

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## State Department Checking Into Report That Soviet Build-Up Continued After Cease-Fire

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12 (JTA)--The State Department said today it had been informed by Israeli Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin that Soviet anti-aircraft missiles were placed on the Egyptian edge of the Suez Canal four hours after the cease-fire took effect at 1 a.m. Cairo time last Saturday. State Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey said: "We are looking into that report. As far as documentation is concerned, we have discussed this with the Israeli government and will be discussing this again." In announcing the shooting halt last Friday, Secretary of State William P. Rogers and Mr. McCloskey termed it a "standstill cease-fire"; department sources said today that the "cease-fire" has been "effective," but declined comment on the "standstill" aspect. Israel was said to have photographed the new SAM sites and presented the evidence to Washington via Ambassador Rabin.

It was not immediately clear whether the missiles were SAM-2s or SAM-3s. The cease-fire agreement prohibits military deployment within 32 miles of the canal on either side. The Israeli government accepted the cease-fire, risking the walkout of the Gahal faction and the breakup of the three-year coalition, largely on President Nixon's assurances that military buildups would be prevented by surveillance. The new missiles were said by sources to have been borne to the canal front from 20 miles away in 30 trucks. There was speculation that the missiles may have been placed immediately prior to the beginning of the cease-fire, and that they were not noticed by Israeli surveillance until the sun started coming up. The administration, however, probably would deem the move a violation in spirit of the cease-fire by Egypt, which, while not formally accepting the ban on buildups, did not reject it either.

(In the Washington Post today, columnist Joseph Alsop said SAM-2s and SAM-3s had been emplaced in the "special combat zone" west of the canal a few days before the cease-fire in defiance of Secretary Rogers' warning to Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin that Soviet penetration into the 19-mile-wide strip paralleling the waterway would be regarded by the United States as an offensive move. "The main point," Mr. Alsop wrote, "is that all these Soviet forward moves were made after the American government took its famous initiative for peace. The more wishful American analysts are now claiming that the advanced missile emplacements in the special combat zone have been abandoned. They are probably wrong, as they have been quite regularly wrong in the past," Mr. Alsop, who has followed a hard-line pro-Israel stance, said "Simple common sense ought to warn the American policymakers that appalling dangers may lurk in talks with the Egyptians and their Soviet masters because of the new situation." (In New York, United Nations spokesmen said this afternoon they had no official word on the reports. They said they could not say whether missiles placements or other cease-fire violations had been observed by the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), but added that if there were any violations UNTSO would report them.)

## Mrs. Meir: Reservations To U.S. Initiative Not Meant As Prior Conditions To Talks

JERUSALEM, Aug. 12 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir told the Knesset today that the Israeli reservations over the United States peace initiative did not include a priori conditions for negotiations. She said "some of the positions held by the Israeli government" were deemed by Israel "proper to emphasize on the threshold of possible talks with the Arab states," but that those positions "tally with the government's program and its resolutions, as approved by the Knesset." Those positions "will guide our representatives in the talks," she said. Mrs. Meir made her statement in answer to a question from Moshe Sneh, head of the anti-Moscow Maki Communists. She chose that method to avoid subjecting her answer to parliamentary debate. Mrs. Meir had been scheduled to address the Knesset tomorrow. In accepting the U.S. plan on Aug. 4, the Meir government said that "On the basis of clarifications given by the United States... Israel is prepared to reply affirmatively to the... proposal for a cease-fire on the Egyptian front." The "clarifications," which were later reported to be acceptable to Israel, dealt with American assurances that there would be no military buildups permitted in the cease-fire area.

In reply to another question, Mrs. Meir said that "the conflict between ourselves and our neighbor countries is not over territory but over our existence." She added: "If this were not so, why did the Arab states refuse to make peace with us when we were still using the borders of (June 4) 1967?" In response to a question on eventual borders, the Premier said her government "has not yet drawn any peace borders." She then reiterated that "Individual members of the government might have certain views on this subject, but we are ready to enter negotiations without any conditions from any side." On other matters, Mrs. Meir said that she personally is handling all matters pertaining to the problems of Soviet Jewry; that there is no change in the government's position that Israel will not introduce atomic weapons into the Middle East; and that there is no plan to annex Hebron or to expropriate any of its land for Jewish settlement. On the last point she confirmed that she had stated that there is no reason Jews should not live in Hebron if it should become part of an Arab state.

## Belgin Charges State Department With Deceit, Fraud; Urges U.S. Jews To Demonstrate

JERUSALEM, Aug. 12 (JTA)--A highly emotional attack on the United States peace initiative was made in the Knesset this morning by Menachem Begin, former Gahal Minister-Without-Portfolio and now leader of the opposition. Speaking for almost an hour, Mr. Begin charged the U.S. State Department with "deceit" and said the Israel government should urge American Jewry "to send a delegation to President Nixon and tell him 'your advisors are playing an international chess game at the expense

of our blood.'" He also called on American Jews to "go out in the streets and demonstrate" which, he said, they "failed to do during the second World War when our six million were being murdered." Mr. Beigin, who led the Gahal faction's defection from the government last week in protest against acceptance of the American plan, was incensed by the text of United Nations envoy Gunnar V. Jarring's letter to Secretary General U Thant. The letter stated the basis and objectives of the peace negotiations to be held under his auspices but omitted Israel's basic conditions for accepting them. This, according to Mr. Beigin, was "an international scandal," "fraud" and "deceit." He accused the U.S. of having deliberately misled Israel.

The Herut leader contended that the U.S. plan offered no prospects for peace even if its most optimistic expectations were fulfilled. On the contrary, "it can lead only to war," Mr. Beigin argued, because "King Hussein has declared that the cease-fire does not apply to the terrorists who consider it their duty to go on shooting at Israelis." Mr. Beigin claimed that if the plan of Secretary of State William P. Rogers was fulfilled and the West Bank enclave plan of Deputy Premier Yigal Allon were accepted, "most of Israel's population centers, including Tel Aviv, Ramat Gan, Petach Tikvah and Beersheba, would be in range of the terrorists' Katyusha rockets." Statements similar to Mr. Beigin's were delivered by two other Gahal ex-Ministers, Haim Landau and Joseph Sapir, the latter the leader of Gahal's Liberal faction. But Mr. Beigin clearly emerged as the leader of the opposition and the politician whom Premier Meir will mainly have to contend with. His emotional appeal to American Jews to demonstrate in the streets was seen by some observers here as a trial balloon of sorts to test the influence he exerts on Jews in the U.S.

### Five Civilians Killed, Two Injured By Mines; 14 Arabs Injured By Explosive

TEL AVIV, Aug. 12 (JTA)--The big guns along the Suez Canal were silent last night and today, but five Israeli civilians were killed and four Israelis and 14 Arabs were injured in four incidents. The five Israelis were killed last night when their jeep hit a mine in the Golan Heights, near the demarcation line. The victims, three women and two men, were from Ramat Magshimim settlement in the Heights. Four Israeli soldiers were injured today about noon when their vehicle hit a mine in the Judean desert five miles north of Ein Geddi. Two Israeli civilians were injured today by a hand grenade in the Sadjyah area of the Gaza Strip. Fourteen local Arabs, many of them children, were injured this morning in Raffiah, in the southern sector of the Gaza Strip, by an errant explosive apparently aimed at an Israeli patrol vehicle. Israeli security police are investigating the incidents. Suspects were detained in connection with the Sadjyah incident.

Israeli planes attacked terrorist bases on the southwestern slopes of Mt. Hermon for 50 minutes this afternoon, returning safely. The strikes on the "Fatah Land" targets, like those yesterday, were in response to shooting from that territory Monday night and the injuring of an Israeli guard. Israeli patrols in the Beisan Valley, which were fired on yesterday morning, were fired on twice last night, without Israeli casualties. The fire was returned. Bazooka and mortar shells were fired from Syrian territory last night at Israeli positions in the Golan Heights, causing no casualties. An Israeli Army spokesman reported today that there were two encounters with saboteurs in the Hebron area and in the Samaria district in July. He said four terrorists had been killed and three captured and that none of the Israelis had been hit.

### Report Soviet Union Eager To Work With U.S. In Joint Clearing Of Suez Canal

LONDON, Aug. 12 (JTA)--The Soviet Union has sounded out United States diplomats in Geneva on their willingness to engage in joint clearing of the Suez Canal to make it navigable on behalf of the United Nations, according to reports from the Swiss capital. The Soviets, it was said, have pointed out that with Arab-Israeli negotiations on the horizon, it was high time to plan for the reopening of the canal, and that only the U.S. and the USSR could accomplish that speedily and at non-prohibitive cost. There was said to be no American reply as yet. Sources noted that the USSR could not accomplish the operation on her own even if she had sufficient political or military facilities, considering that in 1956, after the canal had been closed for only six weeks, clearing required the use of giant dredgers possessed only by West Germany and the Netherlands. The Russians, say the sources, assume that only the U.S. would be granted the use of the dredgers by those two countries, and even then, the cost would be prohibitive if borne by only the U.S.

### Jordanian Communist Party Urges Support Of Egypt's, Jordan's Acceptance Of U.S. Plan

TEL AVIV, Aug. 12 (JTA)--The outlawed Jordanian Communist Party is distributing pamphlets in the West Bank urging support of Egypt's and Jordan's acceptance of the American peace initiative. The pamphlets turned up in a number of West Bank townships which were deluged only a few days ago by guerrilla leaflets denouncing the American plan. The guerrillas urged the populace to "fight for the liberation of Palestine with your own hands" and not to trust "the traitors, Nasser and Hussein."

### SPECIAL LATE BULLETIN

### Reports Confirm Soviet Missile Rockets Moved Toward Canal After Cease-Fire Began

JERUSALEM, Aug. 12 (JTA)--Israeli sources confirmed late tonight that Soviet SAM-2 and SAM-3 rockets have been moved toward the bank of the Suez Canal on the Egyptian side. The activity took place in the central sector of the canal, between the Cairo-Ismaillia and Cairo-Suez roads. An Israeli radio commentator said today that the deployment had taken place a few hours after the cease-fire took effect at 1 a.m. Saturday, Cairo time. There had been speculation that the missiles might have been deployed just prior to the cease-fire but not noticed until afterwards. (See story page 1.)

## Parties In Mideast Conflict Were Not Shown Jarring Letter Before Thant Released It

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 12 (JTA)--The sequence of events leading up to the controversial letter from Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring to Secretary General U. Thant on Aug. 7 emerged here today. A United Nations spokesman admitted that none of the three parties--Israel, Egypt and Jordan--was shown the text of the letter in advance although it outlined the basis and objectives of the American peace initiative which, according to U.S. Secretary of State William P. Rogers, all three had accepted. Israel was deeply disturbed by the Jarring letter because it omitted the key condition of Israel's acceptance of the American plan. The condition, contained in Israel's official note of reply to the U.S., was that withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied Arab territories and future boundaries were to be determined by peace agreements. Conditions and reservations in the Egyptian note of acceptance were also omitted from the Jarring letter. Jordan's reply is believed to have been identical to Egypt's.

The UN spokesman said that Secretary Rogers came to the UN directly from the San Clemente summer White House on Aug. 3 and met with Mr. Thant, Ambassador Jarring and Undersecretary General Dr. Ralph J. Bunche. On Aug. 5 the Four Powers--U.S., Soviet Russia, Britain and France--met in New York and the U.S. representative, Ambassador Charles Yost, subsequently announced that Israel, Egypt, and Jordan had accepted the U.S. peace plan and that the Big Four welcomed these developments. Two days later, Dr. Jarring submitted his letter to Mr. Thant which the latter circulated to members of the Security Council as the document pertinent to re-activating Ambassador Jarring's Mideast peace mission suspended more than a year ago. Mr. Thant's statement to the Security Council on Aug. 7 began with the words, "I have been informed by the government of the United States that the peace proposals initiated by that government has been accepted by the governments of Israel, Jordan and the United Arab Republic...Subsequently, Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring has been given confirmation of these acceptances by the permanent representatives to the UN of those three governments."

The UN spokesman noted today that the Jarring letter contained nothing more or less than the text of Secretary Rogers' proposals. Asked if the U.S. told Dr. Jarring or Mr. Thant orally or in writing, that the parties had agreed to that text, the spokesman replied, "Yes." Secretary Rogers came to the UN expressly to let Mr. Thant know that the parties had accepted his proposals and on that basis Ambassador Jarring drafted his letter. According to observers here, Mr. Rogers regarded acceptance of his proposals, as they were submitted to the three parties on June 19, as basic and sufficient to set the cease-fire and peace negotiations in motion. The U.S. in fact made it clear that it would accept any reply from Israel short of an outright rejection, as a clear affirmative. The same observers noted that this understanding cut the ground from any conditions Israel advanced in its text to Washington and the UN on Aug. 4.

## Egypt's Chief UN Delegate Has Instructions To Stand Firm On Full Israeli Withdrawal

LONDON, Aug. 12 (JTA)--Egypt sent its chief United Nations delegate flying back to New York today reportedly with instructions to stand firm on its demand that Israel be made to evacuate every inch of Arab territory occupied in the June, 1967 war. According to the report, Dr. Mohammed H. el-Zayyat, head of the Egyptian Mission to the UN, got his instructions from President Gamal Abdel Nasser at a meeting in Alexandria yesterday. The meeting was attended as well by Egypt's Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad, Dr. Ashraf Ghorbal, Cairo's chief diplomatic representative in Washington and Mohammed Hassanein Heykal, Minister of National Guidance and editor of Cairo's semi-official newspaper, Al Ahran. The Egyptian government has also reportedly rejected an Israeli offer of a prisoner-of-war exchange while the Suez cease-fire is in effect. The offer was said to have been transmitted to Egypt through the United States. But Al Ahran reported yesterday that Egypt will not repatriate the 12 Israelis, including six airmen, until there is a final settlement. Israel holds 69 Egyptian prisoners, 62 of them soldiers.

In another development, the Algerian government has reportedly informed Cairo that it intends to withdraw two battalions of troops stationed along the Suez Canal, consisting of about 2000 men. The move appeared to be a reflection of Algeria's opposition to Egypt's acceptance of the cease-fire and other elements of the American peace initiative. (At the United Nations in New York, spokesmen said today that Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring was still awaiting word from Israel and Jordan on naming representatives from their countries to begin the peace talks. Dr. Jarring is reported to be anxious to begin the talks as soon as possible. He reportedly met with the ambassadors from Israel, Egypt and Jordan yesterday to discuss with them their preferences for the site of the talks, when to begin and on what level. Israel's Ambassador Yosef Tekoah said he was still awaiting instructions from his government and that clarification on these issues is expected within the next few days.)

## Rally Held Protesting Plight Of Soviet Jews, Murder Of 24 Artists Under Stalin Regime

NEW YORK, Aug. 12 (JTA)--A combined rally, protesting the Soviet Union's treatment of its Jews, and memorial service for 24 Soviet Jewish writers, poets, artists and actors who were murdered during the Stalin regime was held in the city's Diamond Center today by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry. Nine hundred signatures were added to the 80,000 already gathered on petitions to be presented to the United Nations, the White House and the Soviet Embassy at the opening of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on Sept. 16. Jacob Birnbaum, national director of SSSJ told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. The petitions request UN help in preventing the forthcoming trial of Soviet Jews. He said 3,000 persons had stopped to listen to portions of the two-hour rally that was addressed by Representative Richard L. Ottinger, Democrat of New York, former Bronx Borough President Herman Badillo and Adam Walinsky, Democrat candidate for New York State Attorney General in the November election. Sidney Davidoff, administrative assistant to Mayor John V. Lindsay represented Senator Charles E. Goodell, New York Republican, who was in Washington. A letter was read from two Leningrad Jews, warning of forthcoming trials which would attempt to link Jews throughout the USSR with the alleged attempt to hijack a plane from Leningrad.

### Four Lawyers Trying To Go To Soviet Union To Guarantee Fair Trial For 18 Jews

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12 (JTA)--Four prominent Washington attorneys announced today that they are trying to go to the Soviet Union to guarantee a fair and open trial for the 18 Soviet Jews who were arrested on June 15 in raids connected with an alleged hijacking of a Soviet airliner at the Leningrad airport. The four attorneys - Meyer Feldman, former aide to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson; Joseph L. Rauh, Jr., counsel to the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and campaign organizer for Eugene McCarthy; labor lawyer Warren Woods, and Clifford L. Alexander, Jr., former chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission - sent a cable last week to R.A. Rudenko, the Chief Prosecutor of the Soviet Union, asking to go to the Soviet Union and "interview the arrested persons, or at least their counsel, and to attend their trial." In a press conference today the four lawyers said they had been asked to help by Israeli relatives of the imprisoned Jews. Eight of the Jews who were arrested signed letters to Russian authorities requesting permission to emigrate to Israel. Mr. Rauh called the group a "watchdog" committee, which would put the light of publicity on the trial to assure fairness. Without them, he said, "These faceless people will just go down the drain." Continuing, he stated: "Russia asked the world to accept the fact that there is more democracy than in the past. We're asking them to demonstrate that. A negative answer to our request would be the most damning evidence to the credibility that they (the 18 Soviet Jews) will get a fair trial." The attorneys volunteered their services at the request of B'nai B'rith whose aid was solicited by relatives in Israel of eight of the arrested Soviet Jews.

### 300 U.S. Jewish Leaders Fly To Israel For Opening Of Bond Conference

NEW YORK, Aug. 12 (JTA)--Traveling aboard two special El Al Airline planes, 300 Israel Bond leaders left from Kennedy Airport last night (Wednesday) to take part in an international economic conference which opens Friday morning in Jerusalem and ends August 23. The ten-day conference will be attended by 475 delegates from the United States, Canada and other parts of the world who have been invited by Israel's Finance Minister Pinchas Sapir to deliberate on ways to expand and strengthen Israel's economy at a critical turning point in its history. The conference will also be the occasion for the observance of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Israel Bond Organization at a similar conference in Israel in 1950. Since the start of the Israel Bond drive, more than \$1.5 billion has been raised for the promotion of major industrial and agricultural projects in Israel.

The delegates will include the first representatives of American Jewish communities to meet with government dignitaries in Israel since it announced its acceptance of Secretary Rogers' proposal for establishing a cease-fire and initiating negotiations for a peace settlement in the Middle East. During the ten-day conference, the leaders will study plans for dealing with Israel's immediate and long-range economic needs. In sessions with Prime Minister Golda Meir, former Premier David Ben-Gurion, Foreign Minister Abba Eban, Finance Minister Sapir and other top figures in the government of Israel, they will discuss how American Jewry can extend the most effective aid to promote economic development as a basis for strengthening its democratic, social and cultural progress. Mr. Ben-Gurion will be the principal speaker at the opening session, at which Samuel Rothberg, Conference chairman, will preside, and Abraham Feinberg, president of the Israel Bond Organization, will introduce the former Prime Minister. The opening ceremonies will be held in the presence of Israel President Zalman Shazar at the Rothberg Amphitheatre on Mt. Scopus.

### Sale Of YMHA-Hecht House To Aid Jewish Community Groups Plan New Centers

BOSTON, Aug. 12 (JTA)--The YMHA-Hecht House, Boston's oldest and largest Jewish Community Center, will be sold this fall to the Lena Park Housing Development Corp., a non-profit organization composed of Dorchester area residents, it was announced by the Associated Jewish Community Centers and the Combined Jewish Philanthropies. The sale was made possible through a grant by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Funds from the sale of the YMHA-Hecht House, located in a changing neighborhood, will enable AJCC and CJP to plan for community centers in new areas of Jewish growth where they are urgently needed. Leonard Kaplan, president of AJCC, said the AJCC will continue to provide on-going services to the Jewish residents of the area. A kosher kitchen and several golden age clubs will be maintained in the Hecht House, which will now be known as the Lena Park Neighborhood Service Center.

### Intruders Break Into Synagogue; Grab Old Radio And Typewriter; Leave Silver Ark

JERSEY CITY, N.J., Aug. 12 (JTA)--Intruders broke into Congregation Emanu-El here at an undetermined time during the past day and stole what Rabbi Benjamin Plotkin described as "an old broken-down radio and an old typewriter." He said the intruders apparently opened but did not steal or vandalize the temple's "beautiful silver and elegant ark." Rabbi Plotkin said he did not think the incident was anti-Semitic in nature. He said the last incident at his synagogue occurred three years ago and resulted in a fire and \$5,000 in damages. The police are investigating the latest incident.

### Ultra-Right Wing Group Under Investigation For Role In Bombing Jewish Community Center

BUENOS AIRES, Aug. 12 (JTA)--The Argentine military high command is investigating an extremist right-wing organization within Army ranks said to be responsible for the bombing of the Jewish community center building in La Plata last May 16. A number of officers and non-commissioned officers of the Seventh Regiment are reportedly under detention pending completion of the investigation. Col. Jorge Petronave, commander of the Seventh Regiment, has been demoted as a result of the incident, although he personally was not involved. The matter has received considerable attention in the Argentine press. One piece of evidence indicating that military personnel were involved in the bombing was the use of trotyl, an explosive that is in the hands of military units only.