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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT CONFIRMS CHARGES THAT JEWISH PRISONERS ARE OFTEN SINGLED OUT FOR SPECIAL ABUSE By Mark Segal

LONDON, Nov. 17 (JTA)--A damning report by Amnesty International on conditions in Soviet prisons and forced labor camps where at least 10,000 political and religious dissenters, including Jewish "prisoners of conscience" are currently incarcerated, confirms charges that "Jewish prisoners are frequently singled out for special abuse" and that prison authorities deliberately provoke anti-Semitic acts against them by non-Jewish inmates.

The 154-page illustrated report titled "Prisoners of Conscience in the USSR," was released here today and was published simultaneously in Dutch, German, French and Swedish. Amnesty International is a London-based nonsectarian organization that monitors the condition of political prisoners all over the world.

The report said that conditions in Soviet penal institutions "not only violate international standards for the treatment of prisoners, but fail to achieve the standards established in parts of domestic (Soviet) corrective labor legislation and theory." The report urges the Soviet authorities to undertake a program of penal reform and warns that as long as the day-to-day working of the Soviet penal system is treated as a state secret, it will continue to "generate suspicion and mistrust, certainly abroad and to some extent within the Soviet Union itself."

The study of Soviet penal conditions by Amnesty International does not single out the plight of Jewish prisoners or that of any other minority group. But the names of many well-known Jewish activists imprisoned because of their persistent quest for exit visas appear throughout the report. These include Eduard Kuznetsov, Alexander Feldman, Alexander Fainberg, Semyon Gluzman, Yona Kolchinsky, Vladimir Bukovsky and Vladimir Gershuni. Feldman is the subject of one of the "profiles" of five typical Soviet political or religious prisoners. He was sentenced to a 3-1/2 year term in a strict regime labor camp after applying for a visa.

Anti-Jewish Incidents Provoked

The report quotes extensively from a statement by a group of Jewish prisoners in Perm. They charged that "The camp authorities inculcate nationalistic conflicts and agitate other inmates against Jews, KGB (secret police) officers stress in their conversations with non-Jewish inmates... that all nationalities of the USSR must take a stand against Jews, particularly in labor camps," the Amnesty International report said.

It quoted the Jewish prisoners' charge that "The (camp) administration provoked anti-Jewish incidents, utilized informers and spies, used false witnesses in order to be able to impose additional punishment on Jews, inmates who have had contact with Jews are summoned for discussions during which anti-Semitic sentiments are expressed and they are told that protests against the arbitrariness in camp rules are only profitable to the Zionists... The Jews are

forbidden to practice their religious traditions, forbidden to congregate even for a few minutes."

Continuing, the report said: "Hebrew or Yiddish conversation is subject to punishment because these languages are not understood by the guards and therefore their content cannot be checked. The study of Hebrew is prohibited. Internal letters in Hebrew or Yiddish are banned and confiscated."

The report contains chapters on "Articles of Soviet Criminal Law which restrict the exercise of fundamental human rights"; "Maintenance of prisoners" which contains details of rationing, hunger regimes and medical care; "relationship between prisoners and administration"; and "compulsory detention in psychiatric hospitals."

SILNITSKY SENTENCED TO THREE YEARS

NEW YORK, Nov. 17 (JTA)--Aleksandr Silnitsky of Krasnodar, has been sentenced to three years on "draft evasion" charges after months of harassment by Soviet authorities. It was reported today by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry. The GNYCSJ said it received a telegram from Aleksandr's father, Teivel, calling for his immediate release.

Aleksandr Silnitsky, 23, is the latest victim of Soviet repression which is part of a pattern to intimidate those seeking to emigrate to Israel, the GNYCSJ said. The Silnitskys first applied for exit visas September, 1974. Aleksandr was subsequently expelled from the Krasnodar Institute and his father was dismissed from his position as a lecturer at the Polytechnical Institute.

Last July 24, Aleksandr was told that neither he nor his family would ever receive exit permits. He was twice summoned to register at military headquarters but refused to comply with the orders claiming that he was an Israeli citizen. He was arrested on Sept. 10 for draft evasion and tried six weeks later.

RABIN DUE TO RESHUFFLE CABINET; LABOR MINISTRY MAY BE ABOLISHED, EXPANDED SOCIAL BENEFIT MINISTRY WOULD TAKE OVER MANY OF ITS FUNCTIONS By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 17 (JTA)--Premier Yitzhak Rabin is about to undertake a major reshuffling of his government and Cabinet ministers likely to be affected are raising objections. Although rumors have been flying for weeks, the public got its first official indication that changes were on the way from yesterday's Cabinet communique that said the ministers did not have time at this week's session to discuss the "reorganization of government."

The reorganization is expected to include changes recommended by the special ministerial committee on government efficiency, headed by Independent Liberal Party leader Gideon Hausner. The committee's proposals for streamlining the government in the aftermath of the Yom Kippur War was shelved for almost a year. It has been revived of late, mainly because Rabin believes the time has come to set up a new team of his own men and for internal coalition reasons.

According to unconfirmed reports, the Labor Ministry will be abolished, and many of its functions, including national insurance, would be absorbed by an expanded Ministry of Social Benefit that would replace the present Welfare Ministry. Other Labor Ministry functions would be assigned to the Housing and Education ministries.

Labor Minister Moshe Baran of the Labor Alignment has objected vigorously, especially since he would be shunted to the less prestigious Communications Ministry, regarded as a junior portfolio, which is presently held on a temporary basis by Minister of Agriculture Aharon Uzan.

New Ministry May Go To Shemtov

Zevulun Hammer of the National Religious Party who is currently Minister of Welfare, said he had no objections to the expansion of his ministry provided that it remains an NRP fiefdom. But Rabin reportedly plans to assign the new Ministry of Social Benefit to Mapam's Victor Shemtov, the current Minister of Health. Hammer would get the Health portfolio in exchange.

Political pundits believe Rabin wants to mollify Mapam with the new welfare post because he intends to abolish the Ministry of Absorption, currently held by Mapam. That ministry was established after the Six-Day War when immigration increased dramatically. But Yosef Almogi, the Labor Party's candidate for chairmanship of the Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Executives, has demanded abolition of the Absorption Ministry and restoration of its functions to the Jewish Agency's Immigration and Absorption Department.

Rabinowitz May Go, Too

Meanwhile, according to persistent rumors, Rabin wants to remove Yehoshua Rabinowitz as Finance Minister and replace him with Yaacov Levinson, head of the Bank Hapoalim. Rabinowitz has come under mounting criticism for not taking sufficiently decisive measures to alleviate Israel's economic crisis, especially the country's declining foreign currency reserves and lag in exports. Rabinowitz has argued that more severe measures would lead to widespread unemployment.

In an unrelated development, Menachem Porush a veteran MK of the ultra-Orthodox Aguda Israel faction, announced yesterday that he would relinquish his Knesset seat in favor of another Aguda politician, Rabbi Shlomo Gross. Porush was acting in obedience to the Aguda's "Council of Sages" which ordered him to step down in favor of Gross.

KNESSET MEMBERS HELP LAUNCH CASH DRIVE FOR ISRAEL BONDS; \$1.5M IN SALES DURING FIRST DAY OF DRIVE

NEW YORK, Nov. 17 (JTA)--An intensive Israel Bonds telephone cash campaign to aid the economy of Israel was launched yesterday by Israel's Knesset delegation to the U.S., headed by Knesset Speaker Yisrael Yeshayahu, in the Grace Building in the Times Square area. The opening day of the three-day campaign resulted in the sale of \$1.5 million in Israel Bonds.

Each member of the Knesset delegation, which is in this country at the invitation of the United States Congress, addressed the 500 volunteers who turned out for the opening of the "Dial-for-Israel" program on behalf of the Israel Bond campaign in New York. Yeshayahu and Knesset members Ari Ankori, Yitzhak Ben-Aharon,

Chaika Grossman, Yosef Tamir, Zerach Warhaftig and Menachem Beigin addressed the group in English and in Hebrew. Michael Arnon, president and chief executive officer of the Israel Bond Organization, emphasized the strategic role of economic aid in preserving Israel's freedom.

Deep feelings were expressed by individual members of the Knesset, all of whom underscored their appreciation of the U.S. Congress for its "show of friendliness." They also thanked the people of America, who gave them a "sense of being partners." The Israel Bond volunteers present, the members stated, allowed them to feel "they were not alone in the world."

The "Dial-for-Israel" program is the New York City phase of a nationwide Israel Bond effort to provide \$100 million in cash to relieve Israel's critical financial position and to help expand industrial and agricultural production. Sidney Cooperman, national cash collection chairman for Israel Bonds, presented a sterling silver coin, marking the 25th anniversary year of the Israel Bond campaign, to Yeshayahu.

25 HOUSE MEMBERS FILE SUIT AGAINST MORTON, KLEPPE CHARGING FAILURE TO ENFORCE U.S. ANTI-BOYCOTT POLICY

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17 (JTA)--Twenty-five members of the House filed suit today in Federal District Court here charging Secretary of Commerce Rogers Morton and Secretary of the Interior Thomas S. Kleppe with having acted to "hinder, impair or frustrate" the anti-boycott policy of the United States.

At a news conference in the Rayburn Building following the filing of the suit, Rep.-Robert F. Drinan (D.Mass.)--one of the 25 complainants--said the two Cabinet officers had "failed, neglected and refused to implement the 1965 Export Administration Act, which states in part: 'It is the policy of the United States to oppose restrictive trade practices fostered or imposed by foreign countries against other countries friendly to the United States. . .'"

Drinan charged that Morton and Kleppe had disregarded the law by "failing actively to oppose the restrictive trade practices and boycotts carried out by 14 countries in the Near East and North Africa against Israel and against American companies that trade with Israel."

Basis of Lawsuit

Leo Pfeffer of New York, a constitutional lawyer who is also special counsel of the American Jewish Congress, is serving as attorney for the 25-House members. He explained that the complaint charges Morton and Kleppe with violating the Constitution by neglecting to meet their responsibility under Article II "that the laws be faithfully executed."

Pfeffer told reporters the suit seeks an injunction against the two government officials barring them "from promoting or encouraging trade" between the U.S. and the 14 Near Eastern and North African states so long as those countries continue to boycott Israel and U.S. companies that trade with Israel. The complaint also asks for a writ of mandamus directing Morton and Kleppe to "implement and effectuate the national policy of the United States as set forth in Section 3 of the Export Administration Act."

Charges Against Morton

In charging Morton with "actions tending to hinder, impair and frustrate the anti-boycott policy of the United States," the suit cites Commerce Department export regulations (Sec. 369.1) stating that exporters "are not legally prohibited from taking

any action... that has the effective of furthering or supporting such restrictive trade practices or boycotts."

Charges Against Kleppe

Kleppe was charged with "tending to hinder, impair or frustrate the anti-boycott policy of the United States" by requiring American vendors of materials for use by its Geological Survey Bureau in Near East and North African countries "to submit... certifications that neither the steamship on which the materials are to be sent nor the company insuring the materials is on the boycott list of the particular Near East or North African country involved."

The Near East and North African countries referred to in the complaint as participating in restrictive trade practices or boycotts against Israel or companies that trade with Israel are: Algeria, Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia and United Arab Emirates.

Sponsors of Suit Listed

All 25 of the House members listed as complainants in the suit are Democrats. The original sponsors of the lawsuit are Drinan, Edward I. Koch (NY), Benjamin S. Rosenthal (NY), James H. Scheuer (NY), and Henry A. Waxman (Cal.).

They were joined by Bella S. Abzug (NY); James J. Blanchard (Mich.); William S. Brodhead (Mich.); Joshua Eilberg (Pa.); Elizabeth Holtzman (NY); William Lehman (Fla.); Clarence D. Long (Md.); Matthew F. McHugh (NY); Robert N.C. Nix (Pa.); James L. Oberstar (Minn.); Richard L. Ottinger (NY); Frederick W. Richmond (NY); Paul M. Simon (Ill.); Stephen J. Solarz (NY); Morris K. Udall (Ariz.); Charles Wilson (Texas); Lester L. Wolff (NY); and Sidney R. Yates (Ill.).

Reactions From Legislators

Asked why no Republican members are among the "Washington 25" Drinan theorized that participation would be embarrassing since their own party members are being sued. Drinan said that Republicans were asked to join but they declined. He did not name them.

Drinan also said the factor of the Arab boycott would be a point in the confirmation proceedings of Elliot Richardson as Morton's successor as Commerce Secretary. "Richardson would see the light very quickly," he said, "but I can't predict what he will do. We went forward with the lawsuit even though we knew he was coming in" as Morton's successor.

At the news conference, McHugh charged that the basis for the Ford Administration's policy is "rooted in the dollar sign." Oberstar said that unless the Congressmen proceed with the lawsuit they are going to allow the Administration to support the Arab boycott. Scheuer said that there are three categories of companies doing business in the Middle East; those that deal with Israel but cannot trade with the Arab countries; those that knuckle under to the Arab countries and cannot deal with Israel, and some that do business both with Israel and the Arabs.

Charging that high U.S. officials must be prevented from violating American policy, Drinan declared "we cannot wait for new legislation when Cabinet members are violating the laws each day." Abzug said that it was "shocking that foreign powers are forcing us to violate our own laws" and that "the President is silent on the action or inaction by his own Cabinet officer."

LOCAL N.Y. SYNAGOGUE IN CHANGING ETHNIC NEIGHBORHOOD TO BE AIDED BY UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA

KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., Nov. 17 (JTA)--For the first time anywhere, a national congregational organization has undertaken to conduct the affairs of a synagogue no longer able to maintain itself because of the changing ethnic character of a big city neighborhood.

Arthur J. Levine, president of the United Synagogue of America, the national organization of Conservative congregations, revealed here today at the organization's biennial convention that the United Synagogue had assumed responsibility for Temple Ansche Chesed, 100th Street and West End Avenue, one of the oldest congregations in New York City and second oldest among the 830 affiliates of the United Synagogue.

He said, "It will be our experimental station for programs dealing with all age levels with a concentration both on youth and on the older generation. It will become the testing ground for our ideas and, we believe, a historic attempt to restore a major Jewish neighborhood and stabilize an important community which has been on the decline and now shows signs of resurgence."

Levine stressed that Ansche Chesed, which dates its origin almost to the beginning of our republic, will remain a house of prayer in the total sense of these words under the direction of the present board and rabbi. "It is an act of faith in the future of New York's West Side," he said, "and we will act this out in the most tangible ways."

To Become Viable Center

He pointed out that the temple will become the center of the United Synagogue's youth activities; both for pre-college youngsters in the United Synagogue Youth (USY) and for collegians through the Atid (Future) organization. There will also be facilities for adults, including recreational, educational and supportive programs for senior citizens.

Once the home of one of the city's finest religious schools, Ansche Chesed again will have a school which eventually is expected to become a day school from kindergarten through high school. Levine also pointed out that the temple will provide religious facilities for students at nearby Columbia University and Barnard College who do not have them now.

He explained that the leaders of Ansche Chesed came to the United Synagogue with the proposal "that we take over because they were getting on in years and were concerned about the synagogue's future." He said that this was becoming the norm rather than the exception in the big cities with changing neighborhoods, "where one ethnic group replaces another."

Ansche Chesed, which was incorporated in 1895, was founded in the early decades of the 19th century. Its present building, constructed in 1933, is considered one of the finest examples of synagogue architecture of the time. The United Synagogue of America's 5-day biennial convention began yesterday with some 2,000 delegates in attendance.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--A group of Austrian Socialists emphasized their sympathy for Israel during a meeting with Premier Yitzhak Rabin here Sunday. Led by Austrian Parliament President and head of the country's trades union federation, they are here as guests of Histadrut. The group includes Vienna Mayor Leopold Gratz.

7000 AT INTER-FAITH RALLY PROTEST AGAINST ANTI-ZIONIST RESOLUTION

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 17 (JTA)--An enthusiastic overflow crowd of 7000 attended a Twin-City rally yesterday held at St. Thomas College, a Catholic school in St. Paul, to protest against the United Nations General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism. Bayard Rustin, chairman of Black Americans to Support Israel Committee, and Senators Hubert H. Humphrey and Walter Mondale, both Minnesota Democrats, were featured speakers at the interfaith event.

Other speakers included Gov. Wendell Anderson, Rep. Donald Fraser (D. Minn.), who is the Congressional representative to the UN; Msgr. Jerome Quinn, representing the Archbishop of Minneapolis-St. Paul; the Rev. Canon George Lemoine of the Minnesota Council of Churches, and Rabbis Arnold Goodman of Minneapolis and Bernard Raskas of St. Paul, who were also co-chairmen of the rally. The program also included a message of support from President Ford.

Speakers stressed the need for Americans of all faiths to ban together against the bigotry and anti-Semitism implied in the UN resolution and actively support the State of Israel. Humphrey saw the resolution as an "open violation of the United Nations Charter" and said "it sows the seeds of religious bigotry, and will inevitably take its toll on America's willingness to walk the extra mile for the UN."

The rally was sponsored jointly by Jewish Community Relations Council-Anti-Defamation League of Minnesota and the Dakotas; the Minneapolis Federation for Jewish Service; the St. Paul United Fund and Council; the Minnesota Rabbinical Association; and the NAACP.

RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA LAUNCHES CRASH PROGRAM TO EXPLAIN MEANING OF ZIONISM TO AMERICANS

NEW YORK, Nov. 17 (JTA)--Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld, president of the Rabbinical Council of America, representing the largest Orthodox rabbinic body with almost 1000 members throughout the United States, announced today that the Council was undertaking a crash education program in all of the synagogues served by its members to point out the dangers to the entire Jewish community and the individual Jew of the United Nations General Assembly resolution that classified Zionism as a form of racism and racial discrimination.

"We must make it understood," Rabbi Schonfeld declared, "that this is not merely an attack upon Israel or upon Zionism as a political movement but rather an attack upon the entire Jewish community. Every Jew must understand that he and his family are personally endangered in their security, in their freedom and in their right to live in human dignity by this benighted act of the General Assembly."

The crash program, he said, will include lectures, publications, seminars and adult classes, in addition to radio, TV and other public media. "They will stress the relationship between Zion and the Land of Israel and the Jewish people throughout their history and will underscore that the concept of a return to Zion is a deeply religious spiritual imperative with which no Jew can take issue," Rabbi Schonfeld said. The seminars will trace the references to Zionism and Israel in all the sacred scriptures, as

well as post-Biblical, medieval and modern texts.

In addition, the Rabbinical Council will establish a central coordinating body to be in touch with its member synagogues in the U.S. and Canada and to issue a weekly bulletin disseminating all information pertaining to the campaign to combat the anti-Zionist resolution, according to Rabbi Bernard Twersky, spokesman for the Council.

CONSERVATIVE JEWRY TOLD NOT TO HARBOR GUILT FEELINGS OVER CHANGES IN PRACTICES OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y., Nov. 17 (JTA)--Rabbi Benjamin Kreitman urged Conservative Jewry here last night not to harbor "guilt feelings" over the changes in religious ritual and practices Conservative Judaism has introduced over the past 60 years since its founding.

"We must acclimatize them, instead, as in the true tradition of Rabbinic Judaism which has seen constant change," Rabbi Kreitman declared in the keynote address to 2000 delegates attending the five-day biennial convention of the United Synagogue of America at the Concord Hotel here. The delegates represent 825 Conservative synagogues in the U.S. and Canada with a combined membership of over 1.5 million congregants. Rabbi Kreitman, whose pulpit is in Brooklyn, is executive vice-president-elect of the United Synagogue. He will succeed Rabbi Bernard Segal in that office at the end of the year.

Declaring that Conservative, Orthodox and Reform Jews are united by the same causes of Israel, Soviet Jewry, the Jewish poor and philanthropy, he decried "timidity" over declaring Conservative Judaism a "movement" rather than merely a trend.

Changes Outlined

Referring to the changes that have been introduced by Conservative Judaism, such as mixed seating in synagogues; the upgrading of the status of women; new liturgical forms and rituals; and the release of the "aguna," the "chained wife who was not allowed to remarry until there was proof of her husband's death," Rabbi Kreitman said these "have been looked upon as temporary concessions to human weaknesses and that the truly pious Jew does without these concessions and compromises."

He said "We are intimidated, we are weighed down with guilt feelings, we seem to agree with the fundamentalists that only severities are fitting for the pious and only the unchanged genuine Judaism." In fact, Rabbi Kreitman continued, Rabbinic Judaism could "never have developed into normative Judaism if every leniency introduced by Hillel or his disciples was seen as human compromise. We must come to understand and appreciate Conservative Judaism as a logical, authentic heir to Talmudic and Rabbinic Judaism," he said.

Rabbi Kreitman hailed the expansion of Conservative Judaism in Israel where 10 Conservative congregations now function. In Israel, Conservative Judaism could become "an alternative, possibly the only alternative, to a fundamentalist, rigid, unyielding orthodoxy that has alienated so many religiously-minded Israelis," he said.

JERUSALEM (JTA)--More than one million Israelis are pupils at some sort of educational institution, from kindergarten to college, according to statistics released here Monday. The exact figure for last year was 1,012,300;