

LIKUD AND LABOR ARE SEEKING POSSIBLE COALITION PARTNERS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 25 (JTA) — Likud and the Labor Alignment, both denied a clear-cut mandate by the voters in Monday's Knesset elections, are seeking possible coalition partners among the small parties with which, in various combinations, they could conceivably form a viable government.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres were each engaged in consultations throughout the day with various faction leaders. Shamir met separately in his Jerusalem office with Yosef Burg, of the National Religious Party, Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz, head of the new religious faction, Shas, and with the leaders of Tehiya, Morasha and the Aguda Israel.

Both Labor and Likud are ardently wooing former Defense Minister Ezer Weizman whose new Yahad Party emerged from the elections with three Knesset seats. Weizman had a lengthy meeting with Peres yesterday and lunched today with Likud's No. 2 man, Deputy Premier David Levy. He announced last night that he favored a national unity government, headed by "the largest faction" which, as of today, appears to be Labor.

The vote count so far gives Labor 45 Knesset mandates to 41 for Likud. But the final returns will not be in until late tomorrow when the soldiers' vote is announced. Likud clearly hopes that those results will give it at least one additional seat and one for its ally, the ultra-nationalist Tehiya Party, at the expense of Labor or one of Labor's allies.

In that event, Likud could put together a very narrow coalition without the support of Weizman. It would also be in a better position to head a national unity government if such should emerge.

ELECTION RESULTS ARE DISAPPOINTING TO WEST BANK ARAB LEADERS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 25 (JTA) — West Bank Arab leaders are disappointed by the inconclusive results of Israel's elections. While most of them had taken an aloof attitude, maintaining that there is little difference between Labor and Likud as far as Palestinians are concerned, it was clear today that a Labor victory had been hoped for to ease the tense atmosphere in the territory and perhaps increase chances for a political settlement.

Mayor Elias Freij of Bethlehem, one of the few West Bank leaders who had publicly expressed his hope for a Labor victory before the elections, said today that he was not only disappointed but depressed.

"There is not much hope now for the residents of the occupied territories," he said. He was seriously disturbed by the election of Rabbi Meir Kahane to the Knesset which he described as "a dangerous and ugly" phenomenon. According to Freij, "Kahane is a racist, calling for the expulsion of Arabs from the land where they have lived for centuries. How could that happen?" he asked.

Freij expressed some satisfaction with the success of the Arab-Jewish Progressive List for Peace, a new faction which won two Knesset seats in its first try

for parliament. But Al Quds, the leading Arabic daily in East Jerusalem, observed today that no government that may emerge from the elections would be strong or stable enough to take bold decisions.

The leftist Arabic daily A-Shaab said the elections gave the government a mandate to continue the "policy of repression" in the territories. One of its editors told the Israeli daily Haaretz, "We now fear for the fate of our holy places, especially the Al Aksa mosque and the Tomb of the Patriarchs after the rise of extreme fanatics in Israel, particularly Kahane's party."

Bashir Barghuti, leader of the Communist Party on the West Bank, said the election results showed that Israel was suffering a deep ideological, political and economic crisis. It also showed, according to Barghuti that there is hardly any interest among the Israeli public to seek a solution of the Middle East conflict.

REACTIONS IN THE ARAB WORLD TO THE ELECTIONS IN ISRAEL

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, July 25 (JTA) — The Arab world appeared today to take an almost perverse satisfaction in the failure of the Israeli elections to give a clear-cut victory to either Labor or Likud.

A survey of the Arabic press and reports by the French media from Arab capitals indicated a degree of relief that the Labor Party, widely assumed to be more amenable to compromise than its rival, was not given a mandate to form the next government.

This attitude was especially strong in Syria where the French press quoted officials as saying that the election of Labor Party leader Shimon Peres to be Prime Minister probably would have given new impetus to the Reagan "peace plan" of September 1, 1982 which excluded Syria. It would have resulted, these sources said, in a new American attempt to push Israel and Jordan into negotiations from which Syria would be excluded.

Good News To Damascus

French news reports from Damascus said the Syrians also believe that Labor's "defeat" will keep Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat from reaching agreement with King Hussein of Jordan for joint negotiations with Israel. The Likud government's pre-election pledge not to return an inch of territory will prevent the PLO and Jordan from adopting any joint stand on the West Bank, Syrian sources said.

This apparently is all to the good from Damascus' point of view. The Syrian news agency stressed today that "no solution to the Middle East crisis can be found without active Syrian participation."

The closest thing to an official Syrian reaction to the Israeli elections came from Foreign Minister Faruk Al Shareh who said the results "reflect the Israeli moral crisis, itself a result of the bellicose policy pursued by the (Likud) government in Lebanon and elsewhere."

The French News Agency, Agence France Presse, said that Jordan is relieved by Labor's failure because the election of Peres would have meant a new Israeli initiative based on "the Jordanian option." Amman considers this "a dangerous trap," according to the AFP. But the Jordanians fear nevertheless that continuation of a Likud administration would mean even more intensive Israeli colonization of the West Bank.

In Lebanon, government sources declined official comment on the election results because "Israel is too near and too powerful for us to speak out on any Israeli internal issue." But officials in Beirut were quoted as warning the Lebanese media not to believe that a Labor-led Israeli government would be an easier negotiating partner than the Likud-led regime.

These attitudes contrasted sharply with the disappointment openly expressed by Palestinian leaders on the West Bank that Labor failed to win the election. (See separate story, P.1.)

Caution In Cairo

In Cairo, Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid called on Israel's next government "to take immediate steps to end the occupation of Lebanon and other Arab territories and to start negotiations for a just solution to the Palestinian problem in all its aspects."

Egyptian officials refused to say publicly whether they preferred a Labor or Likud government. Privately, they professed not to care one way or the other. "It is all the same to us," one official was quoted as saying.

The Cairo daily Al Ghomurya said that the "only winner in (the Israeli) elections is Israeli intransigence." The daily Al Ahram predicted that "nothing will move (in the Middle East) until after the American Presidential elections."

NEW ECONOMIC MEASURES UNDERTAKEN

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 25 (JTA) — The Treasury slapped a 15 percent tax on foreign currency purchases by Israelis travelling abroad last night and banned the transfer of foreign currencies by Israelis to relatives or friends abroad. But there was no new devaluation of the Shekel, as had been widely expected.

Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad said at a press conference that the new measures were intended to stop the drain of foreign currency from the country by closing loopholes in existing regulations. The Finance Ministry estimates that Israelis will spend about \$1.6 billion on foreign vacations this year.

The tax is equivalent to the value added tax (VAT) currently paid by Israelis on goods and services at home. It applies to the payment in Dollars or other hard currencies for hotel accommodations and travel abroad arranged by travel agents in Israel for cash or by credit cards. There is no additional tax however on air, sea or bus tickets.

Travel agents who are responsible for collecting the tax said today that they were waiting for instructions from the Treasury on how to handle the technical details. In many cases, travellers paid for their trips well in advance and in other cases travellers have already returned but have not yet been billed.

The Treasury also rescinded the rule that allowed Israelis to send "gifts" to relatives or friends abroad up to \$2,000 or its equivalent in other foreign currencies.

Merchants who pay in advance for foreign goods or services to be delivered at a future date will be subjected to the foreign currency tax. Henceforth, only goods paid for through banks against bills of lading and letters of credit will be tax free.

The new regulations were announced after a day of closed-door consultations between Treasury and

Bank of Israel officials. The central bank acted swiftly to prevent panic buying of Dollars yesterday by ordering commercial banks to halt all foreign currency transactions.

Rumors that the Shekel was about to be devalued again after dropping by about 14 percent since the beginning of the month caused the black market rate to soar yesterday from 310 to 370 Shekels to the Dollar. The official rate was 265-\$1. But the rumors proved false. The official exchange rate posted this morning was 269.56 Shekels to \$1, a drop of only 1.5 percent. The black market rate promptly plunged to 235-\$1.

Cohen-Orgad said at his press conference that the Treasury's actions were urgent and could not await the formation of a new government. The inconclusive results of Monday's Knesset elections make it likely that weeks or possibly months will pass before there is a new government. In the mean time, Cohen-Orgad said, all-out war must be waged against inflation.

RABBI GEORGE LIEBERMAN DEAD AT 74

NEW YORK, July 25 (JTA) — Funeral services were held today for Rabbi George Lieberman, rabbi emeritus of the Central Synagogue of Nassau County and a leading activist on behalf of Soviet Jewry, who died of cancer Monday at Southampton Hospital on Long Island. He was 74 years old.

Lieberman was the first chairman of the Central Conference of American Rabbis' Committee on Soviet Jewry, and participated in CCAR rabbinic missions to the Soviet Union in 1956 and 1966. He requested in 1956 that officials of the Russian Academy of Science provide their assistance to Russian and American scholars.

Lieberman was a former president of the Association of Reform Rabbis of New York, and a member of the North American Board of the World Union of Progressive Judaism. He was spiritual leader of the Central Synagogue of Nassau County in Rockville Centre from 1954 until his retirement in 1979. He moved to Southampton in 1979.

Lieberman emigrated when he was about 12 to the United States from Wysoke-Litovsk, a Polish village that is now part of the Soviet Union. He graduated from Western Reserve University in Cleveland in 1930 and was ordained by the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati in 1938. He received a doctorate from the West Virginia Wesleyan University in 1941.

JEWISH STUDENTS STAGE HUNGER STRIKE AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, July 25 (JTA) — A small group of students staged a hunger strike across the street from the Soviet Embassy yesterday to express solidarity with 100 people on a similar strike in Riga and Leningrad to protest the three-year prison term given to Zakhar Zushain recently for "anti-Soviet propaganda."

Those fasting (but not abstaining from water due to extreme heat) from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. were Philip Machlin, U.S. chairman of the North American Jewish Students Network; Moshe Ronen, North American president of the Network; and Craig Zetley, national co-chairman of the National Jewish Law Students Network. They were joined in their vigil by Baruch Tegene, an Ethiopian Jew who now lives in Montreal, and Shlomit Shalom, an Israeli swimmer who was a member of the Israeli Olympic team at the Olympic Games in Munich in 1972. The chairman of the World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS), David Makovsky,

has just begun a three-day hunger strike at the Western Wall in Jerusalem. Makovsky had invited Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Labor Party leader Shimon Peres to participate in the strike at the wall. They declined because of the elections; however, they both sent him telegrams saying they had contacted the Soviet Union about Zushain and giving Makovsky their support.

Simultaneous one-day strikes were held by students of the Network all over the world — in Leningrad and Riga and affiliates of the WUJS in Israel, Europe, Australia, South America, South Africa and Canada.

The demonstrators in yesterday's event in Washington began their protest by displaying placards. However, six D.C. police officers told them they would have to stand two blocks away unless they removed their placards. The group then disposed of their signs and regrouped across the street from the Embassy where a daily vigil has been held for many years. They were joined after noon by the daily group.

One non-Jewish visitor to the Soviet Embassy carried in one of the protestors' news releases, and it was not returned. As a rule, the Soviets do not accept any written matter from the protestors and rarely is a demonstrator admitted to the Embassy.

Shalom's visit to Washington is part of a trip organized by the WUJS to commemorate the deaths of 11 Israeli athletes in Munich in 1972, and "to bring home to America and Canada the impact of the massacre on the media and the worldwide television audience," according to a spokesman.

Shalom will take part in an all-night vigil to be held on the evening of July 26 at Queens Park in Toronto, commemorating the Munich massacre. She will then go to the Olympic Games in Los Angeles where the memorial program will be jointly sponsored by the Simon Wiesenthal Center, and it is hoped that many of the Israeli athletes participating in the Olympics will be able to participate. After the Olympics, she will take part in another program in Vancouver.

CONGRESSIONAL AIDES TOLD ABOUT PLIGHT OF JEWS IN ETHIOPIA

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, July 25 (JTA) — Baruch Tegene, an Ethiopian Jew who has rescued over 50 of his fellow Falashas and brought them to Israel, gave a group of Congressional aides an update yesterday afternoon on the dire circumstances of the Falashas inside Ethiopia as well as those inside the refugee camps in Sudan.

The meeting was sponsored and attended by leaders of the North American Jewish Students Network and the National Jewish Law Students Network.

Moshe Ronen, president of NAJSN, was spokesman.

Tegene stressed that inside Ethiopia most of the young men are gone from the villages, leaving only women, children and old men to fend against famine and government oppression.

Inside the camps, the 9,000 to 10,000 refugees who fled Ethiopia leaving behind all their property in the hope of getting to Israel, are beset with problems of hunger, polluted water, and prejudice of their Christian and Moslem neighbors in the camps. Tegene said the refugees had to go great distances to obtain water which is badly polluted, resulting in diarrhea which kills many children.

The young Jewish leaders, rested after a six hour fast in front of the Soviet Embassy earlier in the day in behalf of Soviet Jewish Prisoner of Conscience, Zakhar Zushain, discussed steps Congress could take in working with the Sudanese government to obtain the release of the Falashas.

There is the possibility that as many as 20 a week could be released for family reunification with relatives already in Israel, and a similar number for medical reasons, the young Jews said.

The Congressional aides suggested that the student leaders confer with M. Peter McPherson, head of AID, to help speed up food assistance for the refugee camp. The hope was expressed by the leaders that now, after the election in Israel, the Israeli government will show greater interest in rescuing and settling many more Falashas in Israel.

HOUSE PASSES EQUAL ACCESS BILL

WASHINGTON, July 25 (JTA) — A Senate-approved bill permitting religious groups to hold meetings in public schools, which has been bitterly opposed by Jewish organizations, was approved by the House today and sent to President Reagan for his virtually certain signature.

The measure, known as the equal access bill, was one of six President Reagan listed at a press conference last night as legislation on which he wanted House approval before the solons leave to start campaigning for House seats next month.

The bill was passed by the House by a vote of 337-77. It has been dubbed the equal access bill because it would give religious groups the same right to use public school facilities as is now extended to non-religious groups. The Senate passed the bill in June. Under a parliamentary maneuver which would have assured prompt action by the House but only by a two-thirds majority, the Senate-approved measure lost in the House, though it had majority support.

Jewish and other agencies, which have spoken out against the measure, said it would open the way for religious cults to use public schools for their proselytizing. They have also cited court decisions — federal, state and municipal — declaring use of public schools by religious groups unconstitutional. The bill gives municipal authorities the right to decide which groups can use school facilities. The American Jewish Congress, one of several Jewish agencies in opposition, denounced the House vote of approval and said it would take the issue to the courts on constitutional grounds.

ARGENTINE DANCE COMPANY STAGES 'ANNE FRANK' PRODUCTION

BUENOS AIRES, July 25 (JTA) — A production piece entitled "Anne Frank" is part of the repertoire of the Contemporary Dance Group currently appearing here in the General San Martin Municipal theater, the World Jewish Congress reported today.

According to the Latin American branch of the WJC, "Anne Frank" is a moving transcription for dance of the tragedy of the Jewish people as narrated in the famous diary. Mauricio Wainrot, the director of the dance ensemble, explained in the program: "The voice of Anne is that of all of us who love and respect the sacred gift of life above everything. This work is dedicated to all the martyrs and survivors of all genocides."

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Over 400 students from about 30 countries — including such places as Iceland, Finland, Mexico, Thailand, Korea, Japan and Trinidad, in addition to the major Western countries — are attending the first semester of this year's summer courses program at the Rothberg School for Overseas Students of the Hebrew University. Another 330 are expected for the second semester in August.

Included among the students are Jewish, Protestant and Catholic clergymen, college professors, teachers, social workers and people from a number of other professions and occupations.

Olympic Profile:

ARIE SELINGER -- U.S. WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL COACH
By Sol Marshall

LOS ANGELES, July 25 (JTA) -- The Olympic Development Program, created by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), was underway in the early 1970's, and in 1975 it began to make a change in women's volleyball. After a slow start, because there were no professional volleyball coaches in America, the USOC turned to a professional from Israel who happened to be available because he was studying for a doctorate at the University of Illinois.

Arie Selinger is a tough man, made so by his early life. He had coached tough men and women in Israel, and he applied the same methods and demanded the same results when he was put in charge of the United States women's volleyball program. "We hate him on the court and love him after practice," said one player, backing away so the reporter couldn't see her name on the back of her warmup suit.

Within four years he brought the U.S. up from a possible 16th to 20th ranking worldwide to a position in the top ten. His team was working hard, first located at the Houston suburb of Pasadena, Texas, and then the Olympic Training Center at Colorado Springs. The squad qualified for the 1980 Moscow Games, but fell apart when the U.S. boycotted the Olympics.

Half the team left, but Selinger worked with the rest, rebuilding and working. The spirit of the team rose when the team was moved to Orange County, Calif. In the past three years, the Americans have won their share of international meets, defeating the Japanese and Chinese as much as losing to them, and earning a substantial edge over other national teams that they have met -- many of them in their home courts.

Experienced observers are betting that the Americans will win a medal, and some of them see a gold shen on it.

A Holocaust Survivor

Selinger was born in 1937 in the Krakow ghetto of Poland. His family hid out in the woods for two years during World War II, but were finally captured and sent to Bergen-Belsen, spending three years at that concentration camp.

In 1945 they were on a train to Auschwitz which broke down. While being herded along a road, the column was captured by Americans, who liberated the prisoners. Selinger's mother remained in Poland, seeking her husband, while the eight-year-old Arie was able to go to Palestine through the American Red Cross.

He first took up track at Kibbutz Ein Hamisratz, but changed to volleyball in 1952. He moved up quickly, first as a player on the national team from 1955 to 1961 then as coach of his club team from 1961 to 1969, and coach of the national women's team from 1965 to 1969.

As a player he participated in the 1956 World Meet, and in the 1957 and 1961 Maccabiah Games. The Israeli teams finished second to Brazil both years. His national women's team finished seventh in the 1967 World Meet.

His experiences as a youngster in the woods of Poland, combined with life on the kibbutz, have hardened Selinger. "I may be demanding," he says. "But I only demand what I know can be accomplished." His training schedule is probably as grueling as any in the world -- men's or women's -- but he feels

that he is not asking too much of his players. They are dedicated to the goal of a gold medal as much as he is, he believes, and they are all working together to achieve that goal.

Olympic Profile:

DOUGLAS BEAL -- U.S. MEN'S VOLLEYBALL COACH
By Sol Marshall

LOS ANGELES, July 25 (JTA) -- If dedication, motivation and teamwork mean anything, the United States men's volleyball team will win a gold medal at the 1984 Olympic Games. Other national teams have some degree of these elements in the past, but none as much as the current edition. Experts on the international volleyball scene believe that the Americans have a good chance to do so, and they give credit to Doug Beal, now in his eighth year as head coach.

Although volleyball was created in America, other countries took a more professional attitude towards the sport, and soon they pulled ahead of the United States.

For a long time, coaches of national champions were appointed as coaches of national teams, which were made up mostly of their own players. They would work out together for a while, then take off as little time as possible from their jobs, and compete in international tournaments with no real idea of what the world out there looked like.

The United States Olympic Committee (USOC) took a more serious position after the 1964 and 1968 Olympics. The U.S. did not qualify for either the 1972, 1976 or 1980 Olympics. Until 1976 full-time or part time coaches were men who were on leaves of absence from college teaching positions. At that time they turned to Beal, who determined that he wanted to take the U.S. to the top position that it deserved.

A Zeal For Volleyball

Beal was born and raised in Cleveland, where his family was affiliated with The Temple. He played volleyball in junior and senior high school (Shaker Heights), and then went on to Hobart College where he played basketball, because volleyball was not a major sport.

After two years he transferred to Ohio State University (OSU), to pursue his interest in physical education and his zeal for volleyball. He played there in 1967 and 1969, captaining the team his last year, when it won the Midwestern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association title and finished fourth in the NCAA national meet. He also was a key player with the United States team in the Maccabiah Games that year.

In 1970 and 1971 Beal coached at Bowling Green, then returned to coach at OSU for three years. His team consistently won MIVA titles and he was Coach of the Year in 1972 and 1973. He played on the national teams from 1970 to 1976, during which time he was the Most Valuable Player for the national open championship Chart House team in 1975.

While on the national team Beal became the most experienced international player in U.S. ranks. His record includes two World championships, four Norceca Zone Meets, two Pan American Games, selection to three Olympic teams.

Known For Innovative Methods

Following his master's degree in education from Bowling Green and a Ph. D. in exercise physiology from Ohio State, he was a logical choice when the USOC looked for a career coach in 1976. He took over a team of individual all-stars, and soon developed a team filled with the desire to win, no matter who made the points.