

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## More Phantoms No. 1 Topic On Agenda Of Sisco Talks

JERUSALEM, July 29 (JTA)--The further supply of F-4 Phantom jets to the Israeli Air Force and the extent of America's commitment to Israel in face of growing Soviet involvement in the Middle East are expected to be the principal subjects Israel will raise with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco, informed sources said today. Sisco arrived from Washington last night and is expected to remain in Israel for 7-10 days. Sisco himself is expected to raise the question of an interim agreement between Israel and Egypt to reopen the Suez Canal. According to some sources here, there has been a "slight shift" of position on the terms of an interim agreement. The United States continues to oppose the idea of Egyptian troops re-occupying areas evacuated in an Israeli pull-back but appears to support a "token movement" of Egyptian units across the canal. Israel, which last spring seriously considered such an arrangement, now insists on an unqualified undertaking by the Egyptians not to send any troops across the canal, the sources said.

Israel is especially anxious to replenish its supply of Phantoms, fearing the progressive obsolescence of its Air Force, which is still made up in large measure of pre-1967 French Mirage jets, and also the increasing quantitative superiority of combat aircraft for Egypt. Sources here said that in recent conversations between Israeli and American diplomats in Washington, the Americans indicated no change in their policy of maintaining the arms balance in the Middle East. But in their view, this did not require any immediate aircraft deliveries to Israel. They indicated that Israel should content itself with the present situation and a general promise of future aircraft supplies when needed.

Premier Golda Meir who answered questions in the Knesset yesterday before Sisco's arrival said "Our friendship with the U.S. is very important to us but for this friendship we are not ready to give up anything of importance to our existence and security." She said the sole criteria for accepting or rejecting any new proposals Sisco may bring would be whether or not it weakened Israel's defenses. She said the American diplomat would be a "welcome guest" and that the government is interested in hearing what he has to say.

## Harmel Ends Israel Visit; Cites Europe's interest in Mideast

TEL AVIV, July 29 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Pierre Harmel, of Belgium ended his official visit to Israel today with the assertion that the nations of Western Europe have vital interests in the Middle East and therefore have agreed to a united political stand. His remark was taken as a reference to the working paper drafted by the six member nations of the European Common Market in May, still not released officially, to which Israel has taken exception. The draft document, reflecting French influence, calls for Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and an internationalized Jerusalem. Harmel said he was convinced more than ever that there is a chance for lasting peace in the region. He told newsmen at Lydda Airport today that in his opinion President Anwar Sadat of Egypt is ready for peace with Israel and that the question of refugees should be settled with the question of borders. Harmel visited Egypt, Syria and Lebanon recently. Asked about Israel's relations with the Common Market, the Belgian diplomat said his government would support closer ties between Israel and the ECC. Foreign Minister Abba Eban accompanied Harmel to the airport.

## Israel, China Play 'Ping Pong' Under The Table

JERUSALEM, July 29 (JTA)--Israel and the Peoples Republic of China, separated geographically by the Asian continent and worlds apart politically, both show interest in establishing contact, political observers here said today. But their moves in that direction so far have been carried out surreptitiously as was reflected in a cartoon in the Israeli newspaper Haaretz today which showed Israelis and Chinese playing ping-pong under a table. Nevertheless, Peking has put out feelers toward Jerusalem which it has been denouncing for two decades as "an imperialist lackey." The Chinese Embassy in Paris vigorously denied that conversations were held there between Chinese diplomats and the Paris representative of Israel's leftist labor Mapam faction, Eli Ben-Gal, as reported by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Tuesday. Mapam is a member of the coalition government. Ben-Gal subsequently told newsmen not to take the denial too seriously. "I was sitting in the Embassy when they drafted it," he said.

The Israeli Government has come up with denials of its own. The Foreign Ministry stated Tuesday that during the recent visit of Rumania's Deputy Foreign Minister Gheorghe Macovescu, relations between Israel and China were not mentioned. The Mapam newspaper Al Hamishmar recalled the next day that Rumania is Peking's best friend among the Eastern European Communist bloc and said that only the Macovescu visit to Jerusalem made possible the Paris talks with Ben-Gal. According to political circles here, the Chinese want to start talking to Israel for motives that are not entirely clear but which should be viewed against the background of China's campaign to rebuild its relations with the rest of the world. Israel for its part, welcomes every gesture by China if only to put an end to the constant stream of anti-Israel incitement pouring out of Peking and the indiscriminate support China gives the Arab states. Trade with China might be a long term factor but as it stands now it is so insignificant that it is often omitted from official statistics. According to some observers, rumors and reports of alleged Israeli contacts with Soviet or Chinese representatives could cause the Arabs to realize that both of those powers might be weighing a change in their attitudes on Middle East issues.

## Jewish Women Demonstrate For Visas At Moscow Film Fest

NEW YORK, July 29 (JTA)--Ten Jewish women from Moscow and Lithuania demonstrated for six and a half hours yesterday at the entrance to the Moscow Film Festival, Jewish sources here said

today. The women, who stood outside the entrance from noon to 6:30 p.m., apparently did not make use of signs or chants but just aligned themselves quietly in such a way as to make their intention clear. Before their arrival they cabled Communist Party leader Leonid I. Brezhnev, Premier Alexsei N. Kosygin and President Nikolai V. Podgorny explaining that they had been refused exit visas and that their pleas on behalf of Soviet Jewish emigration had been rebuffed at party headquarters and at the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The sources also reported that four young Jewish activists were arrested in Moscow and presumably released after they tried to speak with Western newsmen. They were identified as Isaiah Averbuch, the fiancé of the imprisoned nurse Ruth Aleksandrovich; Aleksander Slepak, Leonid Tsipin and Josef Bigun. The sources said they were warned by the KGB (secret police) not to approach any more foreign newsmen or they would be charged with hooliganism and other transgressions. It was not immediately clear if these arrests were identical to those reported earlier as having occurred Monday; at that time three Jews were said to have been involved.

### Activists For Soviet Jewry Endorse U.S. Visa Legislation

SAN FRANCISCO, July 29 (JTA)--The Union of Councils for Soviet Jewry, an organization with chapters in 13 American cities, announced today that it is supporting the Soviet Jews Relief Act of 1971, currently before Congress, which would admit 30,000 Russian Jews to the United States. Harold B. Light, chairman of the Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry and spokesman for the Union, said the bill "is not just another resolution or a request to the United Nations and the Soviet Union for Russia to live up to its own laws" but if passed would represent the first time the U.S. Government took serious action by passing special legislation to help Soviet Jews as the Hungarians were helped in 1956 and the Czechs in 1968. Light said the Union was calling "upon everyone to immediately send cards and letters of support" for the bill to their Congressmen.

A bill for 30,000 emergency visas for Soviet Jews, introduced by Rep. Edward Koch (D., N.Y.) is presently before the House Judiciary Committee. It has the endorsement of 118 Congressmen. Thirty-four Senators have become co-sponsors of similar legislation introduced by Sens. Clifford Case (R., N.J.) and Jacob Javits (R., N.Y.) But the legislation is opposed in at least one Jewish quarter. Herman Weisman, president of the Zionist Organization of America has urged that the legislation be dropped on grounds that it would divert attention from the chief goal of Soviet Jews which, according to Weisman, is to settle in Israel.

### Sudan Affair May Be Splitting Soviet Government and Communist Party

By Edwin Eytan  
(Chief Of JTA European Bureau)

PARIS, July 29 (JTA)--The Sudanese affair has precipitated a serious crisis between the Soviet Union and a number of influential Communist Parties abroad. According to top members of the Communist Party here, a crisis is also brewing in Moscow where, for the first time in history, the Party and the Government have different interests and advocate opposite policies. Members of the French Communist Party told JTA that since the start of the Sudanese affair they have been in "constant" contact with Central Committee in Moscow. Both the French and Italian Communist Parties have presented their views and pressed their Soviet colleagues for "speedy and energetic action" to show that "Communists cannot be murdered with impunity" especially in countries which depend economically and politically on the Soviet Union "and its Communist Party." Both the French and the Italians report in the course of private conversations that they have found "full understanding" in Moscow where Party organs moreover fear that lack of Soviet action would undermine the prestige of the Party in all underdeveloped countries, in Africa and Asia, and help boost the influence of the Chinese line.

These West European Communist sources moreover say that the Soviet Party organs also want the Soviet Union to act not only against Sudan but also against Egypt and Syria which, in spite of a personal plea from President Nikolai Podgorny, have failed to intervene in order to save from the gallows the Secretary of the Sudanese Communist Party and the other executed Party officials. "The Party would like the Soviet Government to clearly indicate its displeasure in both Cairo and Damascus in a tangible and concrete form" say these Communist sources. They report that the Soviet Government has not yet decided on a definite course of action, but both the Ministry of Defense and that of Foreign Affairs have strongly advised against any such action which, they fear, would put Russian influence in jeopardy and could help push Egypt into the American camp. JTA understands from these sources that the Secretary General of the French Communist Party, Georges Marchais, has personally been assured by Soviet Party leaders that they do "all they can" and that further action on their part could, for the first time in Soviet history, bring about an open split between the interests of the Party and those of the Government.

In the meantime, West European Communist Parties openly make known their "anger." Today the French Communist daily "L'Humanite," for the third consecutive day, devoted its entire front page and three quarters of its last, to the "Sudanese massacre." Seven to eight thousand French Communists last night responded to a call from the French Communist Party and the CGT trade union to demonstrate against the "savagely and barbarous Sudanese repression." Party Secretary Marchais openly warned Sudan of Communist "revenge" and implicitly warned Soviet leaders that "the Arabs whom we have always supported, must be made to realize how much they owe the Communist movement." In Italy, the Communist daily "L'Unita" adopted a similar line and the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party has joined its French colleagues both in pressing Moscow for action and in dispatching protest after protest to Khartoum, Cairo and Damascus. Chinese diplomats in both these Western capitals have also renewed their contacts with the official Communist leadership after a break of several years. These secret contacts apparently were held in order to try and plan a joint line for the Arab world.

## Black Leader Called 'Naive' For Accepting Soviet Line On Jews

NEW YORK, July 29 (JTA)--Dr. Thomas W. Matthews, leader of a black self-help group who is currently touring the Soviet Union, was described by Jewish spokesmen here today as "naive" and "unfamiliar with the facts of Jewish life" in Russia. Richard Maass, chairman of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry offered that explanation of Dr. Matthews' remark at a Moscow press conference yesterday that according to statistics furnished him by Soviet authorities, which he accepts, Jews in the USSR are better off than blacks in America. Dr. Matthews, who heads the National Economic Growth and Reconstruction Organization (NEGRO), and Rabbi Meir Kahane, national chairman of the Jewish Defense League, met in Harlem last May to announce what they termed at the time a "brotherhood relationship" between their organizations. But today, the JDL's general counsel, Bortram Zwellon, called Matthews "stupid" and described him to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency as "an agent of Nixon." Zwellon denied that there was ever any "brotherhood" pact between JDL and NEGRO, only a "dialogue" which he said would not be affected by Matthews' Moscow remarks because the JDL likes to "enlighten ignorant people."

According to reports from Moscow, Matthews said he didn't think the Russians had anything to apologize for as far as their acceptance of the Jewish people was concerned. "I can go on record as saying that the statistics (given) us about the number of Jewish people in professional and technical positions--if they are correct and I don't know of anybody who challenges them--(indicate) a high percentage of the Jewish people are in such positions." He added, "If that is correct, I would say that Soviet society is offering Jewish people more than American society is offering black people." Maass said Matthews' response was typical of "naive" people unfamiliar with the facts who hear "one side of the story." He said Matthews had listened to Soviet officials but probably met no Jews and accepted what he was told. He said that Matthews apparently does not understand that the complaints of Soviet Jews are not against the system but against the obstacles that prevent them from living Jewish lives. He said Matthews might alter his views if he had statistics on the lack of rabbis, Yiddish newspapers and Jewish cultural institutions in Russia, if he was aware of the discrimination against Jews in universities and employment in the Soviet Union.

Jerry Goodman, a specialist in Soviet Jewish affairs who will become executive director of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry next month, told the JTA that in some instances individual Jews may be better off in the Soviet Union than blacks in this country. But, he said, what Dr. Matthews failed to recognize was that Soviet Jews are being deprived of their peoplehood by Soviet authorities while American blacks are regaining their peoplehood through the actions of local and state governments, though the process is slow. He said that black leaders like Bayard Rustin and the late Martin Luther King Jr. had recognized this fact.

Zwellon told the JTA that "Matthews should have learned by this time that man does not live by bread alone. He has forgotten that it was not unheard of for whites to tour the South and report statistically on the wholesome condition of blacks in that area, both before and after the slave period. The issue has never been one of economics but one of freedom." The JDL spokesman said Matthews was "carrying the ball" on Nixon's program of "black capitalism." He said his remarks in Moscow were in line with the Administration's desire to make the issue of Soviet Jewry a "silent issue."

## Pentagon Denies Soviets Have Naval Edge In Mediterranean

WASHINGTON, July 29 (JTA)--Pentagon sources said today that the United States naval force in the Mediterranean continues to have a "significant edge" over the Soviet fleet in those waters although it consists of fewer ships. The Pentagon assessment was made in response to a claim by Raymond V. B. Blackman, editor of the authoritative Jane's Fighting Ships, that U.S. naval strength is in a serious decline while Soviet sea power was expanding into a "super navy." Blackman said in a foreword to the 1971-72 issue of Jane's, published in London, that "so prolific has the Soviet naval shipbuilding effort been that the USSR is now able to maintain a standing naval force in the Mediterranean five times stronger than five years ago to counter the American Sixth Fleet."

The Pentagon spokesman, questioned by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, said the two aircraft carriers the U.S. maintains in the Mediterranean and the fleet of ballistic submarines equipped with intercontinental missiles gave the U.S. an advantage in long-range strike feasibility. According to the Pentagon, the U.S. has approximately 40 ships in the Sixth Fleet while the Soviets have about 50 in the Mediterranean and possibly more than 60, not including Soviet vessels in Egyptian ports flying the Egyptian flag. The source said the Russians had two aircraft carriers based in the Black Sea. He said both U.S. and Soviet naval vessels would use the Suez Canal if it was reopened.

## Dayan Visits Refugees Transferred From Gaza To Sinai

TEL AVIV, July 29 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan visited El Arish in northern Sinai today to inspect renovated housing prepared for families which are to be evacuated from the Jebelaya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. About 30 families have already been resettled in El Arish. One family told Dayan that they are looked after by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) and that they have jobs. Dayan visited the Jebelaya camp later to inspect a new road and the houses marked for demolition.

## Israeli Trade Mission Closes Deals In Africa

JERUSALEM, July 29 (JTA)--An Israeli trade mission concluding a three week visit to Congo Kinshasa, Zambia and Malawi has closed deals worth some \$350,000, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry announced today. A Ministry spokesman said negotiations for further agreements were underway in the fields of agriculture and joint industrial enterprises. Israel's exports to the three African countries amounted to \$6.2 million in 1970 compared to \$4.3 million in 1969.

## Knesset Speaker Representing Israel At Tubman Rites

JERUSALEM, July 29 (JTA)--Knesset Speaker Reuven Barkat took off for Monrovia last night to attend the funeral of the late President William Tubman of Liberia who died Sunday. Barkat represents Pres. Zalman Shazar of Israel who is convalescing from a recent illness.

## Witnesses Of 3 Faiths Tell House Body They Oppose Divided Jerusalem

WASHINGTON, July 29 (JTA)--Jewish, Catholic and Moslem witnesses testifying at a House subcommittee hearing on Jerusalem agreed yesterday that they were opposed to a divided city but differed over who should have sovereignty over a unified Jerusalem. Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of the department of interreligious affairs of the American Jewish Committee said a divided Jerusalem would be a "moral and human disaster." He insisted that Jewish claims to the city took priority over the claims of other faiths because Jerusalem "is an entirely necessary and indispensable part of Judaism as it is not for Christianity and Moslems." Differing views were expressed by Dr. James Kritzeck of the Institute for Advanced Religious Studies at Notre Dame University, Rev. Joseph L. Ryan, S.J. of the Cambridge Center of Social Studies, Cambridge, Mass. and Dr. Muhammad Abdul Rauf, director of the Islamic Center here. All of them gave testimony at a hearing of the Near East subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, chaired by Rep. Lee H. Hamilton (D., Ind.) who observed at the close of the session, "We are dealing with the most difficult problem of the Middle East." The hearing, which began at 2:00 p.m., adjourned late in the afternoon.

In formal statements read to the subcommittee, Rabbi Tanenbaum argued for Israeli sovereignty over Jerusalem. Dr. Kritzeck and Father Ryan urged internationalization and Dr. Rauf wanted the city restored to Moslem rule. Replying to questions afterwards, the two Roman Catholic witnesses told Rep. Jonathan B. Bingham (D., N.Y.) that their statement represented only themselves. Dr. Kritzeck remarked that "The Christian church would be satisfied with a say-so in the administration of the Holy Places." Father Ryan observed that "the question of the Holy Places should be considered in the light of the whole city of Jerusalem." Congressmen questioning the witnesses sought to establish the relative importance of Jerusalem to each of the three faiths. Rabbi Tanenbaum observed that "All three faiths have a deep interest in Jerusalem and its environs" but he cautioned against "equating one and the same thing to Jews, Christians and Moslems." He said, "Judaism has no Rome, no Geneva, no Mecca, no Medina--only Jerusalem. It is an entirely necessary and indispensable part of Judaism as it is not for Christianity and Moslems. That is why there is so much feeling on the part of the Jews all over the world for it." Rep. James G. Fulton (R., Pa.) responded that he had visited the Walling Wall and saw the "intensity of the feeling" of the Jews there. Dr. Rauf listed Mecca, Medina and Jerusalem in that order in response to Rep. Bingham's question as to which were the holiest places of Islam. The Moslem scholar said he was opposed to a divided city, adding that it was "difficult to separate the administration of the Holy City and its Holy Places; the government should handle all of it."

Replying to the same question, Father Ryan listed Jerusalem, Nazareth and Bethlehem as Christianity's holy cities. Dr. Kritzeck declared, "Jerusalem would be my unhesitating answer," to which Rep. Bingham retorted, "Not to most Christians, but to Roman Catholics, Rome would be most important." He and several other subcommittee members took issue with the testimony presented by the Catholic and Moslem witnesses. At one point Bingham said, "Your statement is good from the Arab point of view but not Israel's." He spoke of his visit to Israel and the West Bank this year where he said he could "attest conditions were remarkably peaceful and stable." He said he saw no guards at Bethlehem and other places and that Arab Christians with whom he spoke, though not in favor of Israel's policies, denied alleged misdeeds by the Israelis that "regretably" a United Nations committee had reported. Bingham observed that Israel "Would have been glad to stand by the status quo" in Jerusalem in 1967 but Jordan attacked and "there must be consequences." When Father Ryan countered, "Does military conquest establish right?" the New York Congressman replied, "Over the centuries it has."

Rep. Lester L. Wolff (D., N.Y.) challenged Dr. Rauf's statement that Moslems suspected Israeli authorities of "condoning" the burning of the El Aksa mosque in East Jerusalem two years ago. The Congressman noted that a "deranged Australian" had set the fire and that the Arab guards at the mosque were unable to avert the act. In another reference to Dr. Rauf's presentation which demanded Moslem rule of Jerusalem, Rep. Seymour Halpern (R., N.Y.) asked "why as a Jew" was he forbidden entry in the early 1960s to the Holy Places under Jordanian control. Rauf replied that he was not at the hearing to "defend a contemporary state" (Jordan) and that he "personally regretted the ban." He said the Jordanian Government "did make mistakes" in an "exceptional situation." Halpern observed that "no comparison can be made between the upkeep of the Holy Places at present" and the "squalor" before 1967 at the sites. Rabbi Tanenbaum said that Israel was prepared to turn over the city's Holy Places with complete extra-territorial control to the religious denominations. Rep. Fulton said, "We want to keep the Holy Places holy but how do you run them?" When the session adjourned, Dr. Rauf approached Rabbi Tanenbaum, shook his hand and suggested a dialogue on Arab-Jewish religious matters at a future time. Rabbi Tanenbaum accepted the invitation.

## Dayan Cancels Address To Mizrahi Convention

TEL AVIV, July 29 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan today cancelled his scheduled address at the opening of the 62nd annual convention of the American Mizrahi Organization in Jerusalem next week. The announcement gave no reason for the cancellation. Gen. Dayan was sharply attacked yesterday by Rabbi Issachar Dov Bergman, of New York, convention chairman, for allegedly trying to intervene in religious matters. Gen. Dayan addressed the opening of the last Mizrahi convention held in Jerusalem two years ago.

## 2 Terrorists Killed In Gaza Grenade Attack

TEL AVIV, July 29 (JTA)--Two terrorists were killed last night in a clash with an Israeli patrol in the Shati refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. A terrorist's hand grenade thrown at the patrol missed its mark and injured two Arab bystanders. There were no Israeli casualties. An Israeli soldier was injured by a hand grenade thrown at a patrol in Raffah township in the Gaza Strip yesterday.