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UN Jewish File [3]

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Handwritten signature

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Institute of Human Relations • 165 East 66 Street, New York, N. Y. 10022 • Plaza 1-4000 • Cable Wisncom, New York

May 8, 1972

The Honorable Ambassador George H. Bush
Permanent Representative of the United States
to the United Nations
U.S. Mission to the United Nations
New York, New York

Dear Ambassador Bush:

I am pleased to enclose for your consideration the Statement on the Jews in Syria, which was unanimously adopted yesterday by the American Jewish Committee at our 66th Annual Meeting.

I am also enclosing a list of the names of Jews who are still being imprisoned in Syria, according to our most recent information. You will note that among the discriminatory restrictions enumerated in our statement is the requirement that "Jews must carry distinctive identity cards marked prominently in red on both sides, "musawi" (member of Mosaic faith)." I am taking the liberty of enclosing color reproductions of the official identity card of a young Syrian Jew. This shows graphically that in addition to the customary entry for religion -- which appears in small letters in blue ink and is found also on Christian and Muslim identity cards -- the Jewish identity card uniquely has the word "musawi" written also in large red letters diagonally across both sides. Since the identity card is used to regulate travel both within Syria and also as the basis for travel to nearby Lebanon, the purpose of the special red markings is to alert the Syrian secret and border police to deny travel rights to Jews.

/more

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Ambassador George H. Bush
Page 2
May 8, 1972

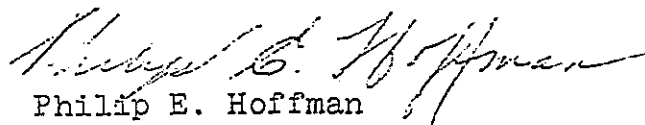
It is therefore probably not accidental that when Syrian Ambassador George J. Tomeh in his letter to you of March 30, sent you and then asked to have circulated as a United Nations document (A/AC. 154/L. 12 of 4 April 1972) various press clippings, he omitted that part of the New York Times article of November 19, 1971 which reproduced this Jewish identity card. May I respectfully suggest that you request that the identity card be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly.

I had hoped to have the opportunity of discussing these matters with you personally tomorrow, but I regret that an unchangeable prior commitment prevents me from participating in the meeting. However, I have asked Dr. George E. Gruen, the American Jewish Committee's distinguished Specialist on Middle East affairs, to attend on my behalf.

May I take this opportunity to again express our appreciation to you for your dedicated efforts to protect human rights in general and to alleviate the plight of Jewish minorities in particular.

Kind regards and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,


Philip E. Hoffman
President

PEH:rd
encl.

Photo Copy Preservation

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

STATEMENT ON THE JEWS IN SYRIA

The American Jewish Committee expresses its deep concern over the continuing persecution to which the Syrian Jewish community is being subjected.

At least 11 Jewish men and three Jewish women, charged with attempting to leave the country, are presently still in prison. The Syrian authorities, furthermore, are believed to be holding Mr. Albert Elia, the leader of the Lebanese Jewish community, in a military prison in Damascus. Mr. Elia was kidnapped last September while on his way to the Synagogue in Beirut and taken across the border by Syrian agents.

Imprisoned Jews have generally been denied legal counsel and have been subjected to various forms of torture and degradation. The Syrian secret police have also cruelly interrogated their relatives and the relatives of others who have either fled the country or were suspected of attempting to do so.

The efforts of young Jews to flee the country reflect the growing desperation resulting from the harassment and discriminatory measures to which the members of the Syrian Jewish community have been subjected for years.

There is a total ban on Jewish emigration. Movement of Jews within the country has also been severely restricted.

A special permit is still required for a Jew to travel more than three miles from his home district, although the Syrian authorities have recently begun to issue such permits more readily. However, despite the pledges of the current regime to end the arbitrary arrests and other violations of human rights practiced by its predecessors, discriminatory restrictions continue to be imposed on the Jews. These include:

In addition to a total ban on emigration, Jews are denied the right even to visit relatives abroad. In contrast, Moslem and Christian Syrians now are readily able to leave the country and can visit neighboring Lebanon without even obtaining a passport.

Jews must carry distinctive identity cards marked prominently in red on both sides "musawi" (member of Mosaic faith).

A variety of economic restrictions including prohibition of employment as officials in government offices, public bodies or banks; dismissal without compensation and revocation of licenses; orders to Army personnel and government employees not to buy in Jewish-owned stores; a ban on the sale by Jews of their houses or other real estate, and government seizure of the property of Jews who die and have relatives abroad.

A Higher Committee for Jewish Affairs (composed of representatives of the Interior Ministry and the security services) maintains a constant surveillance over the Jewish community and carries out arrests, interrogations, and sudden house searches.

The American Jewish Committee appeals to the United States Government to intensify its efforts through the United Nations and other diplomatic channels to call upon the Syrian authorities to release the persons being unjustly imprisoned, to end the persecution of the small remnant of

3.

this ancient and once flourishing Jewish community, and to permit the departure of those Jews who wish to emigrate. We note that there are sizable Jewish communities of Syrian origin in the United States and various Latin American countries which have indicated their readiness to aid their Syrian brethren. We urge neutral governments to redouble their efforts with the Syrian authorities to permit the emigration of all Jews who seek asylum among their relatives and friends in free countries. We call on all persons of good will in the United States and other countries of the civilized world to join in this humanitarian appeal.

Adopted at the 66th Annual Meeting
Americana Hotel
New York
Sunday morning Plenary Session
May 7, 1972

COMMITTEE OF CONCERN

One William Street, New York, N. Y. 10004

Photo Copy Preservation

Gen. Lucius D. Clay, U. S. Army (Ret.)
Chairman

March 2, 1972

Dr. Morris B. Abram
Mr. Louis S. Auchincloss
Hon. George W. Ball
Dr. Samuel Belkin
Mr. Algernon D. Black
Dr. Ira Eisenstein
Dr. Louis Finkelstein
Hon. Arthur J. Goldberg
Miss Helen Hayes
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Dr. Jan Papanek
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Prof. Isidor I. Rabi
Mr. Bayard Rustin
Mr. Theodore Sorensen
Dr. C. Thomas Spitz, Jr.
Dr. Frank Stanton
Adm. Lewis L. Strauss

JEWS REPORTED IMPRISONED IN SYRIA

Syrian Citizens

Men

Ariel, Jack
Blanga, Azur, 27
Bisso, Simon, 18
Hamra, Isaac, 24
Hebb, Moussa, 22
Katri, Moise, 60
Katri, Nissim, 28
Miru-Atar, Jack, 27
Mougrabi, Eli, 22
Saadia, Abdo, 19
Swed, Joseph, 25

Women

Saleh, Rima - Sentenced to 5 years in 1969.

Sameh, Simha " " "

Najjar, Jamila " " "

Believed arrested but whereabouts unknown :

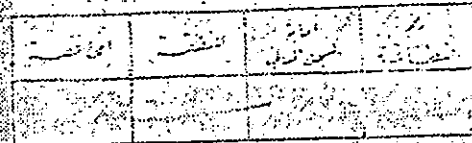
Katri, Victoria, 55; and daughter Lisette, 13.

Lebanese Citizen

Elia, Albert, 68, believed being held in Syrian
military prison in Damascus.

11/19/71 THE NEW YORK TIMES, FRID.

Young Jewish Escapee Charges Syria With Terror



The front of the identity card of a Jewish youth who escaped from Syria. The diagonal writing on the card, going from lower left to upper right, indicates that the cardholder is Jewish. The boy's photograph and name have been covered to conceal his identity.

A 17-year-old Jewish boy said at a news conference here yesterday that although he managed to escape from Damascus four months ago the 5,000 Jews in Syria live under constant terror, with frequent arrests and torture.

Concealing his name to protect relatives in Syria, he told his story through an interpreter under the auspices

of Lucius D. Clay, the retired general who is chairman of the Committee of Concern for Minorities in Arab Countries, at a meeting in the Carnegie International Center, 345 East 46th Street.

The young escapee sat with his back to television cameras as he was questioned.

The youth did not charge

constant violence but "a feeling of continual fear and a feeling of perpetual danger."

Every night at 9 P.M., he said, every Jewish household must report the absence of any person who has not come home yet. After reporting, he said, they were questioned all night as possible accomplices.

...walked

A/AC.154/L.12

Annex II

Page 1

NEW YORK POST, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1971

Syrian Torture of Jews Told by a Youth Who Fleed

A teenage Syrian Jew, who recently fled from his homeland because of "inhuman" treatment of the Jewish minority there, today told a story of imprisonment, beatings and enforced sex acts.

Telling his tale from Damascus, the 17-year-old said through an interpreter that he fled together with friends and in Damascus it was already known.

The youth said he had been arrested for the first time in the spring of 1970 when he and an older brother joined another boy and his father in reporting the absence of relatives to police. All absences after 6 P.M. must be reported, the youth said. That was on a Sunday, he said, and the four were jailed until Wednesday, and were continuously subjected to interrogation.

When not being interrogated the four were locked in a small windowless cell beneath the jail, and were subjected to "monstrous" action by prison guards, the youth said.

At one point, he said, the younger boy's father was forced to commit sexual acts with his nude son. The father began beating his head against the stone walls of the cell, "about to commit suicide," and was "almost crazy" by the time he was released.

The youth, who was arrested three times before escaping, answered the questions of retired Army Gen. Lucius D. Clay at the Carnegie International Center, 345 E. 48th St. Partially deaf due to beatings, the youth also suffered serious spinal injuries while in a Syrian prison. Gen. Clay is chairman of the Committee

of Concern, a group of Americans attempting to alleviate the plight of minorities in Arab countries.

His hands flexing into fists as he related his experiences, the teenager told of systematic discrimination against Jews in Damascus and other Syrian cities. He said identification cards issued to Jews are stamped "Jewish" in red ink. Anyone holding such a card is limited in travel to a radius of three miles from his home.

He said he personally knows 12 other Jews, one only four years old, now imprisoned in Syria. Most were jailed because their friends or relatives had left the country, an action "absolutely not allowed" for Jews. The young Syrian said that a group of French officials visiting the Arab country in mid-1970 were not allowed to

talk privately with Jews, who were ordered to say "nothing contrary to the interests of the state" while the officials were there. Jews are forbidden to speak to reporters, he said.

Jewish girls were special targets of Syrian interrogation, according to the youth. He told of one who emerged from prison with cigarette burns on her breast. He said the government did nothing to stop such actions, which he described as a "continuous sport" for Arabs.

The youth speculated that Jews were being "held as hostages" within Syria because of that country's conflict with Israel. Government regulations deny Jews freedom to conduct business with Arabs. Clay said "independent sources" in Syria have confirmed what the youth said.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1971

A 17-year-old Jewish boy said at a news conference here yesterday that although he managed to escape from Damascus four months ago the 5,000 Jews in Syria live under constant terror, with frequent arrests and torture.

Concealing his name to protect relatives in Syria, he told his story through an interpreter under the auspices of Lucius D. Clay, the retired general who is chairman of the Committee of Concern for Minorities in Arab Countries, at a meeting in the Carnegie International Center, 345 East 48th Street.

The young escapee sat with his back to television cameras as he was questioned.

The youth did not charge constant violence but "a feeling of continual fear and a feeling of perpetual danger."

Every night at 9 P.M., he said, every Jewish household must report the absence of any person who has not come home yet. After reporting, he said, they were questioned all night as possible accomplices.

(unofficial translation from Arabic, printed text underlined)

(inside left page)

embossed Syrian government seal
eagle with three stars

Photo Copy Preservation

Syrian Arab Republic
Ministry of Interior
General Directorate of Civilian Status

Personal identity certificate

province	area	secretariat of civil record	no. of certificate (handwritten no. covered up)
D a m a s c u s			

date of issuance June 29, 1970

expiration date June 28, 1975

name and signature of official issuing certificate (signature)

name and signature of secretary of civilian record (signature)

number (number obscured to protect identity)

official stamp and seals



NOTE: Word Jewish written in large RED letters
diagonally across both pages

(Unofficial translation)

Photo Copy Preservation

of Syrian Identity Card)

(right inside page with photograph). (underlined words are printed,
others are handwritten)

First name and family name (answer covered to protect identity)
Father's name "

Mother's name and maiden name "

place and date of birth Damascus, Aug. 25, 1954

religion Jewish

marital status single

Occupation (blank on original)

address (an address in the Jewish quarter)

place and number of registration

date of registration September 1954

blood type (stamped in ink) B+ positive

left thumb print (fingerprint impression)

photo with face obscured to protect identity

(outside left page)

Photo Copy Preservation

Change of place of work

	(blank)	

(in RED) given with the authorization of the migration
office (symbol and number) June 10, 1970

place of business (blank)

military service (blank)

place issued (blank)

social security no. (blank)

no. of work permit (blank)

NOTE: "Jewish" written in large red script diagonally across
both outside pages)

(Unofficial translation)

Photo Copy Preservation

of Syrian Identity Card)

(right inside page with photograph) (underlined words are printed,
others are handwritten)

First name and family name (answer covered to protect identity)
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place and number of registration

date of registration September 1954

blood type (stamped in ink) B+ positive

left thumb print (fingerprint impression)

photo with face obscured to protect identity

تغيير المهنة أو محل العمل			تغيير محل الإقامة		
توقيع الموظف	البيان الجديد	التاريخ	توقيع الموظف	البيان الجديد	التاريخ

المهنة السابقة - ٨٦ / ١٢١ / ٥
 رقم البطاقة الوطنية

رقم بطاقة الهوية الوطنية

جهة إصدارها

جهة إصدارها

رقم بطاقة الهوية الوطنية

الأوصاف والعلامات المميزة

الطول - لون الوجه - خط

لون العينين - لون الشعر - لون البشرة

علامات مميزة أخرى - اسم

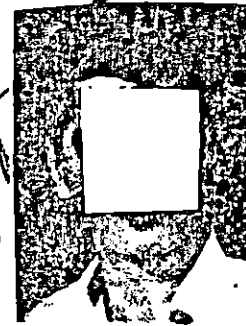
اسم فاميل - اسم

التوقيع

الجمهورية العربية السورية
وزارة الداخلية
المديرية العامة للأحوال المدنية
بطاقة شخصية

رقم البطاقة	أمانة السجل المدني	المنطقة	المحافظة

تاريخ صدورها ٢٩
ينتهي عمل هذه البطاقة في ٢٨
اسم وتوقيع مدير البطاقة
اسم وتوقيع أمين السجل المدني



الاسم واللقب (العربية)
اسم الوالد
اسم الوالدة ونسبها
تاريخ الولادة
الديانة
الملاحة المدنية (العالمية)
الوظيفة أو المهنة
مكان الإقامة

تاريخ التقييد
تاريخ القيد
نسخة الدم
بجته الإقليم لأب

١٠٨١

UNITED STATES MISSION
1972 MAY -9 AM 10:43
MAIL CONTROL

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

515 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022
PLaza 2-1616
Cable Address: COJOGRA

May 10, 1972

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AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS:

AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS

AMERICAN TRADE UNION
COUNCIL for HISTADRUT

AMERICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION

B'NAI B'RITH

BNAI ZION

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS
and WELFARE FUNDS (observer)

HADASSAH

JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE

JEWISH RECONSTRUCTIONIST
FOUNDATION

JEWISH WAR VETERANS
OF THE U.S.A.

LABOR ZIONIST MOVEMENT—
Poale Zion, Farband, Pioneer Women

MIZRACHI-HAPOEL 'HAMIZRACHI

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
JEWISH WOMEN

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF
YOUNG ISRAEL

NATIONAL JEWISH COMMUNITY
RELATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL

NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

NORTH AMERICAN JEWISH
YOUTH COUNCIL

THE RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY

RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA

UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW
CONGREGATIONS

UNION OF ORTHODOX JEWISH
CONGREGATIONS OF AMERICA

UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA

WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION
AMERICAN SECTION, INC.

ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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

JS:18

UNITED STATES MISSILE
1972 MAY 11 AM 11:51
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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Photo Copy Preservation

DATE: April 25, 1972

PLACE: USUN

PARTICIPANTS: Jacob Stein, President of United Synagogues
of America and Chairman of the Council
of Presidents of American Jewish Organizations
Yehuda Hellman, Executive Director of the
Council of Presidents
Rabbi Israel Miller, President of the American
Zionist Federation
Philip Baum, Associate Executive Director of
the American Jewish Congress
Rabbi Abraham Hecht, Syrian Jewish Synagogue
of Ocean Parkway
Ambassador Bush, USUN
Messrs. Lias "
 Newlin "
 Combs "

DISTRIBUTION: Ambassador Bush ✓
Ambassador Phillips
Ambassador Bennett
Ambassador Schaufele
Messrs. Lias
 Newlin
 Naas
 King
 Stillman

IO/UNP
EUR - Mr. Davies
EUR/SOV
AmEmbassy BEIRUT
AmEmbassy MOSCOW
Reference

SUBJECT: Plight of Syrian and Soviet Jews

A delegation representing the Council of Presidents of American Jewish Organizations called on Ambassador Bush April 25 to discuss the plight of Syrian and Soviet Jews.

Jacob Stein, spokesman for the delegation, said he wished to raise three matters with Ambassador Bush. The first concerned discrimination against Jews living in Syria. Because the US

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2.

did not have diplomatic relations with Syria, the American Jewish organizations Stein represented would like to explore the possibility of asking Secretary General Waldheim to help. Could Ambassador Bush accompany a delegation of American Jewish leaders on a call to the Secretary General? The meeting could be without publicity, if the Secretary General wished, and the appeal for assistance would be on compassionate rather than political grounds.

Ambassador Bush said he would be glad to check with the Secretary General about the possibility of such a meeting. Meanwhile, it would be helpful if the Council of Presidents could prepare a list of specifics regarding the situation of Syrian Jews. Mr. Stein agreed to provide USUN with an appropriate fact sheet.

Mr. Stein next raised the question of Soviet Jewry. He said he had no specific requests but wanted to mention his organization's assessment of the current situation. The Council expected that some 30,000 Jews would be allowed to leave the USSR during 1972. It felt the Soviets would continue to harass applicants for exit visas, so that Jews who wished to emigrate would have to be prepared for considerable personal sacrifice. The Council was disturbed over the hard core of visa applications the Soviets continually denied. Stein wondered if it would be worthwhile to present a list of these cases to Soviet Permanent Representative Malik or to the Secretary General.

Ambassador Bush noted that Malik had not been responsive to earlier USUN requests for assistance on specific visa cases. Experience showed that in cases involving Soviet Jews who intended to emigrate to Israel, the most effective channel was between Israeli Representative Tekoah and the Secretary General. If Soviet Jews wished to emigrate to America, their cases could be handled in normal US-USSR bilateral channels.

Thirdly, Mr. Stein said that in light of the very good relationship between USUN and the Jewish community in New York, he wished to invite Ambassador Bush to speak to the leaders of the community at a dinner some time in May or June, at the Ambassador's convenience. Ambassador Bush said he would be honored to attend and would be in touch with the Council regarding a mutually convenient date.

As the meeting ended, Mr. Stein said that responsible Jewish organizations had to be as active as possible in assisting Jews in Syria and the USSR not only because of the worthiness of the cause but in order to discourage radical organizations like the JDL. Ambassador Bush agreed completely and said USUN would do all it could to be of assistance.

POL:RECOMbs:rt

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JDL

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May 21, 1971

Mr. Lewis Rudin
345 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Dear Lew:

Thanks for your letter of May 14. I hope the lines of communication on this have finally been untangled. I benefited very much from the meeting and hope the others found it worthwhile. Enclosed is a photo which I thought you might like to have.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

PHOTOCOPY
GB HANDWRITING

LEWIS RUDIN
345 PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022
836-9320

May 14, 1971

*Tom
read. quite
No reply*

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

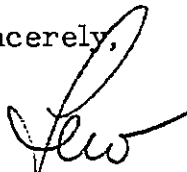
Dear George:

I thought the meeting was great. You were gracious as always and I believe everyone left with the feeling and hope that working together we could accomplish some positive results.

I personally appreciate your genuine interest.

Hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,



Lewis Rudin

LR:SR

Photo Copy Preservation

JDL
CORRES: Emanuel Muravchick
GB/jk

May 21, 1971

Mr. Emanuel Muravchick
Executive Director
Jewish Labor Committee
25 E. 88th Street
New York, New York 10021

Dear Mr. Muravchick:

I am enclosing a copy of a photo taken at our recent meeting in my office. It was a great pleasure for me to get to know you, and I hope we can keep our lines of communication open.

You may be interested to know that last Saturday I met with a group of visiting Russian youth leaders who were touring the United States. We had an interesting meeting and in the course of our discussion I told them of the grave concern for the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union and suggested that it would be a good experience for these young Soviets if they would meet with a representative group of responsible Jewish leaders. I also offered to arrange such a meeting. I have been informed by the escort officers who traveled with the Komsomol group that the Russians felt their schedule was too full to accommodate such a meeting. Their refusal is probably not surprising, but you can be assured that the concern for Soviet Jewry felt in this country was expressed to them.

Thanks again for your visit.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

535-3700

May 21, 1971

Mr. William Kaufman, President
Advisory Council
New York Board of Rabbis
10 E. 73rd Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

I am enclosing a copy of a photo taken at our recent meeting in my office. It was a great pleasure for me to get to know you, and I hope we can keep our lines of communication open.

You may be interested to know that last Saturday I met with a group of visiting Russian youth leaders who were touring the United States. We had an interesting meeting and in the course of our discussion I told them of the grave concern for the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union and suggested that it would be a good experience for these young Soviets if they would meet with a representative group of responsible Jewish leaders. I also offered to arrange such a meeting. I have been informed by the escort officers who traveled with the Komsomal group that the Russians felt their schedule was too full to accommodate such a meeting. Their refusal is probably not surprising, but you can be assured that the concern for Soviet Jewry felt in this country was expressed to them.

Thanks again for writing by.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

CORRES: Rabbi Israel Mowshowitz
GB/jk

May 21, 1971

Rabbi Israel Mowshowitz
New York Board of Rabbis
10 E 73rd Street
New York, New York

Dear Rabbi Mowshowitz:

I am sending along a picture taken at our meeting which I thought you might like to have. I found our discussion most worthwhile and am so glad you could make it.

You may be interested to know that last week I met with some Russian youth leaders who are touring the United States. During the course of our discussion I told them of the grave concern for the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union and suggested a meeting with a representative group of Jewish leaders. They declined because of their heavy schedule but you can be sure that they are keenly aware of our feelings on this crucial matter.

Thanks again for your visit.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

May 21, 1971

Mr. Benjamin Epstein
National Director
Anti-Defamation League of B'Nai B'Rith
315 Lexington Avenue
New York, New York 10016

Dear Mr. Epstein:

Here's a photo from your recent visit. In my view it was a most worthwhile meeting and I hope we can keep the lines of communication open.

By the way, last week I met with some Russian youth leaders who were touring the United States. During our discussion I brought up our grave concern for the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union and suggested a meeting with a representative group of Jewish leaders. They declined, saying that their schedule was too full. Even though we weren't able to arrange such a discussion I am confident they are very much aware of our feelings on this vital matter.

Thanks again for writing.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

May 21, 1971

Mr. Jack D. Weiler, Chairman
Ad Hoc Committee
Jewish Organizations
437 Madison Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Weiler:

Enclosed is a copy of a photo taken at our meeting which I thought you might like to have. I hope the others enjoyed the visit as much as I did. I thought it was most worthwhile.

In connection with what we talked about, you might be interested to know that last week I met with a group of visiting Russian youth leaders and I made a point of mentioning our grave concern for the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union. I suggested arranging a meeting with a group of representative Jewish leaders but they said their schedule was too heavy to permit it. Nevertheless I am confident they realize that the American position in this matter must be given serious consideration.

Thanks again for your visit.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

May 21, 1971

Mr. Edward Moldover, President
New York Chapter
American Jewish Committee
15 E. 84th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Moldover:

Enclosed is a copy of a photo taken at our meeting which I thought you might like to have. I found our visit most worthwhile and was glad you could come.

In connection with our mutual efforts in this vital area, you might be interested to know that last week I met with a group of Russian youth leaders who are touring our country. I told them of our grave concern for the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union and proposed arranging a meeting with representatives of the Jewish community. They declined, saying that their schedule wouldn't permit it. You can be sure, however, that they left our discussion fully aware of our grave concern for Soviet Jewry.

Thanks again for your visit.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

May 21, 1971

Mr. Phillip Baum
Assistant Executive Director
American Jewish Congress
15 E 84th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Baum:

This is just a quick note to tell you I enjoyed our visit the other day and hope the others found it as worthwhile as I did. I am enclosing a copy of a photo taken at the meeting which I thought you might like to have.

You may be interested to know that last week I met with some visiting Russian youth who are touring America. We talked about a number of things including the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union. Although I suggested arranging a meeting with a group of Jewish leaders they declined, saying their schedule was too hectic. Nevertheless, I think they left ~~the~~ meeting knowing that our concern in this matter is not to be taken lightly.

Thanks again for your visit.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

DRAFT

TLias:1r1:5/18/71

MAN

Dear (~~Jewish leader~~):

I am enclosing a copy of a photo taken at our recent meeting in my office. It was a great pleasure for me to get to know you, and I hope we can keep our lines of communication open:

You may be interested to know that ~~on~~ last Saturday I met with a group of visiting Russian youth leaders who were touring the United States. We had an interesting meeting and in the course of our discussion I told them of the grave concern for the treatment/in the Soviet Union and suggested that it would be a good experience for these young Soviets if they would meet with a representative group of responsible Jewish leaders. I also offered to arrange such a meeting. I have been informed by the escort officers who travelled with the Komsomal group that the Russians felt ^{THEIR} ~~there~~ schedule was too full to accommodate such a meeting. Their refusal is probably not surprising, but you can be assured that the concern for Soviet Jewry felt in this country was expressed to them.

Thanks again for your visit.

Sincerely, *Yours very truly*
George Bush

RESUME OF MAY 18 IZVESTIYA ARTICLE ATTACKING AMBASSADOR BUSH

The article entitled "What Is Mr. Bush Happy About?" attacks a press release issued by the US Mission to the UN describing a meeting between Ambassador Bush and a delegation of representatives of major American Jewish organizations. Ambassador Bush is accused of "conniving with Zionist organizations in their anti-Soviet activities." Izvestiya says the press release would not be worthy of note if it did not contain a sentence saying that the Ambassador "expressed admiration over work carried out by 'responsible Jewish organizations' to draw the attention of the world to the situation of Jews in the Soviet Union." The article questions the "responsibility" of the organizations involved and asks if the Ambassador is "enraptured" about hooligans who harass Soviet diplomats and their families and whether he "trembles with delight" at the site of the damages done by the Jewish Defense League bandits at the Office of Intourist. According to Izvestiya, the Ambassador is a "novice" at the UN, but he should nevertheless comply with the letter and spirit of the UN Charter and take measures to end Jewish Defense League activities rather than encourage them. The article concludes by noting that the "malignant microbe of connivance" with Zionists apparently poisons the waters of the East River as well as the Potomac.



*Pete - This guy is looking for
3 copies of photo taken with Bush -*
UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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799 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release USUN-61(71)
May 13, 1971

AMBASSADOR BUSH MEETS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF NATIONAL JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS ON THE PLIGHT OF SOVIET JEWRY

A number of representatives of national Jewish organizations called at their initiative on Ambassador George Bush this morning. They discussed the current trial in Leningrad and the difficulties placed by the Soviet Union in the way of Soviet citizens who wish to leave the USSR.

Ambassador Bush said that he knew of President Nixon's intense concern with human rights problems. He said that the Administration is determined to speak out in appropriate bodies in the United Nations on issues of a humanitarian character. Ambassador Bush expressed his personal concern over the situation of Soviet Jewry and over the current trial in Leningrad. He expressed admiration for the work being done by the responsible Jewish organizations represented at the meeting in bringing the situation of Soviet Jews to the attention of the world. He also drew attention to the statements on Soviet Jewry made by Mrs. Rita Hauser, the President's Representative to the United Nations Human Rights Commission.

The participants in the meeting included:

✓ Mr. Emanuel Muravchick
Executive Director
Jewish Labor Committee
25 E. 78 St. New York, N.Y. 10021
Mr. Benjamin Epstein
National Executive Director
Anti-Defamation League
315 Lexington 10016
Mr. Phillip Baum
Assistant Executive Director
American Jewish Congress
✓ Mr. Jack D. Weiler, Chairman
Ad Hoc Committee
Jewish Organizations
437 Madison

Mr. Edward Moldover, President
New York Chapter
American Jewish Committee 15 E 84
Dear
Rabbi Israel Mowshowitz
Past President
New York Board of Rabbis 10 E 73
Mr. William Kaufman, President
Advisory Council
New York Board of Rabbis 10 E 73
Mr. Louis Rudin
Rudin Management Company, Inc.

* * * * *

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

20

MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

March 28, 1972

125 EAST 57TH STREET, NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

INTERVIEW OF SPOKESMAN OF THE USSR INTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTRY TO NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY

Here is what B.T. Shumilin, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of the USSR, declared in an interview to a Novosti Press Agency correspondent in connection with the allegations of anti-Soviet propaganda concerning the departure of persons of the Jewish nationality from the Soviet Union to Israel:

Of late the propaganda industry of the imperialists and zionists in the Western countries has put on the mass production line new provocative inventions concerning the departure of persons of the Jewish nationality from the USSR to Israel. It is conspicuous that Maoist propaganda agencies too have been taking recourse to all kinds of slanderous inventions in this connection.

The organizers of this filthy campaign mention absurd, truly fantastic numbers - running into hundreds of thousands - of people allegedly wishing to leave the Soviet Union for Israel. Provocative rumours are spread according to which the emigration has assumed a mass character and is even strengthening Israel's military potential, although it is well known that there has not been, there is not, nor can there be anything of the sort. Some politicians in Western countries permit themselves to make use of such false sources of information about the "position of Jews" in the USSR.

In order to impart a semblance of veracity to the malicious fabrications use is being made of the fact that small numbers of persons of the Jewish nationality do apply to the appropriate Soviet organs requesting permission to leave for Israel. These persons may leave the USSR on the same grounds as other Soviet citizens without distinction of nationality, ethnical group, sex or age. Their requests concerning emigration are examined by organs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the USSR in an order established by law and are, as a rule, granted. The main reasons for these applications for permission to leave for Israel are religious views, the desire to reunite with relatives, survivals of

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the past, and self-seeking private-owner interests. A definite part is also played by zionist propaganda, which sways some unstable elements. In 1971 about 10,000 people, of whom approximately two-thirds were aged people and women, left the USSR for Israel for these reasons. This, incidentally, illustrates the known truth that it is by far not Soviet jews who make up the bulk of the emigrants to Israel. In the entire postwar period, for instance, approximately 21,000 people have left the Soviet Union for Israel, whereas the total number of people who have moved to that country in this period exceeds 2,000,000. About 800,000 jews have emigrated to Israel from the Arab countries alone.

In examining the applications concerning departure from the USSR to Israel consideration is given, naturally, to the situation that has shaped up in the Middle East as a result of Israel's aggression against Arab countries, its refusal to withdraw troops from the occupied territories and to settle the Middle East conflict by peaceful, political means. That is precisely why the competent Soviet organs introduce certain restrictions on the departure of some categories of Soviet citizens to that country. The restrictions apply primarily to those who have had a definite measure of military training or are by dint of their occupation associated with work bearing on state interests. Let it be noted once again that most of the leavers are aged people, women and children.

The organizers of the new provocation, the zionist and imperialist propaganda organs keep silent about the other side of the issue: the growth of the number of persons wishing to leave Israel. Having had their taste of the real Israeli "paradise", many former Soviet citizens of the Jewish nationality bitterly regret what they have done and appeal for permission to return to the Soviet Union. The number of Soviet citizens from among jews who, having asked for, and received, permission to leave, refuse to avail themselves of it, is also growing.

I can say that very insignificant numbers of requests for leave permits have been received to date by organs of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs from such centres as Moscow, Leningrad, Klev, Odessa and such regions as the Moldavian SSR and others: 258 persons in Moscow, 50 persons in Leningrad, 119 persons in Klev, 124 persons in Moldavia, etc. and it is not fortuitous. Great as the desire of some people in the West and in Israel to step up the recruitment of new emigrants may be, Soviet citizens of Jewish origin refuse to become "cannon fodder" for the zionist aggressors, to take part in their criminal gambles.

Thus, the fabrications of international zionism and of some foreign periodicals having a weakness for absurd sensations are utterly at variance

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with the actual state of things. The aim of the slanderous campaign launched by them is obvious: to try to undermine friendship between the Arab countries and the USSR which is rendering all-round assistance to the peoples of the Arab East in their just liberation struggle and blocking the realization of the expansionist, aggressive plans of imperialism, zionism and Israel in that region of the world.

The plans of the enemies of Soviet-Arab friendship to undermine or weaken the ties binding together the peoples of the USSR and of the Arab East are clearly built on sand. The new portion of slander in zionist wrapping will be of no help to them either.

Please return to Cans

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TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Press Release USUN-34(72)
April 4, 1972

Statement by William E. Schaufele, Jr., United States Representative, in the Economic and Social Council, Commission on Human Rights, on the right of everyone to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country, April 4, 1972.

My Delegation welcomes the opportunity to comment on item 9(c), concerning the right of everyone to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

We are indebted to Judge Ingles for his eloquent presentation of the study at the 27th session of the commission. We feel that Judge Ingles has performed a singular service in setting forth in a most direct and factual manner the essence of the right guaranteed under Article 13(2) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and draft principles for adoption by this commission. We believe that this commission should request additional comments from governments and that the study should be brought up to date for the commission to act on the draft principles at the 30th session.

Freedom of movement traditionally has been highly cherished as a human right comparable in value to freedom of conscience and expression. Enjoyment of this right enables the individual freely to choose the society most congenial to his ideals and to pursue his political beliefs or seek economic rewards in harmony with his particular aspirations.

Throughout history there have been migrations of individuals and groups seeking a new life when opportunities were restricted in their land of origin. My country was the major beneficiary of the great wave of migration of the 19th century. The American people today trace their ancestry to every corner of the globe -- to Asia, Africa, Latin America, and all parts of Europe. The variety of our names and our cultural heritage

-more-

SOVIET JEMRY

reflects the debt which we owe to the world as a whole. Our shores have been a haven for persons seeking refuge from religious or political persecution or for those seeking a better life. We still welcome hundreds of thousands of immigrants each year.

We are convinced that, given a free choice, individuals will choose to live in societies where they are permitted maximum political freedom and economic opportunity.

We are heartened that, in law and practice, most countries recognize Article 13(2) and do not impose insuperable barriers to travel or emigration of their nationals. In Western Europe, for example, travel restrictions have been virtually eliminated. Similarly, American citizens are freely permitted to travel or to move to other countries subject only to rare restrictions limited to fugitives from justice. Passports are routinely issued without undue formality. American citizens may travel freely to most countries in the western hemisphere without a passport.

We have placed no restrictions on those who wish to leave the U.S. for a life elsewhere and, in fact, a small number do leave each year. Despite supposed injustices to minority groups in the U.S., few choose to leave although they are perfectly free to do so.

Freedom of movement also exists in most countries of the developing world although economic constraints, posed by limited foreign exchange reserves, have placed certain limitation on freedom of travel. Emigration from most of these countries is generally permitted subject, however, to the immigration regulations of other countries.

It is paradoxical, however, that as the possibilities for movement have greatly increased as a result of modern modes of transportation, artificial barriers to movement continue to exist in some parts of the world and in some cases have been reinforced. Some governments still deny the right of their peoples to emigrate or travel freely. Not only is this right not granted automatically, but attempts to leave are met with dilatory and burdensome procedures which negate any such right. In many instances, individuals receive criminal penalties if they seek to leave. Families and close relatives are heartlessly kept from reuniting across frontiers.

The report before us on page 4 portrays the most dramatic example of compulsory restraint on movement, i.e., the infamous Berlin Wall. The report describes how, on 13 August 1961, a wall surmounted by barbed wire was built along the dividing line between the East and West occupation zones of Berlin. People trying to cross the barricade have been shot in cold blood. In 1971, a decade since this wall was erected, over 4400 citizens of East Germany have fled by such means as swimming the Baltic Sea to Denmark or Sweden or scaling border fortifications.

Today, millions are deprived of the right guaranteed under Article 13(2) to seek a new life in a society of their choice. An outstanding example is the restraint placed on individuals of the

-3-

Jewish faith to leave the Soviet Union. President Nixon on January 11, 1971, joined leaders of the American Jewish community in urging "freedom of emigration as explicitly provided in Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as cultural and religious freedom at home and abroad." Moreover, the Kudirka case reminds us that it is not just Jews but Lithuanians, Latvians, Estonians, Soviet Armenians, indeed all Soviet citizens who suffer from the Soviet Government's refusal to consider emigration as a right rather than a rare privilege.

Restrictions against Jewish religious and cultural life in the Soviet Union have become well known to all in recent years: grossly inadequate religious facilities, pressures against synagogue attendance, lack of Yiddish or Hebrew language teaching, tokenism in the publishing and staging of Yiddish works, quota restrictions on university entrance, exclusion from careers considered sensitive or from important political jobs -- these are well-documented facts. Soviet Jews are deprived, more than other groups, of the cultural ingredients needed to preserve their cultural and religious identity, and as a result many have indicated a desire to emigrate.

Individual applicants for emigration are sometimes harassed and bullied. A small number of outspoken Jewish activists have been dealt with arbitrarily and unusually harshly. A number have even been condemned to terms in forced-labor camps as political prisoners.

This unfortunate situation has attracted much attention throughout the world and on the part of Soviet authorities. It is heartening to note that there has been a substantial modification of restrictions on emigration of Soviet Jews and that an increasing number of those desiring to move to other countries have been permitted to do so in the past months. This is a positive trend which should be encouraged and continued. We would urge that remaining restrictions on emigration and travel be eased so that all Soviet citizens who wish to exercise their right to freedom of movement may be permitted to do so.

Continuing attention should be accorded by the commission to observance by member states of the rights set forth in Article 13(2) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We hope that arbitrary restrictions on travel and emigration will be reduced and eventually eliminated thereby permitting the full enjoyment by individuals of their fundamental human rights.

* * * * *

Lawlessness and the Problem of Soviet Jewry

The influence of those abroad -- including that of American public opinion and of the United States Government -- can only be sadly and substantially diminished when a few American citizens break the law and resort to vigilante tactics against Soviet -- or any other -- diplomatic^{officials} and commercial personnel and their wives and children in the United States. Acts of violence and disruption such as those that have occurred in this country advance no one's cause. As President Nixon has stated, they are morally wrong and injure that very cause.

We are convinced that the Soviet Government cannot be compelled into improving the lot of Soviet Jewry simply because Soviet housewives are spat upon in the New York streets, or because fanatics shoot rifles into the playrooms of defenseless children. This kind of sick and mindless fanaticism plays gratuitously into the hands of those in the Soviet Union who oppose any easing of current Soviet policies toward Jews. Few Americans approve of violence; even fewer condone violence directed against the representatives of foreign governments to whom the United States is host. Virtually no one approves the harassment of women and children. Such acts only distract attention from the plight of Soviet Jewry and focus it instead on our own problems with violence and lawlessness.

Extremist disruption by a few misled individuals has provided an enormous windfall for Soviet propagandists, who could not in their most avid daydreams desire anything better. They use acts of this sort in order to discredit the much larger number of responsible Americans seeking to assist Soviet Jews by peaceful, lawful means. The Soviets have tried to alienate world public opinion from the cause of Soviet Jewry by playing up the bombings, the illegal harassment, the threats of bodily injury, the bullying of women and children by extremists. The force of world public opinion is the most important single ally that Soviet Jews have in their struggle for fair play and legal rights. Violence can only lessen the cohesiveness of world public opinion on this problem.

During the past year, the Jewish community and prominent Israeli figures, as well as non-Jewish leaders, have overwhelmingly condemned the adoption of these repugnant tactics by a few fanatics. Notably, President Nixon, in his message to American Jewish leaders on January 11, 1971, deplored these cases of lawlessness and violence and declared: "This Administration, in cooperation with local authorities, will use every means at its disposal to prevent such acts and to bring to justice those who perpetrate them." Israeli Premier Golda Meir, on November 27, 1970, had said:

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"There is nothing in common between the just struggle for the rights of Jews in the Soviet Union and irresponsible acts such as have taken place recently in New York. If there is any connection, it is only that anyone who commits an act of sabotage against a Soviet institution sabotages the responsible and organized efforts of Jews the world over for the sake of Soviet Jewry. This has never been our way and I denounce it. It can only do harm to our just struggle. I think it would be unjust if anyone identified a group responsible for these acts with the masses of Jews and non-Jews who are carrying on this just struggle for Jews in the Soviet Union."

On October 18, 1971, on the David Frost television show, Abba Eban, Foreign Minister of Israel, stated that militant activities "hinder us, because the cause we sustain -- both Israel's independence or, in this case, Soviet Jews -- have a very powerful appeal. Now, in the United States there is every opportunity for promoting these ideals through peaceful means. When violence is adopted... I think the cause is, in a sense, corrupted and degraded, and I don't really think that the activities of Mr. Kahane add anything to us at all, and I believe that Soviet Jews would be much better off and so would be Israel's cause without this kind of activity. I believe that some of

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these people are more interested in their own popularity than in the cause to which they give their devotion."

These activities have been condemned time and time again by American Jewish organizations. I will cite only a few examples. The American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry: "Anyone who applauds the bombing or its perpetrators violates all principles of responsible behavior in a civilized society." B'nai B'rith: "It is morally reprehensible and politically self-defeating...it is obvious that the Soviets will seize upon the threats of the Jewish Defense League as a pretext for its own misdemeanors." The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America: "...Such intemperate violence creates a 'chilul hasem' -- a desecration of the divine name that plays into the hands of our enemies." The American Jewish Committee: "We call on all Jews to repudiate the lawlessness and self-defeating conduct of the Jewish Defense League." The Jewish War Veterans: "(We have) consistently opposed extremism, vigilanteism and other movements of a similar character..." The American Jewish Congress: "These tactics do not enhance the security of the Jewish community. On the contrary, they serve only to heighten tension, increase hostility and foment panic...distorting all that is noble, just and kind in the Jewish spirit." Max Fisher (President

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of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds), Rabbi Herschel Schacter (Chairman of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry), and Dr. William A. Wexler (Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations): "The handful of reckless and dangerous men guilty of attacking Soviet installations in this country stand condemned as imperilling the cause of Soviet Jewry. Their outrageous, cowardly acts do malicious harm to the courage and dignity of Soviet Jews who are speaking out for their human rights. Such desperate and criminal tactics win sympathy for the Soviet Union by the use of a mindless violence that all decent men abhor... In the name of the Jewish community of America, we denounce this strategy of terror and the men who are guilty of it." The Synagogue Council of America: "We... reject calls to violence and vigilantism emanating from various quarters, including a small and unrepresentative segment of the Jewish community."

A recent emigre from the USSR, Mikhail Zand, 44-year-old Russian Jewish scholar, specialist in Oriental languages and a leader for four years among Soviet Jewish activists, has sharply condemned "violent tactics" (New York Times, September 4). He said: "The Russian intellectual's national and cultural feelings -- sacred to him -- are offended when

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a bomb is exploded in a Soviet building in the United States and an American concert by a Russian artist is disrupted." Professor Zand termed the Soviet intellectual community the "only ally" of Jews in the USSR. He said "violent protests" were "counterproductive" and "do not help our cause." He added that this kind of behavior "spoils the image of the Jews as the 'people of the book,' a people with a long cultural heritage, a people who esteem and revere the great cultural traditions of all nations." Zand said that Soviet propagandists exploit reports of violent protests in this country to depict "all Jews as barbarians" in the Soviet press.

Mr. Chairman, I could continue with innumerable other expressions by Jewish leaders and publications, in the United States, Israel, and elsewhere, on the damage done by anti-Soviet acts of violence perpetrated by extremists.

As for the United States Government's position, let me state again that we consider foreign diplomats and representatives as our invited guests in this country. All decent Americans realize that they must be so treated. Sneak-thief bombings, snipings and other harassments are repugnant to all of us. The Federal authorities, in cooperation with State and local authorities will exert every effort to punish those who engage in such acts.

What Can Be Done to Help?

We proceed from the assumption that the Soviets are sensitive about their treatment of Jews and care about responsible public opinion abroad. We believe that the Soviets are particularly touchy about the opinion of foreign leftists and Communist Parties and of prominent moral and community leaders in the West as well as in the "non-aligned" countries. That tangible progress can be made is shown by the Statement on September 24 of Secretary General U Thant, who stated that more than 400 out of 800 Soviet Jews whose cases he had raised with Moscow had succeeded in reaching Israel. There are many examples, other/ not all of which have been equally publicized.

With this in mind, the United States Government has made clear where it stands on this issue.

On January 11, President Nixon joined leaders of the American Jewish community in urging "freedom of emigration as explicitly provided in Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights" as well as "cultural and religious freedom at home and abroad." Secretary of State Rogers, in a statement to the Youth Mobilization for Soviet Jewry in October, 1970, declared:

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"This Government has repeatedly expressed in public and in private its opposition to anti-humanitarian policies wherever they exist in the world. We believe that free movement is one of the basic human rights of all persons. We have expressed sympathy and support on many occasions for persons in the Soviet Union who wish to emigrate, often to rejoin their families elsewhere, but who are denied permission to do so. We shall continue to make these views known and to take every practical measure which could help to overcome the hardships suffered by such persons."

The Department of State's press spokesmen have publicly spelled out in more detail our views on the problem of Soviet Jewry, for example in a statement on February 24, 1971:

"The policy of the United States Government in accordance with the principles upon which this country was founded and in consonance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, supports the right of peoples everywhere to free emigration and to

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religious freedom. Americans of all faiths and their Government are deeply concerned by the difficulties placed in the path of citizens of the Soviet Union, including its Jewish citizens, who have applied through legal channels for emigration and who seek to preserve their cultural heritage."

World public opinion was clearly a factor in the commutation of the death sentences passed on Jews convicted of treason in Leningrad in December, 1970, for seeking to leave the USSR allegedly by plotting to commandeer an aircraft, and in general has restrained the Soviet authorities from broadening the use of quasi-legal punishment against Jewish activists in the USSR.

In this connection, the Department's press spokesman, in a statement on May 27, expressed deep concern about the Soviet policy of trying people in secret and spoke for Americans of every political persuasion and religious belief in deploring the persecution of persons for actions which in most other countries would not even be offenses.

Meanwhile, the United Nations offers the best regular forum for focusing world attention on the situation of Soviet Jews, and United States officials there have repeatedly spoken out on the issue. For example,

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on March 17, 1970, Mrs. Rita Hauser, United States Representative on the UN Human Rights Commission, stated:

"We do not comprehend any policy which serves to preclude emigration of Soviet Jews who have families or cultural ties elsewhere. We also would hope that the conditions necessary for continued national identity of the Jews in the Soviet Union will prevail, for we are certain that the Jews of that country will add as much to Russian life as the Jews have added to the life of my country. Their distinct cultural and religious identity enhances life; suppression of this identity will diminish the spirit of all Soviet citizens."

At the United Nations General Assembly on December 9 and 10, 1970, U.S. Representative Dr. Helen G. Edmonds denounced the harassment of Jews wishing to leave the Soviet Union and declared:

"Last year before this committee we pointed out that, despite the guarantee of the Soviet Union's constitution and laws, Jews are not treated as citizens

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on an equal level with all other Soviet citizens...In this atmosphere, it is not surprising that large numbers of Jews are seeking to leave the Soviet Union. Their hopes are supported by Article XIII of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which says that 'Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.' However, the Soviet Union is allowing few Jews to emigrate..."

Later, Mrs. Hauser reiterated the concern of the United States Government at a meeting of the UN Human Rights Commission on February 26, 1971:

"It is disturbing to note that any interest a Jew may evidence in Israel makes him suspect to the Soviet authorities; indeed ... it was stated that any Soviet Jew who wishes to migrate to Israel is automatically an 'enemy of the Soviet people'.

"We hope the Soviet Government will appreciate the keen interest felt in the United States, by Jews and non-Jews alike, that the large Jewish minority

group in the Soviet Union be assured the right to be free of discrimination and to practice its religion freely and fully."

On November 3, 1971, less than a week ago, Arthur A. Fletcher, United States Representative to the 26th United Nations General Assembly, called upon the Soviet Union to accord its Jews the right to emigrate and to permit those who remain freely to pursue their cultural and religious interests.

The Department also has made use of private diplomatic channels to underscore the importance we attach to the right of free emigration and the reuniting of families. For example, our official representation list of Soviet residents, including many Jews, who have been refused permission to emigrate to join close relatives in the United States, has regularly been presented to Soviet officials at a high level. This practice was inaugurated by the then Vice President, now President Nixon, when he visited the USSR in 1959. Most recently, the list was handed to Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko on September 24, 1971, during his meeting with Secretary Rogers in New York, as well as to Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov by

Ambassador Jacob Beam in Moscow on February 19, 1971, and to Minister Gromyko by Secretary Rogers in October, 1970, in New York. This year's list contained the names of some 150 Soviet Jews as well as of other relatives of American citizens. Since the Soviet authorities remain extremely reluctant to permit Soviet citizens to emigrate or travel abroad, we are obliged to concentrate our interventions in behalf of persons attempting to join relatives in the United States. We cannot be of direct assistance in cases of persons seeking emigration to other countries.

The results of our representations in support of the right of families to reunite have not been as successful as we would like, but a small amount of emigration to the United States -- averaging about 250 persons yearly -- has taken place. We intend to continue this practice. This year, through October 31, our Embassy in Moscow has already issued 251 immigrant visas. Of this number, at least 134 were issued to Jews. This is a small number, but a good sign -- only 78 Soviet Jews were permitted^{in 1970} by the Soviet authorities to leave the USSR for the United States on immigrant visas, according to our visa records.

At current levels, existing immigration and refugee machinery is well able to handle Soviet Jews who obtain Soviet exit permits to join close relatives in the United States. But what would happen if, through an unexpected policy change, the Soviet authorities suddenly lifted their stringent restrictions and allowed a much larger exodus of Soviet Jews to come to the United States?

With this possibility in mind, on September 30 Attorney General John Mitchell sent a letter to Congressman Emanuel Celler, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, in which he said: "The mounting evidence that Soviet Jews have unsuccessfully sought permission to emigrate from the Soviet Union has compelled a Departmental re-examination of the Attorney General's parole authority with respect to refugees...Accordingly, I can assure you that I would exercise my discretion if the situation demanded and parole Soviet Jews who are able to leave the Soviet Union."

On October 6, Congressman Edward I. Koch, a major sponsor of special legislation to provide non-quota visas for Soviet Jews, issued a statement in which he said that he would not now press for passage of his bill inasmuch as he considered the Attorney General's letter to Representative Celler an unequivocal statement that has the same effect as passage of the Koch bill would have had, with the added advantage that use of the Attorney General's parole power places no limitation on the number of Soviet Jewish refugees who can be admitted to this country.

The Department of State supports this finding of the Attorney General. We consider his statement on parole to be preferable to and more meaningful than the establishment of a specified number of non-quota visas for Soviet Jews.

MY REPLY WILL BE VERY
VERY BRIEF -

FIRST LET ME ASSURE
A. MALIK THAT I HAVE NOT
AND WILL NOT LESSEN
MY ENERGIES IN CONDEMNING
THE JDL OR ANY OTHER
EXTREMIST GROUP THAT

THREATENS, HARASSES,
ABUSES OR BULLIES.

BUT LET ME BE
VERY CLEAR - AND I TAKE
EXCEPTION
~~OFFENSE~~ AT THIS PART
OF MALIK'S SPEECH. I

PHOTOCOPY
GB HANDWRITING

CANNOT REMAIN SILENT
WHILE THE AMB CONDEMNS
ALL JEWISH LEADERS IN
MY COUNTRY -

THE RESPONSIBLE Jewish
Leaders in our country condemn

THE JDL ^{JUST AS MUCH, SIR, AS WE DO} just as much
as I DO THEY FEEL
THE SAME OUTRAGE
^{LOWARD} ABOUT ATTACKS ON CHILDREN
AS I DO AND AS mal Does
IN OUR AGONY OVER
THE EXTREMIST WE MUST

NOT⁶ A I WILL NOT PERMIT -
A CONDEMNATION OF SO
MANY FINE AMERICAN
CITIZENS - WHO ARE
JEWISH BY BIRTH
LET NOT THESE
~~THE~~ WALLS RING WITH

~~ANTI-SEMITISM~~ ~~LEAPP~~
BROAD BRUSH PREJUDICE
THOUGH I WAS NOT
IN CHAMBER I UNDERSTAND
IT WAS SUGGESTED FROM
PODIUM, ^{BY OTHER DELEG} THAT US AUTHORITIES
CONNIVE WITH ORGANIZATIONS
WHO PRACTICE VIOLENCE

-- CONNIVE WITH J.D.L.

THIS IS A CONTEMPTIBLE
CHARGE - IT IS WITHOUT

FOUNDATION = ~~IT IS A KICK~~
~~WHILE DECAYING~~ It is a lie -

~~IT IS A KICK~~
~~WHILE DECAYING~~
unvarnished. I think we can all
be grateful for the prompt
police work that resulted
so quickly in an arrest

~~I REPEAT~~
FURTHER
I WILL NOT^A BE HERE INSTEAD
MYSELF INTO THE VIOLENT
DISPUTE HERE.
BUT MR PRESIDENT
MUST TOTALLY REJECT
THE CHARGES THAT

AMERICAN JEWS SUPPORT
THE CONCEPT OF VIOLENCE
AND TERROR. A ~~SMALL~~ ^{TINY}
LUNATIC RING OF PRACTICES
THESE HATEFUL TACTICS
WHILE MILLIONS OF THEIR
BRETHREN, MILLIONS OF GOOD

PHOTOCOPY
GB HANDWRITING

AMERICANS MOURN.

EVERY AMERICAN
OF CONSCIENCE MUST

PROTEST SOVIET BLACKMAIL OF JEWS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th

11:00 A.M.

AT THE ELLIPSE

(behind the White House)

RAIN OR SHINE
MARCH AROUND THE
WHITE HOUSE

Program will include

SARGENT SHRIVER

U.N. AMBASSADOR

GEORGE BUSH

MRS.

CHARLOTTE JACOBSON

world Zionist organization

Sponsored by:

JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF GREATER WASHINGTON,
1330 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC

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FROM BUR/SOV

DRAFT REPLY

#234

Dear Mr. Forsythe:

President Nixon has asked me to reply to your letter of August 16, concerning the educational fees which the Soviet Government has recently begun imposing on applicants for emigration with a higher education.

Approximately August 15 the Soviet Government began to require applicants for emigration with a higher education to "reimburse" the state for the cost of their schooling. Although the Soviet Government has not yet published the new regulations, press reports state that the schedule of fees can range as high as \$37,000 for a Doctor of Science. So far the highest amount actually levied reportedly was approximately \$26,000 for a couple in Minsk.

I can assure you that the United States Government deeply sympathizes with the plight of Soviet Jews and others who are denied the fundamental human right of emigration. Although more than 15,000 Jews have left the Soviet Union for Israel during the first six months of 1972, the Soviet Government has been highly arbitrary in deciding who

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will be allowed to depart. Many applicants for migration have been fired from their jobs, expelled from institutions of higher learning, or otherwise harassed. The United States Government deplores these actions.

We believe that the United Nations represents the most appropriate forum for bringing the plight of Soviet Jewry to the attention of world public opinion. Our representatives have frequently spoken out concerning the Soviet denial of the right to migrate and we intend to continue this policy at the UN, and in the forums. We have also used all appropriate opportunities to bring this matter to the attention of the Soviet Government.

Sincerely yours,

Honorable Edwin D. Foxworth
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

Department of State

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SECRETARY ISSUES TO YOUTH MOBILIZATION FOR SOVIET JEWRY
OCT. 12, 1970

"THIS GOVERNMENT HAS REPEATEDLY EXPRESSED IN PUBLIC AND IN PRIVATE ITS OPPOSITION TO ANTI-HUMANITARIAN POLICIES WHEREVER THEY EXIST IN THE WORLD. WE BELIEVE THAT FREE MOVEMENT IS ONE OF THE BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS OF ALL PERSONS. WE HAVE EXPRESSED SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT ON MANY OCCASIONS FOR PERSONS IN THE SOVIET UNION WHO WISH TO EMIGRATE, OFTEN TO REJOIN THEIR FAMILIES ELSEWHERE, BUT WHO ARE DENIED PERMISSION TO DO SO. WE SHALL CONTINUE TO MAKE THESE VIEWS KNOWN AND TO TAKE EVERY PRACTICAL MEASURE WHICH COULD HELP TO OVERCOME THE HARDSHIPS SUFFERED BY SUCH PERSONS."

STATE DEPT. PRESS SPOKESMAN, JAN. 11, 1971.

"THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES UPON WHICH THIS COUNTRY WAS FOUNDED AND IN CONSONANCE WITH THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, SUPPORTS THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES EVERYWHERE TO FREE EMIGRATION AND TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. AMERICANS OF ALL FAITHS AND THEIR GOVERNMENT ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED BY THE DIFFICULTIES PLACED IN THE PATH OF CITIZENS OF THE SOVIET UNION, INCLUDING ITS JEWISH CITIZENS WHO HAVE APPLIED THROUGH LEGAL CHANNELS FOR EMIGRATION AND WHO SEEK TO PRESERVE THEIR CULTURAL HERITAGE."

PRESIDENT NIXON TO DELEGATION OF JEWISH LEADERS, JAN 11, 1971
AS QUOTED IN STATE DEPARTMENT BACKGROUND PUBLICATION:

NIXON URGED "FREEDOM OF EMIGRATION AS EXPLICITLY PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 13 OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS" AND "CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AT HOME AND ABROAD".

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE RITA HAUSER IN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
FEB 26, 1971.

"WE HOPE THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT WILL APPRECIATE THE KEEN INTEREST FELT IN THE UNITED STATES BY JEWS AND NON-JEWS ALIKE, THAT THE LARGE JEWISH MINORITY GROUP IN THE SOVIET UNION BE ASSURED THE RIGHT TO BE FREE OF DISCRIMINATION AND TO PRACTICE ITS RELIGION FREELY AND FULLY.

"WE ALSO HOPE THAT ALL THOSE PEOPLE IN THE SOVIET UNION, WHATEVER THEIR NATIONALITY, WHO WISH TO LEAVE TO FIND THEIR FUTURE ELSEWHERE, WILL NOT BE IMPEDED IN EXERCISING THE IMPORTANT RIGHT CONFINED BY THIS COMMISSION IN ARTICLE 13 OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, WHICH SAYS THAT "EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO LEAVE ANY COUNTRY, INCLUDING HIS OWN, AND TO RETURN TO HIS COUNTRY".

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE ARTHUR FLETCHER IN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
NOV 3, 1971:

"THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT CLAIMS THAT THERE IS NO DISCRIMINATION IN THE SOVIET UNION, THAT JEWS ARE TREATED IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER NATIONALITIES AND THAT THE PROBLEM OF SOVIET JEWRY HAS BEEN INVENTED ABROAD ... WHATEVER THE FACTS, WE DO KNOW THAT LARGE NUMBERS OF JEWS ARE ANXIOUS TO LEAVE...

"MY COUNTRY ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE RIGHT OF FREE EMIGRATION, IN THE BASIC FREEDOM OF AN INDIVIDUAL OR A FAMILY TO LEAVE ONE'S COUNTRY OR TO RETURN TO IT. THIS IS ONE OF THE FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS, FOR IT IS EVIDENT THAT MANY OTHER RIGHTS FLOW FROM IT. THE PERSON WHO FEELS THAT HE CANNOT ACHIEVE PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS IN HIS OWN COUNTRY, CANNOT PURSUE THE RELIGION OF HIS CHOICE OR WHO WISHES TO LIVE WHERE MOST OF HIS RELATIVES ARE SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO SETTLE IN ANOTHER COUNTRY.

DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE RICHARD DAVIES IN HOUSE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PEOPLE, FEB 7, 1972.

"RESTRICTIONS AGAINST JEWISH RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL LIFE IN THE SOVIET UNION HAVE BEEN AMPLY CATALOGUED IN RECENT YEARS AND NEED NO ELABORATION: GROSSLY INADEQUATE RELIGIOUS FACILITIES, PRESSURES AGAINST SYNAGOGUE ATTENDANCE, LACK OF YIDDISH OR HEBREW LANGUAGE TEACHING, TOKENISM IN THE PUBLISHING AND STAGING OF YIDDISH WORKS, QUOTA RESTRICTIONS ON UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE, EXCLUSION FROM CAREERS CONSIDERED SENSITIVE OR FROM IMPORTANT POLITICAL JOBS -- THESE ARE WELL-DOCUMENTED FACTS. SOVIET JEWS ARE DEPRIVED OF THE CULTURAL INGREDIENTS NEEDED TO PRESERVE THEIR CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS IDENTITY OVER THE LONG TERM. AND 'ANTI-ZIONISM' HAS REACHED CAMPAIGN PROPORTIONS FROM TIME TO TIME IN CONNECTION WITH CHRONIC TENSIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

ALL SOVIET CITIZENS -- NOT JUST JEWS -- SUFFER FROM THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF MILITANT ATHEISM AND ITS REFUSAL TO CONSIDER EMIGRATION AS A RIGHT RATHER THAN A RARE PRIVILEGE, AS WELL AS FROM OTHER RESTRICTIONS. BUT, THE LIMITATIONS ON JEWS HAVE IN MANY IMPORTANT RESPECTS BEEN MORE STRINGENT.

FROM PRESIDENT NIXON'S LETTER TO RUTH ALEXANDPOVICH - AVERBUCH
FEB 10, 1972.

"AS YOU KNOW, WE ARE DEEPLY COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING THE RIGHT OF FREE EMIGRATION AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY FOR ALL THE PEOPLES OF THIS WORLD. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR THESE FREEDOMS BOTH IN PUBLIC FORMS AND IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS AND YOU MAY BE CERTAIN THE CONSIDERATIONS RAISED IN YOUR LETTER WILL RECEIVE OUR CAREFUL ATTENTION."

FROM SECRETARY OF STATE'S FOREIGN POLICY REPORT TO CONGRESS
MARCH 7, 1972.

"THE PLIGHT OF SOVIET JEWRY AND THE PUBLIC REACTION TO IT IN THIS COUNTRY CONTINUE TO AFFECT US - SOVIET RELATIONS. THE WILLINGNESS OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO PERMIT SOME THOUSANDS OF SOVIET JEWS TO EMIGRATE WAS WELCOMED AS A STEP FORWARD BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE BUT DID NOT LESSEN CONCERN IN THIS COUNTRY OVER THE STATUS OF JEWS IN THE SOVIET UNION.

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM JULY 1971 :

WE WELCOME EVERY IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION AND EVERY STEP TAKEN TOWARD REACHING VITAL AGREEMENTS ON TRADE AND OTHER SUBJECTS. HOWEVER, IN OUR PURSUIT OF IMPROVED RELATIONS, AMERICA CANNOT AFFORD TO BE BLIND TO THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF SERIOUS DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US. IN PARTICULAR, THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BY DIPLOMATIC MEANS, SEEK TO MOBILIZE WORLD OPINION TO EXPRESS CONCERN AT THE DENIAL TO THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF EASTERN EUROPE AND TO THE MINORITIES IN THE SOVIET UNION, INCLUDING THE SOVIET JEWS, OF THE RIGHT TO PRACTICE THEIR RELIGION AND CULTURE AND TO LEAVE THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES.

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM JULY 1971 :

WE FIRMLY SUPPORT THE RIGHT OF ALL PERSONS TO EMIGRATE FROM ANY COUNTRY, AND WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY UPHE

D THAT DOCTRINE.

WE ARE FULLY AWARE OF AND SHARE THE CONCERN OF MANY CITIZENS FOR THE PLIGHT OF SOVIET JEWS WITH REGARD TO THEIR FREEDOMS AND EMIGRATION.

THIS VIEW, TOGETHER WITH OUR COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS, WAS MADE KNOWN TO SOVIET LEADERS DURING THE PRESIDENT'S DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW.

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Last week the Jews all over the world have celebrated their New Year, with the hope that the coming year will be the year of peace and happiness for all mankind. But yet, there are parts of the world where Jews do not enjoy their basic right to exercise their religious freedom. One fourth of the total Jewish population are denied cultural or religious rights and are not permitted to emigrate to the country of their choice.

The number that leaves USSR is only a token of the 100,000 who have applied for permission to leave for Israel. They have waited for many years, discharged from their jobs, intimidated by the police, cut off from daily telephone contact with the free world using their meager resources to survive on a daily basis and to make their lives even more tragic, an exorbitant tax has been instituted to prevent the people who have struggled so hard from leaving. This educational tax ranges from 4,000 to 35,000 dollars for individuals and none of these people can afford to pay it. Since 1969, President Nixon has actively supported the plight of the Soviet Jews. His views were communicated on several occasions to the leadership of American Jewish organizations and in writing to Ruth Alexandrovich. In Moscow, in May of this year this subject was brought to the attention of the Soviet Leadership.

Since most of the Soviet Jews go to Israel, and the need of their financial well being is there, President Nixon has transferred

almost 100 million dollars exclusively for the support of the Soviet Jews. This was in addition to almost 1.200 million that Israel received in the last four years, which is more than Israel has received in the previous twenty years.

The President and this Administration is doing everything it can on behalf of the Soviet Jews and whom you honor this morning, and he will continue doing so in the future.

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REMARKS BY REP. GERALD R. FORD, R-MICHIGAN, REPUBLICAN LEADER, - U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES "FREEDOM LIGHTS FOR SOVIET JEWRY RALLY" MADISON SQUARE GARDEN NEW YORK, NEW YORK MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1971 7:30 PM E.S.T.

The Jewish people of the Soviet Union have been singled out for special restrictions. They are denied the consideration accorded other minorities. The Kremlin is very sensitive to this issue. It has undermined the Communist pretensions of human equality and social justice. Indeed, there are some indications of minor concessions by the Moscow authorities to the rising outcry of world public opinion. Last year more than 10,000 Jews were permitted to emigrate to Israel in response to the pressure exerted by men of Goodwill. 1971 has been a record year and hopefully the first step toward greater and greater progress.

Attorney General John Mitchell, on behalf of President Nixon, has already disclosed that Soviet Jewish refugees could be admitted to the United States under the parole authority provided by our immigration laws. I congratulate the Attorney General on this initiative. This makes it unnecessary for Congress to pass additional legislation covering non-quota visas for Soviet Jews. This action by our administration imposes no limitation on the number of Jewish refugees who could be admitted to the United States. I refer, of course, to persons who may not elect to settle in the state of Israel because they have relatives here or for some other reasons.

I might mention at this point the fact that the Voice of America has increased the amount of its broadcasts in Russian, on Jewish subjects, beamed at the Soviet Union. This is significant but I personally believe that there should be Voice of America broadcasts in Yiddish. Not only would this tend to enhance the Jewish culture heritage among Soviet Jews, but it also would be a symbol of U.S. support for Jews in the Soviet Union.

Your President has a long record of deep concern in these matters. As far back as 1959 when he served as Vice-President, Mr. Nixon inaugurated a practice of presenting to Soviet leaders lists of names of Soviet residents, including many Jews, who were denied exit permits to join relatives in the United States. In fact, Mr. Nixon innovated this approach on a visit to Moscow in that year, 1959.

NIXON AND THE SOVIET JEWS

Since 1969 Jews began to leave the Soviet Union for Israel in unprecedented numbers in the history of the Jewish people. One of the primary reasons for such mass emigration is the constant pressure by the President and his administration upon the Soviet leaders to let the Jews go.

Richard Nixon is not a stranger to the issue of Soviet Jews. His record of concern is a long one. As Vice President in 1959, he presented to Khrushchev with success the case of the Soviet Jews. During his trip to the USSR in 1967 as a private citizen, he once again in Moscow asked that Jews be allowed to be repatriated to Israel. But this was only the beginning for the man who in the White House has consistently fought on behalf of the Soviet Jews. But words were not enough for Richard Nixon; his deeds are as long as his record.

The Nixon Administration has augmented Voice of America broadcasts to the USSR and has introduced special Jewish programs. Financial aid to help resettlement of Soviet Jews in Israel was first of its kind ever offered by this country and "parole authority" by the Justice Department to admit on a non-quota basis was opened to admit Soviet Jews to the United States.

Since he has established a pattern of bringing up the Soviet Jewish issue to the leaders in the Kremlin, the State Department at his instructions presses constantly, not only on behalf of all the Soviet Jews but also covering individual cases. All those efforts were fruitful.

The President has interceded directly on behalf of all the arrested in the so-called "Leningrad hijacking trial" and prevailed upon Soviet leaders to commute two death sentences.

In addition to his concern for Soviet Jews, the President has protested to the Soviet government specific Soviet acts against the Soviet Jews and has had the United States UN mission intercede on behalf of specific appeals from the Soviet Jews.

During the President's visit to Moscow (May 22-30, 1972) Mr. Nixon and his advisors have asked the Soviet leaders to allow more Jews to leave and to give them internal freedom.

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tion in behalf of Russian Jews

ions that world Jewry was part of an international conspiracy. They left the meeting with an impression that the Secretary of State was "sympathetic but cautious," which is the attitude of the State Department to this day.

A few days later Goldberg and Ribicoff were at the White House to receive plaques from Mr. Kennedy in recognition of their service to the nation.

"According to Goldberg they raised the subject of Soviet Jews with the President, were surprised by his comprehensive knowledge of the problem and learned that some months previously, Kennedy had been approached on the same question by his special counsel, Meyer Feldman," Lawrence said.

Lawrence reports that Feldman's major concern had been the welfare of Jewish families separated from each other since the end of World War II. He notes that Mr. Kennedy was "favorable to the emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union, but stated there was little he could do about it at the time except for sending personal messages to Khrushchev, or perhaps utilizing private diplomatic channels."

Kennedy then planned according to Feldman — to discuss the issue with

Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko who wanted a White House meeting. But a Berlin Autobahn incident occurred and JFK could not make the Jewish issue a major topic of discussion. Feldman reported that Kennedy did raise the issue of Soviet Jewry and of separated families but was told by Gromyko that "the Soviet Government could not publicly, or in any official way, respond to this overture. He did, however, assure Mr. Kennedy that the matter would be looked into sympathetically."

Feldman reported to Lawrence that there was ample evidence that Gromyko reported the discussion to his government.

President Kennedy — during this discussion of the issue with Goldberg and Ribicoff called Ambassador Llewellyn Thompson and discussed the problem. The pair agreed that Thompson would try to arrange a meeting with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin.

The meeting took place in Washington Oct. 29, 1963.

"Dobrynin took violent exception to every point, particularly the statement that Jews were being singled out for prosecution in the then current series of economic trials. He denied that discrimination existed

in employment and education, and repeated the familiar Soviet line that Jews were employed in professions such as medicine, science, engineering and other technical crafts," Lawrence says.

"He started the delegates (Goldberg, Javitz and Ribicoff) by denying Jews were required to register as Jews when applying for initial passport or identification documents, claiming this was untrue. He also expressed concern that the entire question had received too much prominence in the United States, saying that this could only hinder international harmony."

The Soviet ambassador told them that the Soviet premier would receive a full report of the meeting and that if he felt there was merit in further conversation, he would let them know. They have yet to hear from the premier.

The US trio concluded that the Russians were getting angry over the continued pressure from groups about Soviet Jewry.

McGovern Demands Talks At Summit on Soviet Jewry

Sen. George McGovern said this week that "President Nixon should assign an urgent priority to the persistent Middle East crisis at his summit conference in Moscow."

In a statement issued from his Los Angeles headquarters, the Democratic candidate for President declared that "the escalation of the war in Vietnam must not divert our attention from the grim reality that tension is increasing daily in the Middle East."

"The invasion of Israeli air space only last week by Egyptian MIGs, coupled with the announcement that the Soviet Union is now providing even more modern aggressive weapons to Egypt, are matters of the gravest concern," McGovern continued.

"The Russians' willingness to receive President Nixon, despite his blockade of their shipping in Vietnam, suggests that the Soviet hierarchy earnestly wants an agreement on arms limitation."

"I must believe, then, that this would be a propitious time for President Nixon to argue the case for a reduction of Russian arms shipments to the Arab nations, particularly if Chairman Brezhnev is told that we intend to stand fast to our weapon commitments to Israel to maintain the balance of power."

"I also believe that this historic first visit of an American President to the Soviet Union offers Mr. Nixon an ideal opportunity to intercede directly in behalf of the three and a half million Soviet Jews who are clearly the victims of discrimination and repression."

McGovern, who is the sponsor of the legislation that would allow for 30,000 special visas to be issued for Russian Jews wishing to enter the United States, said the President "should present the case not only for a freer emigration policy for Jews wishing to go to Israel or other countries, but for greater freedom for Jews who wish to remain in the Soviet Union."

U.S. representative William Schaufele in Human Rights commission
April 4, 1972

Soviet Jews are deprived, more than other groups, of the cultural ingredients needed to preserve their cultural and religious identity, and as a result many have indicated a desire to emigrate.

Individual applicants for emigration are sometimes harassed and bullied. A small number of outspoken Jewish activists have been dealt with arbitrarily and unusually harshly. A number have even been condemned to terms in forced-labor camps as political prisoners.

This unfortunate situation has attracted much attention throughout the world and on the part of Soviet authorities. It is heartening to note that there has been a substantial modification of restrictions on emigration of Soviet Jews and that an increasing number of those desiring to move to other countries have been permitted to do so in the past months. This is a positive trend which should be encouraged and continued. We would urge that remaining restrictions on emigration and travel be eased so that all Soviet citizens who wish to exercise their right to freedom of movement may be permitted to do so.

SHAG

REMARKS BY REP. GERALD R. FORD, R-MICHIGAN, REPUBLICAN LEADER - U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
 NEW YORK, NEW YORK, MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1971 7:30 PM
 "FREEDOM LIGHTS FOR SOVIET JEWRY"
 The Jewish people of the Soviet Union have been denied one of the most basic of human rights. They are denied the consideration accorded other minorities. The Soviet Union is very sensitive to this issue. It has undertaken the most extensive program of human equality and social justice. Indeed, it has made more concessions to the Jewish people of the Soviet Union than any other minority group. The Jewish people of the Soviet Union have been denied one of the most basic of human rights. They are denied the consideration accorded other minorities. The Soviet Union is very sensitive to this issue. It has undertaken the most extensive program of human equality and social justice. Indeed, it has made more concessions to the Jewish people of the Soviet Union than any other minority group. The Jewish people of the Soviet Union have been denied one of the most basic of human rights. They are denied the consideration accorded other minorities. The Soviet Union is very sensitive to this issue. It has undertaken the most extensive program of human equality and social justice. Indeed, it has made more concessions to the Jewish people of the Soviet Union than any other minority group.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 1972

Attorney General John N. Mitchell announced today that the first family of Soviet Jews will arrive in the United States tomorrow under procedures worked out with the Department of State for rapid entry into this country of Soviet Jews able to leave the U.S.S.R.

The family, Semen Mordkovich Feldman, 36, his wife, Emma Gershovna Feldman, and their children, Dina, 10, and Igor, 7, obtained exit visas from Soviet authorities.

The Feldmans will arrive at Kennedy International Airport, New York, at 4:30 p.m., EST tomorrow, January 5, on TWA flight 841.

The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society arranged for the Feldmans to travel from Moscow to New York via Rome. The family is sponsored by an uncle, Charles Miller, 2057 Narragansett Avenue, Bronx, New York.

The Attorney General's parole authority was instrumental in enabling the Feldmans to depart Russia. Upon entry, they will be technically classified as refugees, enabling them to apply for citizenship earlier than if they entered as parolees.

Mr. Mitchell announced on October 1, 1971 that the Immigration and Nationality Act gives him the authority to parole Soviet Jews into this country.

Mr. Mitchell expressed the hope that more Soviet Jews would be allowed to leave the U.S.S.R. under this program.

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72-20

April 14, 1972

TO : Member Association Addressed

SUBJECT : AID Guaranteed Loan

The Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston and the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York have recently negotiated a \$35,000,000 loan with the "Tefahot" Israel Mortgage Bank Ltd. for the construction of new housing in Israel. Each Bank is participating to the extent of \$25,000,000 and has entered into separate agreements with Tefahot and with the Agency for International Development. The loan is for a term of twenty five (25) years, with a five year grace period on principal repayment, and bears an interest rate of 7-1/2 %. Payment of both principal and interest on the loan are backed by the full faith and credit guaranty of the United States Government.

The Tefahot Bank is an Israeli credit institution engaged in financing the acquisition of rights by participants in government-initiated public housing projects. Tefahot also extends credit for various area development projects, communal centers, etc. Approximately three quarters of the mortgage loans recently made in Israel were originated by Tefahot. The Israeli government will guarantee the loan to AID, but the U.S. participants will, of course, look to the guarantee of the United States for their protection.

The first draw of \$25,000,000 is currently being disbursed to the borrower by the Boston and New York Banks. The loan agreements call for disbursement of the remaining \$25,000,000 in no more than two drawdowns over the next year. The first distribution of the loans to member associations will occur no later than October 1, 1972, and the next two distributions will occur within twelve months thereafter.

The Boston Bank is offering participations in its portion of the Israel loan with the other five odd-numbered Federal Home Loan Bank Districts; this will include the Chicago district. Each District Bank will

in turn, share its allocation with its members. Requests received on or before May 10, 1972, will be processed on an equal basis. If the initial group of requests do not exhaust the supply, additional requests received after May 10 will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Under Section 545.6-20 of the Rules and Regulations, these loans are legal investments for Federal Savings and Loan Associations in amounts up to 1% of assets. Participations in this loan are available in multiples of \$25,000 for institutions of over \$10,000,000 in total assets, and \$10,000 for institutions of less than \$10,000,000 in assets. The minimum allocation will be one percent of assets.

Because of the anticipated demand for this loan, it may be necessary to allocate requests for larger amounts. On such allocations, consideration will be given to the size of the institution as well as to the amount of the request. This mode of allocation is consistent with the objective of providing broad opportunity to system members to become involved in the AID program. If your institution wishes to participate in this loan, please fill out the attached form and return it to the Dallas Bank.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. L. W. Fenderson, Senior Vice President, or Mr. James V. Boyle, Assistant Vice President, at the Chicago Bank.

Very truly yours,


Albin W. Fenderson

WASH. Post 11.19.71

Nixon Longtime Friend of Soviet Jews

By STEPHEN S. ROSENFELD

WASHINGTON — Delicately mixing diplomacy and a dab of politics, the Nixon administration is deepening its intervention into a particularly sensitive area of Soviet domestic life—the condition of Soviet Jews—even while the President is preparing for his trip to Moscow next May.

The effort has its ironic aspect: the last two Democratic presidents, presumably much more responsive to Jewish voters and less than a Republican chief executive, did very little of substance or political visibility to help the cause of Soviet Jews. Some memos on the issue which he did not use were prepared for John Kennedy; Lyndon Johnson's attention seems to have been only private.

RICHARD NIXON presumably counts less on Jewish voters and expects less from them. His Mideast policy, for instance, has distressed many American Jews; his pro-suburbs policy appears to be directed only incidentally at them. But he has done a great deal—enough to privately attract some of his Jewish critics on other issues—in respect to Soviet Jews.

In fact, he is no stranger to the issue. He has a little known but long term record of concern. As Vice President in 1959, he responded to a request from American Jews and successfully undertook to have President Eisenhower take up the Soviet Jewish question privately with a visiting Kremlin official, Anastas Mikoyan.

In his own trip to Moscow that year, Mr. Nixon inaugurated the practice of having high American officials request the Russians to review the cases of those residents, including many Jews, who had tried and failed to join close relatives in the United States.

Reversing a tough American immigration policy dating back to World War II, the Nixon administration announced on Sept. 30 that it would admit without limit Soviet Jews who might want to immigrate.

Attorney General Mitchell said he had decided to use his "parole authority" (used in the past for Czech and Cuban refugees) because of "mounting evidence that Soviet Jews have unsuccessfully sought permission to emigrate from the Soviet Union." Congressional sponsors of legislation to

grant 50,000 non-quota emergency visas to Russian Jews halted their efforts, acknowledging that the Nixon initiative was more generous and effective.

Finally, in a series of State and White House pronouncements, the administration has protested specified Soviet acts, and has had American representatives at the United Nations turn from generalized appeals for "human rights" to specific appeals for Soviet Jews' right to emigrate.

THAT LEAVES President Nixon headed for Moscow next spring. If past performance is any guide, he will surely raise the subject of Soviet Jewry. This prospect troubles some diplomats, who fear that Moscow's extreme sensitivity on the Jewish issue makes it risky for the United States to press it. But the facts argue otherwise. Mr. Nixon has vigorously involved the American government in the plight of Soviet Jews and simultaneously he has moved to explore better relations with the Kremlin. His record so far shows the two do fit.

Washington Post

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1972

Rate of Jewish Emigration From Soviet Is Double That of '71

By TAD SZULC
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 7—Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union in the first half of this year has already exceeded the total of about 14,000 emigrants during all of 1971, according to data compiled by the State Department from refugee organizations.

Many agencies and governments, including the United States, are preparing to assist financially as many as 30,000 people—the latest projected figure for Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union for 1972—as they emigrate mainly to Israel.

The rate of Jewish departures authorized this year by the Soviet Union is a record in this emigration pattern. While only about 1,200 Jews were allowed to leave in 1970, the figure rose to 14,000 in 1971 and reached 15,650 in the first six months of 1972.

June was the record month thus far, with 3,132 departures, of which 3,092 were for Israel. According to the figures gathered by the State Department's Office of Refugee and Migration Affairs, 3,065 Jews left the Soviet Union in January, 1,984 in February, 1,931 in March, 3,014 in April and 2,653 in May.

International refugee organizations expect about 4,000 Jews to be allowed to leave other Eastern European countries, notably Rumania, during 1972.

The officials acknowledged that the question of Jewish emigration was touched upon in Moscow last May in talks between President Nixon and the Soviet leadership.

It was also understood that Secretary of State William P. Rogers discussed Jewish emigration with the Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei A. Gromyko, during the Moscow visit.

Most Go to Israel

They noted that in 1971, for example, about 13,500 Soviet Jews went to Israel and only about 500 to other countries, including the United States. Of the 30,000 Jews expected to leave the Soviet Union this year, only 800 are likely to settle in countries other than Israel.

Experts stressed that among the largest groups of Jews leaving the Soviet Union are managers, service personnel, merchants, salesmen and clerks. The Soviet Government is reported to be blocking departures with skills in highly sensitive areas such as basic sciences, physics and space.

To provide care and maintenance support during 1972 for Jews emigrating from the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries to Israel, the

United States has earmarked \$750,000, with an additional \$225,000 put aside for those settling elsewhere.

Besides this direct aid, President Nixon last month authorized the additional contribution of \$2-million to the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration in Geneva. The regular annual United States contribution to the committee is \$3-million.

Committee for the Re-election of the President

MEMORANDUM

David Korn, director of research (Larry Goldberg's office)
is the Chairman of the Soviet Jewry rally (sept.17,1972)
If you need any information on the rally please get it from me.

David Korn, 872 0694

To: Tom Lids

for your information

David Korn

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Here is background
info for remarks before
Joint Group on Sunday

TEL

THE FOLLOWING PROVIDES AN UP TO DATE STATEMENT OF OUR POSITION ON SOVIET JEWRY AND THE RECENT SOVIET PRACTICE OF IMPOSING EDUCATIONAL FEES ON APPLICANTS FOR EMMIGRATION WITH A HIGHER EDUCATION:

"THE U. S. GOVERNMENT DEEPLY SYMPATHIZES WITH THE PLIGHT OF THOSE WHO ARE DENIED THE FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS OF EMMIGRATION. THE U.S. FIRMLY SUPPORTS THE RIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE TO EMMIGRATE AND THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS CONSISTANTLY UPHELD THAT DOCTRINE.

IN TRAVELLING TO THE SOVIET UNION IN MAY '72, THE PRESIDENT WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE DEEP CONCERN IN THIS COUNTRY FOR THE PLIGHT OF MINORITIES WHO ARE DENIED FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AND YOU MAY BE ASSURED THAT OUR STEADFAST COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLES CONTAINED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS HAS BEEN MADE KNOWN TO THE SOVIETS."

THIS ISSUE IS RECEIVING THE CONTINUING ATTENTION OF THE ADMINISTRATION. TO CITE BUT ONE EXAMPLE ON AUG 18TH, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, WILLIAM P. ROGERS MET WITH JACOB STEIN, CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS; RICHARD MAASS, CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY; AND MAX FISHER, CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS AND WELFARE, TO DISCUSS RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH SOVIET JEWISH IMMIGRATION.

FOR YOUR BACKGROUND, ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN ON THIS ISSUE SHOULD EXERCISE CARE TO STAY WITHIN THE GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE ABOVE STATEMENT OF POLICY.

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HARSH ATTACKS ON THE SOVIET UNION WOULD ONLY BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE IN TERMS OF U.S. INTERESTS IN HAVING PEOPLE EVERYWHERE GUARANTEED THE RIGHT TO EMMIGRATE BECAUSE OF THE PRIVILEGED NATURE OF THE PRESIDENT'S SUMMIT TALKS, ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMEN SHOULD NOT ENDEAVOR TO ELLABORATE ON THE ABOVE GUIDANCE RELATING TO THE SUMMIT.

Dr. Harvey Ammerman (Jewish Community Council) ^{will} introduce David Korn who is Chairman of the Soviet Jewry Committee of the Jewish Community Council then introduces Charolette Jacobsen (a Jewish lady from N.Y.C.) who will have a few comments.

Korn then introduces Vice President candidate Shriver who speaks and then Korn introduces Amb. Bush.

Whole program not to run over an hour.

*Cohen
Howard will
meet at
airport*

September 13, 1972

Ambassador -

The Sunday rally starts at 11:00 a.m. and will be held on the ellipse - right behind the White House. Howard Cohn (Colson's office) will meet you at the South West Gate of the White House at 11:00 a.m. and will accompany you to the rally. We will have more guidance on what is to be said etc. before then.



TOM LIAS

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