

### RELIGIOUS, SECULAR JEWS DIVIDED

JERUSALEM (WNS) - Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren's swift resolution of the case of Hanoch and Miriam Langer who had been classified as "mamzerim" has created a sharp rift within the world's secular and religious Jewish communities.

Conservative Judaism leaders attending the World Council of Synagogues convention here appeared unanimous in their approval of Rabbi Goren's handling of the case.

Rabbi Judah Nadich, Rabbinical Assembly of America president, cabled congratulations to

Rabbi Goren on "the great ruling which will increase the glory of the Torah." Prof. Simon Greenberg, Jewish Theological Seminary of America Vice Chancellor, said the ruling was the spirit of halacha. Great Britain's Chief Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits, who is Orthodox, indicated his approval, but cautioned "We cannot change the law completely."

Leaders of the religious communities of Bnei Braq met to consider establishing their own rabbinic and marriage registry. Denmark's Chief Rabbi Bent Melchior said he was unhappy with Goren's ruling, which removed the taint of illegitimacy from the Langers and permitted them to marry their fiances, because it did not solve the overall problem of "mamzerim" (illegitimacy).

The Rabbi's action proved immensely popular with a majority of Israelis although it engendered bitterness among die-hard conservatives in the rabbinate and in ultra Orthodox circles. Independent Liberal Knesset member Gideon Hausner, who was expected to agree to Goren's request to

defer his limited civil marriage bill for a year, said he had no intention of doing so.

Leaders of the Agudath Israel of America at its 50th national convention in Atlantic City, N. J., condemned Goren's action and said the 1000 Orthodox leaders attending the convention "feel it will be necessary to review the entire status of Israel's official rabbinate as it is presently structured."

Meanwhile, Rabbi Goren is under heavy police guard as a precaution against physical assaults by religious zealots.

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### EBAN LASHES UN INEFFECTIVENESS

JERUSALEM (WNS) - Foreign Minister Abba Eban has criticized the United Nations as an ineffective instrument for action and an ineffective arena for useful debate, and warned Egypt to abandon its illusions that the United States would impose a Middle East settlement.

Eban said Israel knew from "very recent contacts with the U.S." that America remained opposed to an imposed settlement and said he hoped Egypt would soon realize this was no passing fad but central plank of U.S. policy.

Eban said he would not be attending the UN General Assembly debate on the Middle East because

the debates have become "mere vituperative haranguing." Observers said Eban's comments seemed to raise to the level of official policy the unofficial lack of respect here for the UN.

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