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State Department Reported Working On Suez Canal Reopening Formula

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11 (JTA)--State Department officials are preparing a formula to extend efforts by the United States towards arranging a partial settlement between Israel and Egypt which could lead to a reopening of the Suez Canal, according to diplomatic sources here. Despite reliable reports that Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco received only slight encouragement from Israeli officials in his talks with them about the canal reopening which ended last Wednesday, sources reported yesterday that the Department is anxious to preserve its initiative regarding the reopening of the canal. A major reason for the formula, sources noted, is to resist demands in the United Nations General Assembly convening in New York next month for Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring to resume his mission for a full settlement based on Security Council Resolution 242. Strong condemnation of Israel from most of the countries represented in the General Assembly is expected under the leadership of the Soviet Union, the Arab states and France. The State Department was said not to be concerned by the expected resolutions concerning Israel. One diplomatic source said, in fact, that the Americans would welcome the onslaught against Israel to help weaken Israel's resistance against an interim settlement favoring Egypt.

However, this source said, the U.S. delegation, at the explicit instructions from Pres. Nixon, will fight any attempt by the UN to impose sanctions on Israel or alter the language of Security Council Resolution 242, or allow an opening for the Soviet Union to employ direct military measures against Israel. In effect, the diplomatic sources stated, the current U.S. view is to attempt to expand and strengthen the cease-fire arrangement now in its second year and create conditions to facilitate moves towards an overall settlement. An effort towards an overall settlement at present would be doomed to failure since Egypt and Israel are too far apart for that broad formula undertaken by Ambassador Jarring, sources added. Six major points seem to be at issue between Egypt and Israel on the interim settlement idea. They are, according to the sources, the relationships between the interim and full settlement, the distance of Israel's pullback from the canal, the deployment of Egyptian troops across the canal, the length of the continuity of the cease-fire, Israeli shipping in the canal during the interim settlement and supervision of the area evacuated by an Israeli pullback. Regarding the latter issue, Israel was reported as keeping in mind Soviet-Egyptian cheating along the canal after the standstill cease-fire when it was agreed upon a year ago. Meanwhile, State Department spokesmen declined to discuss whether Sisco will return to the Middle East again on Egyptian President Sadat's threat of resumed warfare if the interim settlement activity is unsatisfactory to him by the end of this year.

Report USSR May Renew Diplomatic Relations With Israel If Israel Takes Initiative

JERUSALEM, Aug. 11 (JTA)--Recent rumors that the Soviet Union is interested in renewing with Israel the diplomatic ties it broke off during the 1967 Six-Day War were revived today in a report by an Israeli that he was told by a Soviet official that Russia wants Israel to make the first move in that direction. The report was made by Yona Yagol, a member of Histadrut's Foreign Relations Department, who recently returned from a conference in Vienna of the International Transport Workers Union. Yagol said that he was told by a senior Russian delegate in Vienna that Russia was waiting for an appropriate occasion to reestablish relations but that, for reasons of prestige, Israel would have to ask for the renewal of diplomatic ties. Yagol described the Russian delegate as one with a high-ranking position in the Soviet communications network in West Europe but did not name him. The Israeli said he met the Russian delegate at the convention and was invited by him to a number of talks, each of which lasted several hours. Yagol said that the Russian asked him questions about Israeli readiness to evacuate the occupied areas, the division between hawks and doves in Israel's Cabinet and on resumption of Soviet-Israel relations. Yagol reported on his talks with the Russian delegate to the Foreign Minister's office and to Histadrut officials.

Georgian Jews Becoming Increasingly Bitter Over Visa Delays

NEW YORK, Aug. 11 (JTA)--Jews of the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic are becoming increasingly bitter over their inability to obtain exit visas to Israel, and are considering "initiatives" and even "hasty acts" in protest, Jewish sources here say. The Georgian Jews, according to these reports, feel that protests within their republic are being ignored by most overseas media and are having no impact. Thus, they are considering such acts as sit-ins and demonstrations in Moscow in the feeling that demonstrations in the Soviet capital would offer greater news coverage than if the demonstrations were held in Georgia. Sources say that explicit anti-Semitism is on the increase in Georgia, especially in broadcasts and the press. The situation has arrived at such a point, it is said, that Jewish professionals are daring to join the protests against emigration obstacles. And all around are rumors that the Kremlin is reducing Georgian Jewish emigration, is launching a new anti-Israel propaganda campaign, and is substituting non-Jews for Jews in top government positions.

Mrs. Abzug Says Arab-Israeli Tensions Appear To Be Diminishing

JERUSALEM, Aug. 11 (JTA)--United States Rep. Bella S. Abzug of New York, in Israel for a week-long visit, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here today that she had noticed a lessening of Arab-Israeli tensions within Israel and that she hoped "it will carry forward and lead to a real settlement." Mrs. Abzug, New York's first Jewish Congresswoman, in an interview with Amos Ben-Vered, JTA Middle East Bureau Chief, said: "If people relate, that makes a difference." Asked about the best means toward a Middle East settlement, she said without hesitation: "Direct negotiations." Of Israel's impact on American visitors, she exclaimed: "There is a dynamic feeling--great, excited, inspired. This is of course impressive." But, comparing her current visit with her stay here in 1959, Mrs. Abzug observed that "From the little I have seen so far I deduce that the social problems here have not been solved." The legislator, here as a guest of the government, has been meeting with

Israeli officials concerned with the social aspects of life here, such as Immigrant Absorption Minister Nathan Peled; Mrs. Zina Harmann, Knesset member and chairman of its Committee on Demography, and trade union leaders.

Israeli Soldier Wounded, Terrorist Killed; Four Terrorists Get 15 Years In Prison

TEL AVIV, Aug. 11 (JTA)--An Arab terrorist was killed and an Israeli soldier injured this morning during an encounter between Arab terrorists and an Israeli army patrol west of the Jebeliya camp in the Gaza Strip. Three terrorists threw a hand grenade at the passing Israeli patrol, injuring one Israeli soldier. Other members of the patrol opened fire at the terrorists and killed one of them while the other two escaped. Searches were conducted to locate the two who got away. Meanwhile, four terrorists who penetrated into Israel from Syria last March, and were captured after a clash with an Israeli army patrol, were sentenced to 15 years imprisonment by a military tribunal in Kuneitra. Four other terrorists were killed in the encounter. Three of the four terrorists sentenced yesterday are Jordanians. The fourth is a Yemenite citizen who said he was forced to take action against Israel after he was captured in Jordan by a Fatah unit.

Arab Leaders Seeking Ways To Stabilize Regimes, Obtain Military Aid

LONDON, Aug. 11 (JTA)--A number of heads of Arab states are desperately trying to find ways of stabilizing their regimes and getting aid to resolve their internal differences. The mediation team trying to resolve the dispute between the Jordanian government and the Palestinian terrorists left today for Amman, Jordan, according to Cairo Radio. Dr. Hassan Sabri Al Khouli, Egyptian President Sadat's personal representative, and Omar Sakkar, Saudi Arabia's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, are said to be carrying a "working paper" setting forth details for relations between the Jordanian authorities and the terrorists. Sakkar was in Amman, Damascus, and Beirut last week, but he apparently failed to achieve any progress because of the terrorists' objections to bowing to the Jordanian government's insistence on full authority over them.

Meanwhile, Syrian Vice-President Mohamoud Ayoubi and Foreign Minister Abdel Halim Khaddam unexpectedly left for Moscow, according to a report in the London Financial Times. They are supposed to be on a mediation mission between the Soviet Union and the Sudan. But there are also reports that the two went to reassure Moscow in the wake of rumors that the Communist Party will be banned in Syria. Also, some details have been learned about a British military mission in Beirut which discussed an arms deal as part of a \$64 million project to re-equip the Lebanese army. Officially, neither the British Foreign Office nor the Defense Ministry discusses arms deals or even admit that negotiations are in progress. But it has been learned unofficially that the Lebanese want to buy six second-hand Hunter jet fighters currently being used by the British Royal Air Force. The planes will be on sale after they are overhauled. In addition, the Lebanese want to buy light Scorpion tanks made of aluminum. These tanks have not yet been delivered to the British army.

Power Station Workers, Doctors Angry Over Back-To-Work Orders

TEL AVIV, Aug. 11 (JTA)--Embittered power station workers in Elat announced today that they would refuse to cooperate with management on some internal procedures as a protest against the imposition of back-to-work orders which forced them to suspend their strike for more pay. Stressing that their strategy would not affect power supplies, the workers said they would make no registrations, would suspend follow-up activities on power supply reports, and would stop providing lists and statistics for the station's accounting department. The Histadrut's trade union department made a last-minute effort last night to work out an agreement with the station workers but it failed. The Medical Association of Israel said it was planning a one-hour strike of all physicians in Israel in protest against back-to-work orders which sent striking doctors back to work in government and municipal hospitals. The government doctors have boycotted the Health Ministry which has the function of working out a settlement with the doctors and other workers in government hospitals. The doctors have terminated all contacts with the Ministry, despite the refusal of Health Minister Victor Shemtov to sign the back-to-work orders, a stand demanded by Shemtov's Mapam party which forced Premier Golda Meir to sign the order.

Janner Protests To BBC Over Use Of Term Guerrillas To Designate Arab Terrorists

LONDON, Aug. 11 (JTA)--A Jewish member of Parliament is engaged in a dispute with the British Broadcasting Corporation over its designating Palestinian terrorists as "guerrillas" and "commandos" while it calls the Northern Irish revolutionaries "terrorists." Replying to a complaint by MP Greville Janner, BBC chairman Lord Hill wrote that it was "misleading to draw a close analogy between events in the Middle East and events in Northern Ireland." As he explained the difference, "In Northern Ireland there exists a group of men bent through armed force and murder on the subversion of law and order in a part of the United Kingdom...In the Middle East, however, a state of war exists between Israel and her neighbors, some of whom are giving active support to terrorist activities within Israel as a means of continuing the fight, notwithstanding the existence of the cease-fire." Lord Hill concluded that "the terms 'guerrillas' and 'commandos' have gained wide international currency," and that "for the BBC to use these terms is not to imply any greater merit for Arab acts of terrorism than for similar acts by terrorists in Ulster..."

Janner retorted in a written reply that "To my mind the word 'terrorist' is clearly an accurate description for anyone who attempts to achieve political change through terror, no matter in what part of the world he happens to operate." Janner continued: "I am afraid that I cannot see that the issue is any less clear-cut in Israel as it is in Northern Ireland...The fact that your audience have now come to recognize the Middle East terrorists by the name of commandos is precisely the basis of our protest." Janner, son of Lord Janner, former president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, asked Lord Hill to reconsider the BBC's nomenclature. He added to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he planned to consult with his colleagues in the House of Commons who join him in his complaint as to the best means of raising the issue in the House.

McCloskey: Israel-Egypt At Odds Over More Than Question Of Total Israeli Withdrawal

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11 (JTA)--Egypt's insistence that Israel commit herself to withdrawal from all of the Sinai Peninsula before negotiations is "an issue" between the two countries but not the central one," the State Department said today. Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey, assessing a Washington Post report from Jerusalem yesterday, commented on the assertion by correspondent Alfred Friendly that Israeli leaders believe "Egypt's only aim in proposing the (Suez) canal reopening is to extract from Israel a prior commitment to withdraw from all of Sinai back to the 1967 borders." McCloskey told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent: "One of the issues is indeed that very one, yes, in addition to other issues on which there has to be resolution."

The other issues are known to include the crossing of the canal by Egyptian troops, Israeli transit of the canal and the extent of an initial Israeli pullback. McCloskey prefaced his remarks by saying that on previous occasions he was "a little more at liberty (to comment) than presently." Asked whether Assistant Secretary Joseph J. Sisco, back from talks with Israeli leaders, would hold a press conference here soon, McCloskey declared that the State Department "took virtually an oath in blood" not to discuss Middle East developments publicly, and "we're trying to adhere to that." Israeli Embassy officials also refused to talk about Sisco's meetings.

Egypt Preparing Campaign To Isolate Israel, U.S. in Upcoming UN General Assembly

LONDON, Aug. 11 (JTA)--Reports from Cairo say that Egypt is preparing a campaign to isolate the United States and Israel in the upcoming United Nations General Assembly, opening in New York Sept. 21. A planning meeting was held yesterday, with the participants including Dr. Mohammed H. el-Zayyat, Egypt's UN ambassador, and Dr. Ashraf Ghorbal, the chief of the Egyptian desk at the Indian Embassy in Washington (the U.S. and Egypt have no official diplomatic relations). At this and future meetings, the Egyptian leadership will try to determine the best way to assure that her position prevails at the Assembly. Cairo can already count on the support of the rest of the Arab bloc, the Communist countries and France and is directing her energies toward enrolling Latin and neutral nations to her cause.

Soviets Close Entrance To Jewish Graves, Prohibit Hebrew Inscriptions On Tombstones

NEW YORK, Aug. 11 (JTA)--The authorities in Riga, Latvia, closed the entrance to the Jewish mass graves at Rumbuli at the end of May, Jewish sources reported here today. The authorities said the area was needed for "military exercises." Twenty-one Jews of Riga, in a cable to the authorities, protested their being barred from the graves of loved ones. In Kiev, the Ukraine, the sources continued, the authorities have prohibited the use of Hebrew inscriptions on tombstones in the Jewish cemeteries. The sources also reported that the appeal of Raiza Palatnik, sentenced to three years for alleged anti-Soviet activities, was not heard as scheduled Aug. 5, not Oct. 5 as previously reported, but was postponed until two weeks from then. No reason for the delay was immediately available.

New Biannual Magazine On Soviet Jewish Affairs Launched In England

LONDON, Aug. 11 (JTA)--"Soviet Jewish Affairs," a new biannual magazine, has been launched here. It is published by the Institute of Jewish Affairs in association with the World Jewish Congress, and succeeds the Institute's "Bulletin on Soviet and East European Jewish Affairs," which appeared six times between January, 1968, and December 1970. "Soviet Jewish Affairs" is subtitled "a Journal on Jewish Problems in the USSR and Eastern Europe." Its first issue, running 144 pages and dated June, contains 13 articles and documents, reviews of six books, and a separately bound 48-page translation of the fourth issue of "Exodus," an underground Soviet Jewish journal. The articles include "The 'Right to Leave' for Soviet Jews: Legal and Moral Aspects," by William Korey; "USSR and the Politics of Polish Antisemitism 1956-68," written anonymously; "The Jewish Labour Movement: Some Historiographical Problems," by Chimen Abramsky; "Leaving Russia: A Personal Experience," by Viktor Fedoseyev, and "Hungary's Liberal Policy and the Jewish Question," by George Garal. The documents include the text of the appeal adopted by the World Conference of Jewish Communities on Soviet Jewry, which met in Brussels in February. The "Exodus" issue includes an account of the first Leningrad trial of Jews, with excerpts from testimony, and copies of Jewish protest letters to Soviet authorities. "Soviet Jewish Affairs" editor J. Miller writes that "The aim of the new journal is to combine academic integrity with practical vitality" in an attempt to "help illuminate the past and present of Jewish communities in the USSR and Eastern Europe."

Soviet Jewry Week in Denver Proclaimed By Mayor, Governor

DENVER, Aug. 11 (JTA)--This is Soviet Jewry Week in Denver, by proclamation of Gov. John Love and Mayor William McNichols. Mrs. Harry Hoffman, co-chairman of the Denver Committee of Concern for Soviet Jewry, said a memorial ceremony will be held at Babi Yar Park, believed to be the only city park commemorating the deaths of the 100,000 Jews slaughtered by the Nazis during the occupation of Kiev. The National Jewish Hospital has offered free treatment to Ruth Aleksandrovich, who is serving out a one-year term in Riga for alleged anti-Soviet activities. The Denver Public Library will open a Soviet Jewry exhibit Aug. 12. The 27,000 Jews here represent approximately 5.3 percent of the city's population.

Chinese Chef, Black Director Of Dietary Services In Charge Of Kosher Meals For Aged

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 11 (JTA)--A Chinese chief chef and a Black director of dietary services are in charge of preparation of kosher meals for the 320 residents and 150 part-time and full-time employees of the Jewish Home for the Aged of San Francisco. Chief chef Bill Yee, assisted by three Chinese aides, and Mabel Sohine had previously worked together at a local hospital. The facility also has a Filipino business manager, Zollo Inacay. The 55-year-old chief chef was hired for the job six years ago to replace the cook who retired after 20 years in the post. "We trained Mr. Yee in the art of kosher cooking," executive director Sidney Friedman told the San Francisco Jewish Bulletin. A typical Sabbath meal includes a quarter chicken for each resident, plus chicken noodle soup, fresh vegetable, kasha, challah, kosher wine and tossed green salad. A number of the residents are on special diets which adds to the work of the kitchen staff. The business manager said that the Chinese staff was so dedicated "it's often hard to get them to go home after their shifts."

SPECIAL JTA INTERVIEW**NEW YORK TO MOSCOW: THIS IS JTA CALLING DAVID AND ESTHER MARKISH**

By BORIS SMOLAR, JTA Editor-in-Chief Emeritus

NEW YORK, Aug. 11 (JTA)--Peretz Markish, the outstanding Jewish author and poet who, together with 23 other foremost Soviet Jewish writers and intellectuals, was executed on August 12, 1952, in the mass-liquidation of Jewish cultural leaders by Stalin, was after Stalin's death rehabilitated by the Khrushchev regime. A volume of his works in Yiddish was even published in Moscow in recognition of the fact that his "liquidation" was a "mistake." Yet, his wife Esther and his son David--both literary people--are still virtually imprisoned in the Soviet Union. They have applied for permission to leave for Israel, but their applications have been rejected. They now live in Moscow in the hope that the day will come when Soviet higher authorities may reconsider the rejection and permit them to leave the country. Information reaching the Jewish Telegraphic Agency recently indicated that they are both no longer practicing their literary professions--probably because they are being viewed with suspicion, seeking to emigrate to Israel--and that David was compelled to become a porter in order to make a living for himself and his mother. The JTA telephoned them today from New York to ask how they are being treated and whether they believe that they might still have a chance to secure emigration visas. What follows is a transcription of the tape recorded telephone conversation between this writer and Esther and David Markish which throws light on their moods and hopes.

(JTA) This is the Jewish Telegraphic Agency speaking to you from New York. Am I talking to Mrs. Esther Markish? (Esther Markish) Yes, you are talking to Mrs. Markish and David Markish. (JTA) We would like to know what are the chances for you and your son to obtain the exit visas for which you applied. (EM) Dear friend! If we could only know what we can do, we would have been happy. We do not know what to do. (JTA) Have your applications for the visas been rejected? (EM) Yes. We were refused the visas. (JTA) And have you reapplied for them? (EM) Upon the rejection of our applications we wrote several times to the authorities and asked for a re-examination. And we are still waiting. So far, our applications have been rejected twice. We again asked for a revision (review) of the refusal but I have little hope. Maybe it is possible to bring our case to the attention of the government (high Soviet leaders), but I do not know. (JTA) Is it true that your son lost his employment? (EM) My son did not lose employment. He is a writer; a scenario writer. However, after his application for a visa was rejected, he decided not to engage any longer in literary work. That was his decision. He is now a porter in a bakery. (JTA) And for whom did he write before he gave up his literary career? (EM) He had no position with any particular institution. He was doing his literary work at his desk at home. Since neither he nor I are now making a living from writing, but must live, he decided to take any work as an ordinary worker. The income is not much, but he thinks that it is better this way. This is his opinion. He does not want to earn a living from literary work.

(JTA) Have you any special message you would like to convey. The Jewish Telegraphic Agency serves the Jewish press. We can carry your message. (EM) One moment, please! I will ask my son. He is right on my side. Talk to him. (He hardly talks English, however.) (JTA) He can talk to me in Russian. (EM) Very well, David Markish starts: (DM) (In English) I am David Markish. Do you speak Russian? (JTA) Yes, I speak Russian. (DM) Fine. Then talk to me in Russian. (JTA) There is an interest in our country to know in what kind of a profession you are engaged now. Your mother told me that you gave up your literary career and became a porter in a bakery. (DM) That is correct. (JTA) She also told me that your application for emigration was refused twice. (DM) Yes. We received a rejection of our second application for exit visas. (JTA) Were you given any explanation for the rejection? (DM) No. No reason was given. (JTA) And what is the attitude generally toward you and your mother? (DM) Generally we are among friends who, like me, want to emigrate to Israel. It is also natural that people of the intelligentsia and honest people should maintain a normally good attitude towards us. We did not encounter honest people who are not friendly toward us. (JTA) I want you and your mother to know that the fate of both of you is being watched by many here. They would like to see both of you being granted Soviet exit permits. Both of you will be received with open arms. (DM) We are very grateful for thinking of us. We hope that your interest in us will be of help to bring about our emigration. Thanks to all for remembering us.

Rabbi Unterman Urges Both Sides In Mea Shearim Dispute To Moderate Stands

JERUSALEM, Aug. 11 (JTA)--Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi Issar Yehuda Unterman appealed last night to both sides in the Sabbath-traffic dispute to moderate their stands. Speaking over Kol Yisrael, the 85-year-old patriarch said that Sabbath observers should not get over-excited about their cause because violence would only result in a breakdown of the religious-secular dialogue. But he also warned non-religious groups that have staged counter-demonstrations not to resort to violence against those who are trying to keep the nation on the path of the Torah. Rabbi Unterman's references were to a series of clashes over Sabbath schedules of the Egged bus cooperative.

Settlements In Administered Territories Being Given Hebrew Names

JERUSALEM, Aug. 11 (JTA)--The Jewish urban settlement being built near Hebron has been given the Hebrew name Kiryat Arba, one of the biblical names for Hebron. The urban settlement at Sharm el-Sheikh has been named Ophira after Ophir, where King Solomon's ships brought gold into the country. In all, a dozen settlements and rivers in the occupied territories have been given new names, to be published tomorrow in the official law journal.

South American Jewish Communities To Hold Regional Convention

BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 11 (JTA)--A regional convention of South American Jewish communities will be held Aug. 14-15 in Sao Paulo, Brazil, the Latin American Jewish Congress said today. The themes will be the Jewish people in an epoch of changes; community matters; education; youth; the Middle East situation; Soviet Jewry, and Christian-Jewish relations. Participating will be Jewish representatives from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay.