

AMERICAN JEWS MUST HELP SOVIET BROTHERS

MONTREAL (WNS) -- The Council of Jewish Federations at its 48th General Assembly meeting adopted a resolution stressing agreement that American Jews will continue to provide help for all Jews who leave the Soviet Union. The resolution said that at the same time a commitment will be made to see to it that as many Soviet Jews as possible go to Israel.

The resolution noted that leaders of the 24 largest communities which settle more than 85 per cent of Soviet Jews in the United States met in Chicago Oct. 21 under the CJF auspices and agreed on these two basic principles. The resolution also noted that American Jewish communities have "a special challenge" to assure that Soviet Jews settling in the U.S. and Canada "are fully integrated into Jewish life,

that their sense of Jewishness is enhanced and that they are encouraged to be actively involved in the Jewish community."

A move to introduce an amendment to the resolution dealing with "noshrim" -- Soviet Jews who, upon arriving in Vienna, decide to go to countries other than Israel -- was narrowly defeated after a spirited discussion among the delegates. The amendment had earlier been defeated in the resolutions committee.

The amendment, initiated by the United Jewish Community of Bergen County, N.J., urged the appropriate organizations involved in the resettlement of Soviet Jews to notify all Soviet Jewish emigrants who arrive in Vienna that they will receive support from those agencies for resettlement in Israel. However, the amendment added, those Soviet Jews seeking to resettle in the U.S. would have to rely on personal or family funds to do so, unless they have first-degree relatives in the U.S. Under that circumstance, the amendment stated, they should receive special consideration.

The supporters of the amendment argued that the entire Soviet Jewry movement had been inspired by the State of Israel, that leaving the Soviet Union was a form of aliya since the emigrants had obtained visas by stating that they wanted to go to Israel and that, therefore, Israel should be their destination. The movement of Soviet Jews to countries other than Israel was contrary to the declared and accepted role of Israel as being central in Jewish life, the amendment's supporters claimed.

Vidal Sassoon & Israeli Consul General Benjamin Navon were speakers at the recent "Israel Dinner of State" at Caesar's Palace.

PALESTINE WEEK AT U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (WNS) -- A "Palestine Week" at the United Nations will feature a General Assembly debate on the Palestinian question, the screening of a UN-produced film entitled "Palestinians Do Have Rights," and an exhibition devoted to the "plight" of the Palestinians. While the week is sponsored by the UN it is actually designed and organized by the Palestine Liberation Organization. The week itself will culminate with the UN-declared "Palestine Day," coinciding with the date when the General Assembly recommended the partition of Palestine in 1947.

and to restore Palestinian rights, including the right for the Palestinians to return to their homes and to establish an independent Palestinian state. Blum said Israel will participate in the debate and will argue that the Palestinian Arabs already have a state of their own, Jordan, and that the Palestinian Arabs are Jordanian citizens.

According to Yehuda Blum, Israel's Ambassador to the UN, the debate on the Palestinian question will produce another resolution calling on Israel to end its occupation of the administered territories

The Israeli envoy said Israel, in order to counter the UN-produced film on the Palestinians, had obtained its own film entitled "THE PLO" and produced by a Swiss firm. The UN, however, he reported had rejected Israel's request to screen it at the UN on the basis that the Hammarskjöld Auditorium, where films are shown, screens only "cultural films." He said Israel asked for another facility to screen the film and this was being checked out.

ELON MOREH GOES BACK TO ARABS

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- A 30-day deadline from the Supreme Court was met with the return of some 30 acres seized by Elon Moreh settlers to their Arab owners. However, following the Cabinet decision last week, the remaining 150 acres used by the settlers are to be evacuated in four to six weeks.

Their owners had not appealed to the Supreme Court. The actual evacuation by the army was a minor

operation. The army removed several installations within the 30-acre area but none of the apartment buildings, all located in the area not mentioned in the Arab appeal, were moved. Since local Arab residents have made plain their intention to petition the Supreme Court for immediate eviction of settlers in all of Elon Moreh, there were reports of differences within the Gush Emunim, the settler's organization, on whether to obey the Cabinet order.

A majority in the Gush Secretariate agreed that conditions were not yet "ripe" to completely evacuate Elon Moreh. The minority which favors evacuation -- reportedly regards the recent government decision to extend the settlements in the territories as a reward sufficient to complete the evacuation. The minority view is that the proposed new site for the settlement at Jabl Kabir is close enough to Nablus but the majority said it was unacceptable that a Jewish village should be removed because of pressures from local Arabs.

Rabbi Moshe Leviner, a Gush leader, criticized Education Minister Zevlun Hammer, the main force behind the decision to

make the evacuation a two-stage process. for purportedly neglecting the "principal issue" -- the legal status of the lands to meet the Gush Emunim goal of Jews being able to settle anywhere in the territories without fear of Supreme Court "interference." Levinger added the Gush Emunim expected "more devotion" to Gush goals from Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon, the Cabinet's leading advocate of large scale settlement in the territories. Hammer favors planning large scale settlements also.

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