



# daily news bulletin

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## TWO SOVIET MIG-23S, BELIEVED PILOTED BY RUSSIANS, INVADE ISRAELI AIRSPACE; DETECTED 19 MILES OFF ASHKELON SHORE

Flight Near Israeli Territory Poses  
Serious Implications For Defense

TEL AVIV, Oct. 12 (JTA)--Two Soviet MIG-23s, apparently piloted by Russians, invaded Israeli airspace Sunday morning. It was disclosed here last night. The supersonic jets were detected about 19 miles offshore from Ashkelon flying at an altitude of about 80,000 feet and at a speed of Mach 2.5, 1,700 miles per hour. The serious implications arising from this flight was a topic at tonight's Cabinet meeting. The meeting was postponed from the afternoon when members of the government attended the funeral of Mrs. Shoshana Sapir, wife of Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir.

Two Israeli jets sent up to intercept them were unable to make contact before the MIGs headed south for Egypt. Officially Israeli airspace extends 12 miles from shore. The MIGs however entered the airspace controlled by the Lydda Airport traffic tower which extends 20 miles to the sea. It was the first such penetration by Soviet aircraft. The MIG-23, known to the West as the Foxbat, is the most sophisticated Soviet plane yet supplied to Egypt. It has a ceiling of nearly 100,000 feet and a top speed of Mach 3 compared to the Mach 2.2 speed of the American F-4 Phantoms employed by the Israeli Airforce. The plane is said to outperform any known Western aircraft including the Phantoms.

There was no information as to how the two MIGs were detected but the fact that they were able to come within seconds flying time of Israeli territory was considered to have serious implications for Israeli defenses. Some sources said today that the Russians may have been trying to test the capabilities of Israel's reported new, highly sophisticated anti-aircraft weapons, in which case the overflights may be repeated. The MIG-23s have been kept heretofore well inside Egypt to protect such vital targets as Cairo, the Aswan Dam and Soviet-manned SAM missile sites. Reports several weeks ago said that MIG-23s were seen in the Suez Canal zone and even over the waterway.

American intelligence, however, has insisted all along that the planes are intended only for a defensive role inside Egypt. According to foreign sources there are no more than four-six MIG-23s in Egypt, all manned by Russian pilots. Some Israeli circles viewed the overflights as a Soviet demonstration of strength in support of Egypt timed to coincide with President Anwar Sadat's visit to Moscow. Another theory was that the Russians have taken over intelligence tasks carried out until now by Russian planes piloted by Egyptians. One such plane, a Sukhoi-7 fighter-bomber was shot down by Israeli gunners over the Suez Canal last month.

## NIXON GOING TO MOSCOW FOR SUMMIT CONFERENCE; MIDEAST PRINCIPAL TOPIC Possible US-USSR Agreement Seen

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12 (JTA)--President Nixon announced today that he would visit Moscow late next May for a summit conference and that the Middle East would be a principal topic of discussion with Soviet leaders. In disclosing that the confer-

ence will take place after his planned visit to Peking, the President indicated a possibility that a Soviet-American agreement on the Middle East might be reached even before he left Washington for Moscow. This indication came after he said that an agreement might be obtained on limiting nuclear weapons in advance of the Moscow summit meeting and thus make lengthy discussions on that subject superfluous. The same, he added, could be true of the Middle East. The President said that besides the Middle East and strategic arms limitation, the Moscow discussions would include a number of other areas presently under negotiations between the US and the Soviet Union.

He did not identify the other areas for discussion but his remark gave rise to speculation that the Middle East problem is one that occupies top priority for both countries. President Nixon made his announcement in a rare appearance in the White House briefing room where reporters gather daily for briefings from press officers. The President told newsmen that the Berlin agreement led him to believe that the time was now ripe for a summit conference. He said that significant progress has been made during the past two years in Soviet-American relations and that he wanted a discussion with Soviet leaders. The official invitation was brought to him last month when Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko visited the White House. The President said that Secretary of State William P. Rogers and Henry Kissinger, the President's advisor on security affairs would be part of the small group which will accompany him to Moscow.

## Summit Influence On Visas, VOA Program

Nixon added that his trips to both Peking and Moscow would be preceded by intensive discussions between American officials and their counterparts in China and the USSR to make sure the summit conference will serve a useful purpose. The President cautioned against speculation that his trips to Peking and Moscow were intended to exploit differences between the two major Communist powers. There was speculation here, however, that Nixon's announcement that he would visit Moscow next spring would put a damper on the current visit to Moscow by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt. He was said to have gone there to obtain assurances of continued strong Soviet political and military support for Egypt and for his pledge that this year will be the decisive one for an interim agreement with Israel on the Suez Canal.

Some observers felt that Nixon's announcement confirmed their expectations during the past two years that a final settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict would be determined by an agreement between the two superpowers. That speculation was given additional credence today when the President named the Middle East among the areas on which the US and Soviet Union were presently having negotiations. Some informed observers believe that arrangements for Nixon's visit to Moscow were behind the State Department's opposition to moves in both houses of Congress for legislation which would empower the government to issue 30,000 non-quota visas for Soviet Jews wishing to emigrate to the US and the Voice of America's reluctance to inaugurate Yiddish language broad-

casts to Soviet Jews. Both moves would be regarded as affronts by Soviet leaders and thus unsupportable at a time when a summit conference was being arranged, the State Department is said to feel.

#### SAPIR: DOMESTIC DEFENSE BUDGET MONEY WILL NOT BE DIVERTED TO OTHER AREAS

TEL AVIV, Oct. 12 (JTA)--Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir declared as absolutely unfounded, rumors that money from the national defense budget would be diverted from defense items to help solve social problems. In a broadcast interview yesterday over the armed forces radio service, Sapir said that whatever money was needed for Phantoms, Skyhawks, tanks, armored half-tracks and electronic devices for the military was "sacred" and would not be used for other purposes. He did not say however whether that section of the military budget paid for by Israeli pounds would or would not be cut. "Our problem is not dollars. Our problem is Israeli pounds and if we print more pounds it would mean catastrophe so that we have to make do with the pounds we have," Sapir said.

Regarding other economic matters, Sapir said he supported proposed labor legislation that would outlaw strikes by government and public service employees for the duration of their contracts. He confirmed that higher cost of living allowances would be paid beginning Jan. 1, 1972 but warned that "it will not be gold from the sky." He said income taxes may be lowered but did not specify by how much or who would benefit. Finally, Sapir said Israel hoped for more grants from the United States--\$200 million in economic aid and \$300 million as a loan.

#### MRS. SHOSHANA SAPIR DIES AT 64

TEL AVIV, Oct. 12 (JTA)--Funeral services were held today in Kfar Saba for Mrs. Shoshana Sapir, wife of Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir, who died yesterday after a prolonged illness at the age of 64. The funeral was attended by Cabinet ministers. Mrs. Sapir was born in Poland and came to Palestine in 1929. She joined a kibbutz and later moved to Kfar Saba where the Sapirs made their home. Mrs. Sapir was active in women's organizations and in welfare institutions sponsored by Histadrut. She was instrumental in getting student fellowships for deserving children of under-privileged families.

#### BARBIE REPORTEDLY IN LA PAZ

PARIS, Oct. 12 (JTA)--An East German association of former deportees, "The Union of Former Buchenwald-Dora Detainees," announced today that former gestapo official, Klaus Barbie, is living in La Paz, Bolivia under the assumed name of "Wilm." The association said that it has informed the West German State Prosecutor in charge of investigations and prosecutions of Nazi Crimes, Manfred Ludolph, of this fact. The association did not say how it managed to locate the former Nazi official nor will it release his exact address.

#### US SAID TO WARN ISRAEL IF TAIWAN EXPELLED FROM UN, ISRAEL MAY GO TOO

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12 (JTA)--The United States is said to be applying a new form of pressure on Israel to support its two-Chinas policy in the United Nations. According to unconfirmed reports, the State Department has warned Israel that if Taiwan (Nationalist China) is expelled from the UN by a majority vote of the General Assembly, Israel could be the next to go. State Department spokesman Charles Bray said today that the reported warning was not transmitted "to my knowledge." A spokesman at the Israel Embassy answered all questions on the subject with "no comment." According to informed sources, however, the matter has been discussed between the two countries.

In an interview Sunday on the CBS television program "Face the Nation," Secretary of State William P. Rogers said that if the Republic of China was expelled, it would set "a very dangerous precedent" and that he could "think of ten other nations that would be on the list in the future."

State Department officials refuse to name any of them but privately one official mentioned Israel, South Africa and Portugal as countries that have many enemies that might try to oust them from the world body. Asked whether Israel was vulnerable to expulsion, Bray declined to comment specifically. However, he remarked that as a "general response" it was "obvious that when a precedent is admitted in one case it can raise serious cases for the future." In his speech to the UN General Assembly, Rogers said that to open "the path of expulsion" for "one would be to open it for many." The question of how Israel will vote on the China question is expected to be the main topic of discussion between Secretary Rogers and Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban when they resume their talks here Thursday. The subject reportedly was discussed last week at the meeting between Assistant Secretary of State Joseph J. Sisco and Israeli Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin.

Sisco was said to have warned the Israeli envoy of the dangers and pitfalls of voting Taiwan out of the UN and urged Israel to cast its vote in favor of the two-Chinas policy. That policy would keep Taiwan's seat in the General Assembly although the Security Council seat and the representation of China as such would pass to Peking. Israel has no diplomatic relations with either Peking or Taiwan. But Israel recognized the Peking regime during the early 1950s.

#### EBAN TO SEEK REVOCATION OF VIRTUAL US EMBARGO ON MORE PLANES TO ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Oct. 12 (JTA)--The Cabinet was reportedly briefed tonight by Premier Golda Meir on recent developments in US-Israeli relations in the aftermath of Secretary of State Rogers' speech to the UN General Assembly on Oct. 4 and his subsequent meeting with Foreign Minister Abba Eban. Eban will meet with Rogers again on Thursday. According to sources here he is expected to ask the US again to revoke what in Israel's opinion amounts to a virtual embargo on the delivery of more Phantom jets to Israel. The withholding of Phantoms at the present time is viewed by Israel as constituting blatant political pressure on a friendly nation and encouragement to Egypt to raise its demands.

Israeli circles believe in fact that the real motive behind Egypt's proposals for an interim agreement on the Suez Canal is to drive a wedge between Israel and the US. They noted that similar tactics were employed by Egypt before when the question of an over-all settlement came up. It was learned that this point has been made repeatedly by Israeli representatives in New York and Washington and in the talk last week between Ambassador Yitzhak Rabin and Assistant Secretary of State Joseph Sisco. Premier Meir, who is acting Foreign Minister in Eban's absence, reportedly told the Cabinet that the Egyptian tactics have shown signs of succeeding. She reportedly cited the differences between the US position as enunciated last March and as stated by Rogers last week as proof of an erosion in the American stand. Mrs. Meir is expected to make a major policy statement when the Knesset reconvenes for its fall session on Oct. 25. Meanwhile, observers here said that Israel will undertake a diplomatic and informational offensive to convince the US that Rogers' speech impedes Mideast peace.

### EBAN CRITICAL OF ROGERS ON TWO POINTS: CANAL CROSSING, INTERIM ACCORD ROLE

JERUSALEM, Oct. 12 (JTA)--Foreign Ministry circles said here last night that Foreign Minister Abba Eban voiced explicit criticism of the American position on an interim Suez Canal agreement when he met with Secretary of State William P. Rogers directly after the latter addressed the United Nations General Assembly in New York on Oct. 4. The disclosure was made to reporters following Rogers' assertion on the Sunday CBS "Face the Nation" television program that Eban had not criticized his speech. The Ministry circles said that Eban singled out two points in the current American position which Israel regards as an erosion of Washington's position of the recent past. These concerned an Egyptian troop crossing of the Suez Canal and Rogers' suggestion that an interim arrangement should constitute the first stage in implementation of the Security Council Resolution 242.

The US had previously been assuring Israel that an interim agreement would be independent of any final settlement. The US has also been wavering on the matter of an Egyptian troop crossing to occupy areas evacuated by Israeli forces. When the idea of an interim agreement was first broached, the US agreed with Israel that no such crossing was permissible. Ministry circles agreed that Eban did not directly criticize Rogers' Assembly speech because he had no time prior to meeting with the Secretary of State to study its full text. However, Eban was well aware of the American position and took issue with it. The circles said that Rogers' claim that his speech was not criticized by Eban was in the nature of a diplomatic evasion. The circles also questioned Rogers' assertion that his six points were not proposals but "parameters." The fact that he made them at the General Assembly gave them importance far beyond a mere expression of views, they said.

### JEWS MEMORIAL DAMAGED

COPENHAGEN, Oct. 12 (JTA)--A monument erected to the memory of a well known Jewish resistance hero, Jens Albert Ibsen, was damaged last night by unknown vandals. The monument, erected in the town of Slagelse, was found covered with a special plastic paint difficult to clean off. This is the second case in recent weeks of a resurgence of neo-Nazi anti-Semitic activities. A few weeks ago in the city park of Esbjerg, swastikas were painted on the fifty memorial tablets which mark Jewish sufferings. It is generally believed here that the two incidents were carried out by neo-Nazi elements in "retaliation" for the sabotage of the Nazi memorial park in Jutland.

### ROME PLEAS FOR SYRIAN JEWS

ROME, Oct. 12 (JTA)--The Vice-President of the Italian Senate, Prof. Piero Caleffi, has sent a formal protest to the Syrian Embassy here on the continued detention without any trial of 12 Damascus Jews, including four children. Prof. Caleffi, who also serves as president of the Italian Committee for the Protection of Jews in the Arab States, called on the Syrian government to release the arrested Jews who, he said, have committed no offense against Syrian law and Syrian Constitution.

### HISTADRUT PROGRAM FOR 1972 OUTLINED

NEW YORK, Oct. 12 (JTA)--Efforts to improve education and housing for Israel's poor were described here by Yehoshua Levy, treasurer of Histadrut, who took sharp issue with the Black Panthers and others in Israel who accuse the government of

discrimination against low income families, especially those of Oriental origin. Addressing a meeting of the executive staff of the National Committee for Labor Israel, Levy said "The facts are that last year the Israel government, Histadrut and private builders made available 32,000 new housing units of which 10,000 were reserved for new immigrants, and the rest for older settlers, including many of the low income bracket."

Continuing, Levy observed: "In the field of elementary and secondary education, there is certainly no discrimination against our Oriental Jews since education is free until the age of 15, and 60 percent of those in the upper grades of high school also are exempted from tuition fees." He said the Histadrut Scholarship Fund "is especially effective in helping teenagers of poor families to continue their education." Levy acknowledged that some 42,000 families live in sub-standard housing but said the problem could be solved within five years. The government and Histadrut have set up a low interest loan fund for those who need a down payment for homes, he said.

Referring to Histadrut programs, Levy said the largest single budget item was the nationwide medical service which covers over two million Jews and Arabs. It will require over \$200 million for the maintenance of Histadrut hospitals, clinics and related health institutions and expansion of their facilities, he said. Levy reported the opening this month of Israel's largest vocational training school in northern Tel Aviv with an enrollment of 1,500 students. He said the building cost \$3.5 million and the equipment another \$1.5 million, a large part of which came from the Lady Davis Foundation in Canada. Levy reported that the Histadrut Scholarship Fund has reached an endowment of \$1.2 million and in 1972 will grant \$240,000 for full and partial scholarships, double the amount available this year.

### RABBI CALLS FOR CONFERENCE OF MOSLEM, JEWISH RELIGIOUS LEADERS TO HELP BRING PEACE TO MIDDLE EAST

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 12 (JTA)--A rabbinical leader proposed here today that religious leaders and laymen of all faiths organize to secure Jerusalem as a holy city with complete freedom of religion and as the capital of the State of Israel. Rabbi Abraham M. Hershberg, president of the Union of Latin American Rabbis and chairman of the International Committee for Religious Freedom, also called for a conference of Moslem and Jewish religious leaders to help bring peace to the Middle East.

"The religious ideas of the Moslems and the Jews are the same," he said in a statement at a press conference here. "The Bible and the Koran of the Moslems are for peace and brotherhood and there is no reason why they cannot live in peace and harmony." Dr. Hershberg claimed that the Soviet Union was behind machinations to wrest Jerusalem from Israel and make it an international city. He also blamed "atheistic Communism" for trying to destroy peace and religious freedom in the Middle East.

### ARAB WOMEN PROTEST PRISON CONDITIONS

JERUSALEM, Oct. 12 (JTA)--Some 160 Arab women, most of them relatives of inmates at Ashkelon prison, are conducting a sit-down strike at Nablus City Hall. They are protesting what they term torture of prisoners in the top-security prison. The three-day old strike comes in the aftermath of last month's prison riot in which 10 prisoners and one warden were slightly injured. The prison houses 480 Arab terrorists.

**SPECIAL JTA ANALYSIS****ROGERS IN THE UN: FROM INITIATIVE TO APPEASEMENT**

By MURRAY ZUCKOFF, JTA News Editor

The speech by Secretary of State William P. Rogers at the General Assembly last week dispelled all the myths carefully nurtured by the administration that it was pursuing an "even handed" policy through "quiet diplomacy" as an "honest broker" and "middleman" in efforts to help achieve an interim settlement in the Middle East. The rhetoric, pretensions and prevarications of the administration's Mideast policy were laid to rest with Rogers' statement that there are "possibilities for compromise" on the question of an Egyptian military presence east of the Suez Canal. With this statement, Rogers ended any illusions - if there were any previously - that American interests in the Mideast are fundamentally, and in the long run, to aid Israel's survival.

While his compromise statement was hardly unexpected in view of recent developments, it revealed with razor sharpness that the peace initiative had evolved into a policy of appeasing Egypt. Rogers' statement caused unconcealed elation among the Egyptian delegates in the General Assembly. Mahmoud Riad, Egypt's Foreign Minister, took the American's appeasement cue seriously, for in his speech two days later in the Assembly, Riad made only a passing reference to the US policy in the Middle East, describing it as "frustrating" the cause of peace. Even this was primarily for show. Riad, in that speech, also emphasized that Egypt would not press for an Assembly debate on the Mideast, ostensibly to give the US more time to work on its efforts to help arrive at an interim agreement.

Last Friday, two days after Riad's Assembly address and four days after Rogers', the two officials met in New York. A most unusual episode followed their 75-minute meeting. State Department spokesman Robert McCloskey read a formal statement which described the meeting as a "good and useful discussion in depth on the possibility of an interim agreement which would lead toward a final peace settlement." The statement was unusual because it represented a departure from the Department's routine reaction during similar sensitive talks with Israelis that it would issue no statements in order to assure quiet diplomacy. This meeting was also in sharp contrast to the one several days earlier between Rogers and Israel's Foreign Minister Abba Eban.

**US-USSR Co-Existence And Co-Extension**

There was no public statement by McCloskey then. But it was reported that when Eban pressed Rogers for an answer as to whether or not the US would sell Israel more planes, the Secretary of State noted that this request was still under study. In diplomatic language it meant "no." Riad emerged smiling from his meeting with Rogers and agreed that "we hope these talks will be fruitful and bring peace in the area." The smile on Riad's face was not unwarranted. Egypt had been reassured publicly by Rogers during his Assembly statement and again apparently during their private meeting. At the moment, Egypt could not ask for more.

It is to Egypt's advantage to let the US bring up its heavy diplomatic artillery to convince Israel that an Egyptian military crossover is a small price to pay if it expects any further US aid. Egypt can now move in for the diplomatic kill within the Assembly. What is behind the hardening line of the US toward Israel? A number of interweaving factors in the tangled skein of international diplomacy in which the US and the Soviet Union are now antagonists and now friends in their mutual strivings

for co-existence and co-extension of their respective spheres of influence. The US, especially, is currently involved in a global strategy to assert itself in areas where its influence has been nil, as in the Peoples Republic of China; or waning, as in Japan; or lean and hungry, as in Egypt and the North African nations.

The USSR, for its part, in an effort to diminish China's role in Asia and the Middle East, is not averse to a diplomatic deal with the US in the Mideast to take a monkey off its back in terms of its overextended commitments and entanglements with the Arab-African nations. The US and USSR can mutually benefit by the presence of both in this area. Neither would like to see the other totally absent from the Middle East scene. Containment, rather than elimination, is the objective each has despite the anti-imperialist tirades by the USSR against the US, and the ballyhoo of ending Communist domination mounted by the US. Sharing the sphere of influence is less costly to both in the long run.

**Israel Needs Friends**

The US does not want the burden of being over-seer in the Mideast and the USSR does not want to be sole provider for the cantankerous and dis-united Arab states. The USSR has been humiliated by the purges of the Communist parties and the US has felt the cold squeeze of Arab boycott - real and threatened. At the moment, the US has most to gain from this game of diplomatic shuffleboard. The administration is under growing pressure within this country from oil and natural gas interests and from Arabists in the State Department to regain the foothold it lost in Egypt after the Six-Day War. To that end, Rogers' Assembly statement provided the good grammar, if not the good taste, for this objective.

Even before Rogers' speech, US efforts to integrate itself with the regime in Cairo became known in Washington. Donald C. Bergus, America's unofficial ambassador to Egypt, is going to retire. His replacement, according to all indications, is Michael Sterner, known among diplomats in Washington as a hard-line Arabist "in tune with the Arab bloc." Among other qualifications, Sterner is also a close friend of Egyptian President Sadat. The growing togetherness of the US and USSR in the international diplomatic arena and America's concomitant coldness toward Israel was displayed during the Security Council debate on Jerusalem. George Bush, the US Ambassador to the UN, maintained a stark silence while Soviet Ambassador Yakov Malik unleashed a venomous anti-Semitic attack against Israel's Ambassador Yosef Tekoah that made even some of Israel's more outspoken critics blanch.

Throughout all this, Israel becomes expendable to the US. Unlike the Arab and North African states Israel has nothing to offer the US - neither a sphere for capital investment nor territory for US military bases. Israel is, therefore, a negotiable entity so far as the US is concerned. Its only value, so far as some American diplomats are concerned, is to exist as the object of attack by terrorists and hatred by Arabs. This, as some diplomats reason, sublimates any effort to expropriate US oil interests in the Middle East. But sublimation is a temporary phenomenon. The US needs overtly friendly nations to assure its present and future investments. For this, appeasement of Arab governments is essential. With friends like the US, Israel needs friends.