## Greater Hope For Middle East Peace

HAPPY NEW YEAR

BY MAYNARD I. WISHNER, PRESIDENT, AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

NEW YORK -- The recent events in Lebanon hold out greater hope of Middle East peace than had previously existed, but creative initiative by Palestinians and Israelis alike are required in order to avoid further tragic cost in human lives.

That is the key theme of a message by Maynard I. Wishner, President of the American Jewish Committee, marking the forthcoming Jewish New Year. The holiday, Rosh Hashanah, begins Friday evening, September 17.

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"We have much to rejoice at on this Rosh Hashanah," Mr. Wishner said. "When we express optimism today we can do so without feeling that we are being unrealistic or overcredulous."

Wishner foresaw a lessing of tension in the Middle East that would enable Israel to turn its attention to vital domestic concerns. There should, he said, be an early improvement in the economic situation there, "but above everything else we can hope for an end to the killing."

Recalling that in his Rosh Hashanah message last year, he had expressed gratitude for "America's determination to find just and humane solutions to the many problems faced by the people of the Middle East," he congratulated President Reagan "for his steadfast concern for Israel's security and for Lebanese independence."

Wishner expressed satisfaction that Israel's actions have served American interests in the Middle East, as well as its own, and that Soviet influence in the region had been weakened. He hoped that more moderate Palestinians would now come to the fore.

He also noted that the Middle East crisis had undoubtedly caused a lessening of attention to the plight of the Jews in the Soviet Union. He pointed out that there had been no improvement in the situation there, and he said that sooner or later Soviet Jews would have to be given the right to emigrate from a country in which their civil and religious liberties were flagrantly abused.

A partial text of Mr. Wishner's message follows:

"For the first time in many years, it is possible at this Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, to look forward with hope for Israel's security rather than with apprehension. The definite, if still somewhat troubled, peace in the fiddle East allows us to feel that the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel is not just a mirage, a figment of the imagination.

"Surely, we must, as ever, give thanks for the resolve of our nation's leaders who have so staunchly persisted in their search for just and humane solutions to the many problems faced by the peoples of the Middle East. We are especially grateful for President Reagan's steadfast concern for Israel's security and Lebanese independence. But wisdom and moderation by Israelis and Arabs alike are needed more than ever before.

"There could have been no possibility of a just and, we can hope, permanent solution without United States involvement. We can also take pride in the fact that Israel has served American interests in the Middle East as well as its own, and that Soviet influence has been weakened.

"Once again, we have seen our country's vision and generosity vindicated, as it has so often been in the past.

"Let us not forget, however, that our brethren in the Soviet Union are still suffering all the disadvantages and, indeed, dangers that have marked their recent history. If they have received less attention in the media, that does not signify any amelioration of their plight. As long as they are refused the right to emigrate, neither they nor people of humane instincts in any part of the world can rest easy.

"Yet, we have much to be thankful for, not the least of which is that when we express optimism today we can do so without feeling that we are being unrealistic or over - credulous.

"On this Rosh Hashanah, we commit ourselves with renewed strength to our ancient faith and to the principles of democracy that have contributed so much to the civilization of the world."

## NAZI BOOK INFLUENCES

reelected vice chief

editor of the Bavarian

The neo - Nazi news-

organization of

be-

paper National Zeitung

called the work "The Book of the Year." But

journalists associated

with nationwide trade

unions said it should

cause of its danger-

ous affect on German

be blacklisted

State television

radio station.

BONN (WNS) -- An controversy angry has arisen here surrounding the recent release of a book Waffen extolling the was reported SS, it here. Written by a former member of the notorious Nazi security police, Franz Schoenhuber, "Ich War Dabei' ("I participated") has been branded a menace to West German . youth for spreading neo-Nazi ideas. At the same time the book has been praised by neo - Nazi publications. The publisher Langenp -- Mueller Verlag, said the first two editions have sold better than expected and a third edition is in preparation.

Public figures and journalists in Munich and elsewhere have attacked the book and have demanded that the

author resign from his post as honorary chairman of the Bavarian Journalists Association. Schoenhuber has refused. Only a

few weeks ago. he was

organization affiliated with the Sorbonne University. The dictionary will be on sale beginning in August at a cost of 220 Francs or about \$35.

Welcome To

COMMERCIAL

PARIS (WNS) -- The first Franco-Yiddish dictionary to be published was finalized in

Paris, according to a report here. The heavy tome, 400 pages containing 23,000 words,

has been edited by the French Committee for

the Propagation and Survival of the Yiddish

Language and Culture in France, a non-profit

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