



daily news bulletin

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Thursday, January 8, 1976

No. 5

ALMOGI TO RESIGN AS MAYOR OF HAIFA BUT WILL RETAIN SEAT IN THE KNESSET

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA)--Yosef Almogi, who was elected chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive last night, said today that he will resign as Mayor of Haifa but would retain his Knesset seat as did his predecessor, the late Pinhas Sapir. He also said that he would continue to reside in Haifa. It is not certain who will succeed him as mayor of Israel's third largest city. Speculation today centered on Uri Agami, a leader of the Labor Party's Haifa branch.

Meanwhile, Leon Dulzin, defeated by Almogi for the WZO chairmanship, announced that he would step down as acting chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, probably when the Executive meets here next week. Almogi will then be appointed acting chairman. His elevation to the chairmanship of the Jewish Agency Executive will be formalized when the Agency's Assembly holds its annual meeting here this summer. Dulzin will continue as treasurer of the WZO and Jewish Agency.

Almogi, a veteran of the Labor Party, was born in Poland in 1910 and came to Palestine in 1930 at the age of 20. He was a member of the Haganah command from 1933-1939 and served with Allied forces during World War II. He was captured by the Germans and spent four years in a POW camp. He returned to Palestine in 1945 and became secretary of the Haifa Labor Council and later Secretary General of Mapai and a member of the Histadrut Executive.

Almogi was appointed to the Cabinet in 1961 and served as Minister of Development and Housing and as Minister of Labor. He held the latter portfolio when he resigned from government in 1974 to stand for election as Mayor of Haifa. He is married and has two sons, one of them an executive of the Zim Lines container service.

Assumes A Heavy Yoke

Almogi's political base has always been in Haifa, a Labor Party stronghold. Several of his Haifa colleagues were on hand at the Jerusalem convention hall to witness his election to the WZO chairmanship by the Zionist General Council. They included Moshe Wertman, now Knesset coalition chairman; Moshe Shalal, a young Labor MK; and Agami who is described as Almogi's right-hand man in the Haifa branch of the party.

At a midnight Labor caucus in the convention hall, Almogi's friends and supporters drank toasts to the new chairman and to his most powerful backer, Premier Yitzhak Rabin. Toasting Almogi, Rabin urged him to remember "on this happy night" that he was assuming "a heavy yoke." "Do as you have done throughout your life: infusing new momentum, renewing, building," the Premier said, observing that the Zionist movement must serve as "a bridge and a link" in these "difficult days between Israel and the diaspora."

Responding, Almogi said he welcomed the task and was conscious of the difficulty. He said he was eager for the challenge it presented which he considered the toughest challenge a Jewish public figure could undertake at a time when Zionism

was under assault.

DAYAN SAYS EGYPT MIGHT USE AMERICAN ARMS AGAINST ISRAEL

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA)--Former Defense Minister Moshe Dayan raised the possibility that American arms provided to Egypt might be used against Israel, but expressed confidence that the U.S. would not dodge its responsibility to Israel. In his first television interview since he quit the Cabinet, Dayan, a member of the Knesset and soon-to-be editor of a new newspaper, said the objective of America's new policy toward Egypt was to detach it from dependence on the Soviet Union.

"This means relieving Egypt of its military dependence on the Soviet Union" and could lead to American arms being used by Egypt in a war against Israel, Dayan said. He added, however, that Israel had the political power to reverse this trend through American public opinion and because the U.S. cannot and does not want to avoid its responsibility for Israel's security.

Dayan said that regardless of American views, Israel cannot afford to be more flexible on the issue of dealing with the PLO or a Palestinian state. "Any retreat to the green line (the boundary between Israel and the administered territories) would not advance peace but on the contrary might bring war closer under worse conditions," the former defense chief warned. But, he added, "It would be preferable to go to war rather than see another state created for the Palestinians between Israel and Jordan."

Dayan said that a de facto state of non-belligerence now exists between Israel and Jordan and that while the three Arab confrontation states--Egypt, Syria and Jordan--are not ready to make peace with Israel, Jerusalem should demand a similar condition of non-belligerence from Egypt and Syria.

FEARS MOUNT THAT EILAT MAY BECOME GHOST TOWN AFTER MINES ARE SHUT

By Yitzhak Shargil and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA)--Fear continued to mount in Eilat today that Israel's southernmost city and sole outlet to the Red Sea would become a ghost town after the Timna copper mines are closed down and its dismissed employees are forced to find jobs elsewhere. Minister of Commerce and Industry Haim Barlev, who flew to Eilat Monday night after a general strike protesting the shut-down paralyzed the town, told the Knesset yesterday that there was no hope of getting the money-losing copper works out of the red for the next five years.

The Timna mine workers won a reprieve of uncertain duration yesterday when Barlev promised that the copper mines would not be shut down until alternative jobs are found for its 700 employees. But he hedged his promise on further consultation with his colleagues on the ministerial economic committee which had recommended to the government Sunday night that the deficit-ridden industry be shut down.

New job prospects are also uncertain, Labor Minister Moshe Baran promised that the dis-

missed mine workers would be employed building a new airport seven miles north of Eilat, a project already approved by the Cabinet but not scheduled to start for three months. Israel Aircraft Industries was reported planning to locate a new metal plant in Eilat but that will not be ready for at least three years. Baram conceded that even those projects would not provide jobs for all of the laid-off mine workers.

Moreover, those projects are in the construction field and Eilat residents were wondering today what would become of the scientists, engineers, lab technicians and copper specialists employed in office jobs at Timna. They cannot become tractor operators or construction workers overnight, it was remarked; and what of the wives of these white collar employees, many of whom teach at Eilat's schools? They would leave if their husbands have to find jobs elsewhere and the local school system would suffer from a shortage of teachers.

Job Problems Being Explored

Barlev told the Knesset that the government had no choice but to shut down the mines in view of the continuing depression in copper prices on the world market. He observed that in other countries, better mines than Timna had been closed down for the same reason. He estimated that if the works were kept going they would lose IL 67 million in 1976 on top of an IL 60 million deficit last year and that the outlook for 1977 and 1978 was even worse.

Meanwhile, a special committee has been set up in Eilat with the participation of Histadrut's Trade Union Department and various government agencies to explore the job problems with Eilat authorities. The hope is to find employment in the Eilat area for as many of the laid-off workers as possible. But the outlook was not good. Apart from the copper mines, Eilat's chief sources of jobs are the port, the oil pipeline to Ashkelon and tourism.

The town has already suffered a decline in ocean-borne commerce since the Suez Canal was reopened last June and, as the Egyptians are allowing Israel-bound cargoes--though not Israel-flag ships--to use the waterway, the importance of the pipeline may diminish.

Although it enjoys an excellent climate--Eilat was sunny yesterday with temperatures in the 70s while the rest of Israel was near freezing--the town cannot depend solely on tourism because of its isolation from central Israel. The highway trip is long and tedious and Israel's internal airline, Arkia, has limited capacity. Transport Minister Gad Yacobi is planning a Beersheba-Eilat railroad but that project, not yet begun, will not be completed for several years.

JAKOBIVITS ATTACKED FOR HIS VIEWS ABOUT SITUATION OF SOVIET JEWRY

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA)--Chief Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits of Britain has come under sharp attack by leaders of Soviet-Jewish emigre groups here and strong, if muted, criticism in official circles for his remarks following a nine-day visit to the Soviet Union last month that there was reason to be hopeful that the situation of Jews there would improve.

Activists, such as Prof. Alexander Voronel, head of the Soviet Immigrant Aliya Committee, claimed the Chief Rabbi had been taken in by clever Soviet propaganda. He said a comment

attributed to Jakobovits that there was no large-scale anti-Semitism in the USSR was a sign of naivete and he took issue with the rabbi's statement in a Jerusalem Post interview that lifewas better for Soviet Jews now than under the Czars or Stalin.

Voronel claimed that all of the so-called improvements listed by the Chief Rabbi were achieved by Soviet Jews 40 years ago and that since then they had made no progress and suffered reverses. He also claimed that anti-Semitism was rampant in the USSR, much of it officially inspired.

Yehezkel Polarvich, head of the "Association of ex-Prisoners of Zion," charged that Jakobovits' visit had "done terrible damage to the cause" of Soviet Jewry and said that as far as Judaism and Zionism are concerned, Stalinism still reigns in Russia.

Met Only Middle-Echelon Officials

Official circles here noted that the Chief Rabbi, the first spiritual leader of a Western Jewish community to visit the USSR in an official capacity, had met only middle-echelon Soviet officials and that the impressions he received appeared to be "superficial." They suggested that the accounts of Jews who lived in the Soviet Union and were intimately familiar with the system were more valid than the statements by relatively minor officials.

Jakobovits, in a special interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in London last month, acknowledged that "I am not an expert after nine days and I only met 1000 out of millions of Jews, but the situation is more complex and the dimensions more acute than one imagines." He told the JTA that "the circumstances of Soviet Jewry are much more complex than the simplistic view taken by so many here" (in Britain). He said his meeting with Soviet officials "gave us reason to be hopeful" and suggested that "there is a need for thorough and careful reappraisal of attitudes and priorities."

Claim Aliya Figures Are Wrong

Aliya activists here were especially incensed by remarks by Jakobovits in a London Jewish Chronicle interview published last Friday that he was "able to report that Col. Ovechikov, deputy head of the Ovir (visa bureau) had...assured (him) that 98.6 percent of all emigration applications had been granted and that the remaining 1.4 percent would not be a permanent group, thus indicating that the present 'refuseniks' too would sooner or later be allowed to leave."

The Aliya circles here claimed that the figures were preposterous but went unchallenged by the Chief Rabbi. They claimed that the Soviet authorities approve no more than one-third of the visa applications submitted each month and maintained that despite rising harassment, the level of applications has not fallen off. They said that well over 100,000 visa applications pending have been refused. The vehemence of the attacks on the credibility of Jakobovits' report of his Soviet visit can be attributed at least in part to the British Chief Rabbi's frequent assertions that efforts for aliya from the USSR must be equalled by efforts to secure the religious and civil rights of Jews who will remain in the USSR.

Coming at a time when Soviet Jewish emigration is at its lowest point since 1972 and when an estimated 40 percent of Jews leaving the Soviet Union head for countries other than Israel, this is

an extremely sensitive matter here. It may account for the fact that the activists, whose often uncompromising attitudes have been shunned by the official establishment, are now enjoying a large measure of understanding and support in official circles with respect to Jakobovits' views.

ALLON, KISSINGER MEET FOR 3 HOURS; TALKS AIMED AT REACHING COMMON POSITION ON SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger indicated to newsmen after a three-hour meeting at the State Department this afternoon that their talks aimed at reaching a common U.S.-Israeli position on the Security Council's Middle East debate had not reached a conclusive stage. "I think we need another talk tomorrow in order to continue and maybe to analyze our conversations," Allon said. He added, "Today we didn't even reach the stage in which we have to find out our views and try to learn facts, procedures and regulations and so forth."

Allon reiterated that Israel will not attend the Security Council debate which begins Monday because the Palestine Liberation Organization has been invited to participate. "We will not be there but this has nothing to do with our talks. The Secretary did not try to convince us to change our mind," the Israeli Foreign Minister said in reply to a question. Asked if Israel would recognize the PLO, Allon replied flatly, "We're not going to recognize them."

Kissinger, who was asked about possible Arab attempts to modify Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, said the U.S. would strongly oppose any changes but stopped short of saying that it would exercise its veto power against them. "We have stated that as far as the U.S. is concerned, peace negotiations must be made on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and we consider them the only relevant UN resolutions," Kissinger said. With regard to a veto, however, he said "We will have to see what resolutions emerge before we can make a final decision. We will not participate in any of them. We will strongly oppose any changes."

Common Interests Stressed

In his prepared statement to reporters as he and Allon emerged from their meeting, Kissinger said: "We have just concluded our initial talks which were conducted in a very cordial and friendly atmosphere. There are no two countries more interested in democracy and peace than the U.S. and Israel. The U.S. has always stated its interest in preserving the security and survival of Israel. We are talking primarily about the Security Council resolution at the UN Security Council next week with a view toward achieving a coordinated position and to maintain common interests."

Allon said in his statement, "Our meeting today gave us a very good opportunity to review the situation in the way we are accustomed.... I think we need another talk tomorrow in order to continue and maybe to analyze our conversations. They were very informative talks and I do hope that we shall reach an understanding, because, as the Secretary said just now, we have many interests in common and foremost to have progress toward peace in the Middle East, peace which will offer a solution to all problems in the Arab-Israeli conflict." Allon agreed with Kissinger that

their talks "were cordial talks, nice, and I am glad we had them."

Allon was greeted at the State Department this morning by Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Joseph J. Sisco; Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Alfred Atherton; and the U.S. Ambassador to Israel, Malcolm Toon. Kissinger's arrival was delayed by a Cabinet meeting.

President Ford, meanwhile, conferred today with five American envoys to Middle Eastern countries who were called home for consultations on the eve of the Security Council debate. Meeting with him at the White House were Ambassadors Toon; Robert Murphy, the Ambassador to Syria; Thomas Bickering, Ambassador to Jordan; William Porter, Ambassador to Saudi Arabia; and Hermann Eilts, Ambassador to Egypt.

FRENCH-JEWISH BUSINESSMAN, KIDNAPPED NEW YEAR'S EVE, IS FOUND SAFE

PARIS, Jan. 7 (JTA)--A prominent French-Jewish businessman, Louis Hazan, who was kidnapped New Year's eve, was found safe tonight. Police said Hazan was found with his hands and feet tied in an isolated house near the cathedral city of Chartres, southwest of Paris. Police are still looking for three of his kidnappers who had demanded the equivalent of \$3.4 million in ransom, one of the highest amounts in French police records.

Hazan, the 53-year-old Casablanca-born head of the Phonograph Record Company, a subsidiary of the giant Philips group, was snatched from his company's boardroom by six armed men who bundled him into a wicker basket. Police, anxious to halt a growing wave of using hostages in France, captured three members of the gang earlier today.

A right-wing daily, "Le Parisien Libere," used strong anti-Semitic innuendoes in its report today of Hazan's Jewish background. It also hinted that "not everything was well" with the record company. Hazan, who is the nephew of a former chief rabbi of Alexandria, Egypt, came to France from Morocco in 1954. The record company, which he heads, is one of the largest manufacturing companies in France.

SYMPOSIUM ON MIDEAST SLATED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 (JTA)--The National Committee on American Foreign Policy announced today that a group of leading public figures and academicians will participate in a symposium on "The Middle East--Critical Choices for America," to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York from Jan. 22-25. The symposium, to be chaired by Prof. Eugene V. Rostow, will consider the political, economic, scientific and military aspects of the subject and will also discuss the United Nations and the Middle East, the announcement said. Dr. Mordechai Hachoen is chairman of the symposium committee.

Panelists will include Adm. Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr., USN Ret., former Chief of Naval Operations; Prof. Milton Friedman, the economist; Dr. Edward Teller, nuclear physicist; Prof. Leo Gross; Prof. Hans Morgenthau, political scientist; U.S. Ambassador Daniel P. Moynihan; and Ernest A. Gross. The committee, a non-profit organization, was founded two years ago "with the objective to expose U.S. foreign policy to critical and constructive scrutiny as well as to examine its immediate and long-range consequences to the national and global interests of the U.S.A.," the announcement said.

NEW KNESSET FACTION FORMED

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA)--A new Knesset faction was born Monday, and immediately ran into a dispute with one of its old partners over allocations that all parties are entitled to under law. Arye Eliav and Marcia Freedman, who broke away last month from the short-lived Yaad faction, asked the Knesset to recognize them as a new Social-Democratic Party. They also demanded that Knesset Speaker Israel Yeshayahu halt allocations to Yaad until a Knesset committee decides the issue.

But Shulamit Aloni and Boaz Moav who still sit in the Knesset as the Yaad representatives, objected vehemently. Aloni, a former Cabinet Minister, claimed MKs Eliav and Freedman did not constitute a bona fide party and were not entitled to any allocation. She said that Eliav, who, like herself, had bolted the Labor Party, joined Yaad last year as an independent MK, not as a faction. She also claimed that he did nothing as a Yaad member but "just travelled around the world, wrote books and now he sets up a new party that never ran for elections and does not represent any voters."

Yaad, a left-of-center faction, fell apart late last year after Eliav and others joined a group which demanded that Israel unilaterally offer to negotiate with any Arab group including the PLO. Aloni, while opposing the government's foreign and domestic policies, felt that this group had gone too far to the left and was trying to drag Yaad along with it.

BRITISH COMMUNIST ATTACKS SOVIET POLICY REGARDING JEWS; DISSIDENTS

LONDON, Jan. 7 (JTA)--The British Communist Party has published sharp criticism of Soviet handling of Jews and dissidents. The criticism came in an article by the former leader of the small British Communist Party, John Gollan, appearing in "Marxism Today," the party's ideological journal.

This is regarded as particularly significant on the eve of the Soviet Party Congress, especially as the dissent comes from one of the more independent-minded Communist Parties in the West, which is considered to enjoy some influence in world Communism.

Gollan wrote: "There are remnants of anti-Semitism, despite its official condemnation, and there is reason for concern that those who are guilty appear not to be charged in accordance with Soviet law." The British Communist ideologist contended that "the harassment of Jews wishing to emigrate to Israel has not helped."

Gollan also dissented from the Soviet treatment of internal critics. While dismissing the views of Alexander Solzhenitsyn and Andrei Sakharov as "reactionary," Gollan stated that the matter should be tackled on a political level "and not by legal means, expulsions from the country or confinement in psychiatric institutions."

FINANCIAL WOES FORCE ISRAEL TO BOW OUT AS HOST OF MISS UNIVERSE CONTEST

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA)--Israel's financial woes have forced this country to bow out as host to its first Miss Universe contest. The international beauty pageant, scheduled to be held here next summer, will have to find another site because the Treasury balked at allocating \$300,000 for the event. Minister of Tourism Moshe Kol was deeply disappointed when he announced can-

cellation of Israel's invitation. He had expected the contest to draw record tourist business and maintained it was good propaganda for Israel.

El Al had agreed to cooperate by providing a jumbo jet to bring the contestants to Israel and the Hilton hotel chain offered rooms for them and their retinues. Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz reportedly supported the idea. But when it came to money, the Treasury suddenly decided that if the event was good for tourism and propaganda it should be paid for out of the Tourism and Foreign Ministry budgets.

GONEN RESIGNS FROM THE ARMY

TEL AVIV, Jan. 7 (JTA)--Gen. Shmuel Gonen, who the Agranat Committee held responsible for Israel's military defeat at the outset of the Yom Kippur War, resigned from the army last week. He refused to accept a field command offered him by the Defense Minister on grounds that it would imply that he accepted the Agranat panel's conclusion that he was unfit for a regional command or to head a department at General Headquarters.

In his letter of resignation, Gonen reiterated his charge that the Agranat Committee made him a scapegoat for errors on the Egyptian front. A highly regarded armored division commander during the 1967 Six-Day War, Gonen was commander of the southern region encompassing Sinai when the Egyptians, in their surprise attack of October, 1973, crossed the Suez Canal and overran the Barlev Line.

The Agranat Committee, appointed by then Premier Golda Meir to investigate the conduct of the Yom Kippur War and the events leading up to it, pointed the finger at Gonen as the senior officer most responsible for Israel's setbacks. Gonen disputed the committee's findings but was unable to get them reversed. He was given a special assignment at General Headquarters pending a final decision on his future military career.

The Defense Minister and Chief of Staff apparently wanted to retain Gonen in a major command post. Legal counsel indicated that the Agranat verdict did not preclude his assignment to command a field unit but the General chose to resign instead.

HAYM SALOMON HONORED

NEW YORK, Jan. 7 (JTA)--The City of New York yesterday honored the memory of Haym Salomon who helped finance the American Revolution. Mayor Abraham D. Beame, at the request of the Jewish War Veterans of New York State, issued a proclamation naming yesterday as "Haym Salomon Day."

The proclamation, which was read by City Youth Board Commissioner Jerry Becker at a ceremony at Congregation Shearith Israel, the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, noted Salomon "donated \$64,000--a staggering figure in those days--to help the fight for freedom," and that once "hearing of the bleak financial situation, he actually interrupted a Yom Kippur Service to raise pledges for Washington's forces."

Beame also noted that Salomon, a New Yorker, "was also a physical fighter for the cause of liberty as one of the original members of the Sons of Liberty."

NEW YORK (JTA)--Judge Paul Ribner, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans, will lead a large contingent of Americans who will participate in the First World Assembly of Jewish War Veterans, to be held in Jerusalem Jan. 25-30.



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Met Only Middle-Echelon Officials

Official circles here noted that the Chief Rabbi, the first spiritual leader of a Western Jewish community to visit the USSR in an official capacity, had met only middle-echelon Soviet officials and that the impressions he received appeared to be "superficial." They suggested that the accounts of Jews who lived in the Soviet Union and were intimately familiar with the system were more valid than the statements by relatively minor officials.

Jakobovits, in a special interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in London last month, acknowledged that "I am not an expert after nine days and I only met 1000 out of millions of Jews, but the situation is more complex and the dimensions more acute than one imagines." He told the JTA that "the circumstances of Soviet Jewry are much more complex than the simplistic view taken by so many here" (in Britain). He said his meeting with Soviet officials "gave us reason to be hopeful" and suggested that "there is a need for thorough and careful reappraisal of attitudes and priorities."

Claim Aliya Figures Are Wrong

Aliya activists here were especially incensed by remarks by Jakobovits in a London Jewish Chronicle interview published last Friday that he was "able to report that Col. Ovechikov, deputy head of the Ovir (visa bureau) had...assured (him) that 98.6 percent of all emigration applications had been granted and that the remaining 1.4 percent would not be a permanent group, thus indicating that the present 'refuseniks' too would sooner or later be allowed to leave."

The Aliya circles here claimed that the figures were preposterous but went unchallenged by the Chief Rabbi. They claimed that the Soviet authorities approve no more than one-third of the visa applications submitted each month and maintained that despite rising harassment, the level of applications has not fallen off. They said that well over 100,000 visa applications pending have been refused. The vehemence of the attacks on the credibility of Jakobovits' report of his Soviet visit can be attributed at least in part to the British Chief Rabbi's frequent assertions that efforts for aliya from the USSR must be equalled by efforts to secure the religious and civil rights of Jews who will remain in the USSR.

Coming at a time when Soviet Jewish emigration is at its lowest point since 1972 and when an estimated 40 percent of Jews leaving the Soviet Union head for countries other than Israel, this is

an extremely sensitive matter here. It may account for the fact that the activists, whose often uncompromising attitudes have been shunned by the official establishment, are now enjoying a large measure of understanding and support in official circles with respect to Jakobovits' views.

ALLON, KISSINGER MEET FOR 3 HOURS; TALKS AIMED AT REACHING COMMON POSITION ON SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE

By Helen Silver

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger indicated to newsmen after a three-hour meeting at the State Department this afternoon that their talks aimed at reaching a common U.S.-Israeli position on the Security Council's Middle East debate had not reached a conclusive stage. "I think we need another talk tomorrow in order to continue and maybe to analyze our conversations," Allon said. He added, "Today we didn't even reach the stage in which we have to find out our views and try to learn facts, procedures and regulations and so forth."

Allon reiterated that Israel will not attend the Security Council debate which begins Monday because the Palestine Liberation Organization has been invited to participate. "We will not be there but this has nothing to do with our talks. The Secretary did not try to convince us to change our mind," the Israeli Foreign Minister said in reply to a question. Asked if Israel would recognize the PLO, Allon replied flatly, "We're not going to recognize them."

Kissinger, who was asked about possible Arab attempts to modify Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, said the U.S. would strongly oppose any changes but stopped short of saying that it would exercise its veto power against them. "We have stated that as far as the U.S. is concerned, peace negotiations must be made on Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and we consider them the only relevant UN resolutions," Kissinger said. With regard to a veto, however, he said "We will have to see what resolutions emerge before we can make a final decision. We will not participate in any of them. We will strongly oppose any changes."

Common Interests Stressed

In his prepared statement to reporters as he and Allon emerged from their meeting, Kissinger said: "We have just concluded our initial talks which were conducted in a very cordial and friendly atmosphere. There are no two countries more interested in democracy and peace than the U.S. and Israel. The U.S. has always stated its interest in preserving the security and survival of Israel. We are talking primarily about the Security Council resolution at the UN Security Council next week with a view toward achieving a coordinated position and to maintain common interests."

Allon said in his statement, "Our meeting today gave us a very good opportunity to review the situation in the way we are accustomed.... I think we need another talk tomorrow in order to continue and maybe to analyze our conversations. They were very informative talks and I do hope that we shall reach an understanding, because, as the Secretary said just now, we have many interests in common and foremost to have progress toward peace in the Middle East, peace which will offer a solution to all problems in the Arab-Israeli conflict." Allon agreed with Kissinger that

their talks "were cordial talks, nice, and I am glad we had them."

Allon was greeted at the State Department this morning by Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Joseph J. Sisco; Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Alfred Atherton; and the U.S. Ambassador to Israel, Malcolm Toon. Kissinger's arrival was delayed by a Cabinet meeting.

President Ford, meanwhile, conferred today with five American envoys to Middle Eastern countries who were called home for consultations on the eve of the Security Council debate. Meeting with him at the White House were Ambassadors Toon; Robert Murphy, the Ambassador to Syria; Thomas Bickering, Ambassador to Jordan; William Porter, Ambassador to Saudi Arabia; and Hermann Eilts, Ambassador to Egypt.

FRENCH-JEWISH BUSINESSMAN, KIDNAPPED NEW YEAR'S EVE, IS FOUND SAFE

PARIS, Jan. 7 (JTA)--A prominent French-Jewish businessman, Louis Hazan, who was kidnapped New Year's eve, was found safe tonight. Police said Hazan was found with his hands and feet tied in an isolated house near the cathedral city of Chartres, southwest of Paris. Police are still looking for three of his kidnappers who had demanded the equivalent of \$3.4 million in ransom, one of the highest amounts in French police records.

Hazan, the 53-year-old Casablanca-born head of the Phonograph Record Company, a subsidiary of the giant Philips group, was snatched from his company's boardroom by six armed men who bundled him into a wicker basket. Police, anxious to halt a growing wave of using hostages in France, captured three members of the gang earlier today.

A right-wing daily, "Le Parisien Libere," used strong anti-Semitic innuendoes in its report today of Hazan's Jewish background. It also hinted that "not everything was well" with the record company. Hazan, who is the nephew of a former chief rabbi of Alexandria, Egypt, came to France from Morocco in 1954. The record company, which he heads, is one of the largest manufacturing companies in France.

SYMPOSIUM ON MIDEAST SLATED

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7 (JTA)--The National Committee on American Foreign Policy announced today that a group of leading public figures and academicians will participate in a symposium on "The Middle East--Critical Choices for America," to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York from Jan. 22-25. The symposium, to be chaired by Prof. Eugene V. Rostow, will consider the political, economic, scientific and military aspects of the subject and will also discuss the United Nations and the Middle East, the announcement said. Dr. Mordechai Hachoen is chairman of the symposium committee.

Panelists will include Adm. Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr., USN Ret., former Chief of Naval Operations; Prof. Milton Friedman, the economist; Dr. Edward Teller, nuclear physicist; Prof. Leo Gross; Prof. Hans Morgenthau, political scientist; U.S. Ambassador Daniel P. Moynihan; and Ernest A. Gross. The committee, a non-profit organization, was founded two years ago "with the objective to expose U.S. foreign policy to critical and constructive scrutiny as well as to examine its immediate and long-range consequences to the national and global interests of the U.S.A.," the announcement said.

NEW KNESSET FACTION FORMED

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA)--A new Knesset faction was born Monday, and immediately ran into a dispute with one of its old partners over allocations that all parties are entitled to under law. Arye Eliav and Marcia Freedman, who broke away last month from the short-lived Yaad faction, asked the Knesset to recognize them as a new Social-Democratic Party. They also demanded that Knesset Speaker Israel Yeshayahu halt allocations to Yaad until a Knesset committee decides the issue.

But Shulamit Aloni and Boaz Moav who still sit in the Knesset as the Yaad representatives, objected vehemently. Aloni, a former Cabinet Minister, claimed MKs Eliav and Freedman did not constitute a bona fide party and were not entitled to any allocation. She said that Eliav, who, like herself, had bolted the Labor Party, joined Yaad last year as an independent MK, not as a faction. She also claimed that he did nothing as a Yaad member but "just travelled around the world, wrote books and now he sets up a new party that never ran for elections and does not represent any voters."

Yaad, a left-of-center faction, fell apart late last year after Eliav and others joined a group which demanded that Israel unilaterally offer to negotiate with any Arab group including the PLO. Aloni, while opposing the government's foreign and domestic policies, felt that this group had gone too far to the left and was trying to drag Yaad along with it.

BRITISH COMMUNIST ATTACKS SOVIET POLICY REGARDING JEWS; DISSIDENTS

LONDON, Jan. 7 (JTA)--The British Communist Party has published sharp criticism of Soviet handling of Jews and dissidents. The criticism came in an article by the former leader of the small British Communist Party, John Gollan, appearing in "Marxism Today," the party's ideological journal.

This is regarded as particularly significant on the eve of the Soviet Party Congress, especially as the dissent comes from one of the more independent-minded Communist Parties in the West, which is considered to enjoy some influence in world Communism.

Gollan wrote: "There are remnants of anti-Semitism, despite its official condemnation, and there is reason for concern that those who are guilty appear not to be charged in accordance with Soviet law." The British Communist ideologist contended that "the harassment of Jews wishing to emigrate to Israel has not helped."

Gollan also dissented from the Soviet treatment of internal critics. While dismissing the views of Alexander Solzhenitsyn and Andrei Sakharov as "reactionary," Gollan stated that the matter should be tackled on a political level "and not by legal means, expulsions from the country or confinement in psychiatric institutions."

FINANCIAL WOES FORCE ISRAEL TO BOW OUT AS HOST OF MISS UNIVERSE CONTEST

JERUSALEM, Jan. 7 (JTA)--Israel's financial woes have forced this country to bow out as host to its first Miss Universe contest. The international beauty pageant, scheduled to be held here next summer, will have to find another site because the Treasury balked at allocating \$300,000 for the event. Minister of Tourism Moshe Kol was deeply disappointed when he announced can-

cellation of Israel's invitation. He had expected the contest to draw record tourist business and maintained it was good propaganda for Israel.

El Al had agreed to cooperate by providing a jumbo jet to bring the contestants to Israel and the Hilton hotel chain offered rooms for them and their retinues. Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz reportedly supported the idea. But when it came to money, the Treasury suddenly decided that if the event was good for tourism and propaganda it should be paid for out of the Tourism and Foreign Ministry budgets.

GONEN RESIGNS FROM THE ARMY

TEL AVIV, Jan. 7 (JTA)--Gen. Shmuel Gonen, who the Agranat Committee held responsible for Israel's military defeat at the outset of the Yom Kippur War, resigned from the army last week. He refused to accept a field command offered him by the Defense Minister on grounds that it would imply that he accepted the Agranat panel's conclusion that he was unfit for a regional command or to head a department at General Headquarters.

In his letter of resignation, Gonen reiterated his charge that the Agranat Committee made him a scapegoat for errors on the Egyptian front. A highly regarded armored division commander during the 1967 Six-Day War, Gonen was commander of the southern region encompassing Sinai when the Egyptians, in their surprise attack of October, 1973, crossed the Suez Canal and overran the Barlev Line.

The Agranat Committee, appointed by then Premier Golda Meir to investigate the conduct of the Yom Kippur War and the events leading up to it, pointed the finger at Gonen as the senior officer most responsible for Israel's setbacks. Gonen disputed the committee's findings but was unable to get them reversed. He was given a special assignment at General Headquarters pending a final decision on his future military career.

The Defense Minister and Chief of Staff apparently wanted to retain Gonen in a major command post. Legal counsel indicated that the Agranat verdict did not preclude his assignment to command a field unit but the General chose to resign instead.

HAYM SALOMON HONORED

NEW YORK, Jan. 7 (JTA)--The City of New York yesterday honored the memory of Haym Salomon who helped finance the American Revolution. Mayor Abraham D. Beame, at the request of the Jewish War Veterans of New York State, issued a proclamation naming yesterday as "Haym Salomon Day."

The proclamation, which was read by City Youth Board Commissioner Jerry Becker at a ceremony at Congregation Shearith Israel, the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, noted Salomon "donated \$64,000--a staggering figure in those days--to help the fight for freedom," and that once "hearing of the bleak financial situation, he actually interrupted a Yom Kippur Service to raise pledges for Washington's forces."

Beame also noted that Salomon, a New Yorker, "was also a physical fighter for the cause of liberty as one of the original members of the Sons of Liberty."

NEW YORK (JTA)--Judge Paul Ribner, national commander of the Jewish War Veterans, will lead a large contingent of Americans who will participate in the First World Assembly of Jewish War Veterans, to be held in Jerusalem Jan. 25-30.