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Israeli Jets Shoot Down 3 Egyptian MIGs In Fierce Combat Over Suez Canal

JERUSALEM, Nov. 11(JTA)--Israeli jet fighters today shot down three Egyptian MIG-21 interceptors in a ferocious fight involving air-to-air missiles and cannons over the Suez Canal sector and returned to base without any losses, a military spokesman said. Egypt claimed that it lost one plane, shot down an Israeli jet and damaged another.

The downing of the Egyptian planes brought to 58 the number of the Cairo Government's air losses since the 1967 war, as against nine Israeli losses including one Piper Cub, the Israeli military spokesman said. The fight was the first since Oct. 16 when Israel said there were three MIG "kills."

The fighting, at 20,000 feet, developed about 8:30 a.m. local time when Israeli planes were attacking Egyptian military targets in the southern region of the Suez Canal. An Israeli military spokesman said that Israeli jets returned to action in the afternoon, bombing Egyptian military positions, including gun emplacements, for 45 minutes. A senior military officer, commenting on the air battle, attributed the appearance of Egyptian jets to "excessive self-assurance that Egypt has mastered air supremacy with their futile attacks on Israeli positions along the Canal and in northern Sinai. It is hoped that today's losses will cool down the Egyptians."

The fighting came in the wake of a high-ranking Israeli military officer's statement Monday that all Egyptian ground-to-air missile sites along the Canal had been knocked out in two months of air strikes. He said that an unspecific number of radar stations had been damaged or destroyed, and that Egyptian mortar and artillery positions have "taken a serious beating." His remarks were interpreted to mean that the whole 250-mile Egyptian front from Port Said to the Red Sea is now without a ground-to-air missile defense net against Israeli air attacks. In the air war over the Suez on Monday, Egyptian planes hit two points on the eastern shore of the Canal but no casualties or damage was reported. Israeli planes struck Egyptian targets on the Canal's west bank.

Meanwhile, the Israeli Cabinet met in its third session in as many days to consider the Security situation. The Tel Aviv afternoon daily newspaper Yediot Achronot said today that "political circles are increasingly convinced that aggressive military action on the frontiers will compel Israel to take appropriate and smashing reactions that would deter the enemy from further pursuing its aggressive policy." Since early September when there was a major Israeli amphibious action against Egypt's west coast on the Gulf of Suez, there have been constant air actions aimed at radar sites, missiles and anti-aircraft emplacements and other military targets. Israel frightened and angered the Egyptians last week when it sent a lone Mirage jet flying low at supersonic speed over Cairo, presumably on a photographic mission. Its sonic boom broke many windows throughout the city.

Joint Defense Council Sets Morocco Arab Summit Sessions In December

In the wake of the Israeli senior military officer's announcement that the Israeli raids destroyed at least nine surface-to-air-sites for Soviet-built missiles and left open a corridor through which Israeli jets can penetrate Egypt at will, 13 Arab states decided in Cairo to hold a summit conference on Dec. 20 in Rabat, Morocco.

The heads of states and governments will confer in the Moroccan capital to prepare for a military confrontation with Israel, it was announced at the conclusion of a three-day meeting of the Arab League's Joint Defense Council. The parley, attended by 13 of the League's 14 members (Tunisia boycotted the meetings) was called to "mobilize all Arab energies" against Israel. A closing communique said force was the only means of recovering the occupied territories. The delegations pledged to give full support to Palestine guerrilla organizations.

Saudi Arabia, which previously opposed a summit parley, apparently put aside its objections. It had said that a summit session should take place only after the Arab states had given up hope on a political solution. President Gamal Abdel Nasser said in a speech last week that war with Israel was inevitable.

The Joint Defense Council's final communique said "a political solution has failed and has run into an impasse due to Israel's obstinacy and the military support it gets from the United States and other imperialist powers...Large scale political mobilization and comprehensive and complete military preparedness (is required) in readiness for the inevitable upcoming battle." The communique assailed as "aggressive" the U.S. policy of permitting its citizens to serve in the Israeli military forces without losing their U.S. citizenship. This, the Council said, "places America in a position of challenge and open confrontation against the ambitions and aspirations of Arab nations."

See Moscow Attempting To Cool Arabs; Nasser Speech Angered Soviet Officials

LONDON, Nov.11(JTA)--The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda said yesterday that "peace-loving countries must make renewed efforts to find a political solution to the Middle East conflict. Observers here saw the reference to "peace-loving" forces as an indication that Moscow wants to continue exercising restraint over the extremist elements among its Arab clients.

Senior Soviet officials were surprised and angered by last Thursday's fire-eating speech in Cairo by President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt. According to word reaching here from the most reliable sources in Moscow, Soviet leaders were amazed that President Nasser would go so far as to foreclose all options short of war left open to him. The tenor of his speech was totally unexpected by the Kremlin, these sources said.

The Russians were also angered by a passage in the Nasser speech which was seen as a direct affront to the Soviet Union. The Egyptian leader said that "when the June, 1967 war began, we stood unarmed against Israel's military might." Soviet officials have remarked that, considering the volume of arms that Egypt received from the Soviet Union prior to June, 1967 and the quantity of Russian equipment captured by Israel during the war, Col. Nasser had no right to try to clear his own inefficient Army of the stigma of defeat by implying that the Soviet Union had let Egypt down.

State Department Reaffirms Opposition To Americans Serving In Foreign Forces

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11(JTA)--The State Department made it clear in strong terms today that it opposed the service by American citizens in the armed forces of Israel or any other foreign nation and warned of possible legal prosecution. A statement said the "Department of State strongly opposes such involvement by private Americans as contrary to the foreign policy interests of the U.S."

A Department spokesman said the statement was issued because of "continuing misapprehension of U.S. policy in the Middle East." He noted that President Nasser of Egypt, in a speech last Thursday, revived the allegation that U.S. military personnel were actively serving with Israel's armed forces. Another official U.S. source said today that American Jews were doing a disservice to their country by bearing arms for Israel because they offended the Arabs.

No law prevents Americans from going to Israel and entering its armed forces. The State Department however, cited laws against the acceptance and exercise of military commissions within the U.S. for service "against a state with which the U.S. is at peace." It mentioned section 958 of Title 18, U.S. Code, and Section 959 which prohibits enlistment within the U.S. for foreign military service. These sections carry penalties of fines or imprisonment or both.

Department said it opposes service in foreign military forces as a policy matter because "such service can raise serious problems for our Government in the conduct of foreign relations (and) risks involvement by U.S. citizens in hostilities with countries with which we are at peace."

The State Department said it recognized "that each state has the authority to determine who shall be entitled to its citizenship as well as the power to determine who, within its territories, shall be subjected to compulsory military service. However, the Department of State hopes that individual Americans will do all that is legally possible to avoid foreign military service with its attendant risks for the over-all national interest as well as their personal welfare." The Department warned that it "is actively considering whether there are additional steps that might be taken to support more fully the policy objectives of our Government on this matter."

Israel Concedes That It Is Concerned About Future Of Relations With Lebanon

JERUSALEM, Nov. 11(JTA)--Israel conceded today that it is concerned over the situation in Lebanon. A high-level source told newsmen that the worry was over two possibilities---that the present regime in Beirut might be deposed by an extremist Arab Government and that Palestinian guerrillas might take over the southern region of Lebanon which borders on Israel.

In the event of the downfall of President Charles Helou, there would be nothing that Israel could do, the source said. But should the guerrillas take over certain border areas as a result of the Cairo agreement between the Lebanese authorities and Palestinian commandos, Israel would regard the guerrilla enclave as a separate sovereignty and might resort to "active defense." The implication was that Israel would feel free to mount preventive strikes against any guerrilla enclave.

Yesterday a Foreign Ministry spokesman denied a report published in the Washington Post that Israel had quietly informed President Helou that it had no plans to attack Lebanon because of the Cairo agreement. David Rivlin said that Israel's position has been made quite clear. "She will not tolerate lawlessness on her northern border and will hold Lebanon responsible for the cease-fire." Earlier, Deputy Premier Yigal Allon warned Lebanon and Syria that they faced retaliation if they permitted Arab commandos to mount attacks on Israel from their territory.

Tekoah Gives Thant, UN Rights Body, Plea By Russian Jews For Help To Go To Israel

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Nov. 11(JTA)--Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah submitted yesterday to the United Nations--and the world--letters from 18 Jewish families in the Soviet Union pleading with the UN Human Rights Commission to help them to emigrate to Israel. He asked Secretary-General U Thant to use his "good offices" on their behalf and was told that Mr. Thant would do what he could. The letters were signed by 18 heads of families from the Soviet Republic of Georgia. All signed their names and addresses, prompting many observers here to call their act one of great courage.

Mr. Tekoah gave to Mr. Thant two documents which were signed Aug. 6, 1969. One was a letter in Russian submitted to Mr. Tekoah as Israel's Permanent Representative to the UN; the other was an appeal from the Jews to the Human Rights Commission. The letters were sent to the Envoy via Mrs. Golda Meir, Israel's Premier, to whom they were transmitted by the signatories.

Mr. Tekoah also held a press conference to call upon world public opinion to help secure for the Russian Jews their desired freedom. "These documents speak for themselves," he said.

"We request you to take immediate steps to obtain in the shortest possible time permission for us to leave Israel," the Russians said. "for the time of fear has passed--the hour of action has come. For if I am not for myself, then who will for me? And if now now, then--when?"

Envoy Calls Attention to Plight Of Soviet Jews; Notes Many Signatures Possible

Mr. Tekoah noted that this was the first time that Israel has formally brought the question of Russian Jews to Mr. Thant and to the Human Rights Commission. The latter body is expected to meet in February. He asked them the appeal be accredited as a General Assembly document. He noted that the 18 signatories pointed out that there could have been many more signatures. "Indeed, the questions which they raise, the appeals which they make concern the feelings, the hopes and prayers of a Jewish community three and one-half million strong" the diplomat declared.

Mr. Tekoah said that "the plight of this community is one of the greatest Jewish tragedies since World War Two. Once the heart of Jewish culture and religion in Europe, Soviet Jewry has been doomed to effacement unless there is a fundamental change in their situation." Today, the envoy said, "we have brought before the world public opinion one of the most moving appeals to the UN and to world conscience ever to have come from the unhappy Jews of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Today, we turn to the Soviet Government in a pleas to allow Soviet Jewry to live and to let them go. This community has survived Tsarist pogroms and oppression; it has survived Babi Yar and Ponary and Rumbuli; it has survived the gas chambers and the concentration camps. Must it now die a spiritual death? Must it be obliterated from the face of the earth?...The eyes of the world are upon the Government of the USSR in the hope that it will show understanding and humanity toward a people that has contributed so greatly to the Soviet Union and yet remained faithful to the age-long dream of Jewish rebirth in the Jewish State."

In their letter, the 18 Jewish family heads tell how, upon receiving an invitation from a relative in Israel, they obtained the required questionnaires from Soviet authorities. "Each was assured orally that no obstacles would be put in the way of his departure," they said. They sold property and gave up jobs, but years have passed and they have gotten, despite "hundreds of letters and telegrams" just "one syllable oral refusals." They said sadly "no one cares about our fate." In explaining why they wanted to go to Israel, the 18 explained that Jews are pogrom-free, can hold any position they want--"even as high as the post of ministers"--and do not suffer religious discrimination in Russia.

It was their love for Israel, they said, that motivated them to want to leave. "Our prayers are with Israel," they said. "For it is written, if I forget thee, O Jerusalem, may my right hand forget its cunning." They recited how the first Jewish State, destroyed by the Romans, died. "But the nation remained," living in "alien lands." They relate how the Jews endured the worst possible treatment from all hands down through the centuries, refusing to convert, suffering and dying instead.

'Israel Has Arisen, Jerusalem Not Forgotten, Our Hands Needed'

But "Israel has risen from the ashes; we have not forgotten Jerusalem, and it needs our hands," the 18 said. "They say there is a total of 12 million Jews in the world. But he errs who believes there are only 12 million of us. For with those who pray for Israel are hundreds of millions who did not live to this day, who were tortured to death, who are no longer here. They march shoulder to shoulder with us, unconquered and immortal, those who handed down to us the traditions of struggle and faith. This is why we want to go to Israel."

The petitioners said: "History has entrusted the UN with a great mission--to think about people and help them. Therefore, we demand that the UN Human Rights Commission do everything it can to obtain from the Soviet Government in the shortest possible time permission for us to leave. It is incomprehensible that in the 20th Century people can be prohibited from living where they wish to live. We will wait months and years, we will wait all our lives, if necessary, but we will not renounce our faith or our hopes. We believe our prayers have reached God. We know our appeals will reach people. For we are asking little--let us go to the land of our forefathers." Thirteen of the signatories were from the town of Kutaisi, and the rest were from Poti and Tiflis.

Washington Jewish Community Plans Hospitality, Aid For Anti-War Demonstrators

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11 (JTA)--The Jewish community of Greater Washington, families as well as institutions, responded today to appeals for accommodations to house Jewish students coming here this weekend to demonstrate against the war in Vietnam. An estimated 1,000 beds have been offered so far to the Jewish Student Assistance Center. About half of the accommodations are being provided by Jewish families and the others by Synagogues and other institutions.

The total number of Jewish students planning to come to Washington is not yet known. So far, however, the Jewish community has found accommodations to meet known needs. Jewish support for the demonstration was reported to be increasing because of the "tough line" of Government officials, students said. It is anticipated that thousands of Jewish students who plan to take part in non-violent and non-radical protest actions will join the many hundreds, including members of radical Jewish groups, who have already announced plans to participate. Information has been received that members of B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations and other young people within the Jewish communal structure are coming from scores of universities and colleges.

Abbie Hoffman, a Jew who is one of the "Chicago 8" on trial in Chicago on charges of conspiring to incite rioting during the 1968 Democratic National Convention, has accepted an invitation to address an assembly of Jewish groups during the weekend. Mr. Hoffman, a leader of the radical "Yippie" movement, will deliver the Friday evening "sermon" at a Jewish worship service sponsored by the new-organized National Jewish Organizing Project (NJOP).

CJFWF Parley in Boston Will Hear Finch, Moynihan; To Deal With Number of Jewish Issues

BOSTON, Nov. 11(JTA)--The Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds (CJFWF) representing virtually all organized Jewish communities in the United States and Canada, will open its 38th annual general assembly here tomorrow. The 2,000 Jewish communal leaders serving as delegates will tackle an agenda based on Jewish needs at home and abroad. They will be addressed by Jewish leaders and national figures, headed by Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, Robert H. Finch and Dr. Daniel P. Moynihan, President Richard M. Nixon's advisor on urban affairs.

The event will also mark the 75th anniversary of the Jewish federation movement which was established in Boston, this year's host city, in 1895. There are presently 223 local Jewish federations, welfare funds and community councils serving 800 communities nationally associated with the CJFWF. The general assembly will convene Nov. 12-16.

One of its highlights will be the presentation of the CJFWF's annual Shroder Awards, given in recognition of outstanding contributions by Jewish voluntary health and welfare organizations to local, national or international welfare. The 1969 winners are the Jewish federations of Montreal and Columbus, Ohio and the Joint Distribution Committee. Honorable mention has gone to Jewish agencies in Philadelphia and New Orleans, according to William Rosenwald, chairman of the Shroder Awards committee.

The CJFWF's agenda was prepared in accordance with American Jewish priorities in the 1970s. Louis J. Fox, of Baltimore, president of the Council, listed these as: Meeting the problem of Jewish identification and commitment; intensifying social welfare aid in Israel where defense for survival requires the resources of the Israelis; assuring the highest qualities of excellence in Jewish communal involvement in the urban crisis in the U.S.; and developments affecting Jewish life in Europe and North Africa.

Secretary Finch will address the Nov. 14 luncheon session on "Human Goals in the 1970s." Dr. Moynihan will speak on "The Urban Crisis--and the Voluntary Sector" on Nov. 15. Louis A. Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency, and Edward Ginsberg, general chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, will be the principal speakers at a general session Nov. 13 devoted to needs in Israel. Other speakers include Samuel Haber, executive vice president of JDC; Gaynor I. Jacobson, executive director of the United Hias Service; and Dr. William Haber, president of the American Ort Federation. They will compose a panel on overseas Jewish needs outside of Israel on Nov. 13. Council members are expected to raise over \$263 million to serve local, national and overseas Jewish needs in 1969.

Zionist Organization of America Refuses To Join Proposed Federation In U.S.

NEW YORK, Nov. 11(JTA)--The Zionist Organization of America flatly refused Sunday to join "any American Zionist federation as presently proposed." The 100,000-member ZOA said further that establishment of a federation, as proposed, "should be postponed pending further consideration of this matter by the Jewish Agency Executive and the World Zionist Organization."

The vote against membership was approved by the National Executive Committee which ruled that "implementation of the proposals would impose on the American Zionist movement an expensive and bureaucratic superstructure which would substitute organizational controversy, red-tape and duplication for effective Zionist work in the United States." This it said, would result in "a substantial weakening of the entire Zionist movement." The ZOA National Executive Committee also declared that the implementation of the proposals, prepared by the Advisory Committee on the American Zionist Federation, "will inevitably impair, curtail and lead to the liquidation of the traditional functions and activities of the ZOA." It rejected the proposed Federation as "injurious to the Zionist movement and the best interests of Israel."

The ZOA is not a member of the Advisory Committee which has proposed reconstitution of the Zionist movement in the U.S. The World Zionist Congress voted in July, 1968 to establish territorial Zionist federations to replace the present Zionist party system. The proposed federations throughout the world would be constituted 50 percent of Zionists and 50 percent of non-Zionists.

Yivo Names New Center For Advanced Jewish Studies After Max Weinreich

NEW YORK, Nov. 11(JTA)--The Yivo Institute for Jewish Research has named its new Center for Advanced Jewish Studies after the late Max Weinreich, founder of Yivo and leader of its research activities for many years. The Center's courses and seminars will be known as the Julius Borenstein graduate program in honor of the Yivo Institute's president, Dr. Judah J. Shapiro writer and lecturer, told the organization's annual banquet here.

The new Yivo Center was established to provide young Jews with knowledge about Jewish history, culture and especially the heritage of Eastern European Jewry. Graduate courses and research seminars are open to students of all recognized universities and to faculty members. Forty-nine students and faculty members have enrolled in the Center's program which is barely a month old.

JNF Will Honor Shazar's 80th Birthday By Planting 80,000-Tree Forest Near Jerusalem

NEW YORK, Nov. 11(JTA)--The Jewish National Fund of America announced today that an 80,000 tree forest will be planted near Jerusalem to honor President Zalman Shazar of Israel on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Dr. Milton Aron, JNF executive vice president, said the forest would be a token of "the esteem and affection" for President Shazar which is held by American Jewry. He announced the project at a convocation of New York City Jewish leaders paying tribute to the Israeli president whose birthday is today. The gathering was addressed by Israel's Consul General in New York, Rehavem Amir and Rabbi Herschel Schacter, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, on its behalf.