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Last Group Of Hijacked Hostages Released; Group Due To Arrive At Kennedy Airport Monday

LONDON, Sept. 27 (JTA)--The last 38 hijacked airline hostages, all from the United States, were on their way home today after being freed by the Arab terrorists who had held them captive since Sept. 6. Six of the 38 hostages were turned over to the Egyptian Embassy in Amman today by the guerrillas and taken to Cyprus. Some of the hijacked victims are scheduled to arrive at Kennedy Airport in New York tomorrow evening. Among those reported safe in Cyprus is Rabbi Isaac Hutner of Brooklyn, New York, and his son, Jacob. Rabbi Hutner is a leader of the Synagogue Council of America. According to all available reports no deal was made by any government for the release of Arab prisoners in exchange for those held by the terrorists. All the hostages were reportedly unharmed. Six hostages--eight Britons, six Swiss and two West Germans--were freed on Friday and arrived in London yesterday. They were liberated by Jordanian forces who attacked a guerrilla refugee camp near Amman where they were being held. Shortly afterwards, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine announced that all of the remaining hostages in its hands would be freed within the next 24 hours. Amman radio announced last night that 32 were freed. However, all 38 were reported today to have left Amman for Nicosia, Cyprus. All but one were passengers on TWA flight 741 which was hijacked shortly after it left Frankfurt, West Germany on Sept. 6 on a flight from Tel Aviv to New York. Most of the 38 are Jews and two of them, and possibly a third, hold dual U.S. and Israeli citizenship.

It was uncertain today whether their release over the weekend stemmed from Hussein's victory over the guerrillas or from pressure from other Arab governments and from the Palestine Liberation Organization, the terrorists' umbrella body. It was apparent from the start that the mass hijackings and kidnappings did not sit well with most Arab governments or with El Fatah, the largest Palestinian guerrilla group. They feared, that such acts, which outraged world opinion, would only harm the Arab cause. Release of the last hostages ended one of the most bizarre episodes of the Middle East conflict. On Sept. 6, commandoes of the extremist PFLP hijacked one Swiss and two American jets, all on flights to New York and made an abortive attempt to hijack a New York-bound El Al jet. In the latter aircraft, one of the commandoes was shot dead by an armed guard and his companion, a 24-year-old girl, Laila Khaled, was captured. But TWA flight 741 and a Swissair DC-8 were forced to land at a guerrilla controlled airstrip in northern Jordan. The third hijacked plane, a Pan American Jumbo Jet, was landed at Cairo and was blown up by the terrorists only moments after its passengers and crew scrambled to safety. The Pan American passengers were released immediately by Egyptian authorities and flown home. But the occupants of the TWA and Swissair planes began an ordeal that was to keep the entire world on edge for the next 20 days.

Britain To Decide Woman Terrorist's Fate; Chief Rabbi Praises Heath For Firm Stand

LONDON, Sept. 27 (JTA)--British authorities will decide shortly whether to free Laila Khaled, the 24-year-old girl terrorist taken into custody after an abortive attempt to hijack an El Al airliner off the British coast Sept. 6. A Foreign Office spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that a decision on Miss Khaled's fate would be taken only after all of the hostages held by Arab terrorists in Jordan are released. The statement was made after eight British nationals freed Friday, returned safely home last night but before the release of the others was announced. The spokesman denied reports that appeared in several Sunday papers that Miss Khaled would be set free and allowed to go back to an Arab country. The release of all remaining hostages reported from Jordan today fulfilled the conditions of the British Government. It will have to decide now whether to turn Miss Khaled loose, hold her for prosecution here or turn her over to Israel.

The Israeli government has formally demanded extradition of the Haifa-born member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The Israelis claim that her attempted hijack of an El Al jet constituted a crime on Israeli soil. British authorities have sought to determine whether the hijack attempt took place over British territorial waters, in which case Miss Khaled would be liable to prosecution in Britain. Chief Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits of the British Commonwealth telegraphed congratulations today to Prime Minister Edward Heath for standing firm against piecemeal ransom of the hostages. His telegram read, "Anglo-Jewry joins me in proudly applauding your moral fortitude and inspiring stand by the humanitarian principles of non-discrimination in this agonizing episode."

Israel Government Supplies 145 Tons Of Food For Victims Of Jordan's Civil War

JERUSALEM, Sept. 27 (JTA)--A 19-truck convoy carrying 145 tons of food supplied by the Israel Government for the victims of Jordan's civil war crossed the Allenby Bridge today into Jordan. The trucks, whose drivers are West Bank Arabs, carried among other items 80 tons of flour, 35 tons of sugar, 25 tons of oil and five tons of powdered milk. Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, who was at the bridge to watch the trucks roll into Jordan said the mere fact that the Jordanian authorities accepted the gift from Israel indicated that they were appreciative. He said more food supplies would be donated if needed. Gen. Dayan also ordered Israeli guards on the Jordan River spans to admit any Jordanian civilians coming to Israel for medical treatment. Israeli hospitals are prepared to admit wounded civilians brought over from Jordan, he told a group of West Bank residents who were preparing to go to Jordan to visit relatives for the first time since civil war broke out in the Jordanian kingdom ten days ago. Gen. Dayan said Israel was permitting the movement of people from the West Bank

and expressed the hope that normal trade will soon resume between the West and East banks. For the first time in months, Jordanian villagers were seen returning to their homes in villages opposite Israel's Beisan Valley. Jordanian farmers and sheep herders were seen in the fields. The local residents fled months ago when Palestinian guerrillas moved into the border zone and began shelling Israeli settlements, drawing Israeli return fire on the villages. West Bank Arabs, who made no secret of their sympathy for the Palestinian guerrillas battling Hussein's forces during the Jordanian civil war, were shocked by the announcement that Ahmed Touquan accepted the appointment of Premier in King Hussein's new civilian government. Touquan has anti-Hussein relatives in Nablus. His sister, Fadoua Touquan, is a Palestinian zealot who has ardently supported the terrorists. According to neighbors, she shut herself in her flat saying she was mortified by the news from Amman. Other relatives have expressed the hope that Touquan will resign.

Hussein: Arabs In Jerusalem Safer Than In Jordan; Arafat Lists Demands For Civil War End

LONDON, Sept. 27 (JTA)--King Hussein assailed today the Palestinian guerrillas and the strife and carnage they created in Jordan. In an interview published in the Sunday Times he declared: "We reached a point where my people living in Jerusalem under foreign military occupation were ten times more secure in their homes than people living in Amman. No Israeli on a kibbutz had one-millionth of the trouble we have had here." Hussein said the civil war which ravaged his kingdom was not over the question of Israel but "was a question of a take-over in Amman" by the guerrillas. Meanwhile, Hussein, who was in Cairo today, was reportedly given 18 demands by Palestinian guerrilla chief Yassir Arafat for ending the Jordanian civil war. Arafat, who heads the largest Palestinian guerrilla group, El Fatah, reportedly demanded among other objectives that Hussein set up a purely civilian government and remove all of his troops from Amman. Peace between Hussein and the guerrilla movement is a major objective of Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser.

According to informed sources, Col. Nasser is determined to save the guerrilla movement because he considers it an important factor in the struggle against Israel even though the guerrillas often prove to be an embarrassment to Arab governments and injure the Arab cause in the eyes of world opinion. Renewed shooting was reported in Amman today after Hussein formed a new military-civilian government replacing the military regime he installed less than two weeks ago. Although guerrilla resistance was reportedly broken in the capital and Hussein's forces succeeded in driving Syrian armored invasion forces out of northern Jordan, the Palestinians apparently still exerted some leverage. In a taped television interview broadcast, by the BBC, Hussein castigated Syria which intervened on the guerrilla side last week. "Syria's intervention was unpardonable," he said. "They left their frontier with Israel open and sent their tanks into Jordan to fight us," he said.

Bar-Lev Says Israel's Military Prowess Greater Now Than During Six-Day War

TEL AVIV, Sept. 27 (JTA)--Israel's over-all military prowess is greater now that it was during the June, 1967 Six-Day War and includes the ability to overcome Soviet-made SAM-2 and SAM-3 missiles installed in the Suez Canal zone in violation of Aug. 7 cease-fire agreement, Chief of Staff Haim Bar Lev said last night. Gen. Bar Lev, speaking over the armed forces radio, reviewed military developments of the past year. He also issued a warning to King Hussein of Jordan, that Israeli retaliation, should the terrorist shelling of border settlements be renewed, would be "different in scope and nature from our other activities to date." Israeli border settlements have been unmolested since the civil war broke out two weeks ago between Palestinian guerrillas and Jordanian Government forces. King Hussein has reportedly offered the guerrillas safe conduct to the border regions and cooperation in their fighting against Israel in return for internal peace. Gen. Bar Lev intimated that Israeli counter-action would be aimed against Jordanian regulars and their positions as well as against guerrilla bases as in the past. Similar warnings were voiced last week by Premier Golda Meir, Deputy Premier Yigal Alon and Defense Minister Moshe Dayan. Gen. Bar Lev estimated that the Soviet Union now has 12,000 army personnel in Egypt, about half of whom serve as advisers and the rest "purely Soviet units." He said, "Russia is entrenched in Egypt, deeply entrenched and she does not intend to move. I do not believe that the Egyptians are able to remove her."

But, Gen. Bar Lev spoke with greater equanimity than many Israeli supporters in the United States about the Soviet missile installations in the Suez cease-fire zone. "There has never been a weapons system anywhere in the world to which there is no answer, or more exactly, to which there are not a number of possible answers," Gen. Bar Lev said. "That applies also to this missile build-up." His remarks indicated that Israel had the answer, or was confident of finding one, to the threat of the Sam-2s and Sam-3s. According to some reports, Israel has received sophisticated air-to-ground missiles from the U.S. in recent months, capable of knocking out the Soviet missile sites. Gen. Bar Lev said the Soviet exercise in brinkmanship along the Suez Canal was aimed at getting the waterway re-opened so that the Russian Navy could operate more efficiently in the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean. Their aim, according to Gen. Bar Lev and other Israeli military authorities is to pave the way for an Egyptian thrust across the canal to secure its east bank. If the Egyptian Army ever did try a big invasion, Israel is in a better shape to repel it than three years ago, Gen. Bar Lev said. "Today's soldiers and units are better than those of 1967" he said, partly because of the combat experience they gained in the Six-Day War and in operations since then. He disclosed that in the past year there were "over 700 unpublicized military operations" across Israel's borders and about 50 publicized "large scale operations" including armored raids into Lebanon and across the Gulf of Suez. Besides combat tested troops, "We have strengthened ourselves to a great extent in the air, at sea and on the land," Gen. Bar Lev said.

Soviet Pamphlet Hints At Major Shifts In Russian Middle East Policies

LONDON, Sept. 27 (JTA)--Western analysts are studying the contents of a Soviet pamphlet, not yet officially published, which hints at major shifts in Soviet Middle East policies including Moscow's

willingness to participate in an international peace-keeping force in the Mideast. The pamphlet was shown to correspondents in Moscow yesterday by Novosti, the Soviet press agency. Novosti is not regarded as an official arm of the Soviet Government, and unlike Tass, its dispatches are published only outside the USSR. These factors and others indicated to the correspondents that the pamphlet was in the nature of a trial balloon that pointed in the direction of the Kremlin's current thinking on the Middle East. The pamphlet suggested that Israel's 1967 borders could be modified in a final settlement. This is considered a departure from previous Soviet insistence that Israel must return to the borders that existed on the eve of the Six-Day War. Some analysts thought however that this could be interpreted as supporting further Arab encroachments on Israeli territory. The pamphlet also suggested broadened demilitarized zones on both sides of Israel's borders guaranteed by United Nations forces. However, it went on to propose that the four great powers--U.S., Soviet Union, Britain and France--or the Security Council as a whole act to ensure the safety of the Arab and Israeli borders. This would mean a Big Four peace-keeping force, a matter which has reportedly been discussed by the Soviets but never made public. Some analysts said the Russians were interested in participating in such a force because it would ensure their continued presence in the Middle East after an Arab-Israeli peace settlement reduced Arab dependence on Soviet assistance.

Nixon's European Tour Has Important Implications For U.S. Policy In Middle East

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 (JTA)--President Richard M. Nixon landed in Rome today on the first leg of a European trip that analysts here agreed has important implications for United States policy in the Middle East. The President will visit the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Eastern Mediterranean on Sept. 28-29 and will be in Belgrade, Yugoslavia Sept. 30-Oct. 2 for talks with Marshal Tito. The Yugoslavian leader is a close friend and confidant of President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt. The Middle East situation is expected to figure on the agenda of their talks. The President may get from Marshal Tito an assessment of the Arab-Israeli conflict as it is viewed from the Arab camp, particularly President Nasser's aims at this juncture. The President's visit to the Sixth Fleet is seen as a move to focus attention on that vast amphibious force at a time when a powerful, modern Soviet fleet is cruising the Mediterranean for the first time in history. One analyst here said the President's call on his naval armada also reflects the erosion of U.S. influence in the Mideast. Twenty years ago it was sufficient for the Sixth Fleet to sail around the Mediterranean to give weight to U.S. diplomacy but now the President has to be sailed around to give weight to the Sixth Fleet, the analyst said.

Mrs. Meir: Nixon Administration Promised U.S. Will Push For Removal Of Missile Sites

JERUSALEM, Sept. 27 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir said Friday that the Nixon Administration promised her that the U.S. will try "with greater vigor and at a higher level" to persuade Egypt and the Soviet Union to remove missiles and missile sites installed in the cease-fire zone after the truce went into effect Aug. 7. Mrs. Meir appeared on a television interview to report on her American visit a week ago. Israel lodged still another complaint of Egyptian cease-fire violations with the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO). The complaint, submitted to the UN representatives Friday mentioned the deployment of additional SAM-2 missiles in the standstill zone less than three kilometers west of the Suez Canal and the construction of foundations for new missile-launching pads in the same area. The complaint was based on intelligence obtained by the Israel Army last Thursday. Mrs. Meir told her television audience that there were no longer any differences of opinion between Israel and the U.S. over the extent of Egyptian cease-fire violations. She indicated that Israel would have to deal with the threat itself if U.S. diplomatic efforts failed. Mrs. Meir also said that she had made it clear in Washington that Israel would not agree to anything remotely similar to the boundaries of 1967. She said that in some places the 1967 boundaries would have to undergo "radical changes." "I took upon myself to explain this in the U.S. and I think that I succeeded," she said.

\$5 Million U.S. Emergency Aid To Jordan; Packard Scores Soviet Duplicity In Mideast

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27 (JTA)--President Nixon ordered yesterday \$5 million in emergency relief for Jordan's civilian casualties and assigned the new Under Secretary of State John N. Irwin 2nd to take charge of the United States relief effort. This effort will include encouraging voluntary agencies and international organizations to provide relief. Earlier, Deputy Secretary of Defense David Packard stated that the U.S. will replace ammunition and arms that the Jordanian army lost fighting guerrillas and Syria. The aim of the replacement program, he said, would be to increase Jordan's capacity to defend itself. There was some hints here that the U.S. would provide Jordan with additional jet fighters. Mr. Packard suggested that weapons might be included beyond that which Jordan had when the fighting broke out last week. Although he declined to specify whether the U.S. might supply more jet fighters he noted that the U.S. had previously supplied Jordan with F-104 jets.

Mr. Packard, in his interview with newsmen, also stated that "cheating" by the Soviet Union along the Suez Canal during the cease-fire, which involved movement of missiles in the standstill zone, called for a reappraisal of Soviet intentions that could affect other potential agreements. "If you can't have an agreement where people go ahead in good faith it raises questions whether you can have an agreement on anything else," he said. Mr. Packard also noted that Israel's massing of strong armored forces near the Jordan-Syria border has been a "reasonable" exercise of self-defense. He said it was his opinion that Israel would welcome a strengthening of Jordan's defensive powers since it is in Israel's interest to have a "stable country on that side of the line." Mr. Packard also expressed criticism of U.S. allies in Europe for failing to help police Middle East affairs. "The Middle East and its oil is much more important to Europe than it is to us," he asserted. He said he personally supported a proposal made recently in a Chicago newspaper to let NATO have a role in policing the Middle East but doubted this proposal would find much support.

Jewish Students At SUNY Win Demand To Have Classes Suspended On High Holy Days

ALBANY, N.Y., Sept. 27 (JTA)--The Jewish students of the State University of New York at Albany have achieved a major victory in their fight to be recognized as a potent force on campus. President Louis T. Benezet rescinded an earlier decision and directed the University to suspend classes on the Jewish High Holy Days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Classes will be suspended on Sept. 30 at noon to give Jewish students time to get home before sundown. Similarly, classes will be suspended at noon on Oct. 9. It is believed to be the first time that a University calendar has been changed to recognize Jewish holidays. Student leaders of the Hillel Society and Am Yisroel had met with Mr. Benezet on Sept. 14 to relay to him the Jewish students' displeasure at classes being scheduled for the High Holy Days. He was told that even though the state law says that a student cannot be penalized for missing a class for religious observance, the student is, in effect, being penalized by missing whatever was done in class that day. Student leaders also pointed out that the University was working on a double standard. The high Christian holidays are always included in vacation periods, and that denying the Jewish student his right to worship without fear of missing important classes was discriminatory. Mr. Benezet expressed his regrets that there was nothing he could do to close the school this year. Several days later, at Mr. Benezet's weekly conference with students, 200 students challenged his decision. Directly after this meeting, the University Senate met and overwhelmingly approved a bill urging President Benezet to reconsider his earlier decision. The next morning, Steve Shaw, a student leader in the fight to have classes cancelled for the Jewish High Holy Days, received a phone call from the president's office, informing him that the President had changed his mind and that classes would be suspended for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Orthodox Jewish Leaders Urge Jews To Shun Resort Synagogues During High Holy Days

NEW YORK, Sept. 27 (JTA)--Two Orthodox Jewish leaders are urging Jews to attend Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur services in synagogues in their home areas rather than attending services in what they termed as makeshift and "instant synagogues" in holiday resorts. Rabbi Joseph Karasick, president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations, and Rabbi Bernard Berzon, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, deplored the "flimsy attractiveness" of holiday resorts and "their substitute services." They expressed concern over the departure of Jews from their home areas to resort areas with their "makeshift" synagogues and emphasized that "synagogue desertion" during the holidays "inflicts serious damage upon these (home area) institutions." A joint statement by the two rabbis noted that the yearly exodus to resorts creates a financial burden on the synagogues that are deserted because they depend to a large degree on the support of worshippers during the holy days to provide a considerable proportion of their budgets. According to the statement, "instant synagogues" are not only "religiously questionable but impair the solvency" of all-year round synagogues. The rabbis also expressed concern about resort advertising of special facilities to attract holiday guests. "Resorts which advertise together with their High Holy Day services, Broadway shows and other entertainment of questionable value are simply not acceptable as places of worship to the faithful Jew." The statement added that by exchanging the synagogue for the resort "we rob our young generation of the strong and soul-nourishing impact of the 'days of awe.'"

Jewish Federation Launches Annual Drive; \$30 Million Goal To Aid Half-Million Persons

NEW YORK, Sept. 27 (JTA)--"Help Can't Wait." With that theme the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York will launch Tuesday night its 53rd Annual Jewish Community Campaign for a record goal of \$30 million. George H. Heyman, Jr., President, and Frederick P. Rose, Campaign Chairman said that the goal--believed to be the highest ever sought by one group of philanthropically-supported agencies in any American city--was \$5,500,000 more than was raised last year. Mr. Rose, who will guide the activities of 15,000 volunteers, said that "the \$30 million to be raised is seed money that generates more than \$300 million worth of health, welfare and educational activities for the growing number of people from all walks of life who are cared for at its affiliated agencies." Following the Opening Dinner Tuesday evening, more than 750 groups in industries, trades and professions, in city and suburban communities and in the Women's organization will swing into action to solicit contributions from past contributors and new givers. Mr. Rose said, "We are mounting the most intensive effort ever undertaken because we are fearful of the consequences to our community if we fall behind." Mr. Heyman stated: "Drug addiction, youth alienation, family break-up, mental illness, a diminishing quality of Jewish identification among our young and a growing despair among our aged are on the rise. Never have more people looked to Federation agencies for help than now." Mr. Rose declared that, "Inability to raise the additional \$5,500,000 we are seeking would mean that as many as 500,000 people would be affected either through reduced services or by being turned away completely."

Purdue University's Faculty-Student Conclave Urges Change In Admissions Policy

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind., Sept. 27 (JTA)--Rabbi Gerald Engel, director of B'nai B'rith Hillel at Purdue University, has reported that a faculty-student conclave has recommended changes in Purdue's admissions policy, which a Congressman has charged discriminates against Jews. The recommendations, devised at a recent discussion on "The Morality of Purdue's Admissions Policy" at the local B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation, have been forwarded to university president Fredrick Howde, who had welcomed suggestions. Four months ago, Rep. Leonard Farbstein, Democrat of New York, called on Attorney General John N. Mitchell to look into "possible discrimination" by Purdue against Jews, Negroes, Puerto Ricans and other minorities. He noted that the state institution had cut out-of-state acceptances, with special restrictions on New York State and New Jersey, where half of America's Jews live. The legislator said "Purdue's intent is clear." Purdue said it was attempting to reduce the number of disruptive campus "outsiders." The four faculty members on the panel here agreed unanimously that Purdue's official letter to applicants tended to discourage them from filing. The student audience cheered the panel. The quota was instituted last Nov. 19.