

JTA daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc. 660 First Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016

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Vol. XXXVII - Fifty-Third Year

Thursday, May 21, 1970

No. 97

Eban Meets With Rogers; Warns Soviets In Mideast Changed Balance; Urges Plane Sale

WASHINGTON, May 20 (JTA)--Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban reportedly warned Secretary of State William P. Rogers at a meeting here this afternoon that the Soviet presence in Egypt has significantly altered the power balance and makes more imperative than ever Israel's need for additional Phantom jets. Mr. Eban met with Secretary Rogers after arriving from a brief official visit to Canada. The Israeli diplomat reportedly enumerated these factors to substantiate Israel's claim that the military balance in the Mideast has been changed to its detriment: The construction of Soviet-made SAM-3 anti-aircraft missile launchers operated by Russian personnel at Alexandria, Cairo and the Aswan High Dam; evidence that Soviet combat pilots have been flying operational missions over Egypt in Egyptian MIGs; evidence that the Russians have begun building SAM-3 sites in the Suez Canal zone which Israel considers absolutely vital to the defense of its Suez Canal lines. While U.S. officials question the latter evidence, the U.S. has confirmed the activities of Russian pilots through independent intelligence sources.

Mr. Eban's visit to Washington is intended to press the Nixon administration once more for a favorable decision on Israel's long-standing request for 50 additional Phantom jets and other military planes. In March, the administration announced it would hold in abeyance sale of planes. Israel still retains decisive aerial superiority over the Arabs. But the introduction of SAM-3s and Soviet pilots into Egypt since then caused President Nixon to order "an immediate and full evaluation of all intelligence reports" to determine whether the balance was altered. That evaluation is still in progress. According to informed sources here, administration officials are split over whether Israel really needs the planes and whether it will be in America's best interests to provide them.

Some high ranking officials directing President Nixon's review have reportedly reached a consensus favoring the jet sales. Their view is said to be shared by Undersecretary of State Elliot Richardson. But no recommendation has been made yet to President Nixon. Other U.S. officials discount the reports of Soviet escalation in Egypt and insist that Israel still enjoys a sizable superiority in airpower despite the Russian build-up of Egyptian air defenses. These officials also caution the administration to take seriously President Gamal Abdel Nasser's May 1 warning that the further delivery of Phantoms to Israel will destroy what remains of American influence in the Arab world. (Egypt officially denied for the second time in two weeks that Soviet pilots were flying defensive missions over Egypt. Ahmed Amis, a government spokesman, issued the denial at a press conference in Cairo today when he was questioned by a Japanese newsmen about the "widely circulated facts" concerning the presence of Soviet pilots. Mr. Amis said, "I should emphasize that since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war we have never denied the presence of Russian experts here. But we stress that not only is the Russian effort defensive but the Egyptian military effort is also of defensive nature.")

Oilmen Pressure State Department To Ease Support For Israel; Oil Interests In Jeopardy

WASHINGTON, May 20 (JTA)--Oil company officials, meeting privately with Assistant Secretary of State Joseph Sisco, warned him that military aid to Israel, especially planes, would severely damage relations between the United States and Arab nations and jeopardize U.S. oil interests in the Middle East, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned today. Ten representatives of the Saudi-Arabian based Arabian-American Oil Company and its four owners - Standard Oil of New Jersey, Standard Oil of California, Texaco and Mobil - flew to Washington last Wednesday from New York and California to discuss the effect of politics on their interests, according to sources. The oilmen were reported to have taken a hard line of opposition to providing military hardware to Israel.

Representatives of ARAMCO were said to be concerned with efforts to soothe Arabian nerves in the Middle East to get its Trans-Arabian pipeline repaired. The pipeline, which carries oil from Saudi Arabia to the Mediterranean was sabotaged recently in Syria. The Syrian government will not permit technicians into the country to repair it. The ARAMCO officials were reported to have told Mr. Sisco that patching up of diplomatic relations and patching up the pipeline can be accomplished only if the U.S. eases its "strong support" of Israel. They expressed the feeling that the sabotage was a direct result of American support of Israel, according to sources. Leaders of various Arab nations have declared, in recent summit meetings, that further U.S. aid to Israel will compel them to boycott American oil in the Middle East and, if this does not stop U.S. support to Israel, will embark on a course of expropriation.

Tekoah Scores Security Council's Condemnation Of Israel As One-Sided, Syrian Inspired

UNITED NATIONS, May 20 (JTA)--Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah scored the Security Council's condemnation of Israel last night by declaring that the Zambian resolution extends a UN "double standard" that represents "another nail in the coffin of the Security Council's ability to deal with the Middle East situation equitably, realistically and constructively." He called the resolution--which passed by an 11-0 vote, with four abstentions--a "one-sided, Syrian-inspired text" that "fails to mention" Lebanese "aggression" and the Arabs' "open war against Israel." He described it as "clearly another of the seasonal ceremonies from which Israel, the merits of its case, its fundamental rights are in effect barred." (In Jerusalem, a Foreign Ministry spokesman described the Security Council's censure of Israel yesterday for its May 12-13 incursion into Lebanon as "another stage in the Security Council's

decline." The spokesman said the most disappointing aspect of the whole episode was Britain's vote for the resolution which completely ignored the terrorist attacks on Israeli border settlements from Lebanese territory that preceded the raid.) Mr. Tekoah, addressing the Council after last night's vote, asserted that Israel would not allow "injustice and abuse to affect us," and would continue to defend itself against Arab "armed attack" while respecting the cease-fire. Israel has maintained that its May 12 foray into Lebanon was an "inevitable" defensive measure limited to terrorist bases and avoiding civilian areas and Lebanese defenses. The Security Council has now slapped Israel eight times for cease-fire "violations" since the Six-Day War, in addition to the resolution adopted last Tuesday calling on it to withdraw immediately from Lebanon. The Council has not passed any resolutions condemning Arab aggression in the 22 years since Israel's establishment.

The originally drafted Syrian resolution, calling for sanctions against Israel and an embargo on Israel-bound military and civilian aid, was reduced to the softer Zambian resolution largely because Britain and Finland refused to accept those passages. (Both countries voted for the Zambian motion.) With the Syrian draft unfeasible, Lebanon was willing to accept the Zambian version as long as it did not criticize Arab military tactics. Prior to yesterday's vote, Moroccan Ambassador Ahmed Taibi Benhima warned that the selling of more jets to Israel by the United States could "seriously alter" Arab-U.S. relations. He did not elaborate, but it was assumed he was threatening curtailment of American oil ties with Arab lands, as did Syria last week. But Mr. Benhima had kind words for U.S. Ambassador Charles W. Yost's May 14 Council plea for mutual respect for the cease-fire. In his remarks then, Mr. Yost for the first time recommended the inclusion of the Palestinian Arabs as a party to a "just settlement" in the Mideast. The thrust of that speech, however, was that the Arabs, especially Syria, were largely responsible for Mideast tensions, and that Israel was being forced to defend itself. The U.S. Mission declined comment on the implications of Mr. Yost's reference to the Palestinians.

Radical Party Denounces France's Embargo Against Israel, Soviet Mideast Intrigues

PARIS, May 20 (JTA)--Soviet intrigues in the Middle East and France's one-sided arms embargo against Israel were denounced here last night by Maurice Faure, president of the Radical Party and Max LeJeune, vice president of France's National Assembly. The two political leaders addressed a meeting of the France-Israel Alliance, an organization that is trying to revive the traditional Franco-Israeli friendship. The organization itself is undergoing a revival. Originally founded long before the June, 1967 Six-Day War and President De Gaulle's rupture with Israel, its governing committee consisted mainly of Gaullists. After the French President branded Israel an aggressor, his adherents abstained from any activity and at times hindered the Alliance's work. A new committee was elected last night with the object of strengthening Franco-Israeli ties and countering anti-Israel propaganda. Among the new members are former Air Minister Diomedé Catroux and the former Gaullist leader, Jacques Soustelle. M. Soustelle said last night that the Palestinian refugees have enjoyed far greater assistance than the Europeans who had to flee Algeria. He said responsibility for their lack of integration rests with the Arab countries in which they live. Salomon Friederich was elected director general of the new France-Israel Alliance.

Mrs. Meir Vows Israel Will Defend Suez Canal Zone 'Regardless Of Who Is Involved'

JERUSALEM, May 20 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir has reportedly supplied the United States with information and evidence of additional Soviet military involvement in Egypt. Mrs. Meir met yesterday with U.S. Ambassador Walworth Barbour and is said to have warned that the situation could result in a serious escalation of the Mideast conflict. Mrs. Meir summoned the U.S. envoy reportedly to supplement Foreign Minister Abba Eban's meetings with American officials which began in Washington today. The Israeli Prime Minister reportedly emphasized to Ambassador Barbour that Israel would defend the Suez Canal zone "with all its strength" and would oppose the extension of Egypt's defense system there "regardless of who is involved." Observers here said that in effect, Israel has drawn a 20 mile-wide corridor extending westward from the canal and along its entire 103-mile length in which it will not permit the construction of missile sites even if it means confronting Russian pilots in combat. A military spokesman said he could not confirm that any SAM-3 missile launching ramps have been set up in the canal zone as yet. He said Israeli bombing missions in the area have been aimed at "military installations."

Israeli Jets Attack Egyptian Positions For 90 Minutes; Israeli Soldier Killed, Two Wounded

TEL AVIV, May 20 (JTA)--Israel Air Force jets attacked Egyptian positions in the central section of the Suez Canal zone for 90 minutes this morning and returned safely to their bases. An Israeli soldier was killed in a fire exchange across the canal yesterday. He was identified as Capt. Israel Guttman, of Kibbutz Maagan. One Israeli soldier was wounded today in an exchange of fire with Egyptian forces across the Suez Canal. An Israeli soldier was injured last night when his vehicle hit a mine in the southern Golan Heights. Several Arab guerrillas were wounded in a clash with an Israeli patrol in the Beisan Valley early today. There were no Israeli casualties. Jordanian forces fired mortar shells at Ashdod Yaacov in the Beisan Valley last night. Israeli forces returned the fire. There were no Israeli casualties.

The water-pumping station at Ashdod Yaacov was idled last night because of a sharp drop in the water level of the Yarmouk River. An Israeli spokesman said the Jordanians have drawn an excessive amount of water from the river to supply their Ghor irrigation canal, which has finally been repaired. The canal was blasted by Israeli jets several months ago in retaliation for attacks on Israeli settlements from Jordan. Israel permitted the repairs to be made at the behest of the United States, which financed construction of the 50-mile water conduit, Jordan's largest irrigation project. The Jordanian government promised at the time to end attacks on Israeli border settlements, but the promise has never been kept.

Protestant Theologian Charges Oilmen Ready To Sell Out U.S. Interests In Mideast

WASHINGTON, May 20 (JTA)--A prominent Protestant theologian charged tonight that Christian churchmen across the United States were being "flooded" with propaganda from oil firms "ready to sell out American interests in the Middle East for the sake of temporary profits in dealing with Arab League despots." Dr. Franklin H. Littell, professor of religion at Temple University, addressing the opening session of the national biennial convention of the American Jewish Congress here, also warned of "a rise of anti-Semitism in liberal Protestant circles and the appearance of anti-Zionism." He also told the 500 delegates that "Christian thinking has been unable, to date, to comprehend the Jew who is a winner. This is the problem of Israel vis-a-vis the church establishment. American culture-religion, having failed to master the lessons of the last four tragic decades, can still talk about the Jews and Israel as though they were American Indians reclaiming Alcatraz island." Dr. Littell also said that the Middle East, unlike Southeast Asia, was "one of the few areas where our allies have shown themselves able to make good use of American support, to justify American confidence and to check Russian imperialism."

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, of Cleveland, AJCongress president, contrasted "those voices in Israel that speak for new and imaginative approaches to the search for reconciliation" with the "non-existent or hostile Arab response." "Where are the liberal Arabs who will meet the Israeli liberals half-way?" he asked. He added that "the voices of Arab intellectuals express only intransigence. The last word of El Fatah is the call for extinction of Jewish statehood under the beguiling slogan of a pluralistic democracy belied by their own liberation movement covenants." Avarim Avidar, Minister of Information at the Israel Embassy, charged that while the Russians "claim the right of mediators and peace-makers in the Four power talks, they appear as direct participants in the war in the skies over Egypt."

Peacekeeping Operations Along Suez Canal Possible Only If Parties Involved Agree

NEW YORK, May 20 (JTA)--Ambassador Seymour M. Finger of the United States Mission to the United Nations said today that UN peacekeeping operations along the Suez Canal could not be effective if any of the parties are "determined not to respect" the cease-fire. He said it was "essential" to the success of such operations that those involved in the dispute "want the peace kept." Mr. Finger, a panelist at a convocation of the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA), did not refer specifically to Egypt's demand for the removal of UN observers prior to the Six-Day War. Mr. Finger, expressing "probably unwarranted optimism," estimated that U.S.-Soviet agreement on peacekeeping regulations had less than a 50-50 chance of occurring by fall. But he noted that in January his estimate was 20-1. Maj.-Gen. Indar J. Rikhye of India, former military adviser to the UN Secretary General, said Gen. Odd Bull, chief of the UN's Suez observers, has "very good reason to complain" about the lack of overall peacekeeping guidelines. He said there was a "division" among the great powers on such guidelines, but added that the U.S. endeavors were "most encouraging." Agreement on the necessity for a viable worldwide UN peacekeeping operation was voiced by Cyrus R. Vance, former Deputy Defense Secretary and Kingman Brewster Jr., president of Yale University. Mr. Brewster added that President Nixon should make UN peacekeeping "an important part and cornerstone of American foreign policy." The Soviet representative, Deputy UN Ambassador Lev Isaakovich Mendelevich, cancelled his appearance, citing the press of business.

Leshem: Human Rights Not First Concern Of ECOSOC; Nightmare For Jews In Arab Countries

UNITED NATIONS, May 20 (JTA)--Moshe Leshem, Israel's delegate to the Economic and Social Council, criticized the UN's Human Rights Commission for being more concerned with "throwing stones" than engendering respect for human rights. Delegates from the Soviet Union and Arab states to the ECOSOC's Social Action Committee had assailed Monday Israel's policy in the occupied territories as violating human rights. Referring to this, Mr. Leshem said the violation of human rights were the concern of his delegation wherever they occurred and added that Israel continues to call for the release of the "remnants" of the Jewish communities in Iraq, Syria and Egypt. "Deprivation and chicanery had turned their lives into a nightmare and their only hope lay in escape," he declared. Mr. Leshem said the behavior of the Arab delegates to the ECOSOC revealed they they considered Israel a "non-nation." Referring to the occupied territories, the Israeli delegate recalled that Abba Eban, Israel's Foreign Minister, had stated that the question was not one of occupation but of whether the Arabs would abandon the road of terror and hate for one leading to peace.

Amre Mahmoud Moussa, the Egyptian observer at the ECOSOC meeting, said Israelis were war criminals and should be subject to all measures taken against such persons. He said Israel had no right to speak for world Jewry, that Egypt spoke for "Egyptians of Jewish faith." Mr. Moussa added that Egypt would continue to oppose Israel and would liberate the occupied lands whatever the cost might be. Naste Calovski of Yugoslavia stated that Israel had violated the articles of the Geneva Convention and that only Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories could end the violations of human rights. The Tunisian delegate, Rachid Driss, charged Israel with major violations of UN regulations in the territories and said she had shown "arrogance and scorn" toward the three-man committee investigating human rights in the occupied territories. The committee, which visited some dozen capitals in the Middle East and Europe taking testimony from witnesses, a number of whom were discredited, has not been allowed into Israel. The Israeli government said the committee was one-sidedly investigating Arab conditions without investigating conditions of Jews in Arab countries.

Itzhak Korn Urges Labor Zionists To Lead In Organizing American Zionist Federation

NEW YORK, May 20 (JTA)--Itzhak Korn, Member of Knesset and General Secretary of the World Labor Zionist Movement has urged American Labor Zionists to take a leading role in the organization of the American Zionist Federation. Mr. Korn, here on his way to the May 28 Federation convention in Philadelphia, said American Labor Zionists should actively recruit members for the World Zionist Congress meeting in Jerusalem in August, 1971.

Report Reveals Soviet Jews Defy Officials On All Issues Pertaining To Judaism

LOS ANGELES, Calif., May 20 (JTA)--Soviet Jewish students sing Israeli songs in public places, wear Israeli-flag lapel pins and in general are "contesting and defying the Soviets on every issue pertaining to Judaism," according to an eye-witness report by an American Jewish student, who recently visited the Soviet Union. He also reported being involved in a Simchat Torah celebration in Leningrad in which uniformed policemen savagely attacked Russian Jewish student participants. The report, made by Zev Zaroslavsky, a member of the California Students for Soviet Jews and a student at the University of California here, was published in a number of Jewish student radical publications in this country and Canada. Reporting that "defiance of the Soviet anti-Zionist, anti-Semitic policy has become a way of life for increasing numbers of Soviet Jews in recent months," the UCLA student stated that "the Russian Jew is becoming a serious factor with which the Soviets must contend. He is becoming nationalistic and accordingly more eager to express his culture at every given opportunity." One of those opportunities is the observance of Simchat Torah, during which, in recent years, many thousands of Soviet Jews have openly demonstrated their Jewish identity in many Soviet cities.

Mr. Zaroslavsky said Russian Jews, particularly young Jews, "look forward to this day for it affords them their only opportunity to openly demonstrate their Jewishness and their love for Israel. This is something that normally cannot be done without the risk of suffering fates similar to those of the imprisoned Boris Kochubievsky," the Jewish engineer sent to prison for seeking to emigrate with his family to Israel, or Ilya Ripps, the Riga youth who sought to immolate himself in protest against Soviet anti-Jewish policies and whose fate is not known to the west. When thousands of young Russian Jews converged on a Leningrad synagogue for the Jewish holiday, they found it had been barricaded by police, as was the street. At the same time, police diverted traffic into Lermontovsky Prospect, the street on which the synagogue is located. Five minutes later, the police moved in to disperse the Jewish crowd, by then about 4,000.

Moving up the street, the students sang "Havenu Sholem Aleichim," and Russian songs praising Israel. "At this point, a uniformed policeman began attacking a Jewish student. A host of policemen came to the officer's assistance, savagely beating, kicking and dragging the student across the street." Another Jewish student was similarly assaulted and the two students were pinned against a barred gate and choked by three plainclothesmen. Both students kept yelling, in Yiddish, "I am a Jew," every time they had the chance to do so. Widespread clashes then broke out between police and the Jews. Mr. Zaroslavsky reported a friend, Gene Alexander, another American visitor who came to Leningrad to participate in the festivities, was manhandled by five Soviet plainclothesmen in front of three uniformed Leningrad policemen who did not come to his assistance. In fighting back "and in not taking the attack by the police lying down," the students reacted with new defiance, Mr. Zaroslavsky reported. He added that "three years ago they would not have fought back" nor would they have "defiantly danced in the streets of Leningrad."

June 5 Hearing For Two Charged With Disrupting Temple Emanu-El Religious Service

NEW YORK, May 20 (JTA)--Two members of the Radical Jewish Union at Columbia University, who were arrested last Friday during a protest demonstration at Temple Emanu-El services, were arraigned today in Criminal Court on charges of disrupting a religious service. Gerald Lefcourt, attorney for Rabbi A. Bruce Goldman, RJU advisor, and for Victor Levin, a Columbia University graduate student, who led the RJU group at the services, asked for a postponement of a pre-trial hearing until September. The attorney for the Reform synagogue, largest in the world, insisted on the earliest possible hearing and the judge set the date at June 5. The minimum penalty for the alleged offense is six months jail and the maximum one year.

AJCommittee Launches Program To Overcome Paucity Of Information About Jewish History

NEW YORK, May 20 (JTA)--The AJCommittee announced that the first step in a major new program to overcome the lack of information about Jewish history in the social science textbooks used in high schools throughout the country was taken with the publication of "Writings on Jewish History," an annotated 32-page bibliography. Maynard I. Wishner, Chairman of the American Jewish Committee's Jewish Communal Affairs Committee announced the publication of "What We Know About Young American Jews," a 20-page bibliography of writings on Jewish community studies, studies of college-age youth and studies of teenagers. Mr. Wishner said the program was being launched after a preliminary study by the Committee's Jewish Communal Affairs Department disclosed the failure of high school texts to include adequate information about Jews. As a result, he continued, the student is given a bland portrayal of the life the culture of the Jewish people. To broaden participation in the program, offices of the American Jewish Committee in 24 major metropolitan communities in the United States will arrange conferences with heads of the Social Studies Division of local Boards of Education.

JDL Seizes Synagogue To Conduct 'Liberation Seder' For Soviet Jews

NEW YORK, May 20 (JTA)--Some 35 members of the Jewish Defense League took over today the Park East Synagogue, opposite the Soviet Mission, barricading entrances and vowing to occupy the building for three days for the purpose of holding a "liberation seder" for Soviet Jewry. They said they would not admit anyone, including the police, unless they intended to take part in the service or pray. A spokesman for the JDL said they "seized the synagogue after the rabbi and board of directors declined permission for use of the synagogue." The JDL contended, however, "the synagogue is community property and emphasized they had no intention of disrupting or obstructing religious services. A spokesman for the synagogue could not be reached for comment. The JDL claimed its action was not similar to the interruption of services for anti-war statements last Friday at Temple Emanu-El by members of the Radical Jewish Union, a faculty-student group from Columbia University.