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STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL

television

Ladies and Gentlemen:

27/6/67

My country has just passed through a fateful struggle for its very existence.

Even ^y in this hour ~~of~~ ^{of} our military triumph, I should like to make the following statement:

So long as our neighbours will persist in their policy of belligerence and will make plans for our destruction, we will not relinquish the areas that are now under our control and that we deem necessary for our security and self-defence. If, on the other hand, the Arab States will agree to discuss peace with us and will forego their war against us - there is no problem ^{to discuss} that we will not be able to solve in direct negotiations, for the benefit of all parties concerned.

The prospects of direct negotiations are better today, I would say, than they have been at any time in the last 20 years, ~~because~~ the Arab States should be closer than ever to recognizing the need to face realities in the Middle East. They have tried war three times. The time has come for them to try out peace. During the last two decades it has become abundantly clear that the so-called armistice regime that existed from 1949 to 1967 is not conducive to peace and is not, therefore, in the best interests of the peoples of the region - Israelis or Arabs. Past experience

STATEMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

Ladies and Gentlemen:

My country has just passed through a fearful tragedy

for its very existence.

After this hour essentially my business, I should

like to make the following statement:

As long as our independence will remain in their hands

of dependence and will not be able to get freedom, we will

continue to be a part of the world under the control and

their authority for our country and independence. It is on the other

hand, the only thing which will give us freedom is to get

foreign capital and assist us - there is no question that we will not

be able to solve in independent conditions, for the benefit of all

Indians concerned.

The proposals of the Government are before you,

I would say, frankly I have seen many things in the past years,

through the past years should be shown that ever so

the good to have realized in the future. They have tried to

take time. The time has come for them to try something, but

the first two decades to be become gradually clear that the

called restriction which was introduced from 1937 to 1947

conductive to create the job, therefore, in the past

of the people of the region - I would like to say that

has also shown that third-party mediation can be of little help. If the Arabs are ready for peace, there is no reason why they should not agree to talk with us about it. If they don't want peace, third-party mediation would only serve as a screen behind which the Arab States could pursue their policy of non-recognition of Israel and belligerency toward it. The establishment of peace between Israel and her Arab neighbours ^{will,} ~~once~~ and for all, put an end to the use of the ~~will~~ refugees as pawns in the political ^{game} ~~game~~ and is bound to create the conditions for the solution of many problems - including, of course, the refugee problem. I am certain that the international community, together with the countries of our region, including Israel, would then succeed in bringing about a ~~just~~ and truly humane settlement of the refugee question.

^{That} ~~That~~ Jews and Arabs are capable of living together in harmony and cooperation was amply demonstrated in the recent crisis when Israel's Arab inhabitants stood by Israel, as loyal citizens, both before and during the severe military test through which we passed. Many of them volunteered their services in various capacities and played their part in the national effort. Also, a number of Druze units actively and courageously participated in the fighting.

The same ^{will,} ~~will~~, for neighbourly relations was the mainspring of the exemplary attitude of our officers and soldiers towards the

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should not agree to talk with us about it. If they don't want peace,

third-party mediation would only serve as a screen behind which the

Arab States could pursue their policy of non-recognition of Israel

and bring down the curtain on the fulfillment of peace between

Israel and her Arab neighbors and for all, and we are to the

of the Arab States, as given in the official ~~and~~ in regard

to make the decision for the solution of any problem - including

of course, the peace problem. I am certain that the international

community, together with the countries of our region, including

Israel, would then proceed to discuss about what the truly lasting

settlement of the region question.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Averbach are invited to living together in

harmony and cooperation was being demonstrated in the present

article when Israel's Arab inhabitants stood by Israel, as they

often do, and during the severe military tests through

which we passed. Many of the distinguished Arab leaders in various

countries and placed their bets in the national effort. Also,

a number of those units actively and courageously participated in

the fighting.

The Arab ~~will~~ for unshakable relations was the winning

of the obligatory attitude of our citizens and soldiers towards the

prisoners-of-war who fell into their hands. Not only were all the regulations of the Geneva Convention fully observed, but there are many instances in which our men went out of their way to lighten the lot of these prisoners - their former enemies. On the occasion of my visit to our wounded at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem, I saw also wounded soldiers from the ranks of the Arab armies who had fallen into our hands. These wounded of the enemy armies received the same excellent medical treatment that is accorded our own wounded soldiers.

I am happy to note that life in the areas captured by the Israel Defence Forces is returning to normal. Many regular peacetime services and facilities, interrupted by the war, are functioning once again, and steps are being taken to restore the remaining services, as well, to normal order. Most of the inhabitants in these areas are cooperating in this effort, and we all hope that the wounds of the past will quickly be healed.

Every effort was made, in the course of the fighting, to protect and preserve the places sacred to the various faiths - at times even at the cost of military expediency. Whoever visits the areas captured by our forces can see for himself that nearly all of the places of worship have remained untouched. We have made arrangements to assure free access to the holy places to all who wish to worship there - members of all faiths, in those areas and throughout Israel.

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 throughout Israel.

The future of the Middle East now hinges on what the Governments of the region are prepared to do to fashion that future in the best interests of ~~these~~^{their} peoples. ~~There are today indications~~

There are today indications that at least part of the Arab leadership is aware of the futility of attempting to return to the untenable conditions that prevailed in this region for so many years. They ~~like~~^{like} we ~~would~~^{would} probably ~~like~~^{prefer} to see a "New Deal" for the peoples of the Middle East. To what extent they will be prepared to translate this awareness into concrete terms will, in large measure, depend on the willingness of other nations the world over to put the full weight of their influence behind direct negotiations between the parties. Such negotiations are the only hope of achieving a genuine and enduring peace in the Middle East.

Our hand is extended ^e in peace to all who are ready for peace.

The focus of the Middle East now hinges on what the Government of the region are prepared to do in fashion that future in the past interests of these people. There are today indications that there are today indications that at least part of the Arab leadership in years of the history of attempting to return to the unbridgeable conditions that prevailed in this region for so many years. They like to see a new basis for the people of the Middle East to what extent they will be prepared to translate this agreement into concrete terms will, in large measure, depend on the willingness of other nations the world over to put the full weight of their influence behind direct negotiations between the parties. Such negotiations are the only hope of achieving a genuine and enduring peace in the Middle East.

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