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Large-Scale Massing Of Syrian Troops Along Cease-Fire Line Reported By Diplomats

LONDON, July 9 (JTA) -- Arab diplomatic sources here reported today that Syria has massed large numbers of troops along the cease-fire line with Israel and has given guerrilla groups a free hand to strike at Israel from Syrian territory.

The sources claimed that a majority of Syria's nine brigades have been moved to the 40-mile cease-fire line in the Golan Heights. The Syrian Army numbers about 40,000 men but there is a so-called peoples' army of about 300,000 they said. On June 26, Israel's Defense Minister Moshe Dayan said Syria had increased its forces "three-fold" along the cease-fire line.

Israel, Egypt Give Conflicting Reports On Fighting Along Suez Canal Sector

TEL AVIV, July 9 (JTA) -- Israel and Egypt gave conflicting accounts today of fighting along the Suez Canal and in the waters south of it. An Israeli spokesman said a helicopter braved Egyptian fire to rescue an injured soldier from an Israel Navy patrol boat that had come under fire from Egyptian shore batteries in the Gulf of Suez yesterday. According to the Israeli spokesman, the boat was on routine duty in Israel-held waters when Egyptian artillery opened fire. Israeli guns on the east bank of the Canal returned the fire and a helicopter summoned by the boat successfully evacuated the injured man who was hospitalized. The Israelis said the patrol craft then resumed its mission.

But according to Cairo, the rescue helicopter was shot down and one patrol boat was destroyed by Egyptian gunners who damaged another. The Egyptians claimed both craft had intruded into their territorial waters.

Israeli reports confirmed that a second Egyptian commando force landed on the east bank of the Suez Canal yesterday after an earlier force was driven off leaving nine Egyptian dead behind. An Israeli spokesman said the second attackers included two men in rubber "frogmen" outfits. They crossed the Canal in rubber boats under artillery cover as Israeli squads were removing the bodies of the nine slain Egyptians. The spokesman said senior Israeli Army officers were on the scene at the time.

Cairo, which claimed yesterday that its raid on an Israeli position opposite Ismailia left 30 Israeli dead, asserted today that a second "patrol" had crossed the waterway during the height of the battle and destroyed an Israeli rocket-launching site. The patrol was said to have suffered four casualties. Earlier Egypt admitted losing five men, killed or wounded, in the main commando assault. The overall figure coincided with Israel's claim that nine Egyptians were killed.

Two Israeli soldiers were wounded today when a patrol was attacked with bazooka and small arms fire near Umm Sidra pass in the Jordan Valley. A saboteur was killed yesterday when he attacked an Israeli patrol in the northern Golan Heights.

Saboteurs ambushed an Israeli Army vehicle on the main road in the Golan Heights last night. The occupants were not injured and returned the fire. The saboteurs escaped in the direction of the Syrian border two miles away. An Israeli security agent and two soldiers with him were wounded yesterday while on patrol in the Gaza Strip. The area was searched for the attackers. Several mortar shells were fired this morning at Kfar Ruppim in the Beisan Valley. No casualties were reported.

Egypt Recognizes East Germany, Wiping Out Possibility Of Resumed Ties With Bonn

BONN, July 9 (JTA) -- Egypt's diplomatic recognition of East Germany was attributed by West German leaders today to pressures from the Soviet Union plus a promise from Moscow of more weapons. Foreign Minister Willy Brandt said the Egyptian move had wiped out hopes for resumption of West German diplomatic relations with Egypt which Cairo severed in 1965 after the Bonn regime recognized Israel.

But Mr. Brandt did not see any other immediate consequences. He said that most West German capital aid programs to Egypt were completed but three technical aid projects remain "which scarcely can be broken off." These include two schools in Cairo and a project to combat the disease, bilharzia, at an oasis in the Nile Valley. West German exports to Egypt amounted to \$68 million in 1968.

Egypt was the fifth Arab state to recognize East Germany. Mr. Brandt refused to predict whether more Arab and African states would follow Cairo's lead. "In view of the sharpening of the Middle East conflict and the massive activity of the Soviet Union, developments cannot be predicted," he said.

Mr. Brandt said that up until last Saturday all indications were that Egypt would not establish relations with East Germany. But Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger told newsmen today that "this development was predictable inasmuch as the Soviet influence on Cairo has grown from month to month."

New Sudan Premier Says Arab Policies Hinge On Bonn's Attitude Toward Israel

BONN, July 9 (JTA) -- The new Premier of Sudan said in an interview published here that the sole criteria determining Arab policies toward East and West Germany was the German attitude in

the Arab-Israeli conflict. Premier Abu Bakr Awallah told the newspaper Die Welt that "we have nothing against Germans, East or West, but foreign policy in all Arab countries depends on whether Germans are on the side of the Arabs or the side of Israel."

He said his Government has recognized East Germany as a sovereign state without any expectations of economic aid from that country. He has been invited to visit East Germany in October. The Premier welcomed the UN Security Council's resolution last week censuring Israel for altering the status of Jerusalem. He said he did not think Israel could exist forever against 100 million surrounding Arabs.

Foreign Ministry Raps Thant, Says He 'Dramatized' Situation Along Suez Canal

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- A Foreign Ministry spokesman has condemned United Nations Secretary General U Thant for "dramatizing" the situation along the Suez Canal and equating Egyptian "aggression" and Israeli "defense measures." The spokesman referred to Mr. Thant's warning in a report to the Security Council last week that "open warfare" is raging along the Suez Canal and that the situation there was worse than at any time since the June, 1967 Arab-Israeli war. The spokesman did not refer to Mr. Thant's assertion that he may have to withdraw the 90-95 UN cease-fire observers because they had become "defenseless targets in a shooting gallery."

Thé Israeli spokesman said the danger along the Suez Canal did not stem from the threat of a new war but from Egypt's declared policy of "heating up" the area. He said the Egyptians openly proclaim this policy and obviously do not wish to change a war-like situation to one of peace. He said Mr. Thant's fears should have been addressed only to Egypt because Israel does not initiate incidents and is ready to honor the cease-fire agreements fully. "While there is cause for concern over preservation of the cease-fire, there is no cause to dramatize the situation or to cover up Egypt's sole responsibility for incidents," the spokesman said.

Eban Says Only Role For Big Powers Is To Influence Parties Toward Negotiations

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Abba Eban said yesterday that there is nothing left for the Big Powers to do in the Middle East but use their influence on both sides to start direct peace negotiations. He said the Four Power talks in New York which have recessed indefinitely, proved fruitless and should be abandoned altogether. Mr. Eban spoke to Knesset members of the Labor Party Mapam alignment.

He saw little of value emerging from the U.S.-Soviet Mideast discussions which are shifting temporarily from Washington to Moscow. He said the change of venue was a matter of prestige for the Russians and did not change Israel's negative attitude toward the talks. According to Mr. Eban, the Russians not only reject Israel's diplomatic position but have turned down the U.S. proposals for a Middle East settlement which differ from Israel's stand in many details. The time has come, Mr. Eban said, to make efforts for direct peace talks between Israel and the Arabs, and Israel hopes that the Big Powers will do so.

The Foreign Minister said that his recent visit to three East African nations helped consolidate Israel's friendship with those states and brought about a mutual recognition that every effort must be made to prevent the Red Sea from becoming an exclusively Arab sea.

Mr. Eban has been invited to visit Holland and Belgium and may go to those countries during the latter part of August, it was disclosed today. Some sources said he may also visit France at the same time. Egypt's Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad paid an official visit to Holland and Belgium several weeks ago.

Sisco Leaves For Moscow Bilateral Talks, Expected Back In A Week

WASHINGTON, July 9 (JTA) -- Joseph J. Sisco, the Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, left today for Moscow to continue bilateral Mideast talks with Kremlin leaders. He is expected to return to Washington within a week, sources here said. The United States-Soviet consultations are expected to resume in consultations after the Moscow round, they said.

Mrs. Meir Expresses Approval Of Jewish-Arab Partnerships In Occupied Areas

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- Premier Golda Meir told the Knesset yesterday that she did not think there was anything wrong with Jewish-Arab partnership ventures in the occupied territories or with the establishment of all-Jewish projects to promote the economic development of those regions. Mrs. Meir spoke in the course of a Knesset discussion of the activities of the Prime Minister's Office.

She said efforts were being made to increase employment opportunities for Arabs in the occupied territories but until next year 20,000 Arab workers from those regions will be employed in Israel through the labor exchange offices and trade unions.

Mrs. Meir said that new settlements would soon be founded in the occupied areas in locations that the Government considered appropriate from security and development points of view. She said there was no reason to establish settlements in other locations which would only increase the burden of the Israeli Army. She expressed regret that the Security Council compelled Israel to ignore its decision when it voted unanimously last week to censure Israel for activities changing the status of East Jerusalem. She said there was no international force that could compel Israel to divide Jerusalem

once more. The Premier said that Israel has not "budded an inch" from its position since the Six-Day War that only direct negotiations with the Arabs will bring peace to the Middle East. She said that apart from Israel's sworn enemies, there is no nation in the world that demands Israel's retreat without a secure peace. She said that despite different approaches, Israel has convinced world opinion of its keen desire for peace through negotiations.

Minister Galili Calls For Centralization Of Information, Propaganda Functions

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- The head of Israel's information services criticized the country's information and propaganda set-up yesterday and said it should be centralized in one agency responsible only to the Knesset. Israel Galili, Minister-Without-Portfolio who serves as the Government's information chief, said propaganda activities in Israel and abroad suffer because they are presently divided between the Foreign Ministry, the Defense Ministry and the Prime Minister's Office.

He suggested that a new central information agency should cooperate with the information services of the Jewish Agency and other organizations. He thought its functions should not be limited to the Israeli political and diplomatic sphere but should include Jewish affairs generally and in particular the situation in Russia of Soviet Jews.

Agnon Hospitalized After Collapsing At Home, Hospital Says Condition Is Serious

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- Israeli writer S. Y. Agnon, co-winner of the 1966 Nobel Prize for Literature, was hospitalized yesterday after he collapsed in his home here. He was found on the floor when police were summoned by neighbors and relatives who noticed his house was too quiet. He is reported in serious condition and has been given oxygen. He will be 81 July 18 and has lived in Israel 60 years.

Born in Galicia, Mr. Agnon has lived in Jerusalem since 1924, when he moved to the then remote Talpiot section. Writing in Hebrew, his works range from stories of Polish pogroms 300 years ago to modern life in Israel, although he is considered more of a Jewish writer than an Israeli writer.

Some of his works, including "Two Gates" and "In the Heart of the Seas," have been translated into English as well as 15 other languages. Many of his stories concern life in Jaffa just before World War I in Jerusalem following World War II. He was twice nominated for the Nobel Prize in Literature before he was announced the joint winner of the prize, with Sweden's poetess, Nelly Sachs, on Oct. 20, 1966. A descendant of a line of Talmudic scholars, Mr. Agnon is well versed in Judaistic lore and religion. He published his first verses in Hebrew and Yiddish when he was 15. His works are considered classics in Israel.

Allon Made A Freeman Of Lydda, Which He Helped Liberate; Dayan Declines Same Honor

TEL AVIV, July 9 (JTA) -- Deputy Premier Yigal Allon was made a freeman of the town of Lydda today but Defense Minister Dayan declined the same honor when it was offered to him.

The occasion was the 21st anniversary of the liberation of Lydda during Israel's War of Independence in 1948. Mr. Allon, then leader of Palmach, the attack arm of Haganah, was the commander in charge of the operation that took Lydda from the Arabs. Gen. Dayan also participated in the battle as commander of a motorized brigade that consisted of jeeps and a single armored car. His force was the first to enter Lydda. But when he was offered the status of freeman of the town he declined saying he was opposed to such honors in principle.

Trade Union Confederation Parley Welcomes Israeli Gesture Toward Lebanon

BRUSSELS, July 9 (JTA) -- A friendly gesture by an Israeli toward Lebanon was welcomed at the world congress of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions which ended here yesterday without taking a stand on the Middle East conflict.

The question of representation for the Middle East region was taken up at the session and in order to avoid conflict, the delegate of Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, proposed that the seat be rotated between Israel and the Arab states. He proposed further that, as a matter of courtesy, the Lebanese representative should take the first turn. His proposal was accepted by the ICFTU executive.

The trade unionists were unable to hammer out a resolution on the Middle East. Arab delegates refused to accept any mention of Arab terrorist activities and the Israelis insisted that a resolution affirm the need for direct negotiations as the only way to attain peace. Instead of enacting a resolution, the congress requested its newly elected executive to discuss the Middle East situation at one of its future meetings.

5,000 Arabs From East Jerusalem Become Members Of Histadrut

JERUSALEM, July 9 (JTA) -- Some 5,000 workers from East Jerusalem--a majority of Arab wage-earners--have joined the Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, its secretary-general Aaron Becker disclosed today. He praised the Jerusalem council for its efforts to recruit new members.

Six hundred American youth and about 900 tourists will come to Israel this summer under the auspices of the Histadrut campaign, the labor federation said today. A spokesman said 260 of the youngsters would spend several weeks at a kibbutz.

Workmen's Circle Assails Jewish Defense League As 'Self-Appointed Vigilante Group'

NEW YORK, July 9 (JTA) -- The Workmen's Circle, Jewish labor fraternal order, today condemned the Jewish Defense League (JDL) as "a self-appointed vigilante group" and called upon the American Jewish community to join in a unified condemnation. A statement issued by Israel Breslow, president, and Benjamin A. Gebiner, executive secretary, on behalf of the organization, said the JDL, which claims to act in defense of Jews physically threatened in the streets of New York, "can only aggravate group tensions in our community rather than heal the wounds of racial and religious confrontation."

In condemning the "separate police force," as well as other extremist groups, the organization said, "We do not believe that carrying weapons, drilling with grey berets and mouthing slogans are effective means of combatting bigotry and prejudice. As responsible Jews we vigorously oppose any self-appointed vigilante group seeking to establish a para-military organization within the Jewish community." The organization expressed hope "that the entire American Jewish community will join in a unified condemnation of the Jewish Defense League."

The League, headed by Rabbi Meir Kahane, an Orthodox rabbi and editor of the Jewish Press, a New York weekly, recently took a three-column advertisement in the New York Times to mark its first anniversary. It featured a picture showing six "nice Jewish boys," four of them armed with clubs, standing in front of Temple Emanuel in New York and awaiting a confrontation with black militants who reportedly were to appear to demand "reparations." The Negroes did not appear. The League is dedicated to "fighting back when Jewish lives and property are in danger" and has been called a "goon squad" and "vigilantes" by its several critics.

The advertisement carried the caption: "Is this any way for nice Jewish boys to behave?" It then answered the question saying "maybe" and adding that "maybe there are times when there is no other way to get across to the extremists that the Jews is not quite the 'patsy' some think he is." The following day, the Times published an editorial saying the answer to the question was "an emphatic 'No.'--not Jewish boys, nor Christian boys, nor White boys, nor Black boys, nor other kinds of boys."

The League has been recruiting youth for a Catskill Mountains summer camp where it will instruct them in "self-defense" and Jewish history. A League spokesman has denied that it is a "vigilante" group. He told a reporter that "when someone comes to kill you, you have the right to defend yourself."

Jerusalem's Anglican Archbishop, Visiting N.Y., Calls For Pilgrimages To Holy Land

NEW YORK, July 9 (JTA) -- The Anglican Archbishop of Jerusalem expressed hope here yesterday for pilgrimages to the Holy Land by Jews, Christians and Moslems. The Most Rev. George W. Appleton, spoke at a reception given by Amram Zur, who represents the Israel Tourism Ministry in North America.

Rev. Appleton, recently appointed to his post, told the inter-faith gathering at New York's posh St. Regis Hotel that visits to the Holy Places would be a "real contribution to peace." Jews, Moslems and Christians in the Middle East need to get together, he said, to understand one another and their common spiritual lineage. "We are all brothers in father Abraham; we all worship the God of Abraham," he declared. If all three religions worked together in understanding, peace and the common life of all in the Mideast could be promoted, Rev. Appleton said. He invited all pilgrims to visit Jerusalem.

Newly-Constructed Day Nursery, Sponsored By Pioneer Women, Opened In Upper Galilee

NEW YORK, July 9 (JTA) -- A newly-constructed day nursery, operated by Pioneer Women, the Women's Labor Zionist Organization of America, was opened recently in Kiryat Shmoneh, Israel's northernmost development town in Upper Galilee. The nursery, which can accommodate 85 children, was the project of Mrs. Leah Neiman and her late husband, Thomas, both of Los Angeles. Mrs. Neiman, a past president of the Los Angeles Council of Pioneer Women, attended the opening of the one-story structure. Pioneer Women operate more than 300 day child care centers throughout Israel.

Dr. Harold Korn Dead At 87; Was Active In B'ani B'rith, Jewish Big Brothers, UAHC

NEW YORK, July 9 (JTA) -- Dr. Harold Korn, past president of Grand Lodge I of B'nai B'rith, died here Monday at age 87. Dr. Korn was past director of the Jewish Big Brothers and was a past governor of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. He was a past chairman of the advisory committee of the Metropolitan Conference of Temple Brotherhoods.

Nathan Yaffe, Leader Of Brazilian Jewish Community, Is Dead At 70

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 9 (JTA) -- Nathan Yaffe, a leader in the Brazil Jewish Community, died here recently at age 70. Mr. Yaffe was a member of the world executive of the World Jewish Congress, a member of the Confederation of Brazilian Jewish executive communities and a member of the Zionist organization of Brazil's executive. Born in East Slovakia, he came to Brazil in 1922.

Five Jewish Solons Occupy Manitoba Legislature, Seats, Largest Group In Canada

WINNIPEG, Man. Canada, July 9 (JTA) -- Four local Jews were re-elected to the Manitoba legislature and a fifth was newly elected to give this midwestern Canadian Province the largest number of Jews sitting in any Canadian legislature. The successful candidates were Saul Miller, Sidney Green and Sidney Spivack, all members of the previous House, and Cy Goneck, a university professor, who is serving his first term. All five were elected from urban districts and all are identified with Jewish community activities.