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Paris Hopes For Big Four 'Consultations' Soon To Consider Russia's Mideast Peace Plan

PARIS, Jan. 16 (JTA)--French Government circles expressed the hope that Big Four "consultations" would be held within the next week to 10 days to discuss Soviet peace proposals for the Middle East. They stressed the term "consultations" rather than "conference" and indicated that France wanted the talks held by permanent representatives of the Big Four members of the United Nations Security Council. Diplomatic quarters here and abroad however indicated that a hiatus has developed in the Soviet Middle East peace offensive which was expected to delay considerably UN mediator Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring's resumption of his peace-seeking mission in the Middle East. They said that no major development can be anticipated until the Nixon Administration takes office next Monday and has a chance to determine its Middle East policy. The United States and Britain were seeking Soviet clarification of the Kremlin's Middle East plan. Consultations among the Western powers over the past two weeks were said to have raised a number of vital questions about the practicability of the Soviet plan.

The French magazine, *Jeune Afrique*, published the purported contents of the Soviet plan presented to Western powers Dec. 30. It coincided with a version published by the Beirut newspaper *Al Anwar* last week that well-informed circles said was fairly accurate. According to *Jeune Afrique*, Moscow proposed a phased withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Sinai Peninsula over a period of three months during which certain other provisions of the peace proposal would take effect. During the first month, Israeli forces would withdraw to a point 40 kilometers behind the Suez Canal. Immediately afterwards, the two sides would announce the end of their state of belligerency and would deposit documents to that effect with the Security Council. The documents would also pledge the recognition of all states in the area, their security, their frontiers and their right to existence. Both sides would also reach agreements through Dr. Jarring on freedom of navigation, borders and a solution of the refugee problem. During the second month, according to the *Jeune Afrique* text, Egyptian forces would take over the Suez Canal and start dredging and clearing it for navigation. During the third month, Israeli forces would retire to the lines they occupied on June 4, 1967, the day before the outbreak of the Six-Day War. UN troops would be posted at Sharm el-Shiekh, guarding the Straits of Tiran, in Gaza and on the Sinai frontier with Israel. With the withdrawal of Israeli forces behind their original lines, the statements of non-belligerency would come into effect and the Security Council would vote to guarantee all frontiers. Observers noted that the Soviet proposals made no mention of the status of Jerusalem. Israel has rejected the plan.

Washington Asks Kremlin For Clarifications, Reportedly Takes No Stand

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (JTA)--The United States Government asked the Soviet Union yesterday to clarify its peace plan. Secretary of State Dean Rusk presented a note to Yuri N. Chernyakov, Charge d'affaires of the Russian Embassy. It was a formal reply to the Soviet note of Dec. 30. Observers said the U.S. note neither accepted nor rejected the Soviet plan which some believed was deliberately vague on key points to allow openings for future bargaining. Whatever clarification the Russians choose to provide were expected to be given to the Nixon Administration.

The U.S. note was understood to have raised these questions: Does mention of "freedom of navigation" for Israel in the Straits of Tiran and the Gulf of Aqaba mean that Israel would continue to be barred from the Suez Canal; how can the UN insure that after Israel evacuates occupied Arab territories, the Arabs will deposit documents with the Security Council recognizing Israel's sovereignty; what specific arrangements does Moscow envisage for prohibiting Arab harassment of Israel?

(Reports in Jerusalem today indicated that the U.S. reply had been discussed with Israeli officials before it was sent. Israel voiced its stand to the White House and State Department after the Soviet note was received in Washington. According to sources here, the U.S. reply incorporated questions similar to those addressed by Israel to Egypt last year through Dr. Jarring. Israel, it was reported, was opposed to "half measures" that might have the appearance of a settlement but would leave the main points of dispute open, thereby perpetuating Arab reliance on the Soviet Union. The U.S. was said to concur with the Israeli view.)

Washington Post correspondent at the UN, Robert H. Estabrook, reported today that Western sources at the UN confirmed that Russia asked the U.S. to bring pressure to bear on Israel. The request was reportedly contained in the hitherto unpublished preamble to the Soviet's Dec. 30 note. Mr. Estabrook reported that Western diplomats saw no evidence of Soviet inclination to exert pressure on the Arab states.

(In a related development, President Nasser of Egypt has sent a private message to President-elect Nixon raising the question of resuming diplomatic relations between Egypt and the U.S., provided the U.S. follows "a just policy in the Middle East.")

Report French Have Established Commission To Consider Aid To Lebanon If Threatened

PARIS, Jan. 16 (JTA)--A special commission has been set up quietly by the French Government to examine ways and means by which France could come to the aid of Lebanon if that country was threatened, it was reliably reported here today. The commission was reported to be comprised of representatives of the Foreign and Defense Ministries. French Government circles said today that it was proper for former Minister of Information Georges Gorse to pledge in Beirut that France would come to Lebanon's aid if that country's existence was threatened. However, they noted, it would be up to the President to determine if such a situation existed.

See New Beirut Government Will Maintain Policy Of Avoiding Confrontation With Israel

LONDON, Jan. 16 (JTA)--Observers here suggested today that the new Lebanese Government headed by a Moslem, Rashid Karami, replacing the one that resigned 11 days ago because of Israel's Dec. 28 reprisal raid on the Beirut International Airport, would maintain the long-standing Lebanese policy of avoiding direct confrontation with Israel. A political crisis developed when students and leftists threatened riots because the airport had not been defended. They demanded general conscription, punishment of persons who failed to guard the airport and freedom for Arab guerrillas to use Lebanon as a base for actions against Israel. The Government ordered conscription and started a probe of the airport situation. Observers argued that a formal stand of Government opposition against guerrilla training or use of Lebanon as a staging area would continue under Premier Karami. Israel has complained that in recent weeks Arab terrorists have been shooting at Israeli settlements from within Lebanese territory and charged that the two guerrillas who shot up an El Al plane in Athens on Dec. 26 came from Beirut.

(Defense Minister Moshe Dayan told a group of high school students in Tel Aviv that Israel would keep hitting back "with an iron fist" against attacks from Arab nations providing bases for guerrillas. He said that if Syria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Iraq train, encourage and finance terrorists to fight Israel, "they have to expect us to hit back.")

The Financial Times reported here today from Beirut that the new anti-Israel policies of French President Charles de Gaulle already were paying dividends in the Arab world. The Lebanese press reported that at the forthcoming conference of the Arab League, the Lebanese delegation will propose that the conference approve a resolution providing import priority to French products in Arab countries in appreciation for Gen. de Gaulle's embargo on weapons and weapon parts to Israel. The conference was scheduled to open in Beirut Monday. One proposal at the conference, the Times reported, will be that preference in Arab economic and commercial dealings should go to foreign countries which fully support the Arabs and which have no diplomatic relations with Israel.

Commonwealth Members Said To Have Complained About Shutdown Of Suez Canal

LONDON, Jan. 16 (JTA)--A number of countries attending the British Commonwealth conference, which ended here yesterday, complained bitterly about the shutdown of the Suez Canal since the June, 1967 Six-Day War and argued that pressure should be brought to bear on Israel to reopen the waterway. The views were voiced at private meetings of the delegates which were not open to the press. Most African representatives, it was reported, were not hostile to Israel and some of them, particularly Tom Mboya of Kenya, referred to Israel in friendly terms, as did spokesmen for Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Pakistan was expectedly hostile as was Zambia, which was less so, while India took no strong position in the private talks.

The British position was described as one of neutrality, expressed in friendly terms by Prime Minister Harold Wilson and in less friendly attitudes by Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart. Observers said the British had learned that UN resolutions, such as the Security Council resolution on the Middle East of November, 1967, were not "holy writ." The British, it was noted, ignored a UN resolution on Gibraltar. The observers also said that the British, after barring British citizens from Kenya and Uganda, were hardly in a position to advise Israel about the Arab refugees. Generally, it was indicated, the Middle East was not a major topic on the Commonwealth agenda, in either public or private meetings.

French Embassy In Tel Aviv Stoned By Students Following Demonstration Against De Gaulle

TEL AVIV, Jan. 16 (JTA)--The French Embassy in Tel Aviv was stoned today in the aftermath of a noisy but generally peaceful demonstration by more than 10,000 Israeli university and secondary school students against Gen. de Gaulle's embargo of military equipment and spare parts to Israel. The stone-throwers were relatively few in number and were quickly restrained by police with the aid of other students. A delegation representing the students was received by French Ambassador Bertrand de la Sabliere who was presented with a petition denouncing the embargo. The envoy would not comment on the embargo or on Gen. de Gaulle's policies toward Israel. But he was cordial to the Israeli youngsters and said that he himself had participated in demonstrations in his student days and understood their feelings. He told them that understanding and sympathy were the basis of Franco-

Israeli relations. He added it was one of the unpleasant duties of an Ambassador to receive such petitions and deputations.

The demonstration began in the municipal square where the heads of student organizations and faculty members of Tel Aviv University addressed crowds. Thousands of posters bore such legends as "De Gaulle Is Not France," "Vive La France--To Hell With De Gaulle" and "De Gaulle, Israel Is Not Algeria." The students later marched to the Embassy on the Tel Aviv beachfront which was heavily guarded by police with doors locked and windows shuttered.

(More than 1,000 persons demonstrated in New York today in front of the French Consulate on Fifth Ave. The demonstration was supported by member agencies of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and other national Jewish groups and student organizations. The demonstrators carried signs saying "Russia Arms Arabs -- de Gaulle Prevents Israel's Defense." A spokesman for the demonstrators met with acting Consul General Jacques Landry and presented statements expressing disapproval of French Middle East policies. In another statement issued in New York, Stanley H. Lowell, vice president of the American Jewish Congress, said "There is a deep-rooted feeling that Gen. de Gaulle has joined the ranks of anti-Semites and that his latest action against Israel is merely a continuation of the anti-Jewish prejudice he voiced in Nov. 1967 when he described the Jewish people as an 'elite people, self-assured and domineering.'"

(More protests were registered in New York against the embargo. The Labor Zionist Organization of America charged that Gen. de Gaulle openly supported the Arabs and that "hard cash was more important to de Gaulle than justice, peace or Israeli lives." The charge was contained in a telegram to Charles Lucet, the French Ambassador to Washington. More than 1,000 Jews gathered yesterday in front of the French Consulate in Chicago to protest the embargo. A delegation headed by David S. Bern, chairman of the Illinois Conference of Jewish Organizations, met with Jean Mendeaux, Consul-General, and handed him a petition criticizing the embargo. Mr. Bern said the envoy defended the French action but agreed to convey the petition to his Government. In Boston, the Ad Hoc Committee for a Just French Policy in the Middle East, submitted a statement to French Consul Jacques Massenet protesting the embargo and urging that it be lifted immediately. The petition was presented by Rabbi Manuel Soltzman, president of the Jewish Community Council of Boston. The statement said Gen. de Gaulle's "arbitrary action assists the Soviet Union in its design to achieve domination in the Middle East.")

(In Brussels, police dispersed a crowd of about 60 Jewish school boys and girls who demonstrated without a permit in front of the French Embassy here yesterday to protest the embargo. The youngsters were members of Jewish youth organizations but their demonstration was not authorized by the Jewish Students Union. They shouted "Love Live France, Without de Gaulle." Police permitted them to protest for 20 minutes before they took action.

Appeals To Iraq To Commute Death Sentences Of 3 Jews Reportedly Fruitless

JERUSALEM, Jan. 16 (JTA)--All appeals to the Baghdad Government to commute the death sentences imposed on three Iraqi Jews for allegedly spying for Israel have yielded no results so far, the chairman of the Iraqi Immigrants Association said here today. David Patia, a member of the Knesset (Parliament), said he had his information from reliable diplomatic sources abroad. It was reported but not verified earlier this week that they had been executed.

Eshkol Opens \$11 Million Jet Engine Plant Which Stems From De Gaulle's 1967 Embargo

TEL AVIV, Jan. 16 (JTA)--Prime Minister Levi Eshkol cut a ribbon yesterday ceremonially opening an \$11 million jet aircraft engine plant that is an outgrowth of President Charles de Gaulle's 1967 embargo on shipment of Mirage V fighter-bombers to Israel.

Beth Shemesh Engines, Ltd., at Beth Shemesh, near Jerusalem, is owned jointly by the Israel Government and Joseph Schidlowsky, a French industrialist who heads the Turbomeca jet engine company in France. Initially it will produce spare parts for small jet engines made by Turbomeca. It is expected to be turning out whole jet engines within two or three years. The opening of the plant, largest of its kind in Israel, took on added significance from the embargo on military equipment and spare parts to Israel imposed by Gen. de Gaulle of France almost two weeks ago. The widespread opposition to that act among Frenchmen was manifested by the fact that M. Schidlowsky was accompanied on his trip to Israel to inaugurate the new plant by leaders of France's aircraft industry, among them former ministers in previous French Governments. The dedication ceremonies were attended by two senior officials of the French Embassy but Ambassador Bertrand de la Sabliere was absent.

Prime Minister Eshkol omitted reference to the embargo or the international situation generally in his speech. He extended warm thanks to Mr. Schidlowsky who invested half the cost of building the plant and owns a 51 percent interest in it. He said the occasion was an important one for Israel's industrial development and expressed the hope that the factory's products will be exported all over the world "to serve as good ambassadors for us and build a reputation for engines made in Israel."

Javits Becomes First Jewish Senator To Serve On Foreign Relations Committee

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (JTA)--Sen. Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, today became the first Jewish Senator ever named to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. A leading advocate of the Israeli cause, Sen. Javits will now be in a position to wield greater influence on U.S. policies and legislation. Mr. Javits has served in the Senate since 1957. He previously was a member of the House of Representatives. While a House member, he served on the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Another "first" occurred when it was revealed today that three Jews will serve simultaneously on the House Foreign Affairs Committee. This has never occurred before. House officials revealed that Rep. Lester Wolff, New York Democrat, would be named to the committee. He would join Rep. Leonard Farbstein and Rep. Benjamin Rosenthal, both New York Democrats. A newly-elected Jewish Congressman, Rep. Abner J. Mikva, Illinois Democrat, will be appointed to the House Judiciary Committee. Rep. Emanuel Celler is committee chairman.

Day Schools Ask N.Y. Education Board To Continue Aid After Decentralization

NEW YORK, Jan. 16 (JTA)--The New York City Board of Education has been urged by a spokesman for Hebrew day schools to maintain centralized programs of Federal and state aid to those schools whatever decentralization plan is eventually adopted for the city's public schools. Rabbi Murray I. Friedman, a consultant to Torah Umesorah, the national society for Hebrew day schools, appeared at the Board of Education hearings on decentralization.

He said, "We are concerned about the future place of day schools under decentralization since it has become increasingly evident on the basis of recent experience with limited decentralization plans that the assignment of funds on a district-by-district basis assumes a negative character when applied to the...day school system." Rabbi Friedman said, "For the Hebrew day schools, in particular, which terminate their studies between half-past four and six o'clock, pupil participation in decentralized programs has been made well nigh impossible by the repeated refusal of local superintendents to recognize the special needs of these pupils and make the necessary accommodations."

He said it was "imperative that the programs for the non-public schools which have been operated centrally by the Board of Education with the use of Title I funds, as well as other Federal and state aid programs, such as transportation, school lunches, text books and library services, continue to be administered in the same manner regardless of the nature of the decentralization plan which is approved for the city's schools."

Teachers Union Protests Anti-Semitic Poem Broadcast Over New York Radio To FCC

NEW YORK, Jan. 16 (JTA)--An anti-Semitic poem read by a controversial Negro teacher on a public subscription radio station broadcast last month is the newest element in the ongoing struggle between the New York City teachers' union and the advocates of community control of public schools. The United Federation of Teachers (UFT) has lodged a strong protest with the Federal Communications Commission over the poem, read on WBAI-FM by Leslie R. Campbell Dec. 26. It was purportedly written by a 15-year-old Negro boy, was dedicated to Albert Shanker, head of the teachers' union, and opened with the lines, "Hey, Jew boy, with that yarmulka on your head/you pale-faced Jew boy, I wish you were dead."

Mr. Campbell, a key figure in the Ocean Hill-Brownsville school dispute, was suspended on charges of harassing union teachers but was reinstated earlier this month when a state panel, headed by Dr. John Fisher, president of Teachers College, found evidence against him "insufficient to warrant disciplinary proceedings." Mr. Campbell read the poem as a guest on the Julius Lester Program. The UFT has charged WBAI-FM with spreading anti-Semitic propaganda in general "and attacks against New York teachers in particular." The station, owned by the Pacifica Foundation of Berkeley, Calif. and supported by contributions from listeners, is known for broadcasting intensely controversial material. Mr. Lester, host of the weekly program is field secretary of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee and the author of a book about the black revolutionary movement. He said his intention in allowing Mr. Campbell to read the poem was "to demonstrate what a lot of people don't want to take seriously -- the strong and growing hostility and resentment of Jewish whites among ghetto blacks." The poem linked Israel's struggle with the Arab countries to white supremacy in the city's recent school crisis. One verse read, "When the UN made Israel a free independent state/ little four- and five-year-old boys threw hand grenades; they hated the black Arabs with all their might/ and you, Jew boy, said it was all right." Mr. Shanker, in a statement issued yesterday, said that the WBAI program ought to provide new grounds for Mayor John V. Lindsay and Dr. Fisher to reverse Mr. Campbell's reinstatement. He said his reading of the anti-Semitic poem "is an indication of his teaching approach."

In a related development, Mayor John V. Lindsay of New York today assailed a section of a catalogue for the cultural exhibition "Harlem On My Mind" that opened tonight at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. "It suggests that black Americans have joined a national majority not by their efforts for justice and dignity, but through anti-Semitic feelings. This is a slander on both the black and white community, as well as an insult to the Jewish community," he said. He declared that "no exhibit which bears the endorsement of the city...should reflect this kind of bigotry." He urged the museum to withdraw the publication from distribution until the remarks are expunged.