



# daily news bulletin

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## RABIN; ISRAEL SOUGHT TO CONVINCE CHINA TO CHANGE ITS ATTITUDE TOWARD JEWISH STATE

TEL AVIV, April 27 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin has revealed that Israel approached Premier Chou En-lai of the People's Republic of China through a friendly third party in an effort to change China's hostile attitude toward the Jewish State. But the third party, a European socialist leader, who is a friend of Israel, drew a negative response from Chou. The episode is disclosed in a special interview with Rabin published in the Israeli Journalists Year Book that will appear here shortly.

According to Rabin, the intermediary tried to explain the historic right of Israel to the land of Israel. The Chinese leader, who listened to the explanation, remarked later: If we agree in principle that a nation that was expelled off its land, or has changed its character returns after one thousand or two thousand years to claim the right to re-establish its independence in the same place that it was in the past, we shall bring chaos to the international system. Chou added, imagine that this principle was good for the Indians if they were in existence today and would have returned to America.

Rabin said he told his European friend that the fact that Chou cannot find those Indians of the ancient days proved the difference between Israel and other nations that disappeared from the political arena. Rabin added in the interview: Without seeing the right perspective of history in the establishment of Israel, it would be difficult to grasp the great historic revolution that took place here.

## NUCLEAR POWER PLANT IN ISRAEL EXPECTED TO BE OPERATING BY 1984 By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 27 (JTA)--Israel is to have a nuclear power plant in operation by 1984 which it is hoped will produce some 15 percent of its electricity requirements. The decision to go ahead with plans for the plant was taken by the Cabinet at its weekly meeting today. The plant will have a 600-megawatt capacity and will probably run on enriched uranium which Israel will purchase from the U.S.

Israel's Electric Corporation signed a contract last year with the U.S. atomic energy authority enabling it to buy the vital fuel from the U.S. Following the Cabinet decision, the Electric Corporation will open concrete negotiations with a number of potential American suppliers to decide which of them is to be awarded the contract to build the plant.

When President Nixon visited the Mideast last June, he held out an offer to both Israel and Egypt of a nuclear power plant. But subsequent tentative negotiations with both states were shelved for various reasons and a top official said here today Israel's planned plant was "not necessarily" connected with what was then Nixon's offer.

The official, Ram Haviv of the Commerce and Industry Ministry, said Israel had been contemplating ordering a plant for some two years now--but initial planning had been delayed due to

the Yom Kippur War. All the basic studies had now been completed, however, and following the Cabinet go-ahead, the Electric Corporation could embark on practical negotiations with suppliers.

The plant, he said, would probably be sited in Nitzanim, on the coast midway between Ashdod and Ashkelon. It had to be near the sea, he explained, because of the huge quantities of water needed for cooling.

## ANTI-SEMITIC TV SHOWS DENOUNCED

By Asher Mibashan

BUENOS AIRES, April 27 (JTA)--A prominent Argentine military leader, Gen. Diego Enrique Perkins, joined the DAIA in denouncing anti-Semitism in a television series recently broadcast here. The programs, titled "Round the World With Argentinian Eyes" focussed on visits to Arab countries. Perkins characterized them as crude anti-Semitism, inciting to religious and racial hatred contrary to Argentine traditions.

The last two programs in the series, dealing with Syria and Libya, contained especially virulent anti-Israel sentiments. The Syrian Ambassador to Argentina, Jawdat Atassi, who participated in the series, is regarded as the leading Jew-baiter of the Arab diplomatic corps here. Other participants included Sen. Filipe Sapag, an Argentine of Arab origin; Jesus Hernandez, a priest of the Orthodox Antiochan Church who attacked the Jewish religion; Prof. Margarita Abram; and commentator Llamas de Madriaga who attacked Israel for allegedly destroying the Syrian town of Kuneitra on the Golan Heights.

The DAIA, the central representative body of Argentine Jewry, complained about the repeated use of the mass media by foreign diplomats who exceed their diplomatic prerogatives by injecting foreign problems into the local scene, predicated on anti-Semitism and the strategy of the Arab oil producing countries.

## CABINET PREPARES FOR 'POLITICAL DEBATE' ON ISRAELI PEACE PLAN

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, April 27 (JTA)--The Cabinet decided today to hold a full-dress "political debate" at a date to be fixed by Premier Yitzhak Rabin. The decision followed pressure from a number of ministers for new political initiatives and for the drafting of an overall Israeli peace plan in advance of Geneva. The ministers held a four-hour "question and observation" session today following Foreign Minister Yigal Allon's report on his visit to the U.S. last week.

Allon reiterated his feeling that the dialogue with the U.S. had been reopened along less tense lines following his meeting with Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger in Washington. He recalled the statement he and Kissinger read to the press following their meeting in which they promised to try to coordinate the Israeli and U.S. positions.

The official Cabinet decision published today said Rabin and Allon would bring draft resolutions to the "political debate." Cabinet Secretary Gershon Avner said it was not yet known whether these drafts would concern further possible efforts at a partial settlement or an overall peace

scenario to be presented by the Israeli delegates at Geneva.

At the same time, Independent Liberal Party ministers Moshe Kol and Gideon Hausner repeated to the Cabinet today their public urging that Israel begin preparing a peace plan for presentation at Geneva. But Yitzhak Rabin, a minister of the National Religious Party spoke out tonight against either initiative. To present new partial settlement ideas would look like knuckling under to pressures which followed the collapse of last month's shuttle talks he contended. He also claimed that no overall settlement scenarios likely to be proposed by Israel would be acceptable to the Arabs.

#### NO DECISION ON AID TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, April 27 (JTA)--The State Department has categorically denied that a decision has been made, under the President's reassessment of U.S. Mideast policy, to reduce U.S. assistance to Israel. Recent contradictory reports have indicated both that U.S. aid will not be cut or that it will be slashed. The Israelis are understood to have asked for \$1.5 billion in military assistance and \$1 billion in economic aid.

Department spokesman Robert Anderson said Friday that the question of aid to Israel has not yet been reached. "It is still on the technical level," Anderson stressed. "It is still being studied. No decision has been made."

When a reporter suggested that a recommendation has been made to hold U.S. aid to Israel to \$1 billion, Anderson said he had not heard of it and pointed out, "There has been no recommendation to the Secretary on this subject." Anderson said he did not know when the reassessment led by Undersecretary of State Joseph Sisco, would be completed or when it will be processed through the National Security Council enroute to President Ford.

#### APPEAL SENT TO SOVIET OFFICIALS ON BEHALF OF NASHPITZ, TSTILIONOK

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--As part of a concerted drive to reverse the sentence imposed on Mark Nashpitz and Boris Tstilionok, New York City Commissioner of Human Rights Eleanor Holmes Norton appealed to Soviet officials to allow Nashpitz and Tstilionok to join their families in Israel.

In her appeal she wrote: "Despite vast differences in political and cultural traditions among the nations of the world, there is increasingly a world consensus that the right to peacefully petition one's government, to speak without fear and to move freely are basic rights owed every human being. Those committed to these principles believe that national boundaries cannot limit their application. Thus, men and women throughout the world are deeply concerned by the cases of Dr. Mark Nashpitz and Boris Tstilionok who were sentenced to exile for attempting to demonstrate for the right to emigrate from the Soviet Union."

City Commissioner of Investigations Nicholas Scopetta also cabled General Procurator Rudenko protesting the severe sentence of five years in exile.

Meanwhile, appeals by Nashpitz and Tstilionok from their five-year exile sentences have been rejected by the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation, according to reports received here. The two Jewish activists were convicted for participating in a demonstration for freer emigration for Soviet Jews.

#### SYMPATHY FAST IN TWIN CITIES

MINNEAPOLIS, April 27 (JTA)--Seven resi-

dents of Minneapolis and St. Paul held a three-day hunger strike last week in sympathy with Vladimir Slepak and his family which began a hunger strike April 13. At the start of their fast, the seven Jews said they were joining with "dozens of other people in communities across the United States, in Canada, England and Europe, in a demonstration of sympathy and solidarity with a man who deserves our utmost respect and admiration. Vladimir Slepak symbolizes for all of us the spirit and strength of the Soviet Jewish exodus movement."

Meanwhile, Slepak today began the third week of his hunger strike in protest against five years of official refusal to allow him and his family to emigrate. According to sources in the United States, Slepak told Western newsmen that he was still feeling well on a diet of mineral water and would continue his fast "as long as I can."

His wife, Maria, said she ended her fast yesterday. Their eldest son, Alexander, who had also been fasting, began taking food last Wednesday on the advice of doctors. Vladimir Slepak said he had telephoned sympathizers in the U.S. who told him that thousands of letters and telegrams had been sent in his support. He told the sympathizers that he had received only one postcard.

#### ISRAEL APPRECIATES ACTIVITIES OF U.S. JEWISH GROUPS IN COUNTERING THE ARAB BOYCOTT

JERUSALEM, April 27 (JTA)--"There is much appreciation in Israel for the activities of American Jewish organizations in general, and of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in particular, in countering the Arab boycott," Dan Halperin, adviser to the Finance Minister, stressed today to the JTA. (It had been inadvertently reported in Friday's Bulletin that Halperin had "ohhided" some U.S. Jewish organizations' role in fighting the boycott.) These organizations work at their own initiative, and their efforts parallel those of Israel itself.

Halperin, in the JTA interview published Friday, recorded the fact that Israel had asked Chase Manhattan to open a branch here and the bank had refused. He did not, as inadvertently implied, chide the ADL for concentrating its efforts on those firms and banking institutions which have had ties with Israel in the past rather than working on a broader spectrum of financial and business concerns.

#### MIKE BRANDT, 29, COMMITS SUICIDE

PARIS, April 27 (JTA)--Israeli singer Mike Brandt, who has been at the top of the French hit parade for the last five years, committed suicide last Friday by jumping from a sixth-floor balcony. He had tried to commit suicide in a similar manner last November and had spent several months in a Geneva clinic where he was treated for a nervous breakdown. The 29-year-old singer, whose family lives in Haifa, was known throughout Western Europe as one of the most popular singers and had sold more than five million records in France alone.

#### AGUDATH ISRAEL URGES NEW SPIRITUAL STRENGTH IN AMERICAN JEWISH LIFE

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--One thousand leaders of American Orthodox Jewry, including deans from the leading rabbinical institutions in this country, heard a call today to American Jews for a more intimate involvement with the traditional values of Judaism as a means of strengthening the moral strength of the Jewish nation. Rabbi

Moshe Feinstein, Dean of Mesifita Tifereth Jerusalem and a member of the presidium of Agudath Israel, addressing the dinner meeting of Agudath Israel of America, called on Jews everywhere "to face the current trying times with a rededication to the ancient values of Judaism, as set forth in the ancient Torah."

Gov. Hugh Carey of New York, responding to his being bestowed with the 1975 Humanitarian Award of Agudath Israel of America, hailed the growth of Agudath Israel and the Orthodox Jewish community in general. He warned against the current administration policy in Washington of "reassessing American relations with Israel." He termed it "a short-sighted policy, which is not only immoral, but flies in the face of the interests of our own country." He called the continued military, economic, and political aid to Israel "in the best interest of America."

Rabbi Moshe Sherer, executive president of Agudath Israel of America, called for "a changing of the guard in Jewish leadership with a new breed of leaders, with policy decisions to be made by leaders thoroughly grounded in ancient Jewish tradition. The bank book guide rule of determining Jewish leadership must come to a halt and must be replaced through Jewish scholarship and commitment to traditional Jewish values if we are to come to grips with the problems facing the Jewish people, Rabbi Sherer continued.

In addition to Carey, three American Orthodox Jewish leaders received awards: Sheldon Beren, prominent Denver Orthodox leader, Joseph Friedenson, editor of "Dos Yiddishe Vort," and Max Berg, chairman of the Russian Immigrant Rescue Fund.

#### STUDY SHOWS ANTI-SEMITISM IN AUSTRIA IS DECLINING, BUT HARD-CORE OF 15% OF POPULATION STILL ANTI-SEMITIC By Peter Friedlinger

VIENNA, April 27 (JTA)--A study group of scientists said today that some 15 percent of Austrians are anti-Semitic. The group which investigated the situation of minorities in Austria said the number of anti-Semites has been steadily declining in the last decades. "However, there still exists a hard-core of 15 percent of Austrians who are anti-Semitic." The report said "anti-Semitism was the only prejudice in Austria with historical roots."

Austrians who support the right-wing Freedom Party are the strongest opponents of Jews. The report said that among Freedom Party voters under 30, 23 to 28 percent are anti-Semitic and among those between 30 and 50, 37-58 percent. Some 78 percent of Freedom Party voters over 50 are anti-Semitic. Most of them are former members of the Nazi Party. Some 12-34 percent of conservative voters are anti-Semitic as are 7-20 percent of the Austrian socialists, the report said.

#### Cardinal Denounces Anti-Semitism

Meanwhile, the Vienna Roman Catholic Cardinal said today that anti-Semitism no longer has any basis in Catholic theology. In a lecture, Franz Cardinal Koenig said it was very sad and shameful that the church for long periods delivered pretexts for anti-Semitic ideologies. "But in reality, anti-Semitism has no basis in Catholic theology," Koenig said. "The Second Vatican Council made that very clear and put a final stop to Christian anti-Semitism."

Koenig, who is chairman of the Vatican Congregation for Relations with Non-Believers, said

the Vienna Archdiocese removed all anti-Semitic allusions from religious and text books. "It is complete nonsense to accuse the Jews of the murder of God," Koenig said. "The church is concerned to overcome the century-old estrangement between Christians and Jews."

The Cardinal explained that the Council documents did not mention the State of Israel "because they were religious not political manifestations." He added that the Vatican avoided getting involved in disputes on the secular or religious status of Israel. The lecture was sponsored by the "Action Against Anti-Semitism in Austria" organization.

#### PEPPER URGES U.S. SUPPORT OF ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, April 27 (JTA)--Rep. Claude Pepper (D, Fla.) last night declared that "the only way we can prevent war in the Middle East is to let the world know that the United States is not going to permit Israel to become vulnerable to attack by the Arab states," Pepper, addressing the annual meeting of B'nai B'rith's commission on community volunteer services here, deplored statements by President Ford indicating White House impatience over Israel's refusal to concede territory to Egypt during the recent Kissinger shuttle talks. Such statements, Pepper said, only encourage Arab intransigence.

Israel was right in refusing to give up any terrain in the face of Egypt's refusal to make corresponding political concessions," Pepper declared. He added that he agreed with Israel's generals on the importance of the Golan Heights to that nation's defense against Syria. "Israel, he said, must have defensible borders and the United Nations formally recognizes it in Resolution 242. "I hope the American people will demand that the government declare its firm support of Israel," Pepper said.

#### U.S. JDC LEADERS IN CHILE

BUENOS AIRES, April 27 (JTA)--Jack D. Weller, chairman, and Samuel L. Haber, executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee spent four days in Santiago, Chile, their last stop on their inspection tour of JDC facilities in Latin America. Accompanied by Alfredo Berlefin, head of the JDC's Buenos Aires office, the American Jewish leaders visited schools, Jewish community centers, homes for the aged and attended Israel Independence Day celebrations in the Jewish Stadium where a Chilean military band played Israel's national anthem and Jewish youths paraded. The visitors called on Israeli Ambassador Moshe Tove and the U.S. Ambassador. They also met with Chilean Jewish leaders.

#### 200TH ANNIVERSARY FOR STOCKHOLM JEWRY

STOCKHOLM, April 27 (JTA)--The Jewish community in Sweden's capital is preparing to celebrate its bicentenary on May 4. On this date in 1775, King Gustav III gave Aaron Isaac permission to settle in Stockholm and granted his petition to hold religious services. There are some 13,000 Jews in Stockholm today, and another 2000 or so in the other parts of Sweden. Among the activities planned in celebration of the anniversary will be a special service at the Great Synagogue, exhibitions in the Royal Library and city museum, a congress of Scandinavian Jewry and special radio and TV programs. \* \* \*

NEW YORK (JTA)--Police reported Friday that a search of the midtown Manhattan offices of Betar led to confiscation of five rifles, two rifle barrels and 1600 rounds of ammunition.

