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RABIN, BARLEV AGREE TO CONCESSIONS ON TERRITORIES BUT ONLY IF THEY LEAD TO ADVANCES TOWARDS PEACE

TEL AVIV, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin and Commerce Minister Haim Barlev, both former Chiefs of Staff, addressed themselves yesterday to the issue of whether Israel should make further territorial concessions. Rabin affirmed that "in the political sphere Israel stands firm. It will not make any concessions which can endanger it unless there is a chance for an advance towards peace." Barlev stated that he would favor territorial concessions on all fronts --including the return of the Abu Rodetis oil fields to Egypt--"in return for very substantial compensation" and for "serious political agreements."

Rabin stated that Israel "is ready to make every effort to reach peace, but not at any price and not under imposed conditions. We shall lose no opportunity to negotiate and will do so from a position of strength." The Premier added that Israel is "stronger," readier and more prepared psychologically for war than ever before, if it is forced on us. We don't want war, but we shall not be panicked by threats of war. We shall stand firm where we have to and fight when necessary."

Barlev, in advocating concessions, also warned the Arabs that if they continue to reject Israel's willingness to compromise "I assume Israel's slow penetration into the occupied territories will continue." On related matters, he acknowledged that the future status of Jerusalem posed "a difficult problem, not only with the Arabs but in our dialogue with the United States."

The Commerce Minister stated that the decision to found an industrial zone at Maale Adumim on the West Bank east of Jerusalem was an example of Israel's determination to entrench itself in the territories in the absence of peace. "A year ago, Maale Adumim did not exist. A year from now it will. We told this to the Jordanians many times," he said.

Barlev ruled out a preventive war by Israel. "I know there are such ideas," he said, "but I don't think they are sensible." He said the only conditions that would cause Israel to launch a first strike was irrefutable evidence that the Arabs intended to make war or violations of the disengagement agreements that would give the enemy substantial military advantages.

TERRORIST VICTIM SATISFACTORY AFTER DOCTORS AMPUTATE LEG

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Dejean Replogel, the 16-year-old Baptist pilgrim from Jacksonville, Fla., who was wounded in a grenade attack on a tourist bus in Jerusalem last Sunday, was reported in "satisfactory" condition at Hadassah Hospital this evening after her right leg had been amputated earlier in the day above the knee. The head of orthopedics at Hadassah, Prof. Meyer Mankin, himself performed the operation after he and his team reached the conclusion that their efforts to save the shattered limb were hopeless.

Dejean's parents, William and Marcelle Replogel, at their daughter's bedside, moved newsmen with their firm faith in God. He had

protected their daughter from a worse fate in the attack, they asserted. The National Insurance Institute is covering all medical and hospitalization charges for Ms. Replogel.

RIVLIN CALLS FOR SPECIAL TASK FORCE TO COUNTER ARAB PROPAGANDA By Yitzhak Rabin

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Ambassador David Rivlin, the Consul General of Israel in New York, called on the Jewish community here today to create "a public relations task force" to help counter increasing Arab propaganda activities. Rivlin told a press conference that Arab propaganda has grown "in zeal and determination" since the Yom Kippur War. He said the Arabs are expected to spend \$200 million for propaganda in the U.S. and Canada during the next few years while Israel's information activities abroad are being reduced because of the government's economic austerity program.

"We have to cope with this challenge," Rivlin said. He said the Jewish community in New York, the largest of any city in the world, does not have a public relations organization which is urgently needed. He said his proposed "task force" would serve as an umbrella organization to coordinate public relations activities on behalf of Israel. He suggested that it could be set up under the aegis of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Rivlin said that Israel's information efforts also could be helped by prominent persons sympathetic to Israel's cause who could disseminate information from various platforms and through the media and by a "network of organizations" representing the professions, the clergy, women's and youth groups.

The Consul General also called for help to Israel in the economic sphere. He urged a buy-Israel campaign, observing that if every Jew in New York were to spend \$1 a week to purchase Israel-made merchandise, his nation's hard-pressed economy would benefit. He said that purpose could also be achieved by increased tourism to Israel. He urged would-be tourists not to submit to threats by Arab terrorists. Rivlin added that a great deal could be done to increase aliyah beyond the 3000 Americans who immigrated to Israel in 1974.

ALLON SEES PROSPECTS FOR INTERIM NEGOTIATIONS WITH EGYPT Rejects Pessimism That Talks Are Impossible By David Landau

TEL AVIV, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Yigal Allon said here tonight that interim talks with Egypt were "objectively possible" and there was no room, therefore, for "complete pessimism which declares that such negotiations are utterly impossible in the near future." Premier Yitzhak Rabin, however, has been heard privately to speak less optimistically of the prospect of interim talks with Egypt.

Allon conceded, in a lecture at Tel Aviv University, that there was "room for serious concern" that the gap between Israeli and Egyptian demands might prove unbridgeable. But he pointed out that the gap was no less deep and wide when the disengagement negotiations began--"and never-

theless a road to compromise was found."

An interim accord with Egypt must involve Egyptian concessions "greater than those which Egypt granted in the disengagement agreement," Allon said. The concomittant Israeli withdrawal would have to be "considerably less extensive" than that which Israel was ready to make in exchange for real peace—in order to induce Egypt to progress further towards real peace, Allon said. "The overall principle is clear: the depth of the Israeli withdrawal must be directly proportional to the scope and significance of the Egyptian commitments, including the time period for which the agreement is to be effective." Allon would not specify topographical scenarios.

Favors West Bank Home Rule

Referring to the West Bank, the Foreign Minister spoke of his long-held views that the local populace should be encouraged to develop a "kind of home rule" in those areas which Israel ultimately intended to relinquish. He urged that a start be made "in the near future" on "the first steps of such a civilian government or at least the examination of the possibility of a start in the fields of agriculture, education, and others."

He suggested that when the Palestine Liberation Organization has been "reduced to its proper size and impotence," important elements on the West Bank would hopefully "wish to take their fate into their own hands." Jordan itself had, after the Rabat summit, carefully retained a "latent option" over the West Bank, which might be called into play in the distant future, Allon said.

But in the more immediate short range, Allon called for negotiations with Jordan "in the framework of an interim settlement" on "normalizing relations" along the long border from the Dead Sea to the Red Sea, and north of the West Bank along the border at Beit Shean. He suggested possible Jordanian use of an Israeli Mediterranean seaport, joint cooperation of the development of Eilat and Aqaba, and coordination in development of the mineral-rich Dead Sea region.

Problems Facing Israel's Foreign Policy

Allon listed the "peak" which Arab oil bargaining power has reached, the "nadir" of the industrialized West, and consistent Soviet encouragement of Arab extremists, as the basic problems facing Israeli foreign policy. On the positive side of the scales was the fact that a strong and stable Israel was in American and Western interests, and the fact that Israel enjoyed sympathy in Western public opinion.

Israel's basic aim, he said, remained attainment of full contractual peace. Since the Arabs are unready for this, the prime practical aim is to prevent war, or, if that is impossible, to postpone its outbreak in the hope that it could eventually be avoided. If that too proves impossible then the aim is to limit the war to one front or "to prevent the multiple front from becoming a simultaneous one."

This analysis was similar to that outlined by Premier Yitzhak Rabin in his Haaretz interview Dec. 3 in which he indicated a greater flexibility than heretofore in Israel's position on a second stage agreement with Egypt and in which he dropped Israel's earlier demands for a formal declaration of non-belligerency by Egypt in return for a further disengagement pact. Rabin was subsequently criticized for being overly frank.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL URGES BREZHNEV TO COMMUTE LEVIEV DEATH SENTENCE

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Amnesty International of the United States called on Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev today to commute the death sentence imposed on Mikhail Leviev, a Moscow Jew accused of alleged economic crimes. Dr. Ivan Morris, national chairman of the American Section of the world-wide human rights organization, termed the sentence "monstrously excessive" and urged Brezhnev to commute it "on humanitarian grounds and to grant this man permission to join his family in Israel."

Jewish sources in the Soviet Union reported Tuesday that Leviev's sentence was temporarily stayed by President Nikolai Podgorny in response to an appeal by Leviev's wife, Sophia. Mrs. Leviev was reportedly told by Podgorny that the case would be reopened and a new investigation ordered. Leviev, 56, managed a large government store in Moscow from which he resigned in 1971 before applying for an exit visa to emigrate to Israel.

A visa was granted in 1972 but he was arrested before he could leave and held in detention until his trial earlier this month. He was sentenced to death on Dec. 9. Dr. Morris said "The sentence files in the face of the detente mood that the world eagerly awaits to enhance the prospects for peace."

Concern Over Levich Case

The Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, meanwhile, has expressed deep concern over the failure of the Soviet authorities to live up to their public pledge to allow Benjamin Levich and his family to leave the country at the end of this year. Bronx Borough President Robert Abrams, a vice-chairman of the GNYC, said the Soviets had promised last June that Levich, a scientist, his wife, their two sons and their wives could emigrate by the end of 1974.

Abrams said he spoke to the Levich family by phone this week and found them "deeply distressed" by the authorities' abrogation of their commitment. He said that Levich told him they might be able to leave by the end of March but feared that their visas might be invalidated.

EL AL WORKERS WARNED TO END SLOWDOWN OR GOVERNMENT WOULD SHUT DOWN NATIONAL AIR CARRIER

By Yitzhak Shargil and Gil Sedan

TEL AVIV, Dec. 26 (JTA)--Transport Minister Gad Yaacobi gave El Al maintenance workers until midnight tonight to end their work slowdown or the government would shut down Israel's national air carrier. The Minister's ultimatum was supported by Histadrut Secretary General Yehoram Meshel who warned the airline employes that the labor federation would no longer protect their jobs unless they comply.

The confrontation was the most serious of a year marked by sporadic strikes and work stoppages by El Al employes which reportedly cost the airline millions of dollars. The 400 maintenance workers who keep El Al's jet fleet air-worthy, began a rule-book slowdown yesterday in a dispute over reduced foreign currency allotments stemming from last month's devaluation of the Pound. The action delayed departure of five of seven El Al flights yesterday and continued to cause delays today affecting thousands of Christmas season tourists.

Yaacobi announced, after a meeting with Premier Yitzhak Rabin, that the government would end El Al's operations as an independent carrier and transfer its passengers to foreign airlines or to

chartered planes. Meshel said Histadrut would waive its obligations to any group of employees who strike against an essential service without consulting the union. But the technicians insisted they were not on strike. They said they were merely following the maintenance rule book to the letter and therefore were not required to meet the Transport Minister's midnight deadline.

Sea-Farers Resolve Dispute

Meanwhile, a dispute was resolved in another area of labor troubles when Israeli sea-farers won their demand for foreign currency payments at the pre-devaluation rate. The Treasury announced yesterday that it would permit Israeli shipping companies to pay the foreign currency portion of officers' and seamen's wages according to the old rate of one pound sterling for IL 1. When the Pound was devalued Nov. 10, the rate became one pound sterling to IL 14. The seamen staged a two-day strike earlier this month in protest, tying up ships at Israel's three ports. The tourist traffic was not disrupted, however, because Israel no longer operates passenger ships.

Campaign To Increase Productivity

Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz announced at a press conference in Jerusalem yesterday that the government would initiate a large scale campaign to increase productivity. He said labor teams would visit 400 plants all over Israel to organize drives against absenteeism. The goal is to improve Israel's trade balance by increasing exports. "If we want to live in this country we had better change our mode of living," Rabinowitz said.

Premier Yitzhak Rabin, a strong critic of the declining work ethic in Israel, declared on a television interview, "I can't understand why the working day must end at 2 p.m." He urged the working population to cooperate in the government's drive for productivity.

LAUTENBERG: UJA ALREADY AHEAD OF PLEDGES COMPARED TO THIS TIME IN 1973 1975 Target Is \$750 Million By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (JTA)—Frank R. Lautenberg, newly elected general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, said today that the UJA is already ahead on pledges compared to this time last year but that he was not sure that "we are going to reach the goal of last year." The 1975 target is \$750 million. Addressing a press conference at UJA headquarters here, Lautenberg cited the declining American economy and said that if it gets any worse, "we are going to be affected. The question is, to what degree?"

Lautenberg said \$670 million was pledged to the UJA in 1974 of which \$220 million was raised in cash. He disclosed that with regard to pledges the UJA is ahead of the same period last year by eight percent. He attributed the increased pledges to the fact that Jews identify themselves more with the UJA and said American Jews felt more threatened today than they did during the Yom Kippur War because of the growing isolation of Israel and the Jewish people.

He said, "There is an inspired involvement on the part of Jews, particularly young Jews." Lautenberg, who succeeded Paul Zuckerman in the top UJA post 10 days ago, stated that although the basic task of the UJA was to raise money, it also had the task of offering "a Jewish way of life with dignity and to build a Jewish future for the future." He said American Jews have been

mistaken in being "responsive to negatives." He stated they should not react defensively but should emphasize their creativity.

Rejects Israel's Cynical Image Of UJA

Lautenberg said he was "surprised and disappointed" by the cynical image of the UJA he found in Israel. He said many Israelis believed that donors contributed to the UJA because their contributions were tax deductible. The large amounts given cannot possibly be matched by the tax deductions, Lautenberg said, adding that much loftier considerations motivated UJA donors. He said he hoped the negative image in Israel would change.

Asked if he was satisfied with the quality of speakers sent from Israel on behalf of the UJA, Lautenberg said that as far as quality was concerned, the answer is yes. But he said too many of the speakers came from Israel's defense establishment. He said that American Jews, while interested in Israel's security, had broader interests which included the arts, scholarship and other aspects of Israeli life.

ISRAELIS ABROAD ENCOURAGED TO RETURN

JERUSALEM, Dec. 26 (JTA)—Absorption Minister Shlomo Rosen and Jewish Agency Executive Chairman Pinhas Sapir have formed a committee to study "ways to encourage the return of Israelis living abroad."

It is believed that there are some 200,000 Israelis who live abroad, some of whom may be convinced to return home. The Ministry and the Jewish Agency, therefore, formed the committee to try and find specific ways to encourage the return of those Israelis. It was assigned a special task of locating the specific employment and housing problems which may face the returning Israeli. It is expected to recommend ways to minimize the bureaucratic process through which a returning citizen must pass.

Some of the leading absorption experts staffing the committee are Knesseter Adi Yaffe, chairman; Uzi Narkis, director general of the Jewish Agency Immigration and Absorption Department; and the directors general of the Ministries of Absorption and Housing. A Jewish Agency communique said the committee was open for suggestions. They should be mailed to Adi Yaffe, P.O.B. 92, Jerusalem.

AMSTERDAM (JTA)—The European Cultural Foundation, based in Amsterdam, showed this week its will to participate in the development of Jerusalem, despite the resolutions recently taken by UNESCO. Its executive committee granted 50,000 guilders to the Jerusalem Foundation which aims to make of the holy city a cultural and spiritual center for mankind and a place where people of different religions and different cultures could live together. The European Cultural Center stated that instead of entering into vain polemics it prefers to show a concrete support. The European Cultural Foundation is chaired by Prince Consort Bernhard of The Netherlands. Mayor Teddy Kollek is the head of the Jerusalem Foundation.

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Two young World Zionist Organization leaders, Eliezer Shefer and Uri Gordon plan a new information drive in Europe—by means of a camping wagon. They plan to send an information delegation to Europe, which will include representatives of the young generation of Knesseters, professors and artists. The team would visit Jewish communities to introduce Israel of 1975 to the Jews of Europe.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES
A SOLDIER FOR ALL SEASONS
 By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Dec. 26 (JTA)—A politician who voluntarily leaves a safe seat in parliament for military service is a rarity in Israel—and in any other country for that matter. But Gen. Ariel (Arik) Sharon, the charismatic hero of the Yom Kippur War, proved by his resignation from the Knesset last week that he was a soldier before he was a politician—in spirit as well as actuality.

His surprise move won him praise from most Israelis, including his political foes. Sharon declared bluntly that he believed another war was imminent and that he could best serve the nation in uniform. Accordingly, he accepted a senior command position in the reserves and says he hopes to return shortly to the regular army. But the man who fathered a coalition of centrist and rightist political factions last year to form the non-Labor opposition Likud, took a parting swipe at the government as he left the Knesset.

He declared that the recently promulgated government rule barring anyone above the rank of division commander from serving simultaneously in the Knesset and the armed forces was illegal and directed against himself personally. Sharon contended that the government was anxious to keep him from returning to the army because of his outspoken criticism of some of his superiors after the Yom Kippur War.

In Forefront Of Opposition

Sharon, under whose command Israeli forces broke through Egyptian lines to establish a bridgehead on the west bank of the Suez Canal, resigned from the army after it was made clear to him that he could not expect further promotions. Specifically, he was advised that he was not a candidate for the country's top military post—Chief of Staff—which many, including himself, felt he deserved.

As a leader of Likud, Sharon was in the forefront of the opposition to government policies and his brilliant military career that began many years before the Yom Kippur War, added weight to his words. As a Reserves General he may still criticize the government but he must eschew political statements if he takes a regular army command. Sharon says he is aware of this but considers the military dangers confronting Israel far more important than his political career.

500 ACADEMICIANS SUSPENDING COLLABORATION WITH UNESCO

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26 (JTA)—More than 500 academicians from over a dozen universities, colleges and professional schools in New Jersey and Pennsylvania announced today that they were suspending their collaboration with UNESCO. They said the move was a protest against UNESCO's vote last month to exclude Israel from membership in its European regional grouping and to cut off cultural aid to Israel.

A statement signed by the academicians, including several university presidents, accused the UN agency of betraying "its avowed principles by acting as an instrument of political aggression." The statement applauded the unanimous recommendation of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to withhold American financial support from UNESCO until the anti-Israel resolutions initiated by the Arab and Communist bloc delegations are repealed.

Many of the signatories who have had relationships with UNESCO said they would continue

their efforts to aid educational, scientific and cultural development in underdeveloped countries but felt compelled to do so outside of the UNESCO apparatus. The institutions represented by the signatories include Rutgers University, Bryn Mawr College, Drexel University, the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, Temple University and the University of Pennsylvania.

UNESCO VOTES BRANDED BY FOUR DISSIDENT SOVIET WRITERS IN FRANCE

PARIS, Dec. 26 (JTA)—Four dissident Soviet writers now living in France yesterday branded the recent UNESCO anti-Israeli resolutions as "unfair" and a gross injustice. The four, Alexander Galich, Vladimir Maximov, Victor Nekrasov and Andrei Sytnavsky, issued their statement in a letter to the French paper, "Le Monde."

The paper also printed a letter from the Israeli delegate to UNESCO, Dr. Eliezer Yapou, who condemned the UNESCO votes describing them as "blind" to reality and grossly one-sided. UNESCO's Director General Amadou M'bow, in an answering letter also printed by "Le Monde," promised that he will try to "bring about a compromise" between opposing points of view. He pointedly refrained, however, from criticizing the votes "of the sovereign states which comprise the UNESCO General Conference."

In the meantime, a number of left-wing intellectuals published a communique supporting the UNESCO votes and calling the arguments used by a number of Nobel Prize winners and other intellectuals "lies." The pro-Arab intellectuals, none of whom is known by the general public, concluded their statement with the call for "a democratic Palestine in which all the communities will find their place."

CORRECTION

The Dec. 23 Bulletin story on the National Religious Party and Rabbi Bernard Bergman stated that 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. In fact, the AJCongress, as correctly reported in the Dec. 17 Bulletin, urged Carey to probe alleged corruption and mismanagement of nursing homes but did not refer to Rabbi Bergman or his homes.

TEL AVIV (JTA)—Politics once more took precedence over sportsmanship when Russia's champion Red Army basketball team announced Thursday that it would not participate in next year's European basketball championship tournaments because it would have had to play against Israel's top team. The Russians notified the International Basketball Federation of their decision. The FIBA had matched the Soviet and Israeli teams by lottery held in Vienna earlier this month. Two games had been scheduled, one in Moscow and the other in Tel Aviv.

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Over 1700 youngsters, mainly youth movement members from around the country, have been helping Jewish National Fund foresters during the past week in special courses organized by the JNF to acquaint the youth with the woodsman's work. Working at Yotiv on the southern slopes of the Hebron hills, and in Jerusalem, on the Carmel, and in the Turan and Menashe forests, the youngsters also attend lectures on ecology.

There will be no Bulletin dated January 1, New Year's Day, due to postal holiday.