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NIXON'S 'INITIAL DETERMINATION' ON \$2.2 B FOR ISRAEL IS TO GRANT ISRAEL \$1 B OF THIS SUM AS A GIFT

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, April 24 (JTA)--President Nixon has made "an initial determination" on the division of the \$2.2 billion emergency aid fund for Israel and granted \$1 billion of it to Israel as a gift, the White House announced today. The remaining amount in the fund will be used as credits to Israel at "concessional rates of interest" unless the President decides otherwise.

White House deputy press secretary Gerald Warren stressed to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "initial determination" means President Nixon can review the circumstances of Israel's requirements between now and June 30 and could grant more of the money to Israel rather than offer it as credits to the Israeli government.

June 30 is the last day of the U.S. fiscal year and disposition of the emergency fund. The amount was proposed by Congress last Oct. after the Yom Kippur War and adopted in Dec. by Congress which stipulated, however, that the President could provide up to \$1.5 billion to Israel as gifts. Congress also directed that slightly less than \$18 million of the fund will be used to meet the U.S. share of the cost of the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East for one year.

The "concessional rate" of interest on any credits from the fund, Warren said, is three percent. The credits would have a long grace period for repayment but he said he did not know the number of years. The JTA had reported earlier this week that the U.S. Security Council had recommended to the President last week that he allow between \$900 million and \$1 billion to Israel as a gift.

3 ISRAELI SOLDIERS KILLED, 4 INJURED BY MINE IN JORDAN VALLEY; 2 SOLDIERS KILLED, 2 WOUNDED BY SYRIAN ARTILLERY

TEL AVIV, April 24 (JTA)--Three Israeli soldiers were killed and four were injured last night when a military vehicle struck a mine on a dirt road near Nahal Gittit settlement in the Jordan Valley. Army authorities are investigating the incident, the first in the Jordan Valley in almost three years.

Meanwhile, air action and shelling continued today on the Syrian front where two Israeli soldiers were killed and two wounded by Syrian artillery fire Monday. The dead soldiers were identified today as Sgt. Aharon Atzlan, 21, of Tel Aviv and Pvt. Avraham Niseln, 20, of Hadera.

Israel Air Force jets struck at Syrian positions in the Mt. Hermon area for a half hour this morning and staged a 90-minute attack in the same sector during the afternoon. All planes returned safely to their bases. Four Syrian Air Force jets attacked Israeli forces in the southern sector of the Yom Kippur enclave at noon today without causing casualties.

Syrian artillery shelled Israeli positions in the Mt. Hermon area yesterday and Israeli Air Force planes struck back in a two-hour action that began at 8 a.m. yesterday morning. The Israeli planes returned safely to their bases. Two Syrian MIG-21s flew low over Israeli lines in the

Yom Kippur War enclave Monday but did not attack and were chased off by Israeli interceptors.

Likud leader Gen. Ariel Sharon said last night that the Yom Kippur War had proven beyond doubt the essentiality of the Golan Heights to Israel's security. He said that Israel must under no circumstances withdraw from the lines established in the 1967 Six-Day War. Gen. Sharon spoke at Bet Sokolow, the journalists center.

SECURITY FORCES MAKE SEVERAL PREVENTATIVE ARRESTS OF EXTREMISTS

TEL AVIV, April 24 (JTA)--Israeli security forces, placed in a high state of alert for possible terrorist sabotage attempts on Independence Day, have made a number of "preventive arrests" in the administered territories. It was disclosed today. The persons detained were said to be suspected of extremist activities or sympathies.

Jerusalem police are questioning two suspects from East Jerusalem in the case of an Israeli taxi driver whose murdered and booby-trapped body was found in the trunk of his cab in downtown Jerusalem last week. Security sources disclosed the uncovering two weeks ago of a terrorist cell in Tulkarem on the West Bank which is believed to have been responsible for a bomb placed in the Hamishbar department store in Tel Aviv last month. Large quantities of chemicals and explosive devices were found in the suspects' homes.

Another terrorist cell was discovered in Ramallah. Police said it was responsible for the murder of a border policeman last Nov. and the theft of weapons and a transmitter. The stolen articles were found in the possession of the suspects.

NO JEWISH VOTE IN FRANCE, CRIF LEADER SAYS

PARIS, April 24 (JTA)--The Council of Jewish Institutions of France (CRIF) does not intend to "advise" French Jewry how to vote in the forthcoming presidential elections. In an official communiqué, CRIF president Jean Rosenthal said "There is no Jewish vote" in France, adding, like all French citizens, Jews "will determine their vote according to their political convictions."

Rosenthal indicated he had requested interviews with the major presidential candidates for some time next week. These include Gaullists Jacques Chaban-Delmas and Giscard d'Estaing, and Socialist François Mitterrand. During these talks, Rosenthal said, he will ask the candidates to make public statements on certain "subjects particularly close to the Jews," especially in the field of "social justice, individual liberties and the fight against racism."

Rosenthal said he hoped the candidates would publicly condemn the oppression of Soviet Jews and that the next French government would denounce Syria's treatment of Jews as hostages. As for France's pro-Arab policy, Rosenthal called "understandable" its need to protect its economic interests, but, at the same time, said France "must not consider Israel an enemy."

ISRAEL HONORS NATION'S WAR DEAD

JERUSALEM, April 24 (JTA)--All of Israel came to a silent standstill for three minutes at 11 this morning in solemn memory of the nation's war dead. Alerted by the steady wailing of sirens, traffic halted and pedestrians stopped in their tracks

and stood at attention. The hour was selected to coincide with Memorial Day observances at military cemeteries throughout the country. The principal rite was held at the military cemetery on Mt. Herzl overlooking Jerusalem where the El Moleh Rahamim and the Kaddish were recited by the bereaved father of a soldier who fell in the Yom Kippur War.

Memorial Day traditionally precedes Israel's Independence Day and while in past years Yom Haatzmaut festivities commenced immediately after sundown, this year they will not begin until tomorrow morning. The interval was decreed out of respect for the thousands of Israeli families still mourning their dead of the Yom Kippur War.

Memorial Day was heralded by a three-minute siren blast at 8 p.m. last night. Flags were lowered to half-mast and memorial flames were kindled at the Western Wall and other public sites. President Ephraim Katzir lit the memorial candle at the Western Wall in company of the armed forces Chief of Staff Gen. Mordechai Gur who briefly addressed the nation's bereaved families. He said the country needed their continued faith "more than anything else" and their determination "to continue in the same way as your dear ones."

This morning, Katzir visited Bar Kochba Square to inspect a guard of honor made up of veterans of Israel's pre-Statehood underground defense organizations--Hagana, Irgun and Lehi. Later in the day, Katzir visited soldiers on the northern Golan Heights. Memorial ceremonies were held at Abu Tor, Government House Hill, Yemin Moshe and Ramat Rachel to honor members of the Jerusalem Brigade killed in the Six-Day War. High school students placed wreaths at 17 memorial sites throughout the city.

Gur issued a special order of the day on the occasion of Memorial Day. "We lower our flags and heads and salute, imbued with a feeling of pride and pain, at the gravesides of our comrades in arms--Jews, Druze, Circassians, and Bedouins--bereaved families, parents, wives, children. We look to you for spiritual and moral support, as only with these can the army continue to operate so that the human and Zionist dream of those who have fallen will come true," the message said.

DESTROYED BUILDING IN NEW YORK HOUSED OFFICES OF JEWISH GROUP

NEW YORK, April 24 (JTA)--The Associated YM-YWHAs of Greater New York was "fully operational" in temporary quarters today despite the fact that its offices, equipment and files lie amid the ruins of a midtown Manhattan office building partially demolished by a blast early Monday morning in which over 100 people were injured. David Brodsky, executive vice-president, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that his organization was functioning with rented typewriters and other equipment in quarters let to it by the Jewish Community Council of Greater New York at 225 Park Avenue South.

Until Monday, the Associated Y's had occupied the entire 15th floor of the building at 305 East 45th St. ripped apart by an explosion that the authorities attribute to a gas leak. Only one of the Y's 50 employees--Jacob Weiss, of Long Island, the assistant controller--was on the premises at the time of the explosion at 7 a.m. According to Brodsky, he sustained minor injuries and was able to go home.

Brodsky said that until the Fire Department and the City Building Department permits ten-

ants to inspect the wrecked premises, no estimation of the damage could be made. He said his organization was insured for the equipment destroyed but not for the rental of equipment of the rent it must pay for temporary quarters. It had been tenants of the wrecked building only since last summer. The Associated Y's operate 10 community centers and 25 summer camps for children and the aged.

FIFTH MIDEAST TRIP FOR KISSINGER

WASHINGTON, April 24 (JTA)--Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger will leave Sunday on his fifth trip to the Middle East in the past six months. Disengagement talks between Israel and Syria are considered the primary reason for his journey. But he is scheduled to stop in Geneva on his way to the Middle East for a meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

The meeting with Gromyko is generally regarded as a gesture to the Soviet Union's insistence that it have a greater voice in decisions on the Middle East, including the Israeli-Syrian disengagement process. Kissinger is expected to assure the Russians that they are not being excluded from American Middle East diplomacy.

State Department spokesman John King said he could not provide details of Kissinger's itinerary. In addition to visiting Syria and Israel, where he is expected May 2, the Secretary is expected by official U.S. sources to visit Algeria, Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and other countries, possibly Kuwait, before he returns here.

BANK WINDOWS SMASHED IN PROTEST AGAINST OPENING BRANCH IN MOSCOW

NEW YORK, April 24 (JTA)--Windows at 11 branches of First National City Bank were broken early this morning by a group calling itself the Sternist Committee. According to a bank spokesman, the group's action was in opposition to the recent opening of a First National City branch in Moscow. The spokesman said that beginning at 2:20 a.m., and for every 10 minutes after, a different bank was hit. The banks were scattered throughout Brooklyn. At 3:30 a.m. someone called a news agency and said the "Sternist Committee" had just broken the windows at 11 First National branches. The caller said this was in retaliation for First National City opening a Moscow branch in order to increase Soviet-American trade.

BRANDT VIEWS NEW GERMAN-ARAB RELATIONS

BONN, April 24 (JTA)--Chancellor Willy Brandt returned here today after six days of talks with Algeria's President Houari Boumedienne and Egypt's President Anwar Sadat. He said his visit would provide "new impulses" to German-Arab relations, and had been useful for European-Arab cooperation.

Brandt said West Germany was interested in a secure and guaranteed Middle East peace, and pledged that Bonn would augment its NATO and Ostpolitik with a "balanced engagement in the Middle East" involving all states in the region. "Peace in the Middle East must also mean, of course, that Israel is able to live within secure frontiers," Brandt stressed. The Chancellor said West Germany was interested in closer trading links, industrial and technological cooperation with all Mediterranean states.

The West German government announced today that the German-Egyptian commission set up during Brandt's talks in Cairo would meet for the first time next month to plan future cooperation between the two countries, and that a German-Egyptian investment accord would be signed in the near future.

JEWISH GROUPS DISAPPOINTED IN COURT'S DECISION ON DE FUNIS CASE

NEW YORK, April 24 (JTA)--Jewish organizations which involved themselves on both sides of the De Funis case expressed disappointment today over the refusal yesterday of the Supreme Court to rule on the case on grounds it had become moot. Marco De Funis had complained that because of his race, he had been denied admission to Washington University Law School as a result of the law school's policy of easing admission requirements for minority group students.

In a 5-4 unsigned opinion, the Supreme Court ruled the case had become moot because De Funis will graduate from the law school next month. After he was refused admission in 1971, he obtained an order from Justice William O. Douglas which enabled him to enter and stay in the law school while the case was before the court.

The court said, in its ruling yesterday, that "if the admission procedures of the law school remain unchanged, there is no reason to suppose that a subsequent case attacking these procedures will not come with relative speed to this court."

The American Jewish Congress, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Committee, had intervened as friends of the court in support of the student's position that he had been the victim of "reverse discrimination" in being rejected for admission when a number of Black applicants with lower test scores had been admitted. The Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism and the National Council of Jewish Women were the only Jewish organizations to support the university's position.

Howard M. Squadron, chairman of the AJCongress Governing Council, said the AJCongress was "sharply disappointed" by the court's declining rule on the substantive issues in the De Funis complaint. He said the AJCongress supported "affirmative action" to increase opportunities in education and jobs for the disadvantaged but "without imposition of a system of racial preference or other discriminatory practice."

Concerned About Erosion Of Merit System

Squadron said that, in the absence of a Supreme Court ruling, the AJCongress would approach government administrative agencies, including the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, to demand that they insure the guarantee of fair treatment embodied in the Constitution and clearly underscored by previous Supreme Court rulings.

Seymour Graubard, ADL chairman, expressed regret that the court had held it could not rule, in the De Funis case, "on the constitutionality of the quota system." He said the ADL remained deeply concerned about "the erosion of the merit system and the substitution for it of the practice of reverse discrimination."

Elmer Winter, president of the American Jewish Committee, said the court inaction made it "imperative" that groups in the case "search for new ways to resolve the critical issues raised" by the suit. He said the Committee's position was that the primary goal remained "the establishment of affirmative actions and processes that will provide disadvantaged minorities a realistic opportunity in education and employment while avoiding the dangers of reverse discrimination." Winter added that the university "should now take another look at its

proposed rules, and eliminate those features that clearly establish a two-track system on a racial basis."

Albert E. Arent of Washington, D.C., chairman of the Reform Commission, called the De Funis case "ambiguous and mixed" and said there were undoubtedly "better and clearer cases" for the Supreme Court to study to determine "the necessary line between needed affirmative action on the one hand and improper use of fixed quotas or other illegal means on the other." He said the Commission and the NCJW entered the case on the side of the university because it believed that the school had applied "affirmative action," which "free of noxious fixed quotas, needs to be safeguarded."

RABBI YOSEF APPEALS TO WALDHEIM TO AID SYRIAN, SOVIET JEWS

NEW YORK, April 24 (JTA)--Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, Chief Sephardic Rabbi of Israel, expressed "deep concern" today to the United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim at the "ongoing persecution" of the Jews of Syria by the Syrian authorities. Rabbi Yosef stressed that the free emigration of a people to the land of their choice is a basic humanitarian right and cited the right of emigration under the UN Declaration of Human Rights.

He maintained that the Syrian authorities' denial of the right of emigration was a grave violation of the Declaration. He also referred to reports of discrimination, arbitrary arrests and mistreatment of Syrian Jews by the Syrian authorities, and also mentioned increased obstacles lately put in the way of Soviet Jews who wished to emigrate. Waldheim told the Chief Rabbi of his efforts through methods of "quiet diplomacy" on behalf of Syrian Jews and Soviet Jewry--and assured Rabbi Yosef that these efforts would continue.

The Chief Rabbi is expected to voice his feelings on Syrian Jewry again when he meets next week with Vice-President Gerald Ford in Washington. Rabbi Yosef was accompanied to the offices of the Secretary General by Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah and Ambassador Ovadia Sofer. The U.S. visit of Rabbi Yosef is sponsored jointly by the American Sephardi Federation and the Sephardi Leadership Council of the United Jewish Appeal.

MRS. MEIR APPEALS TO ISRAEL'S ENEMIES TO CHOOSE PATHS OF PEACE

JERUSALEM, April 24 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir appealed to Israel's enemies in humanitarian terms today to choose the paths of peace instead of war. Addressing bereaved families at memorial services for the nation's war dead at Kiryat Anavim, Mrs. Meir said, "Even near these graves we call upon all our neighbors from the north, from the east, from the south, and say to them: Your sons too are falling. Perhaps the time really has come for you to listen to our appeal for peace."

But Mrs. Meir added "Israel's enemies must know that in spite of the pain, in spite of the difficulty, every now and again to send our sons to defend the country, the spirit of the people has not broken, for we do not have an alternative."

The Premier warned the Arab countries not to confuse signs of sadness in Israel with weakness. She said she did not believe that the people of the Arab countries "will continue to see it as their goal in life to send murderers to slaughter our children." She was referring to the most recent terrorist outrage, the massacre of 18 persons in Kiryat Shmona on April 11.

U.S. ZIONISTS MARK ISRAEL'S 26TH ANNIVERSARY

TEKOAH SAYS THIS IS THE TIME 'TO GIRD OURSELVES FOR RENEWED ENDEAVORS'

NEW YORK, April 24 (JTA)--American Zionism marked Israel's 26th anniversary at a festive Independence Day celebration at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher (Philharmonic) Hall tonight. The event was sponsored and organized by the American Zionist Federation. Yosef Tekoah, Israel's Ambassador to the UN, told the 3000 people assembled that in each anniversary of Israel's independence there is more meaning, more profundity, more maturity. "Each anniversary brings more joy of freedom, more pride in sovereignty, more elation with national achievement. Yet there is also a sadness that the struggle is not over and with it comes pain and grief. This is the way it has been through the years. This is the way it is now," he said.

"It is not only Israel's rebirth that we celebrate today," Tekoah observed, "but its physical and spiritual vigor and above all the inherent prowess and dedication of its people. These have reached new heights in the Yom Kippur War. Even now, at a time of introspection and stock-taking, there is strength and steadfastness and resolve within the people of Israel, in the man on the street and in the field, in the soldier at the front."

Tekoah noted that "the vitality, the spirit, the greatness which have led us to national rebirth and inspired us in the continuing struggle are there to be drawn upon as in the past. It is a people capable of bringing forth from within itself the best in thought and action and leadership. It is a nation only at the beginning of its road of creativity and accomplishment. This is, therefore, the hour to look ahead, to outline the objectives, to chart the paths, to gird ourselves for renewed endeavors." Israel's principal goals in the forthcoming years are: "Peace with our neighbors, peace with ourselves and unity with world Jewry," Tekoah declared.

No Relaxation In Search For Peace

Touching on Israeli-Arab relations, Tekoah said that there is still no sign that Arab governments have reached the conclusion that war, violence and coercion must be irrevocably abandoned in their relations with Israel; that hostility must be replaced by understanding, belligerency by mutual confidence. "Despite these discouraging circumstances we will not relax our search for agreement and peace" the Ambassador stated, and added: "On this anniversary of Israel's independence we, therefore, call again on the Arab states to join with us in the labor of peace. We are ready for it. All the peoples of the Middle East aspire to it. It is up to the Arab governments to respond to the hopes and needs of all, Jews and Arabs alike for peace in this region."

Replying to those who speak about Israel's isolation, Tekoah said that Israel will never compromise its ideals and beliefs for the sake of being accepted by the majority. "The Jewish people has never betrayed itself and never will; small as it is, surrounded by those who are more numerous as it has always been. This has been our strength in all ages."

He concluded by saying "We know how much our future depends on the brotherhood which binds us, in Israel, to the entire Jewish people. We know how much the fate of the Jewish people depends on our covenant with you, on the redemption of Soviet Jewry, on the liberation of our brothers still lingering under Arab yoke. On this festive day in the life of the Jewish State we pledge to strengthen our unity with you, with all our heart and all our soul and all our might. Together we shall fulfill

the historic destiny of the Jewish people."

Will Remain One And United With Israel

Rabbi Israel Miller, AZF president, stated that the Zionists of the U.S. affirm for all to hear that "we are united with our brothers and sisters in Israel, that we will remain one and united and will behold Israel living in peace and prosperity and security. We meet also on this day to remember the people of Israel memorialized, the brave and selfless soldiers of the Israel Defense Forces who have given their lives so that Israel would live."

Rabbi Miller added that "the issues which we confront are staggering in their enormity, but we will face them together with the people of Israel and we shall emerge triumphant. Our responsibility does not end with words of encouragement, with telling the true story of Israel, with material support, or with personal identification through visits and aliya. We must make certain that our country--the United States--remains steadfast in its diplomatic, military and economic support of Israel, especially at a time when the Soviet Union is encouraging Arab intransigence at the bargaining table and continues to supply huge amounts of sophisticated weaponry to the Arab armies."

The artistic program included stage and screen actor Melvyn Douglas; the Israeli concert pianist David Bar-Ilan; Basso Michael Li-Paz, also from Israel; Cantor Mikhail Alexandrovich, who has recently emigrated from Russia to Israel and is at present on a tour in the U.S.; and the Zamir Choral, under the direction of Matti Lazar. Mrs. Faye Schenk, chairman of the AZF Executive, chaired the event.

More Events Scheduled For Anniversary

Earlier in the day a memorial service was conducted for Israel's war heroes at the Israeli Consulate. Participants included Israeli Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, Tekoah, Consul General David Rivlin, and members of the official Israeli delegation in the city. A day of entertainment and dances will be held tomorrow on the campus of Yeshiva University. Later in the day Rabbi Yosef will participate in a celebration at the Esplanade Hotel.

A luncheon and fashion show by Israeli designers to celebrate the Jewish State's 26th anniversary will be held tomorrow at the New York Hilton Hotel sponsored by the Greater New York Women's Division of the State of Israel Bonds. Forty-three guest models from the world of fashion, stage and screen will participate. Mrs. Nathaniel L. Goldstein is chairman.

Other events are scheduled in New York and other cities across the nation this weekend. One of the largest is scheduled in Los Angeles where an estimated 10,000 marchers will participate in a 15-mile community-wide Am Yisrael Chai-Walk for life to dramatize humanitarian needs in Israel and in the local community and to enrich the bonds of Jewish kinship. The march, according to Edward Sanders, president of the Jewish Federation-Council of Greater Los Angeles, will be coordinated by the youth department of the JF-C and Jewish Centers Association.

BUCHAREST (JTA)--The Yiddish Theater here has embarked on a tour of the country. It will present Sholom Aleichem's "Two Hundred Thousand," in a number of cities and towns where Jews dwell. The play is directed by Jacob Rotboim.