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**O'BRIEN: "BULGARIA HAS CONTRIBUTED TO SECURITY IN THE BLACK SEA"**

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Radio Bulgaria (16 April 2024)

The US will continue to provide assistance to Ukraine and Israel, US Assistant Secretary for European and Eurasian Affairs James C. O'Brien said in a special interview with BNR. Bulgaria is the first stop on his European tour.

"Bulgaria has been a fantastic ally and partner from the very beginning - when Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine began in February 2022. Bulgaria was instrumental in the security of the Black Sea, which Russia had plans to turn into a Russian pond. Sofia provided very important assistance to Ukraine to defend itself against the illegal Russian aggression," the diplomat said.

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