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Israel Remains Firm On Opposition To 4 Power Talks Despite Possible Harm To Image

JERUSALEM, April 21 (JTA) -- Government circles know that their opposition to the Four Power Mideast talks now going on in New York may be damaging to Israel's image abroad but they will not be deterred from making Israel's views known in every possible way, diplomatic sources said here today. The Government view is that Israel's survival could be at stake and that that is far more important than making a good impression overseas. Israelis believe that the sole outcome of the talks so far has been to worsen the immediate situation in the Middle East. They are deeply concerned that a Big Power deal might emerge that could be worse for Israel than no settlement at all, the sources said.

Israeli officials point out that since the talks started, new heavy fighting has flared along the Suez Canal front and the Israel-Jordan demarcation line. The United Nations' special peace envoy, Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring has withdrawn from the scene and has returned to his post as Sweden's Ambassador to Moscow. Both of these developments, according to Israelis, bode ill for chances of peace.

The main worry here, however, is that the United States and the Soviet Union may reach an agreement on the Vietnam war, nuclear disarmament or other global matters which could affect the American attitude toward the Middle East conflict. This, Israeli officials say, would be detrimental to Israel which regards anything less than a signed peace treaty with the Arabs worse than nothing at all.

Israeli diplomats say, however, that the views stated last week by Secretary of State William P. Rogers to a delegation representing the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations are reflected in official U.S. communications to Israel and represent the stand taken by the U.S. in the Four Power talks. Mr. Rogers assured the delegation that the U.S. still favored a contractual agreement between Israel and the Arab states and had no intention of imposing a solution on the area.

Nixon, Rogers Said To Be Vexed By Jews' Criticism Of U.S. Role In Talks

WASHINGTON, April 21 (JTA) -- Administration officials said today that President Richard M. Nixon and Secretary of State William P. Rogers were becoming vexed by Jewish criticism of American participation in the Big Four Middle East talks and regard the criticism as impugning the integrity of the commitments to Israel, stated by Mr. Nixon and Mr. Rogers.

A delegation representing the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations called on Secretary Rogers last week. The delegation's spokesman, Rabbi Herschel Schacter, told him that there was an "apparent drift in U.S. policy on the Middle East away from insistence on a negotiated peace between the Arab states and Israel." He presented a statement on behalf of the 25 leading Jewish bodies represented and said they were "concerned and agitated" over the prospect that current Four Power talks would "absolve the Arab States from their responsibility to settle their differences directly with Israel."

The statement also voiced disquiet about Mr. Rogers' recent press conference statements on the Big Four meetings. Mr. Rogers had told newsmen that while the U.S. will not attempt to seek an imposed settlement, if the Big Powers do provide a formula for a solution, the force of world public opinion would make it difficult for any Mideast Government to reject it. "There are lots of ways to influence people without making them do something," he said.

State Department officials have now disclosed that the Secretary felt his word of honor and that of the President were questioned by the delegation's general approach and particularly by the attitude of two delegation members. Officials declared that Mr. Rogers and Mr. Nixon have repeatedly asserted that Israel will not be sold out by the U.S. at the Big Four conference, that no peace unfair to Israel would be imposed, that final consent to any settlement must come from the countries directly concerned.

In official circles it was said that there was a great deal of resentment over the Conference's expression of uneasiness that it said, had been "deepened" by Secretary Rogers' statement about the "force of public opinion" and by the "failure to condemn terrorist activity in the joint statement issued by President Nixon and King Hussein."

Officials said that the sincere commitment of the new Administration was conveyed in person by the President and Secretary Rogers to Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban during the latter's recent visit to the United States. They said that Mr. Eban, instead of accepting the "generous assurances" offered--in the words of the officials--later made public addresses in various cities that "agitated" American opinion in the matter of the Big Four talks.

These officials further asserted that the U.S. Government has been steadfast in its commitments to Israel in the course of the current talks with the Soviet Union, France and Britain. The UN Ambassadors held their fifth meeting today at the New York residence of French Ambassador Armand Berard.

Representations such as have been made were said to reflect a "premature judgment" and a "prejudiced prior judgment" that does not attribute motives of honesty and firmness of resolve to American leaders. U.S. authorities took exception to the argument that there was no real danger of war in the Middle East. The officials said that the U.S. assessment indicated a massive Soviet naval buildup in the Mediterranean, an escalation of border conflict between Israel and the Arabs, and an obviously increased danger of general war. They cited the weekend statement by former Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion of Israel urging action on a peace settlement and warning that "we may be on the brink of a new war."

Officials said that while U.S. leadership was being "maligned" on the question of Big Four talks, the U.S. delegate to the talks fought and defeated a "declaration of intent" that jeopardized Israeli interests. As a result the declaration idea, pushed by France, was shelved. The declaration would have specified what Israel, Egypt, and Jordan intended to do in the implementation of the Nov. 22, 1967 UN Security Council resolution. The French proposed that the Four Powers should draft the declaration and send it to the Mideast states through UN envoy Jarring for their separate signatures. The U.S. objected to the concept in that it provided an evasion for the Arabs of their obligation to make a real peace. France and the Soviet Union demanded that the declaration begin with an Israeli pledge to withdraw. The U.S. and Britain insisted that it start with an Arab pledge to recognize Israeli sovereignty. France and Russia insisted that the declaration state Israel's intention to withdraw "from the territories occupied" in the 1967 war. But the U.S. and Britain objected. They wanted the declaration to state Israel's intent to withdraw "to secure and recognized boundaries."

U.S. authorities said that the American struggle at the Big Four talks was in complete conformity with the commitment to Israel that withdrawal should be to new, defensible and just boundaries and should take place only after the boundaries have been negotiated. Officials here said that Britain steered a middle course. They said that the U.S. emerged as the champion of Israel "at the very time when attacks were being made by the interests defended against their benefactors and supporters."

Israelis Repulse Second Egyptian Commando Crossing At Canal; Guns Blaze With Jordan

TEL AVIV, April 21 (JTA) -- Israeli forces along the Suez Canal repulsed an Egyptian commando raid early this morning, the second in 24 hours. Israeli Air Force jets blasted gun positions in Jordan today during a five hour clash in which Jordanian regulars joined guerrillas in bombarding settlements in the Beisan Valley and the southern Golan Heights.

A military spokesman announced that two Israeli soldiers were killed and two were wounded in today's artillery clashes with Jordanians in which Iraqi gunners may also have participated. An Israeli soldier was wounded by an Egyptian sniper on the Suez Canal near Kantara. Jordanian and guerrilla forces aimed mortar, machinegun and artillery fire at Ashdod Yaacov, Hamadya, Neve Urr, Bet Yosef and other Beisan settlements. There were no casualties among the residents.

A military spokesman said an Israeli patrol on the east bank of the Suez Canal intercepted a small band of Egyptian soldiers who had crossed the waterway at a point between Kantara and Port Said. After a brief exchange of fire the Egyptians were driven back. Three Israeli soldiers were slightly wounded and one vehicle was damaged but was quickly repaired, the spokesman said.

Military sources denied that Egyptian commandos entered or held any Israeli positions in the first commando raid which took place Saturday evening opposite Ismailia at the midpoint of the canal. They said the raids, by small groups of specially trained commandos, represented a new Egyptian policy of harassment because constant artillery barrages have failed.

The Cairo newspaper Al Ahram said today that Egyptian commandos had launched "numerous raids" across the canal to avenge the death of Gen. Abdel Moneim Riad, Egypt's Army chief of staff who was killed recently during an artillery duel with Israeli forces. A spokesman here said that Egyptian commando raids have been on a small scale and have achieved little or nothing. He noted that in the past Egypt officially attributed the raids to El Fatah, the Palestinian guerrilla movement; now they are taking credit for them, apparently to boost morale on the home front, the spokesman said.

The fighting along the Israel-Jordan demarcation line was on a bigger scale than across the Suez Canal yesterday and today. A military spokesman said today's clash began with an attack on an Israeli patrol near Bet Yosef in the Beisan Valley with bazookas and machine guns. The patrol returned the fire upon which Jordanian forces opened up with artillery. The shelling spread to the northern Beisan Valley and the southern Golan Heights. Israeli artillery went into action and Israeli jets were sent on a series of sorties to knock out the Jordanian positions, a military spokesman reported. He said there was a noticeable diminution of Jordanian artillery fire after the planes went into action.

A spokesman in Amman claimed that two Israeli jets were shot down. He said the planes dropped napalm and strafed the area around Waqas village 11 miles south of the Sea of Galilee and also hit the Sohn and Zmal areas further south. An Israeli spokesman said the jets struck guerrilla positions used as bases for attacks on Israeli settlements. There were no reports of any Israeli planes lost. Israeli sources said that Jordanian regulars were now opening fire in every incident initiated by saboteurs. They said in the last few days the Jordanians did not wait for the guerrillas but started artillery duels themselves.

4 Arab Saboteurs Killed In Jordan Valley; Massive El Fatah Arsenal Discovered

TEL AVIV, April 21 (JTA) -- Four Arab saboteurs were killed in a clash with an Israeli patrol near Umm Sidra Pass in the Jordan Valley today. The gang was wiped out when they refused orders

to surrender and continued shooting from a hideout in a cave, a military spokesman reported. He said the encounter brought to nine the number of saboteurs killed near the Jordan River in the past few days. There were no Israeli casualties.

Israeli security forces rounded up an El Fatah gang operating out of the West Bank town of Nablus yesterday and seized an arsenal which, according to one Israeli officer, was sufficient to arm a regiment. The round-up was one of a series of measures taken to forestall threatened terrorist attacks during Israel's Independence Day celebrations tomorrow. El Fatah had announced that it would launch a "spring offensive" on Yom Haatzmaut which comes a little more than a month short of the second anniversary of the Six-Day War.

Terrorists have been making desperate attempts to infiltrate Israeli territory in the past few days and have been trying to persuade local Arabs to join them in sabotage. But one local Arab whom they recruited to transport guns turned informer and led Israeli forces to the arms cache. Several score Arabs were arrested in what was described as one of the largest-anti terrorist operations on the West Bank. The El Fatah gang was given away by two Arabs who were captured while transporting 18 Russian-made Kalachnikov assault rifles by donkey near Nablus. They implicated a local Arab taxi driver who lead Israeli soldiers to the hideout where he admitted bringing arms. The raid yielded scores of machineguns, submachine guns, rifles and bazookas.

Herut Party Council Urges Government To Apply Israeli Law To Occupied Areas

TEL AVIV, April 21 (JTA) -- The Herut Party council called on the Government yesterday to apply Israeli law to the occupied territories and to increase Jewish settlement in those regions--moves frequently proposed by Defense Minister Moshe Dayan but opposed by other Government leaders. Menachem Beigin, Herut leader and a Minister-Without Portfolio in the coalition Government, warned that Israel must take seriously the threats of Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser to destroy it. He said strong measures were needed to meet Col. Nasser's threats and that Israel must remain alert so long as the Arabs preach war. "It takes two sides to make peace, but only one side to make war," he said.

Herut is aligned with the Liberal Party, which constitutes the second largest faction in the Government of Premier Golda Meir. Mrs. Meir has strongly opposed applying Israeli law to the occupied areas or integrating them economically with Israel. She is supported by Foreign Minister Abba Eban who has argued that such moves by Israel would be viewed abroad as contrary to Israel's proclaimed desire for peace with the Arabs.

Kollek Assailed For His Views On Jewish, Arab Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, April 21 (JTA) -- Mayor Teddy Kollek came under fire in the city council and the local labor council yesterday for expressing the opinion that an independent Arab and an independent Jewish Jerusalem could exist side by side if peace came. The mayor had referred to a greater Jerusalem stretching from Bethlehem to Ramallah in an interview published in the Jerusalem Post. He stressed that he was expressing his personal views, not those of the municipality. But city councilmen of all factions insisted that any views expressed by the mayor were considered to represent municipal policy. No action was taken in the city council but the labor council adopted a resolution denouncing the mayor's proposal.

Goldmann Says Israeli Government Should Have Advisory Body Of Diaspora Jews

JERUSALEM, April 21 (JTA) -- The establishment of a consultative council made up of representatives of Diaspora Jewry to serve as a permanent advisory body to the Israel Government was proposed here Friday by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress and former president of the World Zionist Organization. Speaking at a forum of the Jerusalem Journalists Association, Dr. Goldmann said the Israeli Government should not expect Diaspora Jewry to accept on faith every decision it makes. He said that while unquestioning acceptance might be essential in times of emergency, in normal times Israel's position on important international matters should be coordinated with Diaspora leaders.

Government Launches Education Campaign To Combat Opposition To Immigration

JERUSALEM, April 21 (JTA) -- Opposition to immigration among some Israelis has grown to a point where the Government has deemed it necessary to launch an educational campaign to explain the country's need for immigrants and the economic advantages accruing from them. Aryeh Eliav, Deputy Minister of Immigrant Absorption, disclosed that such an effort will soon get underway.

He told a press conference yesterday that while the vast majority of Israelis favor immigration and realize its importance, a poll just completed for the Government by a public opinion research company showed that 15 percent of the populace considered immigration a burden. The main reasons given were that it pushes taxes up; that immigrant students occupy the places of native born students in universities; and that immigrants from the Western countries are rich enough not to need Government assistance. Mr. Eliav said that the arrival of between 35,000 and 40,000 newcomers a year ploughs about \$170 million per annum into the national economy which stimulates prosperity.

Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Allon reported to the Cabinet yesterday that immigration during the first three months of this year totalled 8,053 persons including new settlers and Israelis who returned after absences of more than five years. Mr. Allon, who is also Minister of Immigrant Absorption, said the comparable figure for the same period last year was 6,197.

Slomovitz Chides Newspaper Colleagues For Their Reaction To Lord Snow's Thesis

DETROIT, April 21 (JTA) -- The editor-publisher of an English-Jewish weekly published here has criticized the editors of a number of other Jewish weeklies for rejecting a suggestion by the British author and physicist, C.P. Snow, that outstanding Jewish achievement in many fields might be attributable to a superior genetic endowment.

Philip Slomovitz, of the Detroit Jewish News, accepts Lord Snow's thesis as "truth." He chided its critics for being "jittery" and "frightened by the gene pool compliments" and urged Lord Snow not to be "upset by the critics." According to Mr. Slomovitz, "If there is a disproportionate performance of Jewish superiority--as there undoubtedly is--it is the result of a challenge, of the need to overcome difficulties, of rising above the degradations to which our people have been subjected through the ages... That is why the Jew rose above his environment. That's why the gene produced so well."

Editors of English-Jewish weeklies published in Boston, Cleveland and Newark, N.J., however, saw in Lord Snow's theory the elements of a potentially dangerous doctrine of racial superiority which could make Jews complacent. They attributed the excellence of Jewish performance to ambition, hard work, closely knit families and a tradition of learning. One editor maintained that the "challenge-and-response" theory promulgated by the British historian Arnold Toynbee was a more likely explanation of Jewish achievement than Lord Snow's gene pool thesis. There is no scientific evidence that environmental factors affect human genes.

New Jersey Senate Gets Assembly-Passed Bill Allowing Prayer Or Silent Meditation

TRENTON, N.J., April 21 (JTA) -- A bill allowing brief, daily silent prayer or meditation in New Jersey public schools was passed on to the Senate last week after winning almost unanimous approval in the State Assembly. The measure, which could constitute a challenge to the U.S. Supreme Court's interpretation of the Constitution's edict calling for separation of church and state is expected to face a veto by Gov. Richard J. Hughes if passed by the Senate. He vetoed a similar bill last year and its supporters failed by a narrow margin to over-ride it. The measure supported by 15 Democrats and 44 Republicans provides for a period of meditation at the opening of every school day and would be mandatory if directed by the local school board and optional with each teacher in lieu of any school board directive.

National Council Of Jewish Women Hears President Comment On Youth, Black Anti-Semitism

CHICAGO, April 21 (JTA) -- The National Council of Jewish Women opened its 28th biennial convention here yesterday with an analysis of the disaffection of American youth and an assessment of Negro anti-Semitism. Mrs. Leonard H. Weiner, president of the 100,000-member organization, said in her keynote address that young people were dismayed by the gap between the image of America they grew up with and the realities they saw.

"Many of our young people have grown up living the 'good life' portrayed in ads and on television screens," she said, "and as they have reached maturity and grasped the nature of the world as it is for the great majority of its inhabitants, they have been overwhelmed by dismay and disillusionment." Mrs. Weiner said that looking to their elders "they have seen avoidance or response so measured that it could be interpreted as indifference."

Mrs. Weiner urged the Jewish community not to hold the entire Negro people responsible for the anti-Semitic manifestations of small groups of extremists. "We cannot expect black America to be free of anti-Semitism or any other human weakness," she said. She added, however, that it was the responsibility of black leaders to condemn irresponsible and anti-social behavior. The same position was taken by Judge Otto Kerner, chairman of the National Commission on Civil Disorders (Kerner Commission), who was on hand to receive the John F. Kennedy Award for his contributions while serving on the Commission.

New Yorkers Will Pay Tribute To Danes For Rescuing Jewish Community During War

NEW YORK, April 21 (JTA) -- New York's academic community will pay tribute to the Government and people of Denmark here April 26 for the rescue of almost the entire Jewish community of that country by their Danish fellow citizens. A program of music and dance featuring international artists will mark the escape of Denmark's Jews to Sweden in 1943 after they were slated for deportation to Nazi death camps. The event will be sponsored by Tribute to the Danes, Inc., a foundation which provides scholarships in Israel for Danish youth.

Justice Arthur J. Goldberg, American Jewish Committee president, will be the principal speaker, according to Elias Gechman, founder and chairman of Tribute to the Danes. He will share the platform at the Hunter College Playhouse with G.F.K. Harhoff, Consul General of Denmark, and Rehavam Amir, Consul General of Israel. The Danish diplomat will be presented with a scroll on behalf of the academic community by Prof. Samuel Abrahamsen.

The Chicago Board of Rabbis presented a testimonial plaque to the Danish Government last week in recognition of its efforts to save Danish Jews. The plaque was accepted by Lorenz Petersen, Consul General of Denmark in Chicago.

Rambam Hospital Dedicates Department Named For Leon Friedman Of Los Angeles

HAIFA, April 21 (JTA) -- A department of oncology and nuclear medicine, named for a Los Angeles benefactor, Leon Friedman, was dedicated last week at the Rambam Hospital here. The \$145,000, 42-room department provides diagnosis, therapy and research into malignant tumors and related illnesses. Dr. Eliezer Robinson, a 38-year-old graduate of the Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School directs the department for which Mr. Friedman, who died in 1961, bequeathed \$50,000 as a starting fund.