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Mrs. Butman, Wife Of Leningrad Defendant, Says Her Husband Will Not Accept Charges

TEL AVIV, May 13 (JTA)--"My husband, Hillel Butman, will not accept any charges against him," Mrs. Eva Butman told the newspaper Maariv this morning by telephone from Leningrad. "All we did," she insisted, "was to ask back in April, 1970, a permit to go to Israel. This was made legally." The Soviet news agency, Tass, reported late Tuesday that Butman, a 38-year-old engineer and father of a small daughter, had admitted organizing an attempted hijacking at the Leningrad airport last June 15 and had begged the court for mercy. Mrs. Butman said that her husband's contact with Maj. Mark Dymshitz, convicted in Leningrad last December in the alleged plot, had sought Butman's help only in preparing emigration applications. Mrs. Butman added that the atmosphere in Leningrad now is very hostile to the nine Jewish defendants. (Tass reported today that Butman incriminated the eight other defendants. He was said to have specified that Mikhail Korenblit had provided the weapons, and that Viktor Shtilbans had prepared narcotics for drugging the airliner crew. Tass also said Lev Korenblit admitted acquiring an axe and a shovel for the plot. Late yesterday, Tass identified three persons charged with being the go-betweens in a "criminal" liaison between defendant Vladimir Osherovich Mogilever and alleged conspirators in Israel. The three names given by Tass were Donald Malament, an American student who was in Leningrad in 1969 and 1970 on an exchange program; Osher Plank, who had left the USSR for Israel; and a Norwegian tourist named Aronson. Tass added that Shtilbans condemned the "anti-Soviet hooligan and criminal actions" by the Jewish Defense League.)

Soviet Consulate Officials Attack Group Of Peaceful Jewish Demonstrators

LONDON, May 13 (JTA)--Officials of the Soviet Consulate here attacked a group of peaceful Jewish demonstrators this morning. Thirty Jewish students came to the Consulate to hand in applications for Soviet visas to go to Leningrad and attend the second Leningrad trial now in progress. After they had been there for some 20 minutes, talking to receptionists, a group of Soviet officials, which included the Consul himself, came into the hall and tried to eject the students. A fray started and there was much shouting and pushing, even some direct fighting between the students and the Soviet officials. One of the Russians hit a girl student, and when he was asked whether they did this sort of thing to women in Russia, he said, "Yes, if necessary." Eventually police arrived and a senior officer told the students that they were on Soviet property and must leave peacefully. They obeyed the police order but soon discovered that one of them, Alan Freeman, a leader of the Universities Committee for Soviet Jewry, was trapped inside. They refused to move on till Freeman appeared. He told the police and the press that the Russians behaved like ruffians, barging in and hitting people, including women, knocking some of them to the ground, while the students were merely having a verbal argument. A van equipped with loudspeakers and slogans on posters toured central London and proclaimed a protest against the second Leningrad trial. The van bore the identification marks of Herut Hatzohar in Great Britain. A spokesman for Herut told the press that they would continue with this form of accepted protest as long as the trial went on.

Kahane, Arrested On Weapons Conspiracy Charge, Released On \$25,000 Bail

NEW YORK, May 13 (JTA)--Rabbi Meir Kahane, national chairman of the Jewish Defense League, was released today on \$25,000 bail after arraignment in District Court on charges of conspiracy to violate the 1968 Federal Gun Control Act. He was released on his own recognizance on a related charge of weapons possession. Held on \$10,000 bail were JDL members Irving Calderon and Chaim Bieber. Released on personal recognizance were JDL'ers Eileen Garfinkel, David Sommer, Alex Sternberg and Dr. Morton Winner. Rabbi Kahane, Calderon and Bieber also lost their passports. The JDL chairman has appealed a Manhattan Criminal Court sentence of last month of \$500 or 90 days in jail for disorderly conduct and obstruction at the Soviet Mission to the United Nations. The JDL attorney, Barry Ivan Slotnick, charged in court today that Gilbert Laurie, who was arrested in February as an alleged provider of guns to the Jewish group, was a paid government informer. Laurie is now reportedly in Israel. Slotnick also charged there was a "significant" link between the arraignment of Rabbi Kahane and the Leningrad trial of nine Soviet Jews, but he did not explain the tie.

At a press conference after the arraignment, Rabbi Kahane reiterated the JDL's assertion that it has never possessed weapons. Joining him at the press conference was Joseph Colombo, Sr., president of the Italian-American Civil Rights League, who declared that "those people who do not support the JDL had better wake up." Colombo called the charges against the JDL'ers a "disgrace." The Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported April 7 that the Italian-American League has been closely aligned with the JDL in combat against "any form of discrimination and persecution." Also participating in the news conference was Gordon C. Lynch, national field director of NEGRO, Inc. (National Economic Growth and Reconstruction Organization). Lynch said that if it had been necessary his group would have raised bail for Rabbi Kahane so that he could attend a kosher-catered conference on black-Jewish tensions scheduled for next Tuesday in Harlem. A contingent of blacks at the news conference chanted "Free him now!"

AJCommittee Survey Shows New Left Support For Arab Terrorists On The Wane

NEW YORK, May 13 (JTA)--Support by the New Left in the United States and Europe for the Arab terrorists in the Middle East conflict has markedly decreased in recent months, a report by the American Jewish Committee discloses. A comprehensive survey of New Left attitudes and actions was made public here today by Philip E. Hoffman, president of the AJCommittee, at the opening of its four-day 65th annual meeting attended by some 1000 representatives of the AJCommittee's chapters and units

throughout the country. The report on the New Left, prepared by Milton Ellerin, director of the AJC Committee's Trends Analysis Division, in collaboration with Abraham S. Karlikow, director of its European Office, indicated that the extent of New Left attacks on Israel has abated for a number of reasons. Among these are: disillusion by the New Left with Arab terrorist forces following their defeat by King Hussein's army in Jordan last Fall; the general overall decline in influence; reemergence of Vietnam as a dramatic issue to absorb remaining New Left energies; increasing concern with other local issues in various countries; a split among New Left groups about which Arab states and political parties to support and which to oppose; and the tentative steps toward peace taken by Israel and Egypt, spurred by the United States and the Soviet Union; which have evaporated the position that some New Left forces had assigned themselves of providing the grounds for an entente between Jews and Arabs on the basis of their "progressive" ideologies.

The Leningrad trials, with the resultant outcry it provoked in the world, has also moved certain anti-Soviet New Leftists to cease their consistent anti-Israel position, since they now were aligned with Israel in protesting the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union. The survey, while pointing to these aspects of change in New Left attitudes, warned that the New Left campaign against Israel and Zionism, frequently with anti-Semitic undertones, "has not stopped altogether." Another danger to the Jewish community, it continued, is that "negative images of Israel, Zionism and Jews, of a permanent danger, have become deeply imbedded among those oriented toward the New Left of today's high school and college youth and segments of the intellectual community." Compounding these dangers, the report pointed out, is the lessening of support for Israel by some groups which traditionally have given the country strong backing. In Western Europe, for example, particularly in West Germany and Holland, "younger Socialist elements have challenged strenuously what has been until now the strong Socialist Party support for Israel." In France and Italy, with the increased political discussion in the secondary school system, New Left groups, with their "normal package" of anti-Israel views, have had greater "glamor." The AJC report showed the decline that had taken place in the New Left organizationally since September, 1970.

"The fragmented SDS no longer exists as a viable force. The Weatherman faction with its addiction to violence has alienated most radical students... The Black Panthers, once a prolific source of pro-Arab, anti-Zionist, anti-Israel and anti-Semitic propaganda, is in the throes of a death struggle," the survey reported. Along with this disintegration, the survey declared, most radicals and revolutionaries have turned to other causes than that of the Arab terrorists, including the Christian Peace Movement exemplified by the actions of the Berrigan Brothers, the case of black militant Angela Davis, the Women's Liberation Movement, and the effort to counter the activities of new rightist and centrist campus coalitions, and the need to rally the majority of students who give indications of sliding from involvement to apathy. Another significant factor in reducing the volume of leftist attacks on Israel, the report pointed out, has been "the vigorous attack against the pro-Arab, anti-Israel posture of the campus left launched by Jewish radical groups." These efforts, it added, "significantly blunted or thwarted the commitment of many a Jewish New Leftist to the Arab cause." In Europe, Jewish groups have taken steps to counteract New Left initiatives and present the Israel position better, it stated.

600 Jews, Non-Jews Hold Ecumenical Rally To Protest Leningrad Trial

TUCSON, May 13 (JTA)--More than 600 Jews and non-Jews staged an ecumenical rally yesterday to protest the resumption of the trials against Jews in the Soviet Union. This was the first time in the city's history that Jews and Christians joined forces in a common cause. The meeting, which was sponsored by all segments of the Jewish community and the Ecumenical Council, sent a telegram to Leonid Brezhnev, Soviet Communist Party secretary, which denounced the "brutal attempt to intimidate Jews." The telegram included a demand for the immediate release "of unjustly persecuted Jews in Russia, including Jews awaiting trial, serving prison sentences for crimes of not only being a Jew but acting like one." It also called on Soviet authorities "to guarantee the right of emigration." Mayor James N. Corbett Jr. proclaimed yesterday "Russian Jewry Day" in the city. Sister Marguerite, president of the Ecumenical Council, told the gathering: "Christians have concern for all of you. There are none who are so blind that they cannot see that everyone has the right to freedom, cultural expression and the right to worship in their own way. We pray that the Russians give these rights to the Jews." Gunther Lawrence, author of the recent study on the plight of Soviet Jewry, "Three Million More?", told the meeting that non-violent but militant pressure must be maintained to aid the Soviet Jews. He condemned the violent tactics of the Jewish Defense League as inimical to the cause of Soviet Jewry.

Tekoah Urges UN Action On Trial, Plight Of Soviet Jews

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 13 (JTA)--Yosef Tekoah, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, met yesterday with Secretary General U Thant to discuss with him the trial of the nine Soviet Jews in Leningrad. Tekoah emphasized the need for UN action on this matter and also informed Thant that Israel will raise the question of the trial and the situation of the Jews in the USSR in the current session of the Economic and Social Council. Earlier in the day, a spokesman for Thant said the Secretary General would not issue a public statement on the trial and declined to say if Thant would contact the Soviet authorities on the matter. After his meeting with Thant, Tekoah said that the show trial of the Soviet Jews is a "grave assault on the fundamental human rights of the Jewish community in the USSR." The Israeli ambassador said that right is guaranteed to the Soviet Jews by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, of which the Soviet Union is a signatory, and by Soviet law. The present trial and the imminent trials in Riga and Kishinev, demonstrate the tragic plight of the Soviet Jews and the utter disregard by the Soviet Union of its international obligations, Tekoah declared. He added: "We know that these show trials will not break the spirit of Soviet Jews just as the spirit of their fathers was not broken by Czarist pogroms." Tekoah asserted that Israel will not rest until the rights of the Jews in the Soviet Union and in the Arab lands are secure.

Prof. Zand And Family Expected To Leave USSR For Israel Within Week

WASHINGTON, May 13 (JTA)--A spokesman for Sen. Robert P. Griffin, Republican of Michigan, said today that Prof. Mikhail Zand, a specialist in Arabic and Persian literature, his wife, two children and three relatives are expected to leave the Soviet Union for Israel within the coming week. The spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the Zand family received exit visas on May 10 and were instructed to leave the Soviet Union within 10 days. This would indicate that they would have to be out of the Soviet Union one week from today. According to Griffin's aide, Dr. Herbert Paper, a scholar of Near Eastern languages in the University of Michigan, said he had received similar information regarding Dr. Zand and his family. Prof. Paper has been in correspondence with Dr. Zand and has organized a letter writing campaign on behalf of the Soviet linguist who was fired from his job at the Institute for Eastern Studies in Moscow. Prof. Hans Morgenthau of the City University of New York, according to Griffin's office, participated in the campaign. State Department officials have informed Griffin that the responsible protest by Prof. Paper and his academic colleagues led to Dr. Zand's release. Griffin had written Secretary of State William P. Rogers requesting that the State Department intervene on Dr. Zand's behalf.

Barmore Urges USSR To Release Imprisoned Jews; Says Jews Also Oppressed In Arab Lands

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 13 (JTA)--Ambassador Jacob Barmore of Israel called on the Soviet Union late yesterday to release imprisoned Jews and thus take "a more positive stand towards their national aspirations." Soviet Jews, he charged, have had their basic human rights violated and their culture and national identity threatened, and their desires and attempts to emigrate can subject them to criminal charges. If some of them, as alleged, did try to hijack a plane to Israel, it was only because they had reached the limits of endurance. Barmore spoke as an observer to the Social Committee of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), which is considering a report of the Commission on Human Rights. He added that Jews were being "oppressed" in Egypt, Iraq, Syria and Libya. In Syria, he pointed out, they were being subjected to "Nazi restrictions" and threatened with extinction.

Jewish Delegation Meets With Legislators On Issue Of Soviet Jewry

NEW YORK, May 13 (JTA)--A self-appointed delegation of three rabbis, a legislator, a Jewish community leader and two students pressed the case for aid to Soviet Jewry yesterday in the Washington offices of nine Senators and Congressmen, including at least three Presidential contenders. "Soviet Jewry is a Presidential issue," explained Rabbi Avraham Weiss, a member of the delegation, head of B'nai B'rith in Monsey, N.Y., and a teacher at Stern College for Women here. Up to now, he charged, "our government has done next to nothing" for Soviet Jewry. The Jewish group conferred with the aides of Sen. Edmund S. Muskie, Democrat of Maine; Sen. Birch Bayh, Democrat of Indiana; Sen. Harold Hughes, Democrat of Iowa; Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts; Sen. Jacob K. Javits, Republican of New York; Sen. James L. Buckley, Conservative-Republican of New York; Sen. Peter H. Dominick, Republican of Colorado and Reps. Edward I. Koch and John G. Dow, Democrats of New York. Rabbi Weiss reported that the legislative aides to the Senators and Congressmen expressed sympathy with the delegation's plea and willingness to meet with Mrs. Rivka Aleksandrovich, who is due in the United States soon to speak on behalf of her daughter, Ruth, imprisoned in Riga. The delegation also met for more than 90 minutes with high officials of the Voice of America to ask at times heatedly, that they initiate Yiddish-language programming for Soviet Jews who speak that language. Rabbi Weiss told the JTA that the VOA officials were sympathetic but noncommittal.

Contract Dispute Between Israel Bond Organization, Union Under Mediation

NEW YORK, May 13 (JTA)--The New York State Mediation Service has been asked to mediate the dispute between the Israel Bond Organization and Local 1707 of the Community and Social Agency Employees union, AFL-CIO in the hope of averting a strike by 500 Bond workers when their contract expires at midnight tomorrow. The State agency's intervention was requested by the Bond organization with union concurrence the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was informed today. The mediator will meet with representatives of the union and management tomorrow morning. The last negotiating session, held Monday night, failed to produce any progress. Eric Strong, a representative of Local 1707, told the JTA that as of now the employees are prepared to strike when their contract ends although mediation efforts may continue.

Wexler Says U.S. Jews May Have To Fight Administration Over Its Israel Attitude

LONDON, May 13 (JTA)--Dr. William A. Wexler, president of the B'nai B'rith declared today that "Israeli-American relations are causing anxiety to American Jews and to the world Jewish community. It may be necessary for American Jews to fight the administration over its attitudes to Israel." Delivering the keynote address at the opening session of the 11th plenary session of the B'nai B'rith International Council here, Wexler said: "I believe that during the first missile crisis the U.S. should have shown a tougher stand," and stated his fear that "another Munich is in the air."

France Making Effort To Improve Relations With Israel

JERUSALEM, May 13 (JTA)--France made a dutiful effort yesterday to improve her relations with Israel as Ambassador Francis Hure conferred here with Premier Golda Meir. The meeting was described as a return gesture for the recent visit in Paris between Israeli envoy Asher Ben-Nathan and President Georges Pompidou. At the Knesset yesterday the chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Haim Zadok, told a 22-man delegation of French legislators, generals and former Cabinet members that he hoped for a renewal of Franco-Israeli amity. Andre Monteil, chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee of the French Senate, promised Zakok that Israel's friends in France would continue to strive for a change in French policy. An immediate issue between France and Israel concerns a statement on Mideast policy adopted this week by the European Common Market members which calls for Israel's return to its pre-June 1967 borders and the right of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes. France is a member of the ECM.

