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Egyptian Jet Is Shot Down In Sixth Day Of Fighting In Suez Canal Zone

TEL AVIV, April 14 (JTA) -- An Israeli Army officer was killed and three soldiers were wounded in the sixth consecutive day of Egyptian shelling across the Suez Canal. Israeli jets shot down one Egyptian Mig-21 and drove off others in a dog fight over the waterway today. A military spokesman said the Israeli fighters scrambled when Egyptian Migs attempted to invade Israeli air space. One Mig was seen crashing in Egyptian territory as the others turned tail and fled. All Israeli planes returned safely to their bases, the spokesman reported.

The Israeli fatality was identified as Lt. Omri Tachover, 21, of Kibbutz Gvaram. The Egyptian barrage, preceded by rifle and machinegun fire, began at midday, halted and was resumed at about 4:00 p.m. local time. The main targets were in the area of Port Tewfik near the southern end of the canal. The shooting later spread to the Great Bitter Lake area and Ismailia further north. Israeli gunners accepted a UN cease-fire call at 6:00 p.m. local time. The Egyptians however, continued their shelling until 6:45 p.m.

The downed Mig was the fourth Egyptian combat plane shot down by Israeli fighters over the Suez Canal this year. Cairo radio claimed that one Israeli Mirage jet was shot down and another hit in the clash. Egypt also claimed that in the last six days of fighting along the waterway, Israel suffered 200 dead or wounded, lost a dozen tanks, an ammunition truck convoy and scores of halftracks.

Tell Rogers Jews Fear U.S. Policy Drift Is Away From Negotiated Mideast Peace

WASHINGTON, April 14 (JTA) -- The chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations told Secretary of State William P. Rogers today that American Jews were "deeply worried" about "the apparent drift in United States policy on the Middle East away from an insistence on a negotiated peace between the Arab states and Israel." Rabbi Herschel Schacter of New York, heading a delegation of 22 Jewish leaders meeting with Secretary Rogers, voiced "concern and agitation" over the prospect that current Four Power talks would "absolve the Arab states from their responsibility to settle their differences directly with Israel."

Rabbi Schacter told Mr. Rogers: "If King Hussein is serious about his six-point plan (proposed last week), let him call a halt to terrorism and immediately enter into talks with Israel. This is the only true way of effectively implementing the United Nations Nov. 22, 1967 resolution. The test of the Arab desire for peace with Israel is a willingness to talk peace with Israel," he added. "Such direct talks should be the direction and goal of American policy in the Mideast. Anything else will encourage the intransigence of the Arab governments in rejecting all constructive proposals for negotiations leading to an agreed and lasting peace."

The meeting, held at Secretary Rogers' invitation, was an outgrowth of the National Leadership Conference on Peace in the Middle East held in New York in March. Rabbi Schacter gave Mr. Rogers a copy of a resolution unanimously adopted at the parley which declared that U.S. Jews were "united and resolute as never before in support of Israel's determination to exercise the inalienable right of self-defense and to pursue a lasting peace within secure and recognized boundaries."

Hints Of Pressure To Force Acceptance Of Big Four Terms Deepen Concern

Rabbi Schacter said that U.S. Jews were "worried" about the Nixon Administration's entry into Four Power talks with Britain, France and the Soviet Union. This uneasiness, he said, had been "deepened" by Mr. Rogers press conference statement last week that "the force of public opinion" would be used to bring about a Mideast settlement and by the "failure to condemn terrorist activity in the joint statement issued by President Nixon and King Hussein" following the monarch's visit here last week.

(Mr. Rogers also told the press last week that the governments of the Mideast "would want to think long and hard before they turned (a Big Four agreement on a formula for a settlement) down". He also said that the U.S. does "not intend and will not seek to impose a settlement on Israel." The Secretary had been questioned about the differences between an imposed and "recommended" peace. He said that "there are lots of ways to influence people" without forcing them to comply. He pointed out that the international community exercises influences so powerful that the Mideast governments cannot ignore them.)

Rabbi Schacter told Secretary Rogers that the "Arab governments are seeking to conjure up a false threat of immediate conflagration in the Mideast. They hope and expect that the Big Four, appalled by such a prospect, will join forces in an effort to bring about Israel's withdrawal from the areas which have come under its administration since the Six-Day War." He added, "Only a full and final peace, freely arrived at by the parties themselves, can open a new chapter between the belligerents and be a blessing to the Middle East and the world."

Rogers Affirms That U.S. Policy On Middle East Has Not Been Changed

Secretary Rogers reassured the delegation that there was "no substantive change" in the American Middle East policy involving Israel, Rabbi Schacter reported after the meeting. He quoted the secretary as declaring that any peace must be "juridically defined" and "contractually binding." Mr. Rogers stressed, Rabbi Schacter said, that there would be no phased withdrawal without a total package settlement.

In the meeting, which Rabbi Schacter described as "a cordial exchange of ideas," the Secretary of State reiterated his statement on Middle East policy which he had made to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and assured the delegation that there had been no change.

Amery Warns Against 'Middle East Yalta' Emerging From Big Four Talks

NEW YORK, April 14 (JTA) -- Julian Amery, former British Minister of Aviation, told a leadership meeting of the Zionist Organization of America here today in connection with the Big Four talks, that the Western world "should avoid a Middle East Yalta."

Mr. Amery, a Conservative Party leader who opposed British withdrawal from Egypt in 1956, declared that "if the Soviet wish to disengage from the Mideast, then the Big Four talks may be fruitful. But if, as I fear, they intend to maintain a quasi-colonial position in Egypt and Syria, then it would be quite wrong for the West to ask Israel to make any concessions with respect to the Sinai and the Golan Heights." He noted that Jordan, as a Western-oriented state, "has much to fear from an extension of Soviet power as Israel."

Mr. Amery said he did not believe that the world would ever agree to the division of Jerusalem. He said "there must be free access to the city for all and free access to the city for all means freedom to come and go and freedom to trade between Israel and Jordan."

Terrorists Stage Fake Raids On Israel To Impress Foreign Journalists

TEL AVIV, April 14 (JTA) -- El Fatah, the principle terrorist group operating in Jordan, is staging fake raids on "Israeli territory" for the benefit of foreign journalists, it was learned here today from West Bank residents recently returned from Jordan.

According to the reports, El Fatah is trying to maintain its reputation as an effective guerrilla force by inviting journalists to accompany commando units on ostensible sorties against Israel. The journalists are taken by truck during the night to the banks of the Zarka River, a small tributary of the Jordan which the guerrillas pass off as the genuine Jordan River.

While the correspondent waits, the guerrillas ford the stream with rubber tubes. They return shortly and report that they have planted explosives under an "Israeli power station." The journalist is supposed to be convinced of their story by an explosion which follows a few minutes later.

The returned travellers said that El Fatah also stages fake gun-battles across the spurious Jordan with their own men firing over each other's heads from opposite banks for the benefit of the news media.

A military spokesman disclosed today that Israeli jets attacked an El Fatah base in Karameh village in Jordan yesterday during a series of artillery exchanges across the Jordan River. He said there were no casualties on the Israeli side.

Saboteurs blew up a water reservoir about 300 yards from the Lebanese border in Kibbutz Manera in Upper Galilee last night. Fragments of the mine indicated that it was Chinese-made. A search yielded a road mine nearby which was dismantled. There were no casualties. An Israeli patrol silenced a band of saboteurs which attacked it in the Beisan area this morning.

Police arrested two East Jerusalem Arab youths in connection with yesterday's bomb explosion at the Interior Ministry's branch office in the Old City. No one was hurt in the blast.

Mayor Lindsay Designates Next Week As Israel Independence Week In New York

NEW YORK, April 14 (JTA) -- Mayor John V. Lindsay, in ceremonies at City Hall today, proclaimed the week of April 20-26 as Israel Independence Week in New York City. The mayor read out his proclamation in the presence of Consul General R. Amir, Consul Nahum Eshkol, Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the American Zionist Council, and other Jewish leaders.

Brandt Says Cabinet Will Rule Next Week On Statute Of Limitations On War Crimes

BONN, April 14 (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Willy Brandt told newsmen today that the issues of the statute of limitations on war crimes prosecutions and a ban on the ultra right-wing National Democratic Party (NPD) would be dealt with and settled by the Cabinet at its next meeting on April 24. Mr. Brandt gave his assurances in reply to questions by JTA correspondent Alfred Wolfmann.

Dr. Brandt said that "Chancellor Kiesinger and myself do agree that, with regard to the statute of limitations, this government must take a decision to clear up the whole matter." Asked by JTA if this meant the statute would be eliminated for crimes of murder but not for acts of genocide committed during the Nazi period, as some German political figures have proposed, the Foreign Minister replied, "We do not take the view that genocide during the Nazi period has to be excluded." The statute which would bar further prosecution of Nazi war criminals, is scheduled to go into effect on Dec. 31, 1969.

Jewish Weeklies Reject Lord Snow's Theory Of Jewish Genetic Superiority

NEW YORK, April 14 (JTA) -- Three leading English-Jewish weeklies have rejected a suggestion made by the British writer and physicist C. P. Snow that the outstanding performance of Jews in most fields of human endeavor might be attributed to a genetically superior endowment. Lord Snow delivered his remarks in an address at the founders day exercises of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion here. He cited as one basis for this theory the disproportionate number of Jews on the roster of Nobel Prize winners.

The Jewish News of Newark, N.J., observed in an editorial that "claims based on race or blood lines generally rely on and project stereotypes" that have been "damaging sociologically as well as unprovable scientifically. Until Lord Snow can back up his theory with hard facts, we prefer to attribute the success of individual Jews to old fashioned hard work inspired by a host of objective factors related to home and social environment," the paper said.

The Jewish Advocate of Boston said, "Lord Snow would do well to rely on Toynbee's 'Challenge-response' historical theory rather than on quite absurd speculations about gene-pools. For we fear that all this has a narcotic effect on many Jews leading them to identify with the great men of the past and present, without themselves contributing to the store of the world's wisdom." The theory proposed by the British historian Arnold Toynbee in his "Survey of History" is that most civilizations developed and rose in response to the challenge of severe environmental or sociological adversities. The Cleveland Jewish News said in an editorial, "We thank Professor Snow for his tribute, if that's what it is, but we believe him to be on the wrong track. It is neither inbreeding over the centuries, as he surmises, or even the precious tradition of Jewish learning. It is simply and starkly, that Iron Maiden of Jewish life, the Jewish Mother."

Slomovitz, Detroit Editor-Publisher, Presents 1,700 Volumes To Library In Jerusalem

JERUSALEM, April 14 (JTA) -- Philip Slomovitz, editor and publisher of the Detroit Jewish News, an English-Jewish weekly, has presented 1,700 books as a gift to the Jewish National and University Library here. The bulk of the volumes deal with Jewish subjects, mainly Jewish history and contemporary American Jewish problems and ideologies. A small number of the books are in Yiddish. Mr. Slomovitz said he would present additional books to the library, among them more Judaica and children's books.

Passover Food Sent To Cuban Jews Arrived In Time For Holidays, CJCongress Reports

MONTREAL, April 14 (JTA) -- More than six tons of Passover food supplies and 1,400 bottles of wine sent by the Canadian Jewish Congress (United Jewish Relief Agencies of Canada) to needy Jews in Cuba arrived safely in Havana in time for the holidays, the CJCongress reports. The CJCongress has been shipping Passover supplies to Cuba in response to urgent appeals since 1961. This year's shipment included over 8,000 pounds of matzoh meal. This and other Passover foods were purchased in Britain and shipped directly from London to Havana because of a longshoremen's strike in New York which threatened long delays in the shipment of the foods from their normal sources in the United States, the CJCongress said.

Sammy Davis, Jr. Will Visit Israel To Perform For Troops In Hospitals, Camps

TEL AVIV, April 14 (JTA) -- Sammy Davis Jr., the American Negro entertainer who adopted the Jewish faith, will visit Israel in July to give a benefit performance for wounded Israeli soldiers and to perform for troops in Israeli military camps. Mr. Davis' plans were disclosed by his New York attorney, Leon Charney, who is arranging the tour. He said the entertainer refused to consider any payment for performing in Israel because "when I come to my homeland I don't want to make money there." He will visit Israel with an entourage of 14 American celebrities including former world heavyweight champion Joe Louis.

Shaare Tzedek Director Charges That Propaganda Campaign Is Financed From New York

JERUSALEM, April 14 (JTA) -- The director of Shaare Tzedek hospital whose home was vandalized by 79 religious zealots last week charged at a press conference today that a propaganda campaign against him by ultra-Orthodox sects was being financed by a resident of New York. The zealots smashed furniture in the home of Dr. David Maier and knocked down his aged mother in protest against the doctor's refusal to ban autopsies at the hospital which is patronized almost exclusively by Orthodox Jews.

The vandals' attack was attributed to the ultra Orthodox "Eidah Haredit" sect, a group that does not recognize the State of Israel and regards the Satmar Rebbe in New York as its spiritual leader. Dr. Maier said today that Orthodox patients were continuing to use the hospital contrary to the sect's claim that it was being boycotted. He noted that the daughter-in-law of Rabbi Joseph Sheinberger, leader of the "Eidah Haredit" had just registered for the hospital's maternity ward.

Dr. Maier, a pathologist originally from New York and himself Orthodox, has followed the policy set by his predecessor at the hospital which is to let the officiating rabbi rule when a post mortem is permissible according to Jewish religious law. The extremist groups do not recognize the hospital's rabbi whom they allege is not sufficiently Orthodox. Dr. Maier charged that the sect was using "Hitlerian techniques" in its campaign against him.

Argentine Students Set Up Committee For Defense Of Jews In Soviet Union

BUENOS AIRES, April 14 (JTA) -- Argentine university students have set up a University Committee for the Defense of Soviet Jews in the aftermath of a three-day seminar on "the Plight of Jews in the Soviet Union and new Forms of anti-Semitism."

Sorensen Says Nixon Initiative In Pushing For Big 4 Solution Could Lead To 'Disaster'

NEW YORK, April 14 (JTA) -- Theodore Sorensen, one-time adviser to the late President John F. Kennedy, declared here that the initiative of President Richard M. Nixon in pushing for a Big Power solution to the Arab-Israel conflict might produce a peace package which "could be the path to disaster." Speaking at the Derech Amuno synagogue here, Mr. Sorensen also said that "the worst foreign policy mistake of President Nixon's first year on his own in the White House may well be his effort to Americanize the pursuit of peace in the Middle East." He declared that the Nixon Administration had been "more energetic about trying to settle someone else's war" than in settling its own--the Vietnam conflict. He asserted that the United States could be helpful in the Middle East "not by helping to prepare a Big Four package--for two of the four are not really so 'big' and their package has more liabilities than assets--but by working primarily with the Soviet Union, the one real power in the area whose interest cannot be excluded even while we hope to minimize her presence, to help the parties to settle (the conflict) themselves."

He proposed four steps by which, he contended, the Nixon Administration could help to bring about more tranquil conditions in the Middle East while concentrating on the task of settling the Vietnam war. He said the United States should improve the atmosphere for direct Arab-Israel talks, encouraging the two sides "to meet and negotiate on a realistic basis with each other instead of nurturing the notion that our talks will make theirs unnecessary."

Mr. Sorensen said the U.S. should urge "our Arab friends" to engage in such talks by making it clear to them there was nothing to be gained by waiting and by offering to help them economically and otherwise through the domestic difficulties "they will then face." A third step, he said, would be to provide both resources and opportunities for settlement of the Arab refugees. He said their number was "in fact small compared to the number of refugees resettled after wars in world history. Most importantly," he added, "we can stop the supply of outside arms to the Middle East." He said that if the Soviet Union really wanted peace in the Middle East, "these are the steps to peace."

Says That U.S. Should Open Doors To Arab Refugees, Jews In Arab Lands

As part of his refugee proposal, he proposed that the U.S. open its doors to a number of the Arab refugees "and at the same time invite the immigration of all those Jews now existing as prisoners or hostages in Arab lands." He added it was "inhumane" for the U.S. not to help in every way the exodus of all Jews still in Arab states who want to leave.

As one of his objections to the Big Four talks at the UN, he said the U.S. was meeting with two nations--the Soviet Union and France--who have been consistently pro-Arab and anti-Israel and one nation, Britain, likely to yield to any compromise re-opening the Suez Canal and "safeguarding the flow of Arab oil." He said out of such talks was likely to come a settlement prepared by outsiders which will again trade away Israel's security, and that again, Israel, as in 1957, will be asked to do "what Arab forces could never make her do--return to boundaries that have proved to be wholly insecure and rely on UN forces and outside guarantees that have proven to be sadly ineffective." He added that there was a strong possibility that all the hopes and expectations aroused by the Big Four meetings would fail, that neither side would be politically able to accept a Big Four-proposed settlement or able to enforce it, and that the United Nations and the U.S. would suffer another blow "they can ill afford" while "an atmosphere of frustration and gloom will heighten the tension and the prospects of war throughout the Mideast."

31 Cases On Church-State Disputes Are Pending In Courts, AJCongress Reports

NEW YORK, April 14 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress reported today that 31 cases involving disputes over church-state relations were awaiting decisions in Federal and state courts, the largest number of them--13-- involving the issue of public aid to sectarian schools. The information was contained in a report of a national survey conducted by the AJCongress' Commission and Law and Social Action which was released by George Soll, Commission chairman. The report also asserted that there was "greater compliance" with the Supreme Court's decisions of 1963 barring religious practices in public schools than with the Court's 1954 decision outlawing racial segregation in schools. Mr. Soll said the cases concerning state aid to parochial schools all revolved around the First Amendment which says "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." Leo Pfeffer, special counsel to the AJCongress, said that while many rural communities, particularly in the South, disregarded the Court's ban on Bible reading in public schools, the incidence of defiance was "minor" compared with "the tremendous extent of complying with the rulings in every major city."

Justice Douglas Tells Canadians That Israel Should Retain Golan Heights, Jerusalem

MONTREAL, April 14 (JTA) -- William O. Douglas, Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court, told a Histadrut event yesterday that he believes Israel should hold on to the Golan Heights and Jerusalem. Justice Douglas, addressing 500 guests at a banquet launching the Montreal Histadrut Campaign's 45th annual drive, said that the "hatred of Arab leaders against Israel is the hatred of Middle East overlords disturbed by the tremendous achievements of Israel." Canadians should "close ranks behind Israel," he said, because the Jewish State is a "burning light of hope for all free people" in a world divided between regimented and free nations. Mr. Douglas said that Histadrut can help meet the basic need for skilled technicians in underdeveloped nations. He said that he had seen Histadrut people at work in Kenya and would see them again shortly when visiting a Histadrut project in Brazil.