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Prayer On Advent Of New Moon Is Altered To Take Into Account Apollo 11 Achievement

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA) -- Thoughtful Jews have speculated about the impact on Judaism's religious outlook that would be made by man's successful exploration of space. In a small way the answer began to emerge within hours of the historic Apollo 11 moon landing and exploration by Astronauts Neil Armstrong and Col. Edwin E. Aldrin, Jr.

The word came from Israel where Gen. Shlomo Goren, the Armed Forces' Chief Chaplain, issued instructions about a change in the prayer for the blessing of the new moon which is said each month. The old blessing was worded: "As I dance before you and cannot touch you, so my enemies will not be able to touch me." It now reads: "As I dance against you and do not touch you, so others, if they dance against me to harm me, they will not touch me." The new version of the prayer is actually an old one found in the Talmud in Masechet Sofrim, chapter 20.

Commenting on the scientific-technological achievement, Dr. Gilbert Klapperman, president of the New York Board of Rabbis, said: "The Apollo 11 astronauts who were the first humans to walk on the moon have brought pride and glory to America and to all mankind. Their towering accomplishment has put a new construction on the Psalmist's observation that "the heavens are the heavens of the Lord; and the earth hath He given to the children of men," for now the moon, too, has become an extension of earth.

"But man is still only on the threshold of infinity, and far from taking God out of the heavens, the astronauts have uncovered new dimensions of His dominion. The predictability of the laws of nature that made this scientific miracle possible has reaffirmed our faith in the existence of God's order in the universe. The astronauts' accomplishment reveals man's limitless potential for constructive creativity. It must convince Americans that their nation is capable of solving the daily challenges of disease, poverty, anger, frustration and senseless hates, and wars as well."

Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum, director of the American Jewish Committee's inter-religious affairs department, said: "From the perspective of classical Judaism, this triumph over nature is cause for great spiritual satisfaction. Among the religions of antiquity the moon was worshipped as a divinity. The Book of Deuteronomy expressly forbade idolatrous sacrifices to the moon, or the sun, or the hosts of heaven, under pain of death. It was the radical monotheism of the Hebrew Bible, and the Jewish Prophets, that undefeited nature and freed man to explore, investigate, and subdue the natural forces to human service."

Rabin Conveys Congratulatory Messages To Nixon From Meir, Shazar

WASHINGTON, July 21 (JTA) -- Israeli Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin today transmitted to President Richard M. Nixon, through Secretary of State William P. Rogers, messages of congratulations on the success of Apollo 11 moon landing from Israeli President Zalman Shazar and Prime Minister Golda Meir.

Mrs. Meir said: "On behalf of the people of Israel, I send to you, and through you to the entire American people, our congratulations and the sense of unbounded admiration aroused by the landing of Astronauts Armstrong and Aldrin on the surface of the moon. The scientific and technological achievement of all who shared in this prodigious extension of man's knowledge of, and physical contact with, the universe beyond our own planet represents a turning point in the history of mankind.

"In paying homage to the dauntless courage of these astronauts and their colleague (Lt. Col. Michael) Collins, as well as of those who preceded them in this journeying into space, it is now our prayer that they may safely be returned to earth. We offer our tribute too, to the manner in which your country has seen fit to share openly with the world the problems, the anxieties and the objectives involved in each stage of this unprecedented adventure.

"I would add the hope that this single demonstration of man's capacity to venture into the unknown will bring a new dimension into the relationship on earth of human beings to one another which may then open the way to that era of universal peace presaged by the Prophets of old."

President Shazar's message "For myself and all the people of Israel, I am privileged to convey to you our most profoundly felt congratulations upon the realization of one of mankind's most visionary aspirations turned into fact by the genius of the American people. It is our hope that harmony and peace may yet be achieved on earth to match the victory over space demonstrated in this incomparable achievement."

Weizmann Scientist Will Participate In Examination Of Lunar Samples

HOUSTON, July 21 (JTA) -- When the Apollo 11 astronauts return to the earth with their moon samples, a scientist of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel will be on hand. His

analytical method will be used to probe for manifestations of life in the material. The method developed by Dr. Emanuel Gil-Av and his chemistry department team permits the detection of amino acids in trace quantities and the simultaneous determination of optical activity in the acids.

Dr. Gil-Av spent a year, on a grant from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, in the laboratory of Prof. John Oro of Houston University's department of physical sciences, returning to Israel at the beginning of 1969. He was invited back to Houston to participate in the examination of the lunar samples.

The purpose of his Houston stay was to adapt the procedures developed at Rehovot to the special requirements of analyzing lunar samples. Meteorites and sediments of the Precambrian age served as model substances on which the sensitivity and reliability of the methods were tested. A Weizmann Institute team was trained to carry out the analysis, and research was initiated to refine and extend the method.

Fighting Breaks Out Anew At Suez Following Clashes And Plane Losses By Both Sides

TEL AVIV, July 21 (JTA) -- Artillery duels broke out anew today along the Suez Canal following a four-hour ground and air battle yesterday that saw the first Israeli air attack on Egyptian ground installations in nearly two years. An artillery and tank battle near the Bitter Lakes, Firdan Bridge spanning the Canal and north of Qantara today injured two Israelis, according to a military spokesman.

Egyptian authorities today invited newsmen to see remnants of 19 Israeli planes which they claimed were shot down in yesterday's fighting near Port Suez but cancelled the tour at the last minute, claiming that the area was under heavy shelling. An Israeli spokesman said there was no shelling in that area today.

A military spokesman said that Israel yesterday bombed and strafed Egyptian ground-to-air missile bases, anti-aircraft positions and artillery installations between Port Said and Qantara. The Israeli Air Force was reported to have lost two jets but the pilots bailed out safely into Israeli occupied Sinai. Israel said Egypt lost five jets--two Sukhoi-7s, two MIG-17s and MIG-21s--all of which were said to have crashed in Egypt. Cairo Radio claimed that its pilots and anti-aircraft artillery downed 19 Israeli planes and that Egyptian aircraft struck a tank column, three radar installations, artillery emplacements, an ammunition dump and a Hawk missile site in the Israeli-occupied Sinai. Egypt reported one plane lost.

Israelis Attack, Occupy Briefly Egyptian Island South Of Canal

The fighting began yesterday with an attack by Israeli troops on Green Island, an Egyptian island stronghold at the southern outlet of the Suez Canal that serves as an anti-aircraft base. The Israelis occupied the fortress for about 50 minutes and left an estimated 25 killed and dozens wounded, officials said. Israel said it lost six men and that nine were wounded in the raid in which its troops destroyed an 85-millimeter anti-aircraft battery, a radar post, several smaller anti-aircraft guns, most of the island's machinegun nests and a number of buildings.

An Israeli military spokesman said that the attack was the costliest since military operations of this nature began last year. He rejected Egyptian claims that 30 Israelis were killed and a Mirage jet was shot down in the raid on the artificial island fortress constructed atop a submerged rock in shallow waters, some two miles south of Port Tewfik. The fortified base safeguarded the southern entrance to the 100-mile-long Canal. It has long buildings and a wide courtyard and housed radar-controlled anti-aircraft guns and other weapons. Egyptian artillery continued pounding the island during and after the raid, an Army spokesman said.

Israeli planes, following the Green Island attack, hit Egyptian positions across the Canal, including a missile site west of Port Said, a city at the northern end of the Canal, and the city itself. The air strikes were accompanied by artillery exchanges along the northern sector of the waterway. At first the Egyptians used massed anti-aircraft artillery against the Israeli jets and then sent up its planes to bomb Israeli positions in the Romani area near Port Said and Port Fuad, near Qantara, Ismailia and Port Tewfik. The five were reported to have been shot down in the air battles that followed. Three Israeli soldiers were wounded as a result of the Egyptian Air Force activity, three others were wounded by artillery. An Israeli military spokesman said that one Israeli jet was downed by an air-to-air missile, the other by anti-aircraft guns.

Blames Egypt For 'Total Disregard' Of 1967 Cease-Fire Agreement

The clashes came after "850 violations of the cease-fire by the Egyptian forces" across the Canal, said Kol Israel, Israel's national radio. It accused Egypt of staging at least 10 commando raids and 50 mining incidents. Another spokesman said that Israeli jets attacked Egyptian positions because of Cairo's "total disregard" of the 1967 cease-fire agreement. Dr. Mohammed H. el-Zayyat, the Egyptian Government spokesman who will soon be Ambassador to the United Nations, termed Israel's air raid "vindictive operations against civilian as well as military targets and very serious escalation, escalation toward what I don't know." Meanwhile, President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt was reported today to have conferred with his top military officials. The clashes yesterday were the most violent since last March 8 when Egyptians intensified their military action along the Canal, action that has continued daily together with threats and open statements of belligerence, an Israeli official noted. He said the latest measures were designed to prevent further escalation.

Grandfather, Father And Son Give Their Lives For Palestine, Israel

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA) -- There was a special poignancy in the news of the severe losses suffered by Israel in the attack and brief occupation of the Suez Canal Egyptian island stronghold--all six Israelis killed in the fierce clash on Green Island were sons of kibbutzim members.

One of them was Chaim Sturman, grandson of the Chaim Sturman who purchased the Beisan Valley for Jewish settlement and who directed the pre-state Haganah defense of the Jewish settlements in the area. The grandfather was killed by Arabs on a mission in 1938 to find a new site in the valley for more settlements. His son, Moshe, was a Haganah unit commander during the 1948 Liberation War and was killed during the war in the fighting in the Jezreel Valley.

Eban Says He And Jarring Did Not Discuss Resumption Of Envoy's Middle East Mission

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Abba Eban said that he did not discuss resumption of Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring's Mideast mission in his recent talk with the United Nations envoy in Switzerland. "It was clear to both of us that as long as the Big Four are dealing with the matter, this makes Jarring's mission impossible and temporarily paralyzes and peace initiative," Mr. Eban declared. He said that it was important that Israel maintain contact with Dr. Jarring and keep him up to date on its position on the Middle East conflict.

Since Israel has no diplomatic foothold in Moscow--Russia severed relations after the Six-Day War--it is important that Dr. Jarring remain acquainted with Israel's position while he is in Moscow "where doors are open for him," Mr. Eban declared. Dr. Jarring, his mission temporarily suspended, has been back at his post as Sweden's Ambassador to the Soviet Union. At the Eban-Jarring talks, they reviewed the last consultations they had had before Dr. Jarring left the Mideast.

Israel's 6th Knesset Passes Into History, Was In Session During Momentous Period

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA) -- Israel's sixth Knesset ended after passing 249 bills in 429 sessions during which Israel won the Six-Day War and Jerusalem was reunited. It posted a record in dealing with 7,825 questions and with nine non-confidence motions--one on its last day--all of which were defeated.

As members left the chamber, they exchanged partings and greetings of "see you in the next Knesset," which will be based on the coming October elections. But many current members have announced they will not run again in October, notably Speaker Kaddish Luz, who said in a radio interview that he planned to retire to his home in Kibbutz Degania. Moshe Unna, head of the Knesset legislation committee, also will not run again. The two deputy speakers--Mrs. Ruth Haktin and Emma Thalmi--said they would not seek re-election.

The last non-confidence vote was moved by the Free Center's Shmuel Tamir for allegedly "undemocratic legislation"--the majority vote of more than 61 members for an elections campaign finance bill which would aid political parties and another bill on broadcast time allocation to the various parties. The finance measure was approved at a marathon session, replacing a previous measure nullified by Israel's Supreme Court on grounds it discriminated against small parties. The Knesset members sat up half the night to see the measure through its required second and third readings less than 24 hours after it passed its first. The Knesset also gave final approval to a bill validating all previously adopted election laws to forestall the possibility of future nullifications by the high court.

Mr. Tamir charged that the basic law of equality had not been satisfied by the measure and that the Knesset had missed the "spirit" of the Supreme Court's position. He charged that the new election finance law would pave the way for single party rule. An uproar developed when he charged that money coming in from world Jewry was being spent on election campaigns. Premier Golda Meir arose to protest, asserting that "you know yourself only too well that this is not true" and she accused Mr. Tamir of trying to make use of the final Sixth Knesset session as a platform for his election campaign. The non-confidence motion was rejected by 73 to eight with three abstentions.

The Knesset also adopted a resolution calling on Soviet authorities to allow Russian Jews to leave and to permit their emigration to Israel. The motion was approved by all parties except the extreme leftist Communist faction and Agudath Israel. The resolution stressed that the right of every Jew to return to the land of his forefathers applied to Soviet Jews no less than others.

The resolution expressed its satisfaction with the awakening of national spirit which it said was gathering momentum among young Soviet Jews, for their devotion expressed in their ties with the Jewish people and their yearning to come to Israel. The Knesset voiced vigorous protest against Soviet authorities for denying the right of every Jew to come to Israel and for failing to fulfill the humanitarian principle of the reunion of families which Soviet Premier Alexei N. Kosygin promised in 1966 to Soviet Jews.

Former Nazi, In Second Trial, Gets Life Imprisonment For Killing 12,000 Jews

BONN, July 21 (JTA) -- A 69-year-old man was sentenced to life imprisonment for his participation in the mass shooting of 12,000 Jews in Lida, White Russia in May, 1942. Leopold Windisch was found guilty by a jury in Mainz for his part in the killing. He was also alleged to have summoned a special commando unit to execute 86 witnesses to the massacre. This was Mr. Windisch's second trial. The first trial was held in 1967 but a new trial was required because of procedural errors.

Philadelphia Rabbis, JCRC Urge That Black Conference Spokesmen Be Allowed To Speak

PHILADELPHIA, July 21 (JTA) -- A guideline for rabbis on handling disruptions of their religious services by Black Economic Development Conference spokesmen, which urges that such spokesmen be given every opportunity to speak to congregants has been issued by the Philadelphia Board of Rabbis and the Jewish Community Relations Council. The militant black organization has demanded that churches and synagogues contribute a half billion dollars in "reparations" for sufferings of Negroes in America.

The memorandum said the two agencies had "no reason to believe that any synagogue in Philadelphia may be subjected to such an interruption in the near future" but that "nevertheless, in response to requests for guidance, we want to provide you with the following thinking that may be helpful in determining the nature of your response to such an interruption."

The memorandum said that if a black spokesman interrupted a service to present his demand, the rabbi could choose to allow him to make his statement at that point. The rabbi should explain to his congregants that since the spokesman had made the claim that his people had been suffering grave injustice, it was appropriate for him to speak in a House of God. Alternatively, the rabbi might choose to explain that interruptions were not permitted at that point in the service and inform him of the point in the service at which he would be permitted to speak.

A third alternative suggested in the guidelines would be for the rabbi to inform the spokesman he would be allowed to speak at the end of the service. If he insisted on speaking immediately, the rabbi should state that he, the rabbi, would not contribute to possible disturbance or violence in a synagogue and therefore would permit the spokesman to present his statement then and there.

Rabbi Elias Charry, president of the Board of Rabbis, and Theodore R. Mann, president of the JCRC, said that the guidelines had been prepared as a result of discussions within the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, the Synagogue Council of America, the Board of Rabbis and the JCRC. They added that the Board of Rabbis and the JCRC were actively involved in talks with representatives of the Metropolitan Christian Council and the Archdiocese here "as to how we should respond to the substantive needs of the black community."

Canadian Neo-Nazis Picket Store Of Jewish Merchant In Ontario

LONDON, Ont., July 21 (JTA) -- Three members of the Canadian National Socialist Party picketed a Jewish merchant's store here, carrying misspelled signs reading "Are Jews Privileged Persons?" the Canadian Jewish Congress reported. Two of the pickets identified themselves as "party chairman" and "London district party secretary." The third was a 14-year-old boy. Police ended the picketing after some 15 hecklers gathered. Store owner Meyer Fink refused to comment to avoid "giving these people any kind of publicity."

Yeshiva University Names Dr. Cecil Roth As Visiting Professor Of Jewish History

NEW YORK, July 21 (JTA) -- Dr. Cecil Roth, 70, a scholar and author of international repute and editor of Encyclopedia Judaica, has been appointed visiting professor of Jewish history at Yeshiva University. Dr. Roth will teach at Stern College for Women, the university's undergraduate school of liberal arts and sciences for women, according to Prof. David Mirsky, the Stern dean.

Dr. Roth, a London native who lives in Jerusalem, has written numerous books on Jewish life and history including the Magnificent Rothschilds, The Sassoon Dynasty, History of Jews in England, History of Jews in Italy, and Life of Benjamin Disraeli. He has also edited the Standard Jewish Encyclopedia, History of Jewish Art and the Ben Shahn Haggadah.

Saboteurs Damage Monument To Internees Under Construction Near Famagusta, Cyprus

TEL AVIV, July 21 (JTA) -- Saboteurs have damaged a monument near Famagusta, Cyprus, commemorating the Jews interned in British camps after their attempts to break the British blockade of Palestine during the post-World War II mandate days, it was reported here. The monument is near the site of several large camps. The official groundbreaking ceremony was held last week with hundreds of the camps' former internees attending. Local police were investigating. During the ceremony, Arab demonstrators were dispersed by police.

Sammy Davis, Jr. Pays Tearful Visit To Israel, Places Note In Western Wall Crevice

JERUSALEM, July 21 (JTA) -- Sammy Davis, Jr., the Negro American entertainer who is a convert to Judaism, arrived here Saturday for a one-day trip. He told hundreds of fans at Lydda Airport, as tears poured down his cheeks, that he could not "find words to express my satisfactions at being in Israel, the mother country of my spirit and my religion." He visited the Western Wall, met with male and female soldiers, and returned to London where he is shooting a film. He told his admirers that he might return in September.

He said that he had been looking forward to visiting the Wall since his conversion in 1955. He placed a note containing a wish in a Wall crevice and told newsmen: "Like every Jew, my feelings at the Wall were deep and personal. This is my religious home. It's great here. A great thrill. It is a kind of oneness I have with Israel and the Jewish people."

Hundreds Of Sages, Cabbalists And Talmudists Pray At Graveside Of 'Sage Of Safed'

SAFED, July 21 (JTA) -- Hundreds of Jewish sages, cabbalists and Talmudists prayed yesterday at the graveside here of the "sage of Safed"--Rabbi Isaac Ben Solomon Lurie--who lived from 1534-1572. His teachings profoundly influenced mystical thought. A fundamental assumption of his thought was the unity of God and creation. He was reputed to have had supernatural powers and the neo-cabbalistic movement which he launched had a vast impact on Jewish life.