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On the night of October 2y at the invitation of the United Nations Correspondent s י Ass ociati<m7"'hr, Sharett was the guest on a television and radio program called ”United cr־־WE7Tr'" This program, is seen and heSQ'''through•• 0wh“a“ma40r portion,; of the UaitsrdrStates add is one of the most important . public ioriaaa for visiting diplomats. The moderator Of the forum 13 John MaeVane, Bress Officer for the African Delegation to the United Nations and himself a former National Broadcasting Company coMiisat at or • Those who partiei- pated in the question and answer period were Laven teshishiatt of the Arab Hews Agency, William Frye of the Christian Science׳Monitor, EaphaM de Sabatino of the INS, Max Rarrelaon of AP, a representative of the Amsterdam Courant, Max Baer of the Neue Zurich9r Zeiiung, Walter Sullivan of the New York Times, John Rogers of the New York Herald Tribune, Walter O’Hearn of the Montreal Star, Samel Shneideraan Of H&dor, and one eg? two others.

The first question a© presented % Mr. M&cVane dealt with Israel’s reaction to the present Iranian crisis. This was followed by questions on the oil

situ״־ ation in general ss well as the potential of the Haifa refineries. Mr. Sharett used a question put by Prye of the Christian Science Monitor as to whether it was conceivable that the State Department would consider the presence of large stocks of oil in the Arab countries as well as their size and population as adequate reason to favor the Arabs at the expense of Israel to deal in sane detail with Israel’s present position as a force in the Middle East as well as Israel’s capabilities despite its size and smaller population.

further questions deal%-Y with the PUG negotiations in Paris, the Arab refugees and the questions Which Israel may raise at the forthcoming General AafsjBHblfj. ־ .IpqnfeVY 4J.' ״: ■' ' י■" . Y ■: ■■11־ v־i-;;־

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It was on the question of the refugees that/Sharebi made what must be considered his most important announcement of the evening. Despit® the brevity of his answer necessitated by the medium he was using, Mr. Sharett pointed out that Israel was prepared to consider the question of the Arab refugees-־tut of the context of a general peade settlement but that the question then must not be considered as an issue ■■■־between■. Israel and the Arab States but rather as an issue for the United Nations to undertake wherein .Israel was prepared to accept certain undertakings. Mr. Sharett emphasised that such an undertaking or finan- dal cotmaitaent in payment for abandoned Arab lands met of necessity take into < consideration Israel’s present economic position and would undoubtedly entail financing from the outside. Ib?. Sharett added that the United Nations in any event was paying out large sums cf money each year for the support of the ■ refugees.:aid that it .wculd. be necessary to capitalise these funds so that one can see within the near future an end to this problem. Mr. Sharett said that it must not be conceived■ that any payment made by Israel should be the■ sum total

of all money available fssr this problem but that also other countries should be asked to ©e#jdbufce to ifits fund\* י\* -

As a result of this statement interest was shown by the New Xork limes \* correspondent in what was undoubtedly a new statement of policy on the rej^geei question, end on his request, Hr. Sharett met with Walter Sullivan of the Hew Xo^k Timee for an interview today., ife\*. Sharett pointed oat that under no circumstances was that to be consumed, an interview wherein Mr. Sullivan would quote the foreign Minister Sireet^r or that he would in as§y way intimte that Hr« Jarett was directlyninvolved in these stateaertbs or in any other than the stataasn&jmade by Hr. ^harett the night before oaths brb&iitsast, Nr, Sullissaia was to use this primarily as fh. background material in discus sing or elaborating on the broadcast of the evening befora,

Hr, Sharett eaco again repeated at greater length Israel’s preparedness to enter into a cargnltxaenfe with the proper Baited Nations authorities and the agencies of the United Nations in order to reach a fair criterion and a figure of compensation acceptable to Israel\* He again stated that Israel would not . consider the question of Arab refugees outside the contest of a general peace | ,Settlement unless it were a matter taken op by the United Nations and not as an issue between the Arab States and Israel\* He. %arett said that bhsn agreement . in principle ■is reached'; on the. payment of compensation and details -worked.:out: for such payment,■ this must bdj so far as Israel is son6em8d, th® end afany aad.all. demands made upon Israel with regard to the Arab refugees\* He also emphasized that under no circumstances was there to be any consideration of repatriation.

In slab oration of this particular point, Hr. Sharett gave a number of examples, particularly the migrants in India and Pakistan, the Sudeten Germans and others where there has never been any repatriation at least up tc this moment and where to his knowledge there has been no declaration cm the part of any group involved tp pay compensation. Hr. Sharett said th&t cnee arrangements for compensation had. been hade with the proper United Nations authority, Israel was not concerned as to how the mosey would be disbursed by the United Nations but that generally speaking it would seem advisable for the major portion of this sum to be used in resettlement projects rather than individual payments. !he Foreign Minister pointed out that there say be a number of people who prefer to have individual payments, but that on the whole such disbursements must be made on the basis of the greatest good fos\*the greatest number. Thereafter, Israel cajanot bo called upon to make any individual payments of' any'kind' for any claims by any afathe j ״-refugees.

Hr. Sullivan also questioned the Foreign MiMstor on the PCC meetings. Hr. Sharett replied that Israel Could not at this moment make any statement regarding the PCC five-point plan until the Arab States had indicated their intention of accepting the basic principle of the PCC, i.e\* no further resort to hostilities.

Up to this moment, the Foreign Minister said, Israel has declared its willingness to accept such; a ccrmitsaent and has in fact offered a" nan\*־%grcssion pact with the Arab States, but the Arab States have made no reply of their own\*

In reply to Mr. Sulliv^i’s question on the international authority for the develojffienfe of the Jordan River, the Forelga Minister said that if by inter\*“ national it is meant Jordan, Israel, and Syria, than certainly Israel is prepared - to agree to such' an. arrangement in the same way that the Benubian camai33ian

involves ©aSy these States bordering on the Danube, and various Q&mdjasS.ms tm the Congo Elver and the Zambesi Biver take la ml? these States which have a direct interest in the %ver itself \* Mm p.: Sullivan ackfid whether the Poreiga Minister w0־ald agree to a neutral chairman in the saa® way׳ as is belt® dene IsMfeslO&'s, HSf, Sharett x-eplled that if suefe a oh&i3^B ooald be found wh© wouM be agreeable to both sides, Israel conceivably aeeept such an

arrangement but that he felt that it would fee best for the parties concerned to sit dam themselves together and in that way־ he was confident: they would find the proper arrangement a? thisuimportant question•

Mr. \*\*uIHvsa in summing up said that he would use the-tens \*trtlX-lnfarmed. Israel sources\*’ or 1\*highest Israel sources״ in the same way that Dana Schmidt SSd in his story ton days ago frem Paris.

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