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## BEN GURION PRESENTS ULTIMATUM; WANTS COALITION AGREEMENT TODAY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion who has been negotiating with the same parties which formed his last coalition government to join him in a new Cabinet suddenly today presented these parties with what amounted to an ultimatum to agree to coalition by tomorrow noon or he would give up his attempt to form a new government.

Mr. Ben Gurion made it clear that if the leftists do not agree by Monday noon, he will go ahead with plans for a "small coalition" of the Mapai, Progressives and the religious group. If the Progressives, who have been hesitant about the small coalition idea, refuse to go along with a three-party government, Mr. Ben Gurion said he will report to the President failure to form a new government. In that case, it is believed, that he will recommend calling early national elections.

Mr. Ben Gurion presented his de facto ultimatum at an informal Cabinet session today which replaced the formal Cabinet meeting. There the Ministers of the five parties in the last coalition -- Mapai, Mapam, Achdut Avoda, Progressives and Mizrahi-Poale Mizrahi -- met to discuss the situation. Mr. Ben Gurion surprised his erstwhile colleagues by refusing to extend his deadline for formation of a new Cabinet until Tuesday when the current Mapam national convention will have concluded.

The hassle continues over Mr. Ben Gurion's somewhat moderated, but still unacceptable demands on a program for the new Cabinet. Instead of insisting on the forced resignation of a Cabinet member who leaks information about Cabinet decisions, the Premier now calls for prosecution of newspapers which publish such "leaks" with prison sentences of three years and more. At the same time, he insists upon collective responsibility within the Cabinet.

The centrist Progressive Party opposes the Premier's restrictive intentions toward the press, asserting this would violate the principle of a free press. The leftists want to continue certain exemptions they have held in relations to collective responsibility.

### Leftist Groups Give Qualified Acceptance of Ben Gurion's Terms

When the leftwing parties found themselves unable to obtain a deadline extension, the Mapam and Achdut Avoda party representatives presented themselves to the Premier today with qualified acceptance of his terms. The qualifications were viewed as an attempt to gain further time by forcing the Premier to negotiate about the proposed platform amendments.

Basically, the leftists asked for continuation of their right to abstain if a proposal for a defense pact with the United States comes up for consideration. But they asked that this right of abstention be extended to a discussion of any military pacts. Further, they asked for the right to abstain on any votes in Knesset on "matters of conscience" where their abstentions would not allow the opposition to out-vote the government. Finally, they asked for limitation of the proposed government punishment of editors who published "leaks" from the Cabinet.

At the Mapam convention which opened in Haifa this weekend, two trends are clearly visible: one favors the party's return to the coalition on the basis of mutual concessions, the other would not have any further dealings with the Mapai. The overshadowing effect the Cabinet crisis on this convention -- the third in the party's history -- was evident when secretary general Meir Yaari departed from plans to explain the party's declaration of independence from international Socialist and Communist groups to devote half his opening address to criticizing Mr. Ben Gurion's actions and the latter's threats to form a government with the rightwing parties.

The religious parties and the Achdut Avoda were meeting in executive session tonight to draft formal replies to the Premier's new demands. Meanwhile, all political parties turned out their leading members this week to address public rallies and explain their stand vis-a-vis the crisis. The major labor parties -- Mapai, Mapam, Achdut Avoda -- expressed a desire to reform the old coalition. The rightwing General Zionists called for immediate national elections.

# COMMUNIST GERMANY CHARGES BONN WITH GIVING MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL

BERLIN, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- The Communist East German radio has charged collusion between Israel and West Germany and attacked both states, alleging they are aggravating Middle Eastern tension and plotting against peace.

The broadcast said the East German Foreign Affairs Ministry has for some time been in possession of "reliable information that West Germany, contrary to the terms of the so-called West German-Israeli Reparations Agreement of Sept. 10, 1952, has been supplying materials and equipment which directly or indirectly reinforces Israel's military potential." It was charged that this was done "by way of direct deliveries and by the payment of military supplies delivered by other countries, such as Turkey."

An East German Foreign Ministry spokesman said: "As early as Dec. 13, 1957 a representative of Ben Gurion negotiated secretly with Adenauer about West German arms deliveries to Israel. The West German Government is known to be planning to double the payments made to Israel under the reparations agreement."

Attacking Israel, the East German spokesman said: "The role played by Israel in conjunction with Britain and France as an aggressor against Egypt is still remembered. Numerous actions and statements by leading Israeli politicians indicate that they have not learned the necessary lesson even after the failure of the aggression."

The broadcast alleged that "Israel is working to aggravate tensions in the Near East. In view of this fact the proposed West German deliveries of particularly dangerous arms to Israel can only mean that the Bonn Federal Government is taking a still more active part in strengthening Israel's war potential." The broadcast claimed that by its attitude toward Israel, the Bonn Government was not considering the interests of the Arabs but rather contributing to aggravation of regional tension.

"For the sake of preserving Middle East peace and of friendly relations of the whole German nation with the Arab peoples, the GDR (Communist) Government most sharply condemns the (Bonn) Federal Government's attitude toward Israel and reiterates its demand to avoid anything that imperils peace in the Near East," the official spokesman said in his broadcast.

## BONN DENIES THAT ISRAELI ENVOY VISITED GERMANY ON OFFICIAL MISSION

FRANKFURT, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Both Israel purchasing mission circles in Cologne and Bonn Government sources denied today that Shimon Peres, director general of Israel's Defense Ministry, who recently visited Germany was here on an official mission. It had been reported that Mr. Peres went to Germany to negotiate for the purchase of arms.

Meanwhile, Dr. F. Shinnar, head of the Israel purchasing mission, called on Jews to be realistic in their relations with Germans and to cease thinking only about the past when they deal with Germany. "There is no Nazi danger in Germany today," he emphasized.

"The last two elections have clearly shown this. I am convinced the German people today are sincerely endeavoring to build up a new community founded on law and justice," Dr. Shinnar asserted. "A wholly new generation is growing up in Germany, whose principles, as far as can be judged today, are democratic and fully in line with those of their government."

He pointed to the fact that the Israel-German reparations pact is functioning without a hitch five years after it came into force. "Sixty per cent of West German deliveries to Israel have consisted of capital goods designed to assist Israel in construction of its industry and agriculture. The rest comprised mainly raw materials and semi-finished manufactured goods. We do not expect the reparations agreement to undergo any changes during the next several years," he added.

## SOVIET GOVERNMENT LEADERS SEE TENSION IN MIDDLE EAST RELAXING

LONDON, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- The withdrawal of Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky from the command of the Soviet Transcaucasus force is an indication that Soviet leaders believe the danger of war over Syria appears to have ended and tension is relaxing in the Middle East.

A dispatch from Moscow revealed that foreign correspondents at a Burmese Embassy reception asked Soviet Deputy Premier Anastas I. Mikoyan whether this interpretation could be placed on the shift in assignment of the Soviet military here and Mr. Mikoyan replied: "You are very right. You understand this very well." Premier Nikolai Bulganin, standing next to Mr. Mikoyan and listening, agreed.

## ISRAEL AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW RETURNS TO HIS POST; WAS ABSENT 3 MONTHS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Joseph Avidar, Israel's ambassador to Russia, returned to Moscow today after three months absence from his post. He was a member of the Israel delegation to the United Nations General Assembly, which was in session in New York for more than three months.

# AUSTRIAN CABINET TO STUDY JEWISH RESTITUTION; JEWS PRESENT DEMANDS

VIENNA, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Chancellor Julius Raab told a delegation of the Board of the Jewish Communities of Austria that the Austrian Cabinet has decided to set up a special commission in the Austrian Finance Ministry to study the whole issue of long-deferred restitution claims, Dr. Emil Maurer, president of the board, disclosed today.

Dr. Maurer said that the delegation met with the Chancellor at the latter's invitation. The delegation told the Chancellor that Austrian Jewry wants an adequate settlement of restitution demands; the earliest possible arrangement to permit organizations to administer the distribution of the heirless property of Nazi victims to the survivors; and a lump sum payment as restitution for the synagogues and cemeteries destroyed during the Nazi regime.

The Chancellor told the delegation that he hoped the Austrian Parliament would be able to make "adequate decisions" during 1958, but insisted that the social welfare cases, the sick and the aged had to be considered first. Dr. Maurer said he appealed to the Chancellor to give personal support to the Jewish claims.

# ANTI-SEMITISM RAMPANT IN COMMUNIST HUNGARY, BUDAPEST PAPER ADMITS

VIENNA, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Anti-Semitism is still rampant in Hungary despite the "modern democratized form" of the Communist regime, it was reported in the Hungarian paper, Hadju Buhari, just received here from Budapest. The newspaper blamed the former leadership which made concessions to "bourgeois anti-Semitic tinged tendencies."

Governments before the present Kadar regime never conducted adequate propaganda against anti-Semitism, the newspaper asserted. Today anti-Semitism still exists among workers, farmers and intellectuals.

# JEWS IN POLAND APPEAL FOR ISRAEL'S "NEUTRALITY" IN EAST-WEST CONFLICT

VIENNA, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- The Cultural Association of the Jews in Poland, representative body of Polish Jewry, made public in Warsaw an appeal the presidium of the Association has addressed to the World Jewish Congress executive suggesting the WJC urged all its affiliated organizations "to popularize the idea of neutrality" by Israel in the East-West conflict in the Middle East.

The appeal also asked the World Jewish Congress "to organize a popular movement" to achieve Israeli neutrality. It pointed out that "the interests of the Jewish people in Israel, as well as the very existence of Israel, requires that Israel should declare itself strictly neutral, should not permit itself to be dragged into the intrigues of the colonial powers, and should make a maximum effort to establish peaceful relations with its Arab neighbors."

# POLISH SCIENTIST WHO DEFECTED TO U.S. CONSIDERED JEW IN POLAND

NEW YORK, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Professors at Warsaw University who knew Polish scientist Dr. Jerzy Leon Nowinski, who defected from the Communist regime and asked political asylum in the United States, believe he may have done so because "he was a Jew," the New York Times reported from Warsaw this weekend, adding that anti-Semitism is still a considerable problem in Poland.

However, Dr. Nowinski has stated he is a Catholic. One of the reasons he gave for wanting to leave Poland was to have his daughter "attend a school with better religious and moral conditions" than the schools of Communist Poland. He expressed himself as disappointed in "religious conditions" as well as other conditions in postwar Poland.

# NUMBER OF IMMIGRANTS ADMITTED TO U.S. GREATLY DROPPED IN 1957

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Immigrants admitted to the United States as permanent residents dropped 24 per cent in number in 1957, after having increased in each of the five previous years. This was revealed today by U.S. Immigration Commissioner Joseph M. Swing's annual report. It showed 262,000 admitted last year compared to 347,000 in 1956.

Small use was made of provisions to admit foreign scientists to this country. Mr. Swing revealed that only 3,600 scientists and technicians were admitted although the law allowed 75,000. He said this "reflects the failure of the American business community to take maximum advantage" of the law.

Last session congress refused to make liberalizing modifications requested by President Eisenhower in the rigid national origins quota system. Nor did it extend the law to help refugees without regard to quotas although it did pass a bill admitting an estimated 60,000 including some refugees under certain hardship conditions. Some 2,700 persons have been admitted under this law since Sept. 11, 1957.

TWO-DAY ISRAEL BOND CONFERENCE TO ADOPT QUOTA FOR 1958 CAMPAIGN

NEW YORK, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- A program to speed the economic development of Israel, especially the Negev region during 1958, will be projected next week-end at the national leadership conference for Israel bonds, meeting at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, it was announced here today by Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, vice president of the Israel Bond Organization. More than 300 key Jewish leaders of the United States and Canada will take part in the sessions starting Saturday evening, January 11.

The meeting will review the achievements of the 1957 Israel bond drive, and set forth detailed plans for the attainment of record bond sales during 1958. The conference will adopt a quota for the 1958 drive. In announcing plans for the conference, Dr. Schwartz stressed the key role of Israel bonds in helping Israel to fulfill its vital program of industrial and agricultural growth for the coming year, and emphasized the importance of the Negev in Israel's economic plans for 1958.

"The Negev must be the center of Israel's growth, not only during 1958 but in the years to follow," Dr. Schwartz said. "This is the area where new settlements must be established. This is the area where irrigation must convert additional tens of thousands of acres to use as farmland. In this part of the country, natural resources such as oil, phosphates and copper must be exploited at an intensified rate. The Negev is the hinterland of Elath, on the Gulf of Akaba, and must be built up to give that port greater economic strength through the development of industry for export."

"INBAL WEEK" STARTS TODAY; N. Y. MAYOR HONORS YEMENITE DANCING TROUPE

NEW YORK, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- The week of January 6 through January 13 has been proclaimed "Inbal Week" in New York City by Mayor Wagner to coincide with the first week of the Yemenite dancing troupe's three-week performance here. The New York City appearance is the first for the Inbal troupe in the United States and the first in a tour of many major cities.

In his proclamation, Mayor Wagner praised the welcome of Israel to Jews from all parts of the world. "One group of this ingathering has especially won the world's attention and affection, namely the Yemenites, a people cut off for 2,000 years from the mainstream of Jewish life," the proclamation emphasized.

The Mayor also lauded the "wealth of talent and beauty of spirit personified by the group of Yemenite singers and dancers" in the Inbal troupe. Members of the troupe were guests at a reception Friday sponsored by choreographers Anna Sokolow and Jerry Robins. Members of the New York City Ballet attended the reception.

"DI PRESSE," ARGENTINE JEWISH NEWSPAPER, CELEBRATES 40TH ANNIVERSARY

BUENOS AIRES, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Jewish personalities and organizations in the Argentine community hailed today the Yiddish daily newspaper "Di Presse" on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

The newspaper, owned cooperatively by its employees, is one of two Yiddish dailies in this country. Its pages regularly carry contributions from noted Yiddish writers all over the world as well as the writings of leading Jewish journalists in this country. "Di Presse's" circulation reflects a large and faithful following among Yiddish readers here.

DR. LIEBERMAN, NEW YORK SCHOLAR, WINS TEL AVIV MUNICIPAL "BIALIK PRIZE"

TEL AVIV, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Dr. Saul Lieberman, a member of the faculty of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, has been awarded the second of two municipal prizes for Talmudic research after an Orthodox uproar about a Tel Aviv award to him of the other prize which he said he was ready to forego, it was disclosed today.

Announcement of the award of the municipal "Rabbi Kook" prize for Torah research evoked last year furious opposition from Orthodox winners who said they would not accept the prize if it was given to a "Conservative rabbi." The dispute delayed the Rabbi Kook award last year and Dr. Lieberman volunteered to resign the award.

This year the municipality awarded him the Bialik prize for "Israel. Science" for his book, "Tosseftah." Nathan Alterman, the poet was the co-winner of the same prize.

Dr. Lieberman Named President of the American Academy for Jewish Research

NEW YORK, Jan. 5. (JTA) -- Dr. Saul Lieberman, professor of Talmud and dean of the Rabbinical School of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, was elected to a second term as president of the American Academy for Jewish Research.

The election took place during the annual meeting of the society, convened primarily for the presentation and discussion of scholarly papers. Other officers reelected were Dr. Guido Kisch, professor of History at Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, vice-president, and Dr. Harry M. Orlinsky, professor of Bible at the same institution, treasurer. Dr. Joshua Finkel, professor of Arabic at Yeshiva University was reelected as recording secretary.