



# daily news bulletin

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## RABIN: U.S., ISRAEL AGREE ON MANY ISSUES, BUT NOT ALL

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Sept. 15 (JTA)—Premier Yitzhak Rabin returned from the United States this afternoon and said that while the U.S. and Israel agree on many issues there are some problems on which they do not see eye to eye. But Rabin stressed that he is convinced Israel can continue fostering its friendship with the U.S., without undermining Israel's freedom of action in such essential spheres as security, the economy and the search for peace.

(See separate stories on Rabin's U.S. visit.)

"I was glad to exchange views with President Gerald Ford," the Premier said upon arriving at Ben Gurion Airport. "We had three working talks and one meeting over dinner which was an excellent opportunity to have a free talk without people monitoring every word that is said." He said he was satisfied that so soon after Ford assumed the Presidency he had an opportunity to exchange views with him. He said his visit was pleasant and fruitful and that for the immediate future the U.S. and Israel have a common basis upon which to solve the various problems.

### Situation Should Be Clear Soon

Rabin said that in his talks with Ford, Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger and Secretary of Treasury William Simon, practical conclusions were reached for strengthening Israel and there were assurances as to long-range military assistance. (Political sources noted that Rabin seemed satisfied with the immediate military aid Israel is to receive but did not express the same satisfaction on long-term aid.)

Asked about the time-table for the next move in the Middle East negotiations, Rabin said he did not want to go into detail but noted that the United States has to discuss the next step with the other parties involved and he was sure the situation would be clear in several weeks.

On the Palestinian issue, Rabin said he found understanding in the U.S. for the Israeli position that there is no room for a third state between Israel and Jordan, and that Israel rules out negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organization. However, Rabin said he was convinced the Palestinian issue would be taken up at the United Nations and that the U.S. will not be able to prevent either discussions on it or the adoption of resolutions that will be backed by the Arabs, the Communist countries, the Afro-Asian bloc and some European countries.

## NRP ACCEPTS WHO IS A JEW PROPOSAL AND VOTES TO JOIN COALITION GOVT.; ILP REJECTS COMPROMISE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Sept. 15 (JTA)—The central committee of the National Religious Party decided by majority vote but against strong opposition this evening to accept a compromise on the Who is a Jew issue and join Premier Yitzhak Rabin's coalition government. The committee approved the proposed formula by a 65 percent margin after veteran party leaders Yosef Burg

and Yitzhak Rafael expressed concern over recent secularist trends in the government and argued that the NRP could better achieve its aims inside the Cabinet than out.

The NRP's militant Young Guard and the centrist faction led by former Religious Affairs Minister Zerach Warhaftig remained adamant against the compromise. Their motion to defer a decision for further consultation was defeated.

But the Independent Liberal Party posed a new quandary for Premier Rabin on his return from the U.S. tonight by voting, at a meeting in Tel Aviv over the weekend, to reject the compromise. The ILP rejected it by a two-thirds majority raising the possibility of their withdrawal from Rabin's narrow coalition government. The strongly secular Citizens Rights Party of Shulamit Aloni has also served notice that it would withdraw from the government if the NRP joined. Should both of his coalition partners defect, Rabin would be faced with the loss of seven Knesset votes in exchange for 10 of the NRP, a net gain of only three.

The compromise formula calls for the suspension for one year of the registration of immigrant converts during which period a ministerial committee will try to draft an acceptable legislative solution to the Who is a Jew question.

## RABIN TELLS UJA, CJF LEADERS THAT ISRAEL CAN RELY ON U.S. FOR ARMS

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Sept. 15 (JTA)—Premier Yitzhak Rabin said last night that he was returning home to Israel with the feeling "that we can continue to rely on this country to support us in terms of supplying arms to Israel...to make Israel strong in case of war." Rabin, ending a four-day visit to Washington addressed 750 American Jewish leaders at a dinner sponsored jointly by the United Jewish Appeal and the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds (CJF) at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Also this weekend, the Premier, speaking "off the record" to leaders of the Israel Bond Organization of the United States and Canada here, stressed that immediate military and economic aid from the U.S. was indispensable to Israel's security and to the success of effective negotiations for a peace settlement in the Middle East.

Rabin told the UJA-CJF leaders that the quarrel in the Middle East was not "about that piece of territory or this piece of territory" but over the Arabs' refusal to reconcile themselves to an independent Jewish State. "As long as they do not cross the line of reconciliation with Israel as a Jewish, independent state, I doubt if the road towards peace will be cleared," Rabin said.

He said Israel was concerned with the substance of peace more than with how it is achieved. "We don't stress direct negotiations; we stress the content, the meaning of peace," Rabin said. He said that his country will continue to pursue a policy of seeking every avenue that could lead to peace.

### Needs Partnership Of Jewish People

In this respect, he emphasized that Israel needs the partnership of the Jewish people, "particularly the unity of the Jewish communities of the United States and Canada," he said. He added, "We have learned that if we can trust anybody in this world it

is the Jewish people."

Rabin said that Israel has proven that it is capable of defending itself. It has never asked for foreign soldiers to fight for it. All Israel needs is the means to defend itself, Rabin said. He said he left Washington with the feeling that the American government realizes that a militarily and economically strong Israel is the best guarantee for achieving peace in the Middle East.

But Rabin said, Israel has to do its best to bear the heavy burden of its defense expenditures while building "an economic and social structure that will allow us to be more independent, more a Jewish State." He said the challenges of the coming year may be "much more difficult than we have experienced in the last years." He emphasized that only Jewish unity "can really overcome it." He said Israel was hoping that the gates will be opened to Russian and Syrian Jews and "Israel is ready to accept them."

#### Increased Resources Are Imperative

Rabin emphasized to the Bond leaders that Israel needs increased resources to enable it to solve its economic crisis which has overburdened its citizens with record high taxes, compulsory defense loans and other measures to fight an extraordinary rate of inflation. He said Israel's economy must be expanded to provide jobs for the hoped for influx of immigrants from the Soviet Union.

"This will be a critical year in the life of the Jewish people," he said. "It will be a year in which the unity of the Jewish people will be more essential than in the past because Israel will have to cope with more difficult problems in the economic field, an increased volume of immigration and serious problems of defense." In that connection, Rabin continued, "the ways to show unity are many. One of the most important is through Israel Bonds. What is the meaning of bonds? It is the strengthening of unity through deeds," the Premier said.

#### Concessions When The Time Comes

Premier and Mrs. Rabin met with some 170 Jewish leaders and guests Friday at a reception at the New York apartment of Yosef Tekoah, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations. Appearing relaxed and smiling, Rabin expressed satisfaction with the results of his talks in Washington. He said he had found an "open ear" for Israel's economic and military requests. Replying to questions, he said that when the time comes, Israel will make territorial concessions, but only in exchange for political concessions from the Arabs. Among those present at the reception were Ambassador Simcha Dinitz and Mrs. Dinitz; Michael Arnon, chief executive officer of the Israel Bond Organization; and members of the Israeli press corps in New York and Washington.

#### FORD, RABIN PART AS FRIENDS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15 (JTA)—President Ford and Premier Yitzhak Rabin parted Friday after four days of friendly and detailed discussions with reassurances to Israel by Ford of continued American supplies of arms for an unspecified term but without agreement on either long-term deliveries of weapons or on the next step in the U.S. initiated drive for a Middle East settlement.

In a White House statement Friday after their third meeting, Ford made known that he had "re-

affirmed" continuing U.S. support of the "ongoing supply relationship" in weapons and that the two leaders had "made progress in moving toward an understanding of how these negotiations might proceed." Shortly after that statement, Rabin in a news conference at Blair House declared that he and the President had reached "understanding for the need to search for peace and the ongoing military relationship with concrete results."

The Premier stressed that the search for peace and the strengthening of Israel are "parallel" matters with no "linkage" between them. Asked to confirm that his phrase "concrete results" meant that Israel was "satisfied," Rabin replied, "the words I used speak for themselves." Questioned whether he had received specific responses to the reported Israeli wish for \$7.5 billion in arms aid prorated over five years, Rabin replied that he had not asked for "the sum you mention" but that he had requested the United States "to continue its policy of deliveries and continue the balance of power to enable Israel to negotiate from strength—both for immediate and long-term."

Rabin remarked "Israel has asked the United States to allow us to get the arms to allow Israel to defend itself by itself." Later, Israeli sources explained that the long-term supply arrangement contained such imponderables as political and economic circumstances in the ensuing "ten years" and these could not be pinned down specifically.

#### Not Useful To Go Into Details

Regarding negotiations for a settlement, the White House noted that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger will continue his discussions with Arab leaders who will be in New York next week for the United Nations General Assembly which Ford and Kissinger will address this week.

When asked if he had indicated to the U.S. that he preferred to negotiate next with Egypt, Rabin replied that it "would not be useful at this stage to go into detail on what can be done or not be done." Pressed on whether he preferred negotiations next with Egypt or Jordan, Rabin again sidestepped a specific reply saying, "this matter would better be left for further exploration and we will decide about it later on."

He was then asked whether he would support simultaneous negotiations with Jordan and Egypt. The Premier replied that he did not believe it is "advisable" to pursue anything but bilateral negotiations because attempts at multilateral negotiations have always failed in the Middle East. In his talks with Kissinger, Rabin said, Soviet and Syrian Jewry were discussed but he would not detail the talks. He noted that it was "a moral responsibility" for a Jewish State to help Jewish communities especially when their people are discriminated against as Jews.

Despite the lack of announced agreements, Ford and Rabin appeared confident of each other's friendship and of continuing excellent U.S.-Israeli relations. Ford, the White House said, "reaffirmed the long standing American friendship for Israel and also reaffirmed the continuing U.S. support for the security and well being of that country." He also welcomed the increasing U.S.-Israeli commercial contacts.

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JERUSALEM (JTA)—Foreign Minister Yigal Allon will head Israel's delegation to the United Nations General Assembly, according to a Cabinet communique issued Sunday. He is expected to spearhead a campaign to block UN recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization at the Assembly session which opens Tuesday. (See separate Behind the Headlines story P. 3.)

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES**  
**MIDEAST WILL BE MAJOR TOPIC AT**  
**UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION**  
 By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 15 (JTA)—The Middle East will be a focal point in discussions at the 29th session of the General Assembly which convenes Tuesday for three months of debate. The debate on this issue is expected to be especially acrimonious with the demand by all the 20 Arab delegations and 23 other delegations, including African and Communist countries but not the Soviet Union or the People's Republic of China or Western countries, that the question of Palestine be considered as a separate item on the Assembly's agenda. In previous Assembly sessions, the Palestinian issue was either part of the Mideast discussion or came under the heading of "refugees."

Even before this proposal was submitted this weekend to Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, Israel declared that placing the question of Palestine on the agenda would be a setback to the cause of peace and stability in the Middle East. In addition, other topics on the Assembly agenda, including terrorism, human rights, nuclear power and the future of UN peace-keeping forces in the Mideast, will impinge on and exacerbate debates on the Mideast situation.

**Crucial Crossroad Of History**

The Assembly begins its session at a crucial crossroad of history: Israeli and Arab leaders have just concluded a series of discussions with U.S. Administration leaders on the next stage in progress toward a Mideast peace, and the upcoming Geneva talks are looming precariously on the horizon. At the same time, war talk from Cairo is becoming more strident and the Syrians are receiving massive supplies of military hardware from the Soviet Union.

The session this year will also provide, in broad outlines, the policy of the U.S. in the Mideast. The American attitude towards Israel, the Arabs and the Palestinians may very well be disclosed Tuesday when Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger addresses the Assembly and when President Ford will deliver a major foreign policy address to the session Wednesday. The role of the USSR and China will also be crucial in view of ongoing relations with the Arab and African states and the Palestinian terrorist movements.

At the opening session tomorrow the delegates will officially close last year's session and elect Algeria's Foreign Minister Abdelaziz Bouteflika, leader of the powerful non-aligned bloc, as president of the Assembly. Last year's session must be officially closed because the Assembly ended its 1973 meeting without adjourning technically staying in session so that it could meet immediately in case of a new Mideast crisis.

**The Role of the Palestinians**

Recent reports from Arab capitals, and underscored by the request submitted this weekend, indicate that the Palestinians will wage an all-out drive through various Arab, African, Communist and non-aligned delegations to obtain observer status for the Palestine Liberation Organization as the representative of the Palestinian people. Contacts between Arab diplomats, UN and U.S. officials have been underway for some time.

Recently the State Department indicated that it has been conducting "low level" talks with Palestinian leaders, and Yasir Arafat, head of

the PLO, has said that he wants to meet with Kissinger and hinted that he might even come to the Assembly. The Arabs are also determined to press for an Assembly resolution that would recognize the "national rights" of the Palestinians, a euphemism for the creation of a Palestinian State.

It appears inevitable here that the Arabs--with their built-in majority of votes--will gain observer status for the PLO. It has already been granted such status in several UN bodies this year--including ECOSOC and the Law of the Sea Conference in Caracas. Israel can do very little to prevent this development, but is expected to express its objection, as it has in the past, and protest the admission of terrorists in the guise of a "liberation movement."

Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah observed a few weeks ago, when returning to Israel for consultations, that "the General Assembly will be a test for the Arabs, and will show if they mean peace or war." Referring to the Arabs' intention to establish the PLO at the UN, Tekoah said that in itself is not an act that shows a desire for peace.

Tekoah maintained that the real test of Arab intentions will come when the question of the peace-keeping forces in the Mideast (UNEF in the Sinai and UNDOF on the Golan Heights) is raised in the Security Council. UNEF's mandate expires Oct. 24 and UNDOF's Nov. 30. If the mandate is prolonged, the question of funds appropriations will be taken by the Assembly. According to Tekoah, the presence of UN forces in the disengagement zones is an integral part of the disengagement accords as a whole. Once the Arabs try to remove the UN forces, Tekoah said, they annul the accords in their totality.

**U.S. Mideast Policy**

The growing friendship between the United States and the Arabs, and the gradual shift by the U.S. government toward "even-handedness" in the Mideast, will be watched closely. It will be "tested" during the Assembly when the Palestinian question comes up. The United States previously voted consistently with Israel whenever the Palestinian issue emerged. Israel, on its part, is watching the situation carefully in view of the reports that the PLO is seeking U.S. backing for its endorsement by the Assembly.

**Related Mideast Items On The Agenda**

A number of items related to the Mideast is scheduled to be taken up by the Assembly. An Iranian resolution, expected to draw attention to the introduction of nuclear weapons in the Mideast, will reportedly call for the "de-nuclearization" of the Mideast. Egypt is said to be a co-sponsor of this resolution, which would also call for a convention to free the Mideast from nuclear weapons while a nuclear force for peaceful purposes will be permitted.

The controversial issue of international terrorism ended last year in a dead heat due to the pressure by the Arabs and their allies. The Arabs, contending that the atrocities committed by terrorists should be viewed as a "struggle for national liberation," succeeded in obtaining Third World support for postponing a resolution on terrorism on the pretext that it would restrict liberation movements aimed against colonialism.

As in previous years, Israel is expected to be a target of vilification and accusations by the USSR, the Arabs and Third World countries when the issue of Israel's occupation of territories is discussed. Last year Israel was condemned by the Assembly on that issue. The Arabs are also ex-

pected to condemn Israel again of violating the human rights of the Arabs in the administered territories. Israel has consistently repudiated this charge.

Israel is expected to raise the issue of the Syrian and Soviet Jewry. Though not directly a "Mideast issue," the plight of Syrian Jewry is a focal point in the conflict. The plight of Soviet Jewry, raised numerous times at various UN bodies by Israel, has been dismissed by the USSR as an attempt by Israel to divert attention away from her own "mistreatment" of her Arab citizens.

#### Arabs Will Dominate The Scene

Whatever the outcome of the Assembly, one thing seems certain: The Arabs will dominate the scene with their political power and their economic clout in terms of oil and petroleum. One observer predicted here recently that the Arabs will probably achieve their goals in the Assembly. But the basic question is whether the Assembly will contribute to maintaining the momentum toward a peaceful and stable solution of the Mideast crisis. Will it affect even a small positive step toward the Geneva conference? The urgency of these questions is magnified by what happened last year. When the Assembly was ready to take up the Mideast issue the Yom Kippur War erupted.

#### Rabin To Presidents Conference; ISRAEL'S FUTURE LOOKS GOOD, BUT HAS LONG, HARD ROAD AHEAD By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15 (JTA)--Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said Thursday night that he came away from a meeting with Premier Yitzhak Rabin "encouraged" by Israel's future prospects although "it has a long hard road ahead."

Rabbi Miller and 35 other Jewish leaders met late Thursday with Rabin at Blair House where he and Mrs. Rabin were guests of President Ford during their four-day Washington visit. Each of the 33-member groups of the Conference was represented. Others present were Max Fisher, chairman of the board of governors of the Jewish Agency; Stanley Lowell, chairman of the National Conference for Soviet Jewry and Paul Zuckerman general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal.

Rabbi Miller said that in his 40-minute address to the Jewish leaders, Rabin outlined five challenges facing Israel: political, military, economic, social problems within Israel, and the relationship between Israel and the diaspora. Israel is facing up to the challenges, Rabbi Miller reported Rabin as saying, and noted that the Premier was much encouraged by the parallelism of views between the American and Israeli governments.

Rabin also pointed out that the Palestinian question on the West Bank comes within the context of Jordan's responsibility and that Israel is unalterably opposed to any entity which would intrude itself into the affairs of the nation states in the Middle East.

On Israel's economic problems, Rabin emphasized that one-third of Israel's gross national product is used for military requirements. Sixty percent of Israel's GNP is taxed away by the government, compared with the taxation of about 30 percent of the GNP in the United States, Rabbi Miller reported Rabin as saying. Most of those at the Blair House meeting attended the dinner or the reception at the White House Thursday night that the President and Mrs. Ford gave the Rabins.

#### ISRAEL OUSTED FROM ASIAN FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

TEL AVIV, Sept. 15, (JTA)--A resolution which has the effect of permanently barring Israel from competition in the Asian Football (soccer) Association was adopted in Teheran Friday through the machinations of the Arab and Communist countries. The vote was 17-13, with six abstentions, less than the two-thirds majority which the Association's rules require for the ouster of a member. Formosa was also barred, and the Cambodian delegate, furious over the decision, predicted that his nation would be next. Israel today condemned the Asian football federation for deciding to oust it from its ranks.

The Arab-Communist bloc, which only an hour before the vote was strengthened by the admittance of the People's Republic of China and North Korea, managed to circumvent the rules. A resolution introduced by Kuwait did not call for the ouster of Israel. But it stated that Israel can never serve as host to Asian Football Association tournaments and will never be invited to any.

Menachem Heller, chairman of Israel's Football Association and one of the founders of the Asian Association, said he would appeal the decision to the International Football Association on grounds that the Asian Association exceeded its power. "It is a sad day for sports. I came here in the name of sport, not as a political person," Heller said.

The resolution was adopted just 24 hours before the final event of the Asian Games in Teheran--a championship match between Israel and Iran. The Israelis will try to take the football Gold Medal home with them, although they face a powerful Iranian team supported by 100,000 cheering Iranian spectators. Israel will play in the basketball finals today against South Korea which beat the Chinese team yesterday. The Israeli squad reached the finals by defeating the Philippines 123-101.

#### BRITAIN MUM ON WHETHER IT IS SELLING CENTURIANS TO ISRAEL

LONDON, Sept. 15 (JTA)--The British government refused today to confirm or deny a press report that Britain is selling Israel hundreds of Centurian tanks to replace losses in the Yom Kippur War. A Whitehall spokesman said it was not government policy to discuss arms deals. According to the press report some 400 Centurians which were used by the British army are now being shipped to Tel Aviv where they are being re-equipped and re-fitted in Israeli factories. Israel lost about 600 of her 1700 tanks during the war and has been concerned by the build-up of military hardware in Syria and Egypt. The sale is believed to be worth some 30 million Pounds Sterling.

#### HAROLD LIGHT DEAD AT 58

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 15 (JTA)--Private funeral services were held here Friday for Harold Light, former president of the Union of Councils of Soviet Jewry, who died in Washington Wednesday while attending a conference of the Union of Councils. He was 58. Born in Philadelphia, he came to San Francisco in 1941. In 1967 he sold his business to devote his full time to the cause of Soviet Jewry. He was a founder and chairman of the Bay area Council on Soviet Jewry.

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TEL AVIV (JTA)--Israeli air force planes attacked terrorist targets in southern Lebanon this afternoon. An army communique said the attack continued intermittently for 10 minutes. All Israeli planes returned safely to their bases. This was seen as a warning to the terrorists not to attack on the High Holy Days.