

TWO MAJOR JEWISH GROUPS MOVE TO HEAL JEWISH-BLACK BREACH THAT DEVELOPED DURING JACKSON'S CAMPAIGN

WASHINGTON, July 19 (JTA) -- Two major American Jewish organizations have moved to heal the breach between Jews and Blacks that developed during Rev. Jesse Jackson's campaign for the Democratic Party's Presidential nomination.

George Kraft, president of B'nai B'rith International, sent a telegram to Jackson yesterday offering a meeting with him "at the earliest possible date" aimed at revitalizing the badly shaken Black-Jewish coalition.

Rabbi Alexander Shapiro of South Orange, N.J., president of the 1,200 member Rabbinical Assembly, the international body of Conservative rabbis, said today that his organization was ready to join with other Jewish organizations in any meeting that was arranged with Jackson and other Black leaders in the near future. He said such a meeting was urgently needed to begin putting Black-Jewish relations "back on the track."

Response To Jackson's Speech

These offers were clearly in response to Jackson's speech to the Democratic national convention in San Francisco Tuesday night in which he appealed for reconciliation and asked forgiveness for remarks that offended Jews.

Jackson said, "If in my low moments, in word, deed or attitude, through error of temper, taste or tone, I have caused anyone discomfort, created pain or revived someone's fear, that was not my trust self. If there were occasions when my grape turned into a raisin and my joy bell lost its resonance, please forgive me. Charge it to my head and not my heart."

In an appearance on the NBC-TV "Meet the Press" program last Sunday, he said that he regretted remarks he may have made that alienated the Jewish community and felt there is a need for "a summit meeting" between Blacks and Jews very soon.

Cites 'Compelling Appeal'

In his telegram to Jackson yesterday, Kraft said the B'nai B'rith "is deeply gratified" by Jackson's "compelling appeal" for the revival of Black-Jewish unity. "We agree that our history together has been blessed with a shared commitment to peace and justice and that we must dedicate ourselves to understanding and mending the hurt and disappointments each side has felt in recent days and years," the B'nai B'rith leader said.

He reminded Jackson that many Jews "have been profoundly distressed" by the divisive events of the campaign. "But we welcome your speech as a first step in a necessary and promising process of reconciliation and healing," Kraft said.

He added: "As Jews and Blacks, we must draw strength from our mutual history and dreams and move on, as you so eloquently said, to a higher ground." Kraft cautioned however that this does not mean that all Jews will agree on all issues that divide them from Blacks. "But we must make every effort to understand and to learn from each other's hopes and experiences."

Shapiro, in urging a meeting of Jews with Jackson and other Black leaders, called for a return to the Black-Jewish partnership of the early '60s when the civil rights movement was in full flower.

"We in the Jewish community remain committed to the ideals and values taught together by Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and are ready to work with members of the Black community in bringing about a closer tie and working relationship in confronting the problems that face us both," he said.

The Conservative rabbi expressed "admiration at the eloquence of Rev. Jackson's speech at the Democratic Party convention. I was particularly moved by his evocation of the spirit of Rabbi Heschel and Dr. King who often worked together on behalf of human rights. The alliance of the past between the Jewish community, with its prophetic tradition of justice and the Black community is still very much alive," Shapiro declared.

"It is hoped that the Rev. Jackson's apology, consistent with the Jewish notion of teshuvah (repentance) will translate into deeds in the days to come, deeds that reject the odious anti-Semitism of Mr. (Black Muslim leader Louis) Farrakhan that remains of deep concern to the Jewish community," Shapiro said.

One Speech Can't Remove The Scars

In another reaction to Jackson's speech, Jacqueline Levine, chairperson of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, said: "We welcome Jesse Jackson's recognition that the intrusion of anti-Semitism in the electoral campaign has indeed been painful. One speech, however impressive and heartening, cannot remove the scars inflicted over the past eight months. We look to the conciliatory spirit of this speech being reflected in the days and weeks ahead in the speeches and actions of Jesse Jackson."

Levine added, "In the meantime, we will continue to work with other Black leaders, nationally and locally, with whom we have long-standing and close relations through our joint efforts in seeking to achieve our common goals of equal rights, justice and opportunity for all Americans."

POLL ASSESSES FATE OF RELIGIOUS PARTIES IN ISRAEL'S ELECTIONS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 19 (JTA) -- The religious parties as a bloc will fare no better and no worse in next Monday's Knesset elections than they have in previous elections, according to most polls published to date. But the traditional religious factions may be overshadowed this time by the newly formed Shas party, a Sephardic list backed by former Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, which could play a pivotal role in the formation of the next governing coalition.

Shas--an acronym for the Hebrew words "Sephardi Torah Guardians"-- will win at least three Knesset mandates and possibly more, according to a poll published by the religious weekly, Erev Shabbat. The survey covered about 5,000 voters in 22 religious neighborhoods and townships where the Orthodox political parties derive the bulk of their support.

According to the poll, the Agudat Israel Party's four mandates in the present Knesset will be reduced to three. The more moderate National Religious Party with five seats, will suffer a loss of two to three.

Morasha, an NRP-Emunim-Poalei Aguda Israel breakaway faction, will win three mandates. But the Tami party, headed by former Welfare Minister Aharon Abu-Hatzeira, with three seats in the present Knesset, will be fortunate if it polls enough votes for one in the next, the poll showed.

This predicted shakeup in the religious sector means that whichever major party forms the next government will have to deal with Shas. Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres admitted in an interview this week that other leading Laborites "may have" contacted Shas on his behalf to propose coalition cooperation after the elections. Peres said he himself had made no overtures.

Peres was responding to the claim by Shas leader Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz that "Peres has offered me the Ministry of Religions in a Labor-led coalition" and that he had "rejected" the offer.

The feeling in Labor circles is that the fact Peretz saw fit to make the statement signified that he may eventually accept an offer to join a Labor-led government and was preparing opinion within his faction for such a development.

Moreover, Rabbi Ovadia Yosef former Chief Sephardic Rabbi and the spiritual mentor of Shas, is a political "dove" and more likely to join with Labor than are the other religious parties.

Tami, which can be classified as religious -- Abu Hatzeira was Minister for Religious Affairs in the first Likud-led government formed in 1977 -- would seem to prefer Labor to Likud. But Tami is on the verge of dissolution if the polls are correct.

Problem Facing Labor If It Wins

The polls also show that while Labor is ahead of Likud--the margin varies almost from day to day--it is not likely to win sufficient Knesset mandates to form a government on its own or with one or two ideologically compatible allies.

Peres said in his interview that he wanted to include some of the religious parties in a broad-based coalition encompassing the leftist Shinui and the Civil Rights Movement.

A wildcard in the elections is former Defense Minister Ezer Weizman's new Yahad Party whose performance in the polls has varied widely. Yahad is more compatible with Labor than with Likud and according to some polls, a Labor-Yahad-Shinui-CRM coalition is within the realm of possibility.

Peres is on record as opposed to a Labor-Likud national unity government, an idea repeatedly raised by Premier Yitzhak Shamir. Shamir said in his own interview this week that a unity government was in the "national interest." Significantly, he indicated that he would be agreeable to joining a Labor-led unity government in which a Laborite, presumably Peres, would be Prime Minister. In the past, Shamir has spoken of a unity government headed by Likud, but according to the polls that is unlikely.

Shamir has argued that a national unity government alone could deal with Israel's urgent economic crisis, keeping disputed foreign policy issues in abeyance. But Peres said this is not possible because Labor and Likud differ sharply on such key economic matters as the cost of keeping the Israel Defense Force in Lebanon and the heavy expenditures on settlements in the occupied territories.

JEWISH TERRORIST SENTENCED

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 19 (JTA) -- Yehuda Cohen, one of 27 indicted members of a Jewish terrorist

underground, was sentenced today to three-and-a-half years in prison for his part in a conspiracy to blow up Islamic shrines on the Temple Mount.

Cohen, who confessed to the conspiracy charge, will serve 18 months in jail. Two years of his sentence were suspended by Judge Ezra Hadaya of the Jerusalem District Court who called the offense "shockingly grave" and a threat to public peace and safety.

In pronouncing sentence, Hadaya said: "This offense was committed because of an extreme and fanatic ideological motive and because of belief that the end justifies the means." Cohen, 25, one of the few terrorist suspects released on bail, said he would appeal his sentence to the Supreme Court.

Two Suspected Terrorists On Wanted List

Meanwhile, the police have posted "wanted" notices for two suspected members of the terrorist underground still at large. They are Ira Rappaport, a Gush Emunim emissary to the United States, and Yossi Indor of the West Bank settlement of Ofra.

Indor is believed hiding out in Israel. Rappaport is said to be in the U.S. but his associates in New York disclaim knowledge of his whereabouts. The Jerusalem Post reported today that the Israeli police have asked the FBI for help in tracking him down.

Twenty-two of the indicted suspects pleaded not guilty when their trial opened on June 17. It was suspended after two weeks, to be resumed in September when the court reconvenes after summer recess. In an unrelated case, a Tel Aviv district court today released on bail Ephraim Siegal, a Jewish settler on the West Bank suspected of murdering an 11 year-old Arab girl in Nablus last year. He is barred from entering Nablus.

SHUT-DOWN OF ISRAEL'S LIAISON OFFICE IN LEBANON IS IMMINENT

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 19 (JTA) -- Israeli officials are expecting momentarily formal notification from the Lebanese government that it is shutting down the "Liaison Commission", the quasi-diplomatic mission Israel has maintained at Dbaiyah, 10 miles north of Beirut, since shortly after its invasion of Lebanon in June, 1982.

The Commission was widely regarded as the forerunner of formal Israeli diplomatic representation in Lebanon, fortified by the withdrawal and security agreement signed by Lebanon and Israel on March 17, 1983. But when President Amin Gemayal officially abrogated the pact last March, the Commission's legal status became uncertain as did its future.

According to reports from Beirut, the Lebanese government ordered the mission closed at a Cabinet meeting yesterday, presided over by Prime Minister Rashid Karami. Karami instructed Defense Minister Adel Osseiran to withdraw all Lebanese personnel from the mission. Israeli officials said today that the long rumored shut-down now appears to be "for real."

They said that while not surprised they were concerned over how Israel can maintain contacts with Lebanese officials in the future. Such contacts are important in the context of Israel's eventual withdrawal from south Lebanon, they said.

(In Washington, the State Department said today that it has no confirmation of reports that Israel has been notified that it has to close its liaison office in Lebanon. But Department spokesman Alan Romberg said, "If those reports are true, this would be regrettable. The liaison office in Dbaiyah provides a useful

mechanism for communication between the governments of Lebanon and Israel and for solving practical problems which we have constantly urged.")

NEW FRENCH GOVERNMENT EXPECTED TO ADOPT STRONGER PRO-ISRAEL STANCE THAN ITS PREDECESSOR

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, July 19 (JTA) -- The Socialist government of Premier Laurent Fabius, no longer tethered to the Communist Party which was part of the coalition headed by former Premier Pierre Mauroy, is expected to adopt a stronger pro-Israel stance than its predecessor, diplomatic observers said here today.

Although foreign policy is the exclusive province of the President under the French Constitution, President Francois Mitterrand had been forced to take Communist opinion into consideration when he formulated it in the past.

"Now, with the Communists gone, the President will have an even freer hand in pursuing a strong pro-Western Atlantic line in Europe and the Middle East," the observers said. Mitterrand named Fabius to succeed Mauroy after the latter's sudden resignation this week and the Cabinet has been reshuffled.

Among the four Communist ministers dropped was Charles Fitterman, Minister of Transport, who was born in Lille, the son of Jewish immigrant parents from Poland. He is slated to replace Georges Marchais as Secretary General of France's Communist Party.

Fabius has reappointed another Jew who held a senior Cabinet post in the Mauroy government, Justice Minister Robert Badinter. Gaston Deferre, a non-Jew but a warm friend of Israel, lost his portfolio of Minister of Interior but remains a Minister of State and is the highest ranking Cabinet member after the Prime Minister. Minister of Culture Jack Lang, who is Jewish, is expected to keep his post which is classified as a junior ministry.

Fabius himself is of Jewish origin. His father, who runs one of Paris' most fashionable art and antiquities gallery, converted to Catholicism before the 37-year-old Premier-to-be was born. But Jewish sources here stressed today that his mother never converted and according to halachic interpretation, Fabius is and remains a Jew. His wife is Jewish and his children are considered Jewish according to Jewish law.

LIKUD'S PRE-ELECTION RALLY DRAWS BETWEEN 50,000-80,000 PEOPLE

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 19 (JTA) -- Likud held a mass pre-election rally in the square outside the town hall last night. It drew between 50,000-80,000 people, all Likud enthusiasts. But the man whose appearance was most devoutly hoped for and eagerly anticipated -- former Premier Menachem Begin -- did not show up. Yet each mention of his name drew wild cheers.

Likud activists had been hinting all week that Begin would break his self-imposed seclusion to rally the party to victory in next Monday's Knesset elections. But the former Premier, who has shunned public appearances since his retirement nearly a year ago, did not even send a message.

Two of his surrogates drew thunderous applause, Deputy Premier David Levy and former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon. They were greeted with chants of "David, King of Israel" and "Arik, Arik, Arik, King of Israel," respectively. "Arik" is Sharon's

nickname. The speakers were chiefly from the Herut wing of Likud. The absence of leaders of its Liberal Party wing was explained as "due to other appearances elsewhere." All speakers heaped scorn on the Labor Alignment and the name of Shimon Peres was roundly jeered.

Nevertheless, Premier Yitzhak Shamir repeated his offer of a Labor-Likud national unity government. Peres has rejected the idea, Shamir charged, because he is more interested in the good of his party than the good of the country.

The Likud turn-out last night was poor compared to the 400,000 people who packed the same square two years ago at a Peace Now demonstration demanding an investigation of the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps massacre.

NEW SETTLEMENT INAUGURATED

JERUSALEM, July 19 (JTA) -- A new settlement was inaugurated at Itzhar, southeast of Nablus yesterday, the third on the West Bank since Sunday in the Likud government's drive to establish as many settlements as possible in the occupied territories before next Monday's Knesset elections.

Itzhar had been a military outpost. Inauguration of another settlement nearby was cancelled, apparently because it was not ready to receive civilian settlers. But ceremonies are planned tomorrow for a settlement at Hagai, south of Hebron. Three new settlements will be dedicated in the Gaza Strip Sunday, climaxing the latest drive.

GREEN PARTY DELEGATION IN ISRAEL

By David Kantor

BONN, July 19 (JTA) -- The Green Party, a minority opposition faction in the Bundestag with a record of hostility toward Israel, has sent a delegation to Israel for a five-day visit at the invitation of the Progressive List For Peace, a new coalition of Israeli Arabs and Jews that will participate in the Knesset elections next Monday.

The delegation was due in Israel today and will remain there until election day, July 23. A statement issued by the party here praised the Progressive List for Peace as an historic movement promoting Jewish-Arab understanding. Its platform calls for the creation of a Palestinian state alongside an Israel reduced to its pre-June, 1967 borders.

The Green delegation is headed by Otto Schily, a member of Parliament who practiced law before he entered politics. He is well known in West Germany for his defense of several members of German urban guerrilla movements when they were brought to trial.

The Green Party is composed largely of environmentalists and pacifists. Early in his career it helped circulate a calendar with anti-Semitic slogans. During the war in Lebanon party spokesmen publicly equated Israelis with Nazis. They also demanded that reparations monies paid to Jewish victims of Nazism be diverted to help Palestinians who suffered alleged Israeli "genocide."

More recently, the party has backed away from such extreme positions and takes a more moderate line toward Israel.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- A back-to-work order by the Health Ministry ended the strike Wednesday of some 800 employees of the Magen David Adom, Israel's counterpart of the Red Cross. They had walked off the job in a wage dispute with the result that ambulance service was suspended, including mobile intensive care units for heart attack victims, and blood banks at MDA centers were closed.

At The Democratic Party Convention: TWO AMERICANS LIVING IN ISRAEL AMONG THE CONVENTION DELEGATES

By David Friedman

SAN FRANCISCO, July 19 (JTA) -- Two Americans living in Israel are among the 3,944 delegates to the Democratic national convention at the Moscone Center here.

Shirley Olman, who has been living in Jerusalem for the last years, and David Froelich, an Ashdod school teacher, each have a half vote as part of the eight-member Democrats abroad delegation. They were chosen by Americans living in 37 countries in a unique Presidential postal primary which ran from February 11 until "Super Tuesday" March 13.

Both Froelich, who is chairman of Democrats Abroad in Israel, and Olman are active in pursuing the particular interests of Democrats abroad, particularly making it easier for overseas Americans to register and vote.

In separate interviews with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, both noted that because of the slowness of the mails, the present system of having to register by mail and then vote by mail provided difficulties and discouraged many Americans living overseas from voting.

Working To Get Americans in Israel To Vote

But they are also interested in getting the 62,000 Americans living in Israel to vote. Froelich said that Democrats abroad have about 1,000 active members in Israel and they will seek to get out the vote. Worldwide, there are an estimated two million Americans living overseas. Olman noted that the Democratic group has helped a Republican body get started because of its belief that voting is important.

Olman, who is from Washington, D.C., came to Israel for six months to do research and now believes she may stay. Froelich, who made aliya to Israel in 1973, was born in Germany and escaped to the United States with his family via Holland in 1939. He lived in St. Louis and Brooklyn, N.Y. before moving to Israel.

Froelich participated in the 1980 Democratic convention in New York with Democrats abroad as a page and participated in the mini-convention in Philadelphia two years ago. He noted that many Americans who have settled in Israel do not participate in the U.S. elections but instead concentrate on the Israeli contests. "My own wife and daughter are only participating because of my interest," he said.

But Froelich said he believes that "as an American citizen I can help Israel" by counteracting what he called the pro-Arab influence of the State Department. He feels that by voting American, Jews in Israel can help influence the White House.

Both Wants Democrats To Win

While both Olman and Froelich were elected as uncommitted delegates, both want the Democratic candidate to win. Froelich said he does not consider President Reagan a friend of Israel, noting particularly his September 1, 1982 Mideast proposal which Froelich called "not very realistic."

But he is not a hawk and stresses he would like to see negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors, without any preconditions. "That's what Egypt did," he said. "Someday I hope other Arab states will see the light."

Froelich, who is an observant Jew and wears a kippah, said he is frequently stopped and asked about it, more by Jews than non-Jews. He said once he

moved to Israel he decided to wear it always as a "mark of pride." His only complaint: "I have been in many cities, but this is the worst town for finding kosher food. I started the nine days early," a reference to the nine days before Tisha B'av when observant Jews do not eat meat.

BRONFMAN ELECTED TO JTA BOARD; FOX IS RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT

NEW YORK, July 19 (JTA) -- Edgar Bronfman, president of the World Jewish Congress, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, it was announced by Martin Fox who was re-elected for a sixth one-year term as president of the JTA. Fox also announced the election of the following, as officers of the JTA for a one-year term:

William Landau as chairman of the Board; Robert Arnov as chairman of the Executive Committee; Raymond Epstein, Ben Zion Leuchter, Melvin Swig, and Marshall Weinberg as vice presidents; Julius Berman as secretary; and William Frost as treasurer.

Bronfman, president and chief executive officer of Joseph Seagrams & Sons, Inc., has long been involved in Jewish affairs. In addition to his involvement with the WJCongress, he is on the governing boards of the American Technion Society, American Jewish Congress, American Jewish Committee, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, United Jewish Appeal, Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of Greater New York, and is a trustee of Mt. Sinai Hospital. Bronfman is also active in numerous civic, political and philanthropic affairs.

The elections were held at the annual meeting of the JTA Board of Directors last month in New York.

EDGAR MAGNIN DEAD AT 94

LOS ANGELES, July 19 (JTA) -- Services will be held tomorrow at the Wilshire Boulevard Temple for Rabbi Edgar Magnin in the synagogue whose congregation he helped expand from 400 families in 1929 to 2,500 now. Magnin, a leading Reform rabbi for decades, died Tuesday at the age of 94.

A native of San Francisco, Magnin became rabbi of Congregation B'nai B'rith in Los Angeles in 1915, remaining with the congregation when it moved to the Wilshire Boulevard Temple in 1929.

He received many "Man of the Year" awards and honorary doctorates of law and theology. He was a founder of the National Council of Alcoholism and delivered the prayer at the 1969 inauguration of President Nixon.

Magnin was founding president of the College of Jewish Studies which later became the Rhea Hirsch School of Education of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the Reform higher education institution.

Los Angeles City and County and the State of California dedicated the block of the Temple as "Edgar F. Magnin Square" in May, 1980. He was rabbi of the Temple at his death.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- A practice mobilization of reservists was conducted in Israel Monday, three days after it was announced that the exercise would be held. Code words broadcast by radio alerted soldiers to report to their units. The call-up involved men and vehicles.