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Nasser Places All Egyptian Forces on Alert; Sees Threat by Israel to Syria

WASHINGTON, May 15. (JTA) -- The U.S. Embassy in Cairo was today placed on standby alert, according to reports received here, as Egyptian President Nasser announced that Egypt is placing all armed forces on an emergency basis to support Syria against an alleged Israeli threat.

Reports described long columns of Egyptian combat units and artillery rumbling through the streets of Cairo in the general direction of Israel. The newspaper "Al Ahram," reflecting official Egyptian views, charged that Israeli troops were massing near the Syrian border and that Egypt was preparing to strike Israel from the South to help Syria repel attack.

Reports from Damascus today told of a heightened crisis atmosphere, as the Egyptian army chief of staff Gen. Mohammed Fawzi, conferred in Damascus with Syrian defense minister Maj. Gen. Hafez al Assad and army chief of staff Maj. Gen. Ahmed Sweidani. They reportedly discussed cooperative military blows at Israel, and contingencies that would occasion various forms of cooperation.

U.S. Cautions Israel and Syria; Urges Them to Exercise Restraint

Israel Ambassador Avraham Harman today told a press conference that a situation has developed on the Israel-Syrian border that Israel views with seriousness. He termed the recent escalation of Syrian guerrilla terrorism as "serious." Israeli circles have been in touch with U.S. officials to stress the serious nature of the Syrian provocations. They emphasized that no government would agree to resign itself "to a border open to saboteurs from a neighboring country, and Israel will not tolerate these operations."

The United States today counseled Israel and Syria to exercise restraint in the present crisis, a State Department spokesman made known. The United States indicated concern about what appeared here to be escalating tensions between Israel and Syria. Both sides have been counseled to keep cool.

State Department spokesman Robert McCloskey voiced American concern at a press conference. "We are in contact through diplomatic channels and are counseling restraint on both nations," he said. He was aware of reports that an emergency appeared in effect in Egypt as a result of Israeli-Syrian border tensions. But as yet he had no details.

Colorful Military Parade in Jerusalem Marks Celebration of Israel's Anniversary

JERUSALEM, May 15. (JTA) -- Israel formally celebrated today the 19th anniversary of the founding of its modern state with a military parade in Jerusalem. The parade was boycotted by virtually all major powers but was impressive, nevertheless, in its smart turn-out, highly disciplined ranks and symbolic representation of every arm of Israel's defense forces.

Promptly at 9:30 o'clock this morning, with a crowd of 14,000 selected guests, many of them foreigners, jamming the University Stadium, General Uzi Narkiss, officer in command of the Israel army's central command, entered the stadium. At that very moment, President Zalman Shazar, Prime Minister Levi Eshkol and Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, Chief of Staff of Israel's armed forces, took their places in the official reviewing stand, flanked by police and military outsiders. The flags of the nation and the military forces saluted, a bugle blew, and Gen. Narkiss, as marshal, addressed Mr. Shazar with the request: "Mr. President, do we have your permission to start the ceremonies?" Mr. Shazar nodded assent, and the ceremonies were under way.

Through two gates, the armed forces started marching in. There were soldiers and sailors, the crack Golani Brigade, girl soldiers carrying light machineguns, Druzes, representatives of Nahal, the border guard youth units, other border patrols, paratroopers in their colorful uniforms topped by red berets, air force fliers, and units representing those troops who, in recent weeks, have borne the brunt of Israeli defense against Arab marauders from the Syrian borders in the north. The latter, obviously in recognition of their very recent defense actions, were welcomed with roaring cheers.

Provisions of Armistice Agreements Observed; No Heavy Arms Displayed

Every armed unit in all of Israel's armed forces was represented among the 1,400 men and women who participated in the parade that soon filled the entire stadium. In deference to the pro-

visions in the 1949 armistice agreements, which forbid the use of most heavy arms and aircraft by Israel in Jerusalem, the various branches of the service were represented only by their flags and pennants. A half-dozen trucks rumbled onto the scene, carrying anti-aircraft guns, the only artillery pieces permitted under the armistice pacts.

Israelis, many of whom had termed the ceremonies "a miniparade," made up with their crowds along the streets outside the stadium, their cheering, applause and other greetings to the relatively small number of military personnel in the march. The units left the stadium, flags flying, pennants waving in a light breeze, as bugles blew, drums rolled, and an army band led the paraders through the streets of the capital.

It was pointed out that the music and the cheering would be heard clearly across the dividing line separating Israel's Jerusalem from the Old City held by Jordan, providing in action the answer given by Premier Eshkol who had pledged that "even with the absence of the foreign diplomats, all will know that the parade was under way." It was freely predicted that, in 1968, when Israel celebrates its 20th anniversary with a giant parade at Tel Aviv, Israel's real armed might will be shown for all the world to see.

More Than 250,000 Persons Participate in Tel Aviv Street Celebrations

This morning's parade was only the climax of a night-long series of anniversary celebrations held throughout Israel. All through the night, and into the dawn today, crowds filled squares and other meeting grounds in every Israeli city, town and settlement, singing, dancing and watching various types of entertainment. At Tel Aviv alone, the overnight crowds were estimated at more than 250,000, while at least 100,000 participated in the street celebrations in Jerusalem.

The absence of most of the major, foreign envoys from the official lists of diplomatic representatives, was noted today, although without further surprise. Among the absentees were the ambassadors from the United States, Britain, France, the Soviet Union, West Germany and the envoys from most of the East European states. The highest-ranking foreigners present were the Vice-President of Madagascar, the chiefs-of-staff of Chile and Liberia, envoys from several other African countries, Generals Pierre Koenig and Pierre Fayot of France, and Jacques Soustelle, the exiled French leader of anti-de Gaulle forces.

While absenting themselves from the parade, however, all major diplomatic envoys did attend, yesterday afternoon, the official anniversary reception held in the home of President Shazar. The diplomatic corps at the reception was headed by the dean of the corps, Liberia's Ambassador A. Jancy. After the reception, sirens sounded a signal for the halt for one minute of all traffic throughout the country. The minute of silence was in honor of the memories of the Israeli men and women who had lost their lives in the fight for the establishment of Israel's independence, 19 years ago today.

Armistice Commission Rejects Jordan's Complaint Against Israel's Parade

JERUSALEM, May 15. (JTA) -- Jordan complained to the United Nations today against Israel's conduct of its Independence Day military parade in Jerusalem, but the grievance was rejected by the U.N.

The Jordanian complaint had been filed with the Jordan-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission, Amman contending that Israel had violated the 1949 armistice agreement between the two nations, despite the fact that Israel had been careful to display none of the heavy weapons forbidden to either side in Jerusalem. The Israeli delegate to the Mixed Armistice Commission objected to Jordan's complaint on the grounds that the issue involved a political matter which is outside the MAC's jurisdiction. The chairman of the Commission, representing the United Nations, upheld Israel's objection, and the issue was dropped.

In Beirut, the Arab League's anti-Israel boycott office issued a statement today threatening to blacklist all American goods if the United States Congress should adopt a law prohibiting American firms from answering questions from Arab boycott authorities. In a separate action, the Beirut office of the Palestine Liberation Organization -- the fighting arm of the Unified Arab Command for the making of war against Israel -- issued a belligerent statement condemning Israel on the occasion of Israel's anniversary celebrations.

Pro-Arab Students in India Clash with Police in New Delhi

NEW DELHI, May 15. (JTA) -- About 200 Delhi University students, most of them Arabs, staged a wild, anti-Israeli demonstration here today as the Indian Friends of Israel held a celebration in honor of Israel's Independence Day.

The students, organized by the Indo-Arab Youth Forum, shouted insults at all guests arriving for the celebration, spat at some of the guests, tore one woman's dress, and yelled slogans like "Down With Israel," and "Israel is Imperialism and Palestine is an Arab State." Policemen scuffled with the demonstrators, but the jeering continued during the pro-Israeli rally. No one was arrested.

Israel's Anniversary Honored in Both Houses of the U.S. Congress

WASHINGTON, May 15. (JTA) -- Israel's 19th anniversary of independence was honored today in both the Senate and House with many statements by important members of Congress voicing goodwill toward Israel and hope for peace.

One highlight of the Congressional events was a luncheon tendered by Sen. Joseph S. Clark, Pennsylvania Democrat, and member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The Senator was host to Israel Ambassador Avraham Harman and a number of Jewish personages from Philadelphia. In conjunction with the affair, Sen. Clark arranged for the opening prayer of today's session of the Senate to be delivered by Rabbi David Goldstein, Har Zion Temple, Philadelphia.

Ambassador Harman, in remarks at the Senate luncheon, referred to the danger arising from the new forms of Syrian aggression. In addition to Sen. Clark, the luncheon was attended by three other members of the important Foreign Relations Committee -- Senators John Sparkman, Alabama Democrat; Albert Gore, Tennessee Democrat; and Frank Lausche, Ohio Democrat.

Sen. Clark voiced hope for peace so that Israel could continue making what he termed her "outstanding contributions." Sen. Sparkman expressed pleasure that America was the first to recognize and support Israel. Sen. Gore indicated agreement with Ambassador Harman's concern over the threat of aggression. Sen. Lausche said he had today read the Book of Nehemiah in the Old Testament for inspiration pertaining to the rebuilding of Israel.

Meanwhile, on the floor of the Senate, Sen. Edward W. Brooke, Massachusetts Republican, who recently returned from a visit to Israel, lauded Israeli achievements. Sen. William Proxmire, Wisconsin Democrat, also commended Israel. In the House, a special order of business covering one hour was organized by Rep. Abraham J. Multer, New York Democrat, more than 30 members of the House, representing both parties, spoke in strong support of Israel.

Rep. Multer pointed out that Israel has sought peace despite threats and provocations. He noted that Israel would not stand for further aggression from Syria. Rep. Seymour Halpern, New York Republican, called attention to the absence of the U.S. Ambassador from the Independence Day parade in Jerusalem. He said: "I want to know why we are sending men to fight in Viet Nam to oppose aggression, when we don't even send our Ambassador to the Independence Day parade of a friendly country."

Israel's Independence Day Celebrated Widely in New York; Mayor Issues Proclamation

NEW YORK, May 15. (JTA) -- Israel's Independence Day was celebrated widely here today with official diplomatic receptions, a proclamation by Mayor John V. Lindsay, special assemblies conducted by Zionist and other Jewish organizations, and statements pledging continued support for Israel in its struggle for peace with its Arab neighbors, issued by leaders of many Jewish organizations.

Two official Israeli receptions were conducted, respectively, by Ambassador Gideon Rafael, Israel's permanent representative at the United Nations, and Michael Arnon, Israel's Consul-General in New York. Leading U.N. diplomats representing virtually every member state of the United Nations, except the Arabs, attended the reception conducted by Ambassador Rafael, at the headquarters of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation. Mr. Arnon's reception drew the participation of nearly all foreign consuls in New York as well as leading personalities in New York, Jewish and non-Jewish.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon, Mayor Lindsay conducted a ceremony in his office at City Hall, issuing his official proclamation, setting today aside as "Israel Independence Day." Participating in that ceremony were, among others, Mr. Arnon, Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the American Zionist Council; Paul Goldman, AZC vice-chairman, and Harry Steinberg, executive director. At the same time, a joint celebration of Israel's anniversary was conducted by the Jewish Agency-American Section and the American Zionist Council, under the sponsorship of Mrs. Rose L. Halperin, chairman of the Jewish-Agency-American Section and Rabbi Miller.

U.S. Signs Pact Providing \$1,000,000 in Israeli Currency to Hadassah Center

WASHINGTON, May 15. (JTA) -- An agreement was today signed by the Agency for International Development to implement an amendment to the Foreign Aid Act providing the Hadassah Medical Center with a million dollars in Israeli pounds to pay for improvements at the center.

The agreement was signed by Administrator William S. Gaud, of the U.S. Agency for International Development, at his office. Present, among others, were Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, national president of Hadassah; Sen. Claiborne Pell, Rhode Island Democrat, a sponsor of the amendment, and Mrs. Denise Tourover, Washington representative of Hadassah.

The agreement provides Israeli pounds equivalent to \$756,000 to be used for construction of buildings and facilities at the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center. Of this sum, the Kennedy Memorial Building, housing a physicians residence, received \$162,000. The Henrietta Szold Nursing School addition, \$287,000; family and community health center, Kiryat Hayovel, \$40,000. The balance, \$244,000, was designated for operating costs at the medical center.

American Jewish Leaders Present Optimistic Report on Israel's Economy

NEW YORK, May 15. (JTA) -- Optimism for Israel's economic future in spite of the current slowdown, was expressed by Joseph Meyerhoff, chairman, and John Furman, president, at PEC Israel Economic Corporation's annual stockholders' meeting, held here.

PEC, through the efforts of its Israeli subsidiaries and affiliates to expand their exports and through the new investments it has authorized, is assisting Israel to narrow the country's trade gap. One of these investments - \$1.5 million in the newly formed Bulk Carriers El-Yam Ltd. will help to build four 76,000-ton cargo ships whose operation will add to Israel's foreign currency earnings and will also provide off- and on-shore employment opportunities.

Formation of a new company - Israel Industrial Services, Inc., New York, was also announced at the meeting. IIS will initiate and develop projects suitable for U.S. corporations, with a view to their establishing industrial plants, in Israel, and particularly those having a scientific orientation. IIS will also seek from U.S. corporations, research and development contracts to be executed in Israel by Israeli institutions and scientists.

Elected for the first time to PEC's Board of 60 Directors were seven Israeli residents: David Crohn, vice president, PEC; M.B. Gitter, managing director, Israel Development and Mortgage Bank; Dr. A. Levi, managing director, Discount Bank Investment Corporation; Daniel Recanat, chairman, Israel Discount Bank; Harold L. Seligman, vice president, PEC; Dov Tadmor, managing director, Property & Building Corporation; and Dan Tolkowsky, managing director, Discount Bank Investment Corporation.

\$53,000,000 in Loans and Investments in Israel Reported by AMPAL in New York

NEW YORK, May 15. (JTA) -- The balance of loans and investments made in Israel by AMPAL-American Israel Corporation and its affiliate Israel Development Corporation stood at a record \$53 million on January 31, 1967, compared with \$49 million at fiscal year-end a year earlier, the corporation reported today.

AMPAL, which last year celebrated its 25th anniversary, paid shareholders a cash dividend of 30 cents a share, the report said. The payment represented the seventh straight year in which preferred shareholders received two per-cent over and above the regular four-per-cent dividend, and the 25th consecutive year in which the company has made cash disbursements to its investors.

AMPAL is one of seven companies known jointly as the AMPAL Group, whose assets exceed \$85 million. Investments and loans of this group of companies cover in excess of seventy enterprises in a wide variety of Israeli industries. In commenting on the organization's important role in providing capital for Israel, Prime Minister Levi Eshkol paid special tribute to AMPAL in its annual report for "bringing home to the American public the significance of Israel as a country which, in its upbuilding, offers sound returns and securities for the investors."

B'nai B'rith Establishes Youth Service in Israel; Collaborates with Municipalities

NEW YORK, May 15. (JTA) -- The establishment of B'nai B'rith youth service in Israel in collaboration with its principal municipalities was announced jointly today by Ben Barkin, Milwaukee, international chairman of the B'nai B'rith Youth Commission, and Dr. Ben Zion Kauders, Tel Aviv, president of the B'nai B'rith Israel District.

The agreement with the Israeli municipalities provides for affiliation of an existing youth service, "Noar Lenoar" (Youth for Youth), with the international network of chapters comprising the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization. The professional direction of the reorganized Noar Lenoar on a local level will remain with the municipalities, with volunteer supplementary services provided by the B'nai B'rith lodges of Israel. The local branches have been federated into a national organization which is now being coordinated by B'nai B'rith from its headquarters in Tel Aviv. Dan Lewin, Tel Aviv, has been appointed national coordinator.

According to Mr. Lewin, there are now approximately 5,000 young people between the ages of 14 and 18 enrolled in Noar Lenoar. All of them are secondary school students. The principal activity of Noar Lenoar has been rendering of volunteer services by the youth of Israel to disadvantaged youth, such as boys and girls from immigrant families and the physically and mentally handicapped. The work is now being broadened to include volunteer services to the aged and other adults, cooperation with Arab youth groups in Israel, and the establishment of close relationships with Jewish youth in the Diaspora -- particularly in North America.

Sir Barnett Stross Dies in London; Was Parliamentary Secretary to Health Ministry

LONDON, May 15. (JTA) -- Sir Barnett Stross, a prominent Jewish physician and Parliamentary Secretary to the Health Ministry in the last Labor Government, died here today at the age of 67. Born in Poland, Sir Barnett came to England after the First World War. As a physician, Sir Barnett was often called on to attend emergency cases by his colleagues in Parliament. He did not seek reelection to Parliament at the last election because of his failing health. He was honored by the Czech Government because of his efforts in aiding in the rebuilding of the Czech town of Lidice which had been destroyed by the Nazis early in the Second World War.