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Report Moscow Ready For Talks on Mideast Arms Control To Block Sale of Phantoms

WASHINGTON, May 7 (JTA)--The Soviet Union has initiated efforts to create an impression that Russian-American arms control talks may be in the offing, a maneuver apparently timed to deter U.S. sale of Phantom jet aircraft to Israel. The Phantoms would balance the massive Soviet arms build-up in the Arab states since last June. State Department officials said they had no firm information about any such talks and were skeptical. But other sources within the department indicated that a Russian approach would definitely be welcomed because Washington wants to avoid an arms race in the Middle East.

The Soviet maneuver seems calculated to coincide with a specific period, from now until the November election, when the Administration is deliberating action on the sale of the Phantoms to Israel. Huge quantities of sophisticated Russian arms, accompanied by Soviet technicians and advisers, have been poured into the Arab states. Time is now required for the Arabs to absorb the new arms and for the Soviet advisory teams to train personnel. During this interval, the Russians obviously would like to stall off balancing U.S. shipments to Israel — using the bait of possible "talks" — a promise that might prove illusory. Knowing that the United States is eager for Soviet cooperation in seeking peace for Vietnam at Paris, the Russians are attempting to consolidate their position in the Middle East and isolate Israel from the United States as an arms source.

Moscow was said to be especially eager to frustrate the Phantom jet transaction. Arab airpower has already been built up by Russia to a strength greater than that which existed before the Six-Day War.

(Soviet Russia has altered its Middle East policy from one that was seeking a political solution of the Arab-Israel dispute to one with more ominous connotations, according to Jon Kimche in an article published in the London Evening Standard today. He said that the Soviet Government had advised a number of Arab governments, including Jordan, that should "Israel fail to respect the Security Council resolution" of last Nov. 22, the Soviet Union "would have no alternative but to consider other steps to enable the Arab countries to regain their lost territory." What was meant by "other steps" was not spelled out, Mr. Kimche wrote.)

Jarring May Return Here To Discuss Whether His Peace Mission Should Be Continued

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 7 (JTA)--Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, the United Nations special envoy in the Middle East, may return to headquarters here on completion of his present round of Mideast capitals to discuss with Secretary General U Thant whether his peace mission should be continued. Dr. Jarring, who was in Amman today, is due to visit Jerusalem tomorrow and Cairo on Thursday or Friday. It is now believed here he will return to make his report before the General Assembly adjourns about June 1. The envoy is on leave from his post as Swedish Ambassador to Moscow.

(In an editorial today, the New York Times said that "President Nasser holds the key. Israel and Jordan have been ready for many weeks to open indirect talks under a formula proposed by Dr. Jarring. But King Hussein's domestic position is too weak to move without Egypt." It added that "Israel's public acceptance of the resolution last week, after months of American urging, and its pledge to seek agreement with the Arabs on all the matters included now provides an adequate opening for Cairo, if it wishes talks to begin.")

U.S., Other Western Powers Protest Plans to Celebrate 'Conquest of Jerusalem'

JERUSALEM, May 7 (JTA)--The first anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem will be celebrated on May 25 — the day, according to the Jewish calendar, when Israeli troops reached the West Wall last June. But the festivities will be limited to western Jerusalem under an agreement reached today between Mayor Teddy Kollek and his city councillors. Mayor Kollek explained that the event was not one of rejoicing for East Jerusalem Arabs and the city did not want to stage festivities in which they could not join so soon after the Independence Day parade.

It was learned today, meanwhile, that United States Ambassador Walworth Barbour had conveyed to Foreign Minister Abba Eban last week Washington's opposition to the celebration of "conquest of Jerusalem" day. Other Western envoys have expressed a similar stand. Mayor Kollek said reunification day will be one of "internal celebrations." President Zalman Shazar and Foreign Minister Eban are expected to attend a City Council meeting on that day. Other events scheduled are a two-day march from Latrun to the West Wall. Latrun, a control point on the old Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway, was a fiercely contested battle site during Israel's war for independence in 1948. The National Religious Party said it would organize a pilgrimage to Jerusalem on reunification day.

Palestine Arab Leaders Still See Prospects of Autonomous Arab State

LONDON, May 7 (JTA)--The idea of an autonomous Arab state in part of the presently occupied territories, is still alive among some Palestine Arab leaders, according to an article by Philip Kleinman, published in the London Daily Telegraph today. Kleinman said that a secret meeting was held between Israel officials and Palestinian Arab representatives at Geneva last year to discuss the idea. Among the participants was Yaha Hamouda, now head of the Palestine Liberation Organization. But nothing came of the talks and all concerned were now waiting to see the outcome of U.N. peace envoy Gunnar Jarring's mission.

Kleinman said that Sheikh Mohammed Jaabari, Mayor of Hebron, had outlined to him the boundaries of a proposed independent Arab state. It would consist of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip with a free road through Israel linking the two and, Jaabari insisted, must have East Jerusalem as its capital. According to Kleinman, Jaabari said "if the Arab states fail to agree on a solution then we Palestinians shall seek a solution with Israel ourselves."

Rightwing Group Would Censure Government on Its Policies for Occupied Areas

JERUSALEM, May 7 (JTA)--A motion of no confidence in the Government was presented in the Knesset (Parliament) last night by the Free Center faction, an offshoot of the right-wing Herut party, which advocates Israel's retention of all Arab occupied territories. The three-man faction based its no confidence motion on the Government's acceptance of the Nov. 22, 1967 Security Council resolution which includes "withdrawal," on the failure to give official support to a group of religious Jews who want to re-establish the Jewish community in Hebron and on the Government's failure to establish new settlements in Israel-held areas.

Restrictions imposed on the neighboring West Bank towns of Ramallah and El Birreh were lifted last night and the privileges accorded all West Bank residents were restored to the local populace, it was announced here today. The restrictions, which denied Ramallah and El Birreh residents access to Israel, including East Jerusalem, and which forbade them to travel to Jordan or receive visitors from there, were imposed as a result of an organized strike against Israel's Independence Day parade in Jerusalem last Thursday.

Jews and Arabs in Reunited Jerusalem Work Together for Peace, Tekoah Tells Council

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 7 (JTA)--An impassioned plea to the Security Council to act to halt Arab warfare, particularly Jordanian, against Israel, was made in the Security Council here today by Ambassador Yosef Tekoah of Israel. He addressed the body after Ambassador Muhammed H. El-Farra, of Jordan had repeated accusations that Israel was persecuting and harrasing the Arab residents of Jerusalem. Mr. El-Farra was the first speaker this afternoon as the Council resumed its two-week-old debate on the situation.

Mr. Tekoah told the Council that in the last three weeks, Jordanian military positions had attacked Israeli villages and Israeli forces with artillery and mortar fire "no less than 25 times." He said that "Israel comes before the Security Council in plea not to allow this warfare to continue." He detailed recent attacks by Jordanian army regulars and by commando units, some of whom have Egyptian army uniforms and some who had crossed into Israel from Jordan after coming to Jordan from Syria.

Mr. Tekoah rejected everyone of Jordan's charges of persecution and harrassment of the Arabs in Jerusalem. He cited the reaction of Jerusalem Arabs, including some of the most prominent Arab families in the city, as being extremely cooperative with the Israel Government authorities and appreciative of Israel's extreme care given to all holy places, including Moslem and Christian shrines and institutions.

"We are fully aware," he said, "of the challenges that remain to be met. We cannot expect all of the 60,000 Arab inhabitants of East Jerusalem to show friendship to the 200,000 Jews of the city. We do hope, however, that the animosity of the few would not be used to harrass and injure the many. We do also affirm without any hesitation that whatever measures have been taken in the last ten months, are aimed at ensuring the welfare of the city and the happiness of its people. We do say that the situation today, for Jew and Arab alike, is better than in the years of division and Jordanian occupation in Eastern Jerusalem.

"This is Jerusalem today -- a venture in co-existence, a trial of faith," he declared. "After all these years of hostility and suffering, Jerusalem is still groping on its way. But Jews and Arabs in it are already living together, working together, building together and dreaming together the dream of peace. For the first time in 19 years, Israelis and Arabs talk to one another, shake hands and some times even smile at each other. If, at long last, agreement and peace will come to the area, it will have drawn much of its inspiration from united Jerusalem.

"If the beginnings of understanding and community sprouting today in Jerusalem were impaired, peace would be dealt a grievous blow. They must be nurtured with utmost care for in them are the real interests of the people of the Middle East." The Security Council will resume sessions on Thursday afternoon.

Moscow Chief Rabbi Expected Here Within Month as Guest of Anti-Zionist Council

NEW YORK, May 7 (JTA)--Chief Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin of Moscow has informed the American Council for Judaism that he is prepared to bring a Russian Jewish religious delegation to this country before the middle of June. In a cable received by the anti-Zionist organization yesterday, Dr. Levin indicated that the state of his health precluded a visit at any other season.

A Council spokesman said today that original plans to have Dr. Levin address its convention had had to be changed and that the Council would set up a special conference with the visiting delegation. Rabbi Levin presumably will be accompanied by three others whom his cables named and identified as Rabbi Israel Berkovitch Schwartzblatt, described as rabbi of the Odessa synagogue; David Moissevitch Stiskin, cantor of the Leningrad synagogue, and Rabbi Israel Moissivitch Bronfman, described as the rabbi of the Derbenta synagogue. It was indicated that if Dr. Levin, for reasons of health, is unable to make the trip to New York, the remaining members of the delegation will come in any case.

Laborite Says German Student Unrest Is Aiding Re-emergence of Nazism

STRASBOURG, France, May 7 (JTA)--Maurice Edelman, writer and British Labor MP, warned here today that student unrest in West Germany is contributing to a re-emergence of Nazism there. Mr. Edelman spoke before the Council of Europe parliamentary assembly. The "sinister elements that incite youth to violence allow the evil things of Nazism that have lain buried under the stone of history to emerge in a new form but with the old claim that they protect society," Mr. Edelman said. He noted the continuing electoral successes of the extreme right-wing National Democratic Party in Germany which, he declared, "is a phenomenon of interest not to Germany alone" but the concern of all who fear "the unhappy consequences which will inevitably flow from the rise of neo-Nazism in Germany."

Munich Anti-Nazi Group Is Showered With Anti-Semitic Threats, Epithets

BONN, May 7 (JTA)--A left-wing organization, Democratic Action Against Neo-Nazism and Fascism, which was set up in January with headquarters in Munich has been subjected since its inception to a torrent of letters and telephone calls, most of them anti-Semitic and many threatening violence, it was disclosed today. Frank Arnau, a writer, its chairman, received 51 calls and 54 letters in the four days after the organization held its first rally in January in Munich, he reported. Typical of the epithets have been "Jewish swine" and "Jewish dog" and "Go to Tel Aviv" and "Auschwitz is far but Dachau is near." Arnau also is president of the German League of Rights.

Must Exempt Nazi Crimes From Injunction to Forgiveness, Greek-Jewish Leader Says

SALONIKA, May 7 (JTA)--The Nazi crimes against humanity must be exempted from the injunction to "forgive and forget," a leader of the Greek-Jewish community declared in an address at a memorial meeting here honoring those who perished in the Nazi holocaust. Prof. C. Azarias, of the University of Salonika said "of course we must forget and forgive and try to eradicate hatred from our hearts. But there are some events, like the crimes of the Nazi era, the memory of which must be kept undimmed throughout the ages. This must be done as a sacred duty to the memory of the victims and to mankind as a whole. We must remember and remind future generations so that they are forewarned against a repetition of such crimes against any group of exposed human beings."

Reconstructionists Will Recognize Children of Mixed Marriages as Jewish

GREAT NECK, N.Y., May 7 (JTA)--The Reconstructionist movement and its affiliated synagogues will recognize as Jewish the children of mixed marriages where the mother is not Jewish and did not convert to Judaism prior to the child's birth, it was announced by the Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations and Fellowships at its ninth annual conference here. But the parents concerned will have to demonstrate, through action, their intention of raising their children as Jews, the announcement said.

According to traditional Jewish law, children of mixed marriages are not regarded as Jews if the mother is not Jewish since the mother's faith is decisive. The children, to attain Jewish status in many parts of the world, have to undergo traditional forms of conversion which include ritual immersion and symbolic circumcision. The Reconstructionists will consider these children Jewish if, by parental decision, they have been circumcized, will receive a Jewish education and will fulfill the requirements of bar or bat mitzvah or confirmation.

The conference adopted a resolution calling on the Reconstructionist movement "to study the appropriateness of traditional Jewish norms in confronting problems of sexual morality that challenge us today." Rabbi Arthur Gilbert, assistant to the president of the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation, who proposed the resolution, pointed out that traditional Jewish law on sexual morality is more restrictive with regard to the use of birth control devices and abortion than the current Jewish practices. He said "Jewish ideals of family purity and social responsibility provide the standards by which to judge puritanical codes of sexual thought and behavior."

In the area of civil rights, the Reconstructionist conference adopted by acclamation a resolution supporting the report of the President's Commission on Civil Disorders. The resolution agreed with the Kerner Commission that the division among races in America is the consequence largely of "white racism, apathy, and a much too meager-hearted effort to achieve social justice."

Official Denies Administration Is Withholding Essential Information From Public

KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., May 7 (JTA)--A State Department official disputed here today charges that the State Department was flouting the American people's "right to know" and that the public was being denied the "essential facts" concerning Vietnam, the Middle East and other troubled areas. The charges were made yesterday before the 39th annual convention of the National Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs by Arthur D. Morse, author of "While Six Million Died." The reply today was by Mrs. Charlotte Hubbard, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs.

"The United States faces very great and complex problems," she said, "among them the security of Southeast Asia and the achievement of stability in the Middle East. It is inevitable that some people should feel that the Government is not giving out all the facts. If all the facts are not being given out, it is equally true that the essential facts are being reported and disclosed. The public's right to know is being respected and the U.S. Government is taking the people into its confidence on vital issues."

Rabbi Samuel I. Teplitz of Woodmere, L.I., in a vigorous defense of student dissent on college campuses, told the convention that this dissent "deserved the respect of serious Americans everywhere." While he deplored violent manifestations, he said the student protests were "reassuring evidence of the intellectual and spiritual health of today's college generation." He declared that "the students are calling us to account. They are demanding answers from a social order and a social milieu that tolerate racial injustice, poverty and double standards of sexual morality."

Rabbi Edward Sandrow, former president of the New York Board of Rabbis, urged American Jews to "recapture and retain the deep religious spirit of Israel's victory" last June. He noted that "even skeptics sensed the prevalence of Providence" in that victory and he urged that "the passage of time ought not to blunt that most majestic confrontation."

See Big Drop in Executive Bias Against Jews, Other Minorities

PHILADELPHIA, May 7 (JTA)--Discrimination against Jews and other minority group members in executive employment should drop substantially in the next five to ten years, two Jewish agencies predicted today in a report on a successful pilot effort to remove such barriers among Philadelphia-based corporations.

Since the program was initiated two years ago by the Philadelphia chapter of the American Jewish Committee and the Philadelphia Jewish Employment and Vocational Service, a number of Philadelphia firms have substantially broadened the hiring and promotion of Jews, with more than 115 Jews having moved into managerial positions and a "significant number" promoted to higher level positions, according to Leon C. Sunstein, Jr., chairman of the executive suite programming committee of the two agencies, and Benjamin S. Loewenstein, president of the Jewish Occupational Council.

They announced a \$100,000 program to broaden the effort in Philadelphia and to extend it to Los Angeles, Newark and Boston. Mr. Sunstein said that the methods used in the Philadelphia effort could help, and in some cases did help, to open executive suite doors for members of minorities other than Jews.

The report said that as the program in Philadelphia was expanded and similar programs started in other major cities, "it is our belief that within five years we shall see a substantial decline in the patterns of exclusion of Jews from management level positions in major American industry and finance" with the hope of an end to such exclusion within ten years.

Anti-Defamation League Establishes New Urban Affairs Department

NEW YORK, May 7 (JTA)--Establishment of an urban affairs department in the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith was announced today at the 55th annual meeting of the League here. The department which will "systematize, coordinate and catalog" ADL activities in connection with the urban crisis and race relations, will work through the League's 28 regional offices and the B'nai B'rith constituency.

Earlier, Ben Epstein, executive director of ADL, reported to the conference on measures being taken to open management positions in areas long closed to them for Jews and other minorities. He reported that during the past year, ADL had begun a cooperative educational affirmative action program with private employment agencies to promote more and better jobs for minority group applicants.

Federation Organ in Florida Resort Town Complains of Anti-Semitic Abuse

HOLLYWOOD, Florida, May 7 (JTA)--A rash of anti-Semitic abuse, ranging from outspoken refusals to rent to Jews to garbage dumped on the lawn of a local rabbi, was reported today in the Hollywood Shofar, publication of the Jewish Welfare Federation of Hollywood. The incidents have occurred in South Broward County which includes this and several other resort cities just north of Miami.

According to the Shofar, "children in South Broward passing a local junior high school on the way home from Hebrew school must daily run a gauntlet of abuse, both verbal and physical." The paper noted further that when local elderly Jews asked to inspect a model apartment in a building being erected for senior citizens at Lauderdale-by-the-Sea, they were told by the renting agent that "we have been instructed that these apartments are not to be shown or rented to persons of the Hebrew faith." The paper also reported that a local rabbi "frequently finds garbage on his lawn, has epithets shouted at him or his children from passing cars or has eggs thrown at his own car during the night."