

# NO COMMENT ON ISRAELI ALLIANCE

WASHINGTON (WNS) — United States and Israeli officials have declined to comment on a newspaper report that both nations had jointly drawn up a military plan for action for use during the Jordanian civil war that called on Jerusalem to intervene in the fighting to stop any thrust by Syria against Amman.

The report in the New York Times asserted that if Syria moved against King Hussein and weren't stopped by the Jordanian Army, Israel would first send its air force to stop Damascus forces and then would use its army if the air force effort was unsuccessful.

America's role, according to the Times news story, would have been to protect Israel in case either Egypt or Russia sent its forces against usalem.

A State Department spokesman refused to comment on the Times report, while an Israeli Embassy representative said Jerusalem was "not prepared to deny or confirm" the report.

The Times report said the planning for the joint American-Israeli action took place in a military planning room in the White House set up during the Kennedy Administration. President Nixon was reported to have personally directed the military and diplomatic moves involving the two nations that finally resulted in Syria's withdrawing the tank forces it had sent to fight on the Palestinian terrorists' side against King Hussein.

These moves involved American threats of direct intervention, reports of U.S.

forces being readied for such a step, showing of the flag in the Mediterranean by the Sixth Fleet, the mobilization of Israeli forces along the Jordanian frontier opposite the area invaded by Syria and diplomatic pressure on Russia to force Damascus to withdraw its tanks.

All Western European nations opposed any American or Israeli intervention in the Jordanian fighting, the Times said. But the joint military moves encouraged King Hussein and he finally sent his air force to attack the Syrian tanks.

This attack, together with the Israeli and American military threat were said to be the key elements that caused Syria to withdraw, according to the news story.

The reason both nations planned a joint course of action was the belief that if

King Hussein was overthrown "he would be replaced by a regime closely linked to Russia," the Times reported.

While the veracity of the Times report was not strongly questioned, diplomatic observers were intrigued by its disclosure. It was believed that one reason was to inform Russia that Washington was prepared to act militarily if its interests in the Mideast were threatened.

Another reason advanced was the attempt to depict President Nixon as almost single-handedly stopping Syria. The report plays up Mr. Nixon's personal direction of the various military and diplomatic moves that resulted in Syria's withdrawal.

But left unexplained by the Times report and in speculation by observers was Israel's gain in any possible intervention.

It was noted that many Israeli leaders had questioned whether a Jordanian government run by the Palestinian terrorists wouldn't cool their ardor for the destruction of Israel. In addition, there was no signed agreement committing America to defend Israel during the crisis. In view of past American failure to back up Israel, observers wondered

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Sadat to succeed Mr. Nasser as President. Mr. Anwar was later supported by the full ASU and then officially nominated by Egypt's National Assembly. His successful election to a six-year term in the national referendum held Thursday, Oct. 15 was a foregone conclusion.

Mr. Anwar, in accepting the nomination, said he would follow in Mr. Nasser's footsteps and carry out his policies, including a struggle to recover the occupied lands. But he didn't mention any military action to destroy Israel although he called for the strengthening of Egypt's armed forces.

Israel's pleasure over America's withdrawal from the Big Powers' deputy talks was based on the belief that it denoted a tougher U.S. line toward Moscow. The U.S. cited "serious and continuing violations of the standstill (cease-fire) agreement on the west side of the Suez Canal" as the reason for its action.

Jerusalem has reported continuing violations of the why Israel was ready to thrust its security to Washington.

agreement by Egypt with installation of more missile sites and anti-aircraft missiles, both SAM-2s and SAM-3s types.

The U.S. has called for a missile pull back, but the new Egyptian government has said there wouldn't be any removal of the weapons. Cairo has continued to claim it hasn't introduced any new missiles in the area. The Soviet Union has backed up Egypt's position and issued its own denial of charges that Russians man some missiles in the canal zone.

Egyptian officials said in Cairo that a high-level delegation would go to the United Nations to press for General Assembly condemnation of Israel for Jerusalem's failure to take part in the peace efforts under the auspices of special envoy Gunnar V. Jarring. Mr. Jarring has suspended his efforts and returned to Moscow to take up his duties as Swedish Ambassador to Russia. UN officials assert he is ready to resume his peace efforts at a "moment's notice."

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