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 subservive 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 resign his position.

In Washington a White House spokesmantold 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 darnedest to put the whole thing into context."

The spokesmen added that a formal statement is expected to be issued soon. He noted that Saxbe’s remark "just came out. It was not pre-mediated."

Saxbe said he had ordered an investigation of the controversial Attorney General’s list of subservive 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 is beginning to be reported," owing to 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 Beit 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 intellectuals" 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-Semitic 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 $458.6 million in procurement authorization that the Pentagon was to receive 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 men 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 Yitzhak 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
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 far been unable to support 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 the army service, assuring him that Maj. Gen. Yitzhak Rofe, 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 BODY SEARCH EXTENSION

TEL AVIV, April 4 (JTA)—Israel has asked the State Department to use its influence to persuade Egypt to extend by another week the deadline for 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.

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 Knesset members in regional elections, and the minority by proportional representation which is presently by law. Voting is to be held in six elections: Herut, National Religious Party, Independent Liberals, Aguda—Poael Aguda, Rakah, Moked and Mapam.

TEL AVIV (JTA)—An Israeli soldier was fatally wounded today on the 25th consecutive day of Syrian attacks.
NEW PAGE IN FRANCO-ISRAEL 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 irreversible change, in the peace process 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 after that nation, was 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. Accoring 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 Oct. 26 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 Linon, 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, booted 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 angry 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 Nathan, in full view of the diplomat 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 Middle East.

Shortly before his death, he approved an exchange of visits between the Israeli and French Foreign Ministers. The Israeli Minister, Abba Eban, was in Paris and his French counterpart, a "great friend," had arrived in Israel. Since 1969, May 15 and Michel Jobert was due to visit Israel a few days before Pompidou's death leaves a political vacuum in France. The Gaullist majority is disunited and even split behind a number of possible contenders.

Two Outstanding Contenders For Presidency

Two, however, stood out: former Premier Jacques Chaban-Delmas and Finance Minister Valery Giscard d'Estaing. Both are known to favor a friendlier attitude towards Israel. The friendship 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 under 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 towards Israel. His party's secretary general, Health Minister Michel Poniatowski, 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 French-American 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 or what will be the points on which the Communists will insist 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 all observers and most public opinion polls, seem to stand even the slightest chance of winning in the second round. All
of them, however, are openly pro-Israeli and may thus make their weight and influence felt during the lengthy and intricate inter-party negotiations which precede the May elections.

With what is expected to be a close neck-and-neck race between the Gaullist majority and the Left, every vote will count, and none of the two major contenders will be able to neglect the relative importance of the pro-Israeli electors which exist in all parties, including the Communist Party. But till the last moment, a dark horse, Pierre Messmer (Premier), a Jacques Chirac (Interior Minister) or a Jobert, all staunch Gaulists, could appear on the electoral scene. Even with them, however, a page seems to have been turned with Pompidou's death--a page not likely to repeat itself in the foreseeable future.

MILLER DEMANDS U.S. ACT ON SYRIAN AGGRESSION, FOREIGN TROOPS

NEW YORK, April 4 (JTA)--Syrian aggression on the Golan Heights demands "prompt and public condemnation" by the United States, Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, declared today. In a statement, Rabbi Miller said "the continuing daily assaults against Israeli defenses on the Golan Heights threatened to escalate into a full-scale fighting and destroy the foundations of peace so carefully prepared by Secretary of State Henry Kissinger."

"The current Soviet aggression and the ominous Syrian military buildup of troops and advanced Soviet weapons," Rabbi Miller said, "requires the United States to issue a stern warning that military action on the very eve of scheduled talks in Washington on disengagement is unacceptable and will not be tolerated." He added: "At the same time, the rising tempo of Syrian attacks underscores Israel's need for massive U.S. military aid to deter a renewal of all-out war. The presence in Syria of North Korean pilots and Cuban troops in brigades strength-as revealed by Defense Minister Moshe Dayan—is still another provocation, adding to the alarming deterioration of the Middle East cease-fire and to the need for prompt and public condemnation by the U.S., supplemented by military hardware for Israel's defense needs."

JDC SEDER FOR SOVIET JEWS IN ROME

NEW YORK, April 4 (JTA)—Passover this year will have special meaning as a festival of freedom and liberation for nearly 600 Russian Jewish emigrants to the United States and other Western countries, it was reported by Edward Ginsberg, chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee. About 350 are expected to attend a seder which the JDC has arranged for them at the Rome Jewish Community Children's Home, Ginsberg said. There are 585 Soviet Jews among the 638 transmigrants in Rome for whom JDC is providing food, shelter and medical care while they wait for their travel arrangements to be completed. JDC will also extend an invitation to some 40 last-minute arrivals from the USSR to join them before the weekend.

In addition to the families sending their sons and daughters to the seder at the Children's Home, Ginsberg reported that 30 young Soviet Jews have been invited to the seder which will be held for young Italian Jews at the community's Kadimah Youth Center in Rome. This is part of a new youth activities program the JDC is currently developing for the 18-25 age group among the Soviet transmigrants. The JDC Rome office has also provided matzo and wine for all the transmigrants now in its care to use during Passover week, he added.

The seder at the Children's Home will be conducted in Russian by Vladimir Halperin of ORT-Geneva, to enable the Russians to follow the Hagaddah and to take an active part in the ceremony, even though, for many, it will be their first seder, Ginsberg said. Two seats will be kept empty, one for the Jews still struggling for their freedom in the USSR and one for the 62 Israelis still in prison in Syria. In Vienna, JDC has also arranged for last-minute arrivals from the Soviet Union to attend the community seder at the Vienna Synagogue. No one knows how many will come--but all will be warmly welcomed, Ginsberg said.

RABBLO YOSEF WILL BE IN NY APRIL 22

NEW YORK, April 4 (JTA)—Rabbi Yosef Yosef, Chief Rabbi of Israel and world spiritual leader of Sephardi Jewry, will be the guest of honor at a major dinner April 22 sponsored by the American Sephardic Federation and the Sephardi Leadership Council of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York at the Americana Hotel.

The beneficiaries of the dinner, which is expected to attract 1000 American Jewish leaders, will be the Israel Emergency Fund and the Coordinated Campaigns of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York and the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York. This visit to New York will mark the first time Rabbi Yosef has left the Holy Land since he was brought there as a child of three from Iraq 50 years ago. During the Chief Rabbi's stay he will be the guest of honor at a reception at City Hall where he will receive the keys to the city from Mayor Abraham Beame. Other engagements that have been scheduled are: A Rabbinical Conference to be followed by an Israel Independence Day celebration at the Spanish Portuguese Synagogue, both sponsored by the American Sephardic Federation; and an address to the students of Yeshiva University. He will also participate as Chief Rabbi in the me'nora services to Israel's war dead which will be held in the offices of Israel's Consulate General.

OPINION POLL FINDINGS REJECTED

JERUSALEM, April 4 (JTA)—A recent public opinion poll indicating that many Israelis were contemplating emigration was discounted by Uzi Narkis, director of the Jewish Agency's immigration and absorption department in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. He said the poll's findings were "contrary to reality."

The poll, conducted for the newspaper Haaretz which published the results last week showed that one of every 10 Israeli adults was seriously considering leaving the country permanently. In the age group 18-29, this applied to one in every five Israelis, the poll said. The results, indicating nearly 11.6 percent of the population was at least weighing the pros and cons of emigration, were discussed at the Cabinet meeting early this week.

Narkis told the JTA that it was his impression that the talk about people leaving the country was "merely talk." But he warned that such talk was dangerous and disturbing to Jews in the diaspora, especially those considering aliyah.

Interior Minister Yosef Burg also discounted the poll's findings. He said that while applications for passports rose between last Oct., when the Yom Kippur War broke out and Feb., 1974, the increase was at a steady pace and not sharp enough to support the view that more than 10% of the population was thinking of leaving.

Reminder: No Bulletin dated April 8