Knesset, by 56-50 vote, rejects opposition motion for inquiry into conduct of war in Lebanon
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM June 15 (JTA) -- An opposition motion to investigate the government's conduct of the war in Lebanon was rejected by the Knesset in a 56-50 vote today. The outcome was not unexpected, but one Likud MK, Yitzhak Berman, voted against the opposition, and his colleague, Dror Seigerman abstained.

Premier Menahem Begin led the debate, insisting that the war had only one objective -- to protect the people of Galilee from terrorist bombardment. He rejected allegations that his government wanted to establish a "new order" in Lebanon. He conceded that there had been some difficulties, observing however that "all military campaigns run into difficulties."

Begin dismissed the idea of creating a commission to inquire into the government's decision-making process during the war on grounds that it would "give ammunition to Israel's enemies." The demand for a commission came from the Labor Alignment and Shinui. Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres said there was no intention to investigate the causes of the war or the performance of the army but to find out if and why the cabinet often gave approval to war moves by then Defense Minister Ariel Sharon "after the fact." Sharon was abroad today.

Mandevich Vilsovsky of the Shinui faction said he had documentary proof that the army was ordered to fight the Syrians in Lebanon long before there was any decision by the government to engage the Syrians. Begin claimed that in Israel's previous wars there were cases of military actions approved retroactively.

Likud MK Akiva Noff introduced a motion to investigate the behavior of the opposition parties during the war. The Alignment's Knesset faction rose en bloc and left the chamber.

Ehrlich stable after stroke
By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM June 15 (JTA) -- Deputy Premier Simcha Ehrlich was reported in "stable" condition at Bikur Holim Hospital after suffering a stroke yesterday which paralyzed his legs.

Dr. Shlomo Stern, the hospital director, said the 78-year-old cabinet minister was fully conscious and was able to speak and to eat. "All essential functions are operating satisfactorily and we are presently satisfied with his condition," Stern said. Nevertheless, medical sources said it would be a matter of weeks before Ehrlich could return to work.

Ehrlich, a leader of Likud's Liberal Party wing, also holds the post of Minister of Agriculture. He served as Finance Minister during the Likud government's first term. Some of his colleagues expressed concern today over the possible effects of his absence at a time when the Liberal Party is faced with an internal schism. Shortly before he fell ill, Ehrlich expressed confidence that he would be able to prevent a faction headed by Energy Minister Yitzhak Modai from breaking away from the party.

Ehrlich underwent open heart surgery in the U.S. several months ago. He was given five arterial by-passes. It was not clear whether his earlier condition was in any way related to the cerebral blood clot he suffered yesterday.

Sick fund doctors break ranks; vote to end 4-month-old strike
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV June 15 (JTA) -- Doctors employed by Kupat Holim, the Histadrut sick fund, broke ranks with the government-employed physicians today when their Council voted 63-61 to end their four-month-old strike.

Kupat Holim clinics, which have been open only two days a week since the strike began to treat emergencies and chronically ill elderly patients will return to a daily basis, but the vote must be ratified by the Central Committee of the Israel Medical Association. Kupat Holim doctors represent only a third of the 8,500 members and their back-to-work decision may be aborted.

The Medical Association is opposed to ending the strike as long as the Treasury insists that salary increases for doctors cannot exceed the 22 percent national wages ceiling agreement reached between the government and Histadrut.

Health Minister Eliezer Shostak said today that the dispute with the Finance Ministry derived from the fact that the wage accord with Histadrut does not apply to doctors who have their own independent union. The 22 percent ceiling is not the only matter at issue.

The doctors' work contract has not been amended since 1961. Physicians are thus the only sector of the work force bound by a 20-year-old agreement. They insist that they should not be required to work 100 hours a week to earn a reasonable income whereas most other salaried employees work a 35-40 hour week.

ARENS INDICATES FORCE 'REDISTRIBUTION'
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV June 15 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Moshe Arens said today that Israel might order a "redistribution of our forces" in Lebanon but ruled out a unilateral withdrawal of Israeli troops from that country.

Addressing a conference on the world economy organized by the United Mizrahi Banks, Arens said a decision to carry out a "redistribution" of forces would have to be accompanied by assurances that the Lebanese army and the multinational force in Lebanon would not allow Palestine Liberation Organization forces to enter areas evacuated by Israeli troops.

According to Arens, the Syrians and PLO are trying to test Israel's capacity to stand firm in face of ambushes and hit-and-run attacks. It should be made clear to them that this tactic will not work, he said. He said the Lebanese government joined Israel in demanding the withdrawal of Syrian and PLO forces from Lebanon. The Lebanese Parliament yesterday overwhelmingly ratified the Israel-Lebanon agreement signed last May 17.
KIMCHIE ARRIVING IN WASHINGTON REPORTEDLY WITH REDEPLOYMENT PLAN
By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, June 15 (JTA) — The director-general of the Israel Foreign Ministry, David Kimeche, was scheduled to arrive here today, reportedly to explain to Administration officials Israel's intentions to set up more defensible lines in Lebanon in order to cut down on the rising casualties suffered by the Israeli forces in Lebanon.

The United States has reportedly been pressing Israel to stand firm in its position in Lebanon, arguing that it should pull back the areas evacuated would be filled by Syrian forces and Palestinian terrorists. A pull back would also lessen any incentive for the Syrians to withdraw from Lebanon.

Yesterday, the Lebanese Parliament by an overwhelming majority of 65-2 with four abstentions, ratified the Lebanon-Israel agreement for troop withdrawal from Lebanon and other matters relating to security and normalization between the two nations. But the agreement continues to remain contingent on a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon.

Nevertheless, the Lebanese Parliament vote caused Secretary of State George Shultz to express optimism over the situation in Lebanon while testifying yesterday before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The Lebanese ratification now clears the way for the Lebanese government to exchange ratification documents with Israel, Lebanon's Prime Minister Saad Walid said. The agreement will decide on an "appropriate" date for this exchange with Israel, meanwhile hoping that Syrian opposition to the accord will be dropped.

Meanwhile, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger in response to questions after addressing the National Press Club here yesterday expressed a willingness for the restoration of the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation between the U.S. and Israel. The accord was suspended shortly after being signed in October, 1981 because of U.S. displeasure over Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights. "The revival or restitution of that memorandum could take place at virtually any time depending on the wishes of the Israeli government," Weinberger said.

ATTENTION FOCUSES ON 2 JEWS NAMED TO BRITISH CABINET
By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, June 14 (JTA) — Two young Jewish ministers in Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's new Cabinet are attracting the most attention here since the Conservative's landslide election victory June 9.

Nigel Lawson, 51, is the first Jewish-born Chancellor of the Exchequer since Herbert Samuel held that office in 1916. Samuel went on to become the British High Commissioner in Mandate Palestine. Leon Britton, 43, is the first Jewish Home Secretary since Benjamin Disraeli and the youngest since Sir Winston Churchill. Both are sons of Jewish immigrants from Eastern Europe and typify the breed of successful self-made men whom Thatcher seems to favor. Neither identifies himself closely with the Jewish community however. Both have non-Jewish wives but neither carries his Jewish family background.

Britton is the son of a Lithuanian-born doctor who immigrated to England from Germany in 1927. A Socialist in his youth, he shifted to the Conservative Party during the 1956 Suez Canal crisis because the Labourites supported Egypt. He was educated at Cambridge and at Yale University in the U.S., and practiced law, becoming one of Britain's most successful libel lawyers. He entered Parliament in 1974 and was named a junior minister of the Home Office after Thatcher won her first election in 1979. Less than two years later, Thatcher brought him into her Cabinet as First Secretary to the Treasury.

Britton's older brother, Samuel, is economics correspondent of the Financial Times and is considered England's most influential economic writer.

Lawson also entered Parliament in 1974, was named a junior Treasury Minister in 1979 and later Energy Secretary. His father was a tea merchant whose family came from Latvia. Lawson was educated at Westminster Public School and at Oxford. He began his professional life as a journalist on the Financial Times. Later he was city editor of the Sunday Telegraph and editor of The Spectator, a weekly magazine.

Lawson first entered politics in 1963 as a speech-writer for the Conservative Prime Minister, Sir Alec Douglas-Home. He earned a reputation as one of the country's most forceful and original economic thinkers in the Thatcher Administration. His elevation to head the Treasury was long predicted but came as a surprise nevertheless.

Lawson was married to the former Vanessa Salmon from 1955-1980. They had four children. He has had two more children by his second wife.

PETITION PROTESTS SOVIET GROUP
By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, June 15 (JTA) — Petitions bearing nearly 1,000 signatures were presented at the gates of the Soviet Embassy here this afternoon in the course of the daily vigil for Soviet Jews. But the Embassy refused to accept them and the gates were slammed shut.


The petition, though refused at the Embassy, will be conveyed to the Soviet authorities through Administration channels.

Meanwhile, a group of Jewish leaders headed by Theodore Mann, chairman of the National Conference for Soviet Jewry, met with Secretary of State George Shultz at the State Department late this afternoon to discuss recent developments affecting Jews in the USSR. They presented the Secretary with a report titled "Andropov's Jewish Policy — An Analysis of the New Offensive Against Soviet Jews."

COST-OF-LIVING UP 5.5 PERCENT

TEL AVIV, June 15 (JTA) — The cost of living index rose by 5.5 percent in May, the lowest monthly increase of the past six months, according to figures released by the Central Bureau of Statistics Wednesday. Only last month, the rise was 6.2 percent. The Finance Ministry expressed satisfaction with the decline, but Histadrut Secretary General Yeruham Meshel noted that inflation is currently running at an annual rate of about 140 percent.

CORRECTION: The Daily News Bulletin was incorrectly dated yesterday as Tuesday, June 15. It should have been Wednesday, June 15.
SWISS SHOCKED BY ANNOUNCEMENT
THAT PALESTINIAN MEETING WILL
BE HELD IN GENEVA IN AUGUST
By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, June 15 (JTA) -- The Swiss government and officials at the United Nations were shocked here today to learn that the scheduled conference on Palestinian rights which was forced to cancel a meeting in Paris this August reportedly due to French pressure, will take place here in August.

The conference, which was met with fierce opposition when it was announced that Paris had been chosen as the venue for the August 16-24 meeting, was abandoned by the committee responsible for planning the conclave. The date and location of the conference had been fixed by a General Assembly resolution adopted last December.

But the news of the conference to take place at the UNESCO building, precipitated some reservation from the Swiss government and from police authorities that Geneva was not capable of providing the necessary security for the conference.

Some 1,000 delegates are expected to participate in the conference and Swiss officials have also expressed concern that hotels in the city will be unable to accommodate all the guests.

Security Raises A Problem

Francesca Panetta, head of the UN division at the Swiss Foreign Office, said this morning that the Swiss government expressed certain reservations concerning the meeting taking place in Geneva. Specifically, the problem relates to security.

"During a debate in Parliament earlier this week, Swiss Foreign Minister Pierre Aubers also mentioned the security problems and the fact that there was difficulty finding accommodations in August, the height of the tourist season here. Aubers said however that according to international law, the UN was free to hold any conference and at any time they choose at the UN premises in Geneva."

Minister of Police Guy Fontanet was furious at the news that the meeting would take place here, saying that he had no idea where he would find sufficient security and police force in August to replace all those who were on vacation.

The objection to the meeting in Paris had focused on security problems as the French government had made it clear that it was fearful that such a conclave might touch off anti-Semitic incidents as well as attract terrorists to Paris from all over the Middle East.

UN Mood Gloomy

Meanwhile, at the UN the mood was also gloomy. Many UN officials feared that their summer vacations might be interrupted by the conference. And this opinion was also expressed by the UN press corps that are usually free they will also be forced to cancel their plans for the customary August vacation.

The Minister of Police is scheduled to call a press conference tomorrow to expand on their security concerns and the Jewish community is also expected to file protests.

In New York, the Israeli mission to the United Nations called the scheduled conference an "exercise in PLO propaganda" which will not achieve solving any problems of the Palestinian people.

JONHANNESBURG (JTA) -- Eddy Magid, a city councilman for many years, was recently elected Deputy Mayor of Johannesburg. Magid headed the Revisionist youth movement when he moved to Johannesburg in 1946. He became one of the first South African Jews to join the battle for the new-born Jewish state, serving in Israel's first tank squadron, which he said consisted of only 20 men and two tanks, both now mounted as monuments in Tel Aviv. He returned to South Africa in 1950 and started a political career. When the area in which he lived was incorporated into Greater Johannesburg in 1969, he was elected to the City Council.

ZIONISTS ACCUSED OF COLLABORATING

LONDON, June 15 (JTA) -- Two Jewish members of the recently established "Anti-Zionist Committee of the Jewish Public" clashed at the committee's June 6 press conference in Moscow where it was alleged, among other things, that all Jews desirous of leaving the Soviet Union have already left.

The clash, according to the Institute of Jewish Affairs, the research arm of the World Jewish Congress, was between Samuel Zivs and Yuri Kolesnikov and the subject was not emigration but alleged Zionists collaboration with the Nazis during World War II.

Zivs was questioned at the press conference about "The Class Essence of Zionism," published in Kiev last year by the hardline Soviet propaganda, Lev Korneyev, which alleges widespread collaboration between Zionists and Nazis. Zivs responded that the Committee "will struggle against improper expositions in such booklets that unfortunately do appear."

But Kolesnikov, himself the author of novels on "Zionist-Nazi collaboration" defended Korneyev's work. He claimed that during the war, the Zionists "not only failed to protect their co-religionists but betrayed them, wholly in league with the gestapo and SS." He claimed that Adolf Eichmann was executed by the Israelis to prevent the "sacred secrets" of this collaboration from becoming public.

Jews Blamed For Anti-Semitism

Tony Leman, senior research officer of the IJA, noted that Korneyev's booklet also claims that Zionists and Jews are partly responsible for violent anti-Semitism in Europe from the Czarist pogroms to the Nazi Holocaust the idea that all Jews are citizens of a Jewish nation "automatically puts Jews in the role of a fifth column in any state," and that Zionist agents provoked the Russian and Ukrainian pogroms before World War I in order to increase emigration from the country. According to Leman, Korneyev's latest work denies that six million Jews perished in the Holocaust, indicating that Soviet propagandists are adopting a line that has been pushed up to now only by neo-Nazi and extreme right-wing groups.

Korneyev's booklet, "On the Path of Aggression and Racism," 100,000 copies of which have been published by the Pravda Publishing House in Moscow, says the six-million figure is a two or three fold exaggeration by the Zionists.

Korneyev deliberately misquoted a speech by Chaim Weizmann in 1937 in which the Zionist leader warned that the lives of six million Jews were in danger, Leman said. The writer claims the figure given by Weizmann "became the basis of the legend of the 'total destruction' of the Jews by the Nazis."

Korneyev also claims that most countries in the world did not shut their doors to Jewish refugees before and during the war. It was those countries in which "Zionist" influence was strongest that opposed Jewish immigration, the Soviet propagandist wrote.

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FOCUS ON ISSUES
CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY DEDICATED
TO ISRAEL, FIGHTING ANTI-SEMITISM
By Ben Gallob

(Editor's note: This is another in a series of occasional reports on groups organized by Christian evangelical and fundamentalist churches and individuals in the United States to educate other Christians about the special status, Biblically, of the Jewish people and to raise funds from Christians for Jewish and Israeli causes.)


The ad contained a strong endorsement of Israel's invasion of Lebanon and its declared goal of destroying the PLO. The ad also strongly denounced the ad of the way they felt was anti-Israel reporting by the general media about the Israeli action.

The ad was not placed by any of Keene's estimated 100 Jews. After a series of questions and replies highly favorable to Israel on "What About Civilian Casualties?" and "Why Did Israel Go All the Way to Beirut?" and "Why Did Israel Allow Foreign Reporters to Film and Publish," a headline at the bottom of the ad asked: "Where Do Christians Stand Regarding Support for Israel and Jews Worldwide?"

The replies included this statement: "We are committed to the security of Israel ... We -- constrained by the love of Jesus -- abhor anti-Semitism; mourn the Holocaust; and repent of the Church's silence."

The replies also urged support of American Jewish community efforts for Israel which "should never be made the basis for accusing our Jewish friends of dual loyalty ... we believe that Jews everywhere remain a Chosen People of God and that God blesses those who bless them."

Heads Shalom Fellowship

The ad was sponsored by 12 Christian clergymen, four from Keene, six from nearby towns and two from Vermont churches. One of the Keene signers -- and organizer of the advertisement -- was Rev. Frank Elklor, president of the Shalom Fellowship.

The Shalom Fellowship is one of about 100 Christian-organized projects affiliated with the National Christian Leadership Conference for Israel. They carry on programs of varying degrees of intensity and scope, supporting what they see as Israel's Biblical rights to sovereignty, opposing Israel's and Jewry's secular and religious foes and -- some of them -- staging gatherings to persuade other Christians to agree to their views and to contribute funds to help Israel.

Rev. Elklor, in response to a letter from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, spelled out in detail the development of his decision to dedicate a large part of his life to fighting for Israel and against anti-Semitism, The JTA wrote to Rev. Elklor after getting a letter last February from Gerald Ferman, executive director of the Jewish Federation of the North Shore, which has offices at Marblehead, Mass.

Ferman described Rev. Elklor as the sponsor of a series of five radio mini-series dedicated to building bridges of love with the Jewish people and fighting anti-Semitism. "Ferman enclosed clippings from local newspapers about the Shalom Fellowship."

The minister sent JTA a Shalom Fellowship brochure, carrying a message about the Fellowship's goals of "building bridges of love to the Jew first and also to the whole world," According to the brochure, Elklor was "a Gentile raised in an anti-Semitic home, who later spent 20 years directing a worldwide missionary effort.

In 1979, he and his wife "re-evaluated their motive for reaching out to people ... after observing the Jewish people "either targeted for evangelism or ignored in their pain of 2,000 years of post and present anti-Semitism."

Driven to a study of Jewish history, the brochure reported, Elklor was left aghast at the appalling persecution suffered by Jews from so-called 'Christendom.'

The Elklors then established the Shalom Fellowship, with its first headquarters at a 50-acre site of a former lodge resort near Keene where, according to the brochure, "God showed them step by step how to build bridges of unconditional love to Jews ... and to the Gentiles."

Denouncing extremist-inspired descriptions of the Holocaust as "a Jewish myth" perpetrated by Jews "wanting a restored Zion," the brochure declared: "It is appalling to think of the Jews having to answer such a lie."

Doesn't Require Jews To Accept Christianity

In his letter to the JTA, Rev. Elklor reported that, about five years ago, "I saw my love" for humanity "as a conditional love -- especially toward the Jewish people," Declaring "I have never hidden the fact that I would tell the whole world about what I believe if given the opportunity," Elklor wrote: "However, and this is vital, my standing with the Jewish community and the nation of Israel in no way hinges on a Jewish acceptance of Christ."

He added that he had a staff of around 14 people here in Keene. Each serves sacrificially for room, board and adequate compensation. They are Christians who carry Jewish hearts as I do." A January 10, 1983 report in the Manchester Union-Leader by Nancy Costello, a staff writer, said that "funded entirely by private donations," Elklor "purchased and refurbished the old Palmer Lodge ... north of Keene. As an interdenominational church and conference center, which uses the Star of David as its insignia, the Shalom Fellowship now runs its operation out of 12 buildings, including a chapel, visitors dormitories and conference halls."

The Costello report added that Rev. Elklor "also has spoken at synagogues and colleges around New England and offers more than 36 different taped lectures on topics such as 'How Will God Finally Solve the Palestinian Puzzle?' and 'Answers to Tough Questions on Israel and the Jews.'"

Sought To Rally Christians

After his visit to Lebanon, he made a public statement that "as a Christian, I am going to rally Christians across America and hopefully across the world to stand for Israel and I am going to challenge them to do that unconditionally."

He reported that his taped talks were being heard on stations in ten cities, including Keene, Nashua, Boston, New York City, Lancaster, Pa., Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle and Atlanta. He said the 15-minute broadcasts are aired daily, Monday through Friday.

Asked by the JTA whether the Shalom Fellowship collected funds for Israel and Jewish causes, he replied that "right now, we do not collect funds for Israel because we're trying to collect funds to keep us on radio so we can engender support for Israel." He added that the Fellowship "gives a monthly amount to our North Shore Jewish Federation which helps in Israel."