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Nixon-Gromyko Talks Termed Helpful; Students Give Gromyko Cool Reception

WASHINGTON, Oct. 22 (JTA)--Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko got a cool reception from some 40 Jewish students protesting the treatment of Jews in Russia when he arrived at the White House this morning for a meeting with President Richard M. Nixon that was to last more than two-and-a-half hours. The youngsters from universities in the Washington area, carrying placards, reading "Free Three Million Jews Now" and "Let My People Go," provided more substance for the nation's news mills than White House Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler when he emerged tight-lipped after the Gromyko-Nixon talks to say that they were "helpful." The President and the Soviet diplomat met from 11 a.m. to 1:35 p.m. According to one source it was probably Mr. Nixon's longest meeting with a top foreign political figure since he entered the White House. The talks began in the Oval Room where Mr. Nixon was flanked by Secretary of State William P. Rogers and White House national security adviser, Dr. Henry A. Kissinger. Mr. Gromyko was accompanied by the Soviet Ambassador to the U.S., Anatoly F. Dobrynin. Afterwards the two principals went to the Executive Office Building to talk privately.

Mr. Ziegler said that the President and Mr. Gromyko had discussed U.S.-USSR relations, European security, the SALT talks, the Middle East and Vietnam, "not necessarily in that order." He declined to say which topic took up most time. He said Mr. Gromyko's speech to the United Nations General Assembly yesterday was not discussed "to my knowledge" and that a U.S.-Soviet summit meeting was "not on the agenda." President Nixon is scheduled to address the United Nations General Assembly in New York tomorrow afternoon. It was understood that his speech, which is expected to last a half hour or less, would deal in part with the Mideast, but that that would not be the major topic. The Soviet Foreign Minister had harsh words to say about U.S. Mideast policy before the UN forum yesterday afternoon although he reportedly spoke in much more conciliatory tone at an unprecedented closed meeting of the Security Council last night. A State Department official, commenting today on Gromyko's UN General Assembly speech, said the Russians take the position that they are not responsible for truce violations by Egypt but they have not denied that violations took place. He noted that Mr. Gromyko said charges that Moscow had violated "some kind of terms of the cease-fire" was "nothing but pure fabrication" but said nothing of Egyptian violations.

Referring to today's talks between the American and Soviet leaders, Mr. Ziegler told newsmen, "For our part the discussions were helpful. The meeting was conducted in a friendly atmosphere throughout. It is felt the meeting was helpful for laying improved relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. The meeting was useful from the standpoint that it allowed the President to give the Foreign Minister personal and direct expressions on the subjects discussed." The youthful protestors, representing the Washington Council for Release of Captive Russian Jewry, the latest of many groups that have formed in recent months to demand better treatment for Soviet Jews, assembled in Lafayette Park facing the White House to await Mr. Gromyko's arrival. They raised their placards and their voices when his limousine showed up but the demonstration was peaceful. According to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's Washington correspondent, there were a good many policemen and reporters for news media on hand and a few spectators.

Closed Security Council Meeting Reaffirms Support Of Resolution 242

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., Oct. 22 (JTA)--An unprecedented high-level closed meeting last night of the 15-member Security Council was reported today by Secretary General U Thant to have "re-affirmed their conviction that Security Council Resolution 242 should be supported and carried out in all parts." Mr. Thant, who participated in the session, said also that the representatives consulted, among other items, on "how to contribute to a peaceful political settlement in the Middle East crisis." The Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned from informed sources that the Syrian representative had "reservations" on support of Resolution 242 but went along with the consensus. Diplomatic circles felt that the consensus position boded well for Resolution 242 at next week's General Assembly debate in which, according to Israeli sources, the Soviet Union and the Arab bloc may seek to "tamper" with it. Diplomatic sources said however that the consensus position did not preclude the resolution from being discussed in the course of the debate. Meanwhile, diplomats were evaluating today Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko's two-headed, public-vs.-private approach to the Middle East crisis here yesterday. British political sources, for example, said Mr. Gromyko's prepared speech at last night's closed Security Council meeting was in "striking contrast" to the "propaganda" in the prepared text he read to the General Assembly immediately beforehand.

The Assembly address was "uncompromising and unconstructive," the circles said, but "one speech was made in public and one was made in private." The diplomatic consensus was that Israeli Premier Golda Meir's Assembly speech yesterday, while not retreating an inch from previously stated Israeli policy, was more "conciliatory" than "combative." A U.S. spokesman declined comment on Mrs. Meir's speech, because she did not specifically criticize this country. British circles termed Mrs. Meir's remarks "not as combative as some other recent Israeli speeches." That was understood to be a reference to recent remarks in the Assembly and elsewhere by Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban. Although Mrs. Meir and Mr. Eban both reaffirmed their government's adamance on the matter of Egyptian missile violations and the reactivation of the Gunnar V. Jarring peace talks, the British are understood to feel that Mrs. Meir's speech yesterday was "in a fairly low key." (British circles also say privately that Mr. Eban is being totally unrealistic when he says the death of Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser

is not a setback to peace hopes but an opportunity for Egypt to moderate its antagonism toward Israel.)

Gromyko Denies Soviets Violate Truce; Calls For Resumption Of Jarring Talks

British sources said the closed Security Council meeting, the first of its kind, was "cordial" and went "quite well," with the Middle East and South Africa the main topics of comment by the Foreign Ministers and parallel officials. The closed meeting was held in accordance with the UN Charter's call for a periodic "review of the international situation." In the Assembly late yesterday afternoon, Mr. Gromyko charged that the Mideast was boiling because "the Israeli leaders, who are still under the spell of chauvinism and political adventurism, are obsessed with the desire to retain the alien territories they have seized." Mr. Gromyko also condemned "the inflow of offensive weapons which they are getting from their patrons" and "the recent naval demonstrations of the latter in the Eastern Mediterranean."

Mr. Gromyko reiterated the Soviet insistence that it had not violated the standstill cease-fire and was not even a party to it, an assertion that has been termed false by Secretary of State William P. Rogers. Mr. Gromyko called for the resumption of the Gunnar V. Jarring peace mission "forthwith, without emburdening it with all kinds of artificial conditions and demands," a reference to Israel's refusal to rejoin the negotiations until Egypt "rectifies" her missile violations. U.S. Ambassador Charles W. Yost said after Mr. Gromyko's speech that it "does not merit detailed comment," being "both familiar and unconstructive" and "largely General Assembly rhetoric." The Russian's "one-sided explanation" of the Mideast crisis was "specious and not convincing," Mr. Yost said, adding that "Few people will take seriously the Soviet Union's lame and weak comment regarding the violations of the cease-fire standstill."

Mrs. Rosenwasser On Lonely Vigil Waiting For Return Of Kidnapped Husband

TEL AVIV, Oct. 22 (JTA)--Nearly 11 months after he was kidnapped by Arab guerrillas in the dead of night from his watchman's post at Metullah, in Upper Galilee, 50-year-old Shmuel Rosenwasser has become an almost forgotten victim of the deadly Middle East struggle. Efforts, so far fruitless, to secure his release, were overshadowed by the wave of airline hijackings in September and the subsequent tense negotiations for the release of the nearly 300 passengers and crew members held hostage by terrorists in Jordan. Then Israel released two high ranking Algerian nationals it had detained last August when their British airliner landed at Lydda. Mrs. Ida Rosenwasser said the freeing of the Algerians raised hopes she would soon see her husband. But apparently there was no exchange agreement. Mrs. Rosenwasser spoke to newsmen in her three-room flat at Kiryat Motzkin which the Defense Ministry provided after her husband's abduction. She spoke in her native Hungarian which was translated into Hebrew by her 14-year-old daughter, Monica.

"I've been hearing rumors that my husband is going to be released, but so far nothing has happened," Mrs. Rosenwasser said. The Rosenwasser family is in a sad predicament. The Border Police continues to pay her husband's IL340 monthly salary, about \$140. It is supplemented by an IL150 (about \$60) monthly grant from the Metullah City Council. Mrs. Rosenwasser suffers from a heart condition and needs medical treatment. She rarely goes out and the family is isolated from their friends in Metullah. But Mrs. Rosenwasser is worried mostly about her husband. Since he was kidnapped last Jan. 1 she has had only three letters from him and one visit by a Red Cross representative, she says. Although Rosenwasser is a captive of the El Fatah in Jordan, Israel officially holds the Lebanese government responsible because his kidnapers came from Lebanese territory. The government so far has publicly refused to negotiate with the guerrillas. The release of the two Algerians was not a "quid pro quo" for anything, a government source said recently.

1800 Syrian-Based Guerrillas Enter Jordan; 12,000 Iraqi Troops Pull Out

LONDON, Oct. 22 (JTA)--Some 1800 Palestinian guerrillas from Syria were reported to have entered today into Jordan as Iraqi troops, stationed in that country since the June, 1967 Arab-Israeli war, were pulled out. There was no apparent connection between the two movements. The guerrillas are members of the Syrian-backed Al Saiqa which has reportedly been under pressure since the Syrian Defense Minister, Gen. Hafaz Assad, seized control in Damascus. There are altogether about 20,000 Al Saiqa members in Syria and the new regime in Damascus is said to want to get rid of them. They are seeking refuge in northern Jordan and southern Lebanon. Reports from Amman yesterday said the last of 12,000 Iraqi troops would be pulled out by tonight. King Hussein said at a news conference last week that the Iraqis would be asked to leave. The Iraqi commander was ordered home over the week-end after a shake-up in the Baghdad government. Jordanian troops were reportedly supervising the Iraqi withdrawal and making sure that they did not crate Jordanian equipment and take it along with them.

Few Jews In Poland Celebrated High Holy Days Or Succoth

LONDON, Oct. 22 (JTA)--There was virtually no celebration of the High Holy Days or the Succoth holiday by the few remaining Jews in Poland, according to word reaching here from Warsaw. The only religious services were those organized by the residents of Jewish homes for the aged in Warsaw and Lodz on Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. Unlike past years when many younger Jews from outside attended the services at the homes, the worship this year was confined to the inmates. Most young and middle aged Jews have departed from Poland during the past two years in the wake of an officially inspired anti-Jewish campaign instituted by the regime in 1968 under the guise of anti-Zionism. Jews were purged from virtually every public office and responsible position, especially in the communications media. Most Polish Jews have emigrated to Western European countries. The Yiddish State Theater in Warsaw opened its season directly after Yom Kippur as it has done traditionally for years. But there was nothing new in the repertoire which consists of adaptations of the classical Yiddish writers and old mainstays of the Yiddish theater such as Peretz Hirshbein and Abraham Goldfaden. The holidays were ignored by local authorities, some of whom had been invited by the Jewish clubs in Warsaw, Lodz and Bialystok.

Dr. Goldmann To U Thant: Despite Shortcomings UN Remains Best Hope For Progress

PARIS, Oct. 22 (JTA)--Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress, has written to United Nations Secretary General U Thant that "despite inevitable shortcomings which have prevented the world body from resolving many of the conflicts which still beset mankind, the United Nations remains mankind's best hope for progress through international cooperation towards a better and more peaceful world." Dr. Goldmann wrote that "The Jewish people throughout the world has special cause to join in celebrating the 25th anniversary of the United Nations," since "it was the historic resolution of November, 1947, which gave international sanction to the establishment of the State of Israel," fulfilling Jews' "age-old aspirations." In addition, Dr. Goldmann observed, "the cause of human rights, which inspired the creation of the United Nations and in which the Jewish people has always been deeply involved, has been notably forwarded in many areas through declarations and conventions adopted and sponsored by the United Nations."

U.S. Prime Source Of Immigrants To Israel; France Ranks Second

TEL AVIV, Oct. 22 (JTA)--Official records released here recently indicated that the United States has become the prime source of immigration to Israel. In the first nine months of 1970, 6,129 Americans settled in Israel, accounting for more than 20 percent of the immigrants who arrived this year. The 3,729 Jews who emigrated from France, ranked her second in the list of nations sending persons to Israel. Immigration from the United States has been on the increase since the Six-Day War. Following the War of Independence in 1948 up until 1967 only a little more than 1 percent of the immigrants, an annual influx of 600 to 1,200, came from the United States and approximately half left Israel later. The figure rose to 2,094 in 1967 and to 4,617 in 1968. In 1969, figures indicated a rise to 6,020. Most of these statistics were provided by the Jewish Agency. Retired persons comprised a large percentage of Americans emigrating here prior to the Six-Day War, while the number of highly educated and skilled people in their prime was at a minimum. Now the average age is 34, and 38 percent are professionals or highly skilled workers; the average in Israeli society is 13 percent. The Six-Day War created a new awareness and consciousness of Jewish tradition and culture amongst Americans who had never been formally affiliated with the Zionist movement of Jewish groups in this country.

Their identification with Israel was stimulated largely by their great concern when the Arabs threatened to annihilate the state in 1967 and by their elation over the Jewish victory, according to the report. This love and pride of Israel has been coupled with some disillusionment with the U.S. "If immigration increases," a new arrival said, "you'll have to thank the Black Panthers and the other Jew-haters who are making life in America hell." The continuing Arab-Israeli war has not discouraged Americans from settling. "In America our borders are safe but our cities aren't," another said. "Here it's just the other way around. You don't know how great it is to walk through the streets of Tel Aviv late at night without fear." The report noted that many of the professionals who have come to Israel are academicians weary of campus unrest. Prior to the Six-Day War, according to the report, many American immigrants returned to their country after failing to obtain suitable jobs and adjust to the standard of living, lower than that of the U.S. Conditions are far better now. There has been a boom and full employment since the Six-Day War. According to Jewish Agency estimates, 5 to 6 percent of the post-1967 immigrants have gone back to the United States.

Jewish Cemetery In Warsaw, Untouched By Nazis, In State Of Disrepair

LONDON, Oct. 22 (JTA)--The Gensza St. cemetery, the only Jewish institution in Warsaw that the Nazis did not have time to destroy, is in a state of serious disrepair, filled with litter and overgrown with weeds, the Yiddish weekly Folkstimme reported from Warsaw this week. The periodical, a publication of the Jewish Cultural and Social Association, attributed the poor state of the burial ground to the fact that most Jews have left Poland. It called for volunteers among the remaining Jews of Warsaw to clean up the cemetery and restore it. According to Folkstimme, it is still a major attraction for tourists because it contains the graves of many prominent Jews, among them the writer J.L. Peretz and Dr. Ludwig Zamenhoff, the inventor of Esperanto.

Records On Yugoslav Jews To Be Microfilmed; Street Named After Jewish Partisan

BELGRADE, Oct. 22 (JTA)--A spokesman for the Federation of Jewish Communities reported that the Alliance Israelite Universelle's records in Yugoslavia will be microfilmed for the Jewish Historical Museum here. The spokesman added that the museum recently acquired a number of valuable items from private collections, in addition to documentation on Yugoslavian Jews microfilmed by the Vatican Library and Czechoslovakian authorities. In a related development, the City Council has renamed a street after Olga Alkalaj, a Jewish partisan who fought heroically against the Nazis and who was put to death in a concentration camp.

Former Labor Government Ministers Join Council Of Labor Friends Of Israel

LONDON, Oct. 22 (JTA)--Former Labor government ministers, some of them now Members of Parliament, and a leader of a municipal council, have joined the National Council of Labor Friends of Israel. The new Council members are Sir Meyer Galpern, Renee Short and Brian O'Malley, all of them MP's, Lord Greenwood, Mrs. Gwynneth Dunwoody, Dr. John Dunwoody and Lord Buntwood; and Alderman Edward Newby, leader of the Council at Bradford.

Income From Oil Industry In 1971 To Pay For Domestic Oil Consumption

JERUSALEM, Oct. 22 (JTA)--Israel is expected to earn sufficient income from its oil industry in 1971 to pay for its entire domestic oil consumption, according to Deputy Finance Minister Zvi Dinstein. Mr. Dinstein said Israel consumes \$65 million worth of oil per year. He estimated that next year's income from oil produced locally and in the Sinai fields captured from Egypt will amount to \$47 million. In addition, Israel expects a profit of \$18 million from oil transported in its tankers and through the Eilat-Ashkelon oil pipeline and from oil products produced at the Haifa refineries.

Hadassah, SSSJ In Verbal Clash On Soviet Jews; SSSJ Termed Immature

NEW YORK, Oct. 22 (JTA)--Mrs. Max Schenk, president of Hadassah, criticized the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry today as being intransigent, misguided and immature. In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the head of the Women's Zionist Organization of America expressed outrage at the SSSJ's "storming the building" yesterday to "tell us what to do" about the plight of Soviet Jewry. "They are very young kids with very decent and honorable intentions, but a little misguided," she declared, adding: "Certainly youth isn't going to tell us what to do. I don't have to prove Hadassah's interests in all matters that concern world Jewry." Glenn Richter, New York coordinator for the SSSJ, acknowledged to the JTA that a dozen members insisted on meetings without appointments. In separate meetings they presented their case for increased Hadassah activity on Soviet Jewry to Mrs. Rose Matzkin, head of the Zionist Affairs Committee, and to Mrs. Schenk. Mr. Richter said the students presented "suggestions," not "demands," similar to those presented June 26 to B'nai B'rith, which called the police to evict the SSSJers. The "suggestions" were for an "internal committee to insure massive attendance at rallies"; the allotment of "meaningful funds" to the American and New York Jewish Conferences on Soviet Jewry, of which Hadassah is a charter member; the regular distribution of "Soviet Jewry action programs" to local Hadassah chapters, and the appointment of a fulltime administrator for Soviet Jewry problems.

Mr. Richter said that although Hadassah had done "a little bit more" about the problem than other Jewish organizations, it could do much more. He said the meetings were "at times a bit tense." Mrs. Schenk, noting that her policy is not to call the police in such situations, told the JTA that Hadassah does have an internal committee that deals in part with Soviet Jewry, and that it is headed by a fulltime professional, Miriam Taub. The Hadassah president said she resented the students' demanding of her, "What are you doing? Did you march?" She said she replied: "I don't have to account to you for what Hadassah does. We don't take direction from you. You as youth have no right to come and see us. You should be involved, but work through the organized channels. There are conventional ways of doing it." But Mrs. Schenk said she would be willing to meet again with the students on the recommendation of Rabbi Herschel Schacter, chairman of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry. "We are constantly in touch with Rabbi Schacter," she added. Mrs. Schenk said the SSSJ members acted as if "Soviet Jewry is going to the gas chamber because of Hadassah."

\$100,000 Grant To Synagogue Council Program On Jewish-Black Relations

NEW YORK, Oct. 22 (JTA)--The Ford Foundation has granted nearly \$100,000 to a project sponsored by the Synagogue Council of America to ease tension and conflict between blacks and Jews in urban areas. It was announced today by Rabbi Solomon J. Scharfman, president of the Synagogue Council. Rabbi Scharfman said the project was started in 1969 during the New York City teachers' strike which aggravated racial and religious tensions. "What the Synagogue Council's program seeks to do is to encourage the formation of coalitions of religious and lay leaders, blacks and Jews, around common problems of a fundamental nature, such as housing, crime, narcotics and education," Rabbi Scharfman said. Rabbi Henry Siegman, the Council's executive vice president, said the Ford grant will enable it, among other things, to designate a number of "urban interns" from among the three major rabbinic seminaries in New York to bring together religious and lay leadership around specific problems in various neighborhoods around the city. Rabbi Scharfman said the Synagogue Council is seeking to reverse the disintegration of Jewish communities in the inner city and recognizes that "their continued existence as decent places in which to live and grow is linked to the fate of their neighboring communities, be they black, Puerto Rican or whatever, in which all too often conditions prevail which dehumanize their residents."

Sabbath Traffic Ban In Orthodox Jewish Areas Reduced Because Of Weather

NEW YORK, Oct. 22 (JTA)--The city administration, which closed streets in two Orthodox Jewish neighborhoods to vehicular traffic for 11 hours last Saturday, has decided to reduce the traffic-ban period to five hours this Saturday because the wintery weather is making walking there "very light." Involved are the main thoroughfares in the Williamsburg and Boro Park sections of Brooklyn, where Orthodox Jews have expressed the desire for as much freedom of movement as possible on the Sabbath. A spokesman for the Mayor's office said today that there had been no complaints from the drivers of cars and trucks diverted slightly because of the close-off of the two areas.

Jews Can Be Conscientious Objectors, Selective Service System Told

NEW YORK, Oct. 22 (JTA)--The Synagogue Council of America has protested to the Selective Service System against the denial of conscientious objector's status to some Jewish draftees "on the false ground that Judaism cannot embrace conscientious objection." In a letter to Dr. Curtis W. Tarr, director of Selective Service made public today, Council president Rabbi Solomon J. Scharfman explained that while Judaism is not a pacifist faith in the sense that this term is generally used, there is nothing in Judaism that precludes "the possibility of individuals developing conscientious objection to war based on their understanding of the moral imperatives of Jewish tradition." The Synagogue Council is an umbrella organization embracing the lay and rabbinic wings of Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Judaism in America. Rabbi Scharfman asserted in his letter that "Jewish faith can indeed embrace conscientious objection, and Jewish religious law makes specific provisions for the exemption of such moral objectors."

Mrs. Meir Going To London After UN; Not There To Buy Arms For Israel

LONDON, Oct. 22 (JTA)--Israeli Premier Golda Meir is expected to stop in London at the beginning of November on her way home from the United Nations to address a meeting of the Joint Palestine Appeal. Israeli sources here denied British press reports that she was coming to London to buy arms. They said she could have arranged for arms purchases while meeting British leaders attending the United Nations General Assembly meeting in New York.