



# daily news bulletin

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## PERES: ISRAEL PREPARED TO PRODUCE 50% OF ITS WEAPONS IF U.S. MILITARY AID IS REDUCED By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, April 13 (JTA)--Defense Minister Shimon Peres said yesterday that Israel was prepared to produce 50 percent of its weapons needs in the event that American military aid was cut back. He also said that Israel was totally justified in rejecting pressures to accept Egyptian demands in the recent bilateral talks conducted by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger because guarantees are proving worthless as evidenced by the present situation in Indo-China.

Peres made those remarks in an interview broadcast by the Armed Forces Radio and published in the Army weekly, "Bamaachaneh." He said, however, that he found it very hard to imagine that the United States would retreat into isolationism because the vacuum would be filled by the Soviet Union. He acknowledged that U.S.-Israeli relations were passing through a crisis period since the failure of Kissinger's latest Mideast mission but expressed confidence that the crisis was a temporary one.

"Should there be a drought in our (military) purchasing relations (with the U.S.), this would oblige us to step up production at home, to work harder, to save every piece of equipment in our possession and keep our ammunition boxes filled," the Defense Minister declared. But he added, "I'd find it very hard to imagine that America has given a divorce to the whole world, to concentrate only on her own affairs and on her own coasts and to live a life of isolation. I do not believe that. Should America decide to turn its back on the whole world, then the world will change because every place vacated by the Americans will not remain empty. Russia will fill the gap," Peres said.

## Israel Right in Taking Firm Position

He said he was convinced that Israel was right in taking a firm position in the recent Kissinger negotiations. "In a world going up in flames, with guarantees toppling like so many houses of cards and war breaking out in unexpected quarters, where small peoples are being exposed to immense pressures, I feel proud that Israel emerged from this test with her spirit unbroken, her independence and freedom preserved," Peres said.

The validity of agreements made by the Big Powers are limited, he said, noting that the Vietnamese have violated an agreement signed with the U.S. less than two years ago. He said that if Israel had given in to Egyptian demands, Egypt would have pressed for further withdrawals and "we would have found ourselves in a headlong gallop."

Peres said that President Anwar Sadat of Egypt was displaying only verbal moderation in his recent public statements. Egypt's basic political strategy is to create a wedge between the U.S. and Israel, he claimed. As to Israel's preparedness, the Defense Minister stated, "the past year has been most important as far as military build-up and progress are concerned. Should

the Arabs attempt to repeat the Yom Kippur attack of 1973, they would find a surprise waiting for them."

## 200,000 MARCH FOR SOVIET JEWRY

NEW YORK, April 13 (JTA)--An estimated 200,000 Jews and non-Jews, Blacks and whites, marched here today in "Solidarity Sunday for Soviet Jewry." Tens of thousands more participated in similar rallies across the U.S. and throughout Israel. See full stories P. 2.

## CORDOBA AUTHORITIES BAN WARSAW GHETTO MEMORIAL MEETING

BUENOS AIRES, April 13 (JTA)--Cordoba authorities banned a Warsaw Ghetto memorial meeting planned by the Cordoba branch of the DAIA, the central agency for Argentine Jewry. The official reason for the action was given by authorities as "technical reasons" involving security. Officials stressed that, for similar reasons, they were banning a political meeting of the opposition Intransigent Party.

The Cordoba provincial police alleged insufficient personnel to prevent disturbances to public order. Dr. Nehemias Reznitzky, DAIA president, Victor Martinez, the leader of the opposition Union Civica-Radical, and Carlos Palacio Dereza, a member of Parliament of the Justicialist (Peronist) Party, had been scheduled to speak. The Cordoba DAIA branch protested strongly against the ban.

## ALLON ON WAY TO THE U.S.; SAYS ISRAEL PREPARED TO REOPEN NEGOTIATIONS WITH EGYPT By David Landau

BEN GURION AIRPORT, April 13 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Yigal Allon left Ben Gurion Airport this evening for London and the United States where he will address regional meetings of the United Jewish Appeal and hold a possibly fateful meeting with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger in Washington at the end of this week. It will be the first high-level contact between Israel and the United States since the failure of Kissinger's mediation efforts between Israel and Egypt last month and the start of America's reassessment of its Middle East policy, ordered by President Ford.

Allon, who attended the weekly Cabinet meeting only hours before his departure, told reporters at the airport that "Israel remains prepared to reopen, through the good offices of Dr. Kissinger, the negotiations broken off by Egypt on March 22."

But he made it clear that Israel has not retreated from the position it held on that date and stressed that pressure could not bring Israel to compromise beyond what it had offered during the ill-fated bilateral talks conducted by Kissinger. "Any compromise that Israel would not allow itself to make from the defense viewpoint will not be made under pressure," Allon declared.

He told reporters, "I am not carrying any new instructions or limitations since the Cabinet adopted no new decisions and since no new developments have taken place." The Cabinet, which met in closed session as a ministerial security commit-

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## 200,000 MARCH IN SOLIDARITY WITH SOVIET JEWRY

**LARGEST MARCH EVER IN NEW YORK;  
THOUSANDS MORE ACROSS THE U.S.**

By David Friedman

NEW YORK, April 13 (JTA)--Marching under the banners of organizations, lodges, schools and synagogues, an estimated 200,000 Jews and non-Jews, Blacks and whites, streamed down Fifth Avenue today in a demonstration of solidarity with Soviet Jewry. The march, organized by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, culminated at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza across from the United Nations, which was soon filled to its 80,000 persons capacity, causing spectators and marchers to spill into adjacent streets.

The crowd today was the largest ever for a "Solidarity Sunday for Soviet Jewry." The march here, which ran 30 city blocks, was the largest of many held in cities across the country organized by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and in Canada. Soviet Jewry officials said the demonstrations were being watched closely in Washington, Jerusalem and Moscow as the participants echoed the day's theme "Their Fight is Our Fight."

Despite chilly and windy weather, the spirit of the marchers here was warm as they shouted slogans and sang Hebrew songs. The demonstrators were of all ages with many families marching together: parents and their children, and some parents pushing baby carriages along the several-mile route.

The parade began with young demonstrators dressed in Soviet prison costumes. A group representing the Academic Committee on Soviet Jewry dressed in caps and gowns carried pictures of Soviet Jewish scientists and professors who have been denied permission to leave the Soviet Union. Many of the demonstrators carried pictures or the names of Soviet Prisoners of Conscience and other Soviet Jews who have been harassed in the USSR. New York City area Congressmen carried pictures of the POCs each of them had "adopted."

**Urge Freedom For Syrian Jews**

Many marchers shouted the slogan which has almost become the theme of demonstrations for Soviet Jews: "One, two, three, four, open up the iron door; five, six, seven, eight, let our people emigrate." Banners called for "Freedom Now," "Let My People Go," "Don't Let History Repeat Itself." Christian clergymen marched under the banner of the National Interreligious Task Force on Soviet Jewry.

Some of the marchers urged freedom for Syrian Jews, too. A group of youths wore blood-stained Arab kaffiyas and nooses and chains to underscore the plight of the Jews in Syria. Some demonstrators carried signs urging support for Israel and others had placards denouncing Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger.

**Jackson Assails Ford**

At Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D.Wash.) accused President Ford of encouraging Soviet bad faith over the emigration of Jews to Israel when the President last Thursday denounced the Jackson Amendment provisions. Jackson declared that when Congress worked out a compromise on the U.S. Trade Act provisions dealing with free emigration, "we did not know whether the Soviet Union would live up to its word." But, he said, "We thought we could count on the President of the United States to live up to his."

Ford, in his "State of the World" speech last Thursday, called for legislation eliminating the Jackson-Vanik provisions requiring unharassed emigration by Jews and others in the Soviet Union. Ford "as much as told the Soviets not to bother qualifying under our new law," Jackson told the cheering crowd. "He encouraged them to believe that their bad faith will be rewarded by further concessions." Continuing, Jackson declared: "Well, he is wrong. The problem is not in the U.S. trade bill, the problem is in the Soviet Union, and the solution is in the Soviet Union."

Sen. William E. Brock (D.Tenn.), told the crowd that "there is no need to knuckle under on the Jackson Amendment, or any other matter." He said the "only question we must face is whether or not our principles have changed, principles which require us to be concerned about our fellow man wherever and whoever he may be." Brock called for support of Soviet and Syrian Jews and for Israel. "All that Israel asks is an opportunity to choose her own future and to live her own life free from assault. That is little enough, and it deserves our unqualified support."

**Soviets Broke Word On Emigration**

Other speakers included Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D.Minn.), Governor Hugh Carey, Mayor Abraham Beame and Dr. Viktor Polsky, a noted Soviet Jewish scientist who recently emigrated to Israel. Also present were Batya Tsitlionok and Itta Nashpitz whose sons were sentenced last week to five years in exile.

Stanley Lowell, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, accused the Soviet Union of breaking its word on emigration, and the Ford Administration of doing nothing. Eugene Gold, chairman of the GNYCSJ pledged that "the principles of the Jackson Amendment will be carried through to fruition regardless of any Soviet attempts to avoid them."

In other actions, Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, president of the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the U.S., making his first statement for a public rally, gave his blessing to "all who labor with such love for all Jews in every place where they reside."

Terence Cardinal Cooke, Archbishop of the Diocese of New York, said that "In this Holy Year of renewal and reconciliation, it is fitting that we should join together with our Jewish friends and neighbors in behalf of Soviet Jews and other persons who are denied their human rights in the Soviet Union.... Christians and Jews both share the exodus experience and we are both committed to the struggle for physical and spiritual liberation." Manhattan Borough President Percy Sutton read a statement of support from New York's Black community.

**JDL Stages Passive Resistance Rally**

Several hundred members of the Jewish Defense League, which had labeled today's march a "picnic" organized by the Jewish establishment, first pushed through the crowd several blocks from Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, and waited to hear Jackson speak. They then sat down in the middle of Second Avenue, a block away from the Plaza, when police refused to allow them to go to First Avenue and hold a sit-down demonstration in front of the United States Mission to the UN. Police said there were too many to allow in front of the U.S. Mission.

JDL speakers said their demonstration was to oppose the Ford-Kissinger policy toward Israel and détente with the Soviet Union. Police did not attempt to break up the JDL's passive resistance

sitting-down which tied up traffic along Second Avenue. Some of them dispersed, but others allowed themselves to be arrested peacefully.

Ten Arabs representing the Association for Arab-American Friendship, holding a counter-demonstration, were isolated by police at the Isaiah Wall several blocks from the Plaza crowd. Police, lining the route of the march, were under orders not to wear helmets or carry night sticks. There were no incidents along the official line of march.

#### ISRAEL OBSERVES SOLIDARITY DAY

TEL AVIV, April 13 (JTA)--A day of solidarity with Soviet Jews was observed all over Israel today as tens of thousands of Jews and non-Jews participated in similar demonstrations throughout the free world. President Ephraim Katzir set the tone this evening in an address to a rally at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem where he urged Soviet authorities to discontinue the persecution of Jews who apply for exit visas. "We are witnessing, by coercion, a limitation on exit permits issued to Jews which has resulted in a large and significant drop in Jewish emigration from Russia in recent months," President Katzir said.

At the Wise Auditorium in Tel Aviv, a capacity audience was addressed by S. Z. Abramoff, a Knesset member and chairman of the Public Committee for Russian Jewry. He shared the platform with two recent immigrants from the USSR, Silva Zalmanson and Yevgeny Levitch. Students at Tel Aviv University held a rally of their own to express solidarity with the Jews of Russia.

A letter from the family of activist Vladimir Slepak in Moscow was read. It said, in part: "Today, the 13th of April, is the fifth anniversary of our first request for a permit to emigrate and we are still denied the desired permit." Telephone calls received from the Soviet Union indicated that many Russian Jews were on hunger strikes today. With hopes fading for relief through such means as the Jackson Amendment, Soviet Jews apparently have decided to resume their struggle for visas publicly.

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tee today, issued a statement saying that it had heard reports from Premier Yitzhak Rabin, Allon and Defense Minister Shimon Peres but that no new decisions were taken. The implication was that Israel's offers of various options to Egypt remain open.

#### Can Feel U.S. Pressure

Allon admitted that he could "feel the signs of some kind of pressure upon us" from the U.S. but he stressed that there was no crisis in relations between Jerusalem and Washington. He said, however, that there were differences of opinion, some of them sharp. Allon will meet with British Prime Minister Harold Wilson in London tomorrow before proceeding to the U.S.

Although the Cabinet unanimously approved his trip, there were reports today that some ministers questioned its wisdom and felt that Allon was in effect imposing himself on the Secretary of State. These feelings apparently arose from reports from Washington over the weekend that State Department spokesman had said that the visit was initiated by Israel rather than by the U.S.

Israeli spokesmen, including Allon and Ambassador Simcha Dinitz, insist that Kissinger proposed the meeting when he was informed by Dinitz that the Israeli Foreign Minister was coming to the U.S. for a speaking tour on behalf of the

UJA. According to officials here, when Kissinger learned of the visit, he told Dinitz, "Let us get together." Dinitz suggested that the meeting with Allon be held in New York but Kissinger insisted that Allon come to Washington, giving their meeting a more official stamp, the officials said.

The Allon visit to Washington has been bitterly criticized by the Likud opposition. Premier Rabin will reply to Likud at a special recess session of the Knesset tomorrow.

#### SILENCE ON SOVIET EMISSARIES' VISIT

By Gil Sedan.

JERUSALEM, April 13 (JTA)--Israeli officials continued to maintain a stony silence today on a report that two Soviet emissaries visited Premier Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Yigal Allon here last week to sound out Israel's position on reconvening the Geneva conference and its position on an overall peace settlement with its Arab neighbors. The report was published Friday in Haaretz by the newspaper's political correspondent, Mati Golan. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said, "I am not confirming, neither am I denying the story." There has been no comment from any official quarters here since then.

According to Haaretz, the Soviet emissaries were not official representatives of the Kremlin but "persons close to the Soviet administration." Their visit to Israel was the latest in a series of meetings between Israeli and Soviet officials on various levels, including alleged meetings between Israeli Ambassadors Simcha Dinitz and Soviet Ambassador Anatoly F. Dobrynin in Washington, Haaretz claimed.

According to Golan, the main theme of the reported meeting here was an exchange of views on the possibility of resuming the Geneva talks. The Soviet emissaries allegedly reported that the USSR was interested in their resumption because Moscow could not allow the political situation to stagnate which could lead to a new Middle East war and a possible confrontation with the U.S.

The envoys reportedly tried to convince the Israeli leaders that Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's step-by-step approach had definitely failed and therefore Geneva offered the only opportunity to reach a settlement in the Mideast; sought to allay Israeli fears by suggesting Soviet guarantees of Israel's pre-June 4, 1967 borders and the resumption of diplomatic relations between Israel and the USSR; and reportedly said Moscow would not insist on the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization in Geneva if Israel agreed that PLO representatives could be included as members of other Arab delegations.

According to Golan, the Israeli leaders, asked what Israel would demand in exchange for its return to the 1967 lines, replied that Israel would demand a full peace agreement and changes in the 1967 borders but Israel has not yet decided what position it would adopt at Geneva. Golan quoted "senior officials" here as saying that the Soviet initiative probably came as a result of the cooling relations between Israel and the U.S. in the aftermath of Kissinger's failure to promote a second-stage Israeli-Egyptian agreement in Sinai.

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JERUSALEM (JTA)--Arava settlements on the eastern edge of the Negev will absorb some 2000 families within the next seven years, according to the Jewish Agency. This large-scale absorption of families, part of a new, extensive development plan for this part of the country, will be worked out in detail by the Agency Settlement Department at the request of chairman Pinhas Sapir.

## FORD CRITICIZED FOR ASKING CONGRESS TO REVISE TRADE RESTRICTIONS TO USSR

WASHINGTON, April 13 (JTA)--President Ford's call to Congress to revise U.S. legislation to ease restrictions on financial credits to the Soviet Union unless it modifies its emigration practices, was criticized here Friday by an American trade union leader. "The average American is not really interested in trade with the Soviet Union if that means it will cost the blood of some of the people in Russia," said Glenn E. Watts, president of the Communications Workers of America.

Responding to questions on the President's comments in his "State of the World" address Thursday night, Watts told a news conference that the Soviet government had repudiated its trade agreement with the United States last January because of the "low level of credit" it would get under the Export-Import Bank law. He said he "suspects" that the Soviets would not have raised the question of emigration in the trade act if the U.S. had been willing to provide the Soviet Union with a billion dollars in credits rather than \$300 million.

Watts also said in respect to the claim that the U.S. legislation interferes with Soviet internal affairs that "our country in one way or another has interfered in the internal affairs of other countries" for lesser reasons. "We may have been well advised if we exported the concepts of our own revolution two hundred years ago," Watts said. "We would have been better off if we had."

### Simon, U.S. Intends To Remove Barriers

Meanwhile, U.S. Treasury Secretary William Simon, who arrived in Moscow last Thursday to participate in U.S.-Soviet trade talks, his first visit to Moscow since the Soviet government renounced the 1972 trade accord last January, said in an interview with Moscow Radio last Friday that "The government of the United States intends to continue efforts to remove barriers hindering the normal development of trade between our countries. Above all this concerns the limitations on credits for Soviet-American trade."

In his discussions last Thursday with Soviet Trade Minister Nikolai Patolichev, Simon said the U.S. Administration "strongly opposed the actions by our Congress which interrupted the normalization of our trade relations with the Soviet Union. The President has committed himself to work for the removal of current restrictions at the earliest opportunity."

Furthermore, Simon stated, in preparing a legislative proposal to remove the current restrictions "we shall have in mind both the importance of removing arbitrary ceilings on Export-Import Bank credits for U.S. exports and the importance of eliminating the unacceptable aspects of the Jackson Amendment to the recent trade bill."

### FORD'S SPEECH TO CONGRESS SHOWS LITTLE EVIDENCE OF MIDEAST SHIFT

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, April 13 (JTA)--President Ford's reference to the Arab-Israeli conflict in his "State of the World" address to a joint session of Congress Thursday night has drawn little comment and is generally seen as indicating no changes in the commonly understood U.S. position. Most observers said it appeared designed to reaffirm the U.S. determination to maintain

the diplomatic momentum that it has initiated and to indicate that the U.S. is not ready to make any shift, if it makes any, prior to completion of the Presidential review and after Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon meet here late next week.

Their meeting will be the first high level Israeli-U.S. session since Kissinger left Jerusalem March 22, when his attempt for a second Egyptian-Israeli agreement was suspended.

### Plus And Minus Seen

Some independent observers saw a plus for Israel in the President's remarks in that he did not refer to his "reassessment" of the Middle East situation which has been widely construed as pressure on Israel to accede to the Egyptian demands in the Kissinger shuttle diplomacy. On the other hand, his absence of any words of specific U.S. traditional support for Israel was seen as a minus.

Of the sparse comment heard from the Congress, most of it dealt with comparisons and reasons for U.S. aid to South Vietnam and Israel with the majority of those talking about that comparison taking note that the circumstances are dissimilar since Israel is fighting external forces seeking to destroy her and is a united and democratic nation.

During the discussions on television of Ford's address, three Senators took different views on linking military aid to South Vietnam with aid to Israel. On CBS-TV, Sen. James Buckley (C-R, NY) said that the U.S. should provide South Vietnam with aid to help reverse the Vietcong attack just as the U.S. aided Israel during the Yom Kippur War. However, Senators George McGovern (D, SD) and Frank Church (D, Idaho) took issue, noting that Israel was not like South Vietnam. They noted that Israel was a democracy, fought its own wars and won them, and had a good army capable of achieving victories.

### Statement On Mideast Termed Disappointing

In a related development, the Rabbinical Council of America, in a letter to President Ford, expressed disappointment that Ford said nothing in his brief reference to the Middle East in his "State of the World" address "that would reassure the people of Israel of the continued friendship and support for them by the United States. The letter, signed by Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld, president of the Council, added:

"I believe a great opportunity was missed to restore the confidence of the people of Israel in America's commitment to its security. The statement that you did make seemed to convey a rather detached attitude to the real fears of the people of Israel that there is an erosion in the policy of your Administration regarding the security of the State of Israel." Since the Ford Administration is currently reassessing its Mideast policy, it was not expected that the President would go into specifics. But Rabbi Schonfeld noted, however, that Ford's "forthright statement" reiterating American determination to stand by its allies was commendable.

Ford touched only briefly on the Mideast during his hour-long address to the joint session of Congress. He said the U.S. would not be "discouraged" by the collapse of the second-stage Sinai talks, asserted that the "momentum toward peace... must and will be maintained," noted that the U.S. had agreed "in principle" to a renewal of the Geneva peace talks and that the U.S. was "ready to explore other forums," and stressed that the U.S. would not accept "stagnation or stalemate" in the Mideast.