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Egyptian Claim That Israeli Planes Bombed A Primary School Repudiated By Israel

TEL AVIV, April 8 (JTA)--A military spokesman produced photographs to show newsmen that an Israeli air attack West of the Suez Canal zone today hit only military targets, after Cairo claimed that Israeli Phantom jets bombed a primary school killing 30 children and injuring 46 other persons, 36 of them children. The Israeli spokesman said the Air Force jets attacked military targets in the El Dalahya sector, about 30 miles west of Kantara on the Suez Canal. He said the targets were military positions surrounded by fortifications and trenches as well as military vehicles including trucks, jeeps, water tankers and trailers, all camouflaged. He said the photographs taken immediately after the attack showed that only military targets were hit.

Cairo radio broadcast an announcement by the Egyptian Ministry of Interior that Israeli Phantoms hit the Bahr al-Bakar school at Al Sharkiyyah west of the central sector of the Suez Canal zone. The school was described as a preliminary school attended by children of both sexes up to the age of 15. The last Israeli air raid which Egypt alleged civilians were hit occurred on March 31 when, according to Cairo, 12 Egyptians were killed and 35 wounded in the northern region of the Nile Delta. Last Feb. 13 Israeli jets bombed a civilian metal factory at Abu Zaabal in which 83 civilians were killed. Israel admitted the bombing and said it was a "tragic error."

(A United Nations spokesman in New York said early this afternoon, that the U.N. had no confirmation of the reported bombing nor any report from Lt. Gen. Odd Bull, chief of the cease-fire observers corps in the Suez Canal zone who is in the area. In Washington, a U.S. State Department spokesman said "We have seen press reports of the shocking loss of life and injury to children in Shargia Province in the United Arab Republic as a result of an Israeli air attack. If these reports are confirmed, this tragic incident would be another deplorable and saddening consequence of the continued disregard of the cease-fire resolution of the United Nations Security Council. Once again," the statement continued, "we appeal to all concerned to adhere scrupulously to the resolution in order to preclude further tragic deaths and injury to innocent civilians.")

Foreign Ministry officials in Jerusalem reiterated today that Israel would observe the cease-fire in the Suez Canal zone if the Egyptians stopped shooting from their side. The officials spoke to newsmen following press reports that the Soviet Union has urged Egypt to stop shooting without formally accepting the cease-fire which President Gamal Abdel Nasser renounced a year ago. They had no comment on the reports. A small explosive charge was detonated in East Jerusalem shortly after midnight today causing slight damage to two shops. Police said they had no clues.

Prominent French Jews And Non-Jews Denounce Russia's Anti-Jewish, Anti-Zionist Policies

PARIS, April 8 (JTA)--The Soviet Union's policy on Jews was denounced at a rally here by noted French figures, both Jewish and non-Jewish, who called on the Kremlin to "lift the veil" from its anti-Semitic position. Former Gaullist Minister Raymond Triboulet called for worldwide pressure on the Soviet Government on behalf of international Jewry. Former Nuremberg trial prosecutor Alfred Coste Floret told the rally attended by 3,000 persons, that "in the Soviet Union, anti-Zionism has become plain anti-Semitism" and that "the Declaration of Human Rights, which it has signed, has ceased to exist." Father Roger Braun, a Catholic priest, declared that "for a real Christian, anti-Semitism is impossible." He called on an all-out fight against bigotry. A resolution presented by Salomon Friederich, president of the French Union of Jews From Eastern Europe, urged the Kremlin to modify its Jewish policy.

Big Four Deputies Working On Memorandum But Diplomatic Circles Uncertain About Outcome

NEW YORK, April 8 (JTA)--The Four Power deputies met today to continue their work on drawing up a memorandum on the progress of the Big Four talks on the Middle East. But it was anybody's guess as to whether or not the deputies, authorized last week by the Four Power ambassadors to draw up a memorandum and have it ready by April 15 when the Big Four resume talks, are having any success in their work. Most diplomatic sources were close-mouthed today about what the deputies were doing or what they accomplished at their earlier meeting this week on Monday.

One source observed, "It's my feeling that they are doing as well as can be expected. I imagine they will have something ready in time for the (ambassador's) meeting. Another source said the deputies are "working" and "meeting as scheduled." The most pervasive feeling among diplomatic sources was that there "is nothing decisive happening at the moment." The memorandum has been termed by United States, French and British spokesmen as a step forward in the stated Big Four talks. The most optimistic view has been expressed by the French ambassador, Jacques Koscusko-Morizet, who viewed the work of the deputies as a step in the direction that would make possible the resumption of Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring's work. The U.S. view was that the work of the deputies represented a "tiny step forward," while the British characterized the work as a "positive decision."

Most diplomatic sources, however, are cautious about going any further than these views and some even express skepticism that a memorandum will be ready by April 15. The memorandum is viewed

as an open-ended listing of where the Big Four talks are at and not binding on any of the ambassadors. The ambassadors bogged down last month over drawing up a "catalog" of agreements and disagreements between them on the Middle East talks. The "catalog" was viewed as more of a closed-ended statement requiring a more binding attitude by the Four Powers. An American diplomatic spokesman said the difference between "catalog" and memorandum was basically a terminological one but added that the difference in terminology at this stage in the Four Power talks might prove sufficient to move the talks forward and soften the Soviet opposition to a "catalog."

Knesset Approves By Vote Of 65-5 Cabinet's Rejection Of Goldmann-Nasser Meeting

JERUSALEM, April 8 (JTA)--The Knesset today overwhelmingly approved the Cabinet's rejection of plans by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, to meet with President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt in Cairo. The vote was 65-5 to endorse Foreign Minister Abba Eban's Knesset statement yesterday explaining why the Cabinet acted as it did. The Knesset also defeated two motions of no confidence in the Government on the issue. Mr. Eban stated that Israel was prepared to meet with any Arab state including Egypt at any time but insisted on its right to select its own representative. He said Dr. Goldmann did not qualify as an emissary because his views on how peace can be achieved are in sharp variance with official Government policy. All factions in the coalition government plus the Poalei Agudat Israel and the State List, headed by former Premier David Ben Gurion, voted to endorse Mr. Eban's statement. The two Communist factions and Haolam Haazeh cast negative votes and the Free Center faction abstained.

Dr. Goldmann said today, that for him "the Nasser meeting episode is finished. I did not initiate it, I did not ask to be made an official representative and I will not respond to an invitation even if I get one." Dr. Goldmann spoke at a press conference he called at Beth Sokolow in Tel Aviv. Observers said it drew a bigger crowd of newsmen than any other press conference in the city since the June, 1967 Six-Day War. Dr. Goldmann said he welcomed Premier Golda Meir's statement that the matter was closed for her and that it would not affect her personal friendly relations with him. But the veteran Zionist leader took Mrs. Meir to task for having brought the matter up officially in the Cabinet. He also expressed "regret" that she and Foreign Minister Abba Eban disclosed the content of their private talks with him without consulting him. Dr. Goldmann said, "I told them both the matter should not be made public and warned them not to bring it to the Government." He said he never asked to made an Ambassador Extraordinary and that he did not ask Mrs. Meir for Government approval of his mission, only that the Government be aware of it. "Of course, if I got approval of her Government I become her representative," he said.

Dr. Goldmann stressed that his planned visit to Cairo, reportedly "suggested" to him by Egyptian representatives in Paris, had nothing whatever to do with the World Jewish Congress or his position as its president. He said it was his own personal matter and he found it unnecessary to report the matter to the WJC. He said he had no intention whatsoever of heading a campaign in Israel for his views. Dr. Goldmann stated, "As a Jew, as an Israeli living in a democratic state" he has the right to express his views "even if I don't see eye to eye with the attitude of official Israel." Dr. Goldmann said he would leave Israel at the beginning of May and would return later in the year. (The Paris newspaper *Le Monde* sharply criticized the Israel Government today for dismissing the Goldmann mission. The paper said in a front page editorial that Israel can no longer assert that "because of its own public opinion it must refuse to explore possible ways leading to peace." The editorial cited a recent public opinion poll in the newspaper *Haaretz* which it said showed that an overwhelming majority of Israelis favored Dr. Goldmann's projected mission. "For the first time Israeli public opinion does not seem to follow the Government's leadership," *Le Monde* said, adding that the Goldmann affair gave the first hint that there were other roads besides war leading to a solution of the Mideast problem.)

Witnesses At UN Committee Hearings In Beirut Describe Alleged Torture By Israelis

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 8 (JTA)--A Palestinian guerrilla who spent two years in an Israeli jail, told a United Nations special committee in Beirut yesterday that he was mistreated and was personally aware of other prisoners being subjected to cruel torture. The testimony was presented by Ahmad Khalifa, a 39-year-old former English literature student at Cairo University, who served with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. He said that a few hours after his capture by Israeli authorities he was beaten and hanged from a metal bar by his wrists. His testimony and that of others was released today by the UN office of Public Information. The three-member UN committee, headed by Ambassador Hamilton S. Amerasinghe of Ceylon, is investigating alleged violations of human rights in the Israel-occupied Arab territories. It is presently conducting hearings in Beirut and will go to Damascus tomorrow. Israel has refused to admit the group to its territory, because the group is involved exclusively in investigating Arab conditions but refuses to investigate conditions of Jews in Arab countries.

Mr. Khalifa gave the investigators the names of Arab prisoners who, he said, received worse treatment than he and who are still in Israeli prisons. He also gave the names of Israelis who allegedly inflicted torture. "I consider myself mistreated rather than systematically tortured," the former student said. He claimed personal knowledge of other prisoners being beaten with cables and shocked with electric charges. He said one man died from beatings. Ambassador Amerasinghe said "every effort" would be made to check out Mr. Khalifa's charges and the accusations made by other witnesses. Another witness, Professor George Dib, an assistant professor at Beirut University who admitted that he has not been to the Israel-occupied Arab territories, charged Israel with individual and collective murder and torture of civilians in the territories. Mr. Dib described himself as an advisor to the Institute for Palestine Studies. He said the Institute has systematically studied the situation through two survey teams, one of which he was a member, which collected reports including information from Israeli sources such as Knesset debates, the Israeli press and radio.

French Senators Demand Government Abandon Its 'One-Sided' Anti-Israel Stance

PARIS, April 8 (JTA)--A substantial group of French Senators demanded last night that the Government abandon its "one-sided" "anti-Israel" stance in the Middle East and bring its policies in line with its claims of "neutrality and objectivity." They assailed the French arms embargo as a "unilateral" measure that works against Israel while "Russia arms Egypt, Syria and Iraq and France arms Libya, Algeria and some of the oil producing emirates. Foreign Minister Maurice Schumann replied to the criticism with a vehement defense of the embargo and France's Mideast policies. Sen. Andre Monteil, of the Centrist Union who is president of the Foreign Affairs Committee, told M. Schumann, "We do not ask you to become pro-Israeli but we demand that France adopt a policy which does not endanger Israel's right to a free and independent existence within secure and recognized borders."

The Foreign Minister said that under present circumstances France cannot consider releasing 50 embargoed Israeli Mirage jets or reverting to a policy of "selective embargo" which would enable Israel to obtain spare parts for its Mirages. M. Schumann said, "The fact that the United States refuses to sell additional Phantoms to Israel goes to show what we have said all along that Israel still enjoys undisputed air superiority over the Arab states." He repeated his earlier assertion that Franco-Israeli relations will improve only when Israel accepts the Security Council's Nov. 22, 1947 Mideast resolution and cooperates fully with the Four Power consultations on the Mideast.

New French Guided Missile Poses Potential Threat To Israel's Air Superiority

NEW YORK, April 8 (JTA)--A serious potential threat to Israel's air superiority over Egypt is posed by a new French guided missile that costs about \$1800 to make and is operated by one man who can be trained in half an hour, according to an NBC television news broadcast last night. The broadcast showed clips from a French industrial film demonstrating the "Harpoon" missile knocking out moving tanks, ships and low-flying aircraft. The missile is guided by infra-red emanations and follows the target regardless of evasive action. The broadcast said that while the French embargo precludes the sale of "Harpoons" to Egypt or Israel, they may be sold to Libya which could transfer them easily to Egypt.

A Mother Works Tirelessly To Reunite Children In Russia With Mothers In Israel

WASHINGTON, April 8 (JTA)--Lea Slovin has not seen her daughter for a year. She represents mothers who have not seen their children for as much as 28 years. These mothers and children are being separated by the Soviet Union's refusal to allow Russian Jews to emigrate to Israel. "These are not political cases," Mrs. Slovin said. "These are very emotional cases. There are 117 mothers and children separated from each other. They are not political people." Mrs. Slovin, a grey eyed redhead, is in the United States to make the plight of these broken families public. She is trying to get public opinion to convince the Russians that families like hers should not be separated by national borders.

Mrs. Slovin, her husband Baruch, and two of their three children immigrated to Israel from Riga, Latvia, last year. Mrs. Slovin's oldest, Noemi, who is now 10, was denied permission to leave. "They never give any reasons," Mrs. Slovin said. "I have not had a letter from her in seven months, although I have spoken to her on the telephone a few times. She cries. In her last letter she wrote, 'Mommy, I dream of you every night and when I wake up in the mornings I cry to be with you.'" Noemi lives with her father, Mrs. Slovin's first husband, who has also been trying to leave the Soviet Union for Israel. He made his first application in 1961. "For many Jews in Russia, Israel is their historical motherland. They dream of going to Israel not because it is not good in Russia and it is good in Israel--although it is--but because Israel is their home. I dreamed all my life about Israel," Mrs. Slovin said.

She and her family did not get an opportunity to apply for exit visas until 1966, when Mr. Slovin's mother went to Israel and sent them an invitation to join her. Russian Jews are not allowed to emigrate to Israel unless they have an invitation from a relative. It took three years to get the visas for four of the five Slovins, even though Mrs. Slovin was a lawyer in Latvia who specialized in getting exit visas for Russian Jews. To get support for the 117 families in Israel who want to be reunited with their relatives in Russia--all of them parent-child relations--Mrs. Slovin has visited Rita Hauser, U.S. representative to the UN Human Rights Commission, and several U.S. Senators. "They were sympathetic. Each Senator understands mothers like me. I saw portraits of the Senator's children on their tables and walls in their offices. They are fathers and they understand mothers." Mrs. Slovin said she did not dare to hope that her meetings have changed her daughter's situation, but they at least brought the emotional impact of the Soviet Union's actions to the attention of the people in power.

Sisco Leaves For Middle East 'Orientation Visit'; Itinerary Includes Cairo And Israel

WASHINGTON, April 8 (JTA)--Joseph J. Sisco, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, left today on what was officially described as an "orientation visit" in the Middle East. State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said Mr. Sisco was due to arrive in Cairo Friday after a brief stop-over in Paris. He will go subsequently to Cyprus, Israel, Jordan and Lebanon. Mr. McCloskey gave no dates for his arrival in those countries but said his stay in each of them would be brief. Mr. Sisco is accompanied on his Mideast trip by Alfred G. Atherton, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs. Richard B. Parker, chief of the State Department's Egyptian desk, is accompanying him as far as Cairo. Mr. McCloskey was unable to confirm whom Mr. Sisco would see in Cairo. He said a meeting with Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser was "a possibility." He added that Mr. Sisco would not talk about the resumption of U.S.-Egyptian diplomatic relations while he is in Cairo. Asked what motivated the Assistant Secretary's trip, Mr. McCloskey said it was "in our interest and desire" that he make it.

Student Activists Stage Sit-In At Federation Of Jewish Philanthropies; 41 Arrested

NEW YORK, April 8 (JTA)—Forty-one student activists were arrested this afternoon at the executive offices of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies after refusing to give up their protest against alleged Federation insensitivity to Jewish educational and cultural needs. The sit-in and sing-in began a 8 a.m. with 100 members of the ad hoc Community for a Jewish Federation taking over the switchboard and blocking entrances. By 2 p.m. around half of them had left. There was no violence and secretaries continued their work, but Federation executives were pre-occupied with the demonstration. The protest group comprised members of such organizations as Hacholim, Havurah, Jewish Liberation Project, Jewish Peace Fellowship and Students Struggle for Soviet Jewry, as well as rabbinical students. The ultra-militant Jewish Defense League was not involved.

The protesters called on Federation to guarantee quality Jewish education in the city, finance a foundation to aid youth projects, underwrite Jewish cultural endeavors, and contribute \$10,000 to the April 26 Exodus March for Soviet Jewry. A leader of the group said the latter figure was determined on the basis of the Exodus planners' \$11,000 deficit. The group charged that "the select circle who run the Federation and formulate its policies have remained stubborn in their determination to deny a major commitment of Jewish community funds" for the recommended projects. The FJP, which has exchanged letters with the group over their demands, suggested a meeting with president George H. Heyman Jr., executive vice president Sanford Solender and other "key" board members to consider the demands if the sit-inners dispersed. But the protest group insisted that the executives commit themselves in advance to general endorsement of their recommendations. The executives stated that only the 400-member board could take formal action. As the impasse continued, the executives called the police, who made the arrests when the students decided not to leave the premises. They did not, however, resist arrest. The demonstrators were taken to police headquarters and charged with criminal trespass. If convicted it would mean up to three months in prison and up to \$500 fine. They were released on their own recognizance.

The protesters' major point centered on Federation's alleged short-changing of Jewish educational needs. They quoted audit figures indicating Federation outlayed \$440,000 for religious education in 1967-68—with only 4.7 percent going to New York member agencies as against 14.1 percent to agencies in other communities. Federation spokesmen told the JTA that more recent figures showed \$1.6 million for education purposes, and that while the in-city percentage of distribution was lower, because of the number of agencies involved, the slice of the pie was actually much higher than in cities and towns outside New York. It was learned that the protesters had not decided in advance how to react to threats of police action, not expecting that such a situation would occur. Thus they spent several hours heatedly debating among themselves as to strategy. There were shouts of "The Federation is guilty of anti-Semitism" and "Let them arrest us studying Rambam." A large crowd was gathered outside Federation headquarters in the city's midtown shopping area as the 41 arrestees were led from the building, singing "Am Yisroel Hai" (Israel lives) and making the V-for-peace sign.

Jewish Draftees May Ask Local Draft Boards For Deferment During Passover

NEW YORK, April 8 (JTA)—The National Jewish Welfare Board's Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy has received an official communication from the director of the Selective Service System announcing that all draft boards have been requested to give "favorable consideration, wherever possible," to requests of registrants of the Jewish faith for postponements of physical examination or induction into the Armed Forces during Passover. This communication, addressed to Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow, spiritual leader of Temple Beth El, Cedarhurst, N.Y., and chairman of the JWB Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy, was a Selective Service Operations Bulletin entitled "Jewish Holy Days." The bulletin gives Jewish registrants scheduled for physical examination or induction immediately prior to or during the holiday the right to request deferment until after Passover. Requests for such deferment should be made directly to local draft boards, the JWB stated.

ADL Study Shows Numerous Colleges Have Restrictive Admissions Policies

NEW YORK, April 8 (JTA)—America's state universities will become enclaves of "provincialism" if an increasing trend to curtail out-of-state enrollment continues, according to a study by Benjamin R. Epstein, national director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The study, originally undertaken to determine the extent to which state universities limit admission of non-residents and the effect of such limitation on opportunities for Jewish youth, revealed percentage restrictions against all out-of-state students ranging from 5 percent to 40 percent and "devices" which fix no quotas but nevertheless have a restrictive effect. The League survey, conducted by Harold Braverman, director of the agency's discriminations department, found that 73—more than half the survey group—restrict admission of non-residents, thereby, according to the League, "arresting a diffusion of students, increasing insularism and damaging educational goals."

"The findings," Mr. Epstein declared, "go beyond Jewish concern to concern for the general student population and the universities themselves." The study disclosed that of the 134 state universities, 48 have percentage restrictions against out-of-state students ranging from 5 percent for the University of Massachusetts to 40 percent for the University of Vermont. Thirty state schools—in Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Wisconsin—have imposed their percentage restrictions during the past four years. One, Purdue University in Indiana assigns a special quota to students from New York and New Jersey. A total of 27 of the 31 state universities that have traditionally attracted meaningful numbers of Jewish students restrict or will soon restrict. Analyzing the implications for Jewish students, the study notes that while the intent of restrictions may not be to cut down Jewish enrollment, "the effect can be exactly that."