



daily news bulletin

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Vol. XXXIX - Fifty-Fifth Year

Wednesday, January 12, 1972

No. 8

Israeli Commandos Raid Fatahland; 2 ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED, 1 WOUNDED; TERRORISTS SUFFER HEAVY CASUALTIES

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The targets of the raids were Kufr Hamman, north of Mt. Hermon and Bint A Djabel, about five miles from the Israeli frontier. Both villages are located in a section of southern Lebanon known as Fatahland because it is controlled by the fedayeen and the Beirut government exercises virtually no authority in the region. The raids were the first Israeli commando actions across the borders since Gen. David Elazar took over as chief of staff on Jan. 1.

Stiff Resistance Encountered

According to military sources, the raids were carried out by crack units. Accounts of the action indicated that they had to overcome difficult terrain and encountered stiff resistance from the terrorists. The first Israeli casualty occurred at Bint A Djabel where the commandos were met with heavy fire from houses earmarked for demolition.

Several terrorists were reported killed in the exchange of fire, one was killed jumping from a rooftop and another when he tried to escape through the front door. The houses were blown up killing an undetermined number of terrorists inside. The attack on Bint A Djabel was preceded by a two-hour artillery barrage.

The raiding party at Kufr Hamman encountered terrorist mortar fire which was silenced by Israeli artillery. They reached the village after a long march through mountainous terrain in the Mt. Hermon region. The Israeli soldier killed and the other wounded at Kufr Hamman were hit by terrorist fire from buildings that were later demolished. Guerrillas were reported today to be fleeing the region in the aftermath of last night's raids.

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Zionist Congress Election Returns: UNITED NON-PARTY ZIONIST SLATE SWEEP; FIELD WITH 55,867 VOTES; LABOR ZIONIST MOVEMENT SECOND WITH 26,377 VOTES

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The other Zionist slates in the election, in order of votes and delegates, were: Religious Zionist Movement including Mizrahi Women and Hapoel Hamizrachi Women received 22,648 votes and 25 delegates; the United Socialist Zionist slate comprising Americans for Progressive Israel-Hashomer Hatzair and the Radical Zionist Alliance polled 3,402 votes and will have four delegates; the Independent Student Zionists received 1,128 votes and will have three delegates.

Of the 700,000 registered Zionists who were eligible to vote, some 135,000 returned their postal ballots. About 2,000 ballots were invalidated for lack of identification or because of duplication. The election was held under the auspices of the AZF and administered by the American Arbitration Association. In the elections, the various Zionist organizations were vying for 55 percent of the places or 85 of the 152 delegates. The remaining 45 percent or 67 delegates' seats was allocated on the basis of the current membership strength of the different Zionist groups.

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U.S. MAY SOON SUPPLY ISRAEL WITH 120 AIRCRAFT, ACCORDING TO TIME REPORT

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According to the Time report, President Nixon agreed to the deal following his meeting last month with Premier Golda Meir, thereby reversing the previous American position that the Mideast military forces were in balance. (In Washington today, State Department officials would neither confirm nor deny the Time report.)

The magazine article stated that 40 planes over a year's time was mentioned as a schedule, but that actual negotiations would await the return to Washington of Israel's Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin. Rabin returned to Washington this week and conferred yesterday with Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Joseph J. Sisco. (Sources in Jerusalem said the subject of US military aid was discussed at the talks but it was not known whether an agreement on terms or timetables was reached.)

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CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED TO AID 'TREPPER'

PARIS, JAN. 11 (JTA)--The Jewish mass exodus

from Poland during the last three years has been attended by none of the difficulties encountered by Jews trying to emigrate from the Soviet Union. One exception is Leib Domb, alias Trepper, the Polish-born Jew who headed the Soviet spy network in Western Europe during World War II. His son, Michael Brojde-Domb, who teaches English in Copenhagen, arrived here today to launch a public campaign to get Polish authorities to allow his father to emigrate to Israel.

Trepper was known during the war as the "conductor" of the "Red Orchestra." He was the chief Soviet undercover agent during the Nazi occupation of France and the information his spy network gathered reportedly contributed substantially to the Allied victory. After the war he flew to Moscow to be "rewarded" by a ten year jail term at Stalin's orders. Freed and rehabilitated after the dictator's death, Trepper returned to his native Poland where he lived quietly. Several years ago he applied for a visa to go to Israel but was refused by the Polish authorities.

NEW BANKNOTES ATTAIN RELATIVITY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--The Israel government has broken a precedent with its new series of banknotes which will carry portraits of famous individuals. Hitherto the bills were decorated with representations of fishermen, scientists in action and flowers. The new IL 100 note has a portrait of Theodor Herzl, founder of the World Zionist Organization and the new IL 10 note carries that of Haim Nahman Bialik, Israel's poet laureate. Going into circulation tomorrow is a new IL 50 banknote with a portrait of Dr. Chaim Weizmann, Israel's first president and an IL 5 note with a portrait of the famed physicist, Albert Einstein. Einstein is the only non-Israeli so honored.

BRITISH MP PRAISES ISRAEL FOR ROLE IN JERUSALEM, ADMINISTERED AREAS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--A British Labor MP who served as an officer in Palestine during the last years of the mandate, said today that the situation in the administered Arab territories and especially in Jerusalem "should be highly acceptable to the Arabs." According to William Hamilton whose constituency is West Fife, Israel should be commended for raising the living standards of the Arabs.

Regarding the Middle East situation generally, Hamilton said it was only natural that the victors in a war should take steps to make sure the war does not reoccur. Israel should not be blamed for being "too victorious," he said.

Hamilton is visiting here as a member of a Labor Friends of Israel Party consisting of 12 members of the House of Commons, two members of the House of Lords and several trade union and Labor Party officials. They will return to London tomorrow. Another member of the group, Bill Jones, the senior Labor Party organizer for North London, praised Israel's programs of technical aid to Asian and African nations. He said the fact that they might be politically motivated does not impair their intrinsic value as humanitarian acts.

FEDERAL COURT BARS \$33M IN STATE AID TO RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS; PEARL AJCONGRESS HAIL RULING AS MAJOR VICTORY

NEW YORK, Jan. 11 (JTA)--The Committee for Public Education and Religious Liberty (PEARL) said today that a Federal Court's ruling barring

\$33 million in New York State funds for secular educational services in parochial schools was "a major victory for the principle of religious freedom and church-state separation."

The statement on behalf of PEARL was issued by Leo Pfeffer, its counsel, who argued the case in the US District Court for the Southern District of New York. He said that PEARL would now press for an early trial date on its pending suit against \$28 million allocated earlier to parochial schools for record-keeping purposes.

The court's decision was also hailed by Theodore M. Kollish, chairman of the American Jewish Congress' New York Metropolitan Council. He said the AJCongress was "deeply gratified" by the ruling which "reinforces the obligation and the commitment of the New York Jewish community to substantially increase funds for Jewish education of every kind and at every level."

The court ruling struck down Chapt. 822 of the Laws of 1971 entitled "An Act to provide acceptable secular educational services for pupils in non-public schools." The New York law provided for the payment of salaries of teachers of secular subjects in non-public schools and allocated \$33 million toward that purpose.

PEARL, an organization of 32 religious, educational, civil rights and labor groups throughout New York State, contested the law. Its suit contended that the New York legislation was no different from statutes in Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Connecticut ruled unconstitutional last June by the US Supreme Court.

EMIGRATION OF RABBIS, LAY LEADERS TO ISRAEL CAUSES BRAIN DRAIN

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--The large scale emigration to Israel of rabbis and Jewish lay leaders is seriously depleting the spiritual leadership of Jewish communities abroad. That problem was discussed here last night by several speakers at the World Conference of Synagogues and Community Organizations. Its specific affect on France's Jewish community was detailed at a press conference today by two French delegates, Chief Rabbi Jacob Kaplan of France and Baron Alain De Rothschild, president of the Jewish Consistory, the officially recognized agency of the Jewish religious community in France.

They reported that in 122 Jewish communities affiliated with the Consistory, there are now only 60 rabbis left and 80 reverends. The rabbinical seminary has a total of 22 students. Immigrants to Israel in recent years included five or six chief rabbis of cities with large Jewish communities as well as Jewish scholars, doctors, lawyers and others who had participated in the spiritual leadership of their communities.

Acute Danger Of Assimilation

Baron De Rothschild noted that in France has a Jewish population of 550,000 which faces an acute danger of assimilation as its leaders settle in Israel. He said this might not be serious with regard to the older generation of Jews from North Africa who make up about half of the Jewish population. However, he noted, the distinction between Metropolitan French and North African and between Ashkenazi and Sephardi is largely a thing of the past and second generation North African Jews are definitely in danger of losing contact with Judaism.

Baron De Rothschild said the Consistory has sent an "ambassador" to Israel in the person of Rabbi Paul Reitmann who will try to form a cadre of French-raised religious leaders here to take turns going to France to take care of community needs there.

In reply to questions on political matters, Rabbi

Kaplan denied a French newspaper report that President Georges Pompidou had told him he would no longer insist on Big Four Middle East talks since China has entered the United Nations. The rabbi said the subject did not come up in his recent conversation with Pompidou. Baron De Rothschild said that the French government's attitude toward Israel remains unchanged outwardly but many French leaders are still friends of Israel and this has been demonstrated in many of their contacts with the French Jewish community.

SOVIET JEWISH FAMILIES BALK AT HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Large numbers of Soviet Jewish immigrants continued to arrive in Israel today and problems with some of them persisted. Several families that landed at Lydda Airport this morning refused to accept the housing offered them and went to live temporarily with relatives. A family from Soviet Georgia created a commotion at the office of Absorption Minister Natan Peled here yesterday and was evicted by police.

One immigrant ripped off his shirt and threatened to kill himself after the family was denied housing in a central locality. They had earlier refused to accept apartments in outlying regions where other Georgian families have been quartered.

The Absorption Ministry announced today that it was increasing from \$1,190 to \$1,900 the grants paid Israeli families for providing room and board for a single immigrant relative until he can make his own way. Families that accept an entire family of relations from abroad will receive a \$2,900 grant.

Premier Golda Meir said last night that the Arab threat of war against Israel might end if another million Jews came to the country. She told 250 delegates attending the opening session of the fourth congress of the World Hebrew Union here that a larger Jewish population would convince the Arabs that war does not pay.

The Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel announced today that it planned to launch an educational campaign to create a dialogue between immigrants and the public at large. The intention, they said, was to counter sentiment that the increased immigration since the 1967 Six-Day War was "accomplished at the expense of veteran settlers and the Sabras." The Association stressed that immigrants want to be considered partners, not observers or mere objects of concern in the complicated process of absorption.

JARRING TO RESUME TALKS

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring is expected to resume his meetings with "the parties involved" in the Middle East dispute, a United Nations spokesman said today. The special Mideast peace mediator arrived here last night from the Soviet Union where he is the Swedish envoy to the USSR. Dr. Jarring was scheduled to meet late this afternoon with UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. It will be the first official meeting between the two officials since Waldheim took office 11 days ago. Yesterday afternoon, Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah paid a courtesy call on Waldheim. The new Secretary General will hold his first press conference Feb. 3. Israelis are hopeful that they can persuade Dr. Jarring to disengage himself from his Feb. 8 memo.

SPECIAL JTA INTERVIEW**RABBI GOREN: HALACHA IS ETERNAL, NOT SUBJECT TO SO-CALLED INTERPRETATIONS**

By AMOS BEN-VERED, JTA Middle East Bureau Chief
and ITZHAK SHARGIL, JTA Tel Aviv Correspondent

TEL AVIV, Jan. 11 (JTA)--"I believe that all problems of the modern state can be solved on the basis of halacha without changing or interpreting it in ways inconsistent with those of the sages but we have not succeeded in applying halacha to everything that arises in a modern state because there does not exist a body of rabbis of sufficient stature and daring in the country that could rule on the subjects." This view was presented by Rabbi Shlomo Goren, Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv in a special interview with Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondents in the rabbi's office today.

Rabbi Goren, who is a candidate for the office of Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel, was clarifying points which arose out of a recent statement attributed to him. In some media he had appeared to be saying that halacha as laid down by previous generations is behind the times. The rabbi categorically denied holding such views. "It is my profound belief both personally and as a rabbi that halacha is eternal and not subject to so-called interpretations," he said. "Many possibilities exist within the framework of the halacha to organize modern life in a sovereign state in the seventies."

Rabbi Goren also said that there is no contradiction between democratic principles, such as individual freedom and a state which organizes its existence in accordance with the rules of halacha. "However, even laws can be scrutinized to see if they reflect justice and if they serve the majority of the people living in the country. Every law of every kind curtails the absolute freedom of the individual. Every law sometimes hurts individuals. Halacha is no exception and it does not claim that every individual problem can be solved by it," he said.

However, general problems such as the upkeep of vital services including electricity on the Sabbath and on holidays can be accommodated within halacha, he said. "If there was a weighty college of rabbis and laymen with sufficient authority in religious matters and knowledge of science, many problems might have disappeared. However, the Nazi holocaust claimed the lives of many rabbis who might have aided those now living, in this difficult task of discerning between the permitted and prohibited. Thus, technology seems to be advancing on a course apparently unrelated to that taken by rabbis. In fact technology can be made to serve halacha and to show a way of life more consistent with halacha."

No Authority For A Sanhedrin

The questions facing Israel are not the same that faced Jewish communities elsewhere, Rabbi Goren observed. "There the responsibility for health, defense and other services lay with a non-Jewish government. Here it is the Jewish State that must take responsibility for everything. Thus the Jews cannot evade responsibility for running them."

Asked if he believes that a Sanhedrin can be formed to rule on questions of halacha, Rabbi Goren said that the authority for that does not exist. "The authority to interpret the law had been handed over from generation to generation. The process was interrupted in the fifth or sixth century and was only briefly revived in the days of Rabbi Joseph Karo of Safad, author of the 'Shulchan Aruch,' the principal work outlining the obligations of the observant Jew. Then it was interrupted again."

"Since then there were several rabbis who made an impact on Jewish tradition because of their moral

and spiritual stature like Rabenu Gershom, the light of the diaspora, and Hatam Soffer, the first known for his monogamy decree and laws of divorce and the other for various decisions on halacha. Neither of them - and for that matter not even Maimonides - changed halacha or added to it by way of permissiveness," said the rabbi.

Explaining his views on halacha and technology Rabbi Goren said that automation can solve such problems as operating heating and cooling systems on Sabbath. Some factories may not close down on Sabbath and holidays as they are fully automatic and if there is some mishap then its "pikuach nefesh," a question of saving lives. He added that power stations cannot be shut off on Sabbath. But bringing all this into the framework of halacha calls for men of learning in many fields and the results of their studies can then be applied to the problems arising out of modern life.

"If a body of Torah sages from the entire world is formed it can then work out the details and ordinances applicable to each case," Rabbi Goren said. "Such a body does not exist in Israel nor have rabbis from other countries been called here in order to convene and consider the problems. This is why halacha has not yet been applied to all possible aspects of life affected by the existence of the twentieth century technology."

Condemns Harassment Of Pathologists

At a press conference earlier in the day, Rabbi Goren said that he would encourage an age limit for a Chief Rabbi as for every other public figure. However, being personally affected by the question now (Rabbi Untermann is past the limit and barring him would considerably improve the chances of Rabbi Goren) he would vote against the age limit under present circumstances, Rabbi Goren also strongly condemned the harassment of pathologists. Violence and threats of it are the very opposite of religion, he said, and this applies not only to the question of pathologists but to any aim and purpose.

Answering a question on autopsies he said there are many cases in which they are permitted. He would like the law to be changed so as to make an autopsy conditional on the family's approval, but even then this might sometimes be overruled. Moreover, he believes that the public health is a very important consideration and if the law were changed many religious persons would will their bodies and religious families would agree for autopsies performed in the interest of advancing medical science.

As to religious girls volunteering for auxiliary services which the ultra-Orthodox oppose, Rabbi Goren said that his own daughter had served in the Army. If a girl objects to Army service or to auxiliary services such as nursing or teaching because she believes it would interfere with her Orthodox way of life there should be no coercion. But if she wants to volunteer, she should by all means be allowed to do so.

Rabbi Goren also said that many efforts had been made to avoid the divorce of Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and Ruth Dayan. (Goren headed the bench of three rabbis which pronounced the divorce.) But the rabbis came to the conclusion that the decision of Moshe and Ruth Dayan could not be changed.



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PARIS, JAN. 11 (JTA)--The Jewish mass exodus

from Poland during the last three years has been attended by none of the difficulties encountered by Jews trying to emigrate from the Soviet Union. One exception is Leib Domb, alias Trepper, the Polish-born Jew who headed the Soviet spy network in Western Europe during World War II. His son, Michael Brojde-Domb, who teaches English in Copenhagen, arrived here today to launch a public campaign to get Polish authorities to allow his father to emigrate to Israel.

Trepper was known during the war as the "conductor" of the "Red Orchestra." He was the chief Soviet undercover agent during the Nazi occupation of France and the information his spy network gathered reportedly contributed substantially to the Allied victory. After the war he flew to Moscow to be "rewarded" by a ten year jail term at Stalin's orders. Freed and rehabilitated after the dictator's death, Trepper returned to his native Poland where he lived quietly. Several years ago he applied for a visa to go to Israel but was refused by the Polish authorities.

NEW BANKNOTES ATTAIN RELATIVITY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--The Israel government has broken a precedent with its new series of banknotes which will carry portraits of famous individuals. Hitherto the bills were decorated with representations of fishermen, scientists in action and flowers. The new IL 100 note has a portrait of Theodor Herzl, founder of the World Zionist Organization and the new IL 10 note carries that of Haim Nahman Bialik, Israel's poet laureate. Going into circulation tomorrow is a new IL 50 banknote with a portrait of Dr. Chaim Weizmann, Israel's first president and an IL 5 note with a portrait of the famed physicist, Albert Einstein. Einstein is the only non-Israeli so honored.

BRITISH MP PRAISES ISRAEL FOR ROLE IN JERUSALEM, ADMINISTERED AREAS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--A British Labor MP who served as an officer in Palestine during the last years of the mandate, said today that the situation in the administered Arab territories and especially in Jerusalem "should be highly acceptable to the Arabs." According to William Hamilton whose constituency is West Fife, Israel should be commended for raising the living standards of the Arabs.

Regarding the Middle East situation generally, Hamilton said it was only natural that the victors in a war should take steps to make sure the war does not reoccur. Israel should not be blamed for being "too victorious," he said.

Hamilton is visiting here as a member of a Labor Friends of Israel Party consisting of 12 members of the House of Commons, two members of the House of Lords and several trade union and Labor Party officials. They will return to London tomorrow. Another member of the group, Bill Jones, the senior Labor Party organizer for North London, praised Israel's programs of technical aid to Asian and African nations. He said the fact that they might be politically motivated does not impair their intrinsic value as humanitarian acts.

FEDERAL COURT BARS \$33M IN STATE AID TO RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS; PEARL AJCONGRESS HAIL RULING AS MAJOR VICTORY

NEW YORK, Jan. 11 (JTA)--The Committee for Public Education and Religious Liberty (PEARL) said today that a Federal Court's ruling barring

\$33 million in New York State funds for secular educational services in parochial schools was "a major victory for the principle of religious freedom and church-state separation."

The statement on behalf of PEARL was issued by Leo Pfeffer, its counsel, who argued the case in the US District Court for the Southern District of New York. He said that PEARL would now press for an early trial date on its pending suit against \$28 million allocated earlier to parochial schools for record-keeping purposes.

The court's decision was also hailed by Theodore M. Kollish, chairman of the American Jewish Congress' New York Metropolitan Council. He said the AJCongress was "deeply gratified" by the ruling which "reinforces the obligation and the commitment of the New York Jewish community to substantially increase funds for Jewish education of every kind and at every level."

The court ruling struck down Chapt. 822 of the Laws of 1971 entitled "An Act to provide acceptable secular educational services for pupils in non-public schools." The New York law provided for the payment of salaries of teachers of secular subjects in non-public schools and allocated \$33 million toward that purpose.

PEARL, an organization of 32 religious, educational, civil rights and labor groups throughout New York State, contested the law. Its suit contended that the New York legislation was no different from statutes in Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Connecticut ruled unconstitutional last June by the US Supreme Court.

EMIGRATION OF RABBIS, LAY LEADERS TO ISRAEL CAUSES BRAIN DRAIN

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--The large scale emigration to Israel of rabbis and Jewish lay leaders is seriously depleting the spiritual leadership of Jewish communities abroad. That problem was discussed here last night by several speakers at the World Conference of Synagogues and Community Organizations. Its specific affect on France's Jewish community was detailed at a press conference today by two French delegates, Chief Rabbi Jacob Kaplan of France and Baron Alain De Rothschild, president of the Jewish Consistory, the officially recognized agency of the Jewish religious community in France.

They reported that in 122 Jewish communities affiliated with the Consistory, there are now only 60 rabbis left and 80 reverends. The rabbinical seminary has a total of 22 students. Immigrants to Israel in recent years included five or six chief rabbis of cities with large Jewish communities as well as Jewish scholars, doctors, lawyers and others who had participated in the spiritual leadership of their communities.

Acute Danger Of Assimilation

Baron De Rothschild noted that in France has a Jewish population of 550,000 which faces an acute danger of assimilation as its leaders settle in Israel. He said this might not be serious with regard to the older generation of Jews from North Africa who make up about half of the Jewish population. However, he noted, the distinction between Metropolitan French and North African and between Ashkenazi and Sephardi is largely a thing of the past and second generation North African Jews are definitely in danger of losing contact with Judaism.

Baron De Rothschild said the Consistory has sent an "ambassador" to Israel in the person of Rabbi Paul Reitmann who will try to form a cadre of French-raised religious leaders here to take turns going to France to take care of community needs there.

In reply to questions on political matters, Rabbi

Kaplan denied a French newspaper report that President Georges Pompidou had told him he would no longer insist on Big Four Middle East talks since China has entered the United Nations. The rabbi said the subject did not come up in his recent conversation with Pompidou. Baron De Rothschild said that the French government's attitude toward Israel remains unchanged outwardly but many French leaders are still friends of Israel and this has been demonstrated in many of their contacts with the French Jewish community.

SOVIET JEWISH FAMILIES BALK AT HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS

JERUSALEM, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Large numbers of Soviet Jewish immigrants continued to arrive in Israel today and problems with some of them persisted. Several families that landed at Lydda Airport this morning refused to accept the housing offered them and went to live temporarily with relatives. A family from Soviet Georgia created a commotion at the office of Absorption Minister Natan Peled here yesterday and was evicted by police.

One immigrant ripped off his shirt and threatened to kill himself after the family was denied housing in a central locality. They had earlier refused to accept apartments in outlying regions where other Georgian families have been quartered.

The Absorption Ministry announced today that it was increasing from \$1,190 to \$1,900 the grants paid Israeli families for providing room and board for a single immigrant relative until he can make his own way. Families that accept an entire family of relations from abroad will receive a \$2,900 grant.

Premier Golda Meir said last night that the Arab threat of war against Israel might end if another million Jews came to the country. She told 250 delegates attending the opening session of the fourth congress of the World Hebrew Union here that a larger Jewish population would convince the Arabs that war does not pay.

The Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel announced today that it planned to launch an educational campaign to create a dialogue between immigrants and the public at large. The intention, they said, was to counter sentiment that the increased immigration since the 1967 Six-Day War was "accomplished at the expense of veteran settlers and the Sabras." The Association stressed that immigrants want to be considered partners, not observers or mere objects of concern in the complicated process of absorption.

JARRING TO RESUME TALKS

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 11 (JTA)--Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring is expected to resume his meetings with "the parties involved" in the Middle East dispute, a United Nations spokesman said today. The special Mideast peace mediator arrived here last night from the Soviet Union where he is the Swedish envoy to the USSR. Dr. Jarring was scheduled to meet late this afternoon with UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. It will be the first official meeting between the two officials since Waldheim took office 11 days ago. Yesterday afternoon, Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah paid a courtesy call on Waldheim. The new Secretary General will hold his first press conference Feb. 3. Israelis are hopeful that they can persuade Dr. Jarring to disengage himself from his Feb. 8 memo.

SPECIAL JTA INTERVIEW**RABBI GOREN: HALACHA IS ETERNAL, NOT SUBJECT TO SO-CALLED INTERPRETATIONS**

By AMOS BEN-VERED, JTA Middle East Bureau Chief
and ITZHAK SHARGIL, JTA Tel Aviv Correspondent

TEL AVIV, Jan. 11 (JTA)--"I believe that all problems of the modern state can be solved on the basis of halacha without changing or interpreting it in ways inconsistent with those of the sages but we have not succeeded in applying halacha to everything that arises in a modern state because there does not exist a body of rabbis of sufficient stature and daring in the country that could rule on the subjects." This view was presented by Rabbi Shlomo Goren, Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv in a special interview with Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondents in the rabbi's office today.

Rabbi Goren, who is a candidate for the office of Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel, was clarifying points which arose out of a recent statement attributed to him. In some media he had appeared to be saying that halacha as laid down by previous generations is behind the times. The rabbi categorically denied holding such views. "It is my profound belief both personally and as a rabbi that halacha is eternal and not subject to so-called interpretations," he said. "Many possibilities exist within the framework of the halacha to organize modern life in a sovereign state in the seventies."

Rabbi Goren also said that there is no contradiction between democratic principles, such as individual freedom and a state which organizes its existence in accordance with the rules of halacha. "However, even laws can be scrutinized to see if they reflect justice and if they serve the majority of the people living in the country. Every law of every kind curtails the absolute freedom of the individual. Every law sometimes hurts individuals. Halacha is no exception and it does not claim that every individual problem can be solved by it," he said.

However, general problems such as the upkeep of vital services including electricity on the Sabbath and on holidays can be accommodated within halacha, he said. "If there was a weighty college of rabbis and laymen with sufficient authority in religious matters and knowledge of science, many problems might have disappeared. However, the Nazi holocaust claimed the lives of many rabbis who might have aided those now living, in this difficult task of discerning between the permitted and prohibited. Thus, technology seems to be advancing on a course apparently unrelated to that taken by rabbis. In fact technology can be made to serve halacha and to show a way of life more consistent with halacha."

No Authority For A Sanhedrin

The questions facing Israel are not the same that faced Jewish communities elsewhere, Rabbi Goren observed. "There the responsibility for health, defense and other services lay with a non-Jewish government. Here it is the Jewish State that must take responsibility for everything. Thus the Jews cannot evade responsibility for running them."

Asked if he believes that a Sanhedrin can be formed to rule on questions of halacha, Rabbi Goren said that the authority for that does not exist. "The authority to interpret the law had been handed over from generation to generation. The process was interrupted in the fifth or sixth century and was only briefly revived in the days of Rabbi Joseph Karo of Safad, author of the 'Shulchan Aruch,' the principal work outlining the obligations of the observant Jew. Then it was interrupted again."

"Since then there were several rabbis who made an impact on Jewish tradition because of their moral

and spiritual stature like Rabenu Gershom, the light of the diaspora, and Hatam Soffer, the first known for his monogamy decree and laws of divorce and the other for various decisions on halacha. Neither of them - and for that matter not even Maimonides - changed halacha or added to it by way of permissiveness," said the rabbi.

Explaining his views on halacha and technology Rabbi Goren said that automation can solve such problems as operating heating and cooling systems on Sabbath. Some factories may not close down on Sabbath and holidays as they are fully automatic and if there is some mishap then its "pikuach nefesh," a question of saving lives. He added that power stations cannot be shut off on Sabbath. But bringing all this into the framework of halacha calls for men of learning in many fields and the results of their studies can then be applied to the problems arising out of modern life.

"If a body of Torah sages from the entire world is formed it can then work out the details and ordinances applicable to each case," Rabbi Goren said. "Such a body does not exist in Israel nor have rabbis from other countries been called here in order to convene and consider the problems. This is why halacha has not yet been applied to all possible aspects of life affected by the existence of the twentieth century technology."

Condemns Harassment Of Pathologists

At a press conference earlier in the day, Rabbi Goren said that he would encourage an age limit for a Chief Rabbi as for every other public figure. However, being personally affected by the question now (Rabbi Untermann is past the limit and barring him would considerably improve the chances of Rabbi Goren) he would vote against the age limit under present circumstances, Rabbi Goren also strongly condemned the harassment of pathologists. Violence and threats of it are the very opposite of religion, he said, and this applies not only to the question of pathologists but to any aim and purpose.

Answering a question on autopsies he said there are many cases in which they are permitted. He would like the law to be changed so as to make an autopsy conditional on the family's approval, but even then this might sometimes be overruled. Moreover, he believes that the public health is a very important consideration and if the law were changed many religious persons would will their bodies and religious families would agree for autopsies performed in the interest of advancing medical science.

As to religious girls volunteering for auxiliary services which the ultra-Orthodox oppose, Rabbi Goren said that his own daughter had served in the Army. If a girl objects to Army service or to auxiliary services such as nursing or teaching because she believes it would interfere with her Orthodox way of life there should be no coercion. But if she wants to volunteer, she should by all means be allowed to do so.

Rabbi Goren also said that many efforts had been made to avoid the divorce of Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and Ruth Dayan. (Goren headed the bench of three rabbis which pronounced the divorce.) But the rabbis came to the conclusion that the decision of Moshe and Ruth Dayan could not be changed.