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Golda Meir Expected To Visit Washington In June To Confer With President Nixon

JERUSALEM, May 18 (JTA) -- Most informed observers here were reported today to consider it a virtual certainty that Premier Golda Meir will visit Washington next month to confer with President Richard M. Nixon. Her mission, if the visit takes place, will be in line with a recommendation reportedly made to the Cabinet today by Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, that Israel's position on the Big Four talks at the United Nations and the United States-Soviet bilateral talks in Washington on the Middle East should be explained personally to the President by a high-ranking Israeli.

In a radio interview yesterday, Gen. Rabin, who is here for consultations, said that the Soviet position seemed to have moved closer to the American one. He added, however, that at present that movement could not be assessed as to extent and content and that there was still a large gulf to be bridged between the positions of the two major powers. He also said that even if the U.S. were seeking a solution unacceptable to Israel, the U.S. must still be considered a friendly country.

The Jerusalem Post's diplomatic correspondent reported that Gen. Rabin was likely to advise the Cabinet to announce formally a principle of its peace aims that would go beyond the present formula that the final secure and recognized boundaries would differ from the present cease-fire lines. Gen. Rabin reportedly feels that Israel should state specifically that it would be prepared to withdraw its forces from the occupied areas--a position it has not taken so far. Such an Israeli admission would be designed to forestall the United States and the Soviet Union from becoming involved in such details as map-drawing, the correspondent wrote.

Mrs. Meir, in a statement made on her own initiative at the start of the Cabinet session today, dissociated herself completely from allegations in a book charging that Defense Minister Moshe Dayan and Intelligence Major Gen. Aharon Yariv gave the Cabinet exaggerated information about Egyptian troop movements just before the 1967 war broke out. The book, "Six Years and Six Days," was written by A. L. Gilboa, a member of the executive of the Histadrut, Israel's Labor Federation. The implication of the charge was that the information had been given to force the hands of the "doves" in the Cabinet. Gen. Dayan has formally asked the Government's legal adviser to investigate the possibility of charging Mr. Gilboa with libel.

Gen. Dayan withdrew at the Cabinet meeting his proposal that Israeli law should be applied to all occupied areas. In place of that suggestion, a committee was named to study what changes in ordinances by military governors of the various areas might be needed to resolve the problems which led Gen. Dayan to make his proposal. Gen. Dayan had contended that the varying laws applying to the territories made administration difficult and were often confusing both to the Israelis and the local population. He had suggested abolition of the Jordanian dinar as legal tender on the West Bank. The Cabinet committee will be headed by Justice Minister Yaacov Shapiro and will include the Army's judge advocate general.

Mrs. Meir told Time magazine this week that a negotiated peace settlement with the Arabs would lead to a collapse in the present coalition Government because of "differences of opinion" among Israelis. If a settlement were worked out and the details were brought to the Cabinet, she said, the Cabinet would have to discuss it and take a position. "The Cabinet will break up. We will go to the Knesset and have new elections," She said that if a settlement were reached, parts of the Golan Heights in occupied Syria and sections of the West Bank would not be returned to the Arabs.

Arab Irregulars Strike Twice At Fixed Positions--1st Time Since Six-Day War

TEL AVIV, May 18 (JTA) -- Arab guerrillas, striking from Syrian and Jordanian bases, tried to storm two fixed Israeli positions during the weekend for the first time since the Six-Day War and were repulsed in sharp clashes in which 15 of the marauders were killed. One Israeli defender was slain in the attacks and a second was killed in all-day Jordanian shelling apparently intended to soften one of the target positions for the assault, a military spokesman reported. Guerrillas have struck against Israeli patrols but not fixed positions in the past.

The first assault was aimed at a position guarding the Elal settlement in the southern Golan Heights. The Israelis were alert and opened fire immediately. Three attackers were killed and the rest of the band retreated, leaving behind Kalatchnikov rifles, hand grenades, explosives and anti-vehicle mines. That assault took place at midnight Friday. About two hours later, an Israeli lookout at an outpost about four miles south of the Damiyah bridge on the Jordan River heard suspicious noises outside the position. Manning his machinegun, he opened fire and immediately heard cries of persons being hit. He continued to shoot until the gun's magazine was empty and only then did he realize that he had stopped almost single-handedly an attempt to overrun the outpost.

The gunner, David Vardi, 35, a Tel Aviv bank clerk, is a member of the reserve unit holding the position. He was near Meir Segal, a 32-year-old medical orderly who was fatally injured in the previous day's shelling. Segal did not lose consciousness after he was hit and instructed other soldiers

on treating him but he died 15 minutes later. After Vardi's action, other defenders fired flares which enabled the outpost to attack the marauders who left 12 dead behind. Bloodstains were found later, indicating that some of the surviving guerrillas had been hit.

The raiders were divided into an assault unit and two other units, one assigned to provide cover for the attackers and the other to try to prevent Israeli reinforcement of the target position. The Jordanian Army not only tried to soften up the position in the all-day shelling Friday but also later shelled the Israeli position to provide cover for the retreating attackers. Gen. Moshe Dayan, Chief of Staff Chaim Ber-Lev and Gen. Rehavam Zeevi visited the post yesterday and expressed their satisfaction that a reserve unit, comprised of men all over 30 years of age, had performed so effectively against an organized attack.

UN Suez Canal Cease-Fire Observers Are Relocating Posts To Avoid Line Of Fire

JERUSALEM, May 18 (JTA) -- The United Nations cease-fire mission is relocating its observer posts at the Suez Canal, including those on the Israeli side which have been apparent targets of Egyptian artillery shelling, UN sources here reported today. They said that the number of UN posts would remain unchanged but that the relocations would be to improved vantage points.

On the other side of the canal, Egyptian Army posts, including artillery units, have been moved to points often only a yard or two away from the UN posts, positions considered by UN personnel too close for comfort. It was reported that the new UN sites are not on the canal edge, as are the present posts, but further inland on slightly higher ground. The UN observers said they hoped to be able to see what was happening without being directly in the line of fire.

The canal area was generally quiet this weekend. (In a letter to the UN Security Council on Friday, Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Awad H. el-Kony claimed Israeli forces were moving artillery pieces within range of Port Said, aggravating the Suez situation to the "point of a threat of explosion." Secretary-General U Thant met with Mr. el-Kony and U.S. envoy Charles W. Yost on Mideast tensions on Friday.)

Pompidou, Pöher Pledge Foreign Policy Changes But Shy Away From Lifting Embargo

PARIS, May 18 (JTA) -- The key contenders for the Presidency of France--interim President Alain Pöher and former Premier Georges Pompidou--have made campaign pledges to change the anti-Israel, pro-Arab policy laid down by former President Charles de Gaulle but both shied away from the issue of lifting the de Gaulle embargo on weapons and spare parts to Israel.

M. Pöher said in his first campaign speech last night on the State-operated national television that he would change France's Mideast policy. However, he said that the embargo against Israel should have covered all belligerents in the region. He said France must avoid any action in the Mideast that would make French decisions toward any country "appear at anytime as being unjust or unjustified, taking into account past arrangements or even commercial obligations." One of these commercial obligations, as Israel sees it, is the agreement for sale of 50 Mirage jets paid for by Israel and embargoed by Gen. de Gaulle.

Former Premier Pompidou pledged in a radio interview that if he was elected next month, he would sponsor foreign policy changes but he refused to spell out his ideas for such changes. He also refused to say whether he would lift the arms embargo against Israel. He adhered to generalities in replies to questions and refused to allow himself to be pinned down to any specifics. He said it was "wrong for any Frenchman and especially for myself to criticize my country's foreign policy." He also said he felt it would be "politically wrong" to "reveal the color of my cards now."

M. Pompidou said there were two major problems requiring solutions to bring about peace. He said Israel's right to exist like "all other countries" must be assured within recognized boundaries and that a solution to the Arab refugee problem must be found. But, in contrast to policy stands during Gen. de Gaulle's regime, M. Pompidou did not mention the "necessity" for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories. He insisted that neither Israel nor the Arab states alone could solve the refugee problem, a goal which he said could be sought only in conjunction with the major powers. He said "this is one of the reasons I strongly support" the Big Four talks "and think that some good" could come from them. He also suggested that the Big Four should agree on a general and total arms embargo on all Mideast "belligerents."

Two other candidates--Socialist Gaston Defferre and extreme leftist Alain Krivine--also discussed their Mideast positions. M. Defferre and the man he intends to name as Premier if he wins the Presidency--Pierre Mendes-France--announced they opposed the de Gaulle embargo on Israel. They added that the best solution was not to lift the embargo but to extend it to all "belligerents" in the region. Some observers said that M. Mendes-France, a Jew, suggested that formula to avoid charges of pro-Israel partiality. Observers noted that all public opinion polls indicated that the Defferre-Mendes-France combination has no chance of winning.

M. Krivine, a Jew who heads the tiny League of Communists, declared he and his group "stand squarely behind the Arab resistance movement fighting Israel and Zionist imperialism." He said this stand had been taken despite the fact that most of his followers are also Jews because "we cannot compromise with basic ideological principles."

(In Jerusalem, it was announced that Gen. Zvi Tzur, Assistant Minister of Defense, will head a three-man delegation to the Paris Air Show, sponsored by the French Ministry of Defense, to demonstrate French aeronautical advances. Gen. Mordechai Hod, commander of the Israel Air Force, who was also invited to attend the show, will not attend.)

104 Body Sets Vote On Non-Governmental Groups' Status; USSR Opposes Jewish Units

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 18 (JTA) -- A joint Soviet-Arab campaign to deny consultative status to three Jewish Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) at the United Nations Economic and Social Council will be climaxed tomorrow when the Council meets to vote on 12 disputed NGOs, which include the three Jewish NGOs.

The ECOSOC unit voted on Friday to assign consultative status to 104 NGOs in category two, in which such organizations can speak but may not vote at meetings of ECOSOC agencies, including the Human Rights Commission. It also voted to include 31 other NGOs on the ECOSOC roster only. The three targets of the joint effort are the World Jewish Congress, the Women's International Zionist Organization, and the Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations, representing the British and South African Boards of Deputies and B'nai B'rith.

The vote on Friday was on recommendations of an ECOSOC committee on NGOs and had been preceded by debate during which Soviet delegate A.V. Zakharov announced that the Soviet Union opposed NGO status for the World Jewish Congress and the WIZO and argued that the Coordinating Board should not be given category two status but should be listed on the roster. The committee also recommended that the Agudath Israel World Organization, formerly in category two, should be assigned to the roster but Uruguay asked for a vote on that NGO and it will be among those voted on at the meeting tomorrow.

During the debate preceding the vote Friday, Isa Babaa of Libya delivered a sharp attack on Israel, Jews, Zionism and their supporting organizations without referring to any by name. He said there were "a few organizations which defended the interest of one state and of an international expansionist movement." He charged that "they use religion as a mask for their activities and preach war and favor expansionism and deportation." Such organizations, he said, should be "punished and expelled from the United Nations." The Soviet delegate charged that the Jewish NGOs "engaged in slanders against the United Nations and member states." The Libyan delegate, earlier in the debate, said "B'nai B'rith is truly an invisible government in the United States" which "seeks to undermine the United Nations, controls the telephones of delegates, forbids delegations from entering the United States."

Agriculture Department, Israel Work Out New Arrangement On Importation Of Esrog

NEW YORK, May 18 (JTA) -- The Department of Agriculture has worked out a new arrangement with Israel on importing the Esrog (citron) from Israel for use during the coming Sukkot holiday which is less cumbersome than the method used last year to assure that the citron is free from the Mediterranean fruit fly, the Agudath Israel of America reported today. Rabbi Morris Sherer, executive president of the Orthodox group, called the agreement a "model example of international goodwill to amicably resolve a religious problem."

The problem developed last year from an Agriculture Department regulation banning the importation of citrus fruits from the Middle East unless fumigated, which would have made it virtually impossible for American Jews to observe the holiday properly, Rabbi Sherer said. He negotiated an agreement with Agriculture Department officials under which a department representative worked in Israel to supervise inspection of the Esrog after a 10-day incubation period prior to shipment overseas. The new agreement accepts certification of the Israel Government's plant protection division which will examine each Esrog while the U.S. Government reserves the right to re-inspect any Esrog on arrival. Rabbi Sherer said Chaim Ouziel, economic attache at the Israel Embassy in Washington, worked with the Agriculture Department to achieve the agreement.

New Kichko Book Assailed By Congressman And In Washington Star Editorial

WASHINGTON, May 18 (JTA) -- A new anti-Semitic book by Ukrainian author Trofim Kichko, published with apparent official sanction in the Soviet Union, was sharply criticized in Congress and by a leading Washington newspaper. The new work, "Judaism and Zionism," last week was described by the Academic Committee on Soviet Jewry as equal in anti-Semitic slurs to Kichko's first book, "Judaism Without Embellishment."

Rep. Thomas M. Pelly, Washington Republican, cited in a House statement Kichko's new book as an "example of the campaign of hate" against Soviet Jews. Assailing the Soviet Union's "continued attitude and active discrimination against Soviet Jews," Rep. Pelly said that there could be no peace in the world "when a powerful nation such as the Soviet Union condones and practices racial hate and seals its borders to those Jews who would seek their freedom by emigrating to Israel." He called the new Kichko book one containing the anti-Semitic "slanders of the Stalinist era."

The Washington Star noted that "Judaism Without Embellishment" was disowned by the Soviet Government and ordered withdrawn. The editorial noted that in the Soviet Union books, like tractors, "are the product and instrument of the State." Approval of the second Kichko book, the Star declared, "gives the official change of heart" on Kichko's status "a sinister aspect."

The editorial also saw a link between the Mideast deadlock and approved publication of the new Kichko book. "Kichko sees the State of Israel as embodying what he calls the vengeful and destructive nature of the 'God of the Jews.'" The editorial added that "as the Middle East hovers on the edge of a new war, as conversations continue about the intervention of the major powers, it is deeply distressing that the Soviet state should see fit to present such tired old travesties of thought as Kichko's."

NEWS IN BRIEF

LONDON, May 18 (JTA) -- Relief work of the Association of Baltic Jews, now in its 24th year, continues to expand in scope, according to Jacob Lossos, who was re-elected chairman of the organization at its annual meeting here.

AJCommittee Survey Finds Jews Are 'Invisible' In Social Study Textbooks

NEW YORK, May 18 (JTA) -- Jews are, for the most part, America's "invisible citizens" in textbooks for history and social studies courses in junior and senior high schools examined in a survey sponsored by the American Jewish Committee and reported yesterday to the organization's 63rd annual meeting. The event ended today with the election of Philip E. Hoffman of Newark, N.J., an attorney and realtor as president. He succeeds Arthur J. Goldberg, former Supreme Court Associate Justice. Max M. Fisher of Detroit, recently named by President Richard M. Nixon as consultant on mobilization of Americans for volunteer service for urban needs, was re-elected chairman of the executive board.

Bertram H. Gold, who was re-elected executive vice-president, presented the report on the textbooks and other instructional materials. He said preliminary findings were that the presence of Jews in the world from Biblical to modern times is often ignored, as are contributions of Jews to America and the world, that the Hitler atrocities in general are treated almost casually with little reference to their enormity, that the creation of Israel is virtually unmentioned and that many histories of the United States show a conspicuous absence of references to anti-Semitism, bigotry, ethnic and minority groups, discrimination and prejudice.

The survey was made by teachers and by the education subcommittee of the AJCommittee's Los Angeles chapter and the Jewish Community Council of Detroit. Most of the study concerned 45 textbooks, 19 in American history and the rest in world history. Mr. Gold reported that "the Jew is conspicuous by his absence from the world scene" in the examined material "and when he does appear, the student, for the most part, is given a bland portrayal of the life and culture of the Jewish people. Students thus failed to develop a balanced perspective of the culture, history and value of Jews or an adequate understanding of the vibrant aspects of Jewish communal life." Correspondingly, he said, students studying such material "develop little if any appreciation of Jewish contributions to Western civilization or to American society."

He reported that the organization planned to use the survey information to suggest revisions to textbook publishers and that it would alert city and state education departments which issue curricula guidelines and lists of recommended texts. He added that the AJCommittee would raise the issue of textbook treatment of all minorities, religious and racial, in discussions with publishers. He cited as among unsatisfactory textbooks "A History of the United States," Alden and Magenis, 1960; "Problems And Promise of American Democracy," Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University; "The American Story, Gavian and Hamm, 1959; "The United States Since 1965," Walter Johnson, 1965; "Our Country's History," Davis S. Muzzey, 1961; "The Record of Mankind," Roehm, Buske, Webster, Wesley, 1961; "A Global History of Man," L.S. Stavrianos, 1962; "Our Widening World, Ethel E. Ewing, 1958; "Man's Story," T. Walter Wallbank, 1964; and "Living World History," Wallbank, 1958.

Petition State Department For Intercession At UN On Behalf Of Jews In Arab Lands

WASHINGTON, May 18 (JTA) -- Undersecretary of State Elliot Richardson was presented today with a petition signed by 12,000 academicians and university students urging United States intercession through the United Nations to evacuate Jewish nationals in Arab countries. A delegation headed by Dr. Benjamin Miller of the University of Pennsylvania, in conferences with Mr. Richardson and other ranking State Department officials, stressed the worsening plight of Jews in Arab lands since the 1967 Six-Day War. The petition, bearing the signatures from 50 colleges in 30 states, called on the United States to "facilitate" emigration "by every possible means," through the UN. It proposed that the UN and "other nations that value human life and dignity" allocate funds for such a program, supplemented by voluntary private sources.

Dr. Miller said the meeting with State Department officials provided "a productive exchange of views." The delegation included among others Msgr. John M. Oesterreicher, director of the Institute of Judeo-Christian Studies at Seton Hall University, and Rabbi Benjamin N. Kahn of Washington, director of B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations.

Jewish Defense League Denounced, Likened To KKK By Reform Leader Rabbi Eisendrath

NEW YORK, May 18 (JTA) -- The militant Jewish Defense League was denounced yesterday by a Reform rabbinical leader as "in essence, no different" from the Ku Klux Klan and as a group which "violates every ethic and tradition of Judaism and every concept of civil liberties and democratic process in American life. Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the Reform congregational body, made the charge in a report to the UAHC board of trustees which is holding its semi-annual three-day meeting.

Rabbi Eisendrath's attack on the Jewish Defense League was the first from any Jewish organization. A number of League members gathered last week in front of Temple Emanu-El, armed with baseball bats and chains for an expected confrontation with James Forman of the National Black Economic Development Conference, which is demanding "reparations" from churches and synagogues of half a billion dollars. Forman did not appear at the Reform synagogue and its Rabbi Nathan A. Perilman, deplored the presence of the Defense League members.

Rabbi Eisendrath called the JDL members "batsmen" who were "spoiling to commit assault and battery, believing that had similar tactics been used by German Jews, the Holocaust might never have happened." He added: "Jews carrying baseball bats and chains, standing in phalanxes, like goon squads, in front of synagogues, led by rabbis, are no less offensive and, in essence, no different from whites carrying robes and hoods, led by self-styled ministers of the gospel, standing in front of burning crosses." He asserted that "neither Jews nor Christians nor America need such 'protectors.' If these be our friends, then God preserve us from our enemies." He said that thus far, the League was limited to New York City "but in a climate of emotionalism, such vigilantism may grow."