NEW DOCUMENT SHOWS THAT WALDHEIM COOPERATED WITH THE SOVIETS DURING THEIR INVASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA
By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, Oct. 30 (JTA) — The World Jewish Congress has released a document here which the WJC said shows Kurt Waldheim cooperated with the Soviets during their 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia by attempting to block Austria's granting of asylum to fleeing Czechs.

The WJC release on Thursday followed an expose in The Washington Post which reported that top former Yugoslav intelligence officials said the Yugoslav intelligence cooperated with Soviet intelligence to attempt to blackmail Waldheim with a Yugoslav indictment charging Waldheim with war crimes.

The WJC said it had uncovered a secret cable that Waldheim sent in 1968, when he served as Austrian Foreign Minister, to the Austrian Embassy in Prague ordering the Embassy to close its doors to Czechs seeking asylum and to throw out any Czechs in the building.

Walshem's Spokesman Admits Waldheim Lied

In a related development from Austria, Waldheim's spokesman admitted that Waldheim had lied about his whereabouts during a massacre of resistance fighters in the Koraza mountains of Yugoslavia carried out by the Army unit in which Waldheim served as a senior intelligence officer.

Waldheim previously denied any role in the Koraza massacres in the spring and summer of 1941 and said he was some 100 miles away from the site of the massacres during that time. But now Waldheim's spokesman said that the former United Nations Secretary General who is now President of Austria did take part in the brutal campaign. However, the spokesman said, Waldheim was a "supply officer" and not involved in combat.

The WJC said Waldheim also lied about his role in Koraza to the United States Justice Department, which is conducting an ongoing investigation into Waldheim's wartime activities to determine if he should be placed on a watch list of Nazi war criminals who are barred from entering the United States.

The post story cites an interview with the former head of Yugoslav intelligence in 1947-48, Anton Kolendic, who said the Yugoslav intelligence community had compiled the indictment and several other files on Waldheim's alleged war crimes in cooperation with Soviet Agents who wanted to recruit Waldheim. Among those files was the evidence submitted to the UN War Crimes Commission in compiling the dossier that charged Waldheim as an accused war criminal, discovered last March. Kolendic said he had received instructions from the Soviets to recruit Waldheim and said he was "absolutely certain" the Russians had contacted Waldheim, according to the Post. Another former Yugoslav intelligence agent told the Post that the Russians later informed Yugoslav intelligence that "Waldheim was recruited."

A BITTER CONFRONTATION ENDS AMICABLY

JERUSALEM, Oct. 30 (JTA) — A bitter confrontation between Reform and ultra-Orthodox Jews in the Baka suburb ended amicably when the local Orthodox chief rabbi, Eliahu Abergil, promised in writing not to interfere again with Reform services.

The Reform rabbi, Levi Weiman-Kelman of the Kol Hanehuma Congregation, agreed in return to drop criminal charges against Abergil and 20 of his followers who disrupted Simchat Torah services at the Reform congregation last Friday evening.

Abergil led a group of 20 ultra-Orthodox Jews who entered the local community center where the services were being held and attempted forcibly to wrest Torah scrolls from the congregants while hurling curses at them. He was arrested and released on bail.

In a handwritten letter to Kelman on Tuesday, Abergil condemned violence regardless of "different opinions" and pledged "not to interfere" with Weiman's congregation. By mutual agreement, copies of his letter were distributed "to every mailbox in the neighborhood."

After the charges were dropped, the two rabbis embraced outside of the local police station. The agreement, in effect, recognized Reform Judaism's right to exist in Israel, an almost unprecedented concession by the Orthodox.

Kol Hanehuma Congregation consists of about 50 families in the south Jerusalem suburb. It conducts services in the community center gymnasium because the Orthodox have prevented it from renting other premises. Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek has offered the congregation land to build a house of worship and has promised to assist in raising funds for the new building.

Conservative Movement Condemns The Disruption

(In New York, six presidents of Conservative Jewish organizations condemned the disruption of the Reform Simchat Torah services and criticized Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Minister of Religious Affairs Zevulun Hammer for their failure to speak out against the disruption. The Conservative leaders said Thursday in a statement: "(Violence against the free practice of religion is a most dangerous threat to civil rights and against the principles of a democratic society. The outrageous events in the Kol Hanehuma Congregation on October 24 are essentially contrary to the historical practice of Judaism and Ahavat Yisrael -- love of Judaism."

(The statement was signed by: Rabbi Kassel Abelson, president, Rabbinical Assembly; Franklin Kreutzer, president, United Synagogue of America; Selma Weintraub, president, Women's League for Conservative Judaism; Simon Schwartz, president of MERCAZ, the Conservative Jewish Zionist organization; Jules Porter, president, Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs; and Marshall Wolke, president of the World Council of Synagogue,)},
FLEROV FAMILY DUE IN VIENNA MONDAY

NEW YORK, Oct. 30 (JTA) -- Inessa Flerova and her family will be arriving in Vienna Monday and be in Israel Tuesday, it was reported Thursday by Lynn Singer, director of the Long Island Community Jewish Federation. Singer said she received this information from Inessa's brother, Michael Shirman in Rehovot, Israel. Shirman, a leukemia victim, awaits the possibility of a bone-marrow transplant from his sister.

Singer said she will be in Vienna to greet the Flerov family as part of a delegation of Soviet Jewry activists who will be in the Austrian capital for the opening of the Helsinki Accords review conference.

"We will physically greet them (the Flerov family) in Vienna, we cannot celebrate," Singer said. "We have to accept the Soviet's word up to this point, that the Flerov family could leave immediately as of last Friday (October 24), will be 10 days later," Singer said Shirman repeatedly told his sister not to separate herself from her husband, Viktor, and their two daughters to come ahead of them.

PROTEST SPARKED BY COURT RULING
ON THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Oct. 30 (JTA) -- The Anne Frank Center here has joined the mounting national protest against a Federal court ruling last week that upheld the right of a group of Christian fundamentalist parents in Greeneville, Tenn. to keep their children out of the local public school when "The Diary of Anne Frank," among a long list of other books, was read in classrooms as part of the curriculum.

The decision by Judge Thomas Hull on October 24 that the parents had the right to protect their children from what they consider "Godless" influences and teach them to read at home, shocked academic, legal, publishing and religious circles all over the country.

"The Diary of Ann Frank," along with such classics as "The Wizard of Oz," was found objectionable by the parents because they stress humanitarian values and deem all religions to be of equal value, an anathema to the religious right.

All of the books cited in the case are part of a basic reading series published by Holt, Rinehart & Winston.

At a press conference at the Netherlands Club here Thursday morning, the Anne Frank Center stated that it "joins with national and international leaders to condemn attempts to ban 'The Diary of Anne Frank' and other books from public schools and libraries. The Center calls for the reaffirmation of the 'Diary' as a vital tool for education and understanding."

Joining in the appeal were W. Thomas Osborne, U.S. Director of the Anne Frank Foundation; The Hon. Jooop Den Uyl, former Prime Minister of The Netherlands; Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R., N.Y.); "The New York" Knich of New York; Bishop Philip Cousin, president of the National Council of Churches; Rabbi Mark Tanenbaum, International Director of the American Jewish Committee; and a group of prominent actors, playwrights and authors.

Eli Wallach, the actor, who performed in the stage version of "The Diary of Anne Frank," told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency at the press conference that "to counter this thing" he would work with the Center to help raise funds to pay legal expenses to appeal Hull's decision. Wallach said the Tennessee ruling was a blow to pluralism in American schools. "Could you imagine if a Jewish or Moslem child refused to read books considered objectionable?" he asked. In reply to a question, he said he believed the Reagan Administration contributed to the Tennessee case by its indication "that the left -- liberals -- have been forbidding religion in the schools."

Sheldon Harnick, lyricist of "Fiddler on the Roof," and playwrights Wendy Wasserstein and Christopher Durang, affirmed their determination to speak out on behalf of "Anne Frank," as well as the freedom to read and learn in accordance with the liberties guaranteed by the United States Constitution.

Johanna Reiss, author of "The Upstairs Room," a book about her, own experiences as a Jewish child hiding in Holland during the war, said "I wonder if our children are not supposed to know there really was a World War II." She said her book has been removed from libraries in the South.

Osborne observed, "The message of Anne Frank has lifted her up as a symbol of one among millions, and as an innocent child among the... worst censorship... the contents of her message is (that) she sees goodness in humanity."

Osborne added, "America is not a Christian nation. That's a dangerous proposition for anyone to put forth. America is a safe haven for Christian believers and people of all faiths..."

He said donations to help the Anne Frank Center can be sent to the Center at 245 East 60th Street, New York 10022.

LEFTWING ISRAELIS GOING TO BUCHAREST
TO MEET WITH PROMINENT PALESTINIANS
INCLUDING POSSIBLY WITH ARAFAT

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 30 (JTA) -- The Romanian government will provide a special plane to ferry several score Israeli leftwing activists to a meeting scheduled for Bucharest next week with prominent Palestinians. This was disclosed by the group's leaders at a press conference Thursday in Tel Aviv.

The group, led by Yael Lotan, a writer and journalist, reiterated its intention to proceed with the planned public conference in Bucharest despite a warning by Attorney-General Yosef Harish that they may be violating the recently passed law banning meetings with representatives of terrorist organizations.

The group includes members-of-Mapam, the Progressive List for Peace, Hadash, East for Peace, and other small bodies advocating dialogue with the Palestinians. No Knesset members are slated to attend the conference.

The group believes that leading-PLO officials will be present at the dialogue including, possibly, Yasir Arafat, the PLO chairman. The conference is to be held under the personal auspices of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu.

Some members of the group have indicated that they see the conference as something of a test-case and are prepared to face trial under what they consider to be an undemocratic law. The law was passed earlier this year, in tandem with a law against racism. The two bills went through together to ensure a broad coalition majority for both of them.
HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR TELLS HOW ITALIAN SOLDIERS SAVED JEWS DURING WWII
By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, Oct. 30 (JTA) -- A Jewish Holocaust survivor who was rescued by Italian soldiers shared his story with the Italian Ambassador to the United States and the American Jewish Committee here this week to illustrate the compassion and humanitarism of the Italians who rescued and protected Jews during World War II.

Ivo Herzer, whose family was smuggled into Italian-occupied territory in 1941 with the help of Italian soldiers, recounted his experience at a ceremony honoring the Italian Ambassador, Rinaldo Petrigiani, at AJCommittee headquarters Monday.

Petrigiani said he was "deeply moved" by Herzer's dramatic account, which he said he heard for the first time at the ceremony. "Now I know you and your story and I will never forget it," Petrigiani said.

The AJCommittee presented Petrigiani with a lithograph depicting a white dove inscribed with Shalom in Hebrew and English in deep gratitude "for assistance given by unknown and known Italians who risked their lives" to rescue Jews.

The ceremony came just two weeks before a major conference is scheduled to convene at Boston University November 6-7 to discuss scholarship and first-hand accounts of the little known but dramatic chapter of Holocaust history, the Italian rescue of Jews.

'This Should Have Never, Never Happened'

After being presented with the lithograph, Petrigiani said "I accept (it) with humility, with deep feeling and also with a sense of sadness because we all know that all this should never, never have happened." He added that he accepted the honor on behalf of "the unknown Italians who are really the recipients."

"The story has to be known and it has to be told," Petrigiani said. "The Italians who rescued Jews did not do it out of a lofty ideological conviction," he said "but in the name of sincere, basic human solidarity." The rescue of the Jews is "a history of which we can be proud." Petrigiani acknowledged some persecution of Jews and discrimination under the fascist regime of Benito Mussolini, but said "the persecution in Italy was not comparable to what happened in Germany."

Petrigiani said the Italian people rejected the discrimination and that those policies had "alienated the Italian people. "There was help and denunciation at the same time," he said. "But the Italians showed solidarity and human compassion."

A Nightmare And A Rescue

Herzer shared a brief account of his family's experience with the Italian Ambassador and members of the AJCommittee and the National Italian-American Foundation who attended the ceremony.

Herzer and his family lived in the capital of Croatia, Zagreb, when Italy, Germany, Hungary and Bulgaria occupied Yugoslavia in April, 1941. About 70,000 Jews lived in pre-war Yugoslavia and about half came under the vehemently anti-Semitic rule of the Ustasha, the Croatian fascist party, during the occupation. Herzer's family was among those who found themselves in the Croatian-ruled territory and decided to attempt an escape to the Italian occupied zone.

On July 30, 1941, Herzer and his family left home with fake travel documents and boarded a train for Spalato, the capital of Dalmatia occupied by the Italians. But guerrillas had blown up part of the railroad tracks and the family was forced to disembark in a town called Gospic, a stronghold of Croatian fascists.

As he exited the train, Herzer saw a long line of Jewish families in chains wearing yellow badges being marched off to a Croatian concentration camp. Quite by chance, Herzer's father met a small group of Italian soldiers near the home where the family hid after the aborted escape. He managed to convey to the soldiers that he was part of a group of Jewish refugees who feared for their lives.

The sergeant reassured Herzer's father that he would obtain permission to put the refugees on a train to Italy. The sergeant never got that permission. But late that same night, he brought a small contingent of Italian soldiers to the hideout and escorted the refugees to the train station. The soldiers even carried their luggage.

The refugees boarded an Italian Army train, where the sergeant remained by their side. They were served food and drink. The sergeant saw to it that his refugees arrived safely in Fiume, Italy, where he beseeched the authorities to care for the Herzer family. Then he left. Herzer never knew his name.

Sadly, the Italian authorities turned back the refugees and Herzer's family was sent back to Zagreb, where the Ustasha had, just one day after their departure, come to take them off to a concentration camp and then occupied their apartment.

A Second Escape

The family escaped a second time to Susak, near Fiume, where they hid from authorities. After a few weeks, the Italian police discovered the refugees, but released them one day later. They were taken to the town of Cirqueniza, and there the top officers of the Fifth Corps of the Second Army promised the refugees protection and freedom to the degree that was possible in those days.

Later the Herzers and other refugees were put into internment camps in Italian territory but were free to study, worship in a camp synagogue and organize themselves in any way. Herzer completed his high school education within an Italian camp.

Cites Examples Of Compassion

Herzer recalled two particular experiences from that time which he said illustrated the deep-felt humanitarism and compassion of the Italians towards the Jews.

On Yom Kippur, October 1, 1941, the military authorities in Cirqueniza lifted martial law and prohibitions on public assembly to allow the Jews to hold Yom Kippur services in a school.

A few months later, just before Christmas, 1941, an Italian version of the USO visited the town and the commander of the Army unit invited the Jewish refugees to a show. The Jews, the only civilians invited to the show, were seated in the first row and told they were the guests of honor.

"About 15 percent of Croatian Jews survived because they crossed into the Italian occupation zone," Herzer said. "In those years, when Europe abandoned us -- Italy was our true homeland."
Herzer said. All historians and survivors "agree that the basic motivation for this was the Italian humanitariansm," he said.

Herzer's experiences have impelled him to organize the testimonies and scholarly work on Italian rescues of Jews during the Holocaust. The culmination of his efforts will come at the November 6-7 conference in Boston which he will chair. Conference organizers said they hope to produce a book based on the interchanges at the conference.

FATHER OF IMPRISONED REFUSENIK SAYS HIS SON IS BEING DENIED MEDICAL HELP AFTER BEING BEATEN IN A LABOR CAMP
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Oct. 30 (JTA) -- Dr. Vladimir Magarik, the father of Jewish Prisoner of Conscience Aleksei Magarik, said in a press conference here Thursday that his son is being denied medical attention after he was brutally beaten in the Siberian labor camp where he is serving a three-year sentence on trumped-up charges of "drug possession."

Dr. Magarik said that he spoke on the phone with his son's wife, Natasha, in Moscow, who informed him that Aleksei has a severely cut lip as a result of the vicious beating he suffered when he refused to join the labor camp's internal police. "My son was beaten because I am a citizen of Israel and because he applied to leave for Israel. He is considered an 'enemy of the state' because his father has an Israeli passport," Dr. Magarik said.

He pointed out, however, that his son, a 28-year-old cellist and a father of a baby boy, was transferred from the section for hardened criminals in the camp to a section of less dangerous prisoners.

The press conference was sponsored by the University Service Department of the American Zionist Youth Foundation and the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews.

The press conference also marked the conclusion of a two-month visit here by Dr. Magarik and his daughter Chana to publicize the plight of Aleksei, particularly among students and young people across the United States. The visit was sponsored by the University Service Department of AZYF, the North American Jewish Students Network, and the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry.

Bicycle 'Freedom Ride for Aleksei'

During their visit, Dr. Magarik and his daughter undertook a bicycle "Freedom Ride for Aleksei." "We traveled more than 1,000 miles on bicycles across the U.S. as well as tens of thousands of miles or more on planes and car," Dr. Magarik said. He said that he and his daughter were encouraged by the support they encountered by thousands of young Americans on behalf of the plight of Aleksei.

David Dinkins, the Manhattan Borough President, who also addressed the press conference, said that he sent cables to Aleksander Rekunov, the Soviet Procurator-General, with copies to Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev as well as President Reagan demanding the release of Aleksei.

"I also hope to travel to the Soviet Union as soon as possible to meet with officials and personally plead the case of Aleksei Magarik and other refuseniks and Prisoners of Conscience," Dinkins said. In the meantime, he added, "We demand that he (Aleksei) receive humane treatment in keeping with international accords. It is absolutely intolerable for a political prisoner to be beaten while in state custody and then be denied medical treatment for his injuries."

Aleksei first applied for permission to go to Israel in 1981. His visa application has been repeatedly denied. His father and sister have been living in Israel since 1982.

NUDEL REMOVED FORCIBLY FROM A MOSCOW-BOUND BUS BY KGB AGENTS

NEW YORK, Oct. 30 (JTA) -- Long-time refusenik Ida Nudel was removed from a Moscow-bound bus in the city of Bendery last Thursday while on route to meet with Elke Wiesel, who was visiting Moscow, according to the student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry.

Witnesses said she was picked up by her arms and legs and thrown from the vehicle to the ground by three KGB agents, who then took her to their headquarters. Nudel was reportedly told there that she was barred from leaving the city until November 10, when she must report back to learn what further restrictions will be imposed upon her.

Nudel, 55, has been living in exile in Bendery, Moldavia, since 1982, and occasionally allowed to return to Moscow for medical care. She has been banned from living in Moscow since 1978, when she was arrested for hanging a banner from her Moscow apartment balcony that read, "KGB, Give Me a Visa to Israel."

Nudel first applied to emigrate to Israel in May 1971 along with her sister, Ilana Fridman. Fridman, her husband and son received exit permits a year later, but Nudel was refused. Although technically released from exile in 1982, she was issued a residence permit in every town where she tried to settle. Bendery finally allowed her to stay there, but she lives isolated under constant surveillance, and people have been reportedly warned to avoid contact with her.

THE BIG WINNER

JERUSALEM, Oct. 30 (JTA) -- By anybody's standards, Sasson Naftali, a taxi driver from Tirat HaCarmel near Haifa is a big winner. He hit the jackpot in the national lottery Wednesday. His $5 investment brought him a return of $900,000.

Naftali, 43, who is of Iraqi origin, has been playing the lottery for years. He never scored big but never gave up, he told reporters at his two bedroom flat.

Asked if he would share his winnings with his five children, 11 brothers and sisters and his parents, Naftali replied, "My children will have to work to make money. Even the biggest tycoon in America did not give his children to Alaska to work." He did not identify the tycoon. He said despite the fortune that came his way, he will continue to drive a cab.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Striking nurses, responding to a broadcast appeal by President Chaim Herzog, returned to their wards late Wednesday night, prepared to resume negotiations without preconditions on their demands for higher pay and improved working conditions.