

daily news bulletin

Published by Jewish Telegraphic Agency 165 West 46th St. New York, N. Y. 19036
© 1973, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

Vol. XL - Fifty-Sixth Year

Wednesday, November 7, 1973

No. 212

SOVIET NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EGYPT POISED TO STRIKE ISRAELI CITIES

NEW YORK, Nov. 6 (JTA).—Soviet nuclear weapons are now in Egypt, poised to strike at Tel Aviv or any other Israeli city, according to the magazine Aviation Week And Space Technology. The magazine, published by McGraw Hill and considered highly reliable, identified the weapons as two brigades of Soviet-made Scud surface-to-surface missiles equipped with nuclear warheads with a range of 180 miles. It said that U.S. reconnaissance satellites have obtained photographs of the warheads near the missile launchers east of Cairo. The article by Cecil Brownlow, executive editor of the magazine, appearing in its Nov. 5 edition, says the missiles were shipped to Egypt from a Russian Black Sea port last Sept. 12, nearly a month before the Yom Kippur War broke out.

It recalled that Egyptian President Anwar Sadal had publicly threatened to use long range missiants Israel during the recent fighting but did not mention that they were armed with nuclear warheads. The article said it was significant that no attempt was made by the Russians who man the Scuds to camouflage them, indicating that they wanted their presence known to the Israelis as a form of pressure to accept Arab peace terms. According to Brownlow, the deployment of Soviet nuclear weapons in the Middle East is part of a "serious squeeze" by Moscow against U.S. interests all over the world which will take shape within the next 60-90 days. Other aspects of the squeeze, he said, were the positioning of heavy artillery in the Cuban Sierra Maestra mountains aimed at the U.S. Naval Base on Guantanamo Bay, and a heavy North Vietnam tank build-up in South Vietnam.

In London, Brownlow said today in an interview with BBC Sound Radio, broadcast this afternoon, that the American intelligence reports confirm beyond any doubt that at least two Soviet Soud missile brigades have been stationed in Egypt on the road to Cairo. The missiles, which are also equipped with conventional warheads, are under Soviet, not Egyptian command, he said. Queried by the interviewer, Brownlow said reconnaissance is capable of establishing whether missiles are conventional or nuclear, and that the presence of the latter in Egypt has been confirmed by such means.

It is believed, he added, that Egypt would not be allowed control over this force, which consists only of Russian technicitans. They were stationed in Egypt, he stated, both as a warning to Israel and as a means of putting pressure on her to accede to Egyptian demands over the trapped Egyptian Third Army. In answer to another question, he stated that Israel, too, is now in possession of atomic weapons in the form of nuclear warheads for its "Jericho" rockets. The range of the Israeli missile is 250 miles.

OFFICIAL REPORT: 1854 DIED IN THE YOM KIPPUR WAR: 1800 WERE WOUNDED

JERUSALEM, Nov. 6 (JTA)—The Israeli public was finally told this evening how many of its sons died or were injured in the Yom Kippur War. The official announcement, broadcast at 6 p.m. local time, put the dead at 1854 in 18 days of fighting and the wounded at 1800. The latter figure covers soldiers still hospitalized but does not include many more wounded who have returned to their units or are convalescing at home.

The first of a series of memorial services for the war dead will be held tomorrow at Afuleh for those killed on the Syrian front and at Shaar Hanegev for the fallen on the Egyptian front, Additional memorial ceremonies are scheduled to be held Thursday at the temporary military cemetery at Nahariya, and Sunday at a cemetery near the Ghetto Fighters Kibbutz.

The size of the casualty figures—the dead projected against Israel's population are the equivalent of 200,000 American casualties—did not come as a complete shock. Most Israelis knew more or less the extent of Israel's losses. Pentagon assessments, which proved remarkably accurate during the war, were leaked to the American press and ploked up by Israeli newspapers. Censorship rules here do not apply to foreign press reports.

This evening's casualty announcement was accompanied by a reading from Chapt. I, Second Book of Samuel, the Lament of David over Saul' and Jonathan: "The beauty of Israel is slain upon thy high places," How are the mighty fallen... Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Ashkelon... Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleas-

ant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided."

113 ISRAEL POW NAMES RELEASED

TEL AVIV, Nov. 6 (JTA)—To this date Israel has received from the Egyptians only 118 names of prisoners of war in Egypt. These include the Israeli liaison officers captured at the UN observation posts, prisoners taken at the jetty fortification under auspices of the Red Cross and those who were televised in hospitals. Fifteen of the names given were unidentified and the Red Cross was requested—to identify these names.

Israel now has the following POWs:
Egyptians: 7852 soldiers -- 598 officers.
Syrians: 368 soldiers -- 39 officers.
Iraqis: 13 soldiers -- 5 officers.
Moroccans: 6 soldiers -- 1 officer.

MRS. MEIR'S KNESSET REPORT POSTPONED

JERUSALEM, Nov. 6 (JTA)--Tomorrow's special Knesset session which was to hear Premier Golda Meir's report on her visit to Washington has been postponed until Monday, it was announced tonight. Mrs. Meir met with Likud opposition leaders Menachem Beigin and Elimelech Rimault today and persuaded them to agree to the postponement. The Premier is said to feel it is better to delay her report until after U.S. Secretary of State Henry A, Kissinger completed his current round of visits to Arab capitals. Kissinger was in Calro today.

The Cabinet met in special session in Tel Aviv last night to hear a report by Premier Metr. A terse one sentence statement reported the meeting without elaborating. Observers here believe 2-

that reports emanating from Washington of continuing differences between the U.S. and Israelover cease-fire problems are more or less accurate. Mrs. Meir appears to have stood firm 'against U.S. proposals for further Israeli concessions on the encireled Egyptian Third 'Army before Egypt reciprocates by exchanging prisoners of war and lifting its blockade of the straits of Bab el Mandeb, sources here said.

However, the JTA learned that Israel is not closing the door on some sort of overall deal which would embrace all these problems simultaneously—though no satisfactory idea seems to have been proposed so far. Kissinger's talks in Cairo tonight and tomorrow-are viewed here as especially important.

NEW CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

TEL AVIV, Nov. 6 (JTA)—A new series of cease-fire violations by the Egyptians was reported by an Israeli army spokesman tonight. He said that an Egyptian patrol of platoon strength opened fire on Israeli positions facing the Second Army on the east bank of the Suez Canal last night but was repulsed by return fire.\At 9:10 local-time this morning, units of the encycled

opened fire. The barge was damaged.
An exchange of small arms fire took place today on the east bank of the canal near the southern tip of the Third Army perimeter. There were no casualties on the Israeli side and none seem to have been suffered by the Egyptians, the spokesman said

Third Army tried to sail a barge across the can-

al but abandoned the attempt when Israeli forces

At the United Nations today, Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah complained to Secretary General Kurt Waldheim of four alleged ceasefire violations by the Egyptians yesterday. A letter from Tekoah said that at different times during the day, Egyptian troops attempted to aware their positions south of Suez, east of Kantara and south of Ismailla.)

JEWISH LEADERS RESISTING PRESSURE TO HOLD BACK ON SUPPORT OF JMV BILLS By Joseph Polakoff, JTA Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6 (JTA)--American Jewish organizational leaders declared yesterday that they will maintain full support for the Jackson/Mills-Vanik legislative proposals affecting Soviet emigration policy. This conclusion emerged at a meeting with Senators Henry M, Jackson (D, Wash:) and Abraham Ribicoff (D, Conn.), the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was informed

today by Capitol Hill sources.

The leaders made clear that there is absolutely no change in their position of full support for the legislation, sponsored in the Senate by Jackson and in the House by Reps. Wilbur Mills (D.Ark.) and Charles A, Vanik (D.Ohio) and backed by overwheiming bipartisan support. Speculation had arisen that if the proposed legislation were to be dropped, the Soviet government would be more amenable towards softening its position against Israel in the current Middle East crisis.

Despite the contradictions in the Soviet and, "American policies towards the Middle East, the Mixon Administration steadfastly favors granting both equal tariffs and credits to the Soviet Union as it had pledged in the Soviet-American agreement announced 13 months ago. The Jewish leaders meeting with the Senators, which lasted about 40 milutes climaxed a round of discussions they have had in Washington during the past two weeks on both the Jackson/Mills-Vanik proposals and

the Middle East situation, the JTA was told.

Result Would Be The Same

Administration aides have been reported to have asked Jewish leaders not to press at present for passage of a specific denial of most favored nation status to the Soviet Union and to take a hands-off position if Congressional leaders desired to drop

Title Four of the Trade Bill which bans this status.
Practically, the argument was presented, the result would be the same. The Soviet Union would not have equality in tariffs either way since MFN is prohibited to it under present law. Inclusion of

in the Trade Act would serve to stigmatize the So-

viet government anew.

Some Jewish leaders, it was said here, sympathized with the Administration view in the light of current Soviet-American relations and were prepared to tell Congressional supporters of Jack-

Mills-Vanik legislation or the Jackson Amendment

pared to tell Congressional supporters of Jackson/Mills-Vanik that they would not object to dropping of Title Four if its Congressional sponsors desire.

Attending the meeting, besides the Senators and their aides, were Jacob Stein, chairman, Con-

ference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations; Mrs. Charlotte Jacobson, chairman, World Zionist Organization, American Section; David Blumberg, president, B'nai B'rith; Richard Maass, chairman, National Conference on Soviet Jewry; Herman Edelsberg, director, B'nai B'rith International Council; Jerry Goodman, NCSJ executive director, and Eli Bergman and June Silver, NCSJofficials.

Blumberg said today that B'nai B'rith's support for the Jackson Amendment. Is only re-enforced by the Soviet Union's actions in the Middle East. Comments from other Jewish leaders who attended were not immediately available. The House is scheduled to debate and vote on the Trade Reform Act of 1973 next week.

BEN AHARON SUPPORTS 'CORRIDOR' PLAN IF EGYPT AGREES TO POW EXCHANGE

NEW YORK, Nov. 6 (JTA)--Yitzhak Ben Aharon, secretary general of Histadrut, said here today that he did not object to a permanent corridor to supply food and water to the encircled Egyptian Third Army on the Suez Canal if Egypt reciprocated on the POW issue and lifted its blockade at Bab el Mandeb; did not believe the Soviet Union is bent on the destruction of Israel; and that the Israeli people have not turned hawkish as a result of the latest Middle East war.

Ben Aharon, regarded as a leading dove, made remarks in an interview with reporters at the New York Hilton Hotel. He is the first leading Israell figure to comment publicly on the "corridor" plan which a State Department spokesman said last week was "a possible compromise" to settle outstanding cease-fire issues. The Histadrut leader noted#hat while the Arabs

have almost awazi mentality regarding Israel and want a "final solution," this is not shared by the Soviet Union which, he said, has no desire to see Israel pushed into the sea. Israel, he said, is an important element in the Soviet strategy, and if it didn't exist the Russians would invent it. He said the USSR made an "excellent business" from Israel's existence considering the vast sums earned by the Soviet armaments industry in supplying the Arab states with weapons against Israel.

Ben Aharon said a settlement could be reached if the U.S. and USSR want to avoid a new Mideast war. He said he thought the time was ripe now for a full inquiry into the failures that led to Israel being caught by surprise on Oct. 6. (By Yitzhak Rabi)

BAB EL MANDEB BLOCKADE AIMED AT STIFLING ISRAEL By Yitzhak Shargil, JTA Tel Aviv Correspondent

TEL AVIV, Nov. 6 (JTA)--When the Yom Kippur War broke out Oct. 6, world attention was focussed on the two battlefronts--the Sinai and the Golan Heights--where the crucial battles of tanks and aircraft were being fought. All of Israel's resources were concentrated on repulsing the enemy and seizing the initiative. All but forgotten here was Egypt's blockade of the straits of Bab el Mandeb, in effect a third front aimed at stifling Israel's vital trade lifelines to Africa, the Persian Gulf and the Far East,

Although a cease-fire prevails for the present on the Golan and along the Suez Canal, the blockade continues, adding yet another severe burden to Israel's precariously strained economy. The narrow straits, by definition international waters, connect the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. The blockade prevents ships from leaving or entering Israel's port of Eilat, nearly 1000 miles to the north. Longshoremen working cargoes at Eilat noticed that something was wrong early in the war. Vessels that had completed loading remained in port with cargoes consigned to African and Asian countries. It was not until Israel's UN Ambassador Yosef Tekoah made his statement to the Security Council discussing the cease-fire that most Israelis learned of the new front.

The strategic importance of the southern entrance to the Red Sea has been apparent for generations. The British, the first to recognize the importance of the straits, established strongholds as
to safeguard their shipping routes to India. The best way to control the straits was to hold the island of Perim situated between the shores of the Arabian pensual and Diibouti, East Africa. The
island lies three kilometers from the Arabian coast and 24 kilometers from the African coast. The
British took over this volcanic rocky island, five kilometers long and less than two kilometers wide,
in 1857. They wanted to assure the waterways from the Suez Canal which was then under construction.

Generations later, after England lost its empire, the importance of Aden declined and it became a burden on the British treasury. This, coupled with the resurgence of Arab nationalism brought about the abandonment by England of all her territories and holdings to the South Arabian republics including the South Yemen republic which took over Perim and thereby the control of the straits. The first sign of danger to Israeli shipping in the Red Sea came shortly after the Six-Day War when the Tiran straits, at the junction of the Gulf of Akaba and the Gulf of Suez were opened to Israeli shipping with the capture of Sharm el-Sheikh. On Nov. 15, 1967, Abd El Fatah Ismayil, of the National Liberation Front in Aden, declared that the "Front" would bar Israeli shipping from the Red Sea after the British left Aden. Other reports said that units of the "Front" took control at Perim.

The threaf was a real one. But when the Arab republics came into being Israeli shipping through the Red Sea was unmolested. Eilat grew into a major port and became what it was meant to be-the southern gate of Israel. Imports and exports to Africa and the Far. East came and went through this port, including oil from various sources and from there - by the pipeline to the Mediterranean. Then the Russians took an interest in that waterway. They have been authorized by Such Arabia to construct a base on Sokotra. With significant influence in Egypt, in Yemen and in other. African countries, Russia was soon able to control the Red Sea and its approaches from the Indian Ocean. It was a threat not only to Israel but to the Western world. The first shots were fired in the middle of June 1971. An Israel-bound tanker, the Coral Sea, was attacked while steaming through the Straits of Bab el Mandeb on her way to Eilat.

Bab el Mandeb poses an important problem if Israel is to continue her trade with East Africa and the Far East and receive oil through the Red Sea. International law could not be invoked. When the Yom Kippur War broke out the Egyptians, who initiated the war, prepared a blockade of the Bab el Mandeb straits. The South Arabians have no real fleet. An Egyptian flottilla of two submarines and two destroyers took positions at the southern outlet of the Red Sea. It was closed to Israeli inbound and outbound shipping. About a dozen ships were in Eilat at the outbreak of hostilities. They are still there except for a Japanese freighter that salled from Eilat and passed through the blockade unharmed. This is explainable by the Japanese attitude toward the Arabs (her economy is dependent on Arab oil) both in political statements and in providing medical help to Arabs. Israel has conditioned the reopening of the straits with the cease-fire agreement. Cease-fire has been arranged. The straits are still closed. If the blockade continues there is no telling what the outcome might be.

BONN ACCUSED OF SURRENDER TO ARABS

BONN, Nov. 6 (JTA)--Israel's Ambassador to West Germany, Eliashiv Ben Horin, today accused the Bonn government of giving in to Arab coercion in the Arab states' threatened oil boycott. He said the government had repeatedly spoken of "special relations" with Israel, and this did not tally with its present policy of "strict neutrality" especially at a time when Israel was fighting for its existence. Ben Horin claimed that West German government policy did not reflect general public sympathy here.

Speaking in a radio interview, the Ambassadors aid Israel's security and existence could not be made to depend on a country's central heating problems. Because of French and British attitudes during the Middle East war, these two countries had ruled themselves out as possible peace mediators, Ben Horin said.

He expressed his government's astonishment to the West German Foreign Office about the equation of Bonn's relations with Israel and the Arab states as being both of a "special character." The remark came recently from Foreign Minister Walter Scheel in a television interview. Today, Chancellor Willy Brandt reported to the Social Democratic Party Executive on the situation in the Middle East and its possible repercussions for Europe and for oil supplies. The Cabinet is to discuss the Middle East tomorrow.

Leopold Trepper landed at London Airport Saturday night, in the culmination of his three-year struggle to leave Poland where the former World War II master spy had been held a virtual captive, Trepper was met at the airport by his wife, Elisabeth, who left Poland 18 months ago. He will undergo treatment for a circulatory ailment at St. Thomas Hospital, Prof. John Kinmouth has offered his services free of charge.

KENNEDY CALLS FOR SUPPORT OF ISRAEL 1000 Attend Annual Weizmann Dinner

NEW YORK, Nov. 6 (JTA) -- Senator Edward M. Kennedy declared last night that the "full moral force of the United States must be exerted in public and private" to achieve the immediate release of all Israeli POWs, called for an end to the blockade of Bab el Mandeb straits by Egypt, and pledged that he and Congress will support and act swiftly on the Administration's request for \$2.2 billion in emergency assistance for Israel.

The Democratic legislator from Massachusetts received a standing ovation and frequent and prolonged applause as he addressed some 1000 persons attending the \$500-a-plate annual Weizmann Dinner at the Waldorf Astoria held under the auspices of the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science to benefit research at the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot.

The dinner honored Morris L. Levinson for his services to Israel. Levinson is a member of the Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency for Israel, United Jewish Appeal National Campaign Chairman, and chairman of the Board of Governors of the UJA of Greater New York, He is also the newly elected president of the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute.

Kennedy asserted that the "American people have not yielded in the past to demands that they forsake the cause of Israel and I am convinced that neither the sword rattling of the Soviet Union nor the oil boycott of the Arab nations will alter that commitment." He told the audience that the U.S. "must stand for immediate and direct negotiations between Israel and the Arab nations" and added that the major powers "must not impose that peace. As concerned governments, we can and should play a role in assisting those negotiations, in helping them reach. fruition,"

Kennedy, who was one of 67 Senator's to introduce a resolution urging immediate resupply of arms to Israel, underscored that Israel must continue to have the means to defend herself. and declared: "We must not allow the legitimate desire to maintain a strategic detente with the Soviet Union, a goal in the interests of all mankind, from preventing us from recognizing the perils as well as the promise of detente." He noted that the USSR continues to pour missiles and weapons into Egyptian and Syrian airfields and seaports.

Mrs. Meir, Katzir Describe War, Aftermath

Praising the role of the Weizmann Institute in creating "the springs of a new spiritual and material life," Kennedy and the audience as well as other speakers paid tribute to the role of the Weizmann Institute scientists and faculty members who participated in the Yom Kippur War on the front and at home. He disclosed that four Weizmann Institute members were killed during the war: Meir Ben-Ari, Yaakov Leshem, Yaakov London and Gad Reshef.

In a recorded statement from Jerusalem to the dinner, Israeli President Ephraim Katzir ex-*tolled the role of the Weizmann Institute and Israeli scientists and said, "All of us in Israel share the same hope for a future characterized by victories of peace rather than by war." He stated that Israel, "at such sad cost, has repulsed the most brutal attack upon its existence as a State and people and center of Jewish life."

Israeli Premier Golda Meir, in a cabled mes sage from Israel, declared that "we, in Israel, and you, in the diaspora, form and always formed one indivisible entity." She recalled "the horror and the agony of this war that was forced on us" and noted that Israel has paid a "dreadful price in human life." Observing that despite the terrible ravages of war, life continues, Mrs. Meir stated: "Although thousands of our young men and women have been called into active service, although hundreds of mothers and wives are bereaved, although the drain on the economy is almost unbearable--and will certainly become even more severe in the weeks that lie ahead -- we are still very much in business.' Arthur B. Krim, member of the Weizmann In-

stitute's Board of Governors, Abraham Feinberg, Board of Governors chairman and chairman of the Board of Directors of the American Committee. and Levinson paid tribute to the founders of the Institute and extolled the support given to the Weizmann Institute by President Kennedy, Robert Kennedy and Edward Kennedy. A musical program was presented by the renowned Israeli violinist, Itzhak Perlman. The dinner was opened with a minute of silence to memorialize the casualties of the Yom Kippur War,

STRIKE HITS 15 JEWISH HOSPITALS

NEW YORK, Nov. 6 (JTA) -- A variety of emergency procedures were put into effect today at the 15 Jewish hospitals and homes which were among the 48 voluntary institutions here hit by a strike of 30,000 technical, service and maintenance workers.

The walkout, which began vesterday, was called by Local 1199 of the Drug and Hospital Workers, which represents an estimated 9500 workers in the 15 Jewish institutions which have some 8000 patients, many of them bedridden. Spokesmen for the Jewish homes and hospitals, like those of the other affected facilities, said-the effects of the strike might be severe on the elderly patients.

William Abelow, executive director of the League for Voluntary Hospitals and Homes, which negotiates for the 48 institutions; said that generally the member institutions had stopped admitting non-emergency cases late last week and postponed some non-vital operations. He added that some institutions had sent recuperating patients home. All outpatient clinics cancelled activities today.

The affected Jewish institutions are Beth Israel Medical Center, Brookdale Hospital Center, Daughters of Jacob Geriatric Center, Haym Salomon Home for the Aged, Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged, Jewish Hospital and Medical Center of Brooklyn, Jewish Institute for Geriatric Care, Jewish Memorial Hospital, Kingsbrook Hosish Medical Center, Long Island Jewish-Hillside Medical Center; Maimonides Hospital and Medical Center, Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center. Mount Sinai Medical Center, Sephardic Home for the Aged, and United Home for Aged Hebrews.

BRITISH JEWRY THANKS THE DUTCH

LONDON, Nov. 6 (JTA) -- The Board of Deputies of British Jews has written to the Dutch Ambassador at the Court of St. James, Baron W.J.G. Gevers, asking him to convey to the government of Holland the feelings of gratitude and admiration of British Jews for the Dutch people and their government at the stand they have taken in this crisis. The letter also puts on record the disappointment of British Jewry that the other members of the European Economic Community have proved so cowardly as to refuse to share their oil supplies with Holland even though the Common Market rules provide for such emergencies. The British Herut, in a demonstration outside the Egyptian Embassy, called upon the Egyptians to observe the Geneva Convention and to supply lists of POWs.