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Dr. Jarring Returning To Moscow; No Signs He Will Resume His Mideast Peace Mission

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., March 26 (JTA)--Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, special United Nations representative for the Middle East, is leaving New York today to return to Moscow. A UN spokesman, who made the announcement at a press briefing where newsmen were bristling with excitement at the "rumor" of Dr. Jarring's departure before it was officially confirmed, added that Dr. Jarring would return to his UN headquarters "within a few weeks, or sooner, if developments warrant it." The spokesman did not specify which developments would warrant an earlier return and parried questions dealing with whether Dr. Jarring would go to the Middle East between the time he returns to Moscow and his return to UN headquarters.

Shortly after the announcement, Israel's Ambassador to the UN, Yosef Tekoah, blamed the "intransigence and belligerent attitude" of the Arab governments and the Soviet Union for the decision by Dr. Jarring to return to his post as Sweden's Ambassador in Moscow without resuming his peace mission in the Middle East. Mr. Tekoah said Dr. Jarring's return to Moscow was "not unexpected." The UN spokesman said U Thant and Dr. Jarring, "in the course of a discussion" yesterday, "decided that the consultations for which Ambassador Jarring came to the UN headquarters two weeks ago, had gone as far as possible at this time, thus enabling Dr. Jarring to rejoin his family in Moscow for the Easter period. Dr. Jarring has advised the Secretary General that the consultations which he has had during his current visit here have been useful. It is the intention of Dr. Jarring to return to UN headquarters to undertake further activities in pursuance of his mandate within a few weeks or sooner if developments should warrant it."

Tekoah Blames Arab-Soviet Axis For Impeding Peace Negotiations

Ambassador Tekoah said that "In recent weeks it has become more clear than ever before that the Arab states and the USSR are opposed to any renewed attempt by Ambassador Jarring to bring about agreement between the parties through peace negotiations." Mr. Tekoah added: "Instead, the Arab and Soviet governments seek to impose on the Middle East, through Big Power talks, a settlement short of real peace, that would in fact perpetuate tension and hostilities." He declared that the Arabs, with Soviet backing, "are pursuing a policy based on repudiation of the cease-fire and continuation of the so-called war of attrition." But, Mr. Tekoah asserted, "Israel will continue to strive for freely negotiated peace treaties with the Arab governments that would put a definite end to the war waged against it by the Arabs for more than two decades and ensure peace and security for all nations in the Middle East." The Israeli diplomat said that until a lasting peace is achieved "Israel will insist on scrupulous maintenance of the cease-fire on the basis of full reciprocity."

When Dr. Jarring returned to the UN on March 16, Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, United Nations Under-secretary General, said his return was not due to any "emergency" but rather for "routine" discussions with Secretary General U Thant, Big Four power representatives, and other "interested parties." Mr. Thant had written to Dr. Jarring in Moscow expressing "a suggestion, not a command" that it might be useful for him to return to New York for consultations, Dr. Bunche said. Early this week, informed sources at the UN said Dr. Jarring had exhausted about all the possibilities and had explored every possible avenue without receiving any encouragement that a renewal of his efforts to bring Arabs and Israelis together for negotiations would have any chance of success. On Monday The Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported that Dr. Jarring was ready to return to Moscow. Subsequently, newsmen asked the UN spokesman whether this was so. Each time, the UN spokesman replied with the standard answer, "Dr. Jarring is well and is seeing people. I have no word about his itinerary." This afternoon the return was confirmed.

Israeli Air Force Blasts Egyptian Positions Along Suez Canal And Gulf Of Suez

TEL AVIV, March 26 (JTA)--The Israeli Air Force continued this morning and afternoon its concentrated efforts to blast Egyptian defense lines along the Suez Canal and the Gulf of Suez. Israeli planes attacked artillery and anti-aircraft positions for two hours on the Egyptian side of the Canal's southern sector, in the central sector and along the Gulf's western coast. All the planes returned safely. Last night the Air Force struck at the southern sector of the Canal. The Israeli Army flatly denied Egyptian claims of having attacked Israeli forces on the East Bank of the Canal, stating that no Israeli military unit had been hit and that no Egyptian raiders had been spotted. The Army spokesman reported only a few Katyusha shells fired at a desolated area.

Israel Air Force jets shot down four Egyptian MIG-21s in a dogfight over the Suez Canal yesterday and staged morning and afternoon raids on radar stations, artillery positions and anti-aircraft gun emplacements in the southern and central sections of the waterway. The targets were located in an Egyptian defense belt extending some 20 miles inland from the canal banks. All aircraft returned safely to their bases. An Israeli soldier was wounded yesterday in an exchange of fire between Egyptian and Israeli forces in the northern sector of the canal zone. Yesterday's "kills" in the dogfight over the canal brought to 80 the number of Egyptian aircraft downed since the June, 1967 war. Cairo denied the loss of any planes today. But a military spokesman here said four Russian-built interceptors were shot down within five minutes after they took to the air to challenge the

Israeli bombers. He said two of the Egyptian pilots were seen bailing out. All Israeli planes returned safely from their missions. An Israeli border policeman was injured early this morning by light-arms fire from Jordanian territory aimed at an Israeli patrol east of Neveh Orr in the Beitau Valley. Additional shooting from Jordan was directed at the Gushar settlement north of the valley, with no casualties reported. At around midnight last night, a truck traveling south of Beer Mencha in the Araba was damaged by bazooka shells. Earlier in the day two Israeli civilians and three local Arabs were injured when a hand grenade exploded in Gaza's main street this morning. Several suspects have been detained for questioning. The two Israelis were delivering dairy products to a Gaza store when the explosion occurred. They were hospitalized in Ashdod and the Arabs were taken to a local hospital.

Arab Terrorists, Killed On Lebanon Border Trying To Infiltrate Israel, Identified

Identification was made today of three armed Arab terrorists killed Tuesday on the Lebanese border during an attempt to infiltrate into Israel. The youths, aged 18 to 23, were from the Israeli Arab village of Turan, near Nazareth. They had been bearing three submachineguns, one of them Russian. They had left home a month ago to join a terrorist group. The bodies of seven Syrian soldiers were returned today to Syrian authorities at the Ahmadieh Junction. They had been killed in a clash with an Israeli patrol on the Israeli side of the Golan Heights ceasefire zone. (Gunfire between Palestinian terrorists and Lebanese security forces erupted today in Beirut in the third straight day of such encounters. The incitements were roadblocks set up by the authorities following yesterday's fight between Palestinians and right-wing Lebanese groups.)

Israeli jets attacked military targets west of the canal for nearly five hours Tuesday and resumed the attack for an hour during the night. The objective of the stepped-up air raids is to prevent the deployment of Egypt's new SAM-3 anti-aircraft missiles along the Suez Canal lines. Sources here said earlier this week that Israel intended to keep up the attacks to make it costly, if not impossible for the Egyptians to install the SAM-3 system it just received from the Soviet Union. No mention was made of SAM missile sites deeper in Egypt. Israeli sources say Russian crews are erecting an Egyptian anti-aircraft defense line based on the SAM-3s around strategic areas such as Alexandria, Cairo and the Russian-built Aswan High Dam.

Chairman Of American Zionist Council Scores Nixon For Withholding Jets From Israel

NEW YORK, March 26 (JTA)—President Nixon was urged by the chairman of the American Zionist Council today to reappraise as quickly as possible the military balance in the Middle East in light of the new Soviet build-up of Arab armaments and to follow through with "appropriate action so that the Arabs are convinced...that they cannot and will not achieve military superiority over Israel." Rabbi Israel Miller, in a letter to the President, said the decision to hold in abeyance Israel's request for more Phantom and Skyhawk jets is "disappointing and most unfair to Israel." He claimed that the U.S. decision "also weakens America's position in that strategic part of the world vis-a-vis the Russian build-up in the area."

Rabbi Miller said that Israel must be able to defend itself not only now but next year and the years after. "The contention that the supplying by the Soviets of 'defensive' SAM-3s to Egypt does not affect Israel's security is a fallacious argument in face of Arab threats to annihilate Israel," Rabbi Miller's letter said. He contended that if Israel's capability to deter Egyptian aggression is reduced, Nasser "will again threaten Israel with destruction, as he did in 1967, with the risk of a global confrontation by the big powers." According to Rabbi Miller, the American decision to withhold jets from Israel now will not appease the Arab appetite or "bring about any love for America in the Arab world." He said the Arabs would be satisfied with nothing less than U.S. concurrence with their goal of Israel's extinction.

(Writing in today's Washington Post, Rowland Evans and Robert Novak stated, "A major reason behind President Nixon's gently phrased veto of more U.S. Phantoms for Israel was a calculated estimate that the Soviet Union will not soon, if ever, supply its own pilots to fly Soviet aircraft now in the Egyptian arsenal." The columnists also noted that "The use of Soviet pilots is ruled out because Egypt lacks ground crews as well as pilots." President Nixon, Evans and Novak added, is said to feel that Egypt is entitled to protect itself with Soviet SAM-3 anti-aircraft missiles, but that he would stand behind Israel "If, as Israeli officials constantly warn, Soviet pilots to indeed come into the picture or if the French undertake a massive training-and-maintenance operation in Libya.")

(Writing from Beirut, John K. Cooley in the Christian Science Monitor reports that "Private opinions of Arab leaders" on the jet-sale turnaround "are more favorable than Arab information media indicated." The media had complained that the "temporary" nature of the decision was merely a device to bedevil American-Israeli anti-Arab collusion. "But Lebanese officials and Arab diplomats here, in private conversations, were almost unanimous in expressing relief that the plane deal had not been approved." Still, "the public Arab reaction is mainly that the U.S. is still heavily and irrevocably committed to Israel's military superiority in the Middle East.")

1000 French Jews And Non-Jews Protest Anti-Semitic Inscriptions On Buildings

PARIS, March 26 (JTA)—A thousand non-Jews and Jews protested last night in the provincial city of Rouen against anti-Semitic inscriptions in the past few days on synagogues and other public buildings. The demonstration was led by the city's Chief Rabbi. The local Catholic Archbishop expressed sympathy. The Union of French Jews for the Resistance urged the French Government to take "immediate and energetic measures" against the spread of anti-Semitic propaganda and slander campaigns like those in Amiens, Orleans and now Rouen.

Wilson Rejects Request To Reconsider Decision Not To Sell Chieftain Tanks To Israel

LONDON, March 26 (JTA)--Prime Minister Harold Wilson rejected today a request by a group of Labor MPs who had asked him to reconsider a decision not to sell Chieftain tanks to Israel. The issue has led Israel to challenge Britain's impartiality in the Big Four efforts to find an approach for a Middle East settlement. Replying to a letter signed by more than 80 members of a Labor Friends of Israel Parliamentary group, Mr. Wilson said he saw no evidence that Israel "is now at a military disadvantage" or was likely to be "in the foreseeable future." Mr. Wilson added that the British Government kept its arms supplies to Israel and other Mideast countries "under close and constant review" and that he agreed with the MPs that Israel's military superiority was "not necessarily permanent" but that in the "present circumstances I can see no justification for any change in the implementation of our policy" regarding sale of the Chieftain tanks.

The Prime Minister also declared that in any decision on supplying arms to Mideast combatants, the British Government had "to take carefully into account" the effect of decisions on arms supply on the Mideast power balance. Raymond Fletcher, chairman of the parliamentary group, said its members agreed with the British Government's general policy on keeping a Mideast power balance but that they believed this balance had been upset to the disadvantage of Israel. He cited the seizure of power in Libya by an anti-Israel revolutionary regime, the change in French policy in the Middle East, the buildup of Soviet military aid to Egypt and President Nixon's refusal to sell more warplanes to Israel. He said the parliamentary group would meet on April 18 to consider Mr. Wilson's reply.

Kuznetsov Says Letter By Soviet Jews Implicating Zionism In Babi Yar Beyond Belief

LONDON, March 26 (JTA)--A self-exiled Soviet author said that "The Jews in the Ukraine are so intimidated that they are ready to sign anything." Anatoli Kuznetsov, author of a book on Babi Yar, in a letter published in the Daily Telegraph, referred to a letter, printed March 12 in the Communist Party newspaper Pravda, alleging that Zionists collaborated with the Nazis in the Babi Yar massacre of Jews during World War I. The letter was signed by Ukrainian Jews. Mr. Kuznetsov said the allegation was "carrying cynicism beyond the bounds of comprehension" and observed that "the people who signed the slander in Pravda presumably were forced to do it." Kuznetsov, who defected to the west last August, has claimed to have more knowledge about the Babi Yar massacre than "anyone else in the world," having lived in Kiev, near Babi Yar, at the time. Kuznetsov said the Soviet censors had completely mutilated the account of the tragedy in his book and is planning to publish soon the complete text of his work.

Aviation Group Asks UN Agency To Make Hijacking Punishable Offense By Extradition

MONTREAL, March 26 (JTA)--In a draft treaty released last night, the International Civil Aviation Organization's legal committee asked the 119 members of the United Nations agency to declare plane hijacking a punishable offense requiring extradition of the hijackers to the country where the crime was perpetrated or, where extradition is refused, prosecution in the country where the hijackers are held. A diplomatic conference will be convened in The Hague in December to establish the treaty as an international agreement. The treaty leaves the nature of the penalties to the member nations, but stipulates they should be "severe." If a member state were to grant a hijacker political asylum, all procedures would be null.

Latin American Jews To Protest Soviet Jewish Policy At Rally In Buenos Aires

NEW YORK, March 26 (JTA)--The Jewish communities of Argentina, and representatives of youth movements and Zionist parties from all over Latin America will come together in Buenos Aires on May 17 to protest the anti-Jewish and anti-Israel policy of the Soviet Union, and to demand the freedom of emigration for those Jews of the Soviet Union who want to leave, according to a report released today here by the World Jewish Congress. This was announced in Buenos Aires after a meeting of the Argentine and Uruguayan members of the Latin American Jewish Congress. The rally in Buenos Aires will be preceded by the Third Plenary Session of the Latin American Jewish Congress, branch of the World Jewish Congress, scheduled from May 14-18.

Cabinet Approves Decision To Build Permanent Housing For 250 Jewish Families In Hebron

JERUSALEM, March 26 (JTA)--A Cabinet decision to build permanent housing for 250 Jewish families in the West Bank town of Hebron was approved by a large majority in the Knesset yesterday. The decision was announced by Deputy Premier Yigal Allon. He did not say whether the project was part of a larger plan to establish a Jewish suburb of Hebron, reportedly under consideration by the Cabinet. Hebron has been a touchy problem ever since a group of religious Jews squatted there two years ago and announced their intention of remaining. They have been living inside the military government compound but demand regular housing. Hebron has been an all-Arab town since 1936 and no permission for Jewish settlement was granted by the military government after it was captured in the June, 1967 Six-Day War.

But the Knesset demonstrated overwhelming support for Jewish settlers yesterday. When the matter came to a vote, only the two Communist factions and Naftali Hersh opposed it. Mapam, which disapproves of Israeli "faits accomplis" in the occupied territories, abstained as did the State List headed by former Premier David Ben Gurion. The latter did so because it thinks Jewish settlement should proceed at a faster pace. Police and military authorities stifled a demonstration Tuesday in Hebron by leftists who sought to close the Jewish settlers' restaurant for half an hour in protest against any settlement in the territory as detrimental to peace. The military governor of Hebron has imposed a 9 p.m.-4 a.m. curfew until further notice, according to reports received here. A military government spokesman said the measure was designed to assist in general security control and was not connected with a particular crime.

Russian Born Jew, Now Israeli Citizen, Conducts Fast To Protest Soviet Jewish Policy

NEW YORK, March 26 (JTA)--A pale, slightly built, bespectacled young man wearing a yarmulka began a hunger strike yesterday outside of United Nations headquarters. Yasha Kazakov, 23, who was born in Moscow and went to Israel a year ago, said it would continue until "the combined voice of free people will bring about a change in the attitude of the Soviet Government" toward the Jews. Specifically, young Kazakov is protesting the refusal of Soviet authorities to permit his parents, Joseph and Sofia Kazakov, his brother, Alexander and his sister Vera to join him in Israel. He also demands freedom to emigrate for his aunt, cousins and grandmother and all Jews who want to leave the USSR. He has urged others to join his vigil at the Israeli Wall on United Nations Plaza facing the skyscraper home of the world organization.

Kazakov speaks only Russian and Hebrew and recounted his story through an interpreter who had joined him in his vigil. He is a student at the Israel Polytechnic Institute in Haifa where he enrolled a year ago after Soviet authorities inexplicably granted him an emigration visa but refused the rest of his family. His father, a 49-year-old economics engineer lost his job after requesting permission to leave. Last month he and 38 Russian Jews took the unprecedented step of addressing a letter to the Soviet Foreign Ministry pressing for their emigration rights. They made a copy, containing their names, addresses and occupations and made it available to Western newsmen. The letter was subsequently published abroad. Young Kazakov told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that since then, the Soviet government newspaper Izvestia has singled out his father for persecution. "He has lost his job and has no means of support for my family," the youth said.

He undertook his fast, he said, to help "the struggle of Soviet Jews" for freedom. "I am proud to identify myself here with their struggle. They are showing great courage in persisting in their demand to allow them to go to Israel in the face of the hostility of the Soviet authorities," he said, adding, "Their struggle is the struggle of all free people: The Jews of Soviet Russia have a right to call on all free people to raise their voice in their support." The youth conducts his vigil from seven a.m. to 10 p.m. He sleeps in a mobile trailer provided by friends. The trailer contains his pocket signs. About eight young people were with him this morning, though none were fasting.

One man, who identified himself as Alex Schlesinger, a survivor of the Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps in World War II, said he joined young Kazakov "to remind the world of a pledge each of us concentration camp inmates made 27 years ago when we sat in the death camps of Europe... that if we ever emerged from the Hitler ordeal, we would never again sit by in silence while Jews anywhere in 'his world' were being persecuted and abused." Kazakov told the JTA, through an interpreter, that he will return to Israel. "It is my home, where I belong." But he said he would continue his hunger strike until the UN acts on behalf of Soviet Jews. A number of appeals from Soviet Jews to the UN for help in emigrating to Israel have been forwarded to the UN by Israel's chief representative, Ambassador Yeael Tekoah. Among them is one from the elder Kazakov. Kazakov will get re-enforcements on Sunday. Students from Jewish day schools and yeshivas will join his protest in front of the UN.

Group Investigating Human Rights in Israeli-Occupied Territories Returning To Mideast

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., March 26 (JTA)--Three members of the special committee investigating human rights in Israeli-occupied territories will meet with newsmen tomorrow at the United Nations before departing for Europe and the Middle East on March 30 to continue hearings. The meeting, a UN spokesman said, was to appraise the news media of the committee's findings to date and to detail the itinerary. The committee has been meeting in New York all week. The special committee, which was set up by the General Assembly, is expected to be in Beirut on April 5, in Damascus on April 9, in Amman on April 13, and in Cairo on April 19. The group is also scheduled to visit Geneva toward the end of April to begin preliminary work on its report and to hold additional hearings as necessary, according to a UN spokesman. A statement issued by the committee noted that it "has scheduled a visit to the occupied territories following its hearings in Cairo which are expected to conclude by April 22. It (the committee) continues to hope that the government of Israel will cooperate in making this visit feasible." Israel has criticized this committee for its failure to conduct an investigation of the condition of Jews in Arab countries and limiting its probe exclusively to conditions in the occupied territories.

Some 200 Students Conduct Teach-In At City College On Plight Of Soviet Jews

NEW YORK, March 26 (JTA)--Some 200 students took part today in a two hour teach-in for Soviet Jewry at City College of New York sponsored by an ad hoc Soviet Jewry Committee. Dennis Frager, representing the Students Struggle for Soviet Jewry, who visited the Soviet Union last summer, told the students that a pervasive fear affected Soviet Jews. He reported that he and a cousin, an Orthodox Jewess, attended services at a synagogue and they were asked to sit in front of the sanctuary. When the girl protested, the congregation president said that while normally, the ban on mixed seating of men and women was observed, the visitors were asked to sit together in front so that they would not talk to the congregants. Other speakers included Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry, and a former Russian Jewess, Mrs. Laya Slavin, who settled in Israel and has come to the United States to testify before the United Nations Human Rights Commission on the status of Soviet Jewry.

Salute To Israel Parade Will Stress Israel's Deep-Rooted 4000-Year History

NEW YORK, March 26 (JTA)--The Salute to Israel Parade will be held on May 19, the eve of Israel's twenty-second birthday. The theme of the Parade--"Israel: Blossoming From 4000-Year Roots"--will be symbolized by a modern Menorah sprouting leaves to emphasize that Israel as a state as well as a people, is deeply rooted with a 4000-year history.