



daily news bulletin

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Wednesday, January 7, 1976

No. 4

BEHIND THE HEADLINES FEARS AND HOPES AS ISRAEL AWAITS SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 6 (JTA)--Jerusalem this week awaits with trepidation the Security Council debate on the Middle East, scheduled to begin next Monday. The main fear among top policymakers is that the Arab-initiated debate could result in even greater isolation of Israel, and even in a rift opening between Israel and the United States.

Foreign Minister Yigal Allon, now in Washington for talks with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, was instructed by the Cabinet Sunday to ascertain as precisely as possible what can be expected from the U.S. as the Security Council drama unfolds.

Paradoxically, the worst fear is that the Arabs will not be extremist, but moderate. Their moderation could tempt the U.S. into supporting a new Council resolution broadly sympathetic to the Palestinian cause--a resolution which would drive a wedge between Jerusalem and Washington.

Gone are the days when the Arabs could be counted on to prejudice, with bombast and extremist rhetoric, their own best interests. Now, under Soviet coaxing, the Arabs--even the Syrians--might well soften their hardline demands, and propose a moderate formulation on the Palestinian question which Washington would be hard put to veto.

Might Use American Formulations

They might well make use of formulations actually used by the U.S. itself in the past, such as the "interests of the Palestinian people" referred to in the joint communique issued June 1973 by President Nixon and Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid Brezhnev and repeated at the Vladivostok summit between Brezhnev and President Ford last year.

A resolution in this vein would mean, in the present context, Israeli policymakers say, a call to reconvene Geneva with the PLO participating. After all, if the Palestinians are a people and have legitimate interests, then they have the right to attend the peace conference. And their representatives--recognized worldwide--are none other than the PLO.

Egypt is already thought to be canvassing a resolution in this vein. The Soviets would very probably support it, and Syria in the end might come around to it too. Then everything would depend on Washington. Israel could not accept such a resolution, top policymakers here explain, and would not participate at the Geneva conference if the PLO were invited.

Seeming Shift On Palestinian-PLO Issue

In effect, what Israel is asking of Washington is that it protect a position (Israel's) which it itself does not support and that it veto proposals (on the Palestinian issue) which it might otherwise be inclined to accept. For Israel's official stand on the Palestinian issue, even following the seeming shift this week with Premier Yitzhak

Rabin's "Nouvel Observateur" interview, is a very far cry indeed from the U.S. position.

Rabin insisted that the PLO would have to specifically abrogate its "Palestine Covenant"--a secular, democratic state--before it could be said to have meaningfully changed its ideology. The interview was certainly a tactical shift, undertaken, in most observers' view, following intense pressure at home and from Washington.

For the first time, albeit as a "very, very hypothetical possibility," the Premier considered the prospect of the PLO changing its ideology. He was not flatly and totally and eternally negative, as he had been in a recent "Newsweek" interview which was widely criticized as needlessly intransigent. But the U.S. has never supported the demand that the PLO abrogate the Covenant.

Washington's Preference

The most Washington was prepared to accept--and this was enshrined in the September "memorandum of understanding" between Jerusalem and Washington--was that it would not talk with the PLO unless the PLO recognized Israel and accepted Resolutions 242 and 338. The formulation was chosen advisedly, and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger was not prepared to commit his government to anything more. The American rationale is that, while opposing a third state and preferring a "Jordanian solution," Washington sees the chance of such solution inexorably dimming.

If the PLO were to recognize Israel and accept the Resolutions 242 and 338--perhaps, this is not clear, by attending Geneva and thus doing so by implication only--then, the American argument runs, Israel would have to take the chance that political responsibility would moderate the terrorist movement and result in practice in its abandoning the ultimate aim of destroying Israel.

For Israel, say top policymakers, this is wholly unacceptable. A third state is seen here as a challenge to the very existence of the Jewish State.

Elements Compounding The Situation

The situation is compounded, according to some observers here, by the fact that Israel's present adamant stand on the Palestinian issue is not regarded entirely with credibility abroad. Foreign governments--and perhaps the U.S. government, too--might tend to believe, especially if they follow the Israeli press, that a further shift, a further softening, is likely as time goes on and pressures mount.

Foreign Minister Allon's position is a mystery. He has not yet formulated it in Cabinet deliberations. Perhaps he will do so this month in the scheduled "political debate" before Rabin's own official visit to Washington. Some observers here believe Allon's views are considerably different from those of Rabin, and that the Foreign Minister has in effect already given up hope of a purely "Jordanian solution" to the Palestinian question. Some say Allon would be prepared to countenance even a third state, linked in some way to Jordan and ruled by "moderates."

Kissinger and his aides are doubtlessly fully

aware of these "differences of nuance," as they are euphemistically called, within the Israeli Cabinet, and they will be eager to assess them for themselves in their meetings this month with Allon and Rabin. Their conclusions may to a large degree dictate their stand at the Security Council and their willingness to take a position there contrary to Israel's position on the Palestinians.

ALLON HAS BUSY SCHEDULE

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Stopping in New York today, on his way to Washington, Allon met here with Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations, Chaim Herzog, and members of the Israel UN Mission for consultations before his talks in Washington. Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., Simcha Dinitz, also participated in today's consultations. Allon also met with former Premier Golda Meir at her hotel in New York.

Allon is scheduled to be back in New York on Friday. On Saturday, he will be given a luncheon at Herzog's home in which the U.S. Ambassador to the UN, Daniel P. Moynihan, also will attend. A meeting between Allon and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations is scheduled for Sunday, prior to his return to Israel that day.

NBC SAYS SEGMENT OF INTERVIEW WITH FORD DEALING WITH PRESSURE GROUPS DELETED FOR TIME LIMITATION REASON

By David Friedman and Helen Silver

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Ford also mentioned the drop in Jewish emigration as due to Congressional action. While not mentioning the J/V Amendment by name, he used

it as an example of Congressional interference in the Presidential foreign policy-making prerogatives.

Israel's Air Superiority Questioned

On the Middle East, John Chancellor, the NBC special program's anchorman, noted that Israel may no longer be able to rely on its air superiority and "that a future war would be decided by tanks on the ground. There's also the chance that however strong the Israelis may be in the air, the Arabs may be stronger." Chancellor added, "Saudi Arabia, for example, has contracted for an air force buildup costing more than a billion dollars. The contractor--the U.S.--is helping to build up more and more Arab forces. We are doing it to keep the Russians from doing it, which doesn't make the Israelis breathe any easier."

In an interview by Edwin Newman with Daniel P. Moynihan on the usefulness of the United Nations, the American Ambassador to the world organization said that the U.S. should distinguish between the General Assembly and the Security Council "which is pretty close to indispensable to formulating foreign policy. Just about anywhere you go in the world you'll find its involvement and not the least in the Middle East where the whole structure of our policy is based upon Security Council resolutions."

As for the General Assembly, Moynihan said "I think the time has come when we should seek as much as possible to deal with as few things as possible in the General Assembly." He said the action by the Assembly declaring "Zionism a form of racism is obscene, untrue, a lie and characteristic of what comes out of the General Assembly."

DAYAN AS EDITOR

JERUSALEM, Jan. 6 (JTA)--Former Defense Minister Moshe Dayan has confirmed that he accepted a proposal to be the editor of a new morning newspaper but refused to reveal the names of the investors, reportedly a group of Americans and Israelis. According to Maariv, the American investors are being represented by Ami Brown and the Israelis by Moshe Wertheimer and Chagal Bar-Kochba.

Dayan said he will continue to serve in the Knesset, dividing his time between the newspaper and the Parliament. He said the newspaper, which is to be a tabloid, will be a Zionist newspaper and will not be affiliated with any political party. But, he added, "it will most certainly reflect my views."

In another development in Israel's newspapers, the Jerusalem Post announced the names of its two new editors, Ari Rath, 50, and Erwin Frenkel, 42. The two replaced Mrs. Lea Ben Dor who served as editor since the death of Ted Lurie in 1974. Rath, who was born in Vienna, joined the Post in 1958 as political and diplomatic correspondent, became news editor in 1962 and managing editor in 1970. He was the shaliach from Israel for Hahonim in the United States in 1946 and later studied at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Frenkel was born in Germany, but his family left that country when he was four years old. He settled in Israel in 1960 and joined the Post in 1961. He later served as editorial writer, feature editor and Washington correspondent. He became assistant editor in 1972.

Meanwhile, Aliter Weiner, 50, has been appointed editor and director of the Israeli news agency "ITIM." For the past several years he served as chairman of the board of ITIM. He was also direc-

tor of the National Religious Party daily, Hatzofeh until his new appointment last month when he replaced Haim Baltzan, who is retiring.

ELIAT RETURNS TO NORMAL FOLLOWING GENERAL STRIKE OVER MINES' SHUT-DOWN By Yitzhak Shargil

ELIAT, Jan. 6 (JTA)--Eilat returned to normal today following yesterday's general strike protesting the government's decision to close down the money-losing Timna copper mines which employ 700 members of this town's labor force. The angry citizenry was mollified somewhat by the visit last night of Minister of Commerce and Industry Haim Barlev who promised that the mines would continue to operate until other jobs are found in the Eilat area for the workers facing dismissal. But Barlev was able to speak only in general terms and gloom and anxiety persisted over the town's uncertain future.

Eilat's residents were shocked and infuriated by the news Sunday night that the government would act on a recommendation by the ministerial economic committee to shut down the mines immediately owing to a mounting deficit caused by a prolonged depression in world copper prices. Yesterday Eilat was paralyzed by a spontaneous strike that closed the harbor, the airport, local schools, shops and businesses while members of workers committees blocked highways leading to the town.

Barlev, although a member of the ministerial economic committee, was critical of the haste with which the government acted. "One does not close such an enterprise overnight," he told members of the Knesset economic committee in Jerusalem yesterday.

He repeated that remark to Eilat citizens last night. But it was Barlev himself who estimated the Timna mines' losses at IL 60 million this year and said there was no justification to keep the works going under such conditions. Estimated losses over the next three years were put at IL 250 million and the government which has just approved an austerity budget for fiscal 1976-77, is unable to subsidize further operation of the mines.

Rap Decision Without Consultation

Barlev, accompanied by Histadrut secretary general Yehoram Meshel, flew down late yesterday in a military transport because all commercial flights to Eilat were suspended. Angry crowds booed him at the airport and he was whisked off to an isolated fire house in a far corner of the airport for consultations with Mayor Gaddi Katz and representatives of the Eilat Labor Council and the Timna Workers Committee.

Later, however, the Minister spoke to the Eilat crowds. He heard them complain that decisions affecting their livelihood were made without consultation by government officials "sitting up north" in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The presence of a Cabinet Minister and the Histadrut chief to discuss their problem moderated the bitter feelings somewhat. It indicated at least that the government was concerned and that the fate of Eilat was not left in the hands of faceless bureaucrats pouring over columns of figures.

But Barlev could not make specific promises as to how long the mines would keep running and exactly what alternative jobs would be made available. His promises were conditioned on further discussions with his colleagues on the ministerial economic committee. The general strike was called off, nevertheless.

ALMOGI ELECTED NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE WZO BY A VOTE OF 67-42

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 6 (JTA)--The Zionist General Council tonight elected Haifa Mayor Yosef Almogi the new chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive by a vote of 67-42. All 110 members of the Council cast ballots, one of them a blank. Almogi's victory was by a considerably greater margin than expected by his opponent, acting WZO chairman Leon Dulzin.

Dulzin, who had predicted a close vote, has agreed to resign as acting chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive when the Agency Assembly convenes here this summer and that post will automatically go to Almogi. Sources close to Dulzin said tonight that he still intends to present himself as candidate for the WZO and Jewish Agency chairmanships when the next World Zionist Congress convenes here at the end of the year.

Almogi and Dulzin embraced after the results were announced and pledged cooperation. Yitzhak Navon, chairman of the Zionist General Council, praised the qualities and achievements of both candidates. He sought to console Dulzin by noting that he too knew the taste of defeat—once as a candidate for the Presidency of Israel and again when he stood for election as Speaker of the Knesset.

Motion To Postpone Vote Rejected

Almogi's victory was assured earlier today when the Zionist Congress Court rejected a motion by Dulzin's supporters to postpone the vote until the Jewish Agency Assembly meeting six months from now. The court, headed by Israeli Supreme Court Justice Moshe Landau, said there was no justification for postponement because the WZO constitution states specifically that the election of a new chairman must be held at the session of the General Council "closest" to the date on which the position became vacant. That date was last August when WZO chairman Pinhas Sapir died suddenly.

The 65-year-old veteran Laborite who resigned from the Cabinet in 1974 to become Mayor of Israel's third largest city, was strongly backed by the Labor Party who selected him to oppose Dulzin, a leader of Likud. He was elected by a combination of Labor, Mapam, Independent Liberal and General Zionist votes. The Mizrahi religious faction split.

Prior to the voting, Premier Yitzhak Rabin engaged in intensive personal lobbying for Almogi among the General Council delegates from Israel and abroad. His efforts were credited with bringing some Mizrahi votes and other swayers into the Almogi column. Dulzin's supporters for their part had hoped to corral some Labor Party dissidents or at least more blank ballots, but their efforts failed.

NEW YORK (JTA)--Hermann Goering's Mercedes car was sold for \$160,000 to an unidentified man from San Francisco. The 1944 car, used by the Nazi leader, was auctioned in Scottsdale, Arizona. The Mercedes weighs five-and-a-half tons and includes a mine-proof floor, bullet-proof wheels and windows, and one-inch armor plate on the doors.

NEW YORK (JTA)--The executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee was wrongly identified in Tuesday's Bulletin as Robert L. Goldman. His correct name is Ralph I. Goldman.

AZF LAUNCHES COMMISSION ON ZIONIST IDEOLOGY; POLISH NAMED CHAIRMAN

NEW YORK, Jan. 6 (JTA)--An American Zionist Federation Commission on Zionist Ideology has been launched and its first conference will be Jan. 21; it was announced by Faye Schenk, AZF president. Rabbi David Polish of Chicago, president of the Chicago Zionist Federation, will be chairman of the commission to which 31 Zionist scholars and leaders have been invited as members.

The commission, Mrs. Schenk said, will meet several times during the year for a series of high deliberations designed to develop answers to such questions as what is the contemporary character of Zionism, is the ideology of Zionism of 1976 essentially the same as the Zionism of 1945-1956, how does one distinguish between Zionism and pro-Israel activity, and does Zionist philosophy need updating and revision?

"The recent UN resolution equating Zionism with racism, and the resulting acceleration of interest in Zionism has created historic challenges and opportunities for the Zionist community," Mrs. Schenk stated. "Never before in recent years have so many people been interested in hearing about, or discussing, Zionism. One important by-product of this phenomenon is the need to clarify and interpret the meaning of Zionism."

Among those invited to participate in the commission are Prof. Howard Adelson, Dr. Judith Diesendruck, Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, Charlotte Jacobson, Philip Klutznick, Rose Matzkin, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, Dr. Joseph Sternstein, Kalman Sultanik, Prof. Marie Syrkin, Jacques Torczyner and Rabbi Mordechai Waxman. The 31 invitees represent all groupings in the Zionist movement.

CANADIAN PROVINCE PASSES LAW PROTECTING SABBATH OBSERVERS

TORONTO, Jan. 6 (JTA)--Jewish merchants who are Sabbath observers have been exempted from a new Provincial law that forbids most retail stores to remain open on Sundays. The new law, believed to be the first of its kind enacted in Ontario, went into effect Jan. 1. Its primary purpose was to restrain large supermarkets that have remained open on Sundays and national holidays. Certain small shops employing three or fewer people, are exempted.

As a result of representations by the Canadian Jewish Congress in association with the Seventh Day Adventists, an amendment was added to remove the Sunday ban from retail businesses that are closed for "a period of 24 consecutive hours in a period of 32 hours immediately preceding Sunday" which occupy a relatively small area and employ less than eight persons. Jewish retail shops operated by Sabbath observers largely fall into this category.

A proposal to add the words "for religious reasons" to the amendment was struck out on grounds that mention of religion in a Provincial law may render it unconstitutional. Only the Federal government is entitled to deal with religious matters in Canada.

250 U.S. CANADIAN JEWISH LEADERS TO MEET WITH RABIN, OTHER GOVERNMENT LEADERS ON ISRAEL'S ECONOMIC NEEDS

NEW YORK, Jan. 6 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin has invited more than 250 Jewish leaders from the United States and Canada to meet with him and other government leaders on Israel's

economic needs and problems in 1976 during the week of Jan. 12. The Prime Minister's Israel Bond Conference will plan a program of action to increase the participation of Jewish communities abroad in alleviating the severe pressures on Israel's economy resulting from a record-high defense budget and a staggering balance of payments deficit of more than \$3.5 billion, according to Sam Rothberg, general chairman of the Israel Bond Organization.

Brussels Conference Also Slated

For the first time in the 25-year history of the Israel Bond program, the conference will meet in Europe as well as in Israel. The initial sessions of the 1976 conference will be held in Brussels Jan. 11 and 12 to focus attention on the new opportunities for wider Israel trade with Europe as a result of the agreement Israel signed early in 1975 with the Common Market that will lift all tariff barriers on Israeli goods by the middle of next year.

In Brussels, headquarters of the Common Market, the members of the conference will meet with top officials of the Common Market and with the Ambassador and leaders of the Jewish community of Belgium headed by Paul Philipsson, its president and head of the Israel Bond campaign in that country. Baron Edmond de Rothschild of Paris, president of the Israel Bond Organization in Europe, will preside at the dinner session Jan. 11 at the Sheraton Hotel in Brussels.

In tribute to the Jews who were killed in the Nazi holocaust in Europe, the visiting Jewish leaders will go directly from the Brussels airport on arrival to Camp Breendonk which served as an SS internment center during World War II. The members of the conference will unveil a memorial tablet in honor of the prisoners who died in that detention camp and the thousands who were deported from there to concentration camps from which they never returned alive.

HAYM SALOMON MEMORIALIZED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6 (JTA)--President Ford, in a letter to the Haym Salomon Lodge of Brith Shalom in Philadelphia, praised the contributions of Haym Salomon who helped finance the American Revolution. The lodge and the George Washington Scottish Rite bodies in association with Philadelphia '76 memorialized Salomon on Sunday, the anniversary of his death in 1785.

Ford's message said: "As we lay the cornerstone of America's third century, it is most appropriate that we pay tribute to the very special part played by Haym Salomon in the success of our initial efforts. I am pleased to join with the members of the Haym Salomon Lodge No. 663, Brith Shalom, in memorializing his dedication to America."

DECEMBER TOURISM AT RECORD HIGH

JERUSALEM, Jan. 6 (JTA)--December, 1975 was the top December ever in terms of tourism to Israel. According to figures released by the Tourism Ministry, 60,700 tourists came last month. The figure was 36 percent higher than in December, 1974 and 16 percent higher than in December, 1971, the previous top December. Of those arriving here last month, 51,900 came by air and most of the others by cruise ships. However, overall tourism figures for 1975 were down to 617,500 compared with 624,700 in 1974, according to the Tourism Ministry.



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Gone are the days when the Arabs could be counted on to prejudice, with bombast and extremist rhetoric, their own best interests. Now, under Soviet coaxing, the Arabs--even the Syrians--might well soften their hardline demands, and propose a moderate formulation on the Palestinian question which Washington would be hard put to veto.

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Dayan said he will continue to serve in the Knesset, dividing his time between the newspaper and the Parliament. He said the newspaper, which is to be a tabloid, will be a Zionist newspaper and will not be affiliated with any political party. But, he added, "it will most certainly reflect my views."

In another development in Israel's newspapers, the Jerusalem Post announced the names of its two new editors, Ari Rath, 50, and Erwin Frenkel, 42. The two replaced Mrs. Lea Ben Dor who served as editor since the death of Ted Lurie in 1974. Rath, who was born in Vienna, joined the Post in 1958 as political and diplomatic correspondent, became news editor in 1962 and managing editor in 1970. He was the shaliach from Israel for Hahonim in the United States in 1946 and later studied at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Frenkel was born in Germany, but his family left that country when he was four years old. He settled in Israel in 1960 and joined the Post in 1961. He later served as editorial writer, feature editor and Washington correspondent. He became assistant editor in 1972.

Meanwhile, Aliter Weiner, 50, has been appointed editor and director of the Israeli news agency "ITIM." For the past several years he served as chairman of the board of ITIM. He was also direc-

tor of the National Religious Party daily, Hatzofeh until his new appointment last month when he replaced Haim Baltzan, who is retiring.

ELIAT RETURNS TO NORMAL FOLLOWING GENERAL STRIKE OVER MINES' SHUT-DOWN By Yitzhak Shargil

ELIAT, Jan. 6 (JTA)--Eilat returned to normal today following yesterday's general strike protesting the government's decision to close down the money-losing Timna copper mines which employ 700 members of this town's labor force. The angry citizenry was mollified somewhat by the visit last night of Minister of Commerce and Industry Haim Barlev who promised that the mines would continue to operate until other jobs are found in the Eilat area for the workers facing dismissal. But Barlev was able to speak only in general terms and gloom and anxiety persisted over the town's uncertain future.

Eilat's residents were shocked and infuriated by the news Sunday night that the government would act on a recommendation by the ministerial economic committee to shut down the mines immediately owing to a mounting deficit caused by a prolonged depression in world copper prices. Yesterday Eilat was paralyzed by a spontaneous strike that closed the harbor, the airport, local schools, shops and businesses while members of workers committees blocked highways leading to the town.

Barlev, although a member of the ministerial economic committee, was critical of the haste with which the government acted. "One does not close such an enterprise overnight," he told members of the Knesset economic committee in Jerusalem yesterday.

He repeated that remark to Eilat citizens last night. But it was Barlev himself who estimated the Timna mines' losses at IL 60 million this year and said there was no justification to keep the works going under such conditions. Estimated losses over the next three years were put at IL 250 million and the government which has just approved an austerity budget for fiscal 1976-77, is unable to subsidize further operation of the mines.

Rap Decision Without Consultation

Barlev, accompanied by Histadrut secretary general Yehoram Meshel, flew down late yesterday in a military transport because all commercial flights to Eilat were suspended. Angry crowds booed him at the airport and he was whisked off to an isolated fire house in a far corner of the airport for consultations with Mayor Gaddi Katz and representatives of the Eilat Labor Council and the Timna Workers Committee.

Later, however, the Minister spoke to the Eilat crowds. He heard them complain that decisions affecting their livelihood were made without consultation by government officials "sitting up north" in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The presence of a Cabinet Minister and the Histadrut chief to discuss their problem moderated the bitter feelings somewhat. It indicated at least that the government was concerned and that the fate of Eilat was not left in the hands of faceless bureaucrats pouring over columns of figures.

But Barlev could not make specific promises as to how long the mines would keep running and exactly what alternative jobs would be made available. His promises were conditioned on further discussions with his colleagues on the ministerial economic committee. The general strike was called off, nevertheless.

ALMOGI ELECTED NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE WZO BY A VOTE OF 67-42

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 6 (JTA)--The Zionist General Council tonight elected Haifa Mayor Yosef Almogi the new chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive by a vote of 67-42. All 110 members of the Council cast ballots, one of them a blank. Almogi's victory was by a considerably greater margin than expected by his opponent, acting WZO chairman Leon Dulzin.

Dulzin, who had predicted a close vote, has agreed to resign as acting chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive when the Agency Assembly convenes here this summer and that post will automatically go to Almogi. Sources close to Dulzin said tonight that he still intends to present himself as candidate for the WZO and Jewish Agency chairmanships when the next World Zionist Congress convenes here at the end of the year.

Almogi and Dulzin embraced after the results were announced and pledged cooperation. Yitzhak Navon, chairman of the Zionist General Council, praised the qualities and achievements of both candidates. He sought to console Dulzin by noting that he too knew the taste of defeat—once as a candidate for the Presidency of Israel and again when he stood for election as Speaker of the Knesset.

Motion To Postpone Vote Rejected

Almogi's victory was assured earlier today when the Zionist Congress Court rejected a motion by Dulzin's supporters to postpone the vote until the Jewish Agency Assembly meeting six months from now. The court, headed by Israeli Supreme Court Justice Moshe Landau, said there was no justification for postponement because the WZO constitution states specifically that the election of a new chairman must be held at the session of the General Council "closest" to the date on which the position became vacant. That date was last August when WZO chairman Pinhas Sapir died suddenly.

The 65-year-old veteran Laborite who resigned from the Cabinet in 1974 to become Mayor of Israel's third largest city, was strongly backed by the Labor Party who selected him to oppose Dulzin, a leader of Likud. He was elected by a combination of Labor, Mapam, Independent Liberal and General Zionist votes. The Mizrahi religious faction split.

Prior to the voting, Premier Yitzhak Rabin engaged in intensive personal lobbying for Almogi among the General Council delegates from Israel and abroad. His efforts were credited with bringing some Mizrahi votes and other swayers into the Almogi column. Dulzin's supporters for their part had hoped to corral some Labor Party dissidents or at least more blank ballots, but their efforts failed.

NEW YORK (JTA)--Hermann Goering's Mercedes car was sold for \$160,000 to an unidentified man from San Francisco. The 1944 car, used by the Nazi leader, was auctioned in Scottsdale, Arizona. The Mercedes weighs five-and-a-half tons and includes a mine-proof floor, bullet-proof wheels and windows, and one-inch armor plate on the doors.

NEW YORK (JTA)--The executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee was wrongly identified in Tuesday's Bulletin as Robert L. Goldman. His correct name is Ralph I. Goldman.

AZF LAUNCHES COMMISSION ON ZIONIST IDEOLOGY; POLISH NAMED CHAIRMAN

NEW YORK, Jan. 6 (JTA)--An American Zionist Federation Commission on Zionist Ideology has been launched and its first conference will be Jan. 21; it was announced by Faye Schenk, AZF president. Rabbi David Polish of Chicago, president of the Chicago Zionist Federation, will be chairman of the commission to which 31 Zionist scholars and leaders have been invited as members.

The commission, Mrs. Schenk said, will meet several times during the year for a series of high deliberations designed to develop answers to such questions as what is the contemporary character of Zionism, is the ideology of Zionism of 1976 essentially the same as the Zionism of 1945-1956, how does one distinguish between Zionism and pro-Israel activity, and does Zionist philosophy need updating and revision?

"The recent UN resolution equating Zionism with racism, and the resulting acceleration of interest in Zionism has created historic challenges and opportunities for the Zionist community," Mrs. Schenk stated. "Never before in recent years have so many people been interested in hearing about, or discussing, Zionism. One important by-product of this phenomenon is the need to clarify and interpret the meaning of Zionism."

Among those invited to participate in the commission are Prof. Howard Adelson, Dr. Judith Diesendruck, Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, Charlotte Jacobson, Philip Klutznick, Rose Matzkin, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, Dr. Judah J. Shapiro, Dr. Joseph Sternstein, Kalman Sultanik, Prof. Marie Syrkin, Jacques Torczyner and Rabbi Mordechai Waxman. The 31 invitees represent all groupings in the Zionist movement.

CANADIAN PROVINCE PASSES LAW PROTECTING SABBATH OBSERVERS

TORONTO, Jan. 6 (JTA)--Jewish merchants who are Sabbath observers have been exempted from a new Provincial law that forbids most retail stores to remain open on Sundays. The new law, believed to be the first of its kind enacted in Ontario, went into effect Jan. 1. Its primary purpose was to restrain large supermarkets that have remained open on Sundays and national holidays. Certain small shops employing three or fewer people, are exempted.

As a result of representations by the Canadian Jewish Congress in association with the Seventh Day Adventists, an amendment was added to remove the Sunday ban from retail businesses that are closed for "a period of 24 consecutive hours in a period of 32 hours immediately preceding Sunday" which occupy a relatively small area and employ less than eight persons. Jewish retail shops operated by Sabbath observers largely fall into this category.

A proposal to add the words "for religious reasons" to the amendment was struck out on grounds that mention of religion in a Provincial law may render it unconstitutional. Only the Federal government is entitled to deal with religious matters in Canada.

250 U.S. CANADIAN JEWISH LEADERS TO MEET WITH RABIN, OTHER GOVERNMENT LEADERS ON ISRAEL'S ECONOMIC NEEDS

NEW YORK, Jan. 6 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin has invited more than 250 Jewish leaders from the United States and Canada to meet with him and other government leaders on Israel's

economic needs and problems in 1976 during the week of Jan. 12. The Prime Minister's Israel Bond Conference will plan a program of action to increase the participation of Jewish communities abroad in alleviating the severe pressures on Israel's economy resulting from a record-high defense budget and a staggering balance of payments deficit of more than \$3.5 billion, according to Sam Rothberg, general chairman of the Israel Bond Organization.

Brussels Conference Also Slated

For the first time in the 25-year history of the Israel Bond program, the conference will meet in Europe as well as in Israel. The initial sessions of the 1976 conference will be held in Brussels Jan. 11 and 12 to focus attention on the new opportunities for wider Israel trade with Europe as a result of the agreement Israel signed early in 1975 with the Common Market that will lift all tariff barriers on Israeli goods by the middle of next year.

In Brussels, headquarters of the Common Market, the members of the conference will meet with top officials of the Common Market and with the Ambassador and leaders of the Jewish community of Belgium headed by Paul Philipsson, its president and head of the Israel Bond campaign in that country. Baron Edmond de Rothschild of Paris, president of the Israel Bond Organization in Europe, will preside at the dinner session Jan. 11 at the Sheraton Hotel in Brussels.

In tribute to the Jews who were killed in the Nazi holocaust in Europe, the visiting Jewish leaders will go directly from the Brussels airport on arrival to Camp Breendonk which served as an SS internment center during World War II. The members of the conference will unveil a memorial tablet in honor of the prisoners who died in that detention camp and the thousands who were deported from there to concentration camps from which they never returned alive.

HAYM SALOMON MEMORIALIZED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6 (JTA)--President Ford, in a letter to the Haym Salomon Lodge of Brith Shalom in Philadelphia, praised the contributions of Haym Salomon who helped finance the American Revolution. The lodge and the George Washington Scottish Rite bodies in association with Philadelphia '76 memorialized Salomon on Sunday, the anniversary of his death in 1785.

Ford's message said: "As we lay the cornerstone of America's third century, it is most appropriate that we pay tribute to the very special part played by Haym Salomon in the success of our initial efforts. I am pleased to join with the members of the Haym Salomon Lodge No. 663, Brith Shalom, in memorializing his dedication to America."

DECEMBER TOURISM AT RECORD HIGH

JERUSALEM, Jan. 6 (JTA)--December, 1975 was the top December ever in terms of tourism to Israel. According to figures released by the Tourism Ministry, 60,700 tourists came last month. The figure was 36 percent higher than in December, 1974 and 16 percent higher than in December, 1971, the previous top December. Of those arriving here last month, 51,900 came by air and most of the others by cruise ships. However, overall tourism figures for 1975 were down to 617,500 compared with 624,700 in 1974, according to the Tourism Ministry.