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No. 19

FOREIGN MINISTRY PRAISES U.S. VETO IN SECURITY COUNCIL AS CONTRIBUTION TOWARD ADVANCING PEACE EFFORTS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 27 (JTA)--The Foreign Ministry issued a statement this morning praising the United States' veto of the Security Council's draft resolution as "an important contribution to the preservation of stability in the region and to the advancement of negotiations and peace efforts."

The statement, released here before dawn as soon as the results of the voting were known, took note of the fact that Britain, Sweden and Italy abstained and thus had "not lent their hands" to the draft "which, had it been passed, would have irreparably shaken the only agreed basis for any settlement as expressed in Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338."

Affirmations Noted With Sorrow

The statement "noted with sorrow" that "this harmful move obtained the support of such friendly states as France, Japan, Panama and Rumania." The latter country was one of the six sponsoring states of the draft measure that demanded Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and the establishment of a Palestinian state.

The others, which, along with the Soviet Union, France and Japan voted for the resolution were Pakistan, Tanzania, Panama, Guyana and Benin (formerly Dahomey). China and Libya did not participate in the voting.

The Foreign Ministry's statement asserted that the aim of the draft resolution had been, in effect, to abrogate Resolutions 242 and 338 "and thus to advance the aims of the Syrian-PLO conspiracy to foil the negotiating process by abandoning the principle of negotiation and agreement between equal parties." The statement said that Israel's decision to boycott the Security Council debate which began Jan. 12 was vindicated by the events of the debate itself.

Israel held firm to the view that the Security Council and its resolutions could not be a substitute for negotiations under Resolutions 242 and 338. The Foreign Ministry statement ended with a call to reconvene the Geneva conference "in its original format and under the original letter of invitation."

Veto Serves U.S., Israeli Interests

In a radio interview, Foreign Minister Yigal Allon also expressed appreciation for the U.S. veto. He noted that it served American as well as Israeli interests in that it had blocked the Soviet-backed Syrian-PLO tactic at the UN. He acknowledged that it was "not easy" for the U.S. to find itself isolated, but believed that the U.S. would continue to oppose the hard-line Arabs in their efforts to undermine the negotiating process.

Israel, for its part, he said, must continue to call for the reconvening of Geneva so that if the conference fails to reconvene, the blame would squarely fall upon the Arab extremists who refuse to attend it under its original terms of reference.

The general feeling among observers here was that the Council debate turned out better for Israel

than predicted. Although a U.S. veto was assured by the one-sided, hard-line nature of the draft proposed by the Arabs and only slightly modified by the Third World states, Israel was concerned that support for the draft by America's allies would give the PLO a moral victory.

Of the Western allies, only Britain was expected to abstain. The addition of Italy and Sweden to the abstention column was therefore regarded as a plus and a "ray of light" in the bleak proceedings of the Council. On the other hand, France and Japan were perceived here as having moved even further toward a pro-Arab position.

(At the UN, Israel's Ambassador Chaim Herzog applauded the American veto in a brief statement issued after the vote. He called the U.S. action "an important contribution toward stability in the Middle East." However, he found it deplorable that states friendly to Israel had confirmed a resolution that, in effect, was aimed at negating Resolutions 242 and 338. The U.S. veto was also praised by David M. Blumberg, president of B'nai B'rith and Bertram H. Gold, executive vice-president of the American Jewish Committee.)

PLO ACCEPTED AS NEW MEMBER IN UN GROUP

NEW YORK, Jan. 27 (JTA)--The Palestine Liberation Organization will participate in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to be held in Nairobi, Kenya in May. The UNCTAD's "group of 77" meeting in the Philippines, accepted the PLO as a new member, according to reports reaching here from Manila today. The PLO was sponsored by a member of the Indonesian delegation and seconded by Latin American and African groups.

The Nairobi meeting will be attended by representatives of 107 developing nations, which now includes the PLO though the latter represents no nation. According to the reports, the PLO delegation to Nairobi will be headed by Naim Khader, a lawyer who specializes in economic and political development.

RABIN, FORD PLEDGE CONTINUED COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP FOR JUST, LASTING MIDDLE EAST PEACE By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (JTA)--President Ford and Israeli Premier Yitzhak Rabin today pledged continuing cooperation and friendship for a just and durable peace in the Middle East during a formal ceremony in a heavy cold rain on the White House lawn. The two leaders, standing bare-headed, spoke of their desire to work together for a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Following the 27-minute ceremony, attended by 2368 specially-invited guests who stood under umbrellas, the two leaders went into the White House for the first of their two meetings on American-Israeli relations and developments in the Middle East diplomatic process. After his 80-minute meeting with Ford, Rabin went to the State Department for a luncheon hosted by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger.

In a written notice to the press on the 80-minute meeting between Ford and Rabin, White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen reported that "the President reaffirmed long-standing American support for the security of Israel." He also said that

the President noted that "the need now is for all sides to search for ways of continuing the process of mutual compromise and comprehension in order to achieve a just and durable peace settlement."

Nessen reported that the two leaders reviewed the United Nations Security Council debate and various aspects of U.S.-Israeli relations. "The President stressed the importance for these talks (with Rabin) for developing ideas on how next to move as part of our overall consultations with the parties involved. He repeated his determination to avoid a hiatus in negotiations."

The White House lawn ceremony officially opened Rabin's 11-day visit to the U.S., which began yesterday in Philadelphia when the Israeli leader participated in a Bicentennial ceremony at the Liberty Bell. Instead of arriving at the White House by helicopter as originally scheduled, Rabin came to Washington in a Presidential plane and then he and Mrs. Rabin were driven to the White House from a nearby air force base.

Ford, greeting Rabin with "shalom," said that the Premier's visit will "renew happy memories." He told Rabin that "your visit gives me the opportunity to reaffirm on behalf of the American people the enduring friendship of our two countries, the traditional commitment of the United States to Israel's security and survival and the dedication of the United States to seek with Israel's cooperation a peaceful comprehensive and just solution to the conflict in the Middle East."

Seize Historic Opportunity

The President stressed that the task of Israel, its Arab neighbors and the U.S. was "to realize the goal of peace together with realism and justice. Let us seize this historic opportunity to translate this hope into reality."

Taking note of the weather, Rabin opened his remarks by noting that in Jewish tradition rain means blessings. He pointed out that he was the first head of government to visit the United States during the Bicentennial and wished "shalom" to "all communities across your great country, including the Jewish community with whom we have a profound historic spiritual tie."

Rabin noted that America's Bicentennial was also being observed in Israel. "We do so because of the debt that Israel and the whole free world owes to this great country."

The Premier pledged his government's efforts to bring peace between Israel and the Arab countries. He praised Ford for his untiring efforts and guidance to "America's indispensable role" in the peace process. He said Ford's name will go down in history for his work for peace in the world. Mrs. Rabin, who wore a fur coat and hat, was presented with a large bouquet of roses.

At tonight's black-tie dinner being given by President and Mrs. Ford for Premier and Mrs. Rabin, some 160 guests have been invited, almost double the usual attendance at the White House functions of this kind.

CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER ALIENATION OF YOUNG INTELLECTUAL JEWS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (JTA)--The head of the largest Orthodox rabbinic body in the Western hemisphere expressed grave concern over the present generation of young intellectual Jews, including those of Orthodox persuasion who have isolated themselves from the mainstream of organized Jewish community life. Rabbi Rabin Schonfeld, president of the Rabbinical Council of

America, made his remarks yesterday in an address to the Bicentennial Torah Convocation in the Beth Shalom Congregation. Some 500 Orthodox rabbis are attending the three-day convocation.

Rabbi Schonfeld called upon young Jewish intellectuals and, particularly those of Orthodox orientation "to assume their rightful positions of leadership within the mainstream of Jewish community life. We need their incisive intellect and their youthful enthusiasm to revitalize organized Jewish community life throughout the country. Our generation has been blessed by an inordinately large number of richly endowed intellectuals who have so much to contribute to the quality and nature of Jewish life. We cannot afford the luxury of having such intellectually gifted young people uninvolved in the front ranks of Jewish life."

Rabbi Schonfeld pointed out that the trend in the Jewish community today of the failure of young people to assume leadership roles in society is not limited to Orthodox Jewry or Jewry in general. "It has become apparent in the general community as well. The rebels of the 1960s have been replaced by the non-participants of the 1970s. Both were wrong. In the sixties our young people were denouncing our laws right and left. Now, in the seventies, the rebels of the sixties have been denied and betrayed."

TSATSKIS, CHERNIAK GRANTED VISAS

NEW YORK, Jan. 27 (JTA)--The National Conference on Soviet Jewry and the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry reported today that they had learned that Aleksandr Tsatskis, a Jewish activist in Kiev, has been granted a visa to join his mother who immigrated to Israel in 1972. Tsatskis, a 26-year-old student, was forcibly separated from his family when his parents and brother were permitted to leave for Israel. He was denied an exit visa in March, 1972 for "security reasons" and became the target of harassment and repeated arrests for "Zionist activities."

The NCSJ also reported today that an exit visa apparently has been granted to Irma Cherniak who first applied for one in Jan. 1973 and again, unsuccessfully, in May, 1974. According to the NCSJ, Cherniak, an engineer and professor at the University of Leningrad, was fired after he applied for a visa and was forced to work as an elevator operator. He went on a hunger strike in Sept. 1974 when his second visa application was denied.

CHURCH URGES TOUGHER ANTI-BOYCOTT STEPS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Sen. Frank Church (D, Idaho), chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, called for more decisive action on the part of the government and Congress to meet the growing threat of the Arab boycott against Israel. Church was the principal speaker at the closing session Sunday of a three-day Founding National Conference of New Leadership of Israel Bonds in Washington.

More than 200 young Jewish leaders from the U.S. and Canada took part in forming a permanent nationwide organization of concerned young men and women who are becoming a force of growing importance in the Israel Bond campaign in many parts of North America. Those who took part in founding the New Leadership Division have had an active role in the Bond sales program in more than 40 cities.

Asserting that religious discrimination runs contrary to America's great tradition of religious freedom and should have absolutely no place in the free commerce of the U.S., Church demanded

full disclosure of those corporations which participate in restrictive trade practices against Israel, companies which do business with Israel and firms which are owned by or employ American Jews. He pointed out that he had introduced legislation in the Senate to make public the names of those companies which discriminate against Israel and American Jewry. The passage of this bill, he said, would discourage U.S. firms from doing business with the Arabs on the basis of discrimination.

Raps Policy Expediency

Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz told the assembled group that Israel relies on Jewish solidarity, now more than ever before, to show the world that it is not isolated and does not stand alone. Referring to the use of petrodollars by the Arabs to influence votes at the United Nations, Dinitz declared that "Israel will not pay for votes in order to win any nation's favor. Some of the nations that are taking an anti-Israel stand don't really mean it. They are doing it because it is politically expedient. Israel does not believe in expediency. We believe in the strength of our own convictions," he stated.

Just because Jews are a minority, "we do not have to walk with our heads low," Dinitz said. "Although we are few, we stand erect and are proud of our heritage. We must remain strong not only to defend ourselves but also to maintain peace. For we know that the Arabs will only negotiate with an indestructible Israel."

During the course of the conference, the participants voted to establish a National Cabinet of the New Leadership Division of Israel Bonds, with Michael Scharf of New York as its national chairman.

DAYAN URGES YOUNG JEWS TO MAKE ALIYA

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Former Defense Minister Moshe Dayan urged today that diaspora Jews send their young people to Israel "even if only for short periods" in order to "fire them with national pride" and thereby contribute to the continuity of the Jewish people.

Only Israel can "inject into them a feeling of being Jewish," Dayan told the World Assembly of Jewish War Veterans here. He claimed that except for the Orthodox, it was becoming increasingly difficult to distinguish between Jews in Western countries and their non-Jewish neighbors in either their lifestyles or thought processes.

Dayan noted that aliya figures were low and conceded that there were many unattractive features about life in Israel. But it is the very blemishes that should serve as a challenge to Jews to come to Israel and play a part in correcting them, he said. He suggested that "a major part" of the funds raised for Israel by Jews abroad should be channeled into projects to bring young Jews to the country for varying periods to make them aware of the "living history of the land."

Dulzin Refutes Soviet Aliya Claims

Jewish Agency treasurer Leon Dulzin, addressing the same session of the war veterans' assembly, refuted Soviet claims that aliya was down because Soviet Jews were no longer interested in emigrating to Israel. According to Dulzin, there are some 100,000 visa applications pending in the USSR but only 9000 Soviet Jews were permitted by the authorities to leave during 1975.

He said about 50,000 affidavits were sent from

Israel to Jews in the Soviet Union in 1975 at the request of Jews seeking exit visas. He said the affidavits bore witness to family ties between the applicants and their relatives in Israel and helped people leave under the family reunification program which the Soviets say they honor.

Dulzin disclosed that since 1970, 120,000 Jews left the Soviet Union and 106,000 of them came to Israel. Of the latter, about 5000 left subsequently to settle elsewhere. Dulzin said the World Conference on Soviet Jewry to be held in Brussels next month, would seek to open the gates wider for Russian Jews wishing to leave.

U.S. EXPLAINS VETO POSITION AT UN

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (JTA)--The State Department, in an unusual demonstration of support for the decision it has taken at the United Nations, strongly reinforced today the veto the United States cast last night against the resolution in the Security Council on the Middle East.

In a 2000-word statement that spokesman Robert Funseth described as "really the definitive statement as of now on our approach" to the achievement of Middle East peace, the Department said that the "negotiating framework established in previous Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 had won widespread acceptance and should be preserved."

This "negotiating framework," the statement said, "is sufficiently flexible that it can provide the basis for negotiating fair and durable solutions to all the issues involved." The statement said that "there will be no permanent peace unless it includes arrangements that take into account the legitimate interests of the Palestinian people." But it pointed out that it is "not realistic" to expect Israel to agree to the participation of the Palestinians in negotiations if the Palestinian policy is "to seek the disappearance" of Israel as a state.

It said that the United States has "no preconceptions as to the nature" of a solution to the Palestinian problem, saying that this "could only be worked out as part of the negotiating process." It added that the U.S. looks to the negotiating process to "help develop a reasonable and accepted definition of Palestinian interests without which negotiation on this aspect of the overall problem cannot be successfully addressed."

The statement opened by saying that it is "important to turn from the debate (in the Security Council) and look to the year ahead. Where has this debate left us in our search for Middle East peace?" It said that the resolution before the Council last night "would have blocked the surer and tested way to a settlement in favor of one that would have not worked." The same phrase was used last night by U.S. Ambassador Daniel P. Moynihan when he explained to the Security Council the reason for America's veto.

The Department suggested again that there should be "an informal preparatory conference" of those states that were parties to the Arab-Israeli peace conference that met for two days at Geneva in December 1973.

NEW YORK (JTA)--The Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry reported that five major Moscow activists have asked members of the French and Italian delegations to the Soviet Communist Party Congress which opens Feb. 24 to meet with Jewish "refuseniks."

BEHIND THE HEADLINES**THE DISQUIET OF MEXICAN JEWS**

By Chaim Lazdeiski

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 27 (JTA)--This is a time of disquiet for Mexico's Jews. They are nervous, uneasy and to no small degree bewildered by their government's zig-zag policy toward the Middle East--complimentary to Israel one day, supportive of the Palestine Liberation Organization the next.

Jews here are also worried about the attitudes expressed in the daily press. The boycott by Jews from the United States and Canada in response to Mexico's vote in favor of the UN General Assembly resolution branding Zionism as racism is blamed for the serious slump in this country's tourist industry.

The newspapers fail to point out what Minister of Tourism Julio Hirschfeld Almada himself has confirmed: That Mexico has lost non-Jewish as well as Jewish tourists from the U.S. and Canada this winter because of exorbitant prices and poor service in many resorts.

Occupancy High Positions

It must be said that apart from Mexico's ambiguous position on Israel and Zionism, Mexican Jewry still enjoys good relations with the authorities. There is no discrimination against Jews in colleges and universities, Jews occupy high positions in the fields of science, commerce, industry, administration and in government.

The new Mexican Ambassador to the United Nations, Roberto Rosenzweig Diaz, is of part Jewish ancestry. Ironically, his previous post was Mexico's Ambassador to Egypt. The Minister of Tourism, mentioned above, is also partly Jewish. And the former Foreign Minister, Emilio O. Rabasa has a Jewish mother whose maiden name is Mishkin.

Mexican Jewry is, in short, well off. But like the Jewish communities of the United States and Canada, it identifies strongly with Israel. Its feelings of apprehension began last August when President Luis Echeverria visited 14 countries in the Americas, Africa and Asia, among them Israel. In the African and Arab countries he made pro-Arab statements. In Alexandria he embraced PLO chieftain Yasir Arafat and promised to permit the PLO to open an office in Mexico City.

Government's Zig-Zag Policy

In Israel later, Echeverria visited kibbutzim and villages. He made pro-Zionist statements and vowed Mexican-Israeli friendship. This calmed the nerves of some Mexican Jews. But in November, Mexico joined the pro-Arab majority in the General Assembly's Third Committee and later in the Assembly itself to condemn Zionism along with apartheid as a racist movement. Once more, Jews here were dismayed.

Echeverria tried to make amends. He dispatched then Foreign Minister Rabasa to Jerusalem for a rapprochement with Israel. Rabasa laid a wreath on Herzl's tomb. He explained Mexico's vote in the UN as a political necessity and affirmed that Mexico was not anti-Zionist and that it valued its friendship with Israel. The Israeli authorities seemed to accept his explanations. But Jews here believed that were it not for the tourist boycott by U.S. and Canadian Jews, Echeverria would not have sent his Foreign Minister on a conciliation mission.

Rabasa found himself in trouble as soon as he returned. The Mexican press attacked him for

apologizing to Israel and thus compromising the nation's honor. Some papers found it necessary to mention that his mother's name is Mishkin.

Rabasa resigned under pressure. His successor, the new Foreign Minister Alfonso Garcia Robles, stated that there was no change in Mexico's foreign policy or in its friendly attitude toward Israel. But it was Robles who, as Mexico's UN envoy, cast his country's vote in favor of the anti-Zionist resolution.

Last week, an Israeli delegation arrived here to negotiate the implementation of agreements for cultural and scientific cooperation between Mexico and Israel that were arranged last August between President Echeverria and Premier Yitzhak Rabin in Jerusalem. The delegation was warmly received.

But Jews here are still uneasy. It is very difficult to be on good terms with both God and the Devil. Mexico's flirtation with the Arabs, while attempting to reassure Israel, resembles the precarious performance of a tight-rope walker. He may fall, and Mexico's Jews are wondering which way?

ALLON DUE IN MEXICO NEXT MONTH

TEL AVIV, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Ephraim Eyron, deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry, will fly to Mexico tomorrow to prepare for Foreign Minister Yigal Allon's visit to that country next month, it was announced here today. Allon's visit is viewed as an important step in completing the rapprochement between Israel and Mexico following the rift that developed between the two countries when Mexico voted in favor of the UN General Assembly's resolution equating Zionism with racism.

FULBRIGHT REGISTERS AS FOREIGN AGENT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Former Sen. J. William Fulbright registered with the Department of Justice as a foreign agent yesterday representing the United Arab Emirates, a federation of oil producing sheikhdoms on the Persian Gulf. The Arkansas Democrat, who was chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for 15 of his 30 years in the Senate, joined the law firm of Hogan and Hartson when he left the Senate last year after his defeat in the 1974 Democratic primaries.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency disclosed on Jan. 22 that through Fulbright's efforts, the United Arab Emirates engaged his law firm as their legal counsel in the U.S. last summer. Although the firm was registered as a foreign agent, Fulbright was not so registered until yesterday.

It was reported from Cairo, meanwhile, that Fulbright has been awarded Egypt's Order of the Republic, that country's second highest award, in recognition of his support for the Arab cause. President Anwar Sadat reportedly cited the ex-Senator as the first American official to recommend that the U.S. recognize the PLO.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Tel Aviv police have deemed their reputation by the recovery of nearly all of IL 600,000 and foreign currency stolen earlier this month from a police headquarters building in south Tel Aviv. They also rounded up 10 persons allegedly responsible for the theft, among them two women, a veteran burglar known as "The Cat" and a police sergeant at headquarters who allegedly provided the gang with inside information necessary to carry out the robbery. The eight male suspects have been remanded in custody pending trial.



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NEW YORK, Jan. 27 (JTA)--The National Conference on Soviet Jewry and the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry reported today that they had learned that Aleksandr Tsatskis, a Jewish activist in Kiev, has been granted a visa to join his mother who immigrated to Israel in 1972. Tsatskis, a 26-year-old student, was forcibly separated from his family when his parents and brother were permitted to leave for Israel. He was denied an exit visa in March, 1972 for "security reasons" and became the target of harassment and repeated arrests for "Zionist activities."

The NCSJ also reported today that an exit visa apparently has been granted to Irma Cherniak who first applied for one in Jan. 1973 and again, unsuccessfully, in May, 1974. According to the NCSJ, Cherniak, an engineer and professor at the University of Leningrad, was fired after he applied for a visa and was forced to work as an elevator operator. He went on a hunger strike in Sept. 1974 when his second visa application was denied.

CHURCH URGES TOUGHER ANTI-BOYCOTT STEPS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Sen. Frank Church (D, Idaho), chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, called for more decisive action on the part of the government and Congress to meet the growing threat of the Arab boycott against Israel. Church was the principal speaker at the closing session Sunday of a three-day Founding National Conference of New Leadership of Israel Bonds in Washington.

More than 200 young Jewish leaders from the U.S. and Canada took part in forming a permanent nationwide organization of concerned young men and women who are becoming a force of growing importance in the Israel Bond campaign in many parts of North America. Those who took part in founding the New Leadership Division have had an active role in the Bond sales program in more than 40 cities.

Asserting that religious discrimination runs contrary to America's great tradition of religious freedom and should have absolutely no place in the free commerce of the U.S., Church demanded

full disclosure of those corporations which participate in restrictive trade practices against Israel, companies which do business with Israel and firms which are owned by or employ American Jews. He pointed out that he had introduced legislation in the Senate to make public the names of those companies which discriminate against Israel and American Jewry. The passage of this bill, he said, would discourage U.S. firms from doing business with the Arabs on the basis of discrimination.

Raps Policy Expediency

Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz told the assembled group that Israel relies on Jewish solidarity, now more than ever before, to show the world that it is not isolated and does not stand alone. Referring to the use of petrodollars by the Arabs to influence votes at the United Nations, Dinitz declared that "Israel will not pay for votes in order to win any nation's favor. Some of the nations that are taking an anti-Israel stand don't really mean it. They are doing it because it is politically expedient. Israel does not believe in expediency. We believe in the strength of our own convictions," he stated.

Just because Jews are a minority, "we do not have to walk with our heads low," Dinitz said. "Although we are few, we stand erect and are proud of our heritage. We must remain strong not only to defend ourselves but also to maintain peace. For we know that the Arabs will only negotiate with an indestructible Israel."

During the course of the conference, the participants voted to establish a National Cabinet of the New Leadership Division of Israel Bonds, with Michael Scharf of New York as its national chairman.

DAYAN URGES YOUNG JEWS TO MAKE ALIYA

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Former Defense Minister Moshe Dayan urged today that diaspora Jews send their young people to Israel "even if only for short periods" in order to "fire them with national pride" and thereby contribute to the continuity of the Jewish people.

Only Israel can "inject into them a feeling of being Jewish," Dayan told the World Assembly of Jewish War Veterans here. He claimed that except for the Orthodox, it was becoming increasingly difficult to distinguish between Jews in Western countries and their non-Jewish neighbors in either their lifestyles or thought processes.

Dayan noted that aliya figures were low and conceded that there were many unattractive features about life in Israel. But it is the very blemishes that should serve as a challenge to Jews to come to Israel and play a part in correcting them, he said. He suggested that "a major part" of the funds raised for Israel by Jews abroad should be channeled into projects to bring young Jews to the country for varying periods to make them aware of the "living history of the land."

Dulzin Refutes Soviet Aliya Claims

Jewish Agency treasurer Leon Dulzin, addressing the same session of the war veterans' assembly, refuted Soviet claims that aliya was down because Soviet Jews were no longer interested in emigrating to Israel. According to Dulzin, there are some 100,000 visa applications pending in the USSR but only 9000 Soviet Jews were permitted by the authorities to leave during 1975.

He said about 50,000 affidavits were sent from

Israel to Jews in the Soviet Union in 1975 at the request of Jews seeking exit visas. He said the affidavits bore witness to family ties between the applicants and their relatives in Israel and helped people leave under the family reunification program which the Soviets say they honor.

Dulzin disclosed that since 1970, 120,000 Jews left the Soviet Union and 106,000 of them came to Israel. Of the latter, about 5000 left subsequently to settle elsewhere. Dulzin said the World Conference on Soviet Jewry to be held in Brussels next month, would seek to open the gates wider for Russian Jews wishing to leave.

U.S. EXPLAINS VETO POSITION AT UN

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (JTA)--The State Department, in an unusual demonstration of support for the decision it has taken at the United Nations, strongly reinforced today the veto the United States cast last night against the resolution in the Security Council on the Middle East.

In a 2000-word statement that spokesman Robert Funseth described as "really the definitive statement as of now on our approach" to the achievement of Middle East peace, the Department said that the "negotiating framework established in previous Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 had won widespread acceptance and should be preserved."

This "negotiating framework," the statement said, "is sufficiently flexible that it can provide the basis for negotiating fair and durable solutions to all the issues involved." The statement said that "there will be no permanent peace unless it includes arrangements that take into account the legitimate interests of the Palestinian people." But it pointed out that it is "not realistic" to expect Israel to agree to the participation of the Palestinians in negotiations if the Palestinian policy is "to seek the disappearance" of Israel as a state.

It said that the United States has "no preconceptions as to the nature" of a solution to the Palestinian problem, saying that this "could only be worked out as part of the negotiating process." It added that the U.S. looks to the negotiating process to "help develop a reasonable and accepted definition of Palestinian interests without which negotiation on this aspect of the overall problem cannot be successfully addressed."

The statement opened by saying that it is "important to turn from the debate (in the Security Council) and look to the year ahead. Where has this debate left us in our search for Middle East peace?" It said that the resolution before the Council last night "would have blocked the surer and tested way to a settlement in favor of one that would have not worked." The same phrase was used last night by U.S. Ambassador Daniel P. Moynihan when he explained to the Security Council the reason for America's veto.

The Department suggested again that there should be "an informal preparatory conference" of those states that were parties to the Arab-Israeli peace conference that met for two days at Geneva in December 1973.

NEW YORK (JTA)--The Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry reported that five major Moscow activists have asked members of the French and Italian delegations to the Soviet Communist Party Congress which opens Feb. 24 to meet with Jewish "refuseniks."

BEHIND THE HEADLINES**THE DISQUIET OF MEXICAN JEWS**

By Chaim Lazdeiski

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 27 (JTA)--This is a time of disquiet for Mexico's Jews. They are nervous, uneasy and to no small degree bewildered by their government's zig-zag policy toward the Middle East--complimentary to Israel one day, supportive of the Palestine Liberation Organization the next.

Jews here are also worried about the attitudes expressed in the daily press. The boycott by Jews from the United States and Canada in response to Mexico's vote in favor of the UN General Assembly resolution branding Zionism as racism is blamed for the serious slump in this country's tourist industry.

The newspapers fail to point out what Minister of Tourism Julio Hirschfeld Almada himself has confirmed: That Mexico has lost non-Jewish as well as Jewish tourists from the U.S. and Canada this winter because of exorbitant prices and poor service in many resorts.

Occupancy High Positions

It must be said that apart from Mexico's ambiguous position on Israel and Zionism, Mexican Jewry still enjoys good relations with the authorities. There is no discrimination against Jews in colleges and universities, Jews occupy high positions in the fields of science, commerce, industry, administration and in government.

The new Mexican Ambassador to the United Nations, Roberto Rosenzweig Diaz, is of part Jewish ancestry. Ironically, his previous post was Mexico's Ambassador to Egypt. The Minister of Tourism, mentioned above, is also partly Jewish. And the former Foreign Minister, Emilio O. Rabasa has a Jewish mother whose maiden name is Mishkin.

Mexican Jewry is, in short, well off. But like the Jewish communities of the United States and Canada, it identifies strongly with Israel. Its feelings of apprehension began last August when President Luis Echeverria visited 14 countries in the Americas, Africa and Asia, among them Israel. In the African and Arab countries he made pro-Arab statements. In Alexandria he embraced PLO chieftain Yasir Arafat and promised to permit the PLO to open an office in Mexico City.

Government's Zig-Zag Policy

In Israel later, Echeverria visited kibbutzim and villages. He made pro-Zionist statements and vowed Mexican-Israeli friendship. This calmed the nerves of some Mexican Jews. But in November, Mexico joined the pro-Arab majority in the General Assembly's Third Committee and later in the Assembly itself to condemn Zionism along with apartheid as a racist movement. Once more, Jews here were dismayed.

Echeverria tried to make amends. He dispatched then Foreign Minister Rabasa to Jerusalem for a rapprochement with Israel. Rabasa laid a wreath on Herzl's tomb. He explained Mexico's vote in the UN as a political necessity and affirmed that Mexico was not anti-Zionist and that it valued its friendship with Israel. The Israeli authorities seemed to accept his explanations. But Jews here believed that were it not for the tourist boycott by U.S. and Canadian Jews, Echeverria would not have sent his Foreign Minister on a conciliation mission.

Rabasa found himself in trouble as soon as he returned. The Mexican press attacked him for

apologizing to Israel and thus compromising the nation's honor. Some papers found it necessary to mention that his mother's name is Mishkin.

Rabasa resigned under pressure. His successor, the new Foreign Minister Alfonso Garcia Robles, stated that there was no change in Mexico's foreign policy or in its friendly attitude toward Israel. But it was Robles who, as Mexico's UN envoy, cast his country's vote in favor of the anti-Zionist resolution.

Last week, an Israeli delegation arrived here to negotiate the implementation of agreements for cultural and scientific cooperation between Mexico and Israel that were arranged last August between President Echeverria and Premier Yitzhak Rabin in Jerusalem. The delegation was warmly received.

But Jews here are still uneasy. It is very difficult to be on good terms with both God and the Devil. Mexico's flirtation with the Arabs, while attempting to reassure Israel, resembles the precarious performance of a tight-rope walker. He may fall, and Mexico's Jews are wondering which way?

ALLON DUE IN MEXICO NEXT MONTH

TEL AVIV, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Ephraim Eyron, deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry, will fly to Mexico tomorrow to prepare for Foreign Minister Yigal Allon's visit to that country next month, it was announced here today. Allon's visit is viewed as an important step in completing the rapprochement between Israel and Mexico following the rift that developed between the two countries when Mexico voted in favor of the UN General Assembly's resolution equating Zionism with racism.

FULBRIGHT REGISTERS AS FOREIGN AGENT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27 (JTA)--Former Sen. J. William Fulbright registered with the Department of Justice as a foreign agent yesterday representing the United Arab Emirates, a federation of oil producing sheikhdoms on the Persian Gulf. The Arkansas Democrat, who was chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for 15 of his 30 years in the Senate, joined the law firm of Hogan and Hartson when he left the Senate last year after his defeat in the 1974 Democratic primaries.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency disclosed on Jan. 22 that through Fulbright's efforts, the United Arab Emirates engaged his law firm as their legal counsel in the U.S. last summer. Although the firm was registered as a foreign agent, Fulbright was not so registered until yesterday.

It was reported from Cairo, meanwhile, that Fulbright has been awarded Egypt's Order of the Republic, that country's second highest award, in recognition of his support for the Arab cause. President Anwar Sadat reportedly cited the ex-Senator as the first American official to recommend that the U.S. recognize the PLO.

TEL AVIV (JTA)--Tel Aviv police have deemed their reputation by the recovery of nearly all of IL 600,000 and foreign currency stolen earlier this month from a police headquarters building in south Tel Aviv. They also rounded up 10 persons allegedly responsible for the theft, among them two women, a veteran burglar known as "The Cat" and a police sergeant at headquarters who allegedly provided the gang with inside information necessary to carry out the robbery. The eight male suspects have been remanded in custody pending trial.