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McCloskey Says U.S. Has Been In Contact With Soviet Union Over Cease-Fire Violations

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2 (JTA)--The State Department disclosed today that the United States has been "in contact" with Soviet Russia over alleged violations of the standstill cease-fire by Egypt. Department spokesman Robert J. McCloskey told newsmen that the contacts were at different times and at different levels, the most recent having been about a week or ten days ago. He said U.S. Ambassador Jacob Beam in Moscow had discussed the alleged violations with a Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister on one occasion. He said Ambassador Beam has not requested a meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei F. Gromyko on the issue. He said it was possible that an American statement on the cease-fire violations would be issued in a few days. Mr. McCloskey declined to comment on yesterday's meeting of President Nixon and his top foreign policy advisors on the Middle East situation at San Clemente. He refused to comment on press reports that the U.S. now accepts Israel's reports of continuing truce violation and that it has concrete evidence that the charges are correct. He said he was in no position to discuss the quality of the evidence.

Mr. McCloskey said he did not know when the peace talks under United Nations envoy Gunnar Jarring would resume in New York and that he did not know Israel's plans. He said Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco might meet with Israeli Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin today. He said Mr. Sisco was not scheduled to meet with Russian or Egyptian representatives today. Asked to characterize the Mideast situation generally, the State Department official said, "To say the obvious, it is a delicate period... We are interested in seeing the cease-fire standstill maintained and the political talks pursued. Our entire effort has been to act as responsibly as we can in all circumstances. It has been our objective throughout to work through private governmental channels to exert every effort to see that the terms of the cease-fire are adhered to." Asked if he would agree that quiet diplomacy was not working well, Mr. McCloskey said he wouldn't.

Laird: U.S. Carrying Out Commitments Made To Israel Before Cease-Fire Began

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Defense Secretary Melvin Laird said today that the United States is carrying out its commitments made to Israel before the Middle East cease-fire went into effect Aug. 7 and is continuing to deliver Phantom jets to Israel. Secretary Laird made it clear at a Pentagon press conference that the Phantoms were those that had been scheduled for delivery before the truce. He said it had been expected that the deliveries would be completed by the time the cease-fire began but "the situation is such that the aircraft referred to had not been fully delivered." He added, "I think it was understood that those deliveries and commitments would be made." Mr. Laird refused to go into details on the deliveries or to say whether the U.S. would replace Phantoms lost by Israel. He would not say whether other types of weapons are being supplied to Israel at this time. But in a letter to Sen. John Stennis, chairman of the Armed Services Committee which was made public here yesterday, Mr. Laird disclosed officially that the U.S. was delivering weapons to Israel to ensure that the "arms balance does not tip against Israel." Referring to his letter today, the Defense Secretary said the U.S. was determined to maintain the power balance in the Mideast.

Cabinet Reaches No Decision On How To Nullify Egypt's Truce Violations

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Israel's military action to nullify the advantages gained by Egypt from its truce violations since the cease-fire went into effect Aug. 7 was considered by the Cabinet yesterday, it was learned from reliable sources. Defense Minister Moshe Dayan reportedly favored such action but no decision was reached. The matter presumably will be taken up again at the next Cabinet meeting on Sunday. Israel's United Nations Ambassador, Yosef Tekoah, will remain in Jerusalem for that meeting and is not expected to return to New York before next Monday, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned from reliable sources. Mr. Tekoah is Foreign Minister Abba Eban's alternate at the peace talks being conducted in New York by United Nations envoy Gunnar V. Jarring. The official reason advanced for the delay is that the Cabinet has not concluded its deliberations on guidelines for Mr. Tekoah.

There is no secret here however that the government is seriously split over what Israel's position should be at the talks and whether Israel should participate in them at all until measures are taken to rectify Egypt's cease-fire violations in the Suez Canal zone. The government is said to be both puzzled and angered over the lack of any decisive response by the United States to the Egyptian violations. The JTA learned today that Israel acquiesced to a U.S. request that it refrain from making a major issue of the movement of SAM missiles into the standstill cease-fire zone during the night of Aug. 7-8 when the truce went into effect. That request was reportedly accompanied by new deliveries of American arms to compensate Israel for whatever military disadvantage it may have sustained as a result of the Egyptian violations.

But Laird claims that the Egyptians have continued their violations since then and are steadily improving their military position, something that President Nixon assured the Israel government would not happen. Gen. Dayan has reportedly made it clear to his Cabinet colleagues that he could not continue to take responsibility for the deteriorating situation in the canal zone. The implication is that Gen. Dayan will resign from the Cabinet unless he is given a green light to take what he considers appropriate action. Gen. Dayan's position is reportedly gaining support in the government. But with decisions deferred to next Sunday's Cabinet meeting, the Defense Minister is not likely to make any move before then.

Gen. Dayan told newsmen today that the question of his resignation from the government depended upon what the government does. Asked to elaborate, he replied, "You can't squeeze any milk out of this bull."

Peace Talks 'Almost Certain' To Resume When Tekoah, El-Farra Return Next Week

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Diplomatic sources said today that it is "almost certain" that the peace talks, which have been stalled since last Thursday, will resume sometime next week with the return from Jerusalem of Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah and the return from Amman of Jordanian Ambassador Muhammad H. El-Farra. The feeling expressed by a number of sources is that Israel will be more amenable to continuing the talks in view of the public announcement today by the Nixon administration that it has evidence of Egyptian truce violations. It was almost certain, sources noted, that the Israelis now feel vindicated but that Mr. Tekoah will continue to press Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, the Middle East peace envoy under whose auspices the talks are taking place, to make clear Israel's position to the Egyptian and Jordanian ambassadors that continuation of the peace talks is contingent on an immediate halt - if not withdrawal - of missiles and sites the Egyptians deployed within the 32-mile standstill zone since the truce went into effect on August 7.

At the same time, reports reaching here from diplomatic sources in the Middle East indicate that Dr. El-Farra has been instructed by his government that the talks can only continue if the Israelis desist from further incorporating occupied territories and integrating them into Israel. John K. Cooley, the Middle East correspondent for the Christian Science Monitor, writing today from Amman quoted the Jordanian ambassador as stating: "There must be a political standstill in Israel's measures to integrate occupied Arab territory along with the military standstill in Egypt." Mr. Cooley said Dr. El-Farra cited Israeli efforts to develop new Jewish settlements between Jerusalem and Hebron. "If they keep up such measures it will certainly be difficult to continue talks with Dr. Jarring," Dr. El-Farra was quoted. Although a UN spokesman said that Dr. Jarring was "continuing his work" there was no indication that he would meet with anyone today. The spokesman contended that the peace envoy continued to feel the peace talks would not fall apart.

Hussein Caves In Under Iraqi Pressure To Halt Harrassment Of Guerrillas

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA)--King Hussein, of Jordan has virtually capitulated to Iraqi pressure to stop harrassing Palestinian guerrillas opposed to his regime's acceptance of the American Mideast peace initiative. According to Israeli experts on Arab affairs, the Jordanian monarch was cowed by an ultimatum from Baghdad threatening to use Iraqi troops on the side of the guerrillas. A force of about 12,000 Iraqi troops has been stationed in northern Jordan since the June, 1967 war. According to reports this week, an additional 5000 have been shifted to Jordan from Syria. The Iraqis comprised part of the so-called Arab Eastern Command against Israel which was dissolved recently by decision of an Arab foreign minister's meeting in Tripoli, Libya. Baghdad radio reported yesterday that the Iraqi Foreign Minister warned the Jordanian Ambassador that Iraqi forces would intervene unless King Hussein's troops stopped attacking Palestinian guerrillas. Subsequently, street fighting that had been going on in Amman for the past three days subsided. Amman has denied that the Iraqi ultimatum was responsible for the shooting halt. Dov Yinnon, the Israel Broadcasting Service's Arab affairs commentator said today that the Jordanian reply to the Iraqi ultimatum was conciliatory and tantamount to a surrender.

He said that instead of demanding the evacuation of Iraqi troops from Jordanian soil, the Hussein government, after four hours' deliberation, saw fit only to deny the Iraqi charges that it was harrassing the guerrillas. "The Jordanian government has evaded a showdown with Iraq," Mr. Yinnon said. "Not only did it fail to protest Iraq's interference but it even expressed hope for continued cooperation with Iraq." King Hussein narrowly escaped assassination yesterday in the second attempt on his life since June. Clashes between Jordanian Army regulars and Palestinian commandos had been going on since Saturday. Sporadic fighting has broken out in Jordan since King Hussein accepted the American peace initiative which the guerrillas and Iraq bitterly oppose. Iraqi military intervention against the Hussein government is believed certain to bring a swift reaction from Israel should it occur. The Israeli government has said on many occasions that it would take appropriate action to counter any threat to its security arising from a change in the Jordanian regime. King Hussein is also said to have pledged support of President Nasser and of King Faisal of Saudi Arabia who is a bitter foe of the radical regimes in Iraq and Syria. Yassir Arafat, the El Fatah leader, has reportedly promised President Nasser that he would support Hussein against attempts by other commando groups to overthrow him.

Body Of Moshe Goldwasser Returned To Israel; Israeli Soldier Killed On Monday Identified

TEL AVIV, Sept. 2 (JTA)--The body of an Israeli pilot shot down by the Egyptians over the Suez Canal last month was returned to Israel today under Red Cross auspices. The pilot, Moshe Goldwasser, was captured but died in an Egyptian prison. The Egyptians said the cause of death was heart failure. An Israeli soldier killed in Monday night's raid on Arab guerrilla bases in Lebanon was identified today as Sgt. Yair Pannet. He is the son of an Army Reserve Colonel, Yehezkel Pannet, who heads the housing department in northern Israel. An Arab guerrilla was killed last night near Rafah in the Gaza Strip by a Bedouin watchman. The guerrilla was shot after he threw a grenade. The incident was the first in which a Bedouin repulsed an attack by guerrillas.

Government To Expropriate 2700 Acres In Jerusalem For Housing, Parks

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA)--The government has announced that it will expropriate about 2700 acres of land in Jerusalem for development purposes and promised "liberal compensation" to the present owners. Most of the area concerned lies in the former Jordanian sector of Jerusalem and is sparsely inhabited. The government said there were some 350 Jewish and 20 Arab families in the zone which has been ear-marked for a long term development project. The major part of the expropriated land will be utilized for housing and public parks.

Nixon Administration Convinced Of Accuracy Of Israeli Cease-Fire Violation Charges

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2 (JTA)--The Nixon administration was reported today to be convinced beyond reasonable doubt of the accuracy of Israeli charges of continuing Egyptian truce violations since the Middle East cease-fire went into effect Aug. 7. Detailed evidence, the fruits of intensive American intelligence gathering, was presented to President Nixon yesterday as he met with his top foreign policy advisors in the San Clemente summer White House to review the precarious Mideast situation. The evidence was said to consist chiefly of aerial photographs made by high altitude U-2 reconnaissance planes over the standstill cease-fire zone that parallels the Suez Canal. There was also what was described as electronic evidence. The data, interpreted for the President by experts, reportedly showed that there were two major high points in the Egyptian military buildup within the 30-mile deep cease-fire zone. The initial movement occurred during the night of Aug. 7-8 when the cease-fire became effective. The other occurred since then. The American evidence reportedly covers military activities in the zone up to two or three days ago. The nature of the activity revealed by the intelligence data apparently confirms Israel's charges that the Egyptians have moved Soviet-made SAM anti-aircraft missiles into the 30-mile zone since Aug. 7. They have improved their military position in other ways as well in direct violation of the cease-fire terms accepted by Cairo and by Egypt's chief backer, the Soviet Union.

Washington Post reporter A.D. Horne quoted today officials involved in compiling the American evidence. One said, "They (the Egyptians) are putting equipment in places where it was not before. There is no doubt that they are improving their position." But the officials apparently did not think the evidence indicated that Egypt and the Soviet Union were preparing for an attack on the Israel-held Sinai peninsula. They were trying to obtain the best military posture possible in case the peace talks fail, according to these officials, Mr. Horne wrote. The evidence now in President Nixon's hands constitutes a clear reversal of the U.S. position, announced by the State Department on Aug. 19, that there was no "conclusive evidence" of Israel's charges of truce violations. There was no indication today of what the President planned to do about it, but apparently a new policy is in the process of formulation. The Senate late yesterday passed a \$19.2 billion Military Procurement Authorization Act containing a clause that gives the President unlimited authority to authorize arms sales to Israel. An amendment by Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas that would have killed the Israel arms purchase clause was defeated 87-7. The military sales bill goes to a Senate-House conference committee after Labor Day. There is little doubt here that it will emerge intact.

World Jewish Leaders Holding Meetings To Raise \$1 Billion For Israel

TEL AVIV, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Finance Minister (and since yesterday Minister for Commerce and Industry) Pinhas Sapir left this morning on a three week tour that will take him to nine countries in Europe, North and South America to help formulate plans to enable the United Jewish Appeal and Israel Bond drives to raise \$1 billion in 1971. Mr. Sapir will attend an Israeli campaign meeting in Zurich tonight which will also be attended by Israel Goldstein, head of Keren Hayesod-UJA and Louis Pincus, chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive. While in the United States, Mr. Sapir will attend a World Bank meeting and will meet with Treasury and other senior officials of the Nixon administration to discuss Israel's economic problems caused by the need to maintain a high level of spending for defense purposes. Before leaving Israel to attend the meeting in Zurich, Mr. Goldstein said that Australia has already pledged to double its contributions and expressed hope other communities would follow this example. Leaders of Jewish communities in Germany, Italy and Switzerland will also attend the conference. Another regional meeting will be held tomorrow in Brussels for Belgium, France, Holland and Scandinavian countries.

Moscow's Chief Rabbi, Delegation Of Russian Jews, Visit Belgrade

BELGRADE, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Moscow's chief rabbi, Yehuda L. Levin, made one of his rare trips outside of the Soviet Union as head of a seven-member delegation of Russian Jewish religious and lay leaders who attended the 60th birthday celebration here tonight of Dr. Lavoslav Kadelburg, president of the Federation of Jewish Communities of Yugoslavia. The delegation was welcomed by Milo Jovitshevitsh, president of the federation's religious affairs commission. Also attending the banquet was Chief Rabbi Moses Rosen of Rumania and representatives from Hungary, western Europe and Israel. The only American at the event was Rabbi Arthur Schneier of New York's Park East Synagogue, who is president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, an inter-faith group. Rabbi Schneier came to Belgrade from Rumania which he had visited with a group of American religious and business leaders at the invitation of the Rumanian government. The group toured the flood disaster areas in Transylvania and Moldavia, met with refugee leaders and discussed problems of relief for flood victims.

Five New Cholera Cases In Israel; All Travelers Leaving Country Inoculated

JERUSALEM, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Five new cholera cases were reported in the Jerusalem area today bringing the total cases in the country to 40. The Cabinet yesterday heard reports on measures being taken to combat the disease from Dr. Raphael Gjebin, director general of the Health Ministry and Dr. Daniel Brachott, director of Public Health Services. Deputy Premier Yigal Allon who heads the Education Ministry also reported on measures taken in connection with the opening of the new school term today. More than 800,000 Israeli youngsters returned to classes but there has been no program of mass inoculations. Israel however, is inoculating all travelers leaving the country whether or not their country of destination requests it. (Officials of the World Health Organization said in Geneva today that the cholera outbreak in the Middle East and other regions should taper off with the arrival of cooler weather and now that the Arab states have made a belated decision to order mass inoculations. WHO has decided to publicize outbreaks without waiting for official notification from member countries.) The Israeli Ministry of Tourism said today that the cholera outbreak in the country has not affected tourist traffic.

House Education Subcommittee Issues Report Praising Israeli Education

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2 (JTA)--A House Education subcommittee, chaired by Rep. John Brademas, Democrat of Indiana, has issued a report, "education in Israel," which emphasizes that the "principal preoccupation of the people of Israel, second only to national defense, is education." The House Select Subcommittee on Education issued the report following an intensive 12-day visit to Israeli educational institutions last January by Mr. Brademas and other subcommittee members. The report includes observations on Israeli preschool programs, elementary and secondary programs, vocations and technical schools, and higher education. The subcommittee placed particular emphasis on the value of Israeli early childhood education programs, an area in which the Israelis are clearly pioneering. The report also singles out vocational/technical education and residential youth villages for special praise. During the 12 day visit, Brademas, along with subcommittee members James Scheuer of New York and Lloyd Meeds of Washington, both Democrats, and Orval Hansen, Republican of Idaho, met with leading Israeli officials from a variety of fields, including Foreign Minister Abba Eban; Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Yigal Allon; and Professor Albert Sabin, President of the Weizmann Institute of Science. In compiling its report, the subcommittee paid on-site visits to a number of Israeli educational institutions, including post-primary schools, the Hebrew University, Weizmann Institute of Science, Tel Aviv University, kibbutzim, technical schools, and Arab teacher training institutions. Mr. Brademas stated that, "The subcommittee, as a result of our trip, became convinced that the people of Israel are profoundly dedicated to the support of education at every level and convinced of its importance to the future of their society."

Comprehensive Directory Of Jewish Press In America Is Published

NEW YORK, Sept. 2 (JTA)--The first comprehensive Directory of the Jewish Press in America, containing detailed information about all major Jewish weekly newspapers and monthly magazines in the United States and Canada, has been published by the Joseph Jacobs Organization. "The Jewish press is more alive, influential and better read today than ever before, and almost all are written, edited and published in English," states Richard Jacobs, the directory's editor, and president of the Joseph Jacobs Organization at 342 Madison Ave. "Jewish publications have undergone tremendous growth in recent years. Within the last 12 years, the combined circulation of all Jewish publications has doubled." Listed are newspapers appearing weekly in 65 major American and Canadian cities. Combined with a broad group of national magazines, these English language publications reach three out of every four Jewish families in the United States, said Mr. Jacobs.

Jewish Historical Society Forms Committee To Celebrate Bicentennial Of 1776 Revolution

WALTHAM, Mass., Sept. 2 (JTA)--The American Jewish Historical Society (AJHS) has named three distinguished historians to head a committee which will formulate plans for the Society's participation in the nation's observance of the Bicentennial of the American Revolution in 1976. Dr. Abram L. Sachar, noted historian and Chancellor of Brandeis University, will direct the work of the Society's Committee of '76. He will be assisted by Dr. Jacob R. Marcus of the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, an authority on American Jews of the Colonial period, and Dr. Oscar Handlin of Harvard, a Pulitzer Prize winning historian. The Committee, which will include leading figures of American Jewry, is now being formed and will hold its first meeting September 20. In announcing the formation of the Committee, AJHS President Abram Vossen Goodman said, "The Jews played an honorable part in the Revolution, and today's American Jewry will participate in the bicentennial observances of that early struggle for freedom and by those observances will contribute to the further safeguarding of our inalienable rights - life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Mizrachi Women Present Award To Mrs. Shazar For Leadership In Many Fields

NEW YORK, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Mrs. Rachel Shazar, wife of the President of Israel, will accept the 1970 Silver Medallion Award of the Mizrahi Women's Organization of America in ceremonies scheduled to take place tomorrow in the presidential residence in Jerusalem. Mrs. Milton S. Jacobson, of New York City, national president of Mizrahi Women, will present the citation. In a speech prepared for delivery at the Bet HaNassi, Israel's White House, Mrs. Jacobson noted that the award is being conferred on Mrs. Shazar "not as Israel's first lady, but as a woman who has been first in many fields of leadership." The citation states that the award is given "with admiration and affection to Rachel Shazar, author, educator, journalist and humanitarian activist, whose independence and leadership have established new standards of service for all who cherish Israel and for women everywhere."

Leah Brown, Pioneer Women Founder, Labor Zionist Leader, Friend Of Mrs. Meir, Dies At 77

NEW YORK, Sept. 2 (JTA)--Mrs. Leah (Zvonkin) Brown, 77, a founder of the Pioneer Women's Organization of America and a leader of the Labor Zionist movement, died yesterday at her home in Brooklyn. Funeral services will be tomorrow at 11 a.m. at Gramercy Park Memorial Chapel in Manhattan. Born in Russia and having come to this country in her early teens, she was the widow of the late Meyer Brown, founder, first Secretary and for many years President of Farband Labor Zionist Order, whom she met in Philadelphia in 1907. She came from a distinguished family of scholars and devoted most of her life to educational work, primarily among immigrant women and their children. She was among the first seven women to form the Pioneer Women's Organization of America in 1927, edited its publication for many years and had been serving on its National Board throughout its existence. She represented the organization at several World Zionist Congresses and other international conclaves. She and her husband resided in Jerusalem for several years before the establishment of the State of Israel and she was a close personal friend of Israel's Premier Golda Meir, President Zalman Shazar and his wife, Rachel.