

U.N. HEARS OF SOVIET JEWRY

UNITED NATIONS (WNS) — Israel has dropped the hot question of the Soviet Union's treatment of its Jews into the lap of the United States by forwarding to Secretary General U Thant an appeal from 18 Orthodox Jews living in Soviet Georgia asking the world organization for help in emigrating from Russia to Israel.

Israeli Ambassador Yosef Tekoah, who served as Ambassador to Moscow for two years, presented the appeal, addressed to "the Human Rights Commissioner, United Nations, New York, U.S.A." to Mr. Thant and asked the Secretary General to use his "good offices" to help the 18 petitioners and "to alleviate the situation of Soviet Jewry."

Mr. Tekoah also asked that the appeal and a cov-

ering letter be distributed as an official General Assembly document. He made clear that this was the first time that Jerusalem had raised Russia's treatment of Soviet Jews before the U.N.

worse for the Jews before would help them. "We believe we will be protecting them in a way," he said. "Their names are already known to the Russians. Now many more people will know about them and their plight."

Observers at the UN said that Israel's action indicates that Jerusalem was prepared to counter any Russian blackmail on the Mideast by putting world pressure on Moscow to prevent further discrimination and to provide better treatment of its Jews.

Mr. Tekoah read the appeal in both English and Russian at a news conference. He said the petitioners had sent the document to him personally because "I am not a stranger to them and they are not a stranger to me." He explained with emotion how he had visited the petitioners' villages in 1965 at New Year's and the warm greetings he received wherever he went.

REFUGEES TRAINED

UNITED NATIONS (WNS) — United Nations Relief and Works Agency officials have admitted that Palestinian guerillas have taken over 14 of the 15 Arab refugee camps in Lebanon and they are providing military training to inhabitants.

Running most of the camps is the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a leftist group which does not belong to the Palestine Liberation Organization, the umbrella organization for all the other Arab commando groups. The guerillas have ousted Lebanese authorities from all the 14 camps and arrangements to visit the refugee centers have to be made through the terrorist groups.

Military training is being given both to men and women in their late teens to 30s and to young children who are in Lion Cub groups. This instruction includes both physical exercises and training in handling weapons.

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