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Eshkol, Cabinet Ministers Discuss Security Problem Caused By Terrorist Bombings

JERUSALEM, Sept. 5 (JTA)--Prime Minister Levi Eshkol met with several of his Cabinet ministers today to discuss the internal security problem in the aftermath of yesterday's terrorist bombings in and near the central bus station in Tel Aviv which claimed one life and injured 51 persons. Mr. Eshkol, Defense Minister Gen. Moshe Dayan and Minister of Police Eliahu Sasson also reviewed means to prevent mob violence of the kind that erupted after the Tel Aviv bombings yesterday and a similar incident in Jerusalem two weeks ago.

No details of the high level consultations were made public. But it was obvious that the Government took the gravest view of the indiscriminate terrorist attacks in busy civilian centers and would take whatever steps were necessary to prevent their recurrence. Also regarded with the utmost gravity was the mob response to terrorist violence which in yesterday's incident could have reached riot proportions if not restrained by the police. Minister of Information Israel Galili said this morning that public lectures would begin shortly to explain that such excesses play into the hands of terrorists who are trying to break the fragile but peaceful co-existence between Jews and Arabs in Israel and Israel-occupied territories.

According to a radio broadcast from Beirut today, the so-called "Front for the Liberation of Palestine" claimed responsibility for the bombings in retaliation to Israeli attacks on Arab civilians in Jerusalem Aug. 18. The same group had claimed credit for hijacking an El Al airliner over Italy last July 23.

Israeli authorities have taken the view that ultimate responsibility for terrorist acts rests with the Arab governments, not self-styled liberation organizations. Israeli representatives abroad, it was learned, have been instructed to inform foreign governments that Israel regards terrorist attacks within its territory as no less an infringement of the cease-fire agreements than shooting across the borders. The Israelis argue that armed gangs can cross the border only with the consent of their host country. Under the cease-fire agreements, each country is responsible for its side of the line.

Israeli Police Say Progress Being Made Toward Finding Parties Responsible

TEL AVIV, Sept. 5 (JTA)--Police today, piecing together eyewitness accounts of yesterday's terrorist bombings here, indicated that they were making progress toward tracking down the parties responsible. A special police headquarters was set up to investigate the bombings and some quarters reported that arrests could be expected momentarily. But Arabs detained yesterday for questioning have apparently been released and there was no indication that new arrests have been made.

The man killed in the bombings — three bombs went off — was identified as 60-year-old Yaacob Golomb, of Kfar Saba, a foreman in the citrus groves there. Eyewitnesses meanwhile volunteered information to police. One man said he saw a woman place a small parcel in a trash can which later exploded. As in the bombings that shook downtown Jerusalem two weeks ago, the explosives in yesterday's incident here were concealed in trash bins. All trash bins have been removed from public places as a precautionary measure and the public has been asked to be on the alert for suspicious movements. (Public trash bins have not been removed in Jerusalem, a municipality spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today. He said police there had not requested removal of the cans which are usually attached to street lamps.)

Security police at Lydda Airport found a Russian-type hand grenade there this morning but it had no firing mechanism and was harmless, police said. Nevertheless, a bomb squad was rushed to the scene. They said the grenade appeared to be one used for training purposes. The old town of Jaffa, where mobs descended on Arabs after yesterday's bombings, was reported quiet today. Arabs from outlying villages who work in Tel Aviv and Jaffa were conspicuous by their absence. But they began to return to their jobs this afternoon, apparently satisfied that they were in no danger.

Arab Newspapers Gloat Over Bombings, Call Them 'Victory' For Commandos

LONDON, Sept. 5 (JTA)--Arab newspapers today gloated over yesterday's terrorist bombings in Tel Aviv. They touted them as a "major victory" for Arab commandos and tried to create the impression that Israelis were in panic, according to dispatches reaching here.

A newspaper headline in Iraq said "Zionist authorities lose nerve, arrest 100 Arabs." Beirut newspapers carried front-page photographs of people fleeing the scene of the bombing over the caption, "Commandos strike heart of Tel Aviv." The papers also carried accounts of subsequent attacks by Jews on Arabs. The incident prompted an extreme left-wing columnist in Cairo to write in the newspaper Al-Gomhoria that the only solution to the Middle East crisis is a "peoples war of liberation" against Israel in the style of the Viet Cong. In Damascus, it was reported, units of the "peoples army" staged exercises to foil a mock Israeli paratroop attack which, Damascus radio said, were "very successful."

3 Anti-Vehicle Mines Found Near Suez, Israelis And Arabs Exchange Fire In Beisan

TEL AVIV, Sept. 5 (JTA)--Three anti-vehicle plastic mines were discovered this morning on the East Bank of the Suez Canal near Port Tewfik at the waterway's southern entrance. The Israeli Army patrol that found the explosives dismantled them and also reported finding footprints that led to the banks of the canal, a military spokesman reported today. Mortar and machinegun fire was directed at Kfar Ruppin, Yardenia and Beth Joseph in the Beisan Valley last night. Israelis returned the fire from emplacements near regular Jordanian Army positions, a military spokesman said. About 100 shells exploded within the perimeter of Kfar Ruppin but no casualties were reported. An Israeli civilian was slightly injured last night when the Tahal Water Co. pick-up truck in which he was riding hit a mine in the Negev Desert south of Ein Yahav. A curfew was imposed on a section of Gaza this morning while Israeli authorities investigated the throwing of a grenade at a moving Army vehicle last night. Several suspects were arrested for questioning.

A former member of the Jordanian Parliament and a local physician, both from Jenin, were reported to have admitted to charges which led to their arrest for espionage yesterday. Accused of contacts with El Fatah and other terrorist gangs are Najib el Bachar and Dr. Khalil Toukan. They were arrested on what authorities described as ample evidence of their active participation in espionage. The two men were said to have denied the charges originally but confessed when confronted with documentary evidence.

An exchange of civilians took place between Egypt and Israel yesterday at Kantara on the Suez Canal. Returned to Egypt were 199 Egyptian civilians who had remained in El Arish in northern Sinai after the June, 1967 Six-Day War. The Egyptians sent back 192 residents of Sinai and the Gaza Strip who were in Egypt when the war broke out.

U.S., Russia Disagree On Propriety Of Council Sessions To Hear Israeli Complaint

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Sept. 5 (JTA)--The United States and the Soviet Union today took diametrically opposed views on whether the Security Council should have been convened to hear Israel's charges that Egyptian commandos ambushed and killed two Israeli soldiers on the East Bank of the Suez Canal and kidnapped a third Aug. 26.

Ambassador George Ball, permanent representative of the United States, declared that the evidence found by the United Nations military observers was consistent with Israel's allegations and that the United Arab Republic had made "an unsupported, limited denial, stating only that its forces had not taken part." The evidence pointed to the fact that this was an unprovoked attack by armed men with "a compelling inference, if not of instigation or encouragement, at least of acquiescence by the Government of the UAR," Mr. Ball said.

But Yakov Malik, head of the Soviet delegation, called the Israeli charges "a pettifogging complaint" and said the Security Council could "not take it seriously." He wondered why it was brought to the Security Council and why the Council had been convened. Mr. Malik went on to charge Israel with making a complaint against a country against which it had committed aggression, "a country whose land it is forcibly occupying."

The arguments in the Security Council today, as yesterday, centered around Israel's charges of a gross violation of the cease-fire on the part of Egypt and Egypt's counter-charge that Israel probably fabricated the whole incident. The Egyptian delegate, Mohammed Awad el-Kony, disputed Israel Ambassador Yosef Tekoah's statement yesterday that the report by Lt. Gen Odd Bull, chief of the UN observer corps, corroborated Israel's version of the incident. Gen. Bull's report, Mr. el-Kony said, "pointed out that the bodies mentioned had not been seen and that the UN observers could not verify that two Israel soldiers had been killed."

Ambassador Ball said that several weeks ago the representatives of Jordan and other Arab states had taken the position that the Jordanian Government had no responsibility for acts of terror in the areas occupied by Israeli forces. The United States refused to accept that disclaimer, he said, because every government was responsible for the control of its own population, and not merely its official armed forces. If this be the case for the West Bank of the Jordan, a heavily populated area, it is far more the case for the East Bank of the Suez Canal, an empty place where it was unlikely that any terrorist activity could occur that did not originate from the other side of the canal within UAR responsibility. Mr. Ball said the United States felt that the Egyptian Government should be held strictly accountable for observing the cease-fire and called on the Security Council to treat violations even-handedly and not to follow a double standard.

Lord Caradon, representing the United Kingdom, welcomed Israel's decision to bring the matter before the Council. He said that if the soldier cited by Israel had indeed been wounded, the Council should be satisfied that he would be treated and promptly returned. Speaking near the end of the session, Ambassador Tekoah said the world still waited for the Council to condemn the murder of Israelis and not countenance cease-fire violations. He called Egypt's attitude at the Council "irresponsible." Israel's purpose in coming to the UN body, he said, was to strengthen the cease-fire. He said he hoped this effort would be supported. The Council adjourned without setting a time for another meeting.

Israel Denies Italy Not Satisfied With Release Of 16 Arabs In El Al Matter

JERUSALEM, Sept. 5 (JTA)--Foreign Ministry sources today denied press reports that Italy was not satisfied with the freeing of 16 Arab prisoners in exchange for the hijacked El Al plane and had expected more to be released. The return of the plane and its 12 passengers and crewmen last Saturday was arranged through the good offices of the Italian Government.

August's 609 Immigrants From U.S., Canada Set Mark, Jewish Agency Reports

JERUSALEM, Sept. 5 (JTA)--The Jewish Agency reported today that 609 immigrants from the United States and Canada arrived in Israel during August, the largest number to come from those countries in any single month. According to the Agency's immigration department, a total of 3,000 newcomers arrived in August, among them 467 from France, 132 from Britain, 145 from Latin America, 35 from South Africa and 28 from Australia.

Allon, Narkiss Leave For West, Will Study Refugee Situation In Austria

TEL AVIV, Sept. 5 (JTA)--Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Allon and Maj. Gen. Uzzi Narkiss, director of the Jewish Agency's immigration department, left here today on a trip that will take them to the United States, Switzerland and Denmark. Their first stop will be Austria where thousands of Czech refugees, many of them Jews, have gone since the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia. Gen. Allon, who heads Israel's new Absorption Ministry, will look into the possibilities of immigration by Czech Jews.

Local Industries Provide One-Third Of Spare Parts For Israeli Army

TEL AVIV, Sept. 5 (JTA)--Local industries are producing one-third of all the spare parts required by the Israel Army, an Army official in charge of procurement disclosed today. The officer said that there were 200 local firms working for the military. He said spare parts produced locally include parts for tanks, guns, electronic devices and vehicles.

Mnacko In 'Safe Hideout' Working On New Book Dealing With Czechoslovakia

LONDON, Sept. 5 (JTA)--Ladislav Mnacko, the liberal, pro-Israel Czech writer, was reported today to be safe in a "secret hideout" working on a new book on the recent events in Czechoslovakia. According to the Daily Telegraph, the information came from Mr. Mnacko's Viennese publisher, Fritz Molden. A report last week by the P.E.N., the international writers association, had listed Mr. Mnacko among 11 Czech writers and intellectuals who were seized and beaten unconscious by Soviet secret police in Prague.

Mr. Mnacko's publisher said, according to a Telegraphic dispatch from Vienna, that the writer left Bratislava at the end of last month. The book he is working on is an analysis of the ideological collapse of international Communism on the Soviet pattern and is scheduled to be published in October. Mr. Mnacko, who is well known in Europe, received international publicity when he went into self-imposed exile in Israel after the June, 1967 Six-Day War to protest the Prague Government's pro-Arab policies and its break in diplomatic relations with Israel. Mr. Mnacko's wife, who is Jewish, is in Israel but the writer returned to Czechoslovakia last spring to support the reform measures of Communist Party chief Alexander Dubcek.

Austrian Communist Paper Accuses 'Izvestia' Of Anti-Semitic 'Mud-Slinging'

VIENNA, Sept. 5 (JTA)--An Austrian Communist newspaper has accused the Soviet Government paper Izvestia of anti-Semitic "mud-slinging" in its attack on Czech Foreign Minister Jiri Hajek and claimed that Mr. Hajek is not Jewish.

According to the Communist daily Volkstimme, Izvestia confused the Czech Foreign Minister with another former Czech Communist Party official, Bedrich Hajek, who is Jewish and who was imprisoned for several years under a political purge in 1954. The Foreign Minister "is and was no Jew," Volkstimme said, quoting "informed sources," and said his name was at no time Karpeles, as Izvestia asserted in its charge that Mr. Hajek collaborated with the Gestapo in World War II.

Jiri Hajek was a Social Democrat until 1948, belonged to the left wing of the party and helped to engineer the merger with the Communists and an alliance with the Soviet Union, Volkstimme said. Bedrich Hajek, whose name was formerly Karpeles, is Jewish but he never collaborated with the Gestapo, according to the Austrian newspaper. He fled to England when the Nazis occupied Prague in 1939 and returned after the war.

Record Contributions Of \$300,000 Pledged To Promote South Africans' Education

JOHANNESBURG, Sept. 5 (JTA)--Record contributions amounting to the equivalent of \$300,000 were pledged to further Jewish education in South Africa at a banquet held by the South African Board of Jewish Education. The guest of honor was Gideon Hausner, former attorney-general of Israel who led the prosecution in the Eichmann case. The gathering, which included the mayor of Johannesburg and top Jewish community leaders, was told by Mr. Hausner that Jewish education is the one great essential of Jewish survival. He complimented South African Jewry for its progress in this field, particularly the establishment of Jewish day schools.

Head Of Federation Of Synagogue Coming To U.S. On Religious Education Mission

LONDON, Sept. 5 (JTA)--The head of the Federation of Synagogues, Dr. Eliezer W. Kirzner, will go to the United States next Tuesday for meetings with American Jewish religious and educational leaders on problems of Jewish education. Dr. Kirzner told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he was concerned with the problems of Jewish education generally and Torah education in particular. He said his aim was to improve the quality of Jewish education as well as to increase the number of Jewish schools sponsored by the Synagogue Federation.

NYU President Regrets His Defense Of Hatchett Seen As Support Of Article

NEW YORK, Sept. 5 (JTA)--The president of New York University expressed regrets today that comments he made in defending John F. Hatchett against charges of anti-Semitism were misinterpreted as a defense of an article by Mr. Hatchett critical of Jewish teachers in the New York City public school system. Mr. Hatchett is the recently named director of the university's new Martin Luther King Jr. Afro-American Student Center. Dr. James M. Hester, in a statement issued here, said that he recognized "the oversimplification in my reference to the complex phenomenon of anti-Semitism," that he considered all forms of anti-Semitism "abhorrent" and strongly opposed them wherever they appeared and that "I do not condone Mr. Hatchett's article about the public schools."

Dr. Hester was assailed this week by the Synagogue Council of America for his alleged "apologia" for a "scurrilous anti-Semitic article." The Council, representative body of six national synagogue and rabbinic organizations, took issue with a remark by the NYU president, published in the New York Times, that while he did not subscribe to the views expressed in the Hatchett article, he could understand how they might have been written without the author being anti-Semitic in the classical sense. The controversial article, which appeared in a Negro teachers periodical in 1967, charged that Jewish teachers dominated the New York public school system and that they and Negro imitators were mentally poisoning Negro pupils. Mr. Hatchett disclaimed any anti-Semitic intent but defended his right to identify the ethnic group of which he was critical. Dr. Hester, in effect, upheld that right when he noted in the New York Times interview that Jewish teachers were organized in a Jewish teachers association.

In his statement issued today, Dr. Hester said, "I want to affirm that New York University is determined to work to overcome all forms of prejudice, injustice and misunderstanding. In pursuing this goal in this difficult time, we may make mistakes in judgment on individual matters, and there will be differences of opinion about the best way to handle complex issues. I reassure the community that New York University's abiding commitment is to help build a society in which there is no prejudice and in which all members live together with mutual respect."

Far Rockaway Center To Seek 100,000 Signatures Protesting Appointment

FAR ROCKAWAY, N.Y., Sept. 5 (JTA)--The Far Rockaway, N.Y. Jewish Community Center said today that it will seek 100,000 signatures on a petition to protest the appointment of former Harlem public school teacher Hatchett as director of the Afro-American Student Center. The announcement by the community group is the latest move in the running battle being waged by Jewish bodies against Mr. Hatchett who, they allege, is an anti-Semite.

Rubin R. Dobin, chairman of the Far Rockaway Jewish Community Council, said the anti-Hatchett petition would be directed to the attention of Dr. Hester. He said his group would seek to enroll as many NYU students as possible in the protest and to expand it on a nationwide scale.

American Council For Judaism Hires New Executive, Replacing Mezvinsky

NEW YORK, Sept. 5 (JTA)--The American Council for Judaism, which this year lost its executive director and executive vice president, has hired a new executive director. He is Stuart Gottlieb of Lawrenceville, N.J., who previously served as assistant director of inter-religious affairs of the American Jewish Committee and was that organization's assistant area director for Pennsylvania and Delaware. Mr. Gottlieb also served for a brief period as executive director of the Mizrahi Women's Organization of America.

The Council, an anti-Zionist organization, has been torn by internal dissension over a number of key policy and program issues. Last May, Dr. Norton Mezvinsky, executive director for 14 months, quit amidst charges among others that the Council was "bigoted" against Negroes and that Rabbi Elmer Berger, its longtime executive vice president, had "freely given speech writing assistance to Arab representatives at the United Nations, notably George Tomch of Syria." Those charges were subsequently denied by the Council. A few months later Rabbi Berger also resigned because of ideological differences between him and the present lay leadership, a well-informed source said.

Sharef Tells U.S. Businessmen, Industrialists That Tariff Reduction Planned

NEW YORK, Sept. 5 (JTA)--Two hundred American businessmen and industrialists were told by Israel's new Finance Minister today that his country plans a substantial reduction in tariffs over the next few years to help make its industries more competitive on the international market. Zeev Sharef, who also holds the Cabinet portfolio for commerce and industry, was guest speaker at a luncheon of members of the American-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Industry here.

Trade is a two-way street, Mr. Sharef said. "These import tariff reductions will also help foreign companies to become more involved in trade and investment projects in Israel." He told Chamber members that Israel will be able to increase its overall production by 40 percent over the next four years and raise foreign exchange earning industrial exports by 60 percent. Mr. Sharef also disclosed that in the six-month period ending in June, 1969, Israel's total exports to the United States increased by almost 28 percent over the corresponding period of 1967. He said the export of industrial diamonds was up 22 percent and other exports, mainly industrial products, showed a 37 percent increase.

Mr. Sharef said that Israel is presently enjoying a tourist boom. About 400,000 visitors are expected by the end of this year compared to 300,000 in 1967 and the expectations are for 500,000 by 1970. He said that Israel will hold a "Fashion Week" in Tel Aviv from Feb. 24 to 28, 1969.