

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

Tuesday, December 16, 1969

No. 237

Israel's New Government Sworn In--A Broadly Based Coalition Of 6 Factions

JERUSALEM, Dec. 15(JTA)--Israel's new Government, a broadly based coalition of six political factions, was sworn in today before a full Knesset, in the presence of President Zalman Shazar and a gallery packed with dignitaries and visitors.

Premier Golda Meir presented each of her 23 fellow Cabinet members by name in alphabetical order. She then delivered the inaugural address of the new Administration, the theme of which was national unity and determination not to relinquish an inch of occupied territory until a genuine lasting peace with the Arabs is achieved.

Mrs. Meir's Cabinet was put together after more than a month of difficult bargaining and negotiations. It is the most representative in the nation's 21-year history. The six factions it incorporates cover almost the entire political spectrum and command the loyalty of 102 out of 120 Knesset members--85 percent of that body's membership.

Mrs. Meir's address was directed less toward the small organized opposition at home than to the Arab foe and "those nations that, standing from afar, keep the Arabs off the road to peace" and perpetuate their determination to destroy Israel.

Mrs. Meir claimed that Israel's military strength was at an all-time high, fully capable of preserving the cease-fire lines as long as necessary. She claimed success for her Government's policies in the occupied territories and claimed that the Arab countries were suffering far more than Israel from the war of attrition they were waging against it. She blamed their suffering on President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt who, she said, will try, at the forthcoming Arab summit meeting in Rabat, Morocco, to "impose his failing policies on other Arab leaders, among them those whom for years he has tried to overthrow or murder?"

Mrs. Meir said that since January, 61 Arab planes--47 Egyptian and 14 Syrian--were shot down by Israeli forces against a loss by Israel of nine planes including a Piper Cub. She said that guerrillas and saboteurs had succeeded in creating a "state within a state" in Jordan and created havoc in Lebanon.

The Premier expounded in detail on the situation in the occupied territories where she said the Government's policy of a firm hand but minimum interference with local authorities has been successful. She claimed that the terrorists have been unable to gain recruits among the local populace, the local economy is flourishing, and there is no unemployment. Some 22,000 West Bank Arabs are working in Israel and thousands of Arabs from the Gaza Strip are employed on the West Bank. Mrs. Meir said the "open bridges" policy that permits free trade between the West Bank and Jordan was working well. She said West Bank Arabs have sent \$20 million worth of produce across the Jordan and have imported \$7 million worth. She said Israeli activity in the occupied regions was marked by the establishment of 20 temporary settlements and more are planned.

Here Is List Of Israel's 24 New Cabinet Member

JERUSALEM, Dec. 15(JTA)--Israel's new Cabinet consists of 24 Ministers, six of whom, at present, hold no portfolios. The Cabinet members are:

Mrs. Golda Meir, Prime Minister; Yigal Allon, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education; Moshe Dayan, Minister of Defense; Abba Eban, Foreign Minister; Pinhas Saphir, Finance; Zeev Sharef, Housing; Joseph Almogi, Labor; Israel Galili, Minister Without Portfolio; Shlomo Hillel, Police; Yaacov Shimshon Shapira, Justice; Shimon Peres, Minister Without Portfolio; Chaim Gvati, Agriculture; Menachem Beigin, Minister Without Portfolio; Joseph Saphir, Trade and Industry; Gen. Ezer Weizman, Transport; Elimelech Rimalt, Post; Chaim Landau, Development; Aryeh Leon Dulzin, Minister Without Portfolio; Moshe Chaim Shapiro, Interior; Dr. Joseph Burg, Social Welfare; Dr. Zerach Warhaftig, Religious Affairs; Moshe Kol, Tourism; Israel Barzilai and Victor Shemtov, Ministers Without Portfolio. The two latter members have the option to take over the Ministries of Health and Absorption respectively.

All of the Cabinet members were sworn in today except for Mr. Eban who is visiting the United States. He will be sworn in on his return.

Attention Focuses On Surprise Acceptance Of Post By Weizmann

TEL AVIV, Dec. 15(JTA)--A tall, slim, ramrod straight 45-year-old Air Force General with a thin mustache and a no-nonsense air of command about him is the "new face" in Israel's Government that has aroused the greatest interest at home and abroad. Gen. Ezer Weizmann, who was sworn in today as Minister of Transport, is a nephew of Israel's first President, the late Dr. Chaim Weizmann and a brother-in-law of the Defense Minister, Gen. Moshe Dayan (their wives are sisters). He is a career officer, generally regarded as non-political. But he served with the underground Irgun Zvai Leumi during the pre-Statehood era and he was selected for the Cabinet by the hard-line, nationalist Herut faction

headed by the former Irgun commander, Menachem Beigin.

Herut and the Liberal faction comprise Gahal, Israel's second strongest political party. The naming of Gen. Weizmann to a Cabinet post by the Herut central committee barely 24 hours before the new Government was to be sworn in came as a surprise. Months ago, Herut had failed to persuade Gen. Weizmann to stand for election to the Knesset. His acceptance of a cabinet job was apparently important to the Herut leadership. One appointee, Minister of Development designate Yosef Krammerman, voluntarily stepped aside. Another Herut member, Chaim Landau, who was slated to be Minister of Transport, agreed to take over the Development Ministry so that Gen. Weizmann could have the Transport post.

Gen. Weizmann is the youngest member of the Government and brings to it considerably more than a well known name. He is recognized as a brilliant tactician and is considered to have been the architect of the stunning air blow that, on the morning of June 5, 1967, virtually destroyed the air forces of Egypt, Jordan and Syria within a few hours. A World War II RAF fighter pilot, he was always a powerful advocate of air power and preached the lesson that the defense of Tel Aviv was in the air over Cairo.

Gen. Weizmann's resignation from the military, a little more than a day before his Cabinet appointment, was regarded by many of his fellow officers as a considerable loss to the armed forces. Gen. Dayan himself expressed regret, though he welcomed his brother-in-law to the Government and wished him all success. In a television appearance last night, Gen. Weizmann said he was sorry to leave the armed forces but regarded his new post as only another channel through which to continue serving his country. Some circles observed that Gen. Weizmann who, at the time of his retirement was chief of the operations branch at General Headquarters, had risen as far as he could in the military.

In 1967 he was passed over for appointment as Chief of Staff. With his military background, it was virtually certain that he will be named a member of the ministerial committee on security and defense problems. But the Ministry of Transport, though hardly a "glamor post," is expected to put Gen. Weizmann's abilities to a severe test. It is considered one of the toughest jobs in the country. The Minister must deal with the port authorities, dock labor, roads, public transport, the many problems that beset Israel's railways and merchant marine, the seamen and their union, El Al and the other commercial airlines.

The demilitarization of Gen. Weizmann was carried out swiftly with a minimum of military red tape. Chief of Staff Chaim Bar Lev granted him permission to resign as soon as it was requested. Within hours, the general was out of uniform and embarked on his civilian career with a reserve officer's identity card. He took with him one memento, a photograph of Israel's first fighter pilot unit of which he was a member and later commander. He also has at his disposal, as a private plane, a World War II Spitfire painted jet black. It is one of the few specimens of the propellor-driven RAF fighter plane still airborne.

'Pravda' Rejects Middle East Peace Proposals Of Secretary Of State Rogers

LONDON, Dec. 15(JTA)--Russia, speaking through the Communist Party newspaper Pravda, made its first public response--a negative one--yesterday to United States proposals for a Middle East settlement enunciated in Washington last week by Secretary of State William P. Rogers. Mr. Rogers' speech disclosed the contents of proposals submitted privately to the Soviets last Oct. 28 to which Moscow has not officially replied.

According to Pravda, Mr. Rogers was trying to undermine Arab unity and camouflage America's continued support for Israel. Writing in Pravda's weekly commentary on international affairs, Vladimir Mikhailov said, "Washington, it is true, is now trying to erase from the Arabs' memory the facts of its complicity in the Israel aggression. But whatever tricks Washington propagandists now resort to, they will fail to conceal the evident facts of the United States support to the Israeli ruling circles in their aggressive actions, in their stubborn attempts to annex the seized territories in spite of the demands voiced by world opinion."

"The latest developments show," Mr. Mikhailov went on, "that the United States ruling circles are sticking to their one-sided and obviously anti-Arab stand. Justified apprehension is being voiced in the Arab countries that the wish of the American propagandists to divert attention from Washington's policy of encouragement of the aggression is aimed at disguising Washington's attempt to sow strife and discord in the Arab world," the Pravda writer said.

Mr. Rogers' speech aroused consternation in the Israel Government by proposing that Israel withdraw from virtually all occupied Arab territories in return for an Arab commitment to a binding peace. Mr. Rogers stated further that the U.S. envisioned Jerusalem as a united city but with a religious, civic and administrative role for Jordan as well as Israel. Israeli leaders promptly accused the Secretary of State of undermining their bargaining position by introducing issues that rightfully belonged to negotiations between Israel and the Arab states.

The Rogers speech was also received coldly in Arab capitals. As a result, Western observers did not expect a positive response from Moscow. It is believed that Soviet leaders gave assurances on that count to the top level Egyptian delegation that visited Moscow last week. The Russians are believed determined to preserve their influence in the Arab world. But they continue to talk in terms of a political solution to the Middle East conflict and apparently were not swayed by reported Egyptian efforts to bring them to a more militant posture. The Soviets were expected to make a strong effort to create Arab unity at the Arab summit conference that opens at Rabat, Morocco, Dec. 20. Western eyes were also turned on Rabat. The U.S. State Department said after the Rogers speech that the Secretary hoped his words would reduce the intensity of anti-American statements that are expected to be made at Rabat.

State Department Replies To Soviet Union, Humphrey Criticisms

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15(JTA)--The State Department today struck back at critics of Secretary of State William P. Rogers' statement of American Middle East policy here last week. The specific targets were Russia and former Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, the Democratic Presidential candidate in 1968.

Mr. Humphrey, who criticized the speech, had said that the Nixon Administration appeared to require Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territory without real peace. State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey, asked to comment on the Humphrey charge, said that "from some of the comments we have noted, it would appear that the speech had not been completely read." Most major American Jewish organizations and the Government of Israel have been sharply critical of the policy enunciated by Mr. Rogers.

Mr. McCloskey was especially critical of the negative Soviet reaction published in Pravda. He said, "The Soviets have not responded to the concrete and constructive (American) formulation. They seem to have decided that, for the present at least, they would rather engage in propaganda attacks than deal seriously with the problems of the Middle East." Mr. McCloskey said that what is needed was a "positive response" to the U.S. proposals submitted privately to the Soviet Government on Oct. 28. The content of those proposals were disclosed by the Secretary of State in his Dec. 9 speech.

Apollo 12 Crew and 36 Other Astronauts Saluted At Houston Jewish National Fund Event

HOUSTON, Dec. 15(JTA)--The crew of Apollo 12 and 36 other astronauts and their wives attended a "salute to the astronauts" dinner for 1,000 here yesterday sponsored by the Jewish National Fund. For Capt. Charles Conrad Jr., Richard F. Gordon and Alan J. Bean, it was their first appearance since being released from quarantine after their historic moon landing last month.

The occasion was the announcement, by Texas governor John B. Connally, of the establishment of a U.S. Astronauts Forest" in Israel by the JNF. Herman L. Weisman, national president of the JNF, presented each of the Apollo 12 crew with a tree certificate. The new forest will be planted near Jerusalem and is expected to be dedicated next May.

Israel Lodges Complaint With Red Cross Over Treatment Of Prisoners By Egyptians

TEL AVIV, Dec. 15(JTA)--Israel lodged a complaint with the International Red Cross today charging Egypt with violation of the Geneva convention governing the treatment of prisoners of war. The Israel Government charged that two downed fighter pilots, Maj. Nissim Ashkenazi and Capt. Giora Romm, were subjected to inhuman treatment and physical assault and were denied their normal rights as prisoners including visits by Red Cross representatives within a reasonable period of time.

The two pilots were repatriated a week ago in a three-cornered exchange in which Israel returned 72 Egyptian and 13 Syrian prisoners of war for them and for two Israeli civilians who were held captive by Syria after their TWA airliner was hijacked to Damascus last Aug. 29. Both flyers are in a military hospital undergoing treatment for severe injuries they suffered when they bailed out over Egypt.

Israel complained that Egyptian authorities refused to permit Red Cross representatives to visit either of them for 45-46 days after they were taken prisoner. It was further charged that Maj. Ashkenazi and Capt. Romm were kept separately in solitary confinement under inhuman conditions and were transferred to a Cairo hospital only one or two days before Red Cross representatives were finally allowed to visit them.

The Israelis rejected an Egyptian explanation that the pilots were held incommunicado because of their condition. They were suffering from fractures of hands and legs but were subjected to constant interrogation and were visited by an Egyptian photographer who took picture for propaganda purposes, Israel said.

While in solitary confinement, Maj. Ashkenazi was beaten and kicked by Egyptians and in one instance his fractured ankle was stepped on. The prisoners were denied permission to write or receive letters or parcels until they were finally visited by the Red Cross, and Capt. Romm's request to see a rabbi was refused in violation of the Geneva code, Israel said.

Although admittedly severely injured, both men were confined to bare cells that had neither mattresses nor blankets. The Israelis said however that the medical treatment they received at the hands of Egyptian physicians was fair and correct. Israel demanded that the Red Cross ask Egypt to punish those responsible for the brutal treatment of the pilots and to give assurances that such behavior would not be permitted in the future.

Israeli Jets Blast Egyptian Positions Following Attack, Abduction Of Officer

TEL AVIV, Dec. 15(JTA)--Israel Air Force jets blasted Egyptian military positions in the central section of the Suez Canal zone this morning following an Egyptian commando raid Sunday across the Canal that resulted in the death of one Israeli soldier and the capture of an officer by the Egyptians. A third Israeli soldier was wounded in the attack and was hospitalized.

A military spokesman said all planes returned safely from the sortie. Tension mounted today along Israel's northern border following a bazooka and small arms attack from Lebanese territory Saturday night that fatally wounded two Israelis in Metullah. Villagers reported today that Lebanese civilians were evacuating their homes in the area, apparently for fear of Israeli retaliation. Israeli artillery has shelled several Lebanese villages in the areas. It was learned today that units of the Lebanese Army have re-occupied the southern slopes of Mount Hermon, a position they had relinquished to guerrillas following last month's Cairo agreements between Lebanese authorities and the Palestinian commando leaders.

Hillel Directors Told That Anti-Israel Propaganda On Campus In 'Sporadic, Ineffective'

GROSSINGER, N.Y. Dec. 15 (JTA)--Anti-Israel propaganda activities on most large college campuses are mainly "sporadic, unorganized and generally ineffective," according to a survey by B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations made public today at the national conference of Hillel directors. A study at 50 major American colleges, made by the Hillel directors on the spot, found that the Middle East situation was not "at or near the top of the priority list" of the New Left and "black power" student groups. Rabbi Samuel Fishman, Hillel director of Israel and community affairs, who headed the study, reported that "the predominant view is that the situation today is not out of control and that we must not be misled into a massive response to relatively minor incidents."

He reported that there were very few campuses at which there was an ongoing program of anti-Israel activity and said the Jewish campus community was "sensitive to the problem" and trying to develop effective information programs on Israel's position.

Rabbi Fishman said there were "occasional instances" of Arab exploitation of international student clubs for propaganda purposes but described the incidents as "sporadic." The study showed, Rabbi Fishman reported to a workshop session, that there was little connection between the goals of black student groups and an anti-Israeli position. He said that "the blacks are still a relatively powerless group, barely able to organize for the causes near to them. Very few black leaders are inclined to dissipate their limited resources on a struggle thousands of miles away."

The Hillel executive described much of the anti-Israel activity emerging on the campus as being in the form of counter-demonstrations to observances of Israeli anniversaries or the appearance of an Israeli speaker. Other forms, he said, were distribution of anti-Israel literature, letters to the campus newspapers and the booking of pro-Arab lecturers.

The Hillel directors reported that the issues of top priority to the New Left and "black power" groups were the Vietnam war and the draft, racial crisis in the cities, reform of higher education and reform of the American socio-economic system. Their reports stressed however, Rabbi Fishman said, that resolution of the Vietnam war might invoke "a situation of rebels without a cause who take up the cause against Israel."

Some Hillel directors, however, he said, suggested that the radical students would be more likely to turn to "problems of America's disrupted environment."

Parley Focuses On New Left, Activists, And Other Problems

One hundred American universities were represented at the conference which got under way here Sunday with a wide-ranging discussion of the role of Hillel in dealing with the New Left, Jewish student activists and the other elements of the Jewish campus population, including the large number of the indifferent. The discussion will continue in a series of a daily workshops through Wednesday.

In other workshop sessions, the Hillel directors began discussing various aspects of the role of Hillel on the campus, the attempt to reach the alienated, counselling on the new sexual morality and the proliferation of organizational efforts to reach the Jewish youth on the campus.

The New Left was strongly attacked and warmly defended in sessions today. Rabbi Aaron Kamerling, Hillel director at the University of Toronto, who led the workshop discussion, declared that "the New Left is forcing a polarization between man and machine and is deliberately evading the issue of the greatest good for the greatest number which technology has made possible."

A West Coast Hillel director declared that a problem in dealing with the New Left was "the manner and means used by the students in pursuance of their goals." He said there was "an ethical problem of the means used by the students" and asserted that the "ethical insensitivity" of the New Leftists "must result in a perversion of their goals."

Several participants in the workshop warned that the Students for a Democratic Society would become so anti-Semitic and so anti-Israel that it would get rid of its Jewish members. Other participants in the workshops stressed the point that numerically the New Left was small and the number of Jewish students in the movement, while disproportionately large, represented only a relatively small number of the Jewish students on the campus.

A Midwest Hillel director argued that the New Leftists, once convinced that revolution was necessary to destroy the evils of the present system, were not obligated to observe its ethical standards. One veteran director charged that not enough attention was given to what troubles the college students, and too much attention to the tactics he uses to make himself heard. He said that if more attention as paid to those problems, perhaps the students would not feel so desperate today.

A theme sounded by some participants at Sunday's opening session was repeated in workshops today and loomed as an issue that would develop in intensity during the parley. It was that the Jew would remain a "stranger" in America, that the "liberal coalition" of which the Jew was a part for so long was dissolving, and that the Jew would remain isolated. This thesis was expanded in workshops today to stress the point that Jews should give priority to causes involving Jewish survival over non-Jewish causes. Supporters of this viewpoint met with heated opposition.

Fortas Rejects Concept Of Sectarian Seat On United States Supreme Court

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (JTA)--Former Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas, the last Jew to serve on the country's highest judicial bench, rejected the notion today that there should be a "Jewish seat" on the court, a Catholic seat, a Negro seat or even a "Wasp seat." Mr. Fortas said in a speech before the National Press Club that members of the court should be appointed on the basis of merit with no reference to race or religion. Mr. Fortas, who was appointed to the Supreme Court by former President Lyndon B. Johnson and later nominated by him for the Chief Justiceship, resigned last year following a controversy over his financial dealings.