

ACT, Arafat names prime minister

doubt

By Lara Sukhtian
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Yasser Arafat tapped the Palestinian parliament speaker to take over as prime minister Sunday and lead the Palestinians' next government after the resignation of Mahmoud Abbas.

Several leaders of Arafat's ruling Fatah party confirmed the nomination by consensus of parliament speaker Ahmed Qureia, though it remained unclear if he would accept. Qureia attended the meeting Sunday night but did not comment, Fatah officials said. The parliament speaker "is our only nominee," said Abbas Zaki, a member of the Fatah central committee.

The developments came during a day of intensive backroom politics set off by Saturday's resignation of Abbas. Arafat had refused to grant him more power over the Palestinian security services, capping four months of wrangling between the two since Abbas took office.

Qureia — a moderate who helped cobble together the 1993 Oslo accord between Israel and the PLO — was considered a top candidate to replace Abbas because he has led past negotiations and has credibility with the Israelis. Israeli officials didn't immediately respond to the development.

Earlier in the day, there were conflicting signals about whether Abbas might be pressured to stay on.

A source close to Abbas, speaking on condition of anonymity, said he would serve again only if he could work out a firm deal with Arafat beforehand on what his powers would be and who would serve in his government. Abbas himself sent mixed signals when asked about heading a new government. "It's something premature to talk about. My resignation is final," he said.

The resignation dealt a serious blow to the U.S.-backed "road map" plan for establishing a Palestinian state by 2005;

Israel and the United States have refused to deal with Arafat, whom they accuse of fomenting terrorism, and made Abbas, a critic of terror attacks against Israelis, their partner in peace efforts.

Arafat selects prime minister

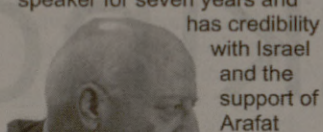
Yasser Arafat has decided to select Palestinian parliament speaker Ahmed Qureia as the next prime minister, just one day after Mahmoud Abbas declared his resignation.

Ahmed Qureia profile

► Also known as Abu Alla, the 65-year-old has been the No. 3 leader in Fatah after Arafat and Abbas

► A moderate and pragmatist, he helped piece together the 1993 Oslo accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization

► Has been the parliament speaker for seven years and



has credibility with Israel and the support of Arafat
Ahmed Qureia

SOURCE: Associated Press

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said any Palestinian prime minister must have clear control over security forces and use them to crack down on militant groups like Hamas and Islamic Jihad. "That person has to have political authority and the determination to go after terrorism," Powell said on ABC's "This Week."

The "road map" plan requires the Palestinians to dismantle militant groups. Abbas, despite his strong support for the road map in principle, has refused to do this forcefully, appealing in vain to the militants to disarm. The Palestinian's

leadership crisis came as Israel edged toward all-out war with the militant group Hamas.

One day after a botched strike Saturday against the group's top leaders, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon that all of the Islamic militant group's members are now "marked for death."

At the same time, a debate brewed over the morality of such "targeted killings" and over whether the militants can be deterred.

The decision to ratchet up the war on Hamas — after the group claimed a suicide bombing that last month that killed 22 Israelis, including six children — has considerable public support.

A power vacuum on the Palestinian side might invite an escalation in violence, with Palestinian militants possibly stepping up attacks and Israel taking more dramatic measures, including the potential expulsion of Arafat from Palestinian areas.

Momentum appeared to grow in Israel for expelling Arafat, with Cabinet ministers arguing that Abbas' resignation proved the 74-year-old Palestinian leader is the main impediment to efforts to end three years of violence.

"As long as Arafat is in the region, he won't let any other leader develop," Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom told Army Radio.

Amos Gilad, a top adviser to Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz, said there was a growing understanding in the United States and Europe that Arafat's departure is a precondition for progress toward peace.

The United States has blocked Arafat's expulsion in the past, and security advisers to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon have warned that Arafat could do more harm to Israel abroad than by remaining trapped at his West Bank headquarters in the town of Ramallah.

According to legislator Abdul Fatah Amyail, Arafat told those present that Abbas "has left us in difficult circumstances." He then turned to Qureia, put his hand on his shoulder, and said, "God help you, Abu Alla, with the coming burden."

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FALL 2003

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Phi Gamma Delta

Monday Casino Night, Association, 8-11 p.m.
Tuesday Billiards Night, Shadow Canyon (upstairs), 6-9 p.m.
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Friday Fiji Fight Night, Brazos Hall, 7-9 p.m.
Andrew Rice - Rush Chair 979.219.4103
aarice@tamu.edu

Alpha Tau Omega

Mon: Meet ATO's @ ATO House 6-9 p.m.
Tues: Billiard's @ Fox & Hound 9-11 p.m.
Wed: Disco Bowling @ Triangle Bowl 8-11 p.m.
Thurs: Informational (Business Attire) @ Rudder Tower
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For information call: Billy Holt or Todd Trncak 695-6904 Gabe Anderson 220-4074 or Andrew Radley 820-1819

PHI KAPPA THETA

Monday Crawfish Boil PKT House 6-8 p.m.
Tuesday Wings in Party Room Wings n' More (Inns & Deans) 8-10 p.m.
Wednesday Driving Range Lone Star 8-10 p.m.
Thursday Phi Kap Luau PKT House 8-10 p.m.
Friday Invitation Dinner PKT House 8-10 p.m.
Saturday Bid House Systems Building TBA
Transportation / Directions / Information
Cody Barker (713) 703-3628
Blake Fitzgerald (979) 492-5694 or Blake Macgregor (214) 663-2811

Beta Theta Pi

Mon. Meet the Beta's, Beta House, 8-9:30pm
Tues. Pool and Darts, Carney's, 7-9pm
Wed. *Fajita Cookout, The Tap, 7-9pm
Thurs. **Banquet, Briarcrest Country Club, 7:30-10pm
Fri. *Steak Night, T Bone Jones, 7-9pm
Sat. Bid House, 10am
*invite only +coat & tie
For information call: Billy Holt or Todd Trncak 695-6904 Gabe Anderson 220-4074 or Andrew Radley 820-1819

Pi Kappa Phi

Monday Dinner, Pi Kapp House, 8-11pm
Tuesday Fox & Hound, 6-9pm
Wednesday Slide Show, Conference Center, 8-11pm
Thursday Smoker (Invitation only), Pi Kapp House, TBA
Friday Date Party (Invitation only), TBA

CHI PHI

Monday Fish Fry Chi Phi House 6-9pm
Tuesday Target Practice Champs Firearms 8-11pm
Wednesday Wings N More 6-9pm
Thursday BBQ Chi Phi House 7-11pm
Friday Dinner 707 Rudder Tower 8-10pm
Saturday BID

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Monday Phil Pritchett live in concert SAE House 8-11 p.m.
Tuesday The Tap 8-10 p.m.
Wednesday Hilton** 6-9 p.m.
Thursday Date Party** 9-11 p.m.
Friday Bid Acceptance** SAE House 11 a.m.
Lunch daily at Duddley's Draw 12-2 p.m.
**Invite Only/Coat & Tie
Rush Chairmen: Dan Crowner 979-739-2848
Asst. Rush Chairmen: Josh Torres 979-574-9005 or Nick Dickerson 817-456-7317

DELTA CHI DELTA CHI

Monday - Meet and Greet, Fuddrucker on Harvey, 6-9pm
Tuesday - Bowling, Wolf Pen, 9-11pm
Wednesday - All American Night (movie and softball), TBA, 8-11pm
Thursday - Informational, The Hilton, 7:30-9:30pm (Invite Only)

Sigma Alpha Mu

Mon. Pool & Darts, Fitzwilly's, 6-9pm
Tues. Miniature Golf, Putt Putt, 8-11pm
Wed. BBQ, Hillel, 6-9pm
Thurs. Date Night (Invitation Only), Ozona, 7:30-11pm
Fri. Open Night
Sat. Bid House, Systems Bldg., TBA
Contact:
Robert Wolf 832-541-0858 or Eric Rubin 979-324-9504

DELTA SIGMA PHI

Mon. • Eat - Zapatos Cantina on Northgate, 7-9pm
Tues. • Playin' Bones - Dixie Chicken, 6-9pm
Wed. • Dinner - Kyle Field Press Box, 6-9pm
Thurs. • Billiards - Yesterdays, 6-9pm
Fri. • BBQ - Olsen Field Pavilion, 6-9pm
Rush Chair: Jason Finehout 979-571-3063
President: Richie Auler 979-739-8004
Faculty Advisor: Jay Todd Cleaver (Aston Hall Director) 979-847-7092

SIGMA CHI

Mon. Alfred T. Hornbaks Pool Hall, Texas Ave. and Walton Drive 8-11pm
Tues. Triangle Bowling Alley, Meet at Sigma Chi House 8-11pm
Wed. Sigma Chi Banquet (Coat & Tie) Pebble Creek CC 8-11pm
Thurs. Sigma Chi Smoker, Sigma Chi House 6-9pm
Friday Date Party (Invite Only) Sigma Chi House 8pm
Rush Chairmen:
David Gregory 574-4880 or Ogden McGowan 324-3725
Jacob Murray 575-5958 or Brett Blanchard 285-7809

Kappa Alpha Order

Tuesday: Lone Star Driving Range, 6-8pm
Wednesday: Fish Fry, Barn, 8-10pm
Thursday: Banquet, Hilton, 7-10pm
Friday: T-Bone Jones, 8-midnight
Richard O'Toole Rush Chair 713-303-6966
Trae Mayes Rush Chair 972-841-8885
Eric Doyal Rush Chair 832-875-0795

Sigma Nu

Mon. MSC Flagroom, 6:30 - 8:30pm
Tues. Koppe Bridge Bar and Grill, 8 - 10pm
Wed. Fox & Hound, 6:30 - 8:30pm
Thurs. Hilton, 6:30-8:30pm
Fri. Dinner Date, TBA
Sat. Bid Day, Systems Bldg.
Contact:
Adam Booth (cell) 903-918-1790
(home) 979-696-8636

KAPPA SIGMA

Monday: Monday Night Football w/Kappa Sigma, Porch of The Tap, 8-11pm
Tuesday: Billiards & Burgers, Upstairs at Fitzwilly's, 6-9pm
Wednesday: Eating it up w/Kappa Sigma, Wings 'N More Party Room (Deacon location), 6-9pm
Thursday: Meet Kappa Sigma w/Fajitas, Kappa Sig House, 6-10pm
Friday: TBA Star and Crescent Dinner, TBA
Saturday: Bid House, TBA

Sigma Phi Epsilon

Monday Wild Game Cookout Sig Ep House 6-9pm
Tuesday Fajitas and Live Music Sig Ep House 8-11pm
Wednesday Informational Dinner+ Briarcrest CC 8-10pm
Thursday Casino Night Sig Ep House 7-10pm
Friday Date Party*
Saturday Bid Night*
* Invite Only + Coat & Tie required
Erich L. Sowell 979-696-9996
Tim M. Zacharias 281-224-8750

Delta Tau Delta Fraternity

Texas A&M University

Monday, Sept. 8 - Pool, Yesterdays 7-9 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 9 - Driving Range, 8-10 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 10 - Hoagies & Stoagies, Delt House, 8-10 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 11 - Informational Banquet, Alumni Center**
Friday, Sept. 12 - Victory Dinner Date Party**

**Invitation Only

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