 percent of eligible voters, surpassing the 85.6 percent turnout for an similar referendum in 1980.

**Charismatic campaigning**

The anti-separatists won the earlier referendum by a far wider margin, with 60 percent of the vote. The closer vote this time around was attributed by many observers to the charismatic campaigning style of Lucien Bouchard, the leader of the federal separatist Bloc Quebecois, and to the lackluster campaign mounted by the federalists.

Both Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith Canada issued statements backing the results of the referendum. "It is essential that we act with dignity and openness in the course of the next months," said CJC National President Goldie Hershon. "Our collective behavior will ensure that the choice made by Quebecers constitutes the start of a new era for Quebec within Canada, an era full of hope and of important accomplishments."

"We have just come through a difficult time," B'nai Brith's National President Brian Morris said in a joint statement with Dimant. "We need time for the wounds to heal. It is important for all Canadians to assess these results calmly and determine what to do next." □

## Congress, Jewish groups join effort to free journalist

By Daniel Kurtzman

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Members of Congress and Jewish organizations are stepping up pressure on Turkey to drop charges against an American Jewish journalist who is facing trial on charges of racial incitement.

As part of its current aid package to Turkey, Congress has put the country on notice that it is watching Aliza Marcus' case very carefully.

A letter on the subject to Turkish President Suleyman Demirel is also gathering support in Congress.

At the same time, the World Jewish Congress is seeking to pressure Turkey about the case through the European Union, which is considering Turkey's application for membership.

The Turkish government has charged Marcus, 33, a correspondent for Reuters in Istanbul and a former staff writer for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in New York, with provoking racial hatred for publishing an article about the country's Kurdish minority.

Marcus, whose next hearing is scheduled for Nov. 9, faces a maximum of three years in prison if convicted.

Prominent journalists and newspapers have come to her defense, including retired CBS news anchorman Walter Cronkite, honorary chairman of the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists, who traveled to Turkey recently to protest her arrest to Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller.

In the foreign aid bill making its way through Congress, \$33.5 million is designated for Turkey.

Although the legislation does not explicitly tie Turkey's aid to the case, it does contain a section titled "Aliza Marcus," which says that Congress expects the government of Turkey to "protect freedom of expression and information by interceding with the military-sponsored state security courts on behalf of Aliza Marcus."

### 'Criminalizing peaceful expression'

At the same time, the Helsinki Commission, an independent agency that monitors and encourages compliance with the Helsinki accords on human rights, is enlisting members of Congress to sign on to a letter to Demirel. The letter, signed so far by 30 representatives and five senators, expresses concern over Marcus' trial and implores him to "work for the immediate release of all political prisoners jailed for peaceful expression of their views in Turkey."

Marcus' case, the letter to Demirel states, "reflects a disturbingly persistent practice in your country of criminalizing peaceful spoken or written expression."

"Publications and other materials deemed harmful by prosecutors are routinely seized, censored or banned, and newspapers, magazines and publishers have been forced to close," the commission's letter states.

"Dozens of journalists, editors, news vendors and others have been killed by death squads in the past three years, making Turkey one of the world's most dangerous countries for the press."

In addition, members of Congress are working closely with the State Department, the National Security Council and the Pentagon to assure that Marcus' case will be raised at all appropriate bilateral meetings between U.S. and Turkish officials, said Mike Amitay, staff adviser to the Helsinki Commission.

The WJC, meanwhile, has chosen to pursue this issue with the European Union. "We're going to intervene in Brussels at the European Union on this issue because we feel that's where the Turks will listen most carefully," said Elan Steinberg, WJC executive director.

Steinberg said the WJC representative in Brussels has already raised the issue with the head of the Turkey desk at the European Union, but has received no commitment on the matter. Turkey has lobbied long and hard for membership in the European Union.

The American Jewish Committee also has human rights concerns about this case, said Jason Isaacson, the group's director of government and international affairs.

Isaacson, who said his organization has an ongoing dialogue with Turkish officials, said he intends to raise this issue in the near future.

Meanwhile, in an editorial last week, the New York Jewish Week called for Marcus' exoneration, saying, "This attempt to threaten a journalist is an outrage and a danger to journalistic freedom everywhere."

The Committee to Protect Journalists, meanwhile, is vigorously pursuing the case. "Our first goal is to get these charges against her dropped," said Avner Gidron, the organization's director of research. Gidron said the committee is also trying "to use Aliza's case as an example of what many Turkish journalists go through all the time."

The committee reports that 74 local journalists are jailed in Turkey, more than any other country. Marcus is believed to be the first foreign journalist to face prosecution in that country.

Those familiar with the case remain uncertain as to whether Turkish authorities would actually jail an American journalist. They note that her conviction would damage relations between the United States and Turkey.

"I'm surprised they've taken it this far," said Amitay of the Helsinki Commission. "Unfortunately, the way they work, when outside pressure is brought to bear, it has the effect of making them dig in their heels so as not to give the impression of caving in to the West." □

## Minister paints rosy economic picture

By Naomi Segal

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Finance Minister Avraham Shohat this week painted a rosy picture of the Israeli economy, predicting that 1995 inflation would be a little more than 8 percent, the lowest in 15 years.

Shohat made the remarks Monday as he presented the 1996 budget before the Knesset.

His predication comes after last week's announcement by the Central Bureau of Statistics that it expected Israel's gross national product — the total value of a nation's annual output of goods and services — to grow this year by 6.8 percent.

Leaders of the Labor governing coalition expected the budget to pass preliminary debate, scheduled for Wednesday, saying that they thought that some members of the Orthodox parties would support it. Labor leaders also predicted that the budget would pass despite threats by Labor faction members to vote against it unless additional funds are allocated for various social programs.

The 1996 budget presented totals \$57.6 billion. □

## Disputed housing plan in final stage

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A controversial plan for a housing development in southeastern Jerusalem was submitted to an Interior Ministry committee, the final step before construction of the project is approved.

Peace Now called on the government not to approve the plan — which calls for some 6,500 housing units — saying that it was a politically foolish step. Peace Now maintained that at least a third of the development was to be built on land expropriated from Palestinians.

Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer countered that the vast majority of the land was Jewish-owned. □