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President Tells Israel, Arabs, They Have Responsibility For Making Stable Peace

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (JTA)--President Johnson told Israel and the Arab states last night that they themselves had the responsibility for finding the basis for a stable peace in the Middle East. He admonished them to cooperate with Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, the United Nations special representative in the Middle East. The President, in his State of the Union message, promised that the United States would do all in its power to help achieve a stable peace in the area.

"During the Arab-Israeli war last June," Mr. Johnson said, "the hot line between Washington and Moscow was used for the first time in our history. A cease-fire was achieved without a major power confrontation.

"Now the nations of the Middle East have the opportunity to cooperate with Ambassador Jarring's U.N. mission -- and they have the responsibility to find the terms of living together in stable peace and dignity, and we shall do all in our power to help them achieve that result."

Eshkol Advises Greeters to 'Read Between Lines' of Communiques on His Talks

TEL AVIV, Jan. 18 (JTA)--Prime Minister Levi Eshkol told a throng who greeted him at Lydda Airport on his return to Israel this afternoon that they should "read between the lines" of the official communiques if they want to understand the results of his visits to the United States, Canada and England.

The Israeli leader was surrounded by diplomats, cabinet members, party leaders, military and police chiefs and the press as he stepped from the plane which carried him and his entourage from London this morning. But although his last two weeks included talks with President Johnson, Prime Minister Lester Pearson of Canada in Ottawa and Prime Minister Harold Wilson in London, Mr. Eshkol would say very little publicly about his trip. He is scheduled to give a detailed report to the Cabinet in Jerusalem on Sunday.

He described his visits to North America and England as "very worthwhile, important and helpful." Concerning his meeting with President Johnson, Secretary of State Dean Rusk and other American leaders, Mr. Eshkol said that while "we did not always receive a positive reply to what we said or what we wanted, we cannot complain and the future will prove it." He said he was especially impressed by the "warm attitude toward Israel" in the Jewish communities of the countries he visited.

The plane carrying the Prime Minister was escorted to the airport by four Mirage jets. Other units of the Israel Airforce flew in salute over head.

Eshkol Says Talks in Britain Were 'Fruitful and Interesting'

LONDON, Jan. 18 (JTA)--Prime Minister Levi Eshkol of Israel left London airport for home this morning. He described his talks here with British Prime Minister Harold Wilson and Foreign Secretary George Brown as "fruitful and interesting" and said that Anglo-Israel relations remained friendly despite Britain's renewal of its diplomatic ties with Egypt.

Mr. Eshkol and his party were seen off at the airport by A. R. Moore, head of the Foreign Office's Eastern section, who represented the Government. Also on hand to bid the Israeli leader farewell were Ambassador Aharon Remez and senior members of the Israel Embassy staff, and leaders of Britain's Jewish community.

Political circles here said today that Mr. Eshkol's talks with Mr. Wilson and Mr. Brown were conducted "in a most cordial atmosphere." Central to the whole discussion was the mission of the United Nations' special representative to the Middle East, Ambassador Gunnar Jarring, in which the British place high hopes. Diplomatic observers here said that the Security Council's adoption of the British sponsored Nov. 22, 1967 resolution establishing Mr. Jarring's mission, was "undoubtedly the turning point in Anglo-Israel relations."

Says Israel Will Not Tolerate Continued Suez Canal Ban on Israeli Shipping

Mr. Eshkol held a brief press conference at the airport prior to his departure. Asked if he was optimistic about the re-opening of the Suez Canal, he replied that "for my part it could be re-opened now and remain open." But he added, "a 20-year ban on Israeli shipping is long enough and we are not prepared to tolerate such a ban any longer."

He said, in reply to questions, that the matter of British military supplies to Israel was not raised at his talks with Prime Minister Wilson. He refused to go into details of Israeli arms purchases in the United States, saying only that he had discussed the question with President Johnson who expressed the general principle that a limitation of arms supplies to all countries in the Middle East would contribute to peace in that area. Mr. Eshkol reiterated that Israel was not prepared to accept supervision of the holy places in return for guarantees of her frontiers. Concerning relations with the Soviet Union, he said he hoped they could be friendly, even though diplomatic relations between Israel and the USSR remain

severed. Asked if he thought Britain would still exert influence in the Middle East now that she was about to withdraw her military presence from the area, Mr. Eshkol said that Foreign Secretary Brown was "optimistic about it."

Some 1,500 leaders of British Jewry, assembled in the grand ballroom of Grosvenor House last night, gave Prime Minister Eshkol a standing ovation at a dinner held in his honor by the Joint Palestine Appeal.

The Israeli leader said, in the course of an address, that "we have not despaired of peace but we will not be satisfied with pious and obscure promises. Until we have peace we shall be alert." He warned that continued acts of terrorism and sabotage against Israel "will not be tolerated indefinitely." He also reiterated his call for large aliyah (immigration) from the Western nations to Israel and hailed "the partnership between Israel and the Diaspora."

Thant Rejects Any Link Between Mideast Settlement and End of Viet Nam War

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 18 (JTA)--Secretary General U Thant told a press conference here today that while "the Viet Nam war has a definite and direct impact on any crisis anywhere," he would "not go as far as to say that the solution of the Middle Eastern problem rests, or is predicated upon a settlement of the Viet Nam war."

The Secretary General spoke in reply to a question which cited the Canadian Government's view, stated during Prime Minister Eshkol's visit to Ottawa earlier this week, that the Middle Eastern problem could not be solved until the problem of Viet Nam is solved. Mr. Thant said he agreed with "the assessment that the Viet Nam war poisoned the atmosphere and caused a very serious set-back in the East-West detente."

The Middle Eastern crisis was raised only occasionally during Mr. Thant's press conference, his first in four months, which was dominated by the war in Viet Nam and related problems. One questioner, however, asked if the Secretary General had "any enlightening pronouncements" to make on Ambassador Gunnar Jarring's progress "involving the principles listed in the Security Council resolution and including the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied territories." Mr. Thant noted, in reply that Ambassador Jarring was actively involved in discussions and consultations with the parties concerned and that it would be "harmful" if he injected himself into the picture with "substantive announcements." Similarly, the Secretary General declined to comment on which side the burden of responsibility for last June's Arab-Israel war rested.

Asked how he would interpret President Johnson's alleged failure to mention the United Nations during his State of the Union address last night, Mr. Thant said: "If I remember correctly, President Johnson did mention Ambassador Jarring's activities in the Middle East...He even endorsed Ambassador Jarring's mission for peace and for this I am grateful."

New Israel Envoy to U.N. Says Jarring Mission Success Up to Arabs

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Jan. 18 (JTA)--The success of the peace mission underway in the Middle East on behalf of the United Nations by its special emissary, Gunnar Jarring, depends entirely on a "political detente and military tranquility," Ambassador Joseph Tekoah, Israel's new permanent representative to the UN, declared here today.

Mr. Tekoah made the statement at a reception given him by UN correspondents after he formally presented his letters of credence to Secretary General U Thant. He said the primary problem confronting Mr. Jarring's mission involves the question whether the Arab states "abandon their policy of warfare against Israel and decide for peace -- or persist in their present attitude."

"As long as they (the Arab states) turn their backs on peace, they refuse to negotiate, their refusal to talk to Israel is not obviously an objection to a particular method, but to the goal to which it should lead -- peace. When they accept the goal, the question of method will resolve itself," he said.

Ben-Gurion Blasts Critics of de Gaulle Letter, Asserts Right to Write

TEL AVIV, Jan. 18 (JTA)--Former Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion reacted angrily today to criticism in Government circles and in the press of the private correspondence he conducted in December with President de Gaulle of France. In a letter published in the daily Haaretz, Mr. Ben-Gurion declared "this is a free country and I can write to whomever I want and whatever I think is right."

Mr. Ben-Gurion, who had long maintained friendly contacts with de Gaulle, wrote to him on Dec. 6 to express his dismay over de Gaulle's Nov. 27 press conference statements castigating the Jewish people and the state of Israel. De Gaulle replied on Dec. 31 that he had not intended to disparage the Jews when he characterized them as "an elite people, self assured and domineering." But he still maintained that Israel had started last June's war against the advice of France. The exchange of letters was made public by Mr. Ben-Gurion here last week and, simultaneously, by the French Government in Paris. The former Israel Prime Minister was criticized by Foreign Minister Eban and by various newspapers for conducting private correspondence with a foreign chief of state on a matter as grave as de Gaulle's denunciation of Israel.

Mr. Ben-Gurion replied, in his letter in Haaretz that he did not need the Foreign Office's advice on whom to write to and what to write. "We do not live -- in any case up to now and I hope in the future as well -- under a dictatorial Communist or Fascist regime and any citizen can write and talk as he pleases without censorship," Ben-Gurion wrote.

Israel Puts Gaza Under Strict Curfew for Search for Terrorists

TEL AVIV, Jan. 18 (JTA)--The streets of Gaza were deserted this morning and shops and cafes remained closed under a strict curfew as Israeli security units began a house-to-house search to flush out terrorists responsible for recent grenade throwing and mining incidents in the town and its environs.

Israeli authorities appeared determined to maintain the curfew until the terrorists were found. The Military Governor's office made arrangements to keep the residents supplied with adequate food and services should the curfew last for more than a day or two. The search began in the western suburbs of Gaza.

Israeli-Egyptian Prisoner of War Exchange Resumed After Storm Delay

TEL AVIV, Jan. 18 (JTA)--The Egyptian-Israeli prisoner of war exchange, interrupted for three days by a severe snow storm, resumed this morning when another convoy of POWs was turned over to Egyptian authorities at Kantara, under the supervision of the International Red Cross. The Egyptians left Athlit camp in busses at midnight on the seven hour journey to the Suez Canal.

No announcement was made of the number of prisoners involved. As of yesterday, Israel still held 4,500 Egyptian officers and soldiers captured during the June war. Egypt holds 15 Israeli prisoners.

JDC Contributes One Million Lira For Relief of Sicilian Earthquake Victims

GENEVA, Jan. 18 (JTA)--The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee has allocated one million lira (\$62,500) for relief of the earthquake victims in Sicily, it was announced here today by Louis D. Horowitz, director general of the JDC. Mr. Horowitz said "we have had the good fortune to work with Italian relief organizations on many projects and have great respect for them."

ROME, Jan. 18 (JTA)--The committee for Aid to Israel which was set up in Milan last May by Jews and non-Jews, appealed today to its membership and to the general public to contribute to a fund for aid to the Sicilian earthquake victims.

Soviet Press Agency Says Matzoth Baking Has Already Begun in Moscow

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (JTA)--The Soviet authorities moved early this year to head off the annual demands that Russian Jews be given adequate facilities for obtaining matzoth for Passover. The Soviet Embassy here distributed today copies of a Novosti News Agency press release announcing that the baking of matzoth had begun in Moscow on Jan. 7 -- three and a half months before Passover.

According to the Novosti report, up to three tons of matzoth is rolling off the conveyors every day under supervision of a mashgiach (rabbinical supervisor). The agency asserted that "on the first day (Jan. 7) matzoth were bought by hundreds of persons, both believers and non-believers." The agency said that other Soviet Jewish communities had begun preparing for matzoth baking.

The Soviet agency quoted Mikhail Mikhailovitch, whom it described as "head of the Jewish community," as stating that "unlike past years, this time we began baking matzoth fairly early -- three and a half months before the Passover. This will allow us to supply matzoth not only to community members but to all those wishing to receive it."

Kiesinger Promises B'nai B'rith Head Maximum Efforts to Punish Nazi War Criminals

BONN, Jan. 18 (JTA)--Chancellor Kurt Kiesinger of West Germany assured the international president of B'nai B'rith, Dr. William Wexler today that he will do everything in his power not to permit Nazi war criminals to go unpunished, even though the statute of limitations on their prosecution is scheduled to go into effect at the end of 1969. Chancellor Kiesinger received Dr. Wexler here today.

Dr. Wexler told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency later that the German leader had cited a recent poll which indicated that the continued prosecution of Nazi war criminals was favored by 58 percent of the German people and 38 percent of the supporters of the right-wing National Democratic Party. Postponement of the statute of limitations on war crimes would require legislation by the Bundestag, the West German lower house.

Anglo-Jewish Delegation Bids Germans Defer War Crimes Statute of Limitations

LONDON, Jan. 18 (JTA)--The possibility of setting back the date when the statute of limitations on the prosecution of Nazi war criminals goes into effect and the rising political power of extreme right wing parties in the West German Federal Republic were topics discussed by a delegation representing the Anglo-Jewish Association which visited the German Embassy here today. The delegation was received by the charge d'affaires in the absence of the Ambassador, who is in Bonn.

The delegation was headed by Seymour Harrison, chairman of the AJA's external affairs committee. It included Robert Carvalho, Mrs. Frances Reubens and A. I. Polack, education officer of the Council of Christians and Jews.

The statute of limitations on war crimes is scheduled to go into effect on December 31, 1969. Its postponement would require legislation by the Bundestag, the lower house of the West German parliament.

Christian Science Monitor Describes Origins of 'Protocols of Zion' Forgery

BOSTON, Jan. 18 (JTA)--The obscure origins of the notorious Protocols of the Elders of Zion, a forgery that has been a basis for anti-Semitic incitement since the early days of the century, was described by Joseph C. Harsch in the Christian Science Monitor today. Delving into the "conspiracy theory of history," Mr. Harsch noted:

"In 1864, a French lawyer named Maurice Joly wrote a fictional book titled 'A Dialogue in Hell Between Machiavelli and Montesquieu or The Politics of Machiavelli in the 19th Century by a Contemporary.' The purpose of the book was to discredit the regime of Napoleon III...In 1903, there was continuing political unrest inside Imperial Russia. A scapegoat was wanted. The Chief of the Russian Secret Police office in Paris, General Ratchovsky, provided one. A professional forger named Golovinsky, who did work for the Ratchovsky office, produced a book labeled 'The Protocols of the Elders of Zion.' It was duly forwarded to St. Petersburg and was used as the excuse for pogroms. The book was both forgery and plagiarism. Golovinsky had taken the Maurice Joly book and reworked it by attributing to 'the Elders of Zion' the sentiments which in Joly's book were put in the mouth of Machiavelli. And he took the words Joly had written for the devil himself and attributed them to 'the chief elder.' This book became the bible of anti-Semitism. It was massively exploited by Hitler. It is widely circulated today in Arab countries and has recently been republished in Spain and Portugal," Mr. Harsch wrote.

Teen-Agers Believe There Is 'Significant' Degree of Negro Anti-Semitism

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (JTA)--One-third of the professional workers of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization polled here reported that their daily contact with Jewish teen-agers indicated a belief that there was a "significant" amount of anti-Semitism, according to a survey made public here today.

The workers have assembled here in a four-day conference to plan the BBYO program for 1968. Most of the men polled said that while teen-agers had indicated concern with Negro anti-Semitism, this had not halted their commitment to Negro rights. An apparent "waning of enthusiasm" for the cause, however, was reported to be evident in some parts of the country, with most of this reaction being attributed to rising black militancy.

Other factors given for a lessening of interest in the civil rights cause were the Jewish youth involvement in the Arab-Israel conflict and concern over Viet Nam. A few replies cited "apathy" of the public at large, including teen-agers.

Chicago Federation Agencies Have Record \$49 Million Budget for 1968

CHICAGO, Jan. 18 (JTA)--Agencies affiliated with the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago have a record 1968 budget of \$49,180,524 to provide health and welfare services in Chicago and its suburbs, Abram D. Davis, president of the Federation, reported to its 68th anniversary dinner. He announced that Federation had allocated \$7 million, an all time high, to meet the operating deficits of its affiliated agencies.

More than 800 men and women heard reports by Mr. Davis and by James P. Rice, Federation executive director, and a speech by Ambassador Sol Linowitz. The Federation's annual Julius Rosenwald Award was presented to Mortimer B. Harris, president of the Welfare Council of Chicago and former Federation president. A special presentation was made to Harold L. Rosenberg, general chairman of the 1967 campaign.

Mizrachi Women To Aid East Jerusalem Arab Schoolchildren

NEW YORK, Jan. 18 (JTA)--The Mizrachi Women's Organization of America announced today that it will aid in the education of Arab girls in two vocational high schools in East Jerusalem. A program of curriculum development, continuing advisory service and pilot equipment will be provided to the Arab schools beginning this month, according to Mrs. Aaron I. Leifer, president of the Mizrachi Women.

President's Conference To Give Farewell Dinner for Ambassador Harman

NEW YORK, Jan. 18 (JTA)--The Conference of Major American Organizations announced today that it will give a farewell dinner to Ambassador Avraham Harman and Mrs. Harman at the Biltmore Hotel on Jan. 23. Ambassador Harman, who has served as Israel's Ambassador to Washington since 1959, is returning to Israel and will be succeeded by former Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Itzhak Rabin.

The Conference of Major American Jewish Organizations is composed of 21 national Jewish organizations with a collective membership of 4.5 million American Jews.

Paul Himmelfarb, Washington Communal Leader, Dead at Age of 90

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (JTA)--Paul Himmelfarb, 90, a Jewish communal leader and philanthropist, died today. For his services as chairman of the advisory council of the Israel Bond Organization, Mr. Himmelfarb was, in 1963, made Washington's Jewish "Man of the Year." A former president of the Jewish Social Service Agency, he headed the Hebrew Free Loan Association for 35 years and was treasurer of the Washington United Jewish Appeal for 30 years. An 18,000-tree forest that he started in Israel bears his name.

Prof. Jacques Bloch, Director of Swiss OSE, Dies At 76

GENEVA, Jan. 18 (JTA)--Prof. Jacques Bloch, director of the Swiss OSE organization since 1946, has died at the age of 76. A native of Russia, he was a professor of English literature at the St. Petersburg Pedagogical Institute in 1917 and a founder-member of the Petropole publishing house.

He settled in Berlin in 1922 and became active in German-Jewish social organizations, first with ORT and then with OSE, the Jewish health agency. He left Germany in 1938 and became assistant director of ORT in Paris, but had to flee again, this time in 1943.