

State senator; and Dennis L. Dutremble, president, Maine Senate.

**Statement on the Observance of
Rosh Hashana, 1994**
September 5, 1994

Warm greetings to all who are celebrating Rosh Hashana in this promising year of renewal.

The high holidays, the most solemn and hallowed days of the Hebrew calendar, mark the beginning of a new year. Jews around the world pause to reassess their lives and their relationships with others and with God. Most important, Rosh Hashana celebrates change—bidding farewell to an old year and welcoming the new.

During last year's high holy days, the world rejoiced as Prime Minister Rabin and Chairman Arafat took the first brave steps toward peace in the Middle East. This year, in the same courageous spirit, we have seen new, bold steps in the peace process. Together, we watched the determined leaders of Israel and Jordan turn away from the sorrow of generations of hostility, blood, and tears to embrace the promises of hope and prosperity.

As the shofar sounds this Rosh Hashana, let it be a summons to build on this long anticipated foundation—a summons to nourish the seeds of peace that have finally been planted on both sides of the River Jordan.

Best wishes to all for a joyous Rosh Hashana and a peaceful new year.

NOTE: This statement is identical to a message made available by the White House. Rosh Hashana was observed on September 6.

**Statement on the Observance of Yom
Kippur, 1994**
September 6, 1994

I am pleased to extend greetings to all who are observing Yom Kippur, the most solemn of Jewish holidays.

The holy day of Yom Kippur recognizes that all human beings are capable of transgression and of atonement. Judaism teaches that every person, from time to time, fails to act in accordance with his or her highest principles. Yom Kippur offers worshippers

the chance to seek forgiveness for sins committed during the past year and to reassess personal behavior. Beyond this, the Day of Atonement urges the repair of torn relationships and encourages treating all people with kindness. It is a day intended for rectifying mistakes and for recommitment in a journey leading from thought to deed.

As we strive to recognize changes that must be made in our own lives and for our entire world, we turn to each other for the strength we seek. Though the challenges of our world are formidable, and ancient animosities are not easily overcome, the past year has shown us time and again that peace is within our power.

Let this day serve as a call to make the changes in our lives and in our communities that peace and prosperity require. Let us rededicate ourselves to caring for others and to teaching our children the lessons of compassion. In the spirit of reconciliation and renewal that were so evident in the Israeli-Jordanian peace initiative, let us work toward building a brighter world for the generations to come.

Best wishes to all for an observance full of meaning and hope.

NOTE: This advance text is identical to a message made available by the White House. Yom Kippur will be observed on September 15.

**Remarks Honoring the All-American
Cities Award Winners**
September 8, 1994

The President. Thank you very much, and welcome to the Rose Garden on this beautiful day. I want to acknowledge the presence of Secretary Cisneros, who was once director of the National Civic League and whose city, San Antonio, a few years ago was an All-American City under his leadership. Congresswoman Johnson, Congressman Borski, Congressman Blackwell, Congressman Thomas, and Congressman Sharp are here.

I also want to say a word of special appreciation for the National Civic League because this is its centennial year. When the league was founded, Theodore Roosevelt said, "There are many ways in which a man or a woman can work for the higher life of