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Says Embargo More Damaging To French Economy Than Israel's Military Capabilities

JERUSALEM, Jan. 19 (JTA)--President Charles de Gaulle's recently-imposed embargo on military equipment and spare parts to Israel will do far greater damage to France's economy than it will to Israel's military capabilities, according to assessments published here and abroad today. Yitzhak Ironi, director of Israel's Military Industries, disclosed in a Jerusalem Post interview that Israel was near self-sufficiency in the production of vital military equipment and spare parts. Reports from Paris quoted the managing director of France's Dassault aircraft company as saying that France's aircraft industry stands to lose over \$48 million as a direct result of the embargo.

(The first casualty of France's aircraft manufacturing industry has already been recorded in the reported shutdown Thursday of the Dassault plant at Martignas in the Gironde region which employed 100 technicians and specialists. The plant manufactured Mirage jets and spare parts exclusively for Israel. According to managing director Mons Valliers some 50 to 100 workers will be laid off at another aircraft factory at Merignac, near Bordeaux. He said the embargo has endangered the jobs of some 3,000 aircraft workers all over France, 1,800 of whom are employed by Dassault. He said another aircraft firm likely to suffer serious losses was Sud Aviation which manufactures the Super Frelon helicopters, which Israel used in the Dec. 28 reprisal raid on Beirut Airport, in a factory near Marseilles.)

Mr. Ironi said that all artillery used by Israel, including tank guns and jet fighter cannon, is made in Israel with steel imported from Britain and the United States. He said ammunition, ejector seat cartridges, disposable jet fuel tanks, electronic equipment and propellants for air-to-air rockets were also made in Israel. "We have doubled manpower and tripled production since the Six-Day War," Mr. Ironi told the Jerusalem Post. He said Israel was not surprised by the extension of the 1967 French embargo on Mirage jets to include spare parts and all other military equipment. "We began to tool in May, 1967 and have prepared dies for the most critical items. What we cannot buy abroad we will make ourselves and there is nothing we cannot produce in the way of arms, ammunition and accessories in the next 12 to 18 months," Mr. Ironi said. He disclosed that Israel has 5,000 employees working on armaments worth some \$100 million a year, some of which are exported.

Prof. Moshe Arens, manager of Israel Aircraft Industries Ltd., said here Friday that the French embargo "will be a blessing to us in the long run and could prove fatal to France's aircraft industry" which was built on Israeli orders. He said two new French fighter-bombers were not put into production because Israel decided against buying them.

(The Daily Telegraph said in London today that apart from the direct loss of exports to Israel, French heavy industries face a severe drop in confidence among prospective foreign buyers who fear that arbitrary, politically inspired embargoes could be imposed on them. The paper said the defense committee of the French National Assembly was to vote on a resolution Wednesday severely criticizing the embargo on Israel but postponed it out of courtesy to Defense Minister Pierre Messmer who will appear before the committee on Jan. 23.)

Paris Confirms That Military Mission Going To Lebanon To Appraise Defense

PARIS, Jan. 19 (JTA)--The French Government confirmed yesterday that a mission of three officers was being sent to Lebanon "to make an assessment of the defense problems arising out of the Beirut incident." The incident referred to was Israel's Dec. 28 reprisal raid on Beirut Airport that resulted in destruction of 13 commercial airliners. A Government spokesman denied that the officers would constitute a "military mission" in the usual sense of the term. It was said that they will try to find out what sort of military equipment and other military assistance Lebanon needed from France in the event its security was threatened. Foreign Ministry sources made it clear the interpretation of what constituted a threat to Lebanon could come only from President de Gaulle.

(The Israeli newspaper Maariv said in a dispatch from Paris today that Palestinian saboteur organizations have made contacts with French authorities to get material aid from France. Maariv said it was rumored in the French capital that former Minister of Information Georges Gorse was asked for such help when he was in Beirut last week on a ceremonial mission for President de Gaulle and allegedly reacted favorably. And diplomatic sources in London said today that Lebanon was threatened with a confrontation between Palestinian guerrilla bands on its soil and its regular Army, similar to one which occurred in Jordan last November. According to Arab sources, some 500 guerrillas are encamped along Lebanon's border with Israel.)

The announcement of a French mission to Lebanon heightened speculation here that France was prepared to render direct military assistance to that country in the event of another Israeli raid. The announcement of the mission specifically denied that the three officers would serve as "military advisors," a term that has adverse connotations in Europe because "military advisors" marked the

first stage of United States intervention in Vietnam. The newspaper Le Figaro said however that the possibility of "new decisions" could not be excluded as a result of the mission's report. News stories last week said a combat-ready company of French paratroopers was stationed at Toulouse ready to take off for Lebanon on short notice. There were also reports that French naval units would pay a courtesy call at Beirut in the near future.

(A group of 100 French Jewish leaders arrived in Jerusalem for an eight-day visit in a demonstration of solidarity with Israel. They included a number of fund-raising leaders. The mission was headed by Baron Guy de Rothschild and is officially called the French Keren Hayesod, the Unifie Juif de France.)

State Department Sees Little Merit In French Peace Proposal, May Dismiss It

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19 (JTA)--The State Department has indicated that it sees little merit in the French Government proposal, announced Friday, for a Big Four Ambassadors meeting in the Security Council on the Middle East crisis. Spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said that Washington would "study the proposal carefully" but noted that the United States continued to believe that primary efforts to achieve a "just and lasting peace" called for in the Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 Mideast resolution should rest with UN envoy Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring.

State Department officials said that unless the new Nixon Administration decided to alter U.S. policy, the Government would reject the French proposal, requested in separate notes to Washington, London and Moscow. They said the department favored individual consultations with the major powers in the UN Council rather than a formal Four Power meeting on the grounds that the latter might weaken the Jarring mission and diminish the UN's ability to bring about a Mideast solution. The Johnson Administration's position has been that Mideast peace must result from efforts originating in the region itself and must not be imposed from outside.

In a related development, the U.S. has proposed to the Soviet Union "two-track" negotiations--or "consultations"--which would be a continuing exchange between Moscow and Washington, with the aim of hammering out common elements of a peace settlement which would help Dr. Jarring mark out the "perimeters" for detailed Arab-Israel negotiations. The second--and, in the U.S. view, more crucial--set of talks would be between Israel and the Arab states in the UN context provided by Dr. Jarring. The Rusk note was cleared in advance with Secretary of State-designate William P. Rogers of the new Nixon Administration. The dual negotiations it proposed would go on simultaneously. They would also be tied to talks between the U.S. and Moscow and their "friends" in the Middle East. The U.S. note also said the Jarring mission would be aided if "all parties concerned" sought to restrain Arab terrorism, which provokes Israeli reprisal, and repeated suggestions for Soviet-U.S. limitations on arms shipments to the area.

Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban has also rejected the French proposal and called for establishment of peace through the "parties directly concerned." Mr. Eban said, "Rather than devoting time and energy in deliberation among themselves, the two Great Powers should try and bring" the Arabs and Israel "together in order to further peace among them." He said the "fate and future" of the Mideast can only be decided by its people "rather than by outside powers who have at most only a marginal interest in the area." Any imposed peace, he said, would not be a settlement "because the parties against whom it is imposed would at the first possibility feel themselves free to disengage themselves from it." The French statement contained no direct reference to the recent Soviet proposal on Mideast peace sent to Paris, London and Washington, but the French have indicated they regard it as a basis for discussions.

Report Great Britain Cool; Secretary-General Thant Pleased

Great Britain reportedly was cool to the French plan. London was said to believe that British and French mediation is unnecessary, since it cannot be effective unless Moscow and Washington reach agreement on peace measures. UN Secretary General U Thant has expressed strong support for the French proposal on the condition that negotiations remain within the UN context. He said Big Four talks in the Security Council would help Dr. Jarring's mission. He opposes a separate Big Four initiative outside the UN.

In making its proposal, France said that the Big Four representatives in the Council should discuss means of "establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East" but made it clear that it did not seek an imposed settlement on Israel and the Arab states. The goal of the Big Four, it said, should be to "open the road to a settlement" in which the concerned states would be "intimately associated." France said the immediate goal of the talks would be to "define the conditions" in which the Security Council Nov. 22, 1967 measure could be implemented and, later, to make such action possible. It suggested that the Big Four Ambassadors work in "liaison" with Secretary-General Thant. The 1967 resolution called for Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories, the right of secure and recognized boundaries in the region, and end to belligerency, guaranteed freedom of navigation through the area's international waterways, a just settlement of the refugee problem and a guarantee of territorial inviolability through measures including establishment of demilitarized zones.

Mr. Eban told the Cabinet yesterday that the Soviet proposal would restore Middle East conditions to those prevailing before the outbreak of the Six-Day War, and said the U.S. Government saw this as

a prescription for resumption of hostilities. He said that all Israeli diplomats had been asked to point out that these proposals, "by a power which contributed to the tension in 1967 and has no relations with Israel cannot be a basis or a frame of reference for any discussion." He said Israel will continue to find a solution through Dr. Jarring, who was scheduled to resume his mission this month but will delay it until February owing to the change of Administration in Washington.

A Government spokesman declined to comment when asked about a report in the authoritative Egyptian newspaper Al Ahram saying the U.S. had proposed to the Soviet Union that Israeli troops continue to be stationed at Sharm el-Sheikh at the entrance to the Straits of Tiran.

Eshkol Praises Johnson Warmly, Reveals President's Desalination Recommendation

JERUSALEM, Jan. 19 (JTA)--Prime Minister Levi Eshkol voiced high praise today for President Lyndon B. Johnson who ends his term in office tomorrow. Mr. Eshkol disclosed the contents of farewell messages exchanged between himself and Mr. Johnson over the week-end. The President informed him that he had recommended a substantial grant for establishment of a sea water desalination plant in Israel in his final message to the United States Congress. Prime Minister Eshkol referred to the President's message at today's Cabinet meeting and later at ceremonies formalizing the parliamentary alignment between Mr. Eshkol's Israel Labor Party and the left-wing labor party, Mapam. Mr. Eshkol called Mr. Johnson "one of the righteous men of the world" and predicted that he would take a place in history among the great U.S. Presidents.

Mr. Eshkol praised Mr. Johnson's conduct "during the period of storm and stress, in May and June, 1967" when "the President showed his understanding of our position and opposed every attempt to widen the scope of the dispute beyond the Israel-Arab context." He said that immediately after the Six-Day War, Mr. Johnson "laid down the effort to achieve permanent peace in the Middle East as the foundation of his country's policy. When peace comes, and I am convinced it will come," Mr. Eshkol said, "President Johnson's historic contribution will be appreciated."

The exchange of notes dealt mainly with the water desalination project, Cabinet Secretary Michael Arnon revealed. He noted that Mr. Johnson's request for an appropriation to cover a large part of Israel's desalination needs did not amount to final approval since the measure has to pass the Congress along with the entire budget for fiscal 1969. It was learned that U.S. and Israeli negotiators agreed last summer on a desalination project that could yield 40 million gallons of desalted water daily--about five percent of Israel's requirements--and produce between 200 and 300 megawatts of electric power. The plan, smaller than one originally envisaged, would be aided by a \$40 million grant to Israel and a long term loan of \$18 million, the terms of which would be negotiated with American banks. The agreement did not specify the type of fuel to be used in the desalination plant--nuclear or conventional--but the loan and grant were not made conditional on the choice of fuel. The original plan envisaged a nuclear reactor for the plant. The choice of fuel was up to the Israel Government.

Mr. Eshkol said that President Johnson understood the need for peaceful development of the Middle East and the supreme importance of water for that purpose. He said Mr. Johnson showed great interest in desalination when he and Mr. Eshkol first talked in Washington in 1964 and that they had been in constant contact on the subject ever since.

Labor Gets First Parliamentary Majority In Israel's History

At the political ceremony attended by Mr. Eshkol, the Israel Labor Party and Mapam signed a protocol formally establishing an alignment that will give labor its first clear majority in the Knesset (Parliament) in Israel's history. The protocol provided joint Labor Party-Mapam lists of candidates in next October's national and municipal elections. Knesset seats will be divided according to a proportional arrangement agreed to in advance. A Labor Party leader recommended that it continue to cooperate with the Orthodox religious bloc in the interest of national unity even though Labor commands a clear majority. Labor is composed of the former Mapai, Achdut Avodah and Rafi factions, which merged last year, in addition to Mapam. Mrs. Golda Meir, former Labor Party secretary general said that Labor could now form a government independent of the religious parties. The latter, though representing a minority of the electorate, have held the balance of power in all previous governments because of the need to form a coalition.

'Pravda' Takes Parting Crack At Johnson, Criticizes Mideast Policy

LONDON, Jan. 19 (JTA)--In a parting blast at the departing Administration of President Johnson, the Communist Party newspaper Pravda yesterday said that it had failed to play a constructive role in the Middle East which, it said, was "fraught with serious and growing dangers in connection with the provocative actions of Israel's rulers." Pravda added that "history can only say one thing--that the outgoing American Administration had not done what it could have done to influence the ruling Israeli classes and make them respect the Nov. 22, 1967 resolution of the UN Security Council and other important decisions aimed at political regulation of the Mideast problem," it was reported here.

Hussein Says He Does Not Want To Control Commandos, Will Not Renounce West Bank

LONDON, Jan. 19 (JTA)--King Hussein of Jordan said in an interview published in the London Times today that he has no wish to control Palestinian commandos active against Israel from Jordanian soil. He said that he never offered to renounce his claim to the West Bank, that he hoped for a "more

balanced" American policy toward the Middle East from the Nixon Administration, and that he believed the full weight of the two super-powers--United States and Soviet Russia--has yet to make itself felt in the Middle East conflict.

King Hussein dismissed as "Israeli propaganda" reports that he was the "prisoner" of Palestinian commando groups and that he did not have the power to suppress them. The real truth, he said, "is that I do not want to control or suppress them. They are the fighting arm of the Palestinian people, who are, and have been for 20 years, the main sufferers in the Arab-Israeli conflict.... They have organized themselves to fight for their homelands, as they have every right to do." He claimed that reports that he was prepared to relinquish the West Bank to some sort of Palestinian Arab "entity" was an Israeli "diversion." He said he could never renounce the West Bank because "the Palestinians do not want it, the Arabs do not want it. What I am ready to do, once the West Bank is restored to Jordan, is to ensure that a greater measure of decentralization is granted to the Palestinians there." King Hussein thought that world opinion was beginning to change in favor of the Arabs. "Israel once commanded wide sympathy as the underdog but now she has become an overdog and has lost a great deal of it," he said.

(Israeli forces killed two saboteurs and possibly four in two separate clashes in the Golan Heights and Beisan Valley regions Friday night. Arms, ammunition and explosives was seized in both encounters. The first clash occurred when an Israeli patrol surprised a group of saboteurs in the northern Golan Heights near Banias, killing one. Another was killed in a clash near Gesher in the Beisan area near the Jordan River where signs indicated two others may have been killed. Bazooka shells, explosives, Russian-made Kalatchnikoff rifles and land mines were found. The Israelis suffered no casualties.

Bitterness Between New York's Negro, Jewish Communities Deepens With New Incidents

NEW YORK, Jan. 19 (JTA)--Growing bitterness between the Jewish and Negro communities here deepened over the weekend with two new manifestations of Black anti-Semitic feelings and bitter reactions to them by Jewish organizations. The latest confrontation occurred as a special committee appointed by Mayor John V. Lindsay reported the emergence of "a dangerous component of anti-Semitism" in the recent New York City teachers' strike which pitted Negro advocates of community control of public schools against the Jewish-led, largely Jewish United Federation of Teachers. The Mayor's committee, headed by Bernard Botein, former presiding judge of the appellate division of the State Supreme Court, said it found evidence of "vicious anti-white attitudes on the part of some black people and vicious anti-black attitudes on the part of some white people." A new conflict developed Friday over an introduction to the official catalogue of a new exhibition of art in Harlem which opened at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, a city institution. Mayor Lindsay denounced the introduction as "racist," saying it contained offensive references to Jews, Irish and Puerto Ricans. Demands that it be withdrawn were made by the American Jewish Congress, anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the Workmen's Circle and the Jewish Labor Committee. The American Jewish Committee praised Mayor Lindsay's condemnation of the piece. But Thomas P.F. Hoving, museum director and former city parks commissioner, declined to withdraw it because he felt it was neither racist, bigoted nor slanderous. A disclaimer of any racial intent was however inserted into soft-cover copies of the catalogue on sale in the museum. Robert L. Bernstein, president of Random House, publisher of the hard-cover edition, rejected the Mayor's request for withdrawal and said the book, "taken as a whole is a responsible document which will contribute to the understanding of a difficult problem."

The controversial introduction was written two years ago by Candice Van Ellison, a Negro girl then 16 and a student at Theodore Roosevelt High School in the Bronx. It suggested, according to Mayor Lindsay, that "black Americans have joined a national majority not by their efforts for justice and dignity but through anti-Semitic feelings." Miss Van Ellison, now a sophomore at Bridgeport University, wrote, "The already badly exploited black" was allowed "to be further exploited by Jews." She alleged that "behind every hurdle that the Afro-American has yet to jump stands a Jew who has already cleared it." Allon Schoener, of the State Council on the Arts, who was coordinator for the "Harlem on My Mind" exhibit and assembled the catalogue, said there was no attempt "to provoke anti-Semitic feelings" and added that as "a member of the New York Jewish community" he felt that "the Jews must face the realities of the world in which we live."

In another area of the city's racial conflict, former Board of Education president Mrs. Rose Shapiro demanded that her successor, John Doar, dismiss a Negro public school teacher who read an anti-Semitic poem on a public subscription radio station broadcast Dec. 26. The teacher, Leslie R. Campbell, had been suspended on charges of harassing union teachers in the Ocean Hill-Brownsville experimental school district in Brooklyn during the teachers' strike. He was reinstated after a New York State panel found "insufficient evidence to warrant disciplinary action." The poem, purportedly written by a 15-year-old Negro schoolboy, was read by Mr. Campbell on the Julius Lester program on WBAI-FM. Dedicated to Albert Shanker, teachers' union president, it began with the verse, "You pale-faced Jew boy/ with that yarmulka on your head; you pale-faced Jew boy, I wish you were dead." Mrs. Shapiro's demand for the ouster of Mr. Campbell was echoed by the Council of Supervisory Associations, an organization of public school administrators, in telegrams to Dr. James E. Allen, the State Education Commissioner, and Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller. Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, president of the New York Board of Rabbis, made the same demand in a telegram to Mr. Doar. Mr. Lester, host of the weekly program, is field secretary of the militant Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee. He said he arranged for reading of the poem to demonstrate "what a lot of people don't want to take seriously-the strong and growing resentment of Jewish whites among ghetto blacks."