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House GOP Replies To Kosygin Mid-East Arms Proposal With Demand For Sale Of Jets

WASHINGTON, July 2 (JTA)--The Republican leadership in the House of Representatives responded today to Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin's proposal to slacken the arms race in the Middle East with a new demand for the immediate sale of supersonic Phantom jet fighter-bombers to Israel to restore the balance of power before any arms freeze is considered. A group of House Democrats joined the Republicans in urging the sale of the jets, which had been requested by Prime Minister Levi Eshkol during his meeting with President Johnson at the LBJ Ranch last January. The Administration was reserved in its reaction to the latest Soviet proposal and gave no indication today about how it might respond.

A Soviet memorandum, issued today, "supports proposals concerning the implementation of measures for regional disarmament and for reduction of armaments in various regions of the world including the Middle East." The question of slackening the Middle East arms race "could be considered only in conditions of the elimination of the consequences of the Israeli aggression against the Arab countries and, above all, the full evacuation of the Israeli forces from the territories of Arab countries occupied by them," the Soviet note said.

House Republican Minority leader, Gerald R. Ford, of Michigan, announced today that he is cosponsoring a resolution introduced by Rep. William Broomfield, a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and also a Michigan Republican. It demands that the Administration act on the long deferred Israeli application for the Phantoms. Rep. Broomfield, who visited Israel after last year's Six-Day War, said today that "the Russians have irresponsibly poured hundreds of the latest types of supersonic jet fighters and bombers into radical Arab states while the U.S. Administration has refused to provide Israel with the 50 Phantoms she desperately requires."

He said that the Russians are now talking about "slackening" the Middle East arms race because Egypt has received more jets and sophisticated weapons that it can digest at this point. Moscow obviously wants to call a convenient so-called freeze so that the U.S. will not sell the Phantoms to Israel, he said.

Israeli Circles See Kosygin Move As 'Political Maneuver'

(In Jerusalem today, semi-official circles described as "a political maneuver" the proposal by Mr. Kosygin. They recalled the speed with which the Soviet Union had pumped new arms and munitions into the Arab countries immediately after the Six-Day War and pointed out that the Soviet shipment of arms had been so great that the neighboring Arab states today have a four-to-one superiority in aircraft over Israel. Before the war last year, the Arab superiority was three-to-one.)

(Political circles here said that Mr. Kosygin had made public his Middle East proposal as an additional proof to the U.S. of the Soviet Union's peace intentions and also to drive a wedge between Washington and Jerusalem. Israelis expressed confidence that Washington would not enter into any deal with the Kremlin that would turn out to be one-sided. It was pointed out that nowhere in the Soviet proposals was there any provision for mutual or international inspection of the progress of disarmament. It was stressed that the Kremlin had consistently turned a deaf ear to various suggestions made by the U.S. since the war for limitation on arms shipments.)

(Israelis also sharply objected to the Soviet attempt to force Israel to accept the pre-June, 1967 armistice lines as Israel's borders. The Kosygin memorandum, by Soviet interpretations, called on Israel to return unconditionally to the pre-war lines. But the United Nations Security Council of Nov. 22, 1967, they said, called for boundaries to be determined by agreement between Israel and its neighboring states. Israel, it was stated, favors disarmament as a matter of principle and has proposed on many occasions, mutual disarmament and inspection with the Arab states.)

The Republican House leadership said today its position is that Israel should not evacuate any territory in response to a Soviet demand of this type and that any boundary settlement must be the result of direct negotiations in the context of a general peace settlement. Sen. Robert P. Griffin, another Michigan Republican, introduced a resolution recently that differed from today's stand by House Republicans and which was endorsed by 11 Senators. It called for an American-Soviet agreement to freeze arms shipments to the Middle East. Presidential adviser Walt W. Rostow wrote Sen. Griffin at the time he offered the bill that the idea was similar to one proposed by President Johnson on June 19, 1967 but not accepted by the Russians. That proposal called for public disclosure of all Middle East arms shipments. Defense Department officials said today the Russian freeze maneuver was perilous to Israel because Russia would not hesitate to pour more arms into the leftist Arab states as soon as present supplies are absorbed, while U.S. deliveries to Israel would be inhibited. The Moscow correspondent of the Washington Post pointed out today that Mr. Kosygin's proposals on arms limitation came just four days after Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko had hinted publicly that Moscow might be ready to join in a great-power guarantee of the Arab-Israeli frontiers and almost on the eve of the Moscow visit of President Nasser of Egypt.

Two New York Democrats, Rep. Bertram Podell and Rep. Benjamin Rosenthal, warned of possible trickery in the Soviet proposal. Mr. Podell said that the Soviet "hints" about an arms limitation must not be permitted to jeopardize Israel's security. Mr. Rosenthal, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said the sale of the Phantoms to Israel remained a matter of "top priority."

'Telegraph' Reports Friction Growing Between Egyptians, Russians

LONDON, July 2 (JTA)--The Telegraph reported from Beirut today that friction is growing between Egyptians and their Russian instructors and advisors in the military and industrial establishments. According to correspondent Richard Beeston, resentment of the Russians' rigid discipline and Communist indoctrination is especially acute in the Egyptian Army which dismissed 30 officers in recent weeks for adopting "anti-Soviet attitudes."

The Egyptians are also complaining about the lack of modern offensive weapons from Russia, particularly missiles, Mr. Beeston reported. He said that Russia's rearmament of Egypt appears to have come to a halt and the Soviets are now sending only spare parts for which the Egyptians pay dearly. These are among the subjects that President Nasser is expected to take up with Soviet leaders when he flies to Moscow on Thursday, Mr. Beeston said.

Eric Downton, writing in the same newspaper, said today that Egypt has received all the military equipment from Russia that it can properly handle at this time. But Mr. Nasser is expected to ask Moscow for more up-to-date weaponry including missiles and war planes even though the quality of Egyptian pilots still leaves much to be desired, he wrote. The Russians, said Mr. Downton, are almost certain to demand and get more extensive facilities at Egyptian naval and air bases. According to the writer, the Russians do not want to risk the destruction of the revolutionary governments in Cairo, Baghdad and Damascus in another war with Israel. Therefore, they are expected to counsel moderation toward Israel in the United Nations. "For Russian Middle East tactics, it is better that Israel should exist," Mr. Downton wrote.

Two Arab Infiltrators, Seven Israeli Soldiers Wounded In Beisan Valley Battle

TEL AVIV, July 2 (JTA)--Two Arab marauders were killed and seven Israeli soldiers were wounded yesterday in a fierce clash near Kibbutz Hamadiyah in the Beisan Valley. Bloodstains found in the battle area indicated that one or more guerrillas were wounded and carried back across the Jordan River by their comrades, a military spokesman reported. Israeli soldiers combing the area after the battle were fired on twice from Jordanian positions on the East Bank. A quantity of arms and ammunition was found as well as bazooka shells coupled to a timing device and aimed at Hamadiyah. The latter were timed to fire in the early morning hours. They were dismantled.

An El Fatah member was sentenced to five years by a military tribunal in Nablus today after he told the court that he became ill with arthritis while undergoing commando training at an El Fatah camp in Syria. Twenty-one year-old Moayed Kammal was found guilty of membership in the Arab terrorist organization. He said the training that caused his illness was a course in crossing rivers under fire. It was instituted, Kammal said, because of the heavy casualties suffered by El Fatah bands while trying to infiltrate Israeli territory across the Jordan River. The Syrian trainers filled canals with ice-cold water and had the recruits plunge through while their instructors fired machineguns over their heads, Kammal said.

Defense Minister Gen. Moshe Dayan and Brig. Gen. David Elazar, the northern area commander, inspected strategic settlements in the Golan Heights area today. They were accompanied by Jewish Agency settlement department officials. They showed special interest in the living conditions of the settlers and in prospects for agricultural development in the area.

Confrontation Seen Between Orthodox, Reform On Issue Of Praying At Western Wall

JERUSALEM, July 2 (JTA)--A confrontation was shaping up today between Israel's Orthodox religious establishment and a movement of Reform Judaism which is holding an international convention here and insists that it has the right to worship at the Western Wall according to its practice of men and women praying together. The Ministry of Religious Affairs has barred access to the shrine for mixed prayers by members of the World Union for Progressive Judaism. Since it cannot use force to uphold the ban, the religious political party, Mizrahi-Hapoel Hamizrachi, and the Orthodox youth movement, Bnei Akiva, have summoned their members to mass prayers on Thursday hoping to prevent access to the Wall by sheer numbers.

The Reform group appealed the ban to the Knesset (Parliament) and the Cabinet. A ministerial committee of the latter met yesterday without conclusive results. Bui spokesmen for the World Union for Progressive Judaism declared that it will hold mixed prayers at the Western Wall as scheduled. Their position is that the Wall is a shrine of all Jews, not one particular branch of Judaism.

Their position is shared by a majority of Israelis. A public opinion poll on the dispute found that 41 percent of all adults questioned favored allowing the Reform Jews to conduct their prayers in any way they saw fit. Twenty-six percent shared the Orthodox stand that there is no room for a Reform movement in Israel. Thirty-three percent had no opinion. Delegates from 24 countries representing over one million Reform and Liberal Jews are attending the parley.

Common Market Extends Customs Arrangements With Israel For Another Year

BRUSSELS, July 2 (JTA)--The Council of Ministers of the European Economic Community has decided to extend for the period of one year the temporary reduction of customs duties on certain items imported from Israel by member states. The original agreement granted Israel certain customs advantages up to June, 1968. Israel has been pressing for an associate membership status in the Common Market.

King Baudouin of Belgium, received Ambassador Gideon Rafael, director-general of the Israel Foreign Ministry, in a private audience this morning. Mr. Rafael met yesterday with Belgian Foreign Minister Pierre Harmel for a discussion of Israel's relations with the European communities.

Israel Announces It Will Not Renew 14-Year-Old Trade Agreement With Poland

JERUSALEM, July 2 (JTA)--The Foreign Ministry announced today that Israel will not renew its 14-year-old trade pact with Poland which expires next October 1 and has so informed the Polish Government through the Dutch Embassy in Warsaw, which is handling Israeli affairs in that country. Poland severed diplomatic relations with Israel following the June 1967, Arab-Israeli war. According to a Foreign Ministry spokesman, trade between the two countries has been at a standstill since the rupture, but Poland owes Israel more than \$2.5 million within the framework of their agreement.

The termination of the trade agreement will end the agreement on payments as well, the Ministry spokesman said. The trade pact was signed in 1954 and renewed itself automatically unless intention to terminate it was announced by either party three months prior to the renewal date. Apart from the break in diplomatic ties, Israel's relations with Poland have deteriorated markedly during the past six months owing to the intensive anti-Jewish campaign instituted by the Warsaw regime and the mass purge of Jews from high posts in the Polish Government and Communist Party apparatus on charges of "Zionist" sympathies. In contrast to Poland, Israel continues to maintain formal trade relations with other Eastern European countries that broke diplomatic ties after the Six-Day War. Some of these have lately shown interest in widening their trade with Israel. Israel has both trade and diplomatic relations with Rumania.

Farbstein Seeks To Deprive Poland Of Most Favored Nation Trade Status

WASHINGTON, July 2 (JTA)--Rep. Leonard Farbstein, New York Democrat and member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, announced in the House today that he would offer an amendment to the Foreign Aid Bill to deprive Poland of her "most favored nation" status because of its unrelenting Polish anti-Semitism.

Rep. Seymour Halpern, New York Republican, disclosed that he was reviewing "various export licenses issued to Poland, including strategic goods like computers that are used in the munitions industry." He said that Poland has "not only defied the conscience of civilized humanity in its barbarous revival of anti-Semitism but Polish weapons are being shipped to the Arab states as well as to North Vietnam." He said "we can dramatize our disgust with the Warsaw Communist regime by terminating the export licenses the Administration has seen fit to issue."

Thousand University Professors Back Artur Rubinstein Protest On Polish Anti-Semitism

NEW YORK, July 2 (JTA)--One thousand university professors from 100 campuses across the United States called on the Polish Government today to end its "appalling anti-Semitic campaign" directed at that country's Jewish community. In a half-page advertisement appearing in the New York Times under the auspices of the Academic Committee on Soviet Jewry, the professors expressed support of views voiced by the Polish-born musician, Artur Rubinstein, in a letter published in the Times April 28.

Mr. Rubinstein had accused "potent reactionary forces" in the Warsaw regime of having "whipped up" anti-Semitism as a "weapon in a power struggle, a scapegoat for popular discontent, a smoke-screen for economic and political ills, an instrument to stifle progressive reforms demanded by the intelligentsia and students." The letter compared recent dismissals and arrests of Jews and intellectuals in Poland with the "anti-Semitic purges of 1948-52" in the Soviet Union.

Conference Says Rabbi Levin Errs In Statement USSR Has 85 Ordained Rabbis

NEW YORK, July 2 (JTA)--The American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry expressed today a difference of opinion with Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin and the Soviet mission to the United Nations on certain conditions of Soviet Jewry. "We were very pleased that Rabbi Levin and Cantor David Stiskin (of Lenin-grad) were given permission to come to the United States and that they were so warmly received by the U.S. Jewish community," Rabbi Israel Miller, head of the Conference, commented. "At the same time, we are concerned about a negative element which might blur the plight of Soviet Jewry."

Rabbi Levin, before leaving yesterday for Montreal en route home, said there were 85 seminary-trained and ordained rabbis functioning in the Soviet Union. Rabbi Miller said that, according to the Conference's information, there are three or perhaps four practicing, ordained rabbis for the 2.5 million Jews in European Russia.

"If there are 82 others in central Asia or smaller communities, they may be practicing but not ordained or ordained but not practicing. Or they may be the rabbis of Oriental communities," he said. "But this does not solve the problem of such communities as Kiev which has several hundred thousand Jews and no rabbis or Moscow which has 500,000 Jews and one rabbi."

The Conference also replied to a statistical analysis, provided by the Soviet mission, on Russian Jews in higher education, science, research, technology and industrial management, which purports to indicate that Jews are proportionally well represented with respect to other elements of the Russian population in these fields.

"About Jews in these fields -- this is not really the major problem of Jews in the Soviet Union," Rabbi Miller said. "It falls into the category of 'some of my best friends are Jews.' Our major concern is suffocation of Jewish culture and religion, and therefore just bringing out statistics about how many Jews are in colleges and in the various fields does not respond to the major charge," Rabbi Miller contended.

Council For Jewish Culture Denies Claim There Is No Official Anti-Semitism In USSR

The Congress for Jewish Culture disputed a statement by Rabbi Levin that there was no official anti-Semitism in Russia and that Soviet Jews enjoyed the same rights as all other ethnic minorities there. The executive board of the Congress said in a statement today that "Jews have been blatantly excepted

from the cultural rights granted all other nationalities in the USSR. We categorically deny the official explanations of the Soviet representatives. They are false and dishonest. The fact that Chief Rabbi Levin is repeating all the official explanations of the ruling circles is but another example of the tragic situation of the Soviet Jews. It is understood that he does not represent the secular Jews of the Soviet Union, which he himself admits are in the great majority. Yet it is apparent that he is not even free to express the actual thoughts and feelings of Russia's religious Jewish community," the statement said.

Beckerle Illness Delays Former Envoy's War Crimes Trial In Frankfurt

BONN, July 2 (JTA)--The trial of Adolf Beckerle, the war-time Nazi minister in Sofia, Bulgaria, was halted in Frankfurt today because of the defendant's illness. Under German law, a new trial will have to be held if the original trial is interrupted for more than 10 days.

Authorities announced in Berlin yesterday that the one-time number two Nazi, Rudolph Hess, will be removed from his special jail at Spandau prison to another prison, which was not specified. Mr. Hess, who is serving a life sentence for Nazi war crimes, was Hitler's deputy when he flew to Britain in 1940 to try to negotiate peace.

Mr. Beckerle's lawyer, Egon Geis, said that owing to the latest development he would not insist on calling West German Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger as a defense witness. Mr. Kiesinger, who was a German Army officer at the time, was said to have had contacts with Mr. Beckerle who is charged with participating in the mass deportation and eventual murder of more than 11,000 Bulgarian Jews. Unaffected by Mr. Beckerle's illness is the trial of his co-defendant, Fritz Von Hahn, who was secretary of the Nazi legation in Sofia. He is being tried on the same charges.

Hold Arab In Shooting Of Jewish Cantor In Brazilian Provincial Town

SAO PAULO, Brazil, July 2 (JTA)--A Brazilian of Arab origin is being held in the shooting of a Jewish ritual slaughterer and cantor in Curitiba, the provincial capital of Parana state, it was reported here today. The suspect, Saaid Morched Khazol, is accused of firing three bullets into the neck of Moshe Getstein who serves the 3,000 member Jewish community of Curitiba. The shooting occurred last month, setting off a manhunt in the remote province in the southeastern corner of Brazil. Mr. Getstein was released from the hospital today with the three bullets still lodged in his neck after doctors apparently decided against operating. However, his eye-sight is endangered by the wound.

Agudist World Executive Calls For Strengthening Of Traditional Jewish Education

GENEVA, July 2 (JTA)--Some 50 delegates from Israel, the United States and Europe to the World Executive of Agudas Israel, meeting at Locarno, called for the strengthening of traditional Jewish education and the establishment of a new Agudas educational central office to coordinate and intensify the spread of Torah education. The participants included Rabbi L. M. Levin of Israel, chairman of the Agudas world movement, and Dr. I. I. Lewin of New York, chairman of the Agudas in the United States.

Special functions were assigned to U.S. and European executives although the headquarters of the movement will remain in Jerusalem. Great concern was expressed about the situation of Jews in Arab countries. It was decided to convene a meeting of the full World Council of Agudas Israel in December in Jerusalem.

Black Power Leader Tells NCRAC Integration Is 'Threat' To Negro's Cultural Identity

SAN FRANCISCO, July 2 (JTA)--An advocate of Black separatism last night described integration as a threat to the Negro's cultural identity and argued before 250 Jewish community relations leaders for partitioning an independent Negro "homeland" in the United States where blacks could create a "majority culture." His separatist arguments ran contrary to the views of the agencies comprising the National Community Relations Advisory Council, who have rejected "separate but equal" as "equally fallacious whether advanced by white segregationists or Negro separatists."

Prof. Robert S. Browne of Fairleigh Dickinson University, a leader in the Black Power Conference told the NCRAC plenary session here that "full integration can only mean full assimilation -- a loss of racial identity." He said that "this sobering prospect has caused many a black integrationist to pause and reflect, even as have some of his similarly challenged Jewish counterparts."

Bayard Rustin, the Negro civil rights leader, who debated the issue with Prof. Browne before the NCRAC gathering, rejected separatism as "totally unrealistic." The Negro community lacked economic, political and sociological elements for a viable partitioned state, Mr. Rustin said.

Neighbor Denies At Hearing He Tried To Block Sale Of House Because Buyer Was Jewish

NEWARK, N.J., July 2 (JTA)--A New Jersey businessman denied at a hearing before the State Civil Rights Division here yesterday that he had acted to prevent the sale of a neighbor's house in the affluent suburb of Essex Fells because the prospective buyer was a Jew. John C. McDonough, a tire dealer and a member of the State's Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission, admitted that he objected to the sale of the house to Myron S. Lehman, a Jewish lawyer of Short Hills, N.J., but for other reasons.

Mr. McDonough's hearing, which opened yesterday, was the first civil rights case in which neighbors who allegedly violated anti-discrimination statutes faced punitive damages, according to George S. Pfau, director of the New Jersey State Division of Civil Rights. Mr. Pfau is serving as hearing officer in the case.