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DAYAN; CEASE-FIRE DETERIORATING DUE TO CONTINUING EGYPTIAN VIOLATIONS

TEL AVIV, Jan. 3 (JTA)—Defense Minister Moshe Dayan warned today that the Israeli-Egyptian cease-fire was deteriorating because of continuing Egyptian violations but said that the problem was one for the Israelis and Egyptians to solve and that he would not discuss it with American officials he meets in Washington tomorrow. Dayan spoke to reporters at Lod Airport before taking off for Washington where he will meet with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger and other officials. He said his talks with Schlesinger would concern arms purchases.

Dayan and Kissinger will be discussing the Israeli-Egyptian disengagement talks currently under way in Geneva. The Defense Minister said he was not taking any maps with him to Washington—just the basic decisions of his government. He said it was too early to predict that the Geneva disengagement talks are on the verge of a successful conclusion. Referring to the daily shooting incidents along the Egyptian front, Dayan said it was the Egyptians who opened fire. That situation cannot be tolerated and cannot remain one-sided, he warned.

Eight Israeli soldiers were wounded yesterday by Egyptian artillery fire southwest of Lake Timsah. Other fire exchanges on the Egyptian front were reported in the Ismailia region, west of Fayid and in the Suez area. Israel held up supply convoys to the encircled Egyptian Third Army and the town of Suez as long as the shooting continued.

KISSINGER PREDICTS 'GOOD PROGRESS' IN DISENGAGEMENT TALKS IN GENEVA—BUT SETS NO TIME-TABLE ON SEPARATION

By Joseph Polakoff, JTA Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3 (JTA)—Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger predicted today that "good progress" would be made in the Israeli-Egyptian disengagement talks in Geneva though he would not set a "time-table on the separation of forces." Addressing reporters at a press conference in San Clemente, California, where he has been meeting with President Nixon for the past two days on foreign policy matters, particularly the Middle East, Kissinger said, "Unless there has been a basic change of views, which I don't believe, I believe good progress can be made along Suez."

Kissinger said the results of Monday's elections in Israel "won't have any effect on the current talks" on disengagement. He said that "The broad consensus in Israel is that the talks will proceed even before a new government is formed." He added, however, that "what the affect will be of the elections on an ultimate settlement will depend on the composition of the Cabinet and on negotiations now going on between the (Israeli) parties." He said it was "premature to offer an opinion."

Kissinger stated he had no time-table for a separation of forces, because a great deal depends on the Arab states and Israel. "It was always understood that after the Israeli elections the talks might accelerate," he said, but

he was "not predicting a solution in January." (See P. 3 for separate story from Geneva)

Arabs Welcome U.S. Objective

Kissinger, referring to his meeting in Washington tomorrow with Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, said that after the meeting and after the disengagement talks resume in Geneva next week "we will see how much progress is possible and how much can be done." He responded sharply to a reporter who, referring to Dayan's visit, asked if it was proper for the U.S. "to be tied" to Israeli policy on the separation of forces.

"We have conducted our Middle East policy by talking at great length with all parties," Kissinger said, adding that the talks were on "exactly the same terms with all parties concerned." He said that every Arab country knows of Dayan's visit and "they welcome" the U.S. objective on separation of forces and "don't see it in the light you have indicated," he told the reporter.

Asked what were the most hopeful signs in the Middle East, Kissinger said: "There is a good possibility for progress on the separation of forces, and this would create very positive conditions for similar progress on other fronts and it will be a good bridge into the general peace talks that of course will continue." He noted that President Nixon has said "and it has been our policy and our conviction that the chances for peace (in the Middle East) are the best in 25 years. This does not mean that negotiations won't be extremely painful and extremely difficult."

Kissinger also responded sharply in reply to a reporter's question on the U.S. policy in the Middle East in view of the Arab oil embargo. He said it was not appropriate for the Arab states to discriminate against the U.S. which adhered to Resolution 242 and is the principal country negotiating for a peace settlement in the Mideast.

He said the U.S., however, was not negotiating to get the oil embargo lifted and would not make its foreign policy dependent on Arab oil. "We have talked to Israel and to the Arabs and we will not link our talks to the embargo," he stated. The energy problem is endemic and would exist with or without the oil embargo, Kissinger observed.

3 ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED ON GOLAN

TEL AVIV, Jan. 3 (JTA)—Three Israeli soldiers were killed in a sudden Syrian artillery barrage yesterday on the Golan Heights. The incident took place at about 1 p.m. local time near Tel Pahres in the central section of the Syrian front. The Syrians opened fire without warning, apparently in retaliation for Israeli shell fire in the same area Tuesday when Syrian forces attempted to advance their positions into an Israel-held sector. The three men were killed in the opening volley. Israeli gunners returned the fire and an artillery duel developed over a wider sector, lasting a half hour.

FOREIGN EXPERTS ASKED TO HELP PUT OUT OIL WELL FIRE IN SINAI

TEL AVIV, Jan. 3 (JTA)—Israel called for foreign experts today to put out an oil well fire that has been raging for 24 hours among off-shore oil rigs in southwest Sinai. The fire, which broke out

at noon Tuesday in the Israel-operated Abu Rodeis oil fields on the Red Sea coast of Sinai has caused damage estimated at IL 1 million a day. Attempts by local fire-fighters to extinguish the blaze failed and specialists from abroad were called for and are expected at the scene shortly.

A preliminary investigation has ruled out sabotage and no casualties were reported. The fire, sending flames and smoke hundreds of feet into the air, swept over several oil rigs and platforms in the shallow waters off the Sinai shore. Experts estimated that 17 percent of Abu Rodeis' production was affected.

There are 20 off-shore wells at Abu Rodeis which was captured from Egypt in the 1967 Six-Day War. The field is operated by the Israel government-owned Netivei Neft oil company which invested \$3.5 million in the off-shore drilling. The off-shore oil is superior to that produced by the inland wells. Abu Rodeis has been supplying some 60 percent of the 17 million tons of oil Israel consumes annually. All of it is refined in Israel. The production losses resulting from the fire will have to be made up from other more expensive sources.

110,000 ISRAELI VOTERS WASTED BALLOTS ON SPLINTER PARTIES

Labor Alignment Polled 150,000
More Votes Than Likud

JERUSALEM, Jan. 3 (JTA)--About 110,000 Israeli voters wasted their ballots on splinter parties which failed to attain the one percent required for a single Knesset seat in Monday's elections, it was disclosed today. The figure was announced on completion of the counting of the civilian vote which showed that more than 80 percent of the electorate participated in the elections.

The peak participation--and the number of wasted votes--will probably increase after the tally of the soldiers' vote is completed, according to the Central Elections Committee. A record 82 percent turnout is expected to be disclosed after all the ballots are counted, compared to an 81.7 percent turnout in the 1969 elections.

According to the Elections Committee, if the votes spent on the splinter parties had gone to either of the major parties, one of them might have had a clear mandate to form a government. As it stands, the Labor Alignment polled about 150,000 more votes than Likud, about 41.9 percent of the ballots counted so far but not enough to form a government without partners. Among the splinter parties that failed to make the Knesset, the two most militant and extreme polled the largest number of votes. Rabbi Meir Kahane's Jewish Defense League and the Black Panthers each got 11,000 votes.

LIKUD'S CONTROL OF TEL AVIV APPEARS SURE AFTER ACCORD REACHED WITH ILP

TEL AVIV, Jan. 3 (JTA)--Likud's Control of Israel's largest city appeared certain today after the party reached a working agreement with the Independent Liberals that would give it a 16 vote margin in the 31-member city council. The announcement that an understanding had been reached and that both parties had agreed on a working team was made after a 2 1/2 hour meeting here between Likud leader Gen. Shlomo Lahat and an ILP group headed by Itzhak Arzi. An official agreement may be signed tomorrow.

The announcement killed the hopes of incumbent Laborite Mayor Yehoshua Rabinowitz to

remain in office despite his party's defeat in Monday's municipal elections. Rabinowitz had announced yesterday that he would try to form a coalition with the ILP and the religious parties that would have overcome Likud's 14-11 edge over the Labor Alignment. But the Liberals went along with Lahat despite severe pressure from Labor Party leaders. The ILP is a member of Premier Golda Meir's old coalition government and is considered likely to join the new government she is trying to form. But that proved to be of no avail in Tel Aviv.

Moshe Kol, the Minister of Tourism and the ILP's national leader said today that the Tel Aviv branch of the party had to make its own decision and he would keep out of it. The decision went for Likud apparently because of the voter trend in that direction.

No details were released on the Likud-ILP agreement. It is expected that the ILP will be given several senior posts in the city council, including that of deputy mayor and possibly even first deputy mayor. Lahat, a reserves officer personally popular with Tel Avivians, is expected to become mayor, the first non-Labor mayor of Tel Aviv in 16 years.

KOLLEK SEEKING TO RE-ASSEMBLE A WALL-TO-WALL COALITION

JERUSALEM, Jan. 3 (JTA)--The Labor Party's loss of two city council seats in Jerusalem's municipal elections Monday was only partly a personal setback for Mayor Teddy Kollek, election analysts said today. The 50 percent decline in the number of Arab voters and the disappointing turn-out of Jewish voters--60 percent here against 80 percent in the Tel Aviv municipal contest--were mainly responsible for Labor's loss, experts said.

Only 12 percent of the 43,000 eligible voters in East Jerusalem cast ballots. If 20 percent of the Arab voters had gone to the polls as they did in the 1969 elections, the Labor ticket headed by Mayor Kollek would have won at least one more seat. The failure of many Jewish voters to cast municipal ballots was attributed to apathy.

Kollek's principal opponent, Deputy Mayor Yehoshua Matza, of Likud, was virtually unknown and many voters were so sure of a Kollek victory they didn't bother to vote, according to the analysts. Kollek's setback came at the hands of many voters who cast ballots for opposition parties in the local contest because they were dissatisfied with Labor's performance nationally.

Labor now has 14 seats in the city council. Likud gained an additional seat for a total of seven. Coalition bargaining is expected to be prolonged and difficult. But Kollek is expected finally to put together a working majority. He told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that he hoped the compromises he will have to make with coalition partners will not be too great. "I am not going to agree to everything blindfolded," he said. He indicated that he would try to revive the old wall-to-wall coalition encompassing all parties from Likud to the religious bloc.

But Kollek faces difficulties within his own party where he is regarded with suspicion by the old guard. He has had trouble in the past with Labor Party bosses who insisted on naming their own people as deputy mayors. The party may demand--with Kollek's consent though not his blessing--an additional deputy mayor post despite the fact that Labor's majority dropped from 16 to 14 seats. Such demand could complicate Kollek's bargaining with the opposition parties to form a coalition.

TALKS WAITING FOR DAYAN'S VISIT TO U.S., FAHMY'S VISIT TO USSR

By Edwin Eytan, JTA European Bureau Chief

GENEVA, Jan. 3 (JTA)--The Geneva conference is waiting for the visits of Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Dayan to Washington tomorrow and Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy to Moscow on Saturday to give "new life" to the disengagement talks now taking place here. Conference circles increasingly tend to believe that no major progress can be made at these talks without some sort of intervention by the Soviet Union and the United States. Egypt's military negotiators had talks today over lunch with Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Vinogradov. No details of the talks at the Soviet Mission were disclosed.

The two delegations, Israel and Egypt, met for nearly three hours yesterday only to discover that though they agreed on certain basic "principles" they were in disagreement as to their practical application. The two delegations had agreed during their first two meetings last week on the necessity for an Israeli withdrawal and on the fact that such a move is and should be considered as a first step towards ultimate peace. The two sides have failed to reach agreement, however, on what the depth of Israel's withdrawal should be or what concessions Egypt should make to counterbalance Israel's surrender of occupied territory.

It is understood that the Egyptians still resist the very notion of "reciprocity" and continue to claim that Israel's withdrawal from "Arab land" does not warrant any military or political concessions.

A brief communique issued by the two sides through the United Nations yesterday evening said that "an important stage has been reached in the discussion." Sources close to the conference told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here today that the word "important" should not be interpreted with either optimism or pessimism. "It is just a statement of fact" the source said, adding, however, that it seems unlikely that this stage can be passed without new political directives from the two governments.

At yesterday's meeting, the chief Israeli negotiator, Maj. Gen. Mordechai Gur stressed that the non-observance of the cease-fire agreement by the Egyptians endangers the success of the talks. He is reported to have said that no serious progress can be made in a climate of continuing fighting and shooting.

The head of the Egyptian military delegation, Maj. Gen. Tahal el Maghdoub, is reported to have claimed that the new incidents "on the contrary make the solution to disengagement more urgent" than ever before. Reliable sources claim that the Egyptian pointedly refrained from promising that no such incidents will occur in the future. On the contrary, these sources said, he seemed to imply that unless Israel withdraws more such flare-ups can be expected.

ISRAELI BASKETBALL TEAM TO TOUR U.S.

By Haskell Cohen, JTA Sports Columnist

TEL AVIV, Jan. 3 (JTA)--The Israel Basketball Federation has agreed to accept an invitation from the United States Committee Sports for Israel players to tour the U.S. during the month of Feb. The 10-game schedule being arranged for the Israelis is subject to army permission which is expected to be granted. Plans for the visit to American shores were started last Aug. when the local basketball authorities requested

this writer, basketball chairman of the U.S. Committee Sports for Israel, to prepare a three-week card to fall during the mid-season annual break here in the national basketball league competition.

Thus far, games commencing Feb. 3 are slated for Toronto; Rochester, N.Y.; Madison Square Garden; New Haven, Conn.; Lexington, Ky.; and Boston Garden against collegiate and A.A.U. quintets. In Toronto, N.Y. and Boston the Israelis will play in preliminary games on double header bills featuring the Buffalo Braves, N.Y. Knicks and Boston Celtics, respectively. A seventh game is slated for the Nassau County (N.Y.) Coliseum in Long Island when the Holy Land Five contests Nassau Community College, after the N.Y. Nets play an A.B.A. regularly scheduled game.

Yariv Oren, head of the Ministry of Education here, speaking in behalf of his superior, Yigal Allon, Minister of Education, explained:

"So long as there is a cease-fire in existence we in the sports authority believe a trip to America such as the one being arranged for our national team by the U.S. Committee is of prime importance. There has been an indication on the part of former friends in European countries to exclude our sports teams from international competition on the pretext that security problems involved are too expensive and create heavy tension. We cannot afford to be excluded from the international sport world. Our teams must have competition of an international caliber in order to prepare for future Asian and Olympic Games in which Israel intends to participate."

The Basketball Federation voted on the U.S. Committee invite, at a meeting conducted over the weekend, and by a vote of 5-2 agreed to accept the American offer. Preparation for the proposed hoop invasion is under way with practices slated for the weekend.

Three more games remain to be carded and, likely possible sites include Washington, Philadelphia, Kansas City and Los Angeles. In some of the cities involved the Jewish community centers in concert with the U.S. Committee sub-committee are working out arrangements for the Israeli invasion. In other cities non-Jewish friends are cooperating, and in some cases are playing the Israeli five for mere expenses only.

STIEFF SAYS ATTACK WILL NOT DETER HIM OR ZIONISTS IN BRITAIN

LONDON, Jan. 3 (JTA)--J. Edward Steff, shot Sunday night by an unidentified, hooded assailant, was able for the first time today to give a television interview. Speaking from his hospital bed he said he had no time or opportunity to observe his attacker, and next thing he knew after being shot was that he was in Middlesex Hospital. Asked whether the attack would make any difference to the activities of Zionists in this country he replied firmly: "Not at all, not at all."

Asked whether it would make any difference to his Zionist activities, he replied: "Of course not." It was stated by Steff's doctors that his life was saved by the miraculous fact that the bullet hit his teeth and met resistance. They also said that he may be home within a week or so. Steff is president of Marks and Spencer, and an active and leading Zionist figure in Britain.

RIO DE JANEIRO (JTA)--A street in Sao Paulo will be named for David Ben Gurion at the request of Jacob Zveibil, Deputy to Sao Paulo's Legislative Assembly. Last week one of Sao Paulo's streets was named for Dr. Moises Kaufman, president of the Brazilian Jewish Confederation, who died last November.

