



daily news bulletin

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Friday, July 21, 1972

No. 141

Russians On Way Out

REPORT SADAT STARTING OVERTURES TO U.S.

JERUSALEM, July 20 (JTA)--Within 24 hours of his announcement that he had requested the Soviet Union to withdraw its military personnel and advisors from Egypt, President Anwar Sadat was beginning to make overtures to the United States, reliable sources reported here today. (See special news report on Page 4.) The sources quoted Western diplomats as saying that Sadat has instructed his ministers to seek a top level meeting with US officials.

The first move in that direction may well have been made Monday when Sadat's advisor on security affairs, Hafez Ismail, met with the senior American diplomatic official in Cairo Joseph Greene Jr., the sources said. They said Sadat's immediate aim was to seek an early reopening of the Suez Canal, presumably under a partial settlement with Israel. The sources said further that Sadat informed the Central Committee of the Arab Socialist Union of his resumption of contacts with the US at the meeting Tuesday when he broke the news of the ouster of Soviet personnel. The Union is Egypt's only political party.

(Tass, the Soviet news agency declared last night that Russian military personnel would be withdrawn by mutual consent from Egypt because they have completed their assigned task of instructing the Egyptians how to "master Soviet military equipment." The Tass report was the first official admission from a Soviet source that Russian armed forces advisors were instructing Egyptians in the use of Soviet weapons.)

Reaction in Jerusalem to the Russian exodus continued to be guarded today. Officials pointed out that the extent of the withdrawal is still not known. The semi-official Cairo newspaper Al Ahram said today that some "instructors" would remain. Sadat himself had spoken of "advisors and experts" being asked to leave. Israeli circles are not clear on the difference between these various categories. It also remained unclear whether all or some of the Russian bases and airfields in Egypt are being vacated or whether Soviet pilots and anti-aircraft missile operators will be removed or will remain.

Gen. Haim Laskov, a former Chief of Staff of Israel's armed forces, said in a radio commentary today that he could not believe that Egypt would deliberately divest itself of the ability to deploy the complicated electronic equipment which she has received from the Soviets and which only Soviet personnel are qualified to handle.

Different Categories Of Personnel

Israeli sources noted that there are a number of types of Russian military personnel on Egyptian soil. One group, about 5000 strong, consists of advisors. They are deployed all over the country with the Egyptian Army and are found from General Headquarters all the way down the line to battalion headquarters where they advise battalion commanders though they do not themselves command.

Another group consists of instructors who are professionals and technicians. These men the sophisticated anti-aircraft missile defense system and are there for purely strategic purposes and have little or nothing to do with Egyptians. These formations include the long-range Tupolev-16 bomber

wings which maintain a close watch on NATO forces and the American Sixth Fleet; various naval units at Egyptian bases and smaller units assigned to protect vital strategic areas such as Cairo, Alexandria and the Aswan High Dam. Also included in the Soviet personnel are the pilots and service crews assigned to the MIG-23 fighters, the world's fastest combat planes which have been deployed in small numbers in Egypt. It is not known whether any of these units have or will be pulled out.

McGOVERN VOUCHES FOR ISRAEL POSITION OF AIDE ACCUSED OF PRO-ARAB BIAS

WASHINGTON, July 20 (JTA)--Democratic Presidential nominee George McGovern said today that the matter of Rick Stearns, one of his closest political campaign associates who was accused last week of being pro-Arab, has been "fully resolved" and is "cleared up." McGovern made this statement at a news conference held in the old Senate office building, in response to a question by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency regarding the accusation, which was made at the Democratic convention's Jewish Affairs Seminar in Miami Beach. The question was asked in the presence of Vice-Presidential nominee Sen. Thomas F. Eagleton and McGovern's newly appointed national campaign chairman Lawrence F. O'Brien at the conference held to announce O'Brien's appointment.

McGovern said, "This matter is fully resolved. It was a misunderstanding. Stearns has sent a statement to Jewish organizations and I understand the matter is cleared up. Stearns is not an anti-Israel person," McGovern continued. "His views are the same as mine. As far as this campaign is concerned, we are fully committed to the support of Israel," he concluded. McGovern did not name the Jewish organizations to which he said Stearns' statement was sent.

The accusations regarding Stearns' Israel position was made by Harriet Davis, a delegate to the convention from New York. She claimed that Stearns had signed pro-Arab materials and demanded Stearns' dismissal from the McGovern staff.

DISQUALIFIED ON TECHNICALITY, 3 JEWISH CANDIDATES CHALLENGE ROCKAWAY POVERTY ELECTIONS

NEW YORK, July 20 (JTA)--Tuesday's elections to the Poverty Board in the Rockaways resulted in Jews winning two seats. But three other Jewish candidates were disqualified on a technicality and are challenging the elections in court. The Jewish winners are Joseph Koenigsberg and Bernard Fuchs.

Jerome Hipscher, Murray Goldstein and Rabbi Herschel Solnica of the Young Israel of Rockaway were informed by telegram last Saturday, three days before the elections, that they were disqualified because they lived outside the designated poverty area in Arverne, a heavily Jewish-populated area with a large percentage of elderly Jewish poor.

Backed by the Jewish Community Council of Rockaway, the three, who live directly across the street from the poverty demarcation line, obtained a show cause order Tuesday morning from the State Supreme Court in Queens to stay the elections, which were scheduled to begin 10 o'clock that morning.

Justice Daniel E. Fitzpatrick ordered that the court ruling be immediately dispatched to the

Rookaway Community Corporation and to the headquarters of the Council Against Poverty (CAP). The elections took place nevertheless, minus the names of the three candidates, who charge that they were illegal because the election bylaws require five days to elapse between a disqualification notice and the day of election in order to give the disqualified candidates an opportunity to challenge the board's decision.

Rabbi Solnica called the decision an "outrage" in view of CAP's election masterplan which, he said, stipulates that all major ethnic groups may supply an alternate candidate to the one disqualified. "We were disqualified unconstitutionally without a hearing and without due process," he claimed. "Furthermore," he said, "the results give the Jewish community in Arverne absolutely no representation."

The three candidates charged their disqualification was illegal in view of a letter they had received June 20 from Corinthia Shaw, chairman of the CAP's Central Board of Elections. The letter stated, "It is my pleasure to inform you that the Central Board of Elections has reviewed your petition and has certified it. You are listed as an official candidate."

'PLEASE HELP MY HUSBAND,' TEARFUL

JUDY BEGS AMERICAN UN ENVOY

Confronts Geo. Bush In Mid-Manhattan

NEW YORK, July 20 (JTA)--Judy Silver Shapiro, tears streaming down her face and faint from a Tisha B'Av fast confronted the US Ambassador to the United Nations, George Bush, on a hot, busy mid-Manhattan street this afternoon and pleaded, "My husband, my husband, Mr. Bush, please help my husband!" Bush agreed to talk to Judy after she and a group of demonstrators on behalf of Gavriel Shapiro followed the envoy from US Mission headquarters to the restaurant where he was lunching. Bush held Judy's hand and promised her that he would do "everything that we can and will continue to help you and your husband." The Ambassador added that President Nixon is personally concerned and very aware of the happenings in your case."

Judy's attempt to see Bush began at 11 a.m. today when she and about 50 women and students held a vigil at the Dag Hammarskjold Plaza near the UN. The demonstrators represented the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry and 12 national women's organizations. At noon they moved to the US Mission. Judy, by then feeling the heat, used a megaphone to beg Bush, President Nixon and the US government to help her obtain a Russian visa to attend her husband's trial in Moscow beginning July 26.

Richard Combs, US Mission advisor for political affairs, emerged from the building and tried to comfort Judy. He put his arm around her and walked her across the street as Ambassador Bush left for lunch. The demonstrators followed him to the restaurant, but were not permitted to enter. They formed a circle outside with signs that read "Free Gavriel Shapiro." Bush apparently saw the demonstration for he left the restaurant and talked to Judy Shapiro.

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HEBRON MAYOR ASKS FOR PALESTINIAN MEDIATOR IN MIDEAST DISPUTE

JERUSALEM, July 20 (JTA)--Sheikh Mohammed Ali Jaabari, the Mayor of Hebron, wants a Palestinian to replace United Nations special envoy Gunnar V. Jarring as mediator of the Middle East conflict. Jaabari said in a radio interview last night that the Jarring mission has failed and that a Palestinian personality would be best qualified to mediate a peace settlement between Israel and the Arab states.

Jaabari suggested several possible candidates including the former Jordanian Defense Minister Anwar Nusseibe and the former Jordanian Commissioner for Jerusalem, Anwar el Khatib. Both are residents of East Jerusalem.

Mayor Jaabari was host to Israel's Transport Minister Shimon Peres yesterday. He told the Israeli official that the Israel Army was treating the Arab population on the West Bank fairly. He asked Peres to use his influence to increase the number of residents from neighboring Arab states permitted to visit their relatives on the West Bank. Peres remarked that the situation between the Jordan River and the sea, as it exists today, is the best testimony to peaceful coexistence between Arabs and Jews.

Mayor Jaabari, who maintains friendly relations with both Israeli and Jordanian officials, has been invited to visit Amman by King Hussein. The invitation was contained in a letter from the Jordanian ruler which travelers delivered to the Hebron Mayor from Amman. The invitation was seen as a step toward reconciliation between the Hashemite regime and the traditional Arab leadership on the West Bank. Mayor Jaabari has been a strong advocate of a separate Palestinian entity, a possibility that Amman views with disfavor.

LIBERALS REPLY TO HERUT.

DEFEND ELECTION REFORM STAND

JERUSALEM, July 20 (JTA)--The Liberal Party today rejected charges by their Herut partners in the Gahal faction that they violated Gahal policy by voting for an electoral reform bill in the Knesset last week. Herut had accused the Liberals of "aiding the common enemy," the Labor Alignment.

The Liberals retorted in large advertisements in Israeli newspapers today. They reminded Herut that Liberal policy has always favored direct elections over the present party slate system and that the Liberal stand on the matter was well-known when the Gahal bloc was formed in the 1960s.

"The Liberal Party has always held that only the introduction of regional-proportional representation elections can end the plethora of splinter factions and parties and pave the way for an alternative ruling party," the Liberal statement said. The Liberals rejected Herut's contention that the mixed direct elections-PR bill which the Knesset passed on its first reading was a Labor device to attain an absolute majority.

Prof. Vladimir Barbov of Kiev, a Jewish activist who was arrested for demonstrating and had his phone lines cut, has been granted a visa, Jewish sources in Russia reported.

US FRIENDSHIP FOR ISRAEL WILL NOT AFFECT ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH N. AFRICA, EXPERTS SAY

WASHINGTON, July 20 (JTA)--North African Arab states will engage in normal economic relations with the United States despite American friendship for Israel, unless the American government becomes militarily involved in the Middle East situation, a specialist on North African affairs told Congress yesterday.

Dr. William B. Quandt, a staff researcher in social science for the Rand Corporation, which does research for the federal government, said that the Israeli-Arab conflict is "less burning" in the North-African states, regardless of their affinity for the Middle East Arabs, and they consider the conflict "remote."

Quandt testified in his personal capacity before the African and Near East subcommittees of the House Foreign Affairs Committee at a hearing on North African economic development.

"If we become militarily involved it would jeopardize our relations with the Arab states and they would use their oil and natural gas resources against us," Quandt said under questioning by subcommittee chairman Lee Hamilton (D. Ind.) and Rep. John Buchanan (R. Ala.). "Short of that degree of involvement we can continue to support Israel and do business with North Africa," Quandt said.

Buchanan, referring to what he described as a "growing crisis" in America's need for oil and natural gas asked "how do we protect our interests in the oil countries and also protect Israel?" Quandt replied that the "questions of Arab-Israeli conflict are not quite as decisive in the Maghreb states (Northwest Africa) as possibly complicating our ability to obtain their resources."

Says OAU Resolution Not 'Voice of Black Africa'

Prof. I. William Zartman, head of the New York University Department of Politics, said in response to a question from Rep. Charles C. Diggs Jr. (D. Mich.) a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, that the decisions reached recently at Rabat by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) which condemned Israel "had much to do with domestic issues." The leadership at Rabat, he said, came from King Hassan of Morocco. The resolution from the OAU, he thought, was based more on Arab-African relations than the "voice of Black Africa and the Black people."

Asked afterwards by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency for his impression of the testimony on the OAU, Rep. Diggs said that the Black African states base their policy toward Israel on their bilateral relations. The OAU has a different policy "but it does not have much meaning." The "real key to Black African relations is bilateral rather than on the OAU level," Diggs said. "The Black states," he said, "may go through the multilateral motions that they don't propose to implement back home."

Destitute In Leningrad WOMAN AND CHILD CAN'T GET VISAS TO JOIN HUSBAND IN ISRAEL

LONDON, July 20 (JTA)--Paulina Epelman and her nine-year-old daughter are destitute in Leningrad, unable to obtain exit visas to Israel. Mrs. Epelman wants to join her husband, a lecturer at the University of Beersheba, Jewish sources in the Soviet Union reported today.

They said she was dismissed from her job as chief pharmacist at a Leningrad hospital after applying for a visa. Mrs. Epelman was told that she

was fired because of her behavior--trying to leave the Soviet Union to join a "traitor" in Israel. She and her child are without means of support. Mrs. Epelman has appealed to United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to intervene in her case which is a matter of basic human rights, the sources said.

Jewish sources reported that 22-year-old Yuri Pokh of Odessa has been sentenced to three years' imprisonment at a labor camp for alleged "evasion of military duty." Pokh was never called up until he applied for a visa to go to Israel, the sources said. When he received his draft call he offered to withdraw his visa application and serve his time in the Soviet Army. But the court branded him a deserter and passed sentence, the sources reported.

Sofia Vassilevna Kalestratova, a Russian woman lawyer who will defend activist Gavriel Shapiro on draft evasion charges next week, has been appointed by the Union of Moscow Lawyers to defend Shapiro's friend, Mark Nashpitz. Nashpitz has been charged with the same offense but unlike Shapiro he is being held in jail without bail. No trial date has been set.

14 CONGRESSMEN ASK ROGERS TO INTERVENE FOR RUSSIAN JEWS FACING TRIAL

NEW YORK, July 20 (JTA)--Fourteen New York Congressmen have joined in a request to Secretary of State William P. Rogers to intervene on behalf of three Russian Jews scheduled to go on trial in the USSR during the next few weeks. The trial of one of them, Gavriel Shapiro, starts in Moscow July 26. The others facing trial are Vladimir Markman of Sverdlovsk and Iliya Glezer.

The Congressmen's action was announced by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry whose chairman-elect, Stanley Lowell, reported that Soviet Jews fear the trials will be a repetition of the Leningrad "show trials" of 1971. Those trials resulted in harsh sentences for the defendants.

The Congressmen who have communicated with Rogers on the matter are: Joseph P. Addabbo; Herman Badillo; Frank J. Brasco; Emanuel Celler; Edward Koch; Bertram Podell; Peter W. Rodino; John J. Rooney; Lester Wolff; and Charles B. Rangel, Democrats; and Hamilton Fish Jr.; James R. Grover; and Norman Lent, Republicans.

Synagogue Council Appeals To Nixon

The Synagogue Council of America appealed to President Nixon last night to aid Gavriel Shapiro and his American wife, Rabbi Irving Lehrman, president of the Synagogue Council, which represents Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Judaism in America, said in a telegram to Nixon:

"The Synagogue Council urges you to take every appropriate measure to secure clemency and permission to join his American wife in the USA on grounds of compassion for Gavriel Shapiro about to go on trial in Moscow. His crime is loyalty to his faith and a desire to live a Jewish life. We hope our government will protest the action against Shapiro as a violation of humanitarian and civil liberties principles."

(In B'yston today, 25 youths began a three-week hunger strike in symbolic protest on behalf of Soviet Jewry.)

(In London, Tisha B'Av, the ninth day of the Hebrew calendar month of Av on which observant Jews mourn the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, was designated a day of intercession for Gavriel Shapiro, a Jewish activist in Moscow who goes on trial for alleged draft evasion next week.)

SPECIAL JTA NEWS REPORT**OUSTER OF RUSSIANS FROM EGYPT
POSES MANY QUESTIONS**

By JOSEPH POLAKOFF

(Chief JTA Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, July 20 (JTA)--Informed Western sources appeared divided today over whether the sudden reduction of the Soviet presence in Egypt presaged an advancement toward a settlement of the Israeli-Arab conflict or boded a greater threat toward a renewal of hostilities by Egypt. One diplomat told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "This looks like (Egyptian President Anwar) Sadat has given up on Moscow and will look to the Americans for help to reopen the Suez and other things, which is all to the good."

Another, however, cautioned: "Tell your people not to start dancing the Hora. There's no telling what Sadat may do now because the Soviets held him back to avoid a military confrontation with the United States. They may not be in a position to tell Sadat to stop using his weapons against Israel if only to shore up his domestic position."

Diplomats generally posed the question of "what do we really know of what is happening" between the Cairo and Moscow governments? They suggested a close watch on reaction from Moscow and Cairo, particularly domestic reaction in Egypt, to supply more definitive pointers that will signify the meaning of Sadat's move. Moscow has already announced, through a Tass dispatch, that the Soviet withdrawals are by mutual consent. The announcement obviously was intended to put the best possible face on the development.

In their speculation here, knowledgeable sources were asking questions such as the number of Soviet personnel in Egypt--estimated at from 12,000-20,000--and how many of them are to leave; whether advisors, training personnel or combat troops are departing; whether Soviet naval base facilities are to be withdrawn, though they service and supply Soviet naval vessels in the Mediterranean; what arrangements may or may not have been made to continue the Soviet supply of spare parts and munitions for missiles, tanks, planes and other equipment? The Russians are believed to have invested from \$5-\$7 billion in Egyptian military capabilities.

How these latest developments will affect the psychological climate in Israel was also a subject of intense speculation here during the past two days. Observers are asking whether the lessening of Soviet forces in Egypt means that Israel will commensurably lose its fears of attack from across the Suez and therefore become less anxious and less dependent on military supplies from the US? Will Israel, therefore, be more amenable to withdrawal from part or most of the Egyptian territory it now occupies? The consensus of observers here is that "it is too early to tell."

Observers seemed generally to agree, with some qualification, that the strong American military posture in the Mediterranean, the continuing supply of American weapons to Israel and the outspoken assurances to Israel by both President Nixon and his Democratic opponent, Sen. George McGovern, in this election year, had their effect on Sadat's thinking.

The other side of the coin, observers speculated, was the continued refusal of the Soviet government to provide offensive weapons in large quantities to Egypt in view of the Kremlin's desire to avoid a showdown with the US, particularly in an election year, and the Soviet government's prime desire to reach a detente in Western Eur-

ope and with the US.

Another factor speculated upon freely is the American success in persuading some Arab states to look to the US as a friendly power rather than a hostile one, despite its support for Israel. They refer to the resumption of diplomatic relations between the US and Yemen two weeks ago; Yemen was the first of the Arab countries that broke with the US at the time of the Six-Day War to resume ties. They note that Sudan, on the verge of diplomatic relations with Washington, and current American trade talks with Algeria are important factors effecting Cairo's thinking.

What processes relating to the Middle East may have been put into motion as a result of the US-Soviet summit conference in Moscow in May are still unknown, at least publicly. But Cairo is doubtlessly aware that five years of association with the Soviet government has brought Egypt neither peace, a reopened Suez Canal or return of the Sinai. In this connection, some diplomats here observed that the closer the US government gets to the Arab countries, the more likely an "even-handed" US policy in the Middle East will emerge. They pointed out that the Nixon policy is still committed to the Security Council's Resolution 242 of Nov. 22, 1967 as the basic framework for a Mideast settlement.

**ARGENTINE JEWS ASK INVESTIGATION TO
TRACE SOURCE OF ANTI-SEMITIC LEAFLETS**

BUENOS AIRES, July 20 (JTA)--The Jewish community has asked for an investigation to discover who is behind a new wave of anti-Semitic leaflets being distributed house-to-house here. In a letter to the Minister of Interior, Aruro Mor Roig, the DAIA, the central representative body of Argentine Jewry, described the four-page leaflets as being "chock-full of false allegations about Jews, insults and canards." The DAIA said the material, which first appeared here last Feb., was also being sent to military leaders, trade union officials and members of the clergy.

The letter said the anonymity of the leaflets made it difficult to trace the authors or to find out who finances, prints and distributes the material. Last Feb. the leaflets were sent out in envelopes bearing the return address of a Catholic congregation, "Sisters of the Holy Heart." The congregation publicly dissociated itself from the anti-Semitic campaign. The leaflets are now distributed in blank envelopes.

**OLDEST JEWISH SCHOOL IN
FRANCE MARKS CENTENARY**

NEW YORK, July 20 (JTA)--Prof. Rene Cassin, president of the Alliance Israelite Universelle and a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, presided over the centenary celebration of the Normal School of the Alliance Israelite Universelle in Paris, according to a cable just received by the American Friends of the Alliance in New York. The school, the oldest Jewish school in France, was founded in 1872 and has trained qualified teachers for the Alliance schools in various countries of the Balkans, Near and Middle East and North Africa. It is estimated that over 650,000 Jewish children received their general and religious education in Alliance schools.

Former Premier David Ben-Gurion received the ZOA's Theodor Herzl Award last night in recognition of his part in establishing the State of Israel and safeguarding it during the development. The award was presented at the closing session of ZOA's 75th Jubilee Convention by ZOA president Herman L. Weisman.



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JERUSALEM, July 20 (JTA)--Sheikh Mohammed Ali Jaabari, the Mayor of Hebron, wants a Palestinian to replace United Nations special envoy Gunnar V. Jarring as mediator of the Middle East conflict. Jaabari said in a radio interview last night that the Jarring mission has failed and that a Palestinian personality would be best qualified to mediate a peace settlement between Israel and the Arab states.

Jaabari suggested several possible candidates including the former Jordanian Defense Minister Anwar Nusseibe and the former Jordanian Commissioner for Jerusalem, Anwar el Khatib. Both are residents of East Jerusalem.

Mayor Jaabari was host to Israel's Transport Minister Shimon Peres yesterday. He told the Israeli official that the Israel Army was treating the Arab population on the West Bank fairly. He asked Peres to use his influence to increase the number of residents from neighboring Arab states permitted to visit their relatives on the West Bank. Peres remarked that the situation between the Jordan River and the sea, as it exists today, is the best testimony to peaceful coexistence between Arabs and Jews.

Mayor Jaabari, who maintains friendly relations with both Israeli and Jordanian officials, has been invited to visit Amman by King Hussein. The invitation was contained in a letter from the Jordanian ruler which travelers delivered to the Hebron Mayor from Amman. The invitation was seen as a step toward reconciliation between the Hashemite regime and the traditional Arab leadership on the West Bank. Mayor Jaabari has been a strong advocate of a separate Palestinian entity, a possibility that Amman views with disfavor.

LIBERALS REPLY TO HERUT,

DEFEND ELECTION REFORM STAND

JERUSALEM, July 20 (JTA)--The Liberal Party today rejected charges by their Herut partners in the Gahal faction that they violated Gahal policy by voting for an electoral reform bill in the Knesset last week. Herut had accused the Liberals of "aiding the common enemy," the Labor Alignment.

The Liberals retorted in large advertisements in Israeli newspapers today. They reminded Herut that Liberal policy has always favored direct elections over the present party slate system and that the Liberal stand on the matter was well-known when the Gahal bloc was formed in the 1960s.

"The Liberal Party has always held that only the introduction of regional-proportional representation elections can end the plethora of splinter factions and parties and pave the way for an alternative ruling party," the Liberal statement said. The Liberals rejected Herut's contention that the mixed direct elections-PR bill which the Knesset passed on its first reading was a Labor device to attain an absolute majority.

Prof. Vladimir Barbov of Kiev, a Jewish activist who was arrested for demonstrating and had his phone lines cut, has been granted a visa, Jewish sources in Russia reported.

US FRIENDSHIP FOR ISRAEL WILL NOT AFFECT ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH N. AFRICA, EXPERTS SAY

WASHINGTON, July 20 (JTA)--North African Arab states will engage in normal economic relations with the United States despite American friendship for Israel, unless the American government becomes militarily involved in the Middle East situation, a specialist on North African affairs told Congress yesterday.

Dr. William B. Quandt, a staff researcher in social science for the Rand Corporation, which does research for the federal government, said that the Israeli-Arab conflict is "less burning" in the North-African states, regardless of their affinity for the Middle East Arabs, and they consider the conflict "remote."

Quandt testified in his personal capacity before the African and Near East subcommittees of the House Foreign Affairs Committee at a hearing on North African economic development.

"If we become militarily involved it would jeopardize our relations with the Arab states and they would use their oil and natural gas resources against us," Quandt said under questioning by subcommittee chairman Lee Hamilton (D. Ind.) and Rep. John Buchanan (R. Ala.). "Short of that degree of involvement we can continue to support Israel and do business with North Africa," Quandt said.

Buchanan, referring to what he described as a "growing crisis" in America's need for oil and natural gas asked "how do we protect our interests in the oil countries and also protect Israel?" Quandt replied that the "questions of Arab-Israeli conflict are not quite as decisive in the Maghreb states (Northwest Africa) as possibly complicating our ability to obtain their resources."

Says OAU Resolution Not 'Voice of Black Africa'

Prof. I. William Zartman, head of the New York University Department of Politics, said in response to a question from Rep. Charles C. Diggs Jr. (D. Mich.) a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, that the decisions reached recently at Rabat by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) which condemned Israel "had much to do with domestic issues." The leadership at Rabat, he said, came from King Hassan of Morocco. The resolution from the OAU, he thought, was based more on Arab-African relations than the "voice of Black Africa and the Black people."

Asked afterwards by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency for his impression of the testimony on the OAU, Rep. Diggs said that the Black African states base their policy toward Israel on their bilateral relations. The OAU has a different policy "but it does not have much meaning." The "real key to Black African relations is bilateral rather than on the OAU level," Diggs said. "The Black states," he said, "may go through the multilateral motions that they don't propose to implement back home."

Destitute In Leningrad WOMAN AND CHILD CAN'T GET VISAS TO JOIN HUSBAND IN ISRAEL

LONDON, July 20 (JTA)--Paulina Epelman and her nine-year-old daughter are destitute in Leningrad, unable to obtain exit visas to Israel. Mrs. Epelman wants to join her husband, a lecturer at the University of Beersheba, Jewish sources in the Soviet Union reported today.

They said she was dismissed from her job as chief pharmacist at a Leningrad hospital after applying for a visa. Mrs. Epelman was told that she

was fired because of her behavior--trying to leave the Soviet Union to join a "traitor" in Israel. She and her child are without means of support. Mrs. Epelman has appealed to United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to intervene in her case which is a matter of basic human rights, the sources said.

Jewish sources reported that 22-year-old Yuri Pokh of Odessa has been sentenced to three years' imprisonment at a labor camp for alleged "evasion of military duty." Pokh was never called up until he applied for a visa to go to Israel, the sources said. When he received his draft call he offered to withdraw his visa application and serve his time in the Soviet Army. But the court branded him a deserter and passed sentence, the sources reported.

Sofia Vassilevna Kalestratova, a Russian woman lawyer who will defend activist Gavriel Shapiro on draft evasion charges next week, has been appointed by the Union of Moscow Lawyers to defend Shapiro's friend, Mark Nashpitz. Nashpitz has been charged with the same offense but unlike Shapiro he is being held in jail without bail. No trial date has been set.

14 CONGRESSMEN ASK ROGERS TO INTERVENE FOR RUSSIAN JEWS FACING TRIAL

NEW YORK, July 20 (JTA)--Fourteen New York Congressmen have joined in a request to Secretary of State William P. Rogers to intervene on behalf of three Russian Jews scheduled to go on trial in the USSR during the next few weeks. The trial of one of them, Gavriel Shapiro, starts in Moscow July 26. The others facing trial are Vladimir Markman of Sverdlovsk and Iliya Glezer.

The Congressmen's action was announced by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry whose chairman-elect, Stanley Lowell, reported that Soviet Jews fear the trials will be a repetition of the Leningrad "show trials" of 1971. Those trials resulted in harsh sentences for the defendants.

The Congressmen who have communicated with Rogers on the matter are: Joseph P. Addabbo; Herman Badillo; Frank J. Brasco; Emanuel Celler; Edward Koch; Bertram Podell; Peter W. Rodino; John J. Rooney; Lester Wolff; and Charles B. Rangel, Democrats; and Hamilton Fish Jr.; James R. Grover; and Norman Lent, Republicans.

Synagogue Council Appeals To Nixon

The Synagogue Council of America appealed to President Nixon last night to aid Gavriel Shapiro and his American wife, Rabbi Irving Lehrman, president of the Synagogue Council, which represents Orthodox, Conservative and Reform Judaism in America, said in a telegram to Nixon:

"The Synagogue Council urges you to take every appropriate measure to secure clemency and permission to join his American wife in the USA on grounds of compassion for Gavriel Shapiro about to go on trial in Moscow. His crime is loyalty to his faith and a desire to live a Jewish life. We hope our government will protest the action against Shapiro as a violation of humanitarian and civil liberties principles."

(In B'yston today, 25 youths began a three-week hunger strike in symbolic protest on behalf of Soviet Jewry.)

(In London, Tisha B'Av, the ninth day of the Hebrew calendar month of Av on which observant Jews mourn the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem, was designated a day of intercession for Gavriel Shapiro, a Jewish activist in Moscow who goes on trial for alleged draft evasion next week.)

SPECIAL JTA NEWS REPORT**OUSTER OF RUSSIANS FROM EGYPT
POSES MANY QUESTIONS**

By JOSEPH POLAKOFF

(Chief JTA Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, July 20 (JTA)--Informed Western sources appeared divided today over whether the sudden reduction of the Soviet presence in Egypt presaged an advancement toward a settlement of the Israeli-Arab conflict or boded a greater threat toward a renewal of hostilities by Egypt. One diplomat told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "This looks like (Egyptian President Anwar) Sadat has given up on Moscow and will look to the Americans for help to reopen the Suez and other things, which is all to the good."

Another, however, cautioned: "Tell your people not to start dancing the Hora. There's no telling what Sadat may do now because the Soviets held him back to avoid a military confrontation with the United States. They may not be in a position to tell Sadat to stop using his weapons against Israel if only to shore up his domestic position."

Diplomats generally posed the question of "what do we really know of what is happening" between the Cairo and Moscow governments? They suggested a close watch on reaction from Moscow and Cairo, particularly domestic reaction in Egypt, to supply more definitive pointers that will signify the meaning of Sadat's move. Moscow has already announced, through a Tass dispatch, that the Soviet withdrawals are by mutual consent. The announcement obviously was intended to put the best possible face on the development.

In their speculation here, knowledgeable sources were asking questions such as the number of Soviet personnel in Egypt--estimated at from 12,000-20,000--and how many of them are to leave; whether advisors, training personnel or combat troops are departing; whether Soviet naval base facilities are to be withdrawn, though they service and supply Soviet naval vessels in the Mediterranean; what arrangements may or may not have been made to continue the Soviet supply of spare parts and munitions for missiles, tanks, planes and other equipment? The Russians are believed to have invested from \$5-\$7 billion in Egyptian military capabilities.

How these latest developments will affect the psychological climate in Israel was also a subject of intense speculation here during the past two days. Observers are asking whether the lessening of Soviet forces in Egypt means that Israel will commensurably lose its fears of attack from across the Suez and therefore become less anxious and less dependent on military supplies from the US? Will Israel, therefore, be more amenable to withdrawal from part or most of the Egyptian territory it now occupies? The consensus of observers here is that "it is too early to tell."

Observers seemed generally to agree, with some qualification, that the strong American military posture in the Mediterranean, the continuing supply of American weapons to Israel and the outspoken assurances to Israel by both President Nixon and his Democratic opponent, Sen. George McGovern, in this election year, had their effect on Sadat's thinking.

The other side of the coin, observers speculated, was the continued refusal of the Soviet government to provide offensive weapons in large quantities to Egypt in view of the Kremlin's desire to avoid a showdown with the US, particularly in an election year, and the Soviet government's prime desire to reach a detente in Western Eur-

ope and with the US.

Another factor speculated upon freely is the American success in persuading some Arab states to look to the US as a friendly power rather than a hostile one, despite its support for Israel. They refer to the resumption of diplomatic relations between the US and Yemen two weeks ago; Yemen was the first of the Arab countries that broke with the US at the time of the Six-Day War to resume ties. They note that Sudan, on the verge of diplomatic relations with Washington, and current American trade talks with Algeria are important factors effecting Cairo's thinking.

What processes relating to the Middle East may have been put into motion as a result of the US-Soviet summit conference in Moscow in May are still unknown, at least publicly. But Cairo is doubtlessly aware that five years of association with the Soviet government has brought Egypt neither peace, a reopened Suez Canal or return of the Sinai. In this connection, some diplomats here observed that the closer the US government gets to the Arab countries, the more likely an "even-handed" US policy in the Middle East will emerge. They pointed out that the Nixon policy is still committed to the Security Council's Resolution 242 of Nov. 22, 1967 as the basic framework for a Mideast settlement.

**ARGENTINE JEWS ASK INVESTIGATION TO
TRACE SOURCE OF ANTI-SEMITIC LEAFLETS**

BUENOS AIRES, July 20 (JTA)--The Jewish community has asked for an investigation to discover who is behind a new wave of anti-Semitic leaflets being distributed house-to-house here. In a letter to the Minister of Interior, Aruro Mor Roig, the DAIA, the central representative body of Argentine Jewry, described the four-page leaflets as being "chock-full of false allegations about Jews, insults and canards." The DAIA said the material, which first appeared here last Feb., was also being sent to military leaders, trade union officials and members of the clergy.

The letter said the anonymity of the leaflets made it difficult to trace the authors or to find out who finances, prints and distributes the material. Last Feb. the leaflets were sent out in envelopes bearing the return address of a Catholic congregation, "Sisters of the Holy Heart." The congregation publicly dissociated itself from the anti-Semitic campaign. The leaflets are now distributed in blank envelopes.

**OLDEST JEWISH SCHOOL IN
FRANCE MARKS CENTENARY**

NEW YORK, July 20 (JTA)--Prof. Rene Cassin, president of the Alliance Israelite Universelle and a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, presided over the centenary celebration of the Normal School of the Alliance Israelite Universelle in Paris, according to a cable just received by the American Friends of the Alliance in New York. The school, the oldest Jewish school in France, was founded in 1872 and has trained qualified teachers for the Alliance schools in various countries of the Balkans, Near and Middle East and North Africa. It is estimated that over 650,000 Jewish children received their general and religious education in Alliance schools.

Former Premier David Ben-Gurion received the ZOA's Theodor Herzl Award last night in recognition of his part in establishing the State of Israel and safeguarding it during the development. The award was presented at the closing session of ZOA's 75th Jubilee Convention by ZOA president Herman L. Weisman.