

SOVIET JEWS ...

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 port Minister Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Ben-Aharon, secretary-general of Histadrut.

Gahal leaders called for a special session of the Knesset on Sunday and a huge demonstration was planned outside the Finnish Embassy which represents Soviet interests in Israel.

Death sentences were imposed on Mark Dymshitz, a former military pilot, convicted of leading the alleged plot to hijack a Soviet airliner last June, and Edvard Kutznertzov.

Prison terms were meted out as follows: Joseph Mendeleovich and Uri Federov, 15 years; Alexander Murzhenko, 14 years; Lieb Khanokh, 13 years; Anatoly Altman, 12 years; Boris Penson and Silva Zalmanson, 10 years; Israel Zalmanson, 8 years and Mendel Bodnia, 4 years.

After an emergency cabinet meeting, Mrs. Meir spoke to the nation over the state radio stating that "the Government of Israel has learned with pain and fury" of the death sen-

tence passed on two of the defendants and the long prison sentences passed on the other.

She declared that the Soviet government was continuing the "tradition of murdering innocent Jewish victims" which was the legacy of the Czarist regimes. But added, "the death sentences will not put an end to the struggle of our Jewish brethren in the Soviet Union for their right to live as Jews to be reunited with their brethren in Israel."

Mrs. Meir called upon "the conscience of the world, of all those who cherish human freedom and dignity, to raise their voices and to demand that the threat of death be removed from the victims of this showtrial and that they be immediately freed."

In New York, Rabbi Herschel Schacter, chairman of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry denounced the Leningrad trial as a "cynical political charade" and declared that "the gross inhumanity of the death sentences in these circumstances must cause decent men to recoil in

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horror and outrage."

Fifty members of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and four rabbis carrying two coffins filled with petitions protesting the trial, marched to the Soviet Mission to the United Nations where they attempted to present the petitions to Soviet officials who refused to accept them.

Throughout the week in Israel, and the Western World, demonstrations protesting the trial and the plight of Soviet Jewry continued.

Thousands thronged to the Western Wall to demonstrate their oneness with the Soviet Jews including a delegation of Israeli Druze. Mass rallies were held at the Wall by the Organizations of Partisans and Concentration Camp Survivors and by the captains of the Haganah ships which used to carry illegal immigrants to Palestine during the British Mandate.

In the U.S., Mayors John V. Lindsay of New York and Carl B. Stokes of Cleveland, in separate cablegrams to Alexander A. Sizov, chairman of the Len-

ingrad City Soviet, urged him to use his influence to obtain the release of the defendants.

The District Attorneys of New York City's five counties asked the chief prosecutor of the Leningrad trial for permission to attend, as observers, the expected forthcoming trial of 20 additional Jews.

In Los Angeles, 15,000 people marched in the largest rally of this kind ever held in the U.S. outside New York City. And in New York, students of the Stern College for Women of Yeshiva University picketed outside the offices of Tass, the Soviet news agency, for 2 1/2 hours before marching to the UN where they joined with other student groups in a one hour vigil which ended with the lighting of the Chanuka light to usher in the festival.

In both France and Britain, intellectuals and leaders in the arts and sciences including Sir Laurence Olivier and Jean-Paul Sartre, expressed their alarm over the trial and possible future trials of Soviet Jews. While Frenchmen marched through the streets of Paris, Nice and Bordeaux to protest the trials, from Amsterdam the Committee for Solidarity with the Russian

Jews sent a telegram to Nikolai V. Podgorny, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet, expres-

sing their alarm at the trial and urging that Soviet Jews be permitted to emigrate.

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