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Sadat Announces Month Extension Of Cease-Fire, Demands Withdrawal Schedule

LONDON, Feb. 4 (JTA)--President Anwar Sadat told the Egyptian National Assembly today that Egypt would extend the current cease-fire on the Suez Canal for another 30 days, and that further extension would depend on Israel's proposing a specific time-table for withdrawal from the occupied areas during that extension. The current cease-fire had been scheduled to run out tomorrow. The President's announcement had been preceded by an announcement on Cairo radio last night of the planned extension and a hasty disavowal within a few hours by Government spokesman Munir Hafez of the broadcast. There was no explanation for the mixup. The new extension will continue the cease-fire until March 7. Jordan had previously indicated it would go along with whatever decision Egypt made. The formal announcement also had been preceded by a flurry of rumors involving Dr. Gunnar Jarring, the United Nations special Mideast peace emissary, and the Big Four.

According to one of the reports, Egypt had agreed to give Dr. Jarring 30 more days to produce a formula, in the current indirect Arab-Israeli talks, to advance those negotiations which, despite UN Secretary-General Thant's report last Tuesday of some progress, Egypt had insisted had produced no real results. Another report was that the Big Four planned, at a meeting in New York today, to appeal to the Mideast combatants for an extension of the cease-fire, which would have had the effect of making the major powers a party to both the cease-fire and to the indirect talks, a Big Four role Israel opposes and Egypt favors. It was reported from Israel that military authorities apparently had expected the Egyptian extension. There were no signs on either side of the canal of any special preparations for a renewal of the shooting. But Israeli sources expressed concern, prior to the Cairo announcement, that within that month of extension, the Sadat government might not be able to resist pressure from its military leaders to launch a cross-canal blow.

State Dept. Says Times Report On New Rogers' Letter 'Wrong' 'Unauthorized'

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (JTA)--The published contents of Secretary of State William P. Rogers' most recent message to Egyptian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad was criticized by the State Department today as "importantly wrong... unauthorized and edited." Thus, said Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey, "I am strongly inclined to believe that no authorized or responsible American official is involved" in leaking it to the press. The report, in today's New York Times, said that Rogers had advised Riad that Israel was expected to submit new and "substantive" ideas for a peace settlement after the cease-fire was extended; that the United States continues to adhere to the Rogers plan of Dec. 9, 1969, calling for almost total Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories; that "the United States is prepared to make an all-out effort to help the parties reach a settlement this year"; that the Jarring talks could not succeed under deadline pressure; that Egypt's decision not to call for a special Security Council meeting was "wise, constructive and in the interest of the United Arab Republic"; that the Arabs were not at a military disadvantage, and that the U.S. had not promised Israel to veto any anti-Israeli United Nations measure. The Times report, which was dated "Washington" and which was unsigned, was said by the writer to have been "shown to the New York Times" on condition that the source remain secret. He added that "the wording of the memorandum strengthened indications in diplomatic quarters that the United States did not look unkindly on possible American and Soviet participation in a military buffer force in the Middle East."

Asked by newsmen today if the portions published were correct, McCloskey replied, "No, not entirely." In addition, he said, parts were "out of context" and other parts were "omitted." The published parts represented "unauthorized use of a private message," he declared, adding: "I say this more in sorrow than in anger. We have tried steadfastly to keep things in private channels, and we will continue to do so." Some material carried in the first edition of the Times was deleted from later editions. It included purported references by Rogers to Big Four participation in the determination of an honorable peace. The quoted reference to the Big Four was "importantly wrong" and "out of context," McCloskey asserted. "We maintain and continue to maintain that the Security Council is the only body for a settlement. The Big Four as a unit has no decision-making authority. It is an important consultative group." The basis for a settlement, he emphasized, was "set forth in the Security Council Resolution (No. 242 of Nov. 22, 1967)." A State Department source further told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the published material treated the Rogers letter in "bowdlerized fashion." He emphasized that "we don't make these things public." The source contended that the material had been given to Times correspondent Raymond H. Anderson in Cairo by Egyptians.

Israel Official Says Tax Burdens To Remain Heavy, Even With Cease-Fire

JERUSALEM, Feb. 4 (JTA)--Avraham Agmon, Director General of the Finance Ministry, observed in a speech prepared for delivery tonight that even if the cease-fire were to continue for a long time, Israelis would have to bear very heavy defense expenditures. Although Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir has defined the 1971-72 budget as "facing the peace," Agmon noted, defense costs eat up 80 percent of Israel's taxes and will probably continue to do so for at least the next few years. The 43-year-old Agmon, a former Budget Director, stressed the "financial and security assistance of the Jewish people in the diaspora and friendly governments." He noted that the United States' report on the utilization of foreign aid lists Israel along with South Korea and Nationalist China as the countries that have made the most efficient use of such aid. His statement came as President Nixon proposed in his 1971-72 budget an increase in funds for foreign military aid sales specifically to include Israel.

Nixon 1971-72 Budget Includes Bid For Funds For Arms Sales To Israel

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (JTA)--The Nixon Administration's proposed budget for the 1971-72 fiscal year includes a recommendation for an increase of \$310 million in foreign military sales to provide "for the inclusion of the request for Israel and for certain other countries' programs." The proposed budget also indicates that of the \$500 million in military credit sales approved for Israel by Congress last year, about \$375 million was to be spent by the end of 1971 and the remaining \$125 million in 1972. No information was available from the White House executive officers, where the budget was prepared, on the new-money sum to be requested for Israel or on which other countries would be included in the over-all fund request of \$510 million. It was understood, however, that the sums for each country will be requested separately.

Sen. Henry M. Jackson, Democrat of Washington and a leading proponent of aid to Israel, said Sunday after the proposed budget had been sent to Congress that he was "dismayed by the failure of the Administration's new budget to use the broad authority to extend military credits to Israel that was overwhelmingly voted by the last Congress." Sen. Jackson, a member of the Armed Services Committee, formulated Sect. 501 of the Defense Procurement Act, giving the President broad authority to approve large-scale military aid credits for Israel. He criticized the Administration's having "chosen to treat Israel's pressing military requirements in the routine manner of the Foreign Military Sales Act." On Sunday, Sen. Jackson estimated that the new budget proposed \$582 million in military aid to 15 countries, including Israel, but that sum is now superseded by the official figures.

National Committee For Jews In Arab Countries Planned In Israel

TEL AVIV, Feb. 4 (JTA)--A "national committee" for the Jews in Arab countries--modeled on the National Committee for Russian Jewry--will be established shortly under the chairmanship of Supreme Court Justice Haim Cohen. The announcement was made by Aryeh L. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency, at a rally yesterday in the Mann Auditorium for immigrants from Arab lands. The occasion was the second anniversary of the hangings of Jews in Baghdad. Police Minister Shlomo Hillel declared at the rally: "We shall not remain silent over the ill treatment and persecution of the Jews in the Arab countries. The world will not accept such barbarism and hatred." He charged the United Nations with failing to act on the problem. Eliahu Sasson, a Labor member of the Knesset and Hillel's predecessor as Police Minister, reported details of the torture of Jews in Arab states. Leah Slovin, an immigrant from Russia, added: "We have a common enemy, common fate and common struggle."

The Knesset adopted yesterday a resolution calling on the world "to take all the steps which will insure that the Jews who are incarcerated and persecuted in the Arab countries will be rescued and brought to a country where they will be safe." All the Israeli parties but the pro-Moscow Rakach Communists voted for the resolution. It stated in part: "On this day two years ago our Jewish brethren in Iraq who were innocent of any crime were hanged. Today the Knesset communes with the memory of those martyrs and with our brethren who were murdered or tortured to death in the prisons of Iraq. The Knesset condemns in the strongest terms the denial of the rights of man to the Jews in the Arab countries and demands that an end be put to the oppression, discrimination and degradation imposed on them, which have recently worsened, especially in Syria." The Knesset also called for emigration rights for those Jews, and asked the United Nations, individual governments, international organizations, religious leaders and intellectuals to "demand emphatically and without delay" that the Jews in Arab lands "be freed." Meanwhile, the Israel Students Organization has decided to launch an effort to explain the plight of the Jews in Arab countries to students on campuses around the world. The student organization held rallies at Tel Aviv University, Beersheba University, Bar-Ilan University and the Haifa Technion and University, as well as on Mt. Scopus and at the site of the new university in Jerusalem.

Strike-Bound British Subscribers Come To JTA London Office For Daily Bulletin

LONDON, Feb. 4 (JTA)--Snow, rain, heat, gloom of night and salary demands may have stayed Britain's postal couriers from the completion swift or otherwise, of their appointed rounds, but copies of the British edition of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's Daily News Bulletin are getting to subscribers even if they have to pick them up themselves. The employees' strike--a first for Britain--is now in its third week, and JTA readers continue to send messengers to the JTA offices to secure their copies, "which is very flattering indeed," notes bureau chief Sam J. Goldsmith. The subscribers include Jewish and non-Jewish organizations, institutions, embassies and individuals. "The Egyptian Embassy is sending us a charming lady to pick up our Bulletin, which is very handsome of them," Goldsmith reports. Some subscribers have asked the JTA to hold their copies for them until the strike ends, so that their files need not be incomplete. Two students who were hired to deliver copies resigned the next day, refusing to continue even at higher pay because they were "utterly exhausted." The "only real hardship" reported by Goldsmith is non-delivery here of the American and French editions of the JTA Bulletin and the dailies from Israel and the diaspora. But there is consolation in the sight of researchers relying on Bulletins of past days, weeks and years available at the British Museum, the Institute of Jewish Affairs and other institutions. The Jewish Observer and the Jewish Vanguard halted publication in the second week of the walkout.

West German Foundation Gives Scientific Device To Hebrew University

JERUSALEM, Feb. 4 (JTA)--A photo-electric polarimeter--a scientific device for investigating organic chemical compounds--has been donated to the Hebrew University by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation of West Germany. It was presented at a ceremony yesterday by Dr. Christoph Niennoller, cultural attache of the West German Embassy. The gift recognizes the scientific work done at the Institute of Organic Chemistry of the University of Bonn in 1967-68 by Dr. Ruth Segal of the Hebrew University's Pharmacy School, who researched the chemistry of natural products as a Humboldt fellow. At the conclusion of her work in Bonn, the institute promised to present her own school with an appropriate apparatus.

Hadassah Calls JDL Actions 'Irresponsible' And 'Harmful' To Soviet Jewish Cause

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (JTA)--Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, repudiated today the Jewish Defense League in a resolution adopted at the closing session of the Hadassah mid-winter conference here. The 500 delegates called JDL activities "irresponsible" and harmful to the cause of Soviet Jewry because they diverted public attention, confused public opinion and embarrassed the United States Government. The resolution charged that such JDL activities "play directly into the hands of the Soviet Government which exploits the outrageous acts of a small number of Jews by suggesting that harassing individuals and vandalizing property are the tactics employed by organized Zionism and Jewish groups." (See earlier Hadassah story on page 4).

The resolution dedicated Hadassah "to persevere in efforts to create a climate of national and international opinion that will influence" Soviet authorities to allow Russian Jews "to live as Jews at home or emigrate and live as Jews in Israel." The resolution urged the Soviet Government to allow Jews who wish to leave for Israel to do so, to grant to its Jewish nationals "the right to teach, practice, preserve and perpetuate their religion and culture," and "to halt the vicious anti-Jewish, anti-Zionist campaign being waged in the Soviet press, on TV and radio." A statement on the Middle East expressed appreciation to President Nixon for his stand that the United States would not permit Israel "to be in a position where its neighbors can overwhelm it with superior manpower or forces from the Soviet Union," and added that the policy of the President and the Congress of maintenance of the power balance and assuring Israel's security "will advance the cause of peace."

Soviet Stance On Jewish Exit To Israel Linked To 1955 Arms Deal With Egypt

TEL AVIV, Feb. 4 (JTA)--The Soviet strictures against Jewish immigration to Israel are being used as a political weapon and are closely tied to the first Egyptian-Soviet arms deal in 1955, which at that time was designated as an Egyptian-Czech deal, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today from a trustworthy source. The source said that in 1955 Egypt was reluctant to sign an arms agreement with the Soviet Union because Cairo was then in a position to get arms from the West. When the situation became critical, the Soviet ambassador to Cairo told President Nasser that unless he went through with the arms deal, the Soviet government would permit Jewish immigration, meaning that within a few years a million Soviet Jews would have moved to Israel. Nasser signed, according to the source.

That development, which is not widely known in Israel, explains why demonstrations against and harassment of Soviet diplomats in the West have only a marginal effect on the Kremlin's Jewish-emigration policy, it was stated. But it also explains the optimism felt widely in Israel that the gates of the Soviet Union will swing open for the Jews when a settlement is reached in the Middle East and when Israel, perhaps through a change in political circumstances, is in a position to offer the Soviets suitable concessions, according to the informant.

Soviets Reported Planning Concessions To Birobidjan Jews As Diversion

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (JTA)--The Soviet government is planning to make concessions to the Jews of Birobidjan to distract world public opinion from the pleas of Soviet Jewry for equity with other Soviet communities, according to reliable Jewish sources. The sources said the Kremlin's leaders will discuss a revival of Jewish colonization at next month's Communist Party Congress and have decided to permit synagogues, yeshivas and schools. In addition, the only Jew in the Soviet hierarchy--Deputy Premier Veniamin Emmanuilovich Dymshitz, a 60-year-old politician and engineer, winner of the Order of Lenin and two-time winner of the Order of the Red Banner of Labor--visited Birobidjan recently to supervise the planning of public buildings and housing. Birobidjan, in Eastern Russia, was designated in 1928 as a Jewish Autonomous Region for "contiguous Jewish settlements" based on agricultural and industrial opportunities. There were an estimated 50,000 Jews in the 14,000-square-mile region in 1939 out of a total estimated population of 108,400. There are now an estimated 15-16,000 Jews out of a total estimated population of 138,400.

British Zionist Federation, JPA Reaffirm Maintenance Of Joint Ties For Israel

LONDON, Feb. 4 (JTA)--The heads of the Joint Palestine Appeal and the British Zionist Federation have issued a statement declaring that "the close cooperation and organizational links between our respective organizations, built up in this country over several decades, will continue uninterrupted and indeed be strengthened for the good of the State of Israel and the Jewish community." The statement, signed by Michael M. Sacher, JPA chairman, and Lord Janner, Federation president, noted there had been concern that the ties between the organizations might be affected by the death last Jan. 18 of Lavy Bakstansky, who had been general secretary of the Zionist Federation and director of the JPA. The two British Jewish leaders said they wanted to reaffirm that the "tragic" loss of Mr. Bakstansky would not injure the close working arrangements between the two organizations.

NEWSBRIEFS

TEL AVIV, Feb. 4 (JTA)--Col. Wladislaw Kovalski, one of the "righteous gentiles" who decided to share his fate with that of the Jews and settled in Israel, died today at his home in the Gadera settlement at the age of 75. Kovalski, who was in the Polish Army between the two World Wars, risked his own and his family's lives to help Polish Jews during the Holocaust, hiding 49 of them in his home. He married a Jewish woman, settled in Israel in 1957 and worked for the Yad Vashem memorial institute.

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BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 4 (JTA)--Five hundred delegates from 50 countries are expected to attend the international conference on Soviet Jewry scheduled for Brussels later this month, the general secretary of the Latin American Jewish Congress told a news conference here today. The secretary, Marc Turkow, stressed that the Brussels meeting was intended to be pro-Jewish, not anti-Soviet.

Hadassah Plans To Expand Community Service Work With Aid To Job Corps

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (JTA)--Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, is seeking to expand its community services which include tutorial, lunch and old-age programs, into a close working relationship with local Job Corps Centers, Mrs. D. Leonard Cohen, American Affairs chairman, reported today at Hadassah's mid-winter conference here. "This new role for Hadassah is in addition to the ongoing services Hadassah volunteers have provided in its two-year-old 'Action Program'" Mrs. Cohen declared.

"Hadassah's association with the Job Corps is the outgrowth of mutual interest," she added. "When Dr. Charles Gershenson, the head of research of the United States Children's Bureau, attended a Youth Aliyah Hadassah-sponsored international seminar on Group Care in Israel in the summer of 1969, he was convinced that there is relevance in the application of the Youth Aliyah techniques to youth programs in the United States. When Job Corps representatives came to him for advice, he told them about the Israeli programs." She added that later Dr. Stephen K. Hoyte, chief of personal and social development programs of the Job Corps, met with Hadassah leaders. "They discussed youth care problems as they exist here and in Israel. It became obvious that Hadassah, with its experience and know-how could relate itself to the Job Corps on the American scene," she said.

American Affairs chairman of Hadassah chapters, Mrs. Cohen said, will be asked to contact Job Corps directors and offer to supply specific services to them such as recreation, tutoring, and trips with the corps-men. "This volunteer activity will give Hadassah members a chance to share with Job Corps trainees their expertise gained in their Israeli work," she said. The Hadassah leaders adopted two resolutions. One called upon Congress to restore the cuts made in the national medical research budget and the other asked for the reform of the Welfare System.

More than 500 Hadassah national, regional and local leaders representing the organization's 318,000 members throughout the United States and Puerto Rico attended the conference here, which dealt with American and Zionist affairs. The meetings will be reconvened in Israel on Saturday night, Feb. 6. The Hadassah national board will meet there Feb. 6-9 and regional and local leaders will attend special meetings and dedications in Israel from Feb. 10 to Feb. 21.

NYC Mayor Denies Reported Cancellation Of Police Watch On Houses Of Worship

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (JTA)--A spokesman for Mayor Lindsay's office denied today a charge by Bronx Borough president Robert Abrams that the police department had cancelled a program of providing special watch for Jewish and Christian houses of worship and other institutions in the city which have been the targets of various forms of vandalism. The spokesman said that the police department had rearranged the protection program so that all such institutions; rather than a selected few, would be under regular police watch. He added that the Mayor's office felt the revised police program would provide adequate protection for such institutions. He explained that, as part of the prior program, city agencies referred complaints to the police department from officials of the institutions to the precinct in which the institution was located and the precinct officers then instructed patrol cars to maintain a special watch on those institutions. The spokesman emphasized that there was no change in that aspect of the police program.

N.Y. Solons Halt Blaine Repeal Effort; Catholics, Jews Asked For That Action

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (JTA)--A leader of an Orthodox Jewish group said today that his organization had reversed its long-standing opposition to efforts to repeal an amendment which bars state aid to private schools and had asked Gov. Nelson Rockefeller and legislative leaders to postpone indefinitely such repeal efforts. It was reported from Albany earlier this week that the legislative leaders had decided to postpone action on repeal of the Blaine amendment indefinitely. Rabbi Moshe Sherer, executive president of Agudath Israel of America, said the Governor and the legislative leaders had been under increasing pressure from Orthodox Jewish and Catholic groups not to take action on the second reading of the repeal measure, scheduled for the current legislative session, but were reluctant to do so because of public commitments to repeal the amendment. Rabbi Sherer said that the formal request by the religious leaders for postponement was deemed sufficient grounds for such action for the time being.

In his formal request to the governor and the legislators, Rabbi Sherer declared that the mandated referendum on the Blaine amendment in November "would spark unnecessary religious strife and create religious tensions at a time in our history when we must do everything possible to bring our people together again in harmony and tranquility." He added that this consideration, "coupled with the fact that our non-public schools can utilize various other approaches and options on the issue of state aid" to private schools "adds up to the conclusion that any action at this time on the Blaine amendment would not only be superfluous but possibly detrimenous to our overall community interests." He urged the Governor and the legislative leaders to support the Speno-Lerner Parent-Aid bill, which he said was "consonant" with the Blaine amendment. The measure would provide for grants ranging from \$50 to \$250 annually to parents of children attending non-public schools, depending on the family's income. The bill would benefit Jewish families who send their children to Jewish day schools.

N.Y. State University At Oneonta Sponsors Three Israel Study Programs

ONEONTA, N.Y., Feb. 4 (JTA)--The State University here announced today it was sponsoring three programs in Israel, one a State University of New York faculty seminar, and the others summer academic programs. The faculty seminar will be in the social sciences and will be in the form of a ten-day program of lectures and discussions and visits throughout Israel "designed to highlight aspects of Israeli life and institutions of real and significant interest to social scientists," the officials said. It will be held April 8-18. The seminar will offer the scholars opportunities to meet with their colleagues in Israeli universities and with leading Israeli government and union officials, as well as leading members of the Jewish, Arab and Christian communities. The summer programs will be held in July and August, in cooperation with universities in Israel, Turkey and Iran. "Modern Israel" will be an eight-week program which will provide nine semester hours of credit to students completing the work satisfactorily.