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Soviet Jews Being Detained In 'Flagrant Violation' Of Soviet Law, Constitution

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--Two American district attorneys who just returned from a two-week fact-finding visit to the Soviet Union said here today that they reached the "inescapable conclusion" that Jews were being held in detention there in "flagrant violation of the Soviet Constitution and Soviet law." They referred to the specific guarantees of a trial within nine months of arrest. "Many Soviet Jews have been imprisoned without trial for longer than nine months," Eugene Gold and Robert F. Leonard reported to newsmen at a press conference here. Gold, District Attorney of Kings County (Brooklyn), is Jewish. Leonard, District Attorney of Genesee County, Michigan, is a Roman Catholic. They said they visited the Soviet Union in private capacities, specifically to investigate the condition of Jews. They said they were the first American public officials to visit four Soviet cities where Jews are reportedly being held for trial--Riga, Leningrad, Moscow and Kishinev. They spoke to Jewish families and to Soviet officials in each of the cities; they said, "Soviet Jews are imprisoned and held incommunicado despite repeated attempts by their families to visit them and despite the fact that they appear to have violated no Soviet laws, the two American lawyers reported. The charges against them usually stemmed from traffic in Hebrew books or their desire to emigrate. "In most cases there has been clear intimidation through subtle threats and intrigues" to prevent the prisoners from obtaining lawyers of their choice, Gold and Leonard said.

They reported that in Leningrad they spoke to Aleksander Barulin, deputy manager of the department of external affairs of the Leningrad Soviet, who indicated that Jews were being held as hostages for a Middle East settlement. The lawyers reported that Barulin, one of the two highest ranking Leningrad officials, remarked that the arrests of Jews were "directly related to political conditions in the Middle East." Leonard and Gold said they would discuss this matter "at length" with Secretary of State William P. Rogers when he returns from abroad. They said that in Moscow, Nicolai Tsubulnik, an aide to the Soviet chief prosecutor Roman A. Rudenko, denied that the detentions without trial were violating Soviet law. He remarked, according to the two visitors, that "the problem (of Jews) would soon be eliminated." They said that remark seemed ominous to them. The propaganda chief in Kishinev denied that any Jews were being held. Gold and Leonard reported that the Jewish families they spoke to were fearful that their telephone lines were being tapped and claimed they were kept under surveillance. The two Americans said they themselves were "constantly followed by the Soviet secret police." They said local authorities tried to discourage them from speaking to Jewish families and resorted to hindrances. The press conference was arranged by the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Report Jewish Student Activist Group Under Surveillance By U.S. Army

EVANSTON, Ill., April 27 (JTA)--The Jewish Student Movement on the campus of Northwestern University has been under surveillance by U.S. Army intelligence agents. The JSM was mentioned along with various other campus groups engaged in political or anti-Vietnam war activities by John O'Brien, a former Army intelligence case officer of Region I, 113th Military Intelligence Group in Evanston. O'Brien's disclosures were the basis of articles in the Daily Northwestern, a campus newspaper, and in various newspapers in Chicago and other cities. O'Brien was quoted as saying that the intelligence surveillance covered all types of anti-war or politically oriented activities on the Northwestern campus and in private residences. "We monitored any organization that had anything at all to do with politics," O'Brien said according to a Daily Northwestern article by Baran Rosen.

"This included a very small YSA (Young Socialist Alliance, a Trotskyist youth group) movement, SMC (Student Mobilization Committee, an anti-war coalition), the Daily Northwestern, Jewish Student Movement, Young Americans for Freedom, and Evanston groups like Businessmen to End the War in Vietnam and North Shore Coalition to End the War in Vietnam," Rosen reported. Jack N. Porter, founder of the Jewish Student Movement at Northwestern said his group felt "honored" to be under surveillance. "I had known for some time that the military intelligence or the FBI had files on me for various leftist activities and I also knew that local 'subversive' squads ('Red Squads') had been intrigued by an ad I took out in the Chicago Sentinel and Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle concerning support of the Jewish Defense League's action vis-a-vis Soviet Jewry," Porter wrote in an open letter to other campus groups. He said he had information from a Jewish friend who was a member of the Milwaukee police force that local police agents in Chicago, Milwaukee and New York infiltrated the JDL.

Czechoslovak Group Reports Jews In Czechoslovakia Singled Out For Harassment

WASHINGTON, April 27 (JTA)--The Czechoslovak National Council said in a letter received today by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency here that Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union practice the same kind of anti-Semitism. Referring to the "regrettable plight" of Jews in the Soviet Union, the Council said, "We Americans of Czech and Slovak descent feel compelled to bring to public attention the fact that this kind of anti-Semitism is not limited to the government of the Soviet Union but is equally the policy of the present Communist regime in Czechoslovakia." The letter, signed by Jane V. Krakora, president, Francis Schwarzenberg, vice-president, and Vlastislav Chalupa, secretary of the Council which was founded in 1918 and has its offices in Cicero, Illinois, continued: "While freedom and justice are being denied to all Czechoslovak citizens who do not fully support the present regime, Jews, whether in exile or at home, seem to be singled out for special criticism by the present authorities." "The harassment is being justified by the alleged danger of so-called international Zionism on the part of the Jews in Czechoslovakia." The council mentioned that books recently published in Prague and Bratis-

Iava denounced these alleged dangers of Zionism. It also stressed that anti-Semitism is "totally alien to the traditions of the Czech and Slovak peoples as was amply demonstrated in the days of Czechoslovakia's freedom" under President Thomas G. Masaryk.

Shazar Receives Message From 15 Moscow Jews; 36 Jews Released From Prison

JERUSALEM, April 27 (JTA)--President Zalman Shazar received a message of greetings today signed by 15 Jews in Moscow marking the 23rd anniversary of Israel's independence. The message, dated April 25, said, "We greet you most honorable President and through you the entire nation of Israel on the occasion of Independence Day. The setting up of the State of Israel 23 years ago opened a new era in the history of our nation. For us who are kept for the time being from being with our nation in our homeland, this holiday gives added strength and hope." Meanwhile, the Israeli State Radio reported yesterday that 36 Soviet Jews arrested and sentenced to 15-day prison terms during the 24th Soviet Communist Party Congress in Moscow earlier this month were released on condition that they cease sending petitions and demonstrating for Jewish emigration rights. According to the radio report they were warned they would face trial if they violated these conditions.

Eban Rejects View Of Widening Rift Between U.S., Israel; Relations Called Positive

JERUSALEM, April 27 (JTA)--Foreign Minister Abba Eban spoke to the foreign press corps today in what observers regarded as a considered attempt to create a favorable climate for the forthcoming visit of U.S. Secretary of State William P. Rogers. Eban played down reports of a widening rift between Jerusalem and Washington. "There is no confrontation," he said. "Not a single word in the dictionary is less suitable to describe the situation than this." Eban claimed that Israel's relations with the U.S. were "overwhelmingly positive." He said the U.S. was "actively strengthening us militarily, economically and politically." The Foreign Minister conceded that there are basic issues on which Israel and the U.S. differ. But he gave no hint that these included the Rogers Plan itself and Rogers' thesis that borders were less important than international guarantees. "We hope Mr. Rogers' visit will make our views clear to him and afford him the opportunity to regard us not only as a problem but as an existing reality," Eban said.

Landau Says Gahal May Return To Coalition If Government Renounces Jarring Talks

LONDON, April 27 (JTA)--A leader of the Gahal opposition party said here last night that his faction might return to Premier Golda Meir's coalition if her government renounced the Jarring talks and insisted on direct negotiations for a peace treaty. Haim Landau, of Gahal's militant Herut wing conceded that there was no chance of this happening as yet. But he claimed that recent public opinion polls "show that we are gaining political ground in the country all the time." Landau, a member of the Knesset's foreign affairs and security committee, held a press conference during which he expounded his views on various aspects of the Middle East situation. He insisted that any pull-back by Israel from the Suez Canal would make an Egyptian attack inevitable. He said his party did not oppose reopening of the waterway, but only if the cease-fire remains in force for an unlimited period and the Israel Army remains in its present positions. He suggested a mixed Israeli-Egyptian commission to supervise arrangements for dredging and reopening the canal but insisted that Israel agree to nothing unless it is guaranteed free passage for its shipping once the international waterway is back in use.

Israeli Scientist Elected To National Academy Of Sciences

WASHINGTON, April 27 (JTA)--The National Academy of Sciences announced today the election of its second Israeli foreign associate. He is Aharon Katzir-Katchalski, head of the polymer research department at the Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovoth. His brother, Ephraim, was elected to the Academy five years ago. They are the only Israelis among its 117 foreign associates, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was told. Dr. Katzir-Katchalski is engaged in research on ionized groups in proteins, according to the National Academy of Sciences. He concentrates on electrolytic properties of chain molecules. His work led to the opening in the late 1940s of a new science known as polyelectrolyte research. His brother is a biophysicist who also works at the Weizmann Institute. Election to the National Academy is the highest honor the U.S. can bestow on a foreign scientist.

Petition With 1,700 Signatures Protesting Treatment Of Soviet Jews Sent To Dobrynin

BALTIMORE, April 27 (JTA)--A petition with more than 1,700 signatures protesting the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union was mailed to Anatoly F. Dobrynin, Soviet Ambassador to the United States, by Louis J. Fox, chairman of the Baltimore Committee for Soviet Jewry. This represented another package of petitions that the Committee has sent to Dobrynin bringing the total number of signatures from Baltimore to 13,071. The petition was accompanied by a letter signed by Fox which stated, in part: "As in the past, we are hopeful that you will once again transmit these views to your government so that one day the Jews of the Soviet Union will be able to live as Jews or to emigrate to where they can."

18 Arabs Injured By Hand Grenade; Civilian Population Exchanged

TEL AVIV, April 27 (JTA)--Eighteen Arabs were injured early this morning when a hand grenade thrown into a crowded street in the Gaza Strip exploded. Security forces launched a search for the terrorists responsible for the action. Meanwhile, civilian populations were exchanged across the Suez Canal today. The movement saw 144 Egyptian nationals from the Gaza Strip transfer to Egypt while 27 former Gaza Strip residents in Egypt returned to their homes. The transfer was conducted under auspices of the International Red Cross.

Israel Pledges Contributions To Assistance Program For Refugees

LONDON, April 27 (JTA)--Israel is among the 53 nations that have pledged contributions to the 1971 assistance program of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan. Only Tunisia and Morocco among the Arab countries and only Yugoslavia among the Communist countries have made pledges.

SEATO Delegates Tell Rogers It Is Dangerous For Israel To Pull Back From Canal

LONDON, April 27 (JTA)--News that Russia has sent 25 SAM-3 ground-to-air missile batteries to North Vietnam has seriously weakened U.S. Secretary of State Rogers' initiative for an interim agreement in the Middle East that would lead to the reopening of the Suez Canal, it was claimed here today. The information was brought by Asian delegates to the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) conference which is being attended by Secretary Rogers. The heads of several delegations were reportedly trying to convince Rogers, who arrived here last night for the SEATO conference, that it was "dangerous" and "futile" to try to force Israel to pull back from the east bank of the Suez Canal so that the waterway could be reopened. The main argument is that a reactivated Suez Canal would remove one of the major obstacles the Soviets have to face in supplying weapons to North Vietnam. The SAM-3 batteries were allegedly for defense of the demilitarized zone against U.S. air raids. British circles at the SEATO conference indicated that their government preferred a final Mideast peace settlement over a temporary arrangement to reopen the canal even though Britain has suffered serious financial loss since the waterway was closed in 1957. American Embassy officials today confirmed Rogers' plan to visit Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Israel but said the order of his visits was not finally fixed. As of now, Israel is last on the list but changes are still possible, according to sources here. The U.S. will not release a detailed itinerary for security reasons.

Embassy sources stated that Rogers was looking forward to his first Middle East tour but stressed that he was not going there as a "broker" or "middle man." The purpose of his visit was said to be to "exchange ideas." The American Secretary of State will discuss the Middle East situation with British Foreign Secretary Sir Alec Douglas-Home. Officials said they planned a "full exchange of ideas" on the subject. Israeli Ambassador Michael Comay visited today Joseph Godber, Minister of State for Middle East affairs at the Foreign Office. The meeting was said by Israeli and British sources to have been concerned solely with an interim arrangement to reopen the Suez Canal. Sources close to the Foreign Office said that Britain was not particularly "excited" over the prospect of re-activating the waterway which was once the most important link in Empire trade. With the Empire gone, the British are more concerned with Soviet penetration into the Indian Ocean which would be greatly facilitated by reopening the canal. The circles said however that Britain would "go along" with any arrangement agreed to by Israel and Egypt, but only because they would have no choice.

Jewish Woman In Odessa Who Applied For Exit Visa Languishing In Soviet Jail

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--A Jewish woman in Odessa who applied for an exit visa to go to Israel has been in jail for nearly six months without trial or formal charges brought against her, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned from informed sources today. The sources said that Roiza Palatnik, said to be in her 20s, was arrested last Dec. 1. She went on a hunger strike on April 22. Miss Palatnik was put under surveillance by the KGB, the Soviet Secret police, after she applied for a visa. Last Oct. 14 police searched her home, where they found Hebrew language textbooks, a book of Jewish history, an article on Einstein and Zionism and articles on kibbutz life and higher education in Israel the sources said. The material was in both Russian and Hebrew. The young woman was subsequently questioned several times prior to her arrest. The sources said she was defiant and refused to answer questions except in Yiddish and demanded an interpreter. According to the sources, Miss Palatnik's fiancé asked the authorities for permission to marry her in jail. Instead they gave him an exit visa and saw to it that he left Russia promptly. The man is now in Israel, the sources said.

Smolar Award For Excellence In Jewish Journalism Established By CJF

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--The Smolar Award for Excellence in American Jewish Journalism has been established by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, it was announced today by Max M. Fisher of Detroit, Council president. Fisher said the award, named in honor of Boris Smolar, noted journalist and writer and currently Editor-in-Chief Emeritus of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, will recognize each year outstanding writing and reportage dealing particularly with American Jews and American Jewish communal developments. The awards will honor the more than half-century of distinguished service rendered by Smolar to the American Jewish press and the American Jewish community. The award will be presented at the CJF's General Assemblies. The specific procedures and eligibility standards for the Smolar Award will be determined by a committee to be designated by the Council. The membership of that selective committee, shortly to be announced and comprising leading representatives of Jewish and general press, arts and letters, communal leadership and the CJF Board, will determine the award recipients. Smolar, whose latest book, "Soviet Jewry Today and Tomorrow" - observations based on a recent visit and his long familiarity with the Russian scene - will soon be released by MacMillan, is also the author of a number of books and writes the widely read column, "Between You and Me" which is syndicated by the JTA to the American Jewish press and appears overseas. He also writes a Sunday feature for the Jewish Daily Forward.

Wexler Appeals To Soviet Government To Release Jews Convicted Or Awaiting Trial

WASHINGTON, April 27 (JTA)--Dr. William A. Wexler, president of B'nai B'rith, has appealed to the Soviet government's leadership for release of Jews who have been convicted or are awaiting trial on charges of planning to emigrate illegally. Dr. Wexler addressed individual communications to Leonid Brezhnev, Communist Party secretary, 15 other high ranking officials and to six candidate members of the Communist Party's newly elected Politburo. He urged "favorable consideration" of the release of the Jews as a humanitarian act and a "contribution of good will between our peoples." Most of those being detained were arrested last June after Soviet authorities foiled an alleged attempt to hijack a Soviet airliner.

Exhibition Opens As Part Of Israel's 23rd Anniversary Celebration

ANTWERP, April 27 (JTA)--An exhibition, "From Biblical Times to Today's Israel," opened here in the Jewish Community Center as part of Israel's 23rd birthday celebration. The exhibition, which was launched at ceremonies led by Israeli Ambassador Moshe Alon, was organized by Mrs. Gumprecht Linke in association with the Jerusalem Museum.

Film Depicting Jewish Underground In Russia Smuggled Out And Now In U.S.

LOS ANGELES, April 27 (JTA)--A film which includes some of the most unique underground film smuggled out of the Soviet Union has been received by the Southern California Council for Soviet Jews and the California Students for Soviet Jews. The film, "Let My People Go," was produced during and after the Leningrad trials last December and includes clips of film of Moscow Jews holding their own clandestine Israel independence Day celebration in a forested area outside the Soviet capital city. Among other things seen in this extraordinary film are pictures of Jews holding parties for fortunate Jews permitted to leave for Israel. Zev Yaroslavsky and St. Frumkin, chairmen of the two organizations, called the film "the best documentary film on Soviet Jewry we have ever seen." The one-half hour presentation includes Soviet Jews telling the story of their own personal struggle.

Recent Soviet emigres are seen and heard trying to call their stranded relatives in the Soviet Union. One call was placed to the family of Vulf Zalmanson, a Riga Jew who was sentenced along with three other members of his family during the Leningrad trials. The documentary includes film of demonstrations held throughout the world during the crisis days of December, 1970. "What you see in this film," said Yaroslavsky and Frumkin, "is the whole story of how social action helps save Soviet Jews. You see demonstrations held in all four corners of the world on the heels of a most blasphemous trial, and then you see the fruits of our toil in demonstrations--the reduction of sentences in Leningrad and the testimony of Soviet Jews themselves as to the value of speaking out. Every Jewish school child should see this classic documentary, *Let My People Go*. The film is available with a charge, through the offices of the Soviet Jewry movement in Los Angeles. The address is: Soviet Jewry, 900 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, 90024.

JDL Member Whose Prison Term Was Scheduled To Start May 7, Taken Into Custody

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--Avraham Hershkowitz, 26-year-old Jewish Defense League member who was sentenced last week to a five year prison term scheduled to begin May 7, was suddenly taken into custody by Federal agents today in what a JDL spokesman termed a "surprise and shocking move." According to the spokesman, U.S. District Court Judge John R. Bartels, who handed down the sentence to Hershkowitz, had agreed last week to a plea by Hershkowitz's lawyer for a two-week stay of execution provided an additional \$15,000 bail would be posted on Monday. At the bail hearing yesterday, Prosecutor Anthony Lombardino demanded that a much larger sum of bail money be posted, in addition to the \$50,000 bail posted three weeks ago when Hershkowitz was first released.

At the bail hearing which was reconvened today, Judge Bartels suddenly reversed his previous decision, and Hershkowitz was immediately whisked away to the Federal House of Detention in Manhattan. Rabbi Meir Kahane, JDL National Chairman, announced today that a massive rally will be held on Thursday, "Yom Haatzamut" in front of the detention headquarters to protest the judge's reversal and Hershkowitz's prison term. Hershkowitz and his 19-year-old wife Nancy, who was scheduled to be sentenced next month, are charged with falsifying passports when they purchased tickets September on a London-bound plane under the assumed names of Gordon Joseph Rider and Nancy McGovern. It was alleged that they were on their way to London to hijack an Arab airplane to Israel in retaliation for the Arab terrorist hijackings, but this charge was later dropped.

Israeli Artists Contribute Talent To Section Of J.F.K. Center For Performing Arts

WASHINGTON, April 27 (JTA)--Presidents of the United States who attend future operas and concerts at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts which opens here next Sept. 8 will occupy a lounge designed, furnished and decorated for them by Israeli artists. The Israel Embassy announced today that the lounge which adjoins the Presidential box will be Israel's contribution to the center dedicated to the memory of the late President Kennedy. Raphael Blumenfeld, the architect who designed the interior of Israel's Knesset building, has designed the interior of the lounge at the Kennedy Center. The art and furnishings alone are valued at \$200,000. The cost of the project is being borne in part by "Friends of the State of Israel" in the Washington area, the Embassy said. The theme of the decor is the continuous link between Judaism and music from Biblical times to modern Israel. The ceiling will depict in color musical scenes from the Bible by the Israeli artist, Shraga Weill. Ezekiel Kimche is preparing silk fabric panels displaying life in modern Israel which will cover three walls. The fourth wall will have a wood cut panel by Nehemia Azaz depicting musical instruments of Biblical times. When not used by a Presidential party, the 60 x 20 foot lounge will be open to the general audience as an intermission lounge.

Amir Says Israel Day Parade Proves Solidarity Of New Yorkers With Israel's Defenders

NEW YORK, April 27 (JTA)--Rehavam Amir, Consul-General of Israel said today that the Salute to Israel Parade last Sunday "proved the solidarity of the people of New York with the defenders of Israel's borders, their firm belief in the justice of our cause, and their partnership with our ardent desire for peace." Amir, who was one of the officials at the parade representing Israel and read from the reviewing stand the special message of Israel's President Zalman Shazar and Premier Golda Meir, offered the Jewish Telegraphic Agency his evaluation of the Israel Independence Day Parade, which he reviewed for five hours. He said it was "the largest Salute to Israel Parade that ever marched in the city." Continuing, Amir stated "I can only say that every minute of it was worthwhile and heartening. There is no doubt in my mind that Israel Independence Day has become a permanent festive date in the calendar of the Jewish community as well as of the entire population of New York. The pouring out of the masses of New Yorkers to view the parade in such cold weather is proof of that. Later, the Jubilee '71 celebration added to the festive atmosphere."

B'nai B'rith Donates \$10,000 For Research On Tay-Sachs

TORONTO, April 27 (JTA)--The Upper Canada Lodge of B'nai B'rith in this city has donated \$10,000 to the Toronto Sick Childrens Hospital for the purchase of a blood testing machine for a research program on Tay-Sachs and other enzyme deficiency diseases. Tay-Sachs is a genetic disorder in children which causes destruction of the central nervous system and death by 3 to 4 years of age.