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 Editor and Publisher Jack Tell
 Business Manager Ben Tell, 876-1255,
 Vegas News Helene Stadler, 384-3685
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**President's Conference Endorses UJA Campaign;
 Sapir Tells Them of Israel's Acute Needs**



Full support of the UJA's 1973 campaign was urged in an official resolution of endorsement issued by Jacob Stein, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. The meeting followed an address by Israel Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir stating that Israel's need now is greater than ever. (l. to r.) Jacob Stein, chairman Presidents Conference; Foreign Minister Pinhas Sapir; Irving Bernstein executive vice-president UJA; and Yehuda Hellman, executive director Presidents Conference.

economic asset, the Israelis would have carried out an act of withdrawal, the ceasefire would be immeasurably strengthened, and the diplomatic door opened that much wider for a further stage of negotiation leading to a final overall territorial settlement.

Washington's role in all this is that an honest broker, lending its good offices to Israel and Egypt to get a Suez interim negotiation started with itself as go-between. Israel has already given Washington the green light to try its hand. Golda Meir, during her recent American visit, reiterated Israel's acceptance of the underlying concept of the Suez diplomacy, including a readiness to contemplate an Israeli pull-back from the Canal under guaranteed conditions as an act of disengagement and defusion. This is encouraging and offers hope of movement. Washington awaits now the response from Cairo. Upon it rests the hope of a radical military de-escalation, and hence a meaningful step towards peace.

Even Handedness?

BY RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

A few years ago the Israelis, exasperated by Arab viciousness, destroyed some airplanes at the Beirut airport.

Five minutes after the strike, U Thant was being quoted on the airwaves as chiding Israel. The White House and the State Department followed suit. It wasn't nice of the Israelis, said these authorities, to smash Arab hardware.

Not far behind was the French Government, which also rebuked Israel.

When Nasser, the Hitler of the Nile, kindled the fires of war back in 1967, the State Department spokesman, Robert McCloskey told the world that our government would be neutral in word, deed, or thought.

Much more recently, when Arab terrorists became a nuisance, Israel went into Lebanon and cleaned them out. Immediately, the United Nations Security Council went into session and by a 14 to zero vote censured Israel. The U. S. abstained.

Some time before that U Thant, asked about the Russian-Egyptian missiles on the Suez, poo-pooed the event, saying that the poor Egyptians were only deploying "defensive" weapons.

Then came the weekend of the four hijackings, one of them foiled by the brave Israelis.

The Arab murderers blackmailed the world, keeping human beings in a state of torment while they bickered for the freedom of their fellow-hooligans.

How did U Thant respond? With silence. What did Robert McCloskey, still at the State Department, say? Nothing.

Did the White House express immediate revulsion over this savage behavior? It did not.

Did the Security Council spring into action? Are you kidding?

It goes to show that Jewish life is still cheap in the eyes of the nations, and we Jews ought not to take it lying down. We should write our protests to the White House, to the State Department, to the United Nations.

Abba Eban once said that the way for Israel to cope with the Arabs was to label their armed forces irregulars. Then they could do anything they wanted and escape responsibility.

History will not let the Arab nations avoid their responsibility in these dreadful matters. And if there is any even-handedness among the respectable nations, it's time for them to hold Hussein, Sadat and Co. responsible for the crimes which they have inspired.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- An Aharon Katzir - Katchalsky Center of Physical Biology is being established on the Weisman Institute of Science campus as a permanent memorial to the 58-year-old Institute scientist killed in the Lod airport massacre May 30, 1972.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- The Board of directors of the United Church Board for World Ministries, overseas missions arm of the two-million member United Church of Christ, has urged the formation of an ecumenical agency to foster Jewish-Christian dialogue in the United States.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Leaders of "Key 73", the nationwide Christian evangelical campaign to call the "continent to Christ", in a letter to Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, director of the American Jewish Committee's inter-religious affairs department, have assured Jews they repudiate anti-Semitism and any evangelical resort to coercion.

Beirut Raid

Israeli commandos once more demonstrated their imaginative and brilliantly - conceived counterterrorist strategy in the attack of Fatah headquarters in downtown Beirut. The attack resulted in the elimination of three well-known leaders in the frontyard of the Palestinian terrorist organization.

In spite of the flawlessly-executed Israeli raid, the escalation of activity on both sides of the Arab-Israel conflict provided little hope today for those optimists who look for immediate peace in the Middle East. This new humiliation can hardly be expected to diminish the intransigence of the Arab states and will be a rallying call to arms in the Arab world.

In Europe and the U. S., newspapers expressed both admiration for the military maneuver and discouragement at the new level of terroristic warfare which it might precipitate. The New York Times said the attack "rivaled in daring and brilliance -- and in potential import -- Israeli victories in three conventional wars against the Arabs." At the same time the editorial noted pessimistically that the attack would not "put an end to terrorism of the kind involved in the Arab guerrilla raids in Cyprus." In Paris, Le Monde denied the Beirut attack was a reprisal and said, "The Israelis only wanted to show the Palestinians that their leaders are not secure in their Beirut apartments."

Friends of Israel are today experiencing a mixture of pride and concern; pride in Israel's penetration of El Fatah security and concern that peace seems farther away than ever before.

Mideast Month

BY RABBI ISRAEL MILLER

PRES. AMERICAN ZIONIST ORGANIZATION
 President Nixon denoted February as "the month of the Middle East." In quick succession, Jordan's King Hussein, Egypt's "Kissinger" Hafez Ismail, and Israel's Golda Meir met with the President in an exercise of high and quiet diplomacy.

Officially, the talks were described as "useful and positive". There is nothing to indicate from the formal pronouncements, however, that the parties are any closer to an understanding as a result of their separate sessions in the Oval Room. The chances of their being so would have been immensely enhanced had the

Arab and Israeli parties deliberated together, rather than air their differences through the President. Yet the very fact that Israel, Jordan and Egypt have all considered it important to come to Washington to state their cases at the highest level is a measure of the authoritative role America might play in advancing the peace process. Indeed, America has, in a sense, become the sole arbitrator, the single world power to which all the principal Mideast parties are willing to address themselves. This is in itself is an impressive Washington diplomatic success.

For all its influence, Washington has no intention of allowing itself to become committed as an involved party and be physically drawn into the dispute thereby. The Administration is embarked on a more sophisticated and wise course. What it seeks is to create that kind of a political climate and conditions that will bring the parties together somehow to hammer out their differences themselves with a minimum of U. S. involvement. To achieve this, Washington wishes to serve first as a defuser of the military tensions, and then as a bridge for a political accommodation in slow measured steps.

The elementary condition for diplomatic movement is the continued maintenance of the ceasefire between Egypt and Israel. With this in mind, Washington has decided, correctly, to move ahead with its tested policy of maintaining that kind of an arms balance in the Middle East that will make all-out war a very unattractive proposition. This has been the thinking for three-and-a-half years now, and it has helped produce a ceasefire along the Suez Canal -- the major battle front of the region -- that is impressively stable. So long as the ceasefire holds, the door to a political settlement between Egypt and Israel (with Jordan hopefully not far behind) remains open.

Encouraging the parties to walk through that door is the next step. It will not be done by conventional diplomacy for the dispute is too complicated for that, and besides, Egypt refuses emphatically to negotiate directly with Israel. What is left is the diplomatic art of patient bridge-building, the slow cultivation of the peace at which America is becoming increasingly adept.

The Administration view is this: The three-and-a-half year ceasefire has demonstrated that the alternative to peace is not necessarily war. Between the two, there are various degrees of non-fighting and it is the U. S. immediate goal, as a first real step to peace, to consolidate the no-war dimension by making the current ceasefire even more unbreakable. The instrument for this is to get the Suez Canal open and operating under Egyptian control, thereby creating an Egyptian vested interest in preserving the ceasefire indefinitely. Washington wants Israel and Egypt to negotiate such a local Suez arrangement as an interim step to full peace negotiations. This not overly ambitious American diplomatic strategy would require an Israeli pull-back from the Canal, thereby allowing the Egyptians to clear and operate the waterway and bring about a disengagement of the opposing forces. If this happens, Egypt would have back its major

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