

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Israel Rejects Security Council Demands To Rescind Measures Changing Jerusalem's Status

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Dec. 8(JTA)--Israel has flatly rejected demands by the United Nations Security Council that it rescind all measures taken since June, 1967 to change the status of Jerusalem and to refrain from similar actions in the future. At the same time, Israel denounced the Security Council position, taken in a resolution on July 3, 1968 and condemned its failure to prevent "destruction and sacrifice" in the Old City of Jerusalem during the 19 years it was in Jordanian control.

The Israeli stand was disclosed today by Secretary General U Thant in a report to the Security Council. The reply, transmitted to Mr. Thant on Nov. 27, came after Mr. Thant had made three separate requests of Israel for information on what steps it was taking to comply with the Security Council resolution. The first request was made on Aug. 27.

In his reply, Foreign Minister Abba Eban reminded Mr. Thant that the division of Jerusalem arose out of Jordan's "illicit armed action" in 1948 in defiance of the Security Council's cease-fire appeals. The division was terminated, he said, "by hostilities initiated by Jordan in 1967."

The Foreign Minister pointed out that "Jerusalem has been the focus of Israel's faith and nationhood for 3,000 years and has been Israel's center of Government for two decades." He declared that "it is inconceivable that Jerusalem should be torn apart again or that any international interests can be served by pressing for the city to be dismembered."

These interests, he said, "are based on the Holy places of three great monotheistic religions. For the first time since 1948 the shrines of all faiths have been open to access by those who hold them sacred." Israel has ensured that the Holy Places will "be administered under the responsibility of the religions concerned," Mr. Eban declared. He pointed out that places of worship and religious institutions destroyed or damaged in the assaults of 1948 and 1967 have been or are being restored. He repeated the Israel Government's willingness "to work out agreements with the representative bodies of the three religions to ensure that the universal and sacred character of the Holy Places is appropriately expressed and free access to them guaranteed."

The Israeli Foreign Minister reminded the Secretary General that "Jerusalem is a living, secular city with 200,000 Jewish and 70,000 Arab inhabitants." He pointed out that "normal movement and visit, residence, business activity and employment are open to all citizens in all parts of the city. Its economic welfare is being advanced and plans are taking shape to enhance its dignity and beauty." He cited the participation of over 7,000 Arab residents in the recent Jerusalem Municipal election as demonstrating "their positive interest in the day-to-day administration of the united city."

The progress made by united Jerusalem in the past two years, Mr. Eban said, "stands in sharp contrast to the situation which prevailed from 1948 to 1967 in the Jordan occupied section. After its occupation in 1948, the Jewish quarter of the Walling-Old City was practically destroyed and scores of synagogues in it were laid waste. The ancient Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives was desecrated and partly demolished. No Jews were allowed access to "their most sacred shrine"--the Western (Wailing) Wall. Mr. Eban noted, and even Moslem Arabs residing in Israel were not allowed to reach their Holy places.

Mr. Eban told the Secretary-General that "international opinion has every reason to regret that the Security Council remained completely indifferent to the destruction and sacrilege of Jewish houses of prayer, residences and burial grounds and violation of the principle of free access to the Holy Places. It would be incongruous," he declared, "for a body which did nothing to prevent Jerusalem's violent division to work now against its peaceful union or to conceive measures taken to ensure the livelihood of all its inhabitants and to maintain public law and order despite occasional terrorist attacks upon the civil population, organized and financed by the very Jordanian authorities which showed such callous disregard for Jerusalem's peace and sanctity on many occasions during the past 20 years."

"The sacred associations which are evoked by Jerusalem," Mr. Eban declared, "should not become the object of political and religious incitement without regard for the genuine interests of the city and its inhabitants, as was the case during the unfortunate recent Security Council debate." He expressed the belief that "world opinion will come to welcome the new prospect of seeing this ancient and historical metropolis thrive in unity, peace and spiritual elevation." When final peace is established, Mr. Eban said, "it should embody agreements with the appropriate Christian and Moslem authorities to ensure expression of the universal religious interests involved."

## Toronto Borough Of York Elects Philip White As Its First Jewish Mayor

TORONTO, Dec. 8(JTA)--The Borough of York, one of six that make up metropolitan Toronto, elected its first Jewish mayor last week. He is Philip White, a 46-year-old pharmacist. Jews comprise less than 10 percent of York's population of 140,000. Other Jewish candidates elected or re-elected as aldermen or school trustees in York and other boroughs were Irving Paisley and Mel Lastman; Ben Nobleman; Ben Rose, David Shnoff and Judy Jordan; Murray Chusid, Paul Godfrey, Saul Cowan and Prof. Lionel Rubinsoff.

## Israeli Jets Blast Egyptian Suez Positions; Tel Aviv Denies Cairo Raid Claim

TEL AVIV, Dec. 8(JTA)--Israel Air Force jets blasted Egyptian positions in the Suez Canal zone in morning and afternoon raids today. A military spokesman said all aircraft returned safely. An Israeli soldier was killed in a mortar exchange across the canal yesterday. Another was killed today and five of his companions were wounded when a bazooka shell hit an Israeli patrol near the Damiya bridge in the Jordan Valley. An Israeli liaison officer and a French United Nations observer were injured yesterday when their vehicle hit a mine near the Firdan bridge in the northern sector of the Suez Canal.

A military spokesman said that Syrian tanks and artillery fired on a group of Israeli tractors working the fields in the Golan Heights today, damaging two of them but causing no casualties. A spokesman in Damascus claimed that Syrian troops had killed or wounded 10-15 Israeli Army engineers in the Golan Heights. He claimed that four Israeli bulldozers and an anti-tank gun were destroyed.

An Israeli Army spokesman denied a claim made by Cairo that an Egyptian force of 250 men had successfully raided Israeli positions on the east bank of the Suez Canal yesterday and held one stronghold for 24 hours before the evacuating it. He said there was no raid and no Israeli position was seized. According to the Cairo account, the purported raid took place in the northern sector of the Canal zone and Egyptian troops forced Israeli forces to retreat along a six mile front, destroying a string of Israeli outposts and all of their equipment. Cairo claimed that all members of the mission returned safely. The Israeli spokesman termed the report a "fantasy" intended to bolster morale on the home front.

### Popular Front For Liberation Of Palestine, El Fatah May Merge

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8(JTA)--The popular front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and El Fatah, the two main Arab guerrilla groups, may merge, according to reports received here today. Representatives of the two organizations began talks in Tripoli, Libya, under a formula for unity sponsored and proposed by the Libyan Revolutionary Council. Libya apparently has offered financial benefits greater than the present level of aid if the guerrillas agree on unity that would provide stronger more efficiency in fighting Israel. Libya invited Dr. George Habash, PFLP leader, and Abu Ayad, El Fatah chief military strategist, for the talks.

The Soviet Government has extended a kind of recognition to the Palestine guerrilla movement for the first time by inviting a delegation to visit Moscow at the end of this month. The invitation was reportedly the first to an official guerrilla delegation.

### Egypt Charges In Letter To Thant That Israel Uses Phantom Jets

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. Dec. 8(JTA)--Egypt has protested to the United Nations against the alleged use by Israel of American-made Phantom jet fighter-bombers against Egyptian forces. In a letter to secretary General U Thant, Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed-Hassan El-Zayyat warned that "such military aid cannot but sustain Israel in its attempts to consolidate its aggression and plan further expansion." He said that "the use of U.S. -built Phantom jet aircraft by Israel occupying forces bears out the warnings and apprehensions repeatedly expressed by the Arab countries regarding the serious repercussions of providing such offensive weapons to Israel."

The Egyptian envoy quoted reports from Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, chief of the UN Truce supervision organization, confirming use of the Phantoms. In apparent criticism of the U.S., Mr. al-Zayyat said "military aid assumes a disturbing character when it comes from a permanent member of the Security Council which has a special responsibility for maintaining international peace and security."

The semi-official Cairo newspaper Al Ahram today accused Israel of using an American-made fragmentation missile outlawed by international conventions in air raids across the Suez Canal. According to Al Ahram, the Israelis are using the "Mighty Mouse" which was originally developed for use in Vietnam. It was described as a missile containing five-inch steel arrows which cause a jagged "dirty" wound on impact. The paper claimed that this was fresh evidence of America's "total bias" in favor of Israel.

## Labor Party Endorses Cabinet, But New Difficulties Arise With Gahal Demands

JERUSALEM, Dec. 8(JTA)--The Labor Party's central committee yesterday endorsed a cabinet put together by Premier Golda Meir which will have 24 ministers--two more than at present--and represent a coalition of the country's major political factions. But Mrs. Meir's efforts to form a broadly based Government ran into a new snag today. As a result, she is not likely to submit the Cabinet to the Knesset for approval before next Monday.

The latest difficulty arose with Gahal (Herut-Liberal alignment) which is Israel's second largest party and will have six ministers in the New Government. Gahal leaders have demanded the right to initiate legislation on national health insurance and the settlement of labor disputes. The Labor Party, with serious ideological differences with Gahal on these matters, insists that no party in the Government may initiate legislation independently. Gahal leader Menachem Begin declared today that his party will not join the coalition unless its demands are met. Mrs. Meir was reported to be meeting with the Gahal leadership to try to avert a new crisis.

Her party's endorsement of the new Cabinet was assured yesterday after Deputy Premier Yigal Allon, bowing to strong pressure from Meir and the party leadership, agreed to accept the portfolio of Minister of Education on the conditions laid down by the Prime Minister. Earlier Mr. Allon had objected bitterly to a deal worked out between Mrs. Meir and the National Religious Party giving the NRP the post of deputy minister of education. That post was the price demanded by the religious party for joining the coalition but Mr. Allon said he could not function with a deputy who was not of his own selection. His refusal brought angry threats from Mrs. Meir to resign but the party leadership supported her, and Mr. Allon's "rebellion" was short-lived. He will retain the rank of Deputy Premier. The Labor Party will dominate the new Cabinet with the Prime Ministership and 14 ministerial posts of which the Mapai faction will have eight and the Achdut Avraham and Rafi factions two each. Mapam will have the rest.

## Past Heads Of 6 U.S. Veterans Groups Urge Nixon To Give Israel All The Arms It Needs

TEL AVIV, Dec. 8(JTA)--The past commanders of six American veterans organizations declared yesterday that the balance of power must be maintained in the Middle East in the interests of the free world and said they would urge President Richard M. Nixon to provide Israel with all the arms it needs to counter the heavy flow of Soviet arms to the Arab states.

The veteran leaders issued their statement at a press conference held on the occasion of Pearl Harbor Day, the 28th anniversary of America's entry into World War II. They had just completed a 10 day tour of Israel and occupied territories and had meetings with Israeli Government and military leaders.

The group consists of Claude L. Callegary, of Baltimore, past commander of the Disabled American Veterans; Ted C. Connell, Killeen, Tex, Veterans of Foreign Wars; Eldon James, Hampton, Va., and John Davis, Arlington, Va., both American Legion; Ralph Hall, Wheaton, Md., Amvets; Cooper Holt, of Silver Springs, Md., Veterans of Foreign Wars; Robert O'Leary, Baltimore, Catholic War Veterans; and Malcolm Tarlov, Norwalk, Conn., Jewish War Veterans of the United States. They were accompanied on their Israeli tour by Bernard Drenfeld, Cleveland, present national commander of the JWW.

Their statement said, "It is our personal conclusion that Israel seeks only a guaranteed peace with attendant recognition, security and protection from invasion and intimidation. It is our further belief that the United Nations may best serve the cause of peace and continue to contribute to the solution of the problem facing the nations of the Middle East by using its influence to bring about direct negotiations between the parties involved."

The Veterans added that they "doubt seriously that the Soviet Union could be an impartial participant in any negotiations in view of its policy of fomenting continuing armed strife by providing startling amounts of arms and material to Egypt, Syria and Iraq."

"The volume of Soviet arms for the Arabs is obviously not for defense and is a threat to Israel," the statement continued. "Since a balance of power may be at stake, it is in the best interests of the U.S. and others of the free world to act favorably on requests from Israel for materials necessary to maintain a proper balance of power."

## Soviet Embassy Offers Purported Interview Of Georgian Families Who Seek Emigration

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8(JTA)--The Soviet Embassy has responded to mounting public compassion for 18 Soviet Georgian families who appealed to the United Nations for help to emigrate to Israel by issuing a purported "interview" which also denounced the families. The "interview" with the families was contained in a press release from Novosti, the Soviet propaganda agency. Entitled "Georgia: Requests for going to Israel," it was written by Merab Lorjkipanidze and Avitandil Rukhadze, identified as Novosti "press agency correspondents."

The purported story from the two correspondents, said to represent the Georgian bureau of Novosti, declared: "The 18 Georgian Jews who asked the UN to help them go to Israel are quietly living and working; authorities did not even require any explanation from them." The correspondents "met them in the towns where they reside" and "also interviewed representatives of authorities in charge of the emigration of Soviet citizens."

The Soviet emigration authorities were quoted as saying, "13 out of those who signed the appeal were refused visas at once because they did not have close relatives in Israel, as is required by the laws of the Georgian Republic for emigration. The remaining five never made official requests for going to Israel."

According to the Soviet release, "none of the persons who signed the appeal had sold their effects or had quit jobs." The Jewish family heads were quoted as having made such statements "to make things look more convincing and for greater sympathy." Novosti reported that "the Kutaissi rabbi condemned the actions of his parishioners who applied to the U.N." He was quoted as stating that "their references to religion and our Judaic belief are untenable. There are several synagogues in our city, while in Georgia their number exceeds 20. They can freely perform their religious rites and rituals. This does not require going to Israel and leaving the land where dozens of generations of our forefathers have lived."

The Jewish families had appealed for emigration because of their love for Israel. The Soviet Union has denied Jews the same cultural and educational facilities afforded to other minorities. The Soviet Union has exaggerated the alleged availability of synagogues and religious facilities when in fact the Kremlin is attempting to gradually liquidate Judaism, authorities say.

## West Germany's Former Envoy To Portugal Suspended Pending War Crimes Probe

BONN, Dec. 8(JTA)--West Germany's former ambassador to Portugal, Hans Mueller-Roschach, has been suspended from duty pending the completion of an investigation of war crimes charges against him. The envoy has been accused participating in the mass murder of Jews while he was a member of the Nazi Foreign Office between November 1941, and March, 1942. The charges are under investigation by the central office for war crimes prosecution in Cologne.

Stuttgart police received an anonymous telephone threat to murder Chancellor Willy Brandt unless he releases Nazi war criminal Rudolph Hess. Hess, once Hitler's chief deputy, is the last of the surviving top Nazis in jail. In another West German development, a 30 year-old left wing radical, Bodo Saegel, has been arrested in Berlin on suspicion of having planted a bomb in the Jewish community center there last month.

## N.Y. School Official Urges Jews Not To Flee For Fear Of Negroes In Public Schools

NEW YORK, Dec. 8(JTA)--A New York City School official has warned that the exodus of Jews from the city because of fear of Negroes in the public school system could turn New York into "a series of ghettos with the police protecting one group against another." Dr. Nathan Brown, acting superintendent of schools, addressed an alumni meeting of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University. He urged rabbis to tell their congregants that they must participate in running the school system rather than flee from the city and from their responsibilities. He said rabbis had a great stake in school reorganization because the majority of Jewish children--some 540,000--attend public schools.

"The election of members to the community boards of education has the potential of disastrous ethnic conflicts," Dr. Brown warned. He said that "each board will have its own budget and have the power of giving out para-professional jobs. If there is going to be manipulation on the part of parent groups, teachers and principals, there is going to be a lot of trouble," Dr. Brown said the only way to successfully fight school power politics is to have parents involved in the educational process.

Dr. Brown said that experiences in such predominantly white neighborhoods such as Bay Ridge and the northwest Bronx proved that the education of white children does not suffer "when poor black children are placed in their schools."

## AJCongress Commends Post Office For Non-Religious Design Of 1969 Christmas Stamp

NEW YORK, Dec. 8(JTA)--The American Jewish Congress has commended the United States Post Office Department for the non-religious design of its 1969 Christmas stamp. At the same time however, AJCongress executive director Will Maslow said in a letter to Postmaster General Winton M. Blount that the organization was opposed in principle to the issuance of Christmas stamps "which is inconsistent with the constitutional concept of separation of church and state."

In a reply to the AJCongress letter, David A. Nelson, general counsel for the Post Office Department wrote, "The practice of issuing Christmas stamps each year having become fairly well entrenched by now, it is probably unlikely that the Christmas stamp will be abandoned."

The 1969 stamp is a reproduction of a painting by an unknown artist from about 1870 entitled "Winter Sunday in Norway, Maise." Last year the AJCongress protested the design of a Christmas stamp depicting a portion of a religious painting--"The annunciation" by Jan Van Eyck--as a violation of church-state separation. Christmas stamps were first issued in 1962 and have "become increasingly sectarian at almost every stage since the first, relatively non-sectarian stamp was issued," the AJCongress said.

## 10 Gifts Totalling More Than \$3 Million Announced At Dinner For Haifa Technion

NEW YORK, Dec. 8(JTA)--Ten gifts totalling more than \$3 million for the Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa were announced here at a dinner of the American Society for Technion. The gifts represented the largest total ever announced at the society's annual dinners.

Guest of honor Sol M. Linowitz, industrialist and Jewish leader, suggested a technological partnership between Israel and its Arab neighbors so that they might "learn to live together in peace by working toward common goals." An individual gift from Eugene Perloof of New York, founder of the Korvette department store chain, will make possible creation of a new school in management sciences at the Technion, officials said.

Evelyn de Rothschild of London, speaking as chairman of the British Technion Society, pledged to the American society full cooperation of the British group for a program designed to help the Technion to bring into Israel all of the gains of modern technology.

## American Indians Occupying Alcatraz participate in Chanukah Through AJCongress

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 8(JTA)--American Indians who have occupied Alcatraz Island, site of a former Federal penitentiary, participated in the celebration of Chanukah in traditional style. A boatload of Jewish food was brought to them by members of the local chapter of the American Jewish Congress who kindled a menorah on the island in San Francisco Bay and recited the Chanukah blessings.

The Indians are demanding that the Federal Government turn the abandoned island over to them under a century-old treaty. They occupied it 18 days ago but have been short of food. Dr. Steven Raffin of the AJCongress said that the organization decided to extend the hospitality of the Jewish holiday season to the Indians.

## Mapam Convention Here Told Israel Must Make Public Its Program For Mideast Peace

NEW YORK, Dec. 8(JTA)--Israel must make public its program for peace and must initiate a constructive policy to help solve the problems of a half million Arabs living in the occupied territories, Simha Flapan, Mapam Party leader, declared here yesterday. Mr. Flapan was guest of honor at the 32nd annual Chanukah dinner concluding the national Conference for Progressive Israel.

During sessions of the Conference, David Gelber, managing editor of Liberation magazine said that Israel's Arab population must be given full equality in reality not only on the statute books.

Ruth Grunzweig, a founder of the Jewish Liberation Project, told the conference that Zionism is the national liberation movement of the Jewish people and should be recognized as such by the Left. Moshe Kagan was re-elected national chairman of Americans for Progressive Israel-Nashomer Hatzair.

## Mrs. I.L. Kenen Dies at 63; Wife Of AIPAC Executive Chairman Was Active In Hadassah

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8(JTA)--Mrs. I.L. Kenen, 63, wife of the executive vice-chairman of the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee, died here today following a long illness. Mrs. Kenen was known especially for her work with Hadassah. She served as staff director of 23 national Hadassah conventions. The former Beatrice Bein, Mrs. Kenen was born in Brooklyn, N.Y.