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ESHKOL SAYS ISRAEL WILL DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST SYRIA IF NEED ARISES

JERUSALEM, Oct. 16. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Levi Eshkol warned here today that a situation may arise in which Israel may be forced to "settle accounts" with Syria and that, in such an event, this country would be able to give a good account of itself.

Addressing a public meeting held by the Mapai-Achdut Avodah alignment, the dominant factor in Israel's present Government, Mr. Eshkol said that the territory and sovereignty of Israel will be defended by every means at the Government's disposal.

Referring to the current debate of the situation on the Israel-Syrian border before the United Nations Security Council, Mr. Eshkol said that censure of Syria by a majority of members of the Council would, in itself, be an important asset to Israel. He said that, while the incidents of Syrian-backed El Fatah terrorists were being taken up at the United Nations, "a reply can also be given here, if need be."

Asked during a question period about the demonstration in New York Friday by members of the American Zionist Brith Trumpeldor youth organization, in the offices of the Syrian U.N. delegation, Mr. Eshkol said it was an "unimportant, stupid and childish incident which deserves no further comment."

The Premier will review the latest developments in Israel's security situation tomorrow when he delivers a major policy statement at the opening of the winter session of the Knesset, Israel's Parliament. Mr. Eshkol's statement, which will include a review of Israel's appeal to the Security Council on the latest Syrian attacks, will be followed by debate.

Terrorists Injure 3 More Israelis; Jordan Censured in Another Case

TEL AVIV, Oct. 16. (JTA) -- Three Israeli soldiers were slightly wounded Thursday night, a little less than two miles from the Jordan border, while on a motor patrol in the Lachish area. The attack appeared to be that of a group of El Fatah which ambushed the soldiers near the village of Nechusha, while the Israelis were on their way to the main road.

Israel lodged a complaint with the Israeli-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission, because the infiltrators had come from Jordan. However, an Israeli spokesman voiced belief that the terrorists had come from Syria, and were members of the Syrian-based El Fatah.

The Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission ruled yesterday that Jordan was guilty of violating the armistice agreement by not preventing the crossing into Israel of a group of saboteurs three weeks ago. The raiders blew up a power substation in the Dead Sea area.

The MAC meeting, under the chairmanship of a United Nations observer, found conclusive evidence that the infiltrators had come from Jordan and had returned there. The damage to the substation was slight; but flow of power to the Dead Sea Potash Works was temporarily interrupted. Israeli sources said the sabotage was carried out by El Fatah guerrillas directed from Syria.

SECURITY COUNCIL RESUMES DEBATE TODAY ON ISRAEL CASE AGAINST SYRIA

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Oct. 16. (JTA) -- The United Nations Security Council will resume tomorrow afternoon a session called to hear Israeli charges against murderous Syrian-based guerrilla raids. The session got under way Friday night only after a lengthy filibuster by the Soviet Union, Bulgaria and Jordan. The session lasted until early yesterday morning.

Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban cited 30 declarations from official Syrian sources expressing "an intention to destroy Israel." Spokesmen for the United States, Britain, France and New Zealand unequivocally challenged the official Syrian stand that Damascus had no responsibility for repeated El Fatah raids in Israel territory.

Much attention was paid at the session to a vigil staged in an office in the building of the Syrian mission to the U.N. by 19 members of Betar, the Brith Trumpeldor movement of Zionist extremists. The 15 male members wore skullcaps and prayer shawls. After

rushing by a guard, the Betar members locked themselves in an office and chanted "End Syrian Aggression" and "We Shall Overcome," the anthem of the American civil rights movement.

Arrested on a complaint signed by Arthur J. Goldberg, chief U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, the 19 were arraigned before New York City Criminal Court Judge Fyman Solniker on charges of disorderly conduct, unlawful assembly and trespassing. They were paroled for a hearing on November 25. Israeli leaders, both here and in Jerusalem, condemned the action by the extremists severely.

In his Security Council address, Mr. Eban rejected Syrian and Soviet charges of alleged Israeli preparations for military operations against Syria. He said Israel was willing to allow members of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization to inspect Israel's side of the border to disprove such charges, and he challenged Syria to accept a similar U.N. inspection. In his reply, Dr. George J. Tomeh, the Syrian representative, avoided any comment on that challenge. Mr. Eban demanded "a solemn and emphatic condemnation" by the Council against "hostile acts and illicit infiltrations" against Israel "supported by the Syrian Government."

Israel's case at the late-night Council meeting was supported by four of the five Council members who participated in the debate, including the Ambassadors for the United States, Britain, France and New Zealand. Only one Council member thus far has supported Syria's reply. He was Dr. Nikolai T. Fedorenko, head of the Soviet delegation here.

Mr. Eban departed from New York at midnight Saturday after leading his country's delegation here since September 20. During that period, he had -- in addition to representing Israel at the Security Council -- met here with 58 delegation heads, including 52 Foreign Ministers. He said he would meet in Paris with French Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville, and in Rome, later this week, with Italian Foreign Minister Amintore Fanfani, to discuss primarily Israel's application for associate membership in the European Economic Community.

U.N. ARAB REFUGEE UNIT ADMITS IT IS FEEDING PLO MILITARY TRAINEES

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. Oct. 16. (JTA) -- The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees admitted to the General Assembly here today that it is providing rations to refugees who are members of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the group sworn to make war against Israel and receiving military training for that sole purpose.

Strong objections to such UNRWA activity was voiced here by many governments at the Assembly last year. Among the opponents to UNRWA aid for the PLO were not only Israel but also the United States, which contributes 70 percent of the UNRWA budget. However, Laurence Michelmores, Commissioner-General of UNRWA, which provides relief, housing and education for the Arab refugees, reported to the Assembly today:

"A special aspect of the question of ration rolls deserves mention. Doubts have been expressed by some Governments about the propriety of the Agency's issuing rations which may be consumed by young men in military training under the auspices of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The host governments (Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon) do not consider that these doubts are well-founded. In the light of these differences, arrangements have been made for special added donations to the amount of \$150,000 which meets the total cost of any rations consumed by the young men in question.

Arabs Believed to Furnish the \$150,000; Israel Calls Action 'Outrageous'

"The Commissioner-General is satisfied that these arrangements provide a practical means of disposing of the problem insofar as the Agency is concerned. Contributors to UNRWA, who may have been concerned about this matter, may thus be assured by the Agency that their contributions will not be used to furnish assistance to refugees receiving military training under the auspices of the Palestine Liberation Organization."

It was noted here immediately that Mr. Michelmores did not disclose the source of the \$150,000 worth of "added donations," which, it is believed, come from the Arab countries. However, it was observed that he has made it clear that, whatever the source of the extra funds, the monies are being channeled through the United Nations agency in the form of rations.

A highly placed spokesman for the Israeli delegation, asked about Mr. Michelmores' statement regarding the furnishing of UNRWA rations to military trainees in the PLO, stated: "It is outrageous that the United Nations lends itself as an instrument in this sort of operation." A spokesman for the United States delegation here refused to comment on this issue today, declaring that his mission will make its statement on this issue in due time when the Michelmores report is debated. Mr. Michelmores' admission is expected to be a major point of debate when the UNRWA report comes up officially tomorrow, for the annual Arab refugee debate before the Assembly's Special Political Committee.

UJA MISSION TOLD OF DIRE NEEDS OF 200,000 NEW IMMIGRANTS IN ISRAEL

HAIFA, Oct. 16. (JTA) -- Finhas Sapir, Israel's Minister of Finance, called on American Jews to mount a full-scale effort to help his country eliminate social and educational backwardness among Israel's new immigrants, especially the more than 200,000 Asian and African newcomers living in 21 development towns. He made this plea to 200 American Jewish leaders who are participating in the United Jewish Appeal's 12th Annual study mission to Israel. The mission is headed by Max M. Fisher, of Detroit, UJA general chairman.

Mr. Sapir expressed fears that economic and educational differences between Israel's citizens of Western and Asian-African origin could become permanent, "despite everything the Government is doing to help every Jew who comes to Israel, no matter what country he comes from." The reason why Israel's 750,000 immigrants from Morocco, Iraq, Yemen and other countries generally have not yet reached the same economic levels as immigrants from European and Western countries, Mr. Sapir said, was due to "the conditions in which these people had to live in their countries of origin over many generations. They left countries where they had been forced to live in poverty and ignorance for centuries. Thus, they lack modern Western vocational know-how, and find it difficult to be absorbed into the production process of our country," he declared.

Mr. Sapir told his audience, meeting at the Dan Carmel Hotel, that Israel's present period of economic transition, with its resultant economic slow-down, has brought increased hardships for thousands of Asian-African newcomers, living in Israel's development towns, where they make up 75 percent or more of the population. He stated that help from American Jews in speeding the absorption of new immigrants is now all the more urgent because Israel's people and the Government must now concentrate their efforts and energies on overcoming new economic problems.

Before returning to the United States on October 19, the UJA mission members will attend a State dinner given by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol, and a reception by Israel's President Zalman Shazar, and hold meetings with former Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion, and Aryeh L. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel. The mission's reports and recommendations will be presented to community delegates attending the UJA annual national conference at the New York Hilton Hotel, December 8-11, and will, in large measure, guide the delegates in setting the objectives and goals of the 1967 nationwide campaign of the UJA.

Mrs. Myer Feinstein, of Philadelphia, was honored here at a session of the mission for her efforts on behalf of the UJA. Mr. Fisher praised Mrs. Feinstein as one who was "unfailingly devoted to welfare and Israel's newcomers." Mrs. Feinstein will be present later this week at the dedication of a library which she established in Eilat, Israel's southernmost town, to be named for herself and her late husband.

PEC HEAD SEES ISRAEL'S NEW ECONOMIC POLICY AIDING U.S. INVESTORS

NEW YORK, Oct. 16. (JTA) -- The current reorientation of Israel's economic policy is favorable for the U.S. investor, according to John Furman, president of PEC Israel Economic Corporation. Speaking at a news conference at PEC's headquarters in New York on the eve of his departure for Israel to resume residence in Tel Aviv, Mr. Furman said that the new emphasis on increased exports and improved productivity will strengthen Israel's economy and benefit the foreign investor.

Special significance at this time attaches to science-based industry, Mr. Furman said. He explained that the development of such an industry could contribute significantly to the reduction of Israel's adverse trade balance. Moreover, he declared, it would provide employment to the graduates of Israel's technical and scientific schools and offer an incentive for Israeli scientists working abroad to return to Israel and apply their experience to new industries at home.

He said PEC is already pioneering in this area, being the prime mover in the founding of the Israel Research and Development Corporation, in which Government, Bank Leumi, Israel Discount Bank and private U.S. investors will be major participants. Keen attention, he declared, is also being given by PEC to the expansion of Israeli companies engaged in the production of industrial exports such as the Abic Pharmaceutical Company, Israel Petrochemical Enterprises, Elron Electronic Industries, Serafon Resinous Chemicals Corporation and Enterprises of Assis, and to other foreign exchange earners including citrus-exporting Mehadrin and tourist bus company United Tours.

Having raised \$5,000,000 of new capital last year, PEC is in a particularly good position at this time to stimulate and strengthen industries with export potential, Mr. Furman said, adding: "We have also created an Israel Committee to afford us a better perspective of the Israel economic scene. The Committee will stay in close touch with PEC's current investments and will make recommendations for new projects to PEC's Executive Committee in New York. Chairman of the committee is Daniel Recanati, head of the Israel Discount Bank Group."

AUSTRIAN VICTIMS OF NAZISM FORM GROUP TO PRESS FOR BETTER PAYMENTS

NEW YORK, Oct. 16. (JTA) -- The establishment of an American Council for Equal Compensation of Nazi Victims from Austria, was announced here today by Felix Harding, the first president of the new organization. The purpose of the new group is to achieve equal compensation for equal suffering comparable to the indemnification legislation of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Mr. Harding said that the formation of the group resulted from dissatisfaction with what he described as "glaring inequities" in the treatment of Austrian victims of Nazism. (From Vienna, it was reported today by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the Jewish cemetery in the Austrian town of Grmunden was found desecrated for the second time this year. In the latest incident, the vandals smashed a memorial stone for victims murdered in Nazi concentration camps.)

Oberammergau 'Passion Play' Insists on Old Anti-Semitic Version

BONN, Oct. 16. (JTA) -- Hans Schwaighofer, director of the 1970 Oberammergau Passion Play, has resigned his post because of opposition to his efforts to eliminate anti-Jewish overtones from the scheduled performances.

Deputy Mayor Arthur Haser said yesterday that Mr. Schwaighofer had announced his resignation after being told at a meeting of the village council that most of the 5,000 townsmen had rejected his plan to adopt a substitute for the text that has been used for the last century. His resignation was the most spectacular move in a debate raging in Oberammergau for years. It has stalled preparations for the next performance of the play, which is presented every 10 years.

The old text portrays the Jews as a "fiendish, bloodthirsty people" from whom the "kingdom of God will be taken away." Mr. Schwaighofer wanted to abandon that text completely, rather than expurgate it as some had preferred.

GREATER ZIONIST ACTIVITY IN SUBURBS URGED AT POALE ZION CONVENTION

NEW YORK, Oct. 16. (JTA) -- Hy Faine, national president of the Labor Zionist Organization of America -- Poale Zion, told more than 100 delegates to the Greater New York Labor Zionist Convention here, last night, that "the Zionist movement must get even more involved and active in Jewish community activities on the community and local level, especially in the suburbs and new residential areas."

Mr. Faine said that "for Zionists, the core of the city is no longer the place of activity. Zionists must see to it that community relations councils function; that groups such as Kistacrut committees and Zionists councils are set up on a local level; and Zionists must see to it that these councils function, are active and representative of the Jewish community." However, he warned, Zionist work in the communities must not diminish an active role as Zionists "in classical Zionism, such as aliyah and the relationship to Israel."

SCHOLARS, HARVARD U. PRESS, PREPARING 10 VOLUMES OF HASSIDIC TEXTS

NEW YORK, Oct. 16. (JTA) -- Plans for the publication of a comprehensive, 10-volume work, comprising 37 texts of Hassidic sermons, commentaries and philosophy, were announced here today by the Neveh Israel Foundation which is sponsoring the project in cooperation with the Harvard University Press. The Foundation is composed of an academic council of Jewish scholars and a board of trustees of laymen.

Israel Aron Cantell, chairman of the Foundation, said that the purpose of the project was to recover and preserve the spirit of Hassidism. Among the material to be published, he said, will be rare manuscripts, including the thinking and teaching of the Hassidic masters. When published, the works will be made available not only to the Jewish community, but also to theologians, historians and philosophers of religion and culture of all faiths, he declared.

B'NAI B'RITH INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL TO ADD MEMBERS, EXPAND PROGRAM

LONDON, Oct. 16. (JTA) -- The B'nai B'rith International Council has decided to increase the B'nai B'rith membership and to expand the Council's program, it was announced here today by Maurice Weinstein, chairman of the body which concluded its seventh plenary session here last night, with delegates and guests in attendance from most free countries around the world.

At a dinner celebrating the 40th anniversary of B'nai B'rith's Grand Lodge of Great Britain and Ireland, Philip M. Klutznick, honorary supreme president of B'nai B'rith, told the audience that "Israel, its security and its continued happiness, is the chief and Number One problem before the B'nai B'rith." Mr. Klutznick, former United States Ambassador to the United Nations Economic and Social Council, and now the U.S. representative on a special U.N. committee examining the world organization's fiscal affairs, added: "Our continuity with the past is part of B'nai B'rith's tradition."