



# daily news bulletin

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## NIXON URGED TO GET APOLOGY OR RESIGNATION FROM SAXBE FOR HIS COMMENTS ON JEWISH INTELLECTUALS

NEW YORK, April 4 (JTA)--The Union of American Hebrew Congregations asked President Nixon today to get a public apology from Attorney General William Saxbe, or his resignation, for his comment that "Jewish intellectuals" during the McCarthy era were "very enamored of the Communist Party." Saxbe made that comment in Washington yesterday in announcing he had ordered a new study of the Justice Department's role in dealing with subversive activities.

The request to Nixon was made in a telegram from the president of the Reform organization, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, who declared "we are outraged by the incredible statement attributed to Attorney General Saxbe regarding Jewish intellectuals. Such reckless generalizations feed prejudice and division." Rabbi Schindler added "I urge you to use your influence to see that this insulting statement be repudiated. Mr. Saxbe should either publicly retract this gratuitous and harmful comment or he should be asked to resign his office."

(In Washington a White House spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he was not aware of Rabbi Schindler's telegram. At the Justice Department the JTA was told that "the whole thing is being given top priority by the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General and the public relations division, which is trying its darndest to put the whole thing into context." The spokesman added that a formal statement is expected to be issued soon. He noted that Saxbe's remark "just came out. It was not premeditated.")

Saxbe said he had ordered an investigation of the controversial Attorney General's list of subversive organizations and related internal security laws to determine whether such a list should be maintained and whether the present list was "realistic." He said such a review was necessary because a "new breed" of terrorist groups had replaced the McCarthy-era "Communist-based" organizations as potential threats to United States security. He said that the "world-wide trends are more towards terrorism," involving "a different type of person."

## Saxbe Denounced By ADL, JLC

Saxbe raised the matter of Jewish intellectuals in saying that "there was a great distrust of the intellectual" during the McCarthy era and that "one of the changes that's come about because of the Jewish intellectual, who in those days was very enamored of the Communist party," an apparent indication Saxbe felt the alleged Jewish intellectual support no longer existed.

Saxbe was denounced by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the Jewish Labor Committee for that comment. Benjamin R. Epstein, ADL director, said it was "incredible" that the Attorney General "should make such an unfounded blanket charge accusing 'the Jewish intellectual' as a group of having been enamored of the Communist Party. Epstein said Saxbe's comment "confirms the ADL's newest findings

about the insensitivity of otherwise responsible Americans to the harmful impact of false anti-Jewish stereotyping."

Jacob Sheinkman, president of the Jewish Labor Committee, said that "the fitness of a man to hold high public office who engages in such insidious stereotypes must be seriously questioned. Saxbe's aspersions on the loyalty of American Jews is incompatible with his responsibilities as head of the Department of Justice."

## ISRAEL TO GET LESS U.S. AID

WASHINGTON, April 4 (JTA)--The inflationary process in the United States apparently will result in \$155.8 million less for Israel than it had anticipated it would receive from the \$2.2 billion in emergency aid Congress approved last Dec. at the request of President Nixon. This emerged today after the Senate Armed Services Committee informed the Defense Department that \$115.8 million of the \$458.5 million in procurement authorization that the Pentagon was provided should be financed by the transfer of the \$115.8 million from the emergency aid earmarked for Israel.

The \$155.8 million, a committee source told the JTA, represents the difference in cost between what was originally spent to buy the material sent to Israel and the amount it will now cost for the Pentagon to replace them in its stock. The committee decided that this difference should be paid out of the emergency aid \$2.2 billion fund. Israel actually was never given the \$2.2 billion because the Congress directed that the U.S. share of the cost of maintaining the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East for one year should come out of that fund. This amounts to slightly less than \$18 million.

Informed U.S. and Israeli sources both have indicated to the JTA that Israel will receive as a gift a total of \$1.5 billion of the emergency fund and that this already has been virtually used up by the cost of the arms and their shipment to Israel. The remainder of the aid fund would be allowed as a credit to Israel. The formalities, however, on this division of the \$2.2 billion fund have not yet been determined.

## Agranat Report Continues To Stir Wrath ALLON HINTS HE WILL LEAVE CABINET IF DAYAN STAYS; LABOR OFFICIALS DEMAND MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY

By Tuvia Mendelson

JERUSALEM, April 4 (JTA)--The Agranat Committee report, which exonerated Premier Golda Meir and Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and found that Chief of Staff Gen. David Elazar "bears direct responsibility for what happened on the eve of the war both with regard to the assessment of the situation and the Israeli Defense Force preparedness," continued to come under withering fire from all segments of the population, including leading members of the Labor Party.

Deputy Premier Yigal Allon hinted today that he will resign from the Cabinet unless Dayan resigns. Industry and Commerce Minister Haim Barlev also called upon Dayan to resign. Labor Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the special Cabinet meeting two days ago where the Agranat Committee report was released that there was something

"basically wrong" with the report because it failed to deal with ministerial responsibility. There were indications that he, too, may demand Dayan's resignation.

Gen. Haim Herzog, a former director of military intelligence and now Israel's leading military commentator, also raised the question of political responsibility. He said on a radio broadcast yesterday that the Agranat report did not completely absolve the government for what happened before and during the early stages of the Yom Kippur War. Meir Talmi, Mapam's secretary general, charged at a meeting of Mapam last night that "there is no logical balance in heaping responsibility on the Chief of Staff and not on the Defense Minister.... Dayan was a partner to the decisions. The Chief of Staff may have made mistakes, but we must not forget he was the master of a military victory."

#### Special Knesset Meeting Scheduled

Meanwhile, the Knesset has scheduled a meeting next Thursday, in the middle of its Passover recess, to discuss the Agranat Committee report. The special session was asked for by the government which is expected to announce its conclusions with regard to the report at that time. There were indications today that the Knesset will look into the role of the political leadership in the period immediately preceding the war--the period which has so far been investigated by the Agranat Committee. The role and responsibility of the political leadership was skirted by the committee in its report. The Likud said it would demand a vote of no confidence in the government at the Knesset meeting. Barlev said he was confident that the Knesset and the Cabinet would deal with the issue of ministerial responsibility.

The report also evoked a demand for retroactive ministerial responsibility. Labor MK Mordechai Ben Porat said yesterday that if the principle of ministerial responsibility is adopted it may have to be applied to the entire Cabinet, not just the Minister of Defense. He also said that if ministerial responsibility is invoked, it would have to be retroactive. "Perhaps we should start with such cases as the Netevi Neft affair or the Autocars scandal," he said, referring to episodes within the last two years involving government figures. "Perhaps we should go all the way back to the early days of the State," Ben Porat said.

Dayan, though beleaguered from within and outside of his party, still retains the support of Labor's Rafi faction. The Rafi Knesset faction meeting last night, said there was no reason for the Defense Minister to quit and urged him to carry on in his post. But the Rafi loyalists appear to be going against the grain of the Labor rank-and-file and much of its leadership. Some observers warned that the various elements making up the Labor Alignment could become un-stuck in a battle over Dayan, leading to the destruction of the party.

#### Widespread Sympathy For Elazar

Whatever effect the Agranat report may have on Dayan's political future, it has sparked an outpouring of sympathy for Elazar who, in the eyes of many of his military colleagues and the public was made a scapegoat to take the heat off the politicians. His home was overloaded with flowers sent by friends and well-wishers today. His telephone has scarcely stopped ringing and he has received numerous messages expressing the view that he has been the victim of injustice

and even a miscarriage of justice. Elazar has retained his composure during the events of the past 24 hours. He thanks his supporters and assures them, "I shall overcome."

Meanwhile, Maj. Gen. Shmuel Gonen, who was temporarily suspended from duty at the recommendation of the Agranat Committee, announced that he will seek a Supreme Court injunction to overturn the committee's conclusions regarding his role in events leading up to the Yom Kippur War. Gonen commanded the Egyptian front when war broke out. His lawyer noted last night that under the Agranat committee's mandate any person likely to be affected by its conclusions had a right to appear before the committee but that Gonen was never invited.

#### ELAZAR ISSUES LAST ORDER OF THE DAY

TEL AVIV, April 4 (JTA)--Gen. David Elazar issued an order of the day today to Israel's troops, declaring he was "sorry that I have thus to part from you." He reviewed his two years of service as chief of staff, as well as his 20 years of military service, dating from the Palmach and saluted "the memory of our comrades who have fallen in all the wars we have fought together." He warned Israel's troops and officers that "you must remain on a constant alert while strengthening and building our forces of tomorrow."

It was learned today that Gen. Eliahu Zeira, who resigned as chief of the army's intelligence for the same reason, will apparently remain in the army. Defense Minister Moshe Dayan asked Zeira to remain in army service, assuring him that Maj. Gen. Yitzhak Hoffi, the acting chief of staff, would find him a post "appropriate to his rank and ability." The Agranat report did not ask Zeira to retire from the army, but only that he was not to handle intelligence work.

#### ISRAEL SEEKS BODIES SEARCH EXTENSION

TEL AVIV, April 4 (JTA)--Israel has asked the State Department to use its influence to persuade Egypt to abide by its original agreement to a one-week extension of the search for bodies of Israeli soldiers missing in the area of the former Barlev Line on the Suez Canal east bank, now in Egyptian control. Egyptian authorities on Tuesday suddenly cancelled that extension which Israel had requested when the deadline for the body search expired last Sunday. About 100 Israelis are still listed as missing.

The appeal to the State Department was reported to a delegation of relatives of the missing soldiers who met today with Defense Minister Moshe Dayan in his office. The relatives met last night with Premier Golda Meir who told them everything possible would be done to make possible a continuation of the body search. Dayan said he had raised the issue in his visit last weekend to Washington during his talks with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger. Dayan said he hoped the Egyptians would reinstate the extension.

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JERUSALEM (JTA)--The Knesset approved a bill Wednesday providing for a revolutionary change in the Israeli electoral system. Israelis would elect their representatives in two ways: the majority of Knesseters in regional elections, and the minority by proportional representation which is presently in use. Voting against the bill was Herut, National Religious Party, Independent Liberals, Aguda-Poalei Aguda, Rakah, Moked and Mapam.

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TEL AVIV (JTA)--An Israeli soldier was fatally wounded today on the 25th consecutive day of Syrian attacks.

## NEW PAGE IN FRANCO-ISRAELI RELATIONS WITH POMPIDOU'S DEATH - By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, April 4 (JTA)--The death of French President Georges Pompidou is certain to spell a change, some observers already say an improvement, in the tortuous path of Franco-Israeli relations. Whatever the outcome of the forthcoming Presidential elections, due to take place between April 22 and May 7, a new chapter will probably be opened in the history of Franco-Israeli ties.

Pompidou, who assumed the Presidency in 1969 at what was then thought to be the lowest ebb of Franco-Israeli relations, gave a further turn to the pro-Arab policy initiated by his predecessor, General Charles de Gaulle, on the eve of the Six-Day War. It was during Pompidou's 5-year tenure of office that the French arms embargo became officially total, that France concluded an agreement for a massive sale of French-made war planes to Libya, that Paris tried to organize Europe into a pro-Arab bloc and that France openly courted and wooed the oil-rich Arab states.

Elysee watchers developed a number of theories over the years to explain the new turn in France's policy in the Middle East. According to some, Pompidou realized that he lacked the personal prestige and charisma to try and play a mediator's role in the Middle East. It was pointless even trying and, pragmatically, he adopted an open pro-Arab stance. According to others, he firmly believed that de Gaulle's reading of the situation as a permanent invitation for a third world war was accurate.

He also believed de Gaulle was right in his judgement that peace can only come through mutual Arab-Israeli concessions--with Israel returning the territories occupied during the Six-Day War and the Arabs recognizing Israel and concluding a peace agreement.

Impact Of Gun Boats, U.S. Visit Incidents

People who knew Pompidou well say that two factors contributed to give a personal turn to his pro-Arab stand. First, the Cherbourg affair, when Israeli commandos on X-Mas eve 1969, seized and took off with five Israeli-owned but French-embargoed gun boats lying in Cherbourg harbor, Pompidou, according to Elysee confidants, felt at the time that he had personally been turned into the laughing stock of France and all Europe. Many Israelis later felt that the possession of the five gun boats, ordered by Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and negotiated by the Defense Ministry's representative in France, Admiral Mordehai Limon, had not been worth the political price Israel later had to pay.

The second incident to have personally marked Pompidou occurred in Feb. 1970 when Jewish demonstrators protesting the French sale of 110 Mirage planes to Libya, booed and even physically jostled the President and his wife during their trip to the United States. People close to Pompidou say that he never forgot the scene which occurred in the lobby of his Chicago hotel when he found himself surrounded by an aggressive Jewish crowd.

In recent years, while not changing the actual essence of his policy, Pompidou tried to improve the manner. On New Year's Day 1971 he walked up to the Israeli Ambassador in Paris, Asher Ben Natan, in full view of the diplomatic corps and warmly greeted him with a loud "Shalom." At a press conference in Jan. 1973, he officially announced that France was renouncing its demand for a resumption of the big

four-power role on the Mideast.

Shortly before his death, he approved an exchange of visits between the Israeli and French Foreign Ministers. The Israeli Minister, Abba Eban, was to have arrived in Paris on his first official visit to France since 1967, on May 15 and Michel Jobert was due to visit Israel next Sept., the first French Minister to have ever paid a visit to the Jewish State. The President's death leaves a political vacuum in France. The Gaullist majority is disunified and even split behind a number of possible contenders.

Two Outstanding Contenders For Presidency

Two, however, stand out: former Premier Jacques Chaban-Delmas and Finance Minister Valery Giscard d'Estaing. Both are known to favor a friendlier attitude towards Israel. The friendlier of the two, and the politically more independent, is Chaban-Delmas, Pompidou's first Prime Minister. A few days after Pompidou's election to the Presidency and Chaban's appointment as Prime Minister, the former Premier said in an interview with Radio Europe Number One (June 27, 1969) that France may lift its arms embargo on Israel. It later became known that he was overruled by Pompidou on this point as the President, following de Gaulle's precedent, defined all foreign affairs as his "personal domain."

Throughout his term as Premier and after he was evicted by Pompidou two years ago, Chaban kept close contacts with Israeli diplomats and Jewish leaders in France. He openly and repeatedly stressed that he believes in a marked improvement in Franco-Israeli relations. Giscard d'Estaing, who represents the Gaullist junior party in the government coalition, the Independent Republicans, has always expressed friendly sentiments toward Israel. His party's secretary general, Health Minister Michel Poniatowsky, has consistently been one of Israel's staunchest allies in the French political world.

The party in general and Giscard especially, are known, however, for their close ties with the French business lobby and the banking world. French banks and large corporations, Giscard's main backers, have invested huge sums in the Arab world and have been in the forefront of the Franco-Arab rapprochement. Nonetheless, observers here believe that even Giscard would be an improvement over the policy Pompidou pursued.

History Unlikely To Be Repeated

The Left, the Socialist-Communist Alliance, is expected to present a sole candidate at least at the second round of the elections. He is practically certain to be Socialist Party First Secretary Francois Mitterrand. Though Mitterrand has openly expressed in the past pro-Israeli sentiments similar to those of other West European Socialist leaders such as Willy Brandt and Harold Wilson, few here can decide what his actual policy will be if elected. None can judge the weight the Communist Party will carry in a Socialist-Communist administration nor what will be the points on which the Communists will want to make their weight felt.

Among the other possible contenders who could appear at the first electoral round are such men as Reform Party leaders Jean Le Canuet and Jean Jacques Servan-Schreiber, interim President Alain Poher, and National Assembly President Edgar Faure. With the possible exception of Faure, none of them, according to political observers and recent public opinion polls, seem to stand even the slightest chance of running in the second round. All

