



# daily news bulletin

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## ALIGNMENT, LIKUD AGREE ON MAY 17 KNESSET ELECTION; KNESSET TO MEET WEDNESDAY TO DISCUSS NEW DATE

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- The governing Labor Alignment and the Likud agreed last night that the Knesset election would be May 17. The Alignment had originally planned to introduce a bill this week to hold the elections May 31 and Likud had recommended May 3. All bills to terminate the current Knesset and to decide to hold the election earlier than November, 1977 will be discussed tomorrow in the Knesset. President Ephraim Katzir continued meeting with leaders of various political parties. He met today with the Independent Liberal Party and yesterday with the National Religious Party. He will continue his consultations for the next few days.

Meanwhile, the Labor Party is intensifying efforts to keep Mapam from leaving the Alignment. Mapam is scheduled to make a decision at its convention Jan. 31. Premier Yitzhak Rabin is expected to meet soon with Meir Talmi, Mapam's secretary general, and discuss the list of questions on policy that Mapam has presented the Labor Party. Mapam has said it will demand straightforward answers on Labor's position, especially on the future of the West Bank.

The Labor leadership is also engaged in the struggle between Rabin and Defense Minister Shimon Peres over who should be the party's candidate for Premier. Supporters of both men are polling the 600 members of the party center who, if the election will take place May 17, will have to make a decision soon. There have been some suggestions that former Premier Golda Meir head the Labor Alignment candidates list as a unifying force. Mrs. Meir is more popular now than when she was in office.

## CLIFFORD BREAKS SILENCE ON U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD PARTITION PLAN

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Elements hostile to Israel in the State Department kept both President Truman and his Secretary of State, George C. Marshall, ignorant of major developments in their "sabotage" of Presidential policy on Palestine's partition in 1948, former Defense Secretary Clark Clifford said today.

Shattering a public silence of almost three decades on the internecine events of the period when he was Truman's special counsel and Israel was born, Clifford said neither Truman nor Marshall were informed of the dissents by the State Department's own legal office and international security affairs division from the anti-Israel policy pursued in the United Nations and elsewhere by Department elements led by Loy Henderson, then chief of its Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs (NEA).

"From the outset," Clifford said, the NEA office "made it its business to block Harry Truman from implementing a policy that was animated by his deepest human instincts."

He said the NEA "did its best to uphold the British pro-Arab position and to thwart the President's intentions."

Clifford's statements came in his presentation to a panel on "the Palestine Question in American History" sponsored jointly at the Shoreham Hotel here by the American Historical Association and the American Jewish Historical Society. This extraordinary union of the two organizations took place only five weeks after the State Department released its U.S. foreign relations volume for 1948 regarding the founding of Israel. A spokesman for the two groups, Ernest Wittenberg, said it was Clifford's "first public discussion in 28 years of the struggle between the State Department and the White House over the recognition of Israel."

## Facts Refute Assumption

Clifford also declared that "the facts totally refute the assumption" of a school of revisionist historiography which "argues that President Truman's Palestine policy was motivated entirely by purely political considerations of wooing the Jewish electoral vote." The revisionists argument "casts a shroud of suspicion over the Truman presidency, and portrays the birth of Israel, one of the most seminal events of modern times, as somehow illicit and ignoble," Clifford wrote in his prepared statement, for delivery to the panel.

"I had the privilege of serving as White House counsel during this period and I was in a position to observe the attitude of the President and the role of the State Department toward the Middle East. I am gratified that my recollections of that period are confirmed by documents now available."

During 1947 and 1948, Clifford said, "I heard President Truman express himself many times with reference to the Jewish problem. He had a deep, natural resentment against intolerance of any kind.... The effort of the revisionists to portray President Truman's risking the welfare of his country for cheap political advantage is bitterly resented by all of us who admired and respected him."

Clifford "recalled" that Truman envisaged the recognition of Israel "as the logical culmination of his three years of personal diplomacy and sheer human concern for a people who had endured the torments of the damned and whose instincts for survival and nationhood still refused to be extinguished."

## Role Of State Department

Referring to his claim that the State Department did not serve Truman well, Clifford, who is now a Washington attorney, said "evidence, which includes documents that are not found" in the recently-released 1948 volume issued on the recommendation to the United Nations Security Council on March 19, 1948 by the then U.S. Ambassador, Warren Austin. He said Austin's recommendation, which came less than two months before the vote for par-

tion, was that the partition move be suspended and the General Assembly convene in a special session to consider establishment of a temporary trusteeship over Palestine.

"The Zionists and their supporters, of course, were horrified," Clifford said. "They asked how the President could have abandoned partition when only the day before he had assured Chaim Weizmann (soon to be Israel's first president) of continued U.S. support." But, Clifford noted, "Harry Truman had not abandoned support of partition." He said the enemies of partition within the State Department believed that by pushing the trusteeship measure they could avert Israel's birth.

Clifford said that "this rationale" was rejected by the lawyers in the office of State Department legal advisor Ernest Gross and Gross' opinion was confirmed by a group of UN Charter experts who met at the State Department five weeks before Austin's speech. "This caveat was ignored," by the Department's NEA group, Clifford declared, "and to my knowledge was never passed on to the White House."

#### Another Example Presented

Another example presented by Clifford was that the Department's Division of International Security Affairs said in February 1948 that several Arab states were "conspiring and executing a campaign of aggression against the Jewish community in Palestine" and "there is no basis at present for finding that the acts of the Palestinian Jews constitute an 'attempt to alter by force the settlement envisaged' by the General Assembly." The division also said that "Jewish immigration is illegal only because it does not conform to the regulations of the Mandatory power (Britain)."

This division, Clifford continued, then recommended the imposition of an arms embargo against certain Arab states and the arming of a Jewish militia in Palestine," Clifford said and it contended the U.S. could "initiate" military, economic and diplomatic measures at the UN to "facilitate the implementation of partition."

This view, Clifford noted "like that of the legal advisor, was, to my knowledge, never presented to Secretary Marshall, let alone to the White House. Instead, Marshall was persuaded to argue the unworkability of partition in his meetings with the President, and to express this view as though apparently it represented the full consensus of the State Department."

#### Truman Had Different Conception

Truman had a "completely different conception" of the speech Austin was to make, Clifford said. He said Austin was to have proposed UN trusteeship only under three qualifications, which the UN Ambassador did not make in his speech. When Truman learned the next day that Marshall and Undersecretary Robert Lovett "had known in advance of the de facto reversal of the President's policy, he was 'simply confounded,'" Clifford said.

"He felt he could not repudiate his own Secretary of State without appearing to have lost all control of U.S. foreign policy. Yet he was entirely unwilling to reverse his long standing commitment to partition," Clifford said. Truman declared at the time that "They have made me out a liar and a double-crosser."

A week later, Clifford said, Truman at an

emergency White House meeting "rejected" out of hand Henderson's contention that partition was dead. Instead, Truman told Clifford to prepare a statement that would seek to adapt the trusteeship proposal to partition. "I doubt that the statement satisfied either Jews or Arabs," Clifford said. "In any case the Zionist leadership in Palestine categorically rejected any notion of trusteeship" and "I suspect that Truman was privately pleased by this unequivocal response."

Clifford said that the State Department continued to oppose partition, despite an order by Lovett not to do so. He said that on May 14 he and Lovett drafted a statement approved by Truman by which "the U.S. became the first nation to recognize Israel some 16 minutes after it came into existence."

Clifford said Lovett persuaded Marshall to "alter his attitude despite the implacable opposition of the NEA to the very end." He said Truman was "deeply incensed at what he considered to be the consistent attitude of obstruction on the part of the State Department to his policy toward Palestine. He was angered even more at the innuendoes and ultimately the specific charge by the Department that the only reason for the President's position was his effort to curry favor with the Jewish vote in this country."

#### RABBI SAYS JEWS MUST LEARN TO TALK TO THE SOVIET UNION TO ATTAIN PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Declaring that "no peace is possible in the Middle East without the approval of Russia," Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz, president of the Rabbinical Assembly, said that Israel and the Jews of the world had "better learn how to talk to Russia if we want peace." The head of the Conservative rabbinate, interviewed after his return from a visit to Israel, explained that "Russia may not be able to make peace in the Middle East, but it is able to disrupt peace in the Middle East. Only those who know how to talk to Russia will bring peace."

Referring to the problems of Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union and the treatment accorded to the Jews living there, the rabbi of Washington's Adas Israel Congregation emphasized: "While it is understandable and justifiable for us to show our displeasure by demonstrating against Russian policies, demonstrations will not bring peace."

Rabinowitz, returning from Israel after conferring with many of its leaders, and Israelis in general, stated that the Israelis are arguing about the Russians. They argue among themselves, he said, as to why so many emigrating Soviet Jews opt against going to Israel and whether philanthropic help should be given to Russian Jews going elsewhere. He continued:

"The Russian Jews are leaving, but not all are going to Israel. Too many are dropping out in Vienna. The only people allowed to leave Russia are Armenians, who come and go as they wish; Germans who are allowed to rejoin their families in East Germany, which is Communist; and Jews who are allowed to rejoin their families. Varying percentages, often reaching more than 50 percent of Russian Jews, who obtain exit visas for Israel choose

to go elsewhere, after they reach Vienna, and our own agencies make them comfortable because they are Jews who cannot be neglected."

#### Obligation To Soviet Jews

Answering the question: "What is our obligation to these people in the face of political realities?" he said: "They are Jews; we should get them out of Russia. And once they get out, we must help resettle them." There are Israelis and American Jews who disagree. They point out that the USSR may decide to close down emigration of Jews to the West because Russians feel that these potential emigres desire only to "live the good capitalistic life and they see no reason to allow Jews to emigrate for such a reason when other Russians are barred from doing so."

Rabinowitz returned from Israel convinced that "the spirit of Israel has strengthened" since his previous visit a year earlier. Even though there has been enormous inflation and aliyah has not grown, he reported that Israelis are encouraged by several factors: "The economist says exports have increased. The campaign worker says contributions are up. The political leader says there is little terrorism; no soldiers are dying, there has been no mobilization, and the PLO has been weakened."

This is the reason for optimism among the Israelis, Rabinowitz concluded. "There is a feeling that peace is possible. There is optimism about President-elect Jimmy Carter and a hope that moderate Arab leadership will be able to work with him for peace. Let us hope and pray this is so."

#### ALLON-OPPOSES SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN MIDEAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Yigal Allon said last night that Israel opposes stronger Soviet involvement in Middle East negotiations because of the hostility of the Soviet Union to the Jewish State.

Speaking to the international conference of Australian, American and Canadian Professors for Peace in the Middle East at the Van Leer Institute here, Allon said that the Soviet Union attacks Israel daily with hostile propaganda and wants to "dictate results before negotiations." He said the Soviet Union is arming the Arabs while it does not have any diplomatic relations with Israel.

Stressing that Israel will not beg the USSR to resume relations broken during the Six-Day War, Allon said a renewal of relations would be to the benefit to the USSR than to Israel. He explained that the United States has more influence in the Middle East because it is friendly to all parties in the conflict.

Allon said that real negotiations can not come under the co-chairmanship of the Geneva conference by the two superpowers but through direct talks in the Mideast by the parties involved.

He said he hoped the incoming Carter Administration will explain to the Arabs that peace must be negotiated and cannot be imposed. "Anything we are ready to compromise can be reached without outside pressure," Allon declared. "But on anything we compromise on, pressure won't help."

#### ARAB COMMUNIQUE DISCLOSES THAT THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE MEANS THE ELIMINATION OF ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (JTA) -- The "Voice of Palestine" in a broadcast over Radio Damascus Dec. 22 following the meeting in Cairo of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Syrian President Hafez Assad declared that the restoration of the rights of the Palestinian Arab people means the elimination of Israel, an English translation of the Arab broadcast said today.

The translation was made available to the media here by the Israel Embassy which said that "in case there are any lingering doubts in anyone's mind as to what the Arab leaders mean, when they speak of 'the restoration of Palestinian rights' here is the latest authoritative definition, given in a commentary," on the official Syrian broadcasting station.

In the joint communique (following the Sadat-Assad talks) the translation reads "we find some very clear expressions that are significant, particularly from a long-term point of view. For the language of this communique is directed not at the Israeli conquest of 1967 but beyond that; it being pointed out that the meeting between the two Presidents took place 10 years after 1967 and 30 years after the usurpation of the rights of the Palestinian people."

"The Arabs, in other words, are going to hand Israel an account that will include not only Jerusalem, Nablus, Gaza, Sinai and Golan -- but first of all, Tel Aviv, Haifa, Jaffa and Nazareth. The Arabs will demand not just the West Bank and the Gaza Strip but their rights in all their lands occupied since 1948."

"The slogan of the restoration of the rights of the Palestinian Arab people and the slogan of the liberation of Palestine -- that is, the elimination of Israel -- have one and the same meaning, and not two contradictory meanings," the Voice of Palestine declared on the Damascus Radio.

#### FEDERATION ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY PROGRAMS IN ISRAEL

CHICAGO, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- The Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago will again help underwrite summer and long-term study programs in Israel for qualified Jewish high school students.

Funds totaling nearly \$40,000 are available for partial scholarships to applicants who have demonstrated leadership ability and a desire to gain a deeper understanding of Israel, the Chicago Jewish Community and the links between them, said Neil Greenbaum, Chairman of the Federation's Jewish Education Committee. In 1976 the Federation awarded a like amount to more than 60 students.

Programs offered meet a wide range of interests, including archaeology, Hebrew language study and community service. Applicants will receive guidance in selecting from among the 26 types of programs available. The Summer-in-Israel programs are sponsored by various youth, synagogue, school and community groups. The scholarship applications will be received by a special Federation committee co-chaired by Hy Natovich and David Jacker.

**THE YEAR IN REVIEW****JOBS AND JEWS**

By Ben Gallob

(First of a two-part series)

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Rising unemployment in the United States is affecting Jews though at a generally lower rate than for the overall population but Jewish college graduates, particularly in the liberal arts, continue to face very bleak job prospects, according to a follow up survey by Jewish vocational agencies.

One of the key findings of the first survey, made under auspices of the Jewish Occupational Council during the 1975 trough in the post-1973 recession, was that new college graduates with no experience were generally unable to find jobs. That survey covered 11 cities, home of more than 90 percent of American Jews.

The second survey, made last September and October at a time when the economy was again faltering after a brisk recovery, indicated little or no improvement in job prospects for liberal arts college graduates, a field of study historically attracting many Jewish youth.

Both surveys were made at the request of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The second survey covered 14 United States cities and one Canadian city, Toronto. In the interim between the two surveys, the JOC was re-named the National Association of Jewish Vocational Services. The new survey was directed by Robert Cherniak, who was named NAJVS executive director last May. Cherniak told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the survey was made by questionnaires and covered conditions for all of 1976.

In the second study, the job agencies were asked to provide figures on Jewish unemployment, relative to general joblessness in their cities. Ten of the reporting job agencies provided percentage comparisons. Two reported general jobless percentages and described Jewish unemployment at "substantially less" and "much less" than general joblessness in their areas.

**San Francisco Hardest Hit**

The highest rate of Jewish joblessness in the 15 cities -- 9.3 percent, compared with 11.3 for the general population -- was reported in the San Francisco area, including Marin county and Peninsula cities. The Jewish jobless rate in the San Francisco area is higher than the national overall unemployment rate. San Francisco has an estimated 87,000 Jews.

The lowest rate of Jewish unemployment -- 3 percent -- was reported in Buffalo, where the overall rate is 8 percent, and in St. Paul, where the overall rate was reported as 5.4 percent. Buffalo has about 24,000 Jews and St. Paul about 10,000.

Jewish joblessness in Chicago, home of 235,000 Jews and with an overall jobless rate of 7.9 percent, was given as between 3 and 4 percent. In Toronto, which has some 112,000 Jews, the Jewish jobless rate was estimated at 4 percent, compared with an overall six percent. In Cleveland, where 80,000 Jews live, Jewish joblessness was given as 4.5 percent, compared with 6 percent overall unemployment. For Boston's 180,000 Jews, the jobless rate was given as 5 percent and the overall rate 8 percent.

**Situation In Other Cities**

In Los Angeles, which has an estimated

500,000 Jews, the Jewish jobless rate was estimated as between 5 and 6 percent, compared with a 9.7 percent overall rate. In New York City, home of some two million Jews, the Jewish jobless rate was estimated at 6 percent, compared to a steep overall rate of 10 percent.

Philadelphia, with 400,000 Jews, has a Jewish jobless rate of 6.2 percent and an overall rate of 8.3 percent. Atlanta, where some 23,000 Jews live, was reported to have an overall jobless rate of 5.7 percent, with Jews affected "proportionately."

In Cincinnati, which has about 30,000 Jews, the overall unemployment rate was listed as 6.9 percent and the Jewish rate was described as "substantially less". The Dallas Jewish Vocational Counseling Service reported a general jobless rate in that city of 22,000 Jews but reported there was no estimate available on Jewish joblessness.

General unemployment in Milwaukee was given as 5.8 percent but estimated to be "much lower" for the city's estimated 23,000 Jews. In Baltimore, the overall rate was given as 8.7 percent by the Associated Placement and Guidance Bureau, which added "There are no statistics available" on the percentage of jobless among Baltimore's 100,000 Jews.

(Tomorrow: Part two)

**LEVICH DENIED VISA**

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- An employee of the Ovir office in Moscow has informed Dr. Benjamin Levich that an exit visa has once more been denied him for "regime considerations," for knowing alleged secrets, according to reports reaching the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. (NCSJ).

Levich, who is the highest ranking Soviet scientist to apply to emigrate to Israel, said he faces an "impenetrable wall of arbitrariness and dead silence." When Levich, a member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, first applied to emigrate in 1972 he lost his posts with an institute, five scientific committees, two editorial boards and the chair he held at Moscow State University.

At the same time, the NCSJ reported that Moscow activist Ilya Levina, who had been under surveillance prior to the recently aborted Moscow Symposium on Jewish Culture, has been sentenced to 15 days for "hooliganism."

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Israeli military circles could not confirm Tuesday reports by Lebanese Falangists that Palestine Liberation Organization units have moved toward Kabatiyeh and Tyre south of the Litani River near the Israeli border. It was noted that the Falangists have several times in the past issued reports about movements of Palestinian units which could not be confirmed.

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Security authorities have arrested 66 persons in Judea and Samaria suspected of belonging to terrorist organizations. Some are suspected of acts of terrorism but many are believed to be youngsters accused of provoking violent demonstrations by high school children in recent months.