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Thant Terms Hijacking Savage, Inhuman; Tekoah Condemns Lebanon, Jordan Governments

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 8 (JTA)--Secretary General U Thant assailed today the "criminal acts of hijacking planes" and termed the acts of the hijackers as "savage and inhuman." In what was considered here as Mr. Thant's strongest condemnation of hijacking to date, the Secretary General declared: "It is high time that the international community, through appropriate agencies and organizations, adopt prompt and effective measures to put a stop to this return to the law of the jungle." Mr. Thant's statement came in the wake of the hijackings on Sunday of three airliners by Arab terrorists and their disastrous effort to hijack a fourth - an El Al airliner - during flights over Europe on their way back to the United States. The terrorists forced a Pan American 747 jumbo jet to fly to Cairo Airport where it was blown up minutes after the passengers and crew scrambled through emergency chutes to safety. They returned to Kennedy Airport in New York late last night. Two other airliners - TWA and Swissair - were hijacked to a desert area in northern Jordan where terrorists continue to hold passengers and crew members hostages. The only defeat for the terrorist hijackers came on the El Al plane where security guards killed the male terrorist while passengers subdued the female terrorist.

Israel's Ambassador Yosef Tekoah also denounced the hijackings and the governments of Lebanon and Jordan for complicity in the acts. Answering newsmen's questions about the hijackings, Mr. Tekoah said the Lebanese government allowed members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine to board the hijacked Pan American jet while it landed at the Beirut Airport to reinforce their co-terrorists aboard the plane and supplied fuel for the jumbo jet to continue its flight to Cairo. Mr. Tekoah said this could not be regarded as anything but cooperation. Referring to the role of the Jordanian government, the Israeli ambassador said it was doing nothing to safeguard and free the hostages held by the hijackers. How can any government, which fails to undertake its obligations to helpless women and children among the captive passengers be relied upon when it comes to discussing and maintaining peace? Mr. Tekoah asked. In his statement to newsmen this morning, Mr. Thant said: "These criminal acts of hijacking planes, of detaining passengers and crew, of blowing up aircraft and of the detention of passengers in transit from commercial airliners, are most deplorable and must be condemned. However understandable and even justifiable some of the grievances of the perpetrators may be, their acts are savage and inhuman." A spokesman for the United Nations said that Mr. Thant declined to elaborate on what he meant by "prompt and effective measures" to halt these hijackings. The spokesman said the Secretary General "is in touch" with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Federation of Airline Pilots Association.

More Than 80 TWA Passengers Jewish; Terrorists Separate Them From Other Passengers

NEW YORK, Sept. 8 (JTA)--A passenger list released by TWA here yesterday confirmed reports from other sources that Jewish passengers aboard the hijacked TWA airliner were segregated from other passengers by their terrorist captors at a desert airstrip in northern Jordan. The passenger list contained the names of more than 80 passengers who boarded the flight at Tel Aviv, all Jewish. None of those names appeared on an appended list of passengers who were permitted to spend the night at hotels in Amman. Reports reaching here said about 60 Jewish women and children were forced to remain on the plane after 30 other women and children were bussed to Amman. The passengers were reported to have been lined up and asked to state their names, nationalities and religion. Only the non-Jews were allowed to board the bus.

Only a few of the Jewish passengers are said to be Israelis. An unspecified number of others reportedly hold both Israeli and U.S. passports. All male passengers regardless of nationality were kept aboard the plane. There was no official word on passengers from the second hijacked airliner, a Swissair DC-8. Unconfirmed reports said all women and children were permitted to leave that plane without being checked for their nationality or religion. Reports said that women and children were sent to Amman hotels because of the harsh desert conditions. The planes are without power and there is no electricity or air conditioning. Supplies of milk and diapers were reportedly running low. There was no immediate report on how many, if any, Jewish passengers are on the captured Swissair airliner.

Israel Says Any Deal With Terrorists Must Include Every Hostage

JERUSALEM, Sept. 8 (JTA)--Israel demanded today that any package deal negotiated with the Arab hijackers for release of the 300 airline passengers held captive in Jordan must include every one of the hostages without regard to their nationalities or religion. The demand emerged from a meeting of Cabinet ministers in Premier Golda Meir's office. Israel, in effect, is insisting that the other countries whose nationals are among the hostages--United States, Britain, West Germany and Switzerland--make no separate agreements with the hijackers but negotiate jointly with Israel. Israel has made it clear that it will have no contact with the terrorists. But today's decision by the Cabinet ministers seemed to hint that Israel might be willing to contribute toward a package deal. There are some 2000 convicted Arab terrorists serving sentences in Israeli jails in addition to Egyptian and Syrian prisoners of war and two high ranking Algerian nationals interned last month after they were removed from a British airliner in transit at Lydda Airport. There has been no official confirmation here that 50 Israelis are among the hostages being held in Jordan.

Observers here said it was unlikely that the terrorists would agree to exchange any of the Israeli hostages. They pointed out that guerrillas still hold Shmuel Rosenwasser, a night watchman they kidnapped

from Metullah nine months ago. Foreign Minister Eban today sharply rejected any parallel between the two Algerians held in Israel and the hijacked airline passengers. Addressing the Jerusalem Economic Club, Mr. Eban noted that "the two Algerians landed in Israel on board a scheduled aircraft. They were not brought here by force but turned out after investigation to be senior officers in the secret service of a country at war with Israel." (In New York, a United Nations spokesman said that Secretary General U Thant is "in continuous touch" with the Israeli Mission to the UN regarding the two Algerian officials who were taken from the BOAC plane at Lydda Airport three weeks ago by Israeli authorities and detained for questioning. A spokesman for the Israeli Mission confirmed that Mr. Thant was in contact but declined to elaborate further.)

Israelis Contrast Resistance By El Al Personnel With Submission Of Other Airliners

Israel holds the Jordanian government fully responsible for the safety of the hostages. The Foreign Ministry announced today that Israel has made diplomatic representations to several governments urging them to put pressure on Jordanian authorities to honor their international obligations. But Israeli officials concede privately that the Jordanian government is powerless to intercede even if it wanted to. King Hussein's authority, shaky even in his own capital, does not extend to the Mafrqa area where the hijacked planes were forced to land on a terrorist-controlled airstrip. Israelis were infuriated by reports yesterday that the governments of Switzerland and West Germany were ready to surrender to terrorist demands for the release of Arab prisoners held by them in return for their own nationals. The public was not mollified by later reports that the two countries decided not to make a deal with the terrorists pending diplomatic efforts to free the hostages. The Swiss Embassy in Tel Aviv and the Swiss Ambassador's residence in Ramat Gan received anonymous bomb threats today. Police rushed to the scene found nothing.

Israelis are contrasting the resistance that foiled an attempt to hijack an El Al airliner over Britain on Sunday with the submission of the two hijacked American planes and the Swiss airliner. Israelis say that this situation would not have occurred if other governments and airlines employed security measures similar to those that saved the El Al plane. The El Al hijack attempt was foiled when security guards on the plane shot and killed one of the hijackers and wounded his female companion. An Israeli steward was wounded in the scuffle. But Capt. Uri Barlev who was piloting the El Al 707 jet when the hijack attempt was made refused to say who shot the hijackers. "If we are in Tel Aviv today and not in Amman or Damascus, it is thanks to the entire crew. All of them acted marvelously," Capt. Barlev said. He said no crew member carried arms. He made no reply when asked by newsmen about the two armed security guards on his flight. Capt. Barlev said the hijack attempt occurred 21 minutes after his plane took off from Amsterdam on a flight to New York, when it was about 13 nautical miles from the British coast. A stewardess, Jeanette Darmagene, said the two hijackers shot the steward when the pilot refused their demand to open the door to his compartment.

International Red Cross Selected As Agency For Negotiations With Hijackers

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8 (JTA)--The International Red Cross has been selected as the agency for negotiations with the Arab hijackers holding 300 airline passengers hostage in Jordan, the State Department announced today. Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said that channel had been agreed to in inter-governmental consultations held here yesterday by Secretary of State William P. Rogers. Mr. McCloskey said that Andre Rachot is the IRC representative in charge. The spokesman said the U.S. was continuing urgent consultations with the other governments whose nationals are among the hostages. "The safety of all passengers and crewmen held in Jordan is our paramount concern in these efforts," he said. He said he was not in a position to announce any action. Mr. McCloskey disclosed that Secretary Rogers conferred for an hour today with Defense Secretary Melvin Laird, CIA director Richard Helms, White House foreign policy advisor Henry Kissinger and Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco on the problem of the hijacked passengers. Yesterday Mr. Rogers met with the Ambassadors of Britain and Israel and the West German and Swiss Charges d'Affaires. Mr. McCloskey said that "as we understand it, the demand of the hijackers is that members of their group detained in Germany, the UK and Switzerland were to be released before any of the passengers and crews would be released."

Mr. McCloskey said however that there "would not be all of the demands of the fedayeen...but I can't speak for them." He said part of their demands concerned Israel but he did not know what they were. He said that as of now he did not know of any demands made on the U.S. government. He said he knew of no contact between U.S. officials and the hijackers. Mr. McCloskey could give only approximate figures on the number of passengers held hostage. He said there were between 135-140 passengers on the TWA flight and about 100 are still aboard the aircraft, the remainder at hotels in Amman. He said the Swiss-air jet carried about the same number of passengers and about 50 remained on the plane, the rest at hotels in Amman. Mr. McCloskey said he had no knowledge of reports that any passengers were segregated for reasons of nationality or religion. He said he could not confirm at this time that about 40 American hostages also hold Israeli passports. Mr. McCloskey said he was not aware that any of the governments concerned were prepared to yield to the hijackers' demands at this time. He said the U.S. was hoping for concerted actions but observed that it can't dictate other governments' actions.

Extradition Of Hijacker Up To Public Prosecutor; Comay, Arab Envoys Confer With Officials

LONDON, Sept. 8 (JTA)--The British Cabinet decided today to let the public prosecutor decide whether to extradite 24-year-old Laila Khaled, the survivor of an Arab commando team that tried to hijack an El Al airliner off the British coast Sunday. Israel has demanded her extradition on grounds that she committed a crime on what was technically Israeli soil. Arab terrorists have demanded her release as one of their conditions for freeing 300 hostages from hijacked American and Swiss airliners

held in Jordan. Israel's Ambassador, Michael Comay and the Ambassadors of five Arab states met with British Foreign Office officials today in connection with the hijackings and the detention of 300 hostages by terrorists in Jordan. Mr. Comay met with Joseph Gdaber, Minister of State in charge of the Middle East Department. The envoys of Iraq, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Lebanon met with Foreign Secretary Sir Alec Douglas-Home at half hour intervals during the day. There is no evidence that there are British citizens among the hostages. The International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations' executive committee meets here tonight to consider proposals for armed guards on all flights and to arm captains and crew members.

The International Red Cross announced in Geneva today that it has sent ten more representatives to join a Red Cross team in Amman to help the hostages. A Red Cross spokesman said, "As far as we are concerned, we are there to help people of all nationalities and all faiths. Police in Berne reported an anonymous telephone threat to murder all Arabs living in Switzerland if any of the hostages in Jordan is harmed. A Latin American statesman suggested today that the Arab terrorists be dealt with the way Uruguay dealt with terrorist threats to execute two captives unless 150 guerrillas were released from prison by the Uruguayan government. The government simply told the terrorists that they would execute all of the prisoners if the two hostages were killed. As far as known, the hostages were not harmed, the diplomat said. British intelligence officers were reportedly questioning the El Al steward, Shlomo Vidor, to determine where his plane was when two Arab commandos attempted to hijack it Sunday. Mr. Vidor was wounded in the scuffle in which one of the commandos was fatally shot. The British experts want to ascertain whether the plane was in British air space or over the North Sea when the hijack attempt was made. This would have bearing on Israel's demand for extradition of Miss Khaled.

WJC Officials Appeal To UN, Red Cross To Help Secure Release Of Hostages

GENEVA, Sept. 8 (JTA)--Officials of the World Jewish Congress today appealed to the United Nations and the International Red Cross to intervene to secure the release of passengers aboard the hijacked Swissair and TWA airliners. Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the WJC, cabled an appeal to UN Secretary General U Thant to "use your high authority for urgent intervention with member states" so that they release "immediately and unconditionally" all passengers hijacked to their territories. He requested U Thant's intervention on "humanitarian" grounds and "for the purpose of upholding the freedom and security of air traffic." It is your duty, he said, to point out the particular danger to Jewish passengers in view of the Middle East conflict. Gerhart M. Riegner, secretary general of the WJC, appealed to the IRC to use its "best efforts" to secure the immediate release, protection and care of all passengers on the hijacked planes irrespective of their nationality, religion or race. The Federation of Jewish Swiss Communities also appealed to the Swiss Federal Government to take immediate action to secure the release of the kidnapped passengers.

Jewish Leaders Call On U.S., UN, Aviation Community To Act Against Hijackers

NEW YORK, Sept. 8 (JTA)--Jewish leaders and organizations today denounced the terrorist hijacking and called upon the United States, United Nations and airline pilots and associations to take prompt action to secure the release of the passengers and to punish the terrorist groups responsible and the governments which give them encouragement and sanctuary. Dr. William A. Wexler, president of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations said "the hijackings imperil not only the individuals and the companies involved, but the very integrity of American citizenship. In effect, every citizen of the United States is being held hostage by the criminal band of terrorists guilty of this loathsome deed. The challenge to our nation is unmistakable. Our response must be equally plain." In a telegram to President Nixon, Philip A. Hoffman, president of the American Jewish Committee, called upon the U.S. to do "everything in its power to ensure that all American citizens, along with citizens of other countries, flying under the protection of the American flag, are freed at once without harm." Mr. Hoffman stated the AJ Committee was "dismayed and distressed by reports that hostages are being singled out on the basis of religion, and there is the grave possibility that Jews may be subject to special harassment and abuse."

Rabbi Meyer Cohen, executive director of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada sent telegrams to Pres. Nixon and to Secretary of State William P. Rogers appealing for their "immediate, personal intervention" to secure the release of the hijacked passengers. Rabbi Roland E. Gittelsohn, president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, called upon the international airlines to boycott any nation who "directly or indirectly" supports air piracy. "The U.S. must act at once to eliminate this curse of air piracy," Rabbi Gittelsohn said. Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the American Zionist Federation said "The concern expressed at the hijacking of the airlines must be concretized into action to prevent such deeds of terror and sabotage in the future. Only effective international sanctions against the country which harbors hijackers or saboteurs will deter these criminal acts." Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said "Unless drastic sanctions are imposed, this wanton program of terrorism unquestionably will continue, with Arab statesmen publicly expressing regretful helplessness--but privately applauding the perpetrators."

Dayan's Proposal To Renegotiate Cease-Fire Under Consideration By Government

JERUSALEM, Sept. 8 (JTA)--A proposal by Defense Minister Moshe Dayan to renegotiate the standstill cease-fire agreement in the Suez Canal zone is under consideration at the highest government levels. If it is accepted, the suggestion might be taken up in Washington when Premier Golda Meir visits President Nixon later this month. Gen. Dayan maintained that the original cease-fire agreement that went into effect Aug. 7 proved unworkable because Egypt immediately moved missiles into the standstill zone. His plan reportedly would establish a 20-mile demilitarized strip on both sides of the waterway to be supervised only by light patrols. (Israel's United Nations Ambassador Yosef Tekoah met with United Nations envoy Gunnar V. Jarring in New York today to inform him officially of Israel's withdrawal from the peace talks under his auspices pending rectification of Egypt's cease-fire violations.)

Jewish National Fund Requires \$46.5 Million For Next Three Years' Development Program

NEW YORK, Sept. 8 (JTA)--The Jewish National Fund will require \$46.5 million for its development program in Israel during the next three years, Herman L. Weisman, JNF president told a session of the Zionist Organization of America holding its 73rd annual national convention this weekend. In outlining the program Mr. Weisman, a New York attorney who was elected unanimously by the 1000 ZOA delegates as president of the Zionist organization, said that the details of the JNF program was recently announced by Shimon Benshemesh, Director General of the Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael, at the inaugural meeting of the JNF World Council in Jerusalem. The funds will be utilized for land reclamation and afforestation. Mr. Benshemesh called upon JNF bodies throughout the world for a substantial raise in income so that the requirements of the three-year plan be met, Mr. Weisman told the delegates. He reported that since the Six-Day War, the Keren Kayemeth has planted 17,542,000 trees, reclaimed 72,000 dunams of land (a dunam is 1/4 of an acre) and constructed 490 kilometers of roads, most of these activities taking place on the far-flung frontiers of the State.

Mrs. Meir To Meet With American Jewish Community Leadership Sept. 20

NEW YORK, Sept. 8 (JTA)--Israel's Premier Golda Meir will pay a brief visit to the United States during the latter part of September in connection with the humanitarian programs supported by the United Jewish Appeal and the programs essential to economic development supported by Israel Bonds, it was announced here today jointly by the UJA and the IBO. For these purposes, Mrs. Meir will meet with the leadership of the American Jewish community at a specially convened gathering to be held in New York City on Sept. 20.

Jewish Leaders Say U.S., World Jewry Must Double Financial Aid To Israel

CLEVELAND, Sept. 8 (JTA)--Because Israel is forced to spend the bulk of its dollar for defense, America, and world Jewry, will have to double its financial help to meet health, welfare and educational needs. So reported Edward Ginsberg, national general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, and Henry L. Zucker, executive vice president of the Jewish Community Federation, before a television and press conference at Federation headquarters following their four-day weekend Aug. 27-30 visit with Israel's Premier Golda Meir, and other top officials. They were part of a group of American leaders called to Israel for an "on-the-spot appraisal of Israel's critical needs." Mr. Ginsberg said the Israelis see peace as a necessary condition for the development of their country, but appear skeptical about peace in the Middle East. "They are hoping for the best, but preparing for the worst," he said. He noted aid also goes to the Arabs as well as Israelis, pointing out that in such areas as the Arab section of Jerusalem such things as sewers, water and electricity is being made available, and he disclosed that the "Arab section of Jerusalem will be tied into the city's main sewer line for the first time in history. Gaza is getting paved roads, electric lights and sanitation facilities," Mr. Ginsberg and Mr. Zucker reported. Mr. Zucker added that such key construction items, as \$50 million for hospitals, have been cancelled because Israel's government does not have the funds, and "only help from overseas can maintain this type of work." Mr. Ginsberg said that Israel's needs may mean that American Jewry will probably be asked to raise \$400 million in 1971, double this year's amount.

Itzhak Gruenbaum, Israel's First Interior Minister, Polish Zionist Leader, Dies At 91

TEL AVIV, Sept. 8 (JTA)--Funeral services will be held tomorrow at Kibbutz Gan Shmuel for Itzhak Gruenbaum whose death at the age of 91 following a long illness was announced here at midnight Monday. Mr. Gruenbaum was a pre-war leader of the Polish Zionist movement, a long-time member of the Polish parliament and served as Israel's first Minister of the Interior. He was born in Warsaw in 1879 and was educated in Poland, graduating from the Warsaw Law School. He became a prominent journalist contributing to Hebrew, Yiddish, Polish and Russian language publications. From 1919-33 Mr. Gruenbaum served in the Polish Sejm (parliament) and was leader of its Jewish faction. During the same period he was President of the National Council for the Jews of Poland. He emigrated to Israel in 1933 and was elected to the Jewish Agency Executive where he served from 1933-51. He served on the pre-state National Council and was a signer of Israel's Declaration of Independence. During the days of the British Mandate, he had been arrested in 1946 and held in the Latrun Detention Camp for 135 days. Mr. Gruenbaum served as Minister of the Interior in the Provisional Government of Israel from May, 1948 to February, 1949. He was the editor of Hatzfira and was the author of numerous books and pamphlets including an encyclopaedia on Jewish communities exterminated by the Nazis in World War II.

Zalman Aranne, Labor Party Leader, Education And Culture Minister, Dies At 71

JERUSALEM, Sept. 8 (JTA)--Burial services were held on the Mount of Olives yesterday for Zalman Aranne, a veteran Labor Party leader and Knesset member who served in Israel's Cabinet for 11 years as Minister of Education and Culture. Mr. Aranne died at Hadassah hospital Sunday at the age of 71 after a brief illness. President Zalman Shazar, Premier Golda Meir, Cabinet ministers and members of the Knesset joined 2000 mourners who accompanied the bier to the gravesite. Mrs. Meir delivered a eulogy of her late colleague at Sunday's Cabinet meeting. Mr. Aranne's death diminishes the rapidly shrinking group of the Labor Party's old guard associated with pioneering in the pre-Statehood era. He was born in Russia and served his Zionist apprenticeship as a member of the Jewish self-defense committee in his hometown of Yuzovka and on the board of the Jewish War Refugee Committee after the first World War. He settled in Palestine in 1926 and like many of his generation worked at road-building and draining swamps before he entered politics as a member of Mapai. Mr. Aranne was elected to every Knesset from the first to the sixth. He was Minister of Education and Culture from 1955-60 and 1963-69. He resigned from public life at the end of last year. Mr. Aranne was associated with major reforms of Israel's elementary and high school system and with the inculcation of "Jewish consciousness" into the curriculum.