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U.S. To Deal With Mideast Military Balance Before Resuming Talks With USSR

WASHINGTON, June 8 (JTA)--The Nixon administration has decided to redress what it believes to be the necessary balance of military power in the Middle East before resuming talks with the Soviet Union on means to end the Mideast conflict. That was the general impression gained by observers here from Secretary of State William P. Rogers' remarks on the CBS television program "Meet the Press" yesterday. Mr. Rogers said a U.S. decision on Israel's request for more combat jets would be forthcoming "before a few weeks," while new American diplomatic initiatives would be started "in the next two or three weeks." Mr. Rogers met last Tuesday with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin and the two agreed to further meetings. The Soviet envoy, however, did not provide Mr. Rogers with what the U.S. regards as a satisfactory explanation of Soviet intentions in the Mideast, specifically the presence of Russian pilots flying what seem to be operational missions over Egypt. When Mr. Rogers and Mr. Dobrynin meet again, observers believe, the U.S. will already have announced a decision to sell more jets to Israel though far less than requested. Mr. Rogers said on "Meet the Press" that the U.S. intended to act on the plane request in a "balanced and measured way" in order to "keep the door open for negotiations." He said: "We think that it's just possible--just possible--that you could get negotiations started, and it's just possible that this could result in a settlement somewhere along the line."

Israeli Diplomatic Circles Attach Great Importance To Rogers' Statement

JERUSALEM, June 8 (JTA)--Diplomatic circles here said tonight they attached special importance to yesterday's statement by William P. Rogers, United States Secretary of State, on the grave concern with which Washington regards the Soviet operational activity in Egypt and welcomed "the air of urgency and seriousness" expressed by Mr. Rogers regarding Israel's request for additional aircraft. There was ground for increased hope that Washington's urgent reconsideration of Israel's request, which was announced at the end of April, would reach a positive conclusion as soon as possible, it was stated. Israeli diplomatic circles at the same time seemed apprehensive regarding Mr. Rogers' statement that the U.S. would take new initiatives in the next two or three weeks to try to reopen negotiations for a settlement of the Middle East conflict.

Israel had no information as to the steps which the U.S. intends to take in this direction, it was stressed, adding that Israel's position regarding the need for negotiations with the Arab states was well known. It was noted here that Mr. Rogers expressed the U.S. desire that Soviet military activity in Egypt should be halted and that no additional Soviet personnel should be dispatched to the Middle East. The diplomatic circles in the capital also noted that Mr. Rogers' announcement, that a decision on Israel's request for additional planes could be expected soon, should be seen in the context of the principle that it was in the American interest to assure Israel's independence and sovereignty. This was in line with Mr. Rogers' statement of March 23 and President Nixon's statement May 8 which provided the background for Foreign Minister Abba Eban's talks in Washington on May 22.

Bar Lev: Extent Of Soviet Mideast Intervention Depends On Moves By U.S., Israel

TEL AVIV, June 8 (JTA)--Israel's Chief of Staff, Gen. Haim Bar Lev said here last night that the extent of Russian intervention in the Middle East war depended on the moves made by the United States and Israel. He said that for Israel's part, "We have made it quite clear that we intend to hold the line at the Suez Canal and this intention is backed up by deeds, means and men." Speaking at a youth rally, Gen. Bar Lev said there has been no change in the Arab-Israel conflict since Israel's independence because the Arabs still refuse to accept a Jewish State. However, he said, "There are some dynamic forces in the world which can ultimately bring the Arabs into changing their present attitude." He did not specify what the forces were and when they would act.

Egyptian Positions Blasted For 12 Hours; 14 Israeli Soldiers Wounded, One Dead

TEL AVIV, June 8 (JTA)--Waves of Israeli jets blasted Egyptian positions in the Suez Canal zone for 12 hours today as heavy ground and air fighting flared on the Syrian front for the second day. A military spokesman said the targets in the canal zone were artillery and anti-aircraft gun emplacements and fortified positions. All planes returned safely to their bases. Cairo claimed one Israeli Skyhawk jet shot down. Fourteen Israeli soldiers were wounded today and one of them, a girl, died of her wounds as Israeli forces battled Syrian artillery and tank guns in the Golan Heights and the Al Hamma area. The girl was 18 year-old Dorit Shaked, of Haifa, who was fatally wounded during a Syrian attack on Nahal Geshor in the Golan Heights this morning. Another Israeli soldier, Corp. David Allalouf, 24, of Haifa, was killed yesterday afternoon in a Syrian artillery and tank attack near Kuneitra on the cease-fire line.

A military spokesman said Syrian forces initiated the fighting along the demarcation line yesterday and today in order to take pressure off Egyptian forces on the Suez Canal front. Israeli jets were called into action twice today to silence Syrian batteries in the northern Golan Heights and in the Hispin, Rafid and Kuneitra areas. All planes returned safely to their bases. The Syrians opened fire at 10:20 a.m. local time on Israeli forces and settlements in the Heights. They also attacked near El Hamma, the junction of the Israeli, Syrian and Jordanian borders. Yesterday Syrians used 130 mm. Russian-made artillery pieces to shell Nahal Golan near Kuneitra.

Libyan Pilots Going To France To Learn How To Fly New Mirage-3 Fighter Aircraft

PARIS, June 8 (JTA)--A small group of Libyan pilots will go to France shortly to learn to fly the new Mirage-3 fighter aircraft. They will return to Libya toward the end of the year to become instructors. But Libya is not expected to be able to produce an effective Mirage squadron for at least several years, military observers said here today. Last winter the Libyan military regime ordered 110 Mirages from France, an arms deal that surprised the world and brought loud protests from Israel. The Libyan Air Force was not considered capable of absorbing the highly sophisticated supersonic jets and it was believed they would find their way into Egyptian hands for use against Israel. But the French training and delivery program, it now appears, will be spread over several years. The first Libyan Mirage training cadre is expected to bring home with it four Mirage trainers at the end of the year. About 20 more of the planes will be delivered in 1971 and the remaining deliveries will stretch into 1974. The Libyans reportedly wanted France to send its own training cadres to Libya and undertake a more intensive training program, according to reports here. But France was unwilling to appear to be moving into Libya as American and British forces left. The departure for France of the first Libyan Mirage trainees will coincide with the formal take-over by Libya of the huge U.S. Wheelus Air Force Base near Tripoli.

Rabbi Goren Says Jewish Communities Outside Israel Praise Israel's Air Force

JERUSALEM, June 8 (JTA)--Maj. Gen. Shlomo Goren, Chief Chaplain of Israel's Armed Forces and Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv, returned yesterday night from a six-week tour of three continents. He said the Jewish communities he had visited expressed even higher praise for Israel's Air Force than do Americans. At one United States military base in Japan, he reported, his hosts said they were following Israeli military exploits with great interest. The American commanders there said their Phantom jet pilots had adopted Israeli flying tactics. During his tour, Rabbi Goren held memorial services in Hiroshima and at Pearl Harbor.

Security Operations Have Checked Wave Of Violence By Arab Terrorists; Many Captured

JERUSALEM, June 8 (JTA)--Police Minister Shlomo Hillel told the Knesset today that the Israeli police and security operations, having "exposed a number of sabotage rings," had "checked the wave of violence" by Arab terrorists. But he recommended improved working conditions to attract necessary additional manpower. Mr. Hillel took part in a Knesset debate on "The Tasks of the Police Force in Combating Hostile Groups." Meanwhile, reports were released that security forces have arrested 70 Israeli Arabs from the town of Acre and several Western Galilee villages in connection with five explosions that rocked the beach last Tuesday at Nahariya, a seaside resort north of Haifa. There were no casualties. Police have reported that several terrorist suspects have been arrested in connection with a series of attacks on railway lines and other communications facilities in the Gaza Strip. Three bunkers and arms caches were discovered after the arrests. Security forces have arrested several dozen guerrillas in recent weeks, among them a senior commander of El Fatah in the Hebron region and others who have confessed to a fatal attack on a tourist bus near Hebron last winter. According to disclosures, about 30 guerrillas were apprehended in the Samaria region in the process of organizing sabotage cells. Large arms caches were also discovered. The arrests in the Judea region netted commandos with long records of terrorist activities including attacks on the Etzion settlements north of Hebron, security sources said.

West German Ambassador Donates \$286 To Fund For Relief Of Avivim And Dovev

JERUSALEM, June 8 (JTA)--West German Ambassador Helmut Knoke visited Avivim yesterday and donated 1000 Israeli pounds (\$286) to a fund for the relief of that village and nearby Dovev. Avivim was the home of the eight children and four adults killed in the May 22 Arab ambush of an Israeli school bus near the Lebanese border. He extended his sympathy to the bereaved families.

Ben Gurion Expresses Concern That Future Jewish Nature Of Israel May Be In Jeopardy

JERUSALEM, June 8 (JTA)--Former Premier David Ben Gurion expressed concern today over the future Jewish character of the State of Israel. Lecturing at Tel Aviv University he warned that "unless we do more to encourage immigration and ensure that Jews do the work in this land, the Jewish nature of the state is in danger." He said a point might be reached in 20 years when Arabs constituted a majority of the population and did most of the work. Mr. Ben Gurion said he favored returning all of the occupied Arab territories, except East Jerusalem and the Golan Heights, in return for "a real peace." "Unfortunately," he said, "I do not see peace in the near future."

Israel Protests To Bonn Government For Refusing To Accept Parcels For Air Delivery

JERUSALEM, June 8 (JTA)--Israel protested to West Germany yesterday over a decision by Bonn postal authorities not to accept parcels weighing over three-and-a-half ounces for air mail delivery to Israel. The decision stemmed from security measures taken after mid-air explosions destroyed an Israel-bound Swissair jet and damaged an Austrian Airlines jet over Munich last February. Ephraim Haran, director of the Foreign Ministry's economic department lodged the protest with the economic counsellor of the West German Embassy. The latter said the decision was an interim one pending the installation of necessary safety devices to detect explosives in the mail. Mr. Haran observed that West Germany was the only country still restricting air mail deliveries to Israel. He said there was no justification for the long delay in installing safety devices.

Permanent Committee For Soviet Jewry Established In Switzerland

GENEVA, June 8 (JTA)--A conference on Soviet Jewry attended by more than 100 Jewish and non-Jewish public figures and representatives of public groups agreed here yesterday to establish in Switzerland a permanent Committee for Soviet Jewry. The Geneva Rabbinate, Bruno Pitterman, chairman of the Socialist International and Albert Cohen, a noted writer, participated.

Tomeh Charges U.S., Jewish Agency Collaborate To Colonize Occupied Territories

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 8 (JTA)--Syria's Ambassador to the United Nations, George Tomeh, quoting a Jewish Telegraphic Agency dispatch, accused Israel of "international banditry" in a letter to Secretary General U Thant released here today. Mr. Tomeh charged Israel with making "its illegal military occupation of part of Syria a fait accompli" by establishing settlements in the Golan Heights. He cited a JTA dispatch of May 31 from Jerusalem announcing Cabinet approval of a five-year plan to expand Israeli settlements in the Heights. Mr. Tomeh also charged in his letter that the Jewish Agency was carrying out "this despicable act of colonization" with "hundreds of millions of American tax-deductible dollars" in the occupied areas of Syria, Jordan and Egypt. "The United States government itself has given Israel since its occupation of Arab territories after the blitzkrieg of 5, June 1967, hundreds of millions of dollars to support its crumbling economy, as well as the most sophisticated airplanes and arms." To support his charge of "imperialist" support for Israel, Mr. Tomeh complained that on June 4, the World Bank, under pressure from its president, Robert McNamara, approved a \$25 million loan to Israel "in the face of opposition of a large number of member states of the Bank." Mr. Tomeh failed to mention in his letter to Mr. Thant at the same time loans totalling over \$50 million were approved for India and Mali and that a day earlier the World Bank had loaned \$18,650,000 to Congo, Liberia and Zambia. The Syrian envoy also assailed "seventy-three Senators of the United States Senate" who "for obvious politicking and vote-getting motives, urged the President, after the bankruptcy of his Indo-Chinese adventure to give Israel 125 Phantoms and Skyhawks."

COJO Delegates Adopt Resolutions On Mideast, Plight Of Jews In Russia And Arab Lands

NEW YORK, June 8 (JTA)--The nearly 100 delegates from Israel, Europe and the United States who participated in the first meeting of the World Conference of Jewish Organizations (COJO) adopted resolutions on the Middle East, Jews in the Soviet Union and in Arab countries and expressed solidarity with Israel. The COJO resolutions declared in part that the Soviet military intervention in the Middle East "adds a new and ominous dimension to the conflict and constitutes a threat both to the security of Israel and the maintenance of world peace; that "in the face of this new threat, which changes the balance of strength in the region, the Conference urges nations which are friends of Israel to make available to her the means for Israel's defense"; that "the Conference renews its pledge, in full solidarity with Israel, to give maximum support to Israel in her effort to secure a peace which shall be just, honorable and genuine. Such a peace must be negotiated by the parties to the conflict and embodied in a settlement containing provisions which shall be contractually binding on the signatories." The Conference resolutions also urged "all governments committed to respect for the principles of international law to condemn those Arab states which share responsibility" for the activities of Arab terrorist organizations by affording them bases and asylum.

Resolutions also urged that Jews in Arab countries be granted "full restoration of their rights as citizens and also, where necessary, the right to emigrate to lands in which they can build a new life in freedom." The Conference expressed "admiration for the courageous and dignified affirmation of their Jewish identity by many thousands of Soviet Jews, among them large numbers of young people" and expressed its "brotherly solidarity with them." It urged that appropriate facilities be made available to all who desire to emigrate in order to reunite with their families," and called on the Soviet government "to halt the dangerous incitement to anti-Jewish prejudice in the Soviet press. The appointment of a committee to draw plans for strengthening the activities of COJO in coordinating the work of the major Jewish communities of the world was also voted by the COJO delegates at the final session of the three-day international meeting which concluded Friday.

Israel Denies Leasing To Red Sea Islets From Ethiopia For Air And Naval Bases

JERUSALEM, June 8 (JTA)--Israel emphatically denied an Arab charge today that it has leased two islets in the Red Sea from Ethiopia for conversion into air and naval bases. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the allegation by the Palestine Liberation Front was "a completely contrived propaganda fabrication which has no foundation whatsoever." The spokesman said it was "significant that the story emanates from the Syrian propaganda machine which in this case is fed by the so-called Eritrean Liberation Front and timed to coincide with the visit of Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia to Egypt."

Senators Express Elation At Rogers Announcement; Some To Press For All Planes Requested

WASHINGTON, June 8 (JTA)--Several Senators commented today on Secretary of State William P. Rogers' announcement yesterday that the administration was going to sell Israel 65 of the 125 planes she requested. Sen. Charles Goodell, Republican of New York, said that "something is clearly better than nothing," but he hopes that the entire number of 125 planes would be forthcoming. Sen. Stuart Symington, Democrat of Missouri and one of the ten Senators who led the Senate into getting 75 signatures on a letter to Mr. Rogers asking for the planes, had no official comment, but aides in his office said he was happy he had been able to do something and he was "happy a small effort had been made to respond to the need." Republican leader Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania said he was "encouraged," but was not going to stop fighting for all the planes. "This is a step in the right direction," Mr. Scott said. Sen. Vance Hartke, Democrat of Indiana, said he was "Pleased that action is finally being taken in this area, even though the number falls far short of what I feel is necessary. All we want is for Israel to have the means of maintaining its own self-defense."

Tourism Continues To Rise Despite Arab Propaganda And Terrorist Threats

JERUSALEM, June 8 (JTA)--Israel's Minister of Tourism, Moshe Kol, reported today that tourism to Israel has increased 10.4 percent from January through May compared to the same period last year despite Arab propaganda and the threats posed by terrorists. Mr. Kol said "there is no doubt that with better security conditions the increase would have been even greater."

Lindsay Sends Greeting To Jewish People Wishing Them Joyous, Meaningful Shavuoth

NEW YORK, June 8 (JTA)--Mayor John V. Lindsay has issued a Shavuoth statement to "my fellow New Yorkers of the Jewish faith," calling the occasion "a joyous and meaningful holiday." He said Jewish "ethical precepts" represent the highest aspirations of man." In another Shavuoth statement, Rabbi Joseph Karasick, president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, said the holiday "symbolizes the eternal quest for human dignity and the sanctification of life." Rabbi Zev Segal, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, said that in the spirit of Shavuoth, the United States government and "all freedom-loving people" should seek a "lasting peace" in the Middle East. Joseph Ratner, chairman of the American-Israeli Religious Cultural Society, said Israel was "a testimonial to the fact that Jewish religious law is most suitable for running a modern state in accordance with the latest findings of science, mathematics and public administration." Shavuoth, celebrated on the sixth day of Sivan, begins tomorrow night this year. Also known as the Pentecost or the Feast of the Harvest, it comes 50 days after Passover and marks both the end of the seven-week grain-harvesting season and the giving of the Ten Commandments to Moses.

David Bar Ilan, Famed Israeli Pianist, Says JDL Tactics Hurt The Cause Of Israel

NEW YORK, June 8 (JTA)--David Bar Ilan, a prominent Israeli pianist residing in New York, charged today that Rabbi Meir Kahane and his Jewish Defense League have sullied Israel's cause and good name by their recent assaults on Arabs in New York. Mr. Bar Ilan made his charge in a letter to Rabbi Kahane which he released as an open letter to the American Jewish press. "As a veteran of the Haganah and the War of Liberation I feel it is my rightful duty to tell you that if you were a paid agent of the 'Fatah' you could not do the cause of Israel more harm than you have done with your half-witted attacks on Arab offices here," Mr. Bar Ilan wrote. "Surely, even in your most extravagant moments of wishful thinking you cannot believe that these attacks would deter the terrorists. But let us examine what you did achieve...by beating up a couple of ineffectual Arab agents."

"The media...seized the opportunity to play up your miserable 'eye-for-an-eye' revenge, thus diverting attention from the unspeakable Arab crimes in the Galil. You got your little press interviews, in which you sounded like an evasive mafioso and into which, with the gall of a Goebbels, you dragged the name of Golda Meir to justify your drivel. You provided those despicable thugs, Baroodi and Mehdi, with a forum on which they could appear not only as victims of 'Zionist persecution' but as voices of peace and sweet reason." Jamil M. Baroodi is the Ambassador to the United Nations from Saudi Arabia. Dr. M. Mehdi is general secretary of the Actions Committee on American-Arab Relations. Mr. Baroodi issued a protest to UN Secretary General U Thant about the attacks. He was not, however, one of its victims. Dr. Mehdi was injured by the assailants. Mr. Bar Ilan concluded his letter declaring: "Israel needs the conscientious help and undying devotion of every Jew in the world." "But people like you are neither helpful nor truly devoted. Consciously or unconsciously you are, in effect, Arab collaborationists. All you do is sabotage our efforts and betray our cause."

3300 To Participate In AZYF Israel Programs; Summer Program Up 25 Percent Over 1969

NEW YORK, June 8 (JTA)--More than 2,800 college and high school students will participate in summer programs sponsored by the American Zionist Youth Foundation this year and together with year-long projects, all participants in AZYF programs will exceed 3,300. "There is a substantial growth in the number of participants in the summer programs which, in comparison with last year, have increased more than 25 percent," William Levine, Executive Director of the AZYF, stated. The first contingent will leave for Israel from Kennedy International Airport, New York on June 21. The AZYF programs in Israel are administered by the Youth & Hechalutz Department of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem. Local and regional representatives of the AZYF report tremendous interest in the various programs for college students and high school graduates.

Play About Evolving Relationship Between Jewish Grocer And Negro Boy Wins Award

NEW YORK, June 8 (JTA)--"A Storm in Summer," a play about mistrust and hostility between an elderly Jewish grocer and a Negro boy that eventually evolve into mutual understanding and love, was named Sunday night as the best single dramatic program of the 1969-70 television season. It received the appropriate Emmy award from the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences in nationally telecast ceremonies. British star Peter Ustinov, who had assumed a Yiddish accent for the role, won an Emmy, his third, for the best single male performance. The direction by Buzz Kulik was also nominated, but not the script by Rod Serling. The program, produced by M.J. (Bud) Rifkin and Alan Landsburg, was shown February 2 on NBC-TV's "Hallmark Hall of Fame."

NCJW Warns Of Russian Mideast Intervention; Calls For U.S. Withdrawal From Indochina

NEW YORK, June 8 (JTA)--The Soviet Union's introduction of military personnel into the Egyptian armed forces is "patently calculated" to test the strength of the United States commitment to its interests in the Middle East and to the survival of Israel, the National Council of Jewish Women asserted. "The Soviet Union seems intent on keeping that part of the world in crisis, thereby diminishing prospects for a political settlement, while gaining ever increasing political, economic and military influence in the area," the statement said. The statement was one of several approved at a three-day session several days ago of the NCJW executive board held here. Other positions in the statement concerned the right to dissent, opposition to American intervention both in South Viet Nam and Cambodia and equal rights for all Americans now. The board denounced the expansion of United States military involvement into Cambodia and urged President Nixon to withdraw American military personnel from Indochina without delay. The statement cited the lives lost domestically because of "continuing polarization" of the American society, referring specifically to the killing of four students at Kent University, two at Jackson State College and the killings of blacks in Augusta, Ga.