

NATIONAL JEWISH EDUCATION CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN TEXAS

The eighth annual Conference on Alternatives in Jewish Education will take place at Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas, August 7 - 11 of this year. This annual Conference is the largest gathering of individuals concerned with Jewish education. This group includes teachers, rabbis, cantors, administrators, writers, artists, youth workers, parents, social workers, principals, librarians, community and lay leaders. The Conference seeks to bring together people who represent all ideologies and provide a forum for them to interact and share ideas and insights with each other.

Two session formats have come to be associated with CAJE Conferences - modules and Lehrhauses. Modules are teaching units of three to nine hours which provide presenters with an opportunity to share content material and/or methodology. Participants are exposed to outstanding Jewish educators and can confront them in a classroom-like setting. Lehrhauses are less formal sessions of shorter duration, which permit the dispensing of information about new programs, innovative ideas and creative classroom methodologies.

The Jewish Resource Center at CAJE has come to be regarded as a place where one can review teacher made and new materials first hand, learn about computer usage for instruction and administration, view films for school, community use and the library. A copy bank is available so that a teacher can leave the Conference with enough data to teach a class for an entire year. Other highlights include Limud Torah, study sessions with outstanding Jewish scholars; debates on issues confronting Jewish Educators; and forum discussion where community leaders and educators react to each other.

A CAJE Conference is a unique Jewish experience. For further information your local contact is:

Penny Witles
1511 S. Bedford Street #2
Los Angeles, Ca. 90035

Or contact the National CAJE Office at:

CAJE
468 Park Avenue South
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016
(212) 696-0740.

Weinberger Answers His Critics

One must admire Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. He has been the target of persistent accusations by the American Jewish community and Israeli officials of acting as the primary advocate in the Reagan Cabinet of what appears to be a pro-Arab bias, which more precisely amounts to an anti-Israel tilt in Administration policy.

His background, which includes a former high level position with the Bechtel Group, the huge San Francisco-based engineering firm with extensive contracts in Arab states, is just one item on a long list of charges against the Defense Secretary.

But to his credit, Weinberger last week took issue with the allegations in an address to more than 600 American Jewish leaders at a luncheon in New York sponsored by the American Jewish Committee. He asserted outright that he is not anti-Israel, saying those charges are "simply not true." Continuing, Weinberger added:

"I am a strong supporter of Israel and an admiring witness to the democracy that they have built and preserved under the most trying conditions... We have all had occasional disagreements with some policies of Israel as with other sovereign nations. I have... sought to pursue policies in these matters, as in all others that I felt in the best interests of the United States."

"Leaving all sentiments aside," he said, "looking only at our national interests, it is clear that we in the United States have an important stake in Israel's security."

Thus, Weinberger answered his critics. But only half way. His efforts to pursue policies that are in the best interests of the United States are questionable. Seeking the establishment of better U.S. relations with certain "moderate" Arab states, a position he has maintained in the past, can be viewed as an essential ingredient of U.S. Mideast policy.

But when those efforts by Weinberger specifically undercut Administration pronouncements by Secretary of State George Shultz or President Reagan and as a result strain U.S. - Israel relations, Administration policy becomes ambiguous and doubtful. Good relations with Israel is a cornerstone of U.S. policy and as Defense Secretary, Weinberger is clearly cognizant of that. It is his methods of doing business which leaves something to be desired among supporters of Israel in the U.S.

HAIG: U.S. CAN BENEFIT FROM TECHNION TECHNOLOGY



ADDRESSING THE ATLANTA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TECHNION, FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE ALEXANDER M. HAIG COMMENTED THAT THE UNITED STATES WOULD PROFIT BY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES BEING PIONEERED AT THE TECHNION-ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY. "THE WORK OF THE TECHNION," SAID HAIG, "WHICH DIRECTLY CONTRIBUTES TO THE TECHNOLOGICAL PROWESS OF ISRAEL BOTH FOR SECURITY AND SOCIAL APPLICATION, ALSO BENEFITS THE UNITED STATES. AS HAS BEEN THE CASE, IT IS IN AMERICA'S BEST INTEREST TO BE THE BENEFICIARY OF THESE TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES." THE TECHNION-ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, IS THE MAJOR CENTER OF TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN ISRAEL. IT TRAINS THE ENGINEERS, SCIENTISTS, PHYSICIANS AND MANAGERS WHO ARE VITAL TO ISRAEL'S INDUSTRIAL GROWTH AND NATIONAL SECURITY.

VOLUNTEER FOR ISRAEL HOTLINE

NEW YORK -- To handle the overflow of Americans who have volunteered to give a month of civilian work in Israel, in response to the increasing Soviet - Syrian threat, the Volunteers for Israel office has established a volunteer hotline, with a battery of telephones open twenty-four hours a day. Flights to Israel depart every week. Cost is between \$500 and \$650, depending on date of departure; airfare, room, board, and tours included. The subsidized program has sent nearly one thousand American Jews to Israel since the start of the Lebanon War. Volunteers work in military warehouses, garages, and clinics and help on kibbutzim. Over two hundred volunteers will be going this month.

"We opened the volunteer hotline because people were calling Israel Consulates, the Jewish Agency, and synagogues trying to find us," Lisa Stein, one of the volunteer organizers, said.

To volunteer a month of work in Israel, please call the hotline at 212-608-4848, or write: Volunteers for Israel, 40 Worth Street, Suite 710, New York, N.Y. 10013.

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