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# **Efforts Continue To Form A Government: MAPAM LOOMS AS A VITAL FACTOR IN NATIONAL UNITY GOVERNMENT TALKS** By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 7 (JTA) — The Mapam faction of the Labor Alignment, which accounts for six of the 44 Alignment seats in the Knesset, has not dropped its opposition to a national unity government, but has agreed that Labor Party leader Shimon Peres should continue his negotiations with Premier Yitzhak Shamir in the ongoing effort to form a new government.

Mapam does not believe that the wide gap between the two parties can be bridged, and has therefore not sought to halt Peres' negotiations with Shamir. Peres was chosen Sunday by President Chaim Herzog to form the government. Peres has 21 days to do so, with the option of a 21-day extension. If he should fail by then, Herzog can pick someone else to try.

Peres and his Labor Party colleagues held a five-hour meeting with Mapam leaders today. At the end of the closed door session it was made known that Mapam agreed to a continuation of the Peres-Shamir talks, and that Peres would report back to Mapam on the outcome of his negotiations, after which Mapam would make its final decision. Peres and Shamir met for four hours yesterday, but nothing substantial emerged. The two agreed to meet again Thursday.

During the talks today, Peres tried without success to get Mapam to withdraw publicly its announced opposition to a unity government. But Yaacov Hazan, the veteran leader of Mapam, said the gap between the Alignment and Likud was too great to be bridged, and Mapam therefore could not withdraw its opposition.

Labor Party secretary-general Chaim Barlev said he had not expected the meeting to produce results other than that which was achieved during the five hours.

Victor Shemtov, a Mapam leader, said after the meeting that the main consideration was for the formation of a stable government based on an agreed-upon platform. Other Mapam leaders said they would not torpedo the Peres-Shamir talks and that Peres was negotiating on behalf of the entire Alignment.

## **Mapam Sets A 'Red Line'**

Mapam appears to have set itself a "red line" beyond which it could not agree to continue as an Alignment partner: unfreezing the present deadlock in the political negotiations for an Arab-Israeli peace, halting the present rate of settlements in the West Bank, and firm opposition to Orthodox demands for an amendment to the Who is a Jew law.

Mapam's attitude toward a national unity government is crucial. If it balks and leaves the Alignment, Labor will no longer be the largest party in the Knesset. Likud, with its 41 Knesset seats, will be. Traditionally, the leader of the largest Knesset faction is given the mandate to form a government. Herzog said Sunday, when he gave Peres the mandate, that the nation desired a government of national unity and that "the country needs a quick decision."

Following today's meeting with Mapam, the Labor Party leaders continued talks separately with Ezer Weizman, leader of the pivotal Yahad Party which won three seats in the elections; with Amnon Rubinstein of Shinui and with Shulamit Aloni of the Civil Rights Movement, each of which won three Knesset seats; and with Yigael Hurwitz of the Courage to Cure the Economy, which won one seat.

Weizman said after his 90-minute meeting with the Labor leaders that the central problem was not to find a common ground between the Alignment and Yahad, but common ground between Labor and the Likud. If Peres and Shamir could reach an agreement, then Yahad would join a unity government, Weizman said. He said he had not discussed with Labor the formation of a narrower coalition. Ever since the election, Weizman has said he thought a broad Labor-Likud coalition was the only way to pull the country out of its many difficulties.

## **BILL INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE WOULD MAKE IT A FEDERAL OFFENSE TO DEFACE, DAMAGE OR DESTROY RELIGIOUS PROPERTY** By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, August 7 (JTA) — A bill that would make it a federal offense to deface, damage or destroy any religious property has been introduced in the House by Rep. Dan Glickman (D. Kan.). Twenty-two other representatives of both parties have joined him in sponsoring the legislation.

"In a nation that protects religious freedom as fiercely as the United States, it is reprehensible that vicious actions against articles and places of worship take place," Glickman said. "Many are anti-Semitic in nature and directed against synagogues but almost all religious institutions have also been victims of hate crimes."

Chuck Timanus, Glickman's press secretary, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that Glickman had been considering such a bill for some time but that on the weekend before he planned to introduce the bill, he was angered by reports that three churches used by Black congregations in South Carolina had been burned and a synagogue in Gaithersburg, Md. had been desecrated.

Timanus noted that during the 1960's, when Black churches were being bombed in the south the FBI would only enter the case on the grounds of civil rights violations.

The Glickman bill provides penalties of up to 15 years in prison and/or fines of \$15,000 for anyone convicted of wilfully vandalizing, defacing, burning or otherwise destroying or damaging any cemetery, building or other property used for religious purposes, or any religious articles within the property. Should a death occur from such actions, the bill provides for life imprisonment.

## **FORMER OLYMPIC MEDALIST AND SWEDISH OLYMPIC OFFICIALS JOIN IN HONORING WALLENBERG**

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 7 (JTA) — Agnes Keleti, winner of 11 Olympic medals in gymnastics for Hungary during the 1940's and 1950's, and whose family was

saved by Raoul Wallenberg during World War II, joined Swedish Olympic officials here in honoring the legendary Swedish diplomat at a 72nd birthday tribute.

The ceremony, attended by more than 200 Americans, Swedes and Israelis was held at the Simon Wiesenthal Center, to focus on the fate of Wallenberg who saved an estimated 100,000 Hungarian Jews during the Nazi occupation of Budapest in 1944.

Keleti, 63, a resident of Israel since 1956, said that Wallenberg "was a true humanitarian who came through for my family and thousands of others during our hour of need. It is an honor to me to represent Jews from all over the world in remembering this wonderful man."

Her mother and sister were saved by Wallenberg in Budapest in 1944. He provided them with false Swedish diplomatic papers and sheltered them in so-called "Swedish safe houses" enabling them to elude certain deportation and imminent death at the hands of the Nazis. Keleti, herself, was saved by purchasing Christian documents and working as a housekeeper until the end of the war. Her father was deported to Auschwitz and murdered.

Joining Keleti in honoring Wallenberg were Swedish Olympic officials Gustav Anderberg and Bo Bengtson, chairman and secretary-general, respectively, of the Swedish Olympic Committee's executive committee. Other participants included Swedish Consul-General for Los Angeles Margareta Hegardt; Steven and Lillemor Anderson, co-directors of the Ad Hoc Committee of Swedish Americans for Wallenberg; and Bernice Ringman, a close friend of Wallenberg when he was a student at the University of Michigan during the 1930's.

#### Message From Swedish King, Nancy Reagan

Hegardt read a message from King Carl Gustaf XVI of Sweden which said, in part, that the memory of Wallenberg "lives strong in the hearts of many people, and for all citizens of Sweden, Raoul Wallenberg will always be a symbol of peace and humanity."

Ringman read First Lady Nancy Reagan's personal message, stating, in part, that Wallenberg, "is not merely a citizen of Sweden, but by decision of the United States Congress, an honorary citizen of the United States." And, she added, "In many respects, he is a citizen of the world."

A California State resolution proclaiming "Raoul Wallenberg Week," sponsored by State Sen. David Roberti (D. Hollywood), was presented by California Jewish community leader J.J. Kaplan. The proclamation said that it is hoped that it would "send a message to the USSR that Raoul Wallenberg is not forgotten."

#### Notes Bitter-Sweet Tribute

Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, who headed the tribute committee, said "this marks a very bitter-sweet birthday tribute. One the one hand, the power of Raoul Wallenberg's legacy is inspiring an ever-increasing number of people from all over the world -- Christians and Jews alike -- who take heart from the deeds of the greatest humanitarian of the 20th century. On the other hand, the increasing notoriety of Wallenberg's plight may have come too late to save him from the Soviet gulag because for nearly four decades the free world, those he saved and his own government forgot him."

Cooper also reviewed the current status of a \$39 million lawsuit -- \$1 million for each year of Wallen-

berg's illegal imprisonment by the Soviet Union -- a move which has been underwritten by the Wiesenthal Center and the Stockholm-based International Wallenberg Committee. The suit, Cooper said, is currently pending in federal court in Washington.

#### THOUSANDS MARK TISHA B'AV AT THE WESTERN WALL

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Thousands gathered today at the Western Wall for the fast of Tisha B'Av, which commemorates the destruction of the First and Second Temples. Throughout the night, Jews recited passages from the Book of Lamentations.

Prayers were also held at the Mughrabi gate to the Old City, leading to the Temple Mount, by a group which holds the view that Jews should have the right to pray on the Mount, a site which is sacred to both Jews and Moslems.

As in previous years, police denied the request of the 100 "Temple Mount Faithful" to pass beyond the gate and pray in the Temple Mount plaza. The group settled for prayers on the steps leading to the gate, as it has done on almost every Tisha B'Av since the Temple Mount was captured by Israel in the 1967 Six-Day War.

#### Disruption By Kahane

The only exception yesterday was newly elected Knesset member Rabbi Meir Kahane, leader of the Kach Party. He showed up with a small group of followers and pushed through the peaceful crowd of worshippers up to the police barriers set up in front of the gate.

Kahane was allowed to pass, but only after he reminded the police that he now has parliamentary immunity. Kahane pounded a few times on the locked gate, then took an Israeli flag he was carrying and spread it across the gate. Unable to find something on which to hang it, he gave up and folded the flag.

#### Kach leader Shouted Down, Criticized

Police then escorted Kahane out of the area, through what had by now become an angry group of worshippers, who shouted down the Kach leader. "This is not the way," said Gershon Solomon, the leader of the Temple Mount Faithful. "Our way is to struggle with love, not with hate."

Former Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren condemned Kahane's ideas and methods as totally contrary to halachic (Jewish religious law) tradition. He said the Torah commands extending equal rights to minorities living in Eretz Yisrael, and especially to Moslems.

However, the noted historian, Yehoshafat Harkabi, said in a radio interview today, that Kahane's ideas were not totally alien to Judaism. In addition, Harkabi noted, Kahane is motivated by a political belief and a logic that if Israel annexes the West Bank, the demographic change in favor of the Arabs would spell national suicide. "Therefore, he sees the deportation of the Arabs as the only way out," Harkabi said. He warned, however, that Kahane's plan might legitimize anti-Semitism around the world.

#### U.S. AND ISRAEL HOLD NINTH ROUND OF TALKS ON FREE TRADE ZONE

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- The United States and Israel today began their ninth round of talks on the establishment of a free trade zone with both parties expressing optimism that an agreement would be completed before September 19.

Durall Cooper, assistant to special U.S. trade representative William Brock, said in a radio interview that she tended to agree with the Israel assessment that

95 percent of the problems had already been solved. The major issues still to be discussed were subsidies for exports, the balance of payments, as well as the issue of the tariff reductions, Cooper said. "We will work here around the clock this week, until we have most of these issues finalized," she said.

Dan Halpern, Israel's economic envoy to the U.S., here for the talks, also expressed optimism, despite "some problems." He said the prospects of increasing Israeli exports to the U.S., following the conclusion of the agreement, would depend on whether Israeli industries would be able to adjust to the new opportunities.

Gideon Patt, Minister of Industry and Trade, told the Cabinet last Sunday that he expected an agreement on a free trade zone to be concluded in September, and said that nearly all of the hurdles have been overcome except for "certain technicalities."

#### FIRST CONTESTED CASE UNDER N.J. KOSHER CONSUMER FRAUD LAW By Ben Gallab

NEW YORK, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- The owner of a kosher butcher shop in Springfield, N.J. said today his firm would plead not guilty to the first formal complaint by the New Jersey State Division of Consumer Affairs alleging violations of the State's kosher product regulations which became effective last April.

The complaint was filed for Attorney General Irwin Kimmelman in Union County Superior Court in Elizabeth on August 2, according to James Barry, director of the State Division of Consumer Affairs. A trial date has not yet been set.

#### Elements In The Complaint

The complaint charged that David Neugroschel, individually, and trading as Lempert, Cohen, M. & M. Company of Springfield, violated the state Consumer Fraud Act and the regulations on representations about and requirements for the sale of kosher products.

The complaint also charged that the Lempert, Cohen shop had in its possession with the intent to sell meat which had not been prepared and maintained in compliance with the laws of kashrut, despite advertising representing that the shop sold exclusively kosher meat under rabbinic supervision.

Asked how he planned to respond to the charges, Neugroschel told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency by telephone today that he intended to plead not guilty when the charges come up for trial.

#### The Law Has A Checkered History

The law has a slightly checkered history. It was first signed in 1977 by then Governor Brendan Byrne but that measure had two flaws, the JTA was told. It made such offenses criminal acts but made no provision for enforcement machinery and it failed to appropriate funds to implement it.

Rabbi Pesach Levovitz of Lakewood, N.J. brought the problem of the lack of funding, which made the new law a dead letter, to the attention of State Sen. John Russo (D. Ocean) who sponsored a bill, which was passed, to fund the moribund law. It became effective last April 2 after being signed by Governor Thomas Kean. Levovitz is chairman of the advisory committee to the Attorney General on the kosher food law.

The complaint charged that last April 29, Neugroschel had in his kosher butcher shop two plastic bags each containing about 20 to 25 pounds of

ground meat and visible quantities of blood and that each plastic bag was in a separate pan containing about an inch-and-a-half of blood.

The complaint declared a state witness will testify at the trial that the amount of blood in the packages and trays was contrary to the laws of kashrut.

The complaint charged that Neugroschel's possession of such presumably non-kosher meat could be considered presumptive evidence that he possessed it to sell it and that this constituted use of an unconscionable commercial practice, deception, fraud, false pretense or misrepresentation.

The complaint -- brought for Kimmelman by Deputy Attorney General Cindy Miller -- will ask the court to assess civil penalties in the amount of \$2,000 for each violation of the New Jersey Consumer Fraud Act and to direct Neugroschel to pay state costs of investigation and prosecution.

#### Two Previous Actions

In two previous actions under the new law, offending kosher markets did not challenge the charges but chose to agree to consent orders not to sell admittedly non-kosher foods, paying fines and/or litigation costs.

A small kosher butcher in Linden agreed to not continue selling non-kosher chicken as kosher and paid a \$1,000 fine for a civil offense, shortly after the law took effect, Barry said.

A major offense involved the Allwood Kosher Meat and Poultry Market of Clifton, whose partners signed an administrative action consent order, filed April 25, admitting to 421 violations of the Consumer Fraud Act, after a routine inspection by the kosher foods inspection unit of the division.

The Clifton store agreed to pay a \$3,000 fine and to pay the state \$500 for investigation and prosecution. Barry said the store owners admitted the possession of 280 non-kosher chickens, 100 non-kosher chicken breasts, 35 non-kosher turkeys, three packages of non-kosher beef liver and three containers of non-kosher chicken liver.

The partners agreed to stop selling the non-kosher products as kosher, and to remove them from their butcher shop. A division spokesman told the JTA that the partners paid the fine and did remove the non-kosher foods from their butcher shop. The spokesman said that, under the new law, the division inspects stores and restaurants throughout New Jersey which advertise availability of kosher foods, and sets a penalty if foods thus represented are found to be non-kosher.

#### VIOLENT CRIMES INCREASING

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Violent crime in Israel is continuing to increase, according to police files. During the first six months of this year, police had recorded 127,005 reported crimes, an increase of 8.8 percent compared to the same period last year.

There were 120 rape cases, compared to 113 last year; 239 robberies, compared to 236 in 1983; and 802 arson cases, compared to 693 last year. There were 133 murders this year compared to 114 last year. Twenty-one percent of the crimes occurred in the central region, the area between Haifa and Jerusalem.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The alleged head of the Jewish underground, Menahem Livni, had a few pleasant hours outside of jail last Sunday. He was allowed to attend the circumcision of his sixth son, Roy, at the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron. The ceremony turned into a quiet gathering of solidarity with the Jewish underground.

## SPECIAL TO THE JTA AN UNUSUAL KIBBUTZ By Arnold Ages

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Although it was inaugurated as late as 1978, Kibbutz Mavo Hama is already one of Israel's most unusual agricultural collectives. It's a bit off the beaten tourist path; visitors wishing to pay a visit to this unusual commune will have to make special arrangements.

One of the reasons is that the special access to the kibbutz requires transportation either by car or minibus. None of the regular Egged or United Tours buses make the trip to Kibbutz Mavo Hama.

The reason? The kibbutz lies on the top of an isolated promontory on the Golan Heights. At an elevation of about 1,500 meters, the kibbutz is accessible only through a spiralling highway whose hairpin turns occasion either exhilaration for the intrepid traveller or mortal fear.

The ascent to Mavo Hama, including the short approach ride from the northern Israeli city of Tiberias, takes about half an hour. The last 20 minutes of it provide the tourist with a breathtakingly beautiful view of northern Israel, Syria and Jordan.

That vista is reason enough for the Israeli government to have authorized the construction of the kibbutz, straddling as it does the vital crossroads of the north.

The Golan Heights were wrested from the Syrians in the 1967 Six-Day War after an assault by Israel's famous Golani Brigade. For the previous 19 years, Syrian gunners had used Lake Tiberias and the Israelis fishing on it as target practice.

### A Kind Of Symbol

The presence of Kibbutz Mavo Hama is a kind of symbol therefore that Israel will never again permit its citizens to function on the sufferance of hostile neighbors.

That's one of the reasons why, when PLO infiltrators tried in early June of 1984, to penetrate the kibbutz they were apprehended within hours by Israeli soldiers. The whole area where the kibbutz is located contains not only numerous army camps but an electronic fence with a supersensitive detection skin. It was an irritation on that skin which alerted border soldiers that a penetration had occurred.

Kibbutzniks with whom we met to discuss the terrorist incursion were concerned because nothing similar had taken place in the previous 10 years. There was speculation, therefore, as to whether the incident was an isolated one or whether it heralded something more ominous.

One of the kibbutzniks suggested that the terrorists had been engaged in a probe to ascertain the strength of Israeli defensive positions. Another indicated that the infiltrators had surrendered without firing a shot as soon as they had been seen. A third expressed astonishment at the age of the terrorists, mere boys, we were told.

The kibbutz itself had already assimilated the terrorist "raid" by the time we arrived at Mavo Hama some two weeks later. The 200 members of the collective are simply too busy with their obligations and chores; they cannot afford the luxury of excessive analysis.

The kibbutzniks preferred to speak more about the accomplishments of Mavo Hama -- which aligns itself with the Labor Party movement politically

and is quite left of center. Its ideology, however, does not go as far as Mapam. This issue was raised by our queries on how Israel's rampant inflation affects the kibbutz sector. While the kibbutz is an expression of the Socialist ethos, it cannot disengage itself from the economic system which surrounds it. The kibbutz interacts with the outside environment; its products must be brought to market and in this way the kibbutz suffers like other parts of Israel from the inflationary spiral.

Despite these difficulties the kibbutz has made amazing strides in its seven-year existence. Its computerized irrigation ganties have been methodically programmed to make periodic sweeps over the kibbutz's crops in a way that not a drop of sweet water is wasted.

Several members of the kibbutz spoke about the pride of the collective in its cotton production. We were told that contrary to the conventional wisdom, Egyptian cotton is no longer the world's best cotton. Mavo Hama makes the claim that its cotton is superior to the Egyptian variety.

We were unable to ascertain whether the claim was true or simply a bit of kibbutz bragadoccio, but the enthusiasm of the kibbutz's promoters was infectious.

Mavo Hama's achievements in agriculture are all the more laudatory given the inclemencies of weather on the Golan. The summers are fiercely hot and in the winter howling winds (and occasional snow) make life difficult. Those problems, however, have not deterred the impressive growth of the kibbutz.

### A Large Number Of Children

There are so many toddlers on the kibbutz that native ingenuity has been put to work and the result is the invention of a mobile play pen (a cross between a play pen and a supermarket buggy) which kibbutzniks push around in order to entertain their children while transporting them.

While the Bible's first commandment on fertility has been realized in the kibbutz, its other imperatives are not so closely adhered to. The kibbutz in fact has no synagogue. The holidays (Sukkot, Passover and Shavuot), we were told, were observed primarily as agricultural festivals with librettos supplied by the kibbutz's movement.

What happens when a child reaches the age of Bar Mitzvah? Arrangements are made to have the boy celebrate his Bar Mitzvah at another kibbutz on the Golan Heights where synagogue facilities are available.

### JEWS IN THE OLYMPICS

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 7 (JTA) -- Both Israel and the Soviet Union participated in their first Olympiad at the 1952 Helsinki Games, according to "Jews in the Olympics" exhibition running through September in the Jewish Community Building, 6505 Wilshire Blvd.

While the Israeli team has yet to bring home a medal, nearly 20 Soviet Jews have exhibited distinguished performances in the sports of swimming, waterpolo, speedskating, track, volleyball, fencing, basketball, gymnastics, boxing, shooting and ice hockey. In 1952, 13 of the 16 Jewish medal winners and 16 of the 20 in 1956 were from Eastern bloc nations.

The international exhibition documenting the achievements of Jews in sports is a project of the Southern California Jewish Historical Society and is open free to the public. A commemorative poster and medal are available. Call 213-852-1234.