

**MAYORS' CONFAB IN JERUSALEM**



JERUSALEM MAYOR TEDDY KOLLEK (CENTER, IN OPEN-NECKED SHIRT) PAUSES DURING A TOUR OF THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM WITH PARTICIPANTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF MAYORS FOR A GROUP PORTRAIT. AMONG THOSE ATTENDING UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS AND THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS, WERE (LEFT TO RIGHT): S. STEINBERG OF RIO DE JANEIRO; MAYOR HANS ORT OF HERZONENAUACH, WEST GERMANY; MAYOR JOHN LYNCH OF NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.; MAYOR LEWIS MURPHY OF TUCSON, ARIZ.; MAYOR JULIO ALBERTO DE MORAES COUTINHO OF RIO; MAYOR JUERGEN WALCHSHOEFER OF DINKELSBUEHL, WEST GERMANY; MAYOR KOLLEK; MAYOR MAURICE FERRE OF MIAMI, FLA.; MAYOR MARION BARRY OF WASHINGTON, D.C.; MAYOR EDWIN MELVIN OF GREENSBORO, N.C.; MAYOR HELEN BOOSALIS OF LINCOLN, NEB., THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS; TOM COCHRAN, DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS; HON. DOUGLAS SUTHERLAND, LORD MAYOR OF SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA; MAYOR GEORGE LATTIMER OF ST. PAUL, MINN.; AND MAYOR PHILIP ISENBERG OF SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

**HABIB TRIES HIS BEST TO DIFFUSE CRISIS**

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- As U.S. special envoy Philip Habib flew to Riyadh in an attempt to enlist Saudi Arabia's support to help avert a military confrontation in Lebanon between Syria and Israel, Premier Menachem Begin received unanimous approval from the Cabinet to give Habib additional time to seek a peaceful solution to the missile crisis.

However, how long that additional time amounted to was not specified. Begin declared, "We don't want war." He added, "We shall know much more, perhaps we shall know everything" on Tuesday. Habib is scheduled back here in the near future.

Habib's purpose to hopefully induce the Saudis to bring their powerful influence to bear on President Hafez Assad of Syria for a peaceful solution. But before he left for Riyadh, the Saudi Government published a strong statement of support for the Syrians. At first sight, this seemed to indicate Habib had failed again. The statement condemned Israel's "expansionist intentions" as revealed by its behavior in Lebanon.

But observers here maintain that the envoy may have spurred the Saudis to

some action. A Saudi Minister was reported to be enroute to Damascus with a personal letter to Assad from Crown Prince Fahd. According to the same report, the Saudi and Syrian Foreign Ministers spoke earlier by telephone. While reports from official and semi-official sources in Damascus did not deviate from Assad's hard line, well placed Israeli sources have cautioned against taking Syrian statements at face value. They observed that Damascus speaks in two languages, "one for local consumption and the other for Habib and the negotiating process."

Saudi Arabia has been paying some \$50 million a month to cover the costs of the Syrian peace-keeping force sent to Lebanon in 1976 by the Arab league. That money, since cut off, could be a powerful incentive to Assad and his government to accede to Saudi demands. If the Saudis indeed want the present crisis to end without an outbreak of hostilities in the region, they are expected to exert their leverage. On the other hand, observers say that Assad's hard line stand has already paid off as Arab world support has grown for Syria. This represents a radical

change in as much as Syria has been the pariah of the Arab world in recent months because it was one of the very few Moslem countries to support the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan

**REACH AGREEMENT WITH STRIKING BOND WORKERS**

NEW YORK (WNS) -- A spokesman for the Union striking Israel Bond Headquarters here and at 70 regional offices throughout the United States reported that a tentative agreement had been reached on a new contract. The spokesman said that

ratification meetings would be held here and at regional offices and that he could not disclose details of the tentative new contract pending the ratification vote.

The prior contract expired and some 500 professional and

clerical employees struck the next morning. They are members of Community and Social Employees Union Local 107, District 1707 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

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