

# ARAB-ISRAEL WAR NOT CONSIDERED LIKELY —

## Israel's Prospects Better In 1956 Than Ever Before, Say Experts

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (JTA)—The prediction that no Arab-Israel war is likely in the near future and that Israel's prospects for friendly consideration by the democratic world will be better in 1956 than ever before was made here this week by a number of diplomatic observers, despite the fact that Syria demands Israel's expulsion from U.N. membership.

ISRAEL WILL PROBABLY draw Security Council censure for her reprisal attack on Syria's out-

posts on Lake Tiberias, but no doubt exists in United Nations circles that Syria's call for expulsion and for economic sanctions against Israel will not find the echo in the Council which the Arab bloc anticipates.

Especially is this so, since the composition of the Council changes on January 1, with Yugoslavia taking Turkey's place, Cuba replacing Brazil, and Australia taking over New Zealand's place.

At present, Marshall Tito of Yugoslavia is off to try to induce Egyptian leaders in Cairo to talk peace with Israel. It is therefore

assumed that Tito's representative on the Security Council is not likely to take a "tough" line against Israel here. Cuba, another of the new Council members, is a member of the Latin American bloc which is often sympathetic to Israel. Australia's stand on Israel is likely to resemble New Zealand's—a moderate viewpoint that does not overlook Israel's cause as against the Arab states.

THE SYRIAN WISH FOR ISRAEL'S expulsion thus remains an empty proposal unless a member of the Council sponsors a resolution to put it up for formal discussion. The Syrians had asked the Soviet Union to sponsor the resolution but were turned down. The USSR's A. A. Sobolev did tell the Council that Syria's resolution should be given attention—but that was lip service to appease the Arab bloc; it is not believed the USSR will go nearly as far in condemning Israel as the Syrians would like.

THE SYRIAN DEMANDS CAME at a Security Council session which witnessed one of the bitterest clashes in the history of that body. After hearing the sharp exchange

between Israeli chief delegate Abba Eban, and his Syrian opponent, Ahmed Shukairy, the Council voted to adjourn, subject to the call of its president.

Countering the Syrian request, Ambassador Eban asked the Security Council "to take effective action against the 'aggressive Syrian encroachments' on Israeli territory and submitted documents proving that Syrian military authorities issued orders to fire upon Israeli fishermen and to regard Lake Tiberias as 'Syrian territory.'" Under the armistice agreement, "all of Lake Tiberias is included in Israeli territory, plus an eleven-yard strip of land on the side bordering Syria."

Before the meeting opened, Mr. Eban circulated among the members of the Council a sheet of documents captured by Israel during the December 11 raid showing that the Syrian high command had deliberately ordered violation of the armistice agreement by ordering

its troops to fire on Israel shipping on the northeastern corner of the lake, which is wholly within Israeli territory. Later, Mr. Eban underscored a point to the effect that Mr. Shukairy did not deny the authenticity of the documents but instead shouted his insistence that "Israel has no frontiers."

The captured documents included orders issued by Shuqat Shukier, Chief of Staff of the Syrian Army, on March 14, 1954, claiming that "Syrian territorial waters in Lake Tiberias should be regarded (extending) 200 meters (650 feet) from shore." He ordered that "there should be opened on Israel vessels entering this limit."

Mr. Eban pointed out that the very report submitted by Gen. Burns "confirms that Israel has proposed and Syria has rejected proposals for an agreement which

would enable the question of "fishing rights" on the lake to be settled peacefully. The Israel delegate noted that Gen. Burns himself "makes it abundantly clear that we are speaking here of Israeli territory, and of Israeli waters." He challenged Mr. Shukairy's reference to "Syrian territorial waters in the Lake of Tiberias" as an "astoundingly impudent expression" and as a "fantastic claim."

WHILE MR. SHUKAIRY squirmed and refused to discuss important matters—such as territorial demarcation, Mr. Eban drove home a number of times that Syria's case rests on the supposition that it can unilaterally violate the Syrian-Israeli armistice agreement. On his own behalf, Mr. Eban asked "that the Security Council will include in its resolution a clear injunction to Syria to avoid inter-

ference with Israeli activities on the lake and in Israeli territory surrounding the Lake; and also a clear statement forbidding Syria from exercising illicit controls on Lake Tiberias on its shores or indeed on any single inch of territory beyond the border defined by the general armistice agreement between Israel and Syria."

United Nations Security Council General Dag Hammarskjöld announced to a news conference that he would visit Tel Aviv, Cairo, Beirut and the capitals of the other Arab states, as part of a two-month tour. Mr. Hammarskjöld while not specifically visiting the Middle East on a peace talks mission, will attempt to use his good offices with the governments of that area to effect some kind of a rapprochement between the conflicting countries.

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## ARAB PROPAGANDA CAUSING 'DISUNITY'

NEW YORK (JTA)— Attacks against American Jews by Arab propagandists "can only contribute to disunity among Americans and confuse the issue in the Middle East," the American Jewish Committee warned this week.

Declaring that "there is no doubt that Arab propagandists are seeking by their use of anti-Semitic propaganda, to weaken the status of Jews in America," the AJC reported that allied with the Arab propagandists are many of America's right-wing propagandists

who "in happy accord with any anti-Semitic campaign, are publicizing the Arab view." The result of such activity is "obstructing the development of a sound American policy" for the Middle East, the report said.

"The American Jewish Committee is a non-Zionist organization, but it deeply resents any implication that Zionists or other Jews in the United States are disloyal to their country," the AJC statement emphasized. It named Arab diplomats as the worst offenders. These include Mohammed Fathel el-Jamal, chairman of the Arab delegation to the UN General Assembly; Farid Zeineddine, Syrian Ambassador to the United States; and Mohammed Habib, press attache at the Egyptian Embassy in Washington. Arab diplomats, the AJC points out, "for years have been using the forums of the United Nations for similar attacks on American Jews, accusing them of 'dual loyalty,' 'dual nationality,' 'dual allegiance.'"

The AJC report states that among the anti-Semites who have jumped on the Arab bandwagon are Gerald L. K. Smith and Conroy McGinley, in addition to such organizations "as the only Hitlerite National Renaissance Party." Most

of the Arab propaganda seems to emanate from Cairo, the AJC says, citing the Egyptian-inspired pamphlet "Jewish Atrocities in the Holy Land." A second pamphlet, "The Story of Zionist Espionage in Egypt," obviously written in Cairo, is being distributed by Smith, McGinley and other extremists who equate Zionism with Communism, insisting that Zionism and Communism both seek "world supremacy." "The anti-Semites have eagerly picked up and amplified these arguments, though how they will find evidence of Zionist-Communist support in the shipment of Czech arms to Egypt remains to be seen," the AJC points out. It deprecates the adoption "by more respectable elements of American public opinion" such as the American Friends of the Middle East, of the false charge by America's anti-Semites and Arab propagandists that the so-called "Jewish vote" exerts an influence on American foreign policy in the Middle East.

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**EATON'S OF CANADA**

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## HISTADRUT

and branches of the Labor Zionist movement; and an address by the guest speaker, Ben Adelman, conference chairman, will preside at the morning business sessions, opening at the Hebrew Sick Benefit Hall at 10:30 a.m.

Guest artist Tova Ronni will sing at the annual Histadrut banquet, to take place at the Hebrew Sick Benefit Hall beginning at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Shurer's major address will be delivered at the banquet.

The following proclamation was issued by Max Brooks, Winnipeg Histadrut chairman:

"Histadrut has built up countless thousands of institutions in Israel all dedicated to the absorption and integration of the new immigrants. These institutions were built at a heavy cost in blood, sweat and tears, and must be defended at all costs.

"The Negev today is the backbone of Israel... and from Beersheba to Eilat it bears traces of Histadrut's vast developments. Settlements, roads and pipelines built by Histadrut have altered its appearance, and its arid desert wastes. Histadrut's manifold social, economic and cultural institutions have set the tone for the entire nation... building a healthy nation and a secure future.

"The deadliest blows of Israel's enemies are today reserved for the Negev and its Histadrut settlements, who daily lay sacrifices on the altars of Israel's security. From Histadrut's Kupat Holim positions in the Negev, ambulances, doctors and nurses speed daily on their missions of mercy to bring succor to the wounded on the battlefield.

"THE 1956 HISTADRUT CAMPAIGN IS AN EMERGENCY DRIVE! Individuals and organizations are urged to answer this call with material and moral help... to strengthen Histadrut's battle for Israel's survival.

"Every Histadrut kibbutz on Israel's borders is a fortress against the enemy. Let us now

build new settlements... help build a healthy citizenry."

Born in the Ukraine in 1895, Chaim Shurer received a Russian and Hebrew education in the schools of Kishinev. Just before the outbreak of World War I, he emigrated to Palestine where he became an agricultural laborer and spent 13 years in various kibbutzim. For a short period he was a member of Nahalal, a model co-operative village.

Since 1928 Mr. Shurer served Israeli labor in many official capacities. As a special emissary representing Histadrut, Mapai, Keren Hayesod and the Jewish National Fund he travelled to many European countries, Germany and the West. In 1947 he was asked to head the European office of the World Federation of Labor Zionists (Ichud), with headquarters in Paris.

As early as 1937 he joined the editorial staff of "Davar," Israel's largest daily newspaper, as correspondent and special writer. Two years ago he was made editor-in-chief of this distinguished newspaper.

A leading member of Mapai and the Zionist Actions committee, Mr. Shurer participated in almost all the Zionist Congresses following World War I. During World War II he served for two and a half years with the British Army in the Israeli anti-aircraft battery. In addition to all his versatile activities Chaim Shurer is the author of several books and a number of brochures.

Tova Ronni, who returns to Winnipeg for a second engagement after winning rave reviews two years ago, is the young, vibrant, magnetic Sabra songstress who is viewed as the very personification of Israel. Her sparkling spirit and interpretive talents, convey the true spirit of embattled Israel.

She is famous for her versatility... her performances range from high humor to deep drama. She sings from the heart, and interprets the sorrow, joy, and optimism of the Israelis in a manner that is universally understood. Whether she sings Hebrew songs or the pioneers, Chassidic selections, or English numbers, Tova's captivating presentations are prefaced by her own intriguing explanation of the lyrics.

Miss Ronni has performed for displaced persons, has gone to the front lines of fighting areas to cheer the soldiers of the Haganah and has entertained on radio, on television and on stages all through the United States, Canada, Europe and South America.

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Our deepest heartfelt sympathy to our Vera Omitsky and her family on their recent bereavement.

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