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No. 1

U.S. Jewish Leaders To Meet Today With Rusk On Middle-East Crisis

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1 (JTA)--A delegation representing the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations will meet with Secretary of State Dean Rusk at the State Department tomorrow morning to discuss the worsening Middle East situation. The meeting will be held against the background of a unanimous Security Council condemnation yesterday of Israel for its reprisal raid on the Beirut Airport last Saturday night, continued fighting on the Jordanian demarcation line and new attacks from the Lebanese border.

State Department officials meanwhile minimized prospects of a Soviet-proposed "peace plan" for the Middle East, stating that it constituted little more than an American-Soviet dialogue rather than a concrete proposal. The key to the Russian formula is that Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories must take place before other elements of the Security Council Nov. 22, 1967 resolution are to be implemented. The State Department response to reports of a four-power approach to the Middle East deadlock is to refer to the mission of Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring, who was given a mandate in the 1967 Council resolution to seek to bring the contending sides together.

Robert J. McCloskey, the State Department spokesman, confirmed that the United States had been in touch with Soviet leaders on the Middle East situation but added that any prospect of Big Power peace moves remained "terribly complex at this point." He said the United States had received a communication from the Soviet Union on Dec. 19 on the Mideast situation and that the United States was drafting a reply, based generally on ideas to advance Dr. Jarring's mission, scheduled to be resumed in mid-January.

Some officials reportedly saw little hope of achieving a joint accord with the Russians to cool the broiling Mideast. They were understood to feel that the Soviet Union secretly welcomes the Arab provocations and Israeli counter-blows because that situation was believed to undermine United States influence in Arab regimes friendly to the U.S.

Reports persisted nevertheless that some kind of imposed Middle East settlement was being considered by the Big Powers as tensions mounted in the area. Such a view was reported in diplomatic circles in Jerusalem, where it was pointed out that the Soviet Union and France support that approach, while the United States and Britain are wary about it. Israeli leaders have repeatedly indicated that they do not believe an imposed solution could bring peace to the area. Correspondents in Jerusalem who asked for comment on French Foreign Minister Michel Debre's broadcast proposing that the Big Four work out a settlement were referred to Foreign Minister Abba Eban's UN General Assembly speech insisting that negotiations between the concerned parties was the only way to achieve peace.

Israelis Bitter Over UN Condemnation; Shelling From Lebanon Continues

TEL AVIV, Jan. 1 (JTA)--The New Year began in Israel today with blasts of rocket fire from across the Lebanese and Jordanian borders and Israelis in a mood of bitter anger and anxiety. Their mood stemmed from the unanimous action of the Security Council last night in condemning Israel's, bloodless retaliatory raid on Beirut Airport which most Israelis considered an act of self-defense in response to Arab terrorist attacks on Israel's commercial aviation. Their anger and concern were concentrated on marauders who continued to attack Israel from neighboring Arab territory, taking a steadily growing toll of lives without condemnation from the United Nations.

The Knesset rejected in advance last night the Council resolution. The Knesset resolution, which anticipated the Council's vote hours before it was taken, rejected all attempts to deprive Israel of its right to self-defense, as exercised in the Beirut raid, and reaffirmed Israel's position that freedom of the airways was an international right that must apply to all nations equally. The Knesset resolution was adopted by a vote of 70 to one. Only the new Communist faction voted in opposition. The one-man Haolam Hazeh faction and the regular Communist Party abstained.

(It was reported in London from Beirut that Premier Abdullah Yafi told the Lebanese Parliament that four squadrons of Israeli warplanes flew over the southern border area of Lebanon today. According to the report, Foreign Minister Hussein Oweini called in Western envoys to protest the overflight and accused Israel of massing troops on the frontier. It was reported from Amman that a Jordanian military communique asserted that three Israeli helicopters supported by jet fighters attacked a Jordanian security vehicle, killing three Jordanian security troops and wounding two others.)

Prime Minister Levi Eshkol told the Knesset yesterday that Israel's Beirut raid was far short of retaliation in kind for the Arab terrorist attack on an El Al airliner at Athens Airport last Thursday which brought death to one passenger and injuries to two stewardesses. The Premier said that if Israel had responded in kind and in scope to that terrorist act, it would have meant embarking on a campaign of killing or at least launching a homicidal war throughout the world. The Knesset members unanimously approved the Beirut action and lauded the Israeli commandos who implemented it without causing death or injury to a single person.

The Premier rejected charges that Israel had lost, through the Beirut action, the diplomatic advantage presumably gained through the Athens incident. Had the terrorists at Athens succeeded in their goal of destroying the plane and killing all its passengers, he said sarcastically, Israel's diplomatic advantage would have been ever greater. Carrying such arguments to their logical conclusion,

he added, it might have been to Israel's "advantage" to have lost the Six-Day War. He rejected also the doctrine that Israel was obligated to adhere to the cease-fire while the Arab states were free to attack Israel by terrorist or related methods without hindrance.

* Maj. Gen. Chaim Bar Lev, the Israeli Chief of Staff, reported in a New Year's Day television interview that the activities of the Arab saboteurs had not increased during 1968 and were being held in check. He said one measure was the introduction of Air Force planes to spot and attack bazooka raiders in the Beisan Valley, which had brought a decline in such attacks.

Three Israeli casualties were recorded last night from a Katyusha rocket launcher attack from Lebanon on the upper Galilee village of Kiryat Shemona. Two residents were killed by shell fragments. A third died from a heart attack that followed the explosion of a shell at his door step. Katyusha rockets were fired also from Jordanian territory against Degania and Kineret and at Kalya but they caused no casualties or damage.

A military spokesman meanwhile confirmed today that large numbers of saboteurs were now concentrated in Lebanon, hitherto the least bellicose of Israel's neighbors. He said the saboteurs were training in Lebanon and that Premier Abdullah Yafi had inspected saboteur units.

De Gaulle Surprises Diplomats With Renewed Criticism Of Beirut Raid

PARIS, Jan. 1 (JTA)--President Charles de Gaulle used the occasion of his annual New Year reception for the foreign diplomatic corps here today to repeat his condemnation of Israel's reprisal attack on Beirut Airport last Saturday. To the surprise of many diplomats, the French leader brought the subject up in his reply to greetings by the dean of the corps. He said, "Excesses of violence" such as were committed by Israel against a friendly nation "threatened world peace."

In his New Year's Day address earlier, President de Gaulle called again on the Big Powers to "assume responsibility" for a settlement of the Middle East conflict based on the Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 resolution. He said they should employ all the means at their disposal to promote a settlement that would "ask for the evacuation from all land conquered by force" and would provide "guarantees to both camps of just frontiers, secure freedom of navigation for all everywhere and assure an acceptable status for the refugees."

The de Gaulle message was a renewal of the French plea for a Big Four conference to impose a Middle East solution, something he has advocated since the June, 1967 war. Observers noted that he failed to mention or even hint at the plan outlined Monday by French Foreign Minister Michel Debre who stressed the need for both Arab and Israeli representatives to be present at a Big Four, Middle East conference because "a solution cannot be imposed." Chief Rabbi Jacob Kaplan, of France, was received by President de Gaulle today and conveyed New Year greetings from the French Jewish community. It is understood that they discussed the Middle East situation and Israel.

Security Council Approves Expected Condemnation Of Israel For Beirut Raid

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 1 (JTA)--The Security Council voted unanimously yesterday, as had been expected, in condemnation of Israel's "premeditated military action" in attacking the Beirut International Airport last Saturday night in a commando raid.

While the resolution avoided any suggestion of applications of sanctions, there was a hint to that effect in a clause saying that the Council was issuing "a solemn warning to Israel that if such acts were to be repeated the Council would have to consider further steps to give effect to its decisions." The resolution also held that Lebanon was "entitled to appropriate redress for the destruction it suffered, responsibility for which has been acknowledged by Israel," and that the raid was a threat to the peace.

J. R. Wiggins, the United States Ambassador to the United Nations, said after the adoption that while the United States delegation had supported the resolution, it did not approve of some of the attacks made on Israel during debates leading to the Council meeting. He declared that "we wish explicitly to dissociate ourselves from the sweeping generalizations, the crude denunciations and the reckless attacks upon Israel for alleged policies and acts having nothing to do with the episodes properly before us. Israel is not on trial here for its life. Israel is not being asked here to defend its right to exist." But, he added, the United States considered "all these interventions against civil aviation" as "intolerable."

Yosef Tekoah, Israel's Ambassador to the UN, called the resolution an indication of the Council's "bankruptcy" on the Middle East. He also charged, in his statement, that there had been a new near-outrage yesterday when a fused time bomb was found before it exploded in an Israeli school bus. Enough explosives had been planted in the vehicle to have demolished it and killed every passenger.

Wahrhaftig Criticizes Pope For Sympathy Note To Lebanon On Beirut Raid

JERUSALEM, Jan. 1 (JTA)--Israel's Minister for Religious Affairs sharply criticized Pope Paul VI yesterday for sending a message of sympathy to President Charles Helou of Lebanon, over Israel's commando raid on Beirut International Airport last Saturday while remaining silent over the "murder of innocent Jews" by Arab terrorists. Zerach Wahrhaftig, speaking on Mount Zion during the annual memorial services for the Jewish victims of the Nazi holocaust, charged that the Vatican had nothing to say when Arab terrorists attacked an Israeli airliner at Athens with the intention of killing

all aboard, when terrorists attacked Jewish worshippers at the Patriarch's Tomb in Hebron, or when they bombed the Machéne Yehudah market place in Jerusalem, killing 12 persons. Dr. Wahrhaftig compared the Pope's silence to that of his predecessor, the late Pope Pius XII who, he declared, failed to protest while the Nazis were destroying six million Jews during World War II.

Pope Paul, in a New Year's Day address in the Vatican, condemned the "recent violent episodes of guerrilla warfare, terrorism and reprisal" and called on all men to resolve their conflicts without resorting to "murderous brute force." The Pontiff did not specify any of the world's trouble spots by name but it was clear his reference was to the Middle East. Sources close to the Vatican said he had in mind the Arab terrorist attack on an Israeli airliner in Athens last Thursday and Saturday's reprisal raid by Israel on Beirut International Airport.

Protests From U.S. Jewish Groups Mount Over Criticism Of Israel

NEW YORK, Jan. 1 (JTA)--More protests were registered today by Jewish organizations over developments stemming from Israel's retaliatory raid last Saturday night on the Beirut Airport, particularly the unanimous Security Council resolution yesterday condemning Israel, which made no mention of Arab terrorist attacks on Israel.

The New York Board of Rabbis denounced the Council for the vote and said that in condemning Israel "and remaining silent on the continuous murderous attacks on Israeli citizens and soil," the Council had "shown its moral bankruptcy. The United Nations no longer represents a forum for justice and truth."

The American Trade Union Council for Histradut, Israel's labor federation, declared in a telegram to President Johnson that the State Department was guilty of "one-sided behavior toward Israel" in condemning it for the Beirut raid. The telegram was sent before the Security Council vote. Sol C. Chaikin, chairman of the organization of American trade union leaders, declared that the State Department's "hasty and one-sided condemnation of Israel" would encourage "further the terrorists and their sponsors."

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization, appealed to Secretary of State Dean Rusk to instruct Russell Wiggins, the United States Ambassador to the UN, to condemn Arab escalation of Middle East tension. In a telegram, also sent prior to the Council vote, Hadassah expressed dismay at the "contrast between official reaction to Arab government-supported terrorism and Israeli reaction." A similar stand was taken by the Labor Zionist Organization of America, in a telegram to President Johnson, Mr. Rusk and Mr. Wiggins, declaring that if the United States policy in the Middle East was to be "even-handed," the United States should be "at least as quick to condemn the hundreds of incidents of Arab terrorism" during the past 20 years.

Earl Morse, chairman of the board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the Reform organization, said in a statement that the UAHC could not condone the Israeli raid on the Beirut Airport but "the world must not close its eyes to the aggravating circumstances" leading to the Beirut raid. The statement said that the raid was in reprisal "for an almost endless series of Arab provocations, of which the terrorist bombing of the El Al plane in Athens "was, but the latest."

The United Zionists Revisionists sent a message to Mr. Rusk objecting "most strenuously to the one-sided attitude of the State Department." The message asserted that the "continuous United States pro-Arab policy only encourages Arab guerrilla warfare and renders all efforts for peace futile." The Synagogue Council of America, representing all branches of Judaism, denounced the "double standard" of political and religious leaders in dealing with Israel and the Arab countries. Rabbi Jacob Rudin cited Pope Paul's telegram to Lebanon and said it might have "arrived more appropriately two days earlier," after the guerrilla attack on the El Al airliner.

Mayor James H. J. Tate of Philadelphia, said today he had expressed support for Israel's Beirut raid in a telegram to the Security Council president yesterday. The telegram, sent before the vote, supported Israel's contention that the raid was in retaliation for "unlawful acts by terrorists against Israel."

College Students Demonstrate At UN Over Anti-Israel Resolution

NEW YORK, Jan. 1 (JTA)--Several hundred students from New York area colleges, as well as a contingent of Philadelphia Jewish young people, joined in protests here against the expected condemnation at the United Nations of Israel by the Security Council yesterday.

The presence of the youths in front of the United Nations led Abdelkader ben Kaci of Algeria to intervene in the Council debate on the Lebanese complaint against Israel over the Saturday night raid on the Beirut Airport. The Algerian told the Council that "Zionists" were trying to intimidate the Council and that the UN buildings "were surrounded by Zionist groups chanting anti-Arab slogans." UN guards with nightsticks acted to keep the demonstrators from entering the UN grounds, though there had been no indications the pickets intended to do so. New York City police peacefully dispersed the young people.

The Philadelphia youths, members of Lapid (Torach) brought with them a large white banner lettered "Jewish Blood is Cheap," which they displayed outside the UN. Several hundred youngsters, including members of Zionist youth groups, distributed handbills throughout Manhattan yesterday and on New Year's Eve, protesting the criticisms of Israel and silence on the attack last Thursday on an El Al airliner at the Athens Airport.

New Study Confirms 'Social Image' Bar To Jews In Executive Suite

NEW YORK, Jan. 1 (JTA)--Studies of the American business establishment sponsored by the American Jewish Committee, uniformly reveal that a very small number of Jews, in proportion to the number of Jewish college graduates, hold executive positions in large American corporations, largely because of the white, Anglo-Saxon image these companies elect to present.

One of the latest of these studies, a 450-page report by Dr. Reid M. Powell, dean of Ohio State University's school of business, was the subject of an article entitled "Anti-Semitism's Last Hurrah in American Business" published in the January issue of "Careers Today," a magazine for college youth. The writer, Craig Vetter, described the findings of Dr. Powell's seven-year study which disclosed, among other things, that out of 825 upper-middle-level executives from two large unnamed corporations, 58 percent felt that a Jewish representative of the company would have trouble meeting and being accepted by third parties. The Powell study was financed by the Maurice and Laura Falk Foundation of Pittsburgh through the AJ Committee.

The article indicated a strong link between corporate promotions and membership in exclusive social clubs. Most of the executives questioned felt that membership in such clubs helped directly and indirectly to secure promotions for aspiring executives and enhanced the overall position of the man with his firm. The article cited evidence that club membership practices are becoming less rigid. It quoted Lawrence Bloomgarden, director of the AJ Committee's business and industry division as saying that "the stereotypes are outworn, and wherever pressure is brought, things begin to open up."

Wall Street Journal Study Finds Sharp Decline In Jewish-Negro Relations

NEW YORK, Jan. 1 (JTA)--While many Jews and Jewish organizations still work "doggedly" for civil rights and Jews and Negroes live harmoniously in many urban centers, there has been a marked deterioration in Negro-Jewish relations during the past year, the Wall Street Journal reported in a front-page article yesterday. The Journal's report was based on interviews with Jewish leaders and with moderate and militant Negroes and on various surveys and reports on the conflict between the black and white communities.

It concluded that the Jewish-Negro split was most evident in large urban centers, particularly New York, Boston, Cleveland, Chicago, Detroit and Newark. It attributed the split to the black militant view that Jews were oppressors and to mounting Jewish concern over anti-Semitic manifestations in the black community.

The article quoted statements from Leonard Fein, a sociologist, who addressed the American Jewish Congress recently and from Rabbi Richard Rubenstein, Jewish chaplain at the University of Pittsburgh, both of whom warned against divisive forces affecting Jews and Negroes. It noted that the conflict was exacerbated in New York recently by the series of teachers' strikes in which the antagonists were the predominantly Negro Ocean Hill-Brownsville experimental school district and the largely Jewish teachers' union. It also cited a recent report of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Rights that Jews own 39 percent of the stores in predominantly black neighborhoods of 15 big cities. It quoted the Negro author, James Baldwin, as saying the Negroes resented Jewish store-owners leaving the black neighborhoods after closing shop each day, "with our money in his pockets."

L.A. Federation To Extend Effort For Soviet Jews To Local Campuses

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 1 (JTA)--The Jewish Federation-Council announced plans today to enlarge its program on behalf of Soviet Jewry by creating committees for the program on Los Angeles university campuses. The program, announced by Willard Chotiner, chairman of the Federation-Council's Committee on Soviet Jewry, will be arranged so that both professors and students can participate. He also said that the University of Southern California, the University of California at Los Angeles and the Los Angeles State College were among the colleges where such committees are planned. Recently, the committee organized a drive that collected 25,000 names for a petition of 1,000,000 signatures protesting the violations of the rights of Soviet Jewry which was sent to United Nations Secretary-General U Thant on the 20th anniversary of the UN Declaration of Human Rights.

Record Israel Bond Sales Of \$25,400,000 Reported For 1968 In N.Y.

NEW YORK, Jan. 1 (JTA)--The sale of Israel Bonds in the New York metropolitan area in 1968 amounted to a record \$25,400,000, the greatest sales figure in the history of the New York campaign except for 1967, the year of the Six-Day War, it was announced tonight by Surrogate Edward S. Silver, general chairman of the Greater New York Committee for State of Israel Bonds. Mr. Silver spoke at the second performance of the Bond Organization's annual Chanukkah Festival for Israel at Madison Square Garden. The guest of honor at the event was Madame Ida Kaminska, former first lady of the Yiddish stage in Poland, making her first public appearance in the United States since the Warsaw regime's anti-Semitic campaign brought about her self-imposed exile.

Rites Held In Jerusalem For Shlomo Ginossar, Son Of Achad Haam; Dies At 79

JERUSALEM, Jan. 1 (JTA)--President Shazar and other dignitaries attended today the funeral of Shlomo Ginossar, son of the late Jewish writer and thinker, Achad Haam, who died yesterday at the age of 79. Mr. Ginossar spent most of his life on the staff of the Hebrew University and for 12 years was its chief administrator. He served two years as Israel's Ambassador to Italy. He was also a well-known writer.