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Mideast Arms Policy Not 'One-Sided,' U.S. Replies To UAR Phantoms Charge

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15 (JTA)--A State Department spokesman responded today to charges made yesterday by Egyptian Foreign Minister Mahmoud Riad that the United States violated a "commitment" not to deliver weaponry to Israel during the cease-fire period by saying that the U.S. policy of "restraint" on arms shipments to the Middle East "cannot be one-sided." Robert J. McCloskey, addressing newsmen at a press briefing today, neither confirmed nor denied reports that the U.S. has recently sent Israel 18 more Phantom jets, the basis of Mr. Riad's charge. He did say that the U.S. "cannot disregard either the (Egyptian) standstill cease-fire violations that have occurred or the continuing Soviet arms flow to the UAR."

In Cairo today, Mr. Riad repeated his charge. He claimed that it was "obvious" by now that the U.S. had failed to carry out its role as an impartial mediator and "has fallen back on its policy of support to Israeli aggression." "I can now say that the United States has brought its initiative to an end." However, he said Egypt was ready to respect the cease-fire, "but if they start shooting against us, we will defend ourselves." Mr. Riad said Egypt now favored France's proposal for re-invigorating the Four Power deliberations on the Mideast. Mr. McCloskey said the U.S. was "continuing in our efforts" to seek through diplomatic channels, both "rectification" of Egypt's violations of the standstill cease-fire and "scrupulous adherence" to the cease-fire. He explained that "rectification" meant Egyptian action to reverse its missile build-up in the standstill truce zone, not American military aid to offset the build-up. Mr. McCloskey declined to say whether the "continuing Soviet arms flow to the UAR" had tilted the balance of power away from Israel. The Administration has repeatedly said that a shift in the power balance detrimental to Israel would be the basis for U.S. aid.

Mr. McCloskey said that the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine still held 54 hijacked airline passengers hostage. He said 37 or 38 of them are Americans. Mr. McCloskey said there was no information on how many were Israelis but that three of the hostages may hold dual U.S. and Israeli citizenship. He reported that the new U.S. Ambassador to Amman, L. Dean Brown, arrived in Amman after taking a commercial flight to Beirut. Mr. McCloskey said there had been direct contact between the International Red Cross and the PFLP in Amman but could not confirm whether the Red Cross had contacted any of the hostages.

The State Department spokesman said that Israeli Premier Golda Meir will confer with Secretary of State William P. Rogers in his office at nine a.m. Friday. She reportedly will meet with President Nixon at the White House at 11 a.m. and has scheduled a press conference in Washington for four p.m. Friday. The White House told Palestinian guerrillas yesterday that the holding of U.S. citizens as hostages was "totally unacceptable to the United States Government." Press secretary Ronald Ziegler said the "illegal detention of U.S. citizens in a dispute involving another nation is particularly reprehensible." His statement came in response to an announcement by the guerrillas that they would treat American hostages as Israelis until their ransom demands were met.

Hijackers Formally State Demands; Impasse On Hostage Release Seen Worsened

LONDON, Sept. 15 (JTA)--The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine announced today three demands for the release of 54 hijacked airline hostages it holds captive in Jordan. The demands were stated publicly for the first time at a PFLP press conference in Beirut. They called for separate direct negotiations with each of the governments involved; agreement by Israel to free commandos in its custody in return for hostages; and freedom for two Algerian nationals detained by Israel last month after landing there in a British airliner in transit. A PFLP spokesman said the number and identities of the commandos that Israel would have to free would be announced only after Israel publicly acknowledged its agreement to release them. The PFLP demands seemed, if anything, to worsen the impasse in negotiations for release of the hostages. Israel has refused to free any guerrillas in its jails and has said repeatedly that it will have no dealings with the PFLP, directly or indirectly. The other nations whose nationals are being held hostage--United States, Britain, Switzerland and West Germany--have so far refused to negotiate separately with the commandos.

Hijackers Say Treating U.S. Hostages "On Same Basis As Israelis"

The United States holds no Arab prisoners whom it could exchange for its nationals. The PFLP said last night that the American hostages would be treated "on the same basis as Israelis," indicating that they would not be released unless Israel agreed to release Arab commandos. According to the best information available here, 37 or 38 of the hostages are U.S. citizens, though no more than three are believed to hold dual U.S.-Israeli citizenship, a downward revision of the figure of 19 dual nationals reported yesterday. One source reported that the terrorists had inadvertently released a handful of bona fide Israeli citizens--no more than five--along with some 250 other hijack victims set free Saturday. A commando source reportedly said that any American hostage with an Israeli visa in his passport would be regarded as an Israeli. The commandos have reportedly submitted a list of 600 of their men they want freed by Israel. "Our demands are clear and there is no room for retreat," a PFLP spokesman said in Amman. "We have decided to close the door to all mediation efforts and contacts." The whereabouts of the remaining hostages has been a mystery since the terrorists blew up the three hijacked airliners Saturday. Commando spokesmen said they were taken in threes to different hideouts

and would be killed if any attempt was made to free them by force. It was reported from Berne yesterday that the five powers that have been consulting jointly on ways to release the hostages remain firm in their position that any agreement made with the guerrillas must include all of the hostages regardless of their nationality or religion. The guerrillas reportedly hold eight British subjects, seven West Germans and five Swiss nationals in addition to Americans and Israelis. They have demanded the release of seven commandos in the custody of the three European countries in exchange for their nationals. Efforts by the International Red Cross to negotiate on behalf of all five powers broke down reportedly on the issue of piecemeal ransom. The head of the Red Cross team in Amman Rene Rocha, returned to Berne Sunday leaving behind an associate, Louis Jacquet, who, however, had no authority to continue negotiations. The IRC team reportedly was prepared to negotiate separate deals for Britain, Switzerland, and West Germany, an effort bitterly opposed by Israel and apparently rejected by the other powers. The Bonn government has repudiated private negotiations on behalf of West German nationals undertaken independently by Hans-Jurgen Wischnewski, a politician of the Social Democratic Party known to hold pro-Arab sentiments. Israel is seriously concerned that a prolonged impasse will increase pressure on the other powers to negotiate separately.

The PFLP meanwhile was reported to be at odds with most of the other Palestinian commando groups which belatedly denounced the hijackings because of the damage they did to the Arab cause. According to one source, the Marxist-oriented PFLP, the most militant but one of the smallest of the terrorist organizations, has been emboldened by support from Communist China. Its leader, Dr. George Habash, was visiting China and North Korea when the hijackings were carried out. The destruction of four Western aircraft valued at more than \$50 million by the PFLP was carried out after Dr. Habash got a promise from China of more guns and bombs, the source said. It was disclosed yesterday that the hijacker killed in an abortive attempt to seize an El Al airliner off the British coast on Aug. 30 was an American citizen. U.S. authorities have identified him as Patrick Joseph Anguello who was born in San Francisco in 1943 and was graduated from UCLA in 1966. Anguello was described as a resident of Nicaragua, his father's native country, and was known to have been active politically in Latin America. His accomplice, Laila Khaled, a 24-year-old girl commando born in Haifa, has been in British custody since the hijack attempt. Her release has been demanded by the PFLP and Israel has demanded her extradition.

Ten TWA Passengers Still Held As Hostages Believed To Be Jews

NEW YORK, Sept. 15 (JTA)--Of the 54 airline passengers and crewmen still being held hostage in Amman by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, 38 had been on the hijacked Trans World plane and at least eight of those--all Brooklynites--are known to be Jewish. The eight are Rabbi Jonathan David, a teacher at Chaim Berlin Yeshiva; Mrs. David; Rabbi Y. Hutner; Rabbi Abraham Harari-Rafoul; Rabbi Joseph Harari-Rafoul; Yaakov Drillman, a 19-year-old rabbinical student and son of Rabbi Solomon Drillman; Fran B. Chesler, a 20-year-old student at Yeshiva University's Stern College for Women, and Miriam R. Beeber a 20-year-old senior at George Washington University, Washington, D.C. Two other passengers believed to be Jewish on the basis of their names are Sarah Malka of North Bergen, N.J., a senior at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, and Myer Fund of Brooklyn. Rabbi Hutner's wife was released yesterday.

The Brooklyn Board of Rabbis expressed "profound dismay and indignation" yesterday at the detention of Rabbis David and Hutner, who are members of the board, and of Rabbi Drillman's son. The board urged the United States to help seek the release of all the hostages, adding: "It is intolerable that Americans of the Jewish faith traveling peacefully in commercial aircraft should be subjected to harassment and fear for their very lives because they are Jews." A spokesman for TWA in New York, Frank Parisi, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that three members of a five-man TWA delegation that had gone to Amman on Aug. 31, the day after the hijacking, were still there. They include Claude Gerard, Paris-based director of flight operations, and Richard Wilson, assistant to the president. Mr. Parisi said Mr. Gerard had telephoned him from Amman last week, but that when their talk touched on the accessibility of the prisoners they were disconnected. Mr. Parisi said Mr. Wilson had managed to inform New York, via messages sent roundabout by way of Nicosia, Cyprus, that he was attempting to reach the hostages' location.

Bill Being Drafted In Israel Providing Life Terms For Hijackers

JERUSALEM, Sept. 15 (JTA)--Transport Minister Shimon Peres is drafting legislation for the Knesset that would provide sentences of up to life imprisonment for airplane hijackers or persons who attempt to hijack aircraft it was learned today. Persons who damage aircraft would face sentences of up to 20 years. Mr. Peres' draft would authorize Israeli courts to try offenders whose acts against aircraft were committed outside of Israeli territory and would permit flight captains to detain any passenger who endangered the safety of the aircraft. Israel's airline, El Al, meanwhile has rejected a complaint by Pan American Airways that it acted unfairly by diverting two suspicious-looking passengers from one of its own flights to the American carrier. The two passengers, carrying Senegalese passports tried to book passage on an El Al flight from Amsterdam to New York but were turned down, according to El Al, because they aroused suspicion and the flight was full. They were advised to try Pan American. El Al said it notified the pilot of the Pan Am jet of the suspicious nature of the two passengers but by then the U.S. jet had already taken off and continued to New York. The Jerusalem Post reported today that Israel sent another warning to the PFLP that terrorists in Israeli custody would suffer "serious consequences" unless all hostages held in Jordan were released. According to the Post the warning was conveyed to PFLP headquarters in Jerusalem by six prominent West Bank and Gaza Arabs who were expelled to Lebanon yesterday for alleged collaboration with the terrorists.

Two Jewish Youths Held In Israel On Charges Of Planning Hijack

JERUSALEM, Sept. 15 (JTA)--Police disclosed the arrest of two Jewish youths on suspicion of planning to hijack an airliner at Lydda Airport. They identified the men taken into custody as Jerzy Korono,

25 and Bronislaw Gora, 23, both of whom immigrated from Poland five years ago. According to police, the pair intended to force an airliner to fly over several European capitals where they would drop leaflets denouncing the Israel Government for contemplating the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Arab territories occupied in the Six-Day War. Police said they found a Karl Gustav submachine gun and two loaded magazines in Korono's home along with handwritten copies of the leaflets the men intended to print. There appeared to be no connection between the alleged plot and the five hijackings and attempted hijackings by Arab terrorists on Aug. 30.

Report Nasser Urging King Hussein To Postpone Abdication Plans

JERUSALEM, Sept. 15 (JTA)--King Hussein, for the first time since he assumed his reign over Jordan in 1953, is seriously considering abdication, the Jerusalem Post's Arab affairs expert reported today. The writer said that sources close to the Royal Palace in Amman indicated that the King was persuaded by President Gamal Abdel Nasser, of Egypt, to postpone his decision while Nasser tries to arrange a settlement of Jordan's internal crisis. Hussein, the grandson of assassinated King Abdullah of Jordan, narrowly escaped two attempts on his life in June and in August. He is said to have decided to quit the throne after last week's fierce clashes between his armed forces and Palestinian guerrillas. A split has developed in his Army over the presence of guerrillas and Iraqi troops who support them in areas of the Jordanian capital, the Post correspondent reported. Hussein has reportedly lost control over large areas of his country outside of Amman and lacks the authority to make any diplomatic moves without the approval of guerrilla organizations which are fighting among themselves. Most observers say the guerrillas could have deposed Hussein months ago but didn't want the responsibility of running the country. President Nasser is said to fear increasing chaos and civil war in Jordan should King Hussein leave the throne. He is reportedly working for the integration of all commando groups in Jordan so that they can be represented in the Jordanian Government and give it a degree of stability, the Post writer said.

Construction Work Begun On Residential Section For Jews In Hebron

JERUSALEM, Sept. 15 (JTA)--Construction work started this week on Kiryat Arba, a residential quarter for Jews in the West Bank town of Hebron. The project, which has aroused controversy in Israel, is the first of its kind in any of the Arab towns in territory occupied by Israel during the June, 1967 war. It was undertaken by the government under pressure from Orthodox elements supported by the hard-line Gahal faction which advocates Israel's permanent retention of all of the occupied territories. Factions opposed have argued that the project would compromise Israel's bargaining position in future negotiations with the Arabs.

Hebron, the site of the Patriarchs' tomb which Orthodox Jews consider sacred, has had no permanent Jewish population since 1936. Since 1967 it has been under the jurisdiction of the Israeli Military Government for the Judea region. Two years ago a group of Orthodox families squatted in the town and defied military government orders to leave. Subsequently they were moved inside the military government compound but they have been agitating for permanent housing. The disclosure that work on the project has begun was made yesterday by Dr. Zerach Warhaftig, Minister of Religious Affairs who dedicated a ritual bath for Orthodox women. The bath cost IL 50,000. Dr. Warhaftig said the occasion was an opportunity to send Premier Golda Meir "living greetings" from Jewish settlers in Hebron on the eve of her departure for the United States. Mrs. Meir has supported the Hebron project but claimed that she was not foreclosing the return of the area to the Arabs under terms of some future peace treaty. Mrs. Meir has said that once a genuine peace was established there was no reason why Jews could not live in Hebron even if it is outside of Israel.

Jews Seek Emigration To Israel After Election Victory Of Leftist Candidate

JERUSALEM, Sept. 15 (JTA)--Jews abroad, once frightened by right-wing regimes, are now reacting the same way to left-wing takeovers. According to the Jewish Agency's immigration department, 80 Jewish families in Chile have applied for immigration to Israel because they fear that the new leftist government there might turn anti-Semitic under Soviet influence. Their fear was sparked by the election of Socialist Party candidate Salvador Allende to the presidency with the support of the Communist Party, Catholics and various leftist splinter groups. The election demonstrated a leftward trend in the country. Gen. Uzi Narkiss, head of the immigration department, said on a radio broadcast that increased immigration can be expected from Chile and other Latin American countries. The outgoing President regarded as an arch-conservative, apparently inspired no fear among Chilean Jews.

Four Explosions Rock Nathanya In Second Terrorist Attack In Month

TEL AVIV, Sept. 15 (JTA)--Four explosions rocked the seaside resort town of Nathanya shortly before 11 p.m. local time last night causing no casualties but some damage. It was the second time in a month that saboteurs struck in Nathanya. One explosive charge detonated in a trash can. Two went off near parked cars and the fourth near a pipeline. Police moved in to keep curious spectators away from the blast areas. Most of the damage was to window glass. Last month three people were injured slightly by explosions in Nathanya.

British Liberal Party Youth Wing Quits Palestine Solidarity Campaign

LONDON, Sept. 15 (JTA)--The National League of Young Liberals, the youth wing of Britain's Liberal Party, has withdrawn from the anti-Israel Palestine Solidarity Campaign on grounds that it does not want to be identified with Arab terrorism. Jack Barnett, joint honorary secretary of the Liberal Friends of Israel, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the party as a whole was gratified by this move. "We see in this a first step towards a reversal of the pro-Arab policy, expressed by some members of the Young Liberal Movement, which has done so much to distract attention from the Liberal Party's overwhelming sympathy for the State of Israel," he said.

JTA Head Reports Start Of News Bulletin In Paris, Internship Plan In Detroit

NEW YORK, Sept. 15 (JTA)--Robert H. Arnow, president of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, announced today a number of developments which followed JTA board decisions which he said were "in the mainstream of our efforts to keep abreast of the fast-moving times." He said that, following a summer visit to Europe and Israel where he surveyed JTA operations, the Israeli News Agency (INA), a subsidiary of the JTA, arranged for distribution of foreign news to Israeli newspapers through ITIM, a cooperative news service of the Israeli press. Mr. Arnow said that the arrangement "will ultimately eliminate a deficit but will continue to provide world-wide news to the Israeli community." Noting that members of the JTA board "are taking an active part in all of these changes and operations," Mr. Arnow added that Raymond Epstein, president of the Chicago Welfare Fund, had acted on his behalf in overseeing the transfer of INA service to ITIM and in discharging JTA obligations to 12 long-term employees.

Mr. Arnow also announced that, after a series of meetings with the leadership of the French Jewish community, plans were completed for a daily news bulletin, in French, to begin publication in Paris in October, thus extending the network of JTA publications. He said Mr. Epstein had joined him in working out the arrangements for the new bulletin. He said it was "significant" that "busy people" like Jerrold C. Hoffberger, Baltimore board member and chairman of the JTA executive committee, and David Starr, a board member who is managing editor of the Long Island Press and editor of the Newhouse National News Service, had been active while on overseas trips, with JTA plans in London. The president said that Mr. Hoffberger discussed JTA matters with Michael Sacher, head of the Joint Palestine Appeal and of the London JTA Committee, and that Mr. Starr was in London last week discussing with Mr. Sacher some of the JTA board plans for the future. He said other board members, representing American and Canadian communities from coast to coast, participated in board meetings and represented JTA in the community and at budget hearings.

He described as "an exciting new development" the JTA's first news internship program, designed to bring young people into Jewish journalism. He said several apprentices had started work on the Jewish News of Detroit under the aegis of Philip Slomovitz, its publisher and JTA board member. Mr. Arnow said the internship program, for which board member Julius Berman of New York is chairman, would also "insure continuity in Jewish communal affairs." The JTA president declared "it is essential, if we look at conditions world-wide and in the Middle East, that we provide a service which can supply the total Jewish community with the news at the very moment it becomes news." He declared this would require "an examination of every area of our editorial operations to reach the high level of quality we seek as our goal." He added that JTA now has eight regional and international bureaus, with 50 correspondents and stringers and that, if necessary, "we will find the professional personnel who can give us this kind of service."

Students Stage Day-Long Fast At Isaiah Wall For Soviet Jews

NEW YORK, Sept. 15 (JTA)--About 30 Jewish students from New York area campuses staged a day-long fast today at the Isaiah Wall opposite the United Nations building to protest the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union and the refusal of Soviet authorities to permit those who wished to emigrate to Israel to do so. The 12-hour fast was organized by the University Community for Soviet Jewry and the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry. They called on the UN to take immediate steps to alleviate the plight of Soviet Jews and to censure the Soviet Union for violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which guarantees freedom of emigration.

Rabbi Shlomo Riskin of the Lincoln Square Synagogue told the 250 demonstrators and bystanders that he had just returned from the Soviet Union where Jews had told him that new "show trials" were being prepared by Soviet officials. He said also he was told that 24 Jews had been arrested in recent months without charges being filed against them. He said also that Soviet Jews want fellow-Jews abroad to "make noise" about their plight. Other speakers were Sen. Charles Goodell, a candidate for re-election, and Barry Farber, who is running for Congress on the Republican-Liberal ticket. Sen. Goodell said he was working behind the scenes for Soviet Jewry, declaring "what these people are doing in the street today, I am doing behind the scenes." He mentioned measures and contacts but did not elaborate. Farber charged that peace marchers who protest injustice everywhere but are silent about Soviet Jews were "hypocrites."

Jewish Council Plans To See Moiseyev Manager On Russ Jews During D.C. Visit

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15 (JTA)--The Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington is planning to confer on the question of Soviet Jewry with the manager of the Moiseyev Ballet during the Soviet troupe's stay here Sept. 23 and 24. The company will perform in Constitution Hall on each of those dates. The Council will distribute leaflets to attendees, praising the American-Soviet cultural exchange program but stressing that Soviet Jews "are subjected by the Soviet government to cultural, religious and personal oppression," it was announced by Council president Seymour D. Wolf. "We will express our hope," he said, "that the dancers will bring back to their government the message of moral outrage of the American public against these oppressions." Mr. Wolf added that the Council's "carefully planned" activities in connection with the troupe's presence here "constitute a responsible, organized Jewish approach to the performance of the ballet." He expressed his "fervent hope" that there not be "irresponsible actions" by individuals that would "jeopardize the cultural exchange program and impair the slow but significant progress which has been made with reference to the Soviet Jewry problem."

L.A. Jewish Groups Plan Program On Death Camp Liberation Anniversary

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 15 (JTA)--Sixteen Jewish organizations will mark the 25th anniversary of the liberation of Nazi concentration camps at a city-wide observance to be held at the Westside Jewish Community Center here Oct. 18, it was announced today.