



daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency 165 West 46th St., New York, N.Y. 10036

Contents copyright: Republication only by previous arrangement

Vol. XL — Fifty-Sixth Year

Wednesday, May 23, 1973

No. 100

MRS. MEIR: NIXON WILL NOT LET ISRAEL DOWN DURING SUMMIT TALKS WITH BREZHNEV

JERUSALEM, May 22 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir said today that she was convinced that President Nixon would not let Israel down in his summit talks with Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev in Washington next month. She said she anticipated no change in U.S., Middle East policy and could only hope for a change for the better in Brezhnev's policy.

Mrs. Meir spoke and answered questions at a Foreign Press Association luncheon here. She said there had been "no basic differences of opinion on questions of policy with the Nixon Administration" since she took office. She said that Nixon did not doubt the sincerity of Israel's desire for peace and that he believed that a strong Israel was the best guarantee of peace in the region. Mrs. Meir added that Nixon had reason to be satisfied with America's Middle East policy.

Referring to the Watergate scandal, Mrs. Meir said it was sad and disturbing for friends of the U.S. and friends of Nixon. She said she "did not know the first thing" about the affair itself but could state firmly that "nothing whatever has changed" in relations between Israel and the U.S. Government and between Israel and Nixon.

Mrs. Meir evaded questions as to whether she plans to remain in office after next fall's national elections. "What would Israeli journalists do to me, supposing I decided to stand for re-election, and I told the foreign press first?" she asked. She promised that she would decide before Oct. "and the secret will get around fast enough." The Israeli Premier said that doctors who examined her during a hospital checkup last week had not advised her one way or the other but only begged her not to cite them as witnesses whatever her decision.

WEST GERMANY, USSR, PLEDGE TO SUPPORT STEPS TOWARD MIDEAST PEACE

BONN, May 22 (JTA)--West Germany and the Soviet Union expressed concern today over continuing dangerous tensions in the Middle East and pledged to support all efforts toward achieving a just and lasting peace within the framework of the Security Council's Resolution 242. The statement was contained in a joint communique issued at the close of talks here between Chancellor Willy Brandt and Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev.

The Foreign Ministry, meanwhile, quashed rumors that Brandt had postponed his visit to Israel, scheduled for next month, until sometime next fall. The rumors were attributed to a misunderstanding stemming from remarks by the West German Foreign Minister Walter Scheel at a press conference today in Cairo. Scheel was reported to have said that the Chancellor's visit to Israel was expected "to take place some time this year, possibly in the autumn." Newsmen were puzzled as the dates of Brandt's visit were announced some time ago. The Foreign Ministry confirmed that the trip would take place June 7-11.

At his Cairo news conference, Scheel said he wanted to "repeat that there are no special relations between West Germany and Israel." He said that "West Germany has good relations of a special character" with Israel and also good relations with the Arab states. He said Israel was not trying to influence West Germany and that West Germany

would not permit anyone to exert influence.

Observers here said that Scheel appeared to be varying the formula on Bonn's relations with Israel. They noted that several months ago the Foreign Ministry spoke of a "special relationship" between Germany and Israel but now refers to "good relations of a special character." They said, however, that both sides seemed to prefer the latter formulation.

ARAB CONFERENCE LAUNCHES ATTACK ON ISRAEL, CANADIAN JEWS

MONTREAL, May 22 (JTA)--The Federation of Canadian Arab Societies demanded last night the removal from office of Foreign Affairs Minister Mitchell Sharp on grounds that he "cannot be impartial in the vital Israeli-Arab conflict because he yields to pressure from the sizeable Zionist vote in his constituency." Sharp is a member of Parliament from Toronto.

The demand from the group, which represents 10 Arab organizations in Canada, came at the close of a two-day conference here. The conference was addressed both by Arabs and by Canadian supporters of the Arab cause, one of whom attacked the Jewish community in Quebec. There are 80,000 Arabs in Canada, half of them in Quebec Province, but only 1000 belong to the Federation. There are an estimated 300,000 Jews in Canada and approximately 127,000 live in Quebec Province.

Resolutions adopted at the conference urged the Canadian Government to make representations to Israel "regarding the Israeli practice of terrorizing and starving the Palestinian people," and to "safeguard the lives of 16,000 Palestinians in Israeli prisons." The conference also called on the government to "prevent terrorist acts in Canada by the Jewish Defense League and the Bnai Yehuda Association." It thanked the United Church of Canada for supporting the Palestinian cause.

Charge Jews Pollute The Atmosphere

Rene Leversque, a leader of the Quebec separatist movement, told the conference that his group supports "two homelands in the Palestinian area, one for Arabs and one for Jews." He said Israel had the right to exist and that there could be no serious possibility of destroying the Jewish State. However, he said, injustice committed against the Jews in Europe became the excuse for another injustice against the Palestinians.

Michel Chartrand, president of the National Trade Union, denounced Israel as a "bad copy of American imperialism." He claimed that the Jewish community in Quebec enjoyed more privileges than any other minority in the country, and added, "We do not want them to pollute any more the atmosphere of the country." He said Canadians were tired of being called anti-Semitic every time they criticized Israel.

REACTIONS TO WALDHEIM'S REPORT: NON-COMMITAL TO INDIFFERENCE

JERUSALEM, May 22 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir was non-committal today in her comment on United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's report on the Middle East released yesterday. She said that if Waldheim was offering the UN machinery to help bring the parties into

negotiations, that was all to the good. But, Mrs. Meir observed, Egypt in the past has rejected American efforts in that direction and the UN's peace-making record has not been a great success. She said that was the fault of the member states, not the Secretary General.

Mrs. Meir, addressing a Foreign Press Association luncheon here, claimed that the Middle East impasse was caused primarily by Arab refusal to accept Israel's existence. She said Israel's demand for secure borders was occasioned by the volatile nature of the Arab regimes which meant that one regime might not respect treaty obligations entered into by its predecessor.

She said that the Palestinians' future lay in the State of Jordan, and suggested they could call it Jordan Palestine or Palestine Jordan if they wished. She declared that the plight of the Palestinians was not comparable to Jewish homelessness because there was Jordan and 17 other Arab states open to them.

Blame Jarring For Impasse

Official circles displayed indifference to Waldheim's Middle East report, which emphasized the importance of the UN's role in finding a way to peace in the Middle East. While there was no immediate official reaction to the report, political observers expressed the feeling that Waldheim's confidence in the Security Council as an instrument for a Middle East settlement was misplaced. They noted that past resolutions by that body did nothing to reduce tension in the area.

Israeli circles claimed that it was the Secretary General's special representative to the Middle East, Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, who had jeopardized plans for an interim Suez settlement with his famous aide memoires of Feb. 1971 in which he asked both sides to state in advance what commitments they would make toward peace.

Observers saw Waldheim's call for a reappraisal of the Security Council's role in the Middle East as a possible initiative for a new formula to solve the conflict. The Arab states are reportedly pressing for the establishment of a three-member consultative committee of the Security Council to assist Dr. Jarring in a renewed peace mission. Israel is opposed to any change in Dr. Jarring's mandate and any alteration of Resolution 242.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO PROBE PLANE CRASH

TEL AVIV, May 22 (JTA)--The Air Force appointed a special committee today to investigate yesterday's plane crash which destroyed a Sephardic synagogue in Kiryat Tivon, a town east of Haifa. It was disclosed today that the plane was a jet interceptor but the type was not identified.

The pilot who bailed out was uninjured. He landed in a bush area and was able to walk to a car. He said he was the only occupant of the plane. The investigation was described as a routine measure taken whenever a mishap occurs within the armed forces. The synagogue building was empty at the time of the crash and no persons were injured.

LENINGRAD DEPUTY MAYOR, BRITISH JEWS, IN VERBAL CLASH OVER SOVIET JEWS Russian Admits Panovs In Trouble Because They Wanted To 'Change Their Nationality'

MANCHESTER, May 22 (JTA)--Deputy Mayor Yevgeny Gogolev of Leningrad met with representatives of the local Jewish community in the Lord Mayor's office today but failed to convince them

that all was well with Jews in Leningrad and in the Soviet Union generally. The Russian official and Leningrad's famed Kirov Ballet are visiting Manchester as guests of Lord Mayor Edward Grant and the City Council.

But the visit has been marred by repeated confrontations between the Russians and Jewish and non-Jewish activists demanding an end to the mistreatment of Soviet Jews. Jews are particularly incensed over the ouster of Valery Panov and his wife, Galina, from the Kirov company because they had applied for visas to go to Israel. They also continually reminded the Russians of the Jewish defendants in the Leningrad hijack trials now serving long prison terms in Soviet prisons and forced labor camps.

At a press conference yesterday, Gogolev said that "Valery and Galina Panov are in their present situation because of their bad behavior and their attempt to change their nationality." He said the same thing at his meeting with local Jews today but failed to mollify them. When he spoke of the contributions by Jews to the development of Leningrad, the delegation pointed out that Manchester Jews are in telephone contact with Jews in Leningrad and are fully aware of the harassment suffered by Jews who apply for exit visas. Gogolev said at his press conference yesterday that he numbered Jews among his "best friends."

A performance of the Kirov Ballet here was disrupted last night by shouts, catcalls and the unfurling of banners from the balcony by activists protesting the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union. Police hustled some demonstrators out of the hall but others remained and continued to interrupt the visiting artists with shouted demands for justice for Soviet Jews. No arrests were made.

The demonstrations began as soon as the audience was seated following the British national anthem. About 70 women dressed in black, members of the "35 Committee," rose in the balcony and unfurled banners referring to the Jews imprisoned after the Leningrad hijack trials and the ouster of Valery and Galina Panov from the Kirov troupe when they applied for exit visas.

JEWS ACTIVISTS STAGE HUNGER STRIKES

NEW YORK, May 22 (JTA)--Soviet Jewish activists staged simultaneous hunger strikes this weekend in Kishinev, Riga and Leningrad to protest against the increasing numbers of Jews who are refused exit visas, it was reported today by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. The strike in Leningrad also marked the second anniversary of the second Leningrad trial.

The NCSJ also reported that new exit visa requests by 15 Jews in Moscow were rejected last week by the ovir office and that a number of new requests were also turned down in Kiev and Tashkent. The refusals in Tashkent were ominous, the NCSJ said, because Jews from that city had no difficulties earlier in receiving visas. Among the Jews in Moscow who were turned down was Mark Azbel, the son of the former professor of chemical engineering, David Azbel.

According to a report received by the NCSJ, Evgeny Levich was not taken to a military camp but to a camp for "social and political misfits" operated by the military near Lake Balkal on the Soviet-Chinese border.

FULBRIGHT, JACKSON, CLASH OVER U.S. POLICIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST—State Department Sources Rap Fulbright's Suggestion Of Force As 'Irresponsible'

WASHINGTON, May 22 (JTA)—Sen. J. William Fulbright (D.Ark), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and Sen. Henry M. Jackson, a fellow Democrat, from Washington, clashed on the Senate floor yesterday over U.S. policy toward the Middle East and ways to meet the energy crisis. The two lawmakers took diametrically opposing views in speeches on American policies toward the Arab-Israeli conflict and the need for the U.S. to continue its oil imports from the Middle East.

Fulbright proposed that the U.S. work toward a "United Nations imposed solution" of the Middle East conflict to "serve all our interests" in the area. He enumerated as American interests a political settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute, the continued flow of oil, our strong "emotional" interest in Israel and the strategic interest to avoid a confrontation with the Soviet Union. Fulbright described as "extravagant," in terms of cost, a U.S. program to find alternative energy sources on a "crash basis."

Jackson declared that Fulbright's conclusion that the U.S. must deliver the future stability of the Middle East into the hands of the Security Council to ensure an adequate supply of energy "is based on a dangerously oversimplified appreciation of both the nature of our energy deficiency and of the politics of the Middle East conflict, to say nothing of a most fanciful view of the powers of the UN." Jackson has advocated a \$10-\$20 billion program by the U.S. Government to develop energy sources that would avoid U.S. reliance on fuels from abroad.

Fulbright also stated that since the U.S. may be largely dependent for a decade or more on large oil imports, "our present policy makers and policy influencers may come to the conclusion that military action is required to secure the oil resources of the Middle East, to secure our exposed 'jugular.'" He noted that there was no question that the U.S. could take over the oil-producing states by force. "We might not even have to do it ourselves," Fulbright said, "with militarily potent surrogates available in the region." He referred, in this connection, to the Shah of Iran and to Israel.

State Department spokesman John King said today that "we will not be commenting on his speech, but we will make one point. The idea of using force mentioned in his speech does not reflect in any way any thought in this Administration." Privately, Department sources indicated that Fulbright's statements regarding force were "irresponsible and shocking."

Fulbright Terms Israel A Garrison State

Fulbright in his speech urged "variations" of the proposals by Secretary of State William P. C. Rogers of Dec., 1969—the Rogers Plan—which would have Israel withdraw from virtually all of the Arab territories it seized in the 1967 Six-Day War. He also announced that his committee will hold hearings May 30-31 "on the implications of the energy problem" for U.S. foreign relations.

He said the present situation in the Mideast is due primarily to "the refusal of the U.S. Administration, backed by a heavy Congressional majority, to modify its commitment to the present policy of Israel." Fulbright described Israel as "already a garrison state" that faces the prospect of mounting terrorism, "which no amount of counter-terrorism is likely to suppress." He warned that the industrial

countries, especially the U.S. "may expect mounting threats" to their oil requirements by "radicalized Arab regimes."

Fulbright asserted, "The question is whether it is not our own policies which are driving America's Arab friends toward radicalization and revolution." The Arkansas Senator predicted "a selective (Arab) boycott of the U.S. coupled with the establishment of exclusive political and business arrangements with Europe and Japan."

He said he accepted the "validity" of "strong emotional interests" of Americans in Israel. He reiterated his support for an American-Israeli bi-lateral treaty guaranteeing Israel's security on condition that it is accompanied by "an identical multi-lateral one by the great powers acting through the UN and that Israel "withdraw from most, though not all of the territories occupied in 1967." Fulbright did not define the extent of such withdrawal. The Rogers Plan called for only minor adjustments to the pre-1967 Israeli boundaries.

Hits Revival Of Rogers Plan

Jackson took sharp issue with Fulbright's advocacy of a UN imposed solution which he called a view that was "properly laid to rest with the demise of the Rogers Plan two years ago," adding: "We must leave it to the two parties themselves the task of finding a resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict." He observed that "the crucial first step toward that objective is for the Arab states to agree to conduct negotiations with Israel."

Jackson warned that the effort "to exhume" the Rogers Plan "can only encourage Egypt to continue to refuse to begin peace negotiations." He said the principal fault of Fulbright's analysis of the energy problem is its primary assumption "that the threat to the continued delivery of Middle East oil arises from our support of Israel. The fact is," Jackson claimed, "that the principal threat to the oil producing countries of the Middle East is not Israel but rather the have-not Arab countries," such as Iraq, Syria, Egypt and Yemen.

TERMINIST INDICTED FOR BOMB PLOT AGAINST ISRAELI INSTALLATIONS

NEW YORK, May 22 (JTA)—Khalid Dahham al-Jawari, an Iraqi citizen, was indicted today in absentia by a federal grand jury for the attempted bombing last March of the El Al freight terminal at Kennedy Airport and the Israel Discount Bank and First Israel Bank and Trust Co. of New York in mid-town Manhattan. In each instance explosive devices were found in rented cars that had been parked near the Israeli installations. Al Jawari has not been apprehended and is believed to have escaped to Europe.

Deputy Premier Yigal Allon said today that Israel has taken steps to alleviate the situation of Jews in Iraq and Syria but did not disclose the nature of the steps. Allon spoke in reply to questions at a meeting with high school students in Haifa.

The Bus and Cars Corp., an American firm, may enter into partnership shortly with the Israeli Ashdod Cars Co. to produce buses to meet Israel's rapidly growing public transportation needs. The American firm has reportedly been given an order for 50 specially equipped buses for the Dan bus cooperative in Tel Aviv.

