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Johnson Warns Israel Against 'Unilateral' Annexation of Old City of Jerusalem

WASHINGTON, June 28. (JTA) -- President Johnson, shortly before welcoming Jordanian King the White House, warned Israel today against annexation of the Old City of Jerusalem without full consultation with Christian and Moslem religious leaders and others.

In a special statement, President Johnson urged "appropriate consultation" among all concerned groups owing to Jerusalem's unique status and religious significance to Christians, Moslems, and Jews, He made known that such consultation should be conducted before Israel made a final determination affecting the city's status,

It was clear that the statement was prompted by reports from Jerusalem that Israel was formally annexing the Old City. The President's timing was aimed at reassuring King Hussein that the United States Government did not concur on full Israeli sovereignty of parts of Jerusalem held by Jordan prior to June 5, when the war began,

The White House understanding was that annexation had not yet taken place although the Knesset had passed a law authorizing such action. The White House statement said: "The world must find an answer that is fair and recognized to be fair, that could not be achieved by hasty unilateral action, and the President hopes that the wisdom and good judgment of those now in control in Jerusalem will prevent any such action."

The use of the third person approach was apparently designed as a reference to what President Johnson said on June 19. He then stated "there must be adequate recognition of the special interest of the three great religions in the holy places of Jerusalem."

Extensive questioning took place at the White House following issuance of today's statement. But no guidance was offered on what the United States Government would consider a solution of the Jerusalem issue. However, State Department sources said the United States would favor internationalization of Jerusalem, including the old sector seized by Israeli forces this month and the New City held by Israel prior to June 5.

While the President and King Hussein were meeting, the State Department press spokesman, Robert McCloskey, called the Israeli "annexation" of Old Jerusalem unacceptable,

Israel Formally Extends Jurisdiction Over Old Jerusalem and Its Suburbs

JERUSALEM, June 28. (JTA) - Israel formally extended the jurisdiction of the Jerusalem municipality today to include the Old City and its suburbs. An order to this effect was signed by Interior Minister Moshe Shapiro on the basis of approval by Parliament yesterday of a law authorizing that action.

The Knesset approved all three required readings of the measure within three hours, with only three Communist deputies voting against the bill. The measure also provided for protection of the holy places of all three religions.

Simultaneously, the Bank of Israel introduced Israeli currency this morning as the only legal tender in the new areas of the united Jerusalem.

Navy Court of Inquiry Gives Report on 'Liberty' Incident

WASHINGTON, June 28, (JTA) — A Navy Court of Inquiry held today that Israeli forces had 'ample opportunity'' to identify the U.S.S. Liberty prior to the June 8 attack but a Defense Department spokesman said the court had insufficient information to establish the reason for the incident.

Witnesses told the court that the Liberty's flag might have been difficult for the Israelis to see. However, the ship was said to have been under Israeli aerial surveillance several times prior to the attack in which 34 crewmen were killed and 75 wounded. Israel formally apologized for the incident and offered compensation,

It was also disclosed that, on the morning of June 8, the Joint Chiefs of Staff ordered the Liberty to move further away from the Sinai coast but that the messages, the court learned, were "misrouted and delayed" and not received until after the incident.

The Navy failed to clarify the role of U.S. intelligence services in the occurrence. High naval officials charged previously that intelligence control of the Liberty was indirectly responsible for the incident.

61 Senators Co-Sponsor Resolution for Arab-Israel Talks on Reaching Peace

WASHINGTON, June 28. (JTA) -- Sixty-one Senators co-sponsored today a "sense of the Senate" resolution advocating a durable and stable peace between the Arab states and Israel with discussions among the parties involved. The resolution was co-sponsored by Sen. Stuart Symington, Missouri Democrat, and Sen. Jacob K, Javits, New York Republican.

The resolution maintained that "the security and national interests of the United States require that there be a stable and durable peace in the Middle East," Such a settlement, said the resolution, required talks among the parties involved with the assistance of the United Nations as a third party, if desired.

Four main goals of the peace conference were listed in the resolution: 1. "recognized boundaries and other arrangements that will give security against terror, destruction, and war, and the consequent withdrawal and disengagement of armed personnel, 2. "A just and equitable solution of the refugee problem, 3, "Free maritime passage through international waterways, including the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Akaba. 4. "Limits on a wasteful and destructive arms race."

The resolution said that "in a climate of peace" the United States would do its full share to help in the solution of the Arab refugee problem; support regional cooperation; and see that the peaceful promise of nuclear energy is applied for the critical problems of desalting water. The resolution also calls on President Johnson to "pursue these objectives, as reflecting the sense of the Senate, within and outside the United Nations, and with all nations similarly minded, as being in the highest national interest of the United States,"

U.N. Debate on Middle East Continues: Holland Favors Direct Arab-Israel Talks

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 28. (JTA) -- J.M. Luns, the Netherlands Foreign Minister, told the special emergency session of the General Assembly today that "mere withdrawal" of Israeli troops from Arab territories could not bring about a durable peace if it was not accompanied by arrangements designed to solve the basic problems of the Middle East.

A final political solution, he added, should be acceptable to all parties. He said also that such a solution should recognize the right to national existence of all states in the Middle East and rights such as those of free passage through international waterways, as well as providing for the settlement of the Arab refugee problem and economic issues, such as the just distribution of the Jordan River waters, He urged also an end to the arms race between states in the region and provision of free access to all the holy places.

He said his delegation could not vote for the Soviet resolution "which puts all the blame on Israel," ignoring the chain of events preceding the outbreak of war on June 5. The Soviet resolution, he asserted, "would simply put the clock back and put it back to the position where its ticking was that of a time bomb."

Mr. Luns said that the General Assembly was "clearly not the place" where such complex problems could be brought to a solution. He said the parties concerned should undertake negotiations around a conference table, perhaps with the participation of an international organ or other countries. He said the Netherlands favored a special representative of Secretary-General U Thant, who could pave the way for discussions between the Arab states and Israel.

Manuel Aznar of Spain told the Assembly that for the United Nations merely to denounce clear cases of aggression and to react either superficially or not at all was "the road to disaster." The Arabs should be guaranteed a life based on dignity and justice, he said. He added that, under international law, Israel had "clearly" committed aggression.

Tunisian Government to Evaluate Losses Suffered by Jews During Recent Riots

CASABLANCA, June 28. (JTA) -- The Tunisian Government has created a commission to evaluate losses suffered by Jewish merchants in recent Arab rioting touched off by Israel's victory over the Arab states in the war this month, it was reported here today from Tunis. The losses were suffered when the mobs looted and burned Jewish-owned stores.

Despite the disquiet created by the impact of the Arab-Israel war on Moroccan Jewry, the 4,000-member Tangiers Jewish community held its regular communal elections. Abraham Laredo was elected president and Banjamin Bennaroch and Benjamin Zaoui vice-presidents, all for three-year terms, Tangier is the only Moroccan city where Jewish communal officials continue to be elected. In other cities, such officials are chosen by the Moroccan Government.

Anti-Israel Hysteria in Russia Reported Affecting Jews; Many Fear to Appear in Street

LONDON, June 28. (JTA) — Travelers returning from the Soviet Union say Russian Jews fear for their safety because of an atmosphere of anti-Israel hysteria fostered by the official propaganda organs of the Government, the Guardian, a leading British daily newspaper, reported today.

A Soviet press campaign about alleged Israeli atrocities during the war and in the occupation of Arab territory, which subsided for a few days, has been resumed in full force, according to the travelers. Radio propaganda is liberally sprinkled with comments about the wartime "crimes of the Hitler Fascists" in references to Israel, In some parts of the Soviet Union, Jews were reported fearful about venturing into the streets.

Latin American Countries Working on Solution to Arab-Israel Conflict, Minister Says

SANTIAGO, Chile, June 28. (JTA) --- "Latin American countries are working on a project for a just solution of the Arab-Israel conflict." Chilean Foreign Minister Gabriel Valdes revealed here today. He emphasized that although a solution to the problem was difficult and that it works some time to bring it about, the Arab-Israel crisis "cannot be solved with long speeches."

Diplomatic circles believe that the Latin-American proposal, which the Minister said would be made "within the next few days," will provide for direct Arab-Israel talks. It was noted here that Jacob Tsur, world chairman of the Jewish National Fund, who previously served as Israel Ambassador in Argentina and other Latin American countries, visited during the last weeks Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, and Mexico, where he had audiences with the Presidents and Foreign Ministers of these countries.

(At the United Nations, Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez of Argentina told the emergency special session of the General Assembly yesterday that "simple withdrawal" of Israel's forces from occupied Arab territory would not bring a return to peace in the Middle East. He said withdrawal must be a condition "concomitant" with a cessation of a "state of belligerency." The Foreign Minister said he endorsed the proposal of the Vatican for internationalization of all of the holy places in both Old and New Jerusalem.)

Nixon Outlines His Views on Arab-Israel Conflict to American Zionists

NEW YORK, June 28, (JTA) — Former Vice-President Richard Nixon, speaking at an informal luncheon tendered him by the Zionist Organization of America under the chairmanship of its President Jacques Torczyner, said that Israel should not and cannot withdraw from the occupied territory until permanent peace be achieved. This territory must serve as a bargaining point in its negotiations with the Arabs. he said.

Mr. Nixon, who just returned from a visit to Israel following a tour of Europe, Africa and Asia reported the following major observations in most countries he visited: 1) a unanimous respect and admiration for leats of the Israeli army even among foes; 2) no credence was attached to the reports that the United States and the British gave manpower to Israel in the war against the Arabs; 3) President de Gaulle's new line, while motivated by his anti-American bent, envisioned for France an independent role. The President of France believed that France was too close to Israel and that the United States and Britain were losing influence in the Middle East, His stand was not so much anti-Israel but pro-Arab trying to play mediator between the United States and Soviet Russia, Mr. Nixon stated.

He reported that a large measure of support for the Israeli cause in African countries stemmed from Israeli technical assistance. He explained the Soviet's policy in the Middle East and elsewhere as motivated by the goal of the creation of maximum confusion and minimum commitments. He said he did not believe that Soviet Russia would take a softer line in the Middle East, charring that had it not been for Soviet arms there would not have been a war in the Middle East,

Mr. Nixon also urged that the positions of the United States must be reshaped. It must support our friends and not support those who are not our friends, "In my view," he said, "United States policy should be that if Nasser wants to ally himself with Soviet Russia then Russia should take over its entire support, On the other hand the moderate Arab countries should receive substantially more assistance than they received heretofore,"

Convention of 'Jewish Americanists' Urges Israel to Retain Occupied Territory

LOS ANGELES, June 28. (JTA) - The Jewish Society of Americanists, a group considered as working in close cooperation with the Birch Society, ended a two-day convention here with a strong endorsement of Israel's victory in the war this month and of Israel's "stated intention" to maintain "the territorial fruits of victory" until the Arabs agreed to direct negotiations with Israel.

In one of several resolutions on the Middle East adopted at the convention, the group halled Israel's Middle East policies as rebuffs to Communism. The resolution called the Arab attacks "aggression" launched by forces "instigated, armed and encouraged by the Communist empire." The resolution said that in token of the Americanists' support, the organization was buying an Israel Defense Bond.

The Americanists "strongly" advised Israel to reject all U.N. efforts "to interfere in the Middle East or to impose false solutions hostile to the interests of Israel and the free world." The resolution also called on Israel and Jordan to undertake "serious negotiations" and to overcome their differences to create "an anti-Communist bloc of free states in the Middle East."

The convention endorsed the voluntary school prayer amendment proposed by Sen. Everett Dirksen, the Republican minority leader. The resolution said that "our Jewish faith has always held that religious awareness must permeate all'acets of life" and expressed hope for "an early return of non-sectarian prayer and Bible readings in our public schools," a position totally opposed to the official position of virtually all other Jewish organizations,

Labor Groups Demonstrate for Israel Near Soviet Mission to U.N. in New York

NEW YORK, June 28, (JTA) — A labor rally for Israel was held here today under auspices of the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut and associated labor and civic groups. The outloor demonstration was held a block from the Soviet mission to the United Nations and it called on the Soviet Union to stop "incitement against Israel." Soviet propaganda, inside and outside the United States, has been persistently accusing Israel of "Nazi-like atrocities" in occupied Arab territories.

The marchers consisted of members of many unions in the metropolitan area, synagogue groups and others. They carried placards demanding "Peace in the Middle East Through Direct Arab-Israel Negotiations." The gathering was told that resolution of the major Israel-Arab issues was being blocked "by the intransigent extremist support of the Arabs by the Russians and the incitement to perpetual war in the Middle East."

Orthodox Convention Debates Controversial Issue of Federal Aid to Religious Schools

FALLSBURG, N.Y., June 28, (JTA) — The controversial issue of Federal aid to private and religious education came in for sharp disagreement today among Jewish educators all of whom are prominently identified with American Orthodox Judaism. The three-hour debate before 600 rabbis attending the annual convention of the Rabbinical Council of America, reflected the moderate, middle of the road and extreme positions that Orthodox Jewish leaders have taken on church-state issues as the relate to public support of private education.

Dr. Jacob I, Hartstein, president of Kingsborough Community College in New York City, took a middle of the road position. In supporting the program administered under the Federal Education Act of 1965, Dr.Hartstein emphasized that government aid benefits now available to children attending schools under religious auspices should be viewed primarily as an opportunity "to improve and enrich educational programs, to raise quality, not as the 'bread and butter' of educational support and financing."

On the other hand, Rabbi Uri Miller, a former president of the Rabbinical Council, strongly upheld the principle of the separation of church and state. He asserted that "every escalation of government aid to private and parochial schools breaks down the wall separating church and state and may harm the public school system which has been the crowning glory of the American social economy and which has brought about an integrated society."

Rabbi Simon A. Dolgin, vice-president of the Council and active in Jewish education, assumed an extreme position by asserting that "four American democracy provides for the right of parents to select the type of education they desire for their children so long as it meets minimal requirements." He contended that to deprive a student of state supported courses in these areas because his parents choose private schools or schools under the auspices of religious institutions is to deprive him of benefits which the state offers.

AMPAL to Make Final Payment on \$5,000,000 Obligation; Retires Debentures

NEW YORK, June 28, (JTA) --- AMPAL-American Israel Corporation will make the final payment on a \$5,000,000 obligation on June 30, retiring the Series "B" debentures of the Corporation, it was announced today by Abraham Dickenstein, president. Mr. Dickenstein, prior to departing for Israel, noted that during the past 19 years AMPAL has issued debentures totaling close to \$50,000,000 of which it has already repaid \$39,000,000,

Israel Development Corporation, an affiliate of AMPAL, will, on July 15, pay its shareholders an interim dividend aggregating \$308,000, Mr. Dickenstein said. He observed that the AMPAL group of companies, established in 1942, have paid dividends exceeding \$9,000,000 in the past 10 years, compared with approximately \$3,000,000 in the preceding 15 years, AMPAL and Israel Development Corporation are incorporated in New York and have investors throughout the United States,

United Hias Service Appoints New Director for Europe and North Africa

NEW YORK, June 28. (JTA) -- Leonard Seidenman, who has been director of the Joint Distribution Committee operations in Italy and served with the JDC since 1947, was appointed director of the United Hias Service operations in Europe and North Africa, with headquarters in Geneva, it was announced here today by Gaynor I, Jacobson, executive director of the organization.

A native of New York City, he was graduated from the City College with a degree in social scence. He also did graduate work in labor relations at the University of California, From 1943 to 1946 he served as a military personnel specialist in the U.S, Army, and prior to that, as director of the National Youth Administration in Northern California and Oregon. Mr. Seidenman also served as campaign organizer for the European headquarters of the Israel Bond Organization, and as overseas correspondent for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Rose Halprin, Chairman of American Section of Jewish Agency, Leaves for Israel

NEW YORK, June 28. (JTA) — Mrs. Rose L, Halprin, chairman of the Jewish Agency-American Section, is leaving for Israel tomorrow to attend the plenary sessions of the Jewish Agency beginning in Jerusalem on Sunday, July 2. She will also attend the meetings in Jerusalem of the Council of Jewish Organizations, the World Jewish Congress, and the executive committee of the Memorial Foundation.