

EEC Members, Except Greece, Approve Sanctions Against Syria

PARIS (WNS) — Only Greece refused to condemn Syria or vote for the four-point sanctions program at the EEC's Ministers Conference in London, hosted by British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe. The sanctions themselves are considerably less than Britain demanded at an earlier EEC Ministers Conference in Luxembourg last month.

They call for a total ban on arms sales to Syria; suspension of high-level exchange visits between Syria and EEC countries; police surveillance of Syrian diplomatic missions; and security controls on the Syrian Arab airlines.

Britain broke diplomatic relations with Syria after charging that the Syrian Ambassador in London and his staff acted in collusion with Nezar Hindawi, the Jordanian national convicted of attempting to smuggle explosives aboard an El Al airliner at Heathrow Airport last April 17.

At the Luxembourg meeting, Howe had urged his EEC partners to follow Britain's lead, or at very least recall their Ambassadors from Damascus. In London he agreed to accept watered-down

sanctions in order, reportedly, to overcome the objections of Spain, Italy, France and West Germany.

The EEC Council of Ministers will set up an ad hoc working committee to implement the sanctions. But they are not considered likely to do Syria much harm. The ban on Western arms sales, the strongest measure, will be more than offset by the Soviet Union, which has long been Syria's major supplier

of weapons and military equipment.

France stopped arms shipments to Syria last March and Britain has sold only \$20 million worth of equipment to Syria over a three-year period, mainly communications equipment which Syria can easily obtain elsewhere.

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac of France and Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany agreed to back Britain while

preserving relations with Syria. France went along despite an announcement by a pro-Syrian group in Beirut that it would release three French hostages within 24 hours. Two of the hostages were released. Extremist Shiite groups in Lebanon with close links to Syria and Iran still hold eight French nationals hostage.

Another Sign Of The Times: Non-Smoker Guest Rooms

LAS VEGAS, NV. — In response to an increasing number of requests, the Tropicana Resort and Casino has inaugurated a policy designating sections of its 1900-plus rooms and suites for use of non-smokers only. Director of Hotel Operations Doug Ferrari issued the order which affects the 15th floor of both Trop towers (a total of about 60 rooms and mini-suites).

"We are pleased to be able to accommodate those customers who have indicated that they are uncomfortable in an atmosphere where smoking is permitted," observed Ferrari.

Under the new procedure the request for a non-smoker room will be handled as any other special request by those calling in for reservations. Non-smoker rooms will be blocked early in the day to assure their availability. Front desk clerks now routinely inquire as to guests' preference during each reservation request.

Committee For Soviet Jews Condemns Soviet Union

VIENNA (WNS) — A severe indictment of the Soviet Union, for harsh treatment of its Jewish citizens, particularly those seeking to emigrate, was lodged here on the eve of the East-West follow-up conference on implementation of the human rights provisions of the 1975 Helsinki accords.

The conference, attended by delegations from 35 countries and hundreds of observers, opened recently.

Abraham Harman, president of the Israeli Public Council for Soviet Jewry, told the media here that implementation of the Helsinki accords, in relation to Soviet Jews is a clear test of the integrity of the Helsinki Final Act.

The Committee for Jews in the Soviet Union, meanwhile presented a detailed report on the situation of Jews in the USSR which showed it to have deteriorated sharply despite the strengthening of the Helsinki human rights provisions at the Madrid follow-up conference in 1983. The Committee consists of representatives from Austria, Canada, France, Israel, Switzerland, Britain and the U.S.

The Committee's charges were supported by the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights, a Vienna-based non-governmental organization, and by the personal testimony of five prominent former Soviet Jewish refuseniks. Although they were allowed to emigrate after prolonged ordeals, their presence here is to appeal before an international forum for the release of next of kin still in the USSR.

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'Legends In Concert' Cast At Imperial Palace Visited By TV Celebs



Cast members from the award-winning show, "Legends in Concert," voted 1985 "Show of the Year," at the Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino were recently visited by television celebrities scouting a location for an upcoming HBO special about the showrooms and lounges of Las Vegas. Pictured left to right are: George Trullinger (Buddy Holly), Paul Schaeffer, musical director for the "David Letterman Show," Susan Griffiths (Marilyn Monroe), Harry Shearer, a former cast member of "Saturday Night Live," and Richie Sacks (Mario Lanza). "Legends in Concert," a show for all ages can be seen at 8 p.m. & 11 p.m. nightly (except Sundays). Cocktail shows are \$11.95 plus tax with a \$2.00 surcharge added on Saturday performances.

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