

# JTA daily news bulletin

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

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Vol. XXXVI Fifty-Second Year

Monday, January 27, 1969

No. 18

## Jarring Resumes Mideast Mission On Tuesday; Will Meet Thant, Concerned Envoys

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 26 (JTA) -- Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring, after an interim sojourn in Moscow in his old post as Sweden's Ambassador, returns here Tuesday for a new round of Middle East peace talks. His mission, authorized by the Nov. 22, 1967 Security Council Mideast resolution, is being renewed amid signs of at least hairline fissures in the icejam blocking a settlement of Arab-Israeli differences.

The special envoy of Secretary-General U Thant will confer Tuesday with Mr. Thant and later with representatives of the Big Four--the United States, Russia, Britain and France--and the parties to the Mideast deadlock. As he prepared to again pursue a solution, there were indications that the Big Four would meet under Security Council auspices next month to determine future steps toward peace.

The State Department was studying this weekend a French proposal to hold Big Four talks. The Soviet Union last week agreed to the Paris suggestion but was known to favor Kremlin-Washington talks aimed at a settlement which would, if agreement were reached, be discussed with Paris and London. If general agreement were reached, they would be presented to the UN Council for approval.

Meanwhile, the Soviet public this weekend learned for the first time the contents of the Kremlin's Dec. 30 peace program circulated in Western capitals. The blueprint, which has been rejected by Israel, appeared in the Communist Party newspaper Pravda.

The plan provides for a two-stage withdrawal of Israeli troops from territories occupied during the Six-Day War, and would take effect over a two-month period. After Israeli withdrawals began, the Arab states and Israel, under the plan, would issue declarations ending the state of war, proclaiming respect for one another's sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence. Afterward--though Pravda did not specify when--agreement would be reached on "secure and recognized frontiers," freedom of navigation through international waterways and a settlement of the Arab refugee problem. Pravda indicated that Israel would have to return to the pre-1967 war boundaries, but proposed demilitarized zones and that United Nations troops be based again in the Gaza Strip, at Sharm el-Sheikh and on the Strait of Tiran. The plan did not call for withdrawal from Old Jerusalem, which was not mentioned. It would provide for freedom of navigation through the Tiran Strait and Gulf of Aqaba but did not mention Israeli passage through the Suez Canal, which the Soviet Union wants re-opened. Essentially, Pravda said the plan should be regarded as a "package," to be mediated through Dr. Jarring.

Israel has rejected the proposal on grounds that it fails to meet its demand for direct negotiations and formal peace treaties and that the Soviet conditions would reconstruct the pre-war conditions and lay the groundwork for a new conflict. The British Government told France that it is sympathetic to a Big Four meeting but only within a UN context and as a contribution to Dr. Jarring's efforts.

## State Department Says It Is Unaware Of Any Move To Resume Ties With Egypt

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- State Department officials said yesterday they were unaware of any imminent move to resume diplomatic relations with Egypt, broken during the Six-Day War. This comment followed a report in the Beirut newspaper Al Anwar that said President Nasser will resume relations with Washington on Feb. 15. While officials considered the Beirut report a possible "trial balloon" to test the response of the new Administration, it was admitted that President Nixon and his advisers were interested in stabilizing the Middle East. The resumption of diplomatic ties was not ruled out.

## French Surprised By Debre's Statement That Iraq Is Not A Mideast Belligerent

PARIS, Jan. 25 (JTA) -- Observers here registered this weekend surprise over Foreign Minister Michel Debre's testimony that France does not regard Iraq as a "battlefield" nation in the Arab-Israeli conflict. He told the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee that the French Government would sell arms to Arab states not directly involved in the Mideast conflict. He drew a distinction between Arabs "on the battlefield"--Egypt, Syria and Jordan--and others--Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. Observers here recalled that Iraq was a belligerent and participant in the Six-Day War.

He insisted before the committee that France's military shipments to "battlefield" nations had been minimal, defending France's readiness to sell Lebanon such equipment on the grounds that the former French dependency has remained neutral. Lebanon has 12 Mirage jet fighter-bombers on order, about two-thirds of which have been delivered. Fifty Mirage-V jets plus spare parts and other military equipment, all ordered and paid for by Israel, have been embargoed by President Charles de Gaulle. M. Debre said France's policy on the Middle East has remained steady and has been based on three considerations: Maintenance of security in the Mediterranean area; continuation of traditional ties with certain Arab countries, and the wish to see the existence and legitimate rights of Israel recognized.

## Protests Continue To Mount Against De Gaulle's Embargo On Equipment, Spare Parts

PARIS, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- Protests are mounting all over France against President Charles de Gaulle's embargo on military equipment and spare parts to Israel. But qualified observers believe that they will have no effect on the Government's anti-Israel policy. Some saw the embargo, which Gen. de Gaulle termed "a warning shot," as only the first step in an increasingly hostile stand toward Israel. The latest protests came from more than 20 provincial assemblies, some in France's largest depart-

ments (provinces). The Union of Former Resistance Fighters has also issued a statement expressing "shock" over the embargo decision which, it warned, "is likely to upset the precarious balance of power in the Middle East" and "threatens Israel's very existence."

#### French Ambassador Urges 'Pro-Israel' Jews' Not To Organize Boycotts, Demonstrations

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- The French Ambassador to the United States appealed to "pro-Israel Jews" Friday not to organize boycotts against France or demonstrations in front of French diplomatic and consular offices in the U.S. Ambassador Charles Lucet said that such activities were "inappropriate" and "would in no way settle matters...Our sole desire is a return to peace."

M. Lucet's appeal was contained in a letter in reply to the Jewish Nazi Victims Organization of America, Inc., which had protested the de Gaulle embargo. He said that France sympathized with the survivors of Nazi persecution, but he denounced Israel's Dec. 28 reprisal raid on Beirut Airport, which prompted the embargo, as a "disproportionate" response to a Dec. 26 terrorist attack on an El Al airliner in Athens that could lead to a very serious extension of the conflict. He denied that France had "appropriated" money Israel paid for embargoed planes and other equipment--some \$100 million--and said his Government had made it clear "that when the time comes--and it has not as yet--we intend to handle the request for a refund according to normal commercial law and usual international practice". The Israeli Government up to now has made no request for a refund.

In another development, the American Jewish Congress announced that it was cancelling all group trips to France and flights on Air France, the French national airline. According to AJCongress president Rabbi Arthur Lelyveld, the boycott stemmed from an "avalanche" of letters from members urging the organization to eliminate France and French services from its tourism programs. Rabbi Lelyveld said the AJCongress was not a travel agent in the commercial sense but arranged overseas programs "as extensions of our general programmatic interests." He claimed that the AJCongress was the biggest factor in organized Jewish group travel abroad. He said that last year some 8,000 members visited Europe and Israel under AJCongress auspices, more than 1,100 of whom flew at least part of the way by Air France.

In a related action, Rep. John M. Murphy, a Democrat whose constituency lies in Brooklyn and Staten Island, called on the U.S. State Department to intervene with the French Government to lift the embargo on Israel. Rep. Murphy said the embargo constituted a "direct breach of contract with Israel and can only encourage Arab terrorists."

#### Eshkol Plans To Seek Premiership Again; Would Support Dayan As Defense Minister

JERUSALEM, Jan. 26 (JTA)--- Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, 74, declared Friday that he intended to seek the Premiership again after the general election next October and had no intention of stepping down. He also had kind words for his potentially chief rival for the top Government post, Defense Minister Moshe Dayan. He said he would not consider anyone but Gen. Dayan for the post of Defense Minister and that there was no reason to replace him. Mr. Eshkol held both the Premiership and the defense portfolio until the May, 1967 crisis when he relinquished the latter to Gen. Dayan under popular and political pressure. He said Friday that while he formerly believed that the Prime Minister and Defense Minister should be the same person, he had changed his mind. "The Premiership is a full time job and the defense post requires a special man to fulfill it," Mr. Eshkol said.

The election will be for seats in the Knesset (Parliament). Under the Israeli system, the party which polls the most votes forms a Government which must win a vote of confidence before taking office. Gen. Dayan, hero of the 1956 Sinai campaign, is credited by many Israelis for the lightning victory in the Six-Day War and is considered to be the most popular political figure in Israel today. Mr. Eshkol and his older colleagues of the Labor Party and former Mapai Party control the political machinery. Many observers have seen a contest looming between the two. The Labor Party, now in political alignment with Mapam, controls 63 of the Knesset's 120 seats, an absolute majority for one party for the first time in Israel's history. If it retains that proportion after the October elections it would be able to form Israel's first non-coalition government. Some Labor Party leaders, however, have recommended retaining a coalition in the interests of national unity.

#### Egyptian Coastal Batteries Fire At Israel Patrol Boats In Gulf Of Suez

TEL AVIV, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- Egyptian coastal batteries fired several rounds at two Israeli patrol boats in the northern part of the Gulf of Suez yesterday, a military spokesman reported. The Israeli craft continued on their course without returning the fire. The spokesman said the boats were on a routine mission and in positions that complied with the cease-fire agreement. He denied an Egyptian allegation that they had crossed the cease-fire line that bisects the Gulf of Suez.

In another military action, several mortar shells were fired from Jordanian territory at Neot Hakikar near the southern tip of the Dead Sea yesterday. No casualties or damage resulted.

#### Old City Arabs Will Get Work Rights, Benefits Accumulated Under Jordanians

JERUSALEM, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- The seniority rights and other benefits accumulated by Arab civil servants in East Jerusalem under the former Jordanian administration will be credited to them by the Jerusalem municipality, the Jerusalem Civil Servants Union announced. East Jerusalem civil servants who join Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, will be eligible for election to the Civil Servants Union when balloting is held next March.

#### Israel, Greece Sign Agreement On Tourism Despite Lack of Diplomatic Ties

JERUSALEM, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- Israeli officials announced that an agreement for cooperation on tourism between Greece and Israel was signed last week, aimed at attracting American tourists to both countries. A similar agreement between Israel and Rumania provides that tourist offices of one country carries information about the other. This is the only bilateral agreement in effect between Israel and Greece, which does not have formal diplomatic relations with Israel.

## American ORT Federation Adopts Record \$17 Million Budget, Aiding Over 50,000

NEW YORK, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- More than 500 delegates to the 47th national conference of the American ORT Federation (Organization for Rehabilitation Through Training) approved a record \$17 million budget here yesterday which will aid over 50,000 persons in 23 countries. The new budget represents a \$1.8 million increase over last year's budget.

Dr. William Haber, Federation president, said that one of the principal beneficiaries would be the network of ORT schools in Israel. He said that with a small population and surrounded by enemies, Israel could not afford "to close one-fifth of its young generation, for lack of training for the places they will hold." He said ORT planned to establish Israel's first institution of practical engineering in Jerusalem.

Delegates heard Dr. Vladimir Halperin, World ORT Union director, report that "successive waves of refugee immigration in the last 15 years have more than doubled the Jewish population of France to over 550,000." He noted that almost 25,000 North African Jews had come to France since the Six-Day War and announced plans to open additional ORT schools and training facilities for them. He also said that work would soon begin in Bombay on a technical school for girls, supplementing the present program for boys. He foresaw a need to intensify services for the Jews of Iran to "ameliorate age-old and still rampant poverty." In an extension of its technical assistance services, ORT expects to create facilities in Guinea, West Africa for training of 1,000 skilled workmen and technicians, it was reported by Matthew Schoenwald, chairman of the organization's government contracts committee. A group of United States Peace Corps volunteers has completed training at the Central ORT Institute in Switzerland for assignment to the Ivory Coast in West Africa. He cited these as examples of ORT projects for developing nations under contracts to the U.S. Government.

The conference received a message from President Richard M. Nixon who hailed the international endeavors of ORT as "an important contribution to bettering the lot of fellow men." Sen. Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, who delivered the principal address, urged a "joint U.S.-USSR initiative" to bring about meaningful Israel-Arab negotiations. He called on the U.S. to probe the possibilities for an agreement "in concert with the USSR" whose aim would be to establish "new instructions, a new framework for the mission of Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring," the United Nations special envoy to the Middle East. He suggested that Britain and France become associated with these measures.

Sen. Javits was honored for 20 years of service on ORT's advisory committee and board of directors.

## British WJC Congress Section Launches Global Drive On Behalf Of Jews In Arab Nations

LONDON, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- The British section of the World Jewish Congress, joined by other Jewish bodies, has launched an international campaign to arouse world opinion on behalf of Jews imprisoned, harassed or on trial for their lives in various Arab countries. A pamphlet has already been distributed likening the persecution of Jews in some Arab states to Jewish suffering under Hitler.

The WJC Congress noted that 18 months after the June, 1967 war, hundreds of Jews are still detained in Egyptian prisons and concentration camps without formal charges having been brought against them. They have been denied access to legal assistance and many have been subjected to cruel indignities by their jailers, the WJC Congress said. In Iraq, several Jews have been sentenced to death for alleged espionage for Israel. The pamphlet contains a memorandum addressed to United Nations Secretary General U Thant by Roger N. Baldwin, honorary president of the International League for the Rights of Man, urging the intervention of the international community on behalf of Jews in Arab countries.

## Holland Urges EEC Council Of Ministers To Comply With Israeli Association Request

THE HAGUE, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- The Netherlands Government has called on the Council of Ministers of the European Economic Council (EEC), now meeting in Brussels, to comply with Israel's request for association with the European Economic Community. A memorandum sent from The Hague recommended the negotiation of a free trade pact for Israeli industrial products after a transition period. Israel's request is on the agenda of tomorrow's EEC session.

## Histadrut Contributes \$1,000 To Trade Unions Unit On Behalf Of Czechoslovakians

BRUSSELS, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- Histadrut, Israel's Labor Federation, has contributed \$1,000 to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in connection with an appeal for solidarity with Czechoslovakian workers.

## Polish Yiddish Theater Members Returning To Poland After Paris Stay

PARIS, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- Two Polish Jews associated with the Yiddish theater told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that they intended to return to Poland following their vacations in Paris. Jacob Rotbaum, a producer of the Wroclaw State Theater, said he was producing a play based on the works of Sholom Aleichem with a group of Jewish actors. He said he had been giving Yiddish recitals in his city and, although the audience was steadily diminishing, he had not been bothered by Polish authorities. Ruth Taru Kowalska, a well known Yiddish actress of the Jewish State Theater in Poland, said she was returning to Warsaw next week where the theater is playing a full season. Mrs. Ida Kaminska, former director of the Jewish State Theatre, left Poland last year because of the official anti-Semitic campaign and is presently in the United States. She has said she does not intend to return to Poland.

## Israel Asks Speed-Up Of Ford Production; Buyers Must Now Wait 12 Months

JERUSALEM, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- Israeli officials reported that the management of Ford in Israel had been asked to speed up assembly of cars to meet local needs. The request was made at a meeting between Transport Minister Moshe Carmel and Dr. Shaul Lifshitz, a Ford representative. The locally-assembled Fords, which contain several Israeli-made components, sells for about \$425 less than the imported version. There is currently a 12-month waiting list for the vehicle.

## Tensions Between New York's Jews, Negroes Continue Escalating Amidst Charges

NEW YORK, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- Tensions between New York's Jewish and Negro communities continued to escalate over the weekend with new charges of anti-Semitism, counter-charges of anti-Negro bias, and a series of investigations begun or announced on various levels. There were new expressions of virulent anti-Semitism by Negroes on WBAI-FM, the listener-supported radio station already under investigation by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for broadcasting an anti-Semitic poem last Dec. 26. And in one segment of the Jewish community a threat was voiced to organize Jewish vigilante brigades to combat what was alleged to be a Negro crime wave against Jews.

The newest conflict erupted as Junior High School 22 in The Bronx whose student body is 50 per cent Negro and 40 percent Puerto Rican. Its Jewish principal, Edward L. Solomon, charged a black community group supported by poverty-agency funds with anti-Semitic harassment. His charges were under investigation by the Human Rights Commission and the Human Resources Administration. Jerome A. Greene, an official of the group, the Morrisania Community Corporation, has demanded a state and city investigation of charges that Mr. Solomon discriminated against a Negro job applicant. Mr. Solomon said that intruders disrupted classes, threatened teachers and circulated anti-Semitic literature in the neighborhood in what he charged was "a well-organized and well-financed plan to harass white Jewish educators...happening all over the city." Mr. Greene claimed that Mr. Solomon had turned down a Negro applicant for a position as educational assistant on grounds that he needed bilingual aid but subsequently hired a Jew who was not bilingual.

City Council President Francis X. Smith meanwhile urged Mayor John V. Lindsay to call an urgent conference of key white and Negro leaders "on ways to allay tension." Mr. Smith addressed himself specifically to expressions of anti-Semitism by Negro teachers and warned those "who teach anti-Semitic material in our schools should not do so with impunity." Mr. Smith's view was shared by Judge Bernard Botein, retired justice of the Appellate Division who headed Mayor Lindsay's special committee on racial and religious prejudice in the city. The committee published last week a report which indicated anti-white sentiment by Negroes and anti-Negro reaction by whites. In a statement Friday, Judge Botein charged that "continued silence" by white Christians and Negro leaders was abetting the anti-Semitic attacks by black extremists.

In Albany, Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller ordered the State Human Rights Commission to intensify its probe into anti-Semitism. The commission will conduct hearings on recent attacks on synagogues and will formulate plans to reduce tensions over which the Governor is said to be "very concerned."

The FCC inquiry into the reading of an anti-Semitic poem on WBAI was held up to include a new complaint against the station. The complaint was made in a telegram from the Workmen's Circle, a Jewish fraternal labor organization, demanding suspension of WBAI's license pending a hearing. The telegram, from Israel Breslow, president, and Benjamin Gebiner, executive secretary, charged that WBAI was "the ghost of Joseph Goebbels' Nazi radio network." They referred to last Thursday's Julius Lester show which was devoted to reaction to the reading of an anti-Semitic poem on the same program last month by a controversial Negro school teacher, Leslie R. Campbell. Mr. Lester, a Negro activist, agreed with three Negro panel members that the poem was a valid expression of the prevailing sentiment among black students. One of the latter, Tyrone Woods, who described himself as a New York University student and resident of the Bedford-Stuyvesant district of Brooklyn, alleged that "What Hitler did to six million Jews is nothing compared to what has been done to black people." He added, "As far as I'm concerned, more power to Hitler. He didn't make enough lampshades out of them. He didn't make enough belts out of them." Mr. Lester commented moments later that WBAI was not responsible for the opinions expressed on its programs.

### Brooklyn Rabbi Warns That 'Jewish Brigades' Would Be Established

In Brooklyn, an Orthodox rabbi, Jacob Hecht, vice president of the "National Committee for the Furtherance of Jewish Education," warned that if Jews in troubled areas cannot get protection from government agencies, they would organize Jewish brigades to serve as "an auxiliary police force" patrolling the streets. Rabbi Hecht alleged that "in the name of racial understanding, we Jews have become too lenient and too lax and are thus perpetuating a situation that is causing more and more hostility to be directed by Negroes against our synagogues and our people." He added the claim that Negro crime in the streets was directed against the Jews.

In Far Rockaway, once a Jewish seaside resort, now a mixed Jewish-Negro neighborhood in which the Orthodox element prevails, an inquiry was under way by the New York State Division of Human Rights into a fire that destroyed a synagogue last Jan. 3. The fire department found no evidence of arson but Jewish witnesses took an opposite view and charged the city administration and the police and fire departments with "irresponsibility." There has been a rash of suspicious fires in Jewish synagogues and Hebrew schools in The Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan. A number of juvenile suspects have been arrested, all of them white and, at least in two cases, Jewish. One 10-year-old Jewish boy admitted having set a series of fires in the Manhattan Beach Jewish Center earlier this month.

### Cleveland Jews Pledge Record Gifts, Hear Humphrey Equate Israel And Democracy

CLEVELAND, Jan. 26 (JTA) -- A record crowd attending a special gift dinner pledged all-time high gifts of \$2.1 million toward the Jewish Welfare Fund 1969 campaign and heard former Vice President Hubert Humphrey declare that "Israel means democracy" and that "you must let that country know you stand behind it." The 240 community leaders also pledged a similar amount to the third Israel Emergency Fund campaign. Mr. Humphrey said that Israel must have secure boundaries, free navigation rights on all international waterway, including the Suez Canal, security in its defense with modern weapons and modern aircraft, freedom from terrorism and the right to live as a nation.