

DMC LEADERSHIP VOTES TO JOIN LIKUD GOVERNMENT; LABOR PARTY BLASTS MOVE AS SELL-OUT, SOME DMC MEMBERS AGREE

Yadin Says Move Helps National Unity
By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Oct. 20 (JTA)--The leadership of the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) voted 14-1 last night to join the coalition government headed by Premier Menachem Begin. Ratification of the decision by the DMC's central committee which meets tonight is considered a foregone conclusion and mere formality.

The decision, which came after five months of intermittent negotiations with Likud, was immediately blasted by the Labor Party as an unconditional surrender. Some members of the DMC, particularly its doveish Shinooy (Change) faction, agreed. But DMC leader Prof. Yigael Yadin defended the move which he said was in the interests of national unity.

Yadin, who returned from a speaking tour in the U.S. Tuesday, told his colleagues that the general feeling among American Jewish leaders and at the Israeli Embassy in Washington was that Israel is nearing a fateful confrontation with the U.S., the toughest it has ever had, and that the Israeli government therefore must have the broadest possible political base.

Yadin said the DMC could not ignore the opinion of American Jews who are convinced it should join the coalition because the present government is not now strong enough to wage the political struggle. Yadin said he viewed the present situation as one of emergency and that it would be disloyal under such conditions to remain outside of the government.

Yadin said he had concluded there was no need for further negotiations with Likud because "in negotiations there is always an erosion of one's principles." He had indicated, during his meetings with Jewish groups in the U.S. that the DMC sees eye-to-eye with Likud on crucial foreign policy matters such as Israel's refusal to return to its 1967 borders, to accept the creation of a Palestinian state or to have any dealings with the PLO.

Major Political Victory For Begin

The DMC decision represents a major political victory for Begin whose coalition with the small religious factions controls only 63 Knesset seats, a precariously slim majority in the 120-member parliament. The addition of the DMC's 15 seats to the coalition for a total of 78 will strengthen Begin's hand in both domestic and foreign policy, particularly his troubled dealings with Washington on Geneva conference issues. The Premier was very pleased with the DMC's move which he hailed as "patriotic" after a meeting with Yadin today. The DMC and Likud leaders drank a toast to their new partnership.

The agreement with the DMC represented a compromise on basic issues over which there are still wide gaps between that faction and the present coalition. It allows the DMC freedom of expression and the right to obtain in Knesset votes on subjects concerning the West Bank.

Government decisions on new settlements will be discussed in the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and

Security Committee if a DMC minister so demands. The DMC is given freedom to vote as it chooses on religious issues. In that connection, Begin reassured a deputation from his ultra-Orthodox Agudat bloc coalition partners that the agreement with the DMC will not affect the concessions he made to them on religious matters.

DMC To Get Three Portfolios

The DMC will receive three Cabinet portfolios that have been left vacant: the Justice Ministry, Ministry of Transport and Communications and the Ministry of Labor and Social Betterment. Yadin will be named Deputy Premier and will serve as Acting Premier in Begin's absence. However, he will not have the automatic right to succeed Begin. The other DMC ministers will be Meir Amit, Shmuel Tamir and Meir Zorea, although Zorea might be replaced by Dr. Israel Katz.

A compromise was also reached on electoral reform where the key issue separating the DMC and Likud had been the number of election districts to be created once Israel switches from the present party lists system to direct election of Knesset members. The agreement stipulates that a five-man committee will be formed to decide on the number of districts--between six and sixteen--and will submit its recommendations within a specified time limit. It was also agreed that the next Knesset elections will be conducted under the new system.

Voices Of Opposition

The Shinooy faction remains opposed. Its leader, Prof. Amnon Rubinstein, who was number-two man on the party's election list last May, said today: "Our movement has lost its independence, has lost its way and gave up the principles for which it stood and for which it received its mandate from the voters." His colleague, Mordechai Virshovsky, said it was the DMC's duty to bring about the downfall of the Likud government, not strengthen it by joining.

Labor Party leaders charged that the DMC has become a satellite of Likud. But Labor, despite its 32 seats in the Knesset, now appears more isolated politically than it was after its election defeat.

(In New York, the DMC move was termed a "long-dreaded surrender" of their program "for several Cabinet posts" by the Americans for Progressive Israel-Hashomer Hatzair (API-HH). Linda Rubin, executive director of API-HH, said the move by DMC "has left the Progressive Zionist Movement in both Israel and the United States stunned and disappointed."

(Ms. Rubin said her organization, which is affiliated ideologically with Mapam in Israel, "regrets that the DMC's declared election platform calling for territorial compromise in return for peace with the Arab states was forgotten for the sake of political expediency." She said that the DMC has followed "the worn road of political pragmatism which can only further disillusion the Israeli public." As a result of DMC's decision, Ms. Rubin added, "it would seem to have eliminated the party as a force in the Israeli electorate and to have tarnished its image as a movement for true change.")

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SPECIAL TO THE JTA UNIQUE 'KNESSET 9' EXHIBITION

By Yitzhak Rabi

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Oct. 20 (JTA)—The photographs of Israeli political personalities as prominent as Premier Menachem Begin and Labor Alignment leader Shimon Peres, along with controversial figures such as Rabbi Meir Kahane, founder of the Jewish Defense League, and Uri Avneri, editor of Haalom Hazeh and a maverick on Israel's political map, greet visitors these days as they enter the august hall of the Widener Library at Harvard University.

These photographs are part of a unique exhibition on display through November titled "Knesset 9." It features posters, broadsides, and leaflets documenting in vivid fashion and with more than a touch of humor the election campaign for the Ninth Knesset which was held last May. The exhibition, which opened this week, was organized and is being presented by the Harvard Judaica Collection. Its impact is instantaneous and pervasive.

Viewing the 16 display cases at the library, a visitor can come to grips with the serious issues of the election campaign, its vicious as well as vigorous style and, in retrospect, its irony. Moshe Dayan, now the Foreign Minister in the Likud government, is featured on a big poster urging the voters to support his party, Labor, from which he bolted after the election.

Another poster shows Gideon Hausner describing him as the head of the Independent Liberal Party which won only one seat in the election, making the viewer wonder what happened to the "body" of the party, considering that only its "head" was elected.

Not Found Anywhere Else

Dr. Charles Berlin, head of the Judaica Department of Harvard University who originated the idea of the exhibition, said in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the uniqueness of the show is that it is limited to ephemera (posters, broadsides, leaflets), "material which never survives beyond its immediate use."

Berlin said that he started the "impossible task" of collecting the material for the exhibition last fall, when the Israeli election campaign to the Ninth Knesset had started. Through friends and associates in Israel, Berlin was able to get hundreds of election items which cannot now be found in any other place in the world, including Israel.

"The election items were intended to deliver a message, to satisfy an immediate need," Berlin explained, "and you get, therefore, a unique perspective of the election which you cannot get from books (written after the election) or other channels. You don't get the same flavor."

The exhibition was organized with strict academic objectivity, with the guiding rule that each of the 22 parties running for election be represented. "Everybody is represented in the exhibition to the extent that they published materials and that the materials were available to us," Berlin said. Accordingly, the big parties, the Likud, the Labor Alignment, the Democratic Movement for Change (DMC) and the National Religious Party, are given one display case each.

The only "deviation" from the academic rule was an allocation of extra space to Likud, featuring Begin as "Our Next Premier." "We felt the Likud deserved additional space, since they won the election," said Berlin.

According to Berlin, the "Hofesh Panterim"—a splinter group of the Black Panthers—issued the least amount of material, and therefore is represented in the show only by its voting ticket.

Basis For Choosing Material

From the hundreds of items available, 200 items were culled out. "We chose material that reflect the views of the parties on a whole range of issues," Berlin noted, adding: "We gave all parties the opportunity to represent themselves in their own language. This is a 'mint course' in Israeli politics."

One of the display cases depicts the Women's List (NES) and Kahane's "Kach" Party. Although both failed to gain any seats in the Knesset, Berlin said, they were given a relatively big space because of the special interest they have for the American viewer. Most of the items are written in Hebrew, with only one poster in Arabic (by Labor's affiliated Arab List) and few documents in other languages, showing the efforts of almost all Israeli parties to profit from ethnic groups within Israeli society.

Berlin pointed out that no commentary or explanation was attached to the items displayed apart from an English translation of the Hebrew text. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency Daily Bulletin is the only non-Israeli, non-election item displayed in the exhibition, reporting on the election results. According to Berlin, the exhibition arouses interest even in people who are not close to Israeli affairs because it is "piquant and interesting," per se.

Gad Yaacobi, Labor MK who was Transport Minister in the previous government, visited the exhibition with this reporter. As a politician who participated in the election campaign that resulted in his party's defeat, Yaacobi expressed amazement and laughed throughout the tour. "It is amazing," he said, smiling, when he saw a poster of Dayan beseeching the electorate to vote for the Labor Party. When he saw a poster of Ariel Sharon with the slogan "Give Arik Your Hand," Yaacobi remarked: "But he got only two (Knesset) seats."

When he confronted the slogan of Shmuel Flatto-Sharon, "The Lone Man to the Knesset," he said jocularly: "Did you hear of the current joke in Israel that says that in the next election Shimon Peres will adopt the same slogan?"

Berlin said he hoped the exhibition will be shown in other cities in the United States, a possibility which is not feasible at the moment because of lack of funds. At Harvard University itself many have already visited the exhibition, especially since the Harvard Gazette had written about it and printed three posters from the show.

NEW YORK (JTA)—The National Conference on Soviet Jewry has learned that Leonid Slepak has refused induction into the Soviet army, thereby risking a prison sentence. At the same time, it was learned that Leonid's older brother, Aleksander, has received permission to emigrate to Israel. The family including the boys' father and mother first applied to leave the USSR in 1969. Leonid Slepak, in refusing induction, said that he had filed a written protest to the Soviet Defense Minister saying that he is in actuality an Israeli citizen and considers Israel his homeland.

UNITED NATIONS (JTA)—The Security Council is scheduled to meet Friday to extend for six months the mandate of the United Nations Emergency Force in Sinai. The mandate expires Oct. 24 and no complications are expected in approval.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW**ZACKS BELIEVES U.S. COMMITTED TO ISRAEL'S SECURITY BUT TROUBLED BY CARTER'S POLICY DRIFT IN MIDEAST**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 19 (JTA)--Gordon Zacks of Columbus, Ohio, vice-chairman of the United Jewish Appeal and chairman of its Study Conference currently in Israel, has "great faith and trust in the American people" and believes that the Carter Administration is genuinely committed to the security and independence of Israel even though he is seriously troubled by the drift of Carter's policies in the Middle East.

Zacks, a member of the Board of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and involved in the UJA for all of his adult life, told the JTA in an interview that the American people "are decent, compassionate and concerned" and his faith and trust in them allays some of the anxiety he admits he feels over the latest expressions of the Administration's Mideast policy.

The "sense of moral decency" which permeated Jimmy Carter's election campaign is still "operative," Zacks said. The "commitment to the security and viability of an independent State of Israel are deep and strong--and I do not believe that Carter intentionally acts to harm Israel," he said, though some of his policies are harmful, even though unwittingly so. According to Zacks, the previous Administration would "have nailed" the PLO after the drubbing it took in Lebanon. The present Administration, however, appears to have gone out of its way to hold open the possibility of future dealings with the PLO, Zacks contended.

Duty Of The U.S. Jewish Community

The duty of the American Jewish community, he said after meeting here with most of Israel's top leaders, is "to understand the issues that divide the U.S. and Israel and to inform American opinion of the reasons behind Israel's positions. The key issues in dispute are the Palestinian state and the role of the PLO. Zacks, like Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, does not distinguish between a state and an "entity" which is the current American nomenclature.

Moreover, the Jewish community must explain what is essentially true and valid--that Israel's opposition to a Palestinian-PLO state dovetails into genuine American interests in the stability of the region because, according to Zacks, a West Bank state, PLO-run, Marxist-oriented, "would surely be a destabilizing force.... Americans have got to be made aware why this is so."

Zacks spoke passionately about what he sees as an "Arab-inspired Third World-supported effort over recent years to rekindle the flames of anti-Semitism on a world-wide basis." The American people must be alerted to this danger, he said.

"It is outrageous that when the ashes of Auschwitz are not yet cold, the Jewish people should again be forced to justify their right to exist. The crime they are accused of is being born Jewish. The unwillingness to recognize Israel's right to exist, the challenge to its legitimacy, is simply a new form of the old disease. It is anti-Semitism directed against a whole people. We must appeal to the decency of people throughout the free world."

"But at the same time," Zacks said, "we do not need the approval of others. I exist--therefore I am, as an individual and as a State." He conceded that the Palestinians' case for self-determination

has a wide appeal among the American people, and this certainly poses a problem for Israeli and pro-Israeli leaders trying to explain the dangers of PLO nationalism. He stressed that the "PLO murderers" have no appeal whatever and Israel's refusal to deal with them is well understood.

Other Areas Of Concern

Zacks faulted President Carter on one of the President's own avowed top priorities, human rights, which figured so prominently in his campaign and in the early part of his Presidency. Why, he asked, does the Administration not proclaim a total boycott of Idi Amin's Uganda where human rights are desecrated on a gargantuan scale? "Carter has betrayed his campaign commitments," Zacks charged.

In a Jerusalem Post interview, Zacks was openly critical of the Jewish Agency, saying it should be "less political" and that merit should be the sole criteria for appointment and advancement in the Agency.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES**ANTI-SEMITISM IN EUROPE**

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Oct. 19 (JTA)--The further strengthening of Britain's racist National Front Party is predicted in a study of European anti-Semitism published here this week. C.C. Aronsfeld, in a research paper issued by the Institute of Jewish Affairs, says that the National Front, the strongest force of organized anti-Semitism in Europe, is benefitting from Britain's economic difficulties and the deep frustrations, especially in the middle classes, over her decline in the world.

According to Aronsfeld, the IJA's senior research officer, the most sinister brand of anti-Semitism is represented by attempts to vindicate Hitler by denying his crimes. An example of this is the leaflet, "Did Six Million Really Die?" whose author is believed to be Richard Verrall, editor of the National Front organ, "Spearhead."

The Front also plays up Zionism and the "Jewish question" as "a central issue in the struggle for the salvation of British nationhood" and the most is made of the fact that Israeli Premier Menachem Begin, was once an "anti-British terrorist."

In West Germany, organized anti-Semitism is rife among 140 far-right-wing bodies, with a membership of just under 20,000, though the circulation of the far-right press has increased from 180,000 in 1976 to 250,000 in 1977.

Another ominous sign, Aronsfeld writes, is a certain indifference to anti-Semitism reflected in the leniency shown by some courts to canvassers of neo-Nazi propaganda. In West Germany, this tendency may receive a fillip by the current concern with terrorism. "Owing to difficulties in dealing with this terrorism, Germany is in a mood which may encourage a critical assessment of the foundations of democratic government," he writes.

In France, on the other hand, anti-Semitism appears to be declining. The paper cites a poll conducted last spring showing that no more than about five percent of the people approached felt any antipathy to Jews. The strength of organized anti-Semitism, too, is described as "negligible."

Aronsfeld concludes that while militant anti-Semitism in Western Europe still does not amount to much, its manifestations should be watched warily because of the general atmosphere of instability and ideological confusion.