

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## STATE FUNERAL WILL BE HELD TUESDAY FOR GOLDA MEIR WHO DIED FRIDAY AT THE AGE OF 80; BURIAL WILL BE ON MT. HERZL IN A SIMPLE CEREMONY

By Yitzhak Shargil and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 10 (JTA)—A state funeral will be held Tuesday for former Premier Golda Meir. She will be buried on Mt. Herzl overlooking Jerusalem in a simple ceremony in accordance with her wishes. In her will, Mrs. Meir had requested that there be no eulogies and no monument erected in her memory.

She died late Friday afternoon, at the age of 80, in Hadassah Hospital where she had been under treatment since August for lymphoma, an illness diagnosed 15 years ago, her physician disclosed. Mrs. Meir's coffin will be placed in the Knesset building tomorrow where thousands of Israelis and foreign dignitaries will pay their final respects.

World leaders will attend the funeral: President Carter will be represented by either his wife, Rosalynn, or his mother, Lillian. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will attend, as will his predecessor, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, and a number of U.S. Senators and leaders of Jewish communities throughout the world.

Mrs. Meir was acknowledged by friends and foes alike to have been one of the most remarkable personalities of this century. She was one of the few women ever to hold the office of Prime Minister, serving as chief of government during her nation's gravest crisis, the Yom Kippur War. She was Israel's first Ambassador to the Soviet Union and occupied key Cabinet posts, first as Minister of Labor and later as Foreign Minister. She was one of the signers of Israel's proclamation of independence in 1948.

In January, 1973, she was received at the Vatican by Pope Paul VI, the first Israeli head of government to have an audience with the Pontiff. A Vatican statement released later noted that during the meeting, the Pope had recalled "the history and sufferings of the Jewish people."

### No National Day Of Mourning

No national day of mourning was declared, as the law prescribes such declarations only when the President, Prime Minister or Knesset Speaker dies in office. But the entire nation was in mourning nevertheless from the moment Mrs. Meir's death was officially announced. She passed away at 4:28 p.m. local time Friday, a chilly gray day in Jerusalem with intermittent rain. Official mourning began last night at the end of the Sabbath. The Cabinet met in special session and the ministers stood in silence to pay their respects to the former leader. Acting Premier Yigael Yadin likened Mrs. Meir to the Biblical prophetess Deborah in the period of the Judges.

Beginning last night and throughout today, the broadcast media abandoned its regular schedule for programming appropriate to an occasion of mourning. Schools today devoted their classes to discussions of Mrs. Meir's contributions to the

history of Israel, before and after it achieved statehood.

Flags were flown at half mast on all public buildings; festivities scheduled for the weekend were cancelled. In the streets, buses and shops all over the country the conversation centered on "Golda," her life's work and her fatal illness.

### Israel's Spokesman To The World

Israel's national and political leaders sought to convey the sentiments of every Israeli in broadcast and published statements. President Yitzhak Navon described Mrs. Meir as "a rare leader" who had dedicated her life to the Jewish people and identified with every Jewish community in the world. "She was loyal to herself and herself was loyal to the people of Israel," he said. One could differ with her but one always respected her and in times of crisis "she stood as a firm cliff in the face of threatening waves. She identified completely with whatever task she undertook," he said.

Premier Menachem Begin, in Oslo to accept the 1978 Nobel Peace Prize, appeared on television there, relayed by satellite to Israel. A long-time political foe of Mrs. Meir, Begin declared that she had fought all her life for the Jewish people, their redemption and their future.

He recalled her contributions to the establishment of the State and noted especially her role as Israel's first Ambassador to Moscow where "she brought the word of Zion to millions of Jews in those days which are remembered by all, and tens of thousands of Jews came, with great love to receive Israel's first Ambassador." Begin recalled that Golda had once told him that she told the Jews in the USSR, "I thank you for having remained Jews."

"She was Israel's spokesman to the nations of the world," Begin said. "She always addressed them with pride, with faith in the eternity of the Jewish people. She was Premier of the government of national unity and Premier in the days of agony and the triumph of the Yom Kippur War. She had historic achievements to her credit in the annals of the Jewish people and her memory will be engraved in the hearts of our people throughout the generations," he said.

### Shaped The Fate Of Israel

Shimon Peres, chairman of the Labor Party, the party long headed by Mrs. Meir, called her "one of the greatest women in the history of the Jewish people and one of the decisive figures in the shaping and the fate of the State of Israel. She was a proud Jewess," Peres declared, "and uncompromisingly certain of the justice of her cause. She may have had doubts during her life but she was never in doubt as to the justice of our actions, of our existence and our path," he said.

Meir Talmi, secretary general of Mapam, a partner in Israel's Labor Alignment, said Mrs. Meir was "a great figure whose name will be inscribed in the history of Israel as one of the leaders of the generation that built something out of nothing and created reality out of a vision. She was one of the Jewish people and at the same time a great statesman," Talmi said.

The Jewish Agency Executive and the Presidium of the Zionist General Council met in a special mourning session today. Leon Dulzin, chairman

of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization, who is accompanying Begin in Oslo, cabled a special message read at the session by WZO secretary Haim Zohar.

Dulzin said: "Golda was a great mother of Israel, an inspiring leader of the Zionist Movement. She had a burning belief in the truths of Zionism, great love for the Jewish people, a rare persuasive ability and deep-rooted Jewishness. All these characteristics have turned Golda Meir into the foremost spokesman of the Zionist Movement and the State of Israel."

Other political leaders and factions expressed their sentiments. Moshe Kol, Independent Liberal Party head, said: "Golda was a leader who acted upon her principles and maintained the alliance with progressive liberalism." Arye Eliav of the Shelli faction, a former secretary general of the Labor Party and one-time close collaborator with Mrs. Meir, spoke of her as "the light-house to Soviet Jewry" when she served as Ambassador to Moscow.

Avraham Schechterman, chairman of Herut, declared that "Mrs. Meir symbolized to the Jewish people and the world the face of this nation in life, its desire for independence and its pride. She won a place among the leaders of the world and with her passing she will be sorely missed—by her political rivals as well as others."

Yeruham Meshel, secretary general of Histadrut, said of Mrs. Meir: "She combined human gentleness with Jewish stubbornness, the finest aspirations of the Jewish people, the best qualities of its leadership, the highest values of its pioneering movement and the greatest achievements of those who fulfilled its aims were all embodied in Golda Meir."

#### Involved With Every Major Event

Golda Meir's life was involved, in one way or another, with every major event of this century affecting Jews and the struggle to rebuild the Jewish State. Its drama was such that she became a living legend. In recent years her career was dramatized in a major Broadway theatrical production and her autobiography was published the world over in many languages.

She was born Golda Mabovitch in 1898 in Kiev, Russia, one of three children of a carpenter. Poverty and pogroms drove the family to immigrate to the United States—as did many tens of thousands of Jewish families from Eastern Europe at that time. They settled in Milwaukee, Wisconsin when Golda was eight. She was graduated from high school and enrolled in the Milwaukee Normal School for Teachers.

Childhood memories of pogroms, intensified by the massacres of Russian Jews during the civil war that followed the Bolshevik revolution, are credited with turning Golda toward Zionism in her early teens. A socialist in political outlook, she joined the Poale Zion (Labor Zionists) in 1915 at the age of 17. She proved to be a gifted orator in Yiddish and English and quickly attracted attention in local Zionist circles.

She was graduated from teachers' training college in 1917 and was married the same year to Morris Meyerson, a young immigrant from Russia. She taught for several years in schools of the National Arbeiter Farband and was a member of a commission of the Joint Distribution Committee aiding East European Jews after World War I.

Mrs. Meir rejected the role of a "diaspora Zionist" and persuaded her husband to settle in Palestine. They arrived at Jaffa in the American steamer Pocahontas in the spring of 1921 when the

third wave of aliya was in full force and Mrs. Meir plunged immediately into the pioneer life. For three years she engaged in farming as a member of Kibbutz Merhavia in the Jezreel Valley. In 1924 she assumed her first public position—as treasurer of Histadrut's Office of Public Works in Tel Aviv, which later developed into the powerful construction cooperative, Solel Boneh.

#### Political Career Launched

In 1928, Mrs. Meir was appointed executive secretary of the Moetzet Hapaoalot (Women's Labor Council), the sister organization in Palestine of the Pioneer Women in the U.S. The following year she attended the 16th World Zionist Congress in Zurich as a delegate of Achdut Avoda, one of the two Labor Zionist groups that in 1930 formed Mapai, precursor of Israel's Labor Party. That event marked the beginning of her activities in the World Zionist Movement.

In 1932, Moetzet Hapaoalot sent Mrs. Meir to the United States as an emissary to the Pioneer Women, which she served as national secretary until her return to Palestine in 1934. She was invited then to join the executive committee of Histadrut and subsequently became head of its political department. She travelled extensively during the 1930s, attending Zionist Congresses as a delegate of Mapai and on numerous missions to Europe and North America on behalf of the Jewish Agency and the WZO.

She was also a member of the Executive of Vaad Leumi, the Jewish National Council in Palestine during the Mandatory period and served on many Histadrut bodies, including Kupat Holim, the sick-fund; Aviron, an aviation company; and Nakhshon, a shipping enterprise. In 1936 she became chairman of the board of directors of Kupat Holim.

During World War II Mrs. Meir was a member of the War Economic Advisory Council of the British Mandatory Government and in 1940 she was designated head of Histadrut's foreign relations department. When the British army detained most members of the Jewish Agency Executive on June 29, 1946, she became acting head of the Jewish Agency's political department, substituting for Moshe Sharett (Shertak). She held that post at various intervals during Sharett's absence from the country until Israel's independence was established on May 14, 1948.

During the War for Independence, Mrs. Meir conducted negotiations with the late King Abdullah of Jordan for a peaceful settlement. Abdullah was subsequently assassinated by Arab extremists. Mrs. Meir was among the founders of the State of Israel. She signed the Declaration of Independence as a member of the Provisional Council of State, the nation's first legislative body.

#### Ovation By Jews In Moscow

In September, 1948, she went to Moscow as Israel's first Minister Plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union and in 1948 she was elected, in absentia, to the first Knesset on the Mapai list. Mrs. Meir's appointment to Moscow marked a turning point in the history of Soviet Jewry. Her presence sparked the first dramatic expression of long suppressed Jewish identity among Jews in the USSR.

When she attended High Holy Day services at the Great Synagogue in Moscow there was a spontaneous outpouring of tens of thousands of Jews to hail the first envoy from the Jewish State. This demonstration is known to have disturbed the Soviet authorities and planted the seeds of hostility that led later to the brutal suppression of Jewish national aspirations and civil rights in the Soviet Union and the severance of diplomatic relations with Israel in 1967.

In 1949, Mrs. Meir joined the Cabinet of Premier David Ben Gurion as Minister of Labor and Social Insurance, an office she held in subsequent governments until her appointment as Foreign Minister in 1956. Three years earlier she had assumed the chairmanship of the Israeli delegation to the United Nations General Assembly. At that time she brought to the attention of the world organization the anti-Semitic character of the Prague trials and the Moscow "doctors plot" allegations.

#### Began New Career At Age 71

Mrs. Meir retired from the government in 1965 to become secretary general of Mapai. After the Six-Day War she was instrumental in bringing about the fusion of Mapai with the Ahdut Avoda and Rafi factions to form Israel's united Labor Party. After the death of Premier Levi Eshkol on Feb. 26, 1969, Mrs. Meir was summoned out of retirement to become Israel's fourth Prime Minister. Thus, at the age of 71, she began a new career that was to elevate her to the ranks of world leaders. It was in that year that she paid her first visit to the United States as Premier and was received by President Nixon at the White House.

As Premier, Mrs. Meir's overriding aim was to achieve peace with Israel's Arab neighbors, perhaps the one goal in her lifetime that was to elude her. In August, 1970, she accepted the American peace initiative that ended the war of attrition with Egypt on the basis of an Israeli pledge to withdraw to "secure and recognized boundaries" under a general peace settlement. As a consequence of that agreement, the national unity government over which she presided split with the withdrawal of the Gahal (Liberal Party-Herut) alignment.

Mrs. Meir continued to head the Labor-led coalition government but by 1971 she was speaking publicly of retiring before the next elections. By then she was already suffering from the illness that would prove fatal. But at the insistence of her Labor colleagues and a majority of the public, she remained in office. She presided during Israel's worst crisis, the Yom Kippur War of October, 1973 and its bitter aftermath. Her party was badly weakened in the elections at the end of 1973. Unable to form a firm coalition, weary of the bickering and recriminations within and outside of her party, she announced her retirement in April, 1974.

She continued in a caretaker role until June when she turned over the reins of government to her successor, Yitzhak Rabin. She also resigned from the Knesset. But she could not resign from the role of elder stateswoman that fate imposed. Every world leader who came to Israel during the past four years found his or her way to Mrs. Meir's modest home at Ramat Aviv, a suburb of Tel Aviv, to talk, seek advice or reminisce.

#### Remained Optimistic To The End

Death came to her at a time when Israel appeared to be closer to peace than at any time in its 31 years of existence. She was known to have been seriously ill for some time but Israel and the world became aware of the terminal nature of her disease only during the last few weeks as daily bulletins from Hadassah Hospital reported her condition to be deteriorating.

At a press conference yesterday, Prof. Kalman Mann, director of the Hadassah Medical Organization, described her ailment as a tumor-

ous condition of the lymphatic tissues, a low grade malignancy that worsens gradually over the years. Mann said it was first diagnosed in Mrs. Meir 15 years ago but was controlled by medication. Mrs. Meir entered the hospital four months ago suffering from back pains. It was found then that the disease had spread to her bones. Two weeks ago her liver became affected, resulting in jaundice.

Mrs. Meir was aware of her condition but remained optimistic and never gave up her chain-smoking habit. "I won't die young," she remarked jocularly after reaching her 70th birthday. During the last weeks of her life she was alert, kept up with world affairs, watched television and conversed with her family, who kept a 24-hour vigil at her bedside. Mann said she did not suffer undue pain at the end, except for abdominal cramps that were relieved by medication.

#### JEWISH LEADERS, ISRAEL OFFICIALS IN U.S. PAY TRIBUTE TO MRS. MEIR By David Friedman

NEW YORK, Dec. 10 (JTA)--American Jewish leaders and Israeli officials in the United States mourned the death of former Israeli Premier Golda Meir this weekend. Memorial prayers for her were said in synagogues throughout the U.S.

At the United Jewish Appeal's national conference, some 2500 persons at the gala 40th anniversary banquet at the New York Hilton last night stood in a moment of silence to Mrs. Meir. The noted writer, Elie Wiesel, who was the featured speaker, praised her as "one of the most striking powerful people" in Jewish history. He said that he had developed a deep personal friendship with Mrs. Meir, through many conversations in Yiddish in New York and Jerusalem, that grew more profound over the years.

Earlier, Irwin Field, UJA's national chairman, said that "Golda was, and is, unforgettable." He said "she was truly a giant among us, larger than life, and her legacy to us and all Jews everywhere is larger than the death that has overtaken her. We're grateful that she lived to see the beginnings of the peace for which she yearned for the sake of the mothers and children of all the nations of the Middle East. When that peace becomes a reality, she will have been one of its primary architects."

Addressing the 54th annual Chanukah Dinner of Yeshiva University at the Waldorf Astoria tonight, Yehuda Blum, Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, said that Mrs. Meir "has left her indelible mark well beyond the confines of Israel and the Middle East. Her statesmanship and indomitable courage in the face of adversity have already assured her a permanent place in the annals of human history." He noted that she "stood as a giant on the Israel political scene for more than a generation" and called her "a modern-day Deborah."

#### Compared Golda To Moses

Simcha Diniz, Israel's Ambassador to Washington, at a farewell luncheon for him by the Overseas Writers at the Capitol Hilton in Washington, said that like Moses who took his people toward the promised land but died before going there, Mrs. Meir searched for peace and "in the last moments it was snatched away." Diniz, who was a close personal assistant to Mrs. Meir for many years before becoming Ambassador, said for "her the promised land was peace."

Former Foreign Minister Abba Eban said in a television appearance that while Mrs. Meir did not live to see peace achieved she took the first steps to achieve it by the disengagement agreements of 1974, following the Yom Kippur War. He said one of her

greatest qualities was the ability to simplify, major issues. "It was possible to disagree with her, but it was impossible not to understand her," he said.

Yoseph Kedat, Israel's Consul General in New York, said Mrs. Meir's life was a symbol of Israel's history. The Israeli Consulate will be open Tuesday and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for people to sign a Book of Condolence.

Morton Mandel, president of the Council of Jewish Federations, and Philip Bernstein, executive vice-president, declared that Mrs. Meir's death "deprives the world of a leader who embodied the most important human qualities--vision, strength, warmth and compassion--combined with the ability to inspire, strengthen and lead people." I. K. Goldstein, president of the Labor Zionist Alliance, said: "Her philosophy derived from Labor Zionism and its struggle to establish a cooperative society in Israel based upon a revitalized Jewish people living in its own land."

Theodore Mann, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said Mrs. Meir "was a Jew who dedicated every fiber of her being to the dignity and security of her people." Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the World Zionist Organization-American Section, said that "Golda was one of the great leaders of our generation" who "was single-minded in her love for her people and her devotion to the State of Israel." Philip Klutznick, president of the World Jewish Congress, said "She occupied the highest office in her country, and was at ease with the greatest statesmen of the world, but she never lost her simplicity and her love for the ordinary people."

Other Jewish leaders who paid tribute to Mrs. Meir included Bernice Tannenbaum, president, Hadassah; Jack Spitzer, president, B'nai B'rith International; Richard Maass, president, American Jewish Committee; Frieda Leemon, president, Pioneer Women; Sam Rothberg, general chairman, Israel Bond Organization; the leadership of the United Jewish Appeal-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies in New York; and the leadership of the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago.

\*Also, Esther R. Landa, president, National Council of Jewish Women; Maxwell E. Greenberg, chairman, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president, Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Howard Squadron, president, American Jewish Congress; Rabbi Saul I. Telpitz, president, Synagogue Council of America; Donald M. Robinson, president, Joint Distribution Committee; Albert D. Chernin, executive vice-chairman, National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council; Alfred Gottschalk, president, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion; Sarah Shane, president, American Mizrahi Women; Julius Berman, president, Union of Orthodox Congregations of America; and Bernard Backer, president, Workmen's Circle.

#### WORLD LEADERS PAY TRIBUTE

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 (JTA)--President Carter and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat led the list of world leaders who expressed sorrow at the death of former Israeli Premier Golda Meir and praised her as a great leader of the State of Israel.

"The American people and I join the people of Israel in mourning the loss" of Mrs. Meir,

Carter said. "Throughout one of the most remarkable careers of public leadership in this century, Golda Meir embodied the best in the Israeli spirit--courage and idealism; honest outspokenness and buoyant good humor; strength and compassion, and deep love for her land; proud determination and boundless energy and hard work; and a deep abiding commitment to peace."

Noting that "I will always remember her warmth and graciousness when we met in Israel when she was Prime Minister in 1973," Carter said that Mrs. Meir "always understood that great global issues involve the hopes and fears of ordinary men and women, and people all over the world responded to her humanity." He also noted that she "is among that heroic group of men and women, Israel's pioneers, who dreamed of establishing a free and independent Jewish State--and who made that dream come true for millions of people in one of the great stories of human struggle and fulfillment of all time."

Carter stressed that at her death, "it is fitting to note that the nation of Israel to which she dedicated her life is strong and free today. We pray that the second great dream of Golda Meir's life, for which she worked and hoped and prayed all her life, will soon be realized--a just and lasting peace in the Middle East."

#### 'An Honest Adversary'

In his cable, which was sent to President Yitzhak Navon and Mrs. Meir's family, Sadat declared: "As we pursue efforts to achieve an overall and lasting peace for the peoples of the region, I credit her for her undeniable role in the process of peace, when she signed with us the first disengagement accord. She always proved herself as a first-class political leader worthy of holding in your history a position commensurate with the position she had held in your leadership."

Sadat, who was one of the first world leaders to send a cable of condolence to Israel, and who had often said he wished he could have conducted the peace negotiations with Mrs. Meir, said that "for the sake of history" he wanted to note that Mrs. Meir was "an honest adversary in the circumstances of confrontation between us--which we all hope has ended forever."

Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who arrived in Cairo today, said in a statement before his departure from Washington Friday, that "Americans join with Israelis--with Jews everywhere--and with all who care for the human spirit, in mourning" Mrs. Meir. "Let us at this moment rededicate ourselves to help bring true peace to the Middle East--the goal for which Mrs. Meir so valiantly and tirelessly sought."

Vance's predecessor, Henry Kissinger, said, "I grieve deeply for the passing of an extraordinary human being. The world will be lonelier without her. Golda Meir's life represented not only the history of an individual but the destiny of a people. It was marked by the faith and idealism that made ordinary men and women fulfill an historic vision in a barren land."

Former President Nixon said the "most fitting monument" for Mrs. Meir would be a Mideast peace. AFL-CIO President George Meany said she was "American labor's warm friend and we respected and admired her." Terence Cardinal Cooke of New York said, "I join with men and women of all nations of all the world in expressing gratitude for the countless contributions of this renowned woman and am praying that she will know the peace that was her life's quest." UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim said her "stern devotion to her duty was combined with warm human qualities."

## THE WIT AND WISDOM OF GOLDA

NEW YORK, Dec. 10 (JTA)--Golda Meir was not only an astute political leader but also a person who could make a telling political point by way of epigrams. She was also known for her rapier wit and repartee. What follows is a brief selection:

"If only political leaders would allow themselves to feel, as well as to think, the world might be a happier place."

"We will build Israel with decency and dignity, and one day our present detractors will come knocking at our door."

"If hatred is abandoned as a principle of Arab politics, everything becomes possible again."

Recalling her childhood in Czarist Russia and her memories of marauding Ukrainian peasants and Cossacks riding through Jewish streets in Kiev as they burned down houses and looted and pillaged, she said: "If there is any logical explanation necessary to the direction which my life has taken, maybe this is the explanation: the desire and determination to save Jewish children, four or five years old, from a similar scene, from a similar experience."

"A strong people does not have to demonstrate the justice of its demands. A weak people, even when it has demonstrated the justice of its demands, has still not done enough."

"No people in the world knows collective eulogies as well as the Jews do. But we have no intention of going down in order that some may speak well of us."

"If there is anything that horrified me in the past years, it is not that people criticize us. That is absolutely legitimate, even if we don't like it and we'd rather hear praise. What does horrify me is that murderers are played up as heroes, and that suddenly the Arabs are waging a 'war of liberation'--which is fought by hiding a bomb in a student cafeteria."

"We are not a new people. We have not come back to a new country. We are an old people that has come back to its old home."

"There should be some place on earth where there is a Jewish majority. As a minority we have quite a history."

When the Israeli Cabinet was dealing with assaults on women, one Minister proposed that there should be a curfew on women after dark. Golda protested: "Men are attacking the women, not the other way around. If there is going to be a curfew, let the men be locked up, not the women."

"Zionism and pessimism are not compatible."

"Our secret weapon: No alternative."

On her 80th birthday in May of this year, she said: "My birthday is not important. Israel's anniversary is what counts, for Israel will live many more years than I."

Mrs. Meir's last public appearance in the United States was at the Council of Jewish Fed-

erations' 46th General Assembly in Dallas on Nov. 12, 1977. Following are highlights of her address:

In an obvious allusion to the Carter Administration: "It is easy to fight enemies but difficult to argue with friends. . . . It would never enter my mind to argue with those who want to see a secure Israel, a safe Israel. We are dealing with democracies, not anti-Semitic governments, not governments which are hostile to Israel."

"What risks are Egypt or Syria or Jordan taking? Israel is not out to occupy them and even the Arabs do not claim that we are. During the 1973 war our armies were within 100 kilometers of Cairo and within 50 kilometers of Damascus. We could have kept going, but we asked ourselves: what do we do when we get there?"

Referring to suggestions that Israel accept international guarantees, Mrs. Meir said scornfully, "this means that there is some doubt about peace. Why international guarantees if there is peace? Can anybody guarantee us that we will not be attacked? . . . There's also talk of an Israel-U.S. security treaty. God forbid that America will be attacked and we have to defend her."

"But if Israel is attacked, given the feelings in post-Vietnam America, will American soldiers be sent to defend us? We don't want one drop of blood from anyone but ourselves in the defense of Israel. If the U.S. sends soldiers and helps Israel to win, Israel will become a protectorate and lose its sovereignty. This will be so because we cannot say no to people who saved our lives and who in the process lost the lives of its own soldiers."

Dealing with the issue of the newly-established Jewish settlements, Mrs. Meir said that this was not a basis for the deadlock in peace talks, but only a new excuse used by the Arabs. "Were the Arabs prepared to talk peace before new settlements were established? Why do fine, decent, peace-loving people, not anti-Semites, not anti-Israel, find it so difficult to understand that the 1967 borders were destroyed by Egypt and Syria with the help of Saudi Arabia? Why was there a war in 1967? There were no settlements then, no occupied territories. Yes, the Arabs saw occupied territories: Tel Aviv, Haifa. . . ."

She concluded by calling upon young Jews to "accept the challenge of going to Israel" and help to create new facets of society and build, strengthen and continue what was begun. She added: "We need Jews badly, one million, two million. Israel will still be a minority (in the Mideast) but it will make a world of difference."

## A PORTRAIT OF GOLDA

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 (JTA)--The National Portrait Gallery has broken its own rules to put a portrait of Golda Meir on view "for an appropriate period of time." The Gallery customarily does not hang portraits until 10 years after the death of the subject. During a visit to the United States in 1975, Mrs. Meir sat for a painting for Raphael Soyer in a secluded and heavily guarded place in Connecticut. The following year the painting was presented to the Gallery by private donors. In a letter to Gallery director Marvin Sadik, Soyer wrote: "She had a wonderful face, strong and wise and kind. . . . There was something deep, symphonic about that head."

**BEGIN RECEIVES NOBEL PEACE PRIZE**

By Edwin Eytan

OSLO, Dec. 10 (JTA)--The 1978 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded here today to Israeli Premier Menachem Begin and to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, who was represented at the ceremony by former Parliament Speaker Said Marai. Both men, Begin in his address, and Sadat in his message read out by Marai, pledged themselves in the Israeli Premier's words, to: "no more war, no more blood and no more enmity."

Both men also paid tribute to President Carter for his role in the current peace process and for his "energy and devotion to peace." The Nobel Peace committee also mentioned at length in its citation the role played by the American President during and after the Camp David negotiations.

Sadat referred in his message to some of the difficulties still to be overcome if peace is to be signed. "We have now come to a moment of truth in the peace process which requires each one of us to take a new look at the situation." He added: "I trust that you all know that when I made my historic trip to Jerusalem, my aim was not to strike a deal as some politicians do. I made my trip because I was convinced that we owe it to this generation and to generations to come."

Throughout his nine-page address, the Egyptian President did not refer once by name either to Begin or to the State of Israel. He reiterated, however, the known Egyptian demands, that peace should be comprehensive, just and indivisible.

**Harsh Tone Of Sadat's Message**

Sadat's message, which observers in Oslo found harsher in tone than what had been expected, twice mentioned the Palestinians and their problem. In his recent speeches the Egyptian President has abstained from doing so in recent months. Sadat's message said that the "goal (of the peace treaty) is to bring security to all the peoples of the area and to the Palestinians in particular, restoring to them all their right to a life of liberty and dignity."

The Israeli Premier in his address stressed repeatedly Israel's deep set desire for peace. He said "at Camp David, despite all the differences, we found solutions for problems, agreed on issues and the framework for peace was signed. The path leading to peace was paved." Begin added that a peace treaty with Egypt "can serve as the first indispensable step along the road towards a comprehensive peace in our region."

The Israeli Premier first paid tribute to the memory of Golda Meir and stressed that "she strove with all her heart to achieve peace between Israel and her neighbors." The audience, which included King Olav V, Crown Prince Harald, and the Norwegian Prime Minister, rose to their feet for a minute of silence in tribute to the late Premier.

Begin also recalled the plight of Soviet Jewry, which he stressed "now wants to go home--home to Israel." In the audience sat, as the Premier's personal guest, Soviet activist Silva Zalmanson.

**Ceremony In Old Fortress**

The actual ceremony took place in a 13th century Norwegian fortress atop a wind-swept hill overlooking the icy waters of Oslo fjord. In spite of the nature of the award, peace, the Akershus castle compound looked like a besieged

camp with hundreds of soldiers and police manning the castle's walls, helicopters hovering overhead and gun boats training their cannons on the castle from the sea.

Some of the Norwegian guests, less than 100, walked up to the hill along a snow covered path. The Israeli and Egyptian parties came for security reasons in police guarded buses and cars. Begin and his wife, Aliza, who are staying at the Royal Castle as the King's personal guests, were flown by helicopter to the castle.

The award presentation ceremony took place in a relatively small, rectangular hall. Its walls were covered with French tapestries and its windows looked out over the icy waters of the port and the snow covered fields which surround the castle. A small chamber orchestra, which sounded all violins and cellos, played the slow Nordic music of Grieg and Sibelius.

Begin, who wore a black suit and silver tie, looked slightly flushed as he entered the room. As he recognized old friends in the hall, he turned round beaming and smiling to them. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency was one of the few wire services present in the hall.

Begin was the first to be called to the rostrum to receive the diploma, the Peace Gold Medal and the approximately \$175,000 check--half the prize's amount. Begin has announced that he will donate the money to a special fund to be set up for retarded children. Sadat has said that he will use the money for the development of his native village in the Nile valley.

The Premier smiled broadly as he was handed his diploma. Last night he told the JTA that the day of the award "will be the third happiest in my life--after those of Israel's creation and the reunification of Jerusalem." After the ceremony he told reporters and friends, "It was a marvelous moment--the recognition of Israel's desire for peace."

Marai was the first to speak. He read Sadat's message underscoring such words as "comprehensive settlement" and "Rights of the Palestinians"; he also seemed to look straight at Begin as he read Sadat's threat that "the one who prevents peace will be cursed by generations to come and by history."

Outside the university building in central Oslo, where the award presentation is usually held, 400 pro-Palestinian demonstrators and some 60 Norwegians protested against this year's awards. Most Norwegians seemed, however, to take only a mild interest in both the ceremony, relayed over Scandinavian television channels, and the demonstrations. People stayed at home out of the cold or went skiing as they normally do on sunny weekends. The press also tuned down its criticisms in recent days as Norwegians start indulging in one of their national pastimes, "who will be next year's winner."

**Traditional Sabbath Eve Dinner**

On Friday Mrs. Begin lit the traditional Friday night candles in their suite at the Royal Palace. The Premier and Mrs. Begin, their daughter and son-in-law then joined the King and the Crown Prince for the traditional Sabbath eve dinner. A special huge choleh had been brought from Israel for the occasion; but kiddush was not said as Israeli wines were not available. Begin explained to the King the meaning of the kiddush and the importance of the Friday night blessings. During two hours of conversation between the King and the Israeli party, Begin told the King that Israel and Jews all over the world felt "deep admiration" for Norway's war-time resistance to the Nazi occupation. The King's welcome has been above all possible expectations.