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Thant Warns of Danger To World Peace If Suez Canal Cease-Fire Collapses

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., July 31 (JTA)--Secretary General U Thant, in a report to the Security Council on the death last Sunday of a United Nations cease-fire observer at the Suez Canal, reiterated today his past pleas to the parties to observe the cease-fire. He did not, however, indicate that he was contemplating asking the Council to withdraw the cease-fire observation mission.

He termed the death of Major Bo Roland Plane of Sweden a "dramatic symptom of the breakdown of the cease-fire" and warned that this breakdown threatened not only Middle East regional and world peace but risked setting a precedent that would jeopardize the 20-year-old UN peace observation operations which have been in force elsewhere in the world.

The report included in great detail the findings of a UN Truce Supervision Organization investigating board of the circumstances surrounding the death of Major Plane, who, it said, had been struck by shrapnel from an artillery shell that landed in the street directly outside a window of his observation post. The report did not, however, place blame on Israel for his death, though it indicated that there had been a lull "in Israeli firing" just before Major Plane headed toward the window and that Israeli firing continued after Israel had been notified of his death.

Mr. Thant said that "during the recent escalation of firing...each of the parties has accused the other of flouting the decisions of the Security Council. Without passing judgement on their respective positions, I can only note that both parties, whatever their reasons may be, have been violating the cease-fire with the result that the situation in the Suez Canal sector has greatly deteriorated and a United Nations military observer has died." In his extensive report, the Secretary General appealed "once again to the members of the Security Council, both individually and collectively, to do all within their power to influence events in a new and constructive direction."

He also said that "the absence of an early prospect of the implementation" of the Security Council's resolution of Nov. 22, 1967 "is one of the factors which tends to increase the incidence of cease-fire violations not only in the Suez Canal sector but also in other sectors of the Middle East."

Mr. Thant also called upon the Security Council members "to consider what more can be done to ensure that decent and proper conditions are afforded" to the observers "who serve the United Nations in the Suez Canal sector. A marked improvement in these conditions is essential for both the short-term and long-term" prospects of UN cease-fire operations, he declared.

In connection with his fears about the situation, he said also "if a trend were to develop toward a disregard and disrespect for the status, functioning and reasonable safety" of military observers "there can be no question that lasting damage might be done to this valuable instrument for peace."

A UN spokesman declined today to comment on the El Fatah terrorist organization's statement in Cairo Wednesday that it considered the UN observation corps as its enemy.

Tekoah Says Egyptians Must Bear Responsibility For Situation

In a comment on Mr. Thant's report, Ambassador Yosef Tekoah said today that it "fails to remind the world that the deterioration of the situation in the Canal sector has been brought about by the open disavowal by the United Arab Republic of the cease-fire. Egypt's publicly-proclaimed policy of undermining the cease-fire and pursuing armed attacks against the Israeli forces is the cause of the present violence of which Major Plane was the victim. No report on the situation is adequate if it omits the UAR's responsibility for the increased tension along the Suez Canal.

"We note that the report does draw attention to the fact that UAR military positions are situated in 'the nearby vicinity' of the observation post in which Major Plane" was killed. "In fact, Maj. Plane was hit by fragments of a shell which exploded short of these UAR positions. It will be recalled that, as reported by the Secretary General in the past, the UAR authorities refused to remove their military positions from the immediate proximity of UN observation posts."

"We also noted that the Secretary-General's report indicates that from June 1 to July 29, 1969, there were 74 instances of firing at or near UN posts or personnel by UAR forces and only 15 such instances of firing by Israeli forces. This has been the case despite the fact that the Israeli forces do not maintain military positions adjacent to UN observation posts, while the UAR forces do. As recorded by the Secretary-General on May 2, 1969, these Egyptian attacks resulted in the wounding of Capt. George Young of Ireland on April 22. "In addition to its responsibility for the deterioration of the cease-fire and for deliberate attacks on UN personnel and installations, Egypt bears heavy responsibility for

persistent obstruction by armed attack of Israeli efforts to construct shelters for the UN military observers. Israel has expressed its grief at the death of Maj. Plane in the cause of peace. It hopes that the UAR will abandon its policy of aggression and will maintain the cease-fire so that tragic casualties may be avoided. Israel will continue to abide scrupulously by its cease-fire obligations on a basis of reciprocity," Israel's UN envoy said.

Syrian Jets Attack Israeli Positions Near The Lebanese-Syrian Border

TEL AVIV, July 31 (JTA)--Syrian warplanes struck today at an Israeli position near the Lebanese-Syrian border where Israeli jets attacked guerrilla bases yesterday for the first time since the June 1967 war. Israeli officials also reported that the Syrians opened artillery fire at Quneitra and Tel Abou Hidda in the central section of the occupied Golan Heights. Initial reports were that the Israelis suffered no casualties. The Syrian artillery bombardment was described as fierce.

The Israeli Air Force did not intercept the Syrian jets, an Israel Army spokesman said. But he noted that this was the first time the Syrians attacked ground positions from the air. (Damascus Radio said Israeli jets attacked Syrian and that three of them were shot down by anti-aircraft fire. The Syrian air assault, it said, was "in retaliation for enemy planes' aggressive actions against our positions.")

Israel military officials also reported that an Israeli patrol clashed at dawn with a saboteurs gang in the Mount Hermon area, the general site of the Israeli air blow yesterday and the Syrian air response today. One of the saboteurs was killed and one Israeli soldier slightly injured. In a Suez Canal incident, Staff Sgt. Zeev Poznik was killed and another Israeli soldier injured yesterday when Egyptians opened artillery fire at Israeli positions after a 24 hour lull in the Suez Canal sector. Israeli forces returned the fire.

Israeli observers said the Syrian air and artillery action might be retaliation for Israel's air blow in which, according to a Syrian communique, 11 persons were injured. However, they added, the Syrian actions might have been taken as an independent initiative as part of an "eastern command" plan to relieve the pressure now exerted by Israel on the Egyptians at the Suez Canal cease-fire line. The "eastern command," in which Syria, Iraq and Jordan nominally participate, was established on initiative of Egyptian President Nasser, purportedly to save him the need to come to the aid of Jordan if Jordan was attacked by Israel. The observers noted that the "eastern command" is directed by an Iraqi officer. They noted also that it appeared it was President Nasser, rather than Jordan, who was under the severest strain and that he might have asked the Syrians to start military operations against Israel to present Israel with the problem of a war on two fronts.

Dayan Attributes Lull In Suez Fighting To Israeli Air Blows

TEL AVIV, July 31 (JTA)--Gen. Moshe Dayan, Israel's Defense Minister, attributes the slackening in recent days of Egyptian ground and air activity along the Suez Canal to the series of recent Israeli Air Force blows against the Arab positions and the destruction of Egyptian planes.

He said in a television interview today that the Egyptians were convinced that they cannot gain air supremacy and that they cannot wage a successful offensive against Israeli positions dug in on the Canal's east bank.

The lull in fighting however, does not mean that local action will not continue. But Israeli Air Force damage to ground installations and positions affected the Egyptians' effort to exert pressure on Israel's line, Gen. Dayan asserted.

Mrs. Meir Voices Hope That Egyptians Will Stop Tolerating Suffering Under Nasser

TEL AVIV, July 31 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir told a meeting at Tel Aviv university yesterday that peace with the Arabs seemed far away but that she expressed the hope that the Egyptian people would not tolerate much longer the sufferings and poverty to which they were subjected by the "war-like" policies of President Gamal Abdul Nasser.

Mrs. Meir was a guest of Tel Aviv of which she is a "freewoman-honorary citizen." She said that if President Nasser could take some time off from his "great aspirations" to "throw the Jews into the sea" and examine such "smaller problems" as the need to improve the living conditions of Egyptian families, he would see that he was sinning against his people.

In her address to the university senate, she also said that more room should be made available in Israeli universities for students from abroad.

U.S. Student On UJA Mission Sees Immigrants, Says 'This Is Why Israel Must Live'

TEL AVIV, July 31 (JTA)--One of the 35 American university students who are in Israel on a month-long United Jewish Appeal mission declared today after watching a group of immigrants arriving at Lydda Airport that "this is why Israel must live." Many members of the group said they were planning to return and continue their studies in Israel. Charles Ribakoff of Worcester, Mass., who made the comment, added that he had plans to settle in Israel. The American students had much praise for the

Israeli armed forces. They agreed that the United States and Israel were worlds apart in their attitude toward war. The fighting in Israel, they said, was based on a commitment to individual and national survival against Arab threats. They contrasted this stand with anti-war sentiment in the U.S.

The young Americans said that Israeli soldiers were far more mature than their counterparts of the same age in other countries and added that Israeli girls also seemed much more mature than American girls of the same age. They said that "now that they had the facts," they planned to explain the "Israeli situation" to youth on American campuses but added that they realized that members of the campus New Left had "closed minds on the issues." They are expected to leave Israel Aug. 8.

Cairo Law Student Tells UN Rights Unit He Hopes Sanction Will Be Imposed On Israel

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. (JTA)--A Cairo University law student expressed the hope, in testimony before the United Nations working committee on human rights in the Israeli-held territories, that "appropriate legal and economic sanctions" would be imposed on Israel, the UN reported today. The meeting was held prior to the departure of the six-member committee for Geneva leading to a series of visits to Arab capitals.

Mahmoud Nasser, 25, the student, was the only witness to appear before the working committee. He said that the UN could not remain "indifferent" to the fact that the legal situation in the region had been changed by military action, which he said was contrary to the provisions of the UN Charter declaring illegal any territorial gains acquired through military action. He asked the UN Commission on Human Rights, which gave the working committee its mandate, to visit the occupied territories and he challenged Israel to grant permission for such a visit. Israel has declared that the working committee would be permitted to visit the occupied areas only if its members also examined Israeli complaints of mistreatment of Jews in Arab countries.

The student charged that Israel's Information Minister, Israel Galili, had announced plans to evict 50,000 Arabs from occupied areas with an announced budget of 40 million pounds (about \$12 million) and with the areas to be resettled by Jews. He added that the plan had been "confirmed" by Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban. He charged also that he has sought to visit his parents during his school vacation after the June, 1967 war and that the Israelis had refused him permission to do so.

He also charged that "terrible methods of torture" were used by the Israelis on Arabs suspected of "opposing them." He asserted that one Arab girl had suffered partial paralysis as a result of alleged torture and that another suspect became blind from use of a strong light in her eyes during questioning. He added that Israeli newspapers had "verified the truth" of such incidents and that one newspaper "even counseled" Israel against using such methods. Israeli officials have dismissed such charges as nonsense.

Religious Zionists' Parley Told Significant Part Of 1969 Settlers Are Observant

JERUSALEM, July 31 (JTA)--A significant part, if not a majority, of the 4,000 American Jews who came to Israel this year as settlers are religious and observant Jews, Rabbi Mordecai Kirshblum of New York asserted today at the opening session here of the 60th annual convention of the Religious Zionists of America. A former president of the organization, he is now a member of the Jewish Agency Executive.

He also said that plans were under way to establish in Israel special quarters or improved special housing projects for religious Jews from the United States. He estimated that American immigrants to Israel next year would total more than 6,000 persons. Herman Hollander, former treasurer of the organization, said Israel's economy was stable and could absorb large numbers of immigrants from the U.S.

The Religious Zionists' convention received a greeting from President Richard M. Nixon. In a letter to its president, Rabbi Herschel Schacter of New York, Mr. Nixon said, "That you are meeting in Jerusalem--a seat sacred to three worldwide faiths and source of inspiration for all mankind--gives added significance to this occasion. I join in your prayer for peace to all men particularly in the troubled Near East."

Moshe Chaim Shapiro, Minister of the Interior and president of the World Mizrahi Movement, opened the convention with Government's greetings and a warning to Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser that Israel can again defeat his armed forces. He called on religious Jews in the Diaspora to lead the aliyah from the free world. Rabbi Schacter called on American authorities to provide Israel with political and defense assistance. The opening session was attended by President Zalman Shazar, Cabinet members, Knesset members and some 1,000 delegates and guests.

Israel Participates In Games For Paralyzed Held In Hospital In London

LONDON, July 31 (JTA)--The 21st International Stoke Mandeville Games for the paralyzed opened here with Israel among the 27 participating nations. The games are played at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, where Dr. Ludwig Guttmann, a specialist in paralysis and spinal injuries stemming from World War II, at the hospital's spinal center, founded the games in 1948. Dr. Guttmann was knighted for his services to the paralyzed, and the hospital continued to sponsor the games.

The games began with 14 British ex-servicemen and two ex-servicewomen. They became international in 1952 when the Dutch joined the games. In 1954, Israel joined and has participated ever since. The games will continue throughout the week. In early contests, Israel finished second and third in various fencing matches and in swimming. Other sports include archery and basketball.

Mayor Lindsay Tells Histadrut Dinner That America Must Respond To Israel's Needs

NEW YORK, July 31 (JTA)--Mayor John V. Lindsay told a Histadrut dinner yesterday that "Israel's greatest enemy is the indifference of a world whose attention is turned to other lands and other wars." America must respond to Israel, the Mayor said in a speech to some 600 members of the New York League for Histadrut.

"We must not supply words and promises. We must supply action. We must not look away from Israel with the excuse that our own problems are so great--our own needs so urgent--that we have no time or energy or help to give Israel," he said.

Fine Imposed On Toronto Man For Attack On John Beattie, Self-Styled Neo-Nazi

TORONTO, July 31 (JTA)--A fine of \$25 or five days in prison was imposed yesterday on Eugene Lawrence, 46, a Hungarian-born real estate broker, for attacking John Beattie, self-styled Nazi leader, in the Allen Gardens park here last April 20. Magistrate Charles Drukarsh restricted trial proceedings solely to the assault charge, refusing to permit introduction of any political matters. He reprimanded the defendant for "taking the law into his own hands" but imposed a light penalty. The maximum term for committing assault occasioning bodily harm is two years imprisonment.

Mr. Lawrence, who was in a Nazi labor camp during World War II, attacked the neo-Nazi with a pair of binoculars while Beattie was marching through Allen Gardens carrying a placard which read "Free Speech or Death." The neo-Nazi was protesting denial of a permit to hold a public meeting to celebrate Hitler's birthday in the park. Lawrence attacked him early in the march, cutting his head and knocking him unconscious for a few minutes, according to testimony at the trial.

New York's Brotherhood Synagogue Arranges For Shipment Of 100 Books To Singapore Jews

NEW YORK, July 31 (JTA)--A collection of 100 books is being shipped to the Jewish community of Singapore by the Brotherhood Synagogue of New York in response to an appeal for such books, Rabbi Irving J. Block of the synagogue, reported today.

He said the congregation began the project after hearing an appeal from David Marshall, delegate from Singapore to the United Nations Human Rights Commission, which was made at the synagogue last December. The books are mainly in the scholarly classification, include sets of the Jerusalem Talmud, the Soncino Old Testament and Jewish history.

Rabbi Block said the books will be housed in the Singapore Jewish Community Center in a program to develop a Judaica Library. The Bloch Publishing Co. here has assumed responsibility for shipment of the books which are expected to arrive in Singapore by mid-August.

UN Development Program Will Aid Israel In Setting Up Science Instruction Center

TEL AVIV, July 31 (JTA)--The United Nations Development Program will assist Israel in the establishment of a National-Center for Instruction in the Natural Sciences. The aid will be channeled through the United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which signed the agreement yesterday with the Israeli Government to establish the center. This is the first project of its kind to be approved by the UN Development Program in any country. It is the first project approved for Israel in the field of education, while the 10th approved for Israel under the UN technical assistance program.

The aid will total \$384,000 over three years while Israel will spend \$571,428 over the same period for buildings, laboratories and manpower. The UN funds will also be used to bring to Israel international experts in the instruction of science. The Israeli center was established jointly by the Hebrew University, the Weizmann Institute of Science and the Ministry of Education for the purpose of improving the level of science instruction in Israel's secondary schools within a relatively short period of time.

Record Number Of American Students Will Study This Fall At Hebrew University

NEW YORK, July 31 (JTA)--A record number of over 1,000 American students will study this fall at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the office of academic affairs of the American Friends of the Hebrew University announced here today.

Programs at the University include a year-long study program for U.S. college sophomores, juniors, and recent graduates; graduate programs for master's and doctoral candidates; the freshman-preparatory year for selected U.S. high school graduates; regular studies for undergraduates seeking degrees at the university; summer courses in English; and the seminar for world Jewish service, a graduate study program by the University's Institute of Contemporary Jewry for executive and supervisory personnel of American Jewish institutions and organizations.

Factory Fire Will Have Severe Impact On Citrus Economy Of Israel

TEL AVIV, July 31 (JTA)--The fire which gutted the Cargal cardboard plant near Lydda yesterday will force Israeli citrus exporters and fruit and vegetable growers to shift to more costly wooden boxes, which may have more severe impact on the economy than the estimated losses of nearly \$600,000 in plant, machinery and material, officials reported today.