

USSR HOLDS JEW

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Western newsmen have reported from Moscow that the Soviet authorities are holding a Jewish radio engineer who wanted to emigrate to Israel. He is accused of spreading fabrications slandering the Soviet state and social system.

The engineer, reportedly under arrest in Kiev since

December, defended Israel during discussions at his factory right after the Six-Day War. He also got involved in arguments over the official Russian position on the Babi Yar massacre during memorial services last year.

He was pressured into giving up his job and last summer he and his wife, who is not Jewish requested permission to go to Israel. This

REDS NOT KOSHER

NEW YORK (WNS) -- An expert on Soviet Jewry has challenged statements

was refused because the Soviet Union had no diplomatic relations with Israel.

Last November, when a tickle of emigration to Israel was resumed the couple was given permission to leave Russia. But on the day they were to pick up passports, their apartment was searched and letters sent to Soviet leaders were seized. The man was arrested shortly after.

At a pretrial investigation, the court sent the case back for further investigation because there was not sufficient evidence to support the charges.

made by Rabbi Isaac L. Hechtman, executive director of the Jewish Community Council of Montreal upon his return from Moscow where he visited Rabbi Yehuda Leib Levin shortly after he celebrated his 75th birthday.

(Rabbi Hechtman had denied saying he was told the Soviet Government would print 40,000 to 50,000 additional copies of Jewish prayerbooks and Hebrew calendars. He had said that a 10,000 printing of calendars was sold out in one day.

(Dr. Moshe Decter, head of the Jewish Minorities Research organization, challenged the rabbi to verify his assertion that the Russian Government has made enough flour available to Jewish bakeries for production of Passover matzoh.)

BIG FOUR
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The total effect of this was to heighten the pressure on the major powers to do something. In their discussions, spokesmen for the representatives noted that they were making some progress, mainly on procedural matters, and that the talks will continue. The four nations emphasized that their efforts were designed to assist Dr. Jarrings, a position voiced by UN Secretary

General U Thant, who denied that the Big Four discussions were injuring the UN's peace effort.

Israel continues to oppose the Big Four talks and American officials have voiced their displeasure over Jerusalem's opposition to this. This disagreement over the talks is one of a number of points of contention between Washington and Jerusalem which is causing Israeli officials to note their concern over American support for Israel.



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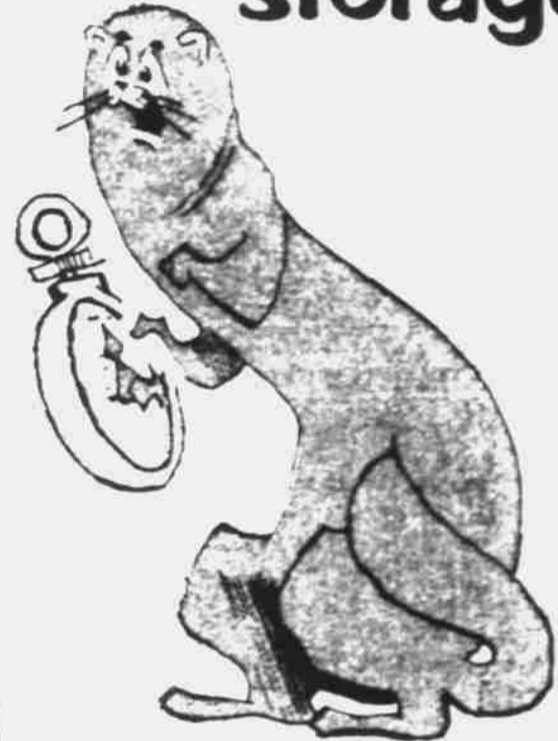


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