

ROTATING PREMIERSHIP SEEMS LIKELY

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 30 (JTA) — A unity government with a rotating Premiership seemed today to be the likeliest outcome of the drawn out and complex coalition negotiations.

A Labor leadership meeting in Tel Aviv tonight was far less hostile to the idea of rotation than the party had been a few days earlier — and this correctly reflected the shift in fortunes that has taken place over the past four days.

Even as the Labor leaders met in Tel Aviv, Likud ministers Moshe Nissim, Haim Corfu and Ariel Sharon convened in Jerusalem with a leadership team from Agudat Israel to put the finishing touches to a Likud-Aguda accord that would prevent the pivotal two-seat Orthodox party from supporting a Labor-led narrow government.

Likud is hoping to conclude similar accords, written or verbal, with Morasha and with Tami. It has already signed such a pact with Shas.

This leaves Labor with no prospect of setting up either a narrow government of 61 or even a minority government of 55. (For this latter scenario, Labor would need Tami's vote: it is now very unlikely that Tami would agree to this. Tami leaders admitted openly today that they were being offered inducements by Likud — including safe seats on Likud's slate — which Labor could not match.)

Basis For Aguda's Deal

Aguda's deal with Likud reportedly came at the behest of the party's venerable sage, Rabbi Eliezer Schach of Bnei Berak. He was reported today as ordering the Aguda Knesset members to follow the line that Shas had taken and sign an accord with Likud in return for pledges in the areas of religious legislation and government budgets for Orthodox educational institutions.

Labor spokesmen have warned, however, that these pledges would not necessarily be implementable if a unity government is established. Likud for its part has undertaken to the two religious parties, Shas and Aguda, to protect their interests and position within the unity context.

NRP Decides To Stay Afloat

The National Religious Party, meeting in Tel Aviv today, decided to stay afloat of what its leader, Yosef Burg, termed "this race towards marketplace deals" with Likud. The party reiterated its consistent position supporting a unity government and rejecting a narrow government of whatever complexion.

The NRP declared that it would not negotiate with either of the major parties to form a bloc and would wish to participate in a unity government "independently" and not as an appendage to one of the big blocs.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Labor leader Shimon Peres are to meet again tomorrow morning but their "crucial" meeting, at which they will probably address themselves to the question of the Premiership and the other top portfolios, has been tentatively scheduled for Sunday.

The two leaders apparently have resolved the issue of wording an invitation to Jordan to join in peace talks with Israel, and they have also agreed that new settlements would be erected only by an absolute majority of Cabinet ministers.

These two accords raised angry protests from Tehiya today. The rightwing party's leader, Yuval Neeman, told reporters he believed his party would decline to join a unity government on those terms and would prefer to be in the opposition.

This, if it materialized, would weaken Likud's position in the tussle over rotation-versus-a-Peres-Premiership. But observers believed Shamir would try strenuously to persuade Tehiya to join a unity government after all.

An Historic Development: 18 WOMEN TO BEGIN STUDIES AT JTS RABBINICAL SCHOOL FOR ORDINATION AS FIRST WOMEN CONSERVATIVE RABBIS

By Ben Gallab

NEW YORK, Aug. 30 (JTA) — Eighteen women will make Jewish history Wednesday when they enter classrooms at the rabbinical school of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America (JTS) to begin studies to qualify them for ordination as the first Women Conservative rabbis, an event expected to end a long-running dispute on the issue in Conservative Judaism.

The 19th woman in the first entering class chose to begin her studies at the movement's school in Jerusalem, Neva Schechter, according to Rabbi Gordon Tucker, the JTS rabbinical school dean. Twenty-one women had been scheduled to be members of the first class but two decided to defer entrance, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was told.

The program of study for the Conservative rabbinate is six years. But Tucker said that women had previously studied courses required for the rabbinate but did not receive rabbinical school credits.

But credits for such courses, if they are part of the rabbinical school curriculum, have been added to the records of the first woman students. Tucker told the JTA there was a "mathematical possibility" that one of the women students has acquired enough credits by that procedure to be graduated and ordained at commencement exercises at JTS next May 12.

Tucker said another innovation associated with the first class of women rabbinical students will be the inauguration of two daily services. One will continue a service with separate seating for women and no women's ritual participation. The new service will treat the women students as full participants.

The student who began her rabbinical studies in Israel is Melody Johnston of North Hollywood.

The 18 entering the JTS rabbinical school are: Toba August, Brooklyn; Deborah Blank, Peru, Ind.; Susan Grossman Boder, the Bronx; Carolyn Braun, San Mateo, Cal.; Deborah Cantor, Hartford; Amy Eilberg, Providence, R.I.; Lori Forman, Berkeley, Cal.; Jodie Feutornickl, West Orange, N.J.; Pamela Hoffman, Highland Park, N.Y.; Elana Kantor, Rochester, N.Y.; Naomi Levy, Brooklyn; Shelley Meltzer, Madison, Wis.; Rhoda Nabel, Stoughton, Mass.; Debora Orenstein, South Orange, N.J.; Nina Cardin Reiser, Teaneck, N.J.; Michal Shekel, Oberlin, Ohio; Mariow Shulevich, Hialeah, Fla.; and Janina Skoff, St. Louis, Mo.

The first admission of women in the 99-year history of the rabbinical school was made possible by a 34-8 vote of the JTS Faculty last October 24 at a special meeting called by JTS chancellor Gerson Cohen, approving admission of women to the rabbinical school.

For all practical purposes, the JTA was told, that vote ended a long and sometimes bitterly divisive debate, in which a steadily growing number of Conservative rabbis endorsed JTS admission of women for ordination, while a substantial number of JTS faculty members were -- and some still remain -- in adamant opposition.

Three faculty members boycotted the October 24 meeting but the 42 present and voting represented nearly 75 percent of the faculty. Before that, a commission was named by Cohen which concluded hearings with a recommendation that women be admitted to the rabbinical school.

Earlier, there had been votes on the application of a woman to join the Rabbinical Assembly (RA), the association of Conservative rabbis, at two succeeding conventions. The application had been voted down for failure to get a required 75 percent majority of delegates for such admission.

The Conservative movement thus joins Reform and Reconstructionism in ordaining women as rabbis. There are now about 90 women ordained as rabbis, mainly Reform.

Tucker, asked whether there was any likelihood that the long-debated decision to admit women to the JTS rabbinical school could be delayed or halted, said that with the procedure now in operation, he could not see how it could be affected by the continuing opposition.

ISRAEL ASSAILS SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON ISRAEL AS A DIVERSION FROM CHAOS AND UNREST IN LEBANON

By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Israel charged at the Security Council last night that the 15-member Council was convened because Lebanon, which requested the meeting, was trying to divert attention away from the growing chaos and unrest in the north and central parts of Lebanon.

Claiming that "there was not the slightest justification" for last night's meeting, Yehuda Blum, Israel's Ambassador to the UN, told the Security Council that Lebanon's "house was literally on fire in its capital of Beirut." He said that the Council was called into session as a result of Syrian pressure and domestic rivalries in Lebanon.

Lebanon's UN Ambassador, Rachid Fakhoury, who opened last night's meeting, called for implementation of past Security Council resolutions to get Israel's troops out of south Lebanon. In a sharply worded statement, the Lebanese representative assailed the continued Israeli occupation of South Lebanon.

He charged that the civilian population in south Lebanon has been living under "a continued state of terror" because of the "excesses of Israeli occupation." He demanded that Israel "lift its siege" of south Lebanon.

Blum reiterated Israel's claim that it wants to withdraw from Lebanon as soon as proper security arrangements to prevent terrorist attacks against Israel are set. But, he added, "Israel will not sit by and permit anyone to incite, arm and direct terrorists to mount attacks against it."

Diplomatic sources at the UN said today that Lebanon will ask the Council to adopt a resolution calling for immediate and complete Israeli with-

drawal from Lebanon and demanding that Israel relax its measures against the civilian population in south Lebanon. According to the sources, the Lebanese will seek a relatively moderate resolution, without even condemning Israel, in order to avoid a United States veto.

The Security Council was scheduled to continue its debate this afternoon. The debate will probably be concluded next week.

10 MK'S VISIT TEL MOND PRISON

By Hugh Orge

TEL AVIV, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Ten Knesset members today visited the Tel Mond prison to check out press reports that the nearly 30 members of the Jewish underground were receiving preferential treatment.

There were no incidents during today's visit, unlike last Sunday when four MKs who tried to visit the prison were beaten by supporters of Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach Party. They were also prevented from entering the prison by the prison authorities on orders from Interior and Police Minister Yosef Burg who said their visit had not been coordinated with the proper authorities. The visit today by the 10 MKs had been worked out in advance with Burg.

The 10 MKs were split evenly between the left and right of the political spectrum, and after their visit they were predictably split in their assessments about the treatment accorded to the prisoners who are awaiting trial for harming West Bank Arab mayors and for planning to blow up Moslem holy sites on the Temple Mount. But all appeared to agree that if there was preferential treatment, it was being accorded on professional grounds, and not because of political considerations or orders from above.

Some of the rightwing MKs thought the detainees should get special treatment because they were well-intentioned patriots. Geula Cohen of Tehiya said, after the visit, that the press was to blame for the incident last Sunday, by making a mountain out of a mole-hill.

Mordechai Bar-On of the Civil Rights Movement, one of the four MKs who tried to visit the prison Sunday, said today that he found the detainees to be well-behaved and spent much of their time teaching some of the less advantaged young men in the prison. But he questioned the wisdom of having those charged with serious offenses being allowed to educate young people.

Bar-On said he found that any preferences given to the prisoners charged with involvement in the underground was that while the general prison population were visited by their families on Saturdays, the religious inmates were visited during the week when there was less pressure on both the warden and prison guards.

MALAYSIA BLASTED AT UN FOR ANTI-JEWISH STANCE

GENEVA, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- At a United Nations session here, Malaysia was accused of a "lamentable exercise of blatant racism and religious discrimination" over its efforts to force the New York Philharmonic Orchestra to drop from its program a musical work by a Jewish composer based on a Hebrew theme.

Daniel Lack, speaking on behalf of the World Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith, blasted the action of the Malaysian government at a session of the UN Human Rights subcommission on the elimination of religious intolerance.

Lack said "religious intolerance is openly avowed when ... a world renowned symphony orchestra is forbidden to perform a work by a Swiss/American composer because of his Jewish ancestry and the fact that the work had a Hebrew title." He told the delegates that

this was not the only instance of anti-Jewish discrimination in the world. "The boycott conducted by members of the League of Arab States against Israel, directed against nationals of other countries solely by reference to their Jewish faith" was a "particularly disquieting and obnoxious example of racial and religious discrimination," Lack said.

He pointed out that the United States, France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg had adopted laws against discrimination on grounds of race and religion which make such practices a punishable offense.

In Syria, Lack stated, "its small Jewish population of 4,000 persons is kept hostage in a harshly restrictive environment of discrimination and oppression." In an apparent reference to the Soviet Union, he noted that "in the case of one large national Jewish minority, the teaching of Hebrew is systematically banned ... as part of a regrettable practice of denial of adequate religious facilities."

Cites Positive Instances

Lack concluded by citing positive instances "of model national action to foster religious tolerance." In Italy, negotiations are being concluded between the Jewish community and state authorities providing for equality of treatment in religious affairs. Similarly, Spanish authorities are presently in the process of concluding an agreement with its Jewish community guaranteeing its rights and status.

Lack asked that these positive developments be viewed "as illustrative of the standards to be emulated by other states in the promotion of understanding, tolerance, and respect with the fundamental right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion."

ISRAELI OFFICIAL SAYS ISRAEL WOULD NEVER ATTEND INTERNATIONAL PARLEY ON MIDEAST URGED BY THE SOVIET UNION

By David Friedman

ARLINGTON, Va., Aug. 30 (JTA) — Yosef Yaakov, the Israeli Consulate General in Washington, D.C., stressed here today that Israel would never attend the International Conference on the Middle East recently urged by the Soviet Union.

"We will not attend an international conference run by the Soviet Union which does not recognize Israel, which has broken diplomatic relations and which openly supplies weapons to the Arabs," Yaakov told the some 1,500 delegates to the 89th convention of the Jewish War Veterans at the Hyatt Regency-Crystal City here.

He noted that if such a conference was held, "the Arabs can always say as they have said for 36 years that they didn't negotiate with Israel but only attended a conference at which Israel was present. "When they sit across a table and recognize us and negotiate with us and dialogue with us and when they give us the same equality and legitimacy that they want for themselves," that is when there is a chance there will be peace in the Middle East," Yaakov said.

But he stressed that Israel's main problem today is not the military threat from its Arab neighbors but the economic crisis and inflation. However, he noted that this problem was caused by the military threat since no other country had to devote one-third of what it produces to defense.

Asked about the recent activities of Rabbi Meir Kahane, the leader of the extremist Kach Party in Israel, Yaakov said that it was Israel's democracy that enabled Kahane to win election to the Knesset. But he noted the "lopsided" publicity given Kahane both in Israel and in the United States as he said it was for the Black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan, even though Kahane represents only a small part of the Israeli population.

He noted that all the parties in Israel have "ostracized" Kahane. The more Kahane talks, the more it is clear what he stands for and the more the Israeli public becomes opposed to him, Yaakov said.

Asked about the control of Orthodox Jewry in life in Israel, Yaakov said this will only be ended when 100,000 American Reform and Conservative Jews make aliya.

Kahan's is scheduled to arrive in New York tomorrow morning to begin a series of speaking engagements and to raise money. He is scheduled to depart the United States on September 25, according to a spokesperson for Kahane in New York.

ITS GOLF SEASON IN ISRAEL

By Haskell Cohen

TEL AVIV, Aug. 30 (JTA) — The name of the game is golf and many young Israelis were putting around this week preparing to tee off at the Caesarea golf course at the forthcoming first annual Sam Sharrow Open Tournament. Sharrow, who resides in Florida, is instrumental in helping to win international prominence for the Caesarea Country Club, not far from Tel Aviv, Israel's first and only golf course. Before moving to Florida he spent more than 50 years in Massachusetts and in New York as a golf pro.

As a result of the splendid work and effort he has put into the Caesar club, he is being honored with the tournament which will run annually at the Israeli course. The spectacular Caesarea layout is constructed on the site of the ruins of one of civilization's oldest cities.

It's quite obvious that the majority of Israelis feel that they have more important problems than developing a good game of golf. In fact, the average Israel wouldn't know the difference between a putter and a lathe, and couldn't care less. Sharrow set about correcting this situation and began working on the younger generation by giving dozens of clinics and checking on Caesarea pro Charlie Mandelstam's progress with the Israeli Junior Golf Program.

Sharrow contends, "The best golfers in Israel are the South Africans. There is quite a colony of them who have immigrated to the Holy Land from South Africa where they played the game."

Sharrow believes that youthful Israel's have what it takes to become a top flight golfer — the basic game, total dedication and the proper mental attitude. However, most Israelis, according to Sharrow, happen to be realists who recognize priorities which makes golf something of a minor sport. Nevertheless, Sharrow is firmly convinced that ultimately golf, like tennis which produced a Shlomo Glickstein, will produce an international type linksman.

REMINDER: There will be no Bulletin dated September 3, Labor Day, a postal holiday.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES THE FATHER FIGURE OF EGYPT'S REVOLUTION AGAINST FAROUK By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Gen. Mohammed Naguib, first president of Egypt after the overthrow of King Farouk in 1952, died Tuesday after a long illness at Cairo's Kubbeh military hospital. Naguib was the father figure of the Egyptian revolution which was masterminded by Col. Gamal Abdel Nasser, then head of the young officers conspiracy in the Egyptian army.

Naguib was a hero of the 1948 Arab-Israeli war who rebelled against Farouk after Egypt's defeat on the battlefield. His heroism on the battlefield as second in command of the Egyptian troops and his anti-British outlook made him the rallying center of junior officers led by Nasser. After the revolution, Naguib was for over a year the figurehead of the army junta, but Nasser easily outsmarted him in a prolonged power struggle and put him under house arrest.

In his autobiography, "Egypt's Destiny" (1955), Naguib claimed the Egyptian army had been supplied with faulty weapons and that he had been opposed to "a formal war in Palestine and said so at every opportunity."

He said nothing was to be gained by demonstrating Egypt's weakness and he would have preferred Egypt to have confined itself to guerrilla operations in support of the internal Arab resistance movement.

Assessment Of The 1948 War

"Jewish immigration would have been discouraged, and there would have been no excuse, in the absence of formal intervention, for either recognizing Israel or imposing an embargo on the sale of arms to the various Arab states."

"We might not have won the war, but at least we would not have lost it as decisively as we did. All we achieved by intervening openly in Palestine was to make it possible for the Zionists to assume the fictional but effective role of a persecuted minority fighting for its life."

Although involved in a bitter and unsuccessful power struggle with Nasser, the real leader of the 1952 revolution, Naguib's memoirs showed that there was little difference between them over Israel, and in their wish to see the Arab world united under Egyptian leadership.

Refused To Recognize Israel

Like Nasser, Naguib refused to recognize Israel within the 1949 armistice lines and demanded the repatriation of the Palestinian refugees displaced by the war. He wrote in his book: "We cannot accept the fact of Israel until its government agrees to revise its frontiers and settle the problem of the Arab refugees in accordance with the resolutions passed by the United Nations."

Claiming that the greater part of the 886,000 refugees could be resettled inside Israel, Naguib added that "the remainder can and must be resettled elsewhere." Israel must compensate those whose property had been seized and must contribute a fair share to the cost of the resettlement elsewhere of those who were either unable or unwilling to be resettled in Israel, Naguib wrote.

Like Nasser, too, Naguib hoped to force Israel to give up the southern part of the Negev and its coastal outlet on the Gulf of Aqaba. The part of

Eilat, he argued, was too far from the economic heart of Israel to justify its existence and, in any case, Egypt would keep the Gulf closed to Israeli shipping until Israel had reached "equitable terms" with its Arab neighbors.

Issue Of Tactics

Of his domestic differences with Nasser, Naguib said they were ones of tactics rather than of strategy. Their common belief in the Egyptian revolution had never been an issue between them, he said. Naguib wrote:

"Nasser believed ... that we could afford to alienate every segment of Egyptian public opinion, if necessary, in order to achieve our goals. I believed.... that we would need as much popular support as we could possibly retain I believed, in short, that half a loaf was better than none. Nasser believed in taking greater risks than I thought were wise in an effort to obtain the whole loaf. It remains for the course of history to determine which of us was right."

Sought To Restore Democracy

As an invited outsider the putative leader of a young officer's successful coup, Naguib had been lent the official role of authority without the power to go with it.

Nevertheless, Naguib entertained the ambition to lead the Egyptians back to a better democratic government and almost succeeded for when the clash with Nasser occurred, Naguib had acquired formidable popular support as well as that of the armored corps.

While the Moslem brotherhood and the left saw Naguib as a possible ticket to power against Nasser's autocracy, the man the officers handpicked as their affable docile leader was now in a position to challenge their authority and force the army back to the barracks.

A Posthumous Honor

Middle East watchers in London said yesterday that the presence of Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak at Naguib's military funeral on Tuesday meant that the country's first President was being posthumously given back some of the popularity he enjoyed before being deposed by Nasser in November 1954.

Outmaneuvered by Nasser, Naguib was placed under house arrest in Marg, 30 miles north of Cairo, where he lived for many years in a large country house bereft of servants or domestic help.

He was allowed to settle in Cairo only in 1970 following Nasser's death. But President Anwar Sadat still continued to back Nasser's version of the power struggle in the early years of the junta. Although he wrote another volume of memoirs, Naguib continued to remain in the twilight.

It was only under Mubarak that a more favorable light was focussed on the aged Naguib, with controversial extracts from his memoirs appearing in leading Egyptian newspapers.

NEW YORK (JTA) -- New Zealand soon may become the first nation to adopt a Right to Know the Law clause prompted by the recommendations of a study made possible by the Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights of the American Jewish Committee.