

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## LABOR HAS SLIGHT LEAD ON ELECTION EVE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, June 29 (JTA) -- The Labor Party was given a slight edge over Likud in tomorrow's elections according to the final public opinion poll published today. The survey, by the Dahaf Public Research Institute, indicated that Labor would win 43 seats in the new Knesset to 40 for Likud. It was the first poll to show Labor ahead since the campaign began three months ago.

A poll released over the weekend by the Modin Ezrachi Co. indicated that the two major parties would run neck-and-neck. But only a week earlier, a Dahaf poll gave Likud a commanding lead of 45-39 seats.

The latest results were not broadcast today because Israeli law forbids electioneering 24 hours before the polls open. Both major parties wound up their campaigns over the weekend. Premier Menachem Begin and his top ministers addressed a mass rally in the Malchei Israel square here outside City Hall. It drew about 150,000 enthusiastic Likud supporters, about the same number that turned out for Labor's mass rally in the same square Saturday night. Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres and former Premier Yitzhak Rabin addressed smaller Labor rallies in the Tel Aviv suburbs last night.

Likud and Labor are each predicting victory tomorrow. Labor's 11th hour surge in the public opinion polls is attributed to voters who have been "undecided" until now. That category has been reduced to 10 to 15 percent from over 20 percent a week ago. But according to Likud spokesmen, the so-called "floating vote" represents people who will not bother to vote.

The revival of Labor's chances after what even its supporters concede was a lackluster campaign, was seen by political observers as a reaction to the violence in recent weeks, mainly by Likud supporters against Labor. Laborites made the most of the rowdiness that time and again disrupted its campaign rallies, charging that it was inspired by Begin's "demagoguery" and condoned by Likud.

Likud, for its part, admonished its supporters to maintain order or to stay away from the rallies of political parties they opposed. But the violence continued down to the campaign finish line. Last night the Tel Aviv office of the "Anything But Likud" group was burned down and firemen had to rescue several young Labor Party workers. The group's purpose was to convince uncommitted voters to support Labor.

While Laborites were heartened by the last minute reversal in the opinion polls, political experts agreed that a Labor victory by two to three seats would be insufficient to unseat Likud. They noted that Begin could still form a coalition government with the support of the National Religious Party, the Aguda bloc and the ultra-nationalist Tehiya faction.

## JTA PLANS TO PROVIDE EARLY REPORT ON ELECTION TRENDS TODAY

TEL AVIV, June 29 (JTA) -- The Jewish Tele-

graphic Agency will provide an early indication of tomorrow's Knesset election results based on a poll of voters taken immediately after they have cast their ballots at scientifically selected polling stations all over the country. The system, known as the Duplicare Poll, was devised by the statistician Hanoch Smith whose early projections of the 1977 elections outcome were amazingly accurate.

Smith will be in charge of tomorrow's poll on behalf of the Israel Broadcasting Authority. It will be conducted at 30 "dummy" polling booths located next to the official polling stations and manned by student volunteers working in cooperation with the Central Elections Committee.

Voters emerging from the official polling stations will be asked to repeat their vote, in secret, in the "dummy" booth. The latter will close at 7 p.m. The "dummy" results will be computed by Smith and his aides and adjusted statistically for the percentage of voters who cast their ballots as of 7 p.m. This corresponds to 1 p.m. New York time.

The 30 "dummy" stations -- five more than in 1977 -- are located in the three largest cities -- Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa -- and in other urban centers. They do not include the kibbutzim and other rural settlements but the early projections will be adjusted statistically to account for the rural, Arab sector and soldiers' votes. They will be updated throughout the evening as the official results from those areas are received.

## PERES SAYS, IF ELECTED PREMIER, FIRST STEP WILL BE SADAT MEETING

PARIS, June 29 (JTA) -- Labor leader Shimon Peres said today in a French radio interview that, if elected Israel's next Prime Minister, his first step will be to meet Egyptian President Sadat to patch up existing differences. Peres, who is running in tomorrow's Israeli elections as Menachem Begin's challenger for the Premiership, said: "Peace with Egypt is the first thing to be saved. At present our relations are passing through a crisis which will have to be resolved."

The French press closely follows the Israeli race with most papers reporting a neck to neck run which, commentators stress, could give the victory to Begin. Some 60 French Jewish personalities, including writers Albert Cohen and Albert Memmi, signed an appeal last night on Labor's behalf.

## THE ELECTION MACHINERY: HOW ISRAELIS CHOOSE LEADERS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 29 (JTA) -- With 31 parties running for the Knesset tomorrow, Israel's election system will be put to the test. Unlike Congressional elections in the United States, Knesset members represent no constituencies.

The system is based upon proportional representation. Each party or faction presents a national list of 120 candidates. The Knesset, by law must have 120 members. In order to win representation in it, a party must pass the "threshold" which is one percent of the valid votes cast. If two million valid votes are cast, the threshold would be 20,000 votes. Parties that poll less than that number are automatically eliminated and the votes cast for them are, in effect, wasted.



After deducting the invalid votes and wasted votes, the remainder is divided by 120 which determines the number of votes required to win one Knesset seat. The voting age in Israel is 18. There will be 2,490,000 eligible voters tomorrow who will cast their ballots at 4,397 polling stations. In past elections, an average of about 80 percent of the electorate has voted, far higher than in the U.S.

The most complicated aspect of Israel's elections is the so-called "remainder agreements" which determine the disposal of left-over votes that do not add up to one Knesset seat. Several parties, such as Labor and the Independent Liberal Party, have entered such agreements. They provide that the party with the larger "remainder" wins an extra seat if the two remainders total one or more seats.

The Bader-Ofar Law, adopted by the Knesset some years ago, provides that the "remainder vote" not accounted for by inter-party agreements are divided among all parties in proportion to their strength. The large parties receive a bigger share than the small ones.

The complex calculation necessary can take a day or two before the final tally is announced. With tomorrow's elections expected to be very close, the "remainders" could play a crucial role in deciding which of the major parties forms the next government.

#### JEWISH YOUTH BANDS WITHDRAW FROM ISRAEL LONDON RALLY, FEARING ARAB TERRORISTS

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, June 29 (JTA) -- Two Jewish youth bands have refused to play at a mass pro-Israeli rally in London next Sunday because of fears of an Arab terrorist attack. The bands, run by the Jewish Lads and Girls Brigade, had been asked to play in Trafalgar Square during a meeting to protest against the European Economic Community (EEC) attempt to involve the Palestine Liberation Organization in the Middle East peace negotiations.

Although the Brigade's bands have played at previous pro-Israel rallies, parents of some of the 60 drummers, buglers and trumpeters are understood to have refused to let their children play on this occasion for fear of an Arab-inspired attack. As a result, the Board of Deputies of British Jews, which is organizing the event, is seeking to hire a professional brass band.

At a press conference this morning, Board president Greville Janner said the Sunday rally was timed to coincide with the start of British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington's assumption of the presidency of the EEC Council of Ministers. It is intended to be the biggest mass meeting in the history of Britain's half million-strong Jewish community. Its purpose is to let the government know about British Jewry's "profound anguish at any failure to assist and maintain the best relations between Britain and Israel."

Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, the Chief Rabbi of Britain, who will be one of the Sunday speakers, said that "any respectability conferred on a terrorist organization is as much a threat to Britain and Europe as to Israel."

Another scheduled speaker, Conservative MP Sir Hugh Fraser, said it would be "the height of folly to give any comfort to the PLO, who are determined on aggression and the subjugation of Israel." Neither Europe nor Britain have

much positive influence in the Middle East and last year's Venice initiative by the EEC has had only unfortunate results, he said.

#### AMERICAN REFORM RABBIS VOW BATTLE FOR EQUAL RIGHTS IN ISRAEL

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 29 (JTA) -- Three hundred American Reform rabbis, attending the 92nd convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) here over the weekend, adopted a resolution demanding the "disestablishment" of the Orthodox Chief Rabbinate in Israel and the granting of equal rights to Reform and Conservative rabbis in this country.

The Chief Rabbinate is the only Jewish religious body officially recognized and supported by the government and has exclusive jurisdiction over all aspects of religious life in Israel. CCAR leaders said at a press conference yesterday that their resolution had nothing to do with Israel's Knesset elections tomorrow. They said it was prompted by the Chief Rabbinate law passed by the Knesset with strong government support last year, which transferred the authority to decide which rabbis may perform weddings from local religious councils to the Chief Rabbinate. The latter is immune from court suits.

Rabbi Joseph Glaser, executive vice president of the CCAR, said his movement is tired of making periodic protests against degrading and sometimes insulting behavior toward its members living in Israel "and decided to take more drastic action." Glaser said that immediately after the elections, Reform movement leaders would begin lobbying every Knesset member to change the law.

The efforts of Reform and Conservative rabbis to achieve equality in Israel are bitterly opposed by Orthodox groups here and in the U.S. which denounce "religious pluralism" in Israel.

#### RUE COPERNIC BLAST ATTRIBUTED TO RIGHTWING SPANISH TERRORISTS

PARIS, June 29 (JTA) -- The French daily Le Quotidien reported today that an extreme rightwing Spanish terrorist group was responsible for the Rue Copernic synagogue bombing last October 3 in which four persons were killed and more than a dozen injured. The paper quoted unidentified French and Spanish police sources as naming four Spanish terrorists as the perpetrators.

The report said two of the Spaniards planted the bomb for which Libyan ruler Muammar Qaddafi and the Palestinians were originally blamed.

The police source said they had followed the "Spanish lead" from the start but that it has led nowhere as yet. They said they showed photos of Mila Rodriguez, a well known Spanish rightwing activist and reputedly the gang's leader, to eye-witnesses of the Rue Copernic outrage. But none recalled seeing him on the site before the explosion.

The reasons for the attack are still unknown, Quotidien said. But the gang's "Godfather," Gomez Benet, is believed to be involved with organized crime in Spain which is ready to undertake any "contract" for money. According to the paper, the parties who paid for the Rue Copernic bombing are not known but the Benet gang is closely linked to neo-Fascist organizations.

#### MOSSAD NOT BEHIND MEDIA CLAIM THAT BRAZIL GAVE URANIUM TO IRAQ

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 29 (JTA) -- Recent newspaper reports accusing Brazil of supplying uranium



to Iraq were based on Brazilian sources and not on Mossad, the Israeli secret service, according to the Brazilian correspondent of The Guardian, a leading British newspaper which had carried the report dismissing any Israeli involvement in the media assertions. The Guardian account was also confirmed by one of Brazil's leading newspapers, the Estado De Sao Paulo.

The Government Press Office said today that it had received this information directly from both newspapers. The Guardian's editor cabled Press Office director Ze'ev Hafetz that its Brazilian correspondent had his information from "local, highly reliable sources" which had "nothing to do with the Israeli secret service."

Hafetz had inquired into the matter because the report that Israel's Mossad originated the accusation had angered the Brazilian authorities. The Brazilian Ambassador to Israel, Vasco Mariz, was called home last week for "consultations," a gesture of protest by the government in Brasilia. Israel flatly denied that a Mossad source or any other official here had ever made the accusation against Brazil.

The linkage of Mossad to the accusation first appeared in the Journal Do Brasil in a report from the paper's Israel correspondent. But Estado De Sao Paulo said the report was from Brazilian sources, Hafetz said today.

The diplomatic tension between Israel and Brazil seemed to be easing and Ambassador Mariz is expected back in Tel Aviv shortly.

#### NEW FRENCH INTERIOR MINISTER WARNS NEO-NAZIS GOV'T WILL ACT

PARIS, June 29 (JTA) -- The new French Interior Minister, Gaston Deferre, has warned neo-Nazi groups in France that the new Socialist Government will take all necessary measures to repress anti-Semitic or fascist organizations.

The Minister, who addressed the National Police Academy and the Police Trade Union representatives over the weekend, said, "There is no place within our national community for groups or people who desecrate synagogues, attack tombs in cemeteries and do other anti-Semitic and racist activities."

In an apparent reference to reports that some police officers belong to neo-fascist movements, he added, "These people have even less of a place within the police." He said they would be investigated and tried if they were proved to have been engaged in illegal activities.

#### THOUSANDS OF RUMANIAN JEWS MARK 40th ANNIVERSARY OF 1941 POGROM

By Victor Russu

BUCHAREST, June 29 (JTA) -- Three thousand Jews from all over Moldavia joined by thousands of other Rumanians, gathered in Iassy today to mark the 40th anniversary of the pogrom in 1941 when over 10,000 Jews were murdered in the streets of that city or were asphyxiated in the infamous "death train."

The mass gathering, which was televised nationally, heard strong denunciations of anti-Semitism by Leonard Constantin, First Secretary of the Communist Party in Iassy, Gen. Neagu Andrei, vice president of the Anti-Fascist Fighters, Iassy Mayor Nichi Forneugen and others. Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen of Rumania addressed the throng on the dangers of revived anti-Semitism. He expressed gratitude to President Nicolai Ceausescu of Rumania for his recent vehement condemnations of anti-Semitism.

If any isolated vestiges of anti-Semitism remain, Rosen said, Rumanian Jews can react with dignity because they know the entire Rumanian people and their President condemn them. Religious services were held. Students of the Iassy Hebrew School sang "Ani Maamin (I Believe)" and the songs of Jewish partisan fighters of World War II.

#### SAUNDERS SAYS ELECTION WON'T AFFECT DIFFERENCES IN ISRAEL OVER OCCUPIED AREAS POLICY

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 29 (JTA) -- Harold Saunders, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs in the Carter Administration, predicted today that no matter who wins the elections in Israel tomorrow it will not "produce an easy job" for American officials who want to "press forward" with the Middle East peace process.

Answering questions at a luncheon of the Women's National Democratic Club, Saunders explained that Israel is not "united" over what to do about the West Bank and Gaza Strip and any solution will result in a "national trauma of some sort."

He noted that the present government of Premier Menachem Begin may provide more difficulties in the "long run" than the opposition Labor Party because of its claims to sovereignty over the West Bank. But at the same time, a strong rightwing government might have a greater capacity to deliver concessions. "Five years ago no one would have predicted that Prime Minister Begin would have presided over the compromises and agreements that were achieved in 1978 and 1979," he said.

Saunders, who was involved in the Camp David agreements and in all Egyptian-Israeli negotiations from the first interim agreements in 1974, said the Camp David accords "cannot be scrapped" although the U.S. may have to go beyond them to involve other parties, particularly the Palestinians.

He stressed that "neither a Palestinian settlement nor an Arab-Israeli peace will ensure stability in the Middle East." But he said there could be no Middle East solution or permanent peace for Israel without solving the Palestinian problem.

Saunders, who is now a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, said that whether a Palestinian solution requires direct involvement of the Palestine Liberation Organization is something the negotiators will have to determine among themselves. But, he observed, "There is no doubt in my mind ... the PLO will play a role in this process." He added, "If they are not at the table they will play a role behind the scenes" whether through the Egyptians, the Jordanians or the West Bank Palestinians who are negotiating.

Asked about the proposed sale of AWACS reconnaissance aircraft to Saudi Arabia, Saunders said he believes the U.S. should have a close relationship with Riyadh which means providing the Saudis with modern military equipment from time to time, while at the same time safeguarding the security of Israel.

In his prepared speech, Saunders called for a "national consensus" and a "bi-partisan" foreign policy to deal with the Middle East and the Persian Gulf area which, he said, in the 1980s will be the "primary avenue for shaping the global balance of power in the 1990s." He warned however that unlike previous periods, the U.S. cannot deal with the various issues "piecemeal" but must move on all of them at the same time. In that connection, Saunders said that while the Reagan Administration seeks a "strategic consensus" in the Middle East to prevent Soviet incursions, it must at the same time work for peace throughout the area. He said that working for peace is as important for American power as building up its military strength.



## BEHIND THE HEADLINES

### NAZI COLLABORATOR CASE UNITES JEWS, UKRAINIANS IN CLEVELAND

CLEVELAND, June 29 (JTA) -- This city's Ukrainian and Jewish communities affirmed this week their shared interest in bringing to justice any and all persons who participated in genocide or other crimes against humanity and, in recognition of their common sufferings under both the Nazi and Soviet regimes, pledged to work together on issues of mutual concern, among which is the violation of human rights in the USSR.

Those sentiments were embodied in a lengthy statement issued here jointly by the United Ukrainian Organization of Greater Cleveland and the Jewish Community Federation (JCF) of Cleveland. The document was released before Federal Judge Frank Battisti handed down his ruling on June 25 that the citizenship of Ukrainian-born John Demjanjuk be "revoked, vacated and cancelled" because the 60 year-old automobile worker had lied about his Nazi activities in World War II when he applied for naturalization in the U.S. in 1958.

The trial of Demjanjuk, who now faces deportation proceedings, aroused fierce emotions among local Jews, many of them Holocaust survivors, and the large Ukrainian community, when it opened last February. The Ukrainians supported Demjanjuk's contention that he was the innocent victim of Soviet-inspired persecution. In face of overwhelming evidence that he had participated in atrocities against Jews and others while serving as a guard in Treblinka and Sobibor death camps, the Jewish community demanded that Demjanjuk be brought to justice, however belatedly. A violent confrontation between Ukrainian and Jewish demonstrators was narrowly avoided.

Lawrence Williams, president of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, spoke Tuesday of Judge Battisti's decision and of the joint statement by the Jewish and Ukrainian community leaders that had preceded it.

#### Jews Report Cooperation With Ukrainian Group

"For the past several months the trial of John Demjanjuk has been a particular focal point for the Cleveland Jewish community," Williams said. "The Jewish Community Federation had urged that the defendant be tried as quickly as possible to determine his guilt or innocence. We are gratified that a decision has now been rendered."

Williams disclosed that "Representatives of the United Ukrainian Organization and the Jewish Community Federation have been working closely for the last several months to develop a joint statement which we believe has opened new doors for communication between our two communities. Through these contacts, we have gained considerable insight into Ukrainian history and suffering. We strongly reaffirm that the trial of John Demjanjuk relates only to the conduct of a single person -- not the actions of the entire Ukrainian nation. We recall that many leading Ukrainians, such as Metropolitan Andrew Szeptycky, the Archbishop of Lviv, risked their own lives and freedom to save Jews."

"We hope now that the decision has been rendered, that our two communities will work together even more effectively on issues of common concern, such as the violation of human rights in the Soviet Union and the need for the revitalization of our city of Cleveland," Williams said.

The statement noted among the issues "of particular concern to our separate communities" the

desire of the Ukrainian community to achieve the independence of Ukraine and the struggle of the Jewish community on behalf of Soviet Jewish emigration.

#### Statement Links Jewish and Ukrainian Victims

It observed that "The tragic events which have affected each of our peoples is self-evident. The Holocaust ... destroyed millions of Jews and represents barbarism and brutality of overwhelming proportion in human history -- a fact recognized by the Ukrainian community which also suffered great human losses at the hands of the Nazis.

"Ukrainians have also been the victims of Soviet crimes against humanity ... The Jewish community can well understand the magnitude of Ukrainian suffering at the hands of the Soviet Union which is today the tormentor of Soviet Jews and a major adversary of the State of Israel in the international arena," the statement said.

"Both the Jewish Community Federation and the United Ukrainian Organizations now stand together in demanding justice -- appropriate legal action against all who participate in acts of genocide and crimes against humanity. Both of our organizations agree that there must be no statute of limitations on these crimes, whether they were committed in times of war or peace. Together, we reject the efforts of those who would use fear, hatred and prejudice to divide and weaken our communities. Neo-Nazi attempts to stir up religious and ethnic hatred in our community is an affront to the memory of Ukrainians and Jews who died at the hands of the Nazis. Similarly, we reject a Russian attempt to create hatred between Ukrainians and Jews," the statement said.

#### CANADIAN INDUSTRIALIST GETS TECHNION HONORARY DOCTORATE

HAIFA, June 29 (JTA) -- A leading Canadian industrialist and philanthropist, Isin Ivanier of Montreal, received an honorary doctorate from the Haifa Technion "in recognition of his accomplishments in the steel industry and in appreciation of his support for the Technion."

The doctorate was conferred on Ivanier in the presence of Canadian Ambassador Joseph Stanfield, Israel's Minister of Energy, Yitzhak Modai, members of the Technion Board of Governors and representatives of the faculty and student body. Ivanier has donated a laboratory for advanced research in cutting and welding to the Technion.

In his acceptance speech he noted that the enormous progress made by Israel's industry would have been "unthinkable without the Technion." Honored on the same occasion with doctoral degrees in science were Jacob Walter Ullman, president of the American Technion Society and Dr. Avraham Suldami, a leading Israeli manufacturer of medical instruments. (By Michael Solomon.)

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AMSTERDAM, June 29 (JTA) -- A pro-Palestinian group, The Netherlands Palestine Committee, is expected to launch a large scale propaganda campaign in Holland next fall. Members are currently visiting Israel and the occupied Arab territories. Two of them said in a radio interview with the Dutch Labor Broadcasting Organization "Vara" that they were "horried" by the oppression of the Palestinians on the West Bank. They said they learned from inhabitants of the Daisha refugee camp near Bethlehem and from students at Bir Zeit University that conditions were much worse than they had expected. They also spoke to Mayor Basham Shaka of Nablus who was crippled by a bomb attack a year ago. The perpetrators, believed to be Jewish extremists, were never apprehended.