

INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM REAFFIRMS BASIC HUMAN RIGHT TO LEAVE ANY COUNTRY

NEW YORK -- The basic human right of every person "to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country" was reaffirmed by more than 70 experts in international law and related fields from 22 nations at an international colloquium held recently at Uppsala University, Sweden.

A Declaration on the Right To Leave and to Return, which they promulgated at the conclusion of the three-day meeting, is being sent to UN officials, governments throughout the world, colleges, universities and organizations concerned with human rights, in the hope that it will influence the laws and practices of governments and world opinion. The UN will be urged to adopt the principles of the Declaration and to issue them in a declaration and, hopefully, an international treaty.

The Uppsala meeting was organized jointly by the Uppsala University Faculty of Law, the American Jewish Committee's Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights, and the International Institute of Human Rights (Rene Cassin Foundation), Strasbourg. It was coordinated by Sidney Liskofsky, Director of AJC's Division of International Organizations, and by Karel Vasak, Secretary-General of the Strasbourg Institute.

The AJC delegation also included Bertram H. Gold, Executive Vice President, and Jerome Shestack of Philadelphia, Chairman of AJC's Committee on International Organizations. Mr. Shestack served as chairman of the international committee that drafted the Declaration.

Although freedom of movement in and out of the country is taken for granted by citizens of the U.S., similar freedom does not necessarily apply in some other countries. The right to emigrate and to return has been denied to most Jews in the Soviet Union, as well as to other ethnic groups. Related problems exist in other communist countries and in some Arab and African nations as well.

The colloquium was devoted mainly to seeking fuller definition and means of implementing

Article 13 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, which proclaimed the right of every individual to leave any country and to return to his own country. A draft convention based on Article 13 had been recommended to the U.N. in 1962, but action was repeatedly postponed due to the strong opposition of several nations including the Soviet Union.

The Uppsala Declaration spelled out in detail the way the right to leave and to return should be administered by national governments, and presented the following recommendations and cautions, among others:

* No person should be required to renounce his nationality, or be deprived of his nationality for seeking to leave a country. Neither should he be denied the right to leave because he wished to renounce or has renounced his nationality.

* Any person who wishes to leave a country should be permitted to take his personal prop-

erty with him, subject to general controls imposed to safeguard the national economy. He should be free to dispose of any property of monies within the country that cannot be taken out because of such controls.

* A person who believes he is being denied the right to leave should be free to contact the UN or other organizations to seek help. He should not be penalized for communicating with foreign consular or diplomatic officials in order to obtain travel documents.

In addition to the U.S. participants at the colloquium came from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Senegal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, West Germany, and Yugoslavia.

Founded in 1906, the American Jewish Committee is this country's pioneer human relations organization. It combats bigotry, protects the civil and religious rights of Jews at home and abroad, and seeks improved human relations for all people everywhere.

TEMPLE MT. SERVICES PREVENTED

JERUSALEM (WNS)

-- Police prevented 15 members of the Herut youth movement from holding prayer services on the Temple Mount on Tisha B'Av.

The Temple Mount is the site of the Mosque of Omar and the El Aksa Mosque and Jewish prayers on the Mount are not permitted.

City Councilman Gershon Solomon, who accompanied the youths, said he would appeal to Premier Golda Meir and Defense Minister Moshe Dayan, to lift the ban on Jewish prayers on the

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