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Trying To Form A Government: SHAS SAYS IT IS 'STRONGLY INCLINED' TO JOIN WITH LIKUD IN A COALITION

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 29 (JTA) — Likud's hopes of forming a government rose today and Labor's fell, when the new Sephardic Orthodox party Shas announced to the press and to Premier Yitzhak Shamir that it was "strongly inclined" to join with Likud in a coalition.

Shas' four Knesset members met with Shamir in his office here, and the two sides decided to set up a joint committee to consider specific demands by Shas. Deputy Premier David Levy said later that as a result of Shas' move, Likud was now clearly in a better position than the Labor Alignment to form a government and therefore President Chaim Herzog ought to give Shamir the task of trying to do so.

Herzog is expected to start his statutory negotiations towards the end of the week. He will be presented with the official election results by Justice Gabriel Bach on Tuesday or Wednesday.

The counting of the soldiers' vote last Thursday, in addition to the civilian, showed that Labor won 44 seats in last week's elections and Likud won 41. It also showed that Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach Party, which received one percent in the civilian sector, won 2.5 percent in the army. Kahane, after two previous unsuccessful bids to win a Knesset seat, won one seat last week. (See related story.)

Likud leaders pointed out today that with Shas' support, their bloc now musters 52 mandates (Likud, Tehiya, Morasha and Shas) against Labor's 50 (Labor, Shinui and the Citizens Rights Movements).

Hoping For A 'Domino' Process

More importantly, the Likud is hoping that Shas' decision will provoke a "domino" process among the religious parties. There were signs of this today when National Religious Party leader Yosef Burg, who earlier had been reported as favoring Labor, said his party was "for the moment" aligned with Likud, as it had been for the past seven years.

The move by Shas was a disappointment but not a surprise to Labor. Leaders of the Labor Alignment who had met with the Shas Knesset members last week came away frankly shocked by their extremism and the inexperience they showed in political matters. One of their demands, it is reliably understood, was for the release of the members of the Jewish terrorist underground in Judea and Samaria, currently awaiting trial on charges of murder and conspiracy.

Labor's negotiators encountered a far more urbane and moderate attitude on the part of Shas' spiritual leader, former Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef. But the Laborites wondered from the outset to what extent Yosef actually controls the new party.

Sources inside the Orthodox camp attribute Shas' decision today not to Yosef, but rather to the aged Bnei Berak Rabbi Eliezer Shach, leader of the "Lithuanian" wing of Agudat Israel, who openly support Shas against Aguda in the elections.

Shas activists admit that Shach's support accounted for at least one and possibly two of the party's four Knesset seats. The four Shas MKs met with Shach last week and he apparently guided them towards Likud for reasons that are still not clear. (Politically, Shach is an ultra-dove.)

Labor apparently has not given up all hope of wooing Shas. Former President Yitzhak Navon was scheduled to call on Yosef tonight.

Yahad Party Remains Pivotal

Shas' decision today was announced outside the Premier's office by its Knesset leader Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz only minutes after the MKs had sat in at a meeting between Yosef and Ezer Weizman, the leader of the pivotal Yahad Party which won three seats in the Knesset. Weizman apparently had been told nothing of Shas' decision.

It was not clear, as the day wore on, how that decision would affect Weizman and his close ally in these coalition maneuvers, Aharon Abu Hatzaira, the leader of the Tami which won one seat in the Knesset.

The secretariats of both parties met in Tel Aviv, and neither made unequivocal decisions. Earlier, Labor had hoped that Yahad and Tami would clearly announce a preference for a Labor-led government. But both parties apparently prefer to bide their time, especially in light of Shas' move.

There were reports tonight that Weizman and Tami are trying to set up a "bloc" along with the NRP and Yigael Hurwitz's one-man Knesset faction, Courage to Cure the Economy, which advocates tough economic measures, that would hold out for a unity government. Israel Radio reported that NRP's Minister Zevulun Hammer, vacationing abroad, had declared himself in favor of such a bloc.

After The Elections: FEAR AND APPREHENSION OVER KAHANE'S ELECTION TO THE KNESSET

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, July 29 (JTA) — Rabbi Meir Kahane's election to the Knesset has been greeted with widespread apprehension in Israel and a growing fear that his strident anti-Arab rhetoric and threats will, in the words of Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem, cast "a stain on Israeli democracy."

As a member of the Knesset, Kahane will enjoy immunity from criminal prosecution. Kollek warned that by entering the Knesset, Kahane would be invested with legitimacy and a certain amount of prestige.

"Kahane may turn into a symbol of Judaism and Israel in the eyes of the world and destroy the understanding the world has shown for our moral right as a State and our moral strength as a nation," Kollek said. The mayor is particularly concerned about Kahane's racist rhetoric because Kollek, probably more than any other Jewish politician in Israel, has to deal with a large number of Arabs under his jurisdiction.

At a press conference immediately after his election, Kahane called for the expulsion of every Arab from Israel and the occupied territories, by forcible means if necessary. He said he would open an "emigration office" in the Arab village of Umm Al Fahem near Hadera to encourage Arabs to leave the country. The town council of Um Al Fahem has urged the Attorney General to bring

charges against Kahane for his threat to expel Israel's Arabs from Israel. Hanna Zemer, the editor of *Davar*, also urged the Attorney General to indict and prosecute Kahane before he is sworn in as a Knesset member, for his racist remarks since his election. While there is no clear-cut law in Israel against racism, Zemer said Kahane could be prosecuted under an article in the penal code which makes it an offense to create friction between "various parts of the population."

MK Amnon Rubinstein of Shinui vowed that as soon as the next Knesset convenes he will introduce a bill that makes racial incitement a criminal offense and would automatically strip the immunity of any Knesset member who indulges in it.

Kahane's Kach Party is miniscule. It polled about 20,000 votes out of some two million cast in last Monday's elections, just enough to admit Kahane to the Knesset. Normally, one-member factions, especially those with idiosyncratic programs, have little influence.

Widespread Media Coverage

But Kahane's election and his activities, especially since then, have received disproportionate coverage in the Israeli media and abroad. His followers, who held a prayer session at the Western Wall last Tuesday night, boasted that he will rise to power in succeeding Knessets and would eventually become Defense Minister.

During the day, last Tuesday, Kahane staged a "victory" march through the Arab sector of the Old City of Jerusalem, accompanied by some 200 bellicose supporters, many of them Sephardic Jews and American-born followers of his Kach Party.

Changing "Arabs out," they stormed through the narrow streets and alleys harassing shopkeepers and passers-by and wrecking merchandise. Many of the marchers wore yellow shirts bearing a black fist and the slogan "Kahane to the Knesset." To some observers, the quasi uniform and shouted slogans were horrifyingly reminiscent of scenes and events on another continent a half century ago when the chant was "Jews out."

Reminiscent Of Germany 50 Years Ago

Uri Avneri, of the Progressive List for Peace, a coalition of Israeli Arab nationalists and Jewish leftists, which won one Knesset seat in last week's elections, told a rally last night in Umm Al Fahm attended by some 1,000 Arabs and Jews, that the rise of Kahane reminded him of his childhood in Germany and the rise of the Nazis to power.

At the end of last week, several dozen members of the religious peace movements, Netivot Shalom and Oz Veshalom, marched through the Old City of Jerusalem distributing leaflets containing "a message of brotherhood and peace to the Arabs of Jerusalem." This was in reaction to Kahane's "victory" march earlier in the week.

Dubbed 'Israel's Farrakhan'

Leaders of the American Jewish Congress, who are in Jerusalem to participate in the annual American-Israel Dialogue which is sponsored by the AJCongress, called Kahane "Israel's Farrakhan," a reference to the American Black Muslim extremist leader Louis Farrakhan. Theodore Mann, president of the AJCongress, told a news conference yesterday that Kahane was an extremist whose views were endorsed by a negligible minority of American Jews, and who was as much of a fanatic as Farrakhan.

Kahane enjoys the support of the extreme right in Israel. But not all rightwingers and ultra-nationalists support him. His demand that the government free the 27 indicted members of a Jewish terrorist underground currently on trial for acts of violence against Arabs, was repudiated by the defendants. A spokesman for the group said last week that they never asked Kahane to act on their behalf and wanted nothing to do with him.

Former Premier Menachem Begin also said that he and his friends want nothing to do with "that man." Likud Knesset member Ehud Olmert declared in a radio interview last Friday that his party has ruled out any cooperation with Kahane in the new Knesset, and that Kahane would remain totally isolated in the parliament. Olmert said that although the Likud also wants a greater Israel, including the West Bank, this should not be accomplished by expelling Arabs from Israel but only through peaceful coexistence.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir has repeatedly stated since last week's elections that he would not call on Kahane to help form a coalition, even if it meant that Likud would lose out to the Labor Alignment in forming the next government.

USSR REACTS CYNICALLY TO THE ISRAELI ELECTIONS

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, July 29 (JTA) -- The Soviet Union has reacted cynically to the results of the elections in Israel by denying that there is any serious difference between the Likud and the Labor Alignment and that both are out to serve American interests. This is the main theme of Soviet radio broadcasts and press commentaries monitored here.

A broadcast in Hebrew, on Moscow's Radio's overseas service, likened the result of the election to "some sort of broken Rubik cube which can no longer be set properly." After arguing that the voters were less to blame than the political leaders for the tangled outcome of the election, the radio continued:

"Those who voted for parties that advocate war and settlement, for shrewd politicians on the far right, for those who advocate a cruel Zionism and who hate the Arabs to the death, for the direct representatives of those who only care about their own prosperity, for pro-U.S. functionaries all these Israeli voters have put their own safety in question Their vote will lead to increased tension, bloodshed and a growing threat to the very existence of the State of Israel."

Thursday's issue of the Communist Party daily, *Pravda*, commented that the election results showed that the electorate was losing confidence in the country's two leading political forces.

HISTADRUT WILL DISCUSS SOCIAL, ECONOMIC PACT ONLY WITH NEW GOV'T.

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 29 (JTA) -- Histadrut secretary general Yisrael Kessar said here today that the labor federation would discuss a possible social-economic pact only with the next government, and not with the transitional government headed by Premier Yitzhak Shamir, which stays in office until the next Cabinet is formed.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting of the Histadrut Central Committee, Kessar said the federation would "strenuously oppose" any "one-sided attempt by the government to abrogate the recently-signed wage agreements."

Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad said last week that if the Histadrut did not agree to a new wage and

income package or proposed social pact, the Treasury would abrogate the wage agreements reached shortly before the elections.

SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 29 (JTA) — An Arab terrorist was killed by an IDF patrol Friday and two Lebanese motorcycle riders were shot at and slightly injured today when they failed to halt on orders at an IDF roadblock, both incidents occurring near Sidon.

The army spokesman said the IDF patrol opened fire on the terrorist when he was spotted in the act of planting an explosive charge on a roadside south of Sidon. The two motorcyclists were taken to a hospital in Sidon.

Two abortive attacks were attempted today against IDF units in south Lebanon. A rocket was aimed at an IDF position south of Tyre and another was fired at an Israeli position near Jezzine. Neither attack caused casualties or damage and in each case the Israelis fired back. There were no Israeli casualties in any of the four incidents.

But two IDF soldiers were lightly wounded Friday when a grenade was thrown at their patrol in the center of Nabatiya. A curfew was imposed on the market area of the south Lebanese town while soldiers carried out searches for the grenade thrower. Shops in Nabatiya were ordered closed by the army Thursday in response to widespread disturbances.

Elsewhere in south Lebanon, 50 cadets received officers' insignia and became officers in the South Lebanon Army (SLA). They received their insignia from the SLA commanding general, Antonie Lahad. IDF instructors organized and led the officers training course.

Officials reported that the SLA currently has about 2,500 Lebanese soldiers and Lahad is trying to increase that total by recruiting efforts, particularly among the area's Shi'ite Moslems. The SLA recently took over guard and inspection posts from the IDF, particularly along the Awali River and in Nabatiya.

REPORT USSR INTENSIFIES CAMPAIGN TO CURTAIL INFORMAL CONTACTS BETWEEN SOVIET CITIZENS AND FOREIGNERS

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, July 29 (JTA) — The recently intensified Soviet campaign to curtail informal contacts between Soviet citizens and foreigners was highlighted by several incidents this month. These were summarized in the monthly digest on monitoring activities issued by the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

As examples of the Soviet Union's stepped-up campaign, the digest cited the detainment of former Israeli President Ephraim Katzir by the Leningrad KGB on July 1, the detainment of U.S. diplomats Jon Purnell and George Glass for two hours by the Moscow KGB on July 4, and the refusal by Soviet authorities to grant Soviet citizens who are married to Americans the right to emigrate.

The digest quoted Katzir's Paris news conference after the incident in which he stated he had been "subjected to some pretty tough questions" during the 1-1/2 hours he and his wife were detained. Katzir said that after three KGB agents blocked his attempt to visit a Soviet Jew, they took him to an office where they questioned him about his movements in the Soviet Union. Katzir stated he was "deeply offended" by this incident and noted that the KGB officers knew he had been President of Israel.

The report explained that the July 4 incident occurred when the two U.S. diplomats tried to meet with Lina Tumanova, a Moscow human rights activist with whom they had been in contact. All three were surrounded by Soviet security agents after the Soviet citizen had given the diplomats several documents. Tumanova was later apparently arrested to be "called to account in accordance with Soviet laws," according to the Soviet News agency, Tass.

The CSCE report added that dissident sources afterwards told The Los Angeles Times that Tumanova had been active in Moscow for a number of years in human rights groups which the KGB had attempted to suppress. Soviet emigres in the U.S. reported that Tumanova was active in signing open letters in support of various political prisoners, particularly from the Ukraine.

The report also stated, "The July 4 incident is the latest in a series of occurrences in which American officials have been detained or harassed because of their unofficial contacts with Soviet citizens. In April, for example, Ronald Harms was roughed up by unidentified individuals as he left a restaurant. The State Department condemned this latest incident and charged that it was part of a stepped-up effort by Soviet authorities to 'isolate their people from foreign contacts and to repress legitimate expression of differing political and social views'."

The report concludes that "clearly, another reason behind the (July 4) incident is a continuing effort to stem the flow of samizdat documents to the West."

New Soviet Law Cited

Further evidence of the official Soviet campaign to discourage unofficial contacts between Soviet citizens and foreigners can be found in a new Soviet law which went into effect on July 1, and was published in the Bulletin of the Supreme Soviet on May 30. This law provides for fines of up to 50 Rubles for citizens who provide transportation, housing or "other services" to foreigners "privately."

Fines also can be levied against those who do not make sure that foreigners follow registration procedures with the local police. The law states that officials in organizations which deal with foreigners are also liable for fines up to 100 Rubles. Furthermore, both officials and citizens may be tried on criminal charges for contacts with foreigners if they violate "existing legislation." Precisely what that other legislation specifies is not clarified in any way, the CSCE report stated.

Several cases regarding reunification of Soviet citizens married to Americans were also mentioned in the digest: Moscow scientist Matvey Finkel, married to Susan Graham of Spokane, Wash., has just received his eighth exit denial; Ukrainian Aleksei Lodisev has been trying since April 1981 to get permission to join his wife, Sandra Gubin; and Roman Kuperman, married to Chicago lawyer Fern Pergerich, has been repeatedly denied an exit visa because his departure is considered to be "undesirable" by the state.

The CSCE report declared: "The denial of permission to emigrate in such cases is not only against humanitarian principles, but it is contrary to both the letter of the Helsinki Final Act in which the Soviet Union and the other signatories pledged to deal 'favorably' with cases involving family reunification and marriage between citizens of different states."

GENEVA (JTA) — The World Council of Churches headquartered here has elected Emilio Enrique Castro of Uruguay its new secretary general. Jewish circles here expressed hope that he will improve relations between Israel and the WCC.

At The Olympic Games: MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD FOR SLAIN ISRAELI OLYMPIC ATHLETES

LOS ANGELES, July 29 (JTA) -- More than 500 community leaders and former Olympians gathered in the Simon Wiesenthal Center here on the eve of the Olympic Games to participate in a memorial service for the 11 Israeli athletes slain at the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich.

Among the participants at the emotion-laden services were Mimi and Gur Weinberg, the wife and son of the late Moshe Weinberg, Israel's wrestling coach who was the first victim of the Arab terrorist attack on September 5, 1972.

Other participants included Shlomit Nir-Toor, a member of the 1968 and 1972 Israeli Olympic swim teams and a national record holder in various events; Israel's Consul General for the southwest United States, Jacob Even; and California Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy.

1972 Was A Turning Point

Even, former commander of Israel's National Defense College, told the standing-room-only audience that "the (1972) tragedy was a turning point for many countries in the free world that realized, for the first time, the threat of terrorism." He added: "For myself and my fellow Israelis, symbolically the Olympic torch has been transformed into a perpetual light that will always remind us of the tragedy in Munich."

Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Wiesenthal Center, said that "what Jewish people have learned from their history is, when confronted by fire, they seek out the light, not the ashes. We would hope that the Olympic movement would finally come to grips with what happened in Munich."

McCarthy called upon the International Olympic Committee to finally "make a fitting memorial to those whose lives were committed to the Olympic ideal and who fell victim to terrorism."

Resolution To Remember The Eleven

A California state resolution proclaiming July 26 as "Remembering the 11 Day" was presented to Mimi Weinberg by Joseph Siegman, vice president of the U.S. Committee Sports for Israel and head of the Jewish Hall of Fame.

The sole representative at the service from the 1972 Israeli Olympic team was Nir-Toor, a mother of two who now serves as a therapist for disabled Israeli soldiers. Representing the International Jewish Students Network, she told the crowd that "not only did 11 Israeli citizens die at those (1972) Games, but the Olympic ideal may have also been killed."

A visibly shaken Mrs. Weinberg told the audience in slow but impactful English that "it is my fervent prayer that young people everywhere learn from this tragedy not to follow in the cold-blooded footsteps of international terrorism, for who knows who the next victim might be. They may not be Jews or athletes."

'It's Hard Not To Have A Father'

Her 12-year-old son, Gur, born two weeks before his father's tragic death in 1972, said in his remarks: "It's hard not to have a father. I know he would have loved to be here in Los Angeles for the Olympics." He concluded the service by reciting Kaddish for his father.

The service also concluded with a torch-lighting ceremony as the Israeli national anthem, Hatikvah, was sung. Among the torchbearers were Jean Newhouse, a non-Jew who won a gold medal in the 1932

Olympic Games in L.A.; Agnes Keleti, winner of 11 Olympic medals -- including five gold medals -- in gymnastics for Hungary and who now lives in Israel; Bud Jacobs, Great Britain's 1984 Olympic wrestling team coach; and Dr. Andrew Strenk, also a non-Jew who is director of public relations for the L.A. Olympic organizing committee and a member of the 1968 U.S. Olympic swim team.

The memorial service for the 11 slain Israeli athletes was sponsored by the Wiesenthal Center, the International Jewish Students Network and the Ad Hoc Committee for Remembering the Eleven.

PAST OLYMPIC HIGHLIGHTS

By Sol Marshall

LOS ANGELES, July 29 (JTA) -- In the Jewish tradition, the word "chai" means "life" and also is the word for the number 18. The number 36 would be "double chai" or "double life." But in the Olympics, there is a note of sadness connected with the 1936 Olympic Games at Berlin, and a greater note of tragedy at the 1972 Munich Games.

In 1936, the influence of Hitler crossed the borders of Germany and influenced negatively Jewish participation on many teams. The story of how Jewish athletes were given perfunctory opportunities to qualify for the German national team, and somehow were not chosen, is well known. It is common knowledge that other national teams in the German orbit also made it difficult for athletes of Jewish descent to participate.

In the United States, only three Jewish athletes made the team. Two of them, Marty Glickman and Sam Stoller, were dash men. They were supposed to compete in the 400-meter spring relay, and did, in the preliminaries. When time came for the finals, however, they were pulled from the quartet. The American coach said that he didn't think that their time was fast enough to insure victory.

The truth, of course, was that the time in the semi-finals was fast enough to win, although the winning time was a few fractions of seconds faster.

A bright spot for Jewish participation in major sports was reserved for Sam Balter. An outstanding athlete from UCLA and All-American in basketball, he was captain of the Universal Pictures team in 1936. Universal won the national AAU championship and represented the USA at the Olympics. Balter led the team to a sweep of all competition to win a gold medal.

Tragedy struck the Israeli team in the 1972 Olympics. Early in the morning of September 5, eight terrorists slipped into the Olympic Village and invaded the Israeli quarters. There, and later at the airport in an effort to take remaining hostages out of the country, 11 Israelis and five of the terrorists were killed. The shadow of that event has remained over international sports activities since then, requiring an extreme concentration on security for all international events, including the current Olympiad.

ARYE SHARON DEAD AT 84

TEL AVIV, July 29 (JTA) -- Arye Sharon, a noted Israeli architect who headed the Housing Ministry during the early years of the State, died in Paris last week at the age of 84. He was buried in Israel today. Sharon designed some of the best-known buildings in Israel, including the Beilinson, Ichilov, Soroka and Assaf Harofe hospitals as well as the Ohel Theater building, the Beth Brenner workers' hostel in Tel Aviv and the Kinneret rest home in Tiberias.