

**ISRAEL REJECTS**  
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Moshe Dayan defined the commando raid as a "new demision" of the nation's reprisal policy which is designed to convince the Arab states that the guerrilla warfare against Israel is not worthwhile in the long run. Previous retaliatory attacks on such economic targets as Egyptian oil refineries and key Jordanian highways and bridges were part of the same policy.

The growing nagging question in Israel is whether that policy is working. While military leaders stated that Arab saboteur activities had not increased in 1968 and were being held in check, Israelis noted that the Lebanese frontier which had been relatively quiet, was now becoming a battle area and that casualties and property destruction was continuing unabated.

Israelis feared that the mounting tension may come to a head fairly quickly. It was pointed out that the Arab guerrilla organizations were making the same kind of heady, euphoristic victory dtatements that other leaders made before June, 1967. There is evident concern that the desire for revenge on the part of military leaders plus what is viewed here are the self-delusions of the terrorists could lead to an all-out war.

Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, defending the Beirut action, said Israel was obligated to defend herself against all aggression, wherever it is planned and no



EL AL PLANE BACK IN ISRAEL WITH BULLET HOLES RECEIVED IN ATHENS BY EL FATAH MURDERERS (ISRAEL SUN PHOTO).

matter where it is carried out. "On no account can we accept the notion that war may be waged against us without reprisal as long as those who waged it call themselves, guerrillas, not a government," Mr. Eshkol said. Foreign Minister Abba Eban noted that Arab leaders, including Prime Minister Abdulla Yafi of Lebanon,

had repeatedly experience their whole-hearted agreement with the aims and methods of the saboteurs. He said the terrorists who struck in Athens belonged to an organization that was head-quartered in Lebanon and the Lebanese Government could not be absolved of responsibility for their actions.

**JEWISH LEADERS PROTEST TO RUSK**

WASHINGTON (WSN) - Jewish leaders met for an hour and a half with Secretary of State Dean Rusk to protest Washington's support of the United Nations' condemnation of Israel without also criticizing Arab Terrorist attacks.

The meeting was held at the request of the leaders of Jewish organizations. The delegation was headed by Rabbi Herschel Schachter, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of major American Jewish Organizations.

Earlier, Jewish leaders had strongly criticized Pope Paul VI and other world-leaders for condemning Israel while ignoring Arab terrorist activities.

The Pope, who had expressed his sympathy to Lebanese President Charles Helou over the Beirut airport attack, later modified his position in a New Year's Dya address in the Vatican in which he condemned the "recent violent episodes of guerrilla warfare, terrorism and reprisal" and called on all men to resolve conflicts without resorting to "murderous brute force."

One churchman did support Israel. Mgr. John M. Oesterricher of the Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish

**AJC REJECTS U.S. STATEMENT**

NEW YORK -- The American Jewish Committee regrets the nature of our government's statement by J. R. Wiggins, chief U. S. delegate to the United Nations, made in the Security Council on Sunday, December 29.

No violence in the Middle East should be condoned. However it is a simple fact that whenever Israel has brought a complaint about a cease-fire violation to the Security Council it has been unable to obtain relief because of the repeated vetoes of the Soviet Union.

An even-handed policy by the United States would be to oppose violations of the cease fire from an source. It would be unfair for our government to agree to a condemnation by the Security Council of the recent Israeli action without any reference to the act of December 26 which involved not only destruction of Israeli property but the loss of life.

Relations of the National Council of Bishops reportedly called the Israeli raid at Beirut "an act of self defense." Mgr. Oster-

reicher, who is a convert from Judaism, contrasted Israel's action to the Arab attack at Athens as "thirteen airplanes against one human life."

The basic position of most Jewish organizations was evidenced by the statement issued by the Synagogue Council of America which represents the three major branches of American Judaism.

The council said "we represent very deeply the application of a double standard on the Middle East. The UN's condemnation of Israel would have come "with considerably more grace" if world leaders had expressed "comparable abhorrence of violence perpetrated against Israel. It also "publicly and directly challenged" Pope Paul for the first time on any matter "affecting Jewish interests" by noting his message of sympathy to Lebanon "might have arrived more appropriately two days earlier" at the time of the Athens airport attack.

State Department officials said that the Beirut raid would not change Washington's sale of F-4 Phantom jets to Israel and delivery of the first shipment is still scheduled for late this year.

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