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Johnson and Kosygin Conclude Their 'Summit' Meeting; Middle East Issue Looms High

GLASSBORO, N.J., June 25, (JTA) -- President Johnson and Soviet Premier Aleksei Kosygin today concluded here their summit talks on the Middle East and other issues, agreeing -- according to U.S. officials -- with the fact that "Israel does exist" but still holding divergent views on the possible solutions to the Arab-Israel problem. Further talks on the Arab-Israel issue will be continued between Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

It was understood that President Johnson proposed to Premier Kosygin a limitation on shipments of arms to the Middle East countries, direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab countries, justice for Arab refugees, respect for maritime rights through international waterways, and better border arrangements. Premier Kosygin, it was indicated, strongly argued for the immediate withdrawal of Israel from occupied territories in the neighboring Arab countries.

Mr. Kosygin was scheduled to hold a press conference tonight at United Nations headquarters, ready to answer submitted questions on his meeting with President Johnson on the Arab-Israel issue as well as on other issues. President Johnson will seek an early opportunity to comment publicly on the meeting. Secretary Rusk reportedly believes that "serious problems" remained in the Middle East but some consensus of opinion might yet be reached between Moscow and Washington on at least some policy objectives in that region.

Israel Has Busy Weekend at U.N.; Eban Holds Behind-The Scene Discussions

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 25, (JTA) -- While the United Nations General Assembly was in recess during the weekend, Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban was busy discussing today the Arab-Israeli situation and the resolutions on the issue before the General Assembly as well as other actions being pressed behind the scenes.

The attention of all delegations at the General Assembly were directed today mainly to the summit conference at Glassboro, N.J., between President Johnson and Soviet Premier Aleksei N. Kosygin. Interest was also aroused here in the arrival of King Hussein of Jordan who will address the Assembly on the Israeli-Arab issues independently of the attitudes thus far maintained by other Arab leaders.

Mr. Eban's activities included talks with U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk and Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg, chief United States delegate; Britain's Foreign Secretary George Brown; French Foreign Minister Maurice Couve de Murville; Prime Minister Ion Maurer of Rumania; the Foreign Ministers of Senegal and Ireland; and the Norwegian delegation.

Israel was understood to have explained, in the talks, that, in any Assembly action, peace negotiations were to be stressed before any withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied areas were ordered. Israel rejected the French idea that no direct Arab-Israel talks were possible now.

Rumanian Attitude on Arab-Israel Issue Provokes Special Interest

A topic of conversation among the delegates of various countries during the weekend was the attitude taken at the General Assembly toward the Arab-Israel conflict by Rumanian Prime Minister Maurer. In his address before the Assembly, the Rumanian leader took quite a different stand than the other countries of the Soviet bloc. He appealed to the Arab states to recognize Israel and advocated direct Arab-Israel talks for a settlement of all differences.

The Rumanian Communist leader also stressed that Israel must retire to the June 5 armistice lines, but he did not make the request unconditional. In warning against "the use of force to assert a right," he did not -- as have all other Soviet bloc spokesmen, including Mr. Kosygin -- single out Israel as the target of charges of aggression.

Rumania is the only Soviet bloc country which did not follow the lead of the Soviet Union in breaking diplomatic relations with Israel.

Daylight Curfew Lifted in Gaza; Schools Reopened; Transportation Resumed

GAZA, June 25, (JTA) -- Thousands of members of the Palestine Liberation Organization, whose open leader had been Ahmed Shukaify, are still at large here, many of them having shed their uniforms, hidden their arms, and taken refuge among the civilian population and in United Nations camps of Arab refugees, Brig. Gen. Moshe Goren, military governor of the Gaza Strip, declared here today.

Israeli security forces searching Arab homes here have, thus far, found thousands of rifles, Gen. Goren said. Local mayors and village chiefs, he stated, have also turned over to the Israeli forces many light weapons. But arms are still being found by the Israeli patrols in private homes, in various Arab institutions, or hidden in orange groves and cached in the fields.

Meanwhile, however, life continues to be normal throughout the Gaza Strip. In Gaza itself, the curfew today was lifted for the daylight hours, civilians being allowed to circulate freely after 5 a.m. Public transportation has also been resumed, and gasoline is being sold at service stations at prices prevailing in Israel. Private owners of automobiles are being allowed to drive their own cars.

Most of the hospitals in the area are functioning, normally, although the majority of Arab doctors have fled. Schools have been reopened. The Gaza police force was reestablished today. Under two local Arab police officers, 120 local policemen were on duty today in the city of Gaza.

Israelis Discover Egyptian Gas Chambers and Soviet Gas Trucks in Sinai

TEL AVIV, June 25, (JTA) -- Israeli officials said today that special salvage units were examining two trainloads of chemicals believed to include ingredients for making poison gas in mobile laboratories which were found in the Sinai Peninsula.

The officials said that the chemicals were of two different types, one made in Communist China and the other in Egypt, and that both have been positively identified by army experts here. Egypt has been using poison gas on a large scale in its undeclared war on the royalist regime in Yemen, both against troops and the civilian population.

The officials said that Israeli troops also found in the Sinai two giant Soviet-made gas trucks, fitted with containers for two different kinds of chemicals and linked by pipes to two gas chambers, each about the height of a man and fitted with airtight doors. The trucks were manufactured by the USSR "State Automobile Works" and, according to documents found with the vehicles, were handed over to the Egyptians on April 1, 1965. A special gas chamber also was found on the Egyptian air base at El Arish, in the Sinai.

Israel Reveals How Frogman Commandos Destroyed Egyptian Rocket-Carrying Boats

TEL AVIV, June 25, (JTA) -- The work of Israeli frogman commandos who attacked Egyptian shipping and prevented Egypt from using its ground rockets from naval launching pads was revealed here today for the first time.

In an action seen as audacious, Israeli frogman commandos, under the leadership of Yochai Bin-Nun, 43-year-old former commander-in-chief of Israel's Navy, struck in the early hours of June 5. The commandos used limpet mines. They struck primarily against the Egyptian naval base at Ras Tin, at Alexandria, and attacked other Egyptian naval installations along the entire northern coast of Egypt as far as Port Said and Port Tawfiq, south of Suez.

Combined units of frogmen and paratroopers trained for marine warfare thus knocked out the Egyptian Navy which had been prepared to send its rockets and missiles against the Israel coast. In the actions, all but two of Egypt's submarines were crippled, while Nasser's flotilla of high-speed, missile-carrying patrol boats was destroyed before they were able to fire a single rocket against Israel. The commando raids thus relieved Israel's ground forces of one of its major concerns, since Israel's long coast and thin hinterland were highly vulnerable to rocket attacks from the sea.

U.S. to Provide Israel with \$30,000,000 in Agricultural Commodities

WASHINGTON, June 25, (JTA) -- U.S. officials said this weekend that the Government is considering a long-standing Israeli request to buy about \$30,000,000 in agricultural commodities. Last year Israel received \$34,000,000 in surplus foods, paid in dollars and Israeli pounds.

Early this year, Israel requested about \$30,000,000 worth of grains. No decision was made before the outbreak of war because of the worldwide review of "food for peace" policies. The Israeli application currently is "under consideration" while the general question of aid for Mideast nations remains "under review." Meanwhile Israel was told it can start ordering the food, thus saving time before the agreement is finalized.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Government today began airlifting 5,000 family-size tents to Arab refugees on the east bank of the Jordan River. The first shipment will be made from New York by chartered aircraft. The tents will accommodate 4 to 6 persons. The U.S. Agency for International Development said the tents will be financed by a \$593,000 allocation.

Eban Reiterates Israel's Stand on 'Unity of Jerusalem' and Access to Holy Places

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 25. (JTA) -- Israel's policy with regard to "the unity of Jerusalem" and freedom of access to the holy places there to all religious faiths was reiterated here today by Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban in a nationwide television program. "Access to the holy places is assured under the unity of the city," he said, adding that the question of "securing access" is a matter for negotiation. He was interviewed on the "Meet the Press" program of the National Broadcasting Company.

While the Vatican has circulated a statement here calling for the internationalization of Jerusalem and its vicinity as the only way to protect the holy places in that area, Israel here was proposing this weekend an alternative plan, related only to the holy places without any kind of international relationship to the city as a whole.

Under the Israeli plan, advanced by Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban at a conference with Latin American delegations and at another meeting, with representatives of Catholic, Protestant and Jewish faiths in the United States, Israel would offer these guarantees: Each church group would administer its places of worship; the holy places would be protected and maintained under an agreement with local authorities, but the faiths concerned would supervise their own holy places; worshippers and pilgrims would have free access to the holy places.

Emphasizing church interest in the holy places in Jerusalem, as distinct from Jerusalem's overall administration, the Israeli delegation here stated: "Foreign Minister Eban declared that the international interest in Jerusalem related solely to the holy places and not to the city itself, which must retain its present unity."

By contrast, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Alberto Giovanetti, the Vatican's observer at the United Nations, issued a statement insisting on an "international regime" for all of Jerusalem. In the statement, the Vatican declared: "The Holy See remains convinced that the only solution which offers a sufficient guarantee for the protection of Jerusalem and of its holy places is to place that city and its vicinity under an international regime. Only such a regime can properly safeguard the rights of the various religious faiths interested in the safety of and free access to the holy places."

(From Geneva it was reported this weekend that the Rev. Eugene Carson Blake, head of the World Council of Churches, said that the Council and the Israel Government were consulting on a number of issues involved in a peace settlement in the Middle East, including the future status of Jerusalem. It was pointed out that Rev. Blake had already said that the status of Jerusalem and the holy places there were political matters. This stand, it was noted, contrasted with the stand of the Vatican, and represented the attitude on this question by 200 Protestant and Orthodox denominations around the world.)

Meanwhile, the Standing Conference of Orthodox Bishops in the Americas unanimously urged that the holy places in Jerusalem be given an "internationally guaranteed status, irrespective of the results of present efforts for a political settlement." The conference also set up a Holy Land Refugee Fund to assist the "hundreds of thousands" of refugees in the area.

American Rabbis Support Israel's Claim to Old City of Jerusalem

NEW YORK, June 25. (JTA) -- The Central Conference of American Rabbis, representative body of the Reform rabbis in this country, made public a resolution today terming the reunification by Israel of Jerusalem as "a fulfillment of Divine promise." The resolution applauded the Government of Israel "for its solemn pledge to safeguard the holy places of Jerusalem which are sacred to all faiths and to guarantee access to them."

Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow, president of the New York Board of Rabbis, called on President Johnson and the United States Government this weekend to support Israel in its claim to the Old City of Jerusalem. Rabbi Sandrow, who made the request in a sermon, cited the "exemplary" conduct of the State of Israel during the past 19 years in its "concern and encouragement for the independence and integrity of every religious group within its borders."

The Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada approved and sent to President Johnson today a resolution urging the United States to support Israel's claims to the Old City of Jerusalem. The 200 rabbis declared in the resolution that "Jerusalem always was and will always remain the holiest city of the Jewish people" and that "a united Jewish Jerusalem is part of the tenets of the Jewish creed."

Stangl Brought from Brazil to Germany; Placed Under Arrest to Await Trial

DUSSELDORF, June 25. (JTA) -- Franz Stangl, 59-year-old wartime commander of two Nazi death camps in occupied Poland, was flown here charged with the responsibility for the mass killing of Jews, from Brazil and brought before an investigating judge who issued a formal warrant for his arrest on war crimes charges.

The former SS major was placed in custody to await trial sometime later this year. He was accompanied on his trip by two West German security agents. He was brought to Rio in secret from Brasilia where he had been under maximum security attention since his arrest last March, then transferred to a regular commercial flight to West Germany.

Convention of U.S. Communications Workers Urges Direct Arab-Israel Peace Talks

KANSAS CITY, Mo., June 25. (JTA) -- A resolution supporting Israel's appeal for direct peace negotiations with the Arab states, and calling upon the United States and all other free nations to back Israel, was adopted here this weekend by the closing session of the annual convention of the Communications Workers of America.

The 1,500 delegates, representing 420,000 members, voted also to congratulate the CWA president, Joseph A. Berne, who had already pledged his organization's support in a message to the National Committee for Labor Israel. Prior to the adoption of the resolution, the convention was addressed by Zev Barash, American representative of Histadrut, the Israel federation of labor, who warned that the Soviet Union's verbal attacks against Israel endanger the independence of not only Israel but all other Middle Eastern countries, including the Arab states.

Orthodox Jews Praise President Johnson's Stand on Peace in Middle East

NEW YORK, June 25. (JTA) -- The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, in a resolution adopted unanimously by its board of directors, lauded President Johnson for his "persistent efforts aimed at securing a lasting peace in the Middle East" and voiced support for the President's recent proposals on a Mideast peace settlement.

The resolution expressed "deep appreciation" to the President for "the understanding and friendship which he has shown to the State of Israel and its people in their quest for security and peace" and declared: "We join in the President's judgment that, in order to create the conditions for a viable peace in the Middle East, direct peace negotiations between the parties must precede any withdrawal of military forces."

Two Demonstrations in New York Back Israel; One is Held Near Soviet Headquarters

NEW YORK, June 25. (JTA) -- Two mass demonstrations supporting Israel -- one of the rallies held near the headquarters of the Soviet Mission to the United Nations and directed specifically against USSR Premier Aleksei N. Kosygin -- were conducted in New York today. The rally near the Soviet Mission condemned "Soviet incitement to war in the Middle East" and "Soviet retaliation against Russian Jews."

The other rally, in the Bronx, followed a parade on one of the main boulevards in the area, ending with a mass demonstration in front of the Bronx County Court House. A number of New York members of Congress addressed each of the rallies. In the Bronx, the rally was joined by local leaders of the Catholic and Protestant faiths.

Rabbi Olan Elected President of Central Conference of American Rabbis

LOS ANGELES, June 25. (JTA) -- The Central Conference of American Rabbis concluded its 78th annual meeting here this weekend with the election of Rabbi Levi Olan of Dallas as the organization's new president. He succeeds Rabbi Jacob J. Weinstein of Chicago.

In an address at the conclave, Rabbi Balfour Brickner, director of Reform Judaism's Commission on Interfaith Activities, criticized "organized American Christendom" for what he described as its failure to back Israel's position in a time of hostilities and crisis.

The official spokesmen of American Christendom, he said, "were not only silent in support of the integrity of the State of Israel, but by their silence or their prayerful calls for peace which urged that the question be placed in a paralyzed United Nations, these leaders also failed the cause of world peace."

Benjamin Abrams, Prominent Jewish Philanthropist, Dies Suddenly: Was 74

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y., June 25. (JTA) -- Benjamin Abrams, a pioneer in radio and television and leading Jewish philanthropist, died of a heart attack here while dining with his wife in a restaurant. He was 74.

Mr. Abrams was born in Rumania and came to the United States when he was 12, getting work as a piano tuner and selling newspapers. He entered the phonograph business and in 1922 he and his brothers launched the Emerson Radio and Phonograph Corporation.

Active in a wide range of general and Jewish affairs, he was a founder of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, a founder of the Greater New York Committee for Israel Bonds and a founder and board member of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of Greater New York.

He also served as a member of the board of directors of the United Jewish Appeal, the Weizmann Institute, the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the American Financial and Development Corporation for Israel, the American Friends of the Hebrew University and several New York Jewish institutions. In 1954 he provided funds for an electronic laboratory at the Weizmann Institute at Rehovot which was named for him.

Jewish Cemetery Desecrated in Polish City; Monument to Nazi Victims Defiled

LONDON, June 25. (JTA) -- The Jewish cemetery in Przemyśl, Poland, was desecrated by unknown vandals who uprooted tombstones and defiled a monument to victims of the Nazi holocaust, it was reported here today from Warsaw.