

# JTA daily news bulletin

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## Big Four Deputies To Draw Up Memo On Efforts To Implement UN Ceasefire Resolution

UNITED NATIONS, April 1 (JTA)--The Big Four deputies are beginning their work to draw up a memorandum on the progress of almost one year's talks by the Four Power ambassadors on efforts to implement the UN Security Council's cease-fire resolution. The deputies were instructed yesterday by the ambassadors to draft the report and have it ready by the time they meet again on April 13. The deputies will meet tomorrow. American Ambassador Charles W. Yost met this afternoon with Secretary General U Thant to discuss the Big Four talks that took place yesterday. There was no immediate indication whether this discussion would entail an assessment on what some diplomats see as a tiny step forward by the Four Power ambassadors in having their deputies draw up a memorandum. Mr. Yost stated yesterday at the conclusion of the Big Four meeting that "We have charged our deputies with preparing a memorandum on the progress of our Four Power consultations so far in regard to a Middle East settlement in accordance with Security Council Resolution 342."

The question that loomed large today, however, was whether agreement to draw up the memo represents a step forward in the Four Power talks and how the memo differs from the "catalog" discussed by the ambassadors on March 19 but then rejected by the Russians. A spokesman for the United States Mission said that the go-ahead on drawing up the memo given by the four ambassadors to their deputies represented a "tiny step" forward, "not a great step forward but just a tiny step," he emphasized. The spokesman added, however, "I don't know if they (the deputies) will succeed in drawing up the memorandum."

Diplomatic sources here saw the agreement by the ambassadors in asking their deputies to draw up the memorandum as a sign that the Russians are taking a less hard-voiced line in the Four Power talks. The U.S. spokesman agreed that the "Soviets have come off a little bit," but just a little bit. The reason for this softening attitude, he observed, is that the memorandum will not bind the Russians to be explicit about agreements and disagreements among the Four Powers on how far they have come in their talks, unlike the catalog which would spell out in more detail the agreements and disagreements. "The memo just states what has happened," the U.S. spokesman said. "There is nothing binding in it."

## Kazakov's Fast Subject Of Knesset Debate; Kazakov Weak But Will Continue Fast

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--The eight-day-old fast of young Yasha Kazakov in New York protesting the condition of Soviet Jewry was the subject of an angry debate in the Knesset today. Opposition members and some representing coalition factions accused the government of trying to suppress news of Soviet Jews in order to avoid angering the Soviet Union. Premier Golda Meir rejected the charges but warned that "one must be very careful in dealing with the matter so as not to do more harm than good." She called the Kazakov affair a "very sensitive problem" and admonished those who would use it to "settle political accounts" and "personal vendettas."

(In New York today the 23-year-old Soviet emigre was visited twice by Ambassador Yosef Tekesh, Chief Israeli representative to the United Nations, to talk to Kazakov about his health. Apparently weakened by his prolonged fast, young Kazakov was lying on a cot on the sidewalk opposite UN headquarters, bundled against near freezing weather. Between 100-200 young people were at his side carrying placards proclaiming, "Let My People Go," "Let Yasha's Family Go" and "Yasha, We're With You." For the first time since Kazakov began his fast a week ago, police put up barriers to keep sympathy marchers within a confined area. Some of the youngsters out today danced the hora.)

The Kazakov affair has brought out sharp differences of opinion here as to what Israel's posture should be toward the plight of Soviet Jewry. While there is virtually universal solidarity with demands voiced by increasing numbers of Russian Jews for full religious and cultural freedom and the right to emigrate to Israel, some Government circles, notably in the Foreign Ministry, feel that Israel's response should be low-keyed and that whatever Israel can do to alleviate the plight of Soviet Jews should be done quietly and in a coordinated manner. The Foreign Ministry is opposed to Israeli citizens abroad, however well meaning, who conduct demonstrations without coordination or consultation with Israeli authorities. Kazakov, who was permitted to leave the Soviet Union a year ago, became an Israeli citizen. He has said he would continue his fast until Soviet authorities grant exit visas to his family so they can join him in Israel.

## Victims of Nazism And Former Concentration Camp Inmates Express Solidarity With Kazakov

The World Federation of Jewish Fighters, Concentration Camp Inmates and Nazi Victims sent a cable of encouragement to Kazakov today. The group which is based in Tel Aviv, declared its solidarity "with your struggle for the immigration of your family and the Jews of the Soviet Union." The municipality of Natanya decided today to make Yasha Kazakov a freeman of the city in recognition of his struggle for the right of Russian Jews to emigrate. Mayor Oved Men Ami sent a cable to Kazakov informing him of the city council's action.

Today's Knesset debate on Kazakov wound up with five agenda motions being submitted to committee. They were introduced by MKs of the Gahal (Herut-Liberal alignment), the Free Center, the National Religious Party and the Labor Party alignment. Speaking for the latter, Labor Party Secretary General Arye Eliav said efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry would be more successful if they are centrally directed. He said this would prevent men of good will from being misled and allying themselves to factors with which Israel does not want to be associated. He did not enlarge on that remark. Other MKs insisted that the Government declare its unqualified solidarity with acts such as that of Yasha Kazakov. Zevulun Hammer, speaking for the Orthodox National Religious Party demanded that Israel bestow automatic citizenship on every Jew in the Soviet Union who expresses a desire to go to Israel.

#### Israeli Jets Attack Egyptian Positions; Shooting And Sabotage Flare In Golan Heights

TEL AVIV, April 1 (JTA)--Egyptian military positions in the Suez Canal zone were attacked twice by Israel Air Force jets today. A half hour raid this evening blasted targets in the southern sector of the canal zone. An afternoon attack lasting an hour hit both the central and southern sectors. A military spokesman said all aircraft returned safely. Shooting and sabotage flared in the Golan Heights last night. Syrian forces fired bazooka shells and small arms at an Israeli position in the southern Golan. In the northern sector, saboteurs from Syria damaged a compressor unit and two tractors near Ramat Shalom on Mt. Hermon. There were no casualties. In Jerusalem last night the Knesset finance committee decided to issue free gas masks to everyone in Israel. They will be paid for out of a special defense levy amounting to 0.3 percent of income. The levy will be collected by the National Insurance Institute.

#### Mrs. Meir Declares Peace Has Priority Over Her Government Coalition

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir declared today that peace has priority over her coalition. Replying to a question by Shmuel Tamir of the Free Center faction, Mrs. Meir said she would not hesitate to disband her national coalition government if it failed to agree on a proposed peace offer. She added that this would apply only if a concrete proposal were up for discussion, which is not the case at present.

#### Miss Brooks May Extend Stay In Israel After Her Release From Hospital

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--Miss Angie Brooks, president of the United Nations General Assembly who was hospitalized for influenza and tonsillitis yesterday, may extend her stay in Israel after she is released from Hadassah Hospital, it was learned today. Sources close to the Liberian diplomat said she would do so if she is well enough to complete her schedule and able to extend her time abroad. Miss Brooks arrived here a week ago on the first official visit to Israel by an incumbent president of the General Assembly. She took ill before she was able to complete her schedule which includes an address to the Knesset. Sources here said that during her stay at Hadassah Hospital she will have her eyes examined by Prof. Isaac Michaels. Prof. Michaels established an eye clinic at the Central Hospital in Monrovia, Liberia several years ago.

(At the United Nations in New York reports circulated today that Cairo had expressed anger over Miss Brooks' visit to Israel. A UN spokesman said there was no confirmation of the reports by a news agency that Cairo had issued a protest. He also stated that there was no comment from Secretary General U Thant on the alleged protest and that neither Miss Brooks nor Mr. Thant had communicated with each other since her arrival in Israel. Miss Brooks replied to Arab protests earlier this week over his visit to Israel saying she would visit Arab countries too if invited and if it would help bring peace.)

#### Israelis In Quandry Over Davis Cup Draw In Which They Have To Meet Rhodesian Team

JERUSALEM, April 1 (JTA)--The draw for the Davis Cup which determined that Israel would meet Rhodesia in the first round and be host to the Rhodesian team, has put the Israeli sports authorities and the Government in a ticklish position. Israel, like most members of the United Nations, does not recognize the Rhodesian Government and does not honor Rhodesian passports. Israelis, who have often been on the receiving end of discrimination in sports because of political reasons, do not wish to practice it against athletes of another country. They are, therefore, seeking a solution which conforms to Israel's principle of distinguishing between politics and sports but which, at the same time, does not involve any recognition of the Rhodesian regime or relations with it in any form.

#### Dayan Agrees To A Committee To Examine Complaints Of Arab Farmers In Jordan Valley

TEL AVIV, April 1 (JTA)--Defense Minister Moshe Dayan gave a sympathetic hearing yesterday to Arab farmers in the Jordan Valley who protested that anti-terrorist measures taken by Israeli forces in the occupied territory prevented them from working their land. But Gen. Dayan told them, "If I must choose between ensuring the security of human life and the continuity of agricultural work, I shall choose the former." The Defense Minister toured the Samaritan and Judean districts and visited the towns of Jericho and Jenin. He spoke to a delegation of Arab farmers whose lands are on the cease-fire demarcation line. Some of the land has been preempted for security purposes.

Gen. Dayan agreed to a mixed committee that would examine the farmers' complaints and petitions. He said he wanted all farmers to be able to work their land in peace but noted that terrorists have been waging war in the district for nearly three years. It is not only the crop that is destroyed but Israeli soldiers and civilians have been killed, he said.

### Kazakov's Father Asks Tekoah To Urge-Son To End Fast; Tekoah And Thant Meet

UNITED NATIONS, April 1 (JTA)--In a Moscow-to-New York telephone call yesterday, Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah was asked by Joseph Kazakov, father of the young man conducting a hunger strike here on behalf of Soviet Jewry, to urge his son to desist and leave the question of Soviet Jewish emigration to the Israeli authorities. Mr. Tekoah reported, however, that the elder Kazakov said he had received no further word on the processing of the family's emigration request, which has thus far been refused. Mr. Tekoah, who formerly was ambassador to Moscow, spoke with the father in Russian and Yiddish. The ambassador promptly renewed the Kazakov plea with Secretary General U Thant. Mr. Thant was said to have expressed "interest" in the Kazakov family's plight.

Ambassador Tekoah met with Mr. Thant today also to present him with a letter from 18 Soviet Georgian Jewish families endeavoring to emigrate to Israel asserting that "300 days have elapsed" since their original plea for assistance and that "our situation has not changed." Mr. Tekoah emphasized to Mr. Thant, that a covering letter from the families stressed the necessity for the Secretary General "to fulfill his duty" in their plight. The families urged immediate action "because time is short." Mr. Tekoah also submitted to Mr. Thant a letter from a 58-year-old Georgian SSR citizen charging that his visa to emigrate to Israel was held up in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a year until he appealed directly to Premier Alexei Kosygin, after which "I was unexpectedly informed...that the exit permit has been totally refused to me." The writer, Yossi Khikhashvili, called on Mr. Thant to intervene in his behalf.

### Trial For 19 Students Who Chained Themselves To Soviet Embassy Gate

WASHINGTON, April 1 (JTA)--Nineteen students, all Jewish but one, who chained themselves to the gates of the Soviet embassy last December to protest the plight of Soviet Jewry will be tried in the District of Columbia Court of General Sessions tomorrow. Eighteen of the students wore name tags identifying them as representing one of the 18 Jewish families from Soviet Georgia who sent a petition to the United Nations late last year asking to be allowed to emigrate to Israel.

The students are being charged with violating a 1938 district law that prohibits demonstrating or congregating within 500 feet of an embassy. The six lawyers for the group--two of whom are presently studying in Israel and will not be here for the trial--plan to challenge the constitutionality of the law, which was passed to prevent demonstrations outside the Nazi German and Austrian embassies in 1938. The students, from Washington area colleges were all part of the "New Washington Committee For Human Rights." The maximum penalty for the offense is 60 days in jail and/or \$100 fine. Suit is being brought by the district government, at the request of the Soviet Union through the State Department.

### Italians Suggest Mideast Settlement Should Involve Big Four And Six Other Nations

ROME, April 1 (JTA)--Details were made public here today of a so-called "Italian plan" for a Mideast settlement that would start the ball rolling toward peace by setting up an international commission to limit and control the inflow of heavy arms to the area. The proposed commission would be made up of the delegates of the four Big Powers--United States, Soviet Russia, Britain and France--and a further six members, three from the West and three from the Eastern bloc. It would keep an eye on the arms balance, both quantitative and qualitative and would try to diminish tensions by getting both sides to adhere to the June, 1967 cease-fire agreements. The plans call for a pledge, apparently from Israel, not to unilaterally alter the juridical status of the occupied territories or their inhabitants.

The plan has already been given wide publicity in Egypt by the semi-official Cairo daily Al Ahrām. Foreign Ministry officials who released it here said it should not be called an "Italian plan" but rather an "Italian suggestion." Proponents of the plan say that after these first steps are accomplished, it would be easier to implement the United Nations Security Council's Nov. 22, 1967 Mideast resolution. They say they have been encouraged by the fact that the plan has not been rejected by either side and there are requests for "more detailed plans" from some interested countries. The countries weren't identified.

### Belgin Says U.S. Delay Of Jets To Israel Designed To Aid Talks With Soviet Union

BUENOS AIRES, April 1 (JTA)--Menachem Begin, an Israeli Cabinet minister, said here last night the main reason the Nixon Administration was delaying the sale of more jets to Israel was its desire to keep the way open for talks with Soviet Russia and make certain concessions. He dismissed the threats by Arab countries to withhold oil from the West. "The Arabs cannot drink their oil but need to sell it," he said. Mr. Begin, who heads the right-wing, nationalist Herut faction spoke at a reception given him by the Buenos Aires Jewish community. Later he told newsmen at a press conference that the so-called Palestinian liberation movements were making some Jews feel that the Jewish and Israeli causes were morally unjust. He said such feelings were dangerous and Jews should not be ashamed. "The Arab nation exerts self-determination in 14 states while we claim only one relatively small state," Mr. Begin said.

## Javits Warns Administration On Dangerous Course In Withholding Jets From Israel

NEW YORK, April 1 (JTA)--Sen. Jacob K. Javits warned here yesterday that the Nixon Administration was following "a course of great potential danger" in withholding approval of Israel's request to purchase more Phantom and Skyhawk jets. Addressing a luncheon meeting of the Foreign Policy Association, the New York Republican said "An arms limitation agreement is clearly a policy which the U.S. is following in the Mideast," but it requires the cooperation of the Soviet Union. "The Soviet decision to provide advanced surface-to-air missiles to Egypt--and the necessary technical personnel to man these weapons--coming on the heels of France's deal to sell over 100 Mirage jets to Libya invalidates the premise that U.S. 'restraint' in selling arms to Israel will influence the USSR to curtail its provision of arms to Israel's Arab enemies," Sen. Javits said.

"Given the important consideration of lead time for delivery and deployment of such complicated weaponry as Phantoms and Skyhawks, there is very little time available for the Administration's efforts to enlist Soviet cooperation in arms limitations through a policy of denying arms to Israel for 'demonstration effect,'" according to the Senator. "Certainly," he added, "the search for an arms limitation agreement will continue to have high priority according to present U.S. policy. But a U.S. policy of arms denial to Israel for 'demonstration effect' could come into conflict with a higher priority--the necessity to maintain Israel's deterrent military strength."

## AJCommittee Proposes Campaign To Increase Citizen Participation In Electoral Actions

WASHINGTON, April 1 (JTA)--The American Jewish Committee proposed a "massive campaign" today to increase citizen participation in the electoral process with the specific goal of 100 million voters in the 1976 presidential elections. Its recommendations included the extension of voting rights to 18-year-olds. The plan, described as an appropriate way of marking the 200th anniversary of American Independence was unveiled at a two-day meeting of the AJCommittee board of Governors here. It was presented by AJCommittee president Philip E. Hoffman to Leonard Garment, special White House assistant, for submission to President Nixon. The campaign aims to increase the number of persons involved in both the electoral and political processes, to upgrade the quality of voter participation and to broaden and strengthen the enforcement of laws relating to voting.

An American Jewish Committee report submitted to the board of governors concluded that "What has emerged in early 1970 is a clear recognition by Christian editors that Israel is no myth and really exists." The report quotes the Rev. John Sheerin, editor of the Catholic World, that Israel's existence "is every bit as valid as that of numerous other states whose legality is never questioned." The Rev. Alan Geyer, editor of The Christian Century, a Protestant journal, is quoted that Israel's right to sovereignty and her citizens' human rights "are powerful and legitimate claims upon a religiously grounded sense of justice."

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, national interreligious affairs director of the AJCommittee, said that the survey indicated that the earlier "critical" view by Catholics and Protestants of Israel has turned to "a more sympathetic and even-handed understanding." (According to the Gallup poll recently released, more Americans were taking a neutral position toward the Mideast dispute since the Six-Day War and that support for Israel has dropped although it still is higher than support for the Arabs.) The AJCommittee report found that Christian editors believed Arab attempts to disparage Israeli territorial claims were "distressing" and "the basis for a systematic reign of terror unleashed on Jews stranded in Arab lands." The editors were also found to have learned, following a visit by some of them to Arab refugee camps, that "our image of (them) was wrong." The Israeli-run camps, they found, "are not the fenced-in concentration camps we had pictured."

## Podell Warns If Mideast War Erupts Egypt Will Transfer Soviet Jets To Libya

NEW YORK, April 1 (JTA)--Rep. Bertram Podell, New York Democrat, warned that if a new war broke out in the Middle East, Soviet jets in Egypt would be transferred to the American-evacuated Wheelus Air Force Base in Libya "so that they may bomb the cities of Israel without mercy." Rep. Podell also asserted that "Israel will be unable to attack those planes while they are on the ground because it would risk a war with its once great ally, France, which has declared itself the protector of the Wheelus Air Force Base." He again criticized President Nixon's Mideast policy and his decision to not supply additional jet warplanes to Israel at this time and said Arabs would never seek a peaceful solution to the Mideast conflict until "such time as they believe that any alternate course will mean their eventual destruction."

## AJCCongress Urges State Assembly To Reconsider Passage Of Liberalized Abortion Law

NEW YORK, April 1 (JTA)--The American Jewish Congress urged the State Assembly today to reconsider and pass the liberalized abortion reform bill that it defeated Monday by 73 to 71. The bill needed 76 votes for passage. Theodore J. Kolish, chairman of the executive committee of the AJCongress' Metropolitan Council, said the bill, passed last week by the State Senate, was an "enlightened" one that left the question of an abortion up to "the woman and her physician" and "ended the unjust discrimination that places the risks of a legal abortion mainly on the poor and disadvantaged." The current 87-year-old law, he said, also involves the state unduly in moral and religious affairs.