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Israel Keeps Watch On Syrian Thrust Into Jordan, Considers Intervention

JERUSALEM, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Israel is expected to take swift military action if Syrian forces, spear-headed by Soviet-made T-54 and T-55 tanks, succeed in their invasion of northern Jordan and bring their guns within range of the whole chain of Israeli settlements from the Jordan and Beisan Valleys to the Golan Heights. This was the consensus of observers here today as Syrian armored forces and Palestinian guerrillas captured Irbid, Jordan's second largest city, and the forces of King Hussein appeared outnumbered and outgunned. But there was a difference of opinion as to whether Israel would launch a pre-emptive strike or would wait until Syrian forces in Jordan actually fired on Israeli territory giving Israel cause to react. Israel's Cabinet met in extraordinary session today for the third time this week to discuss the crisis in Jordan. According to informed sources, the government decided not to make any move at this time while continuing to keep a close watch on rapidly changing developments in that country. The sources said that all ministers receive regular reports on events in Jordan and are prepared to meet on short notice should the situation require it.

State Dept. Declines Comment On Whether Approach Made To Israel

(A State Department official refused to say today whether or not the United States has approached Israel not to intervene militarily in the crisis in Jordan. Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey replied, "I am not going to answer that" when the question was put to him by the JTA Washington correspondent. Mr. McCloskey said, in reply to another question, that the most important American diplomatic move so far in the Jordanian crisis was Secretary of State William P. Rogers' request to the Soviet Union last Friday to intervene with Syria to end its invasion of Jordan. Mr. McCloskey said that the Soviet Government informed the U.S. last night that it has been in touch with the Syrian Government. "The real test now of whether that is a meaningful matter will turn on whether the forces from Syria are withdrawn from Jordan," Mr. McCloskey said. Asked about the condition of 54 hijacked airline hostages still held by Arab terrorists in Jordan, the State Department official said, "regretably," nothing new has been heard. He also said there have been no new developments concerning Israel's demand for a roll-back of Egyptian missiles installed in the Suez Canal cease-fire zone.)

Some Israeli observers said Israel fears that events in Jordan will pave the way for greater Soviet influence and even the menace of a Soviet military presence in Jordan with Soviet missiles confronting Israel on its eastern frontier as they do now in the Suez Canal zone. Such a development would not find Israel "sitting with its hand folded," one commentator said today. Syria's leftist Baathist regime is supported and supplied with military equipment by Moscow though not to the same extent as Egypt. Some observers said the Kremlin considers the quixotic Syrians too unreliable as clients to risk all out involvement as is the case with Egypt. The Israel Government's attitude today was best described as "watchful waiting." Israel, as a matter of principle, has avoided interference in Jordan's internal affairs. But this policy would be altered if the status quo in Jordan is destroyed. As far as Israel is concerned, the status quo would even apply to Palestinian guerrilla take-over in Amman, but not to the creation of a Syrian enclave in northern Jordan.

Israelis Hopeful Syrians Will Pull Out Under Foreign Pressure

Israel Government officials were reportedly prepared to give the Jordanian crisis a chance to abate. There is a belief in some quarters that the Syrians will be forced to withdraw under foreign pressure, including that from other Arab states. (An Arab summit meeting was being held in Cairo today to deal with what the Egyptian Government termed the "deteriorating situation" in Jordan.) Israeli military observers said the Syrians were apparently reluctant to wage all-out war against King Hussein. They noted that Syria so far has not used its airforce, made up largely of Soviet MiGs, against Hussein's airforce which went into action against the invaders, for the first time since the June, 1967 war with Israel. Military observers said the objective of the Syrian invasion seemed to be to lift the siege of Irbid, a guerrilla stronghold that was surrounded by Jordanian regulars. The Israelis said that Syrian troops wore the camouflage battle dress of Palestinian commandos and Syrian tanks were painted with commando insignia, indicating that the operation had been prepared well in advance. It also indicated to some that the Syrians were trying to avoid the impression that Syria itself was at war with Jordan.

Israeli military circles said that King Hussein could have repulsed the Syrian thrust had he concentrated his armored forces against it. They pointed out, however, that a significant part of Hussein's army was pinned down watching some 12,000 Iraqi troops stationed around the town of Mafraq in northern Jordan. A move by the Iraqis in support of the guerrillas would menace Hussein's flanks. Israelis who observed some of the fighting in Jordan from hilltops in the Golan Heights said Hussein's forces appeared to be trying to encircle the Syrian forces. Large convoys of Jordanian Army vehicles were seen making their way down the Jordan Valley road in an attempt to flank the Syrians entrenched in the heights around Irbid. There were no signs of Syrian movements along the Golan Heights line with Israel, indicating that the Syrians had committed a large part of their forces to the fighting in Jordan. King Hussein appeared to be in control of his capital where he ordered a cease-fire yesterday. According to radio reports from Cairo, Amman is largely in ruins from a week of fierce fighting which reportedly cost 10,000 dead and thousands wounded. Israeli authorities have agreed to permit West Bank Arabs to organize medical convoys to aid the wounded in Jordan.

Israel Files New Complaint Of Continuing Egyptian Cease-Fire Zone Breaches

TEL AVIV, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Israel charged today that Egypt has advanced more operational SAM-2 and SAM-3 missiles into the standstill cease-fire zone and lodged another complaint with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization. The complaint was based on information obtained by the Israel Army as of yesterday, Sept. 21. It said that in addition to the new missiles, the Egyptians continued to prepare new missile sites within 30 kilometers of the Suez Canal in violation of the terms of the Aug. 7 cease-fire. The Israeli complaint said that the number of operational missiles now in the cease-fire zone has changed with relation to the number of prepared missile sites but gave no new figure. According to Israeli authorities there were 22 operational missile sites, fully equipped and manned, at the time of the last Israeli complaint and 80 sites where preparatory work had been completed or was still under way. An Arab was killed in a village near Bethlehem today when a suspicious object he held exploded in his hands, officials reported.

Pope, in Message To Shazar, Expresses Deep Concern Over Peace Talk Impasse

JERUSALEM, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Pope Paul VI, in a message to President Zalman Shazar of Israel published here today, expressed deep concern over the "difficulties" that have arisen in connection with the Jarring peace talks in New York and expressed to the Israeli Chief of State, "our ardent desire that nothing be left undone to ensure the maintenance of the truce and to advance the talks." The Pontiff's message was dated Vatican City, Sept. 15, 1970. He wrote: "As the news of the truce and the first contacts at New York gave us grounds for joyful hope, so we are deeply worried at the fresh difficulties which have now arisen. Convinced as we are of the vital importance of a stable, peaceful and fair settlement with the aim of preventing the rekindling of a conflict in which even more blood would be shed, and which would be even more fraught with unforeseeable consequences, and deeply saddened at the sufferings of the peoples concerned, we feel impelled to turn to your Excellency and to all those in other countries who have responsibility for making decisions in order to express our ardent desire that nothing be left undone to ensure the maintenance of the truce and to advance the talks." The Pope's message continued, "Peace is so great and surpassing a blessing that it demands from every party a readiness to make sacrifices and to accept them with courageous far-sightedness for the sake of an agreement that will take account of all the demands of justice and humanity. We are strengthened in our hope by the support given by the agreement of men and women throughout the world, but in a special way we are given assurance by the prayerful thought which we keep turned to The Lord, the living fount of justice and peace whose holy name of Father is called upon in your part of the world as elsewhere by so many millions of human beings who believe and hope in Him."

Hijacked Brooklyn Jewish Teacher Files \$75,000 Damage Suit Against Swissair

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA)--A Brooklyn Jewish teacher, who was a passenger on the Swissair plane hijacked by Arab commandos on Sept. 6, filed suit here yesterday for \$75,000 in damages against the Swiss airline. The suit by Mona Friedman, 23, in State Supreme Court in Brooklyn, was believed to be the first stemming from the four airline hijackings by members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Miss Friedman, a graduate of Brooklyn College and Yeshiva University, was a hostage for a day at the Dawson desert airstrip in northern Jordan where the Swissair DC-8 jet and two other hijacked planes were landed, and for four days at a hotel in Amman. In her suit, Miss Friedman said she "suffered bodily injury, wounding, mental pain and anguish in expectation of severe injury and death." (Fifty-four hijacked airline passengers being held hostage by Arab terrorists in Jordan are regarded by their captors as prisoners of war because their governments allegedly side with Israel, it was reported today in London. The changed status of the hostages was announced by a spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.)

Miss Friedman filed her suit under terms of a 1966 agreement signed by some 85 airlines with the United States government, which is a party to the Warsaw Convention which exempts an airline from liability if it can prove it was not negligent and limits damages to \$8,300 in each case. Miss Friedman, who said she had aggravated a leg injury when she had to leave the jet on an escape chute, will have to prove the extent of that physical damage and she also will have to establish a dollar value on her mental suffering. The total damages cannot exceed the \$75,000 demand, which is the limit set in the 1966 agreement worked out in Montreal. That agreement was worked out because the United States indicated it had planned to pull out of the Warsaw convention, which limits an airline's liability on international flights to \$8,300 per case. The airlines agreed to raise the limit to \$75,000 on flights covered by tickets where the United States is the starting point, destination or stopover point. For such flights, the airlines agreed to waive a Warsaw Convention provision holding an airline not liable if it could prove non-negligence. The four hijacked planes all were on flights bound for American airports.

Jews Among 5,000 French Leftists At Paris Rally For Arab Guerrillas

PARIS, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Five thousand French leftists, including a number of Jews and Arab students jammed the huge Salle De Mutualite here yesterday for a rally in support of the Palestinian "Freedom Fighters." The gathering was addressed by two young Jews who said they had just returned from Jordan where they visited encampments of El Fatah and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. One young Jewish girl declining to give her name, described the "suffering of the Palestinian people" and called on "democratic and leftist organizations of all religions and creeds" to support the Palestinians in their fight against King Hussein of Jordan and the State of Israel.

Israeli Students Plan Plea For Russian Jews Signed By 'Heroes Of Soviet Union'

TEL AVIV, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Israeli students are preparing a petition on behalf of Russian Jewry to be signed by "Heroes of the Soviet Union" here and abroad, it was disclosed at a student rally here yesterday. "Hero of the Soviet Union" is one of the highest accolades bestowed by the Soviet Govern-

ment for valor in combat. Many Jews who earned it during World War II presently live in Israel and in Western countries. The student organizers said that Soviet authorities could not disregard a petition coming from heroes in the battle against the Germans after it was made public to the rest of the world. The petition will urge the restoration of cultural and religious rights to Soviet Jews including the right to emigrate to Israel. The student rally was addressed by Tina Brodetzkaya, a Jewish school teacher from Riga who recently emigrated to Israel. Miss Brodetzkaya was one of the first Russian Jews to address an open letter to Premier Aleksei Kosygin demanding her right to emigrate. Soviet authorities permitted her to leave this year. She told the students that Western Jewry, especially the youth, must continue to agitate publicly for the rights of Soviet Jews. If they kept silent, she said, it would only increase the troubles of Jews in Russia.

Special prayer services for Soviet Jewry were held at the Walling Wall as part of a world-wide day of protest on behalf of Jews in the Soviet Union. The services were led by Chief Rabbi Isser Untermann, the Ashkenazic chief rabbi, and Chief Rabbi Elyahu Pardess, of Jerusalem. The services were marked by the sounding of the shofar and a prayer composed for the occasion by Rabbi Unterman for "Our brethren growing up without knowledge of God, in an atmosphere of hate and fear...many of them languishing in prison because they requested permission to migrate to the Holy Land." The reported recent wave of arrests of Jews in Russia was denounced in a letter prepared yesterday by the editors council of student newspapers in Israel for transmission to Soviet authorities through the Finnish Embassy. The letter assailed the arrests of Jews for expressing a desire to emigrate to Israel and charged that anti-Semitism was being practiced openly in the USSR. (A plane carrying a streamer with the words "Let Soviet Jews Go" flew over Amsterdam today as Jewish students picketed the Soviet trade mission on behalf of Soviet Jewry. The demonstration was part of a world-wide protest against the repression of Jews in the USSR. The students distributed copies of letters that two Leningrad Jews sent to the Soviet Presidium recently protesting the arrests of fellow Jews.)

El Al Ground Employees Call Off Strike, Normal Flight Schedules Resumed

TEL AVIV, Sept. 22 (JTA)--El Al, Israel's national airline, resumed normal flight schedules today as ground employees who went on strike last Thursday returned to their jobs. Schedules were disrupted and a number of flights were cancelled after 450 maintenance and workshop technicians walked out in a dispute with El Al management. The maintenance crews returned to work Sunday under pressure from Histadrut, Israel's trade union federation. But the others held out until yesterday. All have now agreed to continue negotiations for a new contract without a strike threat.

Jews, Christians, Moslems Hold Interfaith Seminar In Coblenz; Plan More

COBLENZ, W. Germany, Sept. 22 (JTA)--A group of Jewish, Christian and Moslem religious leaders and teachers ended an inter-faith seminar here today with a declaration that they had experienced "A deep fellowship in that bond which is offered by our belief that we are the spiritual heirs of Abraham." The statement said that more seminars between the three faiths were planned. It explained the gathering as the result of "an urgent desire to comprehend and be comprehended" and said, "We have expounded to each other our insight into our respective religious problems and our mutual understanding has been stimulated...We have agreed to undertake two common actions: To make the necessary arrangements for the continuation of these contacts and their development; to inform the congregation from which we come of our experience...Let those who hear this common statement be encouraged by it to engage more directly in whatever reconciliatory action may be possible to them."

159 Americans, Sailing For Israel Settlement, To Observe New Year At Sea

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA)--One hundred fifty-nine North Americans sailed from Pier 97 on the Greek Line's S.S. Olympia, bound for Israel by way of Lisbon and Piraeus. "The significance of this sailing," said Col. Nachum Golan, director of the Israel Aliyah Center of the World Zionist Organization, "is that this is the first time in American aliyah history that a large group of settlers will be celebrating Rosh Hashanah on the high seas and will be entering Israel with the coming New Year as olim (settlers)." Of the 159 passengers who will arrive in Haifa Oct. 4, 108 were under 30 years of age and 26 were professionals. Nine olim in their early 20s had plans for establishing a new agricultural kibbutz called Gezer near Lod, southeast of Tel Aviv. More than 600 North Americans have sailed for Israel so far this month. There were 720 in June, 1,305 in July and 1,544 in August. The two biggest aliyot ever--363 and 440 passengers--departed July 6 and Aug. 24.

Newsbriefs

TEL AVIV, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Tahal, the Israeli water-planning company, is undertaking major international development research projects, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency has learned. One project in Panama, will involve a study of agricultural development, to be financed by international sources. The study itself would be financed by the Panamanian government. A larger project is a study of a master plan for agricultural and industrial development along the Amazon River in Brazil--a project desired by the government there. Tahal, which has won international praise for such surveys, is currently working in some 20 countries in the Near East, the Far East and Latin America. Its current projects involve some \$6 million.

JERUSALEM, Sept. 22 (JTA)--A petition calling upon the Minister of Police to show cause why Jews should not be permitted to pray on the Temple Mount has been unanimously rejected by a five-judge Supreme Court panel. The Temple Mount is the site of the Mosque of Omar and the Al Aksa Mosque, the third holiest place of the Moslem religion. Jews are allowed access to the Temple Mount but are not permitted to pray there to avoid offending Moslem sensibilities. While the decision to reject the petition was unanimous, three different opinions were handed down.

Jewish Group Fights Sabbath Schedules For Poverty Agency Elections

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA)--The New York Association of Jewish Community and Anti-Poverty Workers said today it had won a "major victory" in its fight against the setting of elections on the Jewish Sabbath for anti-poverty agencies in the city's poverty areas. Dates for the annual elections are set by the Council Against Poverty, the city's policy-making body for anti-poverty programs. David Farber, executive director of the 100-member association, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that his group had protested to the Council Against Poverty when it announced that elections this year in 15 of the 25 poverty areas for boards of Community Corporations, as the locally-elected poverty agencies are called, had been scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 19. The Council Against Poverty said it had chosen that date "to insure that poor people would come out and vote." The community corporations study and make recommendations on outlays of about \$43 million in federal and city funds for anti-poverty programs in their areas. The operating arm of the Council Against Poverty is the Community Development Agency. Two of the community corporations, those of Crown Heights and Williamsburg, have Jewish representation on their boards.

The Council Against Poverty made two concessions on the complaints by the Association, Mr. Farber said. One was that elections for four of the community corporations were set for Sept. 15. Three of these--Crown Heights, the Lower East Side and Williamsburg--were listed for the mid-week balloting because they have large numbers of Jewish residents. The Crown Heights election was postponed indefinitely, purportedly because of rising tensions between Jews and blacks in the area over distribution of anti-poverty funds there. The Lower East Side and the Williamsburg elections were held on Sept. 15. The initial results in the Williamsburg election, subject to validation, indicated a drop of Jewish board members from five to three. Mr. Farber said the other concession was that the voting hours for the Sept. 19 elections were ordered extended to 10:30 p.m. to permit observant Jews to vote at the end of the Sabbath period. In a letter to Mayor John V. Lindsay on Sept. 11, the Association protested the special arrangements, declaring that it was opposed to "any government-mandated or sponsored election on a Sabbath day."

The Association told the Mayor that there were other areas in the city containing "significant" numbers of Jewish residents, citing the Upper West Side, the Middle West Side, the Lower West Side, East New York and the Rockaways. In addition, the Association said that other community-oriented elections, such as for district leaders, councilmen, state senators and other elective offices, could--by the precedent for the poverty area elections--also be held on the Jewish Sabbath to achieve "maximum participation" in the city's poverty areas. The Association subsequently filed a petition for an injunction for that purpose in the New York State Supreme Court before Justice Arnold Fein. At a hearing on Sept. 17, Herbert Kramer, a former U.S. assistant district attorney, appeared for the association. The plaintiff was Susan Tanenbaum, a resident of the Middle West Side poverty area, who contended that the extended Sabbath voting hours did not give her sufficient time.

The attorney contended that when one group was permitted to vote during the day hours for a total of 12 hours, while another group, the observant Jews, could vote only at night for two hours, the arrangement constituted "blatant discrimination." He also argued that the observant Jews could not act as poll watchers for most of the balloting. Justice Fein denied the application because it had been filed so close to the election but warned that the city was "treading on grave constitutional grounds" in ordering elections on a Saturday. Mr. Farber said the association held an emergency session last Sunday and decided against a legal effort to have the elections declared invalid because it could create "serious turmoil" in the poverty areas. The association meanwhile praised Jules Sugarman, administrator of the city's Human Resources Administration. The city poverty agencies are divisions of the HRA. After an association-sponsored protest meeting at City Hall on Sept. 10, Mr. Sugarman arranged to provide city funds for announcements in the Yiddish press and on Yiddish-language radio programs on poverty elections. The association had complained that the CDA had ignored repeated requests from Jewish delegate agencies for such funds.

Dulzin Predicts World Jewry Will Raise \$1 Billion For Israel In 1971

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA)--Leon Dulzin, a former Israeli cabinet minister, predicted here today that world Jewry will raise \$1 billion for Israel in 1971 through philanthropic contributions and purchases of Israel bonds. Mr. Dulzin will shortly re-assume the post of Jewish Agency treasurer which he relinquished last year after entering Premier Golda Meir's coalition cabinet as a minister-without-portfolio representing the Gahal faction. He made his prediction following a two week American tour that took him to nine major Jewish communities. He will return to Israel following a meeting with Canadian Jewish leaders in Montreal Thursday.

Mr. Dulzin said, "Everywhere I went there was an enthusiastic acceptance of quotas double or more the amounts raised in 1970. I am confident that the United Jewish Appeal in the U.S. will raise the \$400 million that it has accepted as its goal for 1971." Mr. Dulzin added that North American Jewry was "fully aware of the needs of Israel in the present emergency and are prepared to meet them." Mr. Dulzin left the Cabinet when Gahal quit the government last July in protest against Israel's acceptance of the Suez cease-fire and the American peace initiative in the Middle East.

Jewish Holiday Values Portrayed In Exhibit At Interchurch Center

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (JTA)--The spiritual values of the Jewish holidays are depicted in montage and paintings by seven artists that will be exhibited to the public until Oct. 9 at the Interchurch Center in Manhattan. The exhibit was commissioned by Sam Sobel, founder and president of the American Jewish Museum of Art and Culture. The artists whose interpretive paintings of the holidays are featured at the exhibit are Chaim Gross, A. Raymond Katz, Moritz Oppenheim, Zeev Raban, Saul Raskin and Ilya Schor. A montage of the nine major Jewish holidays was painted by Sheldon Fink.