

## SYRIA ASKED TO CEASE PERSECUTION OF JEWISH MINORITY

NEW YORK (WNS)--The Committee of Concern, headed by former Commander of U.S. Forces in Europe Lucius D. Clay, has called upon Syria to "cease persecution of the Jewish minority, to

free those unjustly imprisoned and to permit those Jews who wish to emigrate to do so."

The Committee, consisting of leading Jews and non-Jews in American business, religion, arts and sciences, public affairs, universities and civil rights, was formed two years ago to focus world attention on the persecution of Jews in the Middle East.

Citing "distressing and increasingly alarming reports from reliable sources concerning the threat to the

survival of Syrian Jewry," Clay gave as an example the plight of relatives of 12 Syrian Jews held in jail on charges they had attempted to flee the country. He said they had been held in solitary confinement up to three months and have been interrogated under torture, all Jewish prisoners who have been released from confinement are physically ill, bodily maimed or mentally deranged as a result of their imprisonment.

The Committee

charged restrictions on Syrian Jews cover almost every aspect of life. There is a total ban on emigration, and travel within the country is severely limited. Jews must carry identity cards and cannot be employed by the government or by banks. Their houses have been seized, their schools taken over and their cemeteries destroyed. As a result, the Committee stated, the majority of the Jewish community "has been reduced to abject poverty."

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## ARAB PRISONERS RIOT

TEL AVIV (WNS)--Four hundred and eighty Arab terrorists, half of them sentenced to life imprisonment, rioted for two hours at the top-security prison at Ashkelon before wardens restored order. One warden and 10 inmates were slightly injured.

The riot began during a prison check when a prisoner lay on his bed pretending to be sick. When a warden entered his cell, he was jumped by the other 19 inmates of the cell and beaten to the floor. His partner gave the alarm.

The remaining on-duty wardens--about 40 in number, all of them unarmed--rescued the two wardens and locked the prisoners in another cell, whereupon the prisoners began shouting and breaking windows.

Prisons Commissioner Aryeh Nir said the action might have been sparked by the riot at Attica Prison in upstate New York as the Arab prisoners receive daily newspapers and listen to five radio newscasts each day.

## SYRIA CALLS FOR ISRAEL'S EXPULSION

UNITED NATIONS (WNS)--In an address to the United Nations General Assembly Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam of Syria called for Israel's expulsion from the UN for her "racial" policies, her "imperialist occupation" of Arab territories and her "Nazi-fashion Zionist aggression in the Middle East."

Foreign Minister Abdullah Salah of Jordan told the Assembly that "there will be no peace in the Middle East so long as the holy city of Jerusalem remains under the domination of Israel. He claimed the "tragedy of that "immortal" city was that the Israeli government was trying to turn the Eastern sector "into a virtual ghetto" with a view toward eventually destroying its Arab character.

Foreign Minister Pierre Harmel of Belgium advised the Assembly that a Middle East peace had to be built on "the conclusion of a peace treaty."



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