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Israel Expects Skyhawks, But State, Defense Say Issue is Under Review

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18, (JTA) -- Department of Defense officials said today, in comment on reports that Israel had been assured two squadrons of the Skyhawk jet attack bombers would be delivered to Israel this Autumn, that no decision had been made on the shipment of these planes.

State Department officials said that no shipment of the Skyhawks to Israel was presently contemplated and that there had been no change in the situation since Sept. 8 when Secretary of State Dean Rusk said the question of arms shipments to the Middle East was under review.

The Administration proclaimed an embargo on arms shipments to the Middle East on June 5 when the Arab-Israeli war broke out, but Defense Department officials said today that the United States might relax this embargo soon, permitting shipment of arms to Israel and possibly other Middle Eastern countries, including Jordan, but they stressed that the whole question remained under review.

Israeli sources here said today that the Government of Israel had contracted in the Spring of 1966 to purchase a number of combat aircraft from the United States and that there was no reason to believe that these aircraft will not be delivered in accordance with this agreement.

Israel, it was recalled, ordered the two squadrons of the Skyhawks at that time. It was understood that, because of American priority needs, the planes were not to be delivered until this Autumn.

Licenses May Depend on Israel's 'Flexibility,' State Dept. Hints

In a later development today, State Department sources said that export licenses for the jet bombers sought by Israel would not be automatically granted, but that they would depend on various political factors and on Israeli flexibility.

It was made clear that, among other considerations to be weighed, is the degree to which Israel accepts U.S. views on the occupied territories, particularly the west bank of the Jordan River and East Jerusalem. Another factor is the treatment of Arab refugees and their freedom to return to the west bank area. An additional consideration will be the Israeli attitude towards forthcoming United Nations decisions -- if the U.S. feels such decisions contribute to peace and justice for all the peoples of the Middle East.

Washington believes that, if the U.N. agrees on desirable resolutions to pacify Middle East tensions, by means of a step-by-step movement away from the present cease-fire status, then some "realistic" concessions may be required of Israel. The U.S. continues to be mindful of the need to avoid returning to the circumstances which prevailed prior to June 5, but officials today referred to another need -- for compromise by Israel, as well as by the Arabs.

(In Israel, all newspapers prominently featured reports from Washington that the United States would honor its commitment to deliver the Skyhawk bombers but there was no local comment. It was recalled that Foreign Minister Abba S. Eban told a press conference two weeks ago that he hoped the United States would supply the arms it had promised and that dialogue on the question was continuing. He said then that the facts in the matter would emerge later in the year.)

New Plant Will Meet All of Israel's Jet Aircraft Engine Needs

TEL AVIV, Sept. 18, (JTA) -- The cornerstone was placed today in the settlement of Beth Shemesh for a multimillion dollar plant to construct jet aircraft engines. The plant is the joint venture of Josef Schidlowski, head of SNMCA, the largest aircraft engine builder in France, and the State of Israel and has an initial capitalization of \$3,000,000. The new plant will not only meet all of Israel's jet engine requirements but produce for the export market. It will employ about 500 workers.

The Schidlowski firm builds turbo-jet engines for many types of aircraft including the French Fouga Magister, one of the planes with which the Israel Air Force is equipped. Mr. Schidlowski came here from Paris for the dedication ceremonies which were also attended by Government representatives.

Russians, Arabs Renew Attack on Israel as Emergency Assembly Session Concludes

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Sept. 18. (JTA) — The emergency special session of the General Assembly, which reconvened here today, adopted a resolution to pass the Middle East crisis on to the regular Assembly session which will convene tomorrow. The resolution, sponsored by Austria, Finland and Sweden, called on the regular Assembly to give the debate on the Middle East crisis "high priority." The measure was passed, as soon as the Assembly opened, by a vote of 94 in favor, none against, and two abstentions. Israel voted in favor of the resolution.

After the voting, various delegations took the floor to explain their votes, with the Arab states and the Soviet bloc maintaining their intransigent attitude against Israel.

Soviet Ambassador Nikolai Fedorenko repeated his previous accusation that Israel had committed "a criminal conspiracy carefully prepared to ensure changes in the Middle East backed by imperialist powers in order to weaken the Arab regimes in the Middle East." He said of Israel that "her ruling circles are full of hatred towards anything which is progressive and latest developments have unmasked the plot of Washington, London and Bonn who are her staunch supporters."

The Soviet representative said that Israel's leaders do not intend to heed the voice of reason and withdraw from occupied territories. The Secretary-General's report on Jerusalem is "new proof" of Israel's defiance of the United Nations, he said, "Israel does not intend to pay attention to resolutions of the General Assembly which were adopted with a decisive majority," he added. He called Israel's reply on the question of Jerusalem "in open contempt of the U.N. and mockery of law and the U.N. Charter." The Soviet ambassador accused the United States and some NATO powers of protecting Israel which "twice in ten years committed aggression in the Middle East." Mr. Fedorenko concluded by reaffirming his support of the Arab countries in the next General Assembly.

United States Ambassador Arthur Goldberg said he regretted that the Soviet ambassador showed harshness and tried to rewrite U.N. history. "The time has come," Mr. Goldberg said, "for healing and harmonizing our views on the Middle East and not for harsh words."

Israel Accuses Soviet on Middle East, Condemns Jordan Rule of Old City

Israel Ambassador Gideon Rafael, denounced the Soviet "propaganda assault" saying that it had been rejected twice by the Security Council and the General Assembly. The Soviet representative, he said, was turning a blind eye on the realities of the Middle East and the decisions of the U.N. "Repetition does not convert falsehood to truth," Mr. Rafael said. He accused the Soviet Union of grave responsibility for the situation in the Middle East, saying that its representative never discussed the question of the belligerency and hostility of its Arab allies towards Israel, but instead it inflamed Arab passions.

Ambassador Rafael said that "certain speakers in the Assembly this morning tried to exploit for political warfare the question of Jerusalem." He reviewed the actions of Jordan for the last 19 years, which destroyed Jewish places of worship, expelled its Jewish population and prevented access to holy places. He recalled Israel's call to King Hussein on June 5 to desist from starting a war against Israel, but to no avail.

Mr. Rafael repeated Israel's position that only an undivided Jerusalem "will assure religious freedom to all." He mentioned the decisions of the Khartoum Arab summit conference of no peace, no negotiations and no recognition of Israel as the proof for no change in the Arab attitude toward Israel.

The Israeli ambassador concluded by calling on U.N. members to open a new page in the history of the Middle East by urging the Arab countries to negotiate directly with Israel as "the only practical way."

Israeli, Jordanian Representatives to Talk Today on Further Repatriation of Arabs

JERUSALEM, Sept. 18. (JTA) — Israeli and Jordanian representatives will meet on Wednesday to make arrangements for resumption of the repatriation of residents of the west bank who fled to Jordan during the June fighting. Israel had previously approved the return of 6,500 refugees and their crossing of the Jordan was to have begun last Sunday. The Jordanians, however, requested a postponement at the last minute until Thursday.

Gen. Dayan Tells Israeli Troops Immediate Objective Is To Shift Cease-Fire to Peace Talks

JERUSALEM, Sept. 18. (JTA) — Defense Minister Moshe Dayan told the men and women of Israel's defense forces today that their country's immediate objective was to convert the present cease-fire into a permanent peace with the Arab world, including that part of the Arab world living within Israel's borders.

In a message for Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year, transmitted through the Chief of Staff, Gen. Itzhak Rabin, Gen. Dayan stressed that, to attain this objective, Israel must hold its new frontiers and deter its enemies from any thought that they could oust and destroy the Israelis by force.

"Israel," Gen. Dayan said, "is facing a crucial year and the tasks facing her are not easy. In the past, we knew how to guard our frontiers during border incidents. Now, our borders have changed, but there is no doubt we shall keep these as well."

Hadassah Hospital Is Providing Medical Services for West Bank Arabs

MIAMI BEACH, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- The Hadassah Medical Organization has agreed to treat cancer victims among the Arab refugees in Israeli-held territories. Prof. Kalman J. Mann, its director general in Israel, announced today in an address before the 53rd national convention of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization.

Prof. Mann said that the medical organization entered into an agreement with the United Nations Relief Works Agency (UNRWA), at the request of the Israel Ministry of Health, to provide care for cancer patients on the west bank of the Jordan River -- for whom UNRWA is responsible. He said that Hadassah has already ordered a new 35 million volt betatron machine at a cost of \$250,000, to handle the new cases. He said that 200 Arab patients from East Jerusalem and the west bank area are now being treated daily at the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center at Ein Karem. They comprise about 20 percent of the total number of patients treated in the outpatient department, he added.

Prof. Mann said that "new vistas" of medical education are now being opened to Arab doctors, nurses and para-medical personnel through training and clinical programs being provided for them by the Hadassah Medical Organization.

At a later session of the convention today, Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer, rector of the Seminario Rabbinico Latino-Americano in Buenos Aires, urged American Jews to engage in an alliance with "the hundreds of thousands of spiritually and culturally underdeveloped South American Jews" in order to "save them from assimilation."

Rabbi Meyer said that "North American Jewry is not taking Latin American Jewry seriously enough and the United States Government is not taking Latin America seriously enough." "There are 850,000 Jews south of the Rio Grande who are desperately in need of intellectual and spiritual leadership," he said. "....All of this in spite of the fact that they live in freedom and relative prosperity." He added that the "prime danger" facing the 500,000 Jews of Argentina was not anti-Semitism but "Jewish indifference and assimilation."

At the conclusion of the session, Mrs. Leonard D. Cohen of Westport, Conn., national chairman of the Henrietta Szold Award Committee, presented the 1967 award to Dr. Michael E. DeBakey, noted Texas heart surgeon, in recognition of his "fearless inquiries into the intricate workings of the human heart."

Ex-Chancellor Erhard of West Germany to Visit Israel Next Month

BONN, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- Former Chancellor Ludwig Erhard will go to Israel at the end of next month for a "private" visit as a guest of the Israeli Government, it was announced here today. He will be accompanied by his wife.

It was Mr. Erhard, when he headed the West German Government, who decided, in May of 1965, to establish diplomatic relations with Israel. Earlier, under the chancellorship of the late Dr. Konrad Adenauer, he showed himself a friend of Israel during his tenure as Minister of Economy. Prof. Erhard was also one of the German-leaders who helped work out the German-Israel reparations agreement, in 1952 and 1953 -- a pact under which Israel obtained \$800 million worth of material goods and services.

Eighty Outstanding Americans Call for Direct Arab-Israel Peace Talks

NEW YORK, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- Eighty American leaders in science, education, literature, law, economics, art, architecture and public affairs called on the United States Government today to initiate within the United Nations, and outside the world organization, actions to induce the Arab states to enter into direct peace negotiations with Israel. Sixteen of the signatories to the statement are Nobel Laureates. One of the latter, Dr. I.I. Rabi, University Professor Emeritus at Columbia University, and winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1944, transmitted the appeal today to President Johnson on behalf of all the signatories.

Calling Israel "a great human and creative source," the statement declared that, to preserve and encourage Israel, "is surely a major responsibility of the civilized world." "Enabled to develop in peace," the signatories stated, "Israel's contribution to the region and to the world may rival in fruitfulness and enduring quality that of the ancient state in the days of the Bible. Once peace settlements have been reached, it becomes possible to tackle the formidable human and development problems of the region, which have resisted solution until now."

"In fact and in principle," the statement declared, "Israel's security is bound up with our own. Without peace settlements entered into by Israel and each of the warring states, we are only storing up fuel for new outbreaks, with no assurance that a new encounter can be contained or restricted either to conventional weapons or to regional states. In the delimited atmosphere of a direct confrontation between the parties, insulated against the competitions and pressures of major or minor states, hard reality may prove more effective counsel and impetus for a settlement than the public debates of the past 20 years."

Five of the signatories had initiated the appeal, stating its purpose as "to support our Government and others seeking a settlement of the conflict in the Middle East, which is realistic and capable of stabilizing the area after 20 years and three wars." The five, who made the statement public today, were: Dr. Louis F. Fieser, professor of chemistry at Harvard University; Dr. Maurice Goldhaber, a member of the National Academy of Sciences; Dr. Robert Hofstadter, professor of physics at Stanford University and 1961 Nobel Prize winner; Dr. Rabi; and Dr. David Rittenberg, chairman of the biochemistry department at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Arson Suspected in Fire that Damaged Synagogue in London Suburbs

LONDON, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- Fire of undetermined origin caused damage of about 5,000 pounds sterling (\$14,400) yesterday when a conflagration gutted part of the ground floor and destroyed the entire roof of the Kingsbury Synagogue in Middlesex. The house of worship was in process of being rebuilt, and was scheduled for reopening early next year. A nearby resident told police she had seen two men running from the site as the fire broke out. Detectives are investigating the fire but have, as yet, reported no arrests. While the synagogue was afire, a small blaze also broke out at a Christian chapel in the vicinity.

Quebec Jewish Schools Seek to Qualify for Government Financial Aid

MONTREAL, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- Negotiations will begin shortly to make Jewish day schools in Montreal eligible for Quebec governmental aid covering most of the per pupil costs of education in the schools under a new provincial law, Jewish education officials here said today. The new law permits private educational institutions to be affiliated with the "public" school systems, through coordination of activities and finances. Under the confessional system of elementary and secondary education in Quebec, "public" schools are either under Protestant or Catholic auspices.

Under the new law, qualified schools are eligible for provincial financing by public funds and school bus transportation for pupils living a mile or more from the school. The aid does not cover Hebrew or religious instruction in such private Jewish schools. However, only about five percent of teaching is in the non-secular category of Jewish day schools which provide Hebrew or religious courses, education officials said.

The Jewish People's Schools, the Jewish Peretz Schools, the Rabbinical College of Canada and the Beth Jacob School for Girls have applied to the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal for affiliation and more schools are expected to follow suit soon. There are about 5,000 children attending Jewish day schools in Montreal. The Jewish day schools are following the pattern of the United Talmud Torah Elementary School of Chomedey, which reached an agreement earlier this month with the Protestant School Board of Greater San Martin.

Under terms of the law, qualified day schools will receive \$350 grants per pupil annually for elementary and secondary school levels. The requirement that Hebrew studies and religious instruction will still have to be financed by the parents is not a problem, according to Dr. Samuel Lewin, associate director of education for the Canadian Jewish Congress, because the principal financial burden stems from secular courses.

Chicago Community Raised More Than \$11 Million for Israel Emergency Fund

CHICAGO, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- This community has raised \$11,127 million for the Israel Emergency Fund and an additional \$5,841 million for Regular and Rescue Funds, Rabbi Ralph Simon, general chairman of the Chicago Combined Jewish Appeal announced to a meeting of volunteer workers.

Rabbi Simon said a person-to-person effort would be launched to complete the Appeal's regular campaign for \$6.5 million and to secure contributions again in 1967 to the regular campaign -- exclusive of the Israel Emergency Fund -- from all who contributed last year but had not yet done so this year.

David Silbert, president of Chicago's Jewish Welfare Fund, a partner in the Appeal, announced that \$10.9 million in cash had been sent to the national United Jewish Appeal since June 1.

Young Judaea Requests Sponsorship of Hadassah

NEW YORK, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- Young Judaea, the oldest and largest Zionist youth movement in the United States, has formally requested the sponsorship of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, it was announced today by Bernard Weisberg, national director of Young Judaea.

The request was made because of the impending dissolution of the American Zionist Youth Commission, a partnership between Hadassah and the Zionist Organization of America, which had sponsored Young Judaea since 1941. Hadassah has expressed its willingness to become the sole sponsor of "an expanded and enlarged Young Judaea, including a structure on the young adult level." Mr. Weisberg said. Young Judaea has 10,000 members in the age-range from nine to 18 years.

Rubenstein, Leader of Jewish Bloc in Prewar Lithuanian Parliament, Dead

TEL AVIV, Sept. 18. (JTA) -- Funeral services will be held here tomorrow for Reuben Rubinstein, a prominent leader of Lithuanian Jewry before World War II, who died here this weekend at the age of 77. Mr. Rubinstein was head of the Jewish faction of the Lithuanian Parliament before World War II.

Mr. Rubinstein came to Palestine after the war. He was well known in this country as a Yiddish commentator on Kol Israel, the Government-operated radio network. In his commentaries, he reported and interpreted world and Israeli news to the large sectors of the Israeli population who understand Yiddish much better than Hebrew.