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Newspaper Of Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee Voices Criticism Of El Fatah

LONDON, April 15 (JTA) -- A Soviet newspaper published by the Central Committee of the Communist Party has criticized El Fatah, the Arab terrorist organization, and said its vow to destroy Israel was unrealistic.

The article in "Soviet Russia" expressed "mixed feelings of sympathy" for El Fatah but "some doubts about their methods of struggle." It was the first time that Arab guerrillas have been even mildly criticized in an official Soviet organ. Although their activities have not received much publicity in Russia, the official position has been that Arab commandos are a legitimate popular resistance movement.

Hussein Said To Be Planning Jordanian Commando Operations To Compete With Fatah

WASHINGTON, April 15 (JTA) -- King Hussein of Jordan is said to be seeking from the United States weapons and counter-insurgency equipment that could be used in guerrilla warfare. He may be planning to establish a Hashemite Kingdom guerrilla force to compete with the El Fatah terrorist organization whose popularity and boldness is growing in Jordan, well-informed sources say. The counter-insurgency devices reportedly sought may include electronic and other equipment developed by the U.S. for use in Vietnam. The weaponry is said to include light mortars, light machineguns, plastic explosives of a new and sophisticated design, and the latest mines.

It was not clear, the sources said, whether he wanted the materiel for use against the El Fatah, which is competing for popular support with his regime and opposes a peace settlement with Israel, or against the Israelis. A better knowledge of detection apparatus and methods would equip the Arabs to deal with similar equipment used by the Israeli defense forces.

Reports have circulated in Jerusalem that King Hussein plans to form his own guerrilla organization and that the former Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin el-Husseini, is in charge of the operation. The young monarch has had limited effectiveness in controlling the Palestinian Arabs who are using Jordan as a base for assaults and sabotage in Israel. An El Fatah rocket attack on Israel's port of Eilat last week led to the arrest of Fatah guerrillas and tensions between that terrorist organization and King Hussein's loyal Bedouin army in Amman.

The King has repeatedly defended the guerrilla movement during his current U.S. trip. He said at a dinner yesterday in New York given by the U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce and the American-Arab Chamber of Commerce and Industry that the commandos were homeless men who have "taken matters into their own hands in the only way they could." He declared that when the Palestinian refugees are permitted to return to their homes or are given compensation by Israel, "the need for commando action will cease to exist." But until that happens, he said, the guerrillas will "continue in operation with the encouragement of the entire Arab world."

See Terrorist Broadcast As Implicit Threat To King Hussein

JERUSALEM, April 15 (JTA) -- The El Fatah radio station in Cairo voiced an implicit threat against King Hussein of Jordan yesterday in connection with the six-point Mideast peace plan proposed by the monarch in Washington last week. The El Fatah broadcast did not mention the King by name but warned that "the Palestinian people will know how to deal with anyone who is ready to recognize Israel." The El Fatah spokesman said the "Palestine revolution will never be abandoned until our entire country is liberated."

(The London Daily Telegraph reported from Amman today that Arab guerrilla leaders have rejected King Hussein's Washington proposals. They said, "Our policy is clear. We are determined to liberate the whole of Palestine and no agreement short of this reached by Arab rulers will deter us from the struggle," the Telegraph reported.)

Egyptian Artillery Resumes Suez Shelling But Israelis Suffer No Casualties

TEL AVIV, April 15 (JTA) -- Egyptian artillery resumed shelling Israeli positions across the Suez Canal shortly after noon today. The Egyptians continued firing for 90 minutes after a cease-fire had been arranged by UN observers and kept up sporadic shooting for another half hour after a second cease-fire was to have gone into effect. An Israeli military spokesman said the Egyptian artillery concentrated on the Port Tewfik area and later spread to the Bitter Lakes section and Kantara near the canal's northern entrance. Israeli forces returned the fire but honored the cease-fire call of the UN until Egyptian actions forced them to resume shooting, the spokesman said. There were no Israeli casualties today.

Israeli and Jordanian forces fought two artillery duels around Ashdod Yaacov and Neve Urr in the Beisan Valley today. Israeli gunners scored direct hits on a Jordanian munitions truck and a recoilless gun position, both of which were seen to explode. The shooting began when Jordanians fired at an Israeli patrol near Ashdot Yaacov and at a tractor working the fields of Neve Urr. One Israeli border patrolman suffered slight injuries.

Saboteurs from Lebanon blew up a small bridge near the Yiftah settlement in Upper Galilee, about two miles from the Lebanese border. The sabotage act was the fourth in the area in recent days attributed to infiltrators from Lebanon. Israeli officials said the increased activity indicated that Lebanese authorities have relaxed surveillance of their own borders and are permitting saboteurs a freer hand.

Israel's casualties in yesterday's artillery battle along the Suez Canal mounted to two killed and two wounded. A military spokesman announced today that Private Israel Blai, of Kibbutz Hachoshrim, died of wounds. The other fatality announced yesterday was Lt. Omri Tachover, of Kibbutz Gvaram. Military sources disclosed that six Egyptian MIGs and four Israeli jets were involved in yesterday's aerial dogfight over the Suez Canal in which one of the Soviet-built Mig-21s was shot down. Its pilot was seen bailing out as the plane crashed on Egyptian territory. Israeli gunners were reported yesterday to have scored direct hits on Egyptian artillery positions, vehicles and bunkers and to have inflicted significant casualties.

Qualified observers regard the Suez battles, which have continued for a week and have been started by the Egyptians, as having the political and propagandistic aim of trying to convince the Big Four that a Mideast war is imminent and that they must step in to prevent it. What the Arabs seem to want, the sources said, is an "imposed settlement," which Israel opposes on the grounds that peace must be negotiated and contracted directly with her Arab foes. Any settlement forced on Israel is seen as probably involving a sacrifice in some form of the political cards it holds in its quest for security.

Big Four Reach Stalemate On Issue Of Declaration Of Intent, Post Reports

NEW YORK, April 15 (JTA) -- The Big Four have reached the first impasse in their talks on the Middle East, the New York Post reported today. According to the Post's United Nations reporter Michael J. Berlin, they disagree about a declaration of intent to carry out the provisions of the Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 resolution.

The Anglo-American position is that the Arab governments should declare their intent to end the state of belligerency and pledge to respect Israel's right to exist within recognized and secure borders before Israel declares its intent to withdraw to agreed borders, Mr. Berlin said. The Soviet Union and France insist however that Israel's intent to withdraw must come first, and the two powers wish to enter into the substance of defining specifically the extent of Israel's withdrawal, Mr. Berlin wrote.

According to the report, the difficulty arose at a meeting of the deputy ambassadors of the Four Powers last Thursday. The deputies were assigned the task of working up the draft declarations which Israel, Jordan and Egypt would be asked to sign. The Big Four powers held their third meeting yesterday at the Manhattan residence of the British Ambassador, Lord Caradon. They will hold a fourth meeting at the residence of U.S. Ambassador Charles Yost on Thursday.

The Post reported that the U.S. holds that the declarations would not be carried out until the borders themselves are defined--"by a process," it adds, "that has not yet itself been defined." Meetings of the deputies have been put off until the stalemate is resolved, at least until after Thursday's Big Four session, the Post cited diplomatic sources as saying.

Thant Tells Security Council His Hands Are Tied On Issue Of Jerusalem's Status

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 15 (JTA) -- Secretary-General U Thant has reported to the Security Council that he was unable to prevent Israel from implementing a law that would change East Jerusalem's legal status by requiring local businesses and professionals to obtain Israeli licenses. The law goes into effect on May 23. The legal status of East Jerusalem was the subject of a Security Council resolution of May 21, 1968 which declared changes in it null and void and called on Israel "to desist forthwith from taking further action which tends to change the status of Jerusalem." The resolution requested the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on its implementation.

Mr. Thant told Padma Bahadur Khatri, of Nepal, this month's president of the Security Council, that the last official information he had received on the subject from Israel was a note from Israel's Ambassador to the UN on March 25, 1969 which said that the Israel Government's position remained that of July, 1967, shortly after East Jerusalem was captured from Jordan in the Six-Day War. The law in question was passed by the Knesset on Aug. 14, 1968. Its implementation would disregard the Security Council's resolution passed three months earlier. It war originally intended to be put into effect several months ago. Following a Jordanian call for a Security Council meeting on the issue, the Israel Government announced last Feb. 10 that the law's effective date was postponed until May 23. But there was no evident intention to rescind it.

Heath Reported To Have Suggested To Stewart That UN Map Timetable On Canal Survey

LONDON, April 15 (JTA) -- Conservative Party leader Edward Heath has reportedly suggested in a letter to Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart that the United Nations map out a timetable for a survey of the southern end of the Suez Canal preliminary to clearing operations that would free 15 merchant ships stranded in the waterway since the June, 1967 war. Mr. Heath claimed on his return from visits to Israel and Egypt last week that leaders of both countries had agreed in principle to such an operation provided that it was carried out entirely under UN auspices. Mr. Heath was said to have informed Mr. Stewart that the Israelis were anxious for their commanders in the canal zone to have ample advance notice of any survey which might be undertaken in order to avoid the risk of incidents. He said, however that the actual start of a survey would have to await an easing of the present fighting across the Suez Canal.

Kollek Says An Independent Arab And Jewish Jerusalem Could Co-Exist If Peace Came

JERUSALEM, April 15 (JTA) -- Mayor Teddy Kollek expressed the "purely private" opinion here yesterday that "an independent Arab Jerusalem and an independent Jewish Jerusalem could exist side-by-side if peace came." Mayor Kollek, speaking at a press luncheon, also said he did not believe he would be a candidate for re-election to the office of Mayor, a post he has held since 1965. He said that when all other regional problems have been solved, "the problem of finding expression for Arab sovereignty within a greater Jerusalem should not be a stumbling block to peace." Mayor Kollek's candidacy has been in doubt because the Israel Labor Party so far has not agreed to the conditions on which he said he would run. These include direct election of the Mayor by the city's population and the inclusion of experts in addition to ward politicians on the City Council.

Israeli Communists Receive Warm Welcome From Counterparts In Rumania, Hungary

LONDON, April 15 (JTA) -- A delegation representing the Israel Communist Party has been given warm receptions in both Rumania and Hungary, it was reported here today. The Israeli Communists, led by Meir Wilner, the party's secretary, visited Rumania to discuss preparations for an international conference of Communist parties. They were received by Prime Minister Nicolae Ceausescu. In Hungary they were received by Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Hungarian Communist Party.

Goldmann Assails World Jewry For Apathy And Indifference At Time Of Holocaust

TEL AVIV, April 15 (JTA) -- Dr. Nahum Goldmann said today that apathy and indifference of world Jewry at the time that catastrophe was overtaking the Jews of Europe during World War II cost countless thousands of Jewish lives. Dr. Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress and former president of the World Zionist Organization, spoke in Haifa on the occasion of Holocaust Day, a memorial for the six million Jews who perished at Nazi hands during the war. He said American Jewry deserved most of the blame because it failed to call for strikes and demonstrations near the White House when it learned what was happening to the Jews of Europe.

But Dr. Goldmann indicted virtually all Jewish communities and their leaders, even those in Europe. He said they did not listen to pre-war warnings about what was likely to happen. He recalled a meeting in Paris with Jewish leaders six months before the war at which they rejected warnings, and observed that a few months later many of these same leaders were refugees seeking haven in other countries. Dr. Goldmann said that even today, with the knowledge of the Holocaust, Jews have not tried to learn the lessons it taught.

A mass memorial meeting at the Mann Auditorium here was addressed by Deputy Prime Minister Yigal Alon who declared that one lesson of the Holocaust was that Jews "can trust no one but ourselves." He said, "We learned that we have to be strong so that others should not pity us. We are no longer passive objects of the whims or mercy of those who only 25 years ago stood by in silence as Jews were slaughtered in Europe." Mr. Alon said that Soviet arms, once used to fight the Nazis, were now in the hands of "those pursuing Hitler's 'final solution' from the banks of the Nile."

Former Resistance Leader Denounces Polish Government For Anti-Semitism

TEL AVIV, April 15 (JTA) -- A former leader of the French resistance movement denounced the Polish Government today for conducting an anti-Semitic campaign and for trying to erase from history the role played by Jewish martyrs in the struggle against the Nazis. Prof. Robert Waitz, director of Hemotological Institute at the University of Strassbourg, spoke at a meeting of the Israeli Executive of the World Jewish Congress. Prof. Waitz until recently was president of the International Committee of Auschwitz Survivors.

He accused the Warsaw regime of attempting to rewrite history. He noted that the Jewish memorial hall at the Auschwitz site was opened without any Jewish representatives present and was closed down eight days later, and said the contents of the hall were so selected and arranged that the part played by Jewish Jews in the anti-Nazi underground was virtually eliminated. Prof. Waitz said that he had received an invitation to the Auschwitz opening ceremonies just three days before the event, although the authorities knew that it takes at least a month to obtain a Polish visa. He said it was obvious that the organizers of the ceremony intended that no Jews would be present.

Memorial services for the Jews who perished in Nazi death camps in Poland or while fighting in the resistance movements were held at the Treblinka monument outside Tel Aviv. A memorial fire was kindled on the site. The services were attended by Moshe Kol, Israel's Minister of Tourism and Development, who is chairman of the World Federation of Polish Jewry. Memorial meetings dedicated to the Warsaw Ghetto fighters were held at two kibbutzim. One of them Yad Mordechai, is named after Mordechai Anilewitz, one of the Warsaw Ghetto commanders.

Rep. Wilson Asks Rogers To Inject Korean Attack On U.S. Plane Into Big 4 Agenda

WASHINGTON, April 15 (JTA) -- Rep. Bob Wilson of California, National Republican Congressional Committee chairman, today urged Secretary of State William P. Rogers to broaden the Big Four Mideast talks "by injecting the North Korean attack on the United States reconnaissance aircraft into the agenda." This, he said, would test Moscow's asserted desire for peace. North Korea claimed the Navy plane with 31 aboard was shot down today when it invaded its air space; the U.S. claims it was some 90 miles off shore. Rep. Wilson said Russia depicts Israel as an aggressor that should be removed from the Suez cease-fire line. Citing the 38th parallel in Korea, another such line, he said that "since the Russians have greater influence with North Korea than with Egypt, let us test out the Big Four concept in advance and determine the degree of restraint they can impose on North Korea." Moscow should be asked whether it has separate policies for Czechoslovakia, the Mideast and Korea, he said.

Israel Supreme Court Opens Hearings On Request To Permit Group Prayer On Temple Mount

JERUSALEM, April 15 (JTA) -- Israel's Supreme Court opened hearings yesterday on a request to permit Jews to pray in groups on the Temple Mount in East Jerusalem, site of the Mosque of Omar and the Al-Aska Mosque and reputed site of Solomon's Temple. The suit was brought against the Government by 15 complaints, among them Shmuel Tamir, a Knesset member of the Free Center faction. They have requested that an order nisi be served on the Government to show cause why Jews should not be allowed to hold prayer services on the Mount. The Government permits individual Jews to visit the site but has barred groups to avoid offending world Moslem opinion. The Temple compound is regarded as a holy site by Moslems second in importance only to Mecca.

The Israeli Chief Rabbinate has forbidden any Jew to visit the site because they might inadvertently step over the "Holy of Holies" where, according to the Orthodox, the Holy Ark was kept in the ancient Temple. Police do not enforce the rabbinate's ban but they do enforce the ban on public prayers. Five of the Supreme Court's 10 justices are hearing the case, presided over by Dr. Shimon Agrat, president of the Court. State attorney Zvi Barniv, the only party heard yesterday, asked the Court not to intervene in the matter because it is one of state policy. Further hearings have been set for next week.

Bayard Rustin Tells Israelis That U.S. Negroes Will Fight Black Anti-Semitism

JERUSALEM, April 15 (JTA) -- An American Negro civil rights leader told an Israeli audience yesterday that influential American Negroes have spoken out vigorously against black anti-Semitism "and will continue to fight it." Bayard Rustin, executive director of the A. Philip Randolph Institute, spoke at the opening session of the International Conference on Technological Change and Human Development at the Hebrew University. He said that "some anti-Semitism has cropped up in the black community in New York but it is practiced by an exceedingly small group of frustrated and confused people."

Mr. Rustin was one of a number of prominent American Negroes who joined others from the United States and Great Britain at the conference. He delivered a paper on behalf of Whitney M. Young, executive director of the National Urban League, who came to Israel prior to the conference but had to leave yesterday. Other American Negroes attending are Dr. Kenneth B. Clark, president of the Metropolitan Applied Research Center; Dr. James R. Dumpson, Dean of the Fordham University School of Social Service; Douglas Pugh, program adviser on social development of the Ford Foundation; and Franklin Williams, director of the center for minority and urban affairs at Columbia University.

Participants in the conference from Great Britain are Leslie Blakeman, director of labor relations at the Ford Motor Co.; Lord Carron, director of the Bank of England; Lord Douglas, a member of the British Electricity Council; Lord Hirschfield, chairman of the trade union unit, Trust Managers Ltd.; Lord Peddie, deputy chairman of the National Board for Prices and Incomes; and Sir Trevor Ivans, director of the Beaverbook Press.

Canadian Left-Wing Newspapers Feud Over Whether Jews Supported Or Opposed Lenin

TORONTO, April 15 (JTA) -- A left-wing Yiddish weekly published here is feuding with two other leftist periodicals on the issue of anti-Semitism. The focus of the polemics between Joshua Gershman, editor of Vochenblatt, and Dyson Carter, who edits the Northern Neighbor, is not the current situation of Jews in Russia but whether Jews supported or opposed Lenin, leader of the Bolshevik Revolution. Mr. Gershman has also taken issue with the Russian-language left-wing organ, Vestnik, which suggested recently that Jews think they are beyond criticism because they suffered at the hands of Hitler.

The Vochenblatt editor objected to Mr. Carter's reaction to his criticism of an advertisement for a new edition of a book by Lenin. The advertisement, published in the Northern Neighbor, claimed that Jews fought against Lenin and the Revolution and that "Jewish nationalist poisons" like Zionism and Bundism were responsible for anti-Semitism in Russia. "Why pick out the Jews who opposed Lenin? What about the tremendous number of Jews who went hand in hand with Lenin in all his struggles until after the establishment of the world's first Socialist state," Mr. Gershman wrote. In reply to Vestnik, he declared that no Jewish society ever accepted the idea that a Jewish offender should go unpunished because of Jewish suffering.

Schedule Services For Horace Stern, Pennsylvania Justice, Onetime JTA Board Member

PHILADELPHIA, April 15 (JTA) -- Funeral services will be held here tomorrow for Judge Horace Stern, chief justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court from 1952 to 1957 and for many years a member of the board of directors of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, who died yesterday at the age of 90. Judge Stern, Philadelphia-born and an honor graduate of the University of Pennsylvania's Law School, served on the bench for 37 years. He was first appointed a judge of the Common Pleas Court here in 1920 and the following year was elected to a full 10-year term. He won election to the Supreme Court in 1935. Judge Stern was active in Jewish organization and community affairs. It was Justice Stern who first described the JTA as the "eyes and ears of the Jewish community."

Exhibition On Life And Works Of Kafka, With Unpublished Letters, Opens In Israel

JERUSALEM, April 15 (JTA) -- An exhibition on the life and works of the German-Jewish author, Franz Kafka, opened at the Jewish National and University Library at the Hebrew University here. The display includes items brought from West Germany, among them 160 photo enlargements. Israeli friends of the late writer have placed an additional 60 items at the library's disposal, among them hitherto unpublished letters.