

**Black-Jewish Relations**

Black-Jewish relations, unhappily strained in recent years, may yet suffer further deterioration unless statesmen in both communities move swiftly to steer a wise, moderate course.

The appointment by President Reagan of three new members of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission -- foremost among them the distinguished Jewish leader and human rights advocate, Morris B. Abram -- has been vigorously attacked by several prominent Black leaders. While there are legitimate differences among Jews and others over whether the President's dismissal of Commission members comprises the civil rights group's independence, anyone even remotely familiar with Morris Abram's record of advocacy of civil and human rights causes could not but conclude that he is a superb choice for that post.

Nevertheless, Mayor Andrew Young of Atlanta and Georgia's State Senator Julian Bond chose to trivialize Mr. Abram's role in civil rights. Their statements were nothing less than outrageous, especially since they know better.

Black-Jewish relations will also be strained by the commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King's March on Washington in August. The fact that the sponsors insensitively decided to schedule that event on a Saturday -- the Shabbat -- and have invited pro-PLO groups to join in the march has offended many Jews.

Add to that the possible presidential race of the Rev. Jesse Jackson -- whose anti-Jewish and anti-Israel tirades scandalized American Jewry, and you see how combustible Black-Jewish relations could become unless tended to intensively by both responsible Black and Jewish leaders.

**American Students To Rebuild City In Israel**

TAGRA, the national Zionist student activist movement, affiliated with Herut USA and Betar in the United States and Menachem Begin's Herut party in Israel, has announced that it will be sending one-hundred American college students to Israel to participate in the building of a new city of the site of the ancient fortress of Betar in Judea.

The TAGAR movement identifies with the position of the Government of Israel in seeking security for its people, Judea and Samaria being essential to that security. More importantly, TAGAR reiterates the fact that Judea and Samaria comprise the heartland of the Jewish state, and that the right of Jews to settle and live there shall not be abridged.

This project of student activists is in fulfillment of the TAGAR commitment to serve Israel and the Jewish people. In participating in the construction of the City of Betar, the movement manifests its support for the continuation of the great progress being made in building up the region.

The site for the new city was chosen because of its special significance as the place where the Jewish army, under Bar Kochba, made its last stand against the Roman legions in the year 135 C.E. The first group of one-hundred students will be leaving for the site in June, 1984 and are scheduled to stay there for one year. Half of their time will be spent working on the construction of the city; during the other half, they will study at Israeli universities and yeshivas. Many TAGAR members have already submitted requests that they be included in the first group of one-hundred; applications for the program are available from the national offices of TAGAR, and will be available on campuses in the Fall.

As the newest member of the Herut - Betar family, the TAGAR ZIONIST STUDENT ACTIVIST MOVEMENT is already active on over seventy college campuses in the United States. The "Betar" project is the latest of many TAGAR activities designed to unite young Zionist activists and involve them personally with the State of Israel. TAGAR also works on projects concerning the problems of Jews all over the world, including combatting Anti-Semitism, and freeing the Jews of the Soviet Union.

John Casablancas, owner of the Elite Model Agencies, was in Las Vegas recently to meet with Judi Moreo, owner of Universal Models. The purpose of his visit was to plan the upcoming semi-finals of "The Look of '83," scheduled to be aired from Acapulco in November. Universal models will conduct the competition in Las Vegas September 15. Contestants will be judged on beauty of face and figure, grace and style, personality and photographic ability. One hundred girls from Nevada, Southern Utah, Southern California and Northern Arizona will compete for the chance to win modeling contracts. Physical requirements for top models include height of 5'7" to 5'10", size seven or eight. Casablancas looks for what he calls "Harmony in the face" -- good teeth, expressive eyes, good skin and rich hair.

To obtain an entry form, contact Mary Akkerman, Universal Models, 953E. Sahara Bldg. 28-B Suite 207, Las Vegas, Nevada 89104, (702) 732-2499 before August 1.

J. E. Dutton, Clark County Assessor said that his office has been deluged with calls from conscientious taxpayers wishing to pay the 1983/84 personal property taxes on mobile homes, boats and campers. Dutton stated that these personal property tax billings will be mailed as soon as the results of the August 9th tax referendum are known, so that correct tax rates may be applied to the billings. Dutton also stated that the delinquent dates for such payments will be extended to coincide with the late billing date.

A new exhibit of Southwestern mammals has opened at the Southern Nevada Zoological Park according to Park Director Pat Dingle. The exhibit includes raccoons, coatis, porcupines, skunks, and cayotes. According to Dingle, some of these animals live near and sometimes even within Las Vegas and surrounding communities. Skunks, for example, are frequent visitors to Las Vegas backyards and cayotes are often seen on the outskirts of our city.

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**Shcharansky Allowed Visit By Family**

NEW YORK (WNS) — For the first time in 18 months, Soviet Prisoner of Conscience Anatoly Shcharansky was visited by his family at Chistipol prison, according to the

Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and the Union of Councils of Soviet Jews. News of the visit was obtained by telephone from a family friend, Dina Beilin, in Jerusalem. She said that Shcharansky's mother, Ida Milgrom and his brother, Leonid Shcharansky, were able to speak with him for two hours through a glass partition, she said.

According to Beilin, she was told by Mrs. Milgrom that her son looks like "a tiny old man and has lost all his hair. His health is very poor."