

# JTA daily news bulletin

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Page No. 78

## Cairo Reports Big Four Memorandum Completed; U.S. Mission To UN Say No Agreed Text

JERUSALEM, April 23 (JTA)--Foreign Ministry sources said today that they had no knowledge of a completed draft by the Big Four of a memorandum listing the points of agreement and disagreement between the Four Powers on the Middle East. The statement was prompted by a report in the semi-official Cairo daily Al Ahram that such a document was given to the Egyptian Foreign Office by the French Ambassador in Cairo. (A spokesman for the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York told the JTA today that there was "no agreed text of a memo." Diplomatic sources said that separate memos had been drafted by the British and French and it was possible the latter showed their memo to the Egyptians. The source said there was no U.S. or Soviet draft.)

The task of drafting the memo was delegated to the deputies of the UN Ambassadors of the United States, Soviet Russia, Britain and France. They were supposed to have had a draft ready for the Big Four meeting in New York on April 15 but according to a spokesman for the British mission at the time, they came up with an incomplete memorandum which he described as nothing more than a "stock-taking." It is still not certain whether the requested draft would be ready by May 5, the date for the next Big Four meeting. It would have to be endorsed by the four Ambassadors themselves before being submitted to the special UN Mideast peace envoy, Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring as a "guideline" should Dr. Jarring decide to resume his peace mission in the area.

## Restoration Of U.S.-Egypt Diplomatic Relations Discussed By U.S. Ambassadors in Teheran

LONDON, April 23 (JTA)--Restoration of diplomatic relations between the United States and Egypt was one of the topics discussed by U.S. Undersecretary of State Elliot Richardson during a two-day conference of American Mideast ambassadors in Teheran, it was reported here today. The other topics were said to have been the Arab-Israel conflict and the growth of anti-American feelings in the Arab world. Egypt severed diplomatic relations with Washington during the June, 1967 Six-Day War after accusing the U.S. of providing military assistance to Israel. Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco visited Cairo last week on his way to the Teheran meeting, the first high ranking American diplomat to do so since 1967. His four-day visit to the Egyptian capital where he met with President Gamal Abdel Nasser, Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad and other officials aroused speculation that a Cairo-Washington rapprochement might be in the wind.

But Mr. Richardson said after the Teheran meeting, "We did not arrive at any specific conclusions, indeed we did not attempt to reach any definite new departures in policy in the course of our discussions." He discounted suggestions that Iran might be asked to mediate between Jordan and the U.S. following the ouster of U.S. Ambassador Harrison Symes from Amman last week. Mr. Sisco was advised by Ambassador Symes to bypass Amman because of anti-American riots, a recommendation that aroused the ire of the Jordanian government. But Mr. Sisco said in Teheran that last week's developments in Amman would not affect relations between the U.S. and Jordan. It was reported that another subject discussed by the American diplomats at Teheran was the possibility of the United States establishing a "presence" in the Persian Gulf after the British withdraw next year.

## Six Tourists, Injured By Grenade Explosion In Nablus, Released From Hospital

TEL AVIV, April 23 (JTA)--Six women tourists were released from a hospital today after treatment for injuries they suffered when a hand grenade exploded in a crowded market square in Nablus yesterday. The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine said in Amman that it was responsible for the grenade incident, which injured 17 other persons in the West Bank town. Three Americans among the injured were identified as Mrs. Eva Leibel of Everett, Mass.; her sister Mrs. Sylvia Kaplan of Andover, Mass., and Mrs. Anna Klein of Springfield, Ill. The other injured women were Doris Hertzfeld and Hanna Tobias of Chile and Linda Smith of South Africa. Eleven local Arabs and four Israelis were also injured in the blast. Eye-witness accounts of the incident disagreed. One report said the grenade was thrown at a group of people boarding a tourist bus that had made a shopping stop in Nablus. Another said it was thrown at a passing car but landed in a group of tourists standing outside a candy shop. Several suspects were taken into custody.

## Two Israeli Civilians Killed In Syrian Ambush; Israeli Planes Hit Egyptian Targets

TEL AVIV, April 23 (JTA)--Israel Air Force jets attacked Egyptian military targets along the southern and central sectors of the Suez Canal zone for three hours today and returned safely to their bases. They also hit targets in the Zaafarana sector on the northern shores of the Gulf of Suez. A lone Egyptian plane attacked Israeli positions in the canal zone at dusk but caused no casualties. Two Israeli civilians were killed this morning in a Syrian ambush in the Golan Heights. A military spokesman said about 20 Syrian soldiers opened fire on traffic moving along a road between Rafid and Kuneitra, less than a half mile from the Israel-Syrian demarcation line. Israeli units returned the fire. Several Syrians were reportedly hit and carried off by their comrades. Egyptian aircraft dropped several bombs near Nahal Yam settlement in northern Sinai today, but caused no casualties or damage, an Israeli military spokesman reported.

Israel Air Force jets bombed Egyptian positions in the central and southern sections of the Suez Canal zone last night and returned safely to their bases. Three Israeli soldiers were wounded during

artillery and mortar exchanges with Egyptian forces along the canal yesterday. Two Arab saboteurs were killed in a clash with an Israeli patrol near Shetullah on the Lebanese border last night. Zariit settlement in the same region was attacked during the night and in the early morning from Lebanese territory. No casualties or damage were reported. Several bazooka shells were fired from Lebanon last night at Manera settlement without causing casualties or damage. A military spokesman said Israeli forces returned the fire in all cases. An Arab saboteur was killed Tuesday night in an encounter with an Israeli patrol in the Allenby bridge area, it was reported today.

### Mrs. Meir And Dr. Goldmann In Public Feud; Cabinet To Disclose Contacts With Arabs

TEL AVIV, April 23 (JTA)--An angry public feud has broken out between Premier Golda Meir and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress. It stems from the latter's aborted plan to go to Cairo for informal meetings with top Egyptian leaders, including President Nasser, and from political views he has expressed in recent articles in Foreign Affairs Quarterly and the Israeli newspaper Haaretz accusing Mrs. Meir's government of inflexibility in its approach to peace with the Arabs. Meanwhile the Cabinet was reported considering the release of more details on contacts between Israel and the Arab states that have reportedly taken place since the June 1967 war. Mrs. Meir and Foreign Minister Abba Eban have both referred to such contacts in public statements. They gave no details beyond saying that all contacts were fruitless. The matter was expected to be on today's Cabinet agenda. The newspaper Haaretz said it arose because some Cabinet ministers believe the government's handling of the Goldmann affair was clumsy. It is not questioning the decision to prevent Dr. Goldmann from going to Cairo, but rather the timing and wording of the government's decision, Haaretz said.

According to informed sources, Mrs. Meir was obviously stung by criticism of the way she handled the so-called "Goldmann Affair," and has already questioned Dr. Goldmann's loyalty to Zionism and Israel. She told a group of Labor Party leaders from the Negev Tuesday that judged by his article in Foreign Affairs, Dr. Goldmann represents "the very antithesis of Zionism." In an address to the opening session yesterday of the Israel Writers Association conference, Mrs. Meir drew a pointed contrast between those "who consider every inch of land dear" and others who are "indifferent to giving up a piece of land here and a piece there like cutting paper." She did not mention Dr. Goldmann by name, but it was apparent that her reference was to his expressed view that Israel will have to make concessions in the interests of peace.

### Dr. Goldmann Terms Mrs. Meir's Qualification As Zionist Ideologist As 'Minimal'

Dr. Goldmann, who was a seder guest at Kfar Ruppin in the Beisan Valley, said that he, "like everyone else," is against "retreat prior to some arrangement," but that Israel's policy must become more flexible before any arrangement is possible. He expressed the view that his meeting with Nasser might have been fruitful had it been allowed to take place, and might have been followed by negotiations with the Arabs. Dr. Goldmann referred to Defense Minister Moshe Dayan as "the greatest personality in Israel" today, adding "You can discuss with him and disagree with him and yet remain a friend." Gen. Dayan was mentioned frequently during Israel's election campaign last year as a possible rival to Mrs. Meir for the Premiership.

Dr. Goldmann, in a statement to the press yesterday, said he did not want to discuss Zionism with Mrs. Meir because, "With all due respect she has to allow me not to consider her an authority on Zionist ideology. Her qualifications are minimal." He accused the Premier of stating "half truths" in her version of his plans to go to Cairo. He said he never asked to be made a special envoy of Israel for the purpose and added that he had hoped the episode would be closed. "I am convinced that the Prime Minister has more important problems than to prolong this," he said. Mrs. Meir was also critical of the publicity given abroad to a group of six Israeli liberal intellectuals who expressed views similar to Dr. Goldmann's in an interview published by Newsweek magazine last week. "The intellectual section should become an integral part of the whole nation," she told the Writers Association. Just before the interviews appeared, Foreign Minister Abba Eban rebuked Newsweek's senior editor, Arnaud de Borchgrave, and the magazine's Israeli correspondent and demanded space in Newsweek to answer the six. The magazine replied that Mr. Eban, like anyone else, could write a letter to the editor.

### El Fatah Sends Passover Parcel To Rosenwasser Family; Parcel Refused By Israeli Officer

TEL AVIV, April 23 (JTA)--El Fatah, the Arab guerrilla organization, attempted to send a Passover gift parcel to the family of Shmuel Rosenwasser, of Metullah, an Israeli kidnapped by guerrillas last New Year's Eve, and held captive in Jordan. An Israeli officer at a border post refused to accept the parcel from a United Nations officer who delivered it on behalf of El Fatah. Israelis dismiss the gesture as a publicity stunt intended to improve El Fatah's image. The parcel contained some clothes for Rosenwasser's wife and daughter according to the newspaper Yediot Achronot which reported the incident. According to reliable sources Rosenwasser, 50, has been well treated by his captors who are trying to persuade him to return to Hungary, the country from which he originally emigrated to Israel. According to reports published here last month, El Fatah said it would "deport" Rosenwasser to Hungary, a move symbolic of what it would do to all immigrant Jews if it ever defeated Israel.

### Narcotics Arrests Rose 42 Percent From 1968 To 1969; Drug Addiction Among Youth Rising

JERUSALEM, April 23 (JTA)--The police disclosed today that narcotics arrests in Israel rose 42 percent in 1969 compared to 1968. The report, issued by Inspector General Pinhas Koppel, said about four tons of drugs, mostly hashish, had been seized by police. The problem of drug addiction by the young in Israel has not reached "grave proportions" but drug taking is on the rise according to Attorney General Meir Shamgar. Mr. Shamgar testified before an interministerial committee set up to tackle the problem. The committee decided to launch an anti-drug information drive in schools all over the country under the auspices of the Ministry of Education.

## Amnesty International Official Defends Report On Treatment Of Arab Prisoners

LONDON, April 23 (JTA)--The Secretary General of Amnesty International has defended its publication of a report alleging that Israel mistreated Arab prisoners. In a letter published in the Times today, Martin Ennals criticized Mark Benenson, chairman of Amnesty's American section for dissociating the American section from the report. He wrote that "Mr. Benenson is not a member of the international executive committee which drafted the document and was therefore unaware of the confidential discussions with the Israeli government" prior to publication of the report. The report, released here April 1, was denounced by the Israel government as one-sided and biased. Amnesty itself conceded that all of the charges of torture levelled against Israeli authorities came from the prisoners themselves and could not be verified. But it considered the charges serious enough to warrant an immediate on-the-spot investigation by an independent commission. Mr. Benenson said in New York at the time that the report was "either sloppy writing or biased; I prefer to believe the former."

Mr. Ennals said in his letter that Mr. Benenson was "unaware of various proposals put to the Israel government, including the appointment of an Israeli lawyer to investigate the evidence." He said publication was delayed to enable the Israel government "to decide on this suggestion which, in fact, emanated from Israel." "The sickening part of this controversy is that it's not over procedure or protocol," Mr. Ennals wrote. "We are arguing whether human beings are subjected to 'torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment' as per Article 5 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. The human element seems to have been overlooked."

## Israeli And Italian Communists Agree Israeli Government Main Obstacle To Mideast Peace

ROME, April 23 (JTA)--A delegation of Israeli Communists met recently with a group of Italian Communist Party leaders to discuss the Arab-Israel conflict, the Communist daily Unita reports. The report indicated that there were differences of opinion between the two groups but according to Unita they all agreed that the main obstacle to Mideast peace was the Israeli government "supported by U.S. imperialism." The Israeli Communists were identified by the paper as Meir Wilner and Emile Habibi, both Knesset members, and Saliba Hamiss. On the Italian side were Carlo Pajetta, Umberto Cardia, Dina Forti, Romano Ledda and Zluwikhella Seta who is Jewish. Mr. Ledda recently toured the Arab countries and wrote articles in Unita favorable to them. Both parties accused Israel of refusing to implement the United Nations Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 Mideast resolution. They also supported "the rights of the Arab Palestinian nation." The Italian Communists congratulated the Israelis for opposing their government's position, Unita reported.

## Parliamentarians From 17 Countries Propose Five Conditions For Mideast Peace

LONDON, April 23 (JTA)--Parliamentarians from 17 countries, members of the Council of Europe's Consultative Assembly, discussed yesterday in Strasbourg, France the possibility of a common European policy in the Middle East to thwart a growing Soviet threat to their interests there. They were reported to have set down five conditions for peace: mutual renunciation of force, security for Israel, freedom of access to holy places, freedom of navigation in international waters and a solution to the Arab refugee problem.

## Jews And Blacks In Philadelphia Meet To Find Ways Of Helping Ghetto Poor

PHILADELPHIA, April 23 (JTA)--A local Jewish group has been meeting regularly since last November with Muhammad Kenyatta, Pennsylvania director of the Black Economic Development Conference, on cooperative ways to raise the economic standards of Negroes in the area. A series of project proposals involving Jewish financial aid and expertise which emerged from those meetings has been disclosed by Mr. Kenyatta. Plans call for a cooperatively owned chain of food stores, a cooperative apartment house and a cooperatively owned printing plant in which, Mr. Kenyatta said, members of the black community will share fully in the work and in the values which accrue from them. He said the "major ingredient needed for launching any of these efforts is money" and also skills which the movement hopes to draw from some members of the Jewish community. The Black Economic Development Conference made national headlines last year when its leader, James Forman, of Detroit, demanded \$500 million in reparations from white churches of all denominations and synagogues.

Last Jan. 30 the Philadelphia Jewish Exponent, a local weekly, published a letter from Mr. Kenyatta in which he expressed the hope that a collaborative relationship could be developed between the BEDC and the Philadelphia Jewish community. He promised at the time that specific proposals would be forthcoming. Since Nov. 1969, he and other BEDC members have been meeting with an ad hoc committee of local Jews known as the Jewish Friends of BEDC. They have been providing information to the community and accepting funds. The membership, which includes several area rabbis, are acting as individuals and not as representatives of any organization or synagogue. A spokesman for the Jewish group said, "It is our hope that we and other members of our community can be effective in providing Kenyatta and the Pennsylvania BEDC with the necessary funds to launch an economic development project."

## Russian Official Refuses To Accept Resolution Calling For Freedom For Soviet Jews

LONDON, April 23 (JTA)--V.N. Sorokin, second secretary of the Soviet Embassy in The Hague, has refused to accept a resolution from Rabbi Abraham Soetendorp asking the Soviet Union to permit its Jews freedom to develop their own culture and pass on their traditions to their children, according to reports received here. The resolution had been adopted Passover Eve at a meeting of 2400 Jews and non-Jews in the Old Sephardic Synagogue in Amsterdam. Mr. Sorokin declared that the Soviet Union did not discriminate against any of its citizens, including Jews. The resolution also included pleas of Russian Jews to be allowed to reunite with their families in Israel and other countries. The event was sponsored by four Dutch Jewish congregations.

