

## RABIN BECOMES PRIME MINISTER WITH PLEDGE TO WORK FOR PEACE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, July 13 (JTA) -- As Yitzhak Rabin officially became Israel's new prime minister Monday, he left little doubt that one of his top priorities would be to advance the Middle East peace process.

Presenting his government to the opening session of the 13th Knesset, the Israeli Labor Party leader invited the leaders of Jordan, Syria and Lebanon to come to Jerusalem and offered himself to travel to the various Arab capitals.

He also issued an invitation to the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the peace talks to begin "informal talks" here immediately on how to quicken the pace of negotiations on an autonomy agreement for the administered territories.

His remarks appeared to have immediate dividends. Late in the day, the White House in Washington announced that President Bush had invited the new prime minister to his vacation home in Kennebunkport, Maine, at an unspecified date in early August.

Rabin's government, comprising the Labor, Meretz and Shas parties, won Knesset approval Monday evening, by a comfortable majority of 67-53.

The three coalition partners, which together hold 62 seats, were joined in the vote to support the government by the two mainly Arab parties: the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality, known as Hadash, and the Arab Democratic Front, led by former Labor Party Knesset member Abdel Wahab Darousha.

Darousha said his two-man faction had decided to support the government, rather than abstain, and would give Rabin a year's "credit"

to test whether he truly intended to implement the policies he had enunciated.

Hadash apparently decided to follow suit, though it had earlier said it would abstain unless Shas failed to join the government.

In Washington, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker welcomed Rabin's offer to visit Arab capitals, saying, "I think that any time Arab nations and Israel can sit down face to face and talk peace it is a very good thing."

In his Knesset address, Rabin urged Palestinians in the territories to set aside violence for the duration of the peace negotiations, but warned that there would be "no compromise" in suppressing unrest if the Israeli authorities had to act against it.

Palestinian leader Faisal Husseini reacted with interest to the new Israeli leader's remarks and said he would call a news conference Tuesday to deliver his response.

But members of the outgoing government were decidedly less enthusiastic. Likud leader Yitzhak Shamir, who now becomes head of the opposition, termed the Rabin speech "bereft of vision."

### Sharon Remarks Trigger Outburst

Speaking after Rabin, Shamir said the new government represents "a step downward in terms of government." He flayed the Labor Party leader for having "offered a chimerical formula of peace now," which he said was "akin to a nihilistic philosophy."

The outgoing prime minister noted bitterly that Rabin had "not mentioned Eretz Yisrael" in his speech and proceeded to warn the government that the nation would not be prepared to give up its historic right to the "one and only" biblical Land of Israel.

In the lengthy debate that ensued, Ariel Sharon triggered a storm of interruptions when he insisted that Arabs have no political rights, only personal rights, in the Land of Israel.

The outgoing government's hard-line Likud housing minister went on to claim that for the first time in Israel's history, its Arab minority had determined the shape of its government in the election.

Darousha of the Arab Democratic Party, shouting from his seat above the gavel strokes of the newly installed Knesset speaker, Labor's Shevach Weiss, accused Sharon of "incitement."

In his speech, Rabin listed the new government's order of priorities, which he stressed represent a marked difference from that which has gone before.

In the top spot, he put "security, personal and national," followed by "making peace and preventing war." Then came combating unemployment, promoting aliyah, furthering economic growth, strengthening Israel's democracy, ensuring equality for all its citizens and safeguarding human rights.

"We will change the national order of priorities," he declared repeatedly. "There are tremendous expectations directed toward us, at home and abroad," and Israel is "fully aware of them."

"There is a sense in our nation that this is a propitious moment in time. There will be strug-

### THE NEW ISRAELI CABINET

JERUSALEM, July 13 (JTA) -- Following is the Cabinet that Yitzhak Rabin presented Monday at the opening session of the 13th Knesset.

Rabin will retain the Defense Ministry for himself and temporarily hold the Religious Affairs and the Labor and Welfare posts, in the hope that additional parties will join his government.

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>Minister</u>	<u>Party</u>
Prime Minister, Defense	Yitzhak Rabin	Labor
Foreign Affairs	Shimon Peres	Labor
Finance	Avraham Shohat	Labor
Transportation	Yisrael Kessar	Labor
Commerce & Industry	Micha Harish	Labor
Justice	David Libai	Labor
Police, Communications	Moshe Shahal	Labor
Health	Haim Ramon	Labor
Housing & Construction	B. Ben-Eliezer	Labor
Environment	Ora Namir	Labor
Economic Development	Shimon Shetreet	Labor
Tourism	Uzi Baram	Labor
Agriculture	Ya'acov Tsur	Labor
Education & Culture	Shulamit Aloni	Meretz
Immigration & Absorption	Yair Tsaban	Meretz
Energy & Infrastructure	A. Rubinstein	Meretz
Interior	Arye Deri	Shas

gles, disappointments and tears," he said, "but we will strive for a better Israel."

He pledged his government would work with other states to ensure that there is no proliferation of nuclear weapons in the Middle East.

### Uproar Over Aloni Continues

On the social front, he proposed introducing longer school days in development towns, beginning with the new school year in September.

Rehearsing key parts of the coalition accords, Rabin said the Education Ministry, under Shulamit Aloni of Meretz, would continue to ensure that all Israel's children received a grounding in the national and religious heritage.

Aloni's appointment continued to provoke outpourings of wrath throughout the day from the Ashkenazic leadership of Israel's ultra-Orthodox haredi community, which views the sharp-tongued politician as hostile to the religious establishment.

Declaring that Aloni would "lead 1 million children to apostasy," a group of leading haredi rabbis issued a halachic ban on any Knesset member joining the government.

This was intended primarily to put intense pressure on the Sephardic haredi Shas party to revoke its agreement to join the Labor coalition.

But the six Shas members of Knesset all voted in favor of the new government, at the instruction of their spiritual leader, Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, chairman of the Shas Council of Sages.

Labor Party leaders expect the uproar over Aloni to subside eventually, once it is shown that she will not use the new post to go on an anti-religious crusade. They are even still hoping to entice the Ashkenazic United Torah Judaism party to join the government.

To this end, Rabin told the Knesset that he is keeping both the Religious Affairs Ministry and the Labor and Welfare Ministry under his own control for the present, in the hope that new coalition partners will eventually take them up.

### WELCOMED AT AIPAC RECEPTION, GORE FAILS TO MENTION ISRAEL

By Cynthia Mann  
States News Service

NEW YORK, July 13 (JTA) -- The Democratic Party's expected vice presidential nominee got a resounding welcome Monday at a reception for delegates to the party's convention here that was sponsored by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.

Sen. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.), who has a staunchly pro-Israel record, was introduced by AIPAC leaders with extravagant accolades.

"He is a great leader and one of the best friends of the pro-Israel community," said David Steiner, president of the pro-Israel lobby.

But Gore then delivered a speech that made no mention of Israel, surprising many listeners.

Instead, in one of his first official appearances at the convention, Gore issued a standard rallying cry aimed at galvanizing the rank and file to work for new presidential leadership.

"The stakes are very high, make no mistake about that," the senator said. "The words of the Scripture are true. Where there is no vision, people shall perish."

"Part of the legacy of the failed leadership of the Bush-Quayle administration is that so many Americans have been tempted to give up," said Gore.

"The answer to the cynics must come from

you," he said. "This will not be the kind of election where the American people can make the right decision with good people staying on the sidelines."

"I want to ask every last one of you to search your hearts," he said, and remove any impediment to giving everything "to this winning effort."

"I am asking you from the bottom of my heart," he said, to help the country effect a change that is "so desperately needed."

"We can make a difference," he said.

### 'A Bad Oversight'

Malcolm Hoenlein, executive director of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, called the failure to mention Israel "a bad oversight or a mistake in judgment."

But he said it is far from irreparable, "given Gore's outstanding record and the strong (pro-Israel) party platform."

Hoenlein said he had heard the speech was not about Israel to avoid the appearance before a national audience of pandering.

"That's not the way to address a vital issue," he said. But "I don't believe Al Gore is reluctant to be out-front on Israel."

Sources inside Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton's presidential campaign said the Gore speech was meant to be broad and to energize Democrats to "roll up their sleeves" and go to work for the cause. It did not have to spell out Gore's "credentials" on Israel because they are so well known, they said.

"He has a record that speaks for itself," said one.

"He had nothing to prove," said another.

In an appearance Sunday on the ABC News program "This Week With David Brinkley," Gore refused to be drawn into some of Israel's sensitive political intricacies and reiterated the party's support for the Arab-Israeli peace process.

"The future of Israel and the occupied territories will be for the parties to determine," he said. "Our policy should not be to make that decision in Washington but to create the conditions that are conducive to the parties themselves."

Gore was scheduled to be nominated formally Thursday night as vice president, but already he appears to have given Clinton a lift, judging by polls taken since the ticket was announced July 9.

Sharing AIPAC's podium with Gore, among others, were Rep. Lee Hamilton (D-Ind.), who had been a contender for the No. 2 spot on the party ticket; Rep. Bill Richardson (D-N.M.), chairman of the platform drafting subcommittee responsible for the pro-Israel language in the Middle East plank; and Tom Dine, AIPAC's executive director.

Hamilton, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said he expected the United States to provide Israel this fall with loan guarantees to help Israel absorb immigrants. He also was optimistic about the Arab-Israeli peace talks.

"The stage is now set for a quicker pace for the talks," he said, referring to the expedited timetable embraced by newly installed Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

He said that if Rabin halts Jewish settlements in the territories for a year, as he has indicated he might, "the Arabs should respond with immediate confidence-building measures, including a suspension or end of the boycott" against Israel.

# **JEWS STILL CAUTIOUS ABOUT JACKSON FOLLOWING RECONCILIATION SPEECH**

By Debra Nussbaum Cohen

NEW YORK, July 13 (JTA) -- Jewish observers of the black-Jewish relationship are cautiously welcoming the Rev. Jesse Jackson's recent condemnation of anti-Semitism and praise of Zionism as a "liberation movement."

While his unequivocal statements in Brussels last week at a conference on anti-Semitism earned him plaudits, many Jews are waiting for Jackson to repeat his statements in the black community before they jettison their doubts about his positions.

Jackson has earned the enmity of Jewish leaders for his relationship with Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan and his espousal of Palestinian national rights, which was underlined when he was photographed embracing Palestine Liberation Organization chairman Yasir Arafat in 1983.

During the 1984 presidential campaign, he referred to New York as "Hymietown." Jackson apologized for the remark later that year at the Democratic National Convention.

In his speech last week at the World Conference on Anti-Semitism and Prejudice in a Changing World, organized by the World Jewish Congress, Jackson told a capacity crowd of more than 1,000 that "racism and anti-Semitism are scientifically and morally wrong."

"We must stand up to anti-Semitism and racism wherever we see it with clarity and discipline, by putting forward the information that proves it false," he said.

Whether or not this effort at reconciliation with the Jewish community portends change in black-Jewish relations "depends on whether he delivers the same message to black audiences, particularly black students on college campuses," said Julius Lester.

Lester is a black convert to Judaism and a professor of Judaic studies at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

## **'New Openings For Dialogue'**

"Jackson's weakness over the years has been programmatic. He doesn't see himself as someone who articulates the program, but as someone who articulates the vision. Part of that vision should be delivering that same message to the black community," said Lester.

But it is important not to allow the opportunity presented by Jackson to get lost in a flurry of criticism, said Kenneth Stern, a program specialist on anti-Semitism and extremism at the American Jewish Committee.

When black leaders "do something positive and somewhat courageous, we should commend them and build upon it," he said. "One speech is just one speech unless people build upon it. There will be new openings for dialogue through him, and there are concrete things that the communities can do together."

The issues on which black and Jewish leaders should focus together, said Stern, are minority rights and social policy issues.

But according to Murray Friedman, author of a forthcoming book called "What Went Wrong: The Creation and Abandonment of the Black-Jewish Alliance," to be published by the Free Press in 1993, Jackson has not yet proven his opposition to anti-Semitism.

"Only a few weeks ago he invited (rap singer) Sister Souljah to his Rainbow Coalition

convention, and she delivered her message, which seems to advocate interracial violence," he said.

"For Jews to fully accept Jackson as a collaborator, he has to disallow such behavior, and people who are blatantly anti-Semitic and anti-white," said Friedman, who is also Middle Atlantic States regional director of the AJCommittee.

Still, he said, Jackson remains "a force of enormous influence in the black community, so it's important for us to remain in contact with him and give him an opportunity to evolve."

Zionist Organization of America leaders also were not satisfied with Jackson's statements in Brussels. "There is unfortunately much more to be desired of Rev. Jackson," said W. James Schiller, the group's president.

# **NEW YORK WILL LOSE AT LEAST ONE JEWISH CONGRESSMAN IN NOVEMBER**

By Larry Yudelson

NEW YORK (JTA) -- New York will lose at least one Jewish congressman this year under a redistricting plan that pits two veteran Jewish Democrats, Gary Ackerman and James Scheuer, against each other.

Another Jewish Democrat, Stephen Solarz, has chosen to run in a newly created Hispanic district, rather than face another incumbent. His current district, which includes the most heavily Jewish neighborhoods of Brooklyn, has been divided up among districts as far afield as Manhattan's Upper West Side.

The new districts reflect the 1990 Census, which shrinks the New York state congressional delegation from its present 34 seats to 31.

With fewer seats to go around, Ackerman, a nine-year veteran of the House of Representatives who now represents parts of Queens, and Scheuer, a 28-year veteran whose district includes parts of Queens, the Bronx and suburban Nassau County, both see a new district that ranges from Queens to Suffolk County as their natural territory.

"It's very regretful to see two outstanding people pitted against each other," said Malcolm Hoenlein, executive director of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. "Both have been to Israel many times; both have been very outspoken."

The new lines were drawn up by the New York State legislature and approved by the U.S. Department of Justice early this month.

In order to assemble the predominately Hispanic district in which Solarz has chosen to run, parts of Solarz's present district -- including Borough Park, with its strong Orthodox Jewish presence, and his home in Coney Island -- have been joined into a district that includes Manhattan's Upper West Side.

Solarz's strengths in his 18-year career in the House have always included his stand as a pro-Israel legislator, a role enhanced by his ranking on the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Were Solarz to face off against West Side incumbent Ted Weiss in the Democratic primary, he would find his support for the Persian Gulf War and his leading role in the House Bank scandal to be heavy liabilities.

He may stand a better chance in the new district, drawn to create a Hispanic majority and only 16 percent white.

The three competing Hispanic candidates seem likely to split the vote. And the \$2 million campaign war chest Solarz has accumulated will go a long way against relative political novices.

**JUSTICE DEPT. MOVES TO DENATURALIZE  
MAN ACCUSED OF BEING NAZI CAMP GUARD**  
By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, July 13 (JTA) -- The U.S. Justice Department has filed a complaint to revoke the American citizenship of an Ohio man accused of concealing his wartime past.

George Lindert, 69, a retired aluminum worker from Canfield, southwest of Youngstown, is accused of having been an SS guard at a concentration camp during World War II.

According to the Justice Department's complaint, Lindert joined the Waffen SS in the spring of 1942 and was in the SS Death's Head Battalion at Mauthausen, in Austria, both at its main concentration camp and its Loibl-Pass subcamp.

The complaint was filed July 7 in U.S. District Court in Cleveland by the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations and the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Ohio.

It is OSI's fourth move against a suspected Nazi war criminal in recent weeks.

According to the complaint, Lindert concealed his service as an SS guard when he entered the United States in 1955 and when he successfully applied for U.S. citizenship in 1962.

He came to the United States from Salzburg, Austria, under the Refugee Relief Act of 1953.

For 25 years, Lindert worked for Easco, an aluminum manufacturing plant in Austintown, near Youngstown. He retired in 1985.

Lindert told the Cleveland Plain Dealer, "I was never SS. I was drafted in the army. What choice did I have? I was a guard at the camp, but I worked along the fence. I never saw anyone killed."

To date, 42 Nazi war criminals or collaborators have been stripped of U.S. citizenship, and 30 have been deported.

**An Accelerated Pace**

OSI's activities have been moving at an accelerated clip in recent months, with the office processing several cases against alleged Nazis living in various parts of the country.

In early June, Michael Schmidt of Lincolnwood, Ill., a former SS guard at the Sachsenhausen concentration camp in Germany, agreed to leave the country rather than face deportation proceedings.

The following week, OSI filed charges of concealing his wartime past against Jonas Stelmokas, a retired Philadelphia architect charged with having been a high-ranking officer who helped Nazis murder Lithuanian Jews.

A week later, OSI filed similar charges against Jack Reimer of upstate New York, who, the office said, took part in the mass killing of Jews in Poland.

The department has been helped in its work by new access to documents obtained from the archives of Lithuania, Russia, Ukraine and other Eastern European countries.

OSI has been beleaguered of late because of doubts voiced in Israel and the United States over the veracity of claims that convicted war criminal John Demjanjuk was the Treblinka concentration camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible."

Demjanjuk has been sentenced by Israel to hang. But now the country's High Court of Justice is entertaining doubts as to whether the right man was convicted of the right crimes.

Supporters of Demjanjuk predicate their

belief that OSI got the wrong man on new evidence obtained from the former Soviet Union that points to a man named Ivan Marchenko as the brutal Treblinka guard.

But the very same adversaries of OSI used to reject the credibility of evidence obtained from the Soviet Union when it was a Communist power.

The staff at OSI sees the irony in this.

Its two dozen or so staff members, including lawyers, researchers and clerical workers, have had to devote a lot of time in the past to fielding criticism. Now they are again having to defend their work even as they move forward with new cases.

**UNDERCOVER UNIT COMMANDER FIRED  
AFTER ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF SOLDIER**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 13 (JTA) -- The commander of an undercover Israel Defense Force unit in the West Bank has been relieved of his post following the accidental death last week of one of the unit's soldiers, who was killed by "friendly fire."

The officer, identified only as Lt. Col. Oded, was fired by Maj. Gen. Danny Yatom, commander of the Central Sector, after an inquiry determined that the commander ordered one section of the unit to change its location without notifying the other sections.

Sgt. Eli Isha was killed July 8 when a fellow member of the undercover Duvdevan (Cherry) unit opened fire on him, apparently mistaking the disguised soldier for an Arab terrorist. Isha had been situated in a position not defined as a Duvdevan post.

The IDF spokesman said that Yatom, after reviewing the investigation report, decided Sunday to relieve the unit commander for "failing to properly deploy the force, thus causing the death of Sgt. Isha by friendly fire."

The statement said Yatom summoned the commander and presented him with the investigation's findings, stressing his responsibility for the operational failure that led to Isha's death.

The accidental death occurred in Barta'a village, near Jenin, where the Duvdevan unit was trying to ambush a wanted terrorist.

The Israel Defense Force chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Ehud Barak, approved the decision to remove the Duvdevan commander, despite his previously impressive and impeccable record.

Military sources noted that removal of the commander is an inevitable disciplinary action.

**NEW UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS UP IN JUNE**  
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 13 (JTA) -- New claims for unemployment insurance rose by 21.6 percent last month, but total unemployment claims remained stable at 83,000, the National Insurance Institute reported Sunday.

New claims rose to 14,000 in June, up from 11,500 in May, which had been 25 percent below March's peak of 15,330.

Since the beginning of the year, total claims for unemployment compensation have risen by about 14 percent. There has been an 11 percent increase in new claims since January and a 15 percent rise in the number of continuing claims.

The National Insurance Institute noted that some 15 percent of last month's claimants were new immigrants, while 16 percent were newly demobilized soldiers.