



# daily news bulletin

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## ISRAEL COMPLETES SINAI CUTBACK; SOVIETS CALL MOVE PROPAGANDA

By Yitzhak Shargil

TEL AVIV, June 4 (JTA)--Israeli armor, artillery, infantry and anti-aircraft missiles were redeployed today well beyond firing range of the Suez Canal, leaving a much reduced force on the front lines in Sinai in accordance with the unilateral "thinning out" gesture announced by Premier Yitzhak Rabin Monday.

The move was completed at 8 a.m. local time today, exactly as per schedule. Artillery batteries were moved last night and yesterday well beyond the 30 kilometer line while anti-aircraft missiles were re-positioned 40 kilometers from the canal and in some cases as far as 48 kilometers. Defense Minister Shimon Peres and Chief of Staff Gen. Mordechai Gur, accompanied by the commander of the southern front, Gen. Yekuthiel Adam, spent most of yesterday visiting Israeli troops to explain the meaning of the pullback and its possible political consequences. They said that from a military standpoint the thinning out was not too risky and although a reciprocal move might have been expected from the Egyptians, Israel nevertheless hoped that its cargoes would now be permitted transit through the reopened Suez Canal.

The government is obviously gratified by the nearly unanimous favorable reaction to its gesture from world capitals, especially in the West. The only sharply negative response came yesterday from Tass, the official Soviet news agency which reflects the Kremlin's views. Tass claimed that the Israeli decision to thin out its forces in Sinai was a propaganda move that did nothing to change Israel's basic refusal to work for a Middle East peace settlement. "In an attempt to mislead the international public, Israel is making a fuss around the so-called step-by-step diplomacy pursuing purely propagandistic aims," Tass said. "The Israeli government has not changed one bit its foreign policy line which is directed at consolidating its hold over the occupied Arab territories and evading a discussion of the problems of an overall Middle East peace settlement."

### Soviet Pique Seen

The Tass article was viewed by observers here and abroad as a manifestation of Soviet pique over the re-entry of the United States into a mediating role in the Arab-Israeli conflict that was marked by the meeting between President Ford and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in Salzburg this week. Since the suspension of Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger's bilateral efforts to promote a second-stage Israeli-Egyptian agreement last March, Moscow appeared to have re-taken the initiative in a series of consultations with Arab officials.

Peres said yesterday that Israel will return the bodies of ten Egyptian soldiers found in Sinai this week to Egypt without delay. He said that while there were 17 Israeli soldiers still missing and unaccounted for in Egyptian territory, "the feelings of Egyptian mothers was sufficient reason for Israel to return the bodies." The remains of the ten men killed in the Yom Kippur War, were discovered coincidentally with Is-

rael's decision to thin out its forces in Sinai.

Meanwhile, from a vantage point at an Israeli position known as "Budapest," overlooking Port Fuad and Port Said, preparations for the festivities tomorrow reopening the Suez Canal could be observed. The two port towns have been illuminated with fancy lights as ships arrived in Port Said awaiting their entry into the canal tomorrow.

## WALDHEIM; SALZBURG CONTRIBUTED TO PEACE

VIENNA, June 4 (JTA)--United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim today termed the Salzburg summit meeting between President Ford and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat a contribution towards peace in the Middle East.

"The talks in Salzburg were a contribution towards peace in the Middle East and may ease further negotiation efforts," Waldheim told a radio interviewer. He said he does not think that a political break-through towards a Middle East solution will be achieved in the near future.

Asked about a renewed shuttle mission by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, the UN official said: "We have learned from Arab countries that Kissinger's shuttle diplomacy should not be continued."

## MOYNIHAN SAYS U.S. SHOULD ANNOUNCE IT WILL NOT LET ISRAEL BE EXPELLED FROM UN By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 4 (JTA)--Daniel P. Moynihan, the United States Ambassador-designate to the United Nations, said today that the U.S. should proclaim "now" that it will not stand for "even the effort" to expel Israel from the UN General Assembly. Testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee which is holding hearings on his nomination, the former U.S. Ambassador to India and former political science professor at Harvard said he agreed with the views expressed before the committee a month ago by Arthur J. Goldberg.

Goldberg, a former U.S. Supreme Court Justice who served as Ambassador to the UN during the Johnson Administration, said at the time that the U.S. should assert its position against a move by the Arab states and their allies to expel Israel and warn that it would leave the General Assembly and freeze its financial contributions to the UN if such action were ever taken.

The subject rose when Sen. Richard Clark (D, Iowa), acting chairman of the committee, asked Moynihan if he agreed with Goldberg's suggested course "if by chance" the Havana conference proposal to expel Israel is adopted by the General Assembly. Moynihan noted that the representatives of some 77 non-aligned and Third World countries had met in Havana in March and will meet again in Lima in August. He said it would be too late for the U.S. to take action in September with these representatives since by then the instructions from their governments will have been solidified. The non-aligned countries have called for a special session of the General Assembly in September to discuss economic problems.

Clark said, during his questioning of Moynihan, "I certainly agree" that the UN "ought to be a universal body" and that neither Israel nor South Africa should be excluded. Moynihan pointed out that Israel cannot be expelled from the UN as a

whole because the Security Council must decide that, implying a U.S. veto of such an act. But he emphasized that even the effort to expel Israel "would be a catastrophic action." He described such an act as "madness" and "contrary to the spirit and the letter" of the UN Charter. "It is just this kind of mindless giving in and authoritarian streaks we should not encourage," he said. Moynihan added that he could not "imagine" Egypt, as an example, "would want it (Israel's expulsion) to happen."

#### LIKUD HARDLINERS DEFEATED IN TRY FOR PULLBACK DEBATE By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 4 (JTA)--Likud hardliners suffered a major defeat in the Knesset today when they were unable to muster even a majority of their own bloc in support of an agenda motion opposing the government's decision to thin out Israeli forces in Sinai as a unilateral gesture on the eve of the reopening of the Suez Canal. Eliezer Shostak, of Likud's two-man "Independent Center" faction, the author of the motion, agreed not to force a vote when it became apparent that Likud's Liberal Party and Free Center factions would not support him. Most government and opposition members joined forces to send the motion to the Knesset's foreign affairs and security committee which, in this case, is tantamount to shelving it.

Nevertheless, Foreign Minister Yigal Allon delivered a spirited defense of the government's decision which he described as a "calculated risk" that has been justified by favorable world reaction that bears out the government's hopes and expectations. He said, at the same time, that Israel had "the right to expect that it would have full freedom of access for its cargoes (through the Suez Canal) as agreed to in the disengagement accords." He said that Israel would also fight for the passage of Israeli-flag ships through the Egyptian waterway as a matter of right although this was not part of the disengagement agreements. He said he hoped Israel's gesture would not be misinterpreted by Egypt and would not tempt Egypt into "taking steps which would force Israel to revoke its action."

Shostak, whose only support came from the militant Herut wing of Likud, contended that the government's decision was ill-conceived, ill-timed and unjustified. He claimed that the gesture was bound to be misinterpreted by Israel's enemies as a sign of weakness and quoted Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's remark in Salzburg that the government's move showed that Israel was "learning the lessons of the 1973 war." Shostak also claimed that the timing of the announcement made it appear to be a hasty and frightened reaction to the meeting between President Ford and Sadat in Salzburg.

#### Israel Welcomes Suez Reopening

Allon replied that the government welcomed Egypt's reopening of the Suez Canal and "sincerely wished" the Egyptian government success in this project. He said the reopening had been part of the disengagement understanding of January 1974 and that while it served Egypt's interests primarily, the reopened canal and the rebuilding and repopulation of civilian centers along its banks was of very direct interest to Israel. He said there was a real difference between a desert confrontation line and a confrontation line close to a civilian area in which cities were being repopulated and large-scale economic enterprises were being started in them. For

these reasons, Allon said, Israel saw the reopening of the canal as "an important constructive step."

Most members of Likud's Liberal Party absented themselves from the Knesset debate today. The opposition's discomfiture was compounded by a withering attack from former Herut stalwart Binyamin Halevy, now an independent MK, who accused Herut of taking a negative "reflex action to any peace move by the government." He urged other constituents of Likud not to be dragged along by Herut's extremism. Halevy moved to have Shostak's motion stricken from the agenda. He was supported by some Mapam and Labor Party "doves" but the majority voted to send the motion to committee. Leading Laborites who abstained were former Foreign Minister Abba Eban, Yitzhak Navon, Moshe Carmel and Yitzhak Ben-Aharon.

#### ZIONIST LEADER URGES END TO PARTIES IN DIASPORA

GENEVA, June 4 (JTA)--A drastic overhaul of the constitution of the World Zionist Organization with a view to changing membership eligibility by "throwing its portals wide open for the admission of all Jews who wish to join the Zionist ranks without party affiliation" was proposed here by Kalman Sultank, executive vice-president of the World Confederation of United Zionists and a member of the Executive of the World Zionist Organization. The World Confederation is the coordinating body of all Zionist organizations who subscribe to the principles of non-identification with political parties in Israel.

Addressing a meeting of the European Section of the World Confederation, Sultank asserted that the World Zionist constitution "is now outmoded in the light of the solid and united support which Israel enjoys among all sectors of diaspora Jewry, a factor which has caused the removal of all barriers between Zionists and so-called non-Zionists."

Sultank, a member of the World Zionist Constitution Committee which is meeting in Jerusalem next week on the eve of the Jewish Agency Assembly, said that the outpouring of massive support for Israel by thousands of Jews, young and old, has exploded the myth spread by our enemies that there exists a distinction between Jews and Zionists. "The great multitudes of Jews, particularly the youth, who are contributors to Israel funds are in effect gut Zionists. Most of them refrain from joining the organized ranks of the Zionist movement lest they be identified, through the party oriented organization that beckons them, with a political counterpart in Israel."

"A meaningful revision of the World Zionist constitution," he said, "would throw wide open the doors of our movement to virtually hundreds of thousands of young Jews and contributors to Israel funds who would thus be able to wear proudly the badge of a full-fledged Zionist without any party label."

#### ALLAN BRONFMAN'S 80TH BIRTHDAY

MONTREAL, June 4 (JTA)--Contributions totalling \$2 million were received here last night for Jewish programs in Canada and Israel at a dinner honoring Allan Bronfman, president of the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University, attended by more than 1000 persons. The occasion was Bronfman's 80th birthday. The funds will be used by the Allan and Lucy Bronfman Foundation for the creation of a dormitory for students at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and to encourage research in medicine, arts and cultural activities in both countries. Bronfman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that his first love was for Israel and the Jews.

**TOON MISQUOTES U.S. POSITION****ON 'PALESTINIAN PROBLEM'**

By Joseph Polakoff

WASHINGTON, June 4 (JTA)--Malcolm Toon, the career Foreign Service diplomat nominated by President Ford to be the next U.S. Ambassador to Israel, told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today that his position on the "Palestine problem" was contained in the language of the Vladivostok communique of President Ford and Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid Brezhnev last November. Toon then proceeded to misquote the language of the communique.

Asked by acting committee chairman Sen. Richard Clark (D.Iowa) what he thought a "fair and peaceful settlement of the Palestine problem was," Toon replied that the Vladivostok communique had provided for "the legitimate interests and aspirations of the Palestinian people." None of the committee members challenged that quotation although the word "aspirations" was not included in the Ford-Brezhnev language.

Asked by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency later whether the word "aspirations" was included in the communique, Toon hesitated and replied that "interests" was included. Asked then if he intended to withdraw the word "aspirations" from his official testimony, the Ambassadorial candidate said his statement "should be changed," but he did not say that he would change it.

**In Tel Aviv By June 20**

Toon told the JTA that he expected to be in Tel Aviv by June 20. His confirmation by the Senate seems to be a virtual certainty. Toon, whose last diplomatic assignment was U.S. Ambassador to Yugoslavia and whose diplomatic experience has been chiefly in Eastern European nations, told the Senate committee that Israel's decision to thin out its forces in Sinai was "not meaningful militarily" but was "helpful" in moving the parties toward a settlement. He declined to discuss most questions affecting the Middle East on grounds that it would be inappropriate to do so while the Administration is still engaged in its reassessment of Middle East policy. But Toon said, however, that the U.S. stands for "a secure Israel" and that it would "do anything" it "thinks proper in our own objective terms" toward that end.

When Sen. Clark noted that Toon had not included the issue of Jerusalem in his remarks on the Arab-Israeli conflict, Toon replied, "I don't think it's one of the problems we want to face right now." Toon will succeed the late Kenneth Keating who was Ambassador to Israel from 1973 until his death earlier this year.

**U.S. SCIENTISTS WARN SOVIETS AGAINST THREATENING AZBEL**

NEW YORK, June 4 (JTA)--Fourteen prominent American scientists, including four Nobel Laureates, warned the Soviet Union yesterday that the enthusiasm of Western scientists for scientific exchange with the USSR "decreases in direct proportion to the increase in personal threats and punitive measures against Jewish activist Mark Azbel, a physics professor, and his colleagues."

The warning followed Azbel's press conference in Moscow at which he revealed that the KGB told him that it considered the weekly scientific seminars at his home were "an anti-

Soviet action planned and led by the Israel intelligence service." The seminar is held in Azbel's apartment and attended by more than fifty Soviet Jewish scientists who have all been dismissed from their jobs as a consequence of applying for permission to emigrate to Israel.

In the warning, the American scientists repudiated the KGB allegation that the participants are "criminals and traitors." They described the Moscow group as "highly respected scientists whose work is known and admired throughout the world."

**EL AL REPORTS HEAVY BOOKINGS**

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, June 4 (JTA)--Mordechai Ben-Ari, president of El Al Israeli Airlines said today that advanced bookings in El Al for the fall and winter seasons from the U.S. to Israel are exceptionally good "to a point where the demands can hardly be met," and that starting from mid-October "it will be hard to get hotel rooms in Israel."

Ben-Ari cited the improved military and political atmosphere in the Mideast and the reported economic recovery in the United States as major factors in the increased tourist movement from the United States to Israel in the months to come.

Addressing a press conference at El Al's headquarters here, Ben-Ari conceded, however, that although El Al anticipated an increase of 16 percent this year in passengers, "we are getting less than we have anticipated." He added that there is no decline in the number of El Al's passengers this year compared with the year before.

Ben-Ari arrived here for meetings with airline executives and businessmen in the travel industry in order "to study the situation" and to decide on a course of action to encourage tourism to Israel and to find ways on "how to bring about change in moods in regards to travel in general, a mood that had an impact on trips to Israel," he said.

Answering a question on the possibility of establishing charter flights to Israel, Ben-Ari said that El Al opposes charter flights and that he believes that the Israeli government will not change its policy on the issue. Charter flights to Israel, Ben-Ari contended, "will be detrimental to the national interest." He added that charter flights do not bring more tourists to Israel, citing Scandinavia, the only place in the world that was granted charter rights to Israel, as a place where tourism to Israel is in its ebb.

(Meanwhile in Bucharest, Rumania, it was disclosed that El Al and the Rumanian state airline Tarom have come to an agreement according to which American tourists to Israel could stay six days in Rumania with no additional cost. The agreement was concluded last week when Ben-Ari visited Rumania.)

**OPPOSES DRAFTING H.S. STUDENTS**

JERUSALEM, June 4 (JTA)--A Knesset member called on the government today to end its policy of drafting 18-year-olds into the army who were still attending high school. Yossi Sarid, of the Labor Alignment, criticized the policy at a meeting of the Alignment Knesset faction's executive committee after the Knesset presidium refused to recognize his urgent agenda motion on the subject. Sarid argued that to draft high school students just because they have reached the age of 18 imposed a hardship mainly on youngsters from the lower economic brackets who, because of social difficulties were still attending secondary school. He suggested that the army could cancel deferments for college students and draft immigrants after one year's residence in the country instead of two.

## AMERICAN SEPHARDI URGE ISRAEL TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS OF POOR By Yitzhak Rabin

NEW YORK, June 4 (JTA)--The second National Convention of the American Sephardi Federation (ASF), ended here this week with the adoption of resolutions concerning the Sephardi communities in the United States and Israel, the Mideast situation and the plight of Soviet and Syrian Jewry.

The two-day convention, held at Shearith Israel Synagogue, was attended by some 200 delegates from throughout the United States representing about 200,000 American Sephardi Jews. Mrs. Lilane Winn was elected as president, succeeding Prof. Daniel J. Elazar; Morrie Yohai was elected as chairman of the Board, replacing Haim S. Ellachar; and Mati Ronen was re-elected as executive director.

In the resolution on the Sephardi community in Israel, the ASF expressed concern that "considerable sections of Israeli society still suffer from an inadequate standard and mode of life and are thus unable to enjoy their full rights of citizenship. The American Sephardi Federation is worried that the continuation of this state of affairs and the widening social gap will create discontent among different sections of society in the country and contribute to a lessening of the cohesion and unity of the nation at a time when these concepts are demanded more than ever." The resolution also called on world Jewry to help solve the problems facing the Sephardi community in Israel.

Earlier, Baruch Levi, Premier Yitzhak Rabin's advisor on social welfare told the convention that there is better awareness in Israel today of social problems and the economic gap between different segments of the society. "Premier Rabin is very much aware of this problem," Levi said, adding that Rabin is now studying a special report prepared for him on the social problems of Israel and will be taking corrective measures.

### U.S. Support For Israel

In a resolution dealing with United States-Israel relations, ASF stated that the United States "has a continuing moral obligation to support Israel," because "an economically and militarily secure Israel, negotiating from a position of strength, is added assurance that peace may one day emerge in the Mideast." ASF also called on the American government "to continue its peace initiatives by bringing Israel and the Arab states together for direct negotiations, free of outside pressures and without any pre-conditions of withdrawal."

In another resolution, ASF called upon President Ford and the Congress as well as United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to press the government of Syria and Iraq to cease the persecution of Jews living in those countries and to assist them in immigrating to Israel or elsewhere. ASF also urged the administration to act on behalf of Soviet Jewry.

### NY RALLY PLANNED FOR JUNE 13 TO AID 'PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE'

NEW YORK, June 4 (JTA)--A massive campaign aimed at removing the shackles from the scores of Soviet Jewish "Prisoners of Conscience" has been launched by the 85 constituent agencies of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry. Eugene Gold, New York Conference chairman, announced that the cam-

paign is keyed to the fifth anniversary (June 15) of the mass arrest of Soviet Jews that resulted in the infamous Leningrad trials in December 1970. Gold said the drive will be highlighted by a rally in Foley Square in Manhattan on June 13 at which an "Amnesty Appeal" that calls on the Soviets to grant freedom to the Soviet Jewish prisoners, will be released. He noted that on June 15, 1970, some 20 Soviet Jews were arrested, allegedly for attempting to hijack a Soviet airliner. Of these, only Sylva Zalmanson has since been released--after world-wide protests on her behalf.

The situation in the camps has become intolerable, he said. The prisoners are "guilty" of nothing more than a desire to be repatriated to their homeland in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. He said eyewitness testimony has been received recently that substantiates the reports of the "physical and mental torture to which these courageous people have been subjected."

### Other Demonstrations Planned

It was in Foley Square five years ago, Gold observed, that the first rally was held to protest the outrageous crackdown against the 20 Soviet Jews. He said simultaneous demonstrations will take place on June 15 at the Soviet Mission to the UN in Manhattan, at the Soviet compound in Glen Cove, L.I., and at the official Soviet residence in Riverdale.

Hundreds of people--representing the member agencies of the Greater New York Conference--will take part in the demonstrations, Gold said, "to let the Soviets--here and in the Kremlin--know that the 'Prisoners of Conscience' will not be forgotten, and that there will be no let-up in efforts to secure their freedom." Many are using the theme "Honor the Father," including the Long Island event, which will have August Stern, son of prisoner Dr. Mikhail Stern, as its guest.

Other activities being planned as part of the campaign on behalf of the prisoners include: the introduction in the New York City Council of a resolution demanding that the Soviet Union open the door to freedom for those Jews held captive in labor camps solely for the "crime" of wanting to exercise their human rights. On June 14, synagogues throughout the area will be devoting special prayers on behalf of the prisoners. A petition drive by some 30 New York area Congressmen who each have "adopted a prisoner," asking for the immediate release of the prisoners.

### JDL TO CONTINUE OPPOSING FORD

NEW YORK, June 4 (JTA)--The Jewish Defense League said yesterday that it would continue to urge American Jews to oppose President Ford and Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and sharply rejected an appeal by a leader of Reform Judaism not to make the President and Secretary of State "scapegoats" for concern over Israel's future and the impasse in Middle East peace negotiations.

Dov Fisch, the JDL's associate director and chairman of its "Committee Against Israeli Retreat," insisted that Ford and Kissinger should be held personally responsible for the alleged pressures being exerted by the U.S. on Israel. Earlier this week, Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, told members of its Board of Trustees, meeting in Southbury, Conn., that the time has come to "cease the black mood and doom and put an end to over-reaction and yielding to despair" by so many "of our people." Schindler had criticized groups like the JDL for attacking Ford and Kissinger.