

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Eban Calls For 'Concrete' World Reaction To Soviet Pilots' Flying Missions For Egypt

JERUSALEM, April 30 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Abba Eban called today for "vigorous, concrete" world reaction to the disclosure that Soviet pilots are flying aerial missions for Egypt. He warned that any miscalculation or misunderstanding of the Soviet intent could be "disastrous" and claimed that "the security of mankind" could depend on what course the United States will follow. Mr. Eban addressed a press conference here following an announcement by the government that it had undisputed evidence that Soviet pilots have been flying Egyptian MIG's over central Egypt for the past two weeks, freeing Egyptian ground and air forces for offensive operations against Israel. Mr. Eban confirmed today that Premier Golda Meir had sent a personal message to President Nixon expressing Israel's grave concern over the new situation.

He told the news conference that the matter has been taken up through diplomatic channels as well as "at the highest level," a reference to Mrs. Meir's message. He said the immediate U.S. reaction was important but was regarded here as an interim evaluation pending the shaping of more "concrete" world policy. The White House disclosed yesterday that President Nixon had ordered an immediate and full study of intelligence reports of the role of Soviet pilots. Mr. Nixon is expected to refer to the latest Mideast development in his nationwide television address tonight on U.S. intervention in Cambodia. Mr. Eban said the Soviet Union, by intervening in Egypt while talking peace at the United Nations with the U.S., Britain, and France, had played "an international confidence trick" on the three Western powers.

### Mrs. Meir Tells Nixon Russia's Latest Involvement In Mideast Is Not Last

According to government sources, Mrs. Meir said in her message to President Nixon that the latest development should not be considered the final step in Russia's growing physical involvement in the Mideast. Speaking here yesterday, Mrs. Meir said "Since the Soviet pilots have been flying in Egyptian skies, Egypt is sure that its rear is defended, and it is no surprise that in the last few days the situation along the canal has been worse than it has been for a long time." Mr. Eban said the Soviet activities represented an offensive strategy, not a defensive maneuver, as they free more Egyptian soldiers for duty in the canal zone and shoulder the burden of manning Egypt's defenses. "Israel has not and will not ask for foreign soldiers to man installations in Israel," Mr. Eban said, adding that she has renewed her requests for more arms but considers international political reaction an equally valid deterrent to the Russians. Asked if Israel's bombing raids deep inside Egypt were not responsible for the introduction of Russian flyers, the Foreign Minister claimed that the latest development was a link in the chain of action and reaction traceable to President Nasser's unilateral abrogation of the cease-fire a year ago.

Mr. Eban, referring to President Nixon's "State of the World" message to Congress last February, in which he warned that the U.S. would view with gravity any Soviet attempt to gain preeminence in the Middle East, said he hoped that warning would now be translated into "concrete" terms. (State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said in Washington yesterday that the U.S. had independent evidence to support the Israeli intelligence reports that Soviet pilots were flying Egyptian planes. He told a press briefing that the U.S. would discuss the presence of the pilots with the Soviet Union, although he did not say how and when. "We do regard this as a serious development, and one that is potentially dangerous," Mr. McCloskey said. It was unlikely that the matter would be brought up in the bilateral talks that have been going on in Washington between Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco and Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin. The talks were suspended for Mr. Sisco's recent Mideast "orientation tour" and Mr. Dobrynin has not yet returned from his own trip to Moscow.

## Gen. Bar Lev Discloses Russia Has Taken Over Entire Egyptian Air Defense System

TEL AVIV, April 30 (JTA)--Chief of Staff Gen. Chaim Bar Lev asserted yesterday in a broadcast interview that the Soviet Union had taken over the entire Egyptian air-defense system in certain areas. He said the new evidence of Soviet pilot activity on Egypt's side can be added to previously known information that includes the Soviets' appropriation of air-defense of the Soviet-installed SAM-3 ground-to-air missiles, the anti-aircraft guns guarding those missiles, the early-warning system and the control system. Gen. Bar Lev said the Soviet pilots are operating the known version of the MIG-21, with no MIG-23 as yet noticed by Israel. He said Israel had known of the pilots' operational activities for two weeks, noting that they had been in Egypt for a long time before this month in supposedly advisory and instructional capacities. He added that there was even a crew of Russian pilots carrying out patrol and reconnaissance flights in the Mediterranean.

This build-up, the Chief of Staff remarked, has enabled Egypt to increase its military activity against Israel, the results of which had been felt by Israel even before the disclosure of the pilot operations. He stated that as long as Egypt continued to disregard the UN cease-fire, Israel would take any steps necessary to prevent the deterioration of its front lines. He said Israel had the capability of holding fast even in light of the new Soviet pilot involvement. A senior staff officer observed that the Soviets', going so far as to assume combat duties on Egypt's behalf, had apparently followed an

Egyptian request to that effect as an alternative to re-embracing the cease-fire. The request came after 10 months of a "war of attrition" that had brought her no favorable results, the officer said. Apparently, not wanting to resume the cease-fire, Egypt had concluded that active Soviet aid was a necessity in the continuance of an anti-Israeli fighting. He estimated that the Egyptians, with Russian aid, have massed 700 tanks and 800 long-range guns along the Suez Canal.

The officer predicted that Soviet-operated planes would eventually approach the Suez Canal zone-- thus nearing Israeli lines--because such a move would permit them their desired penetration into that region and would also give the Soviets and Egyptians leverage in attempts to force a pro-Arab political solution in the Mideast. The Soviets took over Egypt's air defenses, the Israeli officer explained, in order to blunt Israeli Air Force power while re-igniting the failed "war of attrition." He estimated the number of Soviet pilots in Egypt at a few dozen, adding that they had not yet engaged Israeli pilots in action. He asserted that the new developments would convince President Nixon to agree to immediate jet sales to Israel.

#### Arabs: Israel's Claim Is 'Propaganda'; Washington: 10,000 Russian Personnel In Egypt

(According to reports from London, official Egyptian sources claimed today that Israel was spreading "propaganda" when it reported Russian pilots flying Egyptian aircraft on operational missions over Egypt. They alleged that Israel's motives were to cover up losses suffered by recent Egyptian blows, to secure more military equipment from the United States and to reverse an anti-Israel trend in world public opinion.) (A spokesman for the Israeli Mission to the United Nations said in New York today that despite the protestations by the Arabs there has been no firm denial of the role of Russian pilots.) (A Foreign Ministry official said in Moscow today, "We cannot bother formally to deny such stupidities" as Israel's charges of direct Soviet intervention. The Soviet press ignored reports from other capitals tending to confirm the activity of Russian pilots reported by Israel.)

Dr. Esmet Abdel Meguid, official spokesman for the Egyptian government, said in Cairo that "Israel's campaign is a continuation of her aggressive policy and is aimed at getting further support from the United States." The semi-official Middle East News Agency (MENA) alleged that "Israeli officials have become hysterical following the latest violent blows their troops suffered at Egypt's hands." The semi-official Cairo daily Al Ahram said "Israel, and the United States behind her, wants to distort the nature of the Mideast crisis which is a case of Israeli occupation of Arab land, to make it a case of a clash between American and Soviet interests in the area." (Informed sources in Washington estimated yesterday that Russia has about 10,000 advisers and technicians in Egypt now compared to about 3500 at the beginning of the year. According to these sources, 1500 Russians arrived during February and March to install and operate the SAM-3 anti-aircraft missile bases. In the last month, 4000-5000 more military personnel, including an undetermined number of pilots and ground crewmen, arrived. They are said to have assumed primary if not total responsibility for Egypt's air defense.)

#### Director Of Soviet Academy Of Science Worried By Richardson 'Note Of Threat'

NEW YORK, April 30 (JTA)--Georgi Arbatov, director of the Institute of the U.S.A. of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences, said last night he was "worried by the note of threat" in the speech earlier in the day by United States Under-Secretary of State Elliot L. Richardson, warning that the United States would have to "take notice and react" to Russia's "stirring up a wider conflict" in the Middle East. Mr. Arbatov said Mr. Richardson's remarks constituted "an oversimplification of the problem" that "can lead only to escalation of tensions." Mr. Arbatov spoke on Channel 13's "Newsfront" program. Neither he nor Mikhail D. Millionshchikov, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Republic and Vice President of the Academy of Sciences, and Nikolai N. Inozemtsev, director of the Institute of World Economics and International Relations and former deputy editor of Pravda, who were also part of the panel, confirmed or denied the presence of Soviet pilots in Egypt, nor were they asked to. Mr. Arbatov commented that "The root of the problem is the aggression of Israel." Panel participant, Prof. Jerome Wiesner, Provost of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, countered that the original aggression was the Arabs' "refusal" to accept Israel. Both Mr. Arbatov and Mr. Millionshchikov agreed that the Soviet Union was run by "responsible people" who were not swayed by military spokesmen in formulating policy. When Prof. John Kenneth Galbraith, Harvard economist and former Ambassador to India, asked Mr. Arbatov if the Soviets would make concessions in the Mideast if the U.S. did so first, the Russian replied, "Of course, I'm sure of it." Mr. Arbatov and Mr. Millionshchikov were part of the Soviet delegation during the day's Second National Convocation on the Challenge of Building Peace, sponsored by the educational Fund for Peace.

#### Symington Calls Failure To Sell More Jets To Israel A 'Historical Crime'

WASHINGTON, April 30 (JTA)--Sen. Stuart Symington told the Senate today that United States failure to sell more jets to Israel immediately would constitute a "historical crime." The Missouri Democrat, a high-ranking member of the Foreign Relations Committee pointed to what he called a "strong paradox in American foreign military policy," namely that "We support a newly tried and unformed government in Cambodia, but at the same time have...refused to sell vitally needed arms to Israel." It was assumed that Sen. Symington was referring specifically to the current, continuing Israeli request for additional jets. "It has never been clear," Mr. Symington continued, "why we have been willing to give arms to Arab states while we have not been willing to sell arms to Israel." Calling Israel "one of our very few really stable friends in the Middle East," the Senator asked, "If we adopt a policy of maintaining a weak Israel, will this not in turn be interpreted as a weak American posture?" He added that additional military aid to Israel would also prevent the Soviet Union from destroying that state and taking control of the Mideast. (In London, Foreign Secretary Michael Stewart said today that the British government was "deeply concerned" by Israeli reports that Russian pilots are flying missions in Egyptian planes and is "urgently examining the prevailing situation in light of this statement." Speaking

in reply to a question in the House of Commons, Mr. Stewart said, "At present United Nations action is being handled by the Four Powers and I believe that this is right." Former Foreign Secretary George Brown said what was happening was "a great propaganda war." Prime Minister Harold Wilson said today that he had "no plans" to invite President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt to visit him. Mr. Wilson was asked by Conservative MP Neil Martin whether he had such plans.)

### UN Carries On Business-As-Usual Despite Increasing Gravity Of Mideast Situation

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 30 (JTA)--Despite world concern for the grave situation in the Middle East resulting from the role of the Russian pilots flying defense missions in Egypt, the UN today continued a business-as-usual routine. A UN spokesman said there were no meetings scheduled either by the Security Council or by Secretary General U Thant to discuss the situation. U.S. Ambassador Charles W. Yost and Soviet Ambassador Yakov Malik were scheduled to meet separately later today with Mr. Thant, but a UN spokesman said he did not know the nature of the meetings or who had called them. Newsmen expressed surprise on learning that Mr. Malik was to meet with Mr. Thant in view of the reports that the ambassador was ill. (Illness was given as the reason for Mr. Malik's absence from Wednesday's Second National Convocation on the Challenge of Building Peace, held in New York by the Fund for Peace.)

Asked why the UN seems to play little or no part in the Mideast situation, which is fraught with severe and immediate danger, a UN spokesman simply smiled, but refrained from commenting. He also declined comment when asked why Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, who was scheduled to return within a few weeks after leaving UN headquarters March 26--or, as it was announced at that time, "or sooner if developments warrant it"--was not returning to New York, in view of the new developments. While here, Dr. Jarring consulted with representatives of Israel, the Arab states and the Big Four powers. His efforts, during his three weeks in New York, to find a basis for bringing Israelis and Arabs together for negotiations ended unsuccessfully.

### Israel Jets Strike Guerrilla Bases In Lebanon; Pound Egyptian Targets In Suez Canal

TEL AVIV, April 30 (JTA)--Israel Air Force jets struck at guerrilla bases in Lebanon today. They also continued to pound Egyptian targets in the Suez Canal zone following the repulse of a massive Egyptian commando raid on Israeli positions south of Kantara last night. All planes returned safely. Two Israeli soldiers were killed in a heavy Egyptian artillery barrage which preceded and followed the commando raid. They were identified as Pvt. Shimon Zuckerman, 21, of Tel Aviv and Pvt. Aryeh Czakowski, 20, of Haifa. An Israeli military spokesman said at least 30 Egyptian soldiers drowned last night when four rubber boats sank under Israeli gun fire while retreating across the canal. The spokesman said the Egyptian force was driven back by heavy Israeli gun fire and were strafed by Air Force jets. Israeli jets continued to attack Egyptian artillery positions for several hours after the attack.

Cairo described the raid as the biggest since the June, 1967 war. It said that more than 600 Egyptian troops--a full armored battalion--carried out landings at two points on the Israel-held east bank of the canal and inflicted heavy casualties. Cairo claimed that an Israeli jet was shot down. The raid was the fifth by Egyptian forces across the canal in the last 13 days. Defense Minister Moshe Dayan inspected Israeli positions in the canal zone today. He was accompanied by Chief of Staff Chaim Bar Lev and Gen. Aric Sharon, commander of the southern front. Today's targets in Lebanon were on the western slopes of Mt. Hermon. A military spokesman said they were bases that serve guerrillas active along Israel's northern borders.

### Guided Tour To West Bank And Golan Heights Cancelled For Israelis And Foreign Tourists

JERUSALEM, April 30 (JTA)--The Ministry of Tourism has ordered the cancellation of all guided tours to the West Bank and the Golan Heights for Israelis and foreign visitors, it was learned today. The action was said to have followed a "reappraisal of the situation" after last week's grenade incident in Nablus in which six foreign tourists were injured and terrorist attacks on tourist buses in the Hebron area which claimed the lives of two American tourists in recent months. The order does not affect the right of anyone to enter the occupied areas at their own risk. The southern Sinai, including Sharm el-Sheikh and Jericho, on the West Bank are still on the tourist map although the Gaza Strip has been barred to tourists for some time. Some observers saw the move reflecting an increasingly grave security situation in the occupied territories. They pointed out that tourism has been at record highs for the past two years and the government would not do anything to discourage the movement if it could avoid it. There were also economic implications for the tourist industry in the new order.

### Executive Of World Zionist Organization Disassociates Itself From Dr. Goldmann's Views

JERUSALEM, April 30 (JTA)--The Executive of the World Zionist Organization officially disassociated itself today from the views expressed by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress and a former president of the WZO. The resolution was adopted at the close of a meeting of the Executive at which Dr. Goldmann explained his views but was bitterly castigated by his former colleagues for expressing opinions which they considered inimical to Israel and the Zionist movement. The resolution said, "The Executive of the World Zionist Organization expressed its vigorous disassociation from Dr. Goldmann's article in Foreign Affairs. The Executive expressed its opinion that the content of the article and also its timing have caused harm to the Zionist cause." The article appeared in the April edition of the quarterly. In it Dr. Goldmann proposed a "neutralized Israel outside the sphere of power politics." He also criticized the Israel government for lack of flexibility in its approach to peace with the Arabs. Dr. Goldmann told the Executive where he appeared to explain his views that his proposals did not compromise the security. He said he regretted the timing of the publication of his article, which he said had actually been written two years ago, and added that he was preparing another article for the magazine to clear up misunderstandings. (In New York, the office of Foreign Affairs editor Hamilton Fish Armstrong said that Dr. Goldmann had revised his first article a month before publication.)

### American Association For Jewish Education To Propose Creation Of 'Think Tank'

NEW YORK, April 30 (JTA)--The American Association for Jewish Education will propose next month the creation of a "think tank" of experts on Judaism to oversee continuing changes in educational curricula "in harmony with changing thought, social conditions and technical advances." It will also recommend a national research and statistic center, open to the public; a program to coordinate Jewish education at home and formal scholastic studies, and a school-and-field study program in community social action for youngsters. The association, which coordinates United States and Canadian Jewish education, will make its proposals at a May 14-17 convention at Grossinger's. It will also discuss a \$700,000 program for Jewish social studies, a \$300,000 day-school study, the establishment of the first Jewish preparatory school and other experimental schools, better use of technological advances and the creation of more Jewish camps. The participating educators also plan to decry the lack of sufficient social-action textbooks.

The "alarming status of Jewish education"--heavy percentages of what might be called Jewish "dropouts"--will be discussed by Philip M. Klutznick, former international president of B'nai B'rith and former United States ambassador to the UN; association president Isadore Breslau, and association executive vice president Isaac Toubin. Israel's role in Diaspora education and community life will be discussed by Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg of Columbia University and Robert Arnow, president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, executive vice president of the Rabbinical Assembly, will lead a debate on the creation of a National Jewish Education Fund and on the question of public aid to private education.

### Sabbath Observer Files Complaint Against Metropolitan Life Insurance Company

NEW YORK, April 30 (JTA)--The New York State Division of Human Rights will hold a public hearing soon to investigate charges of Sabbath discrimination lodged against the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. by an Orthodox Jew, according to an announcement today by Julius Berman, president of the National Jewish Commission on Law and Public Affairs. (COLPA). He said that plans for the hearing, the date for which has not yet been set, followed a finding by a senior field representative of the state division that there was "probable cause" to believe that illegal discrimination was being practiced by the insurance company in its refusal to offer an employment opportunity to the Orthodox Jew, as a computer programmer, solely because he was a Sabbath observer. The complainant is being represented by Howard Rhine, an attorney who is a COLPA vice-president.

The Brooklyn Jewish programmer filed an application last January with the insurance firm for a job. Mr. Berman said the company refused his application, telling him it was doing so because of his Sabbath requirements. He filed a complaint with the state division in January and a conciliation hearing was held by the division in accordance with the state anti-discrimination law. The COLPA president said that the field representative informed the company at the conciliation hearing that probable cause indicating employment discrimination existed and proposed terms of conciliation on the issue to the insurance firm. The company rejected this and the field representative then filed a finding of probable cause and the public hearing was ordered by the state division.

### Documentary Film Being Shot On Activities Of Jewish Student Radicals; First Of Kind

NEW YORK, April 30 (JTA)--Bernard Timberg, a graduate student who is a member of the radical Jewish Students Union at the University of California at Berkeley is shooting a documentary film, with financial help from the American Zionist Youth Foundation, on activities of Jewish student radicals. Philip Horn, director of the AZYF University Service Department--which has been expanding its contacts with such campus groups for some time--said the documentary film will be the first of its kind. It will portray a representative sampling of the activities and programs of the dissident Jewish campus groups, most of which are strongly pro-Israel. He said that his department had been swamped with requests for such a film from many Jewish sources and that "we see this documentary as a bridge between elements of the emerging radical Jewish student movement."

Mr. Horn said that Mr. Timberg had sought financial help to make such a film from several Jewish sources on the premise that it would be helpful to Jewish young people, particularly in the rapidly expanding radical campus scene. The target date for the completed documentary is September, Mr. Horn said. Scenes will include a visit to the Berkeley campus by Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach; parts of two seminars on the Middle East at Berkeley; a Freedom Seder at California University at Santa Cruz; scenes at Sproul Plaza at Berkeley where pro-Israel radical students and Arab students have tables and debates on the Middle East; and scenes from a credit class on Jewish identity at Berkeley, conducted by Rabbi Harold Schulweiss for 100 students since January. The film will run 40 minutes. Mr. Horn said that his department plans to make a number of copies for use by a wide variety of Jewish campus organizations and groups.

### Bergen-Belsen Camp Survivors To Make Pilgrimage To Site This Summer

NEW YORK, April 30 (JTA)--Several hundred survivors of the infamous Bergen-Belsen concentration camp will make a pilgrimage this summer to the site of the death camp on the 25th anniversary of its liberation by the British Army. What was one of Hitler's major concentration camps is today a cemetery for over 100,000 Jews buried there in numerous mass graves. Josef Rosensaft, President of the World Federation of Bergen Belsen Associations, said "that for most participants it will be their first return to Bergen-Belsen." Jews traditionally, "return to the graves of their loved ones every year as a token of respect and love," he added. Mr. Rosensaft noted that because of their abhorrence of the locale, the great majority of survivors have never been to Bergen-Belsen since they were liberated. This will make the pilgrimage both a sad occasion for reciting kaddish (Jewish prayer for the dead) as well as a recollection of liberation, he said.