

**AMERICAN JEWISH, ZIONIST LEADERS JOIN IN MOURNING DEATH OF HARRY S. TRUMAN**

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (JTA)--American Jews and their leaders joined their fellow-Americans today in mourning the death of former President Harry S. Truman at the age of 88, remembering him particularly for his support of the aspirations of Zionists which culminated in his decision, within hours of Jewish Statehood, to extend de facto recognition to the newborn State of Israel, making the United States the first country to do so. (See special supplement for additional stories on Truman and Israel.)

Among those issuing formal statements of sorrow were two American Zionist leaders who were actively involved in the battle which brought the restoration of Israel to the family of nations--Mrs. Rose L. Halprin and Dr. Emanuel Neumann. Mrs. Halprin, who was president of Hadassah from 1947 to 1952 and formerly chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency, said: "On this day when the American people mourn the passing of a beloved leader and a great President, some of us feel the sense of additional bereavement. We recall President Truman's deep concern with the Jewish refugees seeking home and haven after the Holocaust and his untiring efforts on their behalf." She said the late President "left his mark in history. May his courage, his innate honesty, his deeply humanitarian spirit serve as example and guide."

Dr. Neumann, honorary president of the Zionist Organization of America, worked closely with the 1940s with Zionist leader Abba Hillel Silver and helped present Israel's case to the United Nations in 1947. He said "President Truman was one of the finest Americans of his generation and a true and powerful friend of Israel. He will never be forgotten but will live in the pages of Jewish history, evoking feelings of admiration and profound respect."

A joint statement was issued by Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive in New York, and Louis Pinchus, chairman of the Executives of the Jewish Agency and WZO in Jerusalem. They declared that in Mr. Truman's death, "American Jewry, the State of Israel and Jews throughout the world have lost the man who had the vision to recognize the world significance of the establishment of Israel as an act of historic justice." They recalled that it was Mr. Truman who "urged Great Britain in 1946 to open the doors of Palestine to allow the immediate immigration of 100,000 Jews still suffering in displaced persons camps in Germany." They added that it was now recognized that Mr. Truman's act of speedy recognition of Israel on May 14, 1948 "was the single most important factor in world recognition of the modern rebirth of the Jewish people."

Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the American Zionist Federation, said that "Jewry and Israel have lost a true friend," calling Mr. Truman "a man of courage, a man of action and a man of the people who understood Jewish needs and responded in historic terms. Israel and the Jewish people will never forget his support of Zionist ideals culminating in the dramatic act of recognition of the State of Israel."

Robert Nathan, who served as a liaison with President Truman's personal representative, Gen. John Hildring, when Israel's case was under consideration at the United Nations, called Mr. Truman "a very staunch and firm supporter of Israel," a leader to whom Israel owes "a great deal of gratitude" for the positive role he undertook in the creation of Israel.

Hyman L. Weisman, president of the Zionist Organization of America, declared that "Zionists, indeed all of world Jewry, remember and revere" Mr. Truman's "courageous statesmanship as President, in the face of powerful opposition, which played so pivotal a role in the struggle for Jewish Statehood. His humanitarian efforts to rescue the survivors of the Holocaust were a symbolic initiative that broke the conspiracy of silence surrounding the Nazis' genocide of European Jews."

David M. Blumberg, president of B'nai B'rith, called Mr. Truman a "People's President, a man of the people, and for the people." In the critical days before the establishment of Israel, Blumberg said, the former President was "a pillar of integrity in the welter of power politics and special pleading that surrounded him and he kept America true to its noblest traditions in world affairs."

Philip E. Hoffman, president of the American Jewish Committee, said Americans trusted President Truman because they knew that "he had no other motive than the welfare of all its citizens. American Jews can never forget how President Truman" quickly extended recognition to the newborn Israel. "But beyond anything else was his broad sympathy for and understanding of the aspirations of all men, wherever they were born and wherever they lived."

Seymour Graubard, chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, declared that in Mr. Truman "the people had a true champion and the country a leader of wisdom, courage, decisiveness and humility," a leader who gave impetus to civil rights as the first President "to inventory the national civil rights structure, an inventory which laid the foundation for the unprecedented progress that has followed."

Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the (Reform) Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said the late President was "a plucky warrior against tyranny, a true friend of Israel and of all mankind," and, above all, "an enduring symbol of what the power of moral leadership to the White House can mean."

Rabbi David Polish, president of the (Reform) Central Conference of American Rabbis, said that Mr. Truman "at one of the most critical points in thousands of years of Jewish history" placed "the full weight of his convictions behind American support for the creation of a Jewish State," a "noble act" for which Jewish history "will always remember him."

Harold Ostroff, president of the Workman's Circle, declared that Mr. Truman was not only the first to recognize Israel but also the first to advocate Israel's "strengthening and growth against the advice of other Great Powers. He will be remembered by history as a great President. He will be remembered by the citizens of the free world as their friend."

KNESSET PAYS SILENT TRIBUTE TO LATE PRESIDENT

Truman's Friendship For Israel
Recalled By Eban, Ben-Gurion

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--The Knesset suspended its session for 15 minutes today when word was received here of the death of former President Harry S. Truman at a Kansas City hospital this morning. Knesset Speaker Yisrael Yeshayahu delivered a brief eulogy recalling President Truman's vital contribution to the Zionist cause at its most crucial juncture in history. The Knesset rose and observed a minute of silence in the late President's memory.

Former Premier David Ben-Gurion, one of the founding fathers of the State of Israel, recalled in Sde Boker today how President Truman had reacted with great emotion when he told him years after the establishment of the State in 1948 that the Jewish people would never forget Truman's contribution to Israel's independence. Ben-Gurion said he never knew an American President who showed such great friendship for Israel.

The first official reaction to the news of President Truman's death was expressed by Foreign Minister Abba Eban in a radio interview. Eban said of Truman, "He helped suffering humanity stand on its feet and straighten its back again." Referring to Truman's post-war policy and the Marshall Plan, the Israeli Foreign Minister observed that President Truman believed that America's right to play a crucial role in global affairs was implicit in the very fact of its great might. "He believed in the defense of the right of small nations to exist," Eban said.

The Foreign Minister recalled how President Truman had opposed immigration strictures in Palestine in 1946 which the Mandatory regime imposed on refugees from the Nazi holocaust and how he backed the United Nations partition plan in 1947. Eban recalled further that Truman had been the first chief of state to extend recognition to the newly born State of Israel "and from that day on continued American political and practical aid to Israel." America during Truman's Presidency gave Israel economic help "in greater quantity than any of our own resources or any other assistance we received," Eban said.

(Foreign Minister Eban sent a personal message of condolence today to Mrs. Truman. It was conveyed to the Truman family by David Rivlin, Consul General of Israel in New York. The message said in part: "I convey to his (Truman's) family and friends my deepest and sincerest condolences. I always had great admiration for his personality and his noble and creative thought which influenced many others in the love of Israel and attachment to the most exalting of our values of spirit and faith.")

ISRAEL RUSHING MEDICAL AID TO NICARAGUA EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Israel prepared today to send a team of ten medical men to aid in relief work in Nicaragua for the victims of the earthquake that devastated that nation's capital, Managua. The Foreign Ministry has instructed Israeli Ambassador Eli Nevo in San Jose, Costa Rica, who is also accredited to Nicaragua, to ascertain immediately what type of doctors--surgeons or preventive medicine specialists--were most urgently required. The make-up of the Israeli medical team will be based on Ambassador Nevo's information. The team will be assembled and dispatched without delay, a government source said. The Israel government will pay the doctors' salaries and expenses while they are on duty in Nicaragua.

Israel has already sent a consignment of antibiotics for the earthquake survivors, supplied by the

Red Magen David. Tahal, Israel's water resources planning company has sent an offer to Nicaraguan officials to reconstruct the Managua water system which was destroyed by the disaster Sunday.

The consignment of drugs from Lod Airport was accompanied by Jose Rene Lopez, a Nicaraguan engineer who was studying subterranean water research at the Hebrew University. Lopez tried unsuccessfully to make telephone connections with Managua. He was directed to Israeli radio amateurs who did make contact with Managua but that connection produced no news for the student about the fate of his family. Trans World Airlines, in cooperation with the Red Magen David and the Foreign Ministry, arranged a free ticket for Lopez for the flight.

Ambassador Nevo wired the Israeli Foreign Ministry that the Israelis in Nicaragua were all safe.

Tahal officials said the firm had already carried out some irrigation and water projects in Nicaragua and that four Tahal experts were in Managua when the quake struck but they were reported safe in Honduras. Aaron Weiner, Tahal director general, said Tahal had wide experience in reconstructing damaged water systems. He said Tahal had rebuilt the water system in Iran after quakes there.

Latin American Jewish Congress Calls For Aid

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 26 (JTA)--The Latin American Jewish Congress met here today to express sympathy and solidarity with the earthquake victims in Nicaragua. The Congress appealed to Jewish communities in Latin America to cooperate with local aid campaigns and cabled its affiliates in Central America requesting data about Managua Jewish community's situation. The Managua Jewish community consisted of about 30 families forming Congregation Israelita de Nicaragua with a social center containing a synagogue and primary school. No information as to its fate was available here today.

ISRAELI PATROL ATTACKED ON GOLAN

TEL AVIV, Dec. 26 (JTA)--An Israeli Army patrol was attacked near Nahal Golan on the Golan Heights this morning. No casualties were reported. A military source said shells were fired at the patrol from an improvised device that was neither a mortar nor a bazooka. The incident was the first along the Syrian line in 12 days.

Israeli security forces in the Gaza Strip fired on a car which failed to heed an order to halt today. One occupant was killed and the others were detained for questioning.

JEWISH GROUPS URGE BOMBING HALT

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Two more Jewish organizations urged President Nixon today to end the renewed massive bombing of North Vietnam. Mrs. Earl Marvin, president of the National Council of Jewish Women called on the President to "bring this holocaust to an immediate end." The Massachusetts Board of Rabbis, in a statement issued in Boston, condemned the bombing as "A unilateral act of aggression on the part of our government that we believe will add to the violence and bloodshed in Southeast Asia and make the final achievement of peace even more difficult and remote."

The Israeli film, "I Love You Rosa," won first prize in the "Femina" movie contest here. The all-woman jury praised the film for its "many qualities."

TRUMAN AND ISRAEL: THE YEAR OF DECISION

By Joseph Polakoff, JTA Washington Bureau Chief

President Harry S. Truman trod a firm, if careful, political road towards the immigration into Palestine of Jewish survivors of the Nazi death camps and for partition of Palestine to create a Jewish State in the aftermath of World War II.

The President was beset by powerful opposition both at home and abroad. Within the State Department itself a strong array of top officials fought every move that would enhance the Zionist position towards both Jewish immigration and a homeland. In London, British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin, whose hostility to Jews and a Jewish State increased as his ability to control events in Palestine diminished, bitterly assailed Truman privately and publicly. Arab leaders threatened American interests in their countries, even as now, if the President persisted in supporting Zionist aims.

Nevertheless, Truman pressed for both of his objectives. Soon after the war ended in Europe in 1945, the President sent Earl G. Harrison as his representative to the displaced persons centers in Germany to provide him with a first-hand report on them. To his consternation, Harrison found that many Jews were still behind barbed wire in the former Nazi concentration camps. The President then urged the British government to admit 100,000 of them immediately into Palestine but Bevin refused because, he contended, it would cause an upheaval among the Arabs and the British needed tranquility in the Middle East for strategic and economic reasons.

The year 1947 was pivotal for Jews, Arabs, British, and the United Nations in Palestine. The British desire by that time was to be rid of their mandate in Palestine but to maintain good relations with the Arabs in their withdrawal. In that crucible, Truman frequently took a personal hand in directing the U.S. effort towards meeting the objectives he had outlined more than a year earlier.

Bevin Charged Truman Spoiled His Efforts

Part of the dramatic history of that year appears in hitherto secret, top secret and "eyes only" messages and memoranda just revealed by the State Department, in "Foreign Affairs 1947 of the United States" which the Department coincidentally published consonant with Israel's silver jubilee as a nation.

According to "Foreign Affairs," Bevin was so irritated with Truman over immigration that in a speech on Feb. 25, 1947, in the House of Commons, he charged that the President had "spoiled" his efforts just as Bevin believed his negotiations were on the threshold of success. Bevin disclosed that he had pleaded in the previous year with Secretary of State James F. Byrnes to dissuade the President from issuing his demand on the 100,000 Jews but his pleas to Byrnes were futile. He was told, Bevin said in Commons, that "if the statement on immigration was not issued by Mr. Truman a competitive statement would be issued by Mr. Dewey" (New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey whom Truman upset in the 1948 elections.)

"I think every country in the world ought to know this," Bevin declared, according to the State Department's record. "The House of Commons cheered Bevin's attack on Mr. Truman's tactics."

Secretary of State George C. Marshall, who succeeded Byrnes, had told Bevin on Feb. 21 that "an increase in the number of displaced European Jews into Palestine during the next few months would have a beneficial effect among Jews in the displaced persons centers in Europe and would meet with public approval in this country (U.S.). It might

make both Arabs and Jews more willing to look for a compromise solution." But Bevin was adamant and immigration ships, including the "Exodus," ran the British blockade to Palestine.

At the State Department, Loy Henderson, Director of the Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs, consistently opposed both Truman objectives. His attitude crystallized in a top secret memorandum to the Under-Secretary of State, Robert A. Lovett, on Nov. 24, 1947. On that day, Lovett went to the White House, in Marshall's absence in London, to receive Truman's latest instructions on Palestine as a showdown on partition drew near in the United Nations General Assembly.

Henderson asked Lovett to read "in full" a "personal telegram" Henderson said he had received from Hamdi al Pachachi, who was Prime Minister of Iraq when Henderson was the U.S. minister there. Henderson then added, according to Foreign Affairs:

"I feel it again to be my duty to point out that it seems to me and all the members of my office acquainted with the Middle East that the policy which we are following in New York at the present time is contrary to the interests of the United States and will eventually involve us in international difficulties of so grave a character that the reaction throughout the world, as well as in this country, will be very strong."

"I wonder if the President realizes," Henderson said in his statement recorded in the "Foreign Affairs" volume, "that the plan which we are supporting for Palestine leaves no force other than local enforcement organizations for preserving order in Palestine."

Prepared To Support Partition, Immigration

Henderson also was bitter in his criticism of Ambassador Heschel Johnson, the chief U.S. spokesman, regarding Palestine in the United Nations. On Oct. 11, Johnson, acting on Presidential instructions, told the UN that the United States would support the basic principles of the majority plan which provided for both partition and immigration. Two days later, the Soviet Union also announced for partition.

Truman worked cautiously within the framework of the United Nations in advancing the Jewish cause and indicated he did not wish the U.S. exposed individually. On Nov. 24, only five days before the General Assembly voted for partition, Truman told Lovett at the White House that he would be most reluctant to see the United States on a commission to implement partition in Palestine. According to Lovett's memorandum, "The President reiterated his original position," that the United States would participate in enforcing a plan for Palestine only as a member of the United Nations and jointly with other members. It would not be a protagonist."

The President also expressed the wish that the U.S. delegation at the United Nations not use threats or improper pressure of any kind on other delegations to vote for partition. Lovett wrote, "We were willing to vote for that report (partition) only because it was a majority report," Lovett reported Truman as saying. The vote in the General Assembly Nov. 29, 1947, was 33-13 with 10 abstentions and 10 absent.

Why did Truman take the course he did? A secret message, telegraphed by Lovett to U.S. Ambassador S. Pinkney Tuck in Cairo, which Truman himself initiated, provides some indications. The message, dated Dec. 26, 1947, a month after partition, was for Tuck to use in explaining America's position to King Farouk.

A similar message also was transmitted for Saudi Arabia's King Ibn Saud. According to "Foreign Affairs," the approach Tuck was instructed to use included the following:

"(j) U.S. government decided after anxious and sober consideration to support partition in the UNGA despite realization of how strongly opposed Arab states were to establishment of Jewish State in Palestine. Its support of partition was not motivated by any unfriendliness towards Arabs or lack of appreciation of their concern in matter. U.S. government took position because:

"(a) after reviewing statements and expressions of policy by responsible American officials, resolutions of Congress, and Party platforms of last thirty years it came to conclusion that unless there was some unanticipated factor in situation the trend of public opinion and policy based thereon practically forced it to support partition.

"(b) Majority report of UNSCOP (United Nations Special Committee on Palestine) recommending partition did represent new factor but one supporting Jewish State.

"(c) Public opinion in U.S. stirred by mistreatment of Jews in Europe and by intense desire of surviving Jews to go to Palestine strongly supported establishment of Jewish State.

"(d) Troubled situation in Palestine accompanied by British decision to withdraw made it evident that solution of this difficult problem could not be postponed."

Zionists Have No Expansionist Designs

Because Arabs alleged U.S. pressure in New York, the message took pains to point out that the U.S. delegation to the UN "was instructed that it should explain U.S. reasons for supporting the majority report but should not exert pressures on other delegations. So far as U.S. government has determined no undue pressure was brought upon other countries by U.S. governmental officials responsible to the Executive."

The message also instructed Tuck to tell Farouk that "in any event it is considered that the vote of the UNGA reflected the belief that partition was the best of the solutions of the Palestine problem which were advanced."

Cognizant that "one of the reasons for Arab resentment at the UNGA decision is concern lest the Zionists intend eventually to use their state as a base for territorial expansion in the Middle East at the expense of the Arabs," Lovett's message told Tuck to inform Farouk that "it is the conviction of the U.S. government, based on conversations with responsible Zionist leaders, that they have no expansionist designs and that they are most anxious to live with the Arabs in the future on cordial terms and to establish with them relations of a mutually advantageous character."

Lovett's message added: "If at a later time persons or groups should obtain control of the Jewish State who have aggressive designs against their neighbors, the United States would be prepared firmly to oppose such aggressiveness in the United Nations and before world opinion." Tuck further was instructed to tell Farouk that the American government "expresses the most sincere hope" that the "governments of the Arab countries will not attempt by armed force, or will not encourage the use of armed force, to prevent the carrying out of that decision" by the UNGA. Lovett said it was "my own hope" that Egypt "not only will set an example in restraint, but will use its great influence with its sister states to prevail upon them not to resort to actions of a character which may bring discredit to the Arab people."

The message, written 25 years ago when the

winds of the cold war were beginning to chill diplomatic relations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, also pointed out that "it seems hardly necessary to point out that there are in the world today powerful aggressive forces which create hatreds, promote violence, and result in chaos. It would be tragic if the forces striving for an orderly, peaceful and prosperous world should at this juncture allow themselves to be disrupted over the question of Palestine."

Therefore, the U.S. government was "convinced," the message concluded, that "acquiescence on the part of the Arab states in the UNGA decision on Palestine, difficult though such acquiescence may be, would remove Palestine as a disturbing influence in international affairs." But that was not the course history took.

TRUMAN URGED ISRAELI-ARAB AMITY

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--It was recalled here today that in a message on July 11, 1966, at the dedication of the Harry S. Truman Center for the Advancement of Peace at the Hebrew University, Truman urged better Israeli-Arab relations. A longtime associate, David Noyes, said of the former Chief Executive: "President Truman came here in 1948 and he has never left. And he's never going to leave." Israeli Premier Levi Eshkol said at the same ceremony that Truman's recognition of Israel 11 minutes after its proclamation as a State had "kindled a flame in Israel's spirit which is still burning."

In his message, Truman said of the Center: "Here we will give serious consideration to any new practical approach that could help to advance the cause of peace. All will be welcome. There are no restrictions as to national origin, ideological commitment or religious differences."

ACHESON EXPLAINED TRUMAN'S STAND

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (JTA)--In a television interview several years ago, Dean Acheson, who was Secretary of State when Truman was in the White House, explained why his boss had taken such a strong pro-Israel stand before as well as after the establishment of the Jewish State. He maintained that Truman was probably motivated by "two considerations--one which he avowed very clearly and the other one which he did not avow very clearly."

The first consideration, Acheson said, was the wartime Jewish refugees who "couldn't go back to Russia or Poland...couldn't go back to Germany where so many had been murdered." Their resettlement was "our responsibility." Acheson continued, and Truman tried but failed "to get our immigration laws made more lax."

The less-clearly avowed consideration, Acheson said, was Truman's "moral and emotional" obligation to the refugees following repeated entreaties by Eddie Jacobson, a friend from Truman's haberdashery days and "a convinced Zionist," who "talked to the President a great deal about it." Jacobson's ideas "appealed to the President very much," Acheson said.

In the same television interview Acheson also commented that "Anyone who went through the period before the creation of the State of Israel and immediately after too, as I did with Mr. Truman, must now be perfectly clear that you can't impose anything on those people. They won't accept imposition."

FRENCH GOV'T. SPLIT OVER WELCOME TO PREMIER MEIR

PARIS, Dec. 26 (JTA)--The French government appeared divided today over how to treat Israeli Premier Golda Meir's visit to Paris next month to attend the conference of the Socialist International. One source said today that France would "grant all the standard courtesies" to Mrs. Meir which are believed to include a meeting with French Premier Pierre Messmer. But some government circles expressed displeasure over Mrs. Meir's visit during the heat of the French election campaign and indicated that it should be ignored officially.

The Gaullist newspaper La Nation said today that "Foreign personalities who in an electoral period accept the invitation of an opposition party should not expect the slightest welcome in France." The paper noted that the heads of Socialist governments in other friendly states, such as West Germany's Chancellor Willy Brandt, turned down invitations to the Socialist meeting in order to avoid appearing to take sides in the French elections.

Other Gaullist factions reportedly feel that Mrs. Meir's visit "should not be allowed to be turned into an open sign of success" for the opposition. These factions, apparently including Premier Messmer, favor extending all "normal courtesies" to the Israeli leader.

Mrs. Meir accepted the invitation of Francois Mitterand, First Secretary of the French Socialist Party and leader of a leftist coalition of socialists, Communists and other left-wing radicals seeking votes in the French legislative elections next March 4 and 11. Some government circles fear that Mrs. Meir's presence in Paris might be used by the Socialists in their election campaign. Mrs. Meir's decision to attend the Paris meeting despite these implications indicated that she was anxious to renew top level contacts with French government leaders. Franco-Israeli contacts have remained on a low governmental level since the late President Charles de Gaulle embargoed arms shipments to Israel after the Six-Day War. The last Israeli Premier to visit France was the late Levi Eshkol who went there eight years ago.

CHALUTZ MOVEMENT PROTESTS 'SLANDER' STEMMING FROM ISRAEL SPY RING EXPOSE

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (JTA)--The Central Shlichim of the Chalutz Movement protested today against what it termed "vicious attacks and slanderous statements" made in Israel against the kibbutz movement following the disclosure of a Syrian-directed Arab-Jewish spy ring. The protest was contained in a cable sent to Israel Pinhasi, secretary general of the National Federation of Kibbutzim which said that the main targets of the alleged slander were the Kibbutz Artzi movement of Hashomer Hatzair and Kibbutz Gan Shmuel, the former home of one of the Jewish spy suspects.

The message said "The current atmosphere in Israel is rapidly approaching that of witch-hunting with its dangerous implications for civil liberties and personal honor. This is causing both serious political damage to Israel and irreparable educational harm to the Chalutz Movement here in the United States. We pledge our full support to those in Israel who fight and struggle against this campaign of hatred and slander."

The message also noted that the Chalutz Movement here was as shocked as the Israeli community by the disclosure of Jewish participation in the spy ring. The message was signed by leaders of the Dror, Hahonim, Bnei Akiva, Hashomer Hatzair and Young Judea movements.

FORMER PRIME MINISTER WILSON PLEDGES TO USE INFLUENCE TO HELP SOVIET JEWS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--A group of Soviet newcomers issued a personal appeal last night to visiting former Prime Minister Harold Wilson of Britain asking him to bring pressure on Soviet authorities so that their friends and relatives would be permitted to emigrate to Israel. Wilson met with the Soviet emigres during a 30-minute visit to the Mevasseret Zion absorption center near Jerusalem.

Wilson asked the Israel Foreign Ministry officials to gather "all the particulars" on the Soviet Jews so that he could later try to use his influence with the Soviets. After the meeting, Wilson told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he was "continuing" to pursue the issue of Soviet Jewry with the Russian officials all the time.

Louis Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency, who conducted the meeting between the British leader and the Soviet newcomers, said that of the 900 Soviet Jewish intellectuals coming to Israel during the past three months, 600 have been forced to pay the education tax and the other 300 did not. But a Soviet woman mathematician told Wilson that the diploma tax was not the fundamental problem of Soviet Jews seeking exit. She said "our hardest problem" is getting permission to leave.

Wilson showed particular interest in one of the newcomers, Ruth Alexandrovitch, who suffered an extended stay in a Soviet jail before she migrated to Israel more than a year ago. She told the visiting British statesman that "I know how much you did for me so I am asking that you do something for my friend, Sylva Zalmanson." She told Wilson she did not think Mrs. Zalmanson would survive the ten-year sentence she is serving at the Potma forced labor camp.

Meanwhile, Viktor Yachut, the young Jewish physicist from Moscow, arrived last night via Vienna with a group of emigrants from Russia. Yachut was among a number of Jewish activists who were drafted into the Red Army during President Nixon's visit last May to Moscow.

ISRAEL CLOSING EMBASSIES IN NIGER, BRAZAVILLE CONGO

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Israel plans to close two of its African Embassies, the one in Niger and the one in Congo-Brazzaville as part of a reappraisal of its diplomatic missions abroad, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday. He said Israel will reduce its representation in Niger to the level of non-resident ambassador and in Congo-Brazzaville to non-resident charge d'affaires.

Israel's relations with Niger have been considered fragile since neighboring Chad severed ties with Israel in Nov. after intense pressure from Libya and Saudi Arabia. Niger also is known to be under Arab pressure. Officials in Jerusalem emphasized that the closing of an Embassy did not signify a breach in relations but they refused to explain the move other than "attributing it to 'budgetary cuts' and to 'a general reappraisal of our relations in Africa and around the world.'"

Sources here said the radical regime in Congo-Brazzaville has long been felt to be inimical, even hostile, toward Israel. They said that if a general reappraisal was planned, the Embassy there would be an obvious candidate for shutdown.

There will be no Daily News Bulletin Monday, Jan. 1, New Year's Day.

RED MONOSSON, NEW ENGLAND ZIONIST LEADER, DEAD AT 79

BOSTON, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Funeral services were held here Sunday for Fred Monosson, a veteran Zionist leader associated with the early development of Israel, who died Friday after a long illness at the age of 79. Mr. Monosson served for many years as president of the New England Jewish National Fund and was a founder and president of Zionist House in Boston, the only institution of its kind in any American city.

Mr. Monosson was born in Moscow, came to the United States in 1905 and was educated at local schools and at Northeastern Law School here. He was in the rainwear manufacturing business and became prominent for his activities on behalf of Israel and in local Jewish and other philanthropies. He was honored by Premier David Ben-Gurion of Israel in 1950 for his help in solving Israeli financial problems. He was also a guiding spirit behind the National Committee for Harvard Law School-Israel Cooperative Research, an institute he helped set up during the early years of the Jewish State to advance Israel's legal development.

Mr. Monosson served as national treasurer of the Zionist Organization of America from 1949-52 and was a life member of the ZOA. He was also a life member of the World Zionist Organization Actions Committee; national co-chairman of the Israel Bond Organization in 1951 and was a member of the national boards of directors of the United Israel Appeal and the United Jewish Appeal. He was a member of the executive board of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston. He was a builder in 1951 of Neve Monosson, a village near Lod Airport that bears his name and of the President Harry S. Truman Village in Israel in 1952.

PROF. TELER: ISRAELI UNIVERSITIES SUPERIOR TO THOSE IN U.S.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Prof. Edward Teller, the "father of the H-bomb" believes Israel's Tel Aviv University "ranks today higher than the best universities, or at least the most famous universities in the United States." He said that American investors in Israeli science-based industries "would find more talent in Tel Aviv University than in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology."

Dr. Teller, a professor of nuclear physics at the University of California, Berkeley, made that statement in a taped interview at the Berkeley campus with Victor M. Carter and Boris Young. A transcript of the interview was distributed to guests at the inaugural dinner for the Western States American Friends of Tel Aviv University. Carter, who is a member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was installed as president of the new organization and Young, former head of the Israel Bond Organization on the West Coast was installed as executive director.

Dr. Teller, who has been a controversial figure in the U.S. for his hawkish and conservative political views, said that "All universities have suffered badly from student unrest, from the anti-technological movement whose corrosive effects are beginning to affect American commerce and American defense." He said, "The disease has spread to Europe--German universities are in an awful state. But it has not affected Israel, because Israel has been founded by intellectuals, and there is no caste system in Israel that separates Israel from the people or the people from the State. This is why their universities are building up while ours are rapidly declining."

According to the Hungarian-born scientist, Israeli students who have served in the Army "are not the rebellious type that are practically ripping our and other universities apart." He said they "wanted the privilege of studying and Israelis know how to treat these advantages."

GOV'T. SEEKS POWER TO END CORRUPTION IN RELIGIOUS COUNCILS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--A bill that would empower the government to re-organize local religious councils has been referred to committee by the Knesset. The measure was introduced by Dr. Zerach Warhaftig, Minister for Religious Affairs in the aftermath of recent disclosures of corruption and inefficiency in almost all departments of Jerusalem's religious council.

According to the bill, the minister would be empowered to appoint officials to take over a corrupt or poorly functioning department. Dr. Warhaftig stressed that he was not seeking powers to substitute appointed officials for elected ones. He said he only wanted the power to appoint a competent civil servant to run a department that had broken down causing public inconvenience. He cited the marriage registration bureau and slaughterhouse as examples of departments of the Jerusalem religious council that have broken down because of strikes or maladministration.

Warhaftig was challenged by Uri Avnery of the Free Center faction who charged that the religious councils existed only to provide funds for the National Religious Party and jobs for the party faithful. Menachem Porush of Agudat Israel charged that the NRP was trying to keep other religious parties out of the councils. Religious councils which exist in all Israeli cities and towns are funded by the local authorities and the Ministry for Religious Affairs which is controlled by the NRP.

NEW PACT WITH EEC WILL NOT ALTER ISRAEL'S TRADE PICTURE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--An Israeli diplomat said today that Israel's trade with the Common Market countries will "neither worsen nor improve" next year as a result of the pact signed in Brussels Friday. Israel's Ambassador to Belgium, Moshe Allon, said on a radio interview that the agreement leaves tariffs on imports from Israel unchanged for another year in the three new Common Market countries, Britain, Ireland and Denmark.

Avraham Agmon, director general of the Finance Ministry, said Israel's industry must prepare for the "enormous challenge" that will be presented by competing imports from EEC countries.

Britain, meanwhile, has cancelled its import quota on Israeli cotton textiles. The quotas will lapse Dec. 31. The cancellation was announced simultaneously here and in London. According to the agreement, Britain reserves the right to impose new restrictions if Israeli cotton sales there increase by more than 25 percent of the old quota figure next year or by more than 50 percent in 1974. After 1974, however, the right to impose new quotas will lapse.

An Israeli official said the most important aspect of the new development is that "We (Israel) have at last been taken off the list of low-cost countries, such as Pakistan, India, Hong Kong and others where wages are below par."

**AMERICAN JEWISH, ZIONIST LEADERS JOIN IN MOURNING DEATH OF HARRY S. TRUMAN**

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (JTA)--American Jews and their leaders joined their fellow-Americans today in mourning the death of former President Harry S. Truman at the age of 88, remembering him particularly for his support of the aspirations of Zionists which culminated in his decision, within hours of Jewish Statehood, to extend de facto recognition to the newborn State of Israel, making the United States the first country to do so. (See special supplement for additional stories on Truman and Israel.)

Among those issuing formal statements of sorrow were two American Zionist leaders who were actively involved in the battle which brought the restoration of Israel to the family of nations--Mrs. Rose L. Halprin and Dr. Emanuel Neumann. Mrs. Halprin, who was president of Hadassah from 1947 to 1952 and formerly chairman of the American section of the Jewish Agency, said: "On this day when the American people mourn the passing of a beloved leader and a great President, some of us feel the sense of additional bereavement. We recall President Truman's deep concern with the Jewish refugees seeking home and haven after the Holocaust and his untiring efforts on their behalf." She said the late President "left his mark in history. May his courage, his innate honesty, his deeply humanitarian spirit serve as example and guide."

Dr. Neumann, honorary president of the Zionist Organization of America, worked closely with the 1940s with Zionist leader Abba Hillel Silver and helped present Israel's case to the United Nations in 1947. He said "President Truman was one of the finest Americans of his generation and a true and powerful friend of Israel. He will never be forgotten but will live in the pages of Jewish history, evoking feelings of admiration and profound respect."

A joint statement was issued by Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive in New York, and Louis Pinchus, chairman of the Executives of the Jewish Agency and WZO in Jerusalem. They declared that in Mr. Truman's death, "American Jewry, the State of Israel and Jews throughout the world have lost the man who had the vision to recognize the world significance of the establishment of Israel as an act of historic justice." They recalled that it was Mr. Truman who "urged Great Britain in 1946 to open the doors of Palestine to allow the immediate immigration of 100,000 Jews still suffering in displaced persons camps in Germany." They added that it was now recognized that Mr. Truman's act of speedy recognition of Israel on May 14, 1948 "was the single most important factor in world recognition of the modern rebirth of the Jewish people."

Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the American Zionist Federation, said that "Jewry and Israel have lost a true friend," calling Mr. Truman "a man of courage, a man of action and a man of the people who understood Jewish needs and responded in historic terms. Israel and the Jewish people will never forget his support of Zionist ideals culminating in the dramatic act of recognition of the State of Israel."

Robert Nathan, who served as a liaison with President Truman's personal representative, Gen. John Hildring, when Israel's case was under consideration at the United Nations, called Mr. Truman "a very staunch and firm supporter of Israel," a leader to whom Israel owes "a great deal of gratitude" for the positive role he undertook in the creation of Israel.

Hyman L. Weisman, president of the Zionist Organization of America, declared that "Zionists, indeed all of world Jewry, remember and revere" Mr. Truman's "courageous statesmanship as President, in the face of powerful opposition, which played so pivotal a role in the struggle for Jewish Statehood. His humanitarian efforts to rescue the survivors of the Holocaust were a symbolic initiative that broke the conspiracy of silence surrounding the Nazis' genocide of European Jews."

David M. Blumberg, president of B'nai B'rith, called Mr. Truman a "People's President, a man of the people, and for the people." In the critical days before the establishment of Israel, Blumberg said, the former President was "a pillar of integrity in the welter of power politics and special pleading that surrounded him and he kept America true to its noblest traditions in world affairs."

Philip E. Hoffman, president of the American Jewish Committee, said Americans trusted President Truman because they knew that "he had no other motive than the welfare of all its citizens. American Jews can never forget how President Truman" quickly extended recognition to the newborn Israel. "But beyond anything else was his broad sympathy for and understanding of the aspirations of all men, wherever they were born and wherever they lived."

Seymour Graubard, chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, declared that in Mr. Truman "the people had a true champion and the country a leader of wisdom, courage, decisiveness and humility," a leader who gave impetus to civil rights as the first President "to inventory the national civil rights structure, an inventory which laid the foundation for the unprecedented progress that has followed."

Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the (Reform) Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said the late President was "a plucky warrior against tyranny, a true friend of Israel and of all mankind," and, above all, "an enduring symbol of what the power of moral leadership to the White House can mean."

Rabbi David Polish, president of the (Reform) Central Conference of American Rabbis, said that Mr. Truman "at one of the most critical points in thousands of years of Jewish history" placed "the full weight of his convictions behind American support for the creation of a Jewish State," a "noble act" for which Jewish history "will always remember him."

Harold Ostroff, president of the Workman's Circle, declared that Mr. Truman was not only the first to recognize Israel but also the first to advocate Israel's "strengthening and growth against the advice of other Great Powers. He will be remembered by history as a great President. He will be remembered by the citizens of the free world as their friend."

KNESSET PAYS SILENT TRIBUTE TO LATE PRESIDENT

Truman's Friendship For Israel
Recalled By Eban, Ben-Gurion

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--The Knesset suspended its session for 15 minutes today when word was received here of the death of former President Harry S. Truman at a Kansas City hospital this morning. Knesset Speaker Yisrael Yeshayahu delivered a brief eulogy recalling President Truman's vital contribution to the Zionist cause at its most crucial juncture in history. The Knesset rose and observed a minute of silence in the late President's memory.

Former Premier David Ben-Gurion, one of the founding fathers of the State of Israel, recalled in Sde Boker today how President Truman had reacted with great emotion when he told him years after the establishment of the State in 1948 that the Jewish people would never forget Truman's contribution to Israel's independence. Ben-Gurion said he never knew an American President who showed such great friendship for Israel.

The first official reaction to the news of President Truman's death was expressed by Foreign Minister Abba Eban in a radio interview. Eban said of Truman, "He helped suffering humanity stand on its feet and straighten its back again." Referring to Truman's post-war policy and the Marshall Plan, the Israeli Foreign Minister observed that President Truman believed that America's right to play a crucial role in global affairs was implicit in the very fact of its great might. "He believed in the defense of the right of small nations to exist," Eban said.

The Foreign Minister recalled how President Truman had opposed immigration strictures in Palestine in 1946 which the Mandatory regime imposed on refugees from the Nazi holocaust and how he backed the United Nations partition plan in 1947. Eban recalled further that Truman had been the first chief of state to extend recognition to the newly born State of Israel "and from that day on continued American political and practical aid to Israel." America during Truman's Presidency gave Israel economic help "in greater quantity than any of our own resources or any other assistance we received," Eban said.

(Foreign Minister Eban sent a personal message of condolence today to Mrs. Truman. It was conveyed to the Truman family by David Rivlin, Consul General of Israel in New York. The message said in part: "I convey to his (Truman's) family and friends my deepest and sincerest condolences. I always had great admiration for his personality and his noble and creative thought which influenced many others in the love of Israel and attachment to the most exalting of our values of spirit and faith.")

ISRAEL RUSHING MEDICAL AID TO NICARAGUA EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Israel prepared today to send a team of ten medical men to aid in relief work in Nicaragua for the victims of the earthquake that devastated that nation's capital, Managua. The Foreign Ministry has instructed Israeli Ambassador Eli Nevo in San Jose, Costa Rica, who is also accredited to Nicaragua, to ascertain immediately what type of doctors--surgeons or preventive medicine specialists--were most urgently required. The make-up of the Israeli medical team will be based on Ambassador Nevo's information. The team will be assembled and dispatched without delay, a government source said. The Israel government will pay the doctors' salaries and expenses while they are on duty in Nicaragua.

Israel has already sent a consignment of antibiotics for the earthquake survivors, supplied by the

Red Magen David. Tahal, Israel's water resources planning company has sent an offer to Nicaraguan officials to reconstruct the Managua water system which was destroyed by the disaster Sunday.

The consignment of drugs from Lod Airport was accompanied by Jose Rene Lopez, a Nicaraguan engineer who was studying subterranean water research at the Hebrew University. Lopez tried unsuccessfully to make telephone connections with Managua. He was directed to Israeli radio amateurs who did make contact with Managua but that connection produced no news for the student about the fate of his family. Trans World Airlines, in cooperation with the Red Magen David and the Foreign Ministry, arranged a free ticket for Lopez for the flight.

Ambassador Nevo wired the Israeli Foreign Ministry that the Israelis in Nicaragua were all safe.

Tahal officials said the firm had already carried out some irrigation and water projects in Nicaragua and that four Tahal experts were in Managua when the quake struck but they were reported safe in Honduras. Aaron Weiner, Tahal director general, said Tahal had wide experience in reconstructing damaged water systems. He said Tahal had rebuilt the water system in Iran after quakes there.

Latin American Jewish Congress Calls For Aid

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 26 (JTA)--The Latin American Jewish Congress met here today to express sympathy and solidarity with the earthquake victims in Nicaragua. The Congress appealed to Jewish communities in Latin America to cooperate with local aid campaigns and cabled its affiliates in Central America requesting data about Managua Jewish community's situation. The Managua Jewish community consisted of about 30 families forming Congregation Israelita de Nicaragua with a social center containing a synagogue and primary school. No information as to its fate was available here today.

ISRAELI PATROL ATTACKED ON GOLAN

TEL AVIV, Dec. 26 (JTA)--An Israeli Army patrol was attacked near Nahal Golan on the Golan Heights this morning. No casualties were reported. A military source said shells were fired at the patrol from an improvised device that was neither a mortar nor a bazooka. The incident was the first along the Syrian line in 12 days.

Israeli security forces in the Gaza Strip fired on a car which failed to heed an order to halt today. One occupant was killed and the others were detained for questioning.

JEWISH GROUPS URGE BOMBING HALT

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Two more Jewish organizations urged President Nixon today to end the renewed massive bombing of North Vietnam. Mrs. Earl Marvin, president of the National Council of Jewish Women called on the President to "bring this holocaust to an immediate end." The Massachusetts Board of Rabbis, in a statement issued in Boston, condemned the bombing as "A unilateral act of aggression on the part of our government that we believe will add to the violence and bloodshed in Southeast Asia and make the final achievement of peace even more difficult and remote."

The Israeli film, "I Love You Rosa," won first prize in the "Femina" movie contest here. The all-woman jury praised the film for its "many qualities."

TRUMAN AND ISRAEL: THE YEAR OF DECISION

By Joseph Polakoff, JTA Washington Bureau Chief

President Harry S. Truman trod a firm, if careful, political road towards the immigration into Palestine of Jewish survivors of the Nazi death camps and for partition of Palestine to create a Jewish State in the aftermath of World War II.

The President was beset by powerful opposition both at home and abroad. Within the State Department itself a strong array of top officials fought every move that would enhance the Zionist position towards both Jewish immigration and a homeland. In London, British Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin, whose hostility to Jews and a Jewish State increased as his ability to control events in Palestine diminished, bitterly assailed Truman privately and publicly. Arab leaders threatened American interests in their countries, even as now, if the President persisted in supporting Zionist aims.

Nevertheless, Truman pressed for both of his objectives. Soon after the war ended in Europe in 1945, the President sent Earl G. Harrison as his representative to the displaced persons centers in Germany to provide him with a first-hand report on them. To his consternation, Harrison found that many Jews were still behind barbed wire in the former Nazi concentration camps. The President then urged the British government to admit 100,000 of them immediately into Palestine but Bevin refused because, he contended, it would cause an upheaval among the Arabs and the British needed tranquility in the Middle East for strategic and economic reasons.

The year 1947 was pivotal for Jews, Arabs, British, and the United Nations in Palestine. The British desire by that time was to be rid of their mandate in Palestine but to maintain good relations with the Arabs in their withdrawal. In that crucible, Truman frequently took a personal hand in directing the U.S. effort towards meeting the objectives he had outlined more than a year earlier.

Bevin Charged Truman Spoiled His Efforts

Part of the dramatic history of that year appears in hitherto secret, top secret and "eyes only" messages and memoranda just revealed by the State Department, in "Foreign Affairs 1947 of the United States" which the Department coincidentally published consonant with Israel's silver jubilee as a nation.

According to "Foreign Affairs," Bevin was so irritated with Truman over immigration that in a speech on Feb. 25, 1947, in the House of Commons, he charged that the President had "spoiled" his efforts just as Bevin believed his negotiations were on the threshold of success. Bevin disclosed that he had pleaded in the previous year with Secretary of State James F. Byrnes to dissuade the President from issuing his demand on the 100,000 Jews but his pleas to Byrnes were futile. He was told, Bevin said in Commons, that "if the statement on immigration was not issued by Mr. Truman a competitive statement would be issued by Mr. Dewey" (New York Gov. Thomas E. Dewey whom Truman upset in the 1948 elections.)

"I think every country in the world ought to know this," Bevin declared, according to the State Department's record. "The House of Commons cheered Bevin's attack on Mr. Truman's tactics."

Secretary of State George C. Marshall, who succeeded Byrnes, had told Bevin on Feb. 21 that "an increase in the number of displaced European Jews into Palestine during the next few months would have a beneficial effect among Jews in the displaced persons centers in Europe and would meet with public approval in this country (U.S.). It might

make both Arabs and Jews more willing to look for a compromise solution." But Bevin was adamant and immigration ships, including the "Exodus," ran the British blockade to Palestine.

At the State Department, Loy Henderson, Director of the Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs, consistently opposed both Truman objectives. His attitude crystallized in a top secret memorandum to the Under-Secretary of State, Robert A. Lovett, on Nov. 24, 1947. On that day, Lovett went to the White House, in Marshall's absence in London, to receive Truman's latest instructions on Palestine as a showdown on partition drew near in the United Nations General Assembly.

Henderson asked Lovett to read "in full" a "personal telegram" Henderson said he had received from Hamdi al Pachachi, who was Prime Minister of Iraq when Henderson was the U.S. minister there. Henderson then added, according to Foreign Affairs:

"I feel it again to be my duty to point out that it seems to me and all the members of my office acquainted with the Middle East that the policy which we are following in New York at the present time is contrary to the interests of the United States and will eventually involve us in international difficulties of so grave a character that the reaction throughout the world, as well as in this country, will be very strong."

"I wonder if the President realizes," Henderson said in his statement recorded in the "Foreign Affairs" volume, "that the plan which we are supporting for Palestine leaves no force other than local enforcement organizations for preserving order in Palestine."

Prepared To Support Partition, Immigration

Henderson also was bitter in his criticism of Ambassador Heschel Johnson, the chief U.S. spokesman, regarding Palestine in the United Nations. On Oct. 11, Johnson, acting on Presidential instructions, told the UN that the United States would support the basic principles of the majority plan which provided for both partition and immigration. Two days later, the Soviet Union also announced for partition.

Truman worked cautiously within the framework of the United Nations in advancing the Jewish cause and indicated he did not wish the U.S. exposed individually. On Nov. 24, only five days before the General Assembly voted for partition, Truman told Lovett at the White House that he would be most reluctant to see the United States on a commission to implement partition in Palestine. According to Lovett's memorandum, "The President reiterated his original position," that the United States would participate in enforcing a plan for Palestine only as a member of the United Nations and jointly with other members. It would not be a protagonist."

The President also expressed the wish that the U.S. delegation at the United Nations not use threats or improper pressure of any kind on other delegations to vote for partition. Lovett wrote, "We were willing to vote for that report (partition) only because it was a majority report," Lovett reported Truman as saying. The vote in the General Assembly Nov. 29, 1947, was 33-13 with 10 abstentions and 514 absent.

Why did Truman take the course he did? A secret message, telegraphed by Lovett to U.S. Ambassador S. Pinkney Tuck in Cairo, which Truman himself initiated, provides some indications. The message, dated Dec. 26, 1947, a month after partition, was for Tuck to use in explaining America's position to King Farouk.

A similar message also was transmitted for Saudi Arabia's King Ibn Saud. According to "Foreign Affairs," the approach Tuck was instructed to use included the following:

"(1) U.S. government decided after anxious and sober consideration to support partition in the UNGA despite realization of how strongly opposed Arab states were to establishment of Jewish State in Palestine. Its support of partition was not motivated by any unfriendliness towards Arabs or lack of appreciation of their concern in matter. U.S. government took position because:

"(a) after reviewing statements and expressions of policy by responsible American officials, resolutions of Congress, and Party platforms of last thirty years it came to conclusion that unless there was some unanticipated factor in situation the trend of public opinion and policy based thereon practically forced it to support partition.

"(b) Majority report of UNSCOP (United Nations Special Committee on Palestine) recommending partition did represent new factor but one supporting Jewish State.

"(c) Public opinion in U.S. stirred by mistreatment of Jews in Europe and by intense desire of surviving Jews to go to Palestine strongly supported establishment of Jewish State.

"(d) Troubled situation in Palestine accompanied by British decision to withdraw made it evident that solution of this difficult problem could not be postponed."

Zionists Have No Expansionist Designs

Because Arabs alleged U.S. pressure in New York, the message took pains to point out that the U.S. delegation to the UN "was instructed that it should explain U.S. reasons for supporting the majority report but should not exert pressures on other delegations. So far as U.S. government has determined no undue pressure was brought upon other countries by U.S. governmental officials responsible to the Executive."

The message also instructed Tuck to tell Farouk that "in any event it is considered that the vote of the UNGA reflected the belief that partition was the best of the solutions of the Palestine problem which were advanced."

Cognizant that "one of the reasons for Arab resentment at the UNGA decision is concern lest the Zionists intend eventually to use their state as a base for territorial expansion in the Middle East at the expense of the Arabs," Lovett's message told Tuck to inform Farouk that "it is the conviction of the U.S. government, based on conversations with responsible Zionist leaders, that they have no expansionist designs and that they are most anxious to live with the Arabs in the future on cordial terms and to establish with them relations of a mutually advantageous character."

Lovett's message added: "If at a later time persons or groups should obtain control of the Jewish State who have aggressive designs against their neighbors, the United States would be prepared firmly to oppose such aggressiveness in the United Nations and before world opinion." Tuck further was instructed to tell Farouk that the American government "expresses the most sincere hope" that the "governments of the Arab countries will not attempt by armed force, or will not encourage the use of armed force, to prevent the carrying out of that decision" by the UNGA. Lovett said it was "my own hope" that Egypt "not only will set an example in restraint, but will use its great influence with its sister states to prevail upon them not to resort to actions of a character which may bring discredit to the Arab people."

The message, written 25 years ago when the

winds of the cold war were beginning to chill diplomatic relations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, also pointed out that "it seems hardly necessary to point out that there are in the world today powerful aggressive forces which create hatreds, promote violence, and result in chaos. It would be tragic if the forces striving for an orderly, peaceful and prosperous world should at this juncture allow themselves to be disrupted over the question of Palestine."

Therefore, the U.S. government was "convinced," the message concluded, that "acquiescence on the part of the Arab states in the UNGA decision on Palestine, difficult though such acquiescence may be, would remove Palestine as a disturbing influence in international affairs." But that was not the course history took.

TRUMAN URGED ISRAELI-ARAB AMITY

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--It was recalled here today that in a message on July 11, 1966, at the dedication of the Harry S. Truman Center for the Advancement of Peace at the Hebrew University, Truman urged better Israeli-Arab relations. A longtime associate, David Noyes, said of the former Chief Executive: "President Truman came here in 1948 and he has never left. And he's never going to leave." Israeli Premier Levi Eshkol said at the same ceremony that Truman's recognition of Israel 11 minutes after its proclamation as a State had "kindled a flame in Israel's spirit which is still burning."

In his message, Truman said of the Center: "Here we will give serious consideration to any new practical approach that could help to advance the cause of peace. All will be welcome. There are no restrictions as to national origin, ideological commitment or religious differences."

ACHESON EXPLAINED TRUMAN'S STAND

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (JTA)--In a television interview several years ago, Dean Acheson, who was Secretary of State when Truman was in the White House, explained why his boss had taken such a strong pro-Israel stand before as well as after the establishment of the Jewish State. He maintained that Truman was probably motivated by "two considerations--one which he avowed very clearly and the other one which he did not avow very clearly."

The first consideration, Acheson said, was the wartime Jewish refugees who "couldn't go back to Russia or Poland...couldn't go back to Germany where so many had been murdered." Their resettlement was "our responsibility." Acheson continued, and Truman tried but failed "to get our immigration laws made more lax."

The less-clearly avowed consideration, Acheson said, was Truman's "moral and emotional" obligation to the refugees following repeated entreaties by Eddie Jacobson, a friend from Truman's haberdashery days and "a convinced Zionist," who "talked to the President a great deal about it." Jacobson's ideas "appealed to the President very much," Acheson said.

In the same television interview Acheson also commented that "Anyone who went through the period before the creation of the State of Israel and immediately after too, as I did with Mr. Truman, must now be perfectly clear that you can't impose anything on those people. They won't accept imposition."

FRENCH GOV'T. SPLIT OVER WELCOME TO PREMIER MEIR

PARIS, Dec. 26 (JTA)--The French government appeared divided today over how to treat Israeli Premier Golda Meir's visit to Paris next month to attend the conference of the Socialist International. One source said today that France would "grant all the standard courtesies" to Mrs. Meir which are believed to include a meeting with French Premier Pierre Messmer. But some government circles expressed displeasure over Mrs. Meir's visit during the heat of the French election campaign and indicated that it should be ignored officially.

The Gaullist newspaper La Nation said today that "Foreign personalities who in an electoral period accept the invitation of an opposition party should not expect the slightest welcome in France." The paper noted that the heads of Socialist governments in other friendly states, such as West Germany's Chancellor Willy Brandt, turned down invitations to the Socialist meeting in order to avoid appearing to take sides in the French elections.

Other Gaullist factions reportedly feel that Mrs. Meir's visit "should not be allowed to be turned into an open sign of success" for the opposition. These factions, apparently including Premier Messmer, favor extending all "normal courtesies" to the Israeli leader.

Mrs. Meir accepted the invitation of Francois Mitterand, First Secretary of the French Socialist Party and leader of a leftist coalition of socialists, Communists and other left-wing radicals seeking votes in the French legislative elections next March 4 and 11. Some government circles fear that Mrs. Meir's presence in Paris might be used by the Socialists in their election campaign. Mrs. Meir's decision to attend the Paris meeting despite these implications indicated that she was anxious to renew top level contacts with French government leaders. Franco-Israeli contacts have remained on a low governmental level since the late President Charles de Gaulle embargoed arms shipments to Israel after the Six-Day War. The last Israeli Premier to visit France was the late Levi Eshkol who went there eight years ago.

CHALUTZ MOVEMENT PROTESTS 'SLANDER' STEMMING FROM ISRAEL SPY RING EXPOSE

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (JTA)--The Central Shlichim of the Chalutz Movement protested today against what it termed "vicious attacks and slanderous statements" made in Israel against the kibbutz movement following the disclosure of a Syrian-directed Arab-Jewish spy ring. The protest was contained in a cable sent to Israel Pinhasi, secretary general of the National Federation of Kibbutzim which said that the main targets of the alleged slander were the Kibbutz Artzi movement of Hashomer Hatzair and Kibbutz Gan Shmuel, the former home of one of the Jewish spy suspects.

The message said "The current atmosphere in Israel is rapidly approaching that of witch-hunting with its dangerous implications for civil liberties and personal honor. This is causing both serious political damage to Israel and irreparable educational harm to the Chalutz Movement here in the United States. We pledge our full support to those in Israel who fight and struggle against this campaign of hatred and slander."

The message also noted that the Chalutz Movement here was as shocked as the Israeli community by the disclosure of Jewish participation in the spy ring. The message was signed by leaders of the Dror, Hahonim, Bnei Akiva, Hashomer Hatzair and Young Judea movements.

FORMER PRIME MINISTER WILSON PLEDGES TO USE INFLUENCE TO HELP SOVIET JEWS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--A group of Soviet newcomers issued a personal appeal last night to visiting former Prime Minister Harold Wilson of Britain asking him to bring pressure on Soviet authorities so that their friends and relatives would be permitted to emigrate to Israel. Wilson met with the Soviet emigres during a 30-minute visit to the Mevasseret Zion absorption center near Jerusalem.

Wilson asked the Israel Foreign Ministry officials to gather "all the particulars" on the Soviet Jews so that he could later try to use his influence with the Soviets. After the meeting, Wilson told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he was "continuing" to pursue the issue of Soviet Jewry with the Russian officials all the time.

Louis Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency, who conducted the meeting between the British leader and the Soviet newcomers, said that of the 900 Soviet Jewish intellectuals coming to Israel during the past three months, 600 have been forced to pay the education tax and the other 300 did not. But a Soviet woman mathematician told Wilson that the diploma tax was not the fundamental problem of Soviet Jews seeking exit. She said "our hardest problem" is getting permission to leave.

Wilson showed particular interest in one of the newcomers, Ruth Alexandrovitch, who suffered an extended stay in a Soviet jail before she migrated to Israel more than a year ago. She told the visiting British statesman that "I know how much you did for me so I am asking that you do something for my friend, Sylva Zalmanson." She told Wilson she did not think Mrs. Zalmanson would survive the ten-year sentence she is serving at the Potma forced labor camp.

Meanwhile, Viktor Yachut, the young Jewish physicist from Moscow, arrived last night via Vienna with a group of emigrants from Russia. Yachut was among a number of Jewish activists who were drafted into the Red Army during President Nixon's visit last May to Moscow.

ISRAEL CLOSING EMBASSIES IN NIGER, BRAZAVILLE CONGO

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Israel plans to close two of its African Embassies, the one in Niger and the one in Congo-Brazzaville as part of a reappraisal of its diplomatic missions abroad, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday. He said Israel will reduce its representation in Niger to the level of non-resident ambassador and in Congo-Brazzaville to non-resident charge d'affaires.

Israel's relations with Niger have been considered fragile since neighboring Chad severed ties with Israel in Nov. after intense pressure from Libya and Saudi Arabia. Niger also is known to be under Arab pressure. Officials in Jerusalem emphasized that the closing of an Embassy did not signify a breach in relations but they refused to explain the move other than "attributing it to 'budgetary cuts' and to 'a general reappraisal of our relations in Africa and around the world.'"

Sources here said the radical regime in Congo-Brazzaville has long been felt to be inimical, even hostile, toward Israel. They said that if a general reappraisal was planned, the Embassy there would be an obvious candidate for shutdown.

There will be no Daily News Bulletin Monday, Jan. 1, New Year's Day.

RED MONOSSON, NEW ENGLAND ZIONIST LEADER, DEAD AT 79

BOSTON, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Funeral services were held here Sunday for Fred Monosson, a veteran Zionist leader associated with the early development of Israel, who died Friday after a long illness at the age of 79. Mr. Monosson served for many years as president of the New England Jewish National Fund and was a founder and president of Zionist House in Boston, the only institution of its kind in any American city.

Mr. Monosson was born in Moscow, came to the United States in 1905 and was educated at local schools and at Northeastern Law School here. He was in the rainwear manufacturing business and became prominent for his activities on behalf of Israel and in local Jewish and other philanthropies. He was honored by Premier David Ben-Gurion of Israel in 1950 for his help in solving Israeli financial problems. He was also a guiding spirit behind the National Committee for Harvard Law School-Israel Cooperative Research, an institute he helped set up during the early years of the Jewish State to advance Israel's legal development.

Mr. Monosson served as national treasurer of the Zionist Organization of America from 1949-52 and was a life member of the ZOA. He was also a life member of the World Zionist Organization Actions Committee; national co-chairman of the Israel Bond Organization in 1951 and was a member of the national boards of directors of the United Israel Appeal and the United Jewish Appeal. He was a member of the executive board of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston. He was a builder in 1951 of Neve Monosson, a village near Lod Airport that bears his name and of the President Harry S. Truman Village in Israel in 1952.

PROF. TELER: ISRAELI UNIVERSITIES SUPERIOR TO THOSE IN U.S.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Prof. Edward Teller, the "father of the H-bomb" believes Israel's Tel Aviv University "ranks today higher than the best universities, or at least the most famous universities in the United States." He said that American investors in Israeli science-based industries "would find more talent in Tel Aviv University than in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology."

Dr. Teller, a professor of nuclear physics at the University of California, Berkeley, made that statement in a taped interview at the Berkeley campus with Victor M. Carter and Boris Young. A transcript of the interview was distributed to guests at the inaugural dinner for the Western States American Friends of Tel Aviv University. Carter, who is a member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was installed as president of the new organization and Young, former head of the Israel Bond Organization on the West Coast was installed as executive director.

Dr. Teller, who has been a controversial figure in the U.S. for his hawkish and conservative political views, said that "All universities have suffered badly from student unrest, from the anti-technological movement whose corrosive effects are beginning to affect American commerce and American defense." He said, "The disease has spread to Europe--German universities are in an awful state. But it has not affected Israel, because Israel has been founded by intellectuals, and there is no caste system in Israel that separates Israel from the people or the people from the State. This is why their universities are building up while ours are rapidly declining."

According to the Hungarian-born scientist, Israeli students who have served in the Army "are not the rebellious type that are practically ripping our and other universities apart." He said they "wanted the privilege of studying and Israelis know how to treat these advantages."

GOV'T. SEEKS POWER TO END CORRUPTION IN RELIGIOUS COUNCILS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--A bill that would empower the government to re-organize local religious councils has been referred to committee by the Knesset. The measure was introduced by Dr. Zerach Warhaftig, Minister for Religious Affairs in the aftermath of recent disclosures of corruption and inefficiency in almost all departments of Jerusalem's religious council.

According to the bill, the minister would be empowered to appoint officials to take over a corrupt or poorly functioning department. Dr. Warhaftig stressed that he was not seeking powers to substitute appointed officials for elected ones. He said he only wanted the power to appoint a competent civil servant to run a department that had broken down causing public inconvenience. He cited the marriage registration bureau and slaughterhouse as examples of departments of the Jerusalem religious council that have broken down because of strikes or maladministration.

Warhaftig was challenged by Uri Avnery of the Free Center faction who charged that the religious councils existed only to provide funds for the National Religious Party and jobs for the party faithful. Menachem Porush of Agudat Israel charged that the NRP was trying to keep other religious parties out of the councils. Religious councils which exist in all Israeli cities and towns are funded by the local authorities and the Ministry for Religious Affairs which is controlled by the NRP.

NEW PACT WITH EEC WILL NOT ALTER ISRAEL'S TRADE PICTURE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--An Israeli diplomat said today that Israel's trade with the Common Market countries will "neither worsen nor improve" next year as a result of the pact signed in Brussels Friday. Israel's Ambassador to Belgium, Moshe Allon, said on a radio interview that the agreement leaves tariffs on imports from Israel unchanged for another year in the three new Common Market countries, Britain, Ireland and Denmark.

Avraham Agmon, director general of the Finance Ministry, said Israel's industry must prepare for the "enormous challenge" that will be presented by competing imports from EEC countries.

Britain, meanwhile, has cancelled its import quota on Israeli cotton textiles. The quotas will lapse Dec. 31. The cancellation was announced simultaneously here and in London. According to the agreement, Britain reserves the right to impose new restrictions if Israeli cotton sales there increase by more than 25 percent of the old quota figure next year or by more than 50 percent in 1974. After 1974, however, the right to impose new quotas will lapse.

An Israeli official said the most important aspect of the new development is that "We (Israel) have at last been taken off the list of low-cost countries, such as Pakistan, India, Hong Kong and others where wages are below par."