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Report U.S. And Soviet Union Near Agreement On Formula For Voluntary Peace-Keeping

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 26 (JTA) -- The United States and the Soviet Union are close to agreement on formulas for the conduct of voluntary United Nations peace-keeping activities, it was learned here today. The agreement may find its most immediate application in the Middle East.

According to informed sources, the negotiations are all but complete on observer missions such as the 90-man UN Truce Supervision Organization now in the Middle East. Agreement on non-punitive peace-keeping operations such as the seven-nation military force on Cyprus may take longer. Officially the negotiating is being done by a working group of eight nations but the key talks since last fall have been held between United States Ambassador Maxwell Finger and Soviet Ambassador Lev Mendelevich, Ambassador Francisco Cuervas Cancino, of Mexico, chairman of the UN's 33-nation Peacekeeping Committee, told that body yesterday that negotiations on the formula "are in a somewhat advanced stage."

Agreement between the two major powers would have a direct impact on possible UN peace-keeping action related to a Middle East settlement. The return of UN peace-keeping forces to that area is known to have been proposed in the current Four Power Mideast talks in New York and the U.S.-Soviet talks on the same subject going on in Washington. A UN peace-keeping force stationed in the Middle East after the 1956 Suez crisis was withdrawn by Secretary-General U Thant in May, 1967 at the request of President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt. Mr. Thant's action was widely criticized as one of the immediate causes of the Six-Day War,

In the present U.S.-Soviet negotiations, the Russians have reportedly been willing to consider voluntary peace-keeping operations in contrast to their previous insistence on actions under Chapter VII of the UN Charter which prescribes enforcement actions of a punitive nature by the Security Council. A Western source said today that the Soviets believe a new UN peace-keeping force in the Middle East would be helpful "and they see that in the Middle East it would be impossible to define it as a punitive expedition."

The U.S. reportedly facilitated an agreement with Russia on a peace-keeping formula by backing away from its previous stress on the independent initiative of the secretary-general. This concession reportedly reflected American disillusionment with that it considered the one-sided role of Mr. Thant in the Vietnam war.

U.S., Soviet Talks At Apparent Impasse, But Are Expected To Continue

WASHINGTON, June 26 (JTA) -- Administration sources indicated today that an impasse has been reached in the bilateral talks with the Soviet Union on a Mideast settlement. But they felt that if Washington and Moscow were as far apart as ever on a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, sufficient progress has been made in the talks nevertheless to warrant their continuation.

The gloomy assessment was made after studying the Soviet reply to a 13-point American proposal submitted to the Russians last month. The reply was delivered to Secretary of State William P. Rogers on June 17 by the Soviet charge d'affaires, Yuri Tcherniakov. Apparently drafted after Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei F. Gromyko's Cairo meeting with President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt earlier this month, it indicated if anything a hardening of the Arab-Soviet line.

According to informed sources, the Soviet reply contained a detailed blueprint for a step-by-step Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories without exception--the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and the Sinai Peninsula. This was in direct contrast to the United States' "package" proposal which was deliberately vague on territorial questions and called simply for "secure and recognized frontiers" that would not "reflect the weight of conquest." The U.S. envisioned Arab-Israeli negotiations at some stage to work out the permanent frontiers.

The Soviet note made no mention of negotiations and insisted that a formal declaration of non-belligerency could come only when the Israeli pull-back was complete. If recent reports that the Soviets had agreed in principle to the American concept of a "package" deal were correct, Moscow's latest note represents a reversion to the idea of a phased withdrawal.

Other points in the Soviet note were said to be: Return of the Sharm el Sheikh strongpoint commanding the Straits of Tiran to a UN peace-keeping force without limiting Egyptian sovereignty over the Sinai Peninsula; establishment of demilitarized zones astride Israel's borders which, according to Moscow, would be those that existed prior to June, 1967. The proposal implied that Israel would have to accept demilitarization of part of its own territory and the restoration of the rights of Palestinian refugees as part of any "package" agreement. The Soviet note also reportedly downgraded the mission of the UN special envoy to the Middle East, Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, who has been a key element in U.S. planning. His future responsibility as envisioned by the Russians would be to assist in defining the extent of the demilitarized zones.

17 Arab Families Evicted From Street Near Western Wall For Security Purposes

JERUSALEM, June 25 (JTA) -- Seventeen Arab families were evicted yesterday from buildings facing streets leading to the Western Wall. The buildings will be occupied by Israeli troops as a security measure arising from last Friday's bomb explosions in buildings on a narrow street used by worshippers walking to and from the Wall. Most of the Arab families left without protest. A cafe owner and three families refused to accept the Israeli offer of alternative living quarters and were forcibly evicted. The evacuated structures included a mosque and court known as the Mahkama, which abuts on the Western Wall. Israeli authorities claimed the location of its windows posed a security problem to worshippers at the Wall. The building has served as an Arab high school since the 1967 war.

Jerusalem municipal authorities undertook to find alternative living quarters for the evicted families after the eviction orders became a public issue. They also offered to pay a year's rent. The offer was accepted by most of the families who have moved to Silwan and Abu Tor outside of the Old City. The cafe owner protested that a year's rent would not compensate him for the loss of his business. The evictions and the demolition of Arab-owned buildings adjacent to the Wailing Wall has caused alarm among East Jerusalem Arabs and has drawn bitter denunciation from Arab countries.

Israelis Shoot Down 2 Egyptian MIGs, Bringing Total Since 1967 War To 20

TEL AVIV, June 26 (JTA) -- Israeli Air Force jets shot down two Egyptian MIG-21s in an air battle over the Gulf of Suez this morning, the second aerial clash there in the last three days. Other Israeli jets struck at Jordanian military positions near the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea. In both actions, all Israeli aircraft returned safely to their bases, a military spokesman said. The clash with the MIGs occurred when they violated Israel-held air space. Cairo acknowledged that an air battle took place but claimed one Israeli jet was shot down and all Egyptian planes returned safely. Israel claims to have shot down 20 Egyptian aircraft since the June, 1967 war. Israel's sorties over Jordan were in retaliation for the continued shelling of Israeli settlements and farm workers.

Mrs. Meir, Gen. Dayan Slated To Meet Over Rafi Dissatisfaction With Labor Party

TEL AVIV, June 26 (JTA) -- Premier Golda Meir and Defense Minister Moshe Dayan were scheduled to meet today to discuss a threatened split in the ranks of the Israel Labor Party formed less than a year ago. Gen. Dayan is the leader of the Rafi faction which only last year joined with Mrs. Meir's Mapai Party and the Ahdut Avodah to form a united Labor Party.

Rafi elements have grown restive in recent months. They have expressed dissatisfaction with the party's preparations for next fall's national elections and have voiced a number of demands, including adoption of Gen. Dayan's plans for the occupied territories. The Defense Minister has proposed the economic integration of the Arab territories with Israel, among other things. Mrs. Meir and former Finance Minister Pinchas Sapir, secretary-general of the Labor Party, oppose Dayan's plans.

Only yesterday, Mrs. Meir delivered an emotional speech against integration in the Knesset. She declared, "I want a Jewish State with a decisive Jewish majority which cannot change overnight. This is plain Zionism in which I have always believed." She spoke in reply to a motion by Shmuel Tamir, of the opposition Free Center faction, who asked for a debate on the integration issue. The Premier said she did not want a situation in which more Arab workers entered Israel and Israelis stood idly by while others did their work for them.

Gen. Dayan called today for the establishment of civilian Jewish settlements in the occupied territories and the creation there of an atmosphere of co-existence with the Arab population with emphasis on its economic integration with Israel and improved living standards. He addressed a convention of the moshavim (small-holders) movement here. He also said Arab forces were staging a general build-up along all the cease-fire lines and declared that Israel's ground and air forces were ready for any eventuality. He said that if the escalation of military activity along the borders continued, he would ask the Government for authority to call up the reserves twice a year instead of once as heretofore.

Speaking about the occupied territories, he stressed that Jewish settlements should be civilian, permanent, and located in places that have an historic affinity with Israel without dispossessing the local Arabs.

Bundestag Abolishes Statute On Genocide, Postpones Statute On Murder Until 1979

BONN, June 26 (JTA) -- The Bundestag today passed bills abolishing the statute of limitations for the crime of genocide and postponing the statute of limitations for murder for 10 years. But the nature of the legislation is such that an estimated 95 percent of Nazi war criminals will avoid prosecution for murder and none will be brought to justice for genocide. The genocide measure refers only to future instances. Past genocide--that committed during the Nazi era--is specifically exempt from prosecution on grounds that the abolition of the statute of limitations cannot be applied retroactively.

The statute of limitations for murder will become effective in 1979 instead of on Dec. 31, 1969 as heretofore scheduled. Only Nazis charged with premeditated murder, who comprise only five percent of all war criminals will be subject to prosecution. The balance are charged with aiding in murder on the orders of superiors. They have already been granted amnesty by virtue of an article in the new West German penal code which grants amnesty to any civil or criminal offender whose offense was unpremeditated and not "willful." The article originally applied mainly to traffic violators and other minor offenders against public order. But West Germany's highest court decreed last month that it was also applicable to war criminals.

Racial Tensions Have Grown Worse, Kerner Commission's Former Director Tells NCRAC

PITTSBURGH, June 26 (JTA) -- "It's one year later and one year worse," David Ginsburg, former executive director of the Kerner Commission, today told the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council in an assessment of developments in the urban crisis since the Commission issued its historic warning last year that America was heading toward racial polarization.

Mr. Ginsburg, a Washington attorney, who coordinated the exhaustive study conducted by the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders--the Presidential body headed by former Gov. Otto Kerner of Illinois--cited the increase in civil disorders, student turbulence that continued on college campuses and has since struck high schools, and a rise in the number of crimes of violence. He also cited "police incidents" which, he said, threaten civil peace in slums and ghettos and the lack of needed reforms in systems of criminal justice as clear indications that "one year later we find that the nation has not reversed the movement apart."

Mr. Ginsburg told the NCRAC assembly of 250 Jewish organizational leaders and community relations specialists that the Kerner Commission's recommendations for resolving racial imbalances in employment, housing, welfare and education "have neither been ignored nor implemented--they await the reordering of our national priorities." This, he added, "is bound to come."

But he also stressed that "no effective nationwide attack is possible" until white political support for corrective legislation is "created and forcefully expressed to Congress." He urged the Jewish community to participate fully in this effort.

While "great progress" has been made in striking down both legal support for, and the actual effects of "overt racism," the problem persists in many forms, Mr. Ginsburg said. He listed as examples the "deliberate exclusion" of non-whites from labor unions, law firms, certain industries, school districts, private schools, social clubs, and all-white residential neighborhoods.

But a more serious and "subtle" problem, Mr. Ginsburg said, was what he termed "institutional subordination" of non-whites created by self-perpetuating patterns of discrimination in American life. One such example, he said, was suburban zoning laws which, while incorporating non-discriminatory clauses, were designed to discourage low income housing in order to maintain high living standards and open space, and consequently created discriminatory situations. "It is this invisibility of 'institutional' subordination which is so difficult to cope with," he said.

Jews And Catholics Gather At 'Menorah Seminar' Held At Seton Hall

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J., June 26 (JTA) -- Representatives of the Jewish community met with Christian scholars at Seton Hall University here last week in an effort to strengthen the bonds between Christians and Jews and to "attempt a deeper understanding of present day Jews and trace the roots of the church in the Judaism of old." The program, called the "Menorah Institute," was attended by 90 Jewish and Christian scholars and students. It was co-sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and Seton Hall, a Roman Catholic Institution.

Lecturers included Prof. Michael Wyschogrod of Baruch College, City University of New York, who spoke on "Key Issues in Contemporary Jewish Theology"; Rev. Johann Schenk of New York University, who spoke on "The New Testament. Talmud and Midrash: Similarities and Echoes"; Prof. Marshall Sklare of Yeshiva University, who spoke on "Sociology of the American Jew"; and Monsignor John Oesterreicher of the Institute of Judaean-Christian Studies at Seton Hall, who spoke on "The New Testament--a Teacher of Contempt?"

Also on the program were Dr. Joseph Lichten, national director of the ADL's inter-cultural affairs department; Rabbi David Panitz of Paterson, N.J., and Rev. Edward H. Flannery, executive secretary of the Secretariat for Catholic Jewish Relations, who spoke on "The Significance of the State of Israel to Jews and Christians"; and Bishop John Dougherty, Seton Hall president.

Over \$1 Million Raised In Israel Bond 'Fraternal Division' Event Honoring Rabin

NEW YORK, June 26 (JTA) -- More than \$1 million for the economic development of Israel was raised today by the Fraternal Division of the Israel Bond Organization at a dinner honoring Itzhak Rabin, Israel's Ambassador to the United States. More than 600 representatives of 3,200 Jewish fraternal groups attended the event here.

JNF Completing New Road Which Will Shorten Distance Between Jerusalem, Dead Sea

JERUSALEM, June 26 (JTA) -- A new West Bank road from Samua to Yatir in the Lachish region of Israel is being completed by the Jewish National Fund. The road was begun by Jordan before the Six-Day War but stopped short of the former armistice line. Now the line is being crossed. The new link will shorten the distance between Jerusalem and the southern Dead Sea area by 17 miles. Benefiting will be travellers to Arad, Sodom and Masada.

Re-dedicate Amphitheater On Mount Scopus Campus Named For Samuel Rothbergs

JERUSALEM, June 26 (JTA) -- The amphitheater on the Mount Scopus campus of the Hebrew University was rededicated yesterday in the names of Samuel and Jean Rothberg, of Peoria, Ill. Mr. Rothberg, chairman of the university's board of governors, contributed to the restoration of the outdoor theater following the June, 1967 war. The ceremonies were attended by Premier Golda Meir and several Cabinet members, Louis A. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency, and Nobel Laureate S. Y. Agnon. The theater overlooks the Judaean desert and on clear days affords a view of the Dead Sea.

Rabbinical Council Rejects Black Militants' Demand For 'Reparations' For Negroes

FALLSBURG, N.Y., June 26 (JTA) -- The Rabbinical Council of America, a major organization of Orthodox rabbis, went on record unanimously here today on rejecting "categorically" the concept of "reparations" demanded by black militants from churches and synagogues for Negro deprivations over the years.

The action was taken by the rabbinical body at the close of its 33rd annual convention in one of a series of resolutions on domestic issues. In calling for adoption of the resolution on "reparations," Rabbi Bernard A. Poupko of Pittsburgh, the convention chairman, asserted that "reparations" would result in creating a "greater gulf between blacks and whites, make permanent the ghettoizing of the Negro community and destroy all efforts to integrate the American society into a united whole."

The resolution added that "just as we have the responsibility to combat white racism, so do we have the equal responsibility to combat backlash leadership which tries--consciously or unconsciously--to perpetuate black racism."

In another action, the rabbinical group suggested a conference of all major faith communities to coordinate a joint position concerning a recent United States Supreme Court decision to take up the question of tax exemption for religious institutions. The resolution expressed concern over a New York property owner's attempt to deny tax exemption to religious institutions, saying "we see in it an attempt to further secularize our society and undermine the spiritual values which we promote."

The convention delegates called on all non-governmental organizations accredited to the United Nations to join as one group in combatting what they described as "the Soviet and Arab attacks" to "destroy the effectiveness of their work" at the UN. Some 200 organizations are accredited as NGOs to present statements to UN agencies and to participate in debate by such agencies. The NGOs include several Jewish organizations. Rabbi Zev Segal of Newark was re-elected president and Rabbi Bernard Berzon of Brooklyn, N.Y. was re-elected first vice-president.

New Teachers Contract Allows 3 Days Off With Pay For Observance Of Religious Holidays

NEW YORK, June 26 (JTA) -- The Association of Orthodox Jewish Teachers in New York City Schools reported today that an appeal to the United Federation of Teachers had brought agreement in the new UFT contract with the city Board of Education allowing teachers to have three days off with pay for observance of religious holidays.

Philip Kipust, Association president, said that the UFT, in response to an Association request, had proposed, in the contract talks five days off with pay from the 10 days sick leave which all teachers are allowed annually. The agreement is expected to be ratified by the rank-and-file without difficulty.

Mr. Kipust said also that Dr. Seymour Lachman, a board of education member from Brooklyn, had told him that the three-day clause was negotiated specifically to allow time off for religious holidays without loss of pay. He added that the Association was "not happy with the contract. We wanted all the sick leave days to be used for religious purposes. Some years there are 10 religious holidays" but he praised Dr. Lachman as being "sensitive to our cause." He reported also that registration for public school summer classes, originally scheduled for Friday, had been re-scheduled to today in deference to Jewish students' religious practices.

New Senate At Yeshiva University Wins Praise From Sen. Abraham Ribicoff

SOUTHFIELD, Mich., June 26 (JTA) -- Sen. Abraham Ribicoff, Connecticut Democrat, yesterday praised Yeshiva University's recently established senate, calling it "one of the most far-reaching and ambitious university undertakings in the nation." Speaking at the annual Detroit Friends of Yeshiva University dinner here, Mr. Ribicoff spoke of the new senate, composed of students, faculty, and administration. The senate has jurisdiction by majority vote over academic standards, admissions, curriculum, degree requirements, new majors and courses, grading and academic honors. The senate, he noted, will make policy recommendations on various matters affecting the faculty, including appointments, promotions and remunerations.

Sen. Ribicoff said that while many universities would find the request for such a senate a threat to its authority, "Yeshiva is more concerned with education than authority, more devoted to sharing responsibilities than fighting for power." The dinner honored Federal Judge Lawrence Gubow, who received the Yeshiva University distinguished service award presented by Michigan Sen. Philip Hart, a Democrat.

Tel Aviv And Bar Ilan Universities Are Granted Rights To Award Doctorates

JERUSALEM, June 26 (JTA) -- The Council on Higher Education yesterday granted Tel Aviv University and Bar Ilan University the right to award doctoral degrees in several subjects.

Tel Aviv University has been authorized to grant doctorates in applied mathematics, chemistry and biochemistry. Bar Ilan, which is under religious sponsorship, may grant doctorates in Talmud, philosophy, the Hebrew language, English, Jewish and world history.

Hebrew University has announced that it would open a department of demography--the study of population characteristics and distribution. The department will be staffed by instructors engaged in research in such fields as general theory, the links between population problems and social and economic problems, and special aspects of Israeli, Jewish and Arab demography.