

JTA daily news bulletin

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

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Vol. XXXVII - Fifty-Third Year

5731 Rosh Hashana Issue 1970

No. 190

Nixon Urges Egypt To Honor Truce; Israel Considering New Peace Offensive

ROME, Sept. 30 (JTA)-- President Richard M. Nixon urged Egypt yesterday to honor the Middle East cease-fire and to move as rapidly as possible toward a constructive peace settlement. He pledged that the United States will seek good relations with whoever succeeds the late President Gamal Abdel Nasser. Mr. Nixon made his remarks at an informal meeting with newsmen in Naples prior to flying to Belgrade for a meeting with Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia. (President Nasser was mourned in the Soviet Union today. In official condolences sent to Cairo the Soviet government re-affirmed its desire for a political settlement in the Middle East. They also pledged continued support of "the national liberation movement of the Arab people." Observers, noting Moscow's 12-hour silence following news of Nasser's death, said it indicated the Kremlin leaders were shocked by the event and feared that Nasser's eventual successor might alter Egypt's policy of close reliance on the USSR.) In Jerusalem today a majority of the Israeli cabinet rejected a proposed official statement of sympathy to the Arab world. A statement had been prepared by the Foreign Ministry which expressed the hope that a new chapter might now be opened in Israel's relations with its neighbors. The cabinet majority felt, however, that a statement of sympathy might be construed as self-serving and hypocritical since President Nasser was Israel's strongest and most dangerous foe in the Arab world. According to sources in Jerusalem Israel is considering a new peace offensive in the Middle East, taking advantage of the fact that Nasser's demise will give other Arab leaders a freer hand to come to terms with Israel.

Last Remaining Hostages On Way Home; Israel Reported Ready To Release Two Algerians

LONDON, Sept. 30 (JTA)--The six remaining airline hijack hostages were freed by their Arab captors in Amman, Jordan last night and landed at Athens airport this morning on their way home to New York. Their release, it was learned today, was part of a four-way deal in which 19 Arabs held prisoner by Britain, West Germany, Switzerland and Israel were to be freed as soon as the hostages were safely out of Jordan. According to Swiss sources, Israel agreed to release two Algerian nationals detained there last month and then captured in an abortive attempt to hijack an El Al airliner Sept. 6. Miss Khaled was expected to go to Egypt as soon as she is freed. The last six hostages were turned over to the International Red Cross in Amman. They included Gerald Berkowitz, of the Bronx, a student at the Community College of the University of New York, and two Brooklyn rabbis, Abraham and Joseph Harari-Rafal.

Mr. Berkowitz, a chemist, told newsmen in Athens that he "had no fear of any harm coming to us from the commandoes." Rabbi Abraham Harari-Rafal said the hostages were not mistreated. "We ate what they ate," he said. The rabbi said the hostages were turned over to the Red Cross by the guerrillas. One of the 33 American hostages freed earlier said in an interview yesterday that 28 of the hijack victims had appealed to Israel's Premier Golda Meir for a "reciprocal act of good will" in order to effect their release. Richard Morse, a 47-year-old consulting economist from Andover, Mass., said the "act" was the release of some Arabs held by Israel. Mr. Morse said the hostages were not coerced into sending the appeal to Mrs. Meir and noted that half of the signers were Jews. Meanwhile, more than 100 aviation lawyers convened here yesterday for an emergency meeting of the International Civil Aviation Organization on the problems of aerial hijacking. They will attempt to rule on the question of who holds jurisdiction over a hijacked aircraft and treaties aimed against air piracy.

Mrs. Meir In New Year's Message: Israel Continues Strong Despite Arab Terror

JERUSALEM, Sept. 30 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir said today in a New Year's message to world Jewry that although the "Jarring mission has been frozen at its start" and "peace is still remote," nonetheless "the people of Israel have succeeded in pursuing the central obligation and privilege of maintaining the momentum of the building of the state." Mrs. Meir observed "The outgoing year has been marked by tension, danger and escalation in the Middle East in face of which Israel has continued to pursue undeterred its struggle for peace." Premier Meir added that "Israel finds encouragement in the fact that Arab threats and aggression cannot conceal the fact that among certain circles in the Arab world there is a growing questioning as to the validity of the long-held axiom of the ephemerality of the Jewish State." Mrs. Meir noted that "The anguish of Soviet Jewry sealed off from the process of redemption echoes as never before in the Jewish hearts in Israel and throughout the Diaspora." Concluding her holiday message, Mrs. Meir declared: "On behalf of the government and people of Israel I send heartfelt good wishes for shana tova to fellow Jews everywhere. In the coming year as in the outgoing year may we fulfill in unity and dedication our obligations to our generation and to future generations. May we sense the greatness of the new era in Jewish history in which we are privileged to live. In the coming year may our prayers and hopes find fulfillment in peace and progress for Israel, for all peoples in the Middle East and for mankind."

Shazar Issues Plea For Peace in New Year; Pays Tribute To Israeli, Diaspora, Soviet Jews

JERUSALEM, Sept. 30 (JTA)--President Zalman Shazar, in a Rosh Hashana message released here this morning, reviewed the events, both good and bad, that affected Israel during the year just past and issued a plea for peace to come in the year ahead. "The year just ended will remain associated in our recollections with the Soviet intervention in our region," Mr. Shazar said. "It was in this year that the Egyptian ruler consolidated the support he receives from the Russian Empire in all fields of re-armament, training and administrative advice. It was this year that the Katyushas landed

on our border settlements. Soviet missiles brought succor to our adversaries all along the (Suez) Canal." But despite the increasing threats to Israel's security and its very existence, President Shazar said, the year just ended was marked by immigration totalling 40,000 persons and tourism that broke all previous records, totalling 270,000 visitors.

"This year there has been full employment and a record enrollment of 800,000 pupils in our schools," President Shazar said. The Israeli chief of state paid special tribute to diaspora Jewry and the Jews of the Soviet Union "where the flame of Jewish loyalty is again bursting forth." Diaspora Jewry, he said, "has raised itself above its internal divisions and appeared as one united people, rich in deeds and generous wherever the State of Israel was in danger." Mr. Shazar hailed "our brethren in the countries of separation and silence who are languishing beyond the wall that surrounds them as in generations of old." He added: "We are proud of the young men and women who defy danger and proudly declare that their hearts dwell in Zion, that their love speaks Hebrew. No fury can extinguish the sparks that are glowing in their hearts."

Jewish, Non-Jewish Leaders Stress Mideast Peace, Social Justice As New Year's Goals

NEW YORK, Sept. 30 (JTA)—American Jews assembled in their homes and synagogues all over the country today to usher in the New Year, 5731, according to the Hebrew calendar, which begins at sundown. American Jewry, generally more prosperous and genuinely united on major issues affecting them as Jews than ever before, were greeted by Jewish and non-Jewish national and local leaders and by the leaders of the many Jewish fraternal, service and religious organizations that comprise the spectrum of Jewish society in this country. President Richard M. Nixon, in a message from the White House, greeted his Jewish fellow countrymen with wishes for "a New Year of peace and happiness." "Jewish tradition teaches that the power to do good or evil is in our own hands, and the season of the Jewish High Holy Days holds a meaningful message for men of all faith," the President said. "These days of atonement prod us to an awareness of man's own worth and dignity and of the divine and human potentialities within each of us. They are days of great hope, for the driving force of man's freedom is his ability to look forward, appraise his limitations and seek means to widen his horizons," President Nixon said.

Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York, in a New Year greeting from Albany, hailed Jewish leadership "in science, in industry, in the arts, in our spiritual life and our civic and public enterprises--in every field of human endeavor" where "members of the Jewish faith have helped to enrich and advance our nation...On these holy days, I know those of Jewish faith will rededicate themselves to carrying forward the noble traditions of their forefathers," Gov. Rockefeller said. Mayor John V. Lindsay, of New York City, noted that the safe return of the hijacked airline passengers held hostage by Arab terrorists for three weeks occurred in time for them to celebrate Rosh Hashana with their families and friends. "I hope and pray that the happy return of the hostages will signify for mankind a year of peace among nations and reconciliation among the people of the world." In an earlier holiday greeting issued at City Hall, Mayor Lindsay expressed hope that the new Jewish year would bring peace in the Middle East and alleviation of the plight of Jews in the Soviet Union. Lawrence F. O'Brian, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, extended his party's greetings to American Jews with the hope that "the people of Israel will some day soon overcome the perils they now face as a nation."

Jews Throughout World Face The New Year With Renewed Confidence, Determination

Max M. Fisher, chairman of the United Israel Appeal, said in his annual Rosh Hashana message that "If these are anxious days, they are also days in which we should allow ourselves a certain measure of confidence and hope. More than three years of a Near East peace have shown the people of Israel to be as determined and resolute a nation as any in modern history. In the face of adversity they are holding firm and strong. Under the strain of heavy sacrifice for security, they also continue to press forward in building their democracy and their future. Meanwhile, the Jews outside of Israel have demonstrated that they too understand their responsibilities--another good reason for confidence." Philip E. Hoffman, president of the American Jewish Committee, observed that "Rosh Hashana reminds us that man is partner with God in creation, and therefore is morally obligated not to rest as long as there remains a single injustice or inequity in all his human relationships. Its spirit is therefore a lift to the despairing and resigned as well as an injunction to convert the crises and challenges of the coming year into opportunities and achievements for the betterment of the Jewish people in the United States, in Israel and for all members of the human family." Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, declared in a Rosh Hashana message: "As we pray for peace and good will in the New Year, we also must vow to cry out against injustice, to offer succor and dignity to the disinherited, to stand forthrightly against the forces of misused power. And as we ask for atonement of our sins we must recognize that apathy toward despotism, aggression, bigotry, poverty and corruption is no less sinful than is the slaying of one's own brother."

Jacob Stein, president of the United Synagogue of America, called on its member congregations to devote themselves to meeting the needs of American Jewry and to concern themselves with the problems besetting Israel and the Jews in the Soviet Union. "We recognize that to answer this call may increase budgets, may cause inconvenience but the state of our society calls upon us to maximize our efforts, to educate our members and to provide an ongoing forum for discussion and social action." Mrs. Sol Henkind, president of the National Women's League of the United Synagogue, called for world peace that will "reunite fathers, husbands and sons with their families the world over." Dr. Nelson Glueck, president of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, warned in a New Year's message that "world peace cannot be achieved by doctrinaire ideas or unyielding institutions." "Peace will not come merely with the cessation of warfare and abstinence from military slaughter," he said. "It will arrive only when men turn their hearts and minds to the solution of problems of overpopulation, environmental decay and social discrimination." Dr. Emanuel Neuman, chairman of

the American section of the Jewish Agency for Israel, expressed the hope that "Israel's sacrifices of the past years, and its faith in the acceptance of American promises, will not have been in vain."

Dr. William Haber, president of the American ORT Federation, declared, "This New Year, American Jewry is challenged to rise to the demands of the times, to demonstrate firmness of purpose and unity in action to meet the manifold needs of our people in Israel and other lands." Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, said, in a Rosh Hashana message that "despite the burdens it might impose to sacrifice, if necessary, these times demand our financial generosity. We must assure the survival of Israel and maintain the strength of Jewish institutions here." Rabbi Joseph Karasick, president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, prayed "that the United States and all its citizens may be found worthy of continued divine Bernard L. Berzon, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, called on "synagogues everywhere to devote special prayers for peace throughout the world, whenever the clash of arms is heard." He said, "The plight of the State of Israel is of particular concern for us. We pray Almighty God to preserve Israel in her present ordeal." Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the American Zionist Federation, urged understanding of Israel "as the instrument which will help bring to fruition our eternal Jewish verities; the compassion which we must feel for our fellow human beings, the intelligence we must apply to build a better world."

Unity Among Jews, Devotion To Jewish Ideals, Aid To Homeless And Persecuted Jews Urged

Dr. Israel Goldstein and Mrs. Rose L. Halprin, co-chairman of the World Confederation of General Zionists urged unity "among free Jews throughout the world." "Our history teaches us that nothing could undermine or endanger the existence of a united Jewish people. Jewish unity was and is the key to Jewish survival," they said. Herman L. Weisman, president of the Jewish National Fund of America, called on "the masses of Jewry, rich and poor alike, to continue to provide us with the resources which we need to carry out our work." Rabbi Harold I. Saperstein, president of the New York Board of Rabbis prayed that "the New Year may be a year of peace for Israel and its neighbors; a year of redemption for the harassed Jews of the Soviet Union; a year of spiritual renewal and deeper loyalty for the Jewish community of America." Mrs. Leonard H. Weiner, president of the National Council of Jewish Women observed that Rosh Hashana is the day on which God "brings into creation a new being, a new people, a new humanity." She urged fellow Jews to pray for "a new year in which peace, freedom and enlightenment may come to pass not only for Jews but for all people." Morris L. Levinson, president of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York said "the new year "tests to the utmost the courage and endurance of Israel's people as well as American Jewry's ability to cope with vast humanitarian needs." A Rosh Hashana message from Leon H. Keyserling, president of the National Committee for Labor Israel, expressed confidence that American Jewry and "countless others in the United States who value human progress under freedom extend their warm greetings to a pioneering vanguard of Israel, whose leadership, vision and courage have helped the young state to endure all its trials."

Harold Friedman, president of the United Hias Service, declared that on the eve of Rosh Hashana his organization "renews its assurances to homeless fellow Jews everywhere that they will not be forgotten, that they will be helped to rebuild their lives in freedom and security." Mrs. David M. Levitt, president of the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, expressed "the fervent hope and prayer that the coming year will see a permanent end to strife among nations and the beginning of a just peace and reconciliation among peoples everywhere." Dr. Sterling W. Brown, president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews said that Rosh Hashana, "like the Christian new year, is a time for reflection and renewal." In a joint Rosh Hashana message Harold Bernstein, president of B'nai Zion and Edward Sharf, chairman of its America-Israel friendship committee, declared that "the current tempestuous Mideast situation has underscored as never before Israel's dependence on helping hands from the United States." The Long Island Commission of Rabbis, in a message from its president, Rabbi Moshe Kwalbrun, called on all men to "live together with one another as family, as friends, as neighbors, as members of a society and a civilization." David Zucker, president of the New York Metropolitan Region of the United Synagogue of America, urged the American people not to be complacent with regard to the Middle East conflict and the plight of Soviet Jewry.

European Jewish Leaders Focus On Soviet Jewry Plight, Exodus Of Jews From Oppressors

LONDON, Sept. 30 (JTA)--Leaders of European Jewry issued greetings on the eve of Rosh Hashana. Dr. Emanuel Jakobovits, Chief Rabbi of the British Commonwealth called attention to "the dire straits of our brethren in the Soviet Union" whose plight has worsened, he said. But the year also brought "heartening evidence of a most remarkable resurgence of Jewish feeling and identification among Russian Jewry, surely one of the miracles of our age." In Bucharest, Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen of Rumania envisaged Rosh Hashana as "a time for clear thinking, for looking at ourselves and at the world for public and private dedication to peace and justice and the service of the Almighty." It is a time, he said, "when we try to mend our ways and pray that the world at large mends its ways." Louis D. Horowitz, director general of the Joint Distribution Committee reviewed the relief agency's activities of the past year in a New Year message issued in Geneva. "In recent months the most dramatic exodus has been that of 12,000 Polish Jews who sought asylum in Israel, North America, Scandinavia and other European countries," he said. He noted that "much more gradually, Jews continue to leave North Africa and the Middle East and Eastern Europe where their children will have a better life."

In Dusseldorf, the Central Council of Jews in Germany issued a Rosh Hashana message observing that at this time of the year "we must reflect that suffering, misery, war and desolation cannot be confined to one territory. Wherever they happen they affect us all. As Jews we must strive to make our contribution toward the improvement of society and toward better relations between man

and man and nation and nation." The message was signed by the Council's chairman, Werner Nachmann and its general secretary, H. G. Van Dam. Dr. Israel Goldstein, chairman of the Keren Hayesod, United Israel Appeal, emphasized Israel's dependence on the support of world Jewry in a Rosh Hashana message issued in Jerusalem. "Is rael has but one inalienable brother, the Jewish people," he said, "the eternal people both blessed and cursed by being small in size and mighty in spirit... Our brethren in Israel have learned the lesson of their history; there is no relaxing in the eternal struggle of the Jewish people for survival, security and progress. Our Jewish brethren in the four corners of the earth should not forget it either." New Year's greetings from the president of the Hungarian Union of Jewish Communities were received at the offices of the Hebrew World Union in Jerusalem, the chairman of the union's executive, professor Arieh Tartakover reported.

Seven Muscovite Jews Send New Year's Greetings To 'Brethren' Throughout World

NEW YORK, Sept. 30 (JTA)—In what is believed to be the first letter sent directly to an American Jewish organization by Soviet Jews, seven Muscovite Jews have written to the American Jewish Congress to proffer their "New Year's greetings to all of our brethren and friends in the U.S.A. and in the entire world." The seven signers, describing themselves as "a group of Jews demanding the right of emigrating to Israel and being detained by force on the territory of the USSR by the Soviet authorities," asserted that "we are proud of the remarkable ability of our people to survive no matter what the circumstances and to retain our spiritual treasures." Despite "all the trials and tribulations," they continued, Jews "have remained one people tied by a common destiny."

Their Rosh Hashana message concluded: Let the New Year be a year of peace and prosperity for the Jewish people in the entire world: We are approaching the New Year with the confidence that, in spite of the attempts to deprive us of our Jewishness and forcing us to live in, for us, an alien country, we will attain our rights to live in, for us, the holy land, the land of Israel. And we are repeating our centuries-old words with a renewed feeling of reality: Next Year in Jerusalem! The letter, two copies of which were received separately by AJCongress executive director Will Maslow, was signed by Anatoly Dekatov, Grigory Tartakowski, Michail Chersonski, Lev Sheinkar and Michail Yakobson. All gave their addresses. Mr. Maslow said that "This call from Russian Jewry is further demonstration of their indomitable will to remain a vital part of the Jewish people despite repression and threats of imprisonment."

U.S. Jewish Communities On New Year's Eve Focus On Israel, Communal Needs, Soviet Jews

NEW YORK, Sept. 30 (JTA)—Jewish communities throughout the United States were occupied with several important areas of concern as the High Holiday season began at sundown today. Among these were services for the poor and the sick, the financial needs of Israel at a time of unprecedented economic burdens for that country and the plight of Jews in the Soviet Union. The Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York arranged special holiday observances for thousands of patients and clients in hospitals and other member institutions. These include the Mt. Sinai Medical Center, the Beth Israel Medical Center and the Maimonides Medical Center where the shofar will be sounded and services will be held in auditoriums and at the bedside of patients too ill to attend. The Hebrew Association for the Deaf will hold services with Rabbi David Rabinowitz, the only deaf ordained rabbi in the U.S., officiating. Services have also been arranged at the Daughters of Jacob Geriatric Center and the Metropolitan Jewish Geriatric Center. The Jewish Braille Institute of America, another Federation beneficiary, is circulating prayer books in Braille. An estimated 850 persons will attend Rosh Hashana services at the 92nd St. YM-YWHA in Manhattan. The Youth Residence Center in New York, operated by the Jewish Child Care Association, has invited young people between the ages of 16 and 22 to conduct their own services tonight.

Rosh Hashana, and especially Yom Kippur, are traditional occasions for appeals on behalf of the needy and for Israel. In the Greater Boston area, 81 synagogues plan to ask worshippers to pledge to purchase a maximum amount of State of Israel Bonds during the High Holiday season, according to Bernard Garber, general chairman of the Israel Bond Organization. Speakers at the synagogues and temples will emphasize Israel's need for Bond loans, pointing out that the country's expenditure of \$5 million a day for defense, forces it to rely in large measure on Bond sales for its normal industrial and economic development. The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews in San Francisco said today that thousands of Jews in the USSR will receive Rosh Hashana cards from American Jews this New Year. The Council provided the cards at a nominal cost. Each contain a Jewish scene and New Year greetings in Russian, English, Georgian, German, French and Hebrew.

Harold B. Light, a spokesman for the group, said it had been hesitant about launching the card-sending campaign "because some thought the cards might endanger the people we want to help." He said the idea was tested last Passover when over 30,000 cards were sent to a selected list of 74 names. "Many of those on the list have already been allowed to leave the Soviet Union," he said, "and some of these tell us they believe that the hundreds of greetings they received actually helped them to gain their freedom." Another Rosh Hashana note came from Stamford, Conn. where the First Presbyterian Church announced that Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur hymns will be played on the 56 bell carillon on the church's tower on Sunday, Oct. 4. The serenade will be rendered by George Matthew Jr. who is the organist at the Congregational Church in New Canaan and at Temple Sinai in Stamford. Dr. Donald Campbell of the First Presbyterian Church said the program is the latest in a series of ecumenical endeavors by his congregation.

Dayan To Visit U.S. in December; Expected To Meet With Administration Officials

TEL AVIV, Sept. 30 (JTA)—Defense Minister Moshe Dayan will visit the United States in December, it was announced here today. While his official visit is connected with the United Jewish Appeal campaign, Gen. Dayan will also discuss Mideast and Israeli-American problems with U.S. leaders. He will probably also be interviewed on American television.