WALDEHEIM: PROXIMITY TALKS DOOMED TO FAILURE; JARRING’S MISSION ONLY POSSIBLE FOR MIDEAST PEACE

ROME, Feb. 6 (JTA)—United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim declared here yesterday that the American initiative to promote close proximity talks between Egypt and Israel for an interim Suez accord was doomed to failure and claimed that the “only possibility” for a peaceful solution of the Middle East conflict lay in UN mediation through the Instrumentality of the Secretary General’s special Mideast envoy, Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring.

Waldheim made his remarks at a press conference following an audience with Pope Paul VI and a meeting with Dr. Jarring who recently returned from talks with African leaders on the Middle East problem. Waldheim said the latest news regarding an interim Suez agreement is far from encouraging. He said it was most probable that an interim accord would not become effective. The reason for its probable failure, he said, was that one of the parties (Israel) prefers American mediation which is connected with an arms deal while the other party prefers UN mediation.

“We shall insist on having United Nations mediation through the UN mediator, Dr. Jarring, and on reinforcing this mediation which is the only possibility for a peaceful solution,” he said. Questioned whether the United Nations’ presence in the Mideast, Waldheim stressed that all efforts must be channeled toward peace negotiations and that the supply of arms to the region may be considered contrary to these aims and maybe even to the UN Charter.

Waldheim said that his lengthy audience with the Pope included a “tour d’horizon” of all the problems which concern the Middle East situation, including the problem of holy sites. He described his talks with Pope Paul as “extremely useful.” He said Dr. Jarring would probably resume his mission next week when he returns to New York after a brief stay in Moscow where he is Sweden’s envoy. Waldheim is scheduled to return today to UN headquarters in New York.

SISCO SAYS U.S., ISRAEL IN ACCORD ON INTERPRETATION OF RESOLUTION 242

Welcomes Sadat-Soviet Communiqué’s Emphasis on Mideast Political Solution

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 6 (JTA)—The United States and Israel were depicted by a State Department official here last night as sharing the same position on the framework for a Middle East peace settlement, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Joseph Sisco stated.

Sisco addressed an audience of 500 attending the two-day national conference of the American Technion Society that the US and Israel were lined up together in their interpretation of the Security Council Resolution 242 as opposed to the interpretation held by the Arab states and the Soviet Union.

The gap between the two added to the difficulty, complexity and depth of the Middle East conflict, Sisco said, predicting that it would require a long time to find a feasible solution. The Arab states and the USSR stress the resolution’s call for an Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories, while Israel and the US, according to Sisco, share the view that negotiations leading to secure, agreed boundaries are the first step toward its implementation.

Skeptical About Jarring’s Role

Sisco stressed the importance of the US initiative for interim talks between Israel and Egypt that could lead to reopening the Suez Canal. He was uncertain, however, of the role of United Nations mediator Gunnar V. Jarring.

“It is difficult to see how Ambassador Jarring can inject a fresh perspective into the situation at the present time,” Sisco said. On the other hand, he observed that the very existence of a US role in trying to bring the two sides together was a deterrent to a renewal of hostilities in the Middle East.

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ZIONISTS CHEERED BY LEFTISTS

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The occasion was the first this group gave to Zionist speakers since the June, 1967 Six-Day War when most of the leftist student groups condemned Israel as an aggressor. The meeting, at which some 2,000 students attended, called for the creation of a united students’ struggle against fascist groups and against law faculty’s leadership which has been dominated traditionally by the right-wing.

Several leftist Zionist youth and Jewish student organizations announced that they would join the new body. These included the “Laser” (Zionist Socialist Organization), the “Ofr” (Association of Jewish Students in France), the French Hashomer Hatzair and the Dror youth organization. The left-wing was represented by Trotskyist, anarchist and dissident Socialist groups.

SPECIAL TO JTA

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here. The demonstration last week turned briefly violent in a crossfire of rocks and bottles that smashed windows, bloodied a policeman's nose, and required some 100 law enforcement officers to break up the crowd, which included 1,000 angry citizens.

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It was at the scene of the march that the rock and bottle-throwing began, both from the crowd and the uniformed Nazis of Storm Troop 5. One policeman was hit by a flying bottle, causing a bloody nose. Eggs also were thrown and at one point a cherry bomb and firecrackers exploded. Twenty Nazis, some carrying rifles, were lined up inside a fence around their swastika-embazoned headquarters. Police made five sweeps of the crowd, during which 38 persons were arrested for disturbing the peace and failure to disperse after the demonstration had been declared an unlawful assembly. Two others were arrested for felonious assault, police reported.

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SMOKE MORE, SUFFER LESS

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HUMPHREY CALLS ON U.S. TO RECOGNIZE UNITED JERUSALEM AS ISRAEL'S CAPITAL

MIAMI BEACH, Feb. 6 (JTA) -- Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D., Minn.) called today on the United States to recognize united Jerusalem as Israel's capital and said it was "hypocritical" for the US government to condemn Israel for annexing East Jerusalem while it quietly acquiesced for years in the "destructive occupation" of that city by Jordan. Humphrey, an aspirant for the Democratic presidential nomination, addressed a luncheon session of a two-day conference of the American Technion Society. He said the Nixon administration should issue a public statement of support for Israel rather than extend it by executive discretion which is granted or withdrawn by administrative decision.

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS TO SENSITIZE MEMBERSHIP TO ISRAEL'S ABSORPTION NEEDS

STEIN REPLACES WEXLER AS CONFERENCE HEAD

NEW YORK, Feb. 6 (JTA) -- The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations pledged today to "sensitize" its membership to the "absorption crisis" in Israel. The pledge was made by Jacob Stein, president of the United Jewish Appeal, who was named chairman of the Conference today, succeeding Dr. William Wexler who completed his second term.

The Conference had just heard a detailed description of Israel's cash needs for immigrant absorption in 1972 by Israel's Minister of Finance, Pinhas Sapir and Louis A. Pincus, chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive, Stein said it was the unanimous feeling of all present that each of our membership organizations is charged with the obligation of properly sensitizing its members to the critical needs of Israel in meeting the challenge of internal social progress and the welcome immigration of Jews from the Soviet Union.

He said the Conference would "exert every effort" to secure total participation of its membership in contributions to the campaign conducted by the United Jewish Appeal.

SIR ALEC TO VISIT ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Feb. 6 (JTA) -- Britain's Foreign Secretary Sir Alec Douglas-Home will pay an official visit to Israel from March 21-24 if it was announced here.
EGYPT NOT EXPECTED TO REOPEN HOSTILITIES, AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING

JERUSALEM, Feb. 6 (JTA)—Israeli circles expressed the belief today that Egypt will not reopen hostilities along the Suez Canal, at least for the time being. They noted that the joint Soviet Egyptian communique released Friday in Moscow and Cairo at the end of President Anwar Sadat's second visit to the Soviet capital since last October, stressed the need for a political solution to the Middle East conflict.

While Egypt and the USSR emphasized a renewal of United Nations mediator Gunnar V. Jarring's peace-making efforts—the communique failed to mention the American initiative for an interim Suez accord—circles here believe that Moscow and Cairo are not unalterably opposed to an interim agreement reached through "close proximity" talks between Israel and Egypt.

The joint communique contained no specific Soviet pledge on new arms shipments to Egypt although President Sadat had stated publicly before he went to Moscow that his purpose was to obtain more Soviet weapons to prepare Egypt for an inevitable military showdown with Israel. The communique said only that the two sides had "considered measures" to "further strengthen" Egyptian military capabilities against Israel and outlined steps toward that direction.

**US. Opt For Political Settlement**

The United States meanwhile has agreed to sell Israel the full measure of Phantom and Skyhawk jets that she has asked for. (According to a New York Times report today from Washington, Israel will receive 48 F-4 Phantoms and 66 A-4 Skyhawks over the next five years. Presumably the Egyptians were that the US would supply 18 Phantoms and 36 Skyhawks within the framework of a plan to modernize Israel's airforce.)

(American and Israeli officials insist that there is no direct connection between the reversal of the US position on Phantoms and Israel's agreement, announced last week, to participate in proximity talks. But US officials have pointed out privately that both issues were negotiated simultaneously and were "not unconnected," the Times report said.)

Israel circles believe that Sadat is returning to Cairo without any Soviet pledge of support for Egyptian military action against Israel. Until their summit meeting with President Nixon next May, Soviet leaders are expected to concentrate on the promotion of a political settlement in the Middle East, circles here believe.

Jarring Mission Not Excluded

Some sources believe that Moscow is unhappy with the Sadat regime and would like to see more pro-Soviet elements replace him. They noted that the joint communique expressed the usual Soviet expressions of support for Egypt but not for Sadat personally as used to be the case with his predecessor, the late President Gamal Abdel Nasser.

Premier Golda Meir said in a television interview Friday night that she was sure the Soviet does not want a renewal of hostilities in the Middle East. She said the reopening of the Suez Canal will create an atmosphere conducive to serious negotiations.

Foreign Minister Abba Eban said, in an interview published in the Torino daily, La Stampa, that Israel was prepared to accept a resumption of the Jarring mission although it preferred American mediation. However, he insisted that the renewal of Jarring's activities must be based on an Egyptian understanding not to demand pre-conditions. He said the bravest mediation attempt yet made has been that of the African presidents "whose result will moreover permit a positive reevaluation for all future negotiations, including those of Jarring."

**DOCUMENTS, FINGERPRINTS, MAY PROVE ALTSMANN IS REALLY BARBIE**

PARIS, Feb. 6 (JTA)—Mrs. Beate Klarfeld, the determined hunter of ex-Nazi Klaus Barbie, returned here Friday from Bolivia, but only long enough to pick up documents and fingerprints in West Germany to convince Bolivian authorities that the man they have in custody in La Paz is indeed the former Gestapo "butcher of Lyons," Mrs. Klarfeld, is making the trip with assist of Israel's Mossad. Told reporters at Orly Airport that she would return to Bolivia in a few days after receiving the documents West German authorities promised her in Frankfurt and Bonn, Klaus Altman, the man believed to be Barbie, was arrested Friday in La Paz for non-payment of a $4,000 debt he owed the Bolivian government. France asked the Bolivian authorities last week to send an expert into custody until a La Paz court can determine whether he is the Nazi fugitive who obtained Bolivian citizenship under the alias of Altman.

If that proves to be the case, Bolivia, which does not extradite its own citizens, would have grounds to hand over Barbie to France to face war crimes charges, legal experts here said. Mrs. Klarfeld said the documents she will get in West Germany would include Barbie's fingerprints from his old Wehrmacht personnel files. These could confirm his identity.

**SOVIET POLICY TOWARD RUSSIAN JEWS DERIVED FROM ANTI-SEMITIC ATTITUDES**

ROME, Feb. 6 (JTA)—A British expert on the Soviet Union sought today to explain the contradictions in Soviet policy toward Russian Jews—allowing them to emigrate to Israel in large numbers while at the same time harassing Jews, sentencing some of them to harsh prison terms and waged an anti-Zionist campaign with undertones of anti-Semitism.

Emanuel Litvinoff, editor of the London journal "Jews in Eastern Europe," addressing the first International Seminar on Soviet Jewish Problems which opened here yesterday, said the explanation for these contradictions lies in the fact that their motivations are anti-Semitic and are derived from anti-Semitic attitudes. Even Jews who are extremely cautious often suffer from them, Litvinoff said. He cautioned that "to see the problem of Soviet Jews exclusively in terms of emigration means evading the real issue which is more complex and extends beyond the frontiers of the USSR."

The Seminar brought together distinguished European Jews and non-Jews from seven countries, Dr. Sergio Pinzio, President of the Association of Italian Jewish communities, who opened the Seminar in the Great Hall of the Rome City Council, stressed the importance of seriousness and objectivity in its "style and purpose."

Circulated at the Seminar were facsimile copies of a letter from Mrs. Esther Markish, widow of the Jewish writer and poet, Pereiz Markish, who was a victim of the Stalin purge of Jews. The letter was written in 1928 by Mrs. Markish and her son, David, for permission to emigrate to Israel was rejected last week by Soviet authorities. In her letter to the Seminar she stated: "that our request to emigrate to Israel has the purpose to immortalize the memory of this Hebrew-Jewish poet."
NEW YORK, Feb. 8 (JTA)—The American Jewish Congress "hot line" for Soviet Jewry today made public a nationwide petition campaign urging President Nixon to intercede with the Kremlin on behalf of Soviet Jews during his forthcoming visit to the USSR. The campaign has a goal of one million signatures by April 30—"National Solidarity Day for Soviet Jews"—according to the announcement. The "hot line" is a recorded-message telephone number established by the AJCongress in 1970.

In addition to "hot line"? In New York, other AJCongress "hot lines" have been installed in Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, Miami, Cleveland, Newark and St. Louis. The petition campaign is being conducted by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. The AJCongress is a constituent member of the Conference.

The petition urges Nixon to take advantage of his meeting in May with Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin and Communist Party Secretary Leonid Brezhnev to "help redeem Soviet Jews, thus fulfilling the hopes of millions of Americans who have labored on their behalf". The AJCongress "national headquarters in New York (212-879-4553), gives callers a recorded bulletin on the latest events in the USSR affecting Soviet Jewry and a report on local efforts on their behalf. The message is changed weekly and, on occasion, more frequently.

REFORM JUDAISM HEADQUARTERS TO TRANSFER FROM NY TO JERUSALEM

Move To Strengthen Progressive Movement In Israel In Effort To Gain Recognition

NEW YORK, Feb. 6 (JTA)—The World Union for Progressive Judaism, the international body of Reform Judaism in 25 countries, will transfer its headquarters from New York City to Jerusalem in July, 1973, Rabbi Richard G. Hirsch of Washington, D.C., has been named as the new executive director of the World Union succeeding Rabbi William A. Rosenthal. Presently Rabbi Hirsch serves as the director of the Religious Action Center of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in the nation's capital.

In announcing the move, Rabbi Bernard Bamberger, president of the World Union, noted that the action approved by the organization's Governing Board meeting in Los Angeles, July 1971, "reflects the world view that an international body should have its center in the place that for all Jews symbolizes the unity and the spiritual strivings of the Jewish people."

He said he believed that the establishment of the headquarters in Israel "will strengthen the progressive movement there, presently with nine congregations, in its struggle to obtain recognition as a valid interpretation of Judaism." Dr. Bamberger noted, "Such recognition has hitherto been blocked by the opposition of the Orthodox Religious Party which controls the Ministry of Religion."

Minority Control Obsolete

Rabbi Hirsch explained that the definition of Jews has expanded since the Holocaust and the establishment of the State of Israel. "Jews are a people, neither we nor the non-Jewish world is capable of constraining Jews to a faith or a philosophy or a narrowly defined religious movement."

Turning to the non-recognition of Reform rabbis in Israel, Rabbi Hirsch said, "We do not intend to permit any group to read us out of Jewish life." The World Union executive said he felt, "the democratic society in Israel will not for too much longer tolerate minority control over vast areas of public policy. The Jewish people are highly pluralistic, and Israel, if it wants to remain true to Jewish character, will have to allow for full expression of Jewish pluralism." The World Union was founded in 1926 in London, inspired by the late Lily B. Montague and Jr. Claude G. Montefiore.

BAR MARJUBLUM, SOCIALIST ZIONIST LEADER, DIES AT 85

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6 (JTA)—Funeral services will be held here tomorrow for Marc Marjublum, a veteran Socialist Zionist leader who died yesterday in Bnei Brak at the age of 85. Born in Warsaw, Mr. Marjublum was one of the founders of Poland's Pseul Zion Party. He graduated from the Paris Law School before World War II and went to Russia during the October revolution where he interviewed Lenin on the Jewish question.

He was later arrested and sent to Siberia but escaped and returned to Paris where he became a close friend of Leon Blum, the French Jew who was Premier of France during the early 1930's. Mr. Marjublum was credited with influencing Blum toward Zionism. When the Nazis occupied France in 1940, Mr. Marjublum became active in the French Jewish resistance movement. He escaped to Switzerland in 1943 and worked with the Joint Distribution Committee and the World Jewish Congress. After the war he played an important role in getting French intellectuals to accept the United Nations plan to partition Palestine into Arab and Jewish states.

Mr. Marjublum served successively as president and honorary president of the Zionist Federation of France and of the Federation of Jewish Associations of France. In 1946, he was named a Knight in the French Legion of Honor. He settled in Israel in 1953 and served on the executive committee of Histadrut until 1984. A prolific writer, he was the author of numerous books and pamphlets on the Palestine problem, the problem of Jews in the Soviet Union, and the struggle against Nazism. For many years he was the correspondent in the French Foreign Ministry and for Zionist journals in the US, South America and Poland.

ISRAEL RECOGNIZES BANGLADESH

JERUSALEM, Feb. 6 (JTA)—Israel has officially recognized the new state of Bangladesh. The announcement said that Foreign Minister Abba Eban informed Bangladesh Foreign Minister Abdu Samad Azad of the recognition in a cable Friday. The recognition decision was taken after telephone consultations with all members of the Cabinet Friday instead of waiting for today's regular Cabinet meeting. Israeli recognition was first announced last night in a statement from Acting President Nazrul Islam and Foreign Minister Mt.staque Ahmed of the Bangal provisional government which was then fighting a war of secession from Pakistan.

KUZNETSOVS AMNESTY APPEAL REJECTED

NEW YORK, Feb. 6 (JTA)—The Supreme Soviet has rejected an appeal for amnesty for Sylva Zalmansov Kuznetsov, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported. The conference said the rejection was received by the prisoner's attorney, who had appealed for amnesty a month ago. The Supreme Soviet asserted: "Sylva Zalmansov's crime was proved according to Soviet law. We will not give her amnesty." The NCSJ also reported that nine Odessa Jews staged a two-day hunger strike Thursday and Friday in solidarity with Jewish political prisoners.
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CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS TO SENSITIZE MEMBERSHIP TO ISRAEL’S ABSORPTION NEEDS

Stein Replaces Wexler As Conference Head

NEW YORK, Feb. 6 (JTA)—The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations pledged today to “sensitize” its membership to the “absorption crisis” in Israel. The pledge was made by Jacob Stein, president of the United Synagogue of America, who was named chairman of the Conference today, succeeding Dr. William Wexler who completed his second term.

The Conference had just heard a detailed description of Israel’s cash needs for immigrant absorption in 1972 by Israel’s Minister of Finance, Pinhas Sapir and Louis A. Pincus, chairman of the World Zionist Organization Executive. Stein said it was the unanimous feeling of all present that each of our membership organizations is charged with the obligation of properly sensitizing its members to the critical needs of Israel in meeting the challenge of internal social progress and the welcome immigration of Jews from the Soviet Union.

He said the Conference would “exert every effort” to secure total participation of its membership in contributions to the campaign conducted by the United Jewish Appeal.

SIR ALEC TO VISIT ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, Feb. 6 (JTA)—Britain’s Foreign Secretary Sir Alec Douglas-Home will pay an official visit to Israel from March 21-24 if it was announced here.
EGYPT NOT EXPECTED TO REOPEN HOSTILITIES, AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING

JERUSALEM, Feb. 6 (JTA)—Israeli circles expressed the belief today that Egypt will not reopen hostilities along the Suez Canal, at least for the time being. They noted that the joint Soviet Egyptian communal release Friday in Moscow and Cairo at the end of President Anwar Sadat's second visit to the Soviet capital since last Oct., stressed the need for a political solution to the Middle East conflict.

While Egypt and the USSR emphasized a renewal of United Nations mediator Gunnar V. Jarring's peace-making efforts—the communal failed to mention the American initiative for an interim Suez accord—circles here believe that Moscow and Cairo are not unilaterally opposed to an interim agreement reached through "close proximity" talks between Israel and Egypt.

The joint communiqué contained no specific Soviet pledge on new arms shipments to Egypt although President Sadat had stated publicly before he went to Moscow that his purpose was to obtain more Soviet weapons to prepare Egypt for an inevitable military showdown with Israel. The communiqué said only that the two sides had "considered measures" to "strengthen" Egyptian military capabilities against Israel "and outlined steps in this direction."

USSR Ops For Political Settlement

The United States meanwhile has agreed to sell Israel the full measure of Phantom and Skyhawk jets that she has asked for. (According to a New York Times report today from Washington, Israel will receive 49 F-4 Phantoms and 80 A-4 Skyhawks over the next five years. Preliminary reports were that the US would supply 18 Phantoms and 36 Skyhawks within the framework of a plan to modernize Israel's airforce.)

(American and Israeli officials insist that there is no direct connection between the reversal of the US position on Phantoms and Israel's agreement, announced last week, to participate in proximity talks. But US officials have pointed out privately that both issues were negotiated simultaneously and were "not unrelated," one report said.)

Israeli circles believe that Sadat is returning to Cairo without any Soviet pledge of support for Egyptian military action against Israel. Until their summit meeting with President Nixon next May, Soviet leaders are expected to concentrate on the promotion of a political settlement in the Middle East, circles here believe.

Jarring Mission Not Excluded

Some sources believe that Moscow is unhappy with the Sadat regime and would like to see more pro-Soviet elements replace him. They noted that the joint communiqué expressed the usual Soviet expressions of support for Egypt but not for Sadat personally as used to be the case with his predecessor, the late President Gamal Abdel Nasser.

Premier Golda Meir said in a television interview Friday night that she was sure the Soviet does not want a renewal of hostilities in the Middle East. She said the reopening of the Suez Canal would create an atmosphere conducive to serious negotiations.

Foreign Minister Abba Eban said, in an interview published in the Toronto daily, La Stampa, that Israel was prepared to accept a resumption of the Jarring mission although it preferred American mediation. However, he insisted that the renewal of Jarring's activities must be based on an Egyptian understanding not to demand pre-conditions. He said the bravest mediation attempt yet made has been that of the African presidents "whose result will moreover permit a positive reevaluation for all future negotiations, including those of Jarring."

DOCUMENTS, FINGERPRINTS, MAY PROVE ALTMANN IS REALLY BARBIE

PARIS, Feb. 6 (JTA)—Mrs. Beate Klarsfeld, the determined hunter of ex-Nazi Klaus Barbie, returned here Friday from Bolivia, but only long enough to pick up documents and fingerprints in West Germany to convince Bolivian authorities that the man they have in custody in La Paz is indeed the former Gestapo "butcher of Lyons," Klaus Barbie. Mrs. Klarsfeld, who is married to French Jewish lawyer, told reporters at Orly Airport that she would return to Bolivia in a few days after receiving the documents West German authorities promised her in Frankfurt and Bonn.

Klaus Altman, the man believed to be Barbie, was arrested Friday in La Paz for non-payment of a $4,000 debt he owed the Bolivian government. France asked the Bolivian authorities last week to allow the suspect into custody until a La Paz court can determine whether he is the Nazi fugitive who obtained Bolivian citizenship under the alias of Altman.

If that proves to be the case, Bolivia, which does not extradite its own citizens, would have grounds to hand over Barbie to France to face war crimes charges, legal experts here said. Mrs. Klarsfeld said the documents she will get in West Germany would include Barbie's fingerprints from his old Wehrmacht personnel files. These could confirm his identity.

SOVIET POLICY TOWARD RUSSIAN JEWS DERIVED FROM ANTI-SEMITIC ATTITUDES

ROME, Feb. 6 (JTA)—A British expert on the Soviet Union sought today to explain the contradictions in Soviet policy toward Russian Jews—allowing them to emigrate to Israel in large numbers while at the same time harassing Jews, sentencing some of them to harsh prison terms and waging an anti-Zionist campaign with undertones of anti-Semitism.

Emmanuel Litzvööft, editor of the London journal "Jews in Eastern Europe," addressing the first International Seminar on Soviet Jewish Problems which opened here yesterday, said the explanation for these contradictions lies in the fact that their motivations are derived from anti-Semitic attitudes. Even Jews who are extremely cautious often suffer from them, Litzvööft said. He cautioned that "to see the problem of Soviet Jews exclusively in terms of emigration means evading the real issue which is more complex and extends beyond the frontiers of the USSR."

The Seminar brought together distinguished European Jews and non-Jews from seven countries, Dr. Sergio Pincove, president of the Association of Italian Jewish communities, who opened the Seminar in the Great Hall of the Rome City Council, stressed the importance of seriousness and objectivity in its "style and purpose."

Circulated at the Seminar were facsimile copies of a letter from Mrs. Esther Markish, widow of the Jewish writer and poet, Perecz Markish, who was a victim of the Stalin purge of Jews in the Soviet Union in 1953. The letter, written by Mrs. Markish and her son, David, for permission to emigrate to Israel was rejected last week by Soviet authorities. In her letter to the Seminar she stated: "that our request to emigrate to Israel has the purpose to immortalize the memory of this Hebrew-Jewish poet."
NATIONWIDE PETITION CAMPAIGN FOR SOVIET JEWS AIMS TO GET ONE MILLION SIGNATURES

NEW YORK, Feb. 8 (JTA)—The American Jewish Congress “hot line” for Soviet Jewry today made public a nationwide petition campaign urging President Nixon to intercede with the Kremlin on behalf of Soviet Jews during his forthcoming visit to the USSR. The campaign has a goal of one million signatures by April 30—“National Solidarity Day for Soviet Jews”—according to the announcement. The “hot line” is a recorded-message telephone number established by the AJCongress in 1970.

In addition to the “hot line” in New York, other AJCongress “hot lines” have been installed in Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, Miami, Cleveland, Newark and St. Louis. The petition campaign is being conducted by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. The AJCongress is a constituent member of the Conference.

The petition urges Nixon to take advantage of his meeting in May with Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin and Communist Party Secretary Leonid Brezhnev to “help redeem Soviet Jews, thus fulfilling the hopes of millions of Americans who have labored on their behalf” in the AZCongress “national headquarters” in New York (212-879-4553), give callers a recorded bulletin on the latest events in the USSR affecting Soviet Jewry and a report on local efforts on their behalf. The message is changed weekly and, on occasion, more frequently.

REFORM JUDAISM HEADQUARTERS TO TRANSFER FROM NY TO JERUSALEM

Move To Strengthen Progressive Movement in Israel in Effort To Gain Recognition

NEW YORK, Feb. 6 (JTA)—The World Union for Progressive Judaism, the international body of Reform Judaism in 25 countries, will transfer its headquarters from New York City to Jerusalem in July, 1973, Rabbi Richard G. Hirsch of Washington, D.C, has been named as the new executive director of the World Union succeeding Rabbi William A. Rosenhaut. Presently Rabbi Hirsch serves as the director of the Religious Action Center of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in the nation’s capital.

In announcing the move, Rabbi Bernard Bamberger, president of the World Union, noted that the action approved by the organization’s Governing Board meeting in London, July 1972, “reflects the feeling that an international body should have its center in the place that for all Jews symbolizes the unity and the spiritual stirrings of the Jewish people.”

He said he believed that the establishment of the headquarters in Israel “will strengthen the progressive movement there, presently with nine congregations, in its struggle to obtain recognition as a valid interpretation of Judaism.” Dr. Bamberger noted, “Such recognition has hitherto been blocked by the opposition of the Orthodox Religious Party which controls the Ministry of Religion.”

Minority Control Obsolete

Rabbi Hirsch explained that the definition of Jews has expanded since the Holocaust and the establishment of the State of Israel. “Jews are a people, neither we nor the non-Jewish world is capable of construing Jews to a faith or a philosophy or a narrowly defined religious movement.”

Turning to the non-recognition of Reform rabbis in Israel, Rabbi Hirsch said, “We do not intend to permit any group to read us out of Jewish life.” The World Union executive said he felt, “the democratic society in Israel will not for too much longer tolerate minority control over vast areas of public policy. The Jewish people are highly pluralistic, and Israel, if it wants to remain true to Jewish character, will have to allow for full expression of Jewish pluralism.” The World Union was founded in 1926 in London, inspired by the late Rabbi H. Montagie and Dr. Claude G. Montefiore.

MARC JARJBLUM, SOCIALIST ZIONIST LEADER, DIES AT 85

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6 (JTA)—Funeral services will be held here tomorrow for Marc Jarjblum, a veteran Socialist Zionist leader who died yesterday in Bnei Brak at the age of 85. Born in Warsaw, Mr. Jarjblum was one of the founders of Poland’s Ppale Zion Party. He graduated from the Paris Law School before World War I and went to Russia during the October revolution where he interviewed Lenin on the Jewish question.

He was later arrested and sent to Siberia but escaped and returned to Paris where he became a close friend of Leon Blum, the French Jew who was Premier of France during the early 1930’s.

Mr. Jarjblum was credited with influencing Blum toward Zionism. When the Nazis occupied France in 1940, Mr. Jarjblum became active in the French Jewish resistance movement. He escaped to Switzerland in 1943 and worked with the Joint Distribution Committee and the World Jewish Congress. After the war he played an important role in getting French intellectuals to accept the United Nations plan to partition Palestine into Arab and Jewish states.

Mr. Jarjblum served successively as president and honorary president of the Zionist Federation of France and of the Federation of Jewish Associations of France. In 1946, he was named a Knight in the French Legion of Honor. He settled in Israel in 1953 and served on the executive committee of Histadrut until 1964. A prolific writer, he was the author of numerous books and pamphlets on the Palestinian problem, the problem of Jews in the Soviet Union, and the struggle against Nazism. For many years he was the correspondent in the Middle East for several Jewish journals in the US, South America and Poland.

ISRAEL RECOGNIZES BANGLADESH

JERUSALEM, Feb. 6 (JTA)—Israel has officially recognized the new state of Bangladesh. The announcement said that Foreign Minister Abba Eban informed Bangladesh Foreign Minister Abdu Samad Azad of the recognition in a cable Friday. The recognition decision was taken after telephone consultations with all members of the Cabinet Friday instead of waiting for today’s regular Cabinet meeting. Israeli recognition was first announced last Sunday and was confirmed by Acting President Nazrul Islam and Foreign Minister Mosheh Ahmed of the Bengali provisional government which was then fighting a war of secession from Pakistan.

KUZNETSOV’S AMNESTY APPEAL REJECTED

NEW YORK, Feb. 6 (JTA)—The Supreme Soviet has rejected an appeal for amnesty for Sylva Zaimanov Kuznetsof, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported. The conference said the decision was received by the prayer group led by Rabbi Samuel R. Bamberger of Cincinnati, who had appealed for amnesty a month ago. The Supreme Soviet asserted, “Sylva Zaimanov’s crime was proved according to Soviet law. We will not give her amnesty.” The NSCIJ also reported that nine Odessa Jews staged a two-day hunger strike Thursday and Friday in solidarity with Jewish political prisoners.