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Nixon Statements Foreshadow Stronger U.S. Commitment To Israel's Survival

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6 (JTA)--When Richard M. Nixon takes the oath of office as President of the United States on Jan. 20, the United States commitment to the survival of Israel will continue unaffected. If anything, a study of Mr. Nixon's declarations and campaign pledges on Israel and the Middle East indicate that commitment may be strengthened. It would lay more stress on providing Israel with the sophisticated weaponry needed to maintain military superiority over its hostile neighbors, may involve a greater degree of American initiative in reaching a settlement and almost certainly will manifest itself by a harder line toward Soviet expansion in the Middle East, particularly the accretion of Soviet naval power in the Mediterranean which is regarded as a menace to NATO, apart from the Arab-Israel conflict. The U.S. may also take a more explicit stand than hitherto on the denial of religious and cultural rights to Soviet Jewry and the official anti-Semitism rampant in Poland.

The narrow margin of Mr. Nixon's victory indicates a cautious and conciliatory Administration, envisaging a coalition and seeking a consensus but reserving freedom to make great decisions on Middle East, Far East and other foreign policy matters. Observers here pointed out today that both houses of Congress remain under almost unchanged Democratic control. Most of Israel's strongest friends in Congress have been re-elected. The new President will have to pay close heed to the will of Congress to achieve his programs.

It is regarded as significant that Mr. Nixon has heavily relied on three economists of the Jewish faith for advice on economic matters and has drawn heavily on Jewish advisors and collaborators in other areas. In the economic field, he has relied on Arthur F. Burns, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors in the Eisenhower regime; Dr. Milton Friedman, the University of Chicago economist, and Alan Greenspan, a leading economic consultant. As his chief adviser on urban and community affairs - an area that must be considered the most difficult facing the President in the domestic field - Mr. Nixon has relied on Max M. Fisher, chairman of the United Israel Appeal and one of the top leaders of American Jewry.

U.S. Must Tip Arms Balance In Israel's Favor, Nixon Told B'nai B'rith

In outlining his position on the Middle East, Mr. Nixon told the triennial convention of B'nai B'rith last September that the U.S. must tip the balance of military strength in Israel's favor. He based his advocacy of clear-cut Israeli military superiority on the premise that an exact balance of power with the Arabs "would run the risk that potential aggressors might miscalculate and would offer them too much of a temptation." Pressed by reporters to say whether he was making a promise to supply Israel with F-4 Phantom jets, the supersonic fighter-bomber that Israel seeks to buy in the United States, Mr. Nixon replied, "If it takes Phantom jets, they should have Phantom jets." He told other reporters later, however, that he would "not get into specifics of whether they get a Phantom or any other kind of jet."

Mr. Nixon has frequently declared himself opposed to any peace settlement imposed by the Big Powers and has said he thought a solution was achievable only by negotiation. He has also stated a belief that the Middle East crisis is a potentially greater menace to world peace than the Vietnam war and the possible site of a more serious confrontation with the Soviet Union. "We have to make it crystal clear (to the Soviet Union) that the stake of the free world in the Middle East is great," he said. "We must impress on the Russians the full extent of our determination; and then and only then will we cause them to reconsider their own policy to avoid a collision course." At an Oct. 21 meeting in New York with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Mr. Nixon said it was necessary for the Soviet Union to "avoid any miscalculation and to understand that the U.S. would not tolerate any Soviet take-over of the Middle East or destruction of Israel." He described that position as "preventive diplomacy." Mr. Nixon has said that "the U.S. must take the lead in forging an acceptable settlement in the Middle East" which, he went on, should include free passage for ships of all nations through the Suez Canal and Tiran Straits, recognition of Israel's sovereignty and right to exist and an end to the state of belligerency in the region. In a statement to the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee, he said that in his view, "for Israel to take formal and final possession of the occupied territories would be a grave mistake; at the same time, it is not realistic to expect Israel to surrender vital bargaining counters in the absence of a genuine peace and effective guarantees." Mr. Nixon has said that "the U.S. has a firm and unwavering commitment to the national existence of Israel. America supports Israel because we believe in the self-determination of nations...because we oppose aggression in every form...because (Israel) is threatened by Soviet imperialism...because its example offers long range hope to the Middle East." He added, "All these reasons add up to why we are not about to abandon Israel. America's word is good. It has cost us enough to prove that."

New President May Take Strong Position On Treatment Of Jews In Communist Lands

Mr. Nixon, a man who built his political career on opposition to Communism, is expected by those concerned with the plight of Soviet Jewry to express himself more forcefully than his predecessor on this issue and to waive some diplomatic niceties. Mr. Nixon outlined his views in a Sept. 29 letter to Rabbi Israel Miller, then chairman of the American-Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry. He wrote, "I deplore the discriminatory measures imposed upon Jews in the Soviet Union, and hope and trust that

humanitarians throughout the world will continue vigorously to protest these restrictions and deprivations of human rights." He went on to say that he was "deeply concerned by the resurgence of the Soviet anti-Jewish propaganda campaign, thinly disguised as anti-Zionism — a campaign which is mirrored in Communist countries in Eastern Europe."

The shape and tone of the Nixon Administration, as political observers here are aware, will be determined to a great extent by the men he appoints to Cabinet and other policy-making posts. Former Gov. William Scranton of Pennsylvania, who served as Mr. Nixon's principal advisor on foreign affairs during the Presidential campaign, has been mentioned as a possible choice for Secretary of State. Mr. Scranton echoed Mr. Nixon's stand on the Middle East Nov. 1 when he said the "U.S. will provide military support to Israel in order to bring a peaceful solution through negotiations." He criticized the Johnson Administration for the sale of 88 Phantom jets to West Germany without setting conditions while "delaying the sale of promised jets to Israel." Mr. Nixon's Vice President, Spiro T. Agnew has also called for "a strong Israel equipped to deter any threat of war."

Mr. Nixon's campaign staff included a number of Jews in key positions, many of whom are expected to fill posts in the Nixon Administration. Among them is Leonard Garment of New York, Mr. Nixon's law partner, who served as coordinator of media for the campaign and recruited key personnel for it. Another young Jewish attorney, Martin R. Pollner of New York, formerly a Robert Kennedy aide, directed Mr. Nixon's advisory council on crime and law enforcement. Warren Adler, Washington publicist, had a significant role in the campaign as did Bernard Katzen of New York, veteran director of the Republican National Committee's ethnic division.

Mr. Nixon was the first important non-Jewish political personage to visit Israel at the conclusion of the Six-Day War in 1967. He met with Israeli leaders and publicly supported the Israeli cause. He made the acquaintance of Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, then Chief of Staff of the Israeli Army. He met privately with Gen. Rabin in the United States following the latter's appointment as Ambassador. The discussions covered topics reflected in Mr. Nixon's public statements.

The Nixon attitude toward the State Department was revealed in the President-elect's comments on his approach to decision making. While some authority on domestic decisions must be delegated, he said, the President "must be free to make the great decisions, particularly on foreign policy."

All Jewish Members Of House Re-Elected, Licht Named Governor Of Rhode Island

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6 (JTA)--There will be no change in the size of the Jewish contingent in the House of Representatives in the 91st Congress. All the Jewish members of the House in the old Congress, were re-elected with the exception of Rep. Herbert Tenzer, of New York, who retired. Rep. Tenzer's seat was won by Allard K. Lowenstein, a young Democrat who sparked the McCarthy anti-war campaign.

Two Jewish members of the Senate, Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, and Abraham Ribicoff, Connecticut Democrat, won re-election by large majorities. Sen. Ernest Gruening, Alaska Democrat, was defeated in the primaries for renomination and failed in a write-in attempt.

All the Jewish Congressmen are Democrats except Rep. Seymour Halpern, New York Republican, the only Republican Congressman elected from New York City. Rep. Emanuel Celler, 80, was re-elected to his 24th term and will continue service as dean of the House. New York Congressmen re-elected include Reps. Celler, Leonard Farbstein, Seymour Halpern, Lester Wolff, Benjamin Rosenthal, Bertram Podell, James Scheuer, Jacob Gilbert and Richard Ottinger. Other Jewish Congressmen re-elected were Rep. Sidney Yates, Illinois; Charles Joelson, New Jersey; Samuel Friedel, Maryland and Joshua Ellberg, Pennsylvania.

Judge Frank Licht, a prominent member of the Providence Jewish community, won election as Governor of Rhode Island, defeating Gov. John H. Chafee, Republican. The Governor-elect, who is 52, was an Associate Justice of the Superior Court of Rhode Island and was a member of the State Senate. He has served for many years as vice president of the General Jewish Committee of Providence and as co-chairman of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Eshkol Bars Arab Military On West Bank Of Jordan River Security Line

JERUSALEM, Nov. 6 (JTA)--Prime Minister Levi Eshkol indicated yesterday that Israel may be prepared to return portions of the West Bank to Jordanian political sovereignty but made it clear that Israel will never allow the military forces of Jordan or any other nation west of the Jordan River. Mr. Eshkol, speaking in reply to questions in the Knesset (Parliament), drew a distinction between what he called "security boundaries" and "political boundaries." He said the Jordan River must remain the "security boundary" of Israel whatever political boundaries might be drawn up in the future. He added that he could not envisage a state of affairs in which military bases of one state would lie within the sovereign territory of another state.

Observers here believed Mr. Eshkol was alluding to a plan attributed to Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Allon which would partition the West Bank between Arab areas and Israeli security zones along the West Bank of the Jordan.

Defense Minister Gen. Moshe Dayan, in replying to Knesset questions, said progress in Arab-Israeli relations was being made on the West Bank despite Arab demonstrations and business strikes. He said that local Arab leadership has made clear its opposition to public demonstrations which he

described as "merely school-boy processions." He said local leaders were in control of the demonstrators in all West Bank towns except Nablus.

The Knesset yesterday rejected a motion to debate plans to send a Parliamentary delegation to West Germany. The vote, which cut across party lines, was 27 to 17. The issue was raised by Mapam, Achdut Avodah and the Gahal (Herut-Liberal alignment) which announced that they would not participate in the delegation as a matter of principle.

El Fatah, PLO Back Hussein In Fight With Insurgent Guerrilla Faction

JERUSALEM, Nov. 6 (JTA)--King Hussein of Jordan appeared today to have won the support of the two largest guerrilla organizations based on Jordanian soil -- El Fatah and the Palestine Liberation Organization -- in his conflict with a splinter insurgent group, Kataeb al Nasr (Victory Phalange). Pitched battles between that group and troops loyal to the Kingdom Monday and Tuesday reportedly resulted in at least 25 persons dead, 100 wounded, 70 arrested and another 30 being sought by police.

King Hussein said at a press conference in Amman today that the shooting crisis might have been fomented by Israel. "There is a strong chance that this group was acting according to a plan that did not originate in any Arab state" and that "possibly" Israel was behind it, he said. Only two days ago, King Hussein charged that the dissident terrorists were the "paid agents" of a foreign power which most observers took as an allusion to Syria where several terrorist groups have their headquarters and recruiting stations.

The King also denied a charge leveled by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and various terrorist leaders that he was trying to curtail guerrilla operations against Israel to pave the way for a peace settlement. Only last night, El Fatah charged in a broadcast heard here that Jordan had been involved in a "United States-British plot" to end guerrilla activities.

But reports from Amman today told of a five-point agreement between the Hussein regime and El Fatah and the Palestine Liberation Organization which agreed to disassociate themselves from Kataeb al Nasr's actions. The guerrillas denied they had taken part in the disturbances, assured the authorities of their support and expressed hope that the dissident movement would be confined to Kataeb el Nasr.

(Reports from Amman reaching London today quoted a guerrilla spokesman who charged the Jordanian Government with trying to liquidate commando activities as a prelude to a peace settlement. According to Bahjat Abou Ghardieh, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organization's executive committee, 13 guerrillas including five leaders were killed by Jordanian forces yesterday. Mr. Abou Ghardieh, who claimed to speak for all guerrilla groups operating from Jordan, said that if there were no new incidents today the Government's honest intentions would be proven. But, he said, "we fear there might be new surprises, perhaps fabricated incidents to give an excuse for a further crackdown.")

No Talks With USSR On Reopening Of Suez Canal, British Spokesman Tells Commons

LONDON, Nov. 6 (JTA)--A Government spokesman said yesterday that Britain does not intend to initiate discussions with the Soviet Government aimed at the early reopening of the Suez Canal to world shipping. Fred Mulley, joint Minister of State of the Foreign Office, spoke in reply to a question in the House of Commons from Laborite member Gwilym Roberts. Mr. Mulley said the Nov. 22, 1967 resolution unanimously adopted by the Security Council, of which the Soviet Union is a permanent member, laid down the principles for a Middle East solution among which was freedom of navigation through international waterways in the area. "It is in the context of such a settlement that I believe the best hope lies for reopening the canal to international shipping," Mr. Mulley said.

Another Labor MP, Margaret McKay, asked if "in view of Israel's conquest of Arab lands and occupation in defiance of United Nations resolutions" the Government will seek further action by the UN. Mr. Mulley, replying in writing for the Foreign Secretary, noted that the UN's special emissary Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring is continuing his peace efforts. "The Government are always ready to support his work by any appropriate means, but recognize no necessity for further initiative by the UN at this time.

Paper Says Israel Used Ship-Based Helicopters In Raid On Egyptian Nile Bridges

LONDON, Nov. 6 (JTA)--The Daily Telegraph reported in a copyrighted story from Paris today that Israel used helicopters, jeeps and three small naval craft to carry out its surprise commando raid into Egypt last Thursday.

According to the report, a small Israeli naval vessel left Eilat on the Gulf of Aqaba, ostensibly for routine patrol duties. But she carried a helicopter on deck under a camouflage tarpaulin and six parachutists in her hold, all unseen by observers in the neighboring Jordanian port of Aqaba. The vessel proceeded down the Gulf of Aqaba, rounded the Sinai peninsula and sailed close to the west shores of the Red Sea to test Egyptian radar, the Telegraph's story said. There was no response from Egyptian shore batteries or aircraft and the first ship was joined Thursday evening by two others from Sharm el Sheikh, also carrying helicopters. The latter took off under cover of darkness and flew at low altitudes to avoid radar detection. Each helicopter carried a jeep and four commandos. One went to the Quena Bridge and another to the Naj Hammadi power station where watchmen were overpowered and plastic explosives and fuses laid. The jeeps then returned to the helicopters and the commandos were safely carried home after cutting down telephone lines in the Nile Valley, the story said.

UJA Announces 'Crash Campaign' To Raise \$40 Million In Last 2 Months Of 1968

NEW YORK, Nov. 6 (JTA)--The United Jewish Appeal announced a "crash campaign" today to raise \$40 million in cash during the last two months of 1968 in order to meet Israel's critical social welfare needs. According to Albert B. Adelman, national chairman of the UJA's cash collection campaign, the drive will seek to redeem pledges made earlier through community campaigns throughout the country on behalf of the Israel Emergency Fund. He said the drive would also redeem pledges to the regular UJA campaign which provides funds for the assistance of 300,000 Jews in 30 countries in addition to the program for Israel.

In a message addressed to American Jewish community leaders, Mr. Adelman said "We must set a goal and attain it, since otherwise UJA cannot possibly meet its commitments." Noting that there were no signs of a peace settlement in the Middle East, he said "Israel's immediate concern is the protection of her territory and the lives of her people. To this end she must strain her resources to the utmost and devote all means at her command." The same note of urgency was sounded by Edward Ginsberg, general chairman of the UJA, in a message from a UJA study mission in Israel. "With her resources strained to the utmost for defense, the people of Israel cannot at the same time cope with the tremendous social welfare needs. Close to a half million immigrants are still unabsorbed and with 4,000 new arrivals in September, the UJA must fulfill its commitments and sustain vast humanitarian programs," he said.

Nathan Flies To Biafra With \$350,000 Worth Of Medicine, Food And Clothing

NEW YORK, Nov. 6 (JTA)--The Biafra Relief Services Foundation sent a DC-8 jet to Biafra today with \$350,000 worth of medicine, medical and surgical supplies, food and children's clothing. Abie Nathan, the Israeli peace pilot, was aboard the chartered airplane as coordinator of the mercy mission to the children of Biafra. Members of the Canadian, Dutch and Danish Parliaments, as well as newsmen, were accompanying the flight.

The medicine and medical supplies were collected from a number of American companies by the B'nai B'rith Foundation and the International Rescue Committee. The Biafra Relief Services Foundation raised \$45,000 to pay for the cost of the plane flight. Much of the money consisted of small contributions from individuals, many of them young persons. Students at a number of colleges and high schools conducted special fund-raising campaigns to help pay for the charter. Commenting on the student campaigns, Mr. Nathan said that "the young people of America have demonstrated their idealism and dedication."

This was Mr. Nathan's second mercy flight to Biafra from the United States. On his first flight, which left New York Sept. 29, he brought \$250,000 worth of drugs and 30,000 pounds of high-protein foods to the Chief Government Pharmacist of Biafra, Caritas Internationale and World Church Service, for distribution to hospitals, clinics and refugee camps. The same agencies will receive the second cargo.

Baseball Commissioner Says World Series Cannot Be Changed To Avoid Holiday Conflict

NEW YORK, Nov. 6 (JTA)--Baseball Commissioner Gen. William Eckert has informed the executive vice president of the New York Board of Rabbis that "scheduling difficulties" and other factors make it impossible to change the traditional period of the World Series games so that they do not conflict with the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur holidays. Gen. Eckert conceded, in a letter to Rabbi Harold Gordon, that the problem was one of many years' standing and had been given a great deal of consideration.

Rabbi Gordon brought the matter up in a letter to the commissioner on Oct. 3 which noted that the opening game of the 1968 World Series coincided with Yom Kippur when millions of American Jews were prevented from witnessing the game personally, listening to it on radio or television or reading about it in the early afternoon newspapers.

In a telephone interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, he termed Commissioner Eckert's reply "unsatisfactory" and said he planned to pursue the matter further. Rabbi Gordon stressed that he regarded the problem as one of relatively minor importance compared to other issues facing the Jewish community.

He added however that he had brought it up because a situation that deprives millions of American Jews from enjoying a major national sport was not consistent with fair play. He said he intended to raise the matter with the presidents of the major league ball clubs "long before the next season begins."

Harvard Observes Publication Of 6-Volume Catalogue Of Hebrew Books

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Nov. 6 (JTA)--Publication of a six-volume Catalogue of Hebrew Books of the Harvard University Library was celebrated at a reception in the University's Widener Library. The catalogue has been termed by librarians as "an invaluable reference tool" for students and scholars all over the world. It contains photographic reproductions in book form of 75,000 cards in the Harvard Library's Hebrew card catalogue. A copy of the Catalogue was presented to Prof. Harry A. Wolfson in recognition of his role as founder of the Hebrew collection some 42 years ago.

Services Held For Moe Falikman, Was Active In ILGWU And Histadrut

NEW YORK, Nov. 6 (JTA)--Services were held today for Moe Falikman, a vice president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and a member and manager of its Cutters Local 10 for more than 50 years, who died here yesterday at the age of 75. Born in Austria, Mr. Falikman was active during the 1920s and '30s in organizing and improving the working conditions in the cutters' trade. At the time of his death he was national chairman of the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut and treasurer of the National Committee for Labor Israel.