

DROPOUTS ARE REDUCED

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- The latest efforts to reduce the number of dropouts among Soviet Jews reaching Vienna resulted in doubling the proportion of those coming to Israel in the three weeks since the plan took effect. But the number of Jews leaving the USSR in that period totalled only 301 and the majority of them still went to countries other than Israel. World Zionist chairman Leon Dulzin reported Sept. 10 to the Knesset's Immigration and Absorption Committee.

The Jewish Agency inaugurated a new policy last month whereby only those Soviet Jewish emigres with first degree relatives in the U.S. or other western countries -- spouse, children or parents -- are referred to IIAS for immigration assistance. The others are required to go to Israel or fend for themselves.

Dulzin said the proportion coming to Israel in the three week period was 31 percent, up from about 15 percent

previously. Another 41 percent went to the U.S. where they have close relatives. The remaining 28 percent refused to go to Israel. Inasmuch as they could no longer travel elsewhere under IIAS patronage they sought help from other refugee organizations, including Christian bodies and the anti-Zionist Satmar Hasidic Rav Tov organization. Jewish Agency officials reported.

Dulzin's report triggered criticism from two committee members. Dov Zakin of Mapam and Dror Zeigerman of the Liberal Party wing of Likud blamed the Jewish agency for the sharp drop in Soviet aliya. They claimed that if action against the dropouts had been taken two years ago, the Soviet authorities would not have had the easy excuse to tighten existing restrictions on grounds that most of the Jewish emigres were going to the U.S.

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**B'NAI B'RITH URGES
AUSTRIA TO
OUST PLO**

WASHINGTON-B'nai B'rith International called on the government of Austria to expel the Palestine Liberation Organization and its representatives and urged the United Nations and Interpol to act to eliminate terrorist violence against humanity.

Describing the raid by Arab terrorists on worshipers in a Vienna synagogue last Saturday as "a new low of ignominy, Jack J. Spitzer, president of B'nai B'rith, said "whether the attack was the direct responsibility of PLO chief Yasir Arafat is hardly the point."

"The PLO's long record of murdering innocent civilians stands as a virtual mandate for any Arab with a weapon to commit the most destructive acts in the name of 'national liberation'."

Spitzer also urged "all other governments that have recognized the PLO to oust its representatives."

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