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Rabin Returning To U.S. After Consulting With Israeli Officials On U.S.-Israel Relations

TEL AVIV, March 16 (JTA)--Israel's Ambassador to the United States, Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, was on his way back to Washington today after a week-end of consultations with Government leaders on U.S. - Israel relations. The status of Israel's request for more Phantom and Skyhawk jets from the U.S. was believed to have been the reason for Ambassador Rabin's sudden recall to Jerusalem last Thursday. (The Israeli Embassy in Washington had no comment today on a report that President Richard M. Nixon has refused additional Phantoms to Israel at this time. The report appeared in the newspaper Haaretz on Sunday and was not confirmed by any official sources. The Israeli Mission to the United Nations in New York told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that it had no information on the Haaretz report but was "checking it out.")

Ambassador Rabin told reporters at Lydda Airport today that he had come to Jerusalem "to consult with the Government upon the invitation of the Foreign Minister." He said, "I take no letter for Nixon." The latter reference was in connection with reports that Premier Golda Meir was sending a special message to President Nixon renewing her appeal for more Phantom jets. The Israeli envoy said, "I know that nothing is achieved easily. We have to trust that things will turn out good. One can say that I go back (to Washington) with a better feeling and that is already much more than I intended to say." According to the Haaretz report, the White House decision not to sell more jets to Israel at this time stemmed from military considerations, namely that Israel's air superiority over the Arabs was ensured for the time being and new planes were not required.

(The syndicated Washington columnists Rowland Evans and Robert Novak wrote in their column today: "That decision does not mean Mr. Nixon will refuse to augment Israel's inventory with a few more F-4 Phantoms and A-4 Skyhawks, to be sold on generous financial terms," but the number of planes will be considerably below the quantity requested by Israel. According to the columnists, the White House decision was made several days ago. The delay in announcing it stemmed from the difficulty of "how to draft the denial in terms least offensive to Prime Minister Golda Meir.")

Israeli Planes Attack Egyptian And Syrian Positions; Shell Lebanon Guerrilla Sites

TEL AVIV, March 16 (JTA)--Israel Air Force jets carried out morning and afternoon attacks on Egyptian positions in the Suez Canal zone today and shot down one Egyptian MIG-21 in a dogfight West of the canal. A second Egyptian MIG was hit but was not seen to crash. All Israeli planes returned safely. Three Israeli commando forces plunged into Syria last night and this morning to smash military targets and an 80-foot high steel pylon carrying electric current to Damascus. One of the targets was an Army training camp and command base at Kteifa village, 20 miles northeast of Damascus and about 55 miles behind the Israel-Syrian cease-fire lines. It was the deepest penetration of Syria by Israeli forces since the June, 1967 war. A military spokesman said all Israeli commandos returned safely to their bases.

Israeli forces shelled guerrilla concentrations on the slopes of Mt. Hermon in Lebanon West of the Hasbani River today. About six shells were fired from Lebanese territory into Israel without causing casualties or damage. An Israeli soldier, Corp. Gideon Ratnowski, 22, of Rishon-LeZion, was killed by Egyptian gunfire in the southern section of the Suez Canal zone last night. A military spokesman said the air raids in the Canal zone were concentrated in the central sector. A dogfight ensued when a flight of MIG-21s, Egypt's first line interceptors, rose to attack Israeli jets on a reconnaissance mission about 20 miles West of the Suez Canal. The pilot of the downed MIG was seen bailing out.

The Israeli commando raids in Syria represented the first response to the recent escalation of fighting along the Syrian cease-fire line. An Israeli spokesman charged 148 violations of the 1967 cease-fire by Syria so far this year. Last week they took their highest toll--four Israelis dead and 13 wounded. Israeli officials have attributed the escalation to a high level policy decision by the Damascus government, not incidental attacks by guerrilla bands. Damascus radio reported five Syrian soldiers killed and 14 wounded in the shelling of the army camp. Syria said the pylon carrying 60,000 volt high tension wires was bombed from the air. Israel said it was destroyed by ground forces. During the early morning raid, Israeli commandos destroyed a culvert and a pill box on a road just to the rear of Syrian forces facing the Golan Heights.

A military spokesman disclosed that the commandos reached their targets by helicopter--presumably the giant French-built super-Frelon. He said they encountered some anti-aircraft fire but no hits were scored. He said extreme care was exercised in the attack on the Kteifa Army camp to make sure that no shells landed in the nearby civilian village. According to accounts of the action the Syrians were taken by surprise. Their camp was well lighted and was blacked out only after the attack was in progress.

Tnkooh Charges Syria With 148 Acts Of Aggression Since The Start Of The Year

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., March 16 (JTA)--Israel complained to the Security Council today that "armed attacks perpetrated from Syrian territory by regular and irregular forces in violation of the cease fire have again been intensified in recent days, causing loss of life and damage." In a

letter to the Council president, Dr. Joaquin Vallejo Arbelaez of Columbia, Israeli ambassador Yosef Tekoah charged that since the beginning of this year, there have been 148 Syrian acts of aggression. He said mortars were used in 34 attacks, Katyusha rockets in three, artillery and tanks in nine and bazookas in 46. There were also, he said, 27 small-arms assaults, 11 mining raids, eight sabotage incursions, two penetrations of air space and eight armed clashes. He noted that in the last four days, these attacks had resulted in the deaths of three Israeli soldiers and the wounding of 12.

The Israeli envoy asserted that "Syrian regular armed forces participated directly in a considerable number of these acts of aggression, including military ambushes." He stated that "this warfare is pursued in accordance with the openly proclaimed Syrian policy of aggression." He declared that "in view of these incessant attacks in flagrant violation of the cease fire, Israel is compelled to take self-defense measures to protect itself against Syrian aggression." Israel did not ask for Security Council action on this complaint, but did ask that its letter be circulated to all members of the Council.

Ghorra Says Israel's Charges Are Doubtful; Cites Attacks Against Lebanon

The Lebanese Ambassador to the United Nations has questioned the authenticity of Israeli reports of incidents along Lebanese-Israel border in violation of the cease fire. Ambassador Edouard Ghorra said, "I have not made a count myself but I have strong doubts about the number of these incidents." He said, on the other hand, that at least 25 attacks have been made by Israel against Lebanese civilians resulting in more than 50 casualties. Ambassador Ghorra stated his views in an interview with Moses Schonfeld, UN correspondent of the Fairchild Broadcasting News Service. The interview was broadcast yesterday over WVOX, a New York radio station. His statement was not a direct answer to Tekoah's letter but a general rebuttal to Israel's charges.

The Lebanese envoy said most of the border incidents were "attributed to people Israel claims come from Lebanon. We don't know the magnitude of these incidents. I can cite hundreds of incidents but I have no international authority to check on my claims."

Three More Soviet Jews Appeal To Israeli Leaders To Help Them Emigrate

JERUSALEM, March 16 (JTA)--Three more Soviet Jews have appealed to Israeli leaders for help in securing their right to emigrate to Israel. Letters from three Jews in Moscow were received recently by President Zalman Shazar and Premier Golda Meir, it was disclosed today. Copies have been forwarded to the United Nations Human Rights Commission. The writers claimed that between them they have sent 88 letters to Soviet leaders, including Premier Aleksei N. Kosygin and Communist Party Secretary Leonid Brezhnev, asking for exit permits. In each case, they said, the reply was a refusal given by Soviet officials orally, never in writing.

Premier Golda Meir said in Eilat today that she "truly believes" Jews now in Russia will come to Israel "in their tens of thousands because no regime on earth can erase from Jews their affinity to Israel." Mrs. Meir spoke at celebrations marking the 21st anniversary of the liberation of Eilat in Israel's war for independence. Foreign Minister Abba Eban told the Knesset today that many of the 18 Jewish heads of families in the Soviet Georgian Republic who signed a letter to the United Nations appealing for emigration aid have lost their jobs. The letter gave the signers' full names, addresses and occupations. Since it was made public many have lost their means of livelihood and exhausted their savings but they are still determined to come to Israel, Mr. Eban said.

3000 Immigrants From Latin America Came To Israel Last Year

JERUSALEM, March 16 (JTA)--Three thousand immigrants from Latin American countries arrived in Israel during 1969 compared to 2300 the previous year it was disclosed in a report to the annual meeting of the National Association of Latin Americans in Israel which opened in Beersheba today. According to Dr. Jacob Blecher, chairman of the association, half of the newcomers came from Argentina. He said a plan was under consideration by the association that would double the number of Latin American Jews in Israel which presently stands at about 8000.

In a related area, an official of the Organization of American States praised Israel for training close to 2000 Latin Americans in the past seven years. Walter Sedwitz, assistant secretary general for social and economic affairs of the OAS said the Israelis had provided for 700 man-years in the form of technicians sent to Latin America. Mr. Sedwitz, who came here on a brief visit, said the purpose of his trip was to express to the Israeli Government and people the deep appreciation Latin Americans feel for Israel's continued aid even in difficult times.

Dr. Blecher's report stressed that immigration from Latin America is still characterized by a search for new opportunities among the young or by ethnic affinity. He said he hoped it would expand and become more idealistic in character. Dr. Blecher said his association was considering a plan by which each Latin American family in Israel will help another family to immigrate. He said there was a plan to bring an entire orchestra to Israel with their families, to be settled in Bat Yam, near Tel Aviv and another plan to settle 200 Latin American families in Beersheba.

Hebrew Union College Receives Contributions Following Attack On Reform Judaism

JERUSALEM, March 16 (JTA)--A bitter demonstration against Reform Judaism by an Orthodox member of the Knesset last week has spurred a flood of contributions to the Hebrew Union College, an American Reform rabbinical seminary here. Dr. Nelson Glueck, President of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in the United States, informed the Jerusalem municipality that the new contributions will enable the school to add a library to its Jerusalem campus.

Nixon Apparently Against Authorizing Israel To Buy More Aircraft At This Time

WASHINGTON, March 16 (JTA)--President Nixon has apparently decided against authorizing Israel at this time to purchase additional military aircraft here. His decision, to be announced later this week, will not, according to Administration sources, shut the door on future supply of aircraft to Israel in the event that the Soviet Union resumes large-scale rearmament of the Arab states or a real military threat arises to Israel's present air superiority. Mr. Nixon, presumably, will announce this country's continued concern for the security of Israel and reaffirm its commitment to aid Israel to maintain the Middle East balance of power.

His refusal to comply with Prime Minister Golda Meir's request for the right to buy more Phantom supersonic jet fighter-bombers and the Skyhawk jet workhorses, it was said, will be based on the premise that Israel now enjoys a marked military superiority and will for the immediate future, making the supply of additional planes at this time unnecessary. Sources in the State Department, which has been opposing a decision to provide the planes to Israel, said that by withholding the Phantoms, Mr. Nixon had induced the Soviet Union to hold back on providing Egypt with the improved new MIG-23 fighter-bomber.

One Administration source said that Mr. Nixon would apply to Israel the policy of "benign neglect" recommended to him for dealing with the racial question in the United States. One aspect of this policy, presumably, would be to take Israel-American relations out of the headlines and provide time for a softening of Arab resentments against the United States. Israel will continue to receive the balance of the 50 Phantoms bought here under authorization by President Johnson, with delivery taking until the end of 1970. Administration sources said there would probably be a slow buildup of the American Phantom inventory to permit immediate delivery of the aircraft to Israel should the need arise.

Jewish Editor Charges Toronto Daily Of Doctoring Stories Favorable To Israel

TORONTO, March 16 (JTA)--The editor and publisher of the Canadian Jewish News, a local weekly, has accused the Toronto Globe & Mail of bias against Israel. M. J. Nurenberger, who appeared before a special Senate committee on mass media, leveled the same charges against the Rev. A. C. Forrest, editor of the United Church Observer, organ of the United Church, Canada's largest Protestant denomination. Mr. Nurenberger alleged that the Globe & Mail "doctored" stories favorable to Israel. He cited a syndicated column by New York Times correspondent James Reston from which the Globe & Mail deleted a paragraph that Mr. Nurenberger considered critical of President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt. He accused Dr. Forrest of casting aspersions on Zionist editors and of complaining that the Canadian press, with the exception of the Globe & Mail, was not reporting objectively on the Middle East. Dr. Forrest in turn has complained that the Jewish press in Canada maligns him, Mr. Nurenberger said.

Leshem Condemns Russia And Arab States For Continued Violation Of Jewish Rights

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., March 16 (JTA)--Moshe Leshem, Israeli delegate to the United Nations, renewed before the UN's Human Rights Commission today Israel's complaints of "continued violation of human rights inflicted upon Jewish communities" in the Soviet Union, Iraq, Egypt and Syria. Mr. Leshem described the situation as one where "the innocent Jew in these Arab countries finds himself caught between hammer and anvil... where he is jailed, tortured and hung, and subjected to humiliation, oppression and persecution." The "only hope," for these Jews he declared, "resides in being permitted to emigrate." Until then, he said, referring specifically to Soviet Jewry, they "have no intention of submitting meekly to the attrition of their spirit." He added that "The echoes of the historic struggle of Soviet Jewry to resist the forcible submergence of their identity, their authenticity and their right to a full national life in Israel, if they so choose, are reaching world opinion, in spite of Soviet attempts to silence these voices and to prevent the truth from reaching the outside world."

In an hour-long speech before the UN Human Rights Commission, Soviet delegate Nikolai Tarassov bitterly attacked Israel, charging its government with conducting "an aggressive war" against the Arabs and of depriving them "even of the right to live" by bombing Cairo. He was referring to the recent destruction of a metalworks near the Egyptian capital, during which 80 Egyptians were killed and 80 injured. Israel has said the bombing of the occupied plant was unintentional. "The Soviet people condemn the barbarian acts of Israel," Mr. Tarassov declared. He emphasized the "solidarity" of Moscow and the Arabs, and called on the Human Rights Commission to condemn Israel's acts. The Russian refuted Israel's charges that the Soviet government is discriminating against its Jewish citizens. He in turn charged Israel with raising "the Jewish question" in the Soviet Union for the purpose of covering itself "against its policy of terror against the Arabs." He continued: "The defense of the Jews in the Soviet Union is not needed now. It was needed under the Czar, but under the Soviet regime Jews in the U.S.S.R. enjoy equal rights guaranteed by the Constitution."

Two Gifts Totalling \$400,000 Earmarked For Construction Of Schools In Israel

NEW YORK, March 16 (JTA)--Two gifts totalling \$400,000 for the construction of schools in Israel were announced today by Charles J. Bensley, president, and Dr. Aryeh Nesher, executive director, of the Israel Education Fund of the United Jewish Appeal.

A gift of \$300,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Everett of Brooklyn, N. Y., will be used to construct a two-unit secondary comprehensive high school at Hatzor. A gift of \$100,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Donald M. Robinson, of Pittsburgh, Pa., will be used to establish three pre-kindergarten facilities in Kiryat Shmona, Dimona and Sderot.

Jarring Continues To Meet With Representatives; Egypt's View On Peace Mission Aired

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., March 16 (JTA)--A spokesman for the United Nations said today that Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, the UN's peace envoy to the Middle East, was continuing to meet with "interested parties" for consultations about the possibility of resuming his Mideast peace mission. The spokesman also said there was still no indication from UN Secretary General U Thant whether or not he was "optimistic or pessimistic" about the Big Four talks held in New York last Thursday, two days after Dr. Jarring returned to the UN, and scheduled again for this Thursday.

Since his return here from Moscow, Ambassador Jarring met with Israel's permanent representative to the UN, Yosef Tekoah, Lebanon's envoy, Eduard Ghorra, and Egypt's acting ambassador, Dr. Abdulla El Irian. Dr. Jarring was scheduled to meet with Mr. Thant during the weekend reportedly to convey his impressions of his talks with the various representatives. A spokesman for the UN, however, said there was no word on whether or not the two officials met. Mr. Tekoah had described his meeting with Dr. Jarring as "exploratory" but declined to disclose the contents of their talk. After his meeting, Mr. Tekoah told newsmen that it was too early for Dr. Jarring to decide about a future course of action. Mr. Tekoah noted that a difficulty in making the decision was that Israel was prepared to cooperate with the peace mission while the Arab states, with the urgings of the Soviet Union, were continuing to pursue their "war of attrition."

(According to reports reaching London from Cairo, Dr. El Irian told Dr. Jarring during their discussion that Egypt did not object to Dr. Jarring's return to the Middle East provided "he would bring with him an implementary program for Israel withdrawal within a specific period." The period suggested by Dr. El Irian was from three to six months. This proposal, which was published in today's semi-official Egyptian newspaper, Al Ahram, also contained the suggestion that any cease fire must be tied to the implementation of the Security Council's November 1967 resolution. The newspaper quoted Dr. El Irian as telling Dr. Jarring that any attempt to "separate the cease fire resolution from the November decision would be regarded as an attempt to impose surrender on the Arabs and would be rejected.")

University Of Wisconsin's Reduced Out-Of-State Enrollment Hurts Jewish Students

NEW YORK, March 16 (JTA)--The University of Wisconsin's three-year-old policy of greatly reducing the enrollment of out-of-state students has resulted in a situation in which "Jewish students are stigmatized and denied opportunities in higher education," according to an article in the "ADL Bulletin," published by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The writer, Saul Sorrin, director of ADL's Wisconsin-Upper Midwest office, charges that the Regents' drive against "outsiders," designed to reduce the incidence of student protests on campus, has been largely directed against applications for admission from "virtually all the great centers of Jewish population in the United States," representing the sources of "more than 90 percent of the Jewish students on campus." This is so, Mr. Sorrin states, even though the university's policy has been changed from outright exclusion of certain states to a gradual reduction of out-of-staters to 15 percent by 1971.

Last November, Mr. Sorrin reports, the ADL expressed its "deep concern" over the matter to the Regents, which scheduled a policy review by the end of the current school year. While not accusing the Regents of deliberate anti-Semitism, "ADL was, however, concerned with repeated reports in responsible places and in the major dailies of Wisconsin of an attempt to eliminate Jewish students from the university," and it "pointed out that the banishment of out-of-state students would result in a climate of 'educational nativism' which would depress the quality of education at the University of Wisconsin."

American Jews In Year 2000 Will Retain Identity Because Of Will To Survive

NEW YORK, March 16 (JTA)--American Jews in the year 2000 will have the same attributes they have today--an interest in a good education and a responsible job, affiliation with Jewish religious and social organizations, Jewish schooling for their children--despite the increase in intermarriage with non-Jews from the current 6-8 percent. This is because "Jewish identity is strong (and) there is a conscious effort to maintain Jewish survival," explains Rabbi Ronald M. Goldstein, of Temple Beth Zion, Buffalo, N.Y., who makes the observations and conclusions in the article "American Jewish Archives," published by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati.

Although "outmarriage" is on the rise--in Washington, D.C., notes Rabbi Goldstein, it is estimated at 18 percent--the Jewish education of children nationwide is at about the 75 percent level. In addition, according to the writer, 75 percent of East coast Jews, and 40 percent of the less-densely Jewish West coast, have religious-group affiliations; virtually all American Jews have ties with a Jewish organization of some kind, and third-generation Jews who are not now synagogue members may well change their minds after marriage and children.

Israeli And American Astronomers Cooperating In Venture To Study Sun Spots

PASADENA, Calif., March 16 (JTA)--Astronomers at the California Institute of Technology and the University of Tel Aviv are cooperating in a unique investigation of the evolution of sunspots aimed at developing a way to predict solar flares, which can be hazardous to astronauts. Time lapse movies of the sun's constantly moving and fiery surface can be taken continuously for as long as 20 hours through two identical six-inch telescopes located on opposite sides of the earth--one in Israel and the other in Southern California. Harold Zirin, professor of astronomy at Caltech and a member of the Hale Observatories staff, selected Israel as the site for a second telescope when he started the program to film the sun in 1967.