

**PERES: LABOR WON'T RENEGE ON ROTATION ACCORD WITH LIKUD BUT WILL QUIT GOVERNMENT AFTER ROTATION IF LIKUD IMPOSES ITS OWN POLICIES**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, March 24 (JTA) -- Premier Shimon Peres has firmly rejected the idea that his Labor Party would renege on its rotation agreement with the Likud before its October 13 implementation date.

But Peres, addressing a session of the Labor Party's Central Committee in Tel Aviv Sunday, declared that Labor would not hesitate to quit the national unity government after the rotation if the Likud sought to force its own policies upon the unity government.

"If they (the Likud, after the rotation) violate the agreement about (West Bank) settlements, or if they impede the peace process, or if they conduct an economic policy that means (major) unemployment and inequitable sharing of the burden -- we will not stay inside the government for a single moment," Peres assured his Party.

At Peres' behest, the Central Committee deferred deliberation on a motion presented by former Knesset member Michael Ben-Zohar, and supported by 104 Committee members out of a total of 901 members, proposing that Labor leave the unity government now. The proposal is to be discussed at the Party's national convention April 8 in Tel Aviv.

**Impressed By Peres' Determination**

Political observers were impressed by the deliberate tone of determination and certainty which the Prime Minister adopted in making his declaration in favor of implementing the rotation accord.

In previous statements, Peres has often referred to implementation of the rotation of the Prime Ministership as one of three linked elements in the unity government coalition accord -- the other two being the peace policy and economic policy. Peres has tended to make the fulfillment of each conditional upon the other two -- thereby appearing to leave an escape hatch out of fulfilling the rotation.

In his statement Sunday, however, Peres seemed to discount the possibility of the rotation not going into effect as scheduled. Instead, he applied the tripartite linkage doctrine to the Likud's policy performance in the period following the rotation.

The question of whether Peres will go through with the rotation, which has constantly intrigued Laborites and outsiders, has taken on new vigor and immediacy in the wake of the aborted Herut Party convention earlier this month. Anti-rotation spokesmen in Labor argue that Deputy Premier Yitzhak Shamir, the Herut-Likud leader, is not fit politically to be entrusted with the premiership.

**TERRORIST GANGS APPREHENDED BY SECURITY FORCES IN RECENT WEEKS**

By Gil Sedan and Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 24 (JTA) -- An aggregation of terrorist gangs believed responsible for scores of bombings in Israel and the West Bank over a 20-month period was rounded up by security forces in

recent weeks, the army disclosed Monday. All of the gangs were associated with El Fatah, the terrorist arm of the Palestine Liberation Organization. In addition, security forces have taken into custody terrorist groups operating independently, with no known affiliations. They engaged mainly in throwing Molotov cocktails at Israeli vehicles in the West Bank and a similar attack on the Labor Exchange in Jenin.

Most of the Fatah terrorists were residents of East Jerusalem and Ramallah. One terrorist cell was based in Jericho. Their capture was one of the major successes of the security forces in recent years. According to military sources, 40 Arabs were arrested. The Fatah cells were generally small. But one of them comprised as many as 20 terrorists.

**List Of Terrorist Acts**

The list of terrorist acts committed by the gangs fills several pages. They include the planting of a boobytrapped car filled with containers of cooking gas in the Mea Shearim quarter of Jerusalem on September 22, 1985 and the placement of explosive devices in a restaurant in Migash Beit-El on October 8, 1985.

They also planted explosive devices on a No. 27 bus in Jerusalem on December 13, 1985; an explosive device in Ramat Gan on January 3, 1985; and another on a No. 66 bus in Bnei Brak, which exploded on September 4, 1985 injuring eight passengers.

Gang members planted explosives at an intersection near Ben Gurion Airport where soldiers hitch rides, on February 28, 1986. The Jerusalem-based gang is held responsible for three fire-bombings in the Neve Yaacov quarter in January and February, 1986. Terrorists, whose cells were uncovered in the Samaria district of the West Bank, threw fire bombs at Israeli vehicles near the Elon Moreh settlement on February 25, 1986, in Kalkilya on March 1, 1986, and in Jenin in October, 1985.

These gangs are also believed to have attacked Arabs suspected of collaborating with the Israeli authorities.

The Fatah cell in Jericho was responsible for terrorist attacks in that region and planting explosives on Naami Street in Jerusalem on July 23, 1985. A terrorist member of another Fatah cell, a resident of the Jebaliya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, was arrested on suspicion of stabbing an Israeli civilian in the Old City of Jerusalem on March 8, 1986.

**Israeli Soldier Stabbed**

Meanwhile, security forces put out a dragnet Monday for two men who allegedly attempted to stab an Israeli soldier on the Shefaram-Nazareth highway Sunday night. The soldier was reported in good condition after surgery.

He had been hitchhiking and was picked up by two men, one of whom knifed him in the chest. The soldier wrestled with his assailants. The car was forced off the road and both the knife-wielder and driver escaped.

**ISRAEL, EGYPT IN TOURISM EFFORT**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 24 (JTA) -- Israel and Egypt have joined in a concerted effort to promote and devel-

of tourism between the two countries, Israel's Minister of Tourism Avraham Sharir reported to the Cabinet Sunday. Sharir returned from an official visit to Cairo last Thursday. Last Wednesday night terrorists fatally shot an Israeli woman and wounded three other Israelis in a car ambush as they left the Cairo International Trade Fair. The victims were members of the Israel Embassy staff and had been staffing the Israel pavilion at the fair.

Sharir said President Hosni Mubarak and top-ranking Egyptian Ministers expressed genuine shock over the attack and told him those responsible were not Egyptians and would be tracked down and punished. Mubarak also stressed Egypt's desire to pursue the peace process and he has taken concrete steps in that direction, according to Sharir.

In the area of tourism, he said, the Israeli and Egyptian governments will establish a joint committee of travel agents to examine entry permits and fees relating to Israeli visits to Egypt. The purpose is to expedite procedures to increase tourist traffic. The committee will also draft proposals for the promotion of Egyptian tourism to Israel.

#### Joint Fund To Publicize Tours

A joint fund will be created to publicize Egypt-Israel package tours in Europe and the U.S. by advertising and public relations in those countries. Mutual study tours by Israeli and Egyptian travel agents and media representatives will be undertaken to improve the atmosphere and stimulate tourism.

These steps were agreed to at meetings between the 15 Israeli travel agents who accompanied Sharir to Cairo and 40 Egyptian travel agents. Sharir reported in addition that Mubarak has abolished the special visas necessary for Egyptians to visit Israel. He has ordered an end to trade restrictions, thereby giving Israel equal status with European countries doing business with Egypt, Sharir told the Cabinet. He said chances were good to reach a \$150 million trade agreement with Egypt.

The Tourism Minister said Egyptian officials expressed appreciation over the way the Israeli media treated recent unrest in Cairo.

Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir praised the Egyptian media for the sympathetic coverage it gave to the attack on the Israelis Wednesday night. Only one newspaper, Al Goumhuriya, struck an anti-Israel note when it maintained that Israeli diplomatic personnel in Egypt would be safe only when Israel changed its policies with respect to Lebanon and the administered territories.

Shamir, who has always taken a hard line toward Egypt, had rare praise for the way the Egyptians behaved after the attack. He disclosed that President Mubarak had personally ordered the Cairo hospital where the victims were taken immediately after the attack to give them priority treatment.

#### PLO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR BREAKDOWN OF PEACE PROCESS, STATE DEPT. SAYS By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, March 24 (JTA) — The State Department reiterated Monday that the breakdown in the peace process is due to the failure of the Palestine Liberation Organization to accept the necessary conditions for negotiations. "The current hiatus in the peace process is due to the PLO's

failure to accept the challenge," State Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman said. He noted the PLO "did not accept" United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, "did not agree to negotiate" with Israel nor "cease violence" as efforts to bring about direct negotiations were going on.

Redman was responding to a report from Cairo that Arafat was demanding the United States respond to his proposals for a Middle East peace. The proposals, which center on acceptance by all parties of the right of self-determination for the Palestinians in exchange for PLO acceptance of Resolutions 242 and 338, were sent to Washington through Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and King Hussein of Jordan, according to Arafat.

"It is up to the American Administration to give us a formal answer to these ideas and I am awaiting their official reply," Arafat told reporters after he met for three hours with Mubarak. Hussein announced last month that he had given up a year-long effort to work with the PLO on the peace effort because the PLO leadership could not be relied on to keep its word.

State Department sources noted Monday that Arafat was trying to shift the blame to the U.S. in his talk with Mideast leaders to "obfuscate" his responsibility for the breakdown in the peace process.

Meanwhile, Redman said that Richard Murphy, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, met last Saturday with Hanna Seniora, editor of the pro-PLO East Jerusalem daily Al-Fajr and one of two West Bank Palestinians acceptable both to the PLO and Israel as a possible representative on a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation for negotiations with Israel. He said they discussed the Middle East peace process and other issues. The meeting took place in Washington. Seniora is touring the U.S.

#### UJA 'NCC ON THE ROAD PROGRAM' GETS LOCAL INPUT ON 1987 CAMPAIGN PLAN

NEW YORK, March 24 (JTA) — With some 500 representatives of 79 communities taking part in eight locations across the country during the last two months, the United Jewish Appeal's "National Campaign Cabinet on the Road" program has successfully completed its mission of maximizing community participation in the planning of the 1987 UJA/Federation Campaign.

In the final stage of a comprehensive development process, the resulting document, the 1987 UJA Campaign Plan, was approved by the agency's National Officers, the highest UJA decision-making body.

"The aim of 'NCC on the Road'," said Martin Stein of Milwaukee, Wisc., UJA national chairman-designate for the 1986 Campaign, "was to obtain advice and consent at the grass-roots level, to bring the campaign planning process to our regions and to community leadership throughout the nation and have local Jewish leaders help shape the national plan. I am happy to say I believe we have met our objectives."

Stein, a UJA national vice chairman and chairman of UJA's Community Leadership Consultation Program, and other top lay leaders and UJA professionals met with community representatives in such centers as Atlanta, Philadelphia, Miami and Hartford, Conn. The resulting dialogues produced a variety of program suggestions in the areas of major gifts, missions, leadership development and raising the level of Jewish consciousness.

The meeting also provided Stein, who will succeed Alex Grass of Harrisburg, Pa., as UJA national chairman in May, with the opportunity to relate to a broad segment of the UJA/Federation family and to

develop a meaningful dialogue in regard to all aspects of UJA's work. In addition to the meetings in the "NCC on the Road" program, 28 others were held, involving lay and professional leaders and representatives of such groups as the UJA Young Leadership Cabinet and Campaign Chairmen. More than 750 persons participated in both series of meetings.

The approval of the 1987 Campaign Plan by the UJA National Officers was the culmination of a planning process that, Stein said, was designed "to incorporate community perceptions and ideas and to respond to community needs." The process began with the UJA Planning Committee, led by UJA national vice chairman H. Paul Rosenberg of Kansas City. The Committee's draft plan was subsequently discussed by the UJA's National Campaign Cabinet and refined during the "NCC on the Road" program.

The UJA National Campaign Cabinet, which helps shape overall campaign policy, is composed of national, regional and community leadership.

#### PIONEER KIBBUTZ ENDING ITS POLICY OF ACCEPTING FOREIGN VOLUNTEERS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, March 24 (JTA) — Degania Aleph, Israel's oldest and largest kibbutz, had decided the time has come to end its 18-year-old policy of accepting foreign volunteers. The reason, according to Eitan Peretz, secretary of the kibbutz which was established by Jewish pioneers in 1909, is that the volunteers have a negative influence on kibbutz youth and their presence has led to intermarriage and emigration.

The volunteers work in the kibbutz fields and factories for months at a time in return for room, board and small amounts of pocket money, and an opportunity to tour Israel at little expense. Israel's 200 kibbutzim play host to about 20,000 volunteers a year, half of them non-Jews.

Many of the latter are West Germans or Scandinavians. They have been coming to Israel in large numbers since the 1967 Six-Day War and, at that time, were welcomed both as staunch friends of Israel and much-needed volunteer labor.

#### Attitudes Have Changed

But attitudes have changed. One Degania member was quoted by The Jerusalem Post as saying, "We noticed that over the past few years the volunteers had become the dominant factor in the children's education and social life. The volunteers' attitude was, live for today, for tomorrow may never come. They had no obligation either to the kibbutz or to the country and that was what our children were absorbing."

Peretz said several kibbutz children left Degania to live in South Africa, Australia, Europe and North America with volunteers they had met at the kibbutz. There were eight cases of intermarriage recently. But the welcome mat is being pulled from Jewish as well as non-Jewish volunteers because of the incidence of emigration.

Degania members say the volunteers' influence negates kibbutz ideals and patriotism. None mentioned the introduction of drug use to kibbutz youngsters as a reason for the decision, but it is believed to be a factor.

Two other kibbutzim — Sha'ar Hagolan and Lehavot Habashan — have also stopped accepting foreign volunteers. But spokesmen for the kibbutz movement say this policy is not mandatory. Each

kibbutz will make its own decision. In Degania, according to Peretz, the members are much happier now that the volunteers have gone, although they must work harder. They admit the youngsters miss the volunteers.

#### RIVAL HERUT FACTIONS SEEK ACCORD ON POWER SHARING

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 24 (JTA) — The rival factions of Herut went to the peace table Monday to seek an agreement on power-sharing and possibly to reconvene Herut's 15th convention which disintegrated in chaos two weeks ago.

The latest development followed a meeting Sunday between Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Housing Minister David Levy. It was their second get-together since the convention aborted and Shamir had to be escorted from the hall by police under taunts from Levy's largely Sephardic supporters.

But passions apparently have calmed and the two men agreed to have their representatives meet to discuss issues over which they appeared earlier to be hopelessly divided. One of them is the proportion of representatives of each faction in the party's institutions. The factions are headed by Shamir, Levy and Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon, respectively.

Another matter on the agenda is Herut's merger with the Liberal Party, its partner in Likud. Many Herut leaders object to a clause in the unification agreement that grants the Liberals an equal right to vote in party institutions. The Liberals insist on this to ensure their influence in the merged party. The Herut opposition, led by Sharon, maintains that a secure place on the party's next Knesset list should be sufficient for the Liberals.

#### FIRE HITS ANOTHER MATZA FACTORY

TEL AVIV, March 24 (JTA) — A fire that swept through the Israel Matza factory in Petach Tikva Monday night — the third blaze in a matza factory in recent weeks — destroyed more than 200,000 packages of matza and may result in a shortage of matzot for Passover, which begins late next month.

The fire was the second at the Petach Tikva plant in six weeks. It followed by less than a week a fire that gutted the Aviv matza bakery in Bnei Brak where 100,000 packages for export were destroyed. Fire marshals said the three conflagrations in bakeries all owned by the same family could not be coincidental. Experts are investigating the possibility of arson.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry said there may not be a shortage because the output from the affected plants has declined in recent years. Whereas once they supplied 60 percent of the local market, their share has dropped to 40 percent.

#### THE UNKINDEST CUT OF ALL

JERUSALEM, March 24 (JTA) — Tax collectors here were cut to the quick by the realization that they were not receiving a fair slice of the profits made by Israel's mohels (ritual circumcisors). They reacted sharply upon learning that, with only 94 of the 224 licensed circumcisors bothering to file returns for 1984, they had only scratched the surface of the mohels' income. The 130 mohels who did not pay taxes, Israel television reported, will now be subjected to acute audits and their incomes most probably slashed. The circumcisors are now aware that this time round they will not be able to circumvent their civic duty.

## RABBI MOSHE FEINSTEIN DEAD AT 91

NEW YORK, March 24 (JTA) -- Tens of thousands of Jews converged on the Lower East Side Monday to pay their last respects to Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, one of the world's outstanding authorities on Jewish law and author of multi-volume texts of responsa and Talmudic commentary, who died Sunday at the age of 91.

At least 50,000 mourners packed the streets outside Tifereth Jerusalem, the yeshiva where Feinstein served as dean since he came to the United States in 1937. Afterwards, a long cortege followed his casket to JFK Airport. His body was flown to Israel Monday for burial at Har Menuchet cemetery in Jerusalem Tuesday night.

Leading rabbis spoke of Feinstein's prodigious scholarship, and stressed as well his piety, humility and sense of mission. He made himself accessible to all people with problems seeking his counsel and blessings; to young scholars who needed clarification of difficult Talmudic passages; and to seasoned rabbis who sought his advice and opinion on complicated halachic issues.

## Structured Each Day For Scholarly Pursuit

Associates recalled Feinstein's "hasmada" (diligence). He structured every minute of the day for some scholarly pursuit, such as a review of two chapters of Mishnayos while folding his teffilin straps. He reviewed the Shulchan Aruch, the code of Jewish law, more than 300 times during his life.

Feinstein served as president of Agudas Israel of America from 1966 - 1980 and had headed its presidium since the early 1950's. He also headed the organization's Moetzes Gedolei HaTorah (Council of Torah Sages), which he chaired since 1962; and was president of the Agudas Harabbonim (Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the U.S. and Canada) from 1968 to 1980.

He was a member of the rabbinical board of Torah Umesorah, the National Society of Hebrew Day Schools, of which he served as vice president, and was a member of the Board of Governors of Chinuch Atzmai/Torah Schools for Israel.

Feinstein's prolific responsa to halachic queries from all over the Jewish world from 1950-75 were published in the seven-volume "Igrot Moshe" (Letters of Moshe). He also published, between 1948-79, 13 volumes of Talmudic commentary, "Dibroth Moshe" (Moshe's Statements).

Feinstein was born in 1895 in Uzda, near Pinsk, Russia, and was reared in an atmosphere of rabbinic scholarship and responsibility. His father, Rabbi Dovid Feinstein, served as rabbi of Uzda for 25 years and then assumed the rabbinate in Starobin, where he served another 22 years. As a young man, Moshe Feinstein studied at the famed yeshiva of Slutsk under Rabbi Issur Zalman Meltzer, and later in Schklov under Rabbi Pesach Pruskin.

Following his ordination in 1921, Feinstein assumed the rabbinate in Luban, Russia, a position he held until 1936. But for more than 10 years he was under house arrest in Luban for religious activities. Nevertheless, he continued to gain international renown as an outstanding Talmudic scholar. Through diplomatic intervention, he succeeded in obtaining an exit visa to the U.S. in 1936.

On his arrival here the following year, Feinstein was invited to head the yeshiva Tifereth Jerusalem on East Broadway on the Lower East Side, then still a flourishing center of Jewish life, learning and culture. Tifereth Jerusalem was a small school. Under Feinstein's leadership it grew, reaching its peak enrollment of 800 students during the 1950's.

## ISAAC TOUBIN DEAD AT 70

NEW YORK, March 24 (JTA) -- Funeral services will be held Tuesday for Isaac Toubin, a leading Jewish educator, who died Sunday after a short illness. He was 70 years old. He was a graduate of Yeshiva University and of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, where he received his ordination, Masters of Hebrew Literature and Doctor of Hebrew Literature degrees.

Toubin had a distinguished career, serving in a variety of important leadership posts with the Jewish Welfare Board in post-war Europe, as director of its European office and director of the Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy. He also served for 14 years as national executive director of the American Jewish Congress.

From 1960 to 1978, Toubin was the national executive vice president of the American Association of Jewish Education, which was reorganized under his initiative as the Jewish Education Service of North America (JESNA).

Toubin was a foremost collector of Judaica and antiquities throughout his lifetime, and was an honorary member of the Board of Trustees of the Jewish Museum. He was considered throughout the Jewish community as a collector of Judaica, a scholar, a creative educator and an independent and articulate proponent of quality Jewish cultural activities.

## SHCHARANSKY SAYS HE IS TIRED BUT OTHERWISE FEELS 'QUITE WELL'

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, March 24 (JTA) -- Anatoly Shcharansky says he is feeling "quite well." The 38-year-old aliya activist who spent nine years in the Soviet Gulag told reporters here Monday that reports that his health deteriorated since he arrived in Israel February 11 are untrue.

"According to the newspapers I am in very bad health. But the truth is that I actually feel quite well. I am only tired, and regret that vacation is over," he said. He was referring to his month-long vacation with his wife, Avital, which kept him out of the public view. That apparently gave rise to rumors he was ill.

Shcharansky returned to his job at the Council for Soviet Jewry Sunday. He is scheduled to undergo another series of medical check-ups at Hadassah Hospital Monday. His only complaint is that he is unable to sleep more than four hours a night. He said it might be the result of the excitement attending his arrival in Israel. He also admitted he suffers from nightmares.

"Actually, there might be some good in it since at night I dream of prison and when I wake up, I am here," Shcharansky said.

## CROATIAN WEEKLY CENSURED

NEW YORK, March 24 (JTA) -- The Australian Press Council has censured a Croatian weekly newspaper, Hrvatski Tjednik, for publishing an article that contains "wild and unsubstantiated" anti-Semitic statements. The Press Council, according to information made available here by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, acted on a complaint filed against the weekly by the Anti-Defamation Commission of B'nai B'rith District 21 of Australia and New Zealand.

The article, which charged that Jewish organizations "run the world," was a "classic case of conspiracy theory which has been used by anti-Semites for the past century," according to the Press Council, adding that it was "typical of the kind of propaganda that has been used to stir up anti-Jewish prejudice and justify racial persecution."