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Eban Tells General Assembly Israel Insists on Negotiations with Arabs

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Sept. 25. (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Abba S. Eban of Israel politely but firmly told the United Nations General Assembly here today that Israel will stand firm on the present cease-fire lines until the cease-fire agreements that ended the June war are replaced "by treaties of peace which will ensure the security of all Middle Eastern states and establish conditions of stable coexistence."

Speaking in the Assembly's general debate, Mr. Eban promised that "in negotiations with Arab governments, we shall make viable and equitable proposals compatible with the national honor and legitimate interests of all states. We shall also make suggestions for effective regional cooperation and for the regional and international solution of population problems created by the wars and belligerence policies of the past two decades. We shall, of course, give consideration and make reply to whatever suggestions the other negotiating parties decide to submit."

Mr. Eban told the Assembly that "there is no other choice" than the Israeli policy of seeking transition from the cease-fire to a negotiated peace and declared that that policy "deserves international endorsement and respect." To return to the pre-June 5th situation would be to return to "political anarchy and strategic vulnerability," he said, noting that "national suicide is not an international obligation."

Says There Can Be No External Substitute for Local Arrangements

Mr. Eban served notice that "no external declarations or guarantees, no general affirmations of Charter principles, no recommendations or statements by international bodies, however unexceptionable, can replace the sovereign responsibility of the governments concerned." Peace in the Middle East, he said, must spring from the Middle East. He told the Assembly that the most constructive course it could take would be to tell the Middle Eastern states to negotiate the conditions of their future coexistence. He said that Israel's insistence on direct negotiations was not a matter of procedure but an issue "of principle and substance."

Mr. Eban said the stand taken at the Arab Khartoum summit meeting of "non-recognition, no negotiations and no peace with Israel" deprived the Arabs of the right to invoke the United Nations Charter. He urged the international community to stand firm and thus promote an Arab understanding of the need to pass from two decades of war to peace.

The Israeli Foreign Minister charged that there had been a propaganda campaign about the west bank residents who "moved without concern across the Jordan as a result of Hussein's wanton war." These people were free and thousands have returned, he noted, "but there is relative silence about the Jewish communities, especially in Egypt, whose members are not free to move because they are held in conditions of cruelty in concentration camps for no reason or purpose except of sheer malice."

Notes World Silence on Jordanian Destruction of Jewish Holy Places

Turning to the subject of Jerusalem, Mr. Eban drew attention to the fact that Jewish religious institutions and holy places had suffered destruction and sacrilege under the Jordanians and commented that "not a single word of criticism was directed against a regime which made Jerusalem a military frontier, which separated its citizens into two hostile camps and which, by obstruction of access, desecrated some of the highest and noblest sanctities in the history of mankind." Now, he said, "after 20 sordid years of division, war and sacrilege, there is unity, peace and the assurances of access to the holy places."

Mr. Eban commented on the new attack made by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko in the general debate Friday and pointed out that the General Assembly and the Security Council had previously rejected all Mr. Gromyko's assertions. He then charged that "the tension which exploded in the Middle East last June was largely of Soviet manufacture," listing the Soviet arms shipments to the Arabs, the Soviet policy in the Security Council of blocking criticism of Arab aggression, and finally, the charge that a false Soviet report of Israeli troop concentrations on the Syrian frontier had influenced Nasser of Egypt to the actions that led to the outbreak of hostilities.

Earlier, a Soviet-Arab attempt to convert a 17-year effort of the Assembly's legal committee to come up with a definition of aggression into an anti-Israel maneuver was defeated and the question of definition was referred back to the legal committee. Speaking in the general debate, the Czechoslovak spokesman announced that his country supported the Tito proposals for a Middle East solution which Israel had previously rejected.

When the General Assembly resumed today, Jordan, on a point of order, protested Israel's action last Saturday in deporting an East Jerusalem Moslem official to Jordan. Egypt, in a letter to the president of the Security Council, charged Israel with a series of seven violations of the cease-fire agreement in the Suez Canal area between September 5 and 21.

El Fatah Leader Seized as New Acts of Sabotage are Reported

TEL AVIV, Sept. 25. (JTA) -- Israeli officials reported today the arrest of a commander of the underground Palestine Liberation Organization as new acts of Arab sabotage cost the life of a three-year-old child in a Jewish collective near Hadera and blasted a factory in another collective in the same area.

The PLO commander was identified as Moustaffa Dmayess Hamyess of a well-known family of Hebron in the occupied west bank sector. He is one of more than 100 Arab extremists and underground members arrested by Israeli security services in recent raids carried out in an effort to check the increasing number of acts of anti-Israel agitation and demonstrations in occupied areas.

The three-year-old son of Anszlem Salomon was critically injured by falling debris when an explosion wrecked the Salomon dwelling at midnight last night in the Moshav Cmetz. The child died enroute to a hospital. Salomon, his wife and two other children escaped serious injury. A short time later, the glue department of the food factory in Kibbutz Maanit, north of Hadera, was wrecked in another explosion. Security operatives and police dogs were rushed to the scenes of the blasts and found footprints. Israeli officials imposed a curfew on nearby villages to aid the search for the terrorists.

Leaflets signed by El Fatah, the Arab terrorist group, and Aasifa, a crack unit of the El Fatah, were found near the damaged kibbutz factory. The leaflets carried warnings that "the future will be still more serious."

Cabinet Members Urge Strong Anti-Terrorism Measures, Including Death Penalty

The invocation of strict measures against terrorists and those who incite to violence in the west bank area was advocated by some members of the Government at yesterday's meeting of the Cabinet. Some of the Ministers went as far as to demand that death sentences be imposed on terrorists who cause loss of lives.

The security affairs were debated after a full-hour report given the Cabinet by Gen. Moshe Dayan, Minister of Defense. He described and analyzed the recent bombings of homes and factories in Israel and other acts of resistance and terrorism. He told the Cabinet he has found "clear evidence" that some of the arms and explosives used in the recent spate of resistance had had their origin in Syria. In his report, Gen. Dayan also informed the Cabinet of the details of the expulsion from Jerusalem of Abdul Hamid Es-Sayeh, a Moslem dignitary, who was expelled into Jordan. He also discussed the situation in the Suez Canal area.

Meanwhile, the army spokesman announced this evening that, after relative quiet lasting several days, the Egyptians had renewed their attacks against Israeli forces in the Suez Canal area this afternoon. The Egyptians opened machinegun fire from the canal's western bank against the Israeli-occupied eastern shore. Israel did not, at first, return the fire. But, an hour and a half later, the Egyptians directed their fire against an Israeli patrol north of the Bitter Lakes. This time, Israel shot back, and another exchange took place shortly thereafter. There were no casualties on the Israeli side. Several cease-fire arrangements made by the United Nations military observers were violated by the Egyptians up to nightfall.

The Judea district was placed under curfew today, but this action had nothing to do with the Hadera incident. The curfew was imposed while a census was being carried out of the Arab population in the west bank region.

Meanwhile, it was noted here, life in Jerusalem as well as along the entire west bank continued normally. Scores of Arab laborers are now employed in Jerusalem. Shops and industries in East Jerusalem were carrying on their normal activities today.

Cabinet Gives Nahal Task of Rebuilding Etzion Settlements

JERUSALEM, Sept. 25. (JTA) -- The reconstitution of four settlements in the so-called Etzion Bloc on the west bank of the Jordan River, established there before the war of 1948 and now again in Israel's hands, will be entrusted to Nahal, the Cabinet here has decided. Nahal is a paramilitary, pioneering youth farming group concentrating its efforts in border settlements. A spokesman for the Government said the Nahal role in the Etzion bloc will be instituted "soon." The land which the four settlements occupied belongs to the Jewish National Fund.

The Cabinet decided also to defer for a month action on proposals to resettle Beit Haarava, at the northern end of the Dead Sea. Prior to Israel's rebirth in 1948, that settlement found it difficult to raise crops because the soil has a very high salt content, and had to be washed or "leached" before it could be cultivated.

70th Anniversary of First Zionist Congress is Marked by Basle Meeting

Basle, Sept. 25. (JTA) — Personalities prominent in Jewish life and the Zionist movement participated last night in the 70th anniversary celebration of the First World Zionist Congress. The ceremony was held in the Basle Stadkasino where Theodor Herzl convened the first assembly in 1897.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, said it was the policy of the Zionist Organization from the outset to settle and build, rather than to conquer and rule. The Zionist movement today, he said, pursues no power politics but remains true to its ideology, which is education and the upbuilding of the State of Israel in partnership with her people and government.

Gen. Itzhak Rabin, chief of staff of the Israel Army, said that Israel and the Jewish people had never wanted war, but when there was no other way, the Israel Army knew how to fight. Israel's soldiers, he said, were not imbued with hatred but fought for their country and their homes.

Zvi Lurie, a member of the Jewish Agency executive, presided over the meeting which was also addressed by the president of the Basle canton government.

Ukrainian Communist Organ Assails Jewish Religion as Capitalist Servant

LONDON, Sept. 25. (JTA) — A prominent Soviet newspaper has published a violent attack on the Jewish religion, asserting that "the Jewish religion has always been the maidservant of the capitalists." The article by Dr. B. Taicher appeared under the heading, "In the Service of Reaction," in the Sept. 6 edition of the Ukrainian Pravda, organ of the Ukrainian Communist Party. Copies of the paper were received here today.

Most of the recent numerous anti-Jewish attacks featured in the Soviet press have involved Israel and, apparently, were aimed at creating anti-Israeli sentiment. This has been the case particularly since the Arab-Israeli war last June when the Soviet authorities coupled their bitter diplomatic attack on Israel with a vitriolic anti-Israel press and radio propaganda campaign.

Council Approves Plans for Work Among Latin American Jewish Youth

CARACAS, Venezuela, Sept. 25. (JTA) — A proposal to establish Hillel Foundations at leading Latin American universities as a step toward reversing what he called "growing indifference to Jewish identity" on the part of college-age youth, was made here last night by Dr. William Wexler, international president of B'nai B'rith, and was adopted today by the International Council of B'nai B'rith. The Council, with 45 countries represented, is holding its annual convention here, and the strengthening of Latin American Jewry is one of the parley's top topics.

Noting that the first Latin American Hillel Foundation was opened here this month at the University of Venezuela, Dr. Wexler urged the initiation of similar campus programs at universities in Mexico City, Buenos Aires and Lima.

Approving Dr. Wexler's proposal, the Council discussed also plans for developing in Latin America a corps of trained, native-born leaders, rabbis and Jewish education and community workers to effect the Latin American Jewish community's "transition from the immigrant culture of largely European coloration to a rooted Jewish community, with institutions and activities indigenous to the Latin American environment."

Dr. Wexler viewed Latin American Jewry as being in "a painful process of maturing." He stressed his view that Jewish youth programs must "not depend on imports from abroad, but must be Latin American sponsored, Latin American styled, and rooted in Latin American surroundings." Discussions were also held by the Council on plans for wide expansion of B'nai B'rith youth activities in Latin American countries which now have only six, widely-scattered chapters with a total membership of 400 Jewish youngsters. Another topic on the agenda was anti-Semitism in Latin America and relations in the southern hemisphere between Jews and the Catholic Church.

Prior to the convening of the Council, with a banquet here last night, the newly-formed B'nai B'rith Caribbean District installed its principal officers. One of the speakers at the banquet was the United States Ambassador here, Maurice M. Bernbaum, who cited the hospitality traditionally extended by the Western Hemisphere to immigration by Jews and others.

Casablanca Jews Establish New Community Executive Board

CASABLANCA, Morocco, Sept. 25. (JTA) — A new governing board for this city's Jewish community has been organized under the presidency of Dr. Benzaquen, a former minister of the Moroccan Government. The group is made up of both younger men and a number of professional and academic figures. A distinguished feature of the board is the number of new members who had been known previously to have broken formal contacts with Judaism.

Other board officers named included Duvid Amur, secretary-general of the Moroccan Jewish communities, who is vice-president, Jacob Banon, president of the outgoing committee, has been given a minor post. Max Loeb, another committee member, has just left Morocco to settle in Israel.

Col. Aboulhimes, governor of Casablanca, received the new committee this week.

Constitutional Convention Bars Use of Development Loans for Church Schools

ALBANY, N.Y., Sept. 25, (JTA) — The New York State constitutional convention approved early today a proposal which would put some restrictions on the use of public funds for private community development programs and would bar use of these funds for non-public, parochial schools.

Approval of the amendment to the constitutional proposal permitting public loans for these projects ended a deadlock which threatened the convention's timetable. The convention must end by midnight tonight so that its deliberations can be placed before the state's voters for approval on November 7.

The school-state issue was actually secondary to the measure before the convention — a grants and loans proposal to ease the present constitutional ban on the granting or lending of state funds or credit to private enterprise. Such an easement is considered essential to greater state cooperation with private enterprise for improvements of slum housing and other buildings.

Opponents of public money for non-public school purposes opposed the easement amendment because they felt its language would allow state grants for building of non-public schools. The amendment which broke the impasse came after Charles J. Tobin, Jr., legislative representative of the Catholic bishops of New York, unexpectedly indicated that the church would agree to some limiting language.

Pennsylvania School Boards Would Legalize Prayer in Public Schools

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 25, (JTA) — Several Pennsylvania school boards have adopted resolutions calling for Bible reading and prayer in the public schools and urging other school boards to support an amendment to the United States Constitution that would permit such religious observances. An amendment to that effect, designed to void a ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court outlawing official religious practices in the public schools, has been introduced by Senator Everett M. Dirksen, Illinois Republican.

The latest group to adopt the resolution is the East Deer-Frazer union school board in the Pittsburgh district. School boards in Berks County and Lancaster County have already endorsed the proposal.

Synagogue Council Backs Milwaukee Civil Rights Leaders' Open Housing Bid

NEW YORK, Sept. 25, (JTA) — The Synagogue Council of America came out today in support of civil rights leaders in Milwaukee seeking enactment by the city of effective open housing legislation. A special meeting of its executive committee unanimously endorsed their stand, commended them for maintaining the "integrated character of their campaign and called on the Mayor, Common Council and citizens of Milwaukee "to implement the moral imperative of the hour by enacting open housing legislation."

The Synagogue Council of America is the national coordinating agency for the rabbinic and congregational bodies of Conservative, Orthodox and Reform Judaism in the United States.

Schary Sees American Negroes Less Prejudiced Against Jews Than Are Whites

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25, (JTA) — A leading American Jewish civil rights worker said today that Jews were reducing their contributions to such "nihilistic causes" as that espoused by H. Rap Brown, chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, but he pointed out that the anti-Semitic positions taken by SNCC reflected the extreme leftwing position assumed by that group.

Dore Schary, Chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, said in a press conference here today that he did not see the American Negro community as anti-Semitic. He characterized Negroes as less prejudiced against Jews than were white non-Jews.

Urging continuation of programs to implement equal rights for Negroes, he stressed that Negroes had the right to provide their own leadership. He asked, however, that they "at least not shove us away" in striving to combat prejudice and perfect the American society.

Mr. Schary criticized the United States Government for failing to release the Douglas Skyhawk jet bombers purchased by Israel last year and said the United States had "an obligation to support that one island of democracy in the Middle East." He disclosed that the ADL had asked the State Department and the Red Cross to investigate the treatment of Jews in Moslem and Communist countries. He said their plight had worsened since the Arab-Israeli war last June.

Dr. Judah Shapiro Named to Direct YIVO Advanced Studies Program

NEW YORK, Sept. 25, (JTA) — Appointment of Dr. Judah J. Shapiro as secretary of the advanced studies program of the Yivo Institute for Jewish Research was announced today. Dr. Shapiro will organize the center which is sponsored by the Yivo Research and Development Fund. The center, according to Julius Borenstein, chairman of the Yivo executive committee, will have a research academy for mature scholars and a graduate school of Jewish studies for the training of younger scholars.

Dr. Shapiro was first secretary of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture and previously had been national director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations and director of Jewish cultural and educational reconstruction of the Joint Distribution Committee.