

# JTA daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc. 660 First Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016

Contents copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement.

Vol. XXXV - Fifty-First Year

Monday, December 16, 1968

No. 238

## Dayan Tells TV Audience Israel Is Prepared To Yield 'Lots' Of Territory For Peace

NEW YORK, Dec. 15 (JTA)--Israel's Defense Minister Gen. Moshe Dayan told a nationwide television audience today that Israel was prepared to give up "lots" of territory as the price of peace with its neighbors and affirmed that his country was prepared to negotiate a permanent border with each of its neighbors.

He declared that Israel was eager to change the present cease-fire lines to permanent boundaries and was ready to work out all the details from maps at the negotiating table. Interviewed on the program "Issues and Answers" on the American Broadcasting Co. network, Gen. Dayan said Israel wants peace and relations with its neighbors. "We want to negotiate the borders. We do not want to go back to the old borders. We want new lines," he said. Much of the interview covered the ground of his speech Saturday night at the United Jewish Appeal dinner here, with Gen. Dayan reiterating his belief that the U.S. could improve its relationships with the Arab states without having to do so at the expense of Israel. He said he did not think the U.S. would discard old friendships to buy new ones. To one of a series of wide-ranging questions, as to what the U.S. could do to assure Middle East peace, Gen. Dayan said a year and a half ago the U.S. told the Soviet Union "if you go in, we go in." This approach, he said, proved effective.

Gen. Dayan visibly showed anger when he was asked about Arab charges of atrocities and mistreatment of the Arab population of the occupied areas. "Not one Arab civilian has been killed," he exclaimed. He challenged his questioner to provide photographs or other evidence of Israeli misdeeds as charged by the Arabs. The general bristled again when asked whether the recent "heavy raid" on the Iraqi based in Jordan would not escalate the border difficulties. He retorted that the raid was not heavy enough. He said the Iraqi and El Fatah were not attacking Israel as a matter of reprisal or as the result of escalation. They were in Jordan, he said, for the express purpose of carrying out attacks on Israel and violating the cease-fire. He conceded that King Hussein might be hurt by the Israeli reprisal raids but he pointed out that no sovereign ruler could permit an outside force to operate from his territory violating the cease-fire agreement he had signed.

## General Tells UJA Delegates Of Concern About Soviet Involvement

Addressing more than 3,000 delegates to the 30th national conference of the United Jewish Appeal here Saturday, Gen. Dayan said, "Soviet policy in the area is causing us considerable concern. The Soviets are supplying Egypt and Syria with great amounts of arms and armaments and are inciting them as well as training and organizing their forces." He warned that "such a Soviet policy can lead the Arabs, if they get the green light and promised support from the Soviets, to resume the war." Gen. Dayan said Israel wanted "peace in place of the armistice agreements" and "new and secure borders in place of the old armistice lines." He declared that Israel "has no confidence in United Nations peace-keeping forces as a means of insuring the rights of navigation through the Straits of Tiran."

Gen. Dayan said the Arabs recognize that they have no chance of victory in an all-out war--"thus the artillery attacks along the Suez Canal and the Jordanian attempts to harass our settlements in the Jordan Valley." He said the U.S. could prevent another war and lay the groundwork for peace by "providing two elements which Israel cannot do by itself -- supplying weapons which we cannot produce and discouraging the Russians from intervening in the area."

Gen. Dayan said that as the de facto government in the occupied area, Israel "must and should consider the Arabs living there not as enemies but as people toward whom we have a governmental responsibility, the responsibility to provide them with the services and the conditions that can enable them to lead as normal a life as possible. We have a capacity to provide them with all this and we are doing so in spite of possible risks that may be involved."

## Visits Nixon And Expresses Confidence In Continuing U.S. Support

Gen. Dayan paid a courtesy call on President-elect Nixon at the latter's Hotel Pierre headquarters in New York on Saturday. Emerging after a half-hour meeting, he told newsmen he was confident that there would be no diminution of U.S. support for Israel, adding, "Certainly not after this morning's meeting." He said further that he believed it would be to Israel's advantage if the U.S. improved its relations with the Arab world since the U.S. would then be able to exert greater influence over the militant Arab states and counter the growing influence of the Soviet Union. Gen. Dayan said he was convinced that improved American-Arab relations could be achieved without altering America's traditional support of Israel.

The Israeli Defense Minister was obviously trying to calm fears aroused in some Israeli circles and among American Jews by a suggestion by William W. Scranton, Mr. Nixon's fact-finding envoy to the Middle East, that the U.S. should pursue "a more even-handed policy" in the region. He conceded that most Israelis "didn't exactly like" that remark. He said, however, that greater American influence in Egypt, Syria and Iraq might be helpful. Mr. Scranton returned here Thursday from a week-long tour of the Middle East during which he visited four Arab countries, Iran and Israel. He reportedly

told Mr. Nixon at a briefing Friday that tensions between the countries of the region were "extremely explosive" and that the U.S. could ease them by showing its friendliness toward the Arab states. "If there is not a peaceful solution in the very near future in the Middle East, the threat of raids and counter-raids will increase," he reportedly told the President-elect. Mr. Scranton is said to have reported that he found the dominant impression among the Arab states to be that the U.S. was prejudiced toward Israel. He was also said to have told Mr. Nixon that the Arab world was not totally committed to the destruction of Israel and that the Arabs "can live with a non-expansionist Israel."

(Reports from Cairo today said that Mr. Nixon has assured the Arabs that the U.S. continues "to search for justice" in the Middle East and other parts of the world. The President-elect's remark was contained in a message from Mr. Nixon to Abdel Khalek Hassouna, secretary-general of the Arab League in reply to a congratulatory message Mr. Hassouna sent on Mr. Nixon's victory last month.)

### Tekoah Rejects Principle Of 'Even-Handedness' In Middle East Dispute

NEW YORK, Dec. 15 (JTA)--Ambassador Yosef Tekoah of Israel today rejected the concept of "even-handedness" advanced last week by former Gov. William W. Scranton as a principle of American policy toward the Middle East. Addressing the annual dinner-dance of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Mr. Tekoah said, "There can be no even-handedness when the choice is between Israel's simple demand for respect of its rights and the attempt by the Arab states to vindicate their own rights while vitiating Israel. Peace-loving governments cannot remain uncommitted in such a situation." He said, "It is right to take sides under circumstances. It is right to strengthen Israel in its struggle for peace. It is right to give no encouragement and no solace to the Arab states in their hostility and extremism," he said. The Ambassador did not mention Gov. Scranton by name.

### King Hussein Reported Willing To Give Up West Bank If It Will Promote Peace

LONDON, Dec. 15 (JTA)--King Hussein of Jordan is reportedly prepared to renounce his claim to sovereignty over the West Bank of the Jordan, occupied by Israel since the June, 1967 war, and would accept a separate Arab entity there inhabited by Palestinians if it would promote peace and "if that is what the people want." King Hussein's offer appeared in a dispatch from Amman by Gavin Young, published yesterday in the London Observer. Mr. Young said it was made by the Hashemite monarch during an exclusive interview in the royal palace in Amman last week.

(United States State Department officials and Israeli diplomats in Washington expressed surprise and some skepticism over King Hussein's reported offer. One American official said the King might have used the vehicle of an interview to force the restive population on the West Bank to beg him not to abandon them. Another said that while the King had taken some measures to give West Bankers greater autonomy prior to the 1967 war, his reported statement was a radical departure from his previous positions. Shlomo Argov, minister at the Israel Embassy in Washington, said the remarks attributed to King Hussein would be "a very good answer" to questions asked by Israel through United Nations peace envoy Gunnar V. Jarring about how Jordan and Egypt envisaged a peace settlement with Israel. An Israeli source at the UN said that if Hussein's alleged proposal were confirmed "in a more substantial way," the Israeli Cabinet would "sit many hours" considering it.)

According to Mr. Young's story, King Hussein said that "he would be content to remain ruler of the East Bank of the Jordan -- the equivalent of what under his grandfather King Abdullah was called Trans-Jordan -- if the people of the East Bank want that." Mr. Young said the significance of Hussein's offer had to be viewed in the context of proposals which reportedly have come to him from Americans and Israelis. The essence of these proposals, Mr. Young reported, are: The West Bank would be evacuated by Israel; East Jerusalem would be established as headquarters of an autonomous Palestinian state in a special relationship with Jordan; this state would have access to the Mediterranean through Haifa and Gaza in Israel-occupied former Egyptian-held territory; and the state would be demilitarized. "Up to now there have been two principal obstacles -- among many -- to such a plan," Mr. Young wrote. "One was the assumption that King Hussein would refuse to give up sovereignty of the West Bank -- now proved wrong by his remarks this week. The second obstacle was the firmly reiterated Israeli intention to hold on to Jerusalem. The Arabs will accept nothing that does not restore Jerusalem to them. A hopeful sign was the statement made this week by a senior official of the Israeli Foreign office that the status of Jerusalem was still negotiable," Mr. Young said. "In the interview, Hussein said that there might be solutions other than the creation of an independent Palestine. But the point he was trying to make, he added, was that he was prepared to diminish his kingdom if the requirements of peace in the area dictated it."

### Eban Confers With British Leaders, Does Not See Middle East On Brink Of War

LONDON, Dec. 15 (JTA)--Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban said here last weekend that the Middle East cease-fire agreements were not on the brink of collapse nor was the Middle East on the verge of a new explosion. He spoke to newsmen following an hour-long meeting with Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart and a half-hour courtesy call paid to Prime Minister Harold Wilson at the latter's residence. Mr. Eban arrived Thursday to address the opening of the Joint Palestine Appeal's 1969 campaign.

He said he would meet again in January with Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, the United Nations special peace envoy to the Middle East. Mr. Eban said that Israel has been prepared to join

in new peace efforts in the form of a conference among the parties to the Middle East conflict with Dr. Jarring. He said, however, that this proposal and other peace efforts had been rebuffed by Egypt. He repeated Israel's position that withdrawal from occupied Arab territories depends on a firm agreement for peace and settlement of "all relevant matters" including secure boundaries agreed to by both sides. Prime Minister Wilson and Foreign Secretary Stewart were reported to have urged both Israel and the Arabs to issue "clear declarations" accepting the UN Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 resolution "in the clear knowledge" that it implied Israeli withdrawal and Arab approval of a lasting and secure peace. Mr. Eban told newsmen that while his Government was amenable to phased peace negotiations, it rejected any phased troop withdrawal to parallel stage-by-stage negotiations. He also reiterated Israel's insistence that any peace arrangement in the Middle East must be agreed to by all parties and cannot be "grafted" by the Big Powers. "The Middle East is not a colonial protectorate but an area inhabited by sovereign states and a peace settlement can come about only by negotiation and agreement between these states," Mr. Eban said.

He expressed satisfaction with his meeting last week with William W. Scranton, President-elect Nixon's fact-finding envoy to the Middle East. He said he found that Mr. Scranton had an open mind on the Middle East and had come to listen, not to present any ideas. He said that on the basis of his talks with the envoy he was certain there would be no changes in the American policy on the Middle East enunciated by President Johnson in his five-point program of June, 1967 and reinforced by statements by Mr. Nixon during the election campaign.

### Polish Anti-Semitism Denied By Embassy In Response To Charge On Emigration

LONDON, Dec. 15 (JTA)--A spokesman for the Polish Embassy here, reacting to a charge that Polish anti-Semitism had led 14,000 of Poland's 25,000 remaining Jews to register for emigration, asserted that the charge was "fantastic." Dr. S. J. Roth, director of the Institute of Jewish Affairs, who had voiced the charge, also said at a press conference here that some 3,000 Jews had left Poland because of the Gomulka regime's anti-Jewish campaign. The spokesman told the London Times that there were no Polish Government statistics for the number of Jews resident in Poland but he estimated that number to be between 20,000 and 40,000. He also asserted that it was "completely untrue that there is anti-Semitism in Poland. The Government has always been against anti-Semitism. We do not know why this campaign alleging anti-Semitism has been conducted against Poland in the past two or three months." Charging there had been "a constant campaign against us by Jewish and Polish emigre circles," he said that "this latest campaign is probably the result of our stand in the Israel-Arab conflict" in which, he said, Poland was pro-Arab. The Embassy spokesman denied that anti-Semitism had anything to do with the admitted widespread dismissals of Jews from Government and Communist Party positions. He added that there were still Jewish organizations, such as theaters and bookshops, in Poland.

(In New York, the Warsaw correspondent of the Westinghouse Broadcasting network reported today that the Polish Communist Party had decided to continue the use of anti-Semitism as a political weapon. She said that the Communist Party's First Secretary Wladyslaw Gomulka "has clearly given in on anti-Semitism as a concession to Gen. Mieczyslaw Moczar," the former Interior Minister. As a result, she said, for the remaining Jews in Poland, "life promises to be grim in the foreseeable future."

### West German Cabinet Expected To Decide Whether To Seek Ban On National Democrats

BONN, Dec. 15 (JTA)--The West German Cabinet is expected to decide Wednesday whether to apply to the Constitutional High Court at Karlsruhe for a ban on the extreme right-wing National Democratic Party (NPD) on grounds that it is neo-Nazi, undemocratic and unconstitutional. Interior Minister Ernst Benda said he will recommend such action by the Government, on the basis of an investigation his ministry recently conducted into the party's activities. He said the investigation revealed the NPD to be a successor to the Nazi Party and turned up sufficient evidence for a constitutional ban. Herr Benda said he will try to get the party outlawed on the grounds that its leadership is largely composed of former Nazi Party members. In its propaganda, the party has been more nationalistic than totalitarian, although its press is strongly anti-Zionist, which some observers see as a cloak for ingrained anti-Semitism.

A majority of the Cabinet appeared to favor a ban. However, a note of caution was sounded by Finance Minister Franz Josef Strauss, head of the Christian Social Union, Bavarian wing of Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger's Christian Democratic Union. Herr Strauss warned against any "one-sided" ban. His party, well to the right of center in West German politics, insisted that if the Government sought a ban on the NPD it should do the same against the newly formed German Communist Party. It also wants to ban the radical left-wing Socialist German Students League. Herr Strauss said after a meeting of his party's Executive that unless Bonn had "an absolutely iron-clad case" against the NPD, it should not move to ban the party. "God preserve us from a clean bill of health for the NPD!" he declared.

Government circles acknowledge that rejection by the high court of a petition to outlaw the NPD would not only embarrass the Government but would lend new respectability to the right-wing party and enhance its chances in next year's general elections. NPD chairman Adolf von Thadden claims that his party will enter the Bundestag (lower house) for the first time next September with at least 50 seats, despite its poor showing in recent local elections. Should that happen, the CDU could not win an absolute majority and its hopes to rule without coalition support would be dashed. It was therefore believed that the CDU was prepared to take a calculated risk and support a Government request for a constitutional ban against the NPD.

### 30th UJA Conference Plans 'No Limit' 1969 Campaign, Re-elects Fisher President

NEW YORK, Dec. 15 (JTA)--The 30th annual National Conference of the United Jewish Appeal ended today after 3,000 delegates re-elected Edward Ginsberg of Cleveland as general chairman with a mandate to conduct a massive, nationwide "no limit" campaign in 1969 to meet "crucial human needs" in Israel and 30 other countries throughout the world. Max M. Fisher of Detroit was re-elected president. Mrs. Bernard Schaenen of Dallas was elected national chairman of the Women's Division succeeding Mrs. Harry Jones of Detroit, and Gordan Zacks of Columbus, Ohio, was elected chairman of UJA's National Young Leadership Cabinet, succeeding Herbert J. Garon of New Orleans.

The 1969 UJA campaign will have no goal, Mr. Ginsberg stated, "because the needs are too great to be circumscribed by any limitations." Since its inception 30 years ago, the UJA has raised nearly \$2 billion for Jewish rescue, relief and reconstruction programs in Israel and 30 other countries throughout the world. The funds to be raised in 1969 will be devoted to: "needs that must be met on behalf of more than 350,000 Jewish immigrants now living in Israel, as well as for the 30,000 other newcomers whose arrival is anticipated in 1969; and to carrying on existing programs outside of Israel, on behalf of more than 400,000 Jews, principally in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East," he said. Needs in Israel will be met primarily through continuation of the UJA's Israel Emergency Fund, a "no goal" fund-raising effort launched in June, 1967, on the eve of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Mr. Ginsberg said, "The people of Israel, forced to divert all of their economic strength and resources to defense, must turn over to world Jewry the problem of maintaining vast and costly programs of relief, social welfare, child care and other measures needed to aid a huge and impoverished segment of its society, composed chiefly of unabsorbed immigrants. The post-war security burdens Israel's people carry now, and will continue to carry, add up to hundreds of millions of dollars," he said. "The Israelis will bear these costs themselves, but they ask us and our fellow Jews throughout the world to continue to meet the human needs of Israeli's people and arriving immigrants."

Mr. Ginsberg noted that UJA funds are allocated not only to the people of Israel but also to assist Jews victimized by recent upheavals in Eastern Europe. He said, "the virulent outburst of anti-Semitism in Poland, the flight of 3,000 Libyan Jews to Italy, the post-June 1967 exodus of about 25,000 Jews from Morocco and Tunisia to Israel and France were all major events involving hard work to care for many needs." He stated that through the Joint Distribution Committee, UJA funds must assist more than half of the remaining 20,000 Jews in Poland. In 1967 the Rumanian Government granted JDC permission to resume assistance to the more needy among the 100,000 Jews in that country. Mr. Ginsberg told delegates to the three-day parley that since the beginning of December, 1968 some 4,000 Czechoslovakian Jews have fled that country. He said that more than 2,700 of this number had come to the JDC office in Vienna for assistance.

#### Rabbi Friedman Explains How \$365 Million Spent On Social Welfare

Earlier in the conference, Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, the UJA's executive vice chairman, told the delegates that 20 per cent of Israel's gross national product — estimated at \$5 billion — will be spent on defense next year. "These crushing defense costs will consume almost the entire income available from Israeli internal revenue," he said, adding that fiscal 1969 defense costs will be 2.5 times as much as in fiscal 1967, when the Arab-Israel war was fought.

Rabbi Friedman estimated the total social welfare bill for Israel during 1969 at \$365 million. Of this a great portion must be borne by U.S. Jews, he said. He told the delegates that the \$365 million would be spent this way: \$100 million, social welfare, including immigration and absorption; \$50 million, health services; \$75 million, education; \$35 million, institutions of higher learning; \$6 million, youth care and training; \$24 million absorption of immigrants in agricultural settlements; and \$75 million, immigrant housing.

President-elect Richard M. Nixon sent the UJA parley a telegram, addressed to Max M. Fisher, expressing good wishes for a successful campaign. He said, "the humanitarian record of the UJA and its beneficiaries in saving human lives and assisting more than three million in 30 years has earned the admiration of millions of Americans and men of goodwill everywhere." Conference delegates also heard speeches by Henry Ford II, chairman of the board of the Ford Motor Co. and Louis Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel.

#### JDC Budget Of \$24,665,000 Approved, Almost \$2 Million Greater Than 1968

A budget for 1969 of \$24,665,000 submitted by the Joint Distribution Committee was approved at the UJA conference. The budget is almost \$2 million greater than the 1968 one and provides for a broad range of health, welfare and rehabilitation services for some 350,000 Jews in 27 countries overseas, said Louis Broido, general chairman. For 1969, assistance to Jews in Rumania, Yugoslavia and other East European countries has been budgeted at \$1,385,000, Mr. Broido noted. The agency will also spend \$4,800,000 to maintain its health, welfare and educational activities for Jews in Moslem and Arab countries. Its single largest program, Mr. Broido noted, is in Israel, where JDC's health and welfare program on behalf of aged, ill and handicapped new immigrants, known as Malben, will have a budget of \$6,800,000 during the coming year. Another \$950,000 will go for support of religious and cultural activities in the Jewish State. Since JDC also provides financial assistance for the vocational training activities of Organization for Rehabilitation Through Training (ORT) in Israel, 1969 JDC expenditures in Israel will reach almost \$9,000,000, more than a third of the organization's total budget.