

E/W - FRENCH APPEAL FOR SOVIET INTELLECTUALS

PARIS, SEPT 3 (REUTER) - A FRENCH CULTURAL ASSOCIATION TODAY APPEALED TO SOVIET PRIME MINISTER ALEXEI KOSYGIN TO RELEASE A SMALL GROUP OF YOUNG RUSSIAN INTELLECTUALS ARRESTED AFTER DEMONSTRATING IN FAVOUR OF CZECHOSLOVAK FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE.

THE ASSOCIATION, ARTS ET PROGRES, WAS FORMED TO SPONSOR CLOSER FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY BETWEEN YOUTHS FROM EASTERN AND WESTERN EUROPE. ITS SECRETARY SAID THE APPEAL, IN THE FORM OF A PETITION, WAS AIRMAILED TO THE KREMLIN TODAY.

IT CALLED FOR THE RELEASE OF MRS. LARISSA DANIEL, WIFE OF WRITER YURI DANIEL (NOW SERVING A SENTENCE IN A LABOUR CAMP FOR SLANDERING THE SOVIET STATE IN HIS WRITINGS), PAVEL LITVINOV, GRANDSON OF STALINS PRE-WAR FOREIGN MINISTER, AND A NUMBER OF OTHER YOUNG INTELLECTUALS ARRESTED DURING THE DEMONSTRATION IN RED SQUARE ON AUGUST 25.

MRS. DANIEL AND MR. LITVINOV HAVE BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT OF A DISSIDENT MOVEMENT STRUGGLING FOR INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM AND PROTESTING AGAINST THE TRIALS OF NON-CONFORMISTS.

TODAYS PETITION WAS SIGNED BY SCORES OF PERSONALITIES, INCLUDING FRENCH ACADEMICIAN AND NOVELIST JULES ROMAINS AND THE LEFT WING WRITER EMMANUEL DASTIER DE LA VIGERIE.

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