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Security Needs, Relationship With Arabs, Will Determine Borders, Eban Declares

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Abba S. Eban said at a press conference today that there was general agreement in the Cabinet that Israel's future boundaries should be based primarily on the nation's security and on the juridical and political relationships that would be worked out between Israel and the Arab states in the course of future peace negotiations. However, Mr. Eban said, Israel is not yet committed to any one plan "for the simple reason that there is no context of negotiation." Nevertheless, the foreign minister said, "the thinking and discussion of alternative ideas are serious, varied and active." Some observers here interpreted Mr. Eban's statement as a reference to the so-called "Allon Plan," a proposal made public by Labor Minister Yigal Allon last week which, according to local newspapers has been favorably received by Prime Minister Eshkol, Mr. Eban, Defense Minister Dayan and others. The plan would create an Arab enclave in Judaea and Samaria, linked to Jordan by a corridor passing through Jericho. Israel would retain the Jordan Valley which has only 14,000 Arab inhabitants, more than half of them residents of Jericho.

Mr. Eban said he thought the people in the occupied areas were sincere in their desire for peace and that they could someday serve as a bridge between Israel and the Arab states. But the idea of concluding a "separate peace" with them is meaningless, he said, because "only those who have the means to wage war can bring about peace in the area, namely the governments of the independent Arab states." The foreign minister reviewed Israel's policies and statements over the past year and said that no opening for peace had been neglected by Israel but there had been no response on the part of any Arab state. The Arabs, he said, still stand by their Khartoum resolution — no peace, no recognition, no negotiations with Israel. Replying to a question, Mr. Eban said that neither the United States nor Britain had ever asked Israel to clarify the future geography of the region as Israel sees it, nor had they asked Israel to negotiate with any non-Arab government. He reiterated that Israel's views on the matter were not likely to crystallize in binding form until there is very concrete evidence that negotiations are imminent. Mr. Eban also repeated Israel's willingness to leave the administration of the holy places in Jerusalem to those who hold them holy — Moslems as well as Christians. He said this policy has been communicated to the Arab states.

(In Washington, President Johnson and Shah Mohammed Riza Dahlevi of Iran today discussed the question of Arab-Israeli compliance with the United Nations Security Council resolution of Nov. 22, 1967, a joint communique disclosed following the talks.

(In addition to other topics, "they discussed the situation in the Middle East and agreed that the peaceful development of the area could be accomplished only through respect for the sovereignty of the Middle Eastern states and cooperation among the states of the region for their security and independence." Agreement was also reached on U.S. assistance in building a modern Iranian defense force.)

Future Of Jewish Agency In Absorption Of Immigrants Dominant Issue At Congress

JERUSALEM, June 12, 1968 (JTA)--The question of the Jewish Agency's future role, if any, in the absorption of immigrants in Israel remained the dominant issue at the 27th World Zionist Congress today. Many delegates were bitterly disappointed by a joint Government-Jewish Agency statement on the subject last night which had been expected to clarify the matter but apparently left it in greater doubt than ever. Aryeh L. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive, sounded a note of resignation today when he said that the Zionist Organization can never sustain a confrontation with the Israel Government but can only try to state its case to the best of its ability. Mr. Pincus said that it has found "ready ears" in ministers who had been active Zionists for many years.

Last night's statement announced the establishment of a committee of three Cabinet Ministers and three members of the Jewish Agency Executive which would begin immediately to deal with "the methods of coordinating their respective activities in these (immigration and absorption) areas and the operational aspects arising out of the Government's decision Sunday with respect to immigration and absorption." The Cabinet decided on Sunday to establish a special Ministry of Absorption to assume responsibility in that field. The announcement was sharply criticized by many Congress delegates because it failed to spell out what they wanted — the Jewish Agency's continued responsibility for absorption in its initial stages. According to a previous agreement between Prime Minister Levi Eshkol and Mr. Pincus, the Jewish Agency was to retain control of the absorption process during the period of adjustment after the newcomers' arrival in Israel. The Government would take over at a later stage. The dividing line between early and later absorption was to be defined in joint discussions between Government and Jewish Agency officials.

Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Zionist Organization, said during today's Congress debate that Israel must decide whether or not it wants and needs the Zionist Organization. "Israel's leaders must do some hard thinking," he said. "World Jewry is far from being in their pocket. Does Israel believe that it alone can hold the Jewish people?"

On the other hand, Dr. Goldmann said, "without the moral authority of Israel behind it, the Zionist Organization could fizzle out." Rabbi Max Nussbaum, former president of the Zionist Organization of America, said that the Government had left the WZO "the choice of dying out slowly or liquidating itself."

Prime Minister Levi Eshkol today publicly proposed the elevation of Labor Minister Yigal Allon to the rank of Deputy Prime Minister in charge of the new Ministry of Absorption. Mr. Eshkol said that he had formally submitted the proposal to the Labor Party faction in the Knesset (Parliament) and that he would try to have it approved when the Cabinet meets next Sunday. But the plan ran into immediate dissent from other parties in Eshkol's national coalition government and was sharply criticized today by two independent newspapers, Maariv and Yediot Achronot.

The proposal would bring Yosef Almogi, a leader of the former break-away Rafi faction, into the Cabinet as Minister of Labor, succeeding Gen. Allon. Mr. Almogi was reported here yesterday to be slated for the post of director-general of Histadrut, Israel's labor federation.

Dr. Goldmann Faces Draft For Re-Election As WZO President

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA)--Dr. Nahum Goldmann, who announced several months ago that he did not intend to stand for re-election as president of the World Zionist Organization, was faced with a draft movement at the World Zionist Congress here today. The 74-year-old Zionist leader had nothing to say on the matter. But he has been invited for a private talk tomorrow with members of the Congress' steering committee to see if he would agree to accept the nomination.

The prevailing mood in the Congress is that there can be no Zionist Organization without a president and that there is no better person for the office than Dr. Goldmann. This view is shared by virtually every faction in the Zionist political spectrum. Dr. Goldmann is supported by the left-wing Mapam, by the World Confederation of General Zionists, and by the religious bloc. He also has support among elements of Dr. Emanuel Neumann's General Zionist Union. Among Labor Zionists who said yesterday that they preferred to stand on Dr. Goldmann's renunciation of his candidacy, a split appeared to be developing in the anti-Goldmann front, particularly those delegates from abroad. The only group flatly opposed to Dr. Goldmann's renomination is the rightist Herut faction. So far the Congress' steering committee has been unable to come up with any alternative nominee.

The Congress today granted limited voting rights to the 81-member youth delegation representing student and other organizations in Israel and abroad. They will be able to vote on all matters except composition of the World Zionist Executive and the president of the WZO. The youth delegates accepted the voting right on the basis offered. However, they are demanding a seat for themselves on the World Zionist Executive.

Lebanese Kidnap High School Boys; Returned After Intervention By Red Cross

TEL AVIV, June 12 (JTA)--Lebanese policemen kidnapped five Israeli high school boys from Israel territory this morning. They were returned safely this afternoon following representations by the International Red Cross. The five youngsters, all seventh graders at a Haifa high school, were part of a group of 12 students spending a two-week period of national service at Kibbutz Misgav Am, near the Lebanese border. They were working in a field when two Lebanese policemen seized them at rifle point and forced them to cross the border into Lebanon. As soon as the incident was known, Israeli authorities approached the International Red Cross which promptly intervened.

US, Israeli Officials Seek Means To Cut Israel's American Trade Deficit

JERUSALEM, June 12 (JTA)--United States Undersecretary of Commerce Howard J. Samuels met with Israel's Minister of Trade and Industry Zeev Sharef yesterday to explore ways to reduce Israel's \$102 million a year trade deficit with the United States. Mr. Sharef said that in view of Israel's expanding industry, its imports from the U.S. were likely to increase. He hoped that America would find ways to increase its imports from Israel. Last year Israel's exports to the U.S. totalled \$91 million. But its imports amounted to \$193 million.

Argentine Jews Protest To Government Against Cemetery Desecration

BUENOS AIRES, June 12 (JTA)--The central Jewish representative organization in Argentina, the DAIA, protested today to Dr. Guillermo Borda, the Minister of the Interior, against the desecration of a Jewish cemetery. The DAIA protest, signed by Dr. Isaac Goldenberg, president, and Jose Kestelman, acting secretary, was accompanied by photographs of the vandalized cemetery showing swastikas painted on tombstones and on the cemetery walls.

The letter also drew the minister's attention to the fact that he had not replied to an earlier communication describing Nazi activities here including distribution of quantities of anti-Jewish hate literature and the painting of anti-Jewish slogans on buildings. The DAIA leaders asked the minister to receive a delegation from its organization to discuss the situation.

Israel, Argentina Sign New Trade Pact; Israel To Obtain Meat, Sell Chemicals

BUENOS AIRES, June 12 (JTA)--Israel and Argentina have signed a new commercial agreement according to which Israel will buy meat and agricultural produce and sell chemicals and other items to Argentina. Previous commercial intercourse between the two nations has been heavily loaded in Argentina's favor. Argentina had been selling some \$9 million worth of goods and buying less than \$500,000 worth annually.

It is hoped by both parties that new trade vistas will be opened by the pact. Dr. David Golah, director-general of the Israel Ministry of Commerce and Industry, signed for his country. Mr. Enrique C.C. Valente, undersecretary of the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Commerce, was the other signatory.

Tekoah Confers With Thant On Plight Of Jews In Arab States, Which Is Seen Grave

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 12 (JTA)--Israel's Ambassador to the United Nations, Yosef Tekoah, conferred today with Secretary-General U Thant on the situation of Jews in Syria, Iraq and Egypt and reportedly informed Mr. Thant that the plight of Jews in those countries is extremely grave. The visit came against a background of a planned special UN envoy's visit to study the situation of civilian populations in the war zones. Israel has assented to the mission and has asked that the condition of Jews in Arab states be investigated also. Mr. Thant has not yet appointed the envoy.

According to an Israeli source, authorities in Egypt, Syria and Iraq are responsible for anti-Jewish measures in their countries and have carried on a campaign of anti-Jewish incitement in their State-controlled press, radio and television. Some 250 Egyptian Jews, all heads of families, are still in prison, the source said. Last December they were transferred to Al-Thawra prison near Cairo. They are said to be close to starvation, and have been deprived of all sources of income, employment and property. No charges have been brought against them. "Their only crime is being Jewish," the source said. The Jewish community of Egypt numbers a little less than 2,500 — about 1,500 in Cairo and 1,000 in Alexandria. They are either stateless or Egyptian subjects, but all live in misery, the source said. Egyptian authorities released some Jewish prisoners, who had been imprisoned during the Six-Day War last year, in December and expelled them with their families. They had to sign statements waiving Egyptian nationality and property rights. Upon leaving Egypt they were permitted to take only personal belongings. The Jewish community was permitted to allocate to each deportee the sum of five Egyptian pounds.

Jews In Two Syrian Communities Reported Near Starvation

The Israeli source said that there are some 3,500 Jews in Syria. About 2,000 live in Damascus, a little over 1,000 in Aleppo and the rest are in Kamishli. Most possess Syrian nationality and a few are stateless or are Iraqi or Iranian nationals. "The Jews of Kamishli and Aleppo are on the verge of starvation," the source said. "The condition of the Kamishli Jews is particularly serious because the town lies near the Syrian-Turkish frontier and its Jews are constantly harassed on the pretext of security." Between last August and September a curfew was imposed upon them and they suffered "great hardship and privation." Their religious objects were publicly burned.

Syrian Jews are not allowed to leave the country and the International Red Cross, as well as several diplomatic missions, have tried unsuccessfully to get exit permits for those who wish to leave, the source said. The Syrian Jews have been confined to ghettos "where they are subjected to constant pressure and extortion." They are obliged to carry identity cards with the word "Jew" in red on it.

Some Damascus Jews have been imprisoned. There have been cases of attacks, stoning and threats. The Damascus Jewish cemetery has been desecrated and a paved road laid through it. A Syrian Army circular recently circulated contains a "partial list" of Jewish shops and addresses, and forbids all Army personnel to deal with them, on pain of severe penalties, the source said.

Since the Six-Day War, Iraqi Jews have been subjected to ever greater restrictions and deprivations. Laws have denied them civil liberties, freedom of movement and employment. Many Jews live in fear of their lives. Authorities including the secret police, have threatened them with murder.

The source said that telephone lines into their homes have been cut, many have been arrested and released only after paying a high ransom. In once such case a girl was arrested and repeatedly raped in prison, the source said. Jewish students have been expelled from universities and schools, and Jews have been dismissed from their jobs.

Israel Backs UN Resolution Removing South Africa From Former Southwest Africa

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 12 (JTA)--Israel voted in the United Nations General Assembly Wednesday in favor of a resolution recommending to the Security Council that it take urgent, effective measures "to ensure the immediate removal of the South African presence from Namibia" previously known as South West Africa, and "to secure for Namibia its independence." The resolution was carried by a vote of 96 to two with 18 abstentions, including the United States, Canada, Australia, Britain and France.

West German TV Focuses On Retrial Of Eichmann Aides; Stuttgart Court Frees Nazi

BONN, June 12 (JTA)--West German television focused last night on the retrial of two former aides of Adolf Eichmann whose hearing in Frankfurt opened yesterday. Meanwhile in Stuttgart, a 63-year-old former SS Corporal, Edgar Enge, walked out of court a free man although a jury had found him guilty of aiding in the mass murder of nearly 6,000 Yugoslavian Jews near Belgrade during World War II.

Going on trial for the second time in Frankfurt were former SS Capt. Otto Hunsche, 56, and former SS Col. Hermann Krumei, 63, who are charged with complicity in the massacre of 300,000 Hungarian Jews during World War II. The case has aroused particular interest because Hunsche was acquitted in his previous trial for lack of evidence. Krumei was found guilty and sentenced to five years imprisonment. But both the acquittal and the sentence were quashed and a new trial was ordered. According to a TV program giving the background of the case, Hunsche was Eichmann's legal expert. He is alleged to have held talks in Budapest with representatives of the Jewish Council while elsewhere in Hungary, Jews were being deported to extermination camps. The purpose of the talks, the TV commentator said, was to give the Jews false hopes that they might survive and thereby prevent them from taking steps to escape.

Support For National Mobilization Day Of Poor Shaken; JLC Quits, Others Reconsider

NEW YORK, June 12 (JTA)--Developments in connection with the National Solidarity Day march June 19 in support of the Poor People's Campaign, including the withdrawal of Bayard Rustin, Negro civil rights leader, as its coordinator, have shaken the support given the campaign by Jewish organizations and led at least one agency to withdraw its backing, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today. The executive body of a second agency was in session tonight seeking to determine its stand and a third has made its continued support conditional on receipt of satisfactory information on the revised goals and program of the mobilization.

A number of Jewish organizations and non-Jewish church and civil rights groups met in New York Monday at the offices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People with Sterling Tucker, Mr. Rustin's successor as national coordinator of the Washington demonstration, to discuss the implications of Mr. Rustin's withdrawal. Later, the Jewish organizations met at the office of the National Community Relations Advisory Council to consider their stand in the light of assurances received from Mr. Tucker earlier in the day. Charles Silberman, chairman of the commission on religion and race, of the Synagogue Council of America, said Mr. Tucker had assured Jewish agencies that the organization and program of the mobilization would reflect the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's commitment to non-violence and democratic processes as originally proclaimed in the mobilization call by Mr. Rustin.

Jewish Labor Committee Quits, AJCommittee Sets Conditions

The Jewish Labor Committee confirmed to the JTA today that it had withdrawn its support from the mobilization after Mr. Rustin stepped out as coordinator. An executive session of the National Council of Jewish Women tonight sought to formulate that organization's position. The American Jewish Committee, following a special meeting Tuesday, sent a telegram to Mr. Tucker today advising him that the meeting of the Committee had "reaffirmed its support" of the June 19 mobilization "conditioned upon receipt and approval of your revised call for the mobilization, set of 99 points (demands made on the Government) and program of mobilization." The telegram, signed by Morris B. Abram, president of the Committee, urged that these texts be transmitted as soon as possible.

The Synagogue Council of America, central coordinating agency for the six national rabbinic and congregational bodies of the three branches of Judaism, announced today that it had "reaffirmed" its support of the June 19 demonstration following the meeting with Mr. Tucker. It said it had received a telegram of thanks from Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, sponsors of the Poor People's Campaign.

A spokesman for the American Jewish Congress said tonight that the Congress maintained its full support of the mobilization and was preparing to charter buses to carry members from New York to Washington to participate.

(In Washington, where the mobilization will have its greatest impact and where concern has been sharpest over the projected inclusion of extremist Negro and leftist elements, the Jewish Community Council was to meet in executive session tonight to consider the new developments. The Council had previously endorsed the mobilization and had been active in organizing food supplies and housing for the demonstrators.

(The State Department has assured the Embassy of Israel that it will be protected by Federal troops as well as police in event of "possible civil disturbances." The same notice was given other embassies located in "areas of potential civil strife" in Washington.)

Concern developed among Jewish and other groups following the resignation of Mr. Rustin as national coordinator, and his warning that the tendency of the campaign "could lead to violence." Mr. Tucker, his successor, was asked if he would exclude such extremists as Stokely Carmichael and H. Rap Brown from the program. He replied, "I haven't even thought about it."

In addition to fear that Black Power militants would dominate the march, reports circulated in Washington that "New Left" extremists and campus anarchists would participate. Jewish and other groups sought assurances that the march would not be transformed into either a Black Power forum or an anti-war protest. They wanted clarification of the aims of the march in light of their concern for the welfare of the poor people of the nation. Mr. Tucker said he expected that if the march did not generate enough "non-poor" support and "move America," it would be "the last non-violent march America will see."

ADL Official Reports Marked Upswing In Negro Anti-Semitism

WASHINGTON, June 12 (JTA)--Although Anti-Defamation League studies four years ago found less anti-Semitism among Negroes than among whites, "the pendulum has swung the other way" and a marked rise in Negro anti-Semitism has emerged during recent tensions, according to Jason Silverman, regional director of the B'nai B'rith ADL. Mr. Silverman spoke on a special CBS-TV program which examined the problem emerging from the riots here following the assassination of Negro civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. last April. Mr. Silverman said that Jews were singled out although they tried to help Negroes because the Negroes expected something from them and they became the targets of Negro frustrations. He said that Negro anti-Semitism is dangerous and must be rooted out. A Negro spokesman interviewed on the program said that "absentee landlords" and "absentee merchants" were no longer welcome in the ghetto. They charged that white business men exploited the Negroes and that ghetto businesses must be taken over by Negroes.