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Mideast Peace Talks Suspended; Jarring Returns To Moscow For At Least Two Weeks

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 4 (JTA)—The Middle East peace talks which floundered and sputtered have been suspended entirely within two months of their inception. Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring, the Mideast peace envoy ended his efforts here this weekend to bring about Israeli-Arab talks and is returning to Moscow for at least two weeks to resume his regular post as Swedish Ambassador to the Soviet Union according to announcements here. Spokesmen for the United Nations said that Secretary General U Thant and Dr. Jarring decided to suspend the peace talks efforts because the Mideast mediator had done "all he can do" in the present circumstances. Dr. Jarring is expected to return to the UN about Oct. 15. He came to New York on Aug. 2 in an effort to start peace talks between Israel and her Arab neighbors. Egypt, Jordan and Israel agreed to negotiations under his auspices on the basis of the United States peace initiative projected by Secretary of State William P. Rogers. A UN spokesman said then that Dr. Jarring's length of stay in New York and his course of action "will be determined" during his talks here. The peace talks, however, were doomed almost from the beginning as Egypt, in violation of the standstill agreement within the cease-fire accord along the Suez Canal, began to move missiles and construct missile sites within the 32-mile standstill zone. Talks "for a just and lasting peace" began on Aug. 25 just 17 days after the U.S. sponsored cease-fire plan went into effect. Dr. Jarring conferred with representatives of Egypt and Jordan and met twice that day with Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah. That same evening Mr. Tekoah returned to Jerusalem for consultations and on Sept. 6 Israel announced it was withdrawing from the talks because Egypt had persistently violated the standstill agreement.

During the past month Dr. Jarring has met sporadically with representatives of Israel, Egypt and Jordan, with representatives of the Big Four and with Mr. Thant, but real negotiations never got off the ground. After the death last Monday of Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser positions apparently hardened all around. At the Big Four meeting last Wednesday the Soviet delegate, Yakov Malik, reportedly accused the United States of trying to sabotage the Jarring mission. Charles Yost, the U.S. ambassador, cited Egyptian standstill violations and was reported to have stated that it was important to know whether one could trust the word of a government. Mr. Yost added that the Jarring talks could not be resumed until the missile violations had been rectified and urged Britain, France and the Soviet Union to help bring it about. Mr. Malik was reported to have told the Big Four that they should "redouble" their efforts to reach the terms of a fair settlement in the Middle East. On Tuesday, Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban said Israel remained firm in not returning to the peace talks until Egypt "corrects" its "illicit" missile buildup and added that he hoped to meet again with Dr. Jarring whose international judgement Israel trusted. Earlier, in a speech to the General Assembly, Mr. Eban offered to "use my presence here for talks with heads of Arab delegations on the establishment of peace and on the creation of the atmosphere and conditions in which a fruitful negotiation can take place." There is, he asserted, "no rational or defensible reason for refusing such an opportunity." (In Washington, State Department spokesman John F. King said on Friday that the U.S. has been informed that Dr. Jarring "will remain available to return to New York on 24 hours' notice.")

Cease-Fire Expected To Continue While Egypt Sorts Out Internal Situation

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4 (JTA)—Diplomatic circles here expect a period of quiet in the Middle East while the Egyptians sort out their internal problems following the death of President Nasser. There are rising hopes that the 90-day Suez cease-fire will be extended beyond its Nov. 5 expiration date. Diplomats here also put credence in Egyptian statements, backed by Cairo's Soviet allies, that they seek a peaceful settlement of the Mideast conflict, a policy which, they say, was pursued by President Nasser. President Nixon has received private assurances of this from Egyptian leaders, the State Department disclosed yesterday. The assurances were conveyed to Elliot L. Richardson, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, who headed the Presidential delegation to Nasser's funeral in Cairo last Thursday. Mr. Richardson conferred at some length with Egypt's interim President Anwar Sadat and with Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad and Minister of National Guidance Hassanein Heykal who was an intimate of the late President Nasser. The U.S. delegation was reportedly surprised and pleased by the warmth and seriousness with which it was received by the Egyptian leadership. The feeling in diplomatic circles here is that at least one part of Secretary of State William P. Rogers' Mideast peace initiative—the cease-fire—remains intact although the two sides seem as far away as ever from the parallel peace talks under United Nations envoy Gunnar V. Jarring. Dr. Jarring, who returned to Moscow, might return to the UN about Oct. 15 when Israeli and Arab leaders will be present at that time for a 25th anniversary commemorative session of the General Assembly.

Soviet Premier Alexei N. Kosygin has announced that he would not attend, thereby scuttling chances for high level talks on the Mideast. Nevertheless, there was nothing to rule out Dr. Jarring from using the opportunity to try again to get the stalled peace talks off the ground. Egypt and the Soviet Union issued a joint communique in Cairo yesterday affirming continuation of the policies agreed upon by the late President Nasser and Soviet leaders. Those policies include the goal of a political solution and acceptance of the cease-fire. The communique was issued after four days of intensive consultations between Premier Kosygin and the post-Nasser leadership of Egypt. Mr. Kosygin headed the Soviet delegation to Nasser's funeral and used the occasion to re-affirm Russia's continued military, economic and diplomatic support for Egypt. The joint communique spoke of the common objective of "eliminating

the consequences of Israeli aggression by achieving permanent peace in the area." The semi-official Cairo daily Al Ahram said yesterday that the Soviet Union will give "full and continuous support to Egypt." The paper said pressure must be exerted to break Israel's attempt to "obstruct the settlement of the Middle East crisis" but a political solution must not be rejected.

Observers here noted that the Soviets lost no time in assuring the new Egyptian regime of its steadfast support. The Kremlin is apparently striving to continue its close ties with Egypt developed under President Nasser which date from 1955 when the Soviets first began delivering military equipment to Egypt. But it is not certain at this time whether the Kremlin will be able to establish with Nasser's ultimate successor the close personal ties and rapport it had with the late Egyptian leader. Observers here believe it is too soon after Nasser's death to say who will pick up the reins of power in Egypt. American diplomats expect that Egypt will be run by a collective leadership during the immediate future. They also expect a fierce internal power struggle. But whatever its outcome, the belief is that for the time being the Egyptians will be too preoccupied with internal problems and too emotionally exhausted from the shock of Nasser's sudden death to alter the precarious truce that now exists with Israel.

Dayan: Egypt Apparently Called Off War Of Attrition Before Nasser's Death

(Israel's Defense Minister Moshe Dayan said in Jerusalem yesterday that Egypt apparently had called off its war of attrition against Israel before Nasser's death because it was going against Egypt. He claimed that that was the reason why Nasser accepted the American peace initiative and decided against ending the cease-fire because of news that the U.S. was going to send more Phantom jets to Israel. Gen. Dayan said that indications of Egyptian recognition of the futility of its war of attrition was the most hopeful development of the past year. He said the Arab-Israeli conflict may have entered its final phase but warned that this didn't mean that the bloodshed was over. He expressed hope that the Egyptians would agree to extend the Suez cease-fire beyond the Nov. 5 deadline.) Observers here predicted a period of quiet in Jordan in the aftermath of a savage civil war that ravaged that country last month. The new civilian government in Amman has taken a conciliatory position toward El Fatah, the largest of the Palestinian guerrilla groups, though it is still bitterly at odds with the Marxist-oriented, extremist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Jordan's new Minister of Information, Abu Odeh, said in Amman on Thursday that the government favored a peaceful settlement of the Mideast conflict but would nonetheless give guerrillas a free hand to mount attacks against Israel.

That position apparently derived from the accord signed by King Hussein and El Fatah chief Yassir Arafat in Cairo last Sunday, only a day before President Nasser died. Although the guerrillas were badly mauled by Hussein's forces, the king was unable to destroy them or to seize their strongholds in northern Jordan. His re-conciliation with Arafat was brought about by heavy pressure from other Arab countries, notably Egypt, Libya and Kuwait. The latter two oil-producing countries cut off their financial subventions to Jordan. Under the agreement the guerrillas will withdraw from Amman and will concentrate in the Western border regions, their staging area for attacks on Israel. (Premier Golda Meir of Israel warned in Jerusalem Friday that Israel would not tolerate a resumption of guerrilla activities against its border settlements. "We are not ready to make such a contribution to a temporary quiet in Jordan," she said. Mrs. Meir did not think that the Hussein-Arafat agreement would settle the Jordanian crisis permanently.)

Quietest Rosh Hashana In Israel In Three Years Marred By Death Of Two Soldiers

JERUSALEM, Oct. 4 (JTA)--The quietest Rosh Hashana that Israel has had in three years was marred Friday by the first fatalities suffered by Israeli soldiers in the Suez Canal zone since the cease-fire went into effect Aug. 7. A military spokesman disclosed today that lieutenants Mordechai Segal, 22, of Kibbutz Amir and Michael Molotov, 23, of Haifa, were killed when their jeep hit a mine about two kilometers east of the waterway in the central sector of the canal zone. Military authorities are investigating to determine whether the mine was an old one or one that was planted after the truce began. On all other fronts guns were silent over the holidays and there were no reports of guerrilla activities. Many thousands of Israelis took advantage of the three-day holiday and exceptionally fine weather to drive to Galilee, the Golan Heights and the Beisan Valley. There were many worshippers at the Wailing Wall and synagogues in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv were reported crowded. Hotels in the cities and in resort areas turned some of their public rooms into ad hoc synagogues to accommodate Israelis and tourists.

In East Jerusalem an estimated 20,000 Arabs mourning President Gamal Abdel Nasser, of Egypt, marched to the Mosque of Omar and an adjacent cemetery for memorial services. Israeli police were on hand in force but kept to the background. Authorities said the marchers observed exemplary decorum and no incidents occurred. However minor incidents were reported during marches of Christian Arab youths to memorial ceremonies in Nazareth and Acre. Israel's Sephardic chief rabbi, Itzhak Nissim reported that he had a letter from Rabbi David Isaac, of Leningrad expressing the hope that he and his wife would be able to go to Israel next spring, right after the Shevuot holiday. "Our prayers have not been answered yet and we are still here. Who knows when we will be able to join you?" the letter said. A spokesman for Rabbi Nissim's office said today that the traditional New Year greeting from Moscow chief rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin had not arrived as of last night.

Beigin: Gahal Will Not Re-Enter Coalition While Israel Accepts Withdrawal Policy

JERUSALEM, Oct. 4 (JTA)--Menachem Beigin, leader of the hard-line Gahal faction, declared in a radio interview yesterday that there was no chance of his party re-entering Mrs. Meir's coalition government as long as the latter stood by its resolution mentioning withdrawal from occupied Arab territories. Gahal walked out of the government at the time in protest.

Eban Urges U.S. To Block Soviet Attempts At World Domination, Especially In Mideast

NEW YORK, Oct. 4 (JTA)--Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban called today on the United States to block Soviet attempts to dominate the world at large and the Middle East in particular. Appearing on the ABC television program "Issues and Answers," Mr. Eban said, in reply to a question, that he did not think the Soviet Union was now the dominant power in the Middle East. There is "no domain and no place" where the U.S. is not dominant, Mr. Eban said, adding that Israel "would like to see more resoluteness in blocking and obstructing" Soviet attempts at domination. He said that in the present situation in the Suez Canal standstill cease-fire zone the U.S. could demonstrate its resoluteness by either "strengthening Israel to the maximal degree" or by getting the Soviet Union to "correct" the cease-fire violations by withdrawing its missiles. Mr. Eban said, "My impression is that the U.S. has not given up hope" of rectifying the cease-fire violations.

The Israeli Foreign Minister repeated that Israel wants the cease-fire extended beyond its Nov. 5 deadline and he thought that "in Cairo there is a tendency to extend the cease-fire." He said that if the Egyptians and Russians really want to negotiate they "will find a way" to maintain the cease-fire and correct its violations. Mr. Eban said that the death of President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt "provides a new opportunity for the Egyptian leadership to re-establish their country's destiny" which can be done only through "peace with Israel." He said he would not speculate over who will be Egypt's new leader. But he passed harsh judgement on the late President Nasser. Asked if he agreed that Col. Nasser had been a moderate among Arab leaders, Mr. Eban replied that there was "absolutely no historic justification whatsoever" for such an assessment. He claimed that Nasser "united the Arab world for negative, not positive" objectives and "betrayed the concept of (Egyptian) independence" by submitting to Soviet domination.

U.S. Grants Israel \$450 Million In Long Term Credit For Current Fiscal Year

JERUSALEM, Oct. 4 (JTA)--The United States has granted Israel easy long term credit in the amount of \$450 million for the current fiscal year, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today from highly reliable foreign sources. The sum is part of the \$1 billion in credit that Israel has applied for the next two fiscal years. Promise of the loan was made to Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir during his recent visit to Washington, the sources said. Mr. Sapir also conferred with West Germany's finance minister during his visit to Bonn on additional credits to Israel but details of those negotiations are not known. However, participants in a national Jewish conference in Frankfurt which Mr. Sapir addressed pledged to raise \$15 million for Israel during the current fiscal year. (In Washington last week a \$19.9 billion foreign military procurement bill authorizing the President to provide Israel with the aircraft and military equipment necessary to insure her future security, was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 341-11. The bill, which had emerged earlier from a House-Senate conference committee, broadened the scope of U.S. military aid to Israel contained in the original Senate version. The latter had given the President authority to transfer to Israel aircraft or "equipment appropriate to protect such aircraft.")

Israel Protests To Three Nations Over Release Of Arab Terrorists, Hijacker

JERUSALEM, Oct. 4 (JTA)--Israel has protested to Britain over the release of Laila Khaled, the 24-year-old girl commando who tried to hijack an El Al airliner off the British coast last Sept. 6. The girl was freed after Arab terrorists released the last of 300 hijacked airliner passengers they had held hostage in Jordan. Israel had demanded Miss Khaled's extradition on grounds that she committed a crime on Israeli territory. But according to reliable sources here, the Israel government does not intend to pursue the matter beyond its formal protest. Israel has also protested to the Swiss and West German governments over the release of six Arab terrorists in their custody. In Tel Aviv, the head of Israel's civil aviation department said that he will demand more severe punishment for aircraft hijackers and attempts to hijack planes when he attends a meeting of the judicial committee of the International Civil Aviation Federation in London next week. Dr. N. Ben Yehuda talked to newsmen prior to his departure today for London. He said he would also demand sanctions against any nations assisting hijackers or giving them shelter.

Mrs. Meir: Israel's Withdrawal Policy Flexible; Palestinian Entity Under Discussion

JERUSALEM, Oct. 4 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir said Friday that she did not accept the arguments of certain hard-liners who insist that "not a square inch" of the occupied Arab territories should be given up by Israel. But she made it clear that Israel has no intention of voluntarily giving up very much of the territories it seized in the June, 1967 Six-Day War. Mrs. Meir's views on Israel's future boundaries emerged during a New Year television interview. "We want withdrawal to places that seem safe to us," she said. She added that the overwhelming majority of Israelis would not leave the Golan Heights or Sharm el Sheikh and certainly not East Jerusalem even if they were proposed to make it an international enclave. She said Israel would never return to the pre-June 1967 borders with Jordan. The Jordan River cannot be left free to be crossed and re-crossed by armies, she said. Mrs. Meir hinted however that some areas of the West Bank might be restored to Jordan or converted into a "Palestinian entity." She indicated that talks have been going on with West Bank Arabs since 1967 on the possibility of establishing a "Palestinian entity." Such talks, Mrs. Meir noted, might be more relevant now in light of recent events but there were many problems, not the least being what authority the West Bankers taking part in them would have and what their position would be in case of peace talks with Jordan. The Prime Minister denied allegations that Israel was ignoring the existence of Palestinian identity. "We reject only one thing, that Israel should be turned into their Palestine," she said. Mrs. Meir disclosed that Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, had once again sought her permission to meet with a person "well known in the Arab world" and that she told him once again that approval had to be sought from the Cabinet as a whole. Asked if the "well known" person was the late President Nasser, Mrs. Meir said it was someone "much worse" than Nasser.

Broader Student Exchange Between University In New York And Israel

NEW YORK, Oct. 4 (JTA)--Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller has announced that efforts are underway to establish a broader student exchange program between the State University of New York and the universities of Israel. In his statement, Gov. Rockefeller said: "In view of the strong bonds of friendship that exist between the citizens of New York and the citizens of Israel, I am particularly delighted to be able to participate in fostering more extensive relations between the State University of New York and the universities of Israel."

Earlier this year, Judge Gustave C. Rosenberg met with representative of the six major universities in Israel--Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Bar-Ilan University, Tel Aviv University, Haifa University College of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Technion--Israel Institute of Technology, and the University of the Negev--on behalf of the Governor and the State University of New York to discuss the development of a broader student exchange program. The Governor said that the response from every university Mr. Rosenberg visited had been enthusiastic. Mr. Rosenberg, a member of the Court of Claims since June, 1969, was a member of the Board of Higher Education in the City of New York from 1952 to 1966, serving as Chairman for the last nine years. He conducted a study of the university system of Israel at the request of the Israeli government in 1969.

Japanese Rabbi-Scholar, Convert To Judaism, Joins Miami University Staff

MIAMI, Fla., Oct. 4 (JTA)--Rabbi A.O. Hiroshi Okamoto, a Japanese scholar in the field of comparative religions and a convert to Judaism, has joined the University of Miami's religion department as assistant professor, it was announced by Dr. W. Ivay Hoy, department chairman. Rabbi Okamoto will teach courses on major world faiths, Hebrew scriptures and Oriental religions. In 1958, he won the S.H. Scheuer Fellowship through the Fulbright program, enabling him to study at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio, from 1958 to 1964, where he earned B.A. and M.A. degrees in Hebrew letters. During his studies for his Master's degree he received honors in Rabbinitics and in 1964 was ordained a rabbi. Rabbi Okamoto returned to Tokyo for two years as rabbi and director of the Tokyo Jewish Seminar. During this period he taught comparative religions at the Jewish Community Center School of Tokyo. He also taught Hebrew for English-speaking students at Hebrew Union College and advanced Japanese in Oxford's Oriental Institute. The 43-year-old rabbi-professor is a graduate student at Oxford University since 1967 and expects to receive his Ph.D. later this year. His special interests are in Japanology and comparative ethics as reflected in the Hebrew-Aramaic-Syriac and Sino-Japanese translations of the Bible.

World Jewry Could Face Dilemma In Next Decade If Youth Education Is Neglected

BELLE ISLAND, Ont., Oct. 4 (JTA)--World Jewry in future years could find itself in a two-fold dilemma according to Dr. Max F. Baer, national director of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization. This situation, Dr. Baer told a gathering at dedication ceremonies for the Milan Conference Centre here recently, could develop because there is an unbreakable link between Israel's destiny and the future role of youth in the diaspora. Israel, he said, will be able to overcome massive security and economic problems only through the continuing moral and material support of Jewish people in other lands. But, Dr. Baer warned, such devotion and commitment would be forthcoming only if today's youth is trained to assume leadership in tomorrow's Jewish community. Failure to achieve this objective could jeopardize both Israel and Jewish existence in the diaspora, he said. "Many young people today," he continued, "having no memories of the Holocaust or of the bloody struggles that led to the founding of the Jewish state, concern themselves with humanistic, non-sectarian causes, while ignoring the urgent humanitarian cause of Israel's struggle for survival--in essence, the struggle for survival of the Jewish people."

Jewish youth organizations, said Dr. Baer, can make significant contributions to the future of Israel and to all Jewish causes "only if they receive adequate support from the Jewish community. That community must demonstrate a concern for youth development and education equal to that devoted to strengthening the State of Israel." Without the continued existence of Israel, he warned, "Jewish survival in the diaspora cannot be assured. But without the support of the Jews of tomorrow, Israel's own battle for survival may be lost. Each is inextricably bound to the other." The Milan Conference Centre where Dr. Baer spoke is located on Lake St. Clair, about an hour's ride from Detroit. It will be used as an educational site for Jewish youth in Michigan and Windsor, Ont. The Centre was a gift to the BBYO by Charles and Florence Milan, prominent Detroit philanthropists.

Desalination Process Improvement Developed Jointly By MIT, Technion Scientists

NEW YORK, Oct. 4 (JTA)--A major improvement in the process of sea-water desalination has been developed jointly by a scientist from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a scientist from Technion, according to the American Society for Technion. The two are Professor Ronald F. Probststein of MIT's Mechanical Engineering Department, and Dr. Josef Schwartz of the Technion's Aeronautical Engineering Department. They have developed a new separator--a device with a key role in desalination methods using the freezing process. Its function is to separate and wash the pure-water crystals that are formed in sea water during the freezing stage. The separation is a critical step in the process.

The new device is from 10 to 100 times faster and more efficient than any type previously used in desalination plants. The increase in efficiency will contribute substantially to reduction in costs. Cost considerations are crucial for desalination efforts, since the conversion of sea water must be economically feasible before it can be undertaken on a wide scale, the society reported. Professor Probststein, in the U.S., and Dr. Schwartz, in Israel, plan to continue their joint efforts to make further improvements in crystallization and related processes of water desalination. The development and construction of a laboratory-scale model of the separator were done at MIT.