

DMC UNCERTAIN ABOUT FUTURE, SENSES 'SIGNALS' FROM LABOR IN HISTADRUT, LIKUD IN GOVERNMENT

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 23 (JTA)—Prof. Yigael Yadin's Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) faces an uncertain future following its weak showing in Tuesday's Histadrut elections where it garnered a disappointing 8.2 percent of the votes. The Labor Alignment's clear majority deprived it of the pivotal role that it sought. Had Labor done less well, it would have needed an alliance with Yadin's party to continue to control the trade union federation. As matters stand, the Alignment can do very well by itself.

Nevertheless, DMC circles said today that they sensed "signals" from Labor suggesting cooperation in Histadrut. At the same time, Likud continues its low key wooing of the DMC to get it to join the coalition government. The DMC Secretariate met last night to ponder the situation and the question of resuming coalition talks with Likud was raised. The DMC was said to be considering a Histadrut alliance with Labor and a government partnership with Likud—a peculiar fence-straddling condition inasmuch as the DMC is closer to Likud than Labor on economic issues and closer to Labor on matters of foreign policy.

On the other hand, observers noted that such a dual alliance by the DMC would strengthen Labor in Histadrut and strengthen Likud in the Knesset and might cause each of the two major parties to modify their policies.

3 Ministries Open

Likud has left three ministries open for the DMC but Premier Menachem Begin warned in his Knesset speech that they would remain vacant no longer than 4-5 weeks. Likud leaders do not want to call for resumed coalition negotiations with the DMC until they are assured of a favorable response. But Begin's party has been making informal approaches through emissaries.

At the DMC's Secretariate meeting it was pointed out that the disappointing results of the Histadrut elections were not in themselves sufficient cause to reverse the decision not to join the Likud-led coalition under existing conditions. It was made clear that talks could be resumed only if conditions changed, meaning Likud concessions on foreign policy matters. So far, these have not been offered. But some circles believe that the time is ripe for renewed DMC-Likud contacts and that the DMC may soon be ready for them.

Late today it was learned that Begin and Yadin had a private meeting today. Neither of the participants would reveal what was said between them but it is believed that the resumption of Likud-DMC negotiations must have been discussed.

LATEST HISTADRUT RESULTS

TEL AVIV, June 23 (JTA)—With over 93 percent of the ballots counted, the Labor Alignment has emerged the clear victor in Tuesday's Histadrut elections. It won 54.6 percent of the votes, a drop of about four percent from the 1973 elections. Likud, with 28.8 percent, scored a six percent gain but is still clearly a minority party in the trade

union federation. The Democratic Movement for Change (DMC), with 8.2 percent, did slightly better than it appeared yesterday when early returns indicated only seven percent.

The Religious Workers list won 1.8 percent, a 2.5 percent decline from 1973. The Communists, who seemed to have lost a half percentage point yesterday, now have 2.9 percent, a half-percent rise. The Independent Liberal Party-Civil Rights movement joint list has only 1.3 percent, a 4.6 percent drop and the Sheli faction scored 1.04 percent, down from 1.7 percent.

Voter turn-out was good. About 860,000 Histadrut members cast ballots, 65 percent of those eligible to vote. Each faction, therefore, required a minimum of 8600 votes to gain representation in Histadrut. That figure eluded the Yeminite list, the Hillel Seidel group, the Black Panthers and the Independent List.

DAYAN TO FOLLOW BEGIN TO U.S.

By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, June 23 (JTA)—Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan will make an official visit to Washington several weeks after Premier Menachem Begin's meeting with President Carter—scheduled for July 19-20, it was announced here today. It was believed earlier that Dayan would accompany Begin on his trip next month. The Premier and Foreign Minister had their first working meeting since taking office yesterday.

Preparations for Begin's trip were discussed. It was also decided to summon home the Israeli Ambassador in Washington, Simcha Dinitz, for consultations related to Begin's meeting with Carter. It was assumed that Dinitz will also discuss his future career under the new Israeli regime. He was named Ambassador to the U.S. during the administration of Golda Meir and served in that capacity through the Rabin administration.

Dayan was congratulated on his new office by former Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, who telephoned him yesterday.

FAIN GRANTED EXIT VISA

NEW YORK, June 23 (JTA)—Prof. Benjamin Fain, leader of the attempt to revive Jewish culture in the Soviet Union, has received an exit permit to rejoin his daughter in Israel, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and Union of Councils for Soviet Jews reported today.

The 49-year-old physicist is an editor of the underground journal *Tarbut* (Culture), and was chairman of last December's unofficial Moscow Symposium on Jewish Culture in the USSR, broken up by the KGB. In February, Fain unsuccessfully tried to enter the U.S. Embassy to give them papers on that meeting. Dr. Iosif Begun, who was with him on one attempt, was sentenced to two years' "exile." In recent weeks, Fain was interrogated in the Lefortovo Prison about imprisoned emigration spokesman Anatoly Sharansky.

DISPUTE OVER ABOLISHING MINISTRY

By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, June 23 (JTA)—Leon Dulzin's elucidation of his plans to abolish the Absorption

Ministry and incorporate its functions into the Jewish Agency framework brought him into sharp conflict today with his Likud colleague David Levi who just took office as Minister of Absorption in the Begin government. Dulzin, a member of Likud's Liberal Party wing, is presently Jewish Agency treasurer. He is Likud's candidate for the chairmanship of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives and is considered virtually certain to be elected to that office at the 29th World Zionist Congress convening here in February, 1978.

Levi, who is a member of Premier Menachem Begin's Herut wing of Likud, took strong exception to remarks by Dulzin in interviews with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and the newspaper Davar. On assuming his Cabinet post this morning, he said he considered the Absorption Ministry an essential and permanent department of government and, if anything, would seek to expand its authority. He noted that some of his Ministry's functions are duplicated by the Jewish Agency's aliya department and that this situation must be ended. He said he wanted all functions connected with absorption to come under the purview of the Absorption Ministry.

Horev Report Recommends Abolishment

Dulzin, on the other hand, told the JTA that he intends to abolish the ministry in accordance with the recommendations of the Horev Commission, a panel headed by Amos Horev, which studied the problems of consolidating immigration and absorption activities. The commission proposed that the Absorption Ministry and the Agency's aliya department be replaced by an autonomous aliya and absorption authority which would be responsible to the Prime Minister but would be headed by the Jewish Agency-WZO chairman.

According to Dulzin, Begin informed Levi that his ministry was temporary and that he intended to carry out the Horev Commission's recommendations. Levi was Likud's candidate for Secretary General of Histadrut and would have relinquished his ministerial office had Likud won the Histadrut elections on Tuesday. Likud was defeated by Labor and the Absorption Ministry was formally handed over to Levi at brief ceremonies here this morning.

Levi said Begin did not tell him specifically that his appointment was temporary. He said he had read the Horev report and could not conceive abolition of the Absorption Ministry because its functions were of such national significance that they should be controlled directly by the government. He said he intended to meet with Dulzin in the next few days to discuss the issue. He noted that the duplication of activities between the Absorption Ministry and the Jewish Agency has been a controversial issue for a long time and was not resolved by the previous government.

REFORM RABBIS URGE JEWS TO HAVE LARGER FAMILIES

GROSSINGER, N.Y., June 23 (JTA)—In an historic shift in the tradition of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), the organization of the Reform rabbinate today adopted a position paper suggesting that Jews have larger families "because there are simply not enough of us to be assured survival in succeeding generations." The CCAR convention said that "while Reform Judaism approves birth control, we also recognize our obligation to maintain a viable and stable Jewish population. Therefore, couples are encouraged to have at least two or three children."

There is an increasing awareness of the possi-

bility that in 100 years, "only a few Jews will remain: all the others will have disappeared, victims of assimilation, mixed marriage, indifference, and a low birth rate." Rabbi Jonathan M. Brown of Temple Israel in Long Beach, Calif., was the author of the paper.

Zionist Group Established

The CCAR today also voted to join with its congregational counterpart in the Reform movement, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in creating a mass membership organization for Reform Jews who wish to join the World Zionist Organization. The new group is called the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA).

ARZA chairman Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn of Boston, announced that a membership drive will be launched immediately. "We want to bring large numbers of our people to Zionism, particularly now when the unity of the Jewish people is paramount," he asserted.

The CCAR convention received a telegram of greetings from President Carter in which he reaffirmed "my strong commitment to the integrity and security of the State of Israel and to a lasting peace throughout the Middle East."

ORTHODOX URGED TO GIVE WOMEN GREATER ROLE IN RELIGIOUS LIFE

FALLSBURG, N.Y., June 23 (JTA)—An Orthodox rabbinic scholar called upon the Orthodox community today to give a greater voice and role to Jewish women in religious life within the framework of Jewish religious law. Rabbi Moshe S. Gorelik, chairman of the 41st annual convention of the Rabbinical Council of America, the Orthodox rabbinical association, spoke at the concluding session of the convention.

"We must be sensitive to the changes in current patterns of thought and lifestyles affecting the role of women in our society," he declared. "Today women are actively seeking their own identity and wish to be treated as complete equals with men."

He said "Women should be encouraged to strengthen their participation in the religious community such as on synagogue boards, educational institutions and philanthropic agencies. Their involvement should be in primary roles and not merely as auxiliaries," he said.

Gorelik said that "even as we call for a greater sensitivity of the woman's role in the Orthodox community, we strongly denounce the Conservative and Reform leaders for distorting the position of Orthodox Judaism regarding the role of women." He said "the solution is not to ask the woman to imitate the man but rather to ascribe dignity to her as a unique being and co-partner with man in the creation of an authentic Jewish life."

Dr. Norman Lamm, president of Yeshiva University, said last night that "We have over-stressed beyond all necessary proportions the issue of mixed pews." He said "I believe that much more attention should be directed to such questions as the observance of the Sabbath, the preservation of kashrut in the home and the observance of the laws of family purity."

At a symposium last night Rabbi Shlomo Riskin of Lincoln Square Synagogue said many women require special participation in services. "I urge that wherever halacha permits, room should be made for these women to express their sense of identity with Torah Judaism," he said.

WHITE HOUSE SAYS U.S. - ISRAEL CO-PRODUCTION BLOCKED FOR SECURITY REASONS, NOT ANTI-ISRAEL ACT By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 23 (JTA)--The White House acknowledged today that the Pentagon blocked co-production of a radio communications system for military use by American and Israeli companies, but it declared it was for "security reasons" and not an action directed against the government of Israel.

Requests from West Germany and France to join in the production of the system, Presidential Press Secretary Jody Powell said, also were turned down for the same reason. He pointed out they do not have a "memorandum of understanding" with the United States regarding co-development and co-production of items within a certain "highly classified" range of items. When the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, which questioned Powell on the subject, observed that the Pentagon apparently does not trust Israel's security, the Press Secretary said the request for the joint production was not from the government of Israel but from the Sylvania Electronics System group. This company is engaged in a project with an Israeli company, Tadiran Israel Electronics Industries, Ltd. Sylvania is a subsidiary of General Telephone and Electronics which also is said to be part owner of the Israeli concern.

Great Britain and Canada have the memoranda of understanding, and a British bid to join in the communications project is under U.S. consideration. Canada, Powell said, has not entered a request. Germany and France are seeking such memoranda, but Israel, he thought, has not entered such a request.

Denies Statement Made

Powell said he personally inquired at the Pentagon about a published statement that an unidentified senior Pentagon official told Sylvania "not to do business with Israel" and Powell said he was informed to "specifically deny such a statement was made."

Emphasizing that "the allegations and insinuations" that the Pentagon acted against Israel are "totally untrue," Powell said that "we already have co-production" agreements with Israel on parts for the F-15 warplane, and that the U.S. is considering co-production for additional elements for the F-15 as well as for the F-16 fighter, a hydrofoil, and the Israeli "Chariot" tank. He said that decisions on some of these considerations will be made "within the next several weeks" while others will take longer.

Congressional sources characterized the Pentagon's "security" reasons as a "lame excuse." They said that Administration officials in the State and Defense Departments are deliberately stymieing Israeli requests for co-production, at least partly towards inducing Israel to give up occupied areas. They noted Israeli Premier Menachem Begin will be visiting President Carter July 19 and 20 and that at that time the prospects of economic benefits for Israel through military contracts might be used as pressures to move Begin to accept diplomatic tactics desirable from the U.S. point of view, including movement from the West Bank.

Carter was presented with a memorandum last month by leading members of Congress that pointed out various requests by Israel for joint production arrangements have been rejected.

REPORTER GETS DEFENSE POST

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 23 (JTA)--Dan Margalit, the

journalist whose exposure of the Rabins' bank account in Washington led to the resignation of Premier Yitzhak Rabin as leader of the Labor Party, has conditionally accepted a job offer from the new Defense Minister, Gen. Ezer Weizman. Margalit, who is the Washington correspondent of Haaretz, said his acceptance depended on the consent of his editor. The latter has not made a decision.

Weizman, the number two man in Likud's Herut wing, has offered Margalit the posts of special advisor on international matters and spokesman and information officer of the Defense Ministry. He would be assuming the functions of Arthur Ben-Nathan who was advisor to former Defense Minister Shimon Peres and Naftali Lavi, the Defense Ministry's former spokesman who has been made spokesman for the Foreign Ministry.

Weizman has retained Peres' military secretary Gen. Aryeh Bar-On. The new Defense Minister is currently engaged in talks with senior army officers and management personnel of the ministry. He will tour the border areas and military installations shortly.

KATZ, AT END OF U.S. VISIT, FINDS CLIMATE MORE FAVORABLE

WASHINGTON, June 23 (JTA)--The personal representative of Israeli Premier Menachem Begin who has been assessing American sentiment toward Begin's leadership during the past four weeks said today that he found "a considerable degree of understanding" among approximately 50 members of Congress with whom he has spoken and that the Jewish community is "solidly behind Israel."

Shmuel Katz, who is returning to Israel tonight, is expected to take charge of his country's information program. He said "The atmosphere was not very pleasant" when he first arrived here "as a result of severe, even horrendous, reaction in the American media" to the Israeli election results but now the climate "is quite different." He said that "a great deal of talk" prevailed that the Jewish community was not united. But he has not seen "signs of fundamental dissension any more than before," he told reporters at a news conference in the Israeli Embassy.

Noting that he met with leaders of the Orthodox, Reform and Conservative branches of American Judaism, Katz said the "only one dissent" he encountered was when "two Breira people" at the Reform meeting said they were "very concerned" about the treatment of the Arab population by the previous Israeli government and the Jewish settlements in Galilee. "Apart from this, it was a very good reception," Katz said. He said he found "no conflict" among the Congressmen he met about Begin's position of negotiations without preconditions and Israel's right to Judea and Samaria and that "we must not be expected to make concessions without negotiations."

Some statements emanating from the Carter Administration, Katz said, "naturally causes considerable concern" which he said "is shared by practically every section of the Jewish community in America." But Katz indicated that the new Israeli government will embark on a comprehensive information program in the United States because of the "misinformation" and "disinformation" taking place and the "rather successful Arab propaganda." (By Joseph Polakoff)

SPECIAL INTERVIEW JNF HEAD SATISFIED WITH FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO NORTH AMERICA

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, June 23 (JTA)—At the conclusion of a two-week working tour of the United States and Canada, Moshe Rivlin, the Jewish National Fund's new world chairman said that he is encouraged and satisfied with the responses he encountered to the new projects and plans of the JNF.

In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency at the JNF headquarters here, Rivlin said that the purpose of his visit, his first to the United States and Canada since he was elected to the new post in January of this year, was to raise money for the new projects of the JNF and explain its work. The JNF, Rivlin said, is embarking on a series of new projects and they were presented to and enthusiastically received by JNF leaders and activists in Canada and the U.S.

In his meetings and talks in Canada and the United States, Rivlin said he discussed the idea of creating the Forest of the Jewish Child near the city of Beersheba in the south of Israel. "The idea is that next year, which is the 30th anniversary of the State of Israel, Jewish children from all over the world will participate in planting a new forest," Rivlin said. According to the plan, Israeli school children will write letters to Jewish children across the world asking them to take part in this special project. Special trees, Rivlin said, will be planted in this forest, in the memory of the Jewish children who perished in the Holocaust.

During his visit to the U.S.—which ended last weekend—Rivlin said that he met with the JNF leadership across the country, with the regional presidents of the JNF and its executive directors. "I presented all of them with the development plans of the JNF for the next five years." According to Rivlin, these plans include "important development projects" in the Galilee, the Arava and the north of Sinai. The plans include the establishment of infrastructure designed for future agricultural settlements in the Arava region, the creation of industrial parks in the Galilee and the reclamation of dune lands in the south of Israel and the north of Sinai, Rivlin said.

Canadian Projects

"In Canada, we initiated a new project," Rivlin said. "The plan is to raise money from at least 100 Jews, with each contributing \$36,000, for the purpose of establishing a garden around the walls of Jerusalem. Each contributor," Rivlin continued, "will be given the title of 'Rebuilder of Jerusalem.' The project is shared by the JNF of Canada and Israel and the city of Jerusalem." According to Rivlin, 21 Canadians have already joined the project. He expressed the belief that it will not be long before the rest of the 100 contributors are found.

Another project is the Canada Park, to be established in the Ayalon Valley near Jerusalem, Rivlin said. He said that the cost of this project is approximately \$16 million, of which \$11 million was already raised.

"I conclude my visit in the U.S. and Canada, very encouraged from the readiness I found here to encounter the new challenges facing the JNF," Rivlin said. "I also received the impression that the prevailing feeling is that the JNF ought to recapitulate its important role in the process of developing and building Israel."

QUEBEC JEWS OPPOSE LANGUAGE LAW

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, June 23 (JTA)—The Quebec region of the Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith District 22, made public yesterday a brief prepared by them stating objections to proposed language legislation (Bill 1), the main purpose of which is to make the French language "the principal, primary and common language of Quebec." The two organizations already have submitted their brief to the Commission on Education, Cultural Affairs and Communications of the Quebec National Assembly.

The brief raised serious questions about Bill 1 based on what its authors regard as an "unjust treatment of minorities or individuals or an infringement on their rights and freedoms" as the measure now stands. The brief stated that "our main concern is that there should be no violation of the human rights of any individual and that equity in terms of law, customs and usage be maintained for all individuals without distinction."

The brief said "We maintain that the goals of Bill 1 must be consistent with the protection of human rights and dignity of all citizens. The French language in Quebec can flourish without undue coercion and harsh penalties. . . . Injustices of the past of which the Jewish community has also been the victim, cannot be corrected by discriminatory measures—rather the linguistic and cultural problems of Quebec must be solved by the closest cooperation and understanding of all, irrespective of origin."

The two organizations said that the Jewish community specifically sought the elimination from Bill 1 of provisions which stipulate that it supersedes the Quebec Charter of Human Rights. The Jewish community also asked a change in the wording of the bill's preamble to make it clear that the term "Quebecois" applies to all persons in the province, regardless of their language.

Joel Pinsky, who presided at the press conference at CJC headquarters, said the "relationship between the Jewish community and the Quebec government is generally good, now and in the past." Howard Kreshol, president of District 22 of B'nai B'rith, said "There are people moving out of Quebec, both French speaking and English speaking, and certainly a number of Jews are included." But he said that in general, the Jewish community here will remain unchanged.

TEL AVIV (JTA)—Gen. Shlomo Inbar, head of the research and development branch of the Israeli army, has been named the new Israeli military attache in Washington. The 48-year-old Inbar takes over from Gen. Avraham Adan in July. A Sabra, Inbar was instrumental in building up the army's communications and electronics corps. He holds a degree in electrical engineering and is considered knowledgeable with the sophisticated new weapons systems Israel is seeking to buy from the United States.

AMSTERDAM (JTA)—A breakdown of the numbers of Jews affiliated with Ashkenazic congregations in Holland shows that some 60 percent of the 13,365 members live in its three largest population centers. The largest number, 8,687, live in Amsterdam and its environs. The Hague is second with 1,220 members and Rotterdam third with 700. There are 43 Ashkenazic congregations in Holland altogether.