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Egyptians Try to Create Bridgehead Across Canal in Sinai

TEL AVIV, July 2. (JTA) — An Egyptian attack across the Suez Canal in company strength on Saturday, followed by two mortar barrages from the west bank of the canal last night and this morning, were regarded here as having more political and propaganda motives than military.

About noon on Saturday, local time, an Egyptian force of about 120 men was found to have crossed the canal near Ras el Eish, about 10 miles south of Port Said, the Mediterranean entrance to the canal. The force attempted to establish a bridgehead behind the Israel cease-fire line in the Sinai Desert, on the east bank of the canal. A sharp clash ensued when the Egyptians opened mortar fire on Israeli positions and the Egyptians were driven back across the canal. They left a quantity of mortars, recoilless guns and radio transmitter equipment. Five Israelis were wounded. Again, on Sunday morning, Egyptian positions on the west bank opened fire on the Israelis. Their guns were quickly silenced by the Israeli artillery.

(Israel filed a protest with the Security Council Saturday against the "serious breach of the cease-fire committed by the armed forces of the United Arab Republic." The protest did not ask for a Council meeting.)

Israelis speculated that the Egyptians had created the incident to prove to the United Nations General Assembly, on the eve of the vote on measures to deal with the Middle East situation, that the borders were not quiet as Israel claimed, and that it was therefore necessary to have the Israeli forces pulled back to prevent further incidents. The Egyptians were also expected to use the incident to bolster their argument that the old 1956 border was the "natural" demarcation line.

The chief purposes of the incident, however, it was believed here, were domestic. President Nasser was said to be trying to prove to the Egyptian people that his regime, which is coming under mounting criticism at home, is doing its utmost to "liberate" the territories occupied by the Israelis. The incident was also designed to show, as "Revolution Day" nears, that the Egyptian Army was not destroyed but continues as a fighting force.

Say Egypt is Installing Heavy Missile Pads Near Suez Canal

LONDON, July 2. (JTA) — Egypt has begun to install heavy ground-to-ground missile launching sites on the west bank of the Suez Canal, according to reports reaching Western intelligence services from Cairo, the London Sunday Telegraph said today. It reported that one military observer had seen 25 heavy missiles described as having considerable capacity and sufficient range to reach Israel being moved on a road north of Cairo.

The origin of the missiles was not established but it was noted that Cairo's airport had been closed twice since the end of hostilities to permit delivery of Soviet arms in heavy transport planes flying a virtual shuttle service.

Report Soviet Has Replaced Half of Egypt's Jet Fighter Losses

WASHINGTON, July 2. (JTA) — Official sources disclosed an American evaluation that approximately one-half of Egyptian losses of jet fighter planes in the six-day war had already been made good by a frantic Soviet re-supply operation. While originally American officials considered the re-supply operation to be of a token nature, they have now concluded that arms are arriving in such massive quantities it has gone beyond that point.

Jet-fighters are being flown to Egypt, disassembled, in giant Soviet cargo planes flying by way of Yugoslavia. The Soviet Union is also sending in artillery, tanks and armored personnel carriers.

Sen. Daniel Brewster, Maryland Dem., member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, flew to Israel this weekend to assemble facts on the relative military strength of Middle Eastern countries and the shipment of arms into the region. Prior to his departure, he said he would discuss Israel's arms requirements to guard against further Arab aggression in view of the accelerated Soviet arms flow. He will report to the Senate committee on his return.

General Assembly to Vote Today on Mideast Resolutions

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., July 2, (JTA) -- The emergency session of the United Nations General Assembly concluded general debate Friday on the Middle East situation after hearing representatives of 69 countries and prepared to begin voting tomorrow on resolutions aimed at resolving the conflict and establishing peace in the area.

The Assembly was expected to decide between two of the five resolutions submitted -- the first, introduced by Yugoslavia and backed by 15 African and Asian "non-aligned" states, demanding the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces to the positions they held prior to June 5; the second, introduced by Trinidad and Tobago with the backing of 18 Latin American states, calling on Israel to withdraw and on all parties to the conflict to put an end to the state of belligerency.

The Yugoslav resolution was condemned by Foreign Minister Abba S. Eban as "a prescription for renewed hostilities" and he told the Assembly that "we reject it totally." American quarters warned that the Yugoslav resolution, as amended, could open the way for direct, unilateral intervention by the Soviet Union. They said the operative clause was one which calls on member states "to render every assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution." The other amendments, designed to make the draft more palatable, provided that "immediately after the withdrawal of Israel forces has been completed," the Security Council would "consider urgently all aspects of the situation in the Middle East" and would "seek peaceful ways and means" for solution of all the pending problems. The draft also provided for the presence in the Middle East of a personal representative of the Secretary-General and for an enforcement role for the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization.

New Resolution Links Pullback to Termination of Belligerency

The Latin American resolution, which the United States indicated it might support, tied termination of the state of belligerency to the Israeli withdrawal. It called for urgent Security Council consideration of the situation "cooperating directly with the parties and relying on the presence of the United Nations" to achieve the Israeli withdrawal and the termination of belligerency, to guarantee the freedom of international waterways of the region, to obtain an adequate and complete solution of the problem of the refugees and "to guarantee the inviolability and political independence of the states in the region, including to this effect the establishment of demilitarized zones." The resolution also reiterated the desirability of establishing an international regime for the city of Jerusalem and proposed that this should be considered by the next General Assembly.

An Israel delegation source explained that Foreign Minister Eban's insistence on using the word "union" rather than the word "annexation" to describe developments in Jerusalem arose from historic and legal considerations. The word "annexation," he noted, would have implied that Old Jerusalem was previously "foreign territory," a concept alien to Jewish sentiment and history. On legal grounds, Mr. Eban insisted on using only those terms employed by the Justice Ministry in introducing the legislation on Jerusalem in the Knesset. In statements in the General Assembly and to the press, Mr. Eban said that the only matter with regard to Jerusalem still outstanding for international concern was the system of arrangements to be devised for the holy places.

British to Advise King Hussein to Negotiate with Israel

LONDON, July 2, (JTA) -- King Hussein of Jordan, scheduled to meet Prime Minister Harold Wilson Monday to urge Britain to support the demand for Israel's withdrawal from the territories it has occupied which were formerly ruled by Jordan, was not expected to get much encouragement.

The attitude of the British Government was forcefully expressed over the weekend by Minister of State Patrick Gordon Walker, who said in a speech that "it is unlikely that Israel will voluntarily give up territory she has won without some firm guarantee that in future she will be allowed by her neighbors to live in peace."

According to British diplomatic correspondents, Hussein will be reminded, in his meetings with Government leaders, that Britain does not expect Israel to withdraw without securing permanent preliminary guarantees. The Hussein-Wilson talks, according to one source, will be a first step towards a Jordanian agreement to open negotiations with Israel.

To Dedicate Forest to Men Who Fell Liberating Old City

NEW YORK, July 2, (JTA) -- A Heroes' Forest commemorating the Israel soldiers who fell in the liberation of the Old City of Jerusalem during the six-day war, will be planted on Mt. Scopus by the Jewish National Fund, Yakov Tsur, its president, announced here. The dedication ceremonies will be held on Wednesday, thirty days after the start of the fighting.

Ambassador Tsur also announced that the Jewish National Fund was preparing plans with the Jerusalem municipality for development of Jewish residential areas in the Old City.

The JNF president who had just visited seven Latin American countries, said he had found a "revolution" in the relationship of Jews abroad with Israel as a result of the six-day war. He expressed the hope that the new feeling towards Israel generated by the war would result in greater immigration and closer bonds.

World Jewish Agencies Begin Series of Meetings in Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, July 2. (JTA) -- The plenary session of the Jewish Agency Executive opened here this morning with immigration from the free world and plans for the utilization of the large numbers of volunteers arriving in Israel among the major items on the agenda.

The Agency Executive plenary, which is due to last most of this week, will be followed by a meeting of the governing council of the World Jewish Congress and a meeting of the Conference of World Jewish Organizations (COJO).

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization and of the World Jewish Congress, who is presiding at all three meetings, said today that the Zionist movement was facing great problems, particularly in taking up the prospect of a possible huge immigration, mainly of youth to Israel. He said there was an urgent need for a large-scale immigration to Israel campaign and that there was no organization for immigration besides the Jewish Agency. He expressed the hope that the plenary session would develop working plans for that objective.

Discussing the COJO and WJC meetings, he said that while unreserved Jewish support would be expressed for Israel, as well as a readiness to rally the Jewish people throughout the world politically for Israel, the meetings would also consider the situation of Jewish communities in Arab countries.

He said reports from those countries indicated an increasingly hostile atmosphere for Jews. The International Red Cross, seeking to be helpful, still had not been able to make contact with the Arab governments on the problem, he pointed out.

Dr. Goldmann said that the almost unexpected surge of mass Jewish support for Israel in recent weeks had revived his life-long vision of bringing all Jewish organizations throughout the world under one roof -- not as an executive body but rather for discussions and consultations, where organizations from right to left, could discuss purely Jewish problems.

British Deputies See 'Undivided Jerusalem' as Integral Part of Israel

LONDON, July 2. (JTA) -- Alderman Michael Fidler, former Mayor of Prestwich, in Lancashire, was elected President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the central representative organization of British Jewry, at its annual meeting today.

Alderman Fidler, who is 51, defeated Victor Mishcon, former chairman of the London County Council, by a vote of 129 to 112.

The annual meeting adopted a resolution stating that "an undivided Jerusalem must be an integral part of the State of Israel, thus ensuring freedom of access to the Holy Places of all religions, a right which has been denied to the Jews for almost 20 years." The resolution called on the entire Anglo-Jewish community and all concerned for peace and goodwill "to intensify their moral and material support for Israel in her great constructive tasks in the work of absorbing Jewish refugees from Arab countries and of ensuring the welfare of her Jewish and non-Jewish population."

Philadelphia Group Bids Washington Intercede for Jews in Arab Lands

PHILADELPHIA, July 2. (JTA) -- The Fellowship Commission, the nation's oldest private human rights, intergroup relations agency, appealed to the United States Government, it disclosed today, to take steps to end the reported "denial of rights, imprisonment, mob violence and murder of citizens in various Middle East states solely on the basis of their race, religion, or national origin."

In a letter to President Johnson, the Fellowship Commission said it felt that the Arab-Israel crisis did not come within its competence, but that it was "shocked" by the reports of the treatment of "innocent civilians who are deprived of rights, liberty or life itself solely because of their former or alleged relationship to one or another of the combatants in the Middle East crisis."

The commission's action followed publication of news of the slaying of Jews in Arab countries following the outbreak of the Arab-Jewish war, their imprisonment, internment or deportation, and continuing incitement against them in several countries.

Moroccan Opposition Party Urges Action Against 'Zionists'

CASABLANCA, July 2. (JTA) -- An article in the current issue of the publication of the Istiqlal opposition party on Jews and Zionists provoked concern today among Moroccan Jews.

The article asserted flatly that there was no difference between Jews and Zionists and that it was the "duty" of Moroccan citizens to prepare lists of companies and societies "at the heart of which are notorious Zionists." The article said such lists should be widely disseminated.

Some 80 Moroccan Jews are reported to be in prison on charges of pro-Zionist sympathies.

NCRAC Calls For Overhaul of American Mideast Policy

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., July 2. (JTA) -- Delegates to the national plenary session of the National Community Relations Advisory Council asked today for an overhaul of American policy in the Middle East to deal with "the underlying causes of conflict rather than recurring surface symptoms."

A policy statement adopted at the conclusion of NCRAC's four-day meeting here advocated American diplomatic moves to encourage an arms embargo by the great powers, provide food shipments and other American aid to Arab lands conditioned on "an end to belligerency," halt military training programs for Arab officers whose nations reject peace negotiations, assist Israel's economic development and initiate positive steps to resolve the Arab refugee problem.

In their Middle East statement, the 300 delegates, who represent 9 national Jewish organizations and 80 local community councils, declared that a revitalized foreign policy in the crisis area requires "abandonment of the kind of even-handedness that fails to distinguish between those who seek the annihilation of their neighbors and those who seek peace." U.S. policy must also recognize the limitations of the United Nations in resolving Middle East disputes, the NCRAC declaration said. It termed the United Nations "a fragile basis for guaranteeing peace and security" in the area.

The United States was also urged to "contribute strong, clear and unambiguous action" in support of direct peace negotiations, and advance vigorously a Middle East development program based on "the concept of an open pluralistic region."

A symposium on the reactions of American Jews to the Middle East crisis concluded that the "spontaneity and solidarity" which swept through the community had created new momentums for strengthening Jewish life. The three organization presidents featured at the symposium -- Morris B. Abram, of the American Jewish Committee, Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld of the American Jewish Congress and Dr. William A. Wexler of B'nai B'rith -- generally agreed that the emotional peaks reached during the crisis had generated a psychological identity with Israel never before equaled in the community's history.

Analyzing the involvement of local community organizations during the critical period, Isaiah Minkoff, executive vice-chairman of NCRAC, stressed that much of the spontaneous outburst of support for Israel would have been dissipated "without the established presence of a structured community to direct and funnel all of the energy and effort that exploded at the time."

A consensus of community relations experts, basing their findings on social science studies and first-hand investigations in cities torn by racial disorders, disclosed at the session, that there was no evidence that the growing polarization of racial antagonisms in the country was making Negroes more anti-Semitic than other non-Jews. A policy statement adopted by the session held that "Negroes generally harbor fewer anti-Jewish prejudices than whites in the same economic status." The statement cautioned Jews to avoid "mistakenly labeling social protests as anti-Semitism and to deal with anti-Semitic expressions of social protests without exaggerating their true dimensions."

Forty Catholic Educators Complete Jewish Study Program

WHEELING, W. Va., July 2. (JTA) -- Some 40 faculty members of Catholic schools and colleges throughout the United States completed a special two-week graduate study program with leading Jewish scholars aimed at informing them on Jews and Judaism. The four Jewish faculty members of the course are Rabbi Arthur Gilbert, director of religious activities of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, and three faculty members of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion -- Dr. Ellis Rivkin, Rabbi Samuel Sandmel and Rabbi Eugene Borowitz.

National Culture Foundation Announces 18 Awards

NEW YORK, July 2. (JTA) -- Award of 18 grants by the National Foundation for Jewish Culture for study and projects in the fields of Jewish scholarship and culture, was announced today by Label A. Katz, president of the Foundation. The awards include scholarships and fellowships for those completing doctoral studies, grants-in-aid to established scholars for independent research, and grants to institutions and organizations for special projects.

The three institutions which will receive grants for special programs are the College of Jewish Studies in Cleveland for its sponsorship of an Index to Jewish Periodicals; the Conference on Jewish Philosophy for its annual meeting of Jewish scholars teaching philosophy at various institutions of higher learning, and Vassar College for its experimental course on contemporary Jewish thought.

Jewish Chaplaincy Commission Head Will Visit Viet Nam

NEW YORK, July 2. (JTA) -- Rabbi Selwyn D. Ruslander of Dayton, Ohio, chairman of the Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy of the National Jewish Welfare Board, will leave on a 10-day official visit to South Viet Nam later this month on behalf of the Commission. During his stay in Viet Nam, Rabbi Ruslander will conduct a religious retreat for the Jewish chaplains in Viet Nam and discuss plans for the observance there of the coming High Holy Days.