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### Eshkol Warns Zionists Prolonged, Difficult Struggle Lies Ahead; Bids Jews Come to Israel; Offers Aid to Settle Arab Refugee Problem

JERUSALEM, July 20. (JTA) -- Prime Minister Levi Eshkol warned tonight that Israel faces a "prolonged, difficult and arduous" struggle in the days ahead and called on the Jewish people throughout the world -- "our great ally" -- to play its part.

Addressing the opening session of the 70th jubilee convention of the Zionist Organization of America, the Israeli leader called on Jews around the world to come to Israel and help build up the state.

"Today, we need more than money," he exclaimed. "We need people. Israel, old and new, needs the Jews to come. The war and victory have opened up a new chapter in the history of our people. We shall have to do great deeds, new deeds." He concluded with the exhortation, "Let the nation build its future in its own land."

Mr. Eshkol told the convention that one of the greatest problems facing Israel was the Arab refugee problem. "We have to help in solving this problem," he declared. "We want permanent peace with our neighbors so that we may help to solve this human problem, contributing some of our knowledge and capabilities."

More than 2,000 delegates and guests, led by President Zalman Shazar were present in the Jerusalem Convention Center when the convention opened. They heard Mr. Eshkol speak in warm praise of President Johnson and in gratitude to him and the United States for their support of Israel during the recent crisis.

### Lauds Johnson and American Stance in Support of Israel

"It is my duty and my pleasure to pay tribute to the valiant and moral stand of the American people, headed and led by President Lyndon Johnson," Mr. Eshkol declared. "Despite the world responsibilities -- the United States Government understood that it must act according to the tenets of international morality. Hence it did all in its power to prevent aggression and advance peace in the Middle East."

"These efforts," he added, "were the manifestation of the finest traditions of American democracy, of the true, courageous will of all sections of the American people. The President of the United States and its people, therefore, deserve the tributes of all lovers of justice, liberty and peace throughout the world over."

Speaking of the "great days" through which Israel had just passed, Mr. Eshkol cited "the impressive power of the independent Jewish state when it came forward in defense of its life and future. The Army was many times greater than its strength, he said, "because the Israel defense forces defend the entire nation. Every citizen is a soldier who knows why he fights and what he fights for."

Mr. Eshkol paid tribute to the "unique and wonderful unity of the Jewish people, and its complete identification with embattled Israel." He said that "it discovered again, without any doubt, that this is the core of Jewish existence and there is no substitute for it."

### Arabs and Allies Trying to Restore Former Dangerous Situation

The Israeli Prime Minister warned that after their military failure, the Arab states and their allies were now trying to exploit all possible political means to restore to the Middle East the dangerous situation which prevailed prior to June 5.

"Our efforts to foil this will be prolonged, difficult and arduous," he declared. "In this struggle in which we shall face political pressure and military threats, the Jewish people throughout the world has a vitally important role to play. It is our great ally, our partner who will have to bear a great part of the struggle for public opinion and I am confident that it will play its part in honor."

Voicing support of the recent manifesto issued by the World Zionist Organization and the Israel Government, Dr. Emanuel Neumann, honorary president of the ZOA and a member of the Jewish Agency executive, called on every Jewish family in the western world to send at least one son or daughter to Israel to help build the Jewish state.

Stressing that it was to America's own interest to stand by Israel, Dr. Neumann pledged the "unflagging efforts" of American Jewry in mobilizing public opinion in favor of Israel. "As Israel, by her own strength, has assured that there shall be no second Auschwitz, so must we do what lies in our power to assure that there shall be no second Munich," he declared.

Jacques Torczyner, president of the ZOA, called on the U.S. Government to discuss the fate of Soviet Jewry with Russian leaders in "the spirit of Holly Bush." Referring to recent pressures on Russian Jews in connection with the Middle East war, Mr. Torczyner said "I tremble when I think what could happen to them if attacks of Soviet leaders against Jews and Zionism continue." He urged full economic support of Israel and an all-out effort to organize the current tremendous rise in Jewish feelings among campus youth.

### **Israel Says Canal Will Be Open to Its Vessels or it Will Bar Egypt's**

JERUSALEM, July 20, (JTA) -- Israel responded today to threats by Egypt to bar use of the Suez Canal by force to Israeli vessels by reaffirming its position that either Israel and Egypt could both use the waterway or that neither could.

The stand was restated here after a meeting yesterday in Cairo between Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, director of the United Nations observation activities on the Canal, and Salah Gohar, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. Gohar reportedly told Gen. Bull that Egypt would never permit Israeli navigation through the Canal. One of the events which led to the sharp fighting along the Canal last Saturday was the presence of Israeli patrol ships on the eastern side of the waterway.

Officials here indicated that the only way Egypt could enforce Gohar's ultimatum would be by shooting at Israeli vessels along the Canal's eastern shore at the northern tip of the waterway. At that point the Canal is only about 100 yards wide and the Egyptians could bar the Israeli ships by force.

Gen. Bull was scheduled to return to Israel today from Cairo for talks with Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, presumably including a report on the Egyptian official's warning. However, Israel plans to stress that if the Egyptians seek to bar Israeli shipping, Israel will in turn act to prevent Egyptian vessels from sailing along the Canal's western shore.

To avoid any new escalation in the current stalemate, Israeli vessels, most of them torpedo boats, are not moving in the Canal's northern tip, thus avoiding Egyptian fire which Israel would feel compelled to answer. Israeli vessels are using the waterway near the southern end, by Bitter Lake, where the waterway is wide enough to keep Israeli ships outside the effective range of Egyptian guns there. Israeli sources feel that these Israeli-flagged ships are enforcing Israel's presence in the Canal waters.

### London Express Reports Nasser Promised Soviet Naval and Air Bases

LONDON, July 20, (JTA) -- The London Daily Express reported today from Amman that President Nasser of Egypt had promised the Russians two bases in return for their military and political aid.

The Russians would be given a naval base at Mersa Matruh, a fishing port 140 miles west of Alexandria, the paper said. The other base would be in the Sinai Peninsula -- now in Israeli hands -- and would be for Soviet aircraft.

The newspaper reported that the Soviet flotilla now in Egyptian ports was strengthened yesterday by the arrival of another destroyer at Alexandria.

(The Columbia Broadcasting System reported today that a new element had been added to the presence of Soviet naval forces in the Mediterranean with the disclosure that the flotilla included landing craft carrying Soviet marines trained for landing operations.)

(In Washington, the State Department said it had no confirmation of reports that Soviet marine detachments had gone ashore from Russian ships and were deploying at Ismailia and along the Suez Canal. Spokesman Robert McCloskey said the Department could not even verify that marines were aboard the numerous Soviet naval vessels now in Port Said and Alexandria.)

### **Israel Negotiating in Washington for \$30 Million Food Assistance**

WASHINGTON, July 20, (JTA) -- Negotiations opened today on a request by the Israel Government for large-scale U.S. food assistance, the State Department made known. The accord, when concluded, would provide Israel with its first official aid from American since the outbreak of hostilities.

Israel was said to be seeking agricultural commodities valued at nearly \$30 million under the terms of the Public Law 480 known as the "Food For Peace" program.

## General Assembly, Snagged on Formalities, Defers Adjournment

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., July 20. (JTA) -- The emergency session of the United Nations General Assembly which, since June 14 had tried unsuccessfully to reach agreement on a substantive resolution dealing with the Arab-Israeli situation in the Middle East, got involved in a procedural dispute today and was unable to adjourn as scheduled. Another meeting of the Assembly was therefore set for tomorrow afternoon.

Soviet attempts to get agreement on some resolution that would call on Israel to withdraw its forces behind its pre-June 5th lines continued up to the very last minute. A meeting last night between Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko and Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg of the United States, held at the Soviet mission, failed to break the deadlock. The United States position has been that any call for an Israeli withdrawal must be linked to a termination of the state of belligerence.

(In Geneva, the Economic and Social Council rejected a Soviet proposal to include on its agenda an item denouncing Israel as an aggressor and requiring Israel to pay damages to the Arab states. The delegates rejected the Soviet move on the grounds that two competent organs of the United Nations had already considered the issue.)

Ambassador Max Jakobson of Finland asked for the postponement of the Assembly adjournment in an effort to reach agreement on a procedural resolution referring the Middle East issue back to the Security Council. He encountered objections today from the Arabs to a phrase in the draft resolution which said: "taking into account the importance of preserving peace."

In a continuation of a campaign of protests and complaints to keep tension high, Syria, in a letter to Secretary-General U Thant accused Israel today of "atrocities, the seizure of innocent civilians, ruthless looting, murder in cold blood" in the Syrian areas held by Israel forces.

Jordan, in an action following the Assembly resolution of July 14 reiterating the request to Israel to nullify legal measures it had taken with regard to Jerusalem, asked Mr. Thant today for an early report on what was being done to implement the resolution. Mr. Thant has asked Israel for a reply on the Assembly resolution but set no time limit.

## Soviet Assails Israel Anew as Aggressor and Imperialist

WASHINGTON, July 20. (JTA) -- The Soviet Government warned today that what it termed continued Israeli aggression against the Arabs threatened a resumption of the Middle Eastern war on a large scale. It branded Israeli policies a threat to international security.

The warning to Israel was published by Tass as an authorized official statement of the Soviet Union. It accused America, Britain and West Germany of encouraging Israel. The Soviet statement asserted that the "ruling circles" of Israel and Western nations encouraging them "are playing a risky game with fire" and are making "serious miscalculations in evaluating the resolve of the Arab states and their friends to uphold the cause of peace in the Middle East."

The statement added that these "ruling circles" incur "the entire burden of responsibility and retribution for the continuation of the policy of aggression and provocation against the Arab peoples." It referred to recent clashes along the Suez Canal, blaming everything on Israel. The statement said "each clash of this kind, provoked by the irresponsible and brazen actions of Israeli military men, is fraught with a threat of resumption of the military conflict on a large scale, threatens peace in the Middle East and international security."

The statement accused Israel and her supporters of obstructing adoption of United Nations resolutions demanding Israel vacate occupied territories. It asserted that "imperialist predatory aims" were at the root of Israeli actions and alleged that Israel intended to appropriate the occupied lands. It said refugees were being expelled through methods of terror and intimidation. The real purpose of the "imperialists," it said, was plunder of oil deposits in the Sinai Peninsula and other natural resources.

All of these actions, said the Soviet statement, reveal that Israel "is adopting the savage practice the German Fascist invaders resorted to on the territories of countries that fell victim to aggression in the years of World War II."

## San Francisco Federation Votes \$250,000 to Israel Emergency Fund

SAN FRANCISCO, July 20. (JTA) -- The Jewish Welfare Federation of San Francisco, Marin County and the Peninsula has voted a special appropriation of \$250,000 from its capital funds for the Israel Emergency Fund of the United Jewish Appeal, it was announced here today. The Federation also recommended that its investment committee consider the purchase of an additional \$50,000 in State of Israel bonds.

The Federation reported today that pledges in the special Emergency Fund campaign had reached \$2,135,000, substantially higher than the final total of any regular campaign in the Federation's history.

## Seek Right to Challenge Federal Spending for Parochial Schools

WASHINGTON, July 20, (JTA) -- Seven New York taxpayers, including two officials of a Jewish organization, filed a suit today in the United States Supreme Court to win the right to sue the government over spending of federal funds for religious-sponsored schools.

The plaintiffs took the action in appealing dismissal of their suit in June by a special three-judge panel, which rejected the suit on grounds that the seven plaintiffs had no standing to sue. The three-judge federal panel did not rule on the merits of the complaint. The majority decision cited a 1923 Supreme Court ruling that taxpayers have no standing to sue because their contributions in taxes are too small to give them a "real interest" in a court decision. The suit is backed by the American Jewish Congress, the New York Civil Liberties Union, the United Federation of Teachers and the United Parents Association.

The core of the suit is a complaint that the federal constitution is being violated in the way Titles I and II of the Federal Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965 are being administered. Government funds are being provided for instruction, textbooks, library materials and public school teachers in church and synagogue schools. The suit contends that this violates the First Amendment ban on church-state separation.

The New York State Constitutional Convention in Albany is considering a proposal to substitute the language of the First Amendment for Article XI, Section III of the New York constitution, popularly known as the Blaine Amendment, which bars use of state funds for religious schools.

The state convention also is considering a provision to be added to the state constitution which would specifically permit state taxpayers to test the use of state funds for such purposes.

Leo Pfeffer of New York, American Jewish Congress special counsel, who is serving as chief attorney for the seven taxpayers, proposed in the appeal filed here today that the Supreme Court bar the application of the 1923 Frothingham ruling to First Amendment cases. In asking the high court to rule on the right of taxpayers to sue in such cases, the plaintiffs declared that "the federal question presented by this appeal is substantial and of national importance." The appeal was filed for consideration by the Supreme Court term starting in October.

### New York City School Board Bids Convention Retain Blaine Amendment

NEW YORK, July 20, (JTA) -- The New York City Board of Education appealed to the State Constitutional Convention, now meeting in Albany, to revise the state's charter, to retain the state ban against state funds to religious-sponsored schools. The State Board of Regents, the highest education body in the state, supports repeal of section III of Article XI, popularly known as the Blaine Amendment. The issue has split the organized Jewish community in the state.

The Board of Education warned that repeal of the 73-year-old ban would permit "an erosion of the public school system." The board said that its action, approved at an executive meeting with one dissenting vote, "reaffirms the principle of separation of church and state," as embodied in the Blaine Amendment.

In Mamaroneck, N.Y., the Rye Neck Board of Education adopted a resolution urging the Constitutional Convention to retain the Blaine Amendment. The school board warned that diversion of public funds to parochial schools would weaken the public school system.

A proposal before the constitutional convention's committee on the Bill of Rights and Suffrage endorses the substitution of the language of the First Amendment of the Federal Constitution for the Blaine Amendment. The Federal law of 1965 for aid to elementary and secondary education, which provides funds for certain subjects to pupils of religious-sponsored schools, was based on the judgment that it does not bar such use of federal funds.

## Anti-Agitation Bill Would Apply to Anti-Semites, Supporters Claim

WASHINGTON, July 20, (JTA) -- Legislation voted by the House of Representatives yesterday which would make agitators who cross state lines to foment racial strife subject to imprisonment would also apply to such anti-Semitic extremists as George Rockwell, advocates of the bill asserted here today. The measure, which now goes to the Senate, would make it a Federal crime to travel interstate or use such interstate facilities as the mails to invite violence. Penalties would include prison sentences of up to five years and \$10,000 fine.

## Christian Trade Union Delegation Leaves for Visit to Israel

BRUSSELS, July 20, (JTA) -- A delegation representing the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions, headed by Auguste Cool, deputy chairman and Auguste Van Stendael, secretary-general, of the federation, left for a five-day visit in Israel today. The delegation will be guests of Histadrut, the Israel labor federation.