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AMERICAN SECTION, INC.

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA JS:rb

May 10, 1972

Feb 6.

An. Pexler

His Excellency
Mr. George Bush
Permanent Representative of the
United States of America to
the United Nations
799 U.N. Plaza
New York, New York 10017

Sir:

I want to thank you once again on behalf of the American Jewish Community for the keen and continuing interest you are showing in connection with some of our concerns.

Most particularly, we are grateful for your specific interest in the problem of Syrian Jewry and for your arranging our meeting with Secretary General Waldheim.

The delegation felt it was very well received and left the meeting hopeful that some positive results would be forthcoming.

Again, in appreciation,

Very cordially yours,

Jacob Stein
Jacob Stein
Chairman

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PLAZA 1-4000

TO: Mr. Lias

RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM
NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF INTERRELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RELATIONS

165 EAST 56TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

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For: Did you get copies of this stuff? Dick

file

International
New York City

From
JEWISH CHRONICLE
Kansas City, Mo.
W-10,000

JUL 28 1972

Shapiro Convicted, Gets Light Sentence



NEW YORK — Holding a poster of her husband, Mrs. Judith Silver Shapiro shakes hands with UN Ambassador George Bush across from the UN building. Mrs. Shapiro asked Bush to help her obtain a visa to be present at the trial. At left is Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum of the American Jewish Committee.

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She made that remark at a news conference here following a telephone conversation with her husband, Gavriel Shapiro, who had just been sentenced by a Moscow court to one year of "corrective labor" on charges of evasion of military service.

Mrs. Shapiro, a 27-year-old social worker from Cincinnati who was married to Gavriel at a religious ceremony in Moscow June 8, expressed relief that the sentence was "not more severe." But, she said, in all justice he should have been released. "His confinement will prevent my being reunited with him. This is intolerable for a young couple recently married."

Shapiro will not be imprisoned. A corrective labor sentence permits him to live at home, but he must work at a job approved by Soviet authorities for the period of the sentence. Mrs. Shapiro, who flew to Moscow without a visa Sunday night but was barred from entering

Russia, said here that Soviet authorities told her they would never give her a visa.

She said she had sent cables to Soviet Communist Party Chief Leonid Brezhnev, President Nikolai Podgorny, Chief Soviet Prosecutor Roman Rudenko, and the Soviet Envoy to the UN, Yakov Malik, begging clemency for her husband.

According to reports from Moscow, Shapiro's trial lasted only two hours. He reportedly commented that his sentence was more lenient than expected and attributed this to his wife's activities mobilizing public opinion, and to pressure from the U.S. Government on Soviet authorities.

Mrs. Shapiro said that it was largely through world opinion and the press that her husband avoided imprisonment.

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, director of the American Jewish Committee's Interreligious Affairs Department, one of the organizations that has been close to the Shapiro case from the start, told the JTA that Shapiro's relatively light sentence could be attributed in large part to the active intervention of the U.S. Government.

Rabbi Tanenbaum said, "The White House, the State Department and the American Mission to the United Nations, with whom we have been in regular contact, have made direct and forceful interventions on behalf of the release of Gavriel Shapiro or a lenient sentence."

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International
New York City

From
JEWISH LEDGER
Hartford, Conn.
W-23,000

JUL 27 1972

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International
New York City

From
JEWISH PRESS
Brooklyn, N.Y.
W-150,000

AUG 4 - 1972

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THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RELATIONS

165 EAST 50TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

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International

New York City

From

JEWISH CHRONICLE

Kansas City, Mo.

W-10,000

JUL 28 1972

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GREATER NEW YORK CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY

ROOM 1864

11 WEST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10036

Tel. No: (212) 354-1316

For Further Information Contact:
Malcolm Hoenlein
Greater New York Conference on
Soviet Jewry
(212) 354-1317

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WOMEN JOIN WIFE OF SOVIET JEW APPEALING FOR HIS RELEASE

More than 100 women from the greater New York area will join the wife of a Soviet Jew appealing for his release from Russia today (Tuesday, November 9th) at noon at the Isaiah Wall, First Avenue and 43rd Street, opposite the United Nations.

The demonstration is being held under the auspices of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, the central coordinating body for Soviet Jewry activity in the Metropolitan area.

Following the demonstration, the women will distribute thousands of artificial white roses made by students in Long Island day schools and will ask people to write Soviet authorities about the case.

The white rose has become symbolic of women's suffering. Each rose will be inscribed with the name of Yakov Gluzman, a Soviet biologist. His pretty, dark-eyed wife, Rita 23-years-old, left the Soviet Union for Israel in September, 1969, after they had been married a month. Her husband was not allowed to accompany her because of Russian emigration policies.

Their son was born in Israel. He is now nearly a year and one-half old and has never seen his father.

Rita Gluzman has been travelling and speaking in the United States since October 17th to plead her case that the Soviet authorities allow her husband to emigrate to Israel.

The women who will join her today at the United Nations are from Stern College for Women in Manhattan, the National Council of Jewish Women and the Interfaith Women's Committee in Long Island. They will begin a vigil on her behalf which will be maintained in various places until her husband is released.

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THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Institute of Human Relations • 165 East 56 Street, New York, N. Y. 10022 • PLaza 1-4000 • Cable Wishcom, New York

July 12, 1972

Hon. George Bush
U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations
799 United Nations Plaza
New York, N.Y.

Handwritten: JB, Handwritten, reply

My dear Ambassador Bush:

In behalf of the family of Gavriel Shapiro, I want to express our deepest gratitude for your ready willingness to intervene in his behalf. As you may know, he was released from prison Friday, June 30.

I should like to express in particular the appreciation of the American Jewish Committee and my own personal gratitude for the extremely helpful cooperation of Mr. Richard Coombs and Mr. Thomas Lias, whose spirit of concern and friendship has meant a great deal to all of us.

In a telephone conversation to Moscow with Gavriel on July 5, 1972, we learned that he will meet with the investigator to discuss the issue of a possible forthcoming trial. All of us sincerely hope that a practical way will be found to allow Gavriel Shapiro to emigrate shortly and to be reunited with his American wife.

In view of some earlier unfortunate publicity, I took upon myself the responsibility of issuing a general statement in which, as you will see, I commended "President Nixon's administration" for its humanitarian interest and role in this situation. That comment has since been carried

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UNITED STATES MISSION

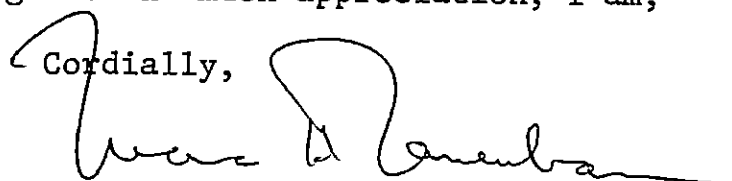
Ambassador George Bush

-2-

July 12, 1972

by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, as well as other wire services to communities throughout the United States and abroad.

Again, with warm personal regards and much appreciation, I am,

Cordially,


Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
National Director of
Interreligious Affairs

MHT:isg
Enclosures

cc: Mr. Richard Coombs
Mr. Thomas Lias

Photo Copy Preservation

June 25, 1972

WINS RELIGION COMMENTARY
RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM* OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
"LET GAVRIEL SHAPIRO GO"

Judith Silver, an attractive, bright-faced young girl from Cincinnati, went to Moscow as a tourist in August 1971. There she met and fell in love with Gavriel Shapiro, a tall 27 year old youth who is a chemical engineer, graduated from Moscow University. Three weeks ago on June 8, Judy and Gavriel were married by a visiting American rabbi in accordance with the Orthodox Jewish wedding ritual used by Jews throughout the world, a ritual whose binding authority the Russian government refuses to acknowledge. On June 12, Judy Shapiro left Moscow's airport, and as her plane lofted, the KGB secret police arrested her husband. This past Friday afternoon Judy Shapiro came to my office, sobbing brokenheartedly, and begging to find ways for the White House, our government, and the conscience of mankind to help save her newly-wed husband. In telephone calls this weekend with friends in Moscow, Judy learned that the Soviet authorities plan to hold a trial this coming Saturday, July 1, at which Gavriel Shapiro will be tried arbitrarily for alleged refusal to undergo further military retraining. The possible sentence will be years of imprisonment.

Photo Copy Preservation

*Rabbi Tanenbaum, who is the National Director of Interreligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee, presents a weekly religious commentary over WINS-Westinghouse Broadcasting System.

June 25, 1972

-2-

The real reason for the arrest of Gavriel Shapiro is that on February 22, 1971, he applied for an exit visa from the Soviet Union and he was refused. Two months later, he renounced his Soviet citizenship, an act which according to a 1956 Soviet agreement frees him from further military service. The denial of the elementary human right of Gavriel Shapiro and others to emigrate from the Soviet Union is a violation of the Soviet Constitution, and of the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights to which Russia is a signator. Beyond that, the breaking up of a marriage between a newly-wed American girl and a Russian boy is a cruel and inhuman act.

As the Soviet authorities must certainly know, the majority of the American people welcomed the recent moves toward detente and the improvement of economic and political relations between Russia and the United States. The Russians must also certainly know that severe and heartless prison sentences against the Gavriel Shapiros of the Soviet Union will go a long way toward eroding confidence among the American people that Russian authorities are really serious about fundamental improvement in human relationships between our two countries. Freeing Gavriel Shapiro from prison this week, and letting him emigrate would be a signal heard around the world that the Soviet Union is genuinely committed to making the spirit of the Moscow Summit prevail in reality, and not just in rhetoric.

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STATEMENT BY RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM, NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF
INTERRELIGIOUS AFFAIRS ON THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE, ON
THE PROXY MARRIAGE OF GAVRIEL AND JUDITH SHAPIRO

June 29, 1972

2:00 P.M.

We welcome the proxy marriage of Gavriel and Judith Shapiro as a means of establishing the legal basis of their married status, thereby removing an obstacle to the recognition of the validity of their marriage by Soviet authorities. This should help substantially to clarify the married status of Gavriel Shapiro, which is an important step in the direction of seeking his release from prison in Moscow, of securing his right to emigrate, and of being reunited with his wife.

We wish to use this occasion to acknowledge with appreciation the humanitarian interest and role of President Nixon's Administration, the State Department, of numerous members of the Senate and House of both the Democratic and Republican parties, and of thousands of Americans, Christian and Jewish alike, who have taken an active part in the effort to assure justice and the realization of the fundamental human right of Gavriel Shapiro, "to leave his country," a right established by the United Nations' Declaration on Human Rights.

Together with many other American citizens, we welcome the recent developments intended to relax international tensions and to improve relations between the Soviet Union and the United States. We also welcome the actions of Soviet authorities who have made possible the continued emigration of thousands of Russian Jews. The release of Gavriel Shapiro from prison and the granting to him of an exit visa would be consistent with this constructive Soviet policy on emigration, and would constitute a symbolic and substantive impetus to the further improvement in understanding and better human relationships between our two great countries.

July 2, 1972

WINS RELIGION COMMENTARY
RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM* OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
FOURTH OF JULY, 1972

The news could not have broken at a more appropriate time than the Fourth of July weekend. The democratic values of personal liberty and political freedom, which are the hallmark of our independence day celebrations, assumed a special, even precious importance this weekend for a Jewish girl from Cincinnati, Ohio, named Judith Silver Shapiro. Last Sunday this commentator reported on the plight of her husband, Gavriel Shapiro, a 27 year old chemical engineer in Moscow, who on June 8th married Judith and was arrested four days later by the KGB secret police.

Gavriel was held incommunicado for three weeks. No one was allowed to visit him, neither his parents, nor a lawyer. No charges were specified against him. Gavriel Shapiro had applied for an exit visa in order to exercise his basic human right to emigrate as assured by the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights. Soviet authorities denied him that right, and on June 14 his prison guards shaved off his hair and beard, suggesting that Gavriel Shapiro was presumed to be guilty as a criminal even though he had not been brought to trial.

*Rabbi Tanenbaum, who is National Director of Interreligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee, presents a weekly religion commentary over WINS-Westinghouse Broadcasting System

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July 2, 1972

Responding to desperate appeals from Judith Shapiro this past week, United States government and political leaders intervened actively with Soviet authorities against the background of improving relations between the two countries. Having been at Mrs. Shapiro's side throughout this ordeal, this commentator can testify that the humanitarian responses of the White House, the State Department, leaders in the Senate and House of both the Democratic and Republican parties were magnificent. Indeed, our conversations with the Soviet authorities in Washington were firm but humane and civilized.

Yesterday afternoon, Judith Shapiro learned during a telephone conversation to Moscow that her husband had been released from prison for the period of the pre-trial investigation period. He is far from out of the woods since he may yet be subject to trial and sentencing, and therefore, continued vigilance and interventions in this case will be absolutely essential until he sees the light of freedom. The very need for this constant vigilance in support of liberty and freedom reminds us poignantly that the American democratic heritage symbolized by the spirit of the fourth of July still has a very real message for men everywhere.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Tom Lias

DATE: May 16, 1972

FROM : Dick Combs

SUBJECT: Jewish Groups Received by Ambassador Bush

Per your request, I have gone through my files and the files I inherited from Bob Barry and have come up with the following list of meetings. I am sure there are more that, for one reason or another, did not get into the files.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GROUP</u>
May 1971	New York Board of Rabbis (to present petition on Soviet Jewry)
June 1971	Three Rabbis who "sat in" Amb. Phillips' office
June 1971	Interfaith delegation and Anti-Defamation League, B'nai B'rith (re Soviet Jewry)
October 1971	Congressman Yates and repre- sentatives of Jewish organiza- tions in Chicago (to prevent petition on Soviet Jewry)
November 1971	Rita Gluzman
December 1971	Leaders of nine Jewish Women's organizations (plus Miss Lifshitz)
March 1972	Delegation of N.Y. Jewish organi- zations (regarding US statement re Soviet Jews who do not emigrate)
April 1972	Presidents of American Jewish Organizations (regarding call on SYG to express concern over plight of Syrian Jews)

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Excerpts of remarks by Ambassador George Bush, U.S.
Representative to the U.N., dealing with the Jewish
Defense League, at Overseas Press Club Annual Awards
Dinner, Hotel Pierre, New York, N. Y., April 23, 1971.

I've been spending the last couple of days worrying
about some extremists in our midst that for some cause --
and I don't stand here as one to cast allegations about
what that cause might be or who these people are -- bomb
a building in central New York in an effort to prove a
point, in an effort to do something, whatever it is.

And I go up today to the Soviet Ambassador and spend
an hour trying to explain, "Oh, well, you know, these are
local laws, and we, you know, the Federal law, we've got
Federal and State relationships" -- and I can just hear
him trying to tell me if some building of ours was bombed
in Moscow that, please be tolerant, sir, we have state,
local and county laws.

The people that are this cowardly, the people that
are this dastardly that they'd go into some building and
risk the lives -- a policeman defused one of these bombs
last night, 59 minutes ticked off on a 60 minute time
clock, the poor guy bending over that machine trying to
defuse it, the people scared to death.

There is no cause that can be served by this kind of
extremism. And I think every responsible diplomat and I
think every responsible newsman should highlight the damage
that these people are doing. It doesn't matter what their
cause. We should stand up and say what we think and hope-
fully mobilize opinion and hopefully, as an Ambassador,
try to expand, if necessary, the Federal law and hopefully
as a citizen of New York in some way find a way to lay to
rest this extremism in our midst.

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And I went over there last night to AMTORG to express -- after getting chewed out pretty good, I might say, by the Russian Ambassador, and understandably so -- I went over to express the outrage that I felt on the part of the United States Mission to the U.N., and today was berated on the streets of New York in a very well publicized press conference by a gentleman from the Jewish Defense League, berating me as insensitive to Soviet Jewry.

Well, let me say that if they want to be insensitive to it, if you want to harden the relationships that have thawed in 20 years, if you want to get something not done, let's condone that kind of idiotic behavior, when we have the crises we have in the Middle East and when we have the crises we have got around the world.

And so you can start with a host country problem, as we call them delicately in the U.S. Mission and in the U.N., and we can start right there, each of us that cares, each of us that believes in an organization that might do something about peace in the world, to see that the climate in which that organization operates is one of constructive nature.

Now Bob Considine was very unhappy about the fact that we haven't had a good war lately. Well, if I stick around the U.N. for a while, why, maybe we can take care of that situation, I'll tell you.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: July 19, 1971

SUBJECT: SOVIET JEWS IN ISRAEL

PARTICIPANTS: Professor Maurice Friedberg, Department of
Slavic Languages, Indiana University
Richard T. Davies, Deputy Assistant Secretary
for European Affairs
Jack F. Matlock, Country Director for
Soviet Union Affairs
Paul K. Cook, INR/RSE
William Dyess, EUR/CHP
Peter Semler, EUR/SOV
Robert Barry, EUR/SOV
Edward Mainland, EUR/SOV
Ed Alexander, USIA
Ted Frankel, USIA
Paul Smith, USIA
Robert Peck, INR/RSE

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USIA/Problems of Communism:Mr. Frankel
CENSUS/Foreign Demography:Mr. Feshbach
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White House
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CIA/OCI
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(Drafting Office and Officer)

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DATE 7/30/71 SYMBOL

ACTION	OFFICERS	INFO	COPIES TO:	INITIALS
COPY TO:	Lias			
	Bush	✓		
	Phillips	✓		
	Bennett	✓		
	Zagorin	✓		
	Finger	✓		
	Newlin	✓		
	Carter			
	Barry			
	Grigg			
	J. Irwin			
	McSweeney			
	Oakley			
	Sacksteder			
	Smith	✓		
	Vreeland	✓		
	Gunther			
	Kitchen			
	Dunn			
	Koehring	✓		
	Lennon	✓		
	Picker			
	Rothenberg	✓		
	Stillman	✓		
	Bender			
	Reddington	✓		
	Kuttner	✓		
	Marin			
	Trinks	✓		
	MARTIN	✓		
	Reis			
	Rosenstock			
	W. Irwin			
	Schottke			
	Spencer	✓		
	Glennon	✓		
	Darrer			
	Stuart	✓		
	Roussel			
	Foster			
	MSC			
	Reference	✓		

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JEWISH LEADERS
~~GB/JK~~

August 5, 1971

Hon. Leonard Garment
Special Consultant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Len:

In the event you did not see this interesting discussion involving professor Maurice Friedberg, I thought you might find it worthwhile. It's on the subject we have been talking about, namely broadcasting in Yiddish.

Warm regards,

George Bush

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Professor Friedberg briefed the participants on a two-month series of interviews he had just concluded in Israel with some 200 recently-arrived Jewish emigrants from the USSR. He had found most of them volubly eager to share their stories. He had arranged the interviews privately, being introduced from one family to another on a personal basis. Friedberg had sought no assistance from Israeli authorities, who were aware of his activities, but made no attempt to interfere.

Friedberg attempted to get a representative cross-section of the total of nearly 6000 1971 emigrants (his estimate). He chose to meet with only a few of the more celebrated Soviet dissidents in order to preserve a geographically and occupationally balanced sample. He believed his work to be the most systematic attempt yet to find out what recent Jewish emigrants have to tell about Soviet life. He plans to present his findings in a forthcoming article.

Avid Listeners to Foreign Radio

Friedberg was surprised to find that 75 percent of the emigrants, before leaving the Soviet Union, had been regular listeners to foreign radio stations -- Radio Israel, Voice of America, Radio Liberty, and BBC, in that order. Friedberg felt that few other Soviet groups -- despite the obvious thirst for news among the Soviet population -- would show as high a percentage. The quest of Soviet Jews for objective information had been virtually an obsession.

Nearly 100 percent of the younger emigrants said they had regularly listened to foreign stations. They gave Radio Liberty high marks for doing the best job among foreign stations of informing the Soviet audience on what was going on in the rest of the USSR, something the Soviet media failed to do. He quoted one respondent's

remark: "When you are in Moscow, it is easier to find out what is happening on the moon than it is to know what is happening in Sverdlovsk." Friedberg was often astounded at the precise information some of his interlocutors had obtained about the West through listening to broadcasts.

Another surprise was that one-third of those interviewed turned out to be non-Jews. This resulted from a large incidence of mixed marriages among the emigrants and the inclusion of many non-Jewish relatives in the exit permits granted to Soviet Jewish family members. Local Israeli jokes concerned the healthy increase in the size of congregations of Jerusalem's Orthodox Churches brought by immigration.

Broadcasts About Jewish Life

In Friedberg's sample, about 30 percent spoke and wrote Yiddish, while 60 percent understood Yiddish fairly well. Since one-third of those interviewed were not Jewish, Friedberg admitted that the proportion of Yiddish-speaking Jews among his sample would be correspondingly higher. However, Friedberg said he could not be sure that these percentages were necessarily representative either of most emigrants or of the Jewish population remaining in the USSR. He found few young Soviet Jews who understood any Yiddish at all.

Many of the emigrants urged that VOA or Radio Liberty institute a special "Jewish-affairs hour" distinct from Russian services and transmitted at fixed times and frequencies which listeners could depend upon. The emigrants were concerned that Soviet Jews get treatment in foreign broadcasts equal to that of other key Soviet national groups.

Few emigrants insisted that the "Jewish-affairs hour" be wholly or predominantly in the Yiddish language. But most of them thought that some attention to Yiddish would lend a degree of desirable dignity to the language that Soviet authorities had denied it.

Friedberg said he personally thought a "Jewish-affairs hour" should be mostly in Russian, primarily to communicate factual news to the younger, more militant Soviet Jews who did not understand Yiddish. But he also suggested that spot use of Yiddish would be a powerful symbol to Jewish listeners if worked into musical interludes and literary features in a skillful way. He said he thought the advocates of VOA Yiddish broadcasts in the American Jewish community could probably be mollified by this solution.

Friedberg recommended that VOA and Radio Liberty broadcast their Jewish holiday material several days before, or several days after, the actual holiday. The emigrants told him that they had habitually turned to Radio Israel's coverage of these occasions and competing foreign stations lost their Jewish listeners temporarily. It was more natural to hear the words "Next year in Jerusalem" from Jerusalem itself than from New York, London, or Munich.

Friedberg noted that the USSR beamed Yiddish broadcasts to Israel but not to its own Jewish population. For its part, Romania transmits to North America in Yiddish, apparently to attract American Jewish tourists who are generally reluctant to visit East Europe.

Census Probably Distorted

Friedberg said his interviews had convinced him that the mysterious reduction in the Soviet Jewish population in 1970 Soviet census figures had a simple explanation: deliberate official falsification. About 40 emigrants cited instances where Soviet census enumerators had arbitrarily recorded Jews as ethnic Russians or Ukrainians contrary to their expressed preference. The instances had occurred almost simultaneously in widely separated cities. A "samizdat" (self-published) warning sheet had been issued by dissenters giving instructions on how to circumvent this practice. Friedberg therefore discounted the possibility that the Jewish population "decline" resulted from actual

assimilation or a fear of openly declaring a Jewish identity. Friedberg opined that some three million persons were probably still listed as "Jewish" in Soviet internal passports, judging from references to that figure by Novosti Press Agency during the years immediately preceding the census.

The emigrants told Friedberg that the total number of Crimean Tatars had been similarly understated, as had statistics on language preferences, already biased toward Russian through the inadequacy of the census form on bilingualism.

Attitude Toward Western Supporters

The emigrants generally felt not enough was being done abroad to assist the situation of Soviet Jews. Some tended to approve of such "maximalist groups" as the Jewish Defense League (JDL). In discussion, however, most of these admitted that anti-Soviet violence abroad might trigger harmful reprisals against Jews in the USSR.

Why Are Jews Allowed to Leave?

Friedberg said that according to the emigrants, as many as 40 percent of the "samizdat" dissenters in the USSR were Jewish. In consequence, the KGB had clearly facilitated the exodus of "troublemakers" in order to siphon off dissent leaders and decimate the democratic movement. Many movement leaders combined Zionism with a more generalized civil-rights bent.

Also, the regime appeared to be trying to cleanse the Baltic Republics of Jews educated during the free, pre-Soviet period. Friedberg felt Soviet authorities would continue to allow some emigration as long as there were "troublemakers" to get rid of.

Effect on Other Soviet Minorities

The emigrants testified that militancy among Soviet Jews was having strong repercussions among other national minorities, who had begun to reason: "If the Jews can get away with it, why can't we?" Soviet Jews were regularly approached for advice as to how to get exit invitations from abroad and how to document exit applications. For example, Volga Germans sought to go to West (not East) Germany, while the Crimean Tatars, having been frustrated in attempts to resurrect their ancestral Crimean homeland, had begun to look toward Turkey, a kindred Muslim country.

The Tatars and other Muslims resented Arab indifference toward their plight and were wistfully envious of the support Soviet Jews get from co-religionists abroad. The Balts also envied Jewish successes, but generally felt their place was at home, no matter how it was misruled by Moscow.

No Step-Up in Anti-Semitism

Friedberg said his interviews had failed to substantiate any step-up of official discrimination or repression against the bulk of ordinary Soviet Jews in recent years. Assimilated Jews often cautioned the more militant Jews to stop "rocking the boat," but the emigrants said this caution was disregarded.

Friedberg found that although those he interviewed of course did not like Soviet reality and had struggled to leave, almost all of them felt the Soviets deserved credit for this or that aspect of Soviet society. Their picture of the former country was not entirely black. However, Friedberg concluded on the basis of his conversations that no Soviet Jew could arrive at maturity without having encountered at least some instances of anti-Jewish prejudice. Even pro-regime

Jews felt insecure because of what had happened to their kin in Poland and Czechoslovakia, as well as the on-going Soviet campaign against "Zionism," which hinted they were not to be trusted.

Friedberg found that Soviet Jews had much more contact with other minorities than he had previously thought. Other minorities were intrigued by foreign broadcasts on Jewish themes and assumed that all minorities abroad received equivalent recognition. For instance, a Soviet Muslim, according to one emigrant, hearing that American Jewish soldiers received passes home for Jewish holidays, had commented: "Now that is a real Leninist national-minority policy." The idea that one could be an American, but still retain one's ethnic heritage, fascinated the Muslims.

Emigrants Adapt to Israel

Friedberg found most of the Soviet emigrants adapting fairly well to life in Israel. Difficulties arose with persons who depended on language fluency to earn a living -- journalists, writers, moviemakers. Perhaps 15 percent had originally wished to leave the USSR rather than specifically to reach Israel, and these would go to the U.S. or elsewhere if they had the opportunity. A few others were probably Soviet "plants" and would sooner or later return to the USSR. Friedberg recalled that some dissatisfaction was normal: at the height of European migration to the U.S., as many as one-third of the immigrants eventually went home again. Some popular Israeli resentment -- e.g. among the "Black Panthers" of the Oriental Jewish population -- had arisen over allegedly preferential treatment accorded to Soviet Jewish arrivals with respect to housing and amenities. The basis for this resentment was purely economic.

Some youths, after publishing Russian "samizdat" items in their new journal had lost their Government subsidy. Officials were reluctant to risk jeopardizing further immigration from the USSR by opening Israel to accusation of being a "subversive center." The Government fosters the "melting pot" process by inducting youthful immigrants into the Army as quickly as possible.

Further Study Needed

Friedberg felt that the recent Soviet Jewish emigration offered great potential for sociological research into Soviet life, unparalleled since the Harvard Project had interviewed large numbers of Soviet refugees after World War Two. However, Friedberg knew of nothing systematic being planned. He said Israeli debriefings of the emigrants in Vienna en route to Israel were superficial and pragmatically oriented towards questions about possibilities for Jewish emigration from the respondents' former places of residence.

Friedberg suggests that the U.S. Academic Committee on Soviet Jewry might approach the Israeli Academy of Arts and Sciences with a view to instituting such research. Under Israeli auspices, and with due regard to Israeli sensitivities, some outstanding American scholars -- for example, Nathan Glazer and Alex Inkeles -- might be brought in. Any project should of course take proper account of the heavily Jewish, urban, and white-collar character of the emigrants. The emigrants themselves are anxious to tell their stories. Friedberg was sure they would be receptive to the kind of survey he suggested.

Arab Tourists Flock to Israel

Friedberg said he was surprised to learn that about 100,000 Arab tourists visit Israel annually via air through Cyprus using Israeli visas stamped on pieces of paper which can be removed from passports and discarded on departure. The Israeli authorities viewed this influx as good for business and liable to erode the Arab image of Israel as a warlike, spartan state.



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Institute of Human Relations • 165 East 56 Street, New York, N. Y. 10022 • PLaza 1-4000 • Cable Wishcom, New York

June 12, 1972

Ambassador George Bush
United States Mission to
the United Nations
799 United Nations Plaza
New York, N. Y. 10017

My dear Ambassador Bush:

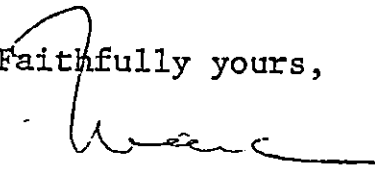
Thank you very much for your thoughtful letter of May 30th.

Knowing how busy you are, you really did not have to take the time and trouble to write to me. I was more than glad to be of some help.

At an early date, when you have the time, I would welcome an opportunity to meet with you briefly to review some matters of common interest.

With warmest personal good wishes, I am

Faithfully yours,


Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
National Director of
Interreligious Affairs

MHT:MSB

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May 14, 1972

Jewish File

WINS RELIGION COMMENTARY
RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM* OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
"THE POWER OF COMPROMISE"

"The time has come to redress the imbalance between the traditional Jewish concern for universal values, and the programs that would favor solely Jewish problems. We are universalists and particularists. We care for all men, and we care for ourselves. We strive for racial justice for the black man and support the equities of Jewish civil servants."

These are among the first words uttered by Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg of Englewood, N. J. on becoming last week the newly elected president of the American Jewish Congress. In that summary fashion, Rabbi Hertzberg has articulated an emergent mood in the Jewish community which is becoming increasingly impatient with alarmist appeals from any quarter - white or black, Jewish or Christian - that have resulted in so much polarization, fear, and hostility in our communities.

A growing number of Jewish leaders, and many among the Jewish masses, are calling for an end to threats and intimidations, a rejection of all appeals to anti-Semitism and racism whose end consequence will be a collision course, arraigining battling racial

*Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, who is National Director of the Inter-religious Affairs Department of the American Jewish Committee, presents a weekly religion commentary over WINS-Westinghouse Broadcasting System.

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ethnic, and religious groups against one another. This course, if not radically altered to a more constructive and humane direction, will reduce America to a Balkanized nation, rigidly segregated, and ultimately enfeebled by apartheid. Does anyone seriously believe that the security and survival of blacks, Jews, or any other group will be assured in such a divided, segregated America?

Jewish spokesmen who are urging the building of a middle ground position are not compromising for a single moment the legitimate interests of members of the Jewish community. They have been in the forefront of opposing quotas for Jobs and schooling based on race, sex, or national origins because they rightly regard that as reverse discrimination, and a violation of the fundamental democratic principle that the rights of an individual are judged on merits, and not on group affiliation. At the same time this Jewish viewpoint is acutely sensitive to the long-standing hindrances and impoverishment suffered by minority groups, and that special measures are required that will enable individuals to enter the mainstream of American society.

Because these are not simple matters of right versus wrong, but rather of right versus right, there are clearly no easy answers. But it seems to many in the Jewish community that these human issues will be far more adequately served through the mechanisms of bargaining and negotiation than through group conflict and confrontation. The Talmud in fact pointed the direction centuries ago when it declared "Greater is the power of compromise than the power of harsh law for compromise allows both parties to stand erect in dignity."

Handwritten signature

TEXT OF STATEMENT - CBS NEWS 11:15 PM, DECEMBER 26, 1971 (CHANNEL 2)

"Rabbi Meir Kahane today announced a new campaign of harassment. This one will be directed against the Syrian Government to urge permission for Jewish citizens to emigrate. Kahane said the JDL will hold a demonstration Wednesday and this will be followed by tactics similar to those used against the Soviet Union. There will be phone calls and visits to the Syrian Mission and Syrian diplomats may be followed around the city." (Kahane arrived in New York City December 26, 1971 following a visit to JDL's International Headquarters in Jerusalem.)

Source: Mr. Swint (CBS - 765-4321 Ext. 3363)

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Speech

Red China marched like a conquering hero into the United Nations a few days ago to deliver ultimatums. They were accompanied by a strong bid to lead the so-called "third world" -- the mini and non-states which now hold the majority voting strength in the United Nations General Assembly.

Some delegates professed to be expecting the mood and tone of this first appearance, but others were obviously unprepared. It was a strange entrance into an organization purportedly devoted to the peaceful settlement of disputes, faith in the fundamental rights, dignity and worth of the individual, and to social and economic progress for all peoples.

These idealistic goals are quoted from the preamble of the United Nations Charter, and there was a time when they undoubtedly represented the aspirations of all member nations. War ^{then} was a recent memory. But time has passed and the world has changed -- especially the world of the U.N. -- and it is a world apart.

In the beginning membership was expected to be around 70 - sovereign, mature, responsible nations with long experience in self-government and international

relations, and who also represented substantial populations and wealth. The planners failed to anticipate the burgeoning of tribal states that followed the dissolution of the British, French and Dutch empires.

The achilles heel of the U.N. may prove to be Article 4 of the Charter which provides that "Membership is open to peace-loving states which accept the obligations contained in the present Charter and, in the judgment of the Organization, are able and willing to carry out these obligations." The U.N. as now constituted is burdened by many tribal states not only unable to carry out any international obligation, but as Professor Stephen M. Schwebel (Johns Hopkins University) comments: "If the United Nations did not have the improvident rule of paying the cost of transport of five delegates from each member state to each General Assembly, there is room for doubt about whether many of the small states could mount the resources to ferry a delegation to New York to cast the equal vote it has with the United States and the Soviet Union."

Reappraisal of membership criteria has been suggested several times and a study has been made, but there the matter rests. In this Twenty-sixth Assembly the situation

has worsened. Four additional small states have been admitted - Bahrain, Bhutan, Qatar and Oman. Their combined population would not equal the smallest state of the United States.

There is something manifestly wrong, as has been pointed out by the U.S. Senate, with a system which permits countries representing only 4% of the world's population to control the voting strength of the United Nations General Assembly. Despite its inequities it will be difficult to change.

One of the first articles of faith of the mini-states is "universality" - the one-state-one-vote formula. These states, now numbering over eighty, control not only the General Assembly vote, but a majority of the U.N. committees. U.N. membership has become a status symbol for their countries, and a status symbol (with emoluments) for their delegates. These would be given up with great reluctance.

The mini-states are assiduously cultivated by ideological blocs seeking to dominate the U.N. -- not because it is strong, but for its propaganda value -- hence the strong and immediate third world identity proclaimed by Communist China.

In this sequence of events the non-states have found a voice and vote disproportionate to their responsibility, experience or representative power. They see the U.N. as a world government in which their collective vote is supreme, and through which they can order a redistribution of the world's wealth -- a quick, easy answer to their needs without the long process of economic evolution which has pre-occupied other peoples for centuries.

The potential for mischief in the situation is disturbing. Mini and non-states can (and already have) voted commitments which they are incapable of fulfilling, but which the U.N. (if it had power) would be obligated to carry out. It is obvious why the blocs curry their favor, equally obvious why Americans in general are thankful that the U.N. is not a world government with that kind of power. Nevertheless the combine of the blocs and the mini-states, while acting from dissimilar motives, complement each other and polarize around anti-Americanism. ???
=

Under daily attack the worth of our society and our free enterprise system, demeaned and ridiculed, can only erode in the eyes of the world. The professional

diplomat's approach of benign ambivalence may be a virtue of sorts, but constant abuse and misrepresentation of America before a world forum cannot be unimportant rhetoric. Ignoring it, or meeting it with silence will never win the propaganda battle -- the obsession of the U.N.

Americans, shocked, angered and repelled by the disrespect shown President Nixon and his office by the AFL-CIO convention at Bal Harbour, Florida, were given a glimpse of the kind of contempt daily heaped upon the United States by the "third world" and Communist bloc in the U.N.

Admission of Red China into the United Nations on its own terms, (the automatic expulsion of the Republic of China) was a clear violation of the Charter. It was a traumatic experience for dreamers still retaining idealistic notions about the U.N. Public opinion polls, in the aftermath, reveal popular support for the organization at an all time low in the United States.

One of the prerequisites for maintaining power, (and we are a powerful nation) lies in using it properly. It is not important whether we are liked.

by other nations -- it is imperative that we are respected. In the U.N. the United States, like Gulliver has been reduced to helplessness by the Lilliputians.

With a major financial crisis threatening the United Nations ("hopeless insolvency", in the words of Secretary General U Thant), this might well provide the opportunity to restructure the organization with some semblance of balance between the votes cast and the responsibilities borne.

We must begin by recognizing that too much has been expected of the United Nations in the first place. It cannot, as it is constituted, maintain world peace. And no major power will ever put its neck into the noose of giving the U.N. that kind of authority. Bilateral and multilateral agreements made by representatives of the nations involved will far better represent the national interest of all concerned. I trust the U.S. will keep it that way.

Secondly, to dispel a widely held misconception: the United Nations is not a major beneficiary of U.S. Foreign Aid -- it receives about 4%. The fact still

remains, however, that under a formula where dues are based on ability to pay, the United States is ^{contributor} assessed approximately one-third of U.N. expenses -- over \$300,000,000 in a \$900,000,000 budget. Out of this sum the U.S. is providing about 40% of the budget for the various committees and agencies, and 31.52% of the regular budget.

not assessed

Thirdly, that in order to re-establish a semblance of credibility and confidence in the organization, there ought to be established rules that all member nations are required to observe. The financial crisis the U.N. faces today is in part due to past assessments for U.N. peacekeeping operations in the Congo and the Middle East. The U.S.S.R. and France have refused to honor these obligations as follows:

Middle East -	U.S.S.R. & allies	approx. \$40,000,000
	France	" 1,000,000
Congo	U.S.S.R. & allies	53,000,000
	France	17,000,000

On a matter of \$33.5 million owed by the U.S.S.R. since 1965, the United States attempted to enforce Article 19 of the U.N. Charter which denies a vote under such delinquency. We were unsuccessful because

WE DID NOT HAVE THE VOTES! This is a matter that should have required only a rule - not a vote.

The foregoing presentation of the United Nations predicament is a composite of my own brief tenure here. I make no pretense of expertise on the U.N., and I speak only for myself. The situation I describe is not a new or recent condition but an exposure of fundamental weaknesses which have been developing over a long period of time, and which surfaced in full force during this historic 26th Session. It was there for everyone to see.

There are agencies and committees which render great and necessary assistance to humanitarian causes, but they too need a thorough re-evaluation, especially on rules of procedure. There should be a way to eliminate or consolidate repetitive speeches and get to the task at hand. The U.N. is drowning in oratory.

I cannot speak too highly of the dedicated staff at the U.S. Mission which, under the splendid leadership of Ambassador George Bush, grapples with a hopeless and losing situation for the U.S.

It is time the United States took the initiative in changing this picture, and I hope it will receive firm and decisive attention from Congress to that end.

*Penin
fill*

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Bush Single Voice Blaming Guerrillas

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ALL THE others who spoke up, the most vicious of whom was Yakov Malik of the Soviet Union, gave little attention to the root cause of the incident which compelled Israel to retaliate.

ALTHOUGH HE joined the others in voting for the resolution calling upon Israel to withdraw from Lebanon, Bush did not hide his utter disgust over the position taken by the Council members. "We find it incomprehensible," he declared "that people around this table could have failed to support the inclusion in the resolution of a statement which read: 'Deploring all actions (including the murderous assaults by the guerrillas) which have resulted in the loss of innocent lives.'"

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—From Page Thirty-two
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"ANYONE HERE who chooses to ignore this basic, elementary and obvious aspect of the problem and limits himself to stressing the fact that the terrorist actions have been carried out in Israel," Doron continued, "deliberately sidetracks and confuses the issues; mentions the results but ignores the cause and, worst of all, encourages the terrorists to persist in their murderous activities. It is against the cause of that situation that the Security Council should move."

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772

COMMITTEE FOR RESCUE OF SYRIAN JEWRY

1750 EAST 4th STREET, BROOKLYN, N. Y. 11223

April 26, 1972

The Honorable
Ambassador George H. Bush
United States Mission to the U.N.
799 United Nations Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10017

SHAARE ZION CONG.

BETH TORAH CONG.

AHI EZER CONG.

CONG. MAGEN DAVID
OF OCEAN PARKWAY

MAGEN DAVID CONG.

MAGEN DAVID CONG.
OF BRADLEY BEACH

AHABA VE'AHVA CONG.

AHABA VE'AHVA CONG.
OF OCEAN PARKWAY

SEPHARDIC INSTITUTE

BETH EL OF MYRTLE BEACH

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Many thanks for your kind reception and for the concern that you have expressed regarding the plight of the Jewish community in Syria.

The latest reports that we have received indicate that Azur Blanga, Abdo Saadia and Simon Bissou have had to be taken to the Damascus military hospital, that Isaac Hamra and Eli Mougrabi had been tried in a military court which sentenced them to four and six years, respectively, and that Mrs. Azur Blanga and her four-year-old son, Jack, Rosette Yachar, Fortuna Bukai, Badia Dibbo, Sabah Ariel and Charlotte Hamra are now under house arrest and it seems likely that they will be brought to trial. The Syrian authorities are holding in jail three women from the town of Qamishli - Rima Saleh, Simha Sameh and Jamila Najjar who were sentenced in 1969 to five years. Furthermore, the following persons were reported to be imprisoned in a Damascus jail, Moise Katri, his wife Victoria, a son, Nissim, 28 and a daughter Lizette, 13. Jack Ariel, Jack Mirou Attar, Joseph Swed and Musse Hebb in their twenties.

They have committed no crime or any violation of the Syrian constitution. Their only crime is being Jewish, in view of the fact that Moslem and Christian Syrians are readily able to leave the country without applying for permits just by showing their identity cards at the border.

As you may know, the 4,000 Jews in Syria are being subjected to various forms of harassment, discrimination and restriction, in clear violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and contrary to the Syrian Government's 1967 assurances to U.N. representative Nils Gussing, on the treatment of freedom of movement of the Jewish minority.

We are appealing to you to address a letter to Secretary-General Waldheim for circulation as a General Assembly document.

With deep appreciation for your cooperation.

Enclosure

Sincerely yours,

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The Plight of Syria's Jewish Community

To the Editor:

The Syrian Jewish congregations of the U.S. with a total membership of over 25,000 people are deeply concerned about the plight of their families, relatives and friends in Damascus, Aleppo and Qamishli in Syria.

Distressing and increasingly alarming reports have been reaching us from Syria, of Jews being arbitrarily arrested, molested and tortured.

They have committed no crime or any violation of the Syrian constitution. Their only crime is being Jewish, in view of the fact that Moslem and Christian Syrians are readily able to leave the country without applying for

permits just by showing their identity cards at the border.

The 4,000 Jews in Syria are being subjected to various forms of harassment, discrimination and restriction. Even within Syria, they are forbidden to move beyond a radius of three miles of their place of residence without special permit. All their identity cards are marked in red ink on both sides with large letters "Jewish." Jews are under close surveillance by the secret police and often interrogated and their homes are searched. Letters are always censored. Jews are denied bank credit or collection of debts and may not sell or dispose of their property. The Syrian authorities have done nothing to curb vandalism of Jewish homes. Jewish cemeteries have been confiscated. Jews live in constant fear and are prevented from emigrating.

These discriminatory policies are in clear violation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and contrary to the Syrian Government's 1967 assurances to U.N. representative Nils Gussing, on the treatment of freedom of movement of the Jewish minority.

The international community has a solemn duty to alleviate the plight of these unfortunate victims and to spare them additional sufferings.

(Rabbi) JOSEPH HARARI
Committee for Rescue of Syrian Jewry
Brooklyn, March 27, 1972

FL/EC



Turnagain Lane
Farringdon Street, London, EC4
Telephone: 01-236 0111/3
Telegrams: Amnesty London

Albert Hazan,
Committee for Rescue of Syrian Jewry,
1750 East 4th Street,
Brooklyn,
New York 11223
U.S.A.

Photo Copy Preservation

17th February 1972

Dear Mr. Hazan,

Thank you for your letter of 1st February to Martin Ennals, which has been passed on to me to answer.

We were aware of the information contained in your letter and, as you probably know from your correspondence with Mr. Abraham Cohen, we have been working actively on this problem since September when the first news of arrests started coming through.

If you remember, we were initially asked to withhold distribution of the first 12 cases pending diplomatic negotiations for their release which were taking place. These initiatives having failed, in October we took up the cases of the 12 in the usual way by giving them out to Amnesty groups - wherever possible to groups in countries which maintain diplomatic relations with Syria. We recommended publicity. In December we heard that the five women and one child had been released under house arrest, that Azur Blanga, Abdo Saadia and Simon Bissou had been taken to military hospital and that Isaac Hamra and Eli Mougrabi had been tried in a military court from offences against State Security and had been sentenced, respectively, to four and six years. We are continuing with the cases of the five women, since it seems likely that they will be brought to trial. We also took up in December the cases of the Katri family, Jack Ariel, Jack Miru Atary, Joseph Swed, Mussa Hebb and the three women from Kamishli who were sentenced in 1969 to five years.

Apart from this information which was brought out two months ago by Syrian Jews who had lately succeeded in leaving their country, we have had no further news, nor had any indication that our efforts or those of other concerned parties have been effective. I am at the moment trying to trace an Italian journalist who is reported to have accompanied Dr. Aldo Moro, the Italian Foreign Minister, on his visit to Syria in December and who saw some of the prisoners. I would appreciate any further information that you may have about this.

Yours sincerely,

Felicity Loxton

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Research Department.

Chairman of the International Executive: SEAN MACBRIDE, S.C.
Secretary General: MARTIN ENNALS.

PATRONS: The Archbishop of Canterbury, Great Britain . Roger Baldwin, President of the International League for the Rights of Man, U.S.A.
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Jean-Flavien Lalive, Switzerland . Professor Salvador de Madariaga, Spain . Yehudi Menuhin, Great Britain . Professor Gunnar Myrdal, Sweden
Pablo Neruda, Chile . Alan Paton, South Africa . Dr. Martin Niemöller, Germany . Sean MacBride, S.C. Ireland . Professor Giorgio La Pira,
Professor Julian Stone, Australia

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