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Rogers: U.S. To Sell About 65 Jets To Israel; About Half Of The Number Sought

WASHINGTON, June 7 (JTA)--Secretary of State William P. Rogers indicated today that Israel would get some of the Phantom and Skyhawk jets it has asked for. Mr. Rogers, appearing on the CBS television program "Meet The Press" said a decision on the sale of more jet fighters to Israel would be announced very soon--"before a few weeks." Asked if a decision has already been made and was being withheld until the manner and timing of the announcement was decided, Mr. Rogers replied, "I wouldn't want to say that exactly." At the same time, Newsweek magazine reported today that Mr. Rogers will announce shortly that Israel is to get about 15 Phantoms and 50 Skyhawks, supposedly as replacements for aircraft lost in combat over the Suez Canal zone. Newsweek reported that "for weeks, the U.S. State Department tried to sell Israel on making this replacement deal in private. Israel, however, appears to have won in its insistence on a public commitment." Israel has asked the United States to sell it 25 more Phantoms and about 100 Skyhawks.

Mr. Rogers, in his television remarks, indicated that the United States was following a policy of reassuring Israel while trying not to alienate the Arab world in the matter of the jet sales. "What we want to do is make it clear to Israel that our policy has not changed," he said. "It's in our best interest to be sure that Israel survives as a nation. That's been our policy and it will continue to be our policy. So we have to take whatever action we think is necessary to give the assurances that they need that their independence and sovereignty is going to be continued," Mr. Rogers told the newsmen. "At the same time," he said, "we want to do it in a balanced and measured way so that we don't signal to the Arabs that we are so behind Israel that we'll support them no matter what they do. The reason for that is that we want to keep the door open for negotiations. We're going to do everything we can in the next few weeks to try to get negotiations started," the Secretary of State said. A State Department spokesman said last Friday that its reappraisal of the Middle East balance of power has been virtually completed. The reappraisal was ordered by President Nixon in April when the presence of Soviet pilots and SAM-3 anti-aircraft missiles in Egypt was confirmed.

Israeli Jets Blast Egyptian Positions For Six Hours; Guerrilla Bases In Lebanon Hit

TEL AVIV, June 7 (JTA)--Israel Air Force jets blasted Egyptian positions in the Suez Canal zone for six hours this afternoon in their 18th consecutive day of strikes along the length of the waterway. The Israeli planes were in action over the canal for a total of 27 hours Friday and Saturday. Israeli artillery shelled Egyptian positions near Kantara in the northern end of the canal zone and Port Ibrahim at the southern end today. Israeli jets attacked guerrilla bases on the southwestern slopes of Mt. Hermon in Lebanon twice today. Each attack lasted 15 minutes. A military spokesman reported that all planes returned safely from all missions on all fronts. Four Israeli soldiers were wounded by Egyptian fire on the Suez Canal front this morning and two others were injured when a hand grenade exploded in the Jeb-allyah refugee camp in the Gaza Strip today. Ten local Arabs were also injured. Two Gaza youths, aged 18 and 21, were killed last night when explosives they were handling blew up in their hands at the Shatti refugee camp. Two Arab saboteurs were killed yesterday in a running battle with Israeli forces near the Timna copper mines in the southern Negev. The saboteurs were pursued after doing slight damage to an electric power line carrying current to Eilat. Power was shut off for several minutes.

Syrian artillery shelled an Israeli force in the Golan Heights this morning. Guerrillas crossed the cease-fire line to fire bazookas at Nahal Geshor. No casualties were reported. Kiryat Shemona in Upper Galilee and Beisan township were both targets of Katyusha rocket fire last night but reported no casualties or damage. Beisan residents had a brief scare early this morning when rockets exploded outside the town limits. There were no casualties. An electric power grid was slightly damaged. Some results of Israel's relentless bombardment of Egyptian targets in the Suez Canal area were shown to newsmen today. Photographs released by the Army showed a 150 meter stretch of road leading to Port Said destroyed and the surrounding area devastated by bomb craters. Defense Minister Moshe Dayan visited Israeli lines along the Suez Canal today accompanied by Gen. David Elazar, chief of the operational section at General Headquarters. Both wore protective jackets against shrapnel. They visited the sites of two Egyptian commando ambushes in which 13 Israeli soldiers were killed last Saturday. A 14th victim, Corp. Michael Michaelowitz, 21, of Nahariya, an immigrant from Uruguay, died of his wounds Thursday night.

A pregnant woman who was wounded by shrapnel during the Iraqi shelling of Tiberias last week lost her baby who was born after its mother was wounded. The infant died yesterday. Mrs. Yardena Shahrour underwent surgery for a second time since she was hit. An Israeli officer was killed and injuries were sustained by three soldiers, four border policemen and two foreign journalists in a clash between an Israeli patrol and a group of Arab saboteurs Friday morning near Kfar Ruppin. The newsmen were not immediately identified. A hand grenade was thrown Friday into a group of Arab merchants in Gaza who were opening their shops despite the insistence of the terrorist organizations that they close in protest against Israeli occupation. One merchant and two children were injured. Friday was the third anniversary of the outbreak of the Six-Day War according to the Arab calendar. Israel marked the occasion Wednesday. Terrorists on Friday also tossed grenades at a Gaza Strip police car occupied by local policemen and patrolling the Djebalia refugee quarter. None of the policemen was injured in the attack, although the vehicle was damaged.

Mrs. Meir: Israel Ready To Go To Cairo If Nasser Willing To Participate In Peace Talks

JERUSALEM, June 7 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir, in a renewed appeal for Egyptian participation in peace negotiations, has announced that Israeli government representatives are prepared to go to Cairo to talk peace. In an interview published Friday in the Jerusalem Arabic daily "Al Anba" on the third anniversary of the Six-Day War, Mrs. Meir stated she was "convinced that peace will come," observing "Both we and our neighbors need it." Referring to President Gamal Abdel Nasser, Mrs. Meir asked: "Does he want the present situation or is he willing to make peace?" If he is willing, she said, "Then let him sit down with us and talk." Referring to Israel's willingness to go to Cairo, Mrs. Meir said: "We do not insist on prestige." Discussing the consequence of the Middle East conflict in terms of loss of lives among the Israelis and Arabs, Mrs. Meir declared:

"We are not ashamed to admit," she said, "that the war brings us heavy suffering. We are not ashamed to admit that every death on this battle-field cuts deep wounds into our hearts. The same applies to the Arab nations, even if their leaders do not want to admit it." This was an apparent reference to the Egyptian contention that it can afford to lose several wars on the road to victory, while Israel cannot afford to lose a single one. "I refuse to believe," Mrs. Meir continued, "that Jewish mothers love their sons more than Arab mothers. All mothers in the world want their children to live and not to get killed in the war." In another development, Mrs. Meir has rejected the suggestion made Thursday night at the Labor Party bureau meeting to outlaw the pro-Soviet Rakah Party and the ultra-leftist anti-Zionist Matzpen group. (Israeli Socialist organization) The Premier observed that even during the days of the Mandate, the outlawed Communists continued their agitation. But Mrs. Meir was furious at the invitation extended by the Matzpen group to Daniel Cohn-Bendit, known as "Danny the Red." The Premier said it was not likely he could offer anything but expressions of "hatred of Jews and Israel."

Israel Seeks Firm U.S. Decision To Prevent Further Soviet Involvement In Egypt

JERUSALEM, June 7 (JTA)--A Foreign Ministry spokesman said today that Israel wants the United States government "to state its very firm decision to prevent any further steps in the Soviet involvement in Egypt." In a briefing for newsmen however, he evaded questions as to the kind of declaration or warning Israel would like to elicit from the United States. "This is being discussed at high level," he said. The Ministry spokesman insisted that Israel does not want a "physical American involvement" in the Mideast. "The most important thing we want from the United States is the aircraft we have applied for," he said. He said Israel would accept them without prior announcement but would prefer it to be public. Asked if Israel regarded the supply of planes as an American commitment, he replied that the U.S. had never attached any conditions to the supply of aircraft to Israel. Foreign Minister Abba Eban said in Tel Aviv Friday that the balance of power in the Mideast was very delicate at this stage and a few planes could tip it one way or another. Addressing the weekly luncheon of the Industrial Club he would say only that he was "not discouraged" by his recent talks with American officials in Washington on Israel's request for more jets.

Soviet Union Warns That U.S. Aid To Israel Will Increase Russian Aid To Arabs

LONDON, June 7 (JTA)--The Soviet Union hinted strongly yesterday that the delivery of additional American aircraft to Israel would lead to increased Russian aid to the Arabs. The warning was contained in an article by Tass, the official Soviet news agency, which accused the U.S. of using the resumed American-Soviet bilateral talks on the Mideast as a means to "blackmail" Moscow to remove its forces from Egypt. The Tass article, signed by Yevgeny Primaki, said "Some people in America would like to use these contacts as a political screen to camouflage their attempts to delay a political settlement of the Middle East conflict." It accused the American press of threatening the immediate sale of 125 Phantom and Skyhawk fighter-bombers to Israel if the USSR does not make concessions to the American side in the talks. The bilateral discussions were resumed Tuesday after a six-week hiatus when Secretary of State William P. Rogers met with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin.

"Don't those who try to blackmail the Soviet Union understand that this method has never worked?" the Tass article asked. "As to the threat to provide Israel with additional planes, the United States is not the only state on which the balance of military forces in the Middle East depends," Tass warned. The article said the Soviet Union "has given support and will continue giving support to the just struggle of Arab countries for the liquidation of the aftermath of the Middle East aggression." It noted that "It is becoming more evident that the Israeli Air Force cannot intrude freely into the inland areas of the United Arab Republic." The article made no mention of Israel's claims that Soviet pilots have taken over the defense of central Egypt but it accused Premier Golda Meir of spreading "undisguised lies" in order to secure more U.S. aid.

Bar Lev Says Israel Might Resume Attacks Into Egypt's Interior If Need Arises

TEL AVIV, June 7 (JTA)--Chief of Staff Haim Bar Lev said Friday that Israel might resume deep-penetration attacks into Egypt should the situation warrant them. "I am not of the opinion that the entry into Egypt's depth is closed before us," he said in an interview in the newspaper Maariv. "Today," he continued, "we are not of the opinion that deep bombing is necessary, but the situation may change and then we may resume deep penetrations." Gen. Bar Lev also indicated that Israeli pilots would attempt to carry out their missions despite any interference from Soviet pilots flying on Egypt's behalf. He added his opinion that the United States had the power to act to prevent a Soviet advance to the Suez Canal. "America," he said, "can well influence the situation. She can check the Russians if she does something, and would encourage the Russians if she does nothing." On May 4, Defense Minister Moshe Dayan announced that deep-penetration raids into Egypt had been halted in an attempt to avoid "actions that might lead to a clash with the Russians." But he asserted that "We will continue to hold our present line at all costs and we shall not let the enemy undermine these lines."

Jewish Community Of Ottawa Holds Rally To Pray For Speedy End To Mideast War

OTTAWA, June 7 (JTA)--The Jewish community of Ottawa, some 800 strong, turned out on Capitol Hill at dawn today to pray for a speedy end to the Middle East war and to urge the Canadian government to speak out more effectively for a negotiated settlement. The demonstration, in front of the Canadian Parliament, was occasioned by the third anniversary of the June, 1967 Six-Day War. Spokesmen for the Ottawa Jewish Community said that Canadian Jews had no criticism of their government's stand in the Arab-Israeli conflict. But they felt Canada could make more effective use of its prestige in the world arena by speaking out vehemently against Soviet military involvement in Egypt and in condemnation of the Arab terrorist war against Israeli children and other civilians. "The Canadian government has taken a positive approach in the Middle East but it could do more to make its position known by raising its voice more often and by placing the Mideast conflict higher on its priorities," one Jewish spokesman said. The demonstrators, among them about 250 Ottawa Hebrew school children, prayed, chanted the burial prayer for Israeli children who died in recent terrorist attacks and sounded the Shofar. The gathering was addressed by Hyman Bessin, president of the Federated Zionist Organization of Canada, who said that the issues of war and peace in the Mideast affected all Canadians, not only Jews.

Mayhew And Pro-Arab Group Call On Israel To Take Initiative Toward Peace

LONDON, June 7 (JTA)--Christopher Mayhew, a Labor MP who has supported the Arab cause, called on Israel today to take the initiative in making peace in the Middle East. Mr. Mayhew, chairman of the Labor Middle East Council, was received at the Israeli Embassy by Ambassador Aharon Remez. He presented the Israeli envoy with a letter from the Council asking Israel to "specify steps it would be prepared to take at once toward implementation of the Security Council's resolution (of Nov. 22, 1967), provided there is a corresponding response from the Arab side." Mr. Mayhew said he was encouraged in making his approach by press reports of Premier Golda Meir's Knesset speech in which she acknowledged Israel's acceptance of the resolution. The letter said, "If these reports are correct, the governments most concerned with the Middle East should have peace within their grasp." Mr. Remez told the Laborite that he was surprised that there should be any doubt as to the complete validity of the Prime Minister's statement. He noted that Israel has made repeated and consistent efforts during the past three years to initiate negotiations with the Arabs on the basis of the resolution. Mr. Remez also received a delegation representing the Council for the Advancement of British-Arab Understanding, a pro-Arab group that also urged Israel to take the initiative toward peace.

Foreign Ministry Denies It Helped Dr. Goldmann Get Appointments With U.S. Officials

JERUSALEM, June 7 (JTA)--The Foreign Ministry today denied a press report that it had been instrumental in securing appointments for Dr. Nahum Goldmann with top U.S. administration figures in Washington last week. Dr. Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, met Friday with Presidential Advisor, Dr. Henry Kissinger and Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Joseph J. Sisco. He also had a meeting with Anatoly F. Dobrynin, the Soviet Ambassador to the U.S. (Prior to the meetings, Dr. Goldmann told newsmen in New York that "These talks are purely personal. I am not representing anyone." He said he "just wants to learn what is going on.") The Foreign Ministry spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that the State Department had informed Israel of Dr. Goldmann's appointment as "a matter of courtesy." He said Israel made it clear that Dr. Goldmann was not representing it.

Rabbinate's Council Pressures NRP Ministers To Resign From Cabinet On Conversion Issue

JERUSALEM, June 7 (JTA)--The Chief Rabbinate's Council adopted a secret resolution last week that would force the three ministers of the National Religious Party to resign from the Cabinet unless the government yields on Orthodox demands to invalidate conversions to Judaism by Reform or other non-Orthodox rabbis, the newspaper Maariv reported today. Questioned by JTA, the Chief Rabbinate's secretary refused to confirm or deny the report. He admitted that there was a "secret paragraph" in the decisions taken at the meeting of the Rabbinate's Council last Thursday. The Rabbinate has demanded that the government initiate a law that would preclude the recognition of conversions performed by non-Orthodox rabbis abroad as well as in Israel. This position is more extreme than that of the NRP which asked for legislation that would invalidate conversions by Reform rabbis in Israel. At its meeting last Thursday, the Council also reaffirmed its opposition to the recent Knesset definition of a Jew, declaring that the non-inclusion of an Orthodox-only stricture has created a "dangerous situation." The Knesset had ruled that a Jew was a person born of a Jewish mother or converted to Judaism, but it did not require that conversions be performed according to halachic (Orthodox) law.

Swedish Prime Minister Says Big Powers Can Prevent Mideast Conflict From Spreading

WASHINGTON, June 7 (JTA)--Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme said he regards the Middle East conflict as "potentially dangerous" and that the Big Powers are the force to prevent it from spreading. Mr. Palme, who is in the United States for nine days ending June 11 for what the Royal Swedish Embassy here terms a "private visit," stated Friday during a question and answer session at the National Press Club that it is "in the interests of the Great Powers to prevent this conflict from spreading. It is in their hands to do it." Mr. Palme said he met Thursday for two hours with Secretary of State William P. Rogers and discussed, among other matters, the Middle East. Having Swedish Ambassador Gunnar Jarring as official United Nations mediator in the Middle East, Mr. Palme said, has "made us extremely careful not to make any pronouncements on the Middle East crisis." He would not say what he and Mr. Rogers discussed in regard to the Middle East. Mr. Palme said his travels throughout the world have shown him that there is "deep pessimism on the possibility of solving" the Middle East crisis." He said, however, that "most countries have great confidence in Gunnar Jarring and hope he will continue his work."

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency Daily News Bulletin will not be published on Wednesday, June 10 because of Shavuoth.

City Plans To Make Kosher Meat Meals Available To Patients In Municipal Hospitals

NEW YORK, June 7 (JTA)--Mayor John V. Lindsay has announced that New York City plans to make available kosher meat meals to patients who ask for them in all municipal hospitals in the city. This is believed to be the first time that any municipal government in the United States has approved such a program for observant Jewish patients in municipal hospitals. Mayor Lindsay, in announcing the plan, noted that kosher food is now provided at Coney Island Hospital in Brooklyn, where a pilot kosher food program was started in March, 1969, to determine the feasibility of making such a food service available to all in-patients asking for it. City officials estimated the program will cost between \$100,000 and \$200,000 annually for an estimated 400 to 500 Jewish patients expected to request the kosher food service. The Mayor reported that the experience at Coney Island Hospital had demonstrated conclusively that provision of kosher food does not create any special problems in hospital feeding procedures and that the pilot program had been enthusiastically approved by both hospital staff and patients at the hospital. The decision for the program followed evaluation of a survey made by Daniel Green, Deputy Commissioner of Ports and Terminals, an Orthodox Jew who undertook the survey on his own last October. Under the plan, participating hospitals purchase frozen packaged kosher meals, complete with utensils. These are heated in hospital ovens and brought unopened to the patient's bed. Under this arrangement, no cooking is necessary and therefore special kitchen facilities are not required.

RJU, Temple Emanu-El Reach 'Understanding'; Temple Asks Charges Be Dropped

NEW YORK, June 7 (JTA)--The Radical Jewish Union of Columbia University reported today it had reached an "understanding" with officials of Temple Emanu-El and that it had therefore cancelled any further Friday visits to the synagogue, including one set for last Friday, in efforts to present anti-war arguments to the congregation. Rabbi A. Bruce Goldman, rabbinical advisor to the RJU, and two members were arrested on charges of disrupting services during two of three RJU visits to Friday vesper services, Rabbi Goldman, who led each RJU group for the three consecutive Friday appearances which began May 15, was arrested twice. Victor Levin, a graduate student, and Anne Rosen, a graduating senior at Barnard College were the two arrested RJU members. At a hearing for the three defendants Friday in Criminal Court, trial on these charges was set for Sept. 18 despite efforts by Temple Emanu-El officials to persuade the District Attorney's office to drop the charges. District Attorney Kenneth Grietz insisted that the case go to trial because "this is not a private matter." He noted that police had been called to the temple and there had been two violations of law forbidding disruption of religious services. The RJU had said that if the charges were not dropped, it would continue the weekly visits to the synagogue.

Rabbi Goldman said the "understanding" had been embodied in a "mutual statement" which said: "Representatives of the Radical Jewish Union and Temple Emanu-El are now agreed that further constructive conversations will take place between the two groups on matters of mutual concern, focusing on the Jewish response to pressing social and political issues of our time, such as war, poverty, racism and political repression." He added that the agreement provided for access by RJU members to the synagogue board of trustees and lay and rabbinic leaders through synagogue bulletins and publications, and possibly by addresses to Temple groups. Rabbi Goldman said the RJU would seek to start discussions with lay and rabbinic leaders of the synagogue this week. He reported that the request that the charges be dropped had been made to Mr. Grietz by Henry Freuhau, the synagogue's executive vice-president. Rabbi Goldman said that Mr. Grietz indicated he would agree to a reduction of the charges to a lesser complaint of disorderly conduct if the three defendants would agree to plead guilty. RJU defendants refused this. He added the RJU decided to halt its weekly visits, despite failure to have the charges dropped, because of a feeling that Temple Emanu-El officials had been "honorable and sincere" in efforts to have the charges cancelled.

Rabbi Goldman spoke Friday afternoon from the pulpit of the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, another major Reform synagogue in Manhattan. He was introduced by the synagogue's rabbi, Edward Klein, who announced he had invited Rabbi Goldman and the 20 RJU members who joined the regular congregation for the early Sabbath services. Referring to the arrests at Temple Emanu-El, Rabbi Goldman told the congregation he had never believed he would see in the United States "brothers and sisters being dragged from a synagogue." He called on his listeners and the organizations and members of the adult Jewish community to open their "hearts and minds" to the young people who, he said, had become so frustrated at the lack of response to their plea that they could well move from "demonstration to demolition." In submitted the RJU request for help in raising a \$100,000 defense fund for Black Panther leaders Rabbi Goldman said that not only Black Panthers but many of the blacks had become "increasingly anti-Jewish." He said this was a "danger" but that it would not be resolved by Jews turning their backs on the blacks.

Israel's Red Cross Agency Sends Relief Shipment To Peruvian Earthquake Victims

NEW YORK, June 7 (JTA)--Magen David Adom, Israel's official Red Cross agency, has dispatched a series of relief shipments to the bereaved victims of the Peruvian earthquakes. The shipments included medicines, bandages, blood plasma, blankets and children's clothing, according to an announcement today by the American Red Mogen David for Israel. "Saving lives," Dr. Eliahu Elath, President of Magen David Adom, said, "is a universal commitment. We must go where we are needed, whenever we are needed."

Dr. Goldmann, Dr. Wexler, Hellman, Pincus, Falgon, Elected To COJO Leadership

NEW YORK, June 7 (JTA)--Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, was re-elected as chairman of the World Conference of Jewish Organizations (COJO), and Yehudah Hellman was reelected general secretary at its annual meeting here Friday. Reelected as co-chairmen were Dr. William A. Wexler, president of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, and Louis Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive in Jerusalem. Gregorio Falgon of the Delegación de Asociaciones Israelitas Argentinas (DAIA), was elected vice-chairman. A vice-chairmanship was reserved for the new head of the British Board of Deputies, to be elected later this month.