



# daily news bulletin

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## NIXON, IN LETTER TO MRS. MEIR, ASKS ISRAEL TO COOPERATE WITH KISSINGER'S DISENGAGEMENT MISSION

JERUSALEM, May 9 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir has received a personal message from President Nixon that amounts to a "strong request" that Israel cooperate with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and do nothing that might lead to the failure of his efforts to bring about an Israeli-Syrian disengagement accord, the newspaper Maariv reported today. The Israel Radio broadcast an official denial from the Prime Minister's Office that Mrs. Meir had received a message from Nixon. But officials at the Prime Minister's Office told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency later that the radio broadcast was inaccurate. They said there was no denial but rather a refusal to react or comment on the Maariv report.

The officials noted that it was contrary to accepted practice to comment on messages between governments. The clear implication was that Mrs. Meir had in fact received a message from Nixon. According to Maariv, the message was "as always" written in a friendly and respectful manner but its intent clearly was that Israel should cooperate with Kissinger.

Maariv claimed that the Nixon message and Israel's appreciation of Kissinger's understanding of its security problems were two elements that persuaded the government to agree to pull back from the 1967 borders on the Golan Heights. Israel's latest map, which Kissinger conveyed to the Syrians in Damascus yesterday, offers a pullback from part of the town of Kuneitra and nearby villages while safeguarding the security of Israeli settlements on the Golan Heights. The Israeli disengagement plan represented a formula that would meet American requests without damaging Israeli security, Maariv said.

## REPORT SYRIA MAY HAVE DISCARDED MORE EXTREME DISENGAGEMENT DEMANDS

JERUSALEM, May 9 (JTA)--Israeli sources said last night that the Syrians did not automatically reject Israel's latest disengagement map and were prepared to regard it as a basis for further negotiations. The sources made that comment in explanation of an earlier statement by Robert Anderson, a spokesman for Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, that the Israeli government and Kissinger were in agreement that some progress had been made in Kissinger's talks with Syrian leaders in Damascus yesterday.

Anderson cautioned, however, "We are still not near an agreement." He made his remarks after a three-hour working dinner of the Israeli and American negotiating teams that ended shortly before midnight. The session followed a private meeting between Kissinger and Premier Golda Meir in Tel Aviv which began immediately on Kissinger's return from Damascus.

Cautious optimism was also expressed by Foreign Minister Abba Eban and Information Minister Shimon Peres after last night's meetings. Peres said he had received the impression from Kissinger that some progress had been made, though it was too early to judge whether the necessary conditions have been established

for reaching a disengagement accord. "We are at the beginning of the road and still have a long way to go," Peres said.

He said the size of the gap separating Israeli and Syrian views on disengagement would become clearer after further meetings between the Israeli and American negotiators today. Kissinger meanwhile has flown to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia to be followed by another visit to Egypt to ascertain the views of King Faisal and President Anwar Sadat.

## Expect Greater Israeli Flexibility

Eban said of last night's meetings: "We heard a full report on the talks in Damascus. We have now reached a very concrete stage, but I still would not make any predictions." Newsmen deducted from the remarks by American and Israeli officials that the Syrians may have abandoned their more extreme demands that Israel retire from virtually the entire Golan Heights as part of a disengagement agreement. A Kissinger aide reportedly told Israeli officials last night that for the first time since the Secretary began his current Middle East mission, the Syrians demonstrated a more rational than irrational attitude.

At the same time, it was stressed here that Israel would under no circumstances go beyond the territorial concessions it gave Dr. Kissinger for conveyance to Damascus yesterday. On the other hand, U.S. officials accompanying Kissinger have indicated they would expect even greater Israeli "flexibility" on the territorial issue.

At a meeting of the Labor Party's Knesset faction Monday night Premier Golda Meir stated that while she and her negotiators were fully aware of the fears expressed by Golan settlers, there were even greater fears that had to be considered if a disengagement accord with Syria is not reached. She said her anxiety for the settlements' security was as deep as anyone's, but there was also anxiety over the absence of disengagement on the Syrian front.

She remarked that the government had two options: To agree to an arrangement on the Golan Heights which would guarantee U.S. understanding of Israel's case even if it did not gain an agreement with the Syrians; or to demand an arrangement which neither Damascus nor Washington would consider. Eban, who also addressed the faction, said that Israel was "in a phase of coordination with the U.S." He warned, "If we were to rebuff Kissinger that would cause a rupture with the U.S. and therefore we are talking to him. We have to consider disengagement talks against a general regional background," the Foreign Minister said.

## MILLER SAYS HE HAS ASSURANCES U.S. WILL INTERVENE ON BEHALF OF JEWISH COMMUNITY IN SYRIA

TEL AVIV, May 9 (JTA)--Rabbi Israel Miller, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said here today that he had assurances that the U.S. government would intervene on humanitarian grounds on behalf of the persecuted Jewish community in Syria. The plight of Syrian Jews will become the central point of activity of all Jewish bodies in the U.S. whose ultimate goal is the emigration of

all Jews from Syria, Rabbi Müller declared at a press conference here.

He said, "We have been assured by a very senior personality in the State Department that the question of Syrian Jews would be taken up with the Syrians on every possible instance." He added, however, that it must be taken into consideration that the U.S. has no diplomatic relations with Syria and that the problem of Syrian Jews must be tackled apart from the disengagement talks.

Rabbi Miller questioned the authenticity of a letter purported to have been written by U.S. Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger to an Israeli woman formerly imprisoned in Syria to the effect that the situation of Syrian Jews was "a Syrian internal matter." He said that quite to the contrary, the Conference of Presidents was convinced that U.S. policy is that human problems have no boundaries.

Rabbi Miller said that since he arrived in Israel he had met with a senior member of Kissinger's entourage and was given grounds to assume that the question of Syrian Jews was prominent in Kissinger's talks with Syrian leaders in Damascus. He said he had agreed not to identify the American official. Conference leaders, who have had several meetings with Kissinger in Washington since last Dec., expect to meet with him again when he returns from the Middle East.

#### SHAZAR'S CONDITION IMPROVES

JERUSALEM, May 9 (JTA)--A slight improvement in the condition of former President Zalman Shazar was reported today by a spokesman of Hadassah Hospital. Shazar's condition was termed "serious" yesterday, but today he seemed to be in better condition.

#### LEBANON ADMITS FIRING ON ISRAELI POSITIONS ON MT. HERMON; SYRIANS MAY BE PREPARING NEW FRONTAL ATTACK

TEL AVIV, May 9 (JTA)--Lebanon admitted last night that its artillery is taking part in the shelling of Israeli positions on Mt. Dov on the western slopes of Mt. Hermon which have been under attack by Syrian units in the so-called "Fatahland" section of southeastern Lebanon. Israeli guns are returning the fire. Lebanon claimed that its artillery opened fire after Israeli shells landed on Lebanese territory.

Meanwhile, Syrian artillery continued to shell Israeli positions on Mt. Hermon during the night and early this morning. Israeli forces returned the fire. There were no Israeli casualties. Israeli forces on the Golan Heights were placed on full alert today as a result of intelligence indicating that the Syrians may be preparing to launch frontal attacks along various sections of the cease-fire lines.

A senior military source said that possibility would increase if the current efforts to reach an Israeli-Syrian disengagement accord ended in total failure. The Syrians have large forces concentrated on the northern front and are deploying new forces behind the lines, possibly to exert pressure on Israel for territorial concessions, the source said. He said Syrian military action could come in the form of a general attack or an escalation of the war of attrition.

#### KLARSFELD GIVEN PROVISIONAL FREEDOM

BONN, May 9 (JTA)--Beate Klarsfeld, the avowed Nazi hunter, was granted provisional liberty from a Cologne prison this afternoon after solemnly promising German authorities she would return to stand trial there next month. Mrs.

Klarsfeld is accused by German authorities of having tried to kidnap three years ago Kurt Lischka, a former gestapo head in Paris, in order to bring him to justice in France. Lischka was sentenced in absentia to life imprisonment by a French court in 1950.

Mrs. Klarsfeld's lawyer, Arje Marinski, assured German authorities that his client would be present for her trial scheduled to open in Cologne on June 26. Benjamin Halevi, a former Israeli Supreme Court Justice and currently a Knesset member, also vouched for Mrs. Klarsfeld's sincerity by giving his personal assurances to the authorities that she would return to face German justice.

Marinski said it was unprecedented for German legal authorities to release someone from jail on assurances from a foreigner. Mrs. Klarsfeld was arrested on April 17, the eve of Holocaust Memorial Day, while attending a demonstration at the site of the former Dachau concentration camp to protest against the Bonn Parliament's delay in ratifying an extradition accord signed three years ago with France.

#### MORTIMER MAY DEAD AT 81

NEW YORK, May 9 (JTA)--Funeral services will be held tomorrow in Nashville, Tenn., for Mortimer May who died Wednesday at the age of 81 in Miami Beach, Fla. He was a retired hosiery executive, a past national president of the Zionist Organization of America, a Jewish leader in the South, and active for decades in Zionist and Jewish communal organizations. Mr. May was for many years a member of the World Zionist Actions Committee and attended every World Zionist Congress since 1939.

Mr. May, who was president of the ZOA from 1954-56, also served the ZOA as past chairman of the National Executive Committee and a former vice-president. At the time of his death, he also was an active member of the ZOA's National Executive Committee. He was president of the Southeast ZOA Region, of The Temple in Nashville, and of the Nashville Jewish Community Council. Herman L. Weisman, president of the ZOA, described Mr. May "as one of the most prominent leaders in the South in political and civil life as well as Jewish public affairs. To him the Zionist idea was intimately intertwined with Judaism."

During decades of activity in Jewish life, Mr. May held leading positions as an officer or member of the board of many organizations, including the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, American Association for Jewish Education, United Israel Appeal, American Fund for Israel Institutions, the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Israel Bonds, the American Jewish Congress, American Committee for the Weizmann Institute, Brandeis Youth Foundation, and the Jewish National Fund. In recent years, he visited Israel several times.

During the 1930s he was personally responsible for bringing to the U.S. more than 200 German Jews fleeing Nazism. Born on December 20, 1892, in Laconia, N.H., he moved with his family to Nashville four years later. Mr. May received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia University and was the holder of the Phi Beta Kappa Key. He was associated with the May Hosiery Mills of Nashville for 50 years, the firm founded by his father, Jacob.

#### 6000 AT LIKUD-LED RALLY

JERUSALEM, May 9 (JTA)--Some 6000 people packed Menorah Square in downtown Jerusalem

last night in a Likud-led rally protesting against any Israeli withdrawal from territory captured in the 1967 Six-Day War. Bobbing among the crowd were posters declaring "Care-Taker Government Equals Destruction Government" and "Kissinger: Sell Bagels, Not States." About 100 ardent followers of Likud waved posters demanding "Beign for Premier."

Likud leaders Menachem Beign and Gen. Ariel Sharon addressed the rally. The greatest threat to Israel today is that its word cannot be taken seriously, Beign declared. The leaders in Cairo, Damascus, Moscow and Washington know this, he said. If Israel withdraws from the Golan Heights it will be forced to withdraw later from Samaria and Judaea, from Sinai and even East Jerusalem, he claimed.

Sharon directed his fire at Labor Party leader Yitzhak Rabin. He said that when Israel needed a powerful stand against its enemies, the candidate for the Premiership stated he didn't think it would be so terrible if Israelis someday needed a tourist visa to visit the Etzion settlements on the West Bank.

#### INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC SEMINAR SCHEDULED IN VORONEL'S MOSCOW HOME

NEW YORK, May 9 (JTA)--An unprecedented international scientific seminar, sponsored by an international advisory board of eminent scientists, including eight Nobel Laureates, and Tel Aviv University, will be held in Moscow July 1-5 in the apartment of a prominent Jewish physicist, Alexander Voronel. The announcement was made at a news conference here by the seminar's international secretaries: Professors Edward Stern, University of Washington, Seattle; Norman Chigier, University of Sheffield, England; and Raymond Orbach, Tel Aviv University.

The seminar has been organized in response to the "desperate need of persecuted Soviet Jewish scientists for contact with the scientific world," the professors said. These scientists have been dismissed from their scientific positions and ostracized by official Soviet science because of their desire to emigrate to Israel. In his introduction, Stern explained that the "seminar was born to help these scientists break out of scientific isolation...it was conceived in an effort to maintain their scientific viability and to publicize their plight."

Two members of the international board of sponsors, Prof. Yuval Neeman, a physicist and president of Tel Aviv University, and Dr. Sylvan Schweber, professor of physics at Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass., whose scientific works have been published in the USSR, said that sixty-eight papers have already been submitted for presentation at the seminar on physics. Both reaffirmed support "for our Soviet colleagues' struggle to exercise their internationally recognized right to freedom of emigration and freedom of inquiry and association, of which they have been deprived by the Soviet government."

#### ISRAEL RAPS ECOSOC FOR INVITING ARAB TERRORIST REPRESENTATIVES TO PARLEY

UNITED NATIONS, May 9 (JTA)--The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) agreed yesterday to invite representatives of Arab terrorist organizations to participate in the World Conference on Population to be held in Bucharest this summer. ECOSOC approved by consensus a resolution to extend the invitation to terrorist groups that are "recognized by the Organization for African Unity (OAU) and/or the

Arab League." The United States, Britain, West Germany, Italy, Belgium and Australia expressed reservations about the resolution but supported it nevertheless. Israel, which is not a member of ECOSOC, denounced the resolution.

Israeli Ambassador Jacob Doron who participated in yesterday's meeting as an observer, declared that Israel's "total opposition" to the participation "of the Palestine Liberation Organization or any other such Arab group in the conference in any capacity" is based on the ruthless disregard of the terrorist organizations toward human life. Referring to the recent massacre at Kiryat Shemona and other terrorist outrages, Ambassador Doron said:

"It is indeed a sad sign of our times and one of the worst aspects of the existing situation in the United Nations, that representatives of such groups, who have acquired world-wide notoriety by their actions of indiscriminate terror against civilians, should be invited to participate in any international fathering under the auspices of the United Nations, and in a World Population Conference in particular."

#### CANDIDATES SEEK CLOSER TIES WITH ARABS

PARIS, May 9 (JTA)--The two candidates for the French presidency, Finance Minister Valery Giscard d'Estaing and Socialist leader Francois Mitterand, said today that if elected, they will work for even closer relations with the Arab states. The second, and final round, in the French presidential election will be held May 19. Public opinion polls give a slight edge to Giscard d'Estaing.

The Finance Minister, who runs with the backing of the Gaullist party, said in an interview over the French radio that he will continue Gen. de Gaulle's foreign policy and said that he will not change France's Arab policy. Giscard d'Estaing said that he will try, however, to pursue a "symmetrical policy - a policy of friendship with the Arab states and one of trying to ensure Israel's security and existence."

Mitterand told the Libyan news agency "Arab Revolution" that if elected he will remain "loyal to the deep French interest and moral responsibilities which unite France to the Arab states." France, he said, could and should strengthen its cooperation with the Mediterranean countries in the economic, cultural and political fields. Mitterand also said that he and his party fully support the "right" of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

After both candidates have tried to woo the Jewish electorate, the two now appear to try and reassure the pro-Arab pressure groups as well as the 100,000 French Moslems with voting rights in France. Mitterand, political observers here say, must also try to placate the extreme left-wing voters whose 2 1/2 percent are needed if he is to win the presidency. (By Edwin Eytan.)

#### NRP SAYS NO, DEFINITELY

JERUSALEM, May 9 (JTA)--The National Religious Party's negotiating team voted unanimously today to reject the Labor Party's latest compromise proposals on "Who is a Jew" and to inform Labor that there was no possibility of the NRP joining a government headed by Yitzhak Rabin. The Labor Alignment's Knesset faction and its top decision-making forums were to convene in Tel Aviv this evening to consider the NRP refusal. Observers predicted that Labor would immediately set about forming a government without the religious party.

## AUTHORITATIVE STUDY CHARTS NEW, IRREVERSIBLE CHANGES IN MIDEAST AS THE RESULT OF THE OCT. WAR

LONDON, May 9 (JTA)--In an exhaustive report on the Yom Kippur War released here tonight, the Institute of Strategic Studies concluded that while Egypt and Syria failed to achieve their military goals, their surprise attack on Israel last Oct. 6 irreversibly altered the political and military situation in the Middle East, increased prospects for a general peace settlement and irrevocably involved the two superpowers--U.S. and USSR--in the fate of the region.

The "greatest shock" of the war, the report said, was the use of the oil weapon by the Arabs which produced "the most potent sense of a new era of any event in recent years" in sharp contrast to the impotence of the League of Nations to constrain Italy and Japan by economic sanctions in the 1930s, and more recently the failure of the United Nations "to force compliance on a state as weak as Rhodesia."

The Institute of Strategic Studies, one of the world's most respected and reliable bodies for the study of war, devoted 42 out of 102 pages in its 1973 report to the Yom Kippur War, its prelude and aftermath. "Perhaps the most encouraging effect of the 1973 war was to break the log-jam of fruitless peace efforts which had prevailed since the beginnings of 1971," the report stated. Both Israel and Egypt, "disabused of purely military solutions, now recognized that nothing short of a political settlement could bring peace to the Middle East."

### American-Israel Alliance Discussed

The report noted: "The two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, shared that view and were working to achieve a cease-fire and disengagement of forces. They were probably not too far apart on the shape of a longer term peace arrangement. American policy had previously been equivocal on the need for a settlement. This was no longer the case. The Soviet Union had been made aware of the dangers inherent in its support for one of the sides in the Middle East conflict."

The survey found that "the greatest uncertainty lay in the Israeli position, following the recent general elections," but observed that "if Israel came to place greater trust in the efficacy of the UN forces, she would see her only real guarantee being provided by the United States....An essential element would obviously be American willingness to ensure that the balance of arms in the Middle East was not tipped against Israel." The report stated that an American-Israeli alliance has been informally discussed "but prospects of its realization seem quite uncertain."

Nonetheless, the report continued, "Any settlement between Israel and the Arabs would need to be underwritten by the United States in some way or other, for nothing short of this would enable Israel to feel secure." The report observed that generally speaking, prospects for Mideast peace are brighter than they have been but this remains a modest encouragement.

Among the immediate lessons taught by the war, the Institute's experts said, was the fact that "neither Israel nor Egypt could embark on such a war again without the assurance of full external support." The war "left both sides critically dependent on outside supplies for the campaign itself and for the restoration of their strength afterwards. This dependence has given the Soviet Union and the United States a heavy mortgage on

their clients," the report said, adding, "There may be a lesson in this for NATO too, and NATO staffs will need to look again at their stock levels and resupply capacity."

### Does Not Fault Israel's Intelligence Experts

Another lesson of the war was that "since tactical surprise can be achieved by an enemy, the defenses must be sufficiently strong to hold any likely attack until re-enforcement arrives." Israel managed this, the report said and noted that the fact that the war started on Yom Kippur when Israel's roads were free of traffic, aided the speed of mobilization. The report does not fault Israel's intelligence experts for having been caught by surprise even though Egyptian-Syrian war preparations were fully visible for weeks. "However good intelligence of the enemy's activity and capability may be, it is not possible to know his intentions," the report said.

The survey found that the initial Egyptian attack which crossed the Suez Canal and overran the Barlev line in a few hours, was "a text book operation, well planned and carried out." But Egyptian follow-through on their initial success was "inhibited by the safety their ground-based air defenses afforded" and was "slow and deliberate, giving time for Israel to muster her forces."

On the Syrian front, where the Syrians enjoyed a 10-1 advantage in manpower and a preponderance of armor and aircraft, the attack quickly lost momentum when it ran into Israeli tank defenses. "The tide on the Syrian front was turned by sheer tenacity and skill and on the (Suez) Canal front by typical audacity" on Israel's part, the report said.

### Energy Crisis Found West Unprepared, Divided

On the Arab use of the oil weapon, the report said: "It produced the greatest shock, the most potent sense of a new era, of any event of recent years." The energy crisis found the Western powers spectacularly divided and quite unprepared to face the strain. "The United States chose Israel and crisis negotiations with the Soviet Union during the war...Western Europe and Japan chose oil and the Arabs."

The Arab oil policy "registered the first success ever obtained at the highest level of politics by economic sanctions.... There was a sense that a new period had opened up for which unfamiliar codes of conduct would have to be painfully devised, that the Cold War had merely been an introduction to a new world which would have to explore its own political nature and solutions," the report said.

### VIENNA JEWS PROTEST NEWSPAPER SERIES

VIENNA, May 9 (JTA)--The Austrian Press Council will soon discuss a protest by the Jewish community about the series, "Jews in Austria," by the Viennese mass daily, Kronenzeitung, political sources said today. The series had prompted numerous protests by several newspapers. The Arbeiterzeitung (Socialist), Volksstimme (Communist), and Wochenpresse (Liberal) condemned the series as "anti-Semitic."

In an article, the author of the series, Victor Reimann, a former Nazi, denounced his critics as "products of wild agitation by a minority of Jews in this country who are interested in continued anti-Semitism for their personal advantage." Reimann had written that "one of the main causes for anti-Semitism is to be found in the Jews themselves," adding, "It is because of his (the Jew's) will to be different and to be separated from non-Jewish people." The Jewish-Christian Coordination Committee said today that the series are "defamatory" and "harmful."