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ISRAELI LEADERS BELIEVE NIXON-BREZHNEV TALKS 'SALUTARY' FOR SOVIET JEWS

JERUSALEM, June 21 (JTA)--Israeli leaders expressed the belief today that the Nixon-Brezhnev summit talks currently in progress will have a salutary effect on the situation of Jews in the Soviet Union.

A senior government official said today that the Soviet Communist Party Secretary would probably trade a decrease in the harassment of Jews for U.S. concessions in other areas and that Israel hoped this would be manifested after Brezhnev returns home.

The official said that Washington had informed Jerusalem that the issue of harassment of Jews seeking exit visas was raised with the Russians during the pre-summit contacts and that it probably came up during the actual talks.

Premier Golda Meir told Tel Aviv University students at a question-and-answer session today that the fact that Brezhnev has admitted in Washington that there are Russian Jews who want to go to Israel can be regarded as a substantial victory for Israel and world Jewry in their efforts on behalf of Soviet Jews.

Mrs. Meir noted that Brezhnev who went to Washington to discuss problems essential to his own country, was forced to take up the question of Russian Jews at his meeting with U.S. Congressmen. Until now, she said, Russian leaders had claimed there was no Jewish problem in the USSR and the fact that they now acknowledge such a problem exists "is an achievement."

Education Tax Abolished

Mrs. Meir said, however, that "The time has not yet come to disclose what has been done and is being done on behalf of Russian Jews."

The government official said Washington informed Jerusalem that the Soviet government has advised the U.S. that the education tax has been abolished for good and that Jewish emigration would be maintained at the level of 30-40,000 a year.

(Brezhnev was reported to have told 25 U.S. Congressmen at a luncheon meeting in Washington Tuesday that the education tax was waived except for young people who received government scholarships and had not yet gone to work.)

The official disputed Brezhnev's contention that 90 percent of visa applicants were granted visas. He said that some 100,000 Jews are known to have applied for exit permits but far fewer have left the Soviet Union. He claimed that many more Jews would apply were it not for the harassment that follows application.

(In New York, B'nai B'rith president David M. Blumberg, challenged Brezhnev's assertion that 95 percent of the Soviet Jews who had applied for exit visas were granted them as "statistical make-believe.")

SOVIET MISSILES TO SYRIA-ISRAEL REPORTS

TEL AVIV, June 21 (JTA)--Israel has learned from "foreign sources" that Syria is now in possession of advanced Soviet ground-to-air missiles and that the Syrian Air Force and tank strength have doubled since the 1967 Six-Day War, it was disclosed here today.

The source said that Russia is maintaining an "open hand" policy toward Syria with respect to arms and ammunition and has increased its arms supplies to that country since last year.

According to the sources, Syria has received the sophisticated Soviet-made SAM-6 missile, a development of the SAM-3, which has a range of 30 kilometers and modern homing devices. The missiles are part of Syria's anti-aircraft defense system and are deployed around Damascus and along the Israeli-Syrian demarcation lines east of the Golan Heights.

The Syrian Air Force now consists of 300 combat-ready planes compared to 150 in 1967 and the Syrian tank force has more than doubled from 550 six years ago to 1200 at present.

According to the sources, SAM-6 missiles have been sent to Egypt also.

RABBI KAHANE REMANDED FOR 10 MORE DAYS

JERUSALEM, June 21 (JTA)--JDL leader Rabbi Meir Kahane was remanded yesterday for an additional ten days on the suspicion of conspiracy to get others to commit crimes of violence in a foreign country.

It is believed here that the "acts of violence" are connected with protests that have occurred in the United States during the Nixon-Brezhnev summit.

The prosecution said on Wednesday that agents other than the Israel Police were handling the investigation of the violence in the United States. When Kahane was first arrested on this charge two weeks ago, the remanding judge banned publication of details of the charges which, it is believed, involved the staging of violent protests in the U.S. during Brezhnev's visit.

RESISTANCE TO PRICE FREEZE MOUNTS - STRIKES CONTINUE

JERUSALEM, June 21 (JTA)--Resistance to a price freeze mounted today as labor and management continued to wrangle over the size of a cost-of-living allowance to compensate workers for rising prices and the strike of 6000 salaried physicians entered its second week.

The selective price freeze decided on by the Cabinet Sunday was criticized by various economists who claimed it would not achieve its purpose which is to curb inflation.

Prof. Micha Michaeli, a senior professor of economics at Hebrew University told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that "the plan has no chance whatsoever" and "may only increase inflation." According to Prof. Michaeli, the Cabinet decided on a freeze "out of panic." Premier Golda Meir was said to be the main advocate of the plan.

Reportedly none of the economic ministers is enthusiastic about the plan. The key man in economic matters, Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir, is currently in the U.S. and was abroad when the decision was taken. He is said to have approved the measure by phone.

Moshe Zabar, Governor of the Bank of Israel, said the freeze would succeed only if it were of short duration and the time was used to work out fundamental measures to fight inflation.

The Bank of Israel is expected to recommend

shortly a \$250 million ceiling on public projects. The Bank is said to believe that the main cause of inflation is the money poured on the market by the government.

C-O-L Negotiations

Meanwhile Histadrut and the Manufacturers Association were at odds over the cost-of-living allowance. Marc Mosciwicz, president of the Association, said employers were prepared to pay an additional COL allowance but not the full amount warranted by recent price hikes. He claimed that would put management in a position of having to raise prices again or suffer losses.

Histadrut insists that compensation for the last price rises must be paid in full.

Mosciwicz was adamant on a price freeze. He said the government must not decree a freeze at a time when the price of imported raw materials is rising, a development over which Israeli manufacturers have no control.

There was no sign of any settlement in the doctors' strike. Histadrut representatives emerging from a lengthy meeting with management and physician representatives claimed the way was open to progress in the continuing talks. The doctors came out as pessimistic as ever. They said the government made no new proposals.

That was confirmed by Premier Meir who told Tel Aviv University students today that the government would not yield to any further pay demands by the doctors. The latter are asking a 60 percent salary increase while the government is holding the line at 45.6 percent. "If we give them more, it will undermine the whole network of labor agreements in other branches," Mrs. Meir said.

Health Minister Victor Shemtov who participated in the negotiations today claimed there was little difference between the physicians' demands and the government's proposals. He said the continuing strike was "a shame."

The doctors are refusing to sign medical documents and are not signing releases for patients discharged from hospitals. In another labor dispute, Customs officers have begun a work slowdown in support of demands for higher wages.

Jerusalem merchants turned off their neon signs and window lights last night to protest a new city business tax which they say is too high. They have threatened to close their shops unless the municipality rescinds the measure.

ISRAELI PRESIDENT CALLS FOR WAR ON POVERTY

TEL AVIV, June 21 (JTA)--President Ephraim Katzir urged Histadrut yesterday to help the government take "swift action" to eliminate poverty in Israel. "Poverty is a stain which has to be erased by swift action," he told a meeting of the trade union federation's central committee here.

Prof. Katzir, a bio-physicist at the Weizmann Institute of Science before he became President, said that ever since taking office May 24 he has been preoccupied with the problem of poverty in Israel. "I have seen a family of ten living in one room. This should not happen in this country," he said. He called on Histadrut to help build a modern society based on Socialist justice. He said a first step was to bring academicians closer to Histadrut.

DAYAN MEETS ARABS & JEWS IN HEBRON

JERUSALEM, June 21 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan walked a thin line between the demands of Arab residents of Hebron and those

of Jewish settlers in the new suburb of Kiryat Arba. Gen. Dayan visited the West Bank town today and spoke to its mayor, Sheikh Mohammed Ali el-Jaabari.

He also met with the Kiryat Arba settlers who he urged to refrain from provoking the Arabs. He told them to establish a friendly relationship with their Arab neighbors and to take into consideration the latter's legitimate wishes and interests as long-time inhabitants of the town.

Rabbi Moshe Levinger, leader of the Jewish community, said they would welcome a visit by Mayor Jaabari. But they accused the government of discouraging large-scale Jewish settlement in the Hebron area and on the entire West Bank. They asked Dayan to convince the government to confiscate more Arab lands so that more housing can be built and more immigrants settled in Kiryat Arba.

Gen. Dayan was asked by Mayor Jaabari to take up the release of detainees, development of the town and the maintenance of Arab autonomy on the West Bank. The Defense Minister, who described the Hebron mayor as "an eminent personality" said the Israeli government wanted to keep Hebron from being dependent in any way on the Jewish quarter in Kiryat Arba.

NETUREI KARTA LEADER WRITES IRAQI ENVOY

NEW YORK, June 21 (JTA)--Gottfried Neuberger, head of the American branch of the world-wide Neturei Karta movement, confirmed to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that he had sent a letter to the Iraqi Ambassador to the United Nations last fall praising the Iraqi regime in the name of "anti-Zionist Jews" for declaring Jewish holidays official holidays in Iraq.

The JTA obtained a copy of the letter, dated Oct. 26, 1972, and addressed to Ambassador Abdul Karim Al-Shaikhiy of the Iraqi UN Mission which concluded with the remark that "We are sure that the ancient ties and traditional friendship between your country and the Jews will continue long after the Zionist plague will have disappeared." Neuberger, who claimed that a "distorted" version of the letter had been published some months ago, confirmed, after hearing it read, that the copy in JTA hands was authentic.

He said that he had received a "courtesy reply" from the Iraqi envoy who had stressed the ancient ties between Baghdad and the Jewish people.

ROGERS, GROMYKO DISCUSS MIDEAST

WASHINGTON, June 21 (JTA)--Secretary of State William P. Rogers and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko are understood to have discussed the Middle East problem in detail at a "working luncheon" here today.

Their talks are believed to have covered the Arab-Israeli dispute and the problems of the Persian Gulf area.

No announcement was made after the meeting which was said to have covered other global problems and U.S.-Soviet bilateral relations.

Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Rush and Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin attended the meeting.

President Nixon and Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev are believed to have discussed the Middle East briefly at their Camp David meeting yesterday and decided to have their subordinates go into the subject in greater detail. A reliable State Department source told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today not to expect any "dramatic" developments in the discussions as they relate to the Middle East.

SUMMIT TALKS WILL NOT AFFECT MIDEAST, ISRAEL OFFICIALS SAY

JERUSALEM, June 21 (JTA)--A senior government official said today that Israel did not expect any significant change in the Middle East policies of either the United States or the Soviet Union to emerge from the current Nixon-Brezhnev summit talks.

The official said that contacts between Washington and Jerusalem made it clear that the U.S. intends to stand firm on its Mideast position. He said that neither are the Russians likely to waver from their stance and that the two leaders would probably agree, as they did in Moscow last year, to reaffirm the importance of Security Council Resolution 242 and the need to keep peace in the Middle East.

According to this official, neither Washington nor Moscow wants to tackle the Middle East problem in depth at this juncture because they know it is an area of inevitable dispute between them.

The proposed U.S. sale of Phantom jets to Saudi Arabia was a subject of debate in the Knesset yesterday. Foreign Minister Abba Eban, who cautioned Knesset members "not to lose balance" over the issue, warned nevertheless that Phantoms provided to a state whose leaders call for a holy war against Israel might encourage war and postpone peace in the region.

Eban Warns On Arms Sales To Arabs

Eban said that notwithstanding the American assurances that the number of Phantoms to be sold the Saudis was insignificant, the fact is that Saudi Arabia is getting Mirage jets from France and the Phantoms will "give them a new qualitative dimension, one of an offensive nature which they do not have without the Phantoms."

Eban spoke in reply to an agenda motion submitted by Dov Milman of the Gahal opposition. Milman warned that U.S. supplies to the Saudians arsenal would encourage the front-line Arab states such as Egypt, Syria and Jordan to undertake military action against Israel. He noted that Saudi Arabia often supplied Jordan with weaponry despite clauses in the original sales contracts forbidding such transfers. Milman said that Saudians Phantoms could fly to Israel and back without refueling. He also warned that naval craft the U.S. proposes to sell to Saudi Arabia could menace Israeli navigation on the Red Sea.

NEW PLAN FOR WESTERN WALL

JERUSALEM, June 21 (JTA)--A new plan for the Wailing Wall area envisaging a series of terraces rising from the Wall to the Jewish quarter was unveiled yesterday by its architect, Moshe Safdie.

Presenting the plan to the "Jerusalem Committee," composed of prominent professionals from various countries and religions currently meeting here, Safdie said the terraces would provide a sense of intimacy absent from the present large plaza for those praying at the Wall while at the same time tripling the amount of space that could be used for large gatherings. "It should be a place for the few and the many," he said.

Safdie proposed digging down nine meters from the prayer area in order to reach Herodian level. This would expose 13 more courses of stones and increase the height of the Wall by 40 percent. From that point a series of narrowing terraces would rise to the Jewish quarter.

Reaction to the proposed Safdie plan was strong and mixed. Some saw the amphitheater solution a theatrical approach. Safdie said his plan would be submitted to the local planning subcommittees within two months. He hoped it would materialize within 6-7 years.

ORTHODOX HEAD RAPS JEWISH PARTICIPATION AT BREZHNEV DINNER

NEW YORK, June 21 (JTA)--The president of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America expressed his "dismay" today that Jewish leaders attended the White House state dinner for Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev.

In a letter to Jacob Stein, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations who attended the dinner, OU president Harold M. Jacobs said "Jewish participation in welcoming a man who personifies antagonism and animosity to Jewry today is an incalculable indignity."

He said this was "all the more so...when the head of American Jewry's major umbrella organization participates in such an event." Jacobs said that by attending, Stein had struck a "blow to the interests of the Jewish people and the cause of unity in the Jewish community."

Mr. Stein was not available for comment today.

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT CABLES NIXON

TEL AVIV, June 21 (JTA)--Prof. Yuval Neeman, president of the Tel Aviv University, has cabled President Nixon to raise the matter of six hunger-striking Jewish scientists in Moscow with Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev. Prof. Neeman, who is chairman of the Israeli Academic Committee for Soviet Jewry, said in his message, "We respectfully draw your attention to the tragic conditions of six eminent Jewish scientists who have been on a group hunger strike since June 10 as a protest against Soviet denial of their right to emigrate."

BRITISH JEWS ACCUSE OXFORD DICTIONARY

LONDON, June 21 (JTA)--The Board of Deputies of British Jews charged today that the editors of the Oxford English Dictionary do "not go far enough" in qualifying the derogatory definitions of the word "Jew" that appear in the OED.

Victor Mishcon, vice-president of the Board and chairman of its Jewish Defense Committee, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "even if the OED insists on what the editors call objective scholarship, they should put in brackets a rider that the secondary description is offensive and archaic. Instead," Mishcon said, "the editors offer a long explanation, as a kind of scholarly footnote, which may be suitable for an essay on the development of the term but will make no impact on the ordinary user of the dictionary."

British Jews have taken exception to the definition that appears in the current edition of the OED which includes the description of a Jew as "a grasping or extortionate money lender or usurer" and also defines Jew as a verb meaning to cheat.

Marcus Słojmowitz, a member of the Board who has filed legal action against Clarendon Press, publishers of the OED, told the JTA that there will be another hearing July 5. "I am not claiming damages, or anything like that. I am seeking an injunction to stop this defamation of the Jewish character," he said.

Max Sokal, the distinguished Jewish sculptor, died in London today at the age of 76.

