



16 INJURED IN BOMB EXPLOSION

TEL AVIV, Dec. 5 (JTA)--A bomb exploded on an inter-urban bus today injuring 16 persons, one of them seriously. It was the second such incident in 24 hours. The bus was travelling from Tel Aviv to Netanya when the explosion occurred at about 10:20 a.m. local time in the rear of the bus. The injured were picked up by passing cars and taken to the nearest hospitals in Hedera and Kfar Saba.

Most of the injuries were slight and a majority of the passengers treated were discharged from the hospital. The most serious injuries were sustained by an Arab passenger who was sitting closest to the spot where the bomb went off. There was some speculation that the Arab may have had the bomb on his person when it exploded. Police said the bomb contained about 200 grams of explosives.

Authorities announced meanwhile the arrest of two Arab youths from Dura Village near Hebron in connection with yesterday's grenade explosion in the Old City of Jerusalem in which 20 persons were injured. According to police, one of the youths has confessed to throwing the grenade.

DEFEAT OF DANISH PREMIER, PARTY MAY WEAKEN DENMARK'S PRO-ISRAEL POLICY

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 5 (JTA)--The defeat of Premier Anker Joergensen and his Social Democratic Party in the national elections may weaken Denmark's long-time pro-Israel policies in the Middle East, observers here said today. Joergensen personally was staunchly pro-Israel. In addition, the appearance of six Communist deputies in the Danish Parliament after an absence of 17 years could bode ill for Danish-Israeli relations, they said.

The consensus here after the election results is that Israel cannot expect particular support from either of the two new parties voted into office. Both are primarily concerned with Denmark's internal problems and are unwilling to see the Danish public suffer from the fall out of the Middle East conflict.

In another development here, Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) announced today that it will cut back its flights to Tel Aviv in the coming weeks. A spokesman for the airline said the move was "strictly commercial" and in no way directed against Israel or a surrender to Arab pressure. He said the cutback would affect most Middle Eastern countries.

16 SOVIET JEWISH ACTIVISTS BEGIN HUNGER STRIKE; MARINA TEMKIN FREED

NEW YORK, Dec. 5 (JTA)--Sixteen Jewish activists in three Russian cities began a hunger strike today to protest the denial of exit visas. The Jews, residents of Leningrad, Tblisi and Novosibirsk, sent a letter to President Nikolai V. Podgorny, chairman of the Supreme Soviet, advising him that they will "protest against the illegal retention of us in the USSR" on the anniversary today of the adoption of the Soviet Constitution, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported today. The letter stated that "The place of the hunger strike will be chosen according

to our situation.

The NCSJ also reported today that 14-year-old Marina Temkin has been released from a pioneer youth camp at Tuapse, on the Black Sea, where she had been held for several months and is living with her divorced mother in Moscow. The girl was sent to the camp for indoctrination when she insisted on remaining with her father, Aleksandr, who had applied for exit visas for both of them to go to Israel. Her mother opposed her departure.

The girl will not be permitted contact with any of her father's relatives or friends, the NCSJ reported. Aleksandr Temkin was permitted to leave for Israel last month.

RUSH: U.S. DOING ITS UTMOST TO BRING ISRAEL, EGYPT TO GENEVA PEACE TABLE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 5 (JTA)--U.S. Undersecretary of State Kenneth Rush left Israel last night after cautioning that the success of the Middle East peace conference opening in Geneva Dec. 18 depended upon the ability of the participants to reach an agreement. He said the American role was to bring the parties to the peace table and in that respect the U.S. is doing its utmost.

Rush, who headed the U.S. delegation attending the funeral Monday of David Ben Gurion, said that his talks during the past two days with Premier Golda Meir and Foreign Minister Abba Eban were very helpful. "Israel can be proud of her government and its fervent desire for peace," he told reporters before departing. He said he hoped a way could be found to resume the stalled Israeli-Egyptian cease-fire talks at Kilometer 101, and that America would help both sides close the gap between them.

Rush flatly denied reports from Arab sources that the U.S. Seventh Fleet was in the Bab el Mandeb straits linking the Indian Ocean and Red Sea. There was no confirmation here of reports yesterday that Israel had successfully sent ships through the straits to test the Egyptian blockade.

ROGERS PLAN IS STILL U.S. MIDEAST POLICY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5 (JTA)--A State Department spokesman indicated today that the Rogers Plan is still U.S. policy in the Middle East. George Vest made that point at today's press briefing when he was asked if U.S. policy on the status of Jerusalem had changed as a result of the Arab oil embargo. The question referred to a statement yesterday by the Saudi Arabian Oil Minister, Ahmed Zaki Yamani who was in New York, that oil production would be restored to its Sept. levels if Israel withdraws from all of the occupied Arab territories including Jerusalem.

Vest said in reply that there was no basic change in American policy. He said U.S. policy remained the same as it was in Dec., 1969 when former Secretary of State William P. Rogers enunciated his plan which called for insubstantial changes in Israel's pre-June, 1967 borders and the internationalization of Jerusalem.

The Rogers Plan, vehemently rejected by Israel, was never officially disavowed here, but has rarely been mentioned in recent years in connection with U.S. Middle East policy. High-ranking Israeli officials believed--and have said so publicly--that the Rogers Plan was no longer operative. The plan

has always been supported by Sen. J. William Fulbright (D.Ark.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who is working closely with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger on foreign policy, especially the Middle East and the Soviet Union.

COMMUNIST, PALESTINIAN PLOT TO WAGE MURDER, SABOTAGE AGAINST JEWS, ISRAEL

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 5 (JTA)--A plot by a Communist organization in Sweden and Palestinian terrorists to wage a campaign of murder, sabotage and hijacking against Jews and Israelis was disclosed yesterday by the Swedish daily, Expressen, in Stockholm. According to the paper, the plan called for bombing synagogues, Jewish community centers and nursery schools. The plotters also planned the murder of a young girl and a campaign of slander to discredit Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, the special United Nations mediator in the Middle East, Expressen said.

The group involved was the "Marx-Lenin Communist Union" (MLCU), an extremist group cooperating with Arab terrorists, the paper reported. It said the plot was exposed by a former member of the Swedish secret service who was planted among the conspirators and leaked their plans to Swedish security authorities.

According to Expressen, some of the group may have been trained in Palestinian terrorist camps in Jordan. The paper reported that persons arrested in Copenhagen in 1969 allegedly on a mission to assassinate former Premier David Ben Gurion in Israel were members of the MLCU.

EGYPT UNDECIDED ABOUT RESUMING TALKS WITH ISRAEL AT KILOMETER 101

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 5 (JTA)--Egypt has informed Maj. Gen. Ensio Siilasvuo, the Commander of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) in the Middle East, that it has not yet reached a decision about resuming the talks with Israel at Kilometer 101. The discussion on the return to the Oct. 22 positions "in the framework of agreement on the disengagement and separation of forces" (point B of the six-point plan) were suspended a week ago.

Meanwhile, it was announced here that UNEF has passed the half-way mark of its total authorized strength, which is 7000 troops, and stands at 3531 troops from eight countries: Austria, Canada, Finland, Ireland, Poland, Sweden, Indonesia and Panama.

In another Mideast development here, Israel has accused Egypt of 57 violations of the cease-fire between Nov. 28 and Dec. 1. The charges were made by Israel UN Ambassador Yosef Tekoah in a letter to Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. Tekoah asked that this letter be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

U.S. REAFFIRMS OPPOSITION TO AMERICAN, SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN ANY UN MIDEAST PEACE-KEEPING FORCE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5 (JTA)--The State Department reaffirmed today U.S. opposition to American or Soviet participation in any United Nations peace-keeping force in the Middle East. Department spokesman George Vest said "Our position is that it is better for neither the U.S. nor the Soviet Union to be part of UNEF," the United Nations Emergency Force.

Vest was commenting on a report from London today quoting usually reliable Soviet sources there as saying that Moscow was not opposed to

the creation of demilitarized zones in the Sinai and on the Golan Heights but could insist that Soviet troops be included in the peace-keeping force that takes up positions in those zones. Vest said the U.S. continues to favor a peace-keeping force composed of nations acceptable to both sides in the Mideast dispute.

Soviet Officers At Kilometer 101

Meanwhile, Soviet officers were seen for the first time with a UN cease-fire observers team at the Kilometer 101 checkpoint on the Suez-Cairo road, an Israeli radio correspondent reported today. He said a Russian captain and a major, wearing UN uniforms, were identified by other UN officers. They stood apart from the other observers and did not converse with them, the correspondent said. Last week, 28 American officers arrived in Israel to join the observer teams on the Israeli side of the cease-fire lines.

CHILEAN JEWRY HONORS DUTCH

SANTIAGO, Dec. 5 (JTA)--A delegation representing the Jewish community of Chile met with the Counselor of the Dutch Embassy, A.B. Roystink, to express appreciation of Chilean Jews for the courageous attitude of the Dutch government and the people of Holland in the fact of the Arab oil embargo. The delegation of the Representative Committee of Chilean Jewry, headed by its president Dr. Gil Sinay, told Roystink that "we appreciate the sacrifice accepted by your countrymen, because beyond considerations of a material kind it reveals a comprehension of and an encouragement for Israel's fight for survival."

Roystink thanked the delegation for its expression of gratitude on behalf of the Chilean Jewish community and said its views would be transmitted to the government of Holland. This expression of solidarity, he added, will serve to strengthen the links between the two peoples. The delegation, in addition to Dr. Sinay, included Robert Levy and Raul Perlovich, general secretary and general treasurer respectively of the Representative Committee.

BUENOS AIRES (JTA)--A group of unidentified youths set off an incendiary bomb and shouted "Jews to the gallows!" in the Rex Cinema here Tuesday night during a showing of the film, "The Last Ten Days of Hitler." The explosion sent the audience rushing for exits. Firemen quickly put out the blaze. Police intervened to break up fist fights between opposing groups of youths.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--A spokesman for the Travel Agents Association said here that tourism, hard hit by the Yom Kippur War, is beginning to show signs of revival. He said that tourists, mainly pilgrims and groups, are beginning to stream into the country for the Chanukah and Christmas holidays. He said advance bookings at hotels are good and if there are no cancellations there is "no cause for worry."

BONN (JTA)--Chancellor Willy Brandt warned West Germans that the oil crisis would increase inflation, now about 6.6 percent, create unemployment, and cause the government to make changes in its economic planning. He said West Germany would not take retaliatory measures against the Arab states because of the oil embargo. "West Germany was dependent on a free flow of exports and imports. The energy crisis was not identical with the Middle East crisis, he observed. The former would last long after the latter had been resolved.

YAMANI: ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE IS NOT A QUESTION, NOT RELATED TO OIL BUSINESS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5 (JTA)--Saudi Arabian Petroleum Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani declared today that "the existence of Israel is not a question." He made this statement in the lobby of the State Department after a 90-minute meeting with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency asked Yamani whether he believed Israel should be an independent state. "Well I think so many Arab leaders have announced they are prepared to recognize Israel and to sign a peace treaty, the existence of Israel is not a question. It definitely is not to be related to the oil business."

Saying that he was "optimistic and hopeful," he affirmed that "the goal which we are looking for--which is peace in the area--is more feasible than at any time in the past. The Israelis realize they cannot continue their occupation and cannot ignore peace."

In discussing the oil question, he was asked whether return of Israel to the pre-1967 war lines was necessary before there is a relaxation in the Arab oil embargo. "When the Israelis decide to withdraw and there is a timetable for that we will have a timetable to increase production step by step in a manner corresponding to the timetable," Yamani said. Asked whether the one is phased to the other, he replied, "Right."

Asked if there was no totality of withdrawal for relaxing of the embargo, he replied, "No." When he was asked what guarantees the Arabs would be prepared to give to Israel, he replied, "We should get guarantees from Israel. They will always be aggressors." When it was pointed out the Israelis feel they need security he responded "they have been offered guarantees several times the latest from the United States, if they need it."

Yamani's statements were seen as being as less belligerent and more conciliatory than in previous remarks he and his Algerian counterpart, Belaid Abdessalam made throughout Europe and the U.S. to justify the Arab oil embargo. In his meeting with the press here he did not insist on any change in the U.S. position toward Israel. He said that he would continue to meet with various U.S. government officials in Washington and said "we hope in the end to gain some fruits; if not an immediate one, not a far one." (By Joseph Polakoff)

HAYMAN SHAMIR DEAD AT 53

TEL AVIV, Dec. 6 (JTA)--Funeral services were held here yesterday for Hayman Shamir, one of the founders of the Israeli Air Force and a leader in the aircraft and electronics industry in Israel. Mr. Shamir, who was 53, died Sunday at his office here. The Russian-born aviation and electronics expert, whose name was formerly Hyman Scheckman, was brought to Chicago as a child where his family lived until they settled in Palestine in 1932.

Mr. Shamir returned twice to the United States for training as an engineer and also learned to fly as a hobby. He served in the United States Air Force during World War II, and after the war helped bring "illegal" immigrants to Israel. He helped develop the plan for the creation of the Israeli Air Force and served as its deputy commander in chief during the War of Independence. In 1951, he left the air force to become director of operations and maintenance for El Al.

Mr. Shamir left El Al in 1952 to help found Bedek Aviation Corp., the forerunner of Israel Aircraft Industries, and served as its deputy managing director until 1964. He resigned to enter private industry and became chief executive of Maof Investments Ltd., TAT Ltd. and East/Mem Industrial Services as well as sole owner of MIKA Consultants, Ltd.

2 ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED, 1 INJURED NEAR KILOMETER 101

TEL AVIV, Dec. 5 (JTA)--Two Israeli soldiers were killed and a third was injured yesterday when their vehicle hit a mine near the Kilometer 101 checkpoint on the Suez-Cairo road while escorting a UN car. Four Israeli soldiers were wounded last night when Egyptian forces opened small arms and bazooka fire near Kilometer 81 south of Ismailia on the Suez Canal.

The latest incidents along the increasingly shaky cease-fire lines occurred as Israeli, Egyptian and Syrian forces reportedly were preparing for the possibility of a new full-scale outbreak of hostilities. A senior Israeli military spokesman said today that Israel would not initiate a new war but was strong enough to repel the enemy on all fronts. He said Israel was prepared for possible attacks on both the Egyptian and Syrian fronts and was also alert to the possibility that Jordan would open a third front should the cease-fire break down.

The Israeli military spokesman said Israeli forces were prepared to hold their present positions indefinitely. He said it would be foolish for the enemy to renew hostilities or to believe they can wear Israel down by prolonging the impasse. It was reported here today that American sources believe the heightened tension along the cease-fire lines stems from a war of nerves being waged by the Egyptians for political reasons.

NCSJ LEADERS TELL STOESSSEL JEWISH COMMUNITY SOLIDLY BEHIND J/MV

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5 (JTA)--Leaders of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry told Assistant Secretary of State for Europe Walter J. Stoessel that "the Jewish community is solidly behind" the Jackson/Mills-Vanik legislation. The statement came at a meeting with Stoessel and his staff at the State Department in which the NCSJ leadership sought to convey their concern on the evident deterioration of conditions for Soviet Jews. They pointed to the two recent trials, new arrests and the possibility of additional trials.

Richard Maass, NCSJ chairman, said "This is not evidence of a changed position of the Soviet Union toward improved conditions for Soviet Jews." Maass said that Stoessel, who is expected to be named shortly as the new U.S. Ambassador to Moscow, expressed his own concern and awareness of the situation and that both he and the State Department will give it attention.

Besides Maass, the NCSJ was also represented by Rabbi Israel Miller, Jerry Goodman and June Silver. The meeting came after House Speaker Carl Albert (D, Okla.) disclosed that he had received a letter from President Nixon warning that he would veto the trade bill if the J/MV measure is adopted by Congress with its provisions on emigration still intact. While calling on Congress to vote on the bill, Nixon said in his letter, its language calling for free emigration would have "a damaging effect" on Soviet-American detente and would "slow down" diplomatic progress toward inducing the Soviet Union to allow more Jewish emigration.

COPENHAGEN (JTA)--Leopold Trepper told the JTA here he hoped he and his family would be reunited in Israel in time for the Passover holidays.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES: ANTI-ISRAEL OVERTONES IN VENEZUELA'S ELECTION CAMPAIGN

By Edna Aizenberg, JTA Caracas Correspondent

CARACAS, Dec. 5 (JTA)--When Venezuela goes to the polls on Sunday to elect a new President, its choice might hold significant implications for the nation's 20,000 Jews. In a year which saw passions on the Middle East issue exacerbated as a result of the latest war and the importance of oil politics rise along with the level of hostilities, the current electoral campaign in this petroleum-rich land has not been totally free of anti-Israel and anti-Semitic overtones. None of these have come from the two major candidates--in a field of 14--one of whom, observers generally agree, will become the next chief executive of some 11 million Venezuelans.

Both Carlos Andres Perez of the Democratic Action Party (AD) and Lorenzo Fernandez of the ruling Christian Democrats (COPEI) have steered clear of pronouncements on the Yom Kippur War. The current head-of-state, President Rafael Caldera (of COPEI), probably expressed the feelings of most responsible leaders here when, in the wake of renewed fighting, he made a plea for good will between the country's Arab and Jewish communities and stated that Venezuela maintained "friendly relations" with all Middle East nations. The reserve and moderation which characterized Perez, Fernandez and Caldera have not been matched by others. Most vocal in his anti-Israel stand--aside from the Communist Party whose members and newspaper tow the standard Russian line--is Jorge Dager, a politician of Lebanese descent, who has gained prominence in this year's campaign because his small Popular Democratic Force Party (FDP) has formed an alliance with COPEI, throwing its support behind Lorenzo Fernandez.

A former president of the Chamber of Deputies, Dager in the past was not especially unfriendly to Jews or vociferous in his opposition to Israel. (One of the FDP's congressional candidates in the 1968 elections was a local Jewish businessman.) But after the Six-Day War and several visits to the Arab world, Dager's tone changed. His column in the prestigious Caracas daily "El Nacional," featured articles praising Nasser and Qaddafi, while not neglecting to fustigate the "imperialist, expansionist clique" ruling the Jewish State.

Dager's writing took on an even more anti-Israel turn after last October's war. Although he is careful to point out that he is not an anti-Semite and that he harbors no ill-will towards Venezuelan Jews, but is only opposed to the current Israeli regime, his possible influence in governmental circles in the event of a COPEI victory has, no doubt, injected an element of uncertainty about the future in the mind of many a local Jewish voter. COPEI's answer to these doubts has been that Dager will make no difference at all in Venezuela's foreign policy, which has usually followed the philosophy reflected by President Caldera in his aforementioned statement. In spite of its position as a founding member of the Arab-dominated Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Venezuela both under AD and COPEI governments has tried to steer a neutral course in the stormy seas of the Arab-Israeli situation. On the local scene, Venezuela--like the United States--prides itself on being a multi-ethnic, multi-racial society, where all--Jews and over 50,000 Arabs included--can live in freedom and harmony.

The Democratic Action Party, which was the midwife of modern Venezuelan democracy, coming to power in 1945 after over a century of dictatorship, holds a sentimental debt of gratitude on the part of Jews here because it was under its rule that President Romulo Gallegos gave recognition to the new State of Israel. In 1959, President Romulo Betancourt, also of AD, agreed to establish the Venezuelan Embassy in Jerusalem--not Tel Aviv--despite strong American pressures to the contrary. Under Betancourt's successor, another AD man, Raul Leoni, cordial relations continued, and the government vigorously and successfully put down a rare anti-Semitic outbreak, organized by a former Nazi.

When COPEI and Dr. Caldera assumed power in 1968, there were some who were wary of the party's Catholic roots, but no great changes in policy occurred. On the contrary, President Caldera has visited Israel, several of his ministers have been outspoken admirers of the State, and one even participated in a forum for Soviet Jewry before he assumed his post. Israeli technical assistance programs have been continued and expanded under COPEI, and in the 1968 elections the only Jew elected to the Venezuelan Congress was a Christian Democratic deputy. (There are no Jews running in the current elections, which are for the two houses of Congress as well as for the Presidency.) Local Jewish leaders point out that there is no "Jewish vote" and that each member of the community is free to vote for the candidate of his choice. Whatever results December 9th brings, Venezuela, as one of the few remaining Latin American democracies, and the world's third largest exporter of oil, is a country worth watching.

EGYPT DENIES VISA TO PANAMANIAN REPORTER

NEW YORK, Dec. 5 (JTA)--The Egyptian Embassy in Panama City rejected a request from the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Panama for the issuance of a visa to the well-known and respected journalist and TV personality, Mario Velasquez. Velasquez has been assigned to report on the participation of the Panamanian troops in the United Nations Peace Force in Egypt. In refusing the visa, the Egyptian Embassy charged that Mario Velasquez is an enemy of Egypt and a friend of Israel. The accusation was based on previous reports by Velasquez on his trips to Egypt and Israel.

The Egyptian action was severely criticized by Mario Augusto, a journalist writing in the Nov. 18 issued of "El Dominical," who branded the action an "offense to the chancellery" and an attack on freedom of the press. He described the Egyptian attitude as an expression of "an absolutist government, of totalitarian dictatorial systems which do not permit the free flow of information or free expression of thought." Augusto urged that the matter be considered by the Union of Panamanian Journalists and by the Chancellery, "which has not only supported the Egyptian position in the United Nations, but has also made important sacrifices in order to contribute to the search for a peaceful solution, of respect and of security in the Middle East."