

UN MIDEAST REPORT

UNITED NATIONS (WNS) -- Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's report on the Middle East, released May 21, establishes the framework of the UN Security Council's general debate on that area scheduled to begin June 4.

The 64-page document, containing 41 pages of background material and observations, and 23 pages of appended documents, asserts that the Security Council has not considered the Middle East problem as a whole since the adoption of resolution 242 in Nov. 1967, though different as-

pects of the problem have dealt with it. The report said the Council would "therefore, in a sense, be taking up the consideration of the Middle East question where it left off at that time."

Waldheim emphasized that the UN has "played an important role in limiting conflict and in preserving the tenuous truce which has prevailed in the area for most of the time," though it has proved unable to bring about a just and lasting settlement. He expressed hope, however, that the advantage that all parties to the conflict are able to meet together in the same room in the Security Council "may be used for constructive moves toward a settlement."

Waldheim said he, himself, his special representative to the Middle East, Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, the UN Secretariat and the Security Council are at the disposal of the governments concerned to assist in reaching a settlement.

Israel's UN Ambassador Yosef Tekoah described the report as "a melancholy chronicle of the known UN failure in peacemaking" in the Middle East, and claimed that this failure resulted "in particular from Egypt's persistent refusal to enter with Israel into negotiations without preconditions."

The Israeli envoy said "The principal conclusion to be drawn from the report is . . . that without dialogue between the parties to the conflict there can be no progress toward a peaceful settlement." If the UN still has a role to play, "it is to encourage and assist the parties in initiating a process of general negotiations."

Observers here said the report implied the Jarring mission was a failure and that the methods used so far in the quest for a settlement should be re-

examined.

Meanwhile in Jerusalem, Premier Golda Meir said it was beneficial if Waldheim was offering the UN machinery to help the parties into negotiations, but observed that in the past Egypt has rejected American efforts in that direction and that the UN's peace-making record has not been a great success. She said that was the fault of the member states, not the Secretary General, and claimed the impasse was caused primarily by Arab refusals to accept Israel's existence. Mrs. Meir said the Palestinians' future lay in Jordan and suggested they call it Jordan Palestine or Palestine Jordan.

Official circles displayed indifference to the report, and expressed the feeling that Waldheim's confidence in the Security Council as an instrument for a Middle East settlement was misplaced. They noted that past resolutions by that body did nothing to reduce tensions in the area. Observers, however, saw Waldheim's call for a reappraisal of the Council's role in the Middle East as a possible initiative for a new formula to solve the conflict.

NEW YORK -- Operation Joshua, a unique summer program in Israel run by and for college students, begins its fourth year on July 15th, Irving Bernstein, United Jewish Appeal Executive Vice Chairman announced.

JERUSALEM -- Dr. Marian Sanders, an American clinical psychologist living in Israel since July, 1970, has recently been appointed to set up a pilot project leading to the eventual creation of a Center for Learning Problems at The David Yellin Hebrew Teachers College. For information, write Sybil Kaufman, P. O. 3578, Bet-Hakerem, Jerusalem.

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