

Brazil joins nuclear family

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil AP — Brazil officially joined the ranks of the world's nuclear-powered this weekend — but without the boldness and confidence that once caused the United States concern.

The nation's first nuclear power station, called Angra I, began generating small amounts of energy Saturday night. The start-up came after five years of delays and cost overruns and amid new questions about potential radiation hazards.

"Angra I will operate initially at only 5 percent capacity," said Tulio Baptista Teixeira, the chief spokesman for a government electricity company called Furnas, which runs the plant.

During the last decade, the project had led to concern about Brazil becoming a nuclear force. Brazil, Latin America's largest country and not a signer of the International Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons, had announced highly ambitious atomic energy development plans.

The United States balked at Brazil's refusal to sign the treaty and also at a 1975 Brazil-West German pact for additional Angra reactors that promised to give Brazil access to technology that could be used to construct nuclear weapons.

The Angra I reactor was built by Westinghouse Co. on a "turnkey" basis. This means the Americans simply would present the Brazilians with a finished, working reactor, without giving them any of the sophisticated technology that went into it.

Because of this, Brazil — over the strong objections of the Nixon and Carter administrations — sought out another nuclear supplier that would be willing to give it technology along with the physical equipment.

Relations with the Reagan administration seem to be smoother. During a visit last year by Vice President George Bush, the United States agreed to sell Brazil enriched uranium fuel. A spokesman for Bush said at the time that the United States was willing to waive regulations restricting the uranium sales in the interest of promoting cooperation with Brazil. The Brazilian government says it did not sign the nonproliferation treaty because it does not want to foreclose the possibility of making nuclear devices for peaceful uses, such as jungle clearing.

Brazil, which is the 19th nation to use nuclear power, has trimmed its initial plans for construction of eight German-designed reactors, and the Amer-

ican built reactor will move toward full capacity slowly.

"If everything goes OK, we'll take the reactor up to 10 percent, then to 20, and then to 30 percent capacity," Teixeira said. "This should take 30 to 45 days." The full capacity of Angra I is 626,000 kilowatts.

Poland's Archbishop urges Walesa's release

WARSAW, Poland AP — Poland's Roman Catholic primate, at the largest public assembly since the military crackdown, implored martial law authorities Sunday to free Lech Walesa.

Walesa, national chairman of the suspended labor movement Solidarity, has been sequestered since the regime's sweeping military crackdown three months ago.

Archbishop Jozef Glemp's pleas came as Warsaw Pact troops staged the first military exercises in Poland since Premier Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski imposed martial law Dec. 13.

"Let's pray for Lech Walesa to be released, so he can stand again. His presence doesn't threaten anybody," Glemp told more than 20,000 people in the square outside St. John's Catholic Church in the Warsaw suburb of Ursus.

Glemp — who characterized his audience as the largest "in our homeland since imposition of martial law" — said Poles "need agreement, and national accord. This gathering today is a step towards that."



Walesa's freedom, the archbishop said, "will be the way to agreement and national accord."

The spiritual leader of Poland's more than 30 million Roman Catholics chose Ursus — where the giant tractor factory by the same name was a Solidarity stronghold — to make his first specific appeal for Walesa's release. Sources say Walesa, the charismatic leader of the suspended movement's of 9.5 million members, was transferred recently to a location in Rembertow, east of Warsaw.

Walesa's wife has said she expects her husband to be permitted to attend the baptism March 21 of his infant daughter.



Glemp also renewed his call for release of all dissidents interned by the martial law regime.

"We hope ... that the centers of isolation will be empty soon," he said. According to the latest official figures, 3,601 Poles are being held at 25 internment camps.

A Passover Community Potluck & Second Seder

Dinner will be held on April 8, Thursday, 5:30 pm at Temple Beth Israel - 2550 Portland St. Cost for individuals is \$2.50 and children under 10 yrs. is \$1.50. All participants are requested to contribute food and/or work hours. Sponsored by Jewish Student Union and Hillel at the University of Oregon. For details and reservations call 484-1707.

Everyone is welcome to attend!



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