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Israel Announces Dakar Lost With 69 Men; Search Discontinued

JERUSALEM, Feb. 4 (JTA)--The Israel Defense Ministry formally announced tonight that the Dakar, the submarine missing in the Mediterranean Sea since January 25 with a crew of 69, was considered lost and that the 11-day search for it had been ended. The loss was the worst disaster in Israel's short naval history. The announcement indicated that Israeli vessels in the vicinity would maintain a lookout.

The Dakar was proceeding from Portsmouth, England, after recommissioning and was enroute to its base at Haifa. The submarine reported by radio on schedule on January 25 and was not heard from again. A massive four-nation air and sea search was launched immediately but no substantiated traces of the submersible were found in the area off Cyprus, where the last radio report was heard from.

McNamara Reports Situation in Middle East 'Deteriorated' Last Year

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4 (JTA)--Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara has reported to the Senate Armed Services Committee that the Middle East "stands high on the Soviet scale of politico-military priorities" and that the situation there has deteriorated in the past year.

He added that "while the overall situation in the Middle East has deteriorated during the past year, there have also been some encouraging developments." He cited as examples "the United Nations efforts to resolve the Arab-Israeli dispute and the withdrawal of Egyptian troops from Yemen" in addition to the easing of Greek-Turkish tensions and achievement of economic progress in Iran.

The Defense Secretary characterized increased Soviet naval activity in the Mediterranean as primarily "a diplomatic gesture aimed at recouping political losses suffered as a result of Moscow's inability to forestall Israel's victory over the Arabs in June, 1967." He contended that the Soviets "probably do not plan formally to acquire permanent bases in the Mediterranean and the Arab world. Indeed, we believe that these countries which have potentially useful facilities --primarily the United Arab Republic, Syria, Yemen and Algeria--would probably resist granting full base rights on political grounds."

Noting the Soviet re-supply of the Arabs with arms following the Six-Day War, Mr. McNamara said that Russian military aid shipments now appeared to have fallen off to pre-war levels. But he added that "the Soviet Union's partisan political position on Middle Eastern questions, its increased naval presence in the Mediterranean, its intervention in the conflict in Yemen and its efforts to reduce or supplant Western influence, generally, have contributed to instability in the region."

'Limited Arms Shipments' to Mideast is U.S. Response to Soviet Penetration

Because of this situation, he added, the United States relaxed its arms freeze and resumed "selected and limited arms shipments" to friendly nations in the Middle East. He pointed out that "virtually all of the items supplied were ordered prior to the (June) war and, except for a limited number of aircraft provided to Israel, were support items."

He said that "Soviet naval craft in the Mediterranean, including guided-missile cruisers, a number of submarines, lesser warships, and support units which could provide for year-round operations, have effectively shown the flag. Although modest in size and punch compared with the U.S. Sixth Fleet, the Soviet fleet provides the type of visibility which Moscow has elected to seek. It has similarly signaled that the future Soviet posture will include marine amphibious forces and helicopter carriers. How all these activities will affect their future behavior is a matter to which we will give close attention."

Mr. McNamara told the senate that "the recent increase in Soviet resources, diplomacy and propaganda directed to the Middle East underscores the importance that Moscow attaches to this strategically significant area at the crossroads of Asia, Africa and Europe. In recent years, the Soviet Union has sent a considerable portion of its total economic and military aid to the region, and the Middle East accounts for a large percentage of all foreign technicians being trained in the Soviet Union."

He stressed that although Israel managed to defeat the Arabs in June, "a host of urgent problems remain to be solved." "Apart from preventing a renewal of hostilities, among the more immediate problems is the plight of the many thousands of refugees who constitute a second generation of uprooted and homeless Arabs and who face a bleak and uncertain future. Most urgent, however, is the need to follow up the existing ceasefire with positive steps leading to a lasting settlement", Mr. McNamara said.

"At issue", he said, "are a host of familiar problems: Arab recognition of Israel's right to exist; the territorial integrity of the Middle East countries; the status of occupied lands; the right of innocent passage in international waterways; and safeguards against the outbreak of future wars." To achieve peace, he said the United States is supporting United Nations efforts and "we are continuing our efforts to limit arms deliveries to the area."

Israel Formally Charges Jordan With Aiding Terrorist Intruders

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Feb. 4 (JTA)--Israel for the first time has formally charged the Jordanian Government with aiding and sheltering armed bands which enter Israel-held territory for purposes of sabotage and terror in violation of the cease fire agreements. Ambassador Yosef Tekoah, permanent representative of Israel to the United Nations, made the charge in a letter to United Nations Secretary General U Thant, dated Feb. 2, 1968. The letter referred specifically to an incident which took place during the night of Jan. 29-30.

"The sequence of events was as follows," Ambassador Tekoah wrote. "On 29 January 1968 at approximately 2130 (9:30 p.m.), local time, an Israeli patrol was attacked on the west bank of the Jordan River near the settlement of Ashdot Yaakov by a Jordanian sabotage unit. Fire was returned. At approximately 2345 hours (11:45 p.m.) local time, Jordanian army units on the east bank of the river opened fire at Israeli forces in the west bank, in order to give cover to the retreating sabotage unit. Israeli forces returned fire. Israeli fire was directed at the sources of Jordanian fire. The exchange continued until approximately 0001 hours (1:01 a.m.) local time. Sabotage material and other equipment was found at the site of the encounter between the Israeli patrol and the Jordanian unit."

"I wish to draw your attention, Excellency, to the fact that the penetration of the Jordanian sabotage unit into Israeli territory was executed with the connivance and support of the Jordanian armed forces," Ambassador Tekoah wrote. He requested that his letter be circulated as an official document of the Security Council and the General Assembly.

Israel Ready to Discuss Security Pacts Without Conditions, Says Allon

LONDON, Feb. 4 (JTA)--Israel's Labor Minister Yigal Allon declared here last night that Israel "stands ready to offer mutual security arrangements to any or all of the Arab states without pre-conditions". He added, however, that Israel would not budge an inch on her insistence that there could be no changes in the present boundaries unless accompanied by peace treaties with the Arabs. "If there is to be another war," he said, "we prefer it to be fought along the present frontiers."

Gen. Allon made his remarks in an interview with the Sunday Observer following his arrival here for a series of public appearances on behalf of the Joint Palestine Appeal. He is enroute home to Israel after a tour of the United States. Israel's Government, he said, is in general agreement on the peace proposals it would offer the Arabs if they came to the conference table. But the Cabinet will not disclose these proposals in advance because that would not further the prospects of serious peace talks. Negotiations, he said, must take place in strictest confidence if they are to be successful.

Gen. Allon, a hero of Israel's war for independence in 1948, warned the Arab states, particularly Egypt, that it would be disastrous for them to start another war in the Middle East in any bid to reverse the outcome of last June's conflict. President Nasser, he said, should not stake the future of his country on push-button missile warfare because Egypt is more vulnerable than Israel to such warfare.

He categorically rejected Arab charges that Israel's occupying forces in the Gaza strip were "inhuman" toward the Arab inhabitants or were trying to drive them from the area. "I was in Gaza myself a few days ago and satisfied myself--as I believe the Red Cross people satisfied themselves--about conditions," he said. He warned, however, that Arab terrorist activities raised problems of security that must and will be coped with. He said Israel could handle incursions by armed Arab guerillas.

Jarring Renews Search for Formula for Release of Suez Stranded Ships

JERUSALEM, Feb. 4 (JTA)--Diplomatic quarters here indicated today that Israel might be willing to permit Egypt to survey the northern end of the Suez Canal if a survey of the southern end found it to be unfeasible as an exit for 15 merchant ships stranded there since last June. They indicated that U.N. envoy Ambassador Gunnar Jarring would try to persuade Egypt to accept such a formula. The Ambassador is in Amman today. He is expected to go to Cairo tomorrow and return to Israel next Tuesday.

Egypt has indefinitely suspended all survey work on the canal following an artillery clash with Israeli forces last Tuesday which broke out when two Egyptian survey craft attempted to enter the canal's northern sector. Israel had agreed to a survey of the south portion but not the north. The semi-official Cairo newspaper Al Ahram said yesterday that Egypt might call off Ambassador Jarring's mission and take the entire Israel-Arab dispute, including the Suez issue, back to the Security Council. There was no confirmation of this from official Egyptian sources.

Wilson Reports Negative Reaction From Kosygin on Jewish Emigration

LONDON, Feb. 4 (JTA)--Prime Minister Harold Wilson indicated today that he had taken up with Premier Kosygin and other Soviet leaders, during his visit to Moscow last month, the question of emigration of Russian Jews to Israel and that he had received a negative response.

The Prime Minister disclosed this phase of his Soviet talks in a letter to Sir Barnett Janner, a member of Parliament and former chairman of the Board of Deputies of British Jews. Mr. Wilson wrote to Sir Barnett in response to a letter from the Jewish leader. Sir Barnett recalled in his letter that "a number of families" had been reunited in Israel "through your interventions in past years." He asked the Prime Minister about "the outcome of any approaches you were able to make this time."

The Prime Minister said, in his reply, that he had raised with the Soviet Premier and other Soviet leaders "the points you made" about the treatment of the Jews in the Soviet Union, the provision of kosher meat and matzohs and printing facilities for Jewish books "but there was no change in the Soviet position."

The Prime Minister recalled that he had informed Sir Barnett, prior to his latest visit to Moscow, that the restrictions on emigration from the Soviet Union to Israel "would be a difficult subject to press in the present tense situation in the Middle East" and that "it became clear from my discussion with the Soviet leaders that the fears I expressed to you were justified and that there will be little hope of reconsideration at this time of this question."

The Prime Minister added that, as before, reunion of families in individual cases was taken up during his Moscow visit and that "I arranged that this matter would continue to be dealt with through normal diplomatic channels, i.e., through our ambassador discussing each individual case with the Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs."

Thousands of Jews in Arab Countries Still Persecuted, WJC Told

LONDON, Feb. 4 (JTA)--A leader of the World Jewish Congress declared here last night that thousands of Jews in Arab countries continue to suffer imprisonment, persecution and maltreatment in the aftermath of last June's Arab-Israeli war and that many of the Arab governments have rejected attempts by the International Red Cross to intervene on their behalf.

Dr. Solomon Gaon, vice president of the WJC's British section, made the charges in an address at the opening of the organization's 15th biennial conference. Hundreds of Jews, he said, were still detained in Egyptian prisons where they are subject to mistreatment and even torture. Considerable Jewish property has been confiscated by the Egyptian Government and many Jews have been dismissed from their jobs, Dr. Gaon said. Some Jews have been expelled from Egypt but were forced to leave their families behind.

In Syria, Dr. Gaon said, the government has not only banned Jewish emigration but has forbidden Jews to leave the Damascus city limits. The Red Cross has been forbidden to investigate. Syria has a Jewish population of 3,600.

In Iraq, where there are still 3,000 Jews, many were arrested after the June war, about 30 families have been detained and the government has banned emigration while refusing to allow the Red Cross to interview Jews. In all of the Arab countries, Dr. Gaon said, the press and radio continue to wage campaigns of incitement against the Jews.

Author of 'Judaism Without Embellishment' Honored by Ukraine Soviet

LONDON, Feb. 4 (JTA)--A Ukrainian author whose viciously anti-Semitic book, *Judaism Without Embellishment*, caused such an international uproar that his book was denounced in the Soviet press several years ago, is one of several public lecturers honored in a recent action by the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian Soviet Republic, it was reported here today.

Pravda Ukrainy, the official organ of the Ukrainian Communist party, listed in its January 20 issue a decree of the Supreme Soviet, bestowing the honors on behalf of the Znanie Society, the Society for the spreading of atheism. Trofim K. Kychko, who was temporarily in disgrace after his book was denounced not only by non-Communist critics but also by Western Communist parties, received a "diploma of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet."

Kychko emerged from obscurity after the June war with a Nazi-like article about Israel and Zionism. The accolade was viewed here as in effect restoring him to official favor.

Israeli Architect Wins Award in Contest for British School Design

LONDON, Feb. 4 (JTA)--An Israeli architect, David Shalev, is one of the two first prize winners in a competition for the design of a new comprehensive school for 1,700 children in Newport Monmouthshire, it was announced today. The prize of 2,250 pounds sterling (\$5,400) was open to all architects licensed to practice in the United Kingdom. The competition drew 165 entries.

'Caricatures' of Yiddish Charged Against National Television in U.S.

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (JTA)--A Workman's Circle official charged here today that national television programmers were "presenting grotesque caricatures and distorting the contributions made by Yiddish language writers, journalists and actors in the fields of world literature and American culture."

The charge was made by Joseph Mlotek, educational director of the organization, at the 57th jubilee of the organization's schools. He did not single out any network but noted that "within recent weeks several national television programs, purporting to depict Yiddish language contributions to American culture have given a distorted and sophomoric conception that was painful to watch and historically inaccurate to hear." The ABC network televised a series of four programs on the Yiddish language and culture during January.

Mr. Mlotek asserted that the programs were "in effect," anti-Semitic "without meaning to be and only because no one bothered to check out the facts. The history of the Yiddish theater as shown on the TV screen was a caricature, with names of past stars bandied about in a pot-pourri of hurried studies rather than respectful portraits. The whole Yiddish press and literature were treated as though they trespassed on American soil instead of having contributed to its cultural spectrum."

He spoke at a luncheon honoring three graduates of Workmen's Circle schools, Israel Kugler, president of the American Federation of College Teachers; Harold Ostroff, president of the United Housing Foundation, and Jacob Sheinkman, general counselor of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

Gen. Rabin, New Israeli Envoy, Will Arrive in Washington This Month

TEL AVIV, Feb. 4 (JTA)--Brig. Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Ambassador-Designate to the United States, told a farewell meeting here that, as ambassador, his major concerns would be Israel's security, Israel's economy and Israel's links with the world's largest Jewish community. He is scheduled to arrive in Washington on Feb. 18, after a holiday in Italy, France and Britain.

He told the Tel Aviv press club, which gave him the reception, that he could not speak freely since he was still in an "interim period -- between the chair of the chief of staff and the arm-chair of an ambassador." He did reply to a few questions. Asked how, as a military man, he felt about becoming a diplomat, he cited the remark of the great German military expert, Gen. Clausewitz, to the effect that war was a continuation of diplomacy with other means, adding that this evaluation also was "good the other way around." He added that he was not thinking in terms of strategy as ambassador because that was a term to be used for enemy territory and he was going to a most friendly nation.

National Jewish Welfare Board Affiliates with Presidents' Conference

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (JTA)--The National Jewish Welfare Board has voted to affiliate as a constituent member of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, according to a joint announcement by Louis A. Stern, president of the National JWB, and Rabbi Herschel Schacter, chairman of the Presidents Conference.

The JWB will become the 22nd national Jewish organization to join the Presidents Conference, a coalition of Jewish religious and secular agencies with an estimated 4.5 million members.

Jewish National Fund Honors Solomon Kerstein for 40 Years of Service

NEW YORK, Feb. 4 (JTA)--The Jewish National Fund has honored Solomon Kerstein, vice president of the Bloch Publishing Co., for 40 years of distinguished service as a member of the JNF's national board. A grove of trees will be planted in Israel in Mr. Kerstein's name, it was announced.

A testimonial plaque citing his service to the land reclamation and development branch of the world Zionist movement was presented to Mr. Kerstein by Rabbi Mordechai Kirshblum, member of the Jewish Agency Executive and chairman of the JNF religious department. Rabbi Kirshblum said that Mr. Kerstein was "not only a distinguished member of the board throughout four decades of significant activity, but also performed innumerable special services on behalf of the Fund above and beyond the call of duty."

Record Gift of \$300,000 Made to Case-Western University Hillel

CLEVELAND, Feb. 4 (JTA)--A \$300,000 gift, the largest ever made to a B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation, was announced at a dinner here tendered in honor of the trustees of the Harry K. and Emma R. Fox Charitable Foundation, donor of the gift. The money will be used to build a Harry K. and Emma R. Fox building for the Hillel Foundation on the campus of the Case-Western Reserve University.

The site was made available in the new University Religious Center. The building will be started later this year and is scheduled for completion in the spring of 1969.

Hillel Official Will Visit Hillel Units at Australian Universities

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 4 (JTA)--Rabbi Louis Milgrom, director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations at the University of Minnesota, will visit Australia this month for five weeks of meetings with Jewish students and community leaders on intensifying Hillel programs in Australia. He will leave for Australia Feb. 28.