

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Military Aid For Israel 'Inadequate' Under Nixon Budget, Sen. Jackson Says

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31 (JTA)--Sen. Henry M. Jackson charged today that President Nixon's new budget request to extend military credit to Israel is "wholly inadequate, both as to amount and terms" especially at a "critical moment in the Middle East which has become the cockpit of the cold war." The Washington Democrat said that "rather than using the existing broad and decisive authority granted last year in Sect. 501 of the Defense Procurement Act, the Administration has chosen to treat Israel's pressing military requirements in the routine manner of the Foreign Military Sales Act." Jackson pointed out that the new budget asked \$582 million for military assistance to 15 countries, including Israel, without setting forth specific sums for each country. Capitol Hill sources observed that with 15 countries sharing in the \$582 million, Israel was hardly likely to receive the \$500 million authorized for her last year.

It was Sen. Jackson who drafted Sect. 501 of the Defense Procurement Act which gave the President broad authority to authorize substantial military purchase credits for Israel. Credit terms under Sect. 501 are much easier than under the Military Sales Act. Moreover, the Administration's request for funds under the Sales Act will have to run the gauntlet of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee headed by Sen. J. William Fulbright, the Arkansas Democrat who strongly opposed Sect. 501 of the Defense Procurement Act because of its open-ended aid to Israel.

Sen. Jackson said he was "dismayed by the failure of the Administration's new budget to use the broad authority to extend military credits to Israel that was overwhelmingly voted by the last Congress." He added: "The measure passed last year carried a strong and decisive policy statement aimed directly at Moscow that won the approval of 87 Senators. Now the Administration has decided gratuitously to request authority it already has, but without the sense of urgency the Congress took pains to emphasize last year, and which is as necessary as ever." Jackson contended that "This action may be interpreted in Moscow as an indication of indecision and ambivalence at precisely the time when firmness and resolve are needed."

## Report Jarring, Thant Want To Upgrade Talks, Move Them To Mideast

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31 (JTA)--Informed sources said here Friday that United Nations Secretary General U Thant and UN Mideast emissary Gunnar Jarring intend to propose the early removal of the Jarring talks from the UN site in New York to a city in the Middle East. The sources said this information had been conveyed to them by Thant. He and Dr. Jarring also reportedly want to propose that the level of the indirect Israel-Arab talks be raised from the ambassadorial level to that of foreign minister. Both proposals were initially made by Israel and rejected by the Arabs who insisted on New York as the talks' site.

Their demand for an ambassadorial level was reportedly motivated by the wish to downgrade the talks as much as possible from any status as negotiations. Israel accepted the Arab demands last summer to get the talks, proposed by Secretary of State William P. Rogers, underway and named Foreign Minister Abba Eban as its official delegate. He still holds that appointment but Israel's UN Ambassador, Yosef Tekoah was named as Eban's deputy.

It was also learned here that, contrary to reports appearing in New York, the Nixon Administration has not asked Israel for any concession as the price for extension of the present cease-fire, scheduled to expire Feb. 5. The sources said the Administration has in fact expressed "great satisfaction" with Israel's attitude on the Jarring talks and is unwilling to yield to any Egyptian pressures to demand a political gesture from Israel. It was also reported that if peace can be reached with Jordan, Israel would be willing to yield part of its sovereignty over Jerusalem's Temple Mount, the area in the old city on which the Herodian Temple once stood. Part of that area now is the site of the Dome of the Rock and the El Aksa Mosque, which together constitute the third holiest place of the Moslem faith. According to a plan, reportedly worked out at the highest Israel Government levels, Israel would cede to Jordan sovereignty over the two mosques and a road from the mosques to the Jordanian border once a peace treaty with Jordan is signed. The rest of the Temple Mount would be leased to the Jordanian Government.

## Cabinet Continuing 'Quiet Diplomacy'; Lebanese Note Received

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31 (JTA)--The Israeli Government continued its policy of "quiet diplomacy" today. The Cabinet, at its weekly meeting, discussed the latest developments in the Jarring talks. Foreign Minister Abba Eban reported on the subject but no details were made public. Eban and Premier Golda Meir were reported to have completed Israel's formal reply to Jordan's latest note. It is expected to go to Dr. Jarring tomorrow or Tuesday for transmission to Amman. Lebanon's reply to Israel's proposals was handed to Jarring in New York over the week-end, sources here said today, and it has already been conveyed to the Israeli Government. The contents of the Lebanese note were not disclosed. Israel had reportedly offered to conclude a permanent peace agreement with Lebanon immediately, based on the present boundaries between the two countries with no claims or counter claims.

## Jewish Agency Approves \$573.4 Million Budget For Fiscal 1971-72

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31 (JTA)--The budget and finance committee of the expanded Jewish Agency approved a draft budget on Friday for the 1971-72 fiscal year totalling \$573,452,220. The budget for the current fiscal year is \$361,370,000, officials said. The fiscal year starts April 1. All but \$8.5 million of the next budget total is expected from Jewish appeal funds throughout the world, with the

major portion--\$400 million--expected from the United Jewish Appeal in the United States. Officials listed the main expenditures of the new budget, rounded off to the nearest \$100,000, as \$35.9 million for immigration and absorption; \$36.7 million for social welfare services; \$72.6 million for health services; \$50.5 million for education; \$82.5 million for institutions of higher learning; \$22.5 million for youth care and training; \$42.4 million for absorption in farm settlements; \$193 million for immigrant housing; \$2.7 million for general administration and \$34.5 million for other items. Agency officials said the budget is subject to final approval by the Agency's world council but passage was reported assured.

### Report Freed Riga Jew Gets Exit Visa For Israel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 31 (JTA)--Grische Feigin, a Riga Jew recently released from a mental institution, has obtained an exit visa and will soon come to Israel, friends at Kibbutz Bar-Am reported today. They said they had received a letter from Feigin stating that he expected to leave Russia shortly. "I hope we shall see each other soon in Israel, our fatherland," he wrote. Feigin, a World War II hero, was committed to a mental home on Dec. 18 after he returned his Soviet combat medals in protest against official anti-Semitic policies. He was released on Jan. 7.

### Tense Calm Prevails In Israel As Cease-Fire Enters Final Week

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31 (JTA)--Israelis remained calm but with an underlying mood of tension today as the final week of the current Suez cease-fire began. The truce, which was extended for 90 days when it expired last Nov. 5, will terminate next Friday, Feb. 5. Cairo has declared that there would be no further extension unless Israel acquiesced to certain political conditions which it regards as unacceptable. But most Israelis believe that Egypt will continue to observe the cease-fire on a de facto basis as long as the Jarring talks are in progress. Political sources here said that Ambassador Jarring may present a new report on his mission to United Nations Secretary General U Thant within the next few days. The sources said such a report obviously would be aimed at inducing the Egyptians to extend the truce and enabling them to do so without losing face. The sources said Jarring would probably state for the record that the renewed peace talks under his auspices have gotten off to a useful start.

(U.S. Secretary of State, William P. Rogers said in Washington Friday that he was "convinced that the (Mideast) parties are on the verge of entering serious negotiations" and that he hoped the cease-fire would be extended beyond Feb. 5. Replying to a question at a press conference by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent, Rogers said the recent series of notes exchanged between Israel, Egypt and Jordan through Jarring indicated new "areas of agreement." He cited as an example, Israel's willingness to use the word "with Arabs" and the Arabs' willingness to agree specifically to Israeli sovereignty.)

The flight of a Soviet-made Egyptian fighter-bomber over Israeli positions on the east bank of the Suez Canal yesterday was regarded here as another attempt by Cairo to wage a "war of nerves" against Israel. Israeli sources said it was also intended for home consumption, to back up the die-hard position of President Anwar Sadat on ending the cease-fire. The sources expressed hope that "good sense" would prevail in Cairo but warned that Egypt's leaders could become the victims of their own sabre-rattling.

Political sources in Jerusalem told the JTA today that if the Egyptians resume shooting after Feb. 5, Israel will not permit them to wage their kind of warfare. Israel cannot afford a war of attrition and will inevitably turn it into an active war of movement, the sources said. They stressed however that Israel will not be the first to open fire and that Israeli forces might ignore minor incidents such as cross-canal sniping by the Egyptians. But Israel will respond with vigor to renewed artillery barrages or any signs that the Egyptians were attempting to cross the canal. Israeli military authorities have expressed confidence in the Army's ability to withstand any Egyptian attack and, in fact, to carry the war across the canal to destroy Egyptian missile sites. They concede however that such a counter-thrust would cost heavy casualties and therefore Israel will go to great lengths to avoid a renewal of warfare.

The Israelis say the Egyptians are fully aware of the dangers facing them and will probably agree at the last minute to keep the cease-fire in effect though they will not announce a formal extension. On the other hand, sources pointed out, the Egyptians do not always act rationally "and it is against such a possibility that we have to be on guard."

### Israel 'Stronger Now' Than Before Talks, Says Meir

TEL AVIV, Jan. 31 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir said Friday that while Israel did not expect the Egyptians to start shooting when the present Suez Canal truce expires on Feb. 5, "we are ready" if they did. She told a student meeting that "we have the fullest confidence" and that Israel was "stronger now than when we decided to go back to the talks" at the United Nations under UN emissary Gunnar Jarring last November. She added that she was not happy over the "slow progress" of the Jarring talks "but these must be given a chance to continue." She explained that if Israel had not returned to the UN talks, there "would have been a danger of our arms supplies drying out." In response to questions, she said the Jarring talks should not be labeled "a failure" at the present time, and said "we are only in the corridor" now. Some 15 young persons, including three girls, were detained while demonstrating outside the hotel where the Premier spoke. Members of Israel's "New Left," they said they were protesting against Israeli "atrocities" in the Gaza Strip. They were released for later charges of illegal demonstrations.

### Ben Gurion Dedicates Clinic At Sde Boker Named For His Late Wife

TEL AVIV, Jan. 31 (JTA)--Former Premier David Ben Gurion cut a ribbon at Sde Boker officially dedicating the \$157,000 Paula Ben Gurion Clinic at the Sde Boker school, named in memory of his late wife. The clinic will serve the 750 students at the school. It includes a laboratory, pharmacy and infirmary.

## Hillel Defends Border Police Activities In Gaza Strip

JERUSALEM, Jan. 31 (JTA)--While the Gaza Strip enjoyed a rare weekend without violence, Police Minister Shlomo Hillel today offered a heated defense of the performance of the Israeli border police in the area. Addressing the Engineers Forum in Haifa, Hillel denounced "the national sport of unjustifiably slandering the entire force" by means of "idle talk against men who fulfill their duty with devotion despite grave danger." The border police are "subject to the same strict discipline that applies to every constable," the 47-year-old Baghdad-born Laborite official declared, adding: "I am proud that non-Jews do their duty alongside Jews with such exemplary devotion. Such a unit deserves our admiration and praise, no defamation."

The border police have been under criticism since the recent get-tough policy took effect in the Gaza Strip to suppress terrorist activities. Last Wednesday, two Knesset members, Meir Wilner of the pro-Moscow Rakava Communists, and Uri Avneri, chairman of the Haolam Hazeh New Force Movement, accused the border police of committing "atrocities." The charges were denied by Interior Minister Yosef Burg. Meanwhile, the Army has confirmed that the official appointed by Chief of Staff Haim Bar-Lev to investigate complaints of unwarranted force in the Strip will deal only with the behavior of Army troops, not that of border police. Asked if the Police Ministry had appointed a similar investigator, a Ministry spokesman said last night that no investigations were necessary as no formal complaints had been filed.

## Democratize Fund-Raising, French UJA Chief Says

PARIS, Jan. 31 (JTA)--The director of France's United Jewish Appeal campaign thinks it is concentrating too much of its efforts on the large donors to the exclusion of the smaller ones. Julien Samuel, addressing the campaign's fourth annual convention here Friday, said that in the interests of "democracy and efficiency," it should seek as large a number as possible of contributors on the small to medium scale.

"Democracy in Jewish communal life is dying and participation in communal activities and responsibilities is less and less balanced," Samuel said. The most efficient form of fund-raising, he said, is one that addresses itself to the largest numbers of contributors. This year's target of the French UJA is over \$160 million, nearly double the amount raised last year. Michel Topiol, president of the French UJA executive, called on French Jewry to fulfill this target.

## Sabin Returns After Meetings With Nixon, Pope Paul

TEL AVIV, Jan. 31 (JTA)--Dr. Albert B. Sabin, president of the Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovot, returned to Israel today after visits to Washington and Rome for meetings with President Nixon and Pope Paul VI. Dr. Sabin, who developed the oral polio vaccine, received the National Medal of Science at the White House, the U.S. Government's top scientific award.

He had a 40-minute audience with the Pope on Friday and autographed one of his scientific papers for the Pontiff who presented him in return with an autographed copy of the Pope's encyclical on population growth. Dr. Sabin reported that when Pope Paul realized that the scientist was no longer an American resident, he remarked to him, "So you come from Israel--this is a country I like."

## Movement Wants To Help Soviet Jews Emigrate

MIAMI, Fla., Jan. 31 (JTA)--A movement calling itself "The Key to Freedom," organized to help Soviet Jews emigrate to Israel, was launched in Miami, Florida, it was announced today. The organization projects an eventual membership of one million. According to Rabbi Tibor H. Stern, spiritual leader of the Jacob Cohen Community Synagogue of Miami and founder of the movement, it will be non-denominational, non-profit and "definitely non-violent." Each member will be presented with a key as a "symbol of commitment to open the gates of prisons and tear down the Iron Curtain that prevents people from living in freedom in the country of their heritage," according to the announcement.

One of the primary purposes of the movement will be to collect funds which will be turned over to the "responsible Jewish leadership to use to the best advantage for the repatriation and rehabilitation of the people who secure exit visas from Russia." Rabbi Stern will participate soon in a world conference to be called for the activation of plans to free Russian Jews. Rabbi Stern was described as "a spokesman for Orthodox Jewry and an authority on Jewish law."

## Rabbi Seeking Conference Of Moslems On Red Menace

NEW YORK, Jan. 31 (JTA)--Rabbi Abraham Hershberg, president of the Mexico City-based Union of Rabbis of Latin America, announced today that he is planning a conference of Moslem community leaders to stress Communism's intended "destruction of their religion." Moslem leaders he has consulted in Iraq, Iran and France share his fears, he told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. They have told him, he said, that "we are afraid to death" of Communist penetration. "Communism is destroying all the religions of the world," Rabbi Hershberg noted. He hopes to have commitments of participation from community leaders of at least four or five Moslem lands before convening the proposed meeting, possibly in Iran. The United Nations can help fight Communist inroads "morally," but beyond that is ineffective, Rabbi Hershberg contended. "I'm a great believer," he stated, "that religion can do a lot to bring peace."

## Israelis Open T.V. Campaign To Promote Tourism

NEW YORK, Jan. 31 (JTA)--The Israel Ministry of Tourism has begun a \$247,000 television advertising campaign in the Greater New York area to promote increased tourist traffic to Israel. The campaign started on Jan. 18 and will continue for 13 weeks with a concentration of 20 one-minute commercials a week on two network and one local channel. According to Harold Friedman, of the Israel Government Tourist Office, between 165-173,000 American tourists visited Israel in 1970. The ad campaign is part of a drive to increase the yearly tourist influx from this country beyond the normal average increase. He said American tourism to Israel has been rising at an average rate of five-nine percent in recent years, though it can vary sharply from year to year.

