

**ISRAEL -- SYRIA**  
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sion continues, "we shall react."

The Premier's warning was underlined by Israel's Chief of Staff, Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, who declared during an inspection tour of an army brigade that Israel was "on the alert and ready for any possible attack."

Even as plans for the mixed armistice commission were discussed, another in a long series of border incidents broke out along the northern end of the Gulf of Aqaba. Three Israeli soldiers were wounded by Jordanian gunfire in a brief exchange that began when the Jordanians opened fire with machine guns between the Israeli town of Elath and the Jordanian town of Aqaba. No Jordanian casualties were reported.

While accepting "in principle" the UN Secretary-General's proposal for the

meeting with Syrian representatives, Mr. Eshkol said the appeal was regarded "with astonishment" in Israel, because it implied equal responsibility for recent hostilities by Israel and by Syria, the victim and the attacker.

According to a UN report, Syria's Ambassador George J. Tomech has given formal acceptance of the proposal for the Mixed Armistice Commission meeting, for which no time or place has been set. At the same time, Israel's UN Ambassador Michael S. Comay told the Secretary-General that Israel wants "certain points" concerning the meeting clarified.

In Israel, public opinion still strongly favors direct military action, and Mr. Eshkol is caught between conflicting pressures from the home front and from UN Secretary-General U Thant, who urged a political solution to the deepening crisis.

WASHINGTON (WNS) Premier Levi Eshkol of Israel, according to rumors being bruited about in informed circles here, has cabled an appeal to President Johnson and to President De Gaulle of France on the gravity of the situation in the Middle East resulting from the recent wave of Syrian provocations.

The White House, however, had no comment on the report. According to reports reaching here, the Israeli premier advised Mr. Johnson and the French head of state that "there is a legitimate limit even to self-restraint."

The Eshkol cable allegedly stated that "Syria and the world must try to understand that any extension of aggression must be met with active defense." If reports of the Eshkol appeal are authentic, it will be the first time that he turned directly to President Johnson on the Syrian question. Mr. Eshkol was said to have sent the

cable within 24 hours after it became known that US arms were arriving by airlift to Jordan.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Israeli Foreign Ministry denied the reports of personal communications by the Israeli Premier to the U.S. and French Presidents. He acknowledged, however, that Israel's representatives particularly in states that are members of the UN Security Council, "were instructed...to clarify verbally, at the appropriate level, the views of the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Israel with regard to the situation created by Syrian aggression."

The statement added that Israel's representatives were asked to ensure that the country's position "be brought to the personal attention of heads of governments and foreign ministers."

Israel's policy, expressed by Foreign Minister Abba Eban at a news conference in Jerusalem, is that Syrian

**Elected As  
Zionist Leader**



Rabbi Israel Miller, Chairman of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry, has been elected Chairman of the American Zionist Council, coordinating and policy-making body for the entire Zionist Movement in the United States.

Rabbi Miller is the immediate past president of the Rabbinical Council of America. He was appointed by President Johnson to serve on the National Citizens Committee for Community Relations to implement Civil Rights Legislation.



**Vatican Meeting**

Pope Paul VI greets Dr. William A. Wexler, president of B'nai B'rith, for private Vatican audience. They discussed the Ecumenical Council declarations on religious liberty and non-Christian religions and a proposed Vatican commission on Jewish-Catholic relations that is to be set up and supervised by Augustin Cardinal Bea.

acts of aggression "have got to stop." Mr. Eban declared that Israel has "the strength and the will to express our refusal to acquiesce in these policies. I do not think there is any doubt or should be any doubt, in the minds of our neighbors on that point... We want Syria and the world to understand that we have reached the limit. We cannot put up with anything more of this kind."

JERUSALEM (WNS) Syrian gunners firing on Israeli

positions wounded an Israeli soldier near Almogor, north of Lake Tiberias, it was reported by army officials who said the exchange started when the Syrians entered Israel territory.

Coming on the heels of the finding of two Syrian-made mines, the shooting incident is believed indicative of Syrian intention to cause added trouble in the area. Israel has filed a complaint about the incident with the U.N.

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