

UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/1515
~~E/CN.4/Sub.2/494~~
8 September 1981

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Thirty-eighth session
Item 12 of the draft provisional agenda */

Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities
Thirty-fourth session
Agenda item 6

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL
FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD WITH PARTICULAR
REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT
COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Note verbale dated 4 September 1981 from the Permanent Mission
of Israel to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to
the Division of Human Rights

"The Permanent Mission of Israel presents its compliments to the Division of Human Rights and has the honour to transmit to it the attached text.

The Permanent Mission of Israel would be grateful if the Division of Human Rights would kindly circulate this text as an official document of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities under item 6 of the agenda of the present session."

*/ E/1981/25, chapter XXVI.

Annex

The Permanent Mission of Israel calls again attention to the severe worsening of the situation over the past six months with respect to the treatment by the Soviet authorities of the Soviet Jewish minority.

This aggravation has found its expression first of all in the drastic reduction in the number of Jews being permitted to leave to reunite with their relatives in Israel. While 51,000 Jews were permitted to leave the USSR in 1979, this number was reduced to 21,000 in 1980 and if the present trend continues it will barely total 10,000 in the current year. In July 1981, only 789 Jews arrived at Vienna from the USSR, and in August the number was reduced to 430.

All this is occurring while thousands of Jewish applicants are being forced to wait indefinitely - some have already been waiting for 10 years or more - while separated from their loved ones and suffering cruel harassment by the authorities. Many thousands of others are being refused permission even to apply for emigration on totally unjustifiable grounds, while thousands of others are artificially prevented from receiving the invitations sent them by their relatives in Israel.

Moreover, ~~after~~ a brief period in which it seemed that the Soviet authorities had ceased to resort to judicial repression of Jewish activists, a new wave of arrest and trial of Victor Brailovski from Moscow, Kim Friedman and Vladimir Kislik from Kiev, as well as Stanislav Zubko, Yevgeny Lein from Leningrad, Osik Lokshin and Vladimir Tsukerman from Kishinev, have taken place in recent months.

The seven new prisoners of Zion, just as those serving their sentences from an earlier period, are being punished solely because of the expression of their desire to emigrate to their homeland.

As **part** of the arrests of Jewish activists, the authorities have greatly intensified also their suppression of Jewish cultural activities and scientific seminars, particularly teachers and students of private courses in Hebrew.

It must be recalled that the above-mentioned violations of rights are taking place against a background of unabated anti-semitic propaganda and agitation in the Soviet media and continued discrimination against Jews in education and employment.

The treatment of Soviet Jewry by the Soviet Government has long represented a series of major human rights violations. The recent intensification of the pressure on this minority represents an ominous regression in Soviet practices which must evoke protest from all parts of the civilized world.

4 September 1981