

BEGIN STARTS TENURE AS PREMIER WITH CONCILIATORY SPEECH AIMED AT ISRAEL'S FRIENDS AND FOES

By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, June 20 (JTA)--Premier Menachem Begin introduced his government to the Knesset today with a speech that was generally conciliatory in tone. He urged the United States to strengthen its ties with Israel, called for renewed friendship with France and invited the Soviet Union to initiate moves to re-establish diplomatic ties with Israel. He also called on King Hussein of Jordan, President Hafez Assad of Syria and President Anwar Sadat of Egypt to meet with him for honest and serious discussions of peace between Israel and its neighbors.

With respect to France, Begin recalled the good relations that existed with Israel until 1967 when, he said, France adopted the Arab point of view. He said that France had too many good friends in Israel and Israel too many good friends in France for the nations to remain apart.

Begin said that it was the Soviet Union that broke diplomatic ties with Israel and therefore it was up to Moscow to take the initiative to renew them. He said, however, that if and when the Soviets approach Israel, Israel will demand that any Jew desiring to leave the USSR be allowed to do so and that all Jewish prisoners of conscience be freed.

The Likud urged "yordim"--emigres from Israel--to "come home," especially those living in the U.S. and other Western countries. He said the government would assist them to return.

Deadline For DMC

On the domestic scene, he appeared to lay down a deadline for the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) to reverse its recent decision not to join his coalition. Begin noted that three ministries have been left open in his Cabinet for the DMC--Justice, Welfare and Transportation and Communications. But he warned that they will remain vacant "not longer than four or five weeks."

He read to the Knesset his new government's guidelines, including the statement that "the government announces its readiness to take part in the Geneva conference at such time as it shall be invited to do so by the United States and the USSR on the basis of the Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338."

Prior to his appearance at the Knesset, Begin visited President Ephraim Katzir at the Presidential Residence this morning to inform him officially that he has succeeded in the task of forming a government, assigned to him by the President two weeks ago. He met with Katzir for about 15 minutes and presented him with a letter containing a list of his Cabinet members.

Both made brief statements to reporters afterwards. Katzir expressed the hope that the Begin government will be able to cope with the problems that face the country. Begin read reporters the letter he had presented to the President which stated that he had successfully carried out his mission.

ISRAEL LODGES 4TH COMPLAINT

TEL AVIV, June 20 (JTA)--Israel lodged its fourth complaint in recent weeks over Egyptian vio-

lations of the Sinai interim agreements. The complaint, like the previous ones, was based on findings of United Nations truce observers who inspected the limited forces zone on June 14-15.

Their report indicated that the Egyptians still have two regiments in excess of the eight permitted and that the number of soldiers exceed the 8000 limit. The Egyptians have also deployed SAM-7 ground-to-air missiles along the west bank of the Suez Canal where such weapons are excluded under the interim agreement.

The Egyptians have evacuated part of their excess troops. But Israel insists that the evacuations continue until the number of troops and weapons is reduced to the agreed limits.

RESERVE CALL-UP GOES SMOOTHLY

TEL AVIV, June 20 (JTA)--The practice call-up of Israeli army reserve units went smoothly yesterday and was described by military circles as highly successful. Most of the units that reported for duty were released by this morning. The army has also returned the private vehicles registered for service in an emergency so as not to disrupt private activities. The call-up was scheduled in advance but the date and time was unknown until each unit's code-name was broadcast on radio and television yesterday.

DUTCH GROUP PROBING MENTEN CASE VIEW MASS GRAVE IN POLAND

AMSTERDAM, June 20 (JTA)--A mass grave containing the remains of 200 persons, most of them Jews, murdered by Nazis in the Lemberg area of Poland during World War II has been opened near the village of Uryce in what is now Russian territory. The exhumation was carried out in the presence of a four-member delegation from the Amsterdam District Attorney's office in connection with the trial of millionaire Dutch art dealer Pieter Menten who is charged with direct responsibility for the murders.

Menten, who served with a Nazi SS unit in the Lemberg region in the summer of 1941, claimed that the evidence was faked and that the human remains were placed there by Soviet authorities. But the Dutch correspondent accompanying the delegation reported today that there was no sign that the grave ever had been tampered with. He said that was proven by trees growing on the site.

According to the correspondent, it contained scores of skulls, including skulls of children, some with bullet holes and others smashed in. Pathologists are collecting the remains for re-burial. The same delegation visited the area last February when a similar mass grave was opened near Podhorodze village. The remains at Uryce were reported in better condition. The charges against Menten say that he participated in the killings at Podhorodze on July 7 and at Uryce on August 27, 1941.

ALMOGI PLANS TO REMAIN CHAIRMAN

JERUSALEM, June 20 (JTA)--Yosef Almogi, chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executives, said today that he saw no reason why he should submit his resignation before the 29th World Zionist Congress convenes here in February, 1978. He said that the

fact that a new government is taking office in Israel does not mean that the WZO chairman should "automatically" resign.

Almogi said; however, that he will not be a candidate for another term as chairman. Yitzhak Navon, chairman of the Zionist General Council, said that the Labor Party has not decided yet whether it will nominate a candidate to oppose the Likud candidate, almost certain to be Jewish Agency treasurer Leon Dulzain. Almogi and Navon addressed a press conference here on the eve of the General Council meeting that opens Wednesday. Almogi rejected an implication that he should resign at that meeting.

When asked whether he, as a Labor Party veteran, could continue to represent the WZO abroad, he said he saw no problem. He said he would ask Premier Menachem Begin to continue the machinery of cooperation and coordination between the Jewish Agency and the government as they existed under previous governments. He referred to the various joint Agency-government committees.

Begin is scheduled to address the Zionist General Council at a special session marking the 10th anniversary of Jerusalem's re-unification. The Council will deal with political matters, aliya and absorption, budgetary, financial and funding problems and preparations for the Jewish Agency's sixth annual General Assembly meeting here June 26-30.

Americans In Major Role

Americans will play a leading role in the Assembly. The major address will be delivered by Max Fisher, of Detroit, chairman of the Jewish Agency's Board of Governors. Melvin Dubinsky, of St. Louis, will chair the budget review committee and Paul Zuckerman, of Detroit, will open the session on international fund-raising. That session will be addressed by Leonard Strelitz of Norfolk, Va., the newly elected general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal.

The United Israel Appeal has designated more than 100 individuals as members or member-alternates to the General Assembly meeting. In addition, scores of Federation committees and individuals will participate through their written comments on the 11 issues that will form the basis for Assembly deliberations. That innovation was suggested by the Planning Committee headed by Philip Granovsky, of Toronto with the participation of Raymond Epstein of Chicago and Robert Russell of Miami.

The issues include absorption and absorption centers in Israel; division of responsibilities between the Jewish Agency and the Israeli government; absorption problems of immigrant scientists; the problem of drop-outs; the role of immigrant associations in the absorption process; problems of immigration from "sensitive" areas of the world; and the enhancement of Jewish consciousness in the absorption process. (By Tuvia Mendelson)

ORTHODOX RABBINIC LEADER URGES INCREASING JEWISH VALUES IN ISRAEL

FALLSBURG, N.Y., June 20 (JTA)—The head of a 1000-member Orthodox rabbinic body called upon the new Premier of Israel, Menachem Begin, "to strengthen Israel's bonds with world Jewry by embarking on an all-out effort to inject uniquely Jewish values into the fabric of Israeli society." Rabbi Walter Wurzburger, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, made his remarks in his presidential address at the 41st annual convention, which opened today at the Pine View Hotel.

The rabbinic leader declared, "At a time of growing disenchantment with purely secular values,

Israel cannot be content with being merely a bastion of democracy but must strive to embody the religious aspirations of Jews throughout the world. The State of Israel came into being because Jews throughout the ages persevered in their religious faith which is inextricably intertwined with the land of Israel. The religious dimension of the rebirth of the Jewish State must be more fully expressed if Israel is to realize its full potential for the revitalization of the Jewish people and to make its proper contribution to the resurgence of spiritual and moral values in our time."

Wurzburger was critical of recent comments of prominent spokesmen for the Conservative and Reform movements who charge there is a suppression of the religious rights of non-Orthodox Jewish groups in Israel. "The unique spiritual identity of the country can only be realized by strengthened halachic authority in Israeli public life," the rabbi declared.

Concern Over Carter's Statements

At the same time, Wurzburger expressed concern over President Carter's recent statements about Israel. He declared that, "The President's recent statements regarding the Palestinian homeland and territorial concession make a mockery out of the Administration's promise to refrain from imposing any kind of solution upon the parties to the Israeli Arab conflict. When our highest officials publicly define what they regard as terms of a reasonable settlement they automatically preclude any kind of genuine negotiation between the parties concerned."

"Public declarations by the President of the U.S. on specific issues in advance of actual peace negotiations can only impede the search for a peaceful solution which will emerge only by direct negotiations between the parties concerned. Our President will be most effective if he uses the tremendous prestige of his office to bring about such direct negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbor states."

Wurzburger also called upon American Jewry to rally behind the newly elected government of the State of Israel and expressed the fervent hope that under Begin's leadership a lasting and just peace be secured.

JDL SIT-IN AT ACLU

NEW YORK, June 20 (JTA)—Rabbi Meir Kahane and about 20 members of the Jewish Defense League staged a sit-in at the offices of the American Civil Liberties Union today to protest ACLU support for the right of a neo-Nazi group to march through a Chicago suburb July 4. The neo-Nazi National Socialist Party won its Supreme Court case last week.

A visibly upset Aryeh Neier, executive director of the ACLU and himself a Jewish refugee from Berlin in 1939, told the JTA: "Even Nazis support freedom of speech for the people they agree with. The more difficult test is do you believe in free speech of people whose views you can't stand. We believe in free speech, that's all."

Kahane, founder of the JDL, said: "Those who preach racist genocide and Nazi totalitarianism should have no rights since their aim is to deprive all others of their rights, and to massacre millions of innocent Americans." Kahane told the JTA: "There will be no parade." He added that if violence appeared likely, city officials could prevent the parade. (By Brian Lipsitz)

SOVIET EMBASSY REFUSES LETTER FROM MRS. SHARANSKY DELIVERED BY 3 CONGRESSMEN IN WASHINGTON

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 20 (JTA)--The Soviet Embassy today refused to accept a letter from Mrs. Anatoly Sharansky pleading for the release of her imprisoned husband. The letter, delivered by three leading members of Congress, was addressed to Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and asked that Sharansky, who is facing treason charges, be released and allowed to emigrate to Israel.

Reps. John Anderson (R. Ill.), Robert Drinan (D. Mass.) and Benjamin Rosenthal (D. N.Y.) handed the letter on behalf of the Jewish dissident to Embassy Counsellor Viktor Sakovich. They also asked that American observers be present at the trial of Sharansky who is accused of complicity with two American Embassy officers in Moscow who also are Jewish.

Sakovich said that the request for observers was "premature" since Sharansky has not yet been formally charged and no trial date has been set. He contended that the Sharansky case is "an ordinary court procedure" and no one from outside the Soviet Union can intervene in it. "Could you do it here?" he asked the Congressmen.

Rosenthal responded that there is a difference between a criminal and a political trial. As a Congressman, he would not intervene in a criminal trial but in a trial stimulated for political purposes that has drawn world attention he would. Sakovich said that "outside" observers would be up to the trial judge. Rosenthal observed later that "He did not say 'no.'"

Drinan emphasized to Sakovich that the American people, government and Congress consider the Sharansky case "a very grave matter which could threaten the continued improvement in Soviet-American relations." Anderson pointed out that Sharansky is "a victim of persecution" of the Soviet government.

The Congressmen are members of the International Committee for the release of Anatoly Sharansky. Drinan is chairman of the American branch which includes 30 Congressmen and six Senators.

REFORM LEADER URGES U. S. JEWS TO UNITE AGAINST PRESSURE ON ISRAEL FOR IMPOSED SETTLEMENT

GROSSINGER, N. Y., June 20 (JTA)--A leader of Reform Judaism in America called on the American Jewish community tonight to stand united against possible attempts by the United States to pressure Israel into accepting an imposed settlement of its conflict with the Arab states. Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) warned that there are "clear signals from the White House and some members of Congress" that such pressure will be brought to bear.

Addressing the 88th national convention of the CCAR which opened at Grossinger's Hotel here today, Lelyveld said, "We must make it clear, each of us to our own Senators and Representatives, that the American Jewish community will not placidly accept this kind of betrayal of previous promises." He referred to recent remarks by President Carter about only "minor adjustments" of Israel's 1967 borders, a "homeland" for Palestinians and compensation for Palestinian refugees without mentioning compensation for the 800,000 Jewish refugees who fled or were ousted from Arab countries.

"We must call upon the President of the United States to hold fast to his pre-election affirma-

tions," Lelyveld said. He said "There are people who signs too, of an effort to mobilize American Jewish opinion for the purpose of bringing Israel 'into line.'" He stressed that "only the sovereign, democratic State of Israel can determine where its interests lie. We can offer counsel or criticism when it is valid, but never pressure or interference--nor can we be complacent about pressure or interference from others--even from Israel's supposed friends."

Urges New Zionist Group

In his 18-page presidential report to the convention, Lelyveld called on the CCAR to endorse a proposed resolution that would establish Reform Judaism's first mass-membership religious Zionist organization, to be called the Association of Reform Zionists of America, which would be open to any rabbi or layman affiliated with the Reform movement.

He said the establishment of such an organization, to be affiliated with the World Zionist Organization, is "not only an action that has great historic significance, it is also of major importance to the growth and nourishment of our movement in Israel and its institutions."

Acknowledging that the Orthodox religious establishment in Israel has been strengthened by the results of Israel's recent elections, Lelyveld said that Reform Judaism would seek to forge closer alliances with the Conservative movement and other non-establishment forms of Jewish religion in Israel. "Our goal in relation to our movement in Israel is not parochial," he said. "What we seek in Israel is the kind of full religious freedom, for all its citizens, that we enjoy in the United States. That will be achieved only when religion is separated out of the State."

He said that Reform Judaism is not seeking recognition by the Israeli chief rabbinate. "They cannot grant it, given their conception of what the halacha demands, and we would not need it, any more than we need to be recognized by the Agudas Harabbonim here, if only the intrusion of establishment religion into the State's laws of personal status were ended. This is where the evil lies--not in any alleged malign attitude in the Orthodox rabbinate," Lelyveld said.

Say Response To Begin 'Unfair'

The Reform rabbinical leader said that he had hoped for a different outcome of the Israeli elections. But he assailed what he called the "patently unfair" response in America, some "from high quarters," to the election victory of Menachem Begin's Likud Party. "The voters of Israel had the last word," he said. He stressed that Israel is "a living, working democracy--one of the few genuine democracies left--and as we have learned here in the United States, genuine democracies do have the power to survive and to regenerate themselves whatever administration may temporarily have achieved power."

He added that "It may very well prove true that a Likud government may be able to do hard things for peace that a Labor government could not have gotten away with--and that is less a rationalization than the expression of a prayer. In any case, we must wait and see."

BUDAPEST (JTA)--Leaders of the Hungarian Jewish community launched an appeal to Jewish parents to enroll their children in Budapest's only Jewish high school because unless more students attend the school will have to close.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES
HISTADRUT ELECTION TODAY IS
MOST IMPORTANT IN ITS 56 YEARS
 By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 20 (JTA)--The Histadrut election tomorrow is the most important in the 56 years of the general labor federation. For the first time the Labor Party's hegemony in the Histadrut is being challenged. Throughout the Histadrut history, Labor--Mapai and the groups that split from it or merged with it--controlled the federation. This includes not only the labor unions but also Koor, the giant industrial enterprise; Solel Boneh, the internationally-known construction company; Hamashbir, a countrywide marketing network; the Dan and Egged bus cooperatives which operate most of the public buses; and Kupat Holim, Israel's largest sick fund. The Histadrut membership of 1,424,000 persons takes in 58 percent of the population.

The Knesset election last month in which Labor was ousted for the first time now presents a situation in which Likud hopes it can repeat its political victory on the national scene in the labor federation. Labor is set on retaining its hold on the Histadrut and Likud is equally determined in dislodging Labor because it believes that if Labor remains in control of the Histadrut it will result in a major obstacle to the government of Premier Menachem Begin carrying out its economic policies.

This may be the reason for the vitriolic campaign being waged by both sides. Normally, the Histadrut election is confined to a struggle between the various Labor groups for the control of the labor federation.

During the British Mandate the Histadrut was actually the government for the Jewish population, as it was Histadrut leaders who were at the head of the Vaad Leumi (the national committee) and the other local organizations. A glimpse of the Histadrut general secretaries since its establishment is most illustrative: David Ben Gurion (1920-1932), David Remez (1932-1945), Joseph Sprinzak (1945-1949). Since statehood they were Pinhas Lavon, Mordechai Namir, Aharon Becker, Yitzhak Ben Aharon and Yeruham Meshel who was elected to his post four years ago.

Histadrut Power Undiminished

The power of the Histadrut did not diminish once the State of Israel was established. It was even more than a Ministry. Questions of transportation, of air and sea companies, of wages, of labor legislation, could not have been settled without the Histadrut--not to mention the rich industrial and commercial enterprises. The control of the Histadrut means having enormous power--covering some 72 percent of the health services, managing the economic enterprises and holding the hand on the button of labor relations.

There are eleven lists running for election to the Histadrut Council. There are 1,350,000 eligible voters. They will elect the Council which will elect the Histadrut Executive. The lists are: Labor Alignment, headed by incumbent secretary general Yeruham Meshel (last elections 58.31 percent). Likud headed by David Levy, slated for secretary general post if Likud wins (last elections 22.74 percent). Communists and Black Panthers (2.41 percent). Independent Liberals (5.97 percent). Religious workers headed by Histadrut Rabbi Menachem Hacohen (4.26 percent). Sheli, formerly Moked (1.72 percent). Hillel Zeidel, Ashdod group (for first time). Democratic Movement (for Change) (for first time). An independent list for personal elections, a Yemenite group and Black

Panthers (1.62 percent).

The elections to the Histadrut are complicated. The voters cast ballots at the same time for the Histadrut Council, for the local Labor Council, for the Agricultural Workers Council, if one is an agricultural worker, for the Moetzet Hapoloath, the women's branch of Histadrut which has 700,000 members. There will be 2497 polling stations in working places and Histadrut institutions, 300 in army units and 870 in kibbutzim, moshavim and Arab villages. Voting lasts until 11 p.m. It will take at least 24 hours to tally the results.

REPUBLICAN LEADER ATTACKS CARTER
POLICY AS WEAKENING ISRAEL'S SUPPORT
 By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 20 (JTA)--William Brock of Tennessee, National Chairman of the Republican Party, sharply attacked the Carter Administration's Middle East policies which, he claimed, tended to weaken support for Israel and to make "Arab leaders totally intransigent against negotiations with Israel for a fair and just peace." Brock made his remarks at a reception given for him in New York last week at the Manhattan apartment of George Klein, a New York industrialist who was, with Detroit industrialist Max Fisher, a coordinator of the Ford election campaign last fall.

Brock, a former U.S. Senator, was in New York for dinner with ex-President Ford and former Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller. He met for about two hours with Klein's apartment with about 75 Jewish community leaders at what was described as a get-acquainted gathering. The guests included New York State Republican Chairman Richard Rosenbaum.

Brock declared that "the American Jewish community must remain united and not permit itself to be splintered in its full support of Israel." He said he was surprised by the U.S. government's reaction to the results of Israel's national elections last month and indicated that if he were an Israeli he might have voted for Menachem Begin's Likud Party slate in view of President Carter's Middle East policy. He invited the guests at the reception to call on him and the Republicans in Congress to support measures in Israel's defense.

Another Republican, Sen. Robert Packwood of Oregon, said in a speech on the Senate floor last week that "suggestions" that Begin's election "may stall" the peace process (in the Middle East) are made with ignorance or malice." He contended that Begin's leadership "does not significantly change the chances for an Arab-Israeli peace" and Begin's policy on the future of the West Bank "has been shown to be flexible."

MACCABI TEAM WINS SOCCER TROPHY

LOS ANGELES, June 20 (JTA)--The Maccabi Athletic Club of Los Angeles, composed largely of Israeli students in this area, scored a 5-0 victory over the United German-Hungarian Sports Club of Philadelphia here yesterday to capture the Dewar Trophy for the third time in the past five years. The game was the final one in the U.S. National Challenge Open Cup series sponsored by the U.S. Soccer Federation, which pitted the West Coast champions against the champion East Coast team. The Maccabis previously won the trophy, established 64 years ago by Sir Thomas Dewar, the Scottish distiller, in 1973 and 1975. They were the only Jewish team participating in the tournament.