

NEW YEAR MESSAGES FROM LEADERS IN ISRAEL

by LEVI ESHKOL
(Prime Minister of Israel)

Shana Tova!

The year now drawing to its end has been, for the Jewish people in Israel and throughout the world, a year fraught with destiny. The State of Israel, heart of Jewry, faced danger of extinction, the like of which had never been. Arab States to north, east and south rose up to an attack upon Israel, to wipe it out.

We did everything to avert this war, and to remove the threat to our existence by peaceful means. But, when it was clear that the enemy was tightening the noose of strangulation around us and opening the assault, Israel's Defence Forces went forth to protect the State. In a superbly heroic and glorious campaign, unprecedented in the annals of our nation, our Army routed the enemy and

redeemed Israel from the peril of annihilation.

In this contest, Israel fought alone. We had but one ally: the Jewish people. When all the citizens of Israel were mobilized to defend their Land, the Jewish people in all the countries of the world came valiantly forward, with all its might and main, to help Israel. There were Jewish communities which extended great political and material aid. Thousands of young men and women hurried to work in Israel and to fill the places of the soldiers who had gone to fight. And there are large Jewish communities which longed with all their hearts to help us but were prevented, and even forbidden to express their deep concern and their immense pride. We know that they are with us in thought and prayer, as we are with them.

ZALMAN SHAZAR
(President of Israel)

Of the year that is now coming to a close it is impossible to speak in the terms of summary and appraisal we apply to ordinary and even extraordinary years. Those fateful six days it included - their marvels of heroism, the dangers before them, the obligations after them, their reflection in the outer world - have made of 5727 a year unique in the annals of our people.

For many months before the conflict, border settlements were repeatedly fired upon, lives were lost to hostile attack, and the rulers of neighbouring Arab States incessantly threatened to annihilate us. Aid came to our foes from distant nations, equipping them training them, pitting them against our life and hope. Like lions the soldiers and officers of Israel's Defence Army defended their land and frustrated the designs of destruction and extermination. And the Lord of Hosts was with them. As in the days of the Maccabees and Bar Kochbar, the few confronted the many: they struck out, they overwhelmed the hordes of the enemy, they rescued their people. The memory of those who fell will shine forever among the names of our heroes and martyrs, the noblest sons of our time. The entire Jewish people grieves with the bereaved families whose children gave their lives for the salvation of the nation.

Ours is the privilege to see what we almost did not dare to hope to see in our day: the attacking armies have been crushed and driven beyond the borders of the Land of Israel' the same of the division of the Holy City of Jerusalem has been wiped away. The City of David, "City of the Mighty King", cut off from us for twenty years, has again become one with our capital. With the surging of a mighty force, hundreds of thousands of our brothers have begun again to stream to the Wall that is the remnant of our Temple in its glory - vessel of our tears for all the days of our Exile, symbol of our rebirth in the days of

our renewed sovereignty.

Our people will never forget the exaltation of those six days.

The wonders in the land were echoed in the dispersion, in the awakening among Jews everywhere. In a matter of days dissension ceased, opposition grew silent, and indifference was no longer to be found. Jews rose as one man to the support of the besieged heart of the people. Prayer, generous aid, volunteering for service in Israel - all were expressions of that widespread devotion, that readiness to do whatever might be asked.

TEL AVIV (WNS) Two new Egyptian assaults on Israeli positions along the Suez Canal were reported here by army spokesmen who said the Egyptians started the shooting in both incidents.

Happy
New Year
To The Jewish Community

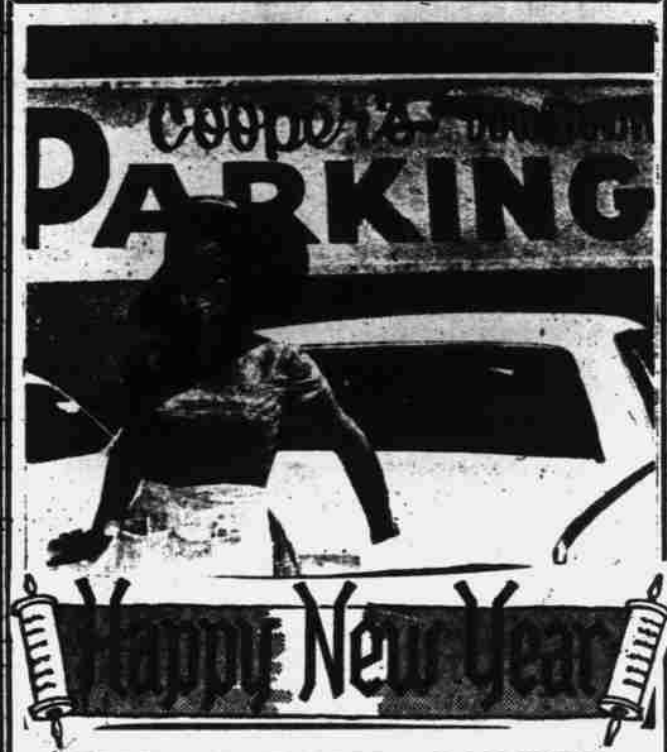


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New Year
Greetings




TOBY AND YALE
COHEN