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Security Council to Take Up Middle East Question Next Week

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Oct. 19. (JTA) — The United Nations Security Council will be called into formal session either next Monday or Tuesday to resume consideration of the Middle East situation. Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg indicated today that there was a distinct possibility that a draft resolution will be submitted to the Council which could be a first step in easing the deadlock that has prevented any change since the Arab-Israeli cease-fire agreements were negotiated last June.

Since the end of the general debate in the General Assembly on Oct. 13, there has been a feverish behind-the-scenes activity here and in many world capitals seeking a formula to end the stalemate in the Middle East and get some action leading to a resolution of the Arab-Israeli dispute. The major talks have proceeded here and in Washington but attention has also been focussed on Cairo where Sir Harold Beeley, former British ambassador there, is on a special mission from British Foreign Secretary George Brown, seeking to reestablish close Anglo-Egyptian ties and to get the Suez Canal reopened speedily.

(In London, a prominent Labor Party backbencher, Leo Abse, who represents a Welsh constituency, warned the party leadership today that the Beeley mission was causing "profound misgivings" among British Jewry who recalled the "disastrous role" Sir Harold had played in advising the British Government to oppose Jewish aspirations in Palestine in 1945.)

Mr. Goldberg had separate meetings in Washington yesterday with Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin of the Soviet Union — their second meeting within a week — and with Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad of Egypt. Ambassador Gideon Rafael met last night with Senjin Tsuruoka of Japan, chairman of the Security Council, and Mr. Tsuruoka presided today at a meeting of the ten non-permanent members of the Council. After the meeting, Mr. Tsuruoka said "no obvious common ground" had been found for Council action. Efforts would continue, he said, and the 10-nation group would meet again on Monday.

Foreign Minister Abba S. Eban was to return from Jerusalem this weekend to meet Secretary of State Dean Rusk in Washington on Monday. The Arab delegations were to meet tonight with the Egyptian Foreign Minister.

See Draft Resolution Authorizing Dispatch of U.N. Representative

Largely on the basis of comments by Mr. Goldberg, it was predicted here today that the planned draft resolution for submission to the Security Council would express general principles upon which a Middle East settlement should be based. It would have only a single operative paragraph, authorizing Secretary-General Thant to appoint a special representative in the Middle East to act as a channel of communication between the Arabs and the Israelis. The Israelis made it clear earlier this week that they would not object to the appointment of a U.N. representative who would be charged with facilitating negotiations between the Arab states and Israel. The Israelis made it clear, however, that they would not accept a mediator.

The United States, it appeared, would be the primary sponsor of the draft resolution envisaged today but it was assumed that other powers would join in its submission. In Canada, a leading newspaper, the Toronto Telegram, editorially taxed the Canadian Government for failure to take a sufficiently active role in the U.N. talks. The paper warned editorially that "rising pressure on Israel to agree to Arab offers through third-party offices simply means advocating a return to pre-war conditions that have kept the Middle East in turmoil for two decades."

British Foreign Office Denies Existence of 'Brown Plan' to Reopen Canal

LONDON, Oct. 19. (JTA) — Foreign Office circles categorically denied today that there was a so-called "Brown plan" for reopening the Suez Canal and said that, in fact, they did not think it was possible to reopen the canal before an overall Middle East settlement is achieved. Reports that there was such a plan worked out by Foreign Secretary George Brown were termed the "pure invention of some newspapers." The Israelis "seem firmly entrenched and Nasser has repeated several times — twice this week — that he would not agree to reopen the canal while Israel troops controlled its east bank and Sinai," according to the Foreign Office spokesmen.

While these views, expressed by the Foreign Office, appeared to counter the policies pursued by Foreign Secretary Brown up to now, which were directed toward an unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from occupied territories so as to effect a speedy reopening of the canal, informed observers here doubt that Mr. Brown has changed his strategy. They believe that he is merely anxious to keep the dialogue with Israel open and not lose Israel while chasing Nasser.

Yiddish Communist Daily Publishes Interview with Premier Eshkol

NEW YORK, Oct. 19. (JTA) — The Yiddish-language, pro-Communist daily, Morning Freiheit, published today an interview given its editor, Paul Novick, by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol in Jerusalem. It quoted Mr. Eshkol as saying that Israel's sole objective with the Arabs was peace and that Israel sought no territorial aggrandizement. The editor said that Mr. Eshkol had categorically rejected mediation between Israel and the Arab states but had indicated a third party could help arrange for direct talks.

There was no reference in the published interview to the question of Israeli-Soviet relations or the role of the Communist powers in the Middle East.

Special Israeli Envoy Received by Presidents of Chile, Peru

SANTIAGO de Chile, Oct. 19. (JTA) — President Eduardo Frei received Itzhak Harkabi, special envoy of President Zalman Shazar of Israel, today and discussed with him Israel's desire for a permanent peace settlement in the Middle East. Ambassador Harkabi visited Santiago on a lightning tour of Latin American capitals and was to proceed from here to Uruguay, Paraguay and Mexico. He was also received here by Foreign Secretary Gabriel Valdes.

Mr. Harkabi arrived here from Lima where he had been received by President Belaunde Terry.

Udall Backs Nuclear Desalination Project to Promote Arab-Israel Peace

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19. (JTA) — Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall urged today in testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the Senate approve a resolution envisaging an international nuclear desalination undertaking to promote Arab-Israel peace. Mr. Udall suggested to the Committee that investment in the proposed plan for regional development cooperation would save military expenditures. He welcomed "Republican initiatives" and endorsed project "MEND," advocated in the resolution offered by Sen. Howard H. Baker, Jr., Tennessee Republican.

The resolution would express the sense of Congress in support of the general idea and leave implementation to the Executive Department of the Government. The tentative plan calls for two nuclear desalination plants in Israel and one in Jordan, which would generate electricity in addition to providing desalted water for agriculture and industry.

Mr. Udall stressed that the proposal would contribute toward Arab-Israel peace by "creating jobs for refugees, increasing agricultural productivity, improving Arab-Israel relations, and advancing the role of the United States as a peacemaker in the Middle East."

Mr. Udall added that "cost of water from large units is estimated to be from 22 to 35 cents per 1,000 gallons, which can be afforded in the Middle East, considering the intensive agriculture there and the purity of desalted water."

Sen. Baker testified that "MEND" (Middle East Nuclear Desalination) would promote Arab-Israel peace by offering benefits to both sides through mutual cooperation. The international corporation visualized "would provide a non-national third party with which both the Arabs and Israelis could talk." He reported that 52 other Senators have registered support for the resolution.

The Senator said steps could be taken for preventing nuclear materials from being used for military purposes.

He outlined financing plans involving the international financial community through a "Comsat-type approach." He said governments and individuals would be attracted to a financially sound undertaking. Sen. Albert Gore, Tennessee Democrat, a member of the Committee, said he approved of "MEND" but had reservations about "Comsat" financing because private organizations gained financing in this way at the expense of the taxpayers.

A statement submitted by former President Eisenhower supported the resolution. Mr. Eisenhower said "MEND" would bring "a more abundant life to some millions of people and reduce the tensions from which they are generated."

Ullmann Art Gallery is Opened at Weizmann Institute in Rehovoth

NEW YORK, Oct. 19. (JTA) — Opening of the Siegfried and Irma Ullmann Gallery of Art at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovoth, Israel, was announced here by Dewey D. Stone, Chairman of the Board of the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science. A \$250,000 fund to build the gallery and 96 pictures by distinguished French, Italian, American and other artists, to constitute a permanent initiating collection, were given to the Committee by the Siegfried and Irma Ullmann Foundation of New York. The gallery will occupy the entire top floor of the Anne and Dewey D. Stone Administration Building, opened a year ago on the Rehovoth campus.

The Ullmann Art Collection, which has been shipped to Rehovoth, includes 96 oils, pen and water colors and gouaches. Among the artists represented in the collection are: Giorgio de Chirico, Marcel Gromaire, Paul Klee, Fernand Leger, Ben Nicholson, Charles Camoin, Willi Baumeister, Antoni Clave, Gino Severini, Leopold Survage, Auguste Herbin, Morris Davidson, Andre Masson, Andre Lansky, Jean Lurcat, Odilon Redon, and Mario Sironi.

Mr. Siegfried Ullmann, who died in 1965, was a distinguished business leader and philanthropist. During his lifetime he made multimillion dollar gifts to the Weizmann Institute and contributed the funds for building the Institute of Life Sciences, which bears his name.

Arab Refugee Relief Agency Asks Record Budget of \$45.8 Million

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Oct. 19. (JTA) — The Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Administration for Palestine Arab refugees asked the General Assembly today for a record budget of \$45,850,300 for 1968 to meet "the ever widening gap between resources and needs" and the dislocations caused by last June's Arab-Israel war.

Laurence Michelmores, head of the U.N. agency, noted in his 100-page annual report submitted to the General Assembly today, that, as of May 31, 1967, a total of 1,344,576 refugees were registered with UNRWA and that their number had increased since the June hostilities. He said that \$5,700,000 out of the agency's proposed 1968 budget would be needed to meet the costs of programs arising from the Six-Day War.

"After the fighting UNRWA had to overcome formidable obstacles including the limitation of movement by its staff, losses of property and equipment and damage to the agency's premises and other installations," Mr. Michelmores's report stated. Despite this, as soon as the fighting ended, he said, "steps were taken in cooperation with Israeli authorities to restore the distribution of food and other relief services."

The report noted that while Israel facilitates the work of UNRWA by exempting it from customs duties, taxes and other changes against the import of supplies, food and equipment, the Arab countries do not do likewise. The report made extensive claims against Jordan, Egypt and Syria which so far have levied taxes and customs duties on UNRWA in the amount of \$1.5 million. UNRWA has also filed a claim against Israel for \$687,713 for damages incurred during the war. Israel has filed a counterclaim of \$55,000 for use of telephone and railroad facilities.

Report Complains Only Small Part of West Bank Refugees Allowed to Return

Mr. Michelmores summarized the operations of UNRWA on an emergency basis after last June's fighting. The agency, his report said, undertook the operation of six out of nine new tent camps on the east bank of the Jordan which, by mid-August, housed 73,200 persons displaced from the west bank. "It was hoped that this would be a temporary arrangement and that the bulk of the displaced persons would return to the west bank in accordance with the Security Council recommendation of June 14, 1967," the report noted, but the hope was not realized "and only a small fraction of the total number of persons who applied for return under the rules established by the Israel Government have so far been permitted to do so."

The UNRWA report noted that in Syria more than 115,000 people left the area occupied by Israel, including some 16,000 Palestinian refugees. UNRWA also extended aid to between 3,000 and 4,000 young male Palestinian refugees from the Gaza Strip who are now in occupied Egyptian territory.

The report observed that despite the General Assembly resolutions adopted in 1948 and re-affirmed year after year, the refugees still had neither an opportunity to return to their homes nor compensation for the property they left behind. This was attributed to the linking of the two issues of compensation with repatriation in the resolutions with the result that nothing was done owing to the continued deadlock over repatriation.

The UNRWA report stated that relations between the agency and Israel have been satisfactory. It noted that for the first time, Israel was a host country for refugees.

Israeli Spokesman Criticizes Report; Blasts Aid to PLA Soldiers

An Israeli spokesman charged tonight that the UNRWA report "practically ignored the element of resettlement which forms the central part of United Nations policy as one of the means for a solution of the refugee problem." He declared that comments in the report that only a small fraction of the number of refugees had been allowed to return to the West Bank "does not conform with the facts of the situation."

The spokesman drew attention to the fact that 3,000-4,000 young men who had been members of the Palestine Liberation Army of Ahmed Shukairy and who had been permitted to return with other prisoners of war to Egypt, were now receiving UNRWA aid. He said that "the fact that UNRWA has cared for these soldiers and has extended them relief has aroused strong criticism and protest in the United Nations in recent weeks and dissatisfaction in world opinion."

U.S. Says Soviet Union Blocks Convention Against Religious Intolerance

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Oct. 19. (JTA) — The United States accused the Soviet Union today of attempting to prevent conclusion of a convention on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance and charged that the Soviet representative was seeking to turn the United Nations Third Committee "into a forum for political vituperation."

Mrs. Patricia R. Harris, the American representative in the Committee, took the floor today to answer allegations made by the Soviet delegate yesterday comparing the position of the Jews in the United States unfavorably with that of Jews in the Soviet Union. Mrs. Harris said the United States had no desire to "engage in a useless debate with the Soviet Union about the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union" and dismissed as a "ridiculous contention" the Soviet assertion that Soviet Jews had a greater measure of freedom than Jews in the United States.

Mrs. Harris said that "anti-Semitism is without doubt the classic example of religious intolerance and discrimination in its most persistent and pervasive form. If the term 'anti-Semitism' causes difficulties for some delegations, the United States would be prepared to seek a more acceptable formulation."

Jewish Leadership, World Press to Mark JTA 50th Anniversary

NEW YORK, Oct. 19, (JTA) — Leaders of the American Jewish community and representatives of the American and foreign press will join in a quiet observance here of the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the only world-wide news service devoted exclusively to coverage of developments affecting the Jewish people around the world. The occasion will be a luncheon at the Americana Hotel, New York, on November 2.

Spokesmen for the community will assess the role of JTA over the past half-century as the prime reporter of news concerning the Jewish people and will appraise its role today as an interpreter of Jewish life, reporter of events affecting the Jewish community and as a bond linking the American, Israeli and other Jewish communities in all parts of the world.

Robert H. Arnow, President of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, will preside and will describe plans for development of the service as it enters its second half-century. There will be no fund-raising. Reservations for the luncheon can be made at the JTA office in New York.

To Hold Torah Convocations at Air Force Bases Overseas

NEW YORK, Oct. 19, (JTA) — A series of Torah convocations (preaching missions) for Jewish personnel at U.S. Air Force installations in England, Germany, Spain and Turkey will be conducted next month by Rabbi Aryeh Lev, director of the Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy of the National Jewish Welfare Board. The convocations are part of the Air Force program for providing religious instruction and services for personnel of all faiths. Participants are excused from military duty for two-day periods.

During his five-week tour abroad, Rabbi Lev will meet with Jewish Air Force men and their families for informal discussions of religious subjects and their application to military life. He will also conduct religious services.

Israeli's Plan to Aid Rural Youngsters Submitted to President Johnson

NEW YORK, Oct. 19, (JTA) — A plan devised by an Israeli educator to provide a "second chance" at schooling for rural youngsters in underdeveloped countries was included in a report presented to President Johnson by the International Conference on the World Crisis in Education which just concluded its sessions at Williamsburg, Virginia.

Author of the plan is Dr. Chanoch Rinott, former director general of the Israel Ministry of Education and Culture and now advisor to the chairman of the Jewish Agency. It is based on the educational experiences of Israel in pre-vocational training among children from backward countries and is primarily for children who never went to school or who dropped out. The curriculum, up to two year's duration with additional periods of further study, is geared to the needs of rural agricultural communities where children and teachers are required for several months of the year to help sow and harvest crops.

Dr. Rinott was one of two Israeli delegates attending the 52-nation parley at Williamsburg. The other was Dr. Yosef Ben David, professor of sociology at the Hebrew University.

Moscow Chief Rabbi Thanks Canadian Jews for Succoth Festival Needs

MONTREAL, Oct. 19, (JTA) — The Chief Rabbi of Moscow, J.L. Levin, has acknowledged by letter the receipt of a gift of etrogim and lulavim (citrons and palm branches) sent to Russian Jewry by the Canadian Jewish Congress for the celebration of the Succoth festival.

In the letter addressed to Michael Garber, president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, and written in Hebrew, Rabbi Levin said: "I am now in a position to advise you that with the help of God I have received the etrogim in good order and now we hope to observe the festival of joy in its entirety with the blessing over the lulav. With greetings and thanks."

The Canadian Jewish Congress announced last week that it had received word from Canadian authorities that the gift was delivered in Moscow.

Torchlight Parade Here After Holiday to Show Solidarity with Soviet Jews

NEW YORK, Oct. 19, (JTA) — New York Jews will hold a torchlight parade and Simchas Torah celebration outside of the Soviet U.N. delegation headquarters on Saturday night, October 28. The demonstration, sponsored by the New York Co-ordinating Committee for Soviet Jewry of the Jewish Community Relations Council and the New York Board of Rabbis, has been billed as an expression of solidarity with Soviet Jews. The event, in which 35 organizations will participate, will take place in front of the Park East Synagogue which is opposite the Soviet mission headquarters.

Dutch Jews to Contribute \$5 Million to Israel Emergency Fund

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 19, (JTA) — The tiny Dutch Jewish community is expected to raise more than \$5 million for the Israel Emergency Fund by the time the campaign ends Nov. 5 when American comedian Danny Kaye will lead the Gadna, a 100-member Israeli military youth band, in a concert here. Kaye is contributing his services.

The Dutch campaign has already raised \$4.48 million for the emergency fund, it was disclosed today.