

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Security Council Majority Seen As For Condemnation Of Israel For Beirut Raid

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 30 (JTA)--Consultations among members of the United Nations Security Council seeking an agreed position on the Lebanese complaint against Israel for the attack on the Beirut Airport Saturday night continued today in advance of the Security Council's resumed session tonight. The Council, which met in emergency session last night, heard a series of speeches roundly condemning Israel and a demand by the Soviet Union that sanctions be invoked against Israel and that country be ordered to punish the "pirates" responsible for the attack.

Representatives of the United States, Great Britain and France condemned the Israel reprisal last night but it was considered highly unlikely here today that the United States and Britain would go along with the Soviet demand for invocation of sanctions. Delegation conferences today revolved around the three issues: the compensation demanded by Lebanon, condemnation of Israel and sanctions.

Observers stressed the statement by Ambassador J. R. Wiggins during the session last night that the United States was prepared to support prompt action by the Security Council in condemning Israel for the Beirut attack. A condemnation resolution, it was believed, would command a substantial majority of the Council. The question was, however, whether the Soviet Union would insist on pressing for sanctions.

A working paper, understood to have the American delegation's approval, was being circulated among the Security Council members today. The paper proposed a draft resolution providing for condemnation of Israel, compensation for the Lebanese and a warning to Israel against reprisal actions. If the Soviet Union were not to insist on a resolution invoking sanctions, it was believed that a resolution of this nature could be adopted at tonight's session. If the Russians insist on sanctions, however, the Security Council deliberations may be prolonged and may even go over into the new year.

After January 1, the composition of the Security Council will be changed. Friends of Israel like Canada, Denmark and Brazil will give up their seats on Dec. 31, as will Ethiopia and India. India, which does not have full diplomatic relations with Israel, has been particularly hostile. The new members will be Finland, Colombia, Nepal, Spain and Zambia.

## Israel Tells Council Raid On Beirut Was Act Of Self-Defense Against Terrorists

Edouard Ghorra of Lebanon, the first speaker, told the Security Council last night that condemnation of Israel would not be sufficient. He urged the Council to invoke sanctions against Israel and to order it to pay compensation to Lebanon.

Shabtai Rosenne of Israel gave a detailed report on the attack on the Israeli airliner in Athens. He said the gunmen were members of a terrorist organization based on Lebanese soil and operating quite openly with the full knowledge and blessings of the Lebanese Government. He described the attack on the Beirut airport as an act of self-defense and declared that Israel would exercise its right of defense against attacks wherever and whenever they might be made.

Ambassador J. R. Wiggins of the United States condemned the terrorist attacks on the Israeli airliners but charged that the Israeli reaction was out of all proportion and was an unacceptable form of international behavior. The attack, he said, had introduced a new element of danger in the Middle East. He called for meaningful arms limitation and intensified support of the Jarring mission and pleaded with Israel to admit its error and express its regrets. He said the United States was prepared to support prompt action by the Security Council to condemn the Israeli action.

(The American Jewish Committee issued a statement regretting the nature of Ambassador Wiggins' statement. It said that "no violence in the Middle East should be condoned" but it pointed out that Israel had never been able to obtain relief in the Security Council because of the Soviet veto. It said that "an even-handed policy by the United States would be to oppose violations of the cease-fire from any source. It would be unfair for our government to agree to a condemnation by the Security Council of the recent Israeli action without any reference to the act of December 26 which involved not only destruction of Israeli property but the loss of life.")

(The American Israel Public Affairs Committee protested to Secretary of State Dean Rusk against the "partisan attitude" of the United States in condemning Israel's Beirut reprisal after ignoring the Arab terrorism that provoked the raid. Chairman Irving Kane, of Cleveland, in a telegram to Mr. Rusk, said the U.S. reluctance to censure Arab terrorism "emboldens the perpetrators to attempt even more reckless and catastrophic exploits.")

He called the U.S. response to Mideast violence "less than even-handed" and urged that U.S. policy "begin to take into account the basic cause of these tragic circumstances -- the refusal of the Arab states to end their illegal state of war against Israel and to enter into a genuine peace settlement.")

The Soviet delegate, Yakov Malik, denounced Israel and called the attack a criminal aggressive act perpetrated in a gangsterlike way and a monstrous act of piracy. He criticized the United States as "the protector" of Israel and said there was a connection between the announcement of the sale of the Phantom planes to Israel and the attack at the Beirut airport.

## State Dept. Officials Drafting Mideast Policy Proposals For Nixon Administration

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (JTA)--State Department officials were drafting today the outlines of a proposal to the incoming Nixon Administration to strengthen American relations with "pro-Western" Arab regimes, restore diplomatic ties with Egypt and exert control over Israeli reprisal policies by withholding delivery of the Phantom jets. Despite the announcement last Friday of formal agreement on the sale of the Phantom fighter-bombers, U.S. officials now visualize deferment of delivery as the only effective lever available to control Israeli behavior.

But not all State Department or U.S. military opinion is convinced that Israel is entirely to blame. The State Department includes officials who see no realistic chance of an American-Russian demarche to impose a Mideast settlement acceptable to Western interests. They visualize a more active unilateral American role by the Nixon Administration to restrain Israel, bolster the Amman and Beirut regimes in hopes of limiting the terrorist trend, and normalize relations with Egypt. These officials see the advent of the new Administration as a propitious time to deal sternly with Israel and to exert new initiatives in American-Arab relations.

## Dayan Says Beirut Raid Represents 'New Dimension' In Israel's Foreign Policy

TEL AVIV, Dec. 30 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan defined the commando raid on Beirut International Airport Saturday night as a "new dimension" of Israeli policy. He said the previous retaliatory raids into Jordan which destroyed key highways and bridges were also part of the same policy designed to convince the Arabs that their guerrilla warfare against Israel is not worthwhile in the long run.

Gen. Dayan, who addressed a new faction of the Israel Labor Party which he leads, chided those who worry about Israel's "image" before the world. He said there were some who had reservations about hitting Beirut Airport and were concerned with the repercussions of a strike against the international airways of a sovereign state. "The danger is not that we will be without an image but that we will be without international airways of our own," Gen. Dayan declared.

He referred to Arab terrorist strikes against Israeli commercial aviation -- the hijacking of an El Al plane to Algeria last summer and last Thursday's machinegun and grenade attack on an El Al jet at Athens Airport. "Sometimes we have to stand alone," he said. "This is not our goal but there is no other way."

Prime Minister Levi Eshkol defended the Beirut action in a broadcast over Kol Israel radio last night. He said that Israel had refrained from retaliatory measures when the El Al airliner was hijacked last summer. Unfortunately, he said, that did not put an end to the dangerous practice of attacking Israel's commercial aviation as evidenced by the terrorist attack in Athens. Mr. Eshkol said that Israel had no interest in worsening its relations with Lebanon but on the contrary, wanted to limit the size of its hostile frontier. But Israel was obliged to defend itself against all aggression, wherever it is planned and no matter where it is carried out. "On no account can we accept the notion that war may be waged against us without reprisal as long as those who wage it call themselves guerrillas, not a government," Mr. Eshkol said.

Foreign Minister Abba Eban received United States Ambassador Walworth Barbour yesterday at the latter's request. The envoy conveyed his Government's "distress" over Israel's raid on Beirut. Mr. Eban stressed that the strike at Beirut's airport was in direct retaliation for the Arab attack on an Israeli airliner at Athens last week. Mr. Eban reportedly told the U.S. Ambassador that it was absurd to try to divorce the actions of individual Arab terrorists from the Arab governments which train and support them. He said the Arab leaders, including Prime Minister Abdullah Yafi of Lebanon, had repeatedly expressed their wholehearted agreement with the aims and the methods of the saboteurs. He said the terrorists who struck in Athens belonged to an organization that was headquartered in Lebanon and that the Lebanese Government could not be absolved of responsibility for their actions.

## Lebanese Premier Renews Pledge Of Support For Guerrillas 'Sacred Action'

LONDON, Dec. 30 (JTA)--Premier Abdullah Yafi of the Lebanon lined his government up squarely with the Arab terrorist organizations today and told newsmen in Beirut that "we consider Arab commando action legal and sacred action." He said the Israeli attack on the Beirut Airport would not weaken Lebanon's support of the Palestine Arab guerrillas including those who had attacked the Israeli airliner in Athens last Thursday.

The so-called Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which claimed credit for the Athens attack, issued a statement today threatening to strike back at Israel in retaliation for the Beirut attack "in the manner we see fit." It indicated that its next target would also be an El Al plane. The statement asserted that the two men who had carried out the attack in Athens had not been based in Lebanon, but, assertedly, in a guerrilla camp located in Israeli-occupied territory.

In Athens today, the two accused Arab gunmen were brought before a magistrate separately for pre-trial examination. The court designated attorneys for the two men.

## Debre Says Israel, Arabs Should Be Present At Big Power Mideast Conference

PARIS, Dec. 30 (JTA)--French Foreign Minister Michel Debre said in a radio interview today that the presence of Israelis and Arabs at a Big Power conference to work out a solution to the Middle East crisis was "a fundamental necessity" because "there can be no imposed solution."

M. Debre offered the most detailed elaboration to date of the French proposal to hold a Big Four conference -- United States, Soviet Russia, Britain and France -- on the Middle East. He said such a conference would consider ways and means to implement the Security Council's resolution of Nov. 22, 1967 as the path to Middle East peace. He stressed that Israel and the Arab states -- he referred specifically only to Egypt and Jordan -- should participate in the conference. Asked how he would overcome the Arab states' refusal to negotiate directly or indirectly with Israel, the French Foreign Minister replied that if the four powers agreed in principle that the Arabs and Israelis must be present "a procedure could easily be found."

Radio Luxembourg broadcast a statement by Valerian Zorin, the Soviet Ambassador to France, that the Soviet Union accepts in principle a four power conference on the Middle East and is prepared to cooperate in holding it. The Soviet Embassy here was reported to have advised the French Foreign Ministry over the weekend of Russia's acceptance of the French proposal. French circles also reported that the United States' stand on the matter has been "seriously modified" during the last two days and that both the outgoing Johnson Administration and the incoming Nixon Administration have indicated their acceptance, in principle, of a four power Middle East conference.

### World Reaction Almost Unanimously Condemnatory Of Israel Reprisal Policy

Worldwide reaction to the Israeli reprisal attack on the Beirut Airport was almost unanimously condemnatory. Official government statements and press comments alike criticized Israel for its reprisal action and warned that it had jeopardized the prospects of peace. Following is a summary of reports from JTA correspondents in world capitals.

VATICAN CITY--Pope Paul VI telegraphed President Helleu of the Lebanon expressing sympathy and condemning the Israeli attack. He warned that it could only "aggravate a situation that is already so tense."

PARIS--The French Government, in a statement signed by Foreign Minister Michel Debre, charged Israel with responsibility for the continued escalation of violence and reiterated its call for a Four Power conference to seek ways and means to implement the Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 resolution.

MOSCOW--The official Soviet Government organ Izvestia, assailed Israel's "gangster attack" and called on the Security Council to make Israel withdraw from the territories it occupied in the June war. The paper said "Israel must stop waving the torch of war" and asserted the Israeli attack was motivated by the desire to block a political solution of the Arab-Israel conflict.

NEW YORK--The New York Times said editorially that "this time, Israel fully deserves condemnation from the United Nations Security Council, and Lebanon is entitled to compensation." The editorial said that "indications of excessive Israeli belligerence" and Israel's "continuing ambiguity" on the return of the occupied territories were "bound to spur the re-examination of American commitments in the Middle East -- a re-examination that has already been launched by the incoming Nixon Administration."

ROME--Communist members of Parliament called for a meeting of the Foreign Policy Commission "in view of the grave Israeli aggression and connected questions of principle." The statement said the meeting was necessary because Foreign Minister Pietro Nenni "tends to equate aggressors and the attacked." The press warned that the attack could lead to escalation of hostilities and said the Great Powers had either to impose a solution on the Middle East or enforce a cease-fire.

BONN--The West German Government spokesman said that while Israel's motives could be understood, "the excessive Israeli action must be regretted since it leads to further tension."

LONDON--The British press was condemnatory of Israel and seemed to agree that only Great Powers' action to end arms shipments to the area and to impose a solution would end the reign of terror and counter-terror.

### Gang Of 17 Saboteurs Rounded Up In Gaza Strip; Arms Caches Discovered

TEL AVIV, Dec. 30 (JTA)--Israeli security forces announced today the capture of 17 saboteurs responsible for a rash of shootings, grenade and mining incidents in the Gaza Strip and the arrest of 30 other persons suspected of sheltering them. Large quantities of fire arms, ammunition and explosives were uncovered in the saboteurs' caches.

A military spokesman reported the fatal wounding of an Arab saboteur who took part in an attack on an Israeli police patrol guarding the Machpela Cave (Tomb of the Patriarchs) in Hebron last night. In the Beisan Valley last night four rocket shells were fired from a 130mm. Katyusha launcher at Neve Urr settlement. The rockets landed in a field and caused no casualties or damage. No damage was caused by a hand grenade thrown in the center of Gaza township last night.

According to a military spokesman, the round-up of the Gaza saboteurs resulted from the capture and interrogation of a terrorist earlier this month. The gang is held responsible for mining railroad lines and highways, throwing hand grenades at military vehicles and planting bombs in public places in Gaza. Arms discovered included two 81 mm. mortars, 13 shells, five bazookas and five home-made bazookas, three Semyonov sub-machineguns, three Guryanov machineguns, hand grenades, mines and demolition equipment. A curfew was imposed on Hebron following last night's attempted attack on the Machpela Cave by a gang of saboteurs. The gang was driven off leaving behind one man who later died of his wounds.

## World Jewish Organizations To Confer In Jerusalem In January, Eshkol Discloses

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30 (JTA)--Representatives of leading Jewish organizations and communities from all parts of the free world will convene here Jan. 8 to 12 for a conference on matters affecting world Jewry, Prime Minister Levi Eshkol reported to the Cabinet yesterday. Mr. Eshkol will chair the meeting and will serve on the conference presidium along with Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the Conference of Jewish Organizations and the World Jewish Congress, and Aryeh L. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency.

Mr. Eshkol said that about 150 participants are expected. They will include 22 members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, representatives of the World Zionist Organization, the World Jewish Congress, the British and South African Jewish boards of deputies and DAIA, the central representative body of Argentine Jewry. Also attending will be representatives of Jewish communities numbering over 20,000.

## Prague Says Many East German Officials Are Nazi War Criminals

BONN, Dec. 30 (JTA)--The East German regime has been seriously embarrassed by a list of former Nazi war criminals now high in its ranks, submitted to it recently by Czechoslovakia. The East German authorities reacted angrily and have accused Prague of trying to "defame" East Germany because of its participation in the Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia last August. The East Germans fear that more lists of ex-Nazis will be forthcoming from Prague. In addition, considerable material on war criminals holding high positions in East Germany was recently submitted by Simon Wiesenthal, the Nazi war crimes archivist in Vienna.

## Swiss Court Bans Anti-Semitic Book, Orders All Printed Copies Destroyed

GENEVA, Dec. 30 (JTA)--The cantonal court in Lausanne has banned an anti-Semitic book and has ordered all printed copies destroyed in addition to requiring the author to pay court expenses. The book, called "The Past, The Present and The Jewish Question" was written by James Albert Mathez, a retired doctor from Vevey. A complaint was brought against the book last year by the Federation of Jewish Communities in Switzerland, Roger Nordmann, a journalist, and several other persons. An injunction was issued at the time to prevent its distribution. The book was described as a crude attack on Jews and a demand that they be deprived of their civil rights.

## New York Rabbis To Cite Apollo 8 Astronauts For Genesis Readings From Moon

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (JTA)--The New York Board of Rabbis will make a citation to the three astronauts who circled the moon in Apollo 8 in recognition of the "profound spiritual quality" shown by their reading from Genesis while in orbit around the moon. In a telegram to Col. Frank Borman, Maj. William A. Anders and Capt. James A. Lovell, Jr., the Board congratulated the trio on their great scientific feat and declared that "your reading from Genesis evoked responsive chords in hearts of all spiritually attuned people throughout this good earth, even as it indicated depth of your own religious feeling and humility in presence of God's majesty and His wondrous creation. In midst of magnificent technological accomplishment your message from the moon has redirected man's focus to God."

## Brooklyn Rabbi To Conduct Retreat For Jewish Chaplains At Berchtesgaden

NEW YORK, Dec. 30 (JTA)--Rabbi Eugene J. Sack of Congregation Beth Eolhim of Brooklyn has been designated by the Defense Department to conduct a religious retreat for all Jewish chaplains in Europe in Berchtesgaden from Jan. 13 to 17. Rabbi Sack is a member of the Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy of the National Jewish Welfare Board, which recruits, endorses and serves Jewish military chaplains. The commission is composed of representatives of the major rabbinical bodies in the United States: the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the Rabbinical Council of America and the Rabbinical Assembly. As a military chaplain during World War II, Rabbi Sack served for three and one-half years with an Infantry replacement training center in Georgia, with the 32nd Infantry Division in the New Guinea Campaign, and at Fort Knox, Ky.

## Trygve Lie, First Secretary-General Of United Nations, Dead At 72

OSLO, Dec. 30 (JTA)--Trygve Lie, the first Secretary-General of the United Nations, died today at a Norwegian resort at the age of 72. Mr. Lie was Secretary-General during the eventful years when the British Government renounced the Palestine Mandate and the United Nations voted to partition Palestine into Arab and Jewish states. He was considered sympathetic and understanding of the Zionist position and was regarded as having been instrumental in the UN decision.

During the first years of Israel's independence and until his resignation in 1953, Mr. Lie was regarded as friendly to the Jewish state and was helpful to it on many occasions. He retained a close interest in Israel after his retirement from the post.

## Security For Cabinet Members — All Are Inoculated Against Hong Kong Flu

JERUSALEM, Dec. 30 (JTA)--All members of the Israel Cabinet were immunized yesterday against the Hong Kong flu. The vaccine arrived here a few days ago in limited quantities and has been restricted to chronically ill persons and those whose jobs are considered vital to national security.