

**ISRAEL'S OFFERS**  
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weapons she needs to defend herself.

In Washington, Secretary of Defense James Schlesinger said in a television interview that the U.S. will not make any new commitments on military supplies for Israel until President Ford's review of U.S. Mideast policy is finished. However, Schlesinger noted that Israel has received almost all of the U.S. arms it was promised for the 1974-75 fiscal year. Schlesinger also commented that if he were responsible for Israel's strategy he would be "inclined to resist withdrawal" of Israeli forces from the Golan Heights and the West Bank as long as the Arab nations refused to concede Israel's right to exist. "On the other hand," Schlesinger said, "I think that it is necessary to recognize that some adjustments must be made and what precisely those adjustments must be depends on the judgement of the Israelis as well as the others."

**CABLE FROM ISRAELI PRES. KATZIR**

NEW YORK -- In a cable to Mr. Faye Schenk, President of the American Zionist Federation, the President of the State of Israel, Prof. Efraim Katzir sent the following message to Zionists in the United States:

"In this crucial period of the suspended Kissinger Mission, I am heartened by memories of recent meetings with Zionists in America and feel certain that you, no less than we in Israel, will celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut with firm faith in our peoples ability to magnificently build and defend its physical and spiritual center, and forge its way to mutually beneficial neighborly relations."

On April 15 the American Zionist Federation will mark Israel's Independence Day with a festive assembly at Hunter College at which Mr. Yosef Tekoah, Israel's Ambassador to the U.N., will deliver the main address. Also scheduled to participate are a number of renowned Israeli and American artists. It is estimated that some 3,000 people will attend the event.

**JEWISH "CARUSO"**

NEW YORK (WUP) -- A Jewish 'Caruso' is emerging on the American scene who will undoubtedly not be overlooked by the Metropolitan Opera Company.

Misha Raitzin, the young Russian-Israeli tenor, created a sensation when he appeared as the featured singer at the 43rd annual Third Seder of the Greater New York Histadrut Council held at the

Waldorf-Astoria.

Greeted with thunderous applause, Raitzin was compelled to sing one song after another until late into the night to the delight of a spellbound Histadrut audience which was captivated by his Hebrew, Yiddish and English renditions.

The musical program also included poetical readings by the noted star of stage and screen Joseph Wiseman and by Cantor David Tilman.



**YAMIT, ISRAEL'S NEWEST TOWN ON THE SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN COAST, WILL BE COMPLETED IN AUGUST. PROFESSIONALS, LIKE AN AMERICAN BORN CANTOR, A PSYCHOLOGIST AND A COMPUTER EXPERT ARE ACTUALLY LAYING BRICKS AND MIXING CEMENT AND TAR. ISRAEL IS OFFERING ATTRACTIVE LOANS FOR YAMIT SETTLERS. FOR INFORMATION CALL (212) PL 2-0658 OR 0600.**

**MCGOVERN SAYS ANOTHER U.S. EFFORT**

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Sen. George McGovern (D, SD) arrived here on the last stop of his eight-nation tour of the Middle East and said he believes there is room for another American effort to seek an Israeli-Egyptian bilateral agreement before the Geneva conference reconvenes.

McGovern, who is chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's subcommittee on the Middle East, also said "there is room for a number of quite different approaches" on the Palestinian question.

The South Dakota Democrat had a 90 minute meeting with Palestinian Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat in Beirut and Arafat has told newsmen that McGovern left him with "the clear impression that the Ford Administration favors the creation of a Palestinian state." McGovern said he was not committed to Arafat or "to anyone personally on the Palestinian question." His Washington office issued a denial of news reports from Beirut that McGovern had supported the PLO's view.

McGovern told a press conference here that he supports Secre-

tary of State Henry A. Kissinger's efforts and believes the realities of the Middle East require the recognition of "the fact of a permanent, independent Jewish state," the increasing power of independent Arab states, and that "the presence of several million Palestinians with thousands of years of history behind them," needed to have "an independent national homeland of their own."

**JORDAN BUDDY BUDDY WITH RUSSIA, SYRIA**

UNITED NATIONS (WUP) -- In what appears as a new strategy King Hussein of Jordan is showing a deep interest in establishing a strong friendship with the Soviet Union and at the same time reinforcing his link with Syria, Moscow's close Mideast client.

The USSR Mission to the UN made it a special point to circulate a document here hailing the recent visit to Amman of Soviet parliamentarians at the invitation of Hussein's National Assembly.

The document stated that "the parliamentarians of the USSR and Jordan have reaffirmed that the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East "is only possible on the basis of the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, including the Arab part of Jerusalem, and ensuring the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine with their national aspirations."

It concluded that "the Sides expressed their reciprocal desire to develop Soviet-Jordanian relations and hope that fresh efforts will be undertaken for the expansion and consolidation of these

relations." (Take note Washington!) In line with this new strategy, King Hussein also paid a visit to his former enemy, President Assad of Syria, with the view to re-enforcing his link with radical Syria.

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