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FRENCH ARMS

anced.)
 (Israeli Premier Golda Meir has asked President Nixon for additional arms during her visit to Washington last year. She had also requested economic aid both to finance the new arms and to tide over Israel during its current fiscal difficulties. The financial aid is less likely to be forthcoming it was reported, because of the budgetary and inflationary problems in the U.S.)
 The French-Libyan arms deal reportedly is a \$400 million sale that involves not only the Mirage jets but 200 tanks and other modern arms. The part covering the jets has already been completed and an agreement has been signed between the Libyan arms mission and the Dassault company, manufacturer of the jets. The first consignment of 10 to 15 jets is to be delivered in 1971 but Libya may get some craft before then from French Air Force stock.
 French officials have

noted the 1971 date is significant because the Paris Government is hopeful that Big Power talks may be able to impose peace in the Middle East before then. The officials stressed that France's goal still was peace achieved through the G4 talks and reaffirmed that Paris still was embargoing arms to the nations directly involved in the Six-Day War. They advanced two lines of justification for the arms deal with Libya.

It was better to have France supply arms to Libya than Russia which had made an offer.

A clause in the agreement forbids Libya to yield the jets to a third party. Israeli officials and supporters in France have attacked the deal.

It was noted that Egyptian military officers were members of the arms negotiating team and that Libya has pledged complete support to Egypt. In addition the Libyan Air Force is unequipped to use the Mirage jets, having neither the pilots nor the maintenance personnel.



CONCRETE BASES ENCASE ELECTRIC PYLONS FOR PROTECTION AGAINST BOMBS THROWN BY ARAB TERRORISTS IN THE GAZA STRIP. (ISRAEL SUN PHOTO)

FRENCH GUNBOATS
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headed Israel's arms purchasing mission in Europe.
 The Foreign Minister's statement that "we must honor our pledges" came as Gaullist factions attacked the French Government for "complicity" in allowing the speedy vessels to leave France.

(In Paris, it was announced that two officials suspended for approving the sale of the gunboats to a private company had been removed from their office. This action is expected to further anger French Army officer who are dissatisfied with Paris's support of the Arabs and what some generals view as an attempt to make military officers "the scapegoats for the mistakes of politicians.")

The Israeli Cabinet had declared before Mr Eban's radio statement that the gunboats were going to a civilian oil-exploration company for commercial use and that Jerusalem had violated no international law in the transaction.

The Government statement said that Mr Limon's expulsion was "unjustified" and that the basic cause of the entire affair was the arms embargo that "withholds equipment legally acquired and paid for by Israel in violation of normal international conduct and with damaging effects on peace prospects in the Middle East."

Israel noted that while

the arms embargo was in effect against her, massive shipments of French arms are going to Arab states and a major deal is being arranged between Paris and Libya, a country which has declared its readiness to lend armed forces to a renewed Arab Attack on Israel.

The civilian owners of the five craft, Starboard and Weill said the ships would be used for oil exploration purposes and that they are on a long-term charter to an Israel concern, Netvet Neph, which plans to drill for oil off Israel's shore. Maritime Fruit Carriers Ltd., an Israeli shipping firm, is the principal owner of Starboard and it reported establishing a subsidiary which holds leases for oil prospecting of the coasts of Canada, South Africa and in the Adriatic Sea.

The Gaullist faction attacking the Pompidou Government is mainly leftist Gaullists who charged that the French Government was "betraying" former President Charles de Gaulle's Mideast policy. Defense Minister Michel Debre, who served as Foreign Minister in the de Gaulle Government, was especially angered at Israel and had proposed a break in relations with Jerusalem over the affair.

In a Radio Luxembourg interview Mr Debre made a personal attack on Adm. Limon, accusing him of writing "false letters."

LETTERS

Dear Mr. Tell:

I read your paper with much interest and enjoyment. It is full of lively news and information - much of which is unavailable in our local Jewish periodical.

Re your editorial, "Rabbi, Help Me". There are a number of liberal rabbis who will perform intermarriages. Most make some requirements, such as raising children in the Jewish faith, having a Jewish home, etc. For the most part, this is done precisely for the reason that you suggest in your editorial. We do not wish to drive away a couple

who comes, sincerely, asking that a rabbi unite them in wedlock. We desire to lend our presence to the sanctification of a marriage that will result in the continuation of our faith. This might not be the case if the couple is forced to go to a judge or even a Christian clergyman because they could find no rabbi to officiate.

Most Reform rabbis know which of their colleagues will perform such marriages. I am sure that one would not be hard to find in the Los Angeles area.

I hope that your search was successful.

Sincerely,
 Jeffrey B. Stiffman
 Rabbi (Baltimore, Md)

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. -- A published history of B'nai B'rith has been placed in the Harry S. Truman Library.

SAN FRANCISCO (WNS) -- Congregation Beth Israel, a 106-year-old Conservative Synagogue, and Congregation Judea, a 16-year-old Reform congregation, have decided to merge into a new Beth Israel-Judea.

WARSAW (WNS) -- Reports circulating in the Polish capital indicate that 3,000 Jews left Poland since the start of the summer and they are still leaving at the rate of 300 a week.



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