

Jewish world mourns death of Chaim Herzog

On April 17, former Israeli President Chaim Herzog died from complications of pneumonia. He was 78.

A native of Ireland, Herzog was remembered and saluted around the world as one who played a major role in the founding of the Jewish state.

Herzog served as a British officer in World War II and was present at the Nazi surrender in 1945. Later, in Israel, he fought in Israel's 1948 War of Independence, and later became

the first head of the intelligence branch of the Israeli army.

In addition to his military career, Herzog also served Israel in many government capacities, including military governor of the West Bank in 1967, U.N. Ambassador in the the '70's, and member of the Knesset in the '80's. He served as Israel's sixth president from 1983 to 1993.

The author of numerous books, his works include a history of the Six Day War, "Israel's Finest Hour," and an account of the Yom

Kippur War, "The War of Atonement." In his most recent work he wrote, "I pray that my children and grandchildren will see a strong and vigorous Israel at peace with its neighbors and continuing to represent the traditions that have sustained our people throughout the ages. I wish for a world in which Israel vindicates its promise to be a 'light unto the nations.'"

Herzog is survived by a wife, two sons and a daughter. ✧

Istook bill a threat to religious freedom

NJDC asks Democrats to oppose measure

WASHINGTON, DC — Rep. Ernest Istook, a Republican from Oklahoma, announced on May 8 that he was introducing a constitutional amendment to allow organized prayer and religious practice in public schools and on government property.

"Congressman Istook's amendment is a wolf in sheep's clothing when it comes to protecting religious liberty," charges NJDC Executive Director Ira N. Forman. "Mr. Istook's bill is nothing more than a counterfeit. If his bill is passed, religious freedom will need to be protected from its self-proclaimed protectors."

"Block by block, Mr. Istook and his allies in the radical right continue their efforts to dismantle the wall separating church and state. Like in previous years, the 1997 Istook amendment is drafted

to sound innocuous — as if to correct a wrong suffered by people of faith. To some it will sound innocent. Mr. Istook's amendment is nothing more than a naked attempt to undermine religious tolerance in the United States. Make no mistake — this constitutional amendment would allow the fox to roam freely in the henhouse.

"Under the guise of securing the right to acknowledge G-d, Mr. Istook is seeking to dump over 200 years of constitutional jurisprudence that guarantees both freedom of religion and freedom from state-sponsored religion.

"In only 52 words, Mr. Istook has launched the latest assault by the radical right on the U.S. Constitution and on religious minorities. This attack not only threatens the rights of religious minorities and those who do not

practice a religion. It also perpetrates a fraud in that the bill implies that private religious practice, even in public places or public schools, is currently unlawful. In fact, whether in public schools or in other government facilities, prayer and religious practice are allowed.

"But religion must thrive without government endorsement or excessive government entanglement. This is the best formula for maintaining the tenuous constitutional balance that both protects religious freedom and bars state-sponsored religion.

"Mr. Istook and his allies seek to destroy that balance.

"We will fight this amendment every step of the way in the Congress, the state legislatures and at the ballot box." ✧

Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte holds annual meeting

The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte held its annual meeting at Temple Israel on May 8, 1997. Chaired by President Rich Osborne, the evening included an update by Bill Gorelick and Jill Newman on the very successful campaign that was just concluded. Noting that the campaign raised an all-time high of \$1.572 million dollars, Mr. Gorelick and Mrs. Newman thanked the lay and professional staff as well as the community at large for their commitment to Jewish survival.

Mr. Osborne and Marvin Goldberg, Executive Director of the JFGC recognized the outstanding contributions over the



Mayor Pat McCrory spoke about his recent trip to Israel at the annual meeting of the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte on May 8, 1997.

last year of several members of the Federation, including Adam Bernstein, Donald and Bobbi Bernstein, Ruth Goldberg, Bill Gorelick, Stacy Gorelick, Ed Newman, Jill Newman, Phyllis Schiffman and Bob Speizman. Also recognized were outgoing Federation Board members Ben Jaffa, Milt Tager, Gary Silverstein and Diane Schwartz. Lou Wernick was also recognized for his work as Special Projects Coordinator for the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte.

Pat McCrory, mayor of Charlotte, gave the keynote address. He spoke of his experiences on a recent Mayor's Mission to Israel. ✧



1997 Campaign Chairs Jill Newman and Bill Gorelick announced a record-breaking campaign total of \$1.572 million

State of Israel Bonds Offers Reinvestment For Matured Bonds



NEW YORK — State of Israel Bonds/ Development Corporation for Israel has announced new reinvestment opportunities for matured bonds.

Effective immediately, matured 4% bonds will be accepted for direct reinvestment into Zero Coupon Bonds. In addition, matured State of Israel Variable Rate Issue (VRI) bonds will be allowed to be directly reinvested in Economic Development Issue (EDI) bonds.

State of Israel Bonds/ Development Corporation for Israel is an international organization offering securities issued by the government of Israel. Since the first bond was

sold in 1952, Israel Bonds has secured more than \$17 billion in investment capital for the development of every aspect of Israel's economy, including agriculture, commerce and industry. Throughout its history, Israel has maintained a perfect record on the payment of principal and interest on the securities it has issued. Israel Bonds proceeds play a major role in absorbing Jews from the former Soviet Union, Ethiopia and elsewhere and in providing crucial financial resources to Israel for a new era of promise and opportunity.

For more information contact The Development Corporation for Israel / State of Israel Bonds. ✧

100th Anniversary of Zionism

In late August, Israelis, and Jews around the world will be recalling the first Zionist Congress held in Basel, Switzerland, on August 31, 1897. At the climax of the congress, Zionism's founder, Theodor Herzl wrote in his diary, "Today I founded the Jewish State. If I were to say this out loud, I would be greeted with universal laughter. But in 5 years, certainly in 50, it will be true." Herzl died in 1904, but 50 years and 228 days after his diary entry, David Ben Gurion declared the creation of the State of Israel at a ceremony at Tel Aviv's Museum of Art. The Zionism Centenary is encouraging various tour organizers to offer various packages highlighting sites and places associated with the rebirth of Israel — as well as tours combining Israel with Switzerland.

gatherings climaxing with the massive celebrations on the anniversary itself which falls on April 30, 1998. ✧

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50th Of The State Of Israel

In October 1997, Israel will begin a year-long celebration of its Golden Anniversary. The jubilee year will be marked by an ambitious series of concerts, festivals, firework displays and



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