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relay journal american attention frank conniff stop dateline telaviv
 monday stop by william randolph hearst jr stop one of most surprising aspects of this visit of mine to israel has been size of Jewish state.

Today, for instance, we drove from New City of Jerusalem to Telaviv for a chat with the venerable ben gursion, one of founding fathers of this new, enterprising young nation for an hour in his study. We then drove back to Jerusalem to talk with, or rather listen to, prime minister Mosche Sharett for another hour. All this before lunch. Granted we had to get up early, but such is the width of Israel from its western boundary in the hills of Judea to Telaviv on the sea.

After lunch we motored south from Jerusalem to a frontier post on the edge of the so-called Gaza strip, the narrow slice of territory along the Mediterranean which is occupied by Egyptian troops and holds 200,000 Palestinian refugees. This is the tense rea ^{where} recent frontier incidents have created a danger of war between Egypt and Israel.

Evening found us driving back along the coast to Telaviv, where we arrived around nine o'clock. Thus, in one day of leisurely driving, interrupted by long talks with the Jewish leaders and officials like Major General EEE LLL MMM Burns, of Canada, chief of the United Nations Truce Commission, and a visit to the troubled border. We have covered almost half the country.

In size, Israel is one of smallest states in Near East. In its spirit, its faith in future, its vitality and rate of progress at which its developing itself as nation, its outmatched by no country in world.

Its inspiring sight to see at first hand whats happened here since birth this nation seven years ago. This especially so if you first visit some arab states, as I did.

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First impression of passing from Middle Eastern past to modernity of western civilization not only held good but grew hourly greater as I travelled across this tiny state today.

Contrast between apparent apathy backward arab countries like egypt and jordan and energy, and jordan and energy this melting pot world jewry is truly amazing stop eye could not help but feel eye great nation is in the making here stop this belief was strengthened by my talk with ben gurion stop sixtyeight year old inspirational leader of israel who was formerly head government returned not long ago literally from plough to assume direction of national defense stop it was stimulating experience to sit with this man who has played and is continuing play such historic role in birth and development of jewish nation stop in temperment in intellectual brilliance, in dynamic forcefulness and even in physical stature he reminded me somewhat of sir winston churchill stop both great patriots stop both imbued with fighting spirits stop For other reasons Ben Gurion made me think of the late arthur Brisbane quote pop's unquote great page one columnist stop his workshop reminded me of brisbanes stop truly eye house of learning stop a veritable library with books lining every wall from floor to ceilings in three rooms stop. stop more first add Almost as if reading my mind, ben gurion mentioned brisbane. He recalled reading his column regularly, remembering that it had appeared in new york american now the journal american stop he also recalled my father and showed an interest in what was happening to hearst newspapers. eye promised send him some.

Ben gurion told me tragic tale young girl who came israel from Australia. Story and manner in which it was related by elderly soldier statesman seemed me to epitomize spirit israel today.

Explaining type of attack to which Jewish state is being subjected on its borders by neighboring arab nations which refuse reconcile themselves to permanent existence of israel ben gurion said:

quote two weeks ago I visited place near Gaza where Egyptians had shelled one of our frontier settlements. they killed worker and blew legs off young girl and boy stop girl who was only about twentyone had come from australia stop she came from well to do family stop there was no material need for her to come here stop she was not being persecuted in australia stop she came because of an ideal stop because she too wanted to help build national home for her people stop she did not stay in telaviv where she could have gone to movies and lived relative comfort stop she went to dangerous and difficult area unquote leaving forward in his chair with expression genuine grief clouding his intelligent face and emotion stirring his voice ben-gurion exclaimed quote her legs were cut off stop for me that was terrible stop we cannot afford to lose that type people stop six million jews were destroyed by hitler stop maybe to nasser parenthesis egyptian premier gamal abdul nasser parenthesis few human lives mean nothing stop but everyone of our pioneers is precious to us unquote anger in eyes this old man who is witnessing dream come true and who is determined it shall not wrecked in nightmare of any new arab attempt to drive jews into sea convinced me israel remains more ready than ever to fight for survival stop speaking with great pride and gratification of what has been accomplished to date in building up national home ben gurion said that in his opinion main achievement has been turning jewish people back to soil stop in reference to fact jews throughout world had become mostly merchants and traders he added quote for two thousand years we were prevented from living on soil stop first wave pioneers who came palestine in late eighties found it was too much for them stop second wave of which eye was one came some forty years ago and we finally succeeded stop we did so because our leaders at time said we must go back on land stop more

Lavie

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relay third and hearst after pleasant chat telaviv with
 bengurion my x meeting jerusalem x with prime minister sharett was something
 surprise stop eye had been led believe bebgurion was friebrand and sharett more
 moderate member present government stop in fact colonel nasser shought give me
 that impression during my talk with him cario last week stop nasser said he felt
 bengurion inclined pursue policy of force in respect neighboring arab states
 whereas shareet apparently favored policy with would lead arabs thing there was
 no danger from israel stop contrast however with mild mannered soft spoken
 attitude which bengurion had shown in hid converstaion with me eye found
 sharett peppery jumpy and almost irritable stop he was suffering from cold and
 that my been reason stop he was eye though quite justifiably annoyed with
 refusal egypt to agree to high level talks to seek solution frontier problem
 stop with regard nassers proposal for establishment demilitarized zone gaza
 area sharett quote we did not reject it stop this does not obligate us to its
 acceptance stop we think it not only would not solve problem but would create
 worse problem stop it would leave field free for bands to infiltrate stop
 it would create vacuum and make demilitarized zone happy hunting ground for arabs
 stop we have proposed establishment mined zone which would patrolled both sides
 unquote sharett said if egypt really wanted peace with israel nasser would
 accept high level meeting quate if representatives both governments sit down
 conference table with uninations representative we could thrash this thing out
 but actions eyuptian government indicate they dont want peace with us unquote
 what sharett had say about frontier situation seemed make good sense but eye
 thought he was little unreaslistic about reasons he gave as to advantages
 unistates would drive from co clusion mutual defense treaty with israel stop
 eye thing american people would understand it if they were told israel wanted us
 X to help protect them militarily against danger another arab attack but eye dont
 believe they will accept argument that united states would received ~~xxx~~ advantaes
 from mutual defense pact with this little nation endit item dodd please advise
~~this~~ ~~in~~ time receipt each ~~xxx~~ take item conniff bill would like used today but
 says you can break into two articles if wish stop may have another tomorrow
 bestest kingsmith astop please advise when how using since local papers asking
 for it bestest kingshit.

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 THE BEN-GURION ARCHIVES

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Relay attention frank connif stop dateline telaviv stop by william
randolph hearst jnr stop at conclusion this brief visit to near east
i am inclined think that israel if it continues receive financial
aid from world jewry and continue itself in peace for next ten or
twenty years will eventually emerge as leading nation in this area
para the more i have seen of vitality and progressive spirit of
people this tiny jewish state in comparison with backwardness arabs
in some neighboring nations the more convinced i have become israel
will lead way in development middle east para for example one of
distressing sights be seen in jordan especially around jerusalem is
arid land stop mile after mile barren surface that looks though some
giant hand had plucked away trees and vegetation and scattered
topsoil exposing white dry rocks para this must be typical of land
in this area i thought stop yet just over ridge in israel i found
land dotted with trees and green cultivated plots para as i drove
through country areas covered with brown soil were pointed out me
which i was told had been just as bare as land i had seen in jordan
para today thanks reforestation irrigation intelligent planning and
above all hard work land israel is beginning bloom para people that
can perform virtual mircale with mother earth will likely become
dominant influence this area in future especially when they include
as they already do idealistic pioneers from many different parts
world including asiatics para its true of course israel has received
during past seven years much greater financial aid from abroad than any
neighboring arab states stop world jewry poured vast sums money into
this little state to keep it going especially in face arab economic
blockade agzinst it stop american aid private and governmental
estimated have totalled todate around \$ nine hundred million dollars
para in contrast unitstates given only \$ 40,000,000 to new military
regime egypt which under well intentioned leadership primeminister
gamal abdul nasser striving bring that poverty stricken country
20,000,000 people out its pramitive past with far reaching
modernization program para nevertheless one cannot escape conclusion
if same money been given egypt results would not have been impressive
as they are here in israel para reason being that since 1948 when
jewish national home was established million energetic intelligent
jewish immigrants imbued with will to work and fervor fanatics have

people exemplified by frontier village nahal oz stop i visited this tiny settlement on edge gaza strip tinder box area border friction between israel and egypt para it was from this region that israeli troops recently conducted raid against egyptian military position that defense minister bengurion frankly admitted me was intended as reprisal for provocative attacks by arabs against israel stop thirtytwo egyptian soldiers killed in raid nahal oz inhabited by a few score youths ranging age from nineteen to twentytwo stop they include twentyseven young women stop this settlement established three years ago as outpost protect border region stop young men and women drafted for military service were asked volunteer for this dan gerous post para at end their military service which lasted 2 1/2 years for men and two years women they had choice remaining guard frontier and develop settlement or return their homes in safer areas stop all yoths decided remain stop they members organization called fighting pioneer youth para approaching villagee by car we came to country road on which there was sign marked quote frontier danger unquote we drove on through ploughed fields to barbed wire road block and then turned into village stop it looked like hollywood setting for wild west frontier town stop there were half dozen wooden shacks sheltered stockyard with several horses and few cows para sun was setting as we arrived and cool breeze blew in from sea stop caught glimpse youthful figures huddled around door one the shacks stop youth in khaki shorts and dangling shirt was playing harmonica stop in distance i noticed another figure emrging from fields with something on shoulder stop through field glasses i saw that thing on his shoulder was bazooka stop through my mind flashed line of grey's elegy about farmer howeard plodding his weary way but couldnt for life of me remember any reference to a bazooka stop scanning shacks i caught sight of another sun tanned youngster in bathing trunks stop beneath his arm was slung rifle while through half opened door i could see machine gun leaning across aye bed para these youths were vanguard of aye nation in making stop twentyone year old director of camp comma aye lean comma bronzed younster name odded levin told me two weeks ago egyotian artillery post which could be seen on hill not repeat not far away had shelled the village but not one was hurt not repeat not even two year old tot eye saw scampering around comma child of one of nine married couples in settlement para quote until recently unquote levin said quote we had frequent infiltrati by arab refugees stop last year they cost us eight percent of our crops stop they would come at night and steal crops stop we shot three or four of them byt they still came until our soldiers raided the egyptian military post stop since then none have bothered us stop eye guess they are afraid to come now unquote para visit to that frontier settlement was one of most fascinating expariences my trip to israel para it

was in striking contrast with normalcy of telaviv and especially
comfort of new quote dan hotel unquote in which this dispatch
is being written para speaking of hotels comma eye started this
journey in neareast by attending inauguration new hilton hotel
in istambul and ended it today with attendacne at opening telaviv
newest quote accadia unquote stop though smaller it compares
favorably with conrad hiltons latest tourist temple stop in
fact was patterned after his very successful one in caribbean
stop from what mr hilton told me if accadia enjoys same success
it will do alright stop eye recommend you all visit this most
interesting part of world stop now from my sixth floor room
in telavivs dan hotel comma everlooking this brilliant western
corner of mediterranean comma we off for athens greece endit item
urgent relay brogan colon please instruct bernstëin cohen by
cable remit fourhundred israel pounds immediately to jack lavie
for settlement hotel bills mr hearst and self thanks regards
kingsmith

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