NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF ORTHODOX JEWISH COMMONTTIES

CENTRAL RABBINICAL CONGRESS OF THE U.S.A. & CANADA

For Immediate Release.

PRESS RELEASE

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The past few months have seen a tremendous upsurge in religious oppression in the State of Israel.

The mass media, echoing official government sentiments is spellbound to break the backbone of tradition by using a well organized terror-campaign against the remnants of traditional religious Jewry in Israel.

The secular regime in Israel has lately trampled on the feelings of not only Orthodox Jews but of the vast majority of religious people of all faiths by encouraging promotion of smut and pornography in 2 stores in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, the City revered for its holiness by the world's major faiths.

The Ministry of Defense has recently accelerated its drafting of religious girls, in clear defiance of their legally guaranteed right to an examption.

There has been no apreciable decrease in the vast number of post-morten autopsies of devout religious Jews, in spite of the express objections of their bereaved families.

But the climax was reached with the barbaric handling of the 2 Rabbinic students, Shmuel Weisenstern and Israel Bernath, who have been brutally sequestered for more than 4 months (including the High Holy days) for allegedly setting fire to a store of pornography in Tel Aviv, before even standing trial, denying any amount of bail and Collatoral. The Prosecution had publicly demanded an unbelievable 15-year-prison sentence, to serve ——— "as a warning to all religious Jews in Israel"

This clear disregard of any pretense of Due Process is unparallelled.

At the urging of leading Rabbinical authorities, 15,000 Orthodox Jews will Demonstrate in front of the Israel Consulate (800 2nd Avenue, at 42nd Street, N.Y.C.) Thursday, Sept. 28, 11:30 A.M., to protest the latest move by the Israeli Government to oppress religious Jewry in Israeli