



# daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency 165 West 46th St. New York, N.Y. 10036

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Vol. XLII - 58th Year

Friday, January 17, 1975

No. 12

## EFFORTS TO WARM U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONS SEEN IN TALKS HELD BY ALLON WITH ADMINISTRATION LEADERS

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (JTA)--Efforts to promote a warmer atmosphere in U.S.-Israeli relations appeared to envelop the intensive series of discussions Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon is holding with U.S. political leaders. The relationship has been cooling in the past few months with reports of American pressure on Israel to accommodate Arab demands although the Arabs themselves have been making no move towards meeting Israel's needs.

An example of psychological conciliation appeared last night when Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger volunteered to newsmen after his first round of talks with Allon at the State Department that the United States was not exerting any pressure on Israel.

This led some analysts to remark that his saying so without being asked indicated that some pressure had been applied. They recalled President Ford's remark in his interview in Time magazine that he would not give a U.S. guarantee to Israel before Israel made "some real progress" in negotiations with the Arabs. "Some real progress" continues unclarified and undefined.

Today an Israeli Embassy spokesman described the Allon talks with Kissinger as "very good, cordial and friendly" both in atmosphere and content. Another straw in the gentle breeze of improved relationship is that President Ford will see Allon this afternoon at the White House despite the President's absorption in economic and energy problems and dealing with a new Congress. Ford also saw Allon when the Foreign Minister was here in early December.

## Sadat Issues Warning

President Anwar Sadat of Egypt, however, has put severe new pressure on Kissinger to come up with major concessions from Israel within the next three months, failing which Egypt would no longer rely on his diplomatic approach and would go to Geneva for a "show down." Sadat's views were contained in an interview published today in the Beirut newspaper An Nahar.

The Egyptian leader said he would accept from Israel nothing less than withdrawal of its forces on all three fronts within the next three months--meaning Sinai, the Golan Heights and the West Bank. "This year will be the decisive one, for the next--1976--is a year of elections in America," Sadat was quoted as saying.

"If nothing is achieved soon, and very soon, we shall then go to Geneva, all of us, including the Palestinians, without whom there can be no Geneva or disengagement, and will have a show-down there," Sadat said. He added that when the Geneva talks reconvened they would be decisive.

"We do not want a few miles toward a disengagement but want it (Geneva) to be decisive and final," Sadat was also quoted as warning that "if Israel attacks Syria, Egypt will immediately step in." America knows this, and it is assumed that Syria knows it," he said.

Allon, asked for comment on Sadat's state-

ments, said he was for "quiet diplomacy. I am not going to make any statement." Asked if he felt the Egyptian position was hardening, Allon replied, "If you take what they say literally, it is not too good. But I hope it isn't the last word." State Department spokesman Robert Anderson declined comment on the same "quiet diplomacy" grounds.

## Features Of Allon's Visit

Among the features of Allon's current visit is that he and Kissinger met alone for an hour yesterday evening. A favorite Kissinger device in a tight political situation is to obtain the inner thoughts of a guest in a long private conversation. Another was that a report was circulated that Allon proposed a withdrawal in the Sinai but would make no other for 10 years. This was flatly denied by an Israeli source. Israel, he said, would make another withdrawal under certain conditions but it would have to "last for some years"--not a specific time.

Allon's extension of his stay to three days was not seen as of high significance. Kissinger's own schedule was unable to accommodate the usual morning and afternoon meetings with the Israeli minister and therefore Allon was seeing him for shorter periods over more days. They met for slightly more than an hour this morning and will meet again at breakfast tomorrow for the last of their discussions.

Kissinger will go before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee behind closed doors shortly thereafter to discuss world affairs, particularly Soviet-American relations now that the Soviets have ruptured the 1972 trade agreement and threatened the extinction of detente, the threat to American allies in Cambodia and South Vietnam, and, of course, the Middle East and oil.

In other meetings, Allon saw Secretary of Defense James R. Schlesinger this morning at the Pentagon, presumably on the flow of arms both to Israel and other countries in the Middle East and will meet a few representatives of the American Jewish community early tonight. Allon probably will depart for Israel immediately after breakfast with Kissinger tomorrow.

Meanwhile, it was learned that Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin and Allon spoke briefly at the Capitol yesterday where both were for President Ford's State of the Union message. According to sources here, Dobrynin was passing Allon and asked to be introduced to him. They spoke for a few minutes and then went their ways. The content of the conversation has not yet been disclosed. Allon said today, however, that nothing substantive had been discussed.

## TWO ABORTION BILLS APPROVED BY KNESSET ON FIRST READING; ORTHODOX MKs ISSUE BITTER PROTESTS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 16 (JTA)--Two bills legalizing abortion in Israel were approved yesterday by the Knesset on first reading and sent to committee despite bitter protests from religious members of the Knesset. The more moderate of the two measures, submitted by Labor MK Havi Shimoni on behalf of 15 Knesset sponsors, would permit

abortion only if approved by a special medical board.

The bill, backed by Health Minister Victor Shemtov, was approved by a vote of 43-13. The second measure, presented by Marcia Freedman of the Civil Rights Party, would permit abortion at the request of the mother during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. It passed by a vote of 26-14. Six MKs, including former Foreign Minister Abba Eban, abstained in both votes.

#### Would Legalize De Facto Situation.

The final adoption of either of the bills by the Knesset after the three readings required by law, would make legal a situation that has long existed in Israel where 40-60,000 abortions are performed annually. The Shimon bill incorporates most of the recommendations of a committee of experts appointed by Shemtov some time ago to consider the problem.

Shemtov told the Knesset today that while he supports the measure, more attention should be given to family planning services that would reduce the number of abortions. The Health Minister's remarks were interrupted by shouts from MKs of the three Orthodox factions--including the National Religious Party which is a member of the government coalition.

#### Abortion Is Legalized Mass Murder

They attacked the abortion bills as legalized "mass murder of Jews worse than that committed by Pharaoh who ordered only male Jews thrown into the river." They charged that legal abortion was what Israel needed least at a time when it is "surrounded by a sea of Arabs," that Israel was investing fortunes in aliyah but would allow "the murder of Jews contrary to Jewish tradition which sees a blessing in having many children."

However, the Orthodox outcry was ignored by the Knesset. Ironically, the Committee on Law and Constitution which will discuss both measures is chaired by an Orthodox MK, former Religious Affairs Minister Zerach Warhaftig, a leader of the NRP.

#### HERUT STANDS PAT ON ISSUES

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Jan. 16 (JTA)--The 12th national convention of Herut ended today without modifying in the slightest degree the party's militant stand on the issues of peace with the Arabs and territorial concessions that are the main obstacles to the establishment of a national unity coalition government. The undisputed leadership of Menachem Begin was strongly reaffirmed and delegates unanimously endorsed Begin's proposed three-year Middle East cease-fire to allow peace moves to crystallize--a proposal scorned by Premier Yitzhak Rabin as "an unrealistic dream."

Resolutions adopted at a marathon 26-hour closing session called, among other things for the imposition of Israeli sovereignty (annexation) of the "liberated areas of the motherland"; demanded immediate new elections on grounds that "the present government has no moral justification to continue in office" and branded the government's policy of trading territory for political concessions in stages as a "dangerous illusion" that would only bring the enemy closer to Israel's population centers.

Herut was willing to grant Israeli citizenship to "every Palestinian Arab who wishes it and who pledges loyalty to the State." Other Arabs would be permitted to retain previous citizen-

ships and would be accorded the rights of permanent residents in Israel. Herut called on the government, the Knesset and world Jewry to "intensify the struggle for Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union and for the salvation of Syrian Jews."

It also called for an intensification of Israeli propaganda abroad including the establishment of special Likud propaganda offices in the United States and Europe to explain the true and just interests of Israel "in face of the failure of the official Israeli propaganda to do this."

#### REPORT NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN SITUATION OF SYRIAN JEWRY

JERUSALEM, Jan. 16 (JTA)--Despite continued international pressure on Syria to change its policies toward Syrian Jewry, there has been no significant improvement in the conditions of that Jewish community. Information Minister Aharon Yariv told the Knesset yesterday. The subject was discussed as the Knesset marked a week of "Solidarity with Syrian Jews" which included rallies in the three major cities, special classes and a mobile exhibition at Israeli schools.

Despite the continued gloomy reports from Syria, Yariv said that world pressure did produce some slight signs that persecution was relieved in some marginal matters. He praised the "astounding courage" of the Damascus Jewish community for its demonstration last year, which inspired large rallies in the West. Israelis will never rest while Jews languished abroad at the mercy of anti-Semites, Yariv said.

As he addressed the Knesset, hundreds of students gathered at Bar Ilan University in Ramat Gan around four coffins, representing symbolically the coffins of the four young Jewish women murdered in Syria a year ago. Four students--two boys and two girls--tied themselves to the coffin. They fasted throughout the day.

"We must ask ourselves whether we have done everything possible to rescue Syrian Jewry," said the university's rector, Prof. Menahem Zvi Kadari. Kadari suggested that Israel announce that she regards Syrian Jewry as prisoners of war and make their release a condition for second stage political negotiations with Syria. Students at the agricultural faculty in the Hebrew University began collecting signatures for a petition of solidarity to be sent to embassies in Israel abroad and to various international organizations.

#### 'FATAHLAND' ATTACKED AGAIN

TEL AVIV, Jan. 16 (JTA)--Three Israeli task forces swept through "Fatahland" for the fourth time last night in continuation of Israel's mini-war against terrorist strongholds and communications in southern Lebanon. Four terrorists were killed and two Israeli soldiers were wounded in a fierce gun battle on the approaches to Shuba village, one of the main targets of the Israeli raiders. The wounded men were evacuated by helicopter to a hospital.

According to a military spokesman, a second Israeli force penetrated deeper into Lebanon and blew up a small bridge near Hebrityeh village in the northern salient of "Fatahland." A third force attacked Hammam village, about four kilometers north of Har Dov, a ridge of Mt. Hermon occupied by Israeli troops. A suspected terrorist was captured and brought back to Israel for questioning. Israeli artillery later shelled the northern reaches of "Fatahland" where the terrorists are concentrating their forces after being driven from the southern region closer to the Israeli border.

## FORD REPORTED DETERMINED TO PURSUE DETENTE WITH USSR

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (JTA)--The White House said today that President Ford "is determined to continue his pursuit of a policy of relaxing tensions with the Soviet Union." The affirmation that detente goes on despite Moscow's repudiation of the 1972 U.S.-Soviet trade pact on grounds of interference in Soviet internal affairs on the emigration issue, was made by White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen.

"The President believes that improved U.S.-Soviet relations are important to world peace and international stability," Nessen said. He stated that the President agreed fully with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's assessment that the U.S.-Soviet trade problem would not harm other aspects of detente.

Asked how the Secretary could hold that belief when he stated in 1972 that the key to detente was trade, Nessen cited "significant agreements in improving our relations with the Russians in other areas" since 1972. He was apparently referring to the new nuclear arms limitation understanding reached between President Ford and Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev at their Vladivostok meeting last November and to overall cooperation between the two countries.

## ALLON SEES NO REASON WHY SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION MUST STOP

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon said last night that he didn't see why Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union should be affected by Russia's repudiation of the 1972 U.S.-Soviet trade agreement. Noting that Jewish emigration was permitted before the Trade Reform Act that linked trade to Soviet emigration practices, Allon said, "I see no reason why Jewish emigration cannot continue in the future regardless of whether there is a trade agreement."

But the Israeli diplomat was cautious in assessing the future status of emigration from the USSR. "I do hope the Soviet Union will think twice before it takes any revenge against Jews," Allon said. He stressed that any reduction in the number of Jews allowed to depart because of the aborted trade deal would be a great human tragedy. "And I don't think the Jewish people deserve another tragedy," the Israeli Foreign Minister and Deputy Premier said.

## Visit Viewed As Timely

Allon made his remarks after emerging from a 90-minute meeting with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger to discuss the Middle East. He sounded an optimistic note when he said the time had come "to move from the preliminary stage to the practical stage" in negotiations for a Mideast settlement. He recalled that in his visit here five weeks ago he had described his discussions with Kissinger as a preliminary phase.

Allon said his current visit was more timely because of recent developments in the Middle East but did not elaborate. The understanding was that he referred to the current differences between Moscow and Cairo which took the form, publicly at least, in the postponement of Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev's trip to Egypt. Kissinger described his talks with Allon later as a detailed review of the Middle East situation. "We did not attempt to reach any conclusions but rather to assess the views and

possibilities that exist," he told reporters.

## KISSINGER: STEP-BY-STEP DIPLOMACY FACING INCREASING DIFFICULTIES

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger conceded tonight that his "step-by-step diplomacy" in the Middle East is "facing increasing difficulties" but that "I expect over the next months, progress will be made." In an hour-long interview with Bill Moyers of the National Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), the Secretary also conceded that "detente has had a set-back" in the Soviet Union's rejection of the 1972 U.S.-Soviet trade pact, but said, "I don't think it is correct to say that the Soviet Union will not fulfill the recent agreement on trade."

Kissinger said in reply to questions that "none of the Arab states likely to fight in a war has received American arms." The U.S. is supplying arms to Saudi Arabia and Jordan. He pointed out that the sale of U.S. arms to Israel "is necessitated by the fact that the Arab countries are receiving arms supplies from the Soviet Union and because the security of Israel has been an American objective in all American administrations since the end of World War II."

Kissinger stressed that "a final solution" in the Middle East "must involve the Soviet Union" and declared that "it has never been part of our policy to exclude the Soviet Union from a final solution." He said that the Soviet Union was "always kept generally informed of what we were doing." He affirmed that the Soviet Union "has not been exceptionally helpful but it has also not been exceptionally obstructive" in the Middle East, and that Moscow was not "playing adversary politics" in that region.

## Reasons For Trade Pact Repudiation

Referring to the repudiation of the trade pact, Kissinger observed that "unfortunately" Congress passed legislation that imposed special conditions on the Soviet Union not foreseeable when the agreement was negotiated in 1972.

"We (the Ford Administration) went along" with the legislation "with the utmost reluctance," the Secretary said. "I don't want to assess blame," but legislative restrictions, coupled with Export-Import Bank credit restrictions "had the effect of causing the Soviet Union to reject the agreement," Kissinger said.

He added, "We will go back to Congress with the attitude that both sides should learn from this experience." He said that "detente has had a set-back" but the "imperative" of preventing nuclear warfare will enable Congress and the Administration to cooperate in shaping foreign policy.

## RIGHT-WING GROUP OUTLAWED

VIENNA, Jan. 16 (JTA)--The Austrian Ministry of Interior today outlawed the right-wing "Working Group for Politics" because it had invited a German anti-Semitic lawyer for a series of lectures despite an official ban. Interior Minister Otto Roesch said Manfred Roeder, who had published a booklet, "The Auschwitz Lie," lectured to the right-wing group in several Austrian towns last month although he had been officially banned from entering Austria. The "Working Group for Politics," headed by right-wing writer Konrad Windisch, invited Roeder despite the government ban. The Ministry, last month, banned a "German Christmas" program scheduled to be held by the group in Salzburg. Roesch said as a consequence, Roeder sent him a letter threatening him to charge him at a "war criminal trial."

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES****JNF PLEADING NEW SETTLEMENTS  
IN SPEEDED-UP RAFIAH PROGRAM**

By David Landau

OGDA, Near Rafiah (south of Gaza Strip), Jan. 16 (JTA)--Today, Ogda is a tract of churned up sandy loam, seen through the dust and haze kicked up by the huge bulldozers and earthmovers that the Jewish National Fund uses to prepare the land for a new settlement.

In three months, however, says JNF area director Shimon Dotan, when the tractors have finished shifting nearly half a million cubic meters of soil to create a one thousand-dunam plateau, the Housing Ministry men, and the World Zionist Organization settlement department experts will move in--and very soon a new moshav will begin to take shape. By summer of next year, the first 50 families should be moving in--with their farms all equipped, each with its own greenhouse, its own turkey coop, and a share in the moshav's mango orchards.

Ogda will rise out of the sandy and barren plains that separate the densely populated Gaza Strip from the wastes of Sinai proper--just as neighboring Sadot did in 1971, to become the flourishing and wealthy moshav it is today. Sadot thrives on off-season flowers and vegetables, grown under the chilly but constant winter sunshine. The Ogda farmers--there will be 100 of them when the moshav is finally finished--will grow their vegetables under glass, selling them straight to Europe by plane.

Work on Ogda, on neighboring Sukkot which will be a kibbutz, and on Nahal Sinai 40 kilometers down the coast near El Arish, has speeded up in recent weeks, JNF officials told me. The order had come through from the highest government forums, they asserted, to push ahead rapidly with the development of this vitally strategic area--Pithat Rafiah (the Rafah salient). At Nahal Sinai, JNF giant earthmoving machinery is shifting some 600,000 cubic meters of sand dunes to prepare the ground for what will be a Herut-affiliated moshav on the seashore just east of El Arish "capital of Sinai." Presently, a Nahal post called Nahal Sinai is situated just west of the town, but this is to be moved, say JNF men on the spot, to the new location east of the town.

**Far-Reaching Political Intentions**

They say the move indicates far-reaching political intentions: to be ready to return El Arish and withdraw to the new Nahal Sinai when and if real peace with Egypt comes. Nahal Sinai would then form Israel's furthestmost point of control along the Mediterranean coast, sealing off the Gaza Strip from Sinai proper.

In Jerusalem, government officials are reluctant to discuss details--but what is certain is that settlement in the Pithat Rafiah area is now proceeding at an accelerated pace. Ten settlements--moshavim or kibbutzim--are planned for the region. Some, like Sadot and Dikla, already exist and prosper. Others, like Ogda and Sukkot are being worked on. Others, like Dekel and Eshel, sited near Ogda and at present only army camps, are still in the blueprint stage.

The regional center that will service this new complex of rural Jewish settlements is "Merkaz Avshalom"--better known as Yamit, first dreamed of by former Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, and now rising slowly but steadily on the coastal sand dunes under the supervision of Housing Ministry planners.

Huge transport lorries bring the prefabricat-

ed homes in sections to the site, and massive cranes lower whole walls and floors into position. The workmen--mostly local Arabs and Bedouins--then put the finishing touches to the pretty two-story blocks, each with a sweeping view of the white, palm-fringed beaches and deep blue sea. Yamit, and the smaller settlements, too, are sure to be major tourist attractions when they are completed--and if their beaches can be preserved in their pristine and unspoiled state.

Pithat Rafiah was the scene of some political conflict before the Yom Kippur War, when the military authorities fenced off the large tracts on which Dikla, Ogda and the other settlements were to be built, and herded the local Bedouins into negotiations. "They ought to thank us," Dotan said today. Their living standards have increased beyond recognition with the coming of the Israeli settlers, he said. But he did not deny that the Bedouins themselves do not always take this view of their situation or of the army's action, and many still yearn for their free-roaming days across the sandy expanses of the area.

**Other Links In The Chain**

The army authorities have enclosed two areas near Dikla for the Bedouins to take over as farmers and small-holders. Those who wish can receive their compensation for the fencing-off of their grazing land in the form of a small farm, a new house, and help to get started in agriculture. The Bedouins can come and go as and when they please, officials told me. But they are under security scrutiny--represented by the fences and by army patrols that move about the area.

Further north, inland from the populated coastal strip, the new moshavim of Nahal Morag and Nahal Katif will be built--other links in the chain of Jewish settlement that will serve in a strategic containment role around the Strip itself.

**PRESIDENT OF MOSCOW SYNAGOGUE  
RESIGNS AS RESULT OF POWER STRUGGLE**

ELIZABETH, N.J., Jan. 16 (JTA)--A power struggle within the congregation of the Moscow synagogue has resulted in the resignation of the president, Efraim Kaplun, and appointment by the government of a new president, Mikhail Yefromovich Tandetni, an American Orthodox rabbinical leader reported today.

Rabbi Pinhas Teitz, a member of the presidency of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada, said a group of congregants, led by Cantor Jacob Kleinman, had been seeking Kaplun's removal for several months. Kaplun ended the battle by submitting a letter of resignation, which Soviet authorities refused initially to accept. They finally did so and named Tandetni to the post on Dec. 23.

Kaplun presented his successor at a meeting of the congregation last week, Rabbi Teitz reported. He said he had spoken by telephone to the new president last night and that Tandetni has informed him he would continue with the present programs at the synagogue. Rabbi Teitz said he was told by Tandetni that matzoh baking had been started at the synagogue and that matzohs were currently being produced at the rate of 2000 pounds per day.

One of the current projects is a yeshiva at the synagogue, where 10 students are now studying. There had been a yeshiva under direction of the late Chief Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin, which had ended soon after Rabbi Levin's death and which was revived by Kaplun, Rabbi Teitz said. Kaplun also re-established a kosher dining facility at the synagogue. Rabbi Teitz said Tandetni had informed him he intended to continue those two projects.