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Ambassador Rabin Joins Dignitaries Watching Historic Apollo 11 Moon-Flight Launching

CAPE KENNEDY, Fla., July 16 (JTA) -- Israel watched Apollo 11 soar towards the moon this morning through the eyes of its Ambassador to Washington, Maj. Gen. Yitzhak Rabin. Ambassador Rabin was among the diplomatic guests invited to watch the historic launching of the vehicle that, if all goes well, will land two American astronauts on the moon's surface next Sunday. The Israeli envoy was accompanied by Jeruham Kafkafi, the scientific attache at the Israel Embassy in Washington.

(Scholarly sources said today that Judaism takes note of the moon. Religious Jews chant special prayers on the occasion of the new moon which they deem symbolic of the Jewish people whose history, like earth's satellite, goes through various phases. "Like the moon, they reappeared after being eclipsed," one said. The Old Testament decrees death by stoning for anyone worshipping the ancient moon goddess, Ishtar. Moses exhorted the Israelites to scorn her.)

Israelis Gather At U.S. Embassy To Hear Description Of Take-Off

TEL AVIV, July 16 (JTA) -- Crowds of Israelis gathered at the United States Embassy today to listen to a description of the launching of Apollo 11 broadcast by the U.S. Information Service from Cape Kennedy, Fla. They also viewed color films of the preparations for the historic space flight. The Apollo launching was headline news in Israeli papers overshadowing all local events.

Dayan Tells Knesset Israel Must Retain Possession Of Sharm El-Sheikh Strongpoint

JERUSALEM, July 16 (JTA) -- Defense Minister Moshe Dayan told the Knesset yesterday that Israel must retain possession of Sharm el-Sheikh, the strongpoint guarding the entrance to the Straits of Tiran. Qualifying this view as his personal opinion, Gen. Dayan said however that on this issue he and Foreign Minister Abba Eban were in full agreement.

Gen. Dayan's remarks marked the second time this week that he has spoken out on what he considered Israel's essential security frontiers. On Monday, he told the Labor Party platform committee that the Jordan River must be Israel's eastern frontier, that Israel must retain the Gaza Strip and Golan Heights and must be permanently linked "through territorial continuity" with Sharm el-Sheikh.

Gen. Dayan told the Knesset yesterday, "I prefer to sit in Sharm el-Sheikh without peace than have peace and return Sharm el-Sheikh to Egyptian hands." He recalled having said the same thing several weeks ago at a Kibbutz movement convention. He cited Foreign Minister Eban's recent assertion that "any (peace) arrangement must ensure Israel's control over Sharm el-Sheikh as that is the only way to ensure free navigation" in the Straits of Tiran.

Egypt, Gen. Dayan said, still stands on the "three no's" of the 1967 Arab summit conference in Khartoum--no peace with Israel, no negotiations and no recognition of Israel. In those circumstances, the Defense Minister asserted, Israel should prefer holding Sharm el-Sheikh to a return to the pre-June, 1967 lines.

Gen. Dayan dismissed Soviet proposals for a Middle East settlement because they "do not contain the element of peace." Moscow calls merely for the Arabs and Israel to deposit declarations of non-belligerency with the United Nations Security Council, and while Israel does not believe non-belligerency, "we should be precise enough in our terminology to make a clear distinction between peace and non-belligerency," Gen. Dayan said.

Gen. Dayan expressed distrust of either Egyptian or UN forces based at Sharm el-Sheikh or international guarantees on freedom of navigation through the Straits of Tiran. The demand by Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser for withdrawal of UN forces from Sharm el-Sheikh and its reoccupation by his military forces are generally regarded as principal causes of the 1967 war. Egypt threatened to blockade the narrow straits for ships bound to and from Israel's Red Sea port of Eilat. Israel captured the strongpoint during the war.

Allon Appeals To Dayan To 'Erase Big Question-Mark' About His Political Future

TEL AVIV, July 16 (JTA) -- Deputy Premier Yigal Allon called on his colleague, Defense Minister Moshe Dayan today to erase the "big question mark" and declare whether he intends to remain in the Labor Party or pursue his political fortunes independently. Gen. Dayan's departure from Labor Party ranks, if followed by other members of the Rafi faction, would create a split that Mr. Allon, Premier Golda Meir and other Labor Party leaders say is needless and potentially disastrous. Mr. Allon voiced his appeal on the eve of talks between Labor Party leaders and leaders of the Rafi faction on the issues that divide them. Basically, Gen. Dayan and his Rafi supporters feel they have been given a secondary role in Labor Party affairs. Mr. Allon contended that they would have a better chance of fighting for their ideas within the party than outside of it.

He said he agreed with Rafi's demand to be allowed to name its representatives to top Government, municipality and party posts, a right exercised by the other factions composing the Labor Party. Gen. Dayan is expected to participate in a party forum tomorrow and Friday to clarify the issues.

Eban Says Mideast Status Quo Is Preferable To A Solution That Does Not Bring Peace

ZURICH, July 16 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Abba Eban said here today that Israel preferred the status quo in the Middle East to any solution that fell short of peace. Mr. Eban spoke at a press conference prior to departing for London. He had conferred here with the United Nations special Mideast envoy, Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring. Mr. Eban said he had invited Dr. Jarring to resume his peace-seeking mission.

Dr. Jarring's mission, established by the Security Council in its resolution of Nov. 22, 1967, was suspended three months ago when Four Power talks on the Middle East began in New York under UN auspices. Mr. Eban said he thought the Four Power talks and the two power parley between the U.S. and Soviet Russia had reached a "dead end."

Haganah, Irgun And Stern Veterans Mark Failure To Capture Old City In 1948 War

JERUSALEM, July 16 (JTA) -- Veterans of three Jewish underground fighting organizations of the pre-Statehood era met here today to observe the 21st anniversary of their abortive attempt to capture the Old City of Jerusalem during Israel's War for Independence in 1948. Menachem Beigin, leader of the Herut Party and Minister-Without-Portfolio in the present Government, told former colleagues of the Irgun Zvai Leumi, which he commanded, the Haganah and the Stern Group that the attempt to storm the gates of Old Jerusalem to keep it from falling into Jordanian hands taught valuable lessons even though it failed.

Those lessons, he said, were applied in June, 1967 when an Israeli paratroop brigade drove Jordanian forces out of the Old City in some of the bloodiest fighting of the Six-Day War. The one gate that was broken through in 1948 symbolizes all the gates of Jerusalem that are now wide open, Mr. Beigin said.

Leading Argentina Newspaper Assails Security Council's Jerusalem Measure

BUENOS AIRES, July 16 (JTA) -- A leading Argentine newspaper charged today that there was "unconscionable international complicity with Arab leaders" behind the Security Council's July 3 resolution censuring Israel for altering the status of East Jerusalem. According to La Nacion, Israel has every right to hold on to the territories it occupied in the June, 1967 war until a final peace with the Arabs is achieved. The paper assailed the Security Council's action "because Security Council members know well that the road to peace lies in persuading the Arabs of the necessity of recognizing Israel."

The editorial said the shortcomings of the 1949 and 1957 armistice agreements in the Middle East should be instructive. "United Nations or Four Power action would be based on false foundations if both parties do not reach a contractual agreement, and negotiations per se would be impossible without prior recognition of Israel by the Arabs," La Nacion said.

Israeli Soldier Killed In Suez Artillery Duel, Another Dies Of Old Wounds

TEL AVIV, July 16 (JTA) -- An Israeli soldier was killed in an artillery duel with Egypt yesterday along the Suez Canal. The fire was concentrated south of Qantara. Another soldier injured six months ago by sniper fire at the Canal died yesterday of his wounds. Meanwhile, two Israeli patrols were attacked today in the Beisan Valley. There were no Israeli casualties reported. An Israeli military spokesman said that two guerrillas were killed while trying to ambush an Israeli patrol in northern Israel.

Knesset Enacts New Law On Government Financial Aid To Political Parties

JERUSALEM, July 16 (JTA) -- The Knesset held a marathon session last night to give final readings to a new law providing Government financial subsidies to political parties for election campaign purposes. But another measure calling for the direct election of mayors will probably expire when the current Knesset adjourns tomorrow even though it passed its first reading by a 46-23 vote.

The new subsidy bill replaces a previous law nullified by Israel's Supreme Court on grounds that it discriminated against small parties. The fact that bleary-eyed Knesset members sat up half the night to see the bill through its required second and third readings less than 24 hours after it passed the first, attested to the importance attached to it with elections little more than three months away. The Knesset also gave final approval to a bill validating all previously passed election laws. Its purpose was to forestall the possibility of future nullifications by the Supreme Court.

But the bill on mayoral elections apparently seemed less urgent although it was supported by most political factions. There was only time for a first reading and it seemed unlikely that this Knesset, the sixth, will vote on the final readings before the adjournment deadline.

According to law, every Knesset is a sovereign body and all pending measures not finally approved become null and void when the Knesset adjourns and must be introduced anew in the next Knesset. The fate of the bill hinges on the slim chance that the sixth Knesset will choose to remain in emergency session until the seventh Knesset convenes. Otherwise, Israel's mayors will continue to be selected from the lists of the winning parties as heretofore.

Considers Problem of Soviet Repression Of Jewry

The Knesset also took up the plight of Soviet Jewry. It was one of the rare occasions when the Chamber was virtually unanimous. Speakers all agreed that the Soviet policy of repressing the country's Jewish minority must be condemned and that Israel should take the lead in demanding the right of emigration for Russian Jews.

The discussion of the Soviet Jewish problem was initiated by Chaim Landau of the Gahal (Herut-Liberal alignment) who said the solidarity of Israel with Soviet Jews would encourage them if they hear about it. Israel Galili, Minister-Without-Portfolio, who heads Israel's information services, declared that there was "no force in the world" that could break the link between world Jewry and Soviet Jews. He said that in spite--or because--of the anti-Jewish, anti-Zionist, anti-Israel propaganda campaign waged by the official Russian press, Soviet Jews are experiencing a "national revival" that is unsuppressable. He said it was Israel's duty to bring the repression of Soviet Jews before world opinion and demand freedom for those who wish to be allowed to emigrate to Israel.

West Germany Has Paid Out \$14 Billion In Material Claims, Goldmann Tells Parley

GENEVA, July 16 (JTA) -- West Germany has paid out approximately \$14 billion in material claims to individual Jews, Jewish institutions and the State of Israel since the reparations law came into effect in 1952, it was reported here today by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

Dr. Goldmann spoke at the annual meeting of the Conference's board of directors. He said, "The Claims Conference is nearing its end. We have agreed not to make any further demands following the 1965 Schlussgesetz (final law)." He emphasized that no amount of money could compensate Jewry for the ravages of the Nazi era and that the money paid by West Germany was only for material losses suffered.

Dr. Moses Rosen, Chief Rabbi of Rumania, who attended the meeting, noted that many elderly Rumanian Jews who suffered in Auschwitz and other concentration camps have not yet had their claims paid. He urged Dr. Goldmann and the Claims Conference to press the matter on their behalf and Dr. Goldmann replied that the Conference would do so. A Conference budget for the coming year of \$1,247,872 was submitted by Jacob Blaustein, senior vice president. Its major item is relief and rehabilitation through the Joint Distribution Committee. Dr. Goldmann was re-elected president, Mr. Blaustein was re-elected senior vice president, Dr. Joseph Schwartz was re-elected treasurer, and Mark Uveeler was re-elected treasurer.

Memorial Foundation Called 'Under Used' As Instrument For Unity

The Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, also meeting here, was addressed by Dr. Goldmann. He said the organization, which he described as "the most representative group of the Jewish people," was "under used" as an instrument for Jewish unity, though in other ways it was doing useful and important work.

The Foundation supports Jewish cultural and educational programs around the world in cooperation with universities and established scholarly organizations, and conducts an annual scholarship and fellowship program.

Dr. Goldmann told the representatives of 42 major Jewish organizations that "the basic idea is not so much to disburse a million dollars annually, however important the causes supported thereby, but mainly to establish a coordinated body which could discuss ideological and pertinent issues affecting the Jewish people today and reach conclusions as a result of the discussions.

According to Dr. Goldmann, there has never been "so much intellectual wealth among Jews in all age groups, but little of it is dedicated to Jewish life, Jewish problems and Jewish issues." He said there was some slight improvement after the 1967 Arab-Israeli war "but it is not very noticeable."

Cojo Plans 3-Day Session, Will Focus On Israel, Soviet Jews, Education

Cojo--the Conference of Jewish Organizations--will open a three-day meeting here Friday to discuss matters relating to the security of Israel, the plight of Soviet Jewry and Jewish education. The gathering, to be attended by 75 world Jewish leaders, will also commemorate 50 years of fighting for Jewish rights which began with the conference of Jewish delegations in Paris in 1919. Speakers will include Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of Cojo, and Dr. Jacob Hertzog, director-general of the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem. The meeting will be attended by Louis A. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency.

A special Cojo committee on Jewish education held preliminary sessions here today to prepare a series of proposals for the meeting. The committee will recommend the establishment of a special commission on Jewish education within the Cojo framework.

American Reform Movement Allocates Funds To Expand Its Efforts Among Israelis

NEW YORK, July 16 (JTA) -- Funds from a special campaign among American Reform congregations are being allocated for the hiring of two additional rabbis in Israel, starting this fall, which will bring the number of full-time liberal rabbis there to five, according to a report by Rabbi Richard G. Hirsch, director of the Israel Committee of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

He reported that the funds being received from a campaign seeking \$1 from each Reform congregant were being transferred to the World Union for Progressive Judaism for that purpose. He reported also that the money will be used to raise the salaries of rabbinic staff members in Israel, to set up "an equitable personnel plan" and to increase subsidies to the seven Liberal synagogues in Israel to enable them "to expand their programming and acquire better physical facilities." Details of the program were reported in the current issue of "The Voice," issued by the Reform Jewish Appeal, which raises funds for the UAHC and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the Reform seminary.

Rabbi Hirsch added that funds also were being allocated to establish a national budget for the Board of Progressive Synagogues in Israel and to finance a joint advertising campaign in Israel for holidays and special events.

He disclosed also that the UAHC Israel committee had allocated funds for an Office of Youth Activities in Israel which will coordinate all programs for American Reform Jewish youth in Israel. He said the new office also would assume "responsibility for the development of an indigenous youth movement of Progressive Judaism in Israel."

He reported also that he had learned of a study of attitudes of young Israelis indicating that most of them, when asked what they were, "preferred to identify themselves as Israelis, rather than as Jews." He said the study, being made by a Hebrew University sociologist, whom he did not identify, showed also that young Israelis tend to associate the word "Jew" with religion and with Jews outside of Israel and that "Israeli" identifies them "and their own nationhood." He added that the study also indicated that "the average young Israeli admits condescendingly that religious expressions of Judaism are good for Jews outside of Israel because they help to keep Jews alive but he sees no place for the institutions or forms of religion in Israel."

Manchester Fire Damages Rabbi's Study, Destroys Records, Believed Set By Arsonists

MANCHESTER, N.H., July 16 (JTA) -- A fire, apparently set by arsonists, gutted the rabbi's study at Temple Adath Yeshurun here and destroyed valuable records and other documents including all copies of the manuscript of a book the rabbi was writing, the Boston Jewish Advocate reports. But Rabbi Samuel Umen hesitated to attribute the act to anti-Semitism. He noted that there had been similar attacks recently on buildings of other religious denominations. "Anti-Semitism just isn't something you charge without real concrete indications--I really hope my fears are ungrounded," he said.

Adath Yeshurun, one of two synagogues in this town, was not the only Jewish target. Four months ago an attempt was made to set fire to the Jewish Community Center across the street from the temple. According to Raymond M. Kalman, director of the Center which serves Manchester's 500 Jewish families, vandals spread chemicals in the building's hallway last February but they failed to ignite.

White House Announces Appointment Of Eugene S. Cowen As Congressional Liaison

WASHINGTON, July 16 (JTA) -- The White House announced today that Eugene S. Cowen--who is a Jew and a strong supporter of Israel--has been appointed special assistant to President Richard M. Nixon to work on Congressional liaison. Mr. Cowen, 44, served for many years as administrative assistant to Sen. Hugh Scott, Pennsylvania Republican. The new appointee is widely regarded here as a liberal and proponent of progressive social legislation. He is a native of New York City, a graduate of Syracuse University, and lives with his wife and two children in Silver Springs, Md. The Cowens are active in the local synagogue.

Boston Jewish Community Council Plans Vigil For Soviet Jewry, Kochubiyevsky

BOSTON, July 16 (JTA) -- The Jewish Community Council has announced that it will sponsor a vigil for Soviet Jewry here July 24 to protest "the repression of basic civil rights in the Soviet Union." Specifically, the demonstration will demand freedom for Boris Kochubiyevsky, a Russian-Jewish engineer, who was sentenced in May to three years in a prison camp for allegedly slandering the Soviet Union.

Mr. Kochubiyevsky had applied in vain for an exit permit to go to Israel. In a letter to Soviet Communist Party chief Leonid I. Brezhnev before his arrest he demanded the right of emigration and was critical of the Soviet Union for denying Jews their own life, a right granted other ethnic minorities in the USSR. A similar vigil on behalf of Mr. Kochubiyevsky was begun by the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington, D.C. The Jewish Federation-Council of Los Angeles said it may hold protest meetings.

More Than 600 Youths Are Enrolled In Israel, U.S. Summer Programs Sponsored By ZOA

NEW YORK, July 16 (JTA) -- The Zionist Organization of America said today that more than 600 American youths are participating in summer youth programs in Israel and the U.S. under ZOA sponsorship. According to ZOA president Jacques Torczyner, 160 teenagers left for Israel on July 3 to attend the organization's teenage camp at Kfar Silver or the leadership training course of Masada of ZOA.