

# 60th Anniversary JTA daily news bulletin

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## NEW KNESSET TO ELECT SPEAKER AT FIRST MEETING TODAY

By Uzi Benziman

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA)—The ninth Knesset, convening tomorrow for the first time, will choose as its Speaker 61 year-old Yitzhak Shamir, a long-time friend of Likud leader Menachem Begin. Shamir is a relative newcomer to parliament having served only one term. But he ranks third in the hierarchy of Likud's Herut wing, after Begin and Gen. Ezer Weizman.

The inaugural session of the new Knesset will be mainly ceremonial. President Ephraim Katzir will attend. Dr. Zerach Warhaftig of the National Religious Party (NRP) will have the honor of presiding over the session as the Knesset's oldest member.

The quarrel between Likud and the Labor Alignment over seating arrangements in the new Knesset was settled last week in Likud's favor. Likud and its coalition partners will occupy the left side of the chamber where the government parties traditionally have been seated. Labor and the other opposition factions will occupy the right side.

## BEGIN, YADIN MEET AGAIN IN EFFORT TO DRAFT COALITION GUIDELINES

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 12 (JTA)—Likud leader Menachem Begin and Prof. Yigael Yadin, leader of the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) met for 90 minutes today in what many viewed as a final attempt to reach agreement on political guidelines that would open the way for DMC participation in a Likud-led coalition government. The DMC National Council will convene in the next two days to decide whether or not to join a Likud regime. According to informed sources the Council was about evenly split at this moment with possibly a small majority unwilling to accept Likud's terms.

The prospects that Begin will be able to form a broadly-based government with the DMC appeared to dim over the weekend. Likud flatly rejected key proposals by the DMC calling for the new government to state its readiness for territorial compromise in exchange for peace and demanding veto power over any new Jewish settlements on the West Bank. DMC sources also reported that Begin adopted a tough, almost insulting tone toward Yadin after the ultra-Orthodox Aguda Israel agreed to participate in a parliamentary coalition with Likud, thereby assuring it of a 63 vote majority in the Knesset. Begin announced that he intended to form a government, with or without the DMC, by June 20, just a day before the crucial Histadrut elections.

## Likud Leaves Door Open

According to DMC sources, Yadin asked Begin at their last meeting Thursday what Cabinet posts his party could expect. Begin was said to have replied, "I have three ministerial posts for you. Yadin will be Deputy Premier and Minister for Social Betterment and there will be two more important ministries, I cannot remember which." DMC circles were hurt by what they regarded as Begin's cavalier attitude and wondered, if the ministries were important, how he could "forget" which they were.

But Likud apparently realized that it was not handling the situation properly and let it be known

that the door was still open to a coalition agreement with the DMC. At their meeting today Begin and Yadin were reported to be seeking a political guideline phrased in general terms acceptable to both parties. Yosef Burg, leader of the National Religious Party (NRP) which has already reached a coalition agreement with Likud, also met with Yadin to try to persuade the DMC to join the government.

## Calls Electoral Reform Key Issue

Yadin, addressing the Tel Aviv Industrial and Commercial Club luncheon Friday, said his party would be ready to join a Likud-led coalition if it had firm assurances that it could exert an influence on national policies. He said the most important matter was the DMC's demand for electoral reform, something Likud has already rejected out of hand. The DMC wants the next government to agree to elections in two years under a system of direct balloting for Knesset members rather than for party lists. This would mean going before the electorate two years before the government's legal term of office expires.

But Yadin insisted that this issue would test the credibility of the DMC in the eyes of the people who voted for its list. Electoral reform was one of its major campaign issues.

The DMC's trump card seems to be a Begin's strong desire for a broad-based regime. Although he can form a majority government with the religious parties, it would be a tenuous one, hardly representative of the political spectrum in Israel. If the DMC joins his coalition, the Likud government would command a comfortable majority of 78 votes in the Knesset. Such a government would greatly strengthen Begin's position when he meets with President Carter in Washington next month.

## LABORITE MINISTERS SAY OUTGOING GOV. LEAVING ISRAEL IN BETTER ECONOMIC, MILITARY CONDITION

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 12 (JTA)—The Cabinet devoted its meeting today, and a special session Friday, to describing what it said was the improved economic and military condition in which the outgoing Rabin government was leaving the country.

Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz said at today's session that the Treasury now has the largest foreign currency reserves ever and that the government had laid the foundation for checking inflation which may increase by no more than 15 percent this year. He stressed his strong opposition to any plan that calls for increasing unemployment as a means of combatting inflation. "We shall not cure the maladies of the economy by catastrophes," Rabinowitz declared. The American economist Milton Friedman, who Likud wants to invite to be the government's special economic advisor, advocates such a policy.

Addressing the special session Friday, Defense Minister Shimon Peres said the outgoing government was handing over a defense force which may not be able to prevent a war but would ensure the country's security. He said that since the Yom Kippur War Israel's defense forces have been strengthened through unprecedented growth. "One

of my main aims was to improve both the national moral and the moral of the defense force," Peres said and "this was achieved."

Discussing American-Israel relations, Peres, who heads the Labor Party said that while the United States had not kept 100 percent of its commitments to Israel, Israel could never have achieved what it has without U.S. help. He reported that Israel spent IL 3.7 billion on research and development since the Yom Kippur War, but the problem is that it has more talent than money. He said that the Arab states have improved in technology and in the quality of their manpower and noted that Saudi Arabia has evolved from a financial power to an economic power and my soon become a military power.

#### SOME OF CARTER'S REMARKS "FRIGHTENED" ISRAELIS, SCHINDLER SAYS

NEW YORK, June 12 (JTA)--Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said today that recent pronouncements on the Middle East by President Carter "have frightened the Israelis and tend to raise expectations in the Arab world which if frustrated in the slightest way will impede the process toward peace and plunge us all into disaster." Rabbi Schindler, who is also chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, made his remarks at a meeting of the national Board of Trustees of the UAHC, the Reform synagogue body.

Schindler recently returned from Israel where he met with Premier-designate Menachem Begin. Subsequently he had meetings with U.S. Administration officials at the White House and State Department. He expressed concern that "the thrust of President Carter's statements suggests the outlines of an imposed settlement and creates the impression that this is an abandonment of standing U.S. policies that the parties must resolve their own differences in the face-to-face negotiations between the Arabs and the Israelis."

#### Believes In Carter's Desire For Peace

However, Schindler said, in subsequent public statements the "dim outlines" of an American peace plan began to be perceived. But "We were assured by the National Security Advisor, Zbigniew Brzezinski, that these proposals do not 'constitute a blueprint for peace' but rather 'a conceptual framework within which the parties can themselves negotiate,'" Schindler said.

He added, "I believe that President Carter's desire for peace is unquestioned. I also take him at his word that he merely wants to stimulate discussions to nurture the tender seedlings of negotiations toward peace. Unfortunately, the world is not yet used to his ways of open diplomacy and his words are considered not as he intends them but in quite a different way. They are perceived as a firm position, no matter," Schindler said.

#### SEN. STEVENSON SAYS U.S. HAS NO REASON TO FEAR OUTCOME OF ISRAEL'S ELECTIONS

CHICAGO, June 12 (JTA)--Sen. Adlai Stevenson (D. Ill.) said last night there is no reason to fear the results of Israel's elections or to doubt America's "irrevocable" commitment to the Jewish State. Addressing a meeting of the American Jewish Congress' policy-making National Governing Council, Stevenson said he saw

no reason to believe the election results would harm U.S.-Israel relations.

"The government of Israel will be confronted by inescapable realities and also by a chance for peace which could pass," he declared. "It would assign to that government the most irrational bent to conclude from the statements of one man, often out of context, that a new Israel government might reject its only ally and the solemn international undertakings of its predecessor governments for a policy that implies war and invites a violent end to our struggle to right the terrible wrongs and make a reality of Israel."

Stevenson said that "Nothing warrants such fear. The American commitment to Israel is irrevocable. It depends not on the steadfastness of America--that is not in doubt--it depends on the steadfastness of Israel and that is not in doubt either." He stressed that "two centuries of experience with self-government at home should enable us to accept changes abroad with the equanimity with which we accept them here." He noted that in a democratic government if a mistake was made it can be unmade. "But it is premature at least to conclude that a mistake was made in the recent (Israeli) election."

#### AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL URGES HELSINKI SIGNATORIES TO UPHOLD HUMAN RIGHTS

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, June 12 (JTA)--Amnesty International today said that it has appealed to every signatory state of the Helsinki Final Act to work for full implementation of the document's pledges on the rights of conscience.

In a letter to heads of states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, Thomas Hammarberg, the Swedish chairman of Amnesty International's Executive Committee, pointed out that violations of Principle 7 of the Final Act of the Helsinki Agreement had continued in many states of Europe and that domestic legislation punishing some forms of exercise of the rights of conscience by imprisonment has in most cases not been repealed or amended since the Act was signed in 1975. Amnesty hoped that these violations would stimulate rather than impede continuing discussion and development of the Final Act's human rights provisions.

In Principle 7, the participating states undertook "To recognize and respect the freedom of the individual to profess and practice, alone or in community with others, religion or belief acting in accordance with the dictates of his own conscience," and to promote "the effective exercise of civil, political, economic, social, cultural and other rights and freedoms."

#### ISRAEL REFUSES TO SIGN GENEVA DOCUMENT SIGNED BY PLO

GENEVA, June 12 (JTA)--Israel has refused to sign the final convention of the Conference on Humanitarian Law which adjourned here today. The Israeli delegate said his country could not be a signatory to a document that was also signed by the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The conference granted the PLO the right to sign over-vigorous protests by Israel. It was the first international agreement that the PLO was allowed to sign. The signatory governments have one year to ratify the convention but it was clear today that many countries, including Israel, will refuse.

AMSTERDAM (JTA)--The Minister of Interior will delete the term "Jew" from investigation forms currently in use by the national police, it was announced Sunday. He acted in response to protests from various groups, including The Netherlands Zionist Organization. Other controversial descriptions of personal appearance of subjects of police investigation will also be removed.

## THOUSANDS AT NEW YORK RALLY TO FREE ANATOLY SHARANSKY

NEW YORK, June 12 (JTA)—Guerrilla theater, freedom songs, Yiddish poems, art sketches and speeches were part of the "Free Anatoly Sharansky" demonstration Friday in front of Aeroflot, Soviet airline office and outside the New York Public Library on Fifth Ave. Painters, musicians, writers, poets, filmmakers and photographers—members of the Martin Steinberg Jewish Arts Center of the American Jewish Congress—joined the rally to protest charges of treason leveled by the Soviet regime against Sharansky, a Jewish activist in Moscow who has been accused of spying for the CIA. The charge carries a possible death penalty.

The demonstration featured street performers acting out a mock trial of Sharansky. Speaking at the rally, Bronx Borough President Robert Abrams warned that the charge against Sharansky "signals a new era of Soviet repression reminiscent of the darkest days of the brutal age of Stalin."

### Demands Soviets Drop Charges Against Sharansky

Abrams, who is chairman of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, told the rally: "Unless the Soviet Union immediately drops the trumped-up charge of treason against Sharansky, the pledges it signed at the Helsinki conference two years ago will not be worth the paper they are written on, and will represent a brutal rebuff to all those nations in the world that are concerned with human dignity." Organizers of the demonstration—the Martin Steinberg Center of the AJCongress, the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry and Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry—called the campaign against Sharansky an attempt to "break the back of the Soviet emigration movement."

Aryeh Neier, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union, told the demonstrators that "Americans should be concerned with violations of human rights all over the world, not just in our country. Governments should raise their voices whenever violations, such as we are witnessing against Sharansky, occur. Because only in silence can the violators get away with their actions." Jack Greenberg, director and counsel of the NAACP legal defense and educational fund, told the demonstrators he had met with Sharansky while on a visit to the USSR to intervene in the case of Jewish activists. "Now the Soviets have incarcerated Sharansky and he faces a death penalty," Greenberg said. "It took great courage on the part of Sharansky to volunteer as a monitor of Soviet compliance with the Helsinki agreement. The least we can do here is speak out publicly on his behalf."

### CARTER TO SIGN ANTI-BOYCOTT BILL APPROVED BY BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, June 12 (JTA)—President Carter is expected to sign shortly the compromise anti-boycott bill, generally barring American firms from complying with the Arab boycott against Israel, which was approved by the House Friday.

Differing versions of the measure, supported in principle by President Carter, were approved by the House and Senate, and then sent to a House-Senate conference. The con-

ference version was approved Tuesday by the Senate by voice vote. The final approval in the House was 306-41. The anti-boycott provisions are part of a two-year extension of the Export Administration Act. With some exemptions, the boycott provisions ban American firms from refusing to do business with a firm black-listed by the Arabs for trade with Israel.

### DEFENSE IN MENTEN TRIAL ATTEMPTS TO DISCREDIT WITNESSES

AMSTERDAM, June 12 (JTA)—A television interview with two survivors of the mass murder of Jews in Urycz village in the Lemberg region of Poland in 1941, broadcast last summer, was played back before a special tribunal here at the war crimes trial of Pieter Menten. The tribunal convened in special session for the purpose at the request of the defense which is seeking to discredit the survivors as reliable witnesses.

The broadcast was produced by "Tros Akтуа" and consisted of interviews with Michael Hauptmann in Stockholm and Abe Pollack in New York. The defense alleges that statements made by Hauptmann and Pollack when they appeared as prosecution witnesses at the Menten trial several weeks ago, differed in important points from what they said in the interview and therefore they lied on one or both occasions.

Menten has been charged with ordering and participating in the murders of Jews and others while serving as an SS officer in the Lemberg region in July and August, 1941. A defense expert, Prof. Frits Rueter, a professor of criminal law at Amsterdam University, testified at the trial two weeks ago that Menten could not have been in the village of Podhoradze in July 7, 1941 where, allegedly, he also committed mass murders, because of the military situation in that region at the time. But Johan Van Der Leeuw of The Netherlands State Institute for War Documentation, presented three detailed memoranda refuting Prof. Rueter.

Van Der Leeuw also produced a 65-page document from Himmler's headquarters in Berlin, confirming that Menten maintained close relations with the SS from 1940-1942. The tribunal asked Van Der Leeuw to continue his research. The next session of the trial will be held on August 25-26 when witnesses from what is now Russian territory will be heard.

### POLAND MAY END NAZI WAR CRIMES TRIALS

BONN, June 12 (JTA)—Poland has indicated that it may soon stop initiating new investigations into Nazi war crimes because of increasing procedural difficulties. Polish officials also favor a statute of limitations on war crime prosecutions beginning in 1979, according to Dr. Hans-Joachim Seeler, a Social Democrat Senator from Hamburg who just returned from a visit to Poland. He said he agreed.

Seeler met with the Polish Minister of Justice, Prof. Jerzy Bafia and with Dr. Czeslaw Pilichowski, head of the Nazi war crimes investigation committee in Poland. He said the latter suggested that no new investigations be initiated. He said the current Nazi war crime trials will have ended "by the next decade at the latest."

After that, trials would be "impossible" Seeler said because of memory lapses and the advanced age of the accused. Seeler defended immunity after 1979 on grounds that the major Nazi crimes have been adjudicated by the courts and "I do not believe there are still any completely unknown areas."

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BUDAPEST (JTA)—Czechoslovakian Chief Rabbi Dr. Izidor Katz, addressing annual communal meetings in Prague and Bratislava, reported the neglect of Jewish cemeteries throughout the country. "Almost nobody pays any attention to our graves," he said. Katz asked the communities to take an active part in preserving the cemeteries, some of which are among Europe's oldest.

# REFORM, CONSERVATIVE LEADERS CONCERNED OVER STATUS OF NON-ORTHODOX JUDAISM IN ISRAEL UNDER BEGIN REGIME

NEW YORK, June 12 (JTA)--Leaders of Reform and Conservative Judaism in America have indicated serious concern that the rights of non-Orthodox congregations in Israel will be further abridged under a Likud-led government headed by Menachem Begin. Expressions to that effect were voiced in the past few days by Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) and Dr. Gerson D. Cohen, Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, the academic institution of Conservative Judaism.

In a statement released today in advance of the 88th national convention of the CCAR, the rabbinical branch of Reform Judaism, to be held at Grossinger's Hotel June 20-23; Rabbi Lelyveld urged Reform and Conservative Judaism to "stand together in defense of responsible Jewish pluralism. Our circle is large enough to take in all our fellows," he said. "We must not allow extremists to place us...outside the circle of acceptable Jewish difference." Rabbi Lelyveld said that he "joined wholeheartedly with my colleague, Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz, president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America (Conservative) in warning that if the Conservative and Reform movements allow themselves to be divided in their struggle for full recognition both in Israel and in the diaspora, they will be defeated by the extremists of the right." Rabbi Rabinowitz made his remarks at the Rabbinical Assembly's convention last month.

Chancellor Cohen, addressing the annual dinner of the Synagogue Council of America here Thursday, called on Begin to commit Israel's new government to protect the rights of non-Orthodox Jews in Israel. He referred to reports that Begin would seek legislation drastically restricting the authority of Conservative and Reform rabbis in Israel as the price of a coalition partnership with the religious parties.

"It would be a sad day for Israel and for world Jewry were the Israeli government, for whatever political advantage, to permit an Orthodox religious minority to suppress or to exercise a veto over other forms of religious expression. The new government must recognize the value of free competition in the cultural arena no less than it does in the commercial arena. Both our Jewish heritage and our American experience have taught us that authentic Judaism thrives best in an atmosphere of inquiry and experience," Dr. Cohen said.

## FORD SAYS U.S. MUST NEVER IMPOSE SETTLEMENT IN MIDEAST; NEVER BARGAIN WITH TERRORISTS

NEW YORK, June 12 (JTA)--Former President Gerald Ford declared here that the United States never has imposed terms for a settlement in the Middle East "and never should alone or with any other superpower." Ford spoke at the American Friends of the Hebrew University dinner Thursday night at which he was presented with the first annual Yonatan Netanyahu Award in memory of the Israeli officer killed while leading the rescue raid at Entebbe airport in Uganda last July 4.

"We can and must work with all parties in that crucial area for peace, security, justice and prosperity," Ford said. "In the ebb and flow

of current events we must not dim our hopes or undercut our determination. All of us must restrain our public rhetoric and keep our powder dry, trusting to the wisdom of the parties to find a solution that will meet the requirements of all mankind."

Addressing the more than 600 guests, Ford denounced terrorism throughout the world. "Never in the history of the world has terrorism solved anything and it never will," he said. He urged an end to "lavish media attention" to terrorists and declared, "No more bargaining with the barrel of a gun, no more sanctuaries for the terrorists."

Funds raised at the dinner will be utilized to establish a memorial scholarship at the Hebrew University in the name of Lt. Col. Netanyahu. Guests included Gov. Hugh Carey of New York, New York City Mayor Abraham D. Beame and Avraham Harman, president of the Hebrew University.

## SEN. MCINTYRE WARNS LACK OF U.S. ENERGY INDEPENDENCE COULD BE DETRIMENTAL FOR ISRAEL

MONTICELLO, N.Y., June 12 (JTA)--Sen. Thomas McIntyre, (D. N.H.), a member of the Armed Services committee, said here last night that unless the United States moves with even greater speed and determination to achieve a measure of energy independence which will insure foreign policy independence, the United States' energy vulnerability could impact upon Middle East policy to the detriment of the State of Israel.

Sen. McIntyre spoke at the keynote session of the 68th annual convention of Bnai Zion, the American Zionist fraternal order. He said that "To date I am pleased to say there has been no evidence of any weakening of our commitment to Israel among our nation's leaders." Moreover, he stressed his opinion that President Carter remained "unswerving in insistence upon preservation of Israel's national security and right to a full and total peace."

Acknowledging that Carter "has a delicate line to walk," to forestall another outbreak of war in the Middle East or imposition of another oil embargo that would cut off the lifeline to the West, he said "these must be achieved by making it unmistakably clear that Israel's right to exist and be secure within defensible boundaries remains the moral imperative of our Middle East policy."

Referring to election results in Israel, McIntyre said that while they introduced a note of uncertainty, "perhaps the new leadership will have more freedom to negotiate simply because their credentials, public image and constituency are so nationalistic they will be impervious to charges of weakness or expediency."

Rabbi William Berkowitz, of Congregation Bnai Jeshurun in New York was re-elected to a second one-year term as president of Bnai Zion. Paul Safran of Lawrence, N.Y., was re-elected chairman of the order's National Administrative Committee; Herman Z. Quittman was re-elected executive vice president and Mel Parness, of Monsey, N.Y., was re-elected national secretary.

## POLICE PROBE CHARGES AGAINST FLATTO

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA)--Police have begun an investigation into charges of illegal election practices by Samuel Flatto-Sharon, the millionaire former French financier who was elected to the Knesset May 17 as a one-man faction. The complaint was lodged by Shulamit Aloni of the Civil Rights Party. The charges are based on information provided by Raphael Halperin, a former wrestling champion who had been one of Flatto's supporters. Meanwhile, Flatto has appealed to the Jerusalem District Court to reverse a magistrate court's decision not to return the IL 10 million bail he posted pending the outcome of extradition proceedings. The French government has requested Flatto's extradition on charges of fraud and tax evasion. The matter has yet to reach the courts and a decision as to whether or not Flatto is extraditable will be made by the Justice Ministry.