



# daily news bulletin

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## ISRAEL STANDS PAT: NO DISENGAGEMENT TALKS WITH SYRIA UNTIL POW ISSUE IS RESOLVED

**JERUSALEM, Feb. 5 (JTA)**--The Israeli government is standing firm on its refusal to begin disengagement negotiations with Syria until the Syrians comply fully with Geneva Convention requirements regarding prisoners of war. The government reportedly rejected a proposal said to have been relayed from Damascus by the U.S. that the POW issue be settled in stages while disengagement talks were going on.

The Syrians were reportedly prepared to provide a list of Israeli POWs before negotiations started provided that Israel agreed to delay Red Cross visits to them until after the talks begin. U.S. Ambassador Kenneth Keating reportedly conveyed that suggestion to Premier Golda Meir yesterday whereupon Mrs. Meir immediately polled her Cabinet ministers by phone. But the unanimous answer was, no.

It was reported, meanwhile, that Defense Minister Moshe Dayan will visit the United States at the end of this month, presumably to discuss the Syrian disengagement problem with American officials. Officially, Dayan will make the trip on behalf of the Israel Bond Organization. But sources here noted that a similar visit by Dayan last month preceded U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's week of "shuttle diplomacy" in the Middle East that resulted in the Israeli-Egyptian disengagement agreement. Foreign Minister Abba Eban is due to visit the U.S. in March.

## OPERATION OMEGA, SEARCH AND RECOVERY OF ISRAELI DEAD, PROCEEDING SLOWLY Waldheim Reports Snafu Encountered

**UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 5 (JTA)**--Operation Omega, the search and recovery of the bodies of soldiers killed in the Yom Kippur War "has progressed slowly" because "delays were encountered, particularly at the local commander level," Secretary General Kurt Waldheim said in a report released here today on the operations of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) on the Suez Canal front.

"According to UNEF records, 27 bodies have been returned to the Egyptian authorities and 21 to the Israelis since Jan. 28," Waldheim's report said. He said the search and recovery operation was expected to be expedited as a result of a series of meetings between the parties in the presence of the International Committee of the Red Cross and UNEF representatives.

### Disengagement Proceeding Smoothly

Waldheim reported further that the disengagement of forces which began Jan. 25 "has progressed smoothly and, as indicated in the reports on the status of the cease-fire, no incidents of major significance have occurred." He noted that yesterday (Feb. 4) UNEF units began to move into an area further north of the Suez-Cairo road "where they have taken up positions and started patrolling in a buffer area approximately 35 kilometers long and three kilometers deep. On Feb. 4 at 1400 hours a further area south of the Little Bitter Lake was handed over

to UNEF by Israeli forces; the same area will be turned over by UNEF to the Egyptian forces on Feb. 5 at 0400 hours," the Secretary General reported.

He reported that "On the east bank of the Suez Canal, Egyptian and Israeli forces commenced their redeployment on Jan. 28" and on that day UNEF began to interpose troops in the southern-most sector of what will be the Sinai buffer zone. Waldheim noted that today the UNEF "with the assistance of the UNTSO military observers and in the presence of the respective Egyptian and Israeli liaison officers, will inspect and verify the Egyptian and Israeli redeployment in the southern-most sector of the areas of limited armament and forces."

The findings, as per previous agreement by the parties, will be made available to them but will not be made public, the Secretary General said. He reported that as of Feb. 3 UNEF strength consisted of 6404 officers and men representing contingents from 11 nations.

## ARABS, BLACK MUSLIMS PROTEST AGAINST ISRAELI BASKETBALL TEAM

**ROCHESTER, N.Y., Feb. 5 (JTA)**--Black Muslims here issued a protest against the Israeli basketball team playing against the University of Rochester team last night and demanded that the three Black players on the university's team not participate in the tournament. The game, nevertheless, took place, but one of the Black basketball players failed to show up for the game and the other two played only the first half of the game. The Israeli team was clobbered 102-60. The Israeli team, on tour throughout the country and under security wraps, has run into other incidents.

At Catholic University in Washington, D.C. the Arab Student League sent a letter of protest to the university president stating that "we are still at war with Israel." The letter also complained about the fact that the university was spending money which included publicity blurbs about the Israeli team. In Kansas City, Missouri, Arab students at Rockhurst University also issued a protest against the Israelis. In both universities the games were held on schedule and without incident. In their game Sunday night at Maplewood Gardens in Toronto there were no reported protests or incidents and the Israelis scored an 81-65 win against the local team.

## ISRAELI SOLDIER KILLED, TWO WOUNDED IN SYRIAN FRONT CLASH

Kyneitra Bombarded, Becomes Ghost Town

**TEL AVIV, Feb. 5 (JTA)**--An Israeli soldier was killed and two others were wounded in fierce exchanges of fire yesterday all along the Syrian front. The mounting intensity of the battles, conducted with long range artillery, recoilless cannon, tank guns and mortars, prompted Israeli authorities to impose restrictions on civilian traffic on the Golan Heights yesterday and sent local settlers into bomb shelters. The Syrians bombarded Kuneitra on the Golan Heights which was described today as a "ghost town."

The Israeli high command apparently decided to respond in full measure to the Syrian shelling. Israeli artillery batteries and tank guns opened

massive barrages against Syrian positions yesterday and reportedly scored direct hits. Israeli circles expressed the belief today that the upsurge of hostilities on the Syrian front was the deliberate intention of senior Syrian army officers who are opposed to disengagement talks with Israel. But other sources noted that a similar intensification of fighting occurred on the Egyptian front last month just prior to the successful conclusion of disengagement talks with Egypt.

The "heating up" of the Syrian line disappointed Israeli ski enthusiasts who were looking forward to an extended season on the slopes of Mt. Hermon where the snowfall has been heavier than usual. The ski lifts which were damaged by Syrian attacks during the Yom Kippur War have been repaired and were to have been reopened this week. But Defense Minister Moshe Dayan has ordered the ski facilities to remain closed until a safer situation prevails in the area.

#### Slow Pace For Third Army Thin-Out

Meanwhile, the disengagement process continued to work smoothly, if somewhat slower than expected, on the Egyptian front today. There have been no direct reports from the Israeli side of the line inasmuch as government policy prohibits Israeli and foreign journalists from visiting the area. Israeli forces reportedly pulled back to a new line on the west side of the Suez Canal yesterday, relinquishing the evacuated area to the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) which subsequently handed it back to the Egyptians.

The Egyptian Third Army Corps seems to be taking its time thinning out its forces east of the canal in accordance with the disengagement schedule. According to the time-table, the Third Army's strength should have been, by yesterday, half what it was before the disengagement accord went into effect. Although it has been reduced to some extent, it has not been halved, Israeli sources said.

#### SAM Missile Sites Still Intact

Reliable sources said today that Israel fully expects Egypt to dismantle the five SAM missile sites constructed on the east side of the Suez Canal. The existence of the sites, recently disclosed by Newsweek magazine, was known to Israel while the disengagement talks were in progress last month, the sources said. The Egyptians promised that the batteries, which have not been armed with missiles, would be dismantled once Israeli forces retired from the west bank of the Suez Canal.

According to the separation of forces agreement, ground-to-air missile batteries on both sides will be positioned so as to be capable of providing cover for their respective forces only. Israel interprets that proviso to mean that no missile sites will be erected east of the canal or less than 20 kilometers west of the waterway. Egypt constructed the sites before the disengagement talks began and there have been no signs that the Egyptians intend to violate their obligation to dismantle them, Israeli sources said.

#### SENATE VOTES 55-36 AGAINST CLOTURE TO LIMIT DEBATE ON GENOCIDE PACT

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (JTA)--The Senate voted today, 55 to 36 against cloture to limit debate on the International Treaty Against Genocide. A two-thirds vote of Senators present

and voting is needed for a vote for cloture which prevents filibusters against bills before the Senate. The motion for cloture fell short by six votes.

Sen. Frank Church (D, Idaho), chairman of the subcommittee on the treaty, filed a motion immediately for another cloture vote, which will probably be held tomorrow. In the vote, 37 Democrats and 18 Republicans voted for cloture and 22 Republicans and 14 Democrats voted against.

Hyman Bookbinder, Washington representative for the Ad-Hoc Committee for Ratification of the Genocide Treaty, said before the vote that it would be a "marvelous beginning" if the Senate voted for cloture on debate on the genocide treaty. The treaty, which was unanimously adopted in Paris by the United Nations General Assembly in Dec. 1948, has been endorsed by hundreds of American organizations.

#### 2 ISRAELI SOLDIERS FOUND SUFFOCATED

TEL AVIV, Feb. 5 (JTA)--Two Israeli soldiers were found dead in a Golan Heights outpost yesterday, apparent victims of suffocation from the fumes of a kerosene stove. A military spokesman said the soldiers apparently had gone to sleep with the stove on to protect them from the intensely cold weather but failed to provide adequate ventilation. The victims were identified only as members of an artillery unit.

Meanwhile, funeral services were held yesterday at the military cemetery here for Lt. Col. Shmuel Hetz, a Phantom jet pilot shot down over the Suez Canal July 18, 1970, whose remains were recovered by Israeli army chaplains only a few days ago at a deserted site near Ismailia. Col. Hetz was a victim of the war of attrition waged by Egypt until the cease-fire agreement of Aug. 1970. His navigator, Menahem Eini, bailed out of the plane safely but was taken prisoner and remained in Egyptian captivity until the POW exchange that followed the Yom Kippur War.

#### 'SPECIAL ATTENTION WAS DEVOTED TO THE MIDDLE EAST'

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (JTA)--A four-line reference to the Middle East was contained in a communique issued by the White House today on the visit of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko. It said "Special attention was devoted to the Middle East. Both sides attached particular importance to the special role of the Geneva conference, the need for a peaceful Middle East settlement and for progress toward that end within the framework of the Geneva peace conference."

Veteran newsmen said it was the first time in their memory that the White House had issued a communique in connection with the visit of any foreign minister. Gromyko, who came here Sunday at the invitation of the U.S. government after an official visit to Cuba, met with President Nixon for one hour yesterday. He had three meetings with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger--two at the State Department yesterday and one at the Soviet Embassy today.

The communique mentioned that other subjects discussed with Gromyko included strategic arms limitation, the European Security Conference and mutual force reductions in Europe. It was announced, however, that Kissinger would visit Moscow in the second half of March in connection with preparations for a visit by President Nixon to the Soviet capital later this year.

#### 'WHO IS A JEW' ISSUE SHELVED IN EFFORT TO FORM NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT

JERUSALEM, Feb. 5 (JTA)--Negotiations for the formation of a new Labor-led coalition gov-

ernment gained momentum today as the controversial "Who is a Jew" issue was shunted aside for the moment and the negotiators concentrated on matters more amenable to compromise. The coalition talks are principally between the Labor Alignment and its old partners, the Independent Liberal Party and National Religious Party. The Civil Rights List headed by Mrs. Shulamit Aloni dropped out of the coalition negotiations yesterday after it became apparent that Labor would not agree to its principal demands.

The List, which won three Knesset seats in its first election race Dec. 31, insisted that it would join a coalition government only if it were granted freedom to vote as conscience rather than coalition discipline dictated on matters such as state and religion that have a direct bearing on individuals' lives. The Labor Alignment, however, considered Mrs. Aloni's demands a breach of the status quo and refused.

Her removal from coalition talks has weakened the ILP position. As long as the ILP remains a possible coalition partner, its negotiations with the Civil Rights List for the creation of a common parliamentary bloc have been suspended. But the two factions continue to hold regular consultations and are cooperating on as many issues as possible before the Knesset. The ILP has promised to consult the Civil Rights List before it signs any coalition agreement.

Meanwhile, the Labor Alignment's negotiating committee is meeting regularly in the offices of its chairman, Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir. Sapir has deliberately put off discussion of the NRP's demand for a government commitment to amend the Law of Return in a manner that would recognize conversions performed only by Orthodox rabbis as valid in Israel.

Labor leaders, including Premier Golda Meir, have stated categorically that they would not surrender on that point. But the matter is under discussion unofficially between Knesset members Haim Zadok of the Labor Alignment and Yitzhak Rafael of the NRP. Rafael said yesterday that he was more optimistic than he was last week about the prospects for a new coalition government.

#### U.S. BUDGET ALLOCATIONS FOR ISRAEL

By Joseph Polakoff, JTA Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (JTA)--The U.S. budget for fiscal year 1975 shows that about 30 percent of the \$2.5 billion appropriated for Israel's defense requirements are to be spent by June 30 and approximately the same amount for the new fiscal year beginning July 1. The \$2.5 billion, Bureau of the Budget officials told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency yesterday, represents the \$2.2 billion in emergency security assistance voted by the Congress in Dec. in the aftermath of the Yom Kippur War and the \$300 million in additional credits for the purchase of military equipment appropriated last fall in the regular foreign assistance outlays.

Of that combined amount, the budget shows \$673,664,000 is obligated for expenditure in the current fiscal year ending June 30 and \$70,800,000 in fiscal 1975. In addition, \$17,336,000 of the \$2.2 billion is obligated to meet the U.S. share of costs of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) to patrol the buffer zones on Israel's borders. The Congress had directed that these costs be taken from the emergency fund. None of the \$300 million in credits has yet been obligated, the budget officials told JTA.

The President and the State Department, the

budget official said, probably will make their decisions during this month on how much of the \$2.2 billion will be given to Israel as a grant and what part, if any, as a loan. The Congress has authorized the President to give grants of up to \$1.5 billion of the emergency funds.

#### Aid During War Was About \$1 Billion

In addition, the State Department is due to provide the Congress with its new foreign aid requests soon that will show what amount it wishes budgeted for Israel, and others, in the fiscal year 1975. In the past two years Congress has voted \$300 million each year for military credits and \$500 million in 1971 after the missile crisis along the Suez.

"Grants of credits in excess of the \$1.5 billion" the budget report said, "may be used only if the President determines it to be important to our national interest that Israel receive such amounts and reports the determination, the justification for the determination, and the terms of that additional assistance to the Congress at least 20 days prior to the obligation of the funds."

Budget officials said the amounts of aid spectacularly airlifted and otherwise shipped to Israel during the Yom Kippur War and into last Dec. totaled about a billion dollars, including transportation costs. These were on a "cash basis" of 90 days or 120 days. "These bills will be coming due this month," they said. The President therefore will have to make determinations of policy towards them.

While the budget showed the \$50 million for economic supporting assistance this year to Israel and the \$36.5 million for aid to Soviet emigrants, mostly for their rehabilitation in Israel, no requests are listed in the new budget for these categories nor for additional military credits in the usual foreign aid budget.

#### SHARON, YARIV DUE IN U.S.

TEL AVIV, Feb. 5 (JTA)--Gen. Ariel (Arik) Sharon, the Likud leader, will visit the United States shortly under the auspices of the Zionist Organization of America, it was learned here today. The former commander of Israeli forces on the west bank of the Suez Canal who was elected to the Knesset Dec. 31, is expected to meet senior members of the Nixon Administration, members of Congress and leaders of the American Jewish community.

(It was announced in Los Angeles today that Gen. Aharon Yariv will be the guest of honor and principal speaker at a major gifts dinner of the 1974 United Jewish Welfare Fund/Israel Emergency Fund campaign in that city Feb. 11.) Yariv, former chief of intelligence of the Israeli army was the chief negotiator of the six-point ceasefire agreement between Israel and Egypt, signed Nov. 11 at Kilometer 101 on the Suez-Cairo road. He has since been elected to the Knesset on the Labor Alignment list and has retired from active military duty.

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JERUSALEM, Feb. 5 (JTA)--Transport Minister Shimon Peres has proposed that Israel extend its railway to the port of Eilat on the Red Sea in order to meet competition for freights when the Suez Canal is reopened. Peres said the Red Sea-Mediterranean rail link could be vital to Israel's economy once the Egyptian waterway is operative again. Otherwise, he warned, Eilat will lose much of its value as a trans-shipment port between Asia, Africa and Europe. The new link would involve extending the present line which terminates in Dimona in the northern Negev all the way south through Arava to Eilat.

## NEWS ABOUT SOVIET JEWRY: PLIGHT OF POCs AND EMIGRATION

### BREZHNEV SAYS JEWS FORBIDDEN TO LEAVE USSR ARE ENEMIES OF THE STATE

MONTREAL, Feb. 5 (JTA)--Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev told a group of Jewish demonstrators at the Gander, Newfoundland airport Saturday night that "as many Jews as want to go to Israel may go" and that "those who are forbidden to leave the Soviet Union are enemies of the State who want to give away State secrets." The Soviet Ambassador to Canada, V. Miroshnicenko, who was with Brezhnev, told the demonstrators, in the presence of reporters and tv cameramen, "You are all a pack of fools and all misinformed."

The encounter occurred when Brezhnev and his entourage landed at Gander enroute home to the Soviet Union after an official visit to Cuba. He was met at the airport by 10 Newfoundland Jews who carried signs reading "Let my people go." The group was led by Dr. Avram Richler and his wife, Marsha, who is chairman of the Hadassah-Wizo public affairs committee in Newfoundland.

The Canadian Minister of Transport, Don Jamieson intervened on behalf of the demonstrators and Brezhnev came to the barrier to address them. He told them that "There is no such question as hundreds of thousands of Jews wanting to leave the Soviet Union. There are only 3000 of them waiting for permission to leave," he said, adding, "But we are bothered with all the Russian Jews who want to come back from Israel."

The Jewish delegation also asked Brezhnev to intercede on behalf of Silva Zalmanson, sentenced to 10-years strict regime in the first Leningrad trial in 1970, now seriously ill. Brezhnev responded by calling her an enemy of the state who committed a criminal offense in trying to hijack an airliner and, therefore, intercession was impossible.

### JEWS PROTEST REPORTER'S DETENTION

NEW YORK, Feb. 5 (JTA)--Eleven Soviet Jews have issued a statement protesting the detention by the KGB of Gordon Joseloff, a United Press International correspondent in Moscow, after he met with the Jews to discuss the government refusal to give them exit visas, according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry.

The statement noted that the KGB confiscated "the notes which each of us had written about his own personal situation about the difficulties he had encountered on the difficult road of emigration to Israel. Each of us described his personal attitude toward the existing situation which compels us to come out and demonstrate against our forcible and illegal retention on the territory of the USSR."

The Jews said the Soviet Union is trying to cut off all their contacts by "trying to frighten us, accusing us of fictitious deeds connected with such activities as meeting with foreign correspondents, and has now gone so far as to make direct threats against a foreign correspondent. We want the American public to remember this when they are told that the Soviet government is ready for contact and dialogue with the West."

Joseloff was also summoned to the Foreign Ministry's press section and warned he had engaged in "instigatory and provocative actions" and the U.S. Embassy was told the reporter might be expelled. The statement was signed by Anatoly Schransky, Valery Krizak, Arkady Luria, Mark N. Shpitz, Boris Tsitonak, Lev Kogan,

Leonid Tsipin, Anatoly Novikov, Arkady Rutman, Zachar Tesker and Lev Gendin.

### SOVIET ALIYA FIGURES

LONDON, Feb. 5 (JTA)--Statistical tables of aliya from the Soviet Union have been compiled by Harold Miller, former chairman of the Zionist Federation and now deputy chairman, and an expert in statistics. In 1950, there were 290 olim from the Soviet Union. Between then and 1972, the tables are as follows:

1951--186	1962--184
1952--56	1963--304
1953--39	1964--530
1954--26	1965--887
1955--123	1966--2027
1956--460	1967--1380
1957--1314	1968--224
1958--720	1969--3011
1959--1353	1970--982
1960--1917	1971--12,687
1961--216	1972--32,000

The provisional figures for 1973 is 34,750.

### AID URGED FOR ZABELISHENSKY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5 (JTA)--Representative Elizabeth Holtzman (D.NY) has sent letters to Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin and President Nixon on behalf of Leonid Zabelishensky, a Jew on trial for "parasitism" in the Soviet Union. Rep. Holtzman stated that Zabelishensky had lost his job after applying for exit visas to Israel for himself, his wife and child, and that the charge of "parasitism" was made despite the fact that Zabelishensky's wife was working.

In her letter to Dobrynin, Rep. Holtzman said, in part: "I hope you will convey this concern to your government, and seek from it information about Mr. Zabelishensky's case and that of other Soviet Jews. Reports of improved treatment and eased restrictions would be extremely encouraging to those of us in the United States who hope for improved relations between our country and the USSR, but are determined that it shall not take place unless due regard is given to human dignity and liberty."

In her letter to the President, the Congresswoman said, in part: "In view of the overwhelming support for the Mills-Vanik Amendment shown by the House of Representatives (in Dec.), I am confident that you can make clear to the Soviet government how strongly the Congress and the American people feel about the freedom and dignity of people of all nations."

### BASIS LAID FOR INTER-FAITH TASK FORCE

BOSTON, Feb. 5 (JTA)--More than 20 religious leaders met recently at the Paulist Center to lay the groundwork for an inter-faith task force on behalf of Soviet Jewry. Leading the discussion on "Christian Views of Soviet Jewry" were Sister Ann Gillen, executive director of the National Inter-Religious Task Force on Soviet Jewry, and the Rev. Gerald Strober, consultant to the Inter-Religious Affairs Department of the American Jewish Committee.

The meeting, co-sponsored by the Paulist Fathers, the Catholic-Jewish Committee of the Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission and the Inter-Faith Committee of the Jewish Community Council of Metropolitan Boston, was one of a series of on-going inter-faith dialogues. Serving as chairman of the meeting was Rabbi Murray I. Rothman, chairman of the Inter-Faith Committee of the Jewish Community Council.