



# daily news bulletin

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## TERRORISTS ATTACK BUS CARRYING CHRISTIAN TOURISTS FROM FLORIDA

1 Girl Injured; Police Detain 40  
By Yitzhak Shargil and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 22 (JTA)--A 16-year-old American girl was wounded by terrorist grenades hurled at a tourist bus in the Arab village of Al Azariyeh four miles east of Jerusalem shortly before noon today. The girl, identified as Jean Replogie, of Jacksonville, Fla., was rushed to Hadassah Hospital where she underwent surgery to remove shrapnel from her thigh. None of the other 16 tourists in the bus, all Christians from Jacksonville, was hurt but all were badly shaken. They were given hot drinks and sandwiches at police headquarters.

Israeli security forces reportedly detained 40 persons for questioning in a dragnet operation around Al Azariyeh after the incident, the second terrorist outrage in the Jerusalem area in two days. Twelve persons were injured Friday when a bomb exploded in Zion Square in the heart of downtown Jerusalem.

The tourist bus stopped at Al Azariyeh, called Bethany in the New Testament, during its return trip from Jericho to Jerusalem. The tourists visited a local church and were re-boarding the bus when the grenade attack occurred. Eyewitnesses differed in their accounts, some saying the grenades were thrown from a speeding car and others that they came from a rooftop. There were also reports of shots fired at the tourists but no other injuries were reported.

The tourists from Jacksonville arrived in Israel Friday, one of many groups from the U.S. and other countries who come to Israel to tour the holy sites during the Christmas season. Doctors at Hadassah Hospital described Miss Replogie's condition as satisfactory this afternoon following surgery. Her parents, who are Baptists, told reporters that the group would continue their pilgrimage undaunted, but other members of the party seemed less certain. One told a radio interviewer, "I've had enough. I want to go home."

### Police Probing Zion Square Explosion

Meanwhile, police are investigating unusual circumstances surrounding Friday's explosion in downtown Jerusalem. According to police accounts, the explosive charge was concealed in a paint can that had been placed alongside a container of paint brushes and tools on a busy corner just off Zion Square.

Two police officers took the suspicious-looking can to their car and were apparently trying to pry it open when it exploded, setting fire to the car and injuring the policemen and ten passers-by. All were taken to Sharei Zedek Hospital where Police Sgt. Meir Levy and Reuven Shaharabani, a bystander, are still undergoing treatment for burns and cuts. Their condition was reported to be fair. Eight of the other injured were released from the hospital today and the ninth is expected to be discharged tomorrow.

Police are puzzled by several aspects of the incident which seem to point to laxity and carelessness on the part of security personnel. Among

the questions that remained unanswered today was why the booby-trapped paint can was left unnoticed for at least an hour outside the Naava coffeeshop on one of Jerusalem's most crowded thoroughfares; why the officers who spotted the suspicious can failed to remove it to a security pit and summon police experts to examine it; why they took it to a parked police car and tried to open it before police sappers arrived on the scene.

Police are also investigating several Arab-owned cars that were found daubed with PLO slogans this morning on the Street of the Prophets, one of Jerusalem's main streets.

### X-Mas Border Truce

Meanwhile, informed sources reported today that Israel and Lebanon have agreed to a Christmas truce along the northern border. According to the sources, a cease-fire went into effect there two days ago. Israel will suspend its preventive artillery barrages aimed at terrorist bases inside Lebanon. The Lebanese authorities will see to it that the terrorists do not move out of the so-called Fatahland region of southern Lebanon for the duration of the truce. The sources said the agreement was arranged through the good offices of the UN.

### NRP IN TURMOIL OVER CHARGES AGAINST RABBI BERNARD BERGMAN

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Dec. 22 (JTA)--The National Religious Party was reported to be in turmoil today over charges of fraud and other illegal activities levelled against the network of nursing and old aged homes in New York owned by Rabbi Bernard Bergman, a leader of both the world and American Mizrahi organizations. The NRP leadership met in stormy sessions here today and Friday. The party's young guard has demanded Bergman's suspension from the Mizrahi Presidium pending the outcome of joint American Federal-State hearings into the charges which are scheduled to open in New York City on Jan. 21.

Rabbi Bergman came to Israel earlier this month after the New York State Temporary Commission on Living Costs opened an investigation of his nursing homes amid allegations of fraud in the use of Medicaid funds which reportedly were contributed to synagogues and charities, to key Republican and Democratic officials and to the Mizrahi organization. Bergman left Israel last week and reportedly is in Vienna. Some sources said he was returning to the U.S. for the Jan. 21 hearings.

Rabbi Bergman, a former president of the Religious Zionist Organization of America, heads the Mizrahi's Religious Education Committee in the U.S. He is also one of three members of the World Mizrahi Presidium which is closely connected to the NRP. Another member and associate of Rabbi Bergman is Swiss-Jewish financier Tibor Rosenbaum whose financial troubles involving millions of dollars in investments by leading Israeli firms has created a major scandal here.

Rabbi Bergman reportedly became a multi-millionaire through the operations of nursing homes in New York City and State and in New Jersey which

receive large sums of money from Medicaid. The alleged misuse of these funds and deplorable conditions in many of the homes were exposed in recent articles in the New York Times and the Village Voice. The first reaction of Orthodox circles here and in New York was to denounce the Times reporter, John Hess, as anti-Semitic. But that allegation has been rejected.

#### Subpoenas Issued By Senate Committee

Last week two major American Jewish Organizations--the American Jewish Congress and the Federation of Reform Synagogues--urged New York Governor-elect Hugh Carey to launch a state-wide probe of the Bergman homes. Subsequently, a subcommittee of the Senate Special Committee on the Aging, announced that it was joining the investigation in New York City.

Sen. Frank Moss (D,Utah) chairman of the subcommittee, issued subpoenas calling on 35 nursing home operators and suppliers to produce records for the hearing. Rabbi Bergman and his wife were among those for whom subpoenas were issued. Meanwhile, the State Temporary Commission on Living Costs, headed by State Assemblyman Andrew Stein, has started criminal contempt proceedings against Rabbi Bergman for failing to respond to its subpoenas.

#### AUSTRIA TO TRY TO CONVINC OTHER COUNTRIES TO ACT AS TRANSIT STATIONS FOR JEWS LEAVING THE USSR By Peter Friedlinger

VIENNA, Dec. 22 (JTA)--Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky said today the United States will try to persuade other countries to act as transit stations for Jews emigrating from the Soviet Union. In an interview with the Vienna newspaper, Kurier, Kreisky said U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger assured him that the United States would start negotiations with other countries to act as host countries for emigrating Jews.

Kreisky, who paid an official visit to the U.S. last month, said that with an expected emigration of 60,000 Soviet Jews per year, other countries would have to take away part of the burden Austria carries as a transit station. He rejected a recent statement of Israeli Ambassador to Austria Avigdor Dagan, who said Austria could easily handle double the number of Jews passing through Austria now. "The Israeli Ambassador should leave this evaluation to the Austrian authorities," Kreisky said.

"It is not the job of the Israeli government to decide where the emigrants want eventually to settle, but it is the people themselves who make this decision," Kreisky added. Austria does not want to be the only country to transit Jews. "This is not a question of money, but a security question," Kreisky said.

Referring to his and the Socialist International's initiatives to secure peace in the Middle East, the Chancellor said: "The world must give up its wrong picture of the Arab world. It is essential that the Arab world does not fall into the hands of Communism. Although we appreciate the problems of the Israel Labor Party, we cannot ignore the problems of democratic Socialism and the Arab world." He pointed out the different situations of the U.S. and Europe on the energy question. He said that the U.S. produces 85 percent of its crude oil needs while Europe produces only two percent.

"This forces Europe into a close relationship with the Arab countries," Kreisky said. "But we

respect the constructive work Israel has done. Who is familiar with the fate of the Jews in Israel, who knows what happened to them in Europe, understands that we cannot give Israel up." Kreisky said the only solution was a policy of peaceful settlement. "Any other solution is an illusion, is nonsense," he said.

#### DAYAN: AS LONG AS ISRAEL REMAINS ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS THE 'SWORD OF WAR' HANGS OVER ITS HEAD By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 22 (JTA)--Former Defense Minister Moshe Dayan who shook Israel last week with his assertion that the United States forced it to resupply the encircled Egyptian Third Army right after the first Yom Kippur War cease-fire, jolted the nation again last night by declaring that as long as Israel remained on the Golan Heights, the "sword of war" would hang forever over its head.

His remark, on a television interview, implied a belief that if Israel wants peace it must return the Golan Heights to Syria. In a statement of clarification today to the newspaper Yediot Achronot, Dayan said he was not proposing that Israel leave the Golan Heights but simply wanted to stress that the Golan was the key to war or peace.

His statement to the newspaper said that since government leaders were saying that Israel must do everything to avoid war, they must realize that the decision they faced was whether to insist on remaining on the Golan, which Syria will never accept, or to relinquish the Heights if Israel's overriding aim is to avoid war at all costs. Some observers suggested that Dayan's meaning was that war cannot be avoided.

#### West Bank Not A Basis For War

On the TV interview, he said: "As long as we remain on the Golan, the sword of war dangles over our heads. I do not know in what month or in what year the war will break out, but our occupation of the Golan is not only an open wound that does not heal, it is the key to war."

Dayan also stated: "If Egypt is not prepared for a separate settlement without Syria, even our most tempting proposals (to Egypt) will not make any difference unless we propose a settlement with Syria too. And a settlement with Syria means relinquishing the Golan Heights....I don't see any 2-3 kilometer pullback from this or that will solve the problem as far as Syria is concerned....They just do not want to be there, though I am not referring to demilitarization or other security arrangements to which they might possibly agree."

Dayan expressed the view that neither Syria nor Egypt would go to war with Israel over the West Bank. "I don't see the PLO, the Jordan government, the Palestinians or any Arab state going to war over Judaea and Samaria," he said.

#### Difference On Alleged U.S. Threat

Dayan's remarks about the Egyptian Third Army, a bombshell that had reverberations in Washington, were made in the course of a lecture series at Bar Ilan University in Tel Aviv on the subject of big power involvement in the Middle East. He claimed that the U.S. obtained Israel's consent to open a supply corridor to the encircled Egyptian force by threatening to airlift supplies itself to the Egyptians. Israel did agree to the supply corridor, but according to official sources here at the time, only because the U.S. had warned that the Soviet Union would intervene.

Asked to comment on Dayan's allegations, State Department spokesman Paul Hare said in Washing-

ton Friday that it would not be "useful" to discuss the matter. "I don't think it would be useful to rehash the events of that very tense period and deal with parts of them out of context," Hare said.

Maj. Gen. Haim Herzog, Israel's leading military commentator and former chief of intelligence said, in Tel Aviv Friday that he had no knowledge of such an American threat. "I understand (Secretary of State Henry A.) Kissinger" said, "if you don't do it there will be nothing to stop the Russians from taking supplies through," Herzog said.

Dayan said he would continue his lectures at Bar Ilan despite last Thursday's incident when the lecture hall was besieged by grieving parents who accused the former Defense Minister of responsibility for the deaths of their sons in the Yom Kippur War.

#### RABIN CHALLENGES SADAT TO MEET WITH HIM TO DISCUSS PEACE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 22 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin said here that he is ready to meet with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat "any time and any place" in a face-to-face discussion for the purpose of peace talks between the two countries. Addressing the Commercial and Industrial Club here Friday, Rabin declared: "We will sit down together in the presence of others when you (Sadat) determine the meeting and dialogue, which will be peace between Israel and Egypt."

The Premier made his remarks following a television interview broadcast on American ABC-TV Thursday night in which Sadat said that the United States and the Soviet Union might jointly guarantee both Israeli and Egyptian frontiers. Stressing that the next three months was "a very crucial time" to maintain the "momentum of the whole process of peace" started by implementation of the troop separation agreements in the Sinai and on the Golan Heights, Sadat said his acceptance of the UN Security Council Resolution 242 "means that I accept Israel as a fact."

The one-hour interview with Howard K. Smith and Peter Jennings was taken from six interviews held in Egypt between September and December, according to the American Broadcasting Co. network, which noted some of Sadat's comments might have been outdated by events since the interviews were made. Sadat insisted that neither he nor Hafez Assad of Syria were preparing for a new war against Israel. He added he had "already said" that he was "ready for a peace agreement with Israel and this is valid up to this moment."

But, he said, for peace to be achieved, "Israel must move on all the fronts--the Egyptian front, the Syrian front, the Jordanian front, the Palestinian front, now." He said such movement by Israel would mean Israel was "ready to continue the process of peace." Sadat said also that the United States could have the "main role in keeping the momentum" because "frankly speaking," all the cards are in the hands of the United States. He said he could understand the Palestine Liberation Organization point of view and he urged the Western nations to give the PLO "time."

Rabin told the businessmen, in response to Sadat, "If you really want peace, why do you just say so for propaganda purposes on American television?" The Premier then added that he would be willing to meet with Sadat to discuss peace in a concrete manner.

#### FUND TO RESTORE SEPHARDI SYNAGOGUE

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 22 (JTA)--The entire

Dutch Royal Family has contributed to a fund set up to restore the old Sephardi synagogue in The Hague built in 1726. The Interfaith Committee for the Restoration of the Synagogue announced here today that it has received individual contributions from Queen Juliana, Prince Consort Bernhard, Crown Princess Beatrix and her husband Prince Claus.

The old Sephardi synagogue was bought by The Hague Liberal Jewish Congregation several years ago with the help of government grants from a real estate company. In spite of active fund collecting, it has been unable to raise within its own members the 1.5 million guilders needed to restore the building. A few weeks ago a special interfaith committee was set up to help it.

The old synagogue has 160 seats in the main hall and 60 more in the gallery. It is a typical example of 18th Century building and considered a landmark in The Hague.

#### RECORD IL 55 BILLION FOR FISCAL 1975-76 PROPOSED TO ISRAEL CABINET

JERUSALEM, Dec. 22 (JTA)--A record IL 55 billion budget for fiscal 1975-76 that reflects Israel's serious economic difficulties, was proposed to the Cabinet today. Although the budget is the largest ever drafted in Israel's history, it falls short by IL 10 billion of the cumulative demands of all ministries and pre-supposes drastic cuts in many government activities and services.

If the budget is approved by the Cabinet and the Knesset, the government will be forced to freeze such expenditures as paving new roads. Construction for social purposes, such as housing for young couples, will be limited. Fewer new schools will be built, forcing the institution of morning and afternoon shifts at schools and the abandonment of free education for tenth graders and above which had been the original development plan of the Education Ministry.

The proposed budget would also make inevitable lay-offs in the government bureaucracy, a degree of unemployment in other areas of the economy and a reduction of government investments in the economy. Officials said after today's Cabinet meeting that the draft budget, though submitted today, was not fully discussed and would probably be reviewed in greater detail at next week's Cabinet session. Today's session devoted considerable time to the 1974 supplementary budget submitted by the Treasury to take into account devaluation of the Pound and other stringent economy measures introduced Nov. 10.

#### COL Increment Approved

The Cabinet, however, approved today the cost-of-living increment signed last week by the government, Histadrut and the Manufacturers Association. It will provide wage earners with IL 1200 tax-free cash in addition to their salaries and another IL 100 in government bonds. The increment amounts to a 30 percent cost-of-living allowance to help meet price increases.

Other elements of the agreement include an extension of existing wage contracts for another six months. A special committee is to submit tax reform proposals upon receipt of which Histadrut will consider a second six-month extension of the existing contracts. \* \* \*

AMSTERDAM (JTA)--Dutch contributions to UNICEF have dropped off this year by 10-15 percent as a result of the recent UNESCO anti-Israeli vote, UNICEF Director for Holland, Jan Eggink, revealed Sunday.

**FORD TELLS JEWISH LEADERS THAT  
QUIET DIPLOMACY IS THE BEST WAY TO  
ACHIEVE PEACE IN THE MIDEAST**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (JTA)--Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said Friday after a meeting of a Presidents Conference delegation with President Ford, that the President told the Jewish leaders he felt the best way to achieve a peaceful settlement in the Middle East was by a period of quiet diplomacy. Rabbi Miller said the President expressed the hope that step-by-step negotiations would succeed.

Rabbi Miller said the meeting between 20 Jewish leaders and Ford was the first opportunity "for the American Jewish leadership to meet with President Ford. We talked for more than an hour and had a very warm and friendly conversation."

When asked about their discussions on the issue of Soviet Jewry, highlighted by the release last week of a letter from Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko repudiating any "understanding" of a linkage between freer emigration and trade concessions from the United States, Rabbi Miller said, "It is our feeling, as well as the President's, that rather than judge the Soviets by letters and communications, we should judge them by what they do."

**Urges Ford To Be Watchful**

Rabbi Miller added, "We will have the opportunity to learn within the next few weeks" whether the Soviets "take these matters seriously. I feel we have made strides." He said the Jewish leaders would not be satisfied until every Jew who wants to leave the Soviet Union has the right to leave but that he was "satisfied with the good will of the Administration. We asked the President to be watchful from day to day" on the problem.

Rabbi Miller also reported that Ford reiterated U.S. commitment to Israel and said he supported a strong, viable Jewish State. Asked if he thought the President would continue to support Israel if there was another Arab oil embargo, Rabbi Miller said the President did not link any future embargo with the question of Israel but spoke about it as an American problem.

The meeting between the Jewish leaders and Ford took place as the Senate and House passed a sweeping trade bill that allows Ford to authorize non-discriminatory tariffs to the Russians for 18 months if he certifies that he has received "assurances" that Moscow will adopt practices promoting free emigration.

**MRS. MEIR URGES U.S. JEWS TO  
MAKE ALIYA TO 'YOUR COUNTRY'**

NEW YORK, Dec. 22 (JTA)--Former Premier Golda Meir urged American Jews to immigrate to Israel because "it is your country, it is your people--come and help make it better." Mrs. Meir spoke to more than 2000 people who crowded into the Bnai Jeshurun synagogue here Thursday night in a meeting sponsored by the Association of Americans and Canadians for Aliya.

Referring to her own aliya 53 years ago, Mrs. Meir said that history would not have changed if she had not gone to Palestine. She said she came just as all immigrants do for selfish reasons. "When I think I would not have been part of it, I shudder," she said. The former Premier told American Jews, "I am not going to promise

you that you won't have difficulties" nor another war. She said she was aware of the problems of the Israeli bureaucracy, but she added, Israel was trying to make it more responsible to the needs of the people.

"We are not perfect, we are not angels," Mrs. Meir declared, but she said that the Israelis were good people, hard-working and courageous. Mrs. Meir was introduced by Mrs. Faye Schenk, president of the American Zionist Federation. Murray Safran, president of the AACA, which is the sister organization of the Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel, said that since January, two presidents, several officers and hundreds of members of the North American organization had made their own aliya.

**KISSINGER DISCUSSES MIDEAST, PLO  
WITH WALDHEIM, BOUTEFLIKA**

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 22 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger met yesterday with Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and afterwards with General Assembly President Abdelaziz Bouteflika about a wide range of topics, including the Middle East and about what the United States has termed one-sided and arbitrary decisions taken by the Assembly.

The meeting occurred two weeks after John Scali, the U.S. Ambassador to the UN, charged that American support for the UN was eroding because of the one-sided and unrealistic resolutions passed by the world body and the "tyranny of the majority" in forcing through these resolutions. The majority Scali referred to were the African, Asian, Arab and Communist members of the Assembly.

"It is our view," Kissinger told reporters after the meetings, "that the interdependence of the world requires that problems be solved cooperatively and not through confrontations between blocs that might be formed arbitrarily." Asked if he would be returning to the Middle East, Kissinger replied, "I don't envisage a trip to the Middle East immediately, but that seems to be my destiny to go there."

Asked if Bouteflika had discussed the PLO, Kissinger said, "Mr. Bouteflika expressed his view on the subject, and our views on the subject are well known." The U.S. voted against inviting Arafat, chief of the Palestine Liberation Organization, to address the Assembly, but Bouteflika supported the invitation. Regarding the Mideast, the Secretary stated that "there is no dramatic new development." He added, "We are hopeful that progress can be made and we believe that it will be made." Kissinger had separate talks of more than one hour each with Waldheim and Bouteflika.

The Secretary's meeting with Bouteflika was the first high-level meeting between Algerian and American officials since the two countries resumed diplomatic relations last month. Bouteflika, Algeria's Foreign Minister, has been criticized by some Western diplomats for according Yasir Arafat with a head-of-state reception; for pressuring the Assembly to agree to prevent South Africa from participating in the remainder of the Assembly sessions; and abrogating Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah's right to speak during the debate on Palestine.

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LONDON (JTA)--Jewish sources in the Soviet Union reported Sunday that a group of Leningrad Jews have announced they will go on a hunger strike for two days starting Monday, the fourth anniversary of the Leningrad trial. The group includes the well-known activists Josef Blitch, Lev Zhigun and Israel Varnovitzki.