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Terrorists from Jordan, El Fatah Gangs Attack Israel, Disrupting Yom Kippur Services

JERUSALEM, Oct. 15. (JTA) — Israeli soldiers, deep in prayer at a defense post in the Beisan Valley, rushed to their guns yesterday when their Yom Kippur services were interrupted by tank and artillery fire from across the Jordan River. One soldier was injured in the heavy exchange of fire that followed. According to an Army spokesman, Israeli tanks scored direct hits on the Jordanian police station at Sheikh Hossein, where the attack originated. A later attack from Sheikh Mouhamed village was also silenced by Israeli tanks.

The spokesman said that the incident was one of several that shattered the High Holy Day calm in the west bank region, and caused damage to buildings and vehicles. Kibbutz Maoz Chaim, in the Beisan Valley, was the target of an El Fatah terrorist attack last night which damaged the dining hall and a transformer building, and set fire to a half-track. On Friday, two Israeli border policemen were injured when their jeep struck a mine on a dirt track leading to the fish ponds south of Kfar Ruppin. Another mine found in the area was dismantled.

The Army spokesman said that the Yom Kippur attack occurred near the Sheikh Hossein bridge, 15 miles south of Lake Tiberias, shortly after 8 a.m. yesterday. While some Israeli soldiers were at their posts, others were conducting services in a makeshift synagogue when the Jordanians opened fire. The worshipers dropped their prayer shawls and prayer books, and immediately joined the other soldiers at the gun positions.

These men were fasting, but they fed ammunition to machineguns and fuel and shells to the tanks, the Army spokesman said. When the action ended, the men returned to their prayers and finished the Yom Kippur service with the traditional shofar blast.

An investigation of the El Fatah attack on Maoz Chaim revealed that four marauders had crossed the Sheikh Hossein bridge into Israel and back. Four explosive charges went off in the kibbutz area near midnight. Two more were found and dismantled. No casualties were reported.

Incidents have been increasing in this area where the Jordan is very shallow. Two weeks ago the village of Hamadiyeh was attacked by terrorists.

General Assembly Recesses Mideast Debate as Attention is Directed to Security Council

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Oct. 15. (JTA) — With the "high priority" debate on the Middle East crisis in the General Assembly postponed for at least a week, strenuous efforts were under way here today to work out some kind of formula, to be laid before the Security Council, to which both Israel and the Arab states could agree so as to get the Israeli-Arab dispute off dead center.

The Assembly, which has been in session since September 19, had been scheduled to open debate tomorrow on the Middle East crisis, as a matter of "urgency." However, on Friday night, Corneliu Manescu, of Rumania, president of the Assembly, announced suspension of all plenary meetings "for a short while."

Secretary-General Thant told correspondents here yesterday that he expected direct talks to open tomorrow between United States and Egyptian diplomats that might lead to definitive U.N. action in the Council, adding there had been "progress" in the talks between the U.S.A. and Egypt. However, a spokesman for the U.S. delegation did not name Egypt as the U.N. member with which the Washington diplomats would discuss the issue, saying only that the U.S.A. is continuing to discuss with various delegations the possibility of finding a basis for Arab-Israeli agreement.

(In Jerusalem, today, Israeli Foreign Ministry sources said they knew of no agreement on the Middle East crisis between the U.S.A. and Egypt, or of "progress" in those consultations.)

The Council is officially still "seized" of the Middle East issue but has held no meetings on the question since July. The effort to shift the issue from the Assembly to the Council is based on the notion that the Council, a smaller body, consisting of only 15 members, might make some progress, since none had been noted in the Assembly thus far. The feeling here today was that, even in the Council, all that might be done would be a decision that Mr. Thant send a special representative to the Middle East as a "channel of communication" between the Arabs and Israel.

Nasser Tells British He Is Ready to Go Back to 1949 Armistice Pact with Israel

LONDON, Oct. 15, (JTA) — A special emissary sent to Cairo by Foreign Secretary George Brown in a move to restore British-Egyptian relations, reported today that President Nasser now attaches "great importance" to a United Nations presence in the Middle East and would be prepared to return to the 1949 Egyptian-Israeli armistice agreement.

Sir Dingle Foot, the former Solicitor-General, said in a television interview that he had discussed a Middle East settlement with Nasser and found him ready to return to the 1949 armistice status. The agreement provided for a mixed Israeli-Egyptian commission under a United Nations chairman. A prior condition, however, would have to be Israeli withdrawal from occupied Egyptian territory.

Israel has stated repeatedly that the 1949 armistice agreements are dead and cannot be revived and that the 1949 armistice lines were irrevocably wiped out by the Arab military action precipitating the June war. It was recalled here in connection with Nasser's desire for a U.N. presence that it was Nasser's eviction of the United Nations Emergency Force that resulted in the Egyptian-Israeli confrontation and the war.

Cairo dispatches received here today indicated that Nasser will repeat what he had told Sir Dingle Foot in conferences he is to hold with Sir Harold Beeley, who is going to Cairo as the official representative of the British Government. Sir Harold, who is due in Cairo tomorrow, was Britain's Ambassador to Cairo when Egypt broke diplomatic relations with Britain in 1965 over London's handling of the Rhodesian crisis.

According to the Sunday Telegraph, Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban and Mr. Brown had engaged in a sharp exchange at United Nations Headquarters in New York recently over Mr. Brown's plan to send Sir Harold to Cairo and over the British Government's insistence on Israel's withdrawal from the banks of the Suez Canal. The Sunday Telegraph said the prime reason for the Eban-Brown exchange was that Israel suspects Sir Harold of being "over-sympathetic" to the Arab cause.

Foreign Office circles resent Israeli press attacks on Britain and British Ministers, it was reported today. They pointed out that it is "simply not true" to say that Britain is trying to appease Egyptian President Nasser at the expense of Israel. Britain was looking after her own interests, but this was "another matter," they said. Britain considered the U.N. Security Council a "better medium" for discussions on the Middle East, especially with a view to exploring the possibilities of reopening the Suez Canal. Israel preferred to use the General Assembly for such talks, they said, but "differences of opinion" need not bring the two sides back to the "bitter conflict" of 1946.

The same circles emphatically denied that Mr. Brown had pressed for unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from the east bank of the Suez Canal. Israel Embassy circles issued a similar denial. To this reaction by British foreign office circles, it was reported there was added the suggestion that "appeasement is by definition at the expense of some interests, and those may include Israeli interests, if Israel is not watchful."

The British press, however, remains consistently pro-Israel, with only very few exceptions, the report continued, and Israeli newspapers might therefore be expected to exercise some voluntary restraint as an act of self-denial for the sake of good taste and in order to respond to the mood of the British press.

Socialist International Supports Israel, Calls for Negotiated Peace with Arabs

ZURICH, Oct. 15, (JTA) — The annual Conference of the Socialist International adopted resolutions here today expressing "full solidarity with the people of Israel who are defending their existence and their liberty against aggression" and demanded an end to all warlike activities in the Middle East so as to lead to "negotiated peace treaties between Israel and the Arab states." The resolutions also sharply castigated the Soviet Union for continuing to foment strife in the Middle East and for its virulent anti-Jewish propaganda campaign which "has revived fears for the well-being and security of the Jewish population of the USSR."

The Conference, which heard impassioned speeches by some of the leading figures of the world Socialist movement, adopted the resolutions unanimously after a long, dramatic debate that spread over the full assembly and the resolutions committee. The resolutions were introduced by Dr. S.S. Levenberg of London, who served as chairman and rapporteur of the resolutions committee. They were strongly supported by, among others, Jules Moch, former French Defense Minister and head of the French delegation; Willy Brandt, Foreign Minister of the German Federal Republic; and Guy Mollet, former French Prime Minister, who presided over the session at which the resolutions were adopted.

The Middle East resolution put the Socialist International squarely behind a six-point program which, it declared, must be part of any permanent solution of the Middle Eastern problem. These are "the absolute right of Israel" and all nations in the area to exist as sovereign states; the guarantee to Israel and all nations of free passage through the Suez Canal and the Strait of Tiran; the establishment of a policy of regional disarmament; international assistance to build a future in the region based on "social justice, democracy and economic development"; a final solution of the refugee problem with international aid and cooperation between the parties concerned; and "guarantees for the maintenance of peace and national security within mutually agreed frontiers."

Nasser's Reported Offers Concerning Settlement Viewed in Israel as 'Smokescreen'

JERUSALEM, Oct. 15, (JTA) -- Israeli officials declared here today that Nasser's offer to negotiate a settlement with Israel, as reported in the British and American press, is a "worthless smokescreen." They described Israel's position as unchanged regarding the need for a solution of the dispute with the Arab states only through direct talks. "If Egypt is willing to talk," one high official said, "our representatives will meet with him without any pre-conditions." Nasser's "smokescreen," another official said, "is an effort to appear reasonable while, in fact, he offers no compromise whatever."

Israeli Cabinet Predicts New Budget Unchanged at \$2 Billion; Economic Pick-Up Forecast

JERUSALEM, Oct. 15, (JTA) -- Israel's Cabinet, at its first post-holiday meeting today, discussed next year's budget, and it was reported that the Government's fiscal situation will still call for a total sum, unchanged from the last budget, of about \$2 billion. It was believed that the plans are to reduce direct taxes somewhat next year, but to impose a special levy on income taxes to provide funds needed for defense. There will also be special incentives to investors and to new immigrants. The new immigrants may have their income taxes reduced by being exempted from any tax payments for the first \$500 earned each month. Financial circles here today forecast pick-up in economic activity, as compared with the last year's economic slowdown.

The Cabinet also discussed the security situation, noting the increasing incursions by saboteurs who cross into Israel from Jordan, using commando tactics then escaping back to Jordan across the Jordan River. Such tactics, it was noted, are employed by the saboteurs especially in the Israeli regions near northern Jordan, where Iraqi military contingents are still stationed.

Shofar Sounded at Western Wall as 10,000 Israelis Participate in Closing Yom Kippur Rites

JERUSALEM, Oct. 15, (JTA) -- Over 10,000 worshipers assembled at the Western Wall last night to hear the sounding of the shofar, which traditionally marks the end of the 25-hour Yom Kippur fast. The crowd then broke into the singing of Hatikvah, Israel's national anthem, and "Ani Maameen" -- I Believe in the Coming of the Messiah. The "Neilah" service, the closing and one of the most significant prayers of the Day of Atonement, had been attended at the Wall by members of the Israeli Cabinet, the Mayor of Jerusalem, members of the Knesset (Parliament), and numerous rabbis.

The blowing of the shofar at the Western Wall was prohibited by the British since 1931, because of Moslem opposition. In spite of this, someone blew the shofar there each year until the end of the British Mandate, and the man doing so was always sentenced to from three to eight months in jail. Yesterday, after a 20-year silence, the sounding of the shofar at the Wall again marked the end of Yom Kippur. Yesterday was also the first time in over 30 years that Jews were able to celebrate this most holy of Jewish holidays at the Western Wall, the holiest site in Judaism.

Special Yom Kippur services were also held yesterday at Rachel's Tomb, outside Jerusalem, and at M'Orat Hamachpeilah, the graves of the forefathers in Hebron, by soldiers in those areas. Mild weather throughout Israel made outdoor services comfortable.

Moscow's Central Synagogue Reported Overcrowded for Yom Kippur Services

NEW YORK, Oct. 15, (JTA) -- Press dispatches received here today from Moscow reported that a large overflow congregation attended Yom Kippur services in the Soviet capital. According to the dispatches, the Central Synagogue, on Arkhipov Street, had drawn a particularly large crowd for the High Holy Day services.

Israel's Chief Sephardic Rabbi Gets Belated New Year Greeting from Moscow's Chief Rabbi

JERUSALEM, Oct. 15, (JTA) -- Chief Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin of Moscow, who usually sends New Year's greetings to the Israeli Chief Rabbinate two weeks before the High Holy Days, sent belated greetings this year, according to Sephardic Chief Rabbi Yizhak Nissim's office. The greetings, it was noted, were sent in reply to a New Year message sent to Moscow by Rabbi Nissim, when the customary message from Rabbi Levin had failed to arrive.

Second Nazi on Trial for Murder of 2,000 Bialystok Jews Commits Suicide

BONN, Oct. 15, (JTA) -- One of 14 ex-Nazi policemen standing trial at Wuppertal for the massacre of 2,000 Jews in the Bialystok ghetto, in 1941, hanged himself in his cell yesterday, after fellow defendants gave incriminating testimony against him. The man, Heinrich Schneider, 53, was the second defendant to take his life of a group that originally numbered 24 members of the notorious police battalion 309. He had been a lieutenant in the battalion at the time of the atrocities and, after the war, served as a police officer in Cologne. Schneider was arrested twice, in 1963 and 1966, but subsequently was released on bail. His re-arrest was ordered following yesterday's testimony.

Members of the battalion are accused of having forced Jews into the Bialystok synagogue on June 27, 1941, drenching the building with gasoline and igniting it with hand grenades. An estimated 2,000 Jews were burned alive. Of the original 24 defendants, one previously committed suicide and nine died of other causes.

Zim's Luxury Liner, Shalom, Sails Without Passengers; Sold to German Company

NEW YORK, Oct. 15, (JTA) -- The 25,300-ton S.S. Shalom, once pride of Israel's merchant marine, bid a sad farewell to the Port of New York when she sailed from here late Friday afternoon, without passengers, on her last voyage under the Israel flag. The \$20 million luxury liner, built for the Zim Lines in 1964, was sold earlier this year to the German Atlantic Line of Hamburg, which reportedly paid \$16 million for her.

600 Leave for Israel Today in Largest UJA Study Mission Ever Dispatched

NEW YORK, Oct. 15. (JTA) — Nearly 600 American Jewish community leaders from 80 cities will leave Kennedy Airport tomorrow on a United Jewish Appeal study mission to Israel to study problems of immigrant absorption and welfare arising from the new burdens placed on Israel as a result of the Six-Day War.

The mission, described as the largest in UJA history, is being led by Max M. Fisher, of Detroit, UJA general chairman; Edward Ginsberg, of Cleveland, associate general chairman; and Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, executive vice-chairman. Participants departing tomorrow will fill three planes. They will join several hundred others who arrived in Israel earlier for the mission, which ends on October 31.

In a pre-departure statement, Mr. Fisher said that the purpose of the mission "is to observe at first hand one of the war's most serious effects — the dislocation and forced curtailment of Israel's broad program of social services for the hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants whom the UJA has helped bring to Israel, and for whose absorption into the social and economic life of that country the UJA shares responsibility."

Rabbi Friedman pointed out that the enormous cost of Israel's recent war effort and its aftermath has severely burdened Israel's taxpayers who will not be able to provide as much of the funds as they previously have done to meet the social costs of absorbing the newcomers. He estimated that there are some 535,000 immigrants in Israel still fully or partially dependent on social aid.

Pennsylvania Groups Fight License Renewal for Radio Station Charged with Extreme Bias

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 15. (JTA) — The Federal Communications Commission is conducting public hearings here on the license renewal application of a suburban radio station that is accused by 19 civic and religious groups of being a forum for anti-Semitic, anti-Negro and anti-Catholic broadcasts.

The station, WUXR, of nearby Media, Pa., is operated by Brandywine Main Line Broadcast, Inc., owned by Faith Theological Seminary of Elkins Park, Pa. The president of the seminary is Rev. Dr. Carl McIntire, a fundamentalist clergyman known for his extreme right-wing broadcasts.

Among the groups that have formally opposed renewal of the station's license are the Greater Philadelphia Council of Churches and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. Jerome Bakst, director of research and evaluation of the ADL, characterized McIntire's 30-minute radio show, called "The 20th Century Reformation Hour," as a religious program with an extremely right-wing viewpoint.

NCRAC Calls for Jewish Support of Full Equality for Negroes Despite 'Black Demagoguery'

NEW YORK, Oct. 15. (JTA) — Jewish support for "full equality" for Negroes, despite anti-Semitism voiced recently by "Black demagogues," was urged this weekend by the National Community Relations Advisory Council. The Council is the coordinating body of nine national Jewish agencies and 80 local Jewish community councils concerned with interracial and interreligious problems.

The directive, which was released in the Council's "Guide to Program Planning for Jewish Community Relations in 1967-1968," declared that its member agencies have a "continuing obligation" to interpret and to combat anti-Semitism among Negroes. It also warned against mistaking "legitimate protest" by Negroes for anti-Semitism, and against "exaggerating the true dimensions" of anti-Jewish expressions that may arise.

The guide added that the Jewish community should not be "deflected from its support of equality for Negroes on the ground that they are anti-Semitic. Such a 'deflection' would be both 'self-defeating' and a repudiation of 'a fundamental tenet of Jewish tradition — equal justice for all,'" the report said.

Israel Industrial Services, Inc., Elects Shlomo Lahat as President

NEW YORK, Oct. 15. (JTA) — Shlomo Lahat, until recently the president of El-Al Airlines and formerly Deputy Commander of the Israel Air Force, has been elected as president of Israel Industrial Services, Inc., the organization announced today.

Israel Industrial Services, Inc. was recently formed to encourage the growth of the Israel economy through the initiation and guidance of economically feasible and profit oriented industrial and research projects. The organization was founded jointly by the Israel Discount Bank Ltd., the second largest bank in Israel; Discount Bank Investment Corporation Ltd., a major Israel investment company; and PEC Israel Economic Corporation, one of the largest American corporate investors in Israel.

Max Buckman, Canadian-Jewish Journalist, Dies After Collapse in Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV, Oct. 15. (JTA) — Max Buckman, Canadian Jewish journalist who was touring Israel with his wife, collapsed and died here on the eve of Yom Kippur, while attending a briefing for tourists at the Hilton Hotel. Mr. Buckman was a contributor to the Canadian Jewish Chronicle, of Montreal, and the Western Jewish News of Winnipeg. His remains will be flown to Montreal Tuesday.

David Kopenhagen, Leader in Jewish Affairs in Brazil, Dead at Age 71

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Oct. 15. (JTA) — David Kopenhagen, a Jewish community leader, died here Thursday at the age of 71. He was honorary president of the Brazil Macabi, a board member of the Macabi World Federation, and a leader of the General Zionist movement.