

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Nixon And Top Aides Meet In San Clemente On Mideast; Laird Says U.S. Sends Arms To Israel

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1 (JTA)--President Nixon met with his top foreign policy advisors in San Clemente today to review the situation in the Middle East. The meeting was attended by Vice President Spiro T. Agnew who cut short a rest stop in Hawaii at the President's request following a ten-day Asian tour. Presidential press secretary Ronald Ziegler said he did not expect any announcements or reports to come out of the meeting at the summer White House. He said none of the officials, including Mr. Agnew, would meet with newsmen. Among the administration aides attending the meeting were Secretary of State William P. Rogers; Deputy Defense Secretary David Packard, sitting in for Defense Secretary Melvin Laird; Adm. Thomas H. Moorer, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Joseph J. Sisco; Richard Helms, director of the CIA and Dr. Henry Kissinger, the President's national security advisor. Today's meeting takes place against the backdrop of Mr. Nixon's televised interview shown yesterday in which he deflated speculation as to whether American troops would participate in a Middle East peace-keeping force.

Shortly before the meeting in San Clemente began, it was disclosed in Washington that Defense Secretary Melvin Laird revealed for the first time yesterday that the U.S. has been shipping weapons to Israel during the current cease-fire to ensure that the "arms balance does not tip against Israel." Mr. Laird's disclosure was contained in a letter to Sen. John C. Stennis, Mississippi Democrat, chairman of the Armed Services Committee. It warned Congress against delays in approving funds needed to finance the shipments. Secretary Laird wrote that if Congress failed to act swiftly on the foreign arms sales bill, it "could mean that vital funds would not be available for maintenance of the military balance in the Middle East, a policy to which the U.S. is committed." Other administration officials said today that the shipments to Israel were being made in fulfillment of a personal commitment by President Nixon to Premier Golda Meir in July. That commitment, it is believed, was responsible in large measure for Israel's acceptance of the American peace initiative and cease-fire in the Suez Canal zone. According to military sources the pace of deliveries has not been increased since Israel charged Egypt with truce violations. Neither Mr. Laird nor any other officials indicated the type and quantity of arms being sent to Israel. They refused to say whether the shipments included additional Phantom jets.

## Dayan Absent From Cabinet Meeting; Tekoah To Remain Until Guidelines Set; Cabinet In Crisis

JERUSALEM, Sept. 1 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan was absent from today's Cabinet meeting, increasing speculation that he will resign in protest over the government's handling of alleged cease-fire violations by Egypt. The Cabinet failed again to agree on guidelines for UN Ambassador Yosef Tekoah in the current peace talks under United Nations special envoy Gunnar V. Jarring. The talks have been stalled by the absence of Mr. Tekoah who is alternate to Foreign Minister Abba Eban at the talks. It was uncertain today when Ambassador Tekoah would return to New York. The next Cabinet meeting is scheduled for Sunday. It was considered very likely that he will remain in Jerusalem to attend that session. The government is seriously split over whether Israel should continue the talks and its observance of the cease-fire in view of continuing truce violations by Egypt. Yesterday, Israel lodged its eighth complaint with the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) since the cease-fire went into effect Aug. 7. Today, the Knesset foreign affairs and security committee passed a resolution declaring that "Israel cannot tolerate the endangering of its security under cover of a cease-fire agreement." It expressed "concern and displeasure at the fact that the United States government did not act immediately, after receiving conclusive proof from Israel, to see that the cease-fire should be observed and further violations prevented."

## Peace Talks At Standstill: More Cabinet Ministers Favor Calling Off Truce Unless Violations Stop

(In New York, a spokesman for the United Nations said Israel's latest complaint has been received by the Secretary General's office. Secretary General U Thant is today in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, addressing a meeting of the Organization of African Unity. One diplomatic source here noted that the standstill on the peace-talks is being more scrupulously observed in the UN than in the Middle East. Dr. Jarring met late yesterday afternoon with the Egyptian ambassador Mohammed Hassan El-Zayyat and was not scheduled to meet with anyone today. A UN source said that despite a reportedly growing irritation on the part of Dr. Jarring over the peace-talks standstill due to Israel's absence from the talks, he nevertheless continued to feel that they were not in danger of falling apart.)

A growing number of Cabinet ministers, led by Gen. Dayan, want to call off the truce unless swift action is taken to rectify the alleged Egyptian violations. A majority of the Cabinet was reported to still be opposed to such drastic action. One minister who asked not to be identified said the issue was not whether to accept Gen. Dayan's views but a matter of first attempting every political means in contacts with the U.S. "before we consider ways and means of our own to foil the consolidation of Egypt's hold over the Suez Canal." Unconfirmed but persistent reports say that Gen. Dayan has threatened to resign in a week unless the government gives him a "green light" to deal with Egyptian truce violations as he sees fit. Gen. Dayan has warned that Israel's military situation was deteriorating as a result of new missile batteries moved near the Suez Canal since the cease-fire went into effect. The Defense Minister is reportedly pressing for a frank acknowledgement by the U.S. that truce violations have taken place. Israeli officials say Washington has already advised Israel privately that it no longer regards Israeli evidence of truce violations as inconclusive. But the U.S. has refrained from stating this

publicly or protesting to Egypt or its backer, the Soviet Union. A public acknowledgment would force Washington to take measures to correct the situation in the cease-fire zone or face the embarrassment of having its assurances to Israel appear worthless.

### Mrs. Meir: Israel In Dispute With U.S. Over Violations; Beigin Slams Truce

Addressing Histadrut trade unionists in Tel Aviv yesterday, Premier Meir acknowledged that her government was in "strenuous dispute" with the U.S. over the Egyptian violations. "The U.S. government has guaranteed that neither side would improve its military position as a result of the cease-fire. But only a few hours had passed when the Egyptians began violating it," Mrs. Meir said. "We cannot give in on this score. We cannot be weaker should the war along the Suez Canal resume." Mrs. Meir's remarks indicated that she leaned closer to the views of Gen. Dayan than some of her Cabinet colleagues, notably Foreign Minister Abba Eban who reportedly wants Israel not to make a major issue of the truce violations so that peace talks can proceed. (Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, reportedly warned Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco yesterday that the Jarring talks may collapse unless the U.S. stops Egypt from advancing its missile sites during the cease-fire.) Premier Meir's tactic appears to be to keep alive the danger of Israel's withdrawal from the truce talks and abrogation of the cease-fire while maintaining an urgent dialogue with the U.S. She sent another note to President Nixon this week, reportedly emphasizing the gravity of the situation.

Gen. Dayan has taken the stand that "If the U.S. does not keep her promises with regard to the standstill cease-fire, how can we rely on her keeping her promises in other respects?" Should Gen. Dayan resign, it would appear impossible to avoid a total collapse of Mrs. Meir's already shrunken political coalition. The Gahal faction, Israel's second largest political party, quit the Cabinet last month in protest against the government's acceptance of the cease-fire. Gahal leader Menachem Beigin continued to denounce the truce last night at a public rally marking the creation of a "Public Council Against Withdrawal." The group opposes the return of any of the Arab territories occupied by Israel in the June, 1967 war. Between 3000-4000 persons turned up for the rally, a smaller number than had been expected. Mr. Beigin, using a large three dimensional map on the speakers' platform, claimed that evacuation of the territories would put most of Israel's cities and towns "under the guns of the terrorists." Mr. Beigin referred to Judea and Samaria, the West Bank seized from Jordan in 1967, as "part of the heart and soul of the Jewish nation." Other speakers included representatives of five political factions, among them members of the Labor Alignment and the religious bloc.

### Israel Demands Immediate Return Of Two Seriously Injured Pilots Held Captive In Egypt

TEL AVIV, Sept. 1 (JTA)--Israel has demanded the immediate return of two seriously injured Israeli pilots held captive in Egypt. The two men were visited by a Red Cross representative who reported them in "poor" condition. One of them suffered fractures of the hands and legs. The other has spinal injuries and may be partially paralyzed. Both are undergoing treatment in a prison hospital. The pilots were shot down over Egyptian territory before the current cease-fire. There are more than a dozen Israeli prisoners-of-war in Egyptian hands, mostly fliers. Egypt has rejected an Israeli offer of a POW exchange while the truce is in effect.

### Assassination Attempt On Hussein; Guerrillas Vow Showdown With Jordanian Government

LONDON, Sept. 1 (JTA)--An attempt to assassinate King Hussein failed today as shots were fired at his car as he rode through the streets of Amman. Government spokesmen said they had no clues to the identity of the would-be assassins. The attempt followed a Palestinian guerrilla challenge to the government yesterday after night long skirmishing between government and guerrilla forces on Sunday left one guerrilla dead, and one soldier, two civilians and 20 guerrillas wounded. Each side accused the other of having started the shooting. Fatah, the largest guerrilla newspaper, declared in an editorial "If the government wants a showdown our revolution will be obliged to take action, but this showdown will be the last and our armed revolutionary masses will determine the result--inevitable victory." This latest shooting episode broke out after a rebroadcast of King Hussein's tough speech in which he warned that he would "crack down" on any attempts to disrupt his kingdom.

Government leaders and officials of the Palestinian Organization met yesterday to discuss the fighting and Premier Abdel Moneim Rifai later told reporters "everything will be fine." Members of the leftist Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine were seen manning defensive positions near their headquarters after the meeting. Meanwhile, according to reports reaching here, Egypt's War Minister Gen. Mohamed Fawzi has announced the formation of a supreme Arab command that will cover all fronts. Gen. Fawzi is reported to have divided the Eastern front into a northern sector in Syria and a southern sector composed of Jordanian troops and Iraqi and Saudi Arabian troops stationed in Jordan. The Eastern and Western command, which operates along the Suez Canal, will be under the direction of Gen. Fawzi's office, which will contain representatives of Syria, Egypt and Jordan. No mention was made of Palestinian guerrilla units.

### Arab Girl First Cholera Fatality In Israel; Total Cases Now Up To 35

JERUSALEM, Sept. 1 (JTA)--Israel's first cholera fatality was reported today. A seven-year-old Arab girl from East Jerusalem who died Sunday was diagnosed as having had the disease. Four new cases were reported during the past 24 hours bringing the number to 35, mostly in the Jerusalem area. Health authorities said the girl died 15 minutes after she was admitted to a hospital. Bacteriological tests disclosed that she had cholera which was apparently in an advanced stage when she was brought in for treatment. They said the girl's parents failed to heed broadcast warnings to call a doctor at the onset of symptoms. (According to press reports in London, Lebanon has 32 confirmed cases of cholera. France is quarantining travelers arriving from infected areas who have not been inoculated against the disease.)

## Defeat Seen Likely For Fulbright Amendment To Limit Credit To Israel For Arms Purchases

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1 (JTA)--The Senate was voting late this afternoon on an amendment to the foreign military sales bill that would limit the amount of credit that can be extended to Israel for the purchase of weapons in this country. The amendment was proposed by Sen. J. William Fulbright, Arkansas Democrat and chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. Most observers on Capitol Hill expected it to be defeated. The Fulbright amendment would kill an earlier amendment drafted by Sen. Henry M. Jackson, Washington Democrat and already incorporated as a section of the foreign military sales bill. The Jackson measure would authorize the President to extend open-ended credit to Israel for military purchases. The bill as it stands provides \$250 million credit for foreign arms purchases during fiscal 1970-71 in which Israel would share along with 12 other nations. Congressional sources said Israel's requirements are several hundred million dollars in excess of its share of the credit funds.

Speedy passage of the foreign military sales bill was urged by Defense Secretary Melvin Laird today in a letter to Sen. John Stennis, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, in which Mr. Laird disclosed that the U.S. has been shipping undisclosed quantities and types of weapons to Israel since the Middle East cease-fire went into effect Aug. 7. Mr. Laird said that unless speedy action was taken on the measure, there would be no money to finance the shipments. The Pentagon opposes the Fulbright amendment. The bill's \$250 million credit stipulates payment over a period of ten years at prevailing interest rates while the Jackson amendment would permit the President to extend more favorable terms to Israel.

## British 'Tigercat' Missiles, Shipped Recently To Jordan, Not Yet Operational

TEL AVIV, Sept. 1 (JTA)--Government spokesmen today said the British "Tigercat" missiles recently shipped to Jordan are not yet operational. The "Tigercat" is a ground-to-air missile with a 10,000 foot range and is designed for use against low flying planes.

## One Israeli Killed, Two Wounded During Raid On Terrorist Base In Lebanon

TEL AVIV, Sept. 1 (JTA)--Israel Air Force jets pounded guerrilla bases in Lebanon today. One of the targets, near the village of Bet Liff, was attacked last night by an Israeli raiding party in which one Israeli was killed and two wounded. One guerrilla was captured along with a quantity of arms, ammunition and documents. The raiders blew up eight houses in the village. A military spokesman said the raid was in response to mounting guerrilla attacks and sabotage against Israeli border settlements in Upper Galilee, all carried out from Lebanese soil. There were 69 such incidents during the last three weeks. He admitted that the Israeli raiders failed to inflict heavy casualties on the guerrillas but said the raid would have a "cumulative effect." Apparently the guerrillas were back in their base this morning. The Air Force attacked them at noon. Earlier, Israeli jets bombed and strafed guerrilla bases on the slopes of Mt. Hermon. All aircraft returned safely to their bases. Mortar shells were fired at Nahal Golan in the Golan Heights this morning and an Israeli patrol came under fire near Neve Urr in the Beisan Valley. The fire was returned in both instances. No Israeli casualties were reported. Israeli positions in the Golan Heights were fired on twice last night from Syrian territory.

## Harrison Symes, Former Envoy To Jordan, Appointed State Department Liaison With Congress

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1 (JTA)--Harrison M. Symes, a former U.S. Ambassador to Jordan, has been appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations, the State Department's number two post in its liaison with Congress. Mr. Symes, a career foreign service officer, held many posts abroad, mainly in Arab countries. In 1963 he was deputy director of the Office of Near Eastern Affairs and subsequently served as director of Arab-Israeli affairs prior to his appointment to Amman. A native of Wilmington, N.C., Mr. Symes speaks fluent Arabic. His duties will be to maintain contact with members of Congress on foreign affairs legislation treaties and military sales.

## Rabbi Miller Urges Nixon To Take Necessary Steps To Remove Missiles

NEW YORK, Sept. 1 (JTA)--Rabbi Israel Miller, president of the American Zionist Federation, sent today a telegram to Pres. Nixon at the summer White House in San Clemente, California, calling upon him to "honor your solemn pledge that the cease-fire and military standstill arranged by the United States between Israel and Egypt will be scrupulously observed." In the face of continued Egyptian violations of the cease-fire, Rabbi Miller continued, "I urgently appeal to you to take whatever action is necessary to remove the missiles which now seriously threaten the security of Israel." Unless the United States takes such immediate steps, he wrote, there is growing likelihood that both American and world public opinion will begin to look upon the cease-fire for "the farce which it is rapidly becoming," and that its continued violation will only serve as a prelude for the renewal of major warfare with most serious results for both Israel and America.

## Parley Calls For Closer Ties Between U.S. Jewish Youth And Israel

INDIAN ORCHARD, Pa., Sept. 1 (JTA)--A call for closer relations and fuller identification between American Jewish youth and Israel was made here today at the conclusion of the three-day ideological conference of Zionist youth movements in the United States and Canada. Approximately 130 delegates from both countries participated in the conclave. The conference also called for the participation of tens of thousands of American Jewish youth in the Zionist census to be conducted next year. The meeting, which was dedicated to problems of contemporary Zionist thought and the changing world Zionist movement, was addressed by Simcha Friedman, a member of the Israel Parliament; Mordecai Nissim, a senior lecturer from Bet Berl; Daniel Mann, coordinator of the American Zionist Federation; by Nathan Yanai and Muki Tsur. William Levine, executive director of the American Zionist Youth Foundation, who just returned from Israel, also attended the conference, together with Shlomo Ikan, the representative of the Youth and Hechalutz Department of the World Zionist Organization.

## Jewish Groups Prepare 'Operation Exodus' To Confront Soviet Delegates At Pugwash Conclave

CHICAGO, Sept. 1 (JTA)--Soviet delegates to the Pugwash conference at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, will be confronted on Sept. 13 by the Jewish community of metropolitan Chicago in "Operation Exodus," it was announced today by Dr. Paul Hurwitz and Mitchell Dredze, co-chairmen of the Community Council of Jewish Organizations. Dr. Hurwitz said the CCJO, representing 41 major Jewish organizations, will hold "Operation Exodus" to protest continuing persecution of Jews in the USSR. "The 18 Soviet delegates to the Pugwash conference and the other delegates as well, must be made aware of the continuing persecution of Jews by the Soviet government," Dr. Hurwitz emphasized that the CCJO does not oppose the conference or other forms of international cooperation and cultural exchanges with the Soviet Union. "We support the conference and we welcome the foreign visitors to our country," he stated. "We want the Soviet delegates to see how a free society operates. We invite them to meet with us and especially to see our religious and educational institutions. But we do want the delegates to know that we are deeply concerned about the fate of three million Jews in the USSR." The theme of the Pugwash conference is "Peace and International Cooperation: A Program for the Seventies."

The council has named its confrontation with the Soviet delegates "Operation Exodus" because the plea to the Soviet government is the same as Moses brought before Pharaoh: "Let our people go!" Mr. Dredze said. He added the council objected to four principal aspects of the persecution of Jews by the Soviet government: Refusal to allow Russian Jews to emigrate to Israel; imprisonment and torture of Jews in secret; denial of rights to operate religious schools and to have religious books and publications; and anti-Jewish campaigns in the Soviet press. "The oppressed Jews of the USSR must know that the world has not forgotten them," Dr. Hurwitz declared. "We hope the Soviet representatives will listen to our plea and carry it home with them." Rabbi William Frankel of the Conservative Congregation of the North Shore and vice president of the Chicago Board of Rabbis will speak at "Operation Exodus" representing the Chicago Board of Rabbis. Rabbi David Polish of Beth Emet Synagogue, Evanston, said, "The repression of Soviet Jewry is part of the world wide conspiracy to undermine the Jewish people everywhere as well as in the State of Israel. American Jews have no alternative but to recognize that an attack on Soviet Jewry is also an attack on us." Byron Cohl of Evanston, a member of the Jewish Student Movement said that his group would be going to "Operation Exodus Pugwash." "Once more the Jews of the world cry let our people go! But this time the American public must not be silent," Cohl said.

Rabbi Dresner of the North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, Highland Park, said that he expects 200 members of his congregation to attend "Operation Exodus Pugwash." He cited the remarkable "courage of the Russian Jews" in continuing their religion despite the fact that they have been deprived Jewish schools and institutions. "They live on our support and encouragement," Rabbi Dresner said. Esther Rabinowitz, chairman of the Committee on Soviet Jewry of the Chicago Jewish Youth Council, said that, "We hope to have 500 hundred of our members at "Operation Exodus Pugwash." Marty Rabinovitz of Students for Israel, said that members of his group, which includes students from six universities in the Chicago area, would be present at "Operation Exodus Pugwash." Rabbi Ernest M. Lorge of Temple Beth Israel, Chicago, said that "Having experienced Nazi persecution I feel it is my duty to be watchful. The position of the Jews in the Soviet Union is not comparable to that of Nazi persecution but by speaking up early we hope to prevent a similar situation from developing. All the rabbis said they would urge members of their congregations to join in "Operation Exodus Pugwash."

## Cemetery Vandalized For Second Time In Six Weeks; 170 Gravestones Overturned

NEW YORK, Sept. 1 (JTA)--Mount Hebron Cemetery in Flushing, Queens was vandalized for the second time in six weeks early yesterday morning, cemetery officials reported. One hundred and seventy gravestones were overturned. Six weeks ago 70 gravestones were overturned. Richard Schlein, treasurer of the cemetery association, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency the desecrations were not "anti-Semitic" in character. "Many cemeteries of all denominations have been vandalized this year," he said. "It's a fun thing" for the kids who climb over the fences. The police are investigating the incidents.

## NAJYC Planning For Mass Simchat Torah Mobilization In Washington On Soviet Jewry

NEW YORK, Sept. 1 (JTA)--Representatives from 23 national Jewish youth organizations and 30 local Jewish youth councils throughout the U.S. and Canada began today the annual conference of the North American Jewish Youth Council, it was announced here by Eric Yoffie, the newly appointed chairman of NAJYC, and by Margo-Ruth Greenbaum, co-chairman. The three-day conference at Camp Moshava, Indian Orchard, Pa., attended by 150 representatives, will discuss plans for the Simchat Torah mobilization for Soviet Jewry in Washington, D.C. on October 11-13, which is expected to be attended by more than 1,000 student representatives from all the national Jewish youth organizations and local youth councils. The assembled students will join with members of the Washington Jewish community in a march of solidarity with Soviet Jewry. There will be meetings with State Department officials and Congressmen as well as discussions with Soviet Jewry experts on current trends and strategy to coordinate Soviet Jewry activities for the coming year. The keynote address at the NAJYC conference dealing with Israel, Soviet Jewry and North American Jewish community, will be delivered by Rabbi Henry Skirball, Director of National Federation of Temple Youth, who just completed his tour of duty as chairman of the National Association of Jewish Youth Directors. The new chairman, Bernard M. Weisberg, National Director of Hadassah Zionist Youth Commission which includes Hashachar, the largest Zionist youth movement, will also attend the conference. The Israel workshop of the conference will discuss prospects for peace in the Middle East, countering anti-Israel sentiment and Arab propaganda and the need for increasing contacts with Israeli youth. NAJYC is a member of the Presidents Conference of Major Jewish Organizations in the U.S. and of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry.