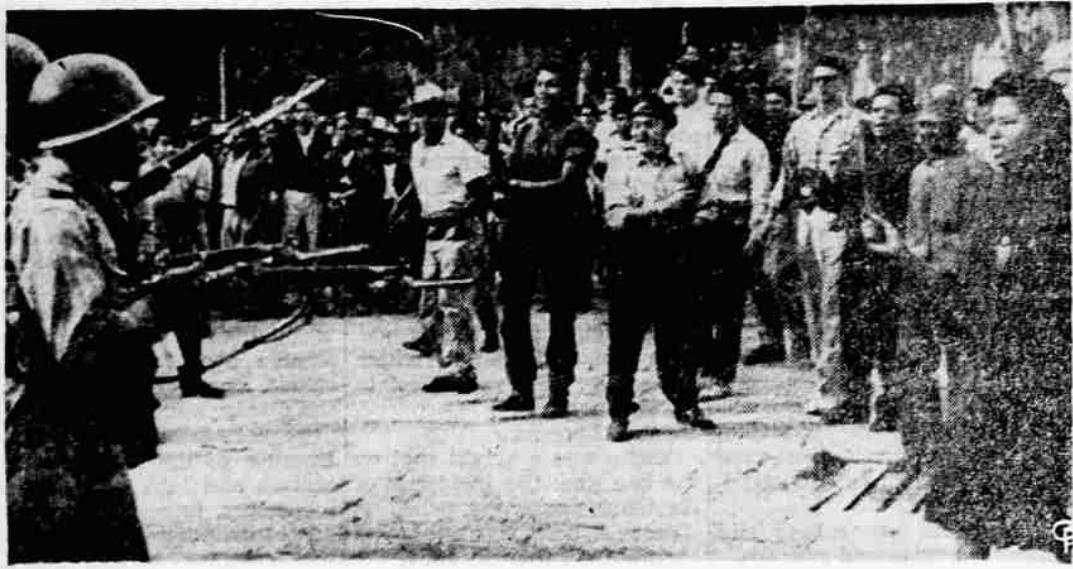




HOLDING FIXED BAYONETS. Mexican troops stand off club-swinging crowd during rioting in San Luis Potosi as people tried to force removal from office of Manuel Alvarez, governor of San Luis Potosi state. Troops were sent from Mexico City.

Israel Faces Old Problems In Better Strength Position

By ELIAV SIMON

Jerusalem (UPI)—As Israel enters 1959 and embarks on her second decade of statehood she faces the same problems which have plagued her since 1948. But she faces them from a stronger position than ever before.

Ever since the Iraqi revolution in July, the unrest in Lebanon and the threat of unrest in Jordan, both the U.S. and Britain have come to acknowledge Israel as a pillar of democracy and stability in a region of the world where neither of these elements has ever flourished.

Reinforced by the long-standing friendship of France, this moral backing has given Israelis more confidence to meet the hazards ahead than anything else that has occurred during the past year. Britain's sale to Israel of two submarines late in 1958 was as much a symbol of this newfound sympathy as a much-needed addition to the country's defensive strength.

Election Highlight

One of the highlights of 1959 will be the feverish campaign preceding the general elections for the Knesset (parliament), scheduled for next fall.

It's most probable that the Mapai, Premier David Ben-Gurion's Moderate Labor Party—will top the poll as it has in the last three elections. But it also highly probable that the Mapai will not have a sufficient majority to form a one-party government, and another coalition will take office.

For the past few years, Israel has always had a coalition government of varying composition, but always with the Mapai holding the whip hand and the main ministries. Ben-Gurion, fitter and sprightlier than ever despite his 72 years, is seen retaining the premiership after the elections, but one or two men who have made their mark in other sphere may well step into the political arena.

Headed for Office

Former army chief of staff Moshe Dayan, who led the 1956 Sinai campaign, then resigned his army post and finally this year quit the army altogether, seems headed for political office as one of the Mapai's rising young men. He is 43.

Another likely candidate is Shimon Peres, present director general at the Ministry of Defense, who has played a big part in insuring the efficiency of Israel's forces and supplying them with the necessary weapons and equipment.

Third most likely candidate for government office—or at least for a Knesset seat—is present United Nations delegate Abba Eban.

For the rest, 1959 is likely to be a year of economic consolidation, during which the country will have to cope with the problem of settling a big new wave of immigrants from Romania, Poland and other parts of eastern Europe. This undoubtedly will entail a tough economic struggle and underlines Israel's need for peace and tranquility in the Middle East.

Was Quiet Year

Militarily, 1958 was a quiet year. The view here is that this is probably because Israel's neighbors were taking time out to indulge their own private squabbles. But death did strike across Israel's frontiers.

In May, Lt. Col. George Flint, a Canadian officer attached to the U.N. truce supervision team in Jerusalem, was killed, together with four Israeli policemen, in a flare-up on Mount Scopus.

Up north, where Lake Huleh was wiped off the map early in the year as a result of a big reclamation and drainage project, Syrian snipers, and, on several occasions, artillery as well, held up work on the newly-redeemed land, causing several deaths and damage to local settlements.

As if to remind Israelis that security does not only mean watching the borders, 66 Arab marauders, spies and Fedayeen escaped from their prison camp at Shatta in northern Israel in July and fled over the frontier into Jordan. But not before two guards and 11 prisoners had been killed.

The theme of the entire year was the 10th anniversary of the State of Israel, which helped attract a record number of some 70,000 visitors and tourists during the 12-month period.

Highlight of the celebrations was a big parade in Jerusalem on Independence Day in April. It was attended by President Ben-Zvi, Premier Ben-Gurion, and guests from all parts of the world, including ex-president Vincent Auriol of France.

Another boon to Israeli pride was the purchase by its national airline company, El Al, of the first of its Bristol Britannia Turboprop planes. These not only helped boost the food of tourists to Israel, but for a few weeks gave El Al the blue ribbon for the fastest trans-Atlantic crossings.



INDICATING possible change in Soviet policy, General Ivan Serov has been removed as head of Soviet secret police.

Court Records

MUNICIPAL COURT

Charles Elmer Cooper, violation basic rule, \$10.
 Ronald Hubert Babb, disobeyed traffic signal, \$5.
 Ernest Shelton Bennett, violation basic rule, \$10.
 Robert Rebok Gripp, driving wrong way on one-way street, \$5.
 Orland Jason Brenner, disobeyed traffic sign, \$5.
 Floyd Thomas Putman, violation basic rule, \$10.
 Don Kenneth Young, windows not clear, \$5.
 Rudolph Christian Broadbeck, violation basic rule, \$10.
 Jeanne Edith Gilbert, disobeyed traffic signal, \$5.
 James Phillips, violation basic rule, \$10.
 William McMasters, violation basic rule, \$10.
 Hazel Harriet Mekvold, disobeyed traffic sign, \$5.
 James Douglas Whiteley, displayed expired vehicle registration plates, \$5.
 Carolyn Joyce Vandersteen, violation basic rule, \$10.
 Oliver Dean Marcum, obstructed vision, \$5.
 Edson Jerome, disobeyed traffic signal, \$5.
 Dennis George Dibble, violation basic rule, \$10.
 Carol Lee Klatt, violation basic rule, \$10.
 Sylvia Lou Atchison, violation basic rule, \$10.
 George Eddie McDonald, disobeyed traffic signal, \$5.
 Alfred Fodall Jr., improper left turn, \$5.
 Edwin Corad Vollmert, disobeyed traffic signal, \$5.
 Rudolph Bravo, violation basic rule, \$10; disobeyed traffic signal, \$5.
 Dimitri James Bolton, disobeyed traffic signal, \$5.
 Paul Gene Roby, following too close, \$10.
 George J. Skrit, vagrancy, \$10.

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