

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Soviet SAM-3 Anti-Aircraft Missiles in Egypt Confirmed; Russian Troop Presence Reported

WASHINGTON, March 19 (JTA)-- The delivery of large numbers of Soviet-made SAM-3 anti-aircraft missiles to Egypt along with Soviet troops apparently to install and operate them, was confirmed today in reports reaching here from Cairo and other capitals. The deliveries took place during the past three weeks, as Israeli officials grew increasingly uneasy over the unexplained delay in the promised announcement of President Nixon's decision on Israel's request to buy more Phantom and Skyhawk jets. (In Jerusalem, Israeli diplomatic circles warned today that the operation of Soviet SAM-3 ground-to-air missiles in Egypt by Soviet personnel introduces a new element into the Middle East conflict which Washington should take heed of when considering Israel's request to buy more Phantom and Skyhawk jets. The diplomats said the delivery of the sophisticated SAM missile systems to Egypt made it clear that there was no possibility of an arms embargo in the Mideast. The Israelis said the news of the SAM-3 deliveries was "disquieting" in light of reports from Washington that Israel would not be granted the right to buy more Phantoms and Skyhawks at this time. Officials here would neither confirm nor deny reports that Israel would receive massive financial aid from the U.S. in lieu of further aircraft. Foreign Ministry officials said they could not express views solely on the basis of press reports.)

(In New York, a United Nations spokesman said today that Secretary General U Thant has no official information regarding Soviet troops or SAM-3 missiles in Egypt. A spokesman for the British UN delegation said his delegation had no further knowledge of reports that the United States and the Soviet Union have reached an agreement on a Mideast arms embargo. He said Britain's position remained in favor of an embargo or, failing that, a limitation on arms shipments to the Mideast. Concerning the Big Four talks, today at Lord Caradon's residence, a British source said no new British initiative was contemplated at the session. He described the talks today--the 32nd meeting on the Mideast since last April--in the same terms as those held here Mar. 5 and 12--as intended for "a further thorough exploration of views on how best to proceed" with the possible resumption of Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring's peace mission in the Mideast. At the same time, the United Nations special Mideast peace envoy, Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring, continued his meetings with the Big Four UN representatives.)

The Soviet SAM-3 missiles comprise a highly sophisticated anti-aircraft defense system to cope with Israeli low-level attacks that have virtually destroyed the SAM-2 missile sites previously installed in Egypt as well as Egyptian anti-aircraft guns and radar tracking stations. The SAM-2s are effective only against high altitude aircraft. The SAM-3s are reportedly being set up at the port city of Alexandria, at an airbase west of Cairo and elsewhere in Egypt. According to reliable reports, some 1500 Russian troops have arrived in Egypt since the SAM-3 deliveries began. Russian soldiers have been reported driving missile carriers along the Alexandria-Cairo highway which has been periodically closed to foreigners and may be closed indefinitely.

### Soviet Troop Deployment To Egypt Seen As Precursor To Direct Intervention

The deployment of Soviet troops in Egypt to operate that country's air defense system was viewed by some observers here as a possible precursor to direct Soviet intervention in the fighting between Egypt and Israel. These observers reasoned that if Soviet personnel suffered casualties in Israeli attempts to knock out the SAM-3 sites, the Russians might feel compelled to send fighter squadrons to protect the missile launching pads. In such an event, aerial combat between the Israeli and Soviet air forces enters the realm of possibility. The latest reports of SAM-3 deliveries to Egypt confirmed a report earlier this week by Barrie Dunsmore, the American Broadcasting Company's Rome Bureau chief. Mr. Dunsmore stressed that the SAM-3s were strictly defensive and said there were no signs that the Russians were sending the powerful supersonic MIG-23 fighter bombers to Egypt to counter Israel's American-made F-4 Phantom jets.

But Israeli sources say the Soviets have supplied Egypt, Syria and Iraq with over three billion dollars worth of arms and military equipment during the last 30 months alone. They feel that U.S. hesitancy in supplying more Phantoms to Israel will worsen the situation by leading the Arabs to infer that Washington is wavering in its support of Israel. Israelis are not optimistic over the decision on the Phantoms now scheduled to be announced next Monday by Secretary of State William P. Rogers--rather than by President Nixon himself. They expect a general statement that the planes will be available to Israel whenever its aerial superiority over the Arabs appears to be in danger but no definite commitment. Israelis believe considerable psychological damage has already been done by President Nixon's failure to honor his self-imposed deadline for announcing his decision on the Phantoms. The President said on Jan. 30 that his decision would be made in 30 days.

### Soviets Indicate Arabs Will Receive Help If Israel Gets Jets From The U.S.

In the opinion of Israeli diplomats the delay encouraged Moscow and the Arab states that their "hot-and-cold" tactics in the Middle East crisis were succeeding in driving a wedge between

Washington and Jerusalem. The Israelis say the Soviet Arab tactics consist of vaguely conciliatory gestures by Soviet Ambassador Jakob Malik at the Big Four talks and a "moderate" stance taken by President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt in interviews granted selected Western news media. But Nasser's so-called moderation is never reflected in the Arab press. For example, in a New York Times interview on Feb. 15, Pres. Nasser said "...we accept the sovereignty of Israel, the right of Israel to live, the right of passage through waterways..." This statement, however, and other moderate statements in the New York Times, Le Monde of Paris, and the Los Angeles Times, were deleted from the Egyptian press and radio according to Israeli experts on the Middle East. Moscow meanwhile is engaged in an unprecedented campaign of anti-Israel vituperation at home coupled with repeated expressions of support for the Arabs, the Israelis say.

(The Soviet journal Krasnaya Zvezda linked "Israeli provocations" with aid Jerusalem receives from the U.S. The writer, R. Vasilyev, claimed that "Israel is now waiting for President Nixon's decision on the delivery of a new large consignment of Phantom and Skyhawk jets. Although this decision is somewhat delayed, Tel Aviv expressed confidence that it will be favorable...It is this support by Washington that accounts for the brazenness of the Israeli aggressors and hampers a settlement of the Middle East crisis." The article claimed that American aid would bring Israel "only a temporary success" and warned that "The Arab people do not stand alone, either. As long as the aggression continues, their friends will unceasingly give them the necessary support in strengthening their ability to safeguard their security and their just interests." The article was summarized in the press digest distributed by the Soviet UN Mission in New York.)

### Farbstein Assails Nixon For Withholding Jets To Israel While Russia Aids Egypt

WASHINGTON, March 19 (JTA)--Rep. Leonard Farbstein, Democrat of New York, charged President Nixon with sacrificing principle for politics and material gain in withholding Phantom and Skyhawk jets from Israel. In a speech on the floor of the House today, Mr. Farbstein said he was "shocked and concerned" by reports that Nixon did not intend to sell jets to Israel "at this critical time in the life of that small brave country." "I know that the President has said on a number of occasions that he would help Israel when needed and that Israel must and will survive as a nation. These are mere words. Unfortunately, actions speak louder than words," Farbstein said. The Congressman said that in the face of massive Soviet military aid to Egypt, "Israel needs those airplanes. She needs them to survive. The world stood by in the 1930's and permitted Hitler to murder six million Jews. Does the United States intend to stand by again and, like Pontius Pilate, wash its hands of the whole thing?"

### Galili Says Mrs. Meir Might Have Received Wrong Impression During Washington Visit

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir was defended by a member of her Cabinet last night over suggestions that she may have received "wrong impressions" during her official visit to Washington last year. Israel Galili, Minister-Without-Portfolio, spoke in reply to questions on a television interview. The questions dealt with the growing concern in Israel that the United States will not grant permission to purchase more Phantoms and Skyhawk jets at this time. Mr. Galili said he thought the impression Mrs. Meir received was the right one at the time of her visit to the White House. But in Mr. Galili's opinion, subsequent Soviet strategy succeeded in "confusing" the Americans. He said one can only hope that the U.S. will free itself of this confusion when it becomes clear that its own interests may be hurt by accommodations to Russia's attitude which is identical to that of Egypt.

Mr. Galili warned Israelis to be prepared for "difficulties and complications" in Israel's relations with the U.S., but to distinguish between short term and long run consequences. In his opinion Washington endangered its own interests by becoming involved in Four Power talks on the Mideast. This, he said, encouraged Arab leaders to "nibble away" at U.S. policy and cause a retreat from its positive stand on Israel's demands. Asked whether the fact that Secretary of State Rogers rather than President Nixon will announce the Administration's decision on the Phantoms indicated a negative reply, the Minister said, "As a rule I would prefer the point of contact on issues of this nature to be the White House."

### Two Houses In Lebanese Village, Said To Belong To Saboteurs, Destroyed By Israelis

TEL AVIV, March 19 (JTA)--An Israeli raiding party burst into a Lebanese village in the early hours of this morning and destroyed two houses said to belong to saboteurs who earlier attacked an Israeli border village. The target of the raid was Bleideh, less than four miles northwest of the Israeli kibbutz of Yiftah, where an electric pylon and a water tank were bombed by saboteurs Tuesday night. All Israeli soldiers returned safely. Four Israeli soldiers were wounded in exchanges of fire with Egyptian forces in the northern and southern sectors of the Suez Canal zone today. Israel Air Force jets bombed Egyptian positions in the Suez Canal zone last night and returned safely to base. The targets were artillery batteries, bunkers and other positions in the northern sector of the waterway. Twelve residents of Gaza were injured this morning when a hand grenade burst in the middle of a crowd of laborers waiting for a bus to transport them to jobs in Israel.

Israeli security officials announced the capture of a gang of terrorists believed responsible for the deaths of two American tourists in the Hebron area in the past four months. Thirteen persons have been arrested in connection with the attacks on tourist buses near Halhoul village in the Hebron district. Leon Holz, of Brooklyn, was killed last December and Mrs. Barbara Ertle, of Grandville, Mich., a Christian, was killed last month. Israeli authorities said the latest raid on Lebanese territory followed 44 incidents of violence from Lebanon since the beginning of the year. The incidents included attacks on Israeli territory with bazookas, katyusha rockets and small arms, and the planting of mines and explosives under civilian homes and culverts. Five incidents occurred this week.

## JWB Delegates Told Jewish Groups Put Prestige Ahead Of Building Jewish Community

WASHINGTON, March 19 (JTA)--Delegates to the biennial convention of the National Jewish Welfare Board were told today that national Jewish organizations are more concerned with "prestige and spheres of influence" than with building a Jewish community. Dr. Trude Weiss-Rosmarin, editor of "The Jewish Spectator," told the 1,000 delegates: "The national scope of Jewish organizations continue to duplicate and compete today as they have done for decades. These organizations have contributed little, if anything, to the enhancement of Jewish values." She paid tribute to local groups such as the hundreds of Jewish day schools as an example of organizations which "have taken the initiative to act and to sacrifice." She said most of these are ignored by fund raising groups when the money is being passed out. The JWB voted today to streamline its organization by re-structuring its chain of command to avoid "unnecessary and elaborate structural and organizational arrangements" and "confusion of authority." The JWB convention will continue through Sunday.

## Jewish Groups Call For Strong Measures To Prevent Resurgence Of Anti-Semitism

PARIS, March 19 (JTA)--Two Jewish organizations here called today for strong measures to prevent a local resurgence of anti-Semitism. The Jewish Students Union and the Movement Against Racism and Anti-Semitism urged French authorities and the public at large to react energetically against any symptoms of discrimination or overt anti-Semitism. They said that anti-Semitic slogans were recently scrawled on the walls of the synagogue in Rouen and cited that as symptomatic of anti-Semitic feelings. Several hundred young Jews demonstrated in front of the Soviet Embassy and other Soviet premises here last evening to protest the alleged discrimination against Jews in the Soviet Union. Police arrested 61 of the demonstrators for "identity checks" and released them.

The demonstrations were organized by the Jewish Communal House which is supported by the French Central Jewish Fund. They took place during the evening rush hour as thousands of Parisians left their offices. Several dozen demonstrators chained themselves to the iron bars that surround the Embassy, the offices of Aeroflot, the Soviet airline and the Soviet commercial delegation. Others handed out leaflets explaining that their action was "symbolic of the chains around Soviet Jews."

## Swiss Parliament Leader Says Soviet Embassy Bulletin Smacks Of Primitive Anti-Semitism

BERNE, Switzerland, March 19 (JTA)--A leader of the Swiss Parliament charged today that the bulletin published and distributed by the Soviet Embassy in Berne contained "unbridled attacks on both the United States and Israel that showed evidence of primitive anti-Semitism." Dr. Walter Hofer, chairman of the foreign relations committee of the Lower House, asked the Foreign Minister yesterday if this did not constitute a violation of Swiss neutrality and an infringement on freedom of thought. He said the Soviet Embassy bulletin contained "hints of dark conspiracies by world Jewry" and claimed that Jews were the real power in Washington.

## B'nai B'rith International Council Calls For End To Soviet Defamation Of Jews

JERUSALEM, March 19 (JTA)--The B'nai B'rith International Council called on the Soviet Union last night to "end global defamation of the Jewish people and coercion of Soviet Jews to collaborate in this vicious campaign." Citing what it labelled an increasingly reactionary Jewish policy motivated by domestic political considerations, the Council called for the restoration of Jewish religious and cultural institutions, fair representation of Jews and Judaism in Soviet textbooks, and the ending of anti-Jewish discrimination in education and employment.

## World Jewish Congress Seeks Planned Coordinated Activity On Behalf Of Soviet Jews

TEL AVIV, March 19 (JTA)--The Israeli executive of the World Jewish Congress believes that activities in behalf of Soviet Jewry must be planned and coordinated by a central body. It has approached other organizations with the aim of setting up such a body, it was learned today. Itzhak Koren, a Knesset member and chairman of the WJC's political committee in Israel, said that divided and uncontrolled activities by diverse groups could be dangerous and could be interpreted in quarters as being a facet of the East-West "cold war."

## 12 Arab Union Leaders Call For Total Boycott Of U.S., Britain, West Germany

LONDON, March 19 (JTA)--Trade union leaders from 12 Arab countries have called for a total boycott of the United States, Britain and West Germany because they are "hostile to the Arab nation and at war with it just like Israel." The trade unionists urged the Arab countries to stop buying U.S., British and German products, to withdraw Arab deposits from those countries' banks and to close their information centers in Arab cities. Tunisia and Saudi Arabia were the only Arab countries not represented at the Cairo meeting.

## Jewish Federation Concludes Workshop On Drug Abuse In Jewish Community

NEW YORK, March 19 (JTA)--Forty-five leaders of key community, family and social welfare agencies--including eight rabbis--"graduate" tonight from an eight-week workshop on drug abuse in the Jewish community, sponsored by the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies. Plans for a continuing program to cope with drug abuse on a community level will be outlined by the workshop participants. An emergency grant earlier this year by the Frederick W. Richmond Foundation made the workshop possible. The workshop was the result of mounting evidence that drug abuse had reached epidemic proportions in the Jewish community. Earlier this year, the Committee on Drugs of the Jewish Federation called for "an emergency, six-point inter-faith program of citywide scope to counter the drug peril that has crossed all ethnic and religious lines and now threatens the total community."

## Gallup Poll Shows Americans' Sympathy For Israel Down 11 Percent Since Six-Day War

PRINCETON, N.J., March 19 (JTA)--Americans' sympathy for Israel in the Middle East crisis has dropped 11 percentage points since the 1967 Six-Day War, while Arab support remains minimal and those taking neither side have increased 7 percentage points. These are the results of a new Gallup poll, based on interviews with 1538 adults during February 27-March 2. Israeli support declined from 55 to 44 percent, Arab support slipped from 4 to 3 percent, and neutrality rose from 25 to 32 percent. Even with this last figure, far more--58 percent--wanted the United States to stay neutral in the crisis, against 41 percent in June 1967; 13 percent wanted non-military U.S. aid to Israel, down 3 points; 10 percent favored some kind of negotiations, down 4 percent; 2 percent recommended a United Nations decision, down 9 percent; 1 percent favored sending U.S. troops to Israel, down 4 percent; and 1 percent backed U.S. support of the Arabs, up from "less than one-half of 1 percent."

## Bookbinder Says There Was No Jewish 'Line' On The Anti-Pompidou Demonstrations

WASHINGTON, March 19 (JTA)--Hyman Bookbinder, the Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee, criticized critics of the anti-Pompidou demonstrations in the United States. Noting that "There is no unanimous Jewish 'line' in this country," Mr. Bookbinder, in a letter published in today's Washington Post, wrote: "There may possibly have been better ways to further the mutual interests of America and of Israel--there can be honest differences on this--but what was done does not justify the harsh and ominous analysis that some have made of it." He singled out columns by Marquis Childs and by the Rowland Evans-Robert Novak team for describing the protests as "counter-productive" and "disastrous." "I happen to believe," Mr. Bookbinder observed, "that mass demonstrations, even orderly ones, to further public goals are no longer effective or appropriate. But there is nothing illegal or immoral or un-American about peaceful and orderly protest." Asserting that the French jet sale to Libya was opposed by "the great majority" of Frenchmen, U.S. Congressmen and American citizens, including "most American Jews," he continued: "It would be sad indeed if the hyper-sensitivity of the French President to American expressionism should in any way harm French-American relations."

## Memorial Tribute To S.Y. Agnon Planned At Dropsie University

PHILADELPHIA, March 19 (JTA)--A Memorial Tribute commemorating the late S.Y. Agnon, renowned Israeli Hebrew author and Nobel Laureate in Literature who died last month, will be held on Sunday at the Dropsie University in conjunction with the Israeli Consulate. The eulogy memorializing Agnon, regarded as the greatest Hebrew writer of our time, will be delivered by Moshe Yegar, Consul General of Israel. Two Israeli scholars who are professors at Dropsie University, will also participate in the ceremonies. Dr. Abraham Sha'anani, associate professor of Modern Hebrew Language and Literature, will speak on the Jewish tradition in Agnon's stories. Dr. S. D. Goitein, professor of Judaeo-Arabic, will give a personal account of his relationships with Agnon. In addition, Edward Fingerhood, a student, will give a reading of a popular Agnon story, "With All My Heart." The story, which is about a poet's desire to compose a poem for his beloved in honor of her birthday, will be read in Hebrew. David Baker, another student, will read the acceptance speech which Agnon delivered to the Swedish Academy of Letters upon receiving the Nobel Prize.

## Hungarian-Born Historian Warns Fascism Can Rise To Power Again Including In U.S.

NEW YORK, March 19 (JTA)--Stefan Lorant, the Hungarian-born historian best known for his Lincoln researches, said last night that his next book will be on the nature of the Nazi rise to power, because "it can happen again." Appearing on the nationally syndicated televised "David Frost Show," Mr. Lorant declined to name any prospective neo-Hitlers, but said that many countries around the world were vulnerable, "even the United States."

## Yehuda Amichai, Israeli Poet And Novelist, To Tour U.S. In April And May

NEW YORK, March 19 (JTA)--Yehuda Amichai, Israeli poet and novelist, will visit the United States for a speaking tour under the auspices of the Education and Culture Department of the Jewish Agency, it was announced by Dr. Emanuel Rackman, Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Department. The tour will follow his appearance in Washington, D.C. on April 15th when he will give a reading of his own poetry at the International Poetry Festival in the Library of Congress. On the tour, Mr. Amichai will appear on a number of college campuses throughout the country. He will also appear at the Herzl Institute, New York and under the auspices of Boards of Jewish Education and other Jewish groups in New York, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Los Angeles, and Toronto, Canada. His final appearance will be in New York on Sunday, May 17th at the finals of the National Bible Contest sponsored by the Education and Culture Department of the Jewish Agency. Born in Wurzburg, Germany, in 1924, Mr. Amichai went to Israel at the age of twelve. He was educated in Israeli schools, and served in the British Army during World War II and in the Israeli Army during the War of Liberation and the Sinai campaign.

## Brandeis U Offering Courses To Students Interested In Jewish Welfare Organizations

WALTHAM, Mass. March 19 (JTA)--Brandeis University has announced it was establishing a special program to provide graduate training to students interested in professional careers in Jewish welfare organizations. The first class will be admitted in Sept. 1970. The program will be conducted at two Brandeis schools, the Florence Heller Graduate School for Advanced Studies in Social Welfare and the Philip W. Lown Graduate Center for Contemporary Jewish Studies. The curriculum will combine courses in social work and Judaica.