



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

Monday, December 22, 1970

No. 241

PERES CONFIDENT OF U.S. SPEEDUP OF MILITARY HARDWARE TO ISRAEL

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21 (JTA)--Defense Minister Shimon Peres has returned from the U.S. confident that the delivery of arms to Israel will be speeded up and that a relationship based on mutual confidence has been established with the Pentagon. Peres, who arrived home from Washington Friday, told newsmen he was particularly impressed with America's new Defense Secretary, Donald Rumsfeld who, despite his short time in office, revealed a broad and deep knowledge of Israel's security situation and defense needs.

Peres' mission to the U.S. was to try to break the logjam that has been holding up the delivery of certain weapons already contracted for by Israel and to apprise the Ford Administration of Israel's future military needs. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee's subcommittee on assistance approved the Administration's \$4.7 billion foreign aid bill Friday which includes over \$2 billion in military grants and credits for Israel. (See separate story.)

While in the U.S., Peres told newsmen that Israel was not receiving "100 percent" of the arms promised it but declined to say whether the delay was due to bureaucratic red tape or a political decision by the Administration. On his return to Israel, however, he indicated that the arms acquisition process will be shortened and the supply of essential combat items would be expedited. He said his three-hour talk with Rumsfeld took place in the presence of Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Joseph J. Sisco and that the full gamut of Middle Eastern affairs was discussed.

Peres said he warned the U.S. officials of the dangerous situation in Lebanon which, he said, should be considered by those who advocate Israeli negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organization. He said they also spoke of widening rifts in the Middle East between the southern coalition of Egypt, Iran and Saudi Arabia and the northern coalition of Syria, Iraq and Jordan.

Hawkeyes, F-15s Discussed

Peres said the supply of U.S. Hawkeye radar planes and F-15 fighters to Israel was discussed and disclosed that the possibility also arose of shipping the components of the new F-16 fighter to Israel for assembly there. That aircraft will not be available before 1980. Peres said assembly in Israel was not intended to compete with American industry but to shorten time and save lives thereby.

He reiterated his statement made in the U.S. last week that 10 Arab states have contracted for \$19 billion worth of armaments over the past two years including a huge inflow from the Soviet Union. He said Syria was the major recipient of Soviet aircraft. He put the number of MIG-23s in Syrian hands at 150 and said some advanced MIG-23s are also there, flown by Russian pilots. But the day is not far when Syrian pilots will man the new MIGs, Peres said.

He stressed that Syria has gotten hundreds of T-62 tanks from the Soviet Union while Israel is still using the old American Sherman tanks. The

Syrians have also received many ground-to-ground and ground-to-air missiles from the USSR and other Arab countries are also receiving huge quantities of arms, Peres said. He stressed that Israel is still in the process of replacing its obsolete war material.

REASON FOR ALLON'S 36-HOUR TRIP TO EUROPE IS SHROUDED IN SECRECY

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 21 (JTA)--The secrecy surrounding Foreign Minister Yigal Allon's 36-hour trip to Europe over the weekend has aroused speculation--flatly denied by the Foreign Ministry--that he might have met with a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization. Allon left Friday and returned to Jerusalem last night. His trip was unannounced and was confirmed by the Foreign Ministry only after news of it was published in today's edition of Yediot Achronot.

A Ministry spokesman said Allon had been to two Western capitals "on Ministry business" but refused to say which capitals and what business. Yediot Achronot said he visited Switzerland. The Foreign Minister reported on his trip at today's Cabinet session. But his report was described by informed sources as only partial for fear of potential leaks.

Official sources said Allon could not possibly have met a PLO representative because such a meeting would have been in defiance of the government's declared policy. There was also speculation that he may have met with an African leader or a Soviet diplomat, but no confirmation was obtainable from tight-lipped Foreign Ministry officials.

There was also no indication why the visit was shrouded in secrecy. The Yediot Achronot report carried no by-line. There was no way of ascertaining whether it resulted from a deliberate leak or whether a sharp-eyed reporter had spotted Allon at Ben Gurion Airport.

AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN ISRAEL AS TERRORISTS INVADE OPEC HQ IN VIENNA AND SEIZE 30 HOSTAGES

JERUSALEM, Dec. 21 (JTA)--Austrian Foreign Minister Erich Bleska said on a radio interview here tonight that he may have to break off his three-day official visit to Israel and return to Vienna where five gunmen, identified as Arab terrorists, invaded the headquarters of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) today and are holding at least 30 hostages. The intruders are believed to include senior ministers of several oil producing states, among them Saudi Arabia's Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani and the Interior Minister of Iran, Jamahid Amouzegar.

The terrorists were identified in a document found in Geneva late today as members of a group calling itself the "Arm of the Arab Revolution." The document spoke of a "high level plot aimed at obtaining recognition for the legality of Zionist presence in our territory" and accused "reactionary, traitorous and defeatist regimes in the Arab world" of turning to the United States, ostensibly in furtherance of the alleged "plot."

A statement released by the Palestine News

Agency "Wafa" in Beirut this evening said the Palestine Liberation Organization condemned the terrorist attack in Vienna as an attempt to discredit Third World efforts to achieve equality with the industrialized countries.

The statement said that "undoubtedly American imperialism and Zionism are behind this operation which is aimed at undermining OPEC so that the Third World may have no strong weapons to face monopolist conspiracies, oil prices remain as they are and oil flows into the pockets of the big monopolists in the United States." The statement was issued by Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's political department.

The statement issued by the terrorists, broadcast on Austrian radio at two-hour intervals, labeled Egyptian President Anwar Sadat as "one of the leading traitors" in the Arab world and charged that Iran is an "active imperialist tool."

The first reports of the terrorist assault in Vienna reached here just as Bielka was landing at Ben Gurion Airport where he was greeted by Foreign Minister Yigal Allon. He proceeded to Jerusalem, nevertheless, made a ceremonial visit to Mt. Herzl and briefed newsmen. On his radio interview tonight he said he hoped he would be able to complete his visit but that his plans were uncertain because he did not have an updated account of events in Vienna. The terrorist attack forced Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky to interrupt a skiing holiday in Lech, Western Austria, and fly back to Vienna today.

Police Surround OPEC HQ

According to initial reports from the Austrian capital, five persons including two OPEC officials and an Austrian security guard were mowed down by terrorist machinegun fire at OPEC headquarters. Later reports said that only the guard was killed. Police have surrounded the OPEC building where the terrorists have threatened the hostages' lives.

The attack occurred as 12 of OPEC's 13 oil ministers were in the second day of a conference on problems of price-cutting within the organization. Only the United Arab Emirates Oil Minister, Mansour bin Jaber al-Dhahbi, was outside the building at the time. The other OPEC countries are Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, Iran, Venezuela, Nigeria, Indonesia, Qatar, Libya, Ecuador, Algeria and Gabon.

Reports from Vienna identified the terrorists as four young men and a woman, two of whom appeared to be European and the others described as "swarthy" and probably of Middle Eastern origin. Police said they had demanded a DC-7 airliner to fly themselves and their hostages to an unknown destination. They also reportedly demanded that a statement on Arab policy be read over the Austrian radio.

Former Incident Recalled

Austrian government officials said the terrorists had asked that the Libyan Ambassador to Austria, Ezzedin Al Ghadami be summoned to the OPEC building to serve as an intermediary. The envoy was reportedly on a visit to Prague and officials were trying to locate him and bring him back to Vienna, the report said.

Reports from Geneva said it was not immediately possible to confirm the authenticity of the document identifying the terrorists as the "Arm of the Arab Revolution." The seven type-written pages, in French, were reportedly found in a men's lavatory near the Palais Des Nations, the

United Nations headquarters in Geneva. The document reportedly praised Syria as the leader of progressive Arab governments.

The leader of the gang was identified as one, surnamed Carlos. This led to speculation that it was Carlos Martinez, a formerly identified Venezuelan assassin who is wanted in Europe in connection with the murder of two French security officers and a Lebanese in Paris last June. Subsequently, papers, bombs, pistols and hand grenades, which were said to belong to Carlos, were found in a London flat.

It was recalled that the last terrorist incident in Austria was when a train and its passengers were seized in September, 1973, shortly before the outbreak of the Yom Kippur War. There were reports afterwards that the incident was perpetrated in order to divert attention away from the massive buildup of Arab troops along Israel's borders in preparation for the war.

Issues On Allon-Bielka Agenda

If Foreign Minister Bielka is able to continue his visit here, the issue of Austria's attitude toward the PLO is expected to figure in his talks with Allon. Bielka said in a recent interview that if the PLO asked for representation at Vienna-based agencies of the UN, Austria would follow the example of UN agencies in New York and Geneva and grant the required entry permits. He did not say whether his government would follow New York's lead in limiting the permits to the immediate vicinity of the UN offices.

Israeli officials were expected to ask Bielka to clarify his government's position on this as yet hypothetical question and also on the broader Palestinian issue. The Austrian diplomat is reported to have referred recently to the Palestinians' right to a "Heimat" (homeland) which could be construed as a territory with less than full political independence.

In the past, Austria has favored the U.S.-West German-Dutch position of no recognition or negotiations with the PLO unless the latter recognizes Israel's right to exist and accepts Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

Another issue to be raised with Bielka--if he stays here for the full three days--is that of compensation for Nazi victims. So far, Austria has only met some property claims and contends that it was conquered by the Nazis in 1938 and therefore not responsible for their atrocities.

About 12,000 potential eligible claimants living in Israel will have their case stated to Bielka by MK Hillel Zeldel of the Independent Liberal Party. Bielka himself is a concentration camp survivor, having been ousted from the Austrian foreign service after the Anschluss and imprisoned at Dachau. He and his wife planned to vacation in Israel for about a week after his official visit ended. But as of tonight his plans were uncertain. (By David Landau)

ALLON: HERZOG'S REACTION TO MEXICO'S VOTE IN UN WAS DUE TO GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO APPRISE HIM OF 'UNDERSTANDING' By Gil Sodian

JERUSALEM, Dec. 21 (JTA)--The strong reaction by Israel's Ambassador to the UN, Chaim Herzog, against the Mexican vote last week approving the Mexico City women's convention anti-Zionist resolution was due to technical failure, Foreign Minister Yigal Allon told the Cabinet today.

Allon said Herzog had not received the full papers of the visit to Israel of Mexico's Foreign Minister, Emilio Rabasa, which would have clar-

fied to him the "understanding" between Israel and Mexico. Had he received these clarifications in time, Allon explained, his reaction would have been different. It had been reported last Thursday that Israeli government sources said that a cable was sent to Herzog in advance of the voting explaining the situation but that the envoy either did not receive it or did not have a chance to read it.

Allon explained that Mexico was in effect acting according to the understanding with Rabasa on his visit here and that Mexico had not taken any further anti-Israel stands since. Mexico, for example, was absent and boycotted the session of the UNESCO conference last Wednesday in Paris where an anti-Zionist resolution was adopted.

Allon answered questions posed by some ministers at the weekly Cabinet session, adding that had Israel demanded more from Mexico, the relations between the two countries might have deteriorated into a breach. As things turned out, Allon said, following Rabasa's visit the relations between the two countries have improved and were now even better than in the past. However, Allon added, he could not predict how these relations would develop in the future.

AID FOR ISRAEL APPROVED; TIGHT CONGRESSIONAL CONTROL ON FUTURE ARMS SALES AND GRANT PROGRAMS ALSO PASSED By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (JTA)--The Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Assistance approved Friday, over strong Administration objections to provisions to put tight controls by Congress on future military sales and grants programs, the Administration's \$4.7 billion foreign aid bill which included nearly \$3 billion in aid for Israel and Egypt.

The subcommittee version cut a total of \$411 million from the Administration's proposal, about nine percent of the original authorization request, which came within the guidelines set up by the newly established Congressional budget committee.

As part of the second Sinai interim accord between Egypt and Israel, the Administration asked \$1.6 billion in military credits to Israel, with about one-half which would not have to be repaid, and an additional \$740 million in security support aid.

The subcommittee, headed by Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D., Minn.) originally planned to cut the \$740 million request for Israel by \$25 million but restored the full amount. Subcommittee sources said the cut would be a blow to Israel after its recent setbacks by the General Assembly and specialized agencies of the United Nations, noting the amount would still be \$15 million under the \$755 million approved by the House International Relations Committee on Dec. 9.

Cut Aid For Arabs

The Administration had asked for \$750 million in economic aid for Egypt, \$90 million for Syria, \$77.5 million in economic aid and \$176 million in military credits and grants for Jordan. The subcommittee cut the totals to \$725 million for Egypt, to \$35 million for Syria and to \$52.5 million in economic aid and to \$126 million in military grants and credits for Jordan.

Under the subcommittee's plans, the subcommittee measure was to have gone to the full Foreign Relations Committee for consideration and approval Friday before the Congressional Yule recess. But the Administration managed to per-

suade Sen. John Sparkman (D., Ala.), the Foreign Relations Committee chairman, Sen. Humphrey and others on the committee to delay final approval until after Congress reconvenes in mid-January, apparently in hope of changing the control provisions.

Sources said there may be further cuts by the Senate Appropriations Committee, which is still working on the authorization bill. Compulsion measures are nearing approval by the House International Relations Committee and House Appropriations Committee, with final action in the two houses anticipated in late January.

Under an amendment sponsored by Sen. Clifford Case (R., N.J.) and Sen. Gaylord Nelson (D., Wis.) Congress would have authority equal to that of the Executive branch to veto the transfer of U.S. weapons by the purchasing nation to a third country. Senate sources said an example was the use of American warplanes sold to Iran and used by Egyptian pilots. Another amendment would enable Congress to cancel any transaction if a country like Saudi Arabia practiced discrimination against Americans assigned to an aid project.

Plan Sale Of Hawkeyes To Israel

In a related development, the Defense Department informed Congress Friday that it plans to sell four naval airplanes to Israel for delivery in September and October 1978. The total contract, covering spare parts, logistical support and the training of personnel for the E-2C aircraft has an estimated value of \$210 million.

The U.S. Navy Department under the Foreign Military Sales Act, will have responsibility for this contract. The aircraft have been described as advanced Hawkeye surveillance planes and are expected to be used by Israel over the Sinai desert in its monitoring of the second Sinai interim accord with Egypt. Sources here reported that the U.S. plans to sell Israel two more Hawkeyes next year.

LEGISLATION INTRODUCED TO DEPORT ALIENS INVOLVED IN NAZI WAR CRIMES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (JTA)--Rep. Elizabeth Holtzman (D., N.Y.) has introduced legislation to authorize the Department of Justice to deport aliens who engaged in war crimes under the Nazis. She said her bill was necessary because present U.S. immigration laws do not bar Nazi war criminals. "Although the immigration laws exclude from the United States everyone from polygamists to marijuana users, from prostitutes to anarchists, Martin Borman could enter this country freely," she said Friday in introducing her legislation.

Rep. Holtzman explained that under present immigration law, a person who committed war crimes under the Nazis could be deported only if he concealed those actions from immigration officials. This provision, she said, only applies to those who entered the U.S. under the Displaced Persons Act prior to 1957.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--The South African Consulate-General in Israel is to become a full Embassy shortly--thus leveling the rank of the two countries' representations in each other's country. Two years ago, Israel upped the level of its Consulate in South Africa to full Embassy (the present Ambassador is Yitzhak Unna) and the South African move was expected to follow in due course. The South African Consul-General in Tel Aviv, Charles Fincham, will be appointed Ambassador. It is understood.

REPORT SHOWS THAT JEWISH POPULATION OF GREATER NY DECLINED BY AN ESTIMATED 383,000 BETWEEN 1962-71

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (JTA)--The Jewish population of the Greater New York area declined by an estimated 383,000 between 1962 and 1970-71, a period in which there was a substantial shift of Jews from the city to the suburbs within that area, according to a report by the director of the National Jewish Population Study, sponsored by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds. The Greater New York area is given in the report as the five boroughs of New York City, plus the Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk counties.

The report by Dr. Fred Massarik appeared in the 1976 edition of the American Jewish Year Book, published by the American Jewish Committee and the Jewish Publication Society of America. Dr. Massarik reported that the population of children under five, in the overall total of 1,998,000 current Jewish residents of Greater New York, also declined.

The 1976 edition of the Year Book did not contain a figure on the Jewish population of Greater New York because of a discrepancy between the findings of the CJP survey and the estimate in the 1974 Year Book which was based on other methods of estimating Jewish population. The 1974 Year Book reported 2,381,000 Jews in the Greater New York area but the CJP survey indicated 400,000 less Jews, or 1,981,000, approximately the same total as the figure used by Dr. Massarik in the 1976 edition.

Alvin Chenkin, supervisor of the statistics unit of the CJP, who prepared the data for United States populations for the 1976 Year Book report, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency there were three possible explanations for the estimated Greater New York area decline of 383,000 Jews.

Three Possible Explanations Cited

He said one was the possibility of Jewish migration out of the area and noted there had been in recent years a substantial increase in the number of Jews in the northern tier of counties in New Jersey. A second factor, he said, was the effect of the declining Jewish birthrate. The third, he said, was the fact that the original base figures of 1962 were based on a different approach than that of the CJP population study and to some degree not comparable.

Dr. Massarik declared that the movement to the suburbs resulted in a Jewish population total in the Nassau-Suffolk area of 608,000, which is larger than that of any of New York City's five boroughs. Brooklyn's Jewish population is now estimated at 514,000; Queens at 375,000; Manhattan at 171,000; the Bronx at 143,000 and Staten Island at 21,000. The Jewish population of Westchester is listed as 185,000.

He said that in the five counties of New York City there was a loss of 608,000 in Jewish population and a gain of 191,000 in Nassau-Suffolk and 34,000 in Westchester County. The total number of Jewish households in the Greater New York area is 720,000, with an average size of just under 2.6 persons. The size of Jewish households is highest in Nassau-Suffolk, with 3.64 persons, followed by Westchester with 3.28.

Young children under five and children between five and 14 "constitute particularly large components of the total Jewish populations of the suburban areas, notably Westchester," Dr. Mas-

sarik reported. "In Nassau-Suffolk, where the proportion of the very young is not exceptionally high, children in the five to 14 category are a major segment of the total population. At the other extreme, the presence of Jewish aged primarily in the Bronx, but also in Manhattan clearly exceeds that in all the other boroughs/county.

Wage Earners in N.Y. Area

The proportion of gainfully-employed Jewish men and women is highest in Nassau-Suffolk and Westchester, followed by Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx, Dr. Massarik reported. The highest figure for the percentage of Jewish women in the labor force is also in Nassau-Suffolk. He said the findings suggest that Nassau-Suffolk has proportionately the highest percentage of wage earners of both sexes, and that "the conventional pattern, with the male wage earner as the sole contributor to the family income, is most prevalent in Westchester. The Bronx has the lowest proportion of gainfully employed, if both men and women are considered."

The findings indicated that the proportion of male students 16 to 22 is highest in Nassau-Suffolk at 17 percent, followed by Westchester with 11 percent and Queens with ten percent. Female student percentages are highest in Westchester with 14 percent, Nassau-Suffolk with 11 percent, and the Bronx with ten percent.

The number of retired Jewish men is low in the suburban counties at four percent but relatively high in the Bronx at nearly 30 percent. In all counties, the proportion of Jewish women who are housewives is between 40 and 50 percent.

STATUE OF LINCOLN FOR ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (JTA)--The House has unanimously approved a joint resolution that would have President Ford present to the people of Israel on behalf of the people of the United States a bronzed, larger than life-size statue of Abraham Lincoln. "The Senate is expected to approve the resolution when it reconvenes after the year-end recess.

The resolution, introduced by Rep. Richard L. Ottinger (D.NY), would accept the statue by sculptor Sidney Loebe and acquired by Leon Gildesgame, of Mount Kisco, N.Y., a manufacturer and philanthropist, who has been seeking for 15 years to obtain a suitable likeness of Lincoln to be given to Israel. Ottinger noted that Gildesgame was told by David Ben Gurion in 1960 that Lincoln was the greatest American who ever lived. Ben Gurion pointed out that much of what Lincoln favored in regard to human freedom and dignity was based on principles of the Old Testament--the same principles cherished by Israel today, Ottinger said.

The gift to Israel would be without any cost whatever to the U.S. government. The statue is a gift from Gildesgame who also will join the Israeli government in paying for the costs of transport, an aide to Ottinger told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Mortar shells were fired boobytime Sunday at an Israeli patrol in the kibbutz Baram area in Upper Galilee. The mortars were fired from across the Lebanese border. There were no casualties and fire was returned at the source of the attack. Similar incidents occurred Friday and earlier last week.

REMINDER: There will be no Bulletin dated Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 due to Christmas and New Years, both postal holidays.