

THE CHARLOTTE JEWISH NEWS

P.O. Box 13369, Charlotte, NC 28270

Published monthly by:

Charlotte Jewish Federation . . . Michael L. Minkin, Director
 Foundation of Charlotte Jewish Community &
 Jewish Community Center . . . Barry Hantman, Director
 Lubavitch of N.C. . . . Rabbi Yossi Groner, Director
 Editor . . . Rita Mond
 Advertising Asst. Blanche Yarus
 Editorial Board Joel Goldman, Chair
 Phil Joffe, Marcia Simon, Dr. Selwyn Spangenthal,
 Ron Weiner, Barry Wohl, Barbara Ziegler

Copy deadline the 10th of each month

The CJN does not assume responsibility for the quality or kashruth of any product or service advertised.

Publishing of a paid political advertisement does not constitute an endorsement of any candidate, political party or political position by this newspaper, the Federation or any employees.

Editorial**Nelson Mandela — Charismatic and Contradictory**

By Marc H. Tanenbaum
(JTA)

The dramatic visit of Nelson Mandela to the United States has been nothing short of a triumph of personality over political ideology.

Mandela is a natural aristocrat, with genuine charismatic power. His gifts of persuasive communication lifted up the justice of the anti-apartheid struggle to new levels of awareness and commitment for all of us. And that is a great and positive good.

But, I regret to say, his charisma does not resolve some basic and troubling contradictions in his political ideology. Thus, Mandela's consistent support of Colonel Moammar Gadhafi, Fidel Castro and the Palestine Liberation Organization's Yasir Arafat is morally distressing to most Americans, I believe, as to Jews.

The overwhelming support of the anti-apartheid campaign rests on its clear-cut and unambiguous moral foundations — the establishment of human rights and assurance of civil and political liberties: Gadhafi, Castro and the PLO in their extensive support of international terrorists are among the worst violators of human rights in the world today. It would be an historic tragedy if the compelling struggle to dismantle the evil apartheid system became compromised by continued association with these terrorist factories.

When asked repeatedly about those radical connections, Mandela misleadingly said that he would not interfere in the internal affairs of those countries, nor of any other country. But without batting an eyelash, he proceeded to thrust himself into the internal affairs of Israel by proposing what her borders should be, and supporting the PLO version of the peace process.

While declaring his friendship for the Jewish people, Mandela warmly acknowledged during his meeting in New York with religious leaders the support of Christian and Muslim leaders in the anti-apartheid struggle. Not a mention of Jewish support.

Mandela and the African National Congress appear to be changing their views on a Marxist economy for South Africa. Perhaps that new flexibility and realism may yet lead in time to a change in positions on Israel and the Middle East realities as well.

In any case, Nelson Mandela is clearly a major international personality and Jews would be wise to continue to cultivate his understanding.

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum is international relations consultant to the American Jewish Committee and is immediate past chairman of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations.

**Letters to The Editor**

We encourage our readers' viewpoints. Letters should be submitted typewritten and double-spaced and signed. Please include your address and phone number. We reserve the right to edit.

Fund-raising Bodies Will Speed Up Campaign for Immigrant Absorption

By Charles Hoffman

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Leaders of the major fund-raising organizations of world Jewry have agreed to accelerate their campaign to help Israel meet the costs of absorbing the rapidly rising tide of immigrants from the Soviet Union.

Diaspora leaders who gathered here the end of June for the Jewish Agency Assembly laid the groundwork for a \$1 billion campaign over three years for the absorption of close to half a million Soviet Jews in Israel.

Their decision came in response to urgent appeals for more cash from the Jewish Agency, which works in partnership with the Israeli government to transport the immigrants and absorb them in Israeli society.

Last fall, the Jewish Agency asked Diaspora fund-raising bodies to raise \$600 million over three years for immigrant absorption. The United Jewish Appeal agreed to raise \$420 million in the United States and Keren Hayesod agreed to raise

\$180 million from other countries, in what became known as Operation Exodus.

The campaign, which was begun early this year, set out to raise the full amount in just one year, but donors would have three years to pay out their pledged contributions.

Leaders of UJA and Keren Hayesod agreed to urge their donors to pay off their Operation Exodus pledges over two years, thereby making \$300 million a year available to the Jewish Agency, rather than \$200 million.

The plan is then to begin a new special drive once the current one is completed.

Already Talk of Exodus II

"We are now in the midst of what we call Operation Exodus I. People will yet be called on for increased giving in Exodus II," said Phil Granovsky, a United Israel Appeal leader from Canada who chairs Keren Hayesod.

"When we get home," he said, "we have to set the mood for the

next stage of the campaign. It is urgent to prepare people for this." He said the Jewish Agency would need \$1 billion over the next three years.

Agency and government leaders agreed on a \$2.3 billion plan for the aliyah and absorption of 150,000 Soviet Jews in Israel this year. It is estimated that similar numbers of Soviet Jews will be coming to Israel each year over the next three years.

The agency pays transportation and shipping costs for the immigrants, part of an absorption grant they receive during their first year in Israel, and certain social services for newcomers.

Israeli taxpayers will be expected to pay most of the costs of long-term absorption, which means primarily job creation and housing. The Israeli government must also build new schools and expand the infrastructure to cope with the added population.

The chairman of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors, Mendel Kaplan, said that because of the upsurge in immigration, the agency has doubled its budget this year from \$360 million to \$740 million, "with most of it going for aliyah and absorption."

He lauded Diaspora leaders for contributing generously to help the Jewish Agency meet the ensuing cash shortfall.

Noting that UIA-Canada had agreed to borrow \$30 million to help fill the gap, Kaplan said, "Both individuals and communities are borrowing funds to pay campaign pledges. They are extending themselves in peacetime, which is unheard of."

Government to Pay Larger Share

Agency leaders admitted, however, that even if cash receipts from Operation Exodus rise this year from \$200 million, as originally planned, to \$300 million, the agency will still not be able to pay its previous share of absorption costs.

Simcha Dinitz, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, said the agency has asked the government to pick up a larger share of the initial absorption grant provided to the immigrants.

Until now, the agency and the government have split the cost evenly. The agency now wants to reduce its share to 25 percent, with the government picking up the rest.

Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai urged delegates at the Jewish Agency Assembly to reduce services in their own communities, borrow funds and make cuts in other areas of agency activity, so that more Diaspora funds would be available for aliyah and absorption.

But Kaplan said that the willingness of Diaspora leaders to launch a new phase of the Operation Exodus campaign would depend in part on progress made in Israel by October, when the Jewish Agency Board of Governors next convenes.

"The credibility of the government is linked to what happens on the ground," Kaplan said. "If there is no housing or job creation, our task will be more difficult."

**FYI: Israeli Cabinet**

On June 11, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir succeeded in winning approval of a new government in Israel after the unity government between Labour and Likud failed in March.

The Cabinet members represent five different parties and include an Independent. The Knesset approved the coalition by a vote of 62 to 57 with one abstention, Avraham Verdiger of Agudat Yisrael.

The new ministers, their departments and their parties are: Yitzhak Shamir, Prime Minister, Likud. This is the fourth term as Prime Minister for the 75-year-old Shamir.

David Levy, Deputy Premier and Foreign Affairs, Likud.

Moshe Nissim, Deputy Premier, Industry and Trade, Likud.

Moshe Arens, Defense, Likud. This is the second shot at defense (1983) for the 65-year-old Arens.

Yitzhak Modai, Finance, Likud. Modai was instrumental in economic rehabilitation in 1984.

Ariel Sharon, Housing, Likud. Now in charge of Soviet resettlement.

Dan Meridor, Justice, Likud.

Ronni Milo, Police, Likud.

David Magen, Economics and Planning, Likud.

Ehud Olmert, Health, Likud.

Gideon Patt, Tourism, Likud.

Yitzhak Peretz, Immigrant Absorption, Independent. Former minister of Interior.

Arye Deri, Interior, Shas.*

Rafael Pinhasi, Communications, Shas.*

Zevulun Hammer, Education and Culture, National Religious Party.* Education minister under Begin.

Avner Shaki, Religious Affairs, National Religious Party.*

Yuval Ne'eman, Science and Energy, Tehiya* (party founder).

Rafael Eitan, Agriculture, Tsomet.*

*Religious Parties

**Deadline for
September's Issue
Aug. 10**