

International Dateline

Negotiate Jerusalem's Status With Palestinians Now, Says Mayor Olmert

Urges American Jews to Call on President Clinton To Recognize Jerusalem as United Capital of Israel

NEW YORK — Jerusalem's final status should be negotiated with the Palestinians now, not in two years "when concessions have been made and facts have been created," Mayor Ehud Olmert told the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

"If negotiations over Jerusalem have the potential to unravel the peace process, the Government should do it now

If we're doomed to lose the entire peace process over Jerusalem, let it better be now, rather than later."

before additional territory is ceded and the Palestinians have created facts on the ground that will be virtually impossible to undo," he said adding:

"Why should Israel make concessions to the Arabs for two years and then be told: 'We cannot have real peace with you since you continue to occupy Jerusalem.' If we're doomed to lose the entire peace process over Jerusalem, let it better be now, rather than later."

Europe is Floundering - and it's not good for Jews

by Robert Goldman

Europe has become less important in the world than it was before the collapse of the Soviet Union. This may be another way of saying that, once the Cold War was over, the great prize of that superpower tension — the security and welfare of western Europe lost its value. The clearest evidence of this is the floundering of two institutions that only a few years ago were essential to western and world security: the European Community and NATO.

The broader issue of declining leadership in European countries, and lagging interest in long-term foreign policy goals in Washington, should also be of concern to Jews. Fortunately, Israel these days is no longer the pariah it was for so long before the Rabin-Arafat process got underway. But still, Israel needs friends, and the United States should not be the only one. It is in Israel's interest to have the continued involvement of Europe's democracies on the side of a secure peace and in advancing democratic practices in the Arab world.

It is important for the European and Atlantic communities to hang together as well as they can, so that Germany, so disproportionately populous and economically powerful, has a framework into which it remains integrated, rather than once again becoming a "loose cannon."

In short, Jews need to be concerned on an interest-related level with these broader and longer-term developments of foreign policy, first of all in Washington, and right next to it, in democratic Europe.

Throughout the 16 years of the Charlotte Yiddish Institute, sponsored by the Charlotte JCC, we have encouraged the participation of students attending Yiddish Studies programs in colleges and universities throughout the United States. Each year selected students, recommended by their Yiddish Studies professors, are awarded full scholarships and travel stipends to attend the annual Charlotte Yiddish Institute at the Wildacres Retreat, located in Little Switzerland, NC. This year one of the students selected was Eliyana Adler, a Ph.D. student at Brandeis University in the Dept. of Modern Eastern European Jewish History. The following is an evaluation/essay of Eliyana's Yiddish Institute experience.

Baila Pransky, Coordinator- CYI

Charlotte Yiddish Institute 16

by Eliyana Adler

I came for the 'Yiddish' in the "Charlotte Yiddish Institute." Charlotte meant nothing to me and I did not know what the Institute would hold. After a year of Yiddish in university and a six week intensive summer course, I was ready to be in a Yiddish speaking environment and connect myself with other lovers of the language and culture. As it turned out I found that all three of the elements were integral to the experience. Charlotte, the Yiddish and the Institute all made my weekend one to remember.

Raised in California and educated in Ohio and Massachusetts, what did I know from Judaism in Charlotte? I had no idea about the communal spirit that made the Charlotte Yiddish Institute possible. In what other community could a group of dedicated volunteers create and sustain a program of this sort?

Each member of the community contributed some particular skill or energy to the overall program. In addition was the lovely Wild Acres Retreat, enough to make any weekend special.

As for the Yiddish aspect of the weekend, I did not hear as much as I would have hoped but the Yiddish I did hear was at a high level. Dr. Sheva Zucker delivered fascinating lectures on Yiddish literature. She also carefully mixed English into her talks to make them accessible to all. The musical aspect of the program made the language come alive even for those who could not understand the language. Both Zalmen Mitek and Robert Abelson contributed considerable talent and energy.

The Institute itself was physically beautiful and better organized than I could have imagined. From carpools to split-level workshops to worship services, everything went smoothly. The programs were also designed to meet the needs of a particular yet varied audience.

That is my objective analytical appraisal of the Charlotte Yiddish Institute. A well-rounded, well-organized program run by generous and energetic volunteers. What will I really remember though? My shabbos hike through the dense green forest, dancing until dawn with the diehards, the variegated accents and dialects of Yiddish represented, and the openness and hospitality with which each Institutnik took an interest in my life and shared some of his or her own with me.

Eliyana Adler
Brandeis University
Waltham, MA.
September, 1994



Containing Saddam And The Ayatollahs

During his talks with Boris Yeltsin, President Clinton urged the Russian leader to halt arms sales to Iran. Moscow has sold Iran an estimated \$1 billion worth of submarines, missiles, and tanks over the past year, strengthening the military capabilities of one of the world's most dangerous regimes.

Washington is trying to dissuade the Russians (as well as nations such as China, France and Germany) from continuing to bolster Tehran.

By any measure, dealing with dangers posed by Iran and Islamic radicalism in general has become one of the most urgent national security problems facing U.S. policymakers today.

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Did You Know?

- Only 0.9 percent of the U.S. budget goes into foreign aid; 0.2 percent goes to Israel.
- Over 80 percent of U.S. foreign aid is spent in the United States, creating jobs for hundreds of thousands of Americans
- Israel has never defaulted on an international loan
- Israel's population at the beginning of 1994 stood at 5.33 million. It consisted of 4.34 million Jews (81.5%) and 989,000 non-Jews (77% Muslims, 14% Christians and 9% Druze and others).
- In 1993, 69,000 immigrants came to Israel. Since 1948, over 2.35 million immigrants have arrived from 130 countries.

N.C. Hillel: A Jewish Home to Hundreds of Students

by Darin Diner-

NC Hillel Program Director

Without question one of the most eventful times of the Jewish calendar year occurs around the High Holidays. This year was certainly no exception at N.C. Hillel. The holidays may have fallen during the first weeks of the semester, but nothing stopped Hillel's wide-ranging program from operating at full speed. N.C. Hillel is led by a Student board which organizes and runs activities ranging from community service projects to social and athletic programs.

October was an especially exciting month as several Student groups met again this year to plan and participate in Hillel events. The Arab-Jewish dialogue Jewish Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Friends group, Jewish Creativity Series and Gradsplus group, all kicked off their programs with many more activities to follow.

"There are endless numbers of Student groups that we can support here at Hillel," says Rabbi Andy Koren, executive director of Hillel. "If the Students express an interest we will back them all the way."

That attitude is quickly understood when other groups such as the United Jewish Appeal, a Jewish women's group and Interfaith Dialogue have plans to begin early this month. Also under Hillel's umbrella during October were several non-credit classes offered to Students and the entire Triangle community. "How to Pray Jewishly" and "Reading and Chanting Torah" were taught by Rabbi Koren. Durham resident Batya Eisner also taught beginning and intermediate modern Hebrew courses. According to Rabbi Koren several more courses will begin early in the Spring.

"I enjoy the chance to participate in such a wide variety of programming," says senior Gill Ian Steinberg, student president and class participant. "Hillel is a unique place where people can learn and have fun at the same time."

But Steinberg says the fun is only beginning since Chanukah is just around the corner. On the planning books for later this semester are several Chanukah celebrations, including a statewide party for Jewish students which will be held in Chapel Hill on December 3rd.

N.C. Hillel is located at 210 W. Cameron Ave. just west of the Carolina Inn in Chapel Hill. The offices can be reached at (919)942-4057 and are open 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Friday.

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