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UN Welcomes Report That Nixon Favors Big Four Meetings On Mideast Tensions

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Feb. 3 (JTA) -- The United Nations has not been informed of any plans for a Four Power meeting on the Mideast situation but will be prepared to place all necessary facilities at the disposal of the conference, a UN spokesman announced today. Speculation at the UN headquarters was that such a meeting probably would not be held before the middle of February, because of the absence of Lord Caradon, the British Permanent Representative here. He was due to return Feb. 12 from London.

With Secretary-General U Thant in Ethiopia today, there was no comment here on Washington reports that the United States National Security Council had decided on American participation in Four Power talks on the Mideast within the framework of the UN Security Council and terms of reference of its Nov. 22, 1967 resolution. There was considerable gratification here at the stress in Washington reports on the projected role of the UN and the U.S. intention to channel efforts at a solution through the UN.

A spokesman for the U.S. Mission to the UN, when asked today about the Nixon position on Four Power talks, called press reports "premature." He declined to explain further.

There was no indication today whether Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring, Mr. Thant's special envoy for the Mideast, would be available here if these talks were held later this month. Dr. Jarring was expected to return to his Moscow post as Sweden's Ambassador there soon after Mr. Thant's return here on Thursday.

It was disclosed today that the president of the last General Assembly, Emilio Arenales, had not yet appointed the three-nation committee which by General Assembly directive is to study the status of the civilian population in the territories occupied by Israel during the Six-Day War.

U.S. Preparing Note To Nasser Seen As Leading To Resumed Relations

President Richard M. Nixon, after consulting over the week-end with his top advisors in the National Security Council, decided to accept the French proposal for Four Power talks at the UN. Mr. Nixon was said to have instructed the State Department to reply affirmatively to the French proposal. He was also understood to be preparing a cordial letter to President Gamal Abdel Nasser, of Egypt, which was seen as opening the way for the resumption of diplomatic relations between Washington and Cairo. Relations were severed by Cairo during the June, 1967 Six-Day War when Col. Nasser accused the United States and Britain of sending aircraft to help Israel. The Egyptian leader retracted the charges in an interview with Look Magazine, though it was false. His retraction was never published in Egypt. The new Nixon letter, which will be in reply to one from Col. Nasser congratulating the President on his inauguration, would, it was said here, allow the Egyptian President to take the initiative in resuming diplomatic ties without retracting his June, 1967 charges.

Mr. Nixon's acceptance of the principle of Four Power talks was viewed as a departure from the stand of the Johnson Administration which held that a durable settlement of the Middle East conflict had to come from within the region. But the Nixon Administration was clearly opposed to the concept of a Middle East settlement imposed by the Big Powers. The President was said to have found merit in the French plan to hold discussions within the UN between the Permanent Representatives of the Big Four which are, along with Nationalist China, permanent members of the Security Council.

The U.S. views the Four Power talks as a means of reinforcing the peace-seeking mission of Dr. Jarring and will stress this in its reply to France. Dr. Jarring does not consider the terms of his mandate from the Security Council to permit him to advance any peace plans of his own.

It was expected that the U.S. will suggest "consultations" instead of a formal "conference" among the Big Four UN representatives in order to dispel the idea that an imposed settlement -- opposed by Israel -- was in the making. The Nixon Administration was also said to have found merit in that part of the Soviet Middle East peace proposal of Dec. 30, 1968 which would have the Arabs and Israelis communicate at first through Dr. Jarring. The Arabs have refused to meet face to face with Israel. Like the Johnson Administration, the Nixon Administration believes that Israel cannot be made to give up the territories it won in June, 1967 without firm assurances of a lasting peace. Mr. Nixon has, therefore, reportedly decided that there should be an iron-clad contractual agreement of some sort between the disputing parties as part of any settlement.

Israel's Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin met today at the State Department with Elliot L. Richardson, the new Under-Secretary of State. It is believed that Ambassador Rabin sought clarification of the emerging U.S. policy.

(Premier Levi Eshkol of Israel was reported to have urged President Nixon, in a personal message, to oppose any Mideast settlement imposed by the Major Powers. Mr. Eshkol reportedly asked the President to stand firm for direct Arab-Israeli negotiations for peace and stressed that Israel

could not accept a settlement imposed by the Super-Powers. Official sources said it was delivered prior to last Saturday's meeting of the President with his top advisors.)

In Philadelphia, Sen. Hugh Scott, of Pennsylvania, assistant Republican floor leader of the Senate, said today that President Nixon's initiative for Arab-Israeli peace "should not be interpreted as an effort to impose a settlement" that Israel cannot accept. He called on the Administration to "reject the efforts of the Russians and the French to write U.S. policy" on Israel. He told the Cardozo Lodge of B'rith Sholom here that he was "confident that President Nixon knows full well that the only lasting settlement must be one to which Israel and the Arab states freely subscribe."

Israeli Jets Strike Terrorist Position In Jordan Following Attack On Patrol

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- Two Israeli jets struck terrorist positions in a deserted Jordanian village opposite Neve Urr in the Beisan Valley today. The air strike followed an attack from Jordanian soil on an Israeli patrol near Neve Urr, a military spokesman reported. The patrol returned the fire and the planes were called in to demolish the base. Israeli authorities denied Iraqi and Jordanian claims that two Israeli planes had been shot down over Jordan. One spokesman described the report as "wishful thinking" and said it was typical of the war scares emanating from Arab sources. In another development, five Israeli soldiers were injured today when their vehicle struck a mine in the Arava area south of the Dead Sea.

Military authorities reported today that Arab commando groups have shifted the scene of their operations from the Jordanian to the Lebanese border. The Israeli village of Idmith, less than 200 yards from the Lebanese frontier, was the target of heavy fire coming from Lebanese territory last night. No casualties were reported. According to reliable sources, large numbers of El Fatah terrorists have concentrated in southeastern Lebanon, near the junction of the Israeli, Syrian and Jordanian borders. Some 400 El Fatah members are said to be in Lebanon with the full knowledge of the Beirut authorities. Israeli sources said the El Fatah was forced to admit failure on the Jordanian front owing to Israeli counter-measures. The Jordan River has been impassable for many days because of winter floods.

Algeria Donates Over \$500,000 To Leader Of El Fatah, Pledges More

PARIS, Feb. 3, (JTA) -- Algeria has turned over \$500,000 to the leader of El Fatah, the principal Palestinian commando group active against Israel, and has pledged to "continue to support the Palestinian resistance fighters with more money and more arms." The Algiers radio broadcast ceremonies at which Kaid Ahmed, secretary-general of Algeria's only political party, presented a check to Yasser Arafat, alias Abu Amar, leader of El Fatah. The money came from funds collected at mass demonstrations for the "resistance fighters" that are held regularly in Algeria and from a special "entertainment tax" levied on all places of amusement on "Palestine Day" last year. Algeria is the major contributor of cash to El Fatah and also supplies most of its instructors who train recruits in sabotage and guerrilla warfare.

Suspend Sentences Of Arab Women Whose Arrests Were Believed To Have Triggered Riots

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- Three young Arab women of Gaza whose arrest on charges of complicity in terrorist activities was believed to have sparked five days of demonstrations by Gaza high school girls which ended in a riot yesterday, received suspended sentences from the local military commander today and were released from jail. Brig. Gen. Mordechai Gur suspended a three year sentence passed on a 19-year-old student at a teachers seminary who allegedly served as "paymaster" for terrorist groups along with two years sentences imposed on a 21-year-old teacher and a 19-year-old high school student for allegedly harboring terrorists. The "paymaster" was accused of transmitting funds from Jordan to sabotage gangs active in the Gaza Strip. All three of the accused pledged to end their activities on behalf of terrorists.

But all was not quiet in Gaza today. Five local Arabs were injured by a hand grenade thrown in a square. Five high school girls were still hospitalized in the aftermath of a bloody clash with truncheon-wielding Israeli police in which 95 girls were injured. The melee occurred outside the Saladin high school where hundreds of girls had set up a road block and were stoning passing vehicles. An Israeli girl soldier and a civilian were injured in one of the cars. The Arab girls had been demonstrating for nearly a week, shouting anti-Israeli and pro-Nasser slogans.

Damiya Bridge Back In Action, Repaired By Jordanians With Israeli Approval

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3, (JTA) -- The Damiya bridge, badly damaged three weeks ago when a Jordanian officer touched off demolition charges to forestall an imagined Israeli invasion, was re-opened to traffic today. The span was repaired by the Jordanian Army engineers who cleared their plans with Israeli Army officers before they started to work. The re-opening of the Damiya bridge will ease the burden on the Allenby bridge to the south which is the only other link between Jordan and the West Bank.

Says Britain Will Not Confer With Other Nations On Joint Request For Nazis' Extradition

LONDON, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- A Government spokesman said in the House of Commons today that Britain did not plan to consult with the United States, Russia, France and West Germany on a joint request to Brazil and Uruguay for the extradition of Nazi war criminals found to be living in those countries. Joint Minister of State, Fred Mulley said, in reply to a question by Labor MP Richard Mitchell, that "this is a matter for the governments of those countries whose courts would have jurisdiction to try the suspected war criminals and the governments of the countries in which they are now residing."

Jewish Writer-Poet David Sfard Arrives From Poland To Become Israel Citizen

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- A Jewish writer and poet, David Sfard, arrived here yesterday from Poland to settle in Israel with his wife and son. Mr. Sfard was formerly deputy chairman of the Jewish Cultural Association in Warsaw and edited Yiddishe Shriften, a magazine.

Allon Warns Iraq That Israel's Restraint Should Not Be Seen As Sign Of Weakness

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Allon warned Iraq today that Israel's restraint in the aftermath of the hanging of nine Jews in that country last week should not be interpreted as a sign of weakness or that Jewish blood was free to be spilled. Mr. Allon spoke at a memorial service in Ramat Gan for the executed Jews, one of several such services held in various parts of Israel. He said that Israel's main concern now was to prevent further executions and to save the remnants of Iraqi Jewry. He warned, however, that Israel "will not sit back in the face of maltreatment and persecution of Jews wherever they are." He said the nation's restraint from military reprisals against Iraq was "proof of Israel's political maturity." The Ramat Gan services were attended by thousands of former Iraqi Jews who make their home in the Tel Aviv suburb and in nearby immigrant townships. Many wore black ribbons or black arm bands and carried black flags.

A joint Arab-Jewish memorial service for the hanged Iraqis was held in Nazareth today under the auspices of the World Jewish Congress. It was addressed by Saif Addin Suabi, an Arab member of the Knesset (Parliament) and Archbishop Raya, head of the Catholic church in Israel. Memorial meetings were also held in the new immigrant town of Hatzor in Upper Galilee.

Christian, Jewish Clergymen Appeal For Religious Leaders' Campaign

NEW YORK, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- A group of Christian and Jewish clergymen appealed today to religious leaders of all world faiths to join in a campaign of "prayer and pressure" to halt further mass trials and executions in Iraq. The appeal was issued by the "Appeal of Conscience Foundation" whose president is Rabbi Arthur Schneider of Park East Synagogue, New York. Other officers are Rev. Harold A. Bosley of Christ Church Methodist and Rev. Thurston N. Davis, Society of Jesus, director of the John LaFarge Foundation, both vice presidents; the Revs. Eugene K. Kulhane and C.J. McNaspy, editors of the Jesuit magazine "America"; and the Rev. Dr. David H.C. Read, of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, also in New York.

Catholic and Jewish spokesmen joined Jewish leaders today in calling on the Government of Iraq to permit its 2,500 Jews to emigrate and in urging the United States to make a "solemn declaration" that all Iraqi Jews who seek refuge here will be admitted. The statements came at a New York memorial service and protest rally sponsored by the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun.

In a statement prepared for delivery at the meeting, Arthur J. Goldberg, former U.S. Ambassador to the U.N., declared "Iraq's Jews have only one hope -- that the outraged voice of the world's conscience will persuade the Iraqi authorities to let them leave the country."

Following the meeting, some 3,000 persons representing the 23 national Jewish agencies that make up the Presidents Conference marched to the Iraqi Mission to the U.N. There Rabbi Herschel M. Schacter, chairman of the Presidents Conference, delivered a letter, "In the interest of simple humanity we ask that you allow the exodus of the Jews in your country whom your government plainly regards as inimical to your domestic well being. We pledge ourselves and our resources to make arrangements for their emigration and reception elsewhere."

The Brooklyn Jewish Community Council has asked Jewish-owned and operated stores in the borough to close for a half hour on Thursday to symbolize their protest against the public hangings.

The Iraqi hangings were denounced today by Donald S. Harrington, chairman of the New York State Liberal Party, who likened them to Hitler's "Final Solution" and the Stalinist purges in Russia. A statement condemning the Iraqi hangings and urging world opinion not to remain silent was adopted by representative Jewish organizations in the Greater Miami area today.

The Philadelphia City Council expressed "indignation and great sorrow over the Iraqi Government's barbaric treatment of its Jewish population." Special memorial prayers were held in Los Angeles at the behest of the Board of Rabbis of Southern California.

An estimated 3,000 persons attended a Montreal protest rally called by the Canadian Jewish Congress, Federated Zionist Organizations and the Community of Sephardic Jews. Abe Monroe, president, CJC Congress, sent a telegram to the Government asking its intervention in stopping any further trials. He added that Mitchell Sharp, Minister for External Affairs, has conveyed the protests of Canadian Jews and Government disapproval to BAGHDAD.

Protests Continue Mounting In Europe, Hangings Denounced

LONDON, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- Protests continued to mount against the Iraqi hangings today along with appeals by Jewish leaders and others for the intervention by governments and other groups with moral authority to prevent further executions.

In Geneva today, Chief Rabbi Alexander Safran asked the International Committee of the Red Cross and the World Council of Churches to intercede on behalf of Iraqi Jews whose lives are threatened. Demands for international intervention to forestall new secret trials and hangings were made at public meetings in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and other major South African cities.

In Rome, the Communist Party newspaper *Unita* published a letter from Umberto Terracini, a Jewish Communist Senator, denouncing the Baghdad hangings of 14 men--including nine Jews--as "barbarous, premeditated massacre." Sen. Terracini, a member of the International Association of Democratic Jurists, demanded that trials everywhere be held in public so that the rights of defendants are assured.

Nixon Adviser Says Jews Must Not 'Turn Inward' And Quit Rights Struggle

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- Daniel P. Moynihan, the new White House Assistant for Urban Affairs, urged today that the Jewish community "not turn inward" because of Negro hostility and remove itself for the struggle for racial equality. While recognizing the dilemma facing Jewish groups created by a rise in anti-Semitism, "this is no time for turning back," he told the annual meeting of the B'nai B'rith board of governors.

Making his first public speech since joining the Nixon Administration, Dr. Moynihan said that "organizations such as B'nai B'rith were never more needed than today in the cause of equality." He said the nation will have paid "a very heavy price" if such traditional elements in the fight against prejudice and discrimination as the Jewish community withdraws from the effort for racial justice.

"Anti-Semitic feelings have come open in a way which we thought we were finally done with," Mr. Moynihan said. "You have been alarmed, hurt and offended by this--and you ought to be." But citing the racial crisis as the major domestic problem confronting the nation, he said that no matter "what the provocations of the moment, the great commitment has to be to those who have the least."

Conference Of Jewish College Youth Maps Aid To Jews In Soviet Union

CHICAGO, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- Jewish college youth from 30 campuses in the United States and Canada convened here today to protest against the treatment of Soviet Jewry and to make plans to help alleviate their plight. The youngsters, hailing from 25 cities, were attending the first national assembly on Soviet Jewry sponsored by the North American Jewish Youth Council in cooperation with the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry. The gathering was addressed by Rabbi Ralph Simon, president of the Rabbinical Assembly, who told the 250 delegates that "the Soviet Union has intensified its course, aimed at the conscious obliteration of Jewish history and culture within its borders."

Rabbi Simon denounced Russia as "the only country that has uttered no protest of mass hangings of Jews and others in Iraq last week." One of the first projects on the assembly's agenda concerned assistance to the Jewish community of Odessa in Russia to rebuild its only synagogue which was destroyed by fire recently. The assembly urged demonstrations of solidarity with Soviet Jewish youth. The North American Jewish Youth Council claims to represent 500,000 Jewish high-school and college students. Its national chairman is Jerry Epstein, a student at the Jewish Theological Seminary (Conservative) in New York.

Goren Bids Orthodox Jews Build International Rabbinical Seminary In Jerusalem

LAKEWOOD, N.J., Feb. 3 (JTA) -- Rabbi Shlomo Goren, chief chaplain of Israel's armed forces, called on American Orthodox Jews today to help establish an international seminary in Jerusalem to train rabbis for service in Orthodox communities all over the world, particularly in Latin America and the Scandinavian countries. Rabbi Goren, who holds the rank of brigadier general and was recently named chief rabbi of Tel Aviv, spoke at the annual conference of the Rabbinical Council of America, an Orthodox rabbinical organization.

He also called for the creation in Jerusalem of a "Supreme Rabbinical Council" composed of rabbis from all over the world elected to three-year terms to deal with theological questions such as those raised by the rapid advances in science and technology.

Rabbi Goren said the rabbinical seminary he proposed would train rabbis in the language of the country in which they were to serve. He said the new generation of rabbis emerging from such a school would fill the gap left by the destruction of European Jewish communities which were once the seat of traditional Jewish scholarship and religion.

Rabbi Goren proposed as well the establishment of a "military yeshiva" in Israel to train rabbis who want to devote themselves to ministering to the spiritual needs of Jews in the armed forces of Israel and other countries.

Merril Trust Makes \$15,000 Grant To New York Yiddish Dictionary Institute

NEW YORK, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- City College's Institute of Yiddish Lexicology, which is publishing a 10-volume dictionary of the Yiddish language, has been given a \$15,000 grant by the Charles E. Merrill Trust, it was announced Monday by Dr. Buell G. Gallagher, college president. The institute was established in 1965 for the purpose of compiling the dictionary which would contain "all the wealth created in Yiddish during the past 1,000 years," Dr. Gallagher said. It is directed by Prof. Nathan Susskind of the Germanic and Slavic languages department.

Work on the dictionary was originally begun in Eastern Europe before World War II but materials collected at the time were either lost or destroyed. The present work dates back to 1953. Two of the 10 volumes have been published so far. The entire project is expected to take 15 years and will cost nearly a million dollars.

Bar-Ilan University Confers Honorary Degree On Chief Justice Earl Warren

NEW YORK, Feb. 3 (JTA) -- Chief Justice Earl Warren of the United States Supreme Court received yesterday an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Bar-Ilan University in Israel, an institution sponsored by American Jews. The award was conferred by Dr. Joseph H. Lookstein, chancellor, at a dinner here honoring Justice Warren. Dr. Lookstein announced the establishment of a program for graduate training and rehabilitation counseling at Bar-Ilan which, he said, was the first such program to be started outside of the U.S. Justice Warren recalled a visit he made to Bar-Ilan University where he saw students "of many nationalities, many tongues, many shades of color and religious faiths" working harmoniously together. The Chief Justice likened Jewish immigrants arriving in Israel to the Negro slaves brought to America up to a century ago in their lack of worldly goods.