

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Yost: Syria Bears Large Share For Continuing Mideast Crisis; Malik Softens Stance

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 14 (JTA)--United States Ambassador Charles Yost accused Syria today of bearing "a large share" of responsibility for the 1967 Middle East war and the continuing crisis in that region. Addressing the Security Council in its third day of debate on Israel's action in Lebanon, Mr. Yost also strongly re-affirmed United States adherence to the Council's Nov. 22, 1967 resolution calling for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, and declared his government "fully committed to the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war." Soviet Ambassador Yakob Malik, who engaged in a verbal battle with Mr. Yost and Lord Caradon of Britain yesterday, appeared to soften his position somewhat in light of Mr. Yost's remarks. "Understanding Mr. Yost to mean that the U.S. favored Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, the USSR favors continuing the Big Four talks and renewal of the Jarring mission," the Soviet envoy said. The Security Council will reconvene tomorrow morning.

There were strong indications today that the Arab states are maneuvering to introduce a resolution condemning Israel. Diplomatic sources here said the thrust of the intended Arab resolution would be for sanctions of some kind against Israel. The sources said the Arabs would call for either an arms embargo or an economic boycott. One diplomatic source said the resolution would be an effort, in effect, to isolate the U.S. diplomatically from the more moderate Arab states such as Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Lebanon. During the course of this morning's debate, Israel's chief representative Yosef Tekoah and Ambassador Edourd Ghorra, of Lebanon, reported a new outbreak of fighting along the Israeli-Lebanese border. The reports came less than 24 hours after Israel announced, and Lebanon confirmed, the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory. Ambassador Yost's charges against Syria were in reply to remarks by Syria's Ambassador George J. Tomeh yesterday accusing the U.S. of complicity with Israeli "aggression" in 1967.

### Tekoah Announced During UN Security Council Meeting New Lebanese Attacks Against Israel

"I think it is fair to say that of all the states directly involved in that tragic war, Syria has subsequently made the least effort, indeed practically no effort at all, to bind up the wounds and work toward the peaceful settlement," Mr. Yost said. "It has rejected Resolution 242 (Nov. 22, 1967), it has refused to receive the Secretary General's special representative (Dr. Gunnar V. Jarring), it has repeatedly incited and assisted others to break the cease-fire." In reply to yesterday's charges by Ambassador Malik, Mr. Yost said the U.S. also believes that the disputing parties should have the possibility to agree mutually "on substantial alterations or minor rectifications of the boundaries which previously existed between them. Since any such rectifications or alterations would be subject to the agreement of both sides, they would in no way do violence to the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war or the obligation for Israel to withdraw in accordance with Security Council Resolution 242."

The Rumanian Mission to the UN released a statement by the Foreign Minister in Bucharest today condemning "the penetration of Israeli armed forces into Lebanon and into the air space of Lebanon. The Rumanian statement said the Israeli incursion "represents an aggressive and brutal infringement upon this state's sovereignty...and a defiance of the resolutions of the Security Council calling for a cease-fire and a peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis." Rumania is the only Communist bloc country that has maintained diplomatic relations with Israel since the June, 1967 war. Ambassador Tekoah announced during the session that Lebanese attacks reoccurred in Upper Galilee this morning. He said irregular forces opened fire on Kfar Blum and two other villages and on an Israeli border patrol, wounding a policeman. He said Israeli return fire killed four Lebanese. Mr. Tekoah said the attacks by bazookas and Katyusha rockets were further proof of the "growing intensity" of Lebanese "terror warfare" and "indiscriminate murder."

Ambassador Ghorra countered with the report of an Israeli artillery attack on two Lebanese villages between five and five-thirty a.m. local time which he said killed three civilians including a local girl, wounded others and damaged houses. Ambassador Tekoah replied that as he had stated earlier, Israel had returned fire against Lebanese terrorists. For the most part, this morning's Security Council debate was a continuation of yesterday's vituperative exchanges between Israel and the U.S. on one side and the Soviet Union, Lebanon and Syria on the other. The Israeli action in Lebanon was condemned by Zambia and Poland. All sides indulged in rhetoric obviously intended for optimum propaganda value and appeared to be playing to the gallery rather than addressing the problems at hand.

### Russian Pilots In Egypt Increasing According To New Intelligence Reports

WASHINGTON, May 14 (JTA)--New intelligence reports indicate an increase in the number of Russian pilots in Egypt, it was disclosed here today. American and other Western sources report that about 100 Soviet pilots were sent there in recent weeks to man three or four squadrons of jet interceptors. They are in addition to 70-80 pilots known to have been in Egypt for some time training Egyptian flyers. Some of the latest model Soviet MIGs were reportedly flown to Egypt by the new pilots. Some intelligence sources estimate the strength of the Soviet military advisory force in Egypt at 8000-10,000 men. Other sources place it at 6000 men who, with their families, comprise a 20,000-member Russian colony in Egypt. At the beginning of the year there were believed to have been no more than 2500-4000 Russians aiding the Nasser regime.

State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said today that there was no confirmation of reports that 100 more Soviet pilots and a Soviet armored brigade have been sent to Egypt. He said it was difficult to come by specific figures in either of these categories. He said it was known that many additional Russian personnel went to Egypt with the SAM-3 anti-aircraft missiles but there was no way of telling the exact number. He confirmed that Soviet shipments of equipment to Egypt were continuing. (In London, Evan Luard, joint Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said in the House of Commons yesterday that on the basis of available information, "combat ready aircraft manned by Soviet pilots are now operating over certain areas of the UAR." He did not elaborate. A British spokesman had said last week that Britain had no independent confirmation of Israeli and other intelligence reports that Soviet pilots were flying missions over Egypt.)

According to the intelligence reports, the Russian force includes entire air defense missile and anti-aircraft gun crews and an armored brigade of Russian troops to defend missile sites against possible Israeli commando raids. The latest intelligence places the number of SAM-3 anti-aircraft missile sites under construction at 20, comprising 160 missile launchers. At least 40 SAM-3 sites are considered necessary to properly defend Cairo, Alexandria and the Aswan High Dam, sources here said. Russian pilots are said to be operating from bases west of the Nile River, located near Alexandria and well south of Cairo. They reportedly take to the air in Egyptian MIGs when Israeli jets take off for bombing raids on the Suez Canal zone. Israeli intelligence supplied the United States with evidence last month that Soviet pilots were flying missions over Egypt. The evidence was corroborated independently by the U.S. But American sources concede that the information is "sketchy" and in some cases open to dispute.

### Kennedy: Sell Jets To Israel Now; Administration Still Studying Israel's Request

WASHINGTON, May 14 (JTA)--Sen. Edward M. Kennedy has urged the U.S. government to "announce immediately that it will permit the sale of jets to Israel" because "Israel remains a beleaguered country and her continued progress and security as well as the prospects for general peace in the area are being jeopardized more today than ever before." The Massachusetts Democrat made his appeal in a statement on the Senate floor late yesterday. He called for a "major United States diplomatic initiative" in the Middle East to include efforts to restore the cease-fire and make it a binding moratorium under international auspices. Sen. Kennedy urged the U.S. to work for "An agreement among the parties concerned to establish a substantial international emergency peace-keeping force under international auspices and commensurate with the legitimate security interests of both Israel and her Arab neighbors." Sen. Kennedy also proposed that the U.S. support a UN conference of all Middle East arms suppliers and potential suppliers to limit the arms flow into the area and declare it a nuclear-free zone. He expressed criticism of the Nixon administration's approach to the Middle East crisis and claimed that the Soviet Union "has increased its military activities in the Middle East because of the ambivalence and weakness on the part of the administration in its general policy toward this area."

The State Department indicated today that the Nixon administration's re-examination of Israel's request for more Phantom jets in light of the new developments in the Middle East has not been completed. Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey was asked at a press briefing today whether a decision would be made by the time Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban arrives in Washington next week. Mr. Eban is expected to meet with Secretary of State William P. Rogers next Wednesday. Mr. McCloskey replied that it was unlikely that the overall review, with the new factors involved, will be completed by the government by the middle of next week. According to columnists Rowland Evans and Robert Novak, there is powerful opposition building up to the sale of jets to Israel within the administration and in the Pentagon. Writing in today's Washington Post, the columnists said the opposition is based in part on a fear that the sale of more jets to Israel would escalate the U.S.-Soviet arms race not only in the Middle East but throughout the world. In addition, they said, the State Department is taking seriously President Gamal Abdel Nasser's May Day warning that the supply of more U.S. aircraft to Israel would force a rupture between the U.S. and the Arab world.

### Bar Lev Claims Israel Achieved Objectives Against Lebanese Guerrilla Bases

TEL AVIV, May 14 (JTA)--The Chief of Staff of Israel's Army claimed today that Tuesday's 32-hour action against guerrilla bases in southern Lebanon had achieved its objectives. Gen. Haim Bar Lev warned however that the expedition's success did not rule out the possibility of future terrorist attacks from the same territory. This cannot be prevented by a single operation, he told newsmen at a press conference here. Gen. Bar Lev said the dual objectives accomplished were to warn Lebanon and demonstrate that the prevention of terrorist activities from its territory was to its advantage; and to destroy guerrilla bases and disrupt their plans. He reported that 15 guerrillas were taken prisoner and about 30 were killed. Israeli forces captured about 250 new Russian-made Kalachnikov rifles, an ambulance used by El Fatah and a three-barrelled anti-aircraft gun which he described as a Russian version of the Hispano-Suiza AA gun.

Gen. Bar Lev disclosed that Israeli forces had carved a new road through the difficult terrain on southern Lebanon to provide a passage for their advancing tanks and conceded the road may now be used by the Lebanese or the guerrillas. He said Israelis fought a four-hour battle with guerrillas in one village and carried out a second round of searches in several other villages before their withdrawal yesterday. The Israeli border village of Kiryat Shmona, the focal point of recent guerrilla attacks that took three civilian lives, were treated to a military parade yesterday as Israeli troops returned from Lebanon. Crowds flocked into the main street to shower the soldiers with flowers, candy and ice cream sticks. Residents of Kiryat Shmona have been granted further income tax reductions by the Knesset Finance Committee. Each family will receive \$210 reduction per month, compared with \$125 for families in other exposed border settlements. Most families will thus be completely tax-exempt. The Finance Committee acted after another resident of the settlement was killed by Katyusha rocket fire over the weekend. It also cited the village's economic hardship.

## Border Settlements Under New Attack From Lebanese Territory

TEL AVIV, May 14 (JTA)—Israeli border settlements were attacked anew from Lebanese territory last night only hours after Israeli forces withdrew following a 32-hour punitive expedition against guerrilla bases which military leaders claimed succeeded in all its objectives. Israel's return fire killed four guerrillas who were part of a band attacking Manara. A short while later Katyusha rockets were fired at Kfar Blum and Ramat Neshtali in Upper Galilee. There were no Israeli casualties. The Beisan Valley settlements of Kfar Rappin, Daganya and Gesher came under mortar and Katyusha rocket attack from Jordan last night. Israeli artillery fired in return at the guerrilla base in Irbid village. There were no Israeli casualties but some damage was reported at Deganya. Iraqi artillery based in Jordan shelled Tel Katzir last night. Israeli jet interceptors shot down two Egyptian MIG-21s over the Suez Canal zone this morning, one of which exploded in mid-air. The other crashed on Egyptian territory after its pilot bailed out.

Israel Air Force jets pounded Egyptian targets in the southern and central sectors of the canal zone for seven hours today and returned safely to their bases. A military spokesman said the morning attacks lasted four hours and three more hours of attacks were launched at one p.m. local time. The downed MIGs brought to 100 the number of Egyptian planes destroyed by Israel since the June, 1967 war. Air Force jets were called in to silence a Katyusha rocket attack today on Hamadiyeh in the Beisan Valley. The planes returned safely and no Israeli casualties were reported. A 20 year-old Israeli girl employed by the civil administration in Gaza was injured by flying glass when the car she was in was fired on by guerrillas last night. The incident occurred near Beth Lahiyah in the Gaza Strip. The girl was on her way home to Ashkelon. Police did not identify her by name but said that last November the same girl was wounded by a bullet in her back, also in the northern Gaza Strip.

## Four Power Talks Seen Boggled Down By Soviet 'Phase Of Non-Cooperation'

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 14 (JTA)—Soviet Ambassador Yakob Malik's acrimonious attacks on the United States and Great Britain during the Security Council's debate on Israel's action in Lebanon yesterday was seen by diplomatic sources here as part of a "phase of non-cooperation" by the USSR within the Four Power Middle East talks. Mr. Malik accused the U.S. and Britain of delaying the progress of the Big Four talks. (State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey, commenting on the Malik attacks, said today, "If that's indeed the full and considered attitude of the Soviet government, it is not very encouraging.") Mr. McCloskey said, "We are awaiting the return of (Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin to Washington to see what is appropriate as a next step in the bilaterals." He was referring to the U.S.-Soviet Mideast talks that have been going on in Washington for a year, mainly between Mr. Dobrynin and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco. Asked if the U.S. would have any new proposals, Mr. McCloskey replied, "We feel it is incumbent on the other side to come forward with new proposals. They, in our opinion, have retrogressed, not the United States.")

Diplomatic sources at the UN said the Soviet "phase of non-cooperation" began to manifest itself some three weeks ago, ante-dating the U.S. invasion of Cambodia. They felt that Mr. Malik's repeated demand that Lord Caradon state whether Great Britain favored withdrawal of Israeli troops to pre-1967 borders was a calculated Soviet move to indicate publicly that the Four Powers were not united in their Mideast talks. Lord Caradon replied to Mr. Malik's request that the British position had been stated clearly in the Four Power discussions. Diplomatic sources said Mr. Malik would not have discussed confidential aspects of the Four Power talks openly if the Soviet Union had any expectation of agreement. They added that the British have privately expressed criticism of Washington for failing to pressure Israel to agree to withdrawal. A British spokesman said the Big Four deputies met again yesterday and agreed "provisionally" to meet tomorrow if there is no further Security Council meeting. The deputies have been assigned the task of drafting a document on the progress of the Big Four to date. There was no indication that their draft would be ready by them, by the time the Big Four Ambassadors meet again May 26. A diplomatic source said that considering Mr. Malik's flare-up in the Security Council yesterday the Four Power deputies conducted their meeting in a businesslike fashion. He said that while there was mutual reproach, the "acidity of the Council debate was not carried over in their meeting."

## Rogers Tells Delegation U.S. Reviewing Soviet Military Intervention In Mideast

WASHINGTON, May 14 (JTA)—Dr. William A. Wexler, President of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, reported today on a 45-minute meeting yesterday with Secretary of State William P. Rogers by a Conference delegation. He said Mr. Rogers had described the Soviet military intervention in the Middle East as "ominous" and that the U.S. was intensively re-viewing the situation. Dr. Wexler said the delegation told Mr. Rogers that the Soviet buildup was "not only an encouragement to Arab intransigence and a fueling of the war of attrition against Israel, but a challenge to America's interests and a repudiation of American efforts to secure a cease-fire and a genuine peace in the Middle East."

## Commandant Of Treblinka And Sobibor Death Camps Says He Never Harmed Anyone

DUSSELDORF, May 14 (JTA)—Franz Stangl, former commandant of the Treblinka and Sobibor death camps, told a court here today that he never harmed anyone. The prosecution charged that he sent more than 400,000 Jews to the gas chambers or had them shot at Treblinka in 1942 and 1943. According to the prosecution Stangl was promoted and decorated as the death camp commandant who contributed most to the extermination of Jews. The 62 year-old former SS officer is the first commandant of a Nazi extermination camp to be tried by a West German court. A spectator in the court today was Simon Wiesenthal, director of the Nazi war crimes documentation center in Vienna, who flushed Stangl out of his haven in Brazil three years ago. Wiesenthal told newsmen, "In my eyes he is the number three Nazi criminal after Martin Bormann and Gestapo chief Mueller, if they are still alive."

## Speakers At AJCommittee Annual Meeting Call For Aid To Israel, Understanding Of Jews

NEW YORK, May 14 (JTA)--Professor Nadav Safran of Harvard University's Center for Middle Eastern Studies warned that a critical situation "of unforeseeable consequences will develop in the Middle East unless the United States restores the balance of power in that area by providing arms, particularly airplanes, to Israel." Prof. Safran, who has served as adviser to the White House, the State Department and Congressional committees, made this prediction today in an address to the American Jewish Committee's 64th annual meeting. Describing the entrance of Soviet personnel into the Egyptian military forces as "a potentially critical turning point in the Middle East conflict," Dr. Safran, a native of Egypt who has lived in Israel, added: "Whether or not the conflict can be kept under control and the prospects for peace preserved will depend on a clear perception of the situation by the United States and an appropriate response." Failing such response, Dr. Safran warned that "The Soviets and the Egyptians would be encouraged to believe that they can achieve what they want by intensified military pressure, meaning further Soviet involvement. This would elicit a determined Israeli response, and thus, a critical situation of unforeseeable consequences would develop in the area."

Philip E. Hoffman, President of the AJCommittee, declared that the Nixon administration's preoccupation with Southeast Asia must not deter it from providing to Israel the "necessary materiel" that could make the difference between "Israel's survival and her ultimate destruction." Mr. Hoffman told an audience of 1,000 persons attending the agency's annual dinner last night, that "Israel's destruction would be a catastrophe not only for Jews but for the entire western world. The Soviet Union, he said, "appears to be assuming a more direct and substantial role in support of the Arab world, and in the process may be transforming a regional contest into a conflict of massive and menacing dimensions." Mr. Hoffman called on American Jews to "confront and deal with the problems of our time." Jews, he said, "have something special to contribute in the way of insight and determination born of an intimate and persistent experience with bigotry and oppression. However, as a people who live each day in grateful awareness of the benefits of freedom we see our tasks and concerns as but a small part of our obligation and our opportunity to help preserve and enlarge that freedom." Moving to the domestic scene and in that connection, Mr. Hoffman said there was a need for a "new and meaningful coalition" to correct injustices in the United States, and that the Kent State College tragedy might help bring about such a coalition.

Earlier in the day, two Christian scholars - one Protestant, the other Catholic - reported that Christian church school materials are seriously lacking in information about the Nazi holocaust and about the State of Israel and its meaning for Judaism and the Jewish people. Dr. Gerald Strober, Protestant educator and consultant on religious curricula to the AJCommittee, and the Rev. John T. Pawlikowski of the Catholic Theological Union of Chicago, said the absence of such references inhibits Christians from comprehending the personal and group interests, the fears and aspirations of Jews, both in the U.S. and abroad. Dr. Strober, who has studied more than 3,000 lessons prepared for Junior High, Senior High and adult students and teachers, stated that he found that less than one half of one percent of these lessons mentioned Israel in any manner, and that only one lesson in the 3,000 dealt at any length with the contemporary Jewish state. Rev. Pawlikowski observed, "The often terrible record of the relationship, of the persecutions and slaughter of the Jews by Christians through the centuries, has been systematically excluded from our courses. This silence is indefensible." Among the 3,000 lessons studied, Dr. Strober found only six that mentioned the Holocaust. Dr. Strober urged Protestant bodies to incorporate in their teaching materials information on Israel and the Holocaust. Roy Wilkins, Executive Director of the NAACP received the American Liberties Medallion, the AJCommittee's highest award, in special ceremonies at the dinner. The award was presented by Irving M. Gngel, Honorary President of the Committee.

## Jewish Communities must Adopt New Education Program Or Face Cultural Destruction

GROSSINGERS, N.Y., May 14 (JTA)--American Jews were warned that they face the religious and cultural destruction of the Jewish community unless they adopt drastic measures, through new programs of Jewish education, to combat a growing assimilationist trend among young and adult. Addressing the quinquennial meeting of the American Association for Jewish Education, Mr. Philip M. Klutznick, Chicago, a former president of B'nai B'rith, told the special gathering of 500 Jewish community leaders and educators that "we must especially pay attention to the revolt of our young people calling for a revision of our outmoded and outdated educational and cultural programs." Mr. Klutznick, a former Ambassador of the United States to ECOSOC at the United Nations, said, "Jewish youths seek answers to the broad questions of ecology, racism, world peace and law and order--to which many answers can be found in our learned heritage as a people." He pointed out, however, "they deplore the priorities of their fathers and grandfathers--the establishment. They see little hope for meaningful Jewish survival without change in values and priorities, even with an Israel they admire and revere." The Jewish leader said that while North American Jews were concentrating their efforts on helping Israel, Soviet Jews and other overseas causes, they were "losing the more subtle and sophisticated battle at home of the Jewish mind and soul."

Mr. Klutznick emphasized he was not suggesting a reduction of American Jewish aid to Israel and similar concerns. However, he said, "Let us not permit emergency events in Israel, as desperate as they are, to blind us to the emergency here at home. We can and must conquer both." He called for a battle to save both Jerusalems, "for Jews to survive it is not enough that only Israel win." He said Jewish life without an Israel, nor a Jewish world without Jewishness is unthinkable. Mr. Klutznick scored the shallowness of current Jewish life, pointing to such status seeking examples as "man of the year" awards, lavish bar mitzvahs, empty synagogues and their wasted multi-million dollar buildings and the lip service social action involvement by most in the community. He said, "Too many Jews believe they have preserved Jewish life by their annual giving to the UJA and their purchases of an Israel bond, as important as this may be.