

GEN. NARKISS

(continued from Page 1) best trained military of all the Arab armies, were assigned to Jerusalem because of its holy background," the Gen. said.

Gen. Narkiss disclosed there was an understanding there would be no fighting in Jerusalem. For this reason the Israeli soldiers, about 60,000, reservists were ordered not to attack. They were to wait until the outcome of the battles against Egypt. But, according to Gen. Narkiss, Egypt pressured Jordan to commence action on the Jerusalem front.

When the Jordanian Army commenced a surprise attack, the Israeli reservists under Gen. Narkiss, were ordered to retaliate. It was an unusual conquest because the Jordanian Army occupants of the city outnumbered the liberators, three to one. The fighting was fierce but it was all over in three days, and Gen. Narkiss became known as the liberator of Jerusalem.

Gen Narkiss is currently serving as the director of the Aliyah and Absorption Dept. of the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem. He is on a speaking tour of major U.S. cities in commemoration of the 24th Anni-



MRS. ESTHER MARKISH (R.), WIDOW OF MARTYRED RUSSIAN JEWISH POET PERETZ MARKISH, HAS THREATENED SUICIDE IF SHE AND HER SON DAVID (L.) ARE NOT PERMITTED TO LEAVE MOSCOW FOR ISRAEL.

versary of Israel's Independence.

He disclosed that of the 65,000 immigrants to Israel last year, 10,000 came from Russia and 9,000 from U.S. He said 30% of the Russians came from the province of Georgia, Stalin's birthplace. An interesting note, he explained, was that Georgians traditionally have their names end with "SHWILI." Stalin's real name was Josef Jugashvili.

Gen. Narkiss explained why Israel needs man power. More than 40,000 Arabs are gain-

fully employed in Israel, under excellent working conditions. There are very little street crimes like mugging in Jerusalem, still occupied by 70,000 Arabs. Jews walk the streets, even in Arab areas.

Accompanying the general on his tour were Col. Yerocham Amitai, director of Aliya Dept. for U.S. and Canada, and Zvi Ron, director of the regional office in Los Angeles.

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RUSSIAN JEW

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Jewish resistance. Leonid, his sister Ella, and their mother came to Israel after much harassment and frustration. In one incident a neighbor of the Machlis family was incited to throw a pot of boiling milk in Ella's face after they applied to leave for the Jewish state. Reaching their goal almost penniless, Leonid borrowed money to travel to America.

Leonid told the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry that his first stop was in Toronto, where he was able to meet with Mitchell Sharpe, the Canadian Foreign Minister, to ask his help for Vladimir Leonid

and a group of students also conducted an 1 1/2-hour Passover seder on an open telephone line to his brother in Moscow, who had gathered with friends to usher in the festival.

Vladimir's personal situation has become more precarious than ever, Leonid said. He is alone, dismissed from his job, without relatives or money. He receives constant refusals on his exit applications. Vladimir requested official permission to teach Hebrew privately, and was turned down on the grounds that the Soviet Ministry of Education has no official Hebrew program.

Leonid revealed to SSSJ that Vladimir became conscious of his Jewishness while training as a pilot. "He received a Bible from an old man at a synagogue and would learn Hebrew from it secretly at night under a blanket with a flashlight. He became more involved in Jewish activities and was almost brought to trial for this in 1966. Vladimir was constantly harassed by the KGB, but was spared the worst because of his proficiency in aviation. At the same time, he began to train as a historian so that he could study the Bible openly, but he now cannot work in this field." Leonid added that his brother headed the three-day December hunger strike in Moscow in solidarity with the Jews in the Soviet labor camps.

SOVIET JEWS IN TROUBLE

LONDON (WNS) -- Four Jews were arrested after participating in Holocaust memorial services at Rumbuli near Riga, it was learned here. Two of the Jews were sentenced to 15 day jail terms. Two others, from Minsk and Wilna were ordered to leave Riga.

Jews in Kiev were not permitted to hold memorial services at Babi Yar because, municipal authorities told them, "other nationalities were killed there."

Also in Kiev, Mr. and Mrs. Simon Bernstein began a three-day hunger strike to protest attempts to deprive the wife of custody of her 10-year-old daughter by a previous

marriage. The Bernstein's have applied for visas to go to Israel.

Sergie Gurvitz, a Jewish physicist who has been supporting himself by tutoring since being dismissed from a teaching post in Moscow, has been threatened with a year's imprisonment unless he accepts a job as a manual laborer in a factory.

Meanwhile, the British Dental Association has protested to the Soviet Ambassador and to the secretary of the Soviet Medical Scientific Society in Moscow against the continued imprisonment of Boris Azernikov, a Jewish dentist who has applied for a visa for Israel.

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