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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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Collection Name EUROPEAN AND SOVIET AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE, NSC : **Withdrawer**
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File Folder USSR-SOVIET JEWRY (EMIGRATION) (7) **FOIA**
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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
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F.Y.I.

JACOB BIRNBAUM

National Director
Center For Russian And East European Jewry

212-928-7451
212-795-8867
212-799-8902

240 Cabrinl Boulevard
New York, NY 10033

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

USSR
emigration

February 22, 1982

MEMORANDUM

TO: HA - Mr. Abrams
FROM: HA - Hugh Simon *HS*
SUBJECT: Your Meeting With Jacob Birnbaum

As his letter to you indicates (attached), he is pressing for the theme of opposition to cultural genocide of Soviet Jews to be incorporated into U.S.-Soviet relations. A copy of the standard USG response is also attached.

We have instructed the USDEL in Geneva to deplore the suppression of Jewish culture and harassment of Hebrew history seminars and language teaching. I have discussed this with him also.

It is feasible and desirable to move toward a greater focus on Soviet policies which suppress cultural, religious, and ethnic expression. We should not begin talking of cultural genocide, however, as it waters down the concept of genocide. (Some Hungarians in the U.S. want the term to be applied to Romanian policy toward Hungarians living in Romania.) We should assure Birnbaum that we have his interests at heart, but have to be the best judge of tactics in seeking to ease the situation of Jews in the Soviet Union.

Attachments:
As Stated.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority DOS Waiver
BY JN NARA DATE 3/14/2019

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

25 JAN 1982

Mr. Jacob Birnbaum
National Director
The Center for Russian Jewry
with Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry
210 West 91st Street
New York, NY 10024

Dear Mr. Birnbaum:

I am responding to your letter to Secretary Haig concerning the increasingly restrictive Soviet emigration policy and the repression of Jewish culture in the Soviet Union.

The United States Government recognizes the right of peoples in the Soviet Union and elsewhere to preserve and celebrate their own religious and cultural heritages and ethnic identities. This is a right which all states which signed the Helsinki Final Act are pledged to respect. In particular, we have called upon the Soviets to adopt a more liberal policy towards its Jewish citizens who have suffered persecution for their activities on behalf of cultural rights as well as towards those who have suffered because of their desire to emigrate to Israel. As you know, we raised these questions at the Madrid meeting to review compliance with the Helsinki Final Act.

Regrettably, the Soviets view the treatment of Jewish cultural and religious activists as well as Jewish emigration as internal policy matters. Our ability to influence them in this area is therefore limited. The Soviets further contest our right to present views in matters of emigration to third countries such as Israel where they acknowledge no direct U.S. interest. These factors, coupled with the current state of heightened bilateral tensions, work to reduce the effectiveness of our efforts in support of those who seek to preserve Jewish cultural heritage in the USSR and those who seek to emigrate to Israel.

Although we cannot be optimistic that we will soon be able to alleviate the plight of those suffering in the Soviet Union, we intend to continue to make every effort

-2-

of those who are imprisoned in the USSR for their
religious and cultural beliefs or who have been denied
permission to emigrate to Israel. Let me also assure you
that as we formulate our policies for dealing with the Soviet
Union, we continue to keep very much in mind the plight of
Soviet Jews.

Sincerely,

Ann Darbyshire
Officer-in-Charge
Bilateral Relations
Office of Soviet Union Affairs

Drafted: SOV/ALAGoodman: jh^{1/15/78}
1/15/78 ext. 21712 S/S #8133679
#2052

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JEWISH
EMIGRATION X

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
MESSAGE CENTER

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 2888 DTG: 111615Z MAR 82 PSN: 055210
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WHTS ASSIGNED DISTRIBUTION:
SIT: PUBS SIT EOB
EOB:

THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE DECIDED TO TAKE THE
CAMPAIGN AGAINST SOVIET JEWS BEGUN IN 1979
ANOTHER STEP FORWARD, EITHER BECAUSE THEY ARE
UNCONCERNED ABOUT INTERNATIONAL REPERCUSSIONS OR
BECAUSE OF DOMESTIC CONSIDERATIONS AND/OR
INTERNAL POLITICAL MANEUVERING. WE WOULD NOT,
HOWEVER, WANT TO CONCLUDE THEY HAVE TAKEN SUCH
A DRASTIC STEP WITHOUT FURTHER CHECKING WITH
OUR SOURCES HERE AND ABROAD. END COMMENT.
ZIMMERMANN
BT

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ MOSCOW 02888

MADRID FOR USDEL CSCE
GENEVA FOR USDEL UNHRC
E.O. 12065: RDS-4 3/11/02 (ZIMMERMANN, WARREN) OR-M
TAGS: SHUM, UR
SUBJECT: REPORTED SOVIET DECISION TO END JEWISH
- EMIGRATION

1. ~~8~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SEVERAL USUALLY RELIABLE LOCAL JEWISH ACTIVISTS
HAVE INFORMED US THAT OVIRS IN A NUMBER OF CITIES,
INCLUDING MOSCOW, STOPPED ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR
EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO. OVIR
OFFICIALS IN SOME LOCALITIES, ACCORDING TO OUR
SOURCES, HAVE INFORMED PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS THAT
"JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM THE SOVIET UNION HAS COME
TO AN END."

3. NEEDLESS TO SAY, OUR SOURCES ARE EXTREMELY
DISHEARTENED BY THIS INFORMATION AND WONDER
WHETHER IT IS YET ANOTHER MOVE IN THE SOVIET
AUTHORITIES' "GAME" WITH THE REFUSENIKS OR IF
IT INDICATES THAT THE SOVIETS REALLY HAVE FINALLY
DECIDED TO END JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM THE SOVIET
UNION. THESE ACTIVISTS ARE INCLINED TO THE
LATTER INTERPRETATION.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE THAT
THIS INFORMATION IS ACCURATE, WE HESITATE TO CONCLUDE
AS YET THAT THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP HAS DECIDED
ON A LONG-TERM, OR EVEN TEMPORARY, TERMINATION
OF JEWISH EMIGRATION. THE SOVIETS MAY BE
DISSEMINATING THE INFORMATION MERELY TO DIS-
COURAGE MORE JEWS FROM APPLYING TO EMIGRATE OR
ATTEMPTING TO USE THE ISSUE TO GAIN SOME
LEVERAGE OVER THE U.S. AND OTHER WESTERN
COUNTRIES ON CSCE. IT IS POSSIBLE, OF COURSE,

DECLASSIFIED
Authority DOS Waiver
BY JN NARA DATE 3/14/2009

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

A K OXHYDZYRIAN

BC-NOR-SUN 3-21

ANDERSON COLUMN

SUBSCRIBERS ONLY

ADVANCE FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 21

BY JACK ANDERSON

UNITED FEATURES

~~Dieter Pines~~
Paula Dobrunsky
pvt
Murtack

+WASHINGTON - THERE HAS BEEN A TRAGIC SIDE EFFECT OF PRESIDENT REAGAN'S HARD LINE WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THE KREMLIN APPARENTLY HAS DECIDED THERE IS NOTHING TO BE GAINED BY CONTINUING THE ALL-TOO-BRIEF RELAXATION OF ITS GRIP ON JEWISH CITIZENS.

THE FLIGHT OF SOVIET JEWS HAS DETERIORATED DRASTICALLY. THE EMIGRATION OF SOVIET JEWS; FOR EXAMPLE; HAS COME TO A VIRTUAL HALT. THIS CLOSING OF THE ESCAPE HATCH IS BAD ENOUGH; BUT IT HAS ALSO COINCIDED WITH A DISTURBING INCREASE IN OFFICIALLY BLESSED ANTI-SEMITISM.

IF EVER SOVIET JEWS NEEDED TO GET OUT; IT IS NOW. BUT THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE IT ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO MEET THE OFFICIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EMIGRANT VISAS. FROM AN AVERAGE OF 30,000 A YEAR DURING THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION; THE NUMBER OF JEWS ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE SOVIET UNION HAS DROPPED TO A TRICKLE. LAST MONTH; FOR EXAMPLE; ONLY 283 SOVIET JEWS WERE PERMITTED TO EMIGRATE.

MY REPORTERS LUCETTE LAGNADO AND JEFF NESBIT HAVE COMPILED DISTURBING EVIDENCE OF THE KREMLIN'S LATEST CRACKDOWN ON ITS UNHAPPY JEWISH POPULATION. HERE ARE SOME OF THE UGLIER MANIFESTATIONS:

- THE STATE-CONTROLLED PRESS FREQUENTLY CARRIES VICIOUS CARTOON CARICATURES OF JEWS WITH LARGE HOOKED NOSES AND UNSHAVEN JOWLS - A PRACTICE REMINISCENT OF NAZI GERMANY.
- THE SOVIET STATE PUBLISHING HOUSE HAS PRODUCED A VIRULENTLY ANTI-SEMITIC BOOK TITLED; "INVASION WITHOUT ARMS;" BY AN OTHERWISE UNKNOWN AUTHOR; VLADIMIR BEGUN. IT DESCRIBES THE OLD TESTAMENT AS AN "UNSURPASSED TEXTBOOK (OF) HYPOCRISY; PERFDY AND MORAL DEGENERACY."
- THERE ARE REPEATED DEROGATORY REFERENCES IN THE SOVIET PRESS TO PERSONS WITH IDENTIFIABLY JEWISH NAMES. ONE ARTICLE CLAIMED THAT AMERICAN CAPITALISM IS "LED BY THE LEHMANS; LAZARDES; BLAUNSTEINS; STILLMANS; WARBURGS; KUHS; GUGGENHEIMS; LOEBS; KAHNS; ROSENWALDS AND SCHIFFS."
- THE SOVIET PRESS ROUTINELY REFERS TO JEWS AS "CRIMINALS AND GANGSTERS;" AND EVEN FANTASIZES A "JEWISH-SICILIAN MAFIA."
- ANTI-SEMITIC MATERIAL HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO RED ARMY RECRUITS AND PUBLISHED IN OFFICIAL MILITARY JOURNALS.
- THE TEACHING OF HEBREW IS OUTLANED; AND IN RECENT MONTHS MORE THAN 80 CLANDESTINE TEACHERS OF THE LANGUAGE IN MOSCOW ALONE HAVE BEEN THREATENED WITH PROSECUTION AND BANISHMENT IF THEY CONTINUE THEIR ACTIVITIES. HOMES HAVE BEEN RAIDED TO SEIZE INCRIMINATING INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL.

NO CALUMNY IS TOO FARFETCHED FOR THE SOVIET STABLE OF ANTI-SEMITIC HACKS. INCREDIBLY; A NUMBER OF ARTICLES IN THE PRESS ACCUSED THE JEWS OF COLLABORATING WITH ADOLF HITLER TO DESTROY THE SOVIET UNION. JEWS HAVE BEEN ACCUSED OF "STIMULATING ANTI-SEMITISM AND SETTING FIRE TO

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Authority NLR-170-17-27-3-2

BY JN NARA DATE 3/14/2019

SYNAGOGUES IN ORDER TO SETTLE IN ISRAEL.

IN THIS FRIGHTENING ATMOSPHERE, IT'S NO WONDER SOVIET JEWS ARE DESPERATE TO LEAVE THEIR HOMELAND. EXPERTS ESTIMATE THAT MORE THAN 350,000 HAVE TAKEN AT LEAST THE FIRST STEP IN THE AGONIZINGLY SLOW PROCESS OF OBTAINING EMIGRATION PERMITS.

BUT FROM BEING MERELY CUMBERSOME AND BUREAUCRATICALLY COMPLEX, THE EMIGRATION PROCESS HAS NOW BECOME VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE.

FOR EXAMPLE, TO APPLY FOR AN EXIT VISA, A SOVIET CITIZEN MUST FIRST PRODUCE AN AFFIDAVIT FROM A CLOSE RELATIVE IN ANOTHER COUNTRY STATING A DESIRE TO HAVE THE FAMILY REUNITED. BUT SOVIET POSTAL AUTHORITIES HAVE SIMPLY STOPPED DELIVERING MANY OF THESE AFFIDAVITS WHEN THEY ARRIVE. AND TO MAKE SURE NO ONE SNUGGLES THE PRECIOUS DOCUMENTS INTO THE COUNTRY, EMIGRATION OFFICIALS ARE NOW REQUIRING VISA APPLICANTS TO SUBMIT STAMPED ENVELOPES ALONG WITH THE AFFIDAVITS.

FURTHERMORE, "REFUSENIKS," AS THOSE WHO REQUEST EMIGRATION ARE CALLED, RUN A SERIOUS RISK OF LOSING THEIR JOBS WHEN THEY APPLY. THEY MUST RECEIVE PERMISSION FROM THEIR PARENTS, THEIR BOSS AND ANY OTHER "SUPERIOR" - EVEN THEIR LANDLORD. IF THE REQUEST FAILS AT ANY STAGE, THE APPLICANT IS INVARIABLY FIRED AND THE WHOLE FAMILY IS OSTRACIZED IN THE COMMUNITY. EXPERTS SAY THERE ARE AT LEAST 10,000 SOVIET JEWS WHO ARE IN THIS WRETCHED LIMBO.

"I KNOW WE'VE CRIED 'WOLF!' BEFORE," SAID DAVID HARRIS OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY. "BUT THIS IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE WORST OF TIMES. WE'RE TALKING ABOUT THE END OF EMIGRATION."

THE DRASTIC DECLINE IN JEWISH EMIGRATION WAS REFLECTED THE DETERIORATION IN U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, SINCE THE INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN AND THE BREAKDOWN OF THE SALT TALKS.

INFURIATED BY AMERICAN WITHDRAWAL FROM THE OLYMPIC GAMES BECAUSE OF SOVIET AGGRESSION IN AFGHANISTAN, THE KREMLIN EVIDENTLY DECIDED A CLAMPDOWN ON JEWISH EMIGRATION WAS ONE WAY IT COULD GET BACK AT JIMMY CARTER. APPARENTLY, THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO DEPRIVE HIM OF CAMPAIGN POINTS WITH JEWISH VOTERS ON THE EVE OF THE 1980 ELECTION.

BY NO COINCIDENCE, THE NUMBER OF JEWISH EMIGRANTS PER MONTH FIRST FELL BELOW 1,000 IN AUGUST 1980 - WHEN THE U.S.-LED BOYCOTT OF THE MOSCOW OLYMPICS TOOK EFFECT.

THE EMIGRATION SITUATION HAS GROWN WORSE DURING THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION, WHICH HAS PUT NEW EMPHASIS ON COMBATING THE RED MENACE. THE RHETORIC EMANATING FROM THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS GIVEN SOVIET LEADERS LITTLE INCENTIVE TO LET ITS JEWS GO AS A FAVOR TO THE UNITED STATES.

YET FOR ALL HIS TOUGH TALK, REAGAN PASSED UP A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO EXTRACT SOME COOPERATION FROM THE SOVIETS WHEN HE ENDED THE GRAIN EMBARGO. THE WHITE HOUSE WAS REPEATEDLY ASKED TO USE THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO TO WIN CONCESSIONS ON JEWISH EMIGRATION - BUT REFUSED TO DO SO.

SYMBOLS IN ORDER TO SETTLE IN ISRAEL. **

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1980

Emigration 1

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

March 24, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR L. PAUL BREMER, III
Executive Secretary
Department of State

SUBJECT: HJR-373 on the Practice of Human Rights in
the Soviet Union

We have reviewed and concur in House Joint Resolution 373
expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of
the Soviet Union should respect the rights of its citizens
to practice their religion and to emigrate.

Michael O. Wheeler
Staff Secretary

Attachment

DECLASSIFIED / Released
Authority NLR-170-17-27-4-1
BY JN NARA DATE 3/14/2019

Ninety-seventh Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the twenty-fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-two



Joint Resolution

Expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of the Soviet Union should respect the rights of its citizens to practice their religion and to emigrate, and that these matters should be among the issues raised at the thirty-eighth meeting of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights at Geneva in February 1982.

Whereas the Soviet authorities have mounted a triple assault on their Jewish community, (1) the number of Jews allowed to emigrate has been reduced from a high of four thousand seven hundred and forty-six in the month of October 1979 to a total of only nine thousand four hundred in all of 1981, the lowest number since emigration began, (2) frequent harassments, arrests, and trials have become an almost daily occurrence, and (3) unparalleled assaults on Jewish self-study groups occur in the major urban areas; and

Whereas such harassment and obstacles to free movement violate the obligations of the Soviet Union to respect the rights of freedom of thought, conscience, expression, religion, and emigration, as provided for in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe at Helsinki, and the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it is the sense of the Congress that—

(1) the President should instruct the United States delegation to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights meeting in Geneva in February 1982 to carry to the Commission the message that the Soviet Union should respect the rights of its citizens to practice their religion and to emigrate, should stop its harassments, arrests, and trials of the members of its Jewish community, and should stop its assaults on Jewish self-study groups;

(2) the Government of the Soviet Union should comply with its obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe at Helsinki, and the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, by ceasing the indiscriminate arrests and trials of Jewish activists, by ending the assaults on Jewish self-study groups, and by opening its doors to those who wish to emigrate;

(3) the President should express to the Government of the Soviet Union the strong and continuing opposition of the United States to such harassment of its citizenry, and the obstacles it presents to those who wish to emigrate; and

(4) the President should reiterate to the Government of the Soviet Union that the United States, in evaluating its relations

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Department of State

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION 01 OF 02 ROME 07883

INS FOR COREP REBSAMEN; ATHENS AND VIENNA FOR INS

E.O. 12065: GDS 3/30/88 (BRIDGES, PETER S.) OR-M
TAGS: SREF, SHUM, CVIS, IT
SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENTS AS OF MARCH 30 CONCERNING GROUP OF
SOVIET JEWS SEEKING ENTRY AS REFUGEES

REFS: A) ROME 6956, B) STATE 80430, C) ROME 2498,
D) STATE 48928

1. ~~CONF-ENTIRE~~ TEXT.

2. EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES (INCLUDING INS) MET ONCE MORE ON MARCH 30 WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EX-SOVIET JEWS SEEKING ENTRY INTO THE U.S. AS REFUGEES. WHILE THE 90-MINUTE MEETING WAS GOING ON, A DEMONSTRATION OF APPROXIMATELY 30 PEOPLE WAS HELD OUTSIDE THE CHANCERY. THE GROUP REPRESENTATIVES REPEATED THEIR REQUESTS THAT A HUMANITARIAN EXCEPTION BE MADE AND THAT THEY BE ALLOWED INTO THE UNITED STATES AS REFUGEES. THEY AGAIN INSISTED THAT OTHERS IN THEIR EXACT CIRCUMSTANCES HAD BEEN ADMITTED IN THE PAST. THEY ARE ATTEMPTING TO ADD FORCE TO THEIR DEMANDS BY INTENSIFYING THE HUNGER STRIKE UPON WHICH 14 OF THE MEN EMBARKED MARCH 10. (THE PRESS REPORTS THAT THREE OF THE STRIKERS ARE NOW IN THE HOSPITAL.)

3. THE GROUP WAS AGAIN TOLD THAT BY U.S. LAW THEY WERE NO LONGER ELIGIBLE FOR REFUGEE STATUS, THAT WE WERE UNAWARE OF ANY WHO IN THEIR EXACT CIRCUMSTANCES MIGHT HAVE BEEN ADMITTED IN THE RECENT PAST, THAT IN ANY CASE THE FILES OF SUCH PEOPLE WOULD HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED TO THE UNITED STATES MAKING VERIFICATION DIFFICULT, AND FINALLY THAT IF ANY HAD BEEN IMPROPERLY ADMITTED THIS DID NOT CONSTITUTE A LEGITIMATE PRECEDENT IN THEIR CASE. WE FURTHER REPEATED THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO CONSIDER ANY APPLICATIONS THEY MIGHT MAKE FOR IMMIGRANT VISAS TO THE US. HOWEVER, SUCH A PROCEDURE WAS A LENGTHY ONE DESPITE OUR BEST EFFORTS, AND WE COULD NOT OFFER THEM EARLIER ENTRY THAN THOSE WHO MIGHT HAVE FILED FOR EQUIVALENT VISAS AHEAD OF THEM. IN ANY CASE, NO ONE COULD BE GUARANTEED SUCH ENTRY AT THIS STAGE, AND THEY SHOULD THINK SERIOUSLY OF MAKING THEIR LIVES ELSEWHERE INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF RETURNING TO ISRAEL.

4. EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSED GREAT SYMPATHY FOR THE PLIGHT OF THIS GROUP WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN MISINFORMED CONCERNING THEIR PROSPECTS UPON THEIR EXIT FROM THE SOVIET UNION IN VIENNA AND PRESUMABLY AGAIN UPON THEIR DEPARTURE FROM ISRAEL. UNFORTUNATELY, THE RESPONSE OF THE GROUP CONTINUES TO BE AN APPARENT COMPLETE REFUSAL TO ACCEPT OUR REASONING AND A BLIND HOPE THAT CONTINUED AGITATION, INCLUDING INTENSIFICATION OF THE HUNGER STRIKE, CAN BRING SOME CHANGE IN OUR POLICY. ON MARCH 29, THE GROUP GAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH THEY ANNOUNCED

THEIR INTENTION TO INCREASE THEIR PRESSURE BY ABSTAINING FROM THE THREE CUPS OF CAPPUCCINO WHICH THE MEN HAVE BEEN TAKING DAILY. SOME OF THE WOMEN HAVE INSISTED THAT THEY AND THE CHILDREN WILL JOIN THEIR HUSBANDS IN THE HUNGER STRIKE. FINALLY, ONE OLDER MAN REPORTEDLY THREATENED TO BURN HIMSELF TO DEATH IN FRONT OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY, A POSSIBILITY RAISED AGAIN ON MARCH 30 BY A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION.

5. THE HUNGER STRIKE IS ALSO SECONDARILY DIRECTED AT THE CANADIAN AND AUSTRALIAN EMBASSIES, AND AT THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT FROM WHICH THE GROUP SEEKS HEALTH CARE, SCHOOLING AND WORK PERMITS. IT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED THAT THE COMMUNIST MAYOR OF ROME HAS AGREED TO EXTEND HEALTH CARE AND MAKE PROVISION FOR SOME SCHOOLING. THE QUESTION OF WORK PERMITS IS NOT WITHIN HIS COMPETENCE.

6. WHILE THE SLIGHT PRESS COVERAGE CONTINUES TO BE RELATIVELY BALANCED, MEDIA INTEREST IS GROWING. THE MARCH 24 ISSUE OF "LOTTA CONTINUA", A FAR LEFT MARXIST NEWSPAPER, CONTAINED AN ARTICLE SYMPATHETIC TO THE HUNGER STRIKERS, REPORTING THAT "SEVERAL DAYS AGO A DELEGATION COMPOSED OF THE WOMEN WHO WERE NOT FASTING MET WITH MR. SCOTT, A FUNCTIONARY OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. THEY SPOKE OF THE COLDNESS OF THIS BUREAUCRAT, AND HOW HE CLAIMED TO BE IGNORANT OF THE FACT THAT TWENTY FAMILIES WHO HAD INITIALLY BELONGED TO THIS GROUP HAD GONE TO THE UNITED STATES AS REFUGEES, NOTWITHSTANDING HAVING THE SAME JURIDICAL STATUS AS THOSE WHO ARE NOW STRIKING." (SCOTT IS A POLITICAL OFFICER AT THE EMBASSY.)

*Results of going
to Israel first*

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

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ACTION RP-10

INFO	OCT-00	ADS-00	<u>INR-10</u>	EUR-12	CIAE-00	NEA-06	NSAE-00
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 AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
 AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

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7. COMMENT: NOTWITHSTANDING JOURNALISTIC ACCUSATIONS OF OUR UNFEELING ATTITUDE, THE EMBASSY CONTINUES TO DO ITS BEST TO SHOW ITS SYMPATHY TO THE PLIGHT OF THESE PEOPLE, WHILE ATTEMPTING TO BRING THEM TO A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF THE LIMITS OF OUR OWN POSSIBILITIES AND OF THEIR OWN BEST INTERESTS. WE, THEREFORE, CONTINUE TO ASSURE THEM OF OUR WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH THEM WHEN REQUESTED, BUT AT THE SAME TIME WE HAVE INSISTED THAT THEIR LACK OF STATUS AS REFUGEES IS NOT SOMETHING THAT WE CAN CHANGE, IT BEING, AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, AN UNAVOIDABLE LEGAL CONSEQUENCE OF THEIR HAVING FIRST SPENT SOME TIME IN ISRAEL.

BRIDGES

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INCOMING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01
ACTION EUR-12

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INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NEA-07
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INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 02758

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, UR, NL

SUBJECT: PETITION ON SOVIET JEWRY PRESENTED TO FOREIGN
MINISTER

A DELEGATION OF RELIGIOUS FIGURES, ACADEMICS AND STUDENTS
HAVE PRESENTED TO FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL A PETI-
TION IN SUPPORT OF SOVIET JEWRY WITH 800,000 SIGNATURES.
THE PETITION, SPONSORED BY THE "ONE MILLION SIGNATURES
FOR SOVIET JEWRY" ACTION GROUP, CALLS ATTENTION TO THE
DETERIORATING POSITION OF JEWS AND JEWISH LIFE IN THE
SOVIET UNION, AND WILL BE PRESENTED WITH SIMILAR
PETITIONS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
IN MAY. VAN DER STOEL ACCEPTED THE SIGNATURES WITH A
STATEMENT THAT HE REGARDED THE ACTION AS AN EXPRESSION
OF DUTCH CONCERN FOR THE FATE OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE.
BOGGS

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Authority NLR-170-17-27285
BY JN NARA DATE 3/17/2019

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This report was produced by a staff member of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research. It is the analyst's initial assessment and has not been reviewed at the Bureau level.

INR ANALYST'S BRIEF: ERRONEOUS PRESS REPORT THAT SOVIET JEWISH AUTONOMOUS OBLAST ABOLISHED

A Russian-language New York paper (Novoye Russkoye Slovo, April 2, 1982) published an erroneous report that the USSR has abolished the Jewish Autonomous Oblast (also known as Birobidzhan) on December 2, 1981, along with four other autonomous oblasts located on the territory of the Russian Republic (RSFSR). We are calling attention to this error because of wide interest in the status of Jews in the USSR and the possibility that the Department may receive inquiries about the report.

* * *

What actually happened was that on November 30, 1981, the Presidium of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet issued a resolution approving the texts of new constitutions for five of its autonomous oblasts, including the Jewish Autonomous Oblast. The texts of the five constitutions, all dated December 2, 1981, appeared in the official gazette of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet (Vedomosti Verkhovnogo Soveta RSFSR, No. 49, December 10, 1981). The new constitutions were issued as part of a program to bring the constitutional structure of the Soviet multi-national federal state into conformity with the new Soviet Constitution of 1977.

The press report, though erroneous, was at least plausible because the Jewish Autonomous Oblast has been in a state of decline since the end of World War II. It was created in the early 1930's in the Soviet Far East, just west of Khabarovsk, as a national homeland for Soviet Jews. After an initial period of well-publicized support by the Soviet regime as a center of Jewish national and cultural life, it soon felt the effects of Stalin's increasingly anti-Semitic policies. Its Jewish population dropped steadily: from 30,000 in 1948, to 14,000 in 1959, to 11,000 in 1970. The exodus of Jews from the

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oblast has since continued and the current number of Jews living there is barely at token level. Abolition of the oblast would signify the end of an unsuccessful experiment, but Moscow knows that it would also be widely viewed as evidence of anti-Semitism. In any case, the Soviet regime would be most unlikely to liquidate its Jewish state just after granting it a new constitution.



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HA
USSR-
emigration

(U) SOVIET CITIZENSHIP AND EMIGRATION:
PROCEDURES, LINKAGES, IMPLICATIONS

(~~LOU~~) Summary

According to USSR legal doctrine, only the state can decide if a Soviet citizen may change citizenship. The 1979 Law on Soviet Citizenship empowers the government to withdraw citizenship as punishment for disloyalty. It also permits an individual to petition for withdrawal of citizenship. But Soviet emigration policy is inconsistent in that only Jewish emigrants are required to renounce their citizenship as a condition of emigration. The failure of the authorities to deprive other emigrants of citizenship when they leave means that they remain Soviet citizens in the eyes of Soviet law.

A curious but so far rarely used feature of the law permits withdrawal of citizenship prior to emigration; this has the effect of transforming a Soviet citizen into a stateless person with the legal status of a foreign national while still in the USSR. Travel of such a person abroad is then governed not by Soviet emigration procedures, but by the Law on the Status of Foreigners in the USSR. This provision is of interest as a potential method for resolving difficult emigration cases, especially those involving dual citizenship or where the authorities are prepared to allow the emigration of a citizen but find the use of conventional emigration procedures awkward.

The Law on Soviet Citizenship and the Law on the Status of Foreigners in the USSR have interlocking provisions. They allow, for example, Soviet authorities to exercise a degree of special control over Jews who renounce their citizenship as part of the emigration process but then fail to emigrate, remaining in the USSR as stateless persons. The Law on Soviet Citizenship can also

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place in jeopardy emigres and their children who travel to the USSR believing that they hold only the citizenship of their adopted country. USSR law regards a person as a Soviet citizen regardless of place of birth or length of residence abroad if both parents were Soviet citizens when the child was born.

* * * * *

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SOVIET JEWS

under SOVIET LAW

Editors: Joel Ackerman and Laurel Gould

March-April 1982 Vol. 1 No. 3

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EMIGRATION: A HISTORY IN BRIEF

The Soviet Union has no emigration laws or statutes. No written refusals are rendered to applicants, and there is no specified waiting period in which permission to emigrate will be granted or refused.

Emigration has been permitted on the basis of "reunification of families". As such, exit visas have been granted to Soviet citizens of German, Polish, Greek, Spanish, Mongolian and Korean nationalities who sought to be reunited with their kin in states where that nationality predominated. Emigration of Jews has been permitted since the creation of the State of Israel.

Soviet policy of controlled Jewish emigration remains in force, and the flow of emigrants is adjusted to suit international or domestic needs.

In August, 1972, presumably in order to prevent a "brain drain", the authorities imposed a "diploma" tax on Jews with higher education. The tax, sometimes as high as \$20,000 - \$25,000 per person was rescinded in March, 1973, after a massive world outcry.

The Kremlin subsequently used a variety of harassment and intimidation tactics to discourage Jewish emigration, including military conscription, university expulsion, demotion or dismissal from jobs, deprivation of apartments, threats of arrest, trials and imprisonments.

This intimidation was accompanied by stepped up refusals to emigration applicants, thereby creating a "refusenik" community. The refusenik has become an object lesson for others who would venture to apply for an exit visa.

Fears - often unjustified - that emigrants would carry secrets to the West resulted in many refusals. Other Soviet bureaucrats feared the impact that large scale Jewish emigration would have on other national groups.

A critical factor affecting the rate of Jewish emigration is the USSR's desire for detente and trade with the West - especially with the U.S. The early years of Soviet Jewish emigration included the threat of Soviet-Chinese conflict, hence the need to stabilize relations with the U.S. United States advancements in nuclear and missile weaponry further increased Soviet need for reduction in tensions. Lagging productivity rates within the USSR, in the early 1970s, increased the need for large-scale advanced technology, including computers and electronics, and a variety of other goods and equipment from the West. Additionally, there is often an uncertainty of adequate grain harvests in the USSR - another factor in the trade picture. The treatment of Soviet Jews, and the flow of Jewish emigrants is used as an international bargaining factor by the Kremlin.

Over 350,000 Jews have emigrated since 1948. They leave for reasons of Soviet anti-Semitism, to build a Jewish life in Israel, or to satisfy personal needs.

Recent restrictive practices have made it increasingly difficult for Jews to leave, and emigration has dropped over 70 percent from a 1979 high. Officials issue visas mainly to those who have received invitation-affidavits from first-degree relatives - parents, spouses, siblings or children.

Since their right to leave is conditioned by factors - domestic and international - over which they have no control, the fate of Soviet Jews becomes more tenuous. They consider themselves virtually as "hostages".

"SCHNELL, SCHNELL...A DELIBERATE PROVOCATION"

Moscow refusenik Boris Chernobilsky was convicted of resisting the police, and sentenced to one year in labor camp on December 9. Chernobilsky has been denied permission to emigrate since 1976.

On May 10, Chernobilsky, along with approximately 100 Jews gathered in a forest on the outskirts of Moscow to celebrate the anniversary of the victory over Fascist Germany, and to commemorate the Holocaust. Many other groups were celebrating "Victory Day" in the forest.

Eventually, Chernobilsky's group was approached by several militiamen, led by Lieutenant A.M. Grechko who inquired (politely, he said), whether they had a permit to assemble. (A permit was required under a new ordinance passed the previous month, considered, by refuseniks, to have been promulgated primarily to prevent gatherings to celebrate Jewish holidays in Moscow's public parks). Since the group had no permit, they were told to pack and leave. This took some time, especially since a number of small children were present.

Testimony was presented that, during the time the group was pressed to leave, Lieutenant Grechko and his militiamen shouted the German words "schnell, schnell" ("quickly"). As one witness said: "They must have known it was a hated word, used by the Nazis to press Jews onto death trains. Those that heard the police talk like that felt their blood boil. It was a deliberate provocation."

During this time, Grechko approached Chernobilsky and addressed him by name. (That Grechko did not know Chernobilsky is clear from the fact that, on a later occasion, he misidentified another man as the accused). Chernobilsky turned away and said to an acquaintance: "Don't talk to these fascists", or words to that effect.

At the trial, Grechko claimed that Chernobilsky refused to produce his identification, pulled his arm away from Grechko's grip, struck the officer on the arm, and tried to hide in the crowd.

Chernobilsky's statement, corroborated by ten witnesses, specified that he was not asked to show any identification, was not gripped by the officer, did not strike him, and did not move away. Subsequently, the group left the area.

MILITIAMEN AND KGB AGENTS SURROUNDED THE JEWS - ONLY THE JEWS - AND PRESSED THEM TO LEAVE THE FOREST WHILE USING FASCIST-TYPE EXPRESSIONS AS "SCHNELL, SCHNELL". WHO WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONTAIN HIMSELF WHEN HEARING THESE EXPRESSIONS? OR SEEING FRIGHTENED CHILDREN CRY? WHO COULD? ON THAT DAY?

- - ELENA CHERNOBILSKY

No action was taken against Chernobilsky for approximately a month after the incident when he was arrested and released on his own recognizance. He did not appear at the scheduled date in July; a warrant was served on him at the end of November.

At the trial, the charge against Chernobilsky was reduced from resisting an officer with the use of force to simply resisting an officer (RSFSR Criminal Code, Article 190-1, 2nd paragraph).

A UPI press release described the sentence as "surprisingly light". Be that as it may, the evidence clearly shows that no crime was committed, thus making a labor camp sentence for "even" one year a harsh punishment for an innocent person.

INSIGHT: DEMONSTRATIONS, PROTESTS AND PUBLIC GATHERINGS

During the past ten years, Jews in the USSR have conducted a variety of public activities to highlight their emigration difficulties, and to protest arbitrary, repressive acts of Soviet officials.

They have demonstrated with placards, gathered outside courthouses during criminal trials of refuseniks, and held group visits - at times assembled from several cities - to government offices.

A significant development in their public activities occurred in Moscow in 1977 with the formation of the "Womens' Liberation Group". This group, subsequently expanded, was started by twenty-four refuseniks; many of them were separated from parents, children or husbands who had been given permission to emigrate to Israel. The women actively pursued meetings with officials, and insisted upon permission to emigrate, or a specific, valid reason for their respective refusals.

Also, Soviet Jews gather in public places to assert their Jewish identity. In several cities, applicants for emigration permits and non-applicants gather, in large numbers, outside synagogues. They also hold celebrations, during the holidays, in parks and forests on the Sabbath and Jewish holidays.

They assemble when seeking to memorialize Jews massacred by the Nazis in areas such as Kiev's Babi Yar, and Rumboli forest near Riga, in the Latvian republic.

The right to demonstrate and otherwise publicly assemble is "guaranteed" by Article 50 of the USSR Constitution; the right to complain against acts of officials is provided by Article 58. Both are reproduced below.

The Constitution notwithstanding, the holding of public protests, demonstrations, or other gatherings, involves serious risks. Soviet officials, although bound by Article 4 of the Constitution to observe its provisions, often choose to ignore their obligation. Since courts lack the power to hold officials' acts unconstitutional, such

violations may be freely accomplished.

Thus, police have prevented and broken up numerous demonstrations, and have hauled off participants often for interrogation and/or detention. In June, 1978, Moscow Womens' Group members, intending to demonstrate, were placed under house arrest immediately upon assembling in two apartments. Their attempts to demonstrate in the apartments, with signs pinned to their clothing, were aborted when KGB attacked the women with nail-studded sticks ripping away their signs.

Argument has been made that demonstrations conducted for the purpose of calling attention to violations of law by officials are held in order to strengthen and develop the socialist system, and are therefore the type specified by the Constitution. However, since Soviet officials regard themselves as the determinators of the "interests of the people" such arguments recede to the realm of theory.

Thus, in Kishinev, in 1981, refuseniks Vladimir Tsukerman and Osip Lokshin were sentenced to three years labor camp on charges of "organizing and participating in group actions which violate public order". (See below: RSFSR Criminal Code Article 190-3). This, despite prior notification to officials of the march, intended to lawfully protest violations.

In 1975, refuseniks Mark Nashpits and Boris Tsitlionok were convicted under Article 190-3, and sentenced to five years exile. Both had participated, with other refuseniks, in a thirty second demonstration outside Moscow's Lenin Library.

Historically, there have been more convictions under Article 206 (Hooliganism) than under Article 190-3, of refuseniks' participating in public protests. The definition of hooliganism is so vague as to encompass any behavior considered aberrant or objectionable by Soviet officials.

Most such convictions have been for "petty" hooliganism, with ten to fifteen

day sentences. Longer sentences have occurred, especially when the accused is found guilty of "malicious" hooliganism. Refuseniks Ida Nudel and Vladimir Slepak were convicted of "malicious" hooliganism in 1978, and sentenced to four and five years sentences, respectively, based upon their hanging protest signs from their Moscow apartments.

THE RIGHTS: CONSTITUTION OF THE USSR

ARTICLE 50: In accordance with the interests of the people and in order to strengthen and develop the socialist system, citizens of the USSR are guaranteed freedom of the press, and of assembly, meetings, street processions and demonstrations.

Exercise of these political freedoms is ensured by putting public buildings streets and squares at the disposal of the working people and their organizations, by broad dissemination of information, and by the opportunity to use the press, television, and radio.

ARTICLE 58: Citizens of the USSR have the right to lodge a complaint against the actions of officials, state bodies and public bodies. Complaints shall be examined according to the procedure and within the time limit established by law.

THE RISKS: RSFSR CRIMINAL CODE

ARTICLE 190-3: The organization of, and likewise the active participation in, group actions which violate public order in a coarse manner or which are attended by clear disobedience of the legal demands of representatives of authority.

Punishment prescribed: up to three years imprisonment or labor camp; or assigned correctional work for up to one year; or 100 rubles fine.

ARTICLE 206: HOOLIGANISM, that is, intentional actions violating public order in a coarse manner and expressing a clear disrespect towards society...

Malicious hooliganism, the same action distinguished by exceptional cynicism or special impudence, or by one previously convicted of hooliganism.

Punishment prescribed: Hooliganism: six months to one year imprisonment or labor camp, or assigned correctional work; or 30-50 rubles fine;

Malicious Hooliganism: 1-5 years imprisonment or labor camp.



Gathering in forest to celebrate a Jewish holiday.

COMMUNICATIONS LIFELINE UNDER ATTACK

For Soviet Jews, communication with the West, by letter and telephone serves as their "lifeline". Such contact, particularly with legislators, government leaders, and supportive private groups, has provided the major - and in some instances the sole - means of communicating information about the state of Soviet Jewry, and the Soviet government's action towards its Jewish citizens.

Protests and petitions to the Soviet government, a right provided under the USSR Constitution, have also been of major importance for refuseniks pressing their cases for emigration, and attempting to overcome repressive acts of officials.

Through the years, correspondence and telephone calls between refuseniks and supporters in the West have been intercepted or blocked. This occurs despite provisions in the Constitution and Criminal Codes which prohibit such interference. Recently, however, communications have led to threats of criminal prosecution, or have been used as evidence in criminal cases. This practice is not new per se; it had occurred in the early and mid-1970's, although its recent emergence now threatens this lifeline and those Soviet Jews utilizing it.

In November, Kharkov refusenik Alexander Paritsky was sentenced to three years labor camp for defamation of the Soviet State. It was reported that, during his investigation, seven persons, who, with Paritsky had signed a letter in 1980 to the Communist Party, complaining of the treatment of emigration applications, were called in by the procurator's office and pressured, by threats of immediate arrest, to sign statements that the letter was anti-Soviet and defamatory of the State. These statements were designed for use at the trial.

Prior to the trial, Paritsky's wife, Polina, was searched by the KGB while on a train bound for Moscow. Two letters were confiscated from her. The letters were addressed to scientists and women in the West, asking for support for her husband. Mrs. Paritsky was threatened by the procurator with prosecution for defamation of the State. As yet, no such action has occurred.

In 1980, Leningrad refuseniks Vladimir Knokh and Mendel Geishis taped a statement for two Belgian tourists concerning Geishis' son, Gregory, a Prisoner of Conscience.

Earlier this year, Knokh and Geishis were called to the KGB and warned that, should the incident be repeated, they could be subject to charges of defamation of the Soviet State.

A portion of the evidence against Dr. Victor Brailovsky (exiled to Kazakhstan for five years on such charges consisted of two letters written in 1976 to then President Carter, and to Congress, outlining the problems of Soviet Jews seeking to emigrate.

CHRONICLE OF REPRESSION: ALEXANDER PARITSKY

Alexander Paritsky, of Kharkov was convicted of "defamation of the State", and sentenced to three years in labor camp under Ukrainian Criminal Code, Article 187-1. This is the equivalent of Article 190-1 (Vol. 1, No. 1), and has become a popular vehicle for repressing Jewish cultural and religious self-education. Paritsky has been a leader in the struggle for Jewish education in, and emigration from the USSR.

Paritsky, 43, had worked for eleven years on developments of ultrasonic devices for measuring distances for an institute affiliated with the USSR Bureau of Standards.

The family applied for emigration in 1977, but was refused on grounds of "secrecy". In 1979, he was dismissed from his position, and subsequently worked at lower level jobs. Since his demotion, he, his wife and their two young daughters have experienced continued harassment from officials and local newspapers.

Paritsky's arrest, on August 28, 1981, coincided with the commencement of the second year of classes at an informal university he helped establish for Kharkov refuseniks denied higher education.

At his trial, Paritsky defended himself. Court-appointed attorneys were rejected because the Paritskys believed them to be agents of the KGB.

Three pieces of evidence were used to support the verdict. The first was a school essay by Paritsky's 15 year old daughter, Dorina. Written in 1979, it described her feelings towards her "two homelands" - the USSR and Israel. Paritsky, as her father, was held responsible for her ideologies.

The second piece of evidence was a

(continued from page 5)

communication sent by some forty Kharkov refuseniks, including Paritsky, to President Leonid Brezhnev, complaining of dilatory treatment of their applications for emigration.

As is pointed out in another article in this issue, this appeal was used as evidence after seven of its signers, under threat of prosecution, "admitted" it to be anti-Soviet.

The last item was a letter Paritsky had written, but had not mailed, to his brother, Itzaak, in Israel, asking for the help of Western scientists in his case.

Paritsky appealed the conviction. In January, 1982, this appeal was denied. As of this writing, he awaits transport to the labor camp.

BOOK REVIEW

"COURTS OF TERROR": BY TELFORD TAYLOR

"Courts of Terror" chronicles the efforts, between 1973 and 1975, of a group of American attorneys to present Soviet violations of law to Soviet officials in order to reconsider the sentences of several Jewish and non-Jewish activists.

The book makes public previously secret meetings in Moscow between American attorneys and Roman Rudenko, then Procurator General of the USSR.

Taylor and his team took on the cases of nineteen Prisoners of Conscience including those convicted in the Leningrad trials of the early 1970s.

In his book, Taylor details his team's labors to garner information for the defense, prepare their cases, arrange for meticulous Russian translations, and to wend their way through the tedious protocols enveloping their meetings with high-level Soviet officials.

Taylor reveals Soviet policy to discourage Jewish emigration without appearing to prohibit it. He tells how the use of criminal law is a drastic means to discourage would-be emigrants.

In his book, Taylor says: "If Soviet Jews came to realize that for them the legally established procedural safeguards were meaningless, and that once charged conviction was a matter of course, the deterrent effect would be that much greater."

Included in his book are generous extracts from the individual petitions and the full text of memoranda on four legal issues common to a number of cases, all of which were submitted to and accepted by Soviet legal authorities.

"Courts of Terror", by Telford Taylor, (188 pages), paperback, Vintage Books, a division of Random House; hardbound, by Alfred A. Knopf, both 1976.



The Paritsky Family. From left to right: Belina, Anna, Alexander, Daria.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 30, 1982

Mr. Chairman:

On the occasion of the 11th Annual Solidarity Sunday for Soviet Jewry, I want to express to you, and to all who honor this day, my deep concern, and the deep concern of all persons working in my Administration, for the plight of Soviet Jewry.

The Soviet Government's actions denying Soviet Jews their freedom to emigrate and its persecution of Soviet Jews who wish only to follow the precepts of their faith or to teach their children the traditions of their people are an affront to all of us who cherish individual liberties. My Administration remains committed to do everything possible to assist the emigration of Jews and others who wish to leave the Soviet Union and to bring before the eyes of the world the Soviet Government's continued refusal to grant its citizens the basic human rights to which men and women everywhere justly aspire.

The fact that so many thousands of Americans have rallied to show their concern for Soviet Jewry can only serve to reaffirm the importance this issue has for US-Soviet relations. The leaders of the Soviet Union must take heed of this expression of concern on the part of the American people if they are ever to live up to their obligations under the Helsinki Accords and establish a firm foundation for mutual understanding.

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BY JN NARA DATE 3/14/2019

We in this Administration will continue to use every means at our disposal to demonstrate our firm support for Soviet Jewry, to advance the cause of individual rights, and to carry on the great work you all have so generously contributed.

You have my respect and full support.

Sincerely,

Mr. Seymour Lachman
Chairman
New York Conference
on Soviet Jewry
8 Fortieth Street
Room 602
New York, New York 10018

R. Pipes

Draft

USSR -
m. Zrah -

Human Rights and Bilateral Issues

The human rights scene in the Soviet Union has deteriorated further since your last meeting with Gromyko: Jewish emigration seems to have bottomed out at under 300 a month, the lowest level since the 1960's; there is no movement on the Embassy Pentecostals' case nor on the other cases you have raised with Gromyko before. On the other hand, the Soviets have been forthcoming on several longstanding bilateral administrative problems, which may be the beginning of a more productive relationship in this area.

Human Rights

-- ~~I would also like to point out that~~ the recent course of events has created extraordinary sensitivity in the area of humanitarian issues, as well as important opportunities.

--You will recall that I have mentioned a number of specific cases to you in our previous meetings and that during our September meeting Ambassador Hartman provided Minister Korniyenko with our latest Representation List. We will be providing you with an updated version of this list shortly.

--We must still look forward to progress on these divided family cases, and the cases I have highlighted are of even greater interest today given the general situation.

--A number of humanitarian cases ^{are} of particular concern to us:

o Vytautas Skuodis is still in prison, and under our law he is still a U.S. citizen.

o Abe Stolar, like Skuodis a U.S. citizen under our law, is still seeking to emigrate.

o Anatoliy Shcharanskiy has been transferred to Chistopol, but he is still a prisoner ^{and} in poor health. If you consider him a criminal, it should not be a sacrifice to allow him to emigrate.

o Dr. Sakharov is still in Gor'kiy, and in only fair health. If you believe he should remain in the Soviet Union, you should consider making the medical treatment of the capital available to him once more.

o The Chmykhalov and Vashchenko families are still in our Embassy in Moscow, and other members of these families continue to seek emigration permission from their homes in Chernogorsk.

o And, we must also note the tragic cases of ^{the} divided binational spouses, including Tatyana Lozanskaya, Yuri Balovlenkov, Joseph Kiblitskiy, and Maria Jurgurtiene, who have all engaged in hunger strikes in an effort to gain reunification

fi

Lavrova

in one of
of the
humanitarian
cases I have
noted would
only be viewed
positively
internationally
it

with their spouses abroad. The world noted and approved of the humanitarian Soviet gesture which allowed Lisa Alekseyeva and Irina Lavrova to be reunited with their husbands. World opinion would similarly approve of a Soviet gesture of goodwill with regard to these other binational marriage cases.

-- As I have said before, the Soviet system is the business of the Soviet Union, and these suggestions reflect that position. ~~The United States authorities neither desire nor seek the tragedy~~ a positive response would avert, as you well know, such a response would ~~remove an obstacle to better~~ ^{improve our} bilateral relations, and it would have a beneficial effect on American public opinion across the spectrum. ^{But help to}

-- I can think of no better opportunity for a constructive move at this difficult time.

Bilateral Issues

-- ~~[On the other hand]~~ I am pleased to note that in the period since we last met there has been genuine progress on a number of other bilateral issues.

-- We have reached an agreement on support flights for our embassies. You have begun work on your new chancery here and we continue to make progress on our chancery construction in Moscow. We have authorized your embassy access to the building you purchased as a Consulate in New York, which is a useful step toward reactivation of the Kiev and New York Consulates. We may want to discuss this prospect more concretely when we next meet.

-- We hope the movement on both sides on these issues can be the beginning of a newly productive period for us on bilateral matters.

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Speech by Ambassador Jeane J. Kirkpatrick
Solidarity Sunday - May 2, 1982, New York City

We have come here today -- young and old, black and white, Democrats and Republicans, Jews and non-Jews alike -- to demonstrate, by our presence, that we are concerned with the problems of Jewish people of the Soviet Union.

The plight of the Jewish community in the Soviet Union today is deeply disturbing. There are no Jewish schools in Russia. The Hebrew language is banned. Zionism is outlawed. Throughout the length and breadth of the U.S.S.R., not a single book on Jewish history is sold in any language. Jews are subject to strict quotas in certain fields of employment, and are altogether excluded from others. Vicious attacks on Jews and Judaism have polluted Soviet society and Soviet cultural life.

Three areas of anti-Jewish discrimination in the Soviet Union require our urgent attention: first, the denial of the right of emigration, of reunification with families; second, the denial of cultural and linguistic rights; and third, persistent anti-Semitic propaganda and practice by Soviet authorities.

Throughout the modern age the right to emigrate has been assumed as basic. It is a fundamental, internationally recognized human right. Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirms that, "Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country." Article 5 of the legally binding International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination contains this same formulation. Article 12, paragraph 2, of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights reads, "Everyone shall be free to leave any country, including his own." The Helsinki

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Final Act of 1975 stresses that the parties are to "expedite" and "facilitate" the "reunion of families" and that those applying for exit visas should not be deprived of their rights. Yet despite the Soviet Union's adherence to each of these international instruments, Soviet prisons, labor camps and mental hospitals are full of people who have sought to exercise their legitimate right to emigrate.

This year, despite the fact that more than 200,000 Soviet Jews possess the letters of invitation from Israel required by Soviet authorities for applications to emigrate, Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union has come to a virtual standstill. During the first three months of 1982, Jewish emigration was less than 900. By comparison, during the first three months of 1981 the number of Jewish emigres was 3,500; in the same 3 month period in 1980, 8,900; and in 1979, around 12,000. Meanwhile, the plight of Jewish "refuseniks" inside the Soviet Union grows increasingly desperate. Recently, 13 Soviet Jewish scientists sent a letter to Israel's President. Let me read you part of that letter:

"As punishment for our desire to go to Israel," these scientists write, "not only are forced resignations and the loss of income imposed on us, but everything is done to crush us by a suffocating isolation from science. Taken from us is the chance to lecture, participate in scientific societies and publish our works. Our membership in scientific societies and access to scientific libraries are revoked. Our right to an income for our work has been removed by the cancellation of our degree, titles, diplomas and certificates.... We are placed in the position of hostages, examples of how futile and dangerous it is to ask to emigrate. We are even more anxious about

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this terrible, mass destruction of knowledge, condemned to decay behind locks instead of bringing benefit to Israel and all mankind."

Clearly, the fate of those scientists, and of the hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews seeking to emigrate, is not, as Soviet authorities like to assert, an internal Soviet matter. Rather, it is a matter of legitimate concern to the entire international community and the United Nations. And it is of particular concern to the government and people of the United States.

The second area of anti-Jewish discrimination in the Soviet Union concerns the denial of cultural and linguistic freedom. Here, too, the Soviet Union is party to international agreements which prohibit this form of discrimination. For example, Article 2 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights declares that, "In those states in which ethnic, religious, or linguistic minorities exist, persons belonging to such minorities shall not be denied the right, in community with other members of their group, to enjoy their own culture, to profess their own religion, or to use their own language." Yet the Jewish community in the Soviet Union has no possibility of training rabbis, cantors and ritual slaughterers. It is allowed no publications, not even mimeographed bulletins. Its members can neither hold local conferences nor attend international ones. Virtually all Jewish institutional life has been eliminated. Even informal Jewish instruction is barred in the Soviet Union.

Martin Buber wrote that, "Jews are a community based on memory... Much has been lost but the greatest threat is the loss of the collective memory and the passion to transmit the heritage." Soviet authorities are clearly bent on destroying the collective Jewish memory. But the Jewish community in the Soviet Union has gravely disappointed its

tormentors. It has refused to die. On the contrary, recent years have witnessed a miraculous efflorescence of Russian Jewish life, a stunning triumph of courage and determination over seemingly insurmountable obstacles. Thanks to the heroic efforts of Jewish activists like Anatoly Scharansky, Victor Brailovsky, Ida Nudel, Iosif Begun, Vladimir Slepak, Kim Fridman and Vladimir Kislik, the heritage has been passed on, and the flame of Jewish life has been kept alive. In meeting here this afternoon, we pay tribute to some of the greatest moral heroes and heroines of our time.

The third area of Soviet anti-Jewish discrimination concerns official Soviet sponsorship of a massive propaganda campaign nominally directed against Zionism, but in fact directed at Jews and at Judaism. As one eminent student of Soviet affairs has written, "The Soviet Union is today the largest center for the distribution of anti-Jewish hate material."

In the face of such obscene slanders, the government and people of the United States cannot -- indeed, dare not -- remain indifferent. The United States has taken every appropriate opportunity to bring Soviet human rights violations to the attention of both the Soviet government and the international community -- and we will continue to do so. Our goal is simple -- we are resolved to secure more humane and more responsive Soviet emigration policies, and to improve the human rights situation of Jews residing in the Soviet Union. We will not passively acquiesce in the Soviet violations of fundamental human rights. We will not be confused by Soviet double-think and newsspeak. We will not be indifferent. We will not be intimidated. We will continue to speak out and to work for the security and survival of Jewish culture, Jewish freedom and Jewish security in the U.S.S.R. and elsewhere. And God will bless our undertaking.

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Authority NLR-170-17-27-35-7

Russell Bledy, Em 325

Nat'l Conf. -

Sov. Jewry *MZ*

JN NARA DATE 3/24/2019

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

The

① Issue of Soviet Jewry - emigration, human rights, the right to ^{learn} ~~practice~~ about ^{culture & learn ones} ~~own~~ ^{language} is of high priority to the Administration. This Administration has maintained a firm commitment toward this cause; ~~please be assured it will never back away.~~ We have repeatedly stated that concern for human rights is integral to our national interest & it remains a major focus of our foreign policy. The question is how to advance the cause of Soviet Jewry most effectively. We are interested in results, not rhetoric, particularly w/regard to the S. Union.

② None of us are satisfied w/the present levels of emigration. We are also very concerned over the increased harassment and arrests of dissidents & refuseniks that we have seen in recent months. Our view is that the situation can only be improved if the Sovs respect our determination & power & begin to respect international norms of behavior. We are committed to building a relationship of restraint & reciprocity w/ the Soviet Union which can provide a more durable basis for emigration over time. It is clear that simple-minded US belligerence & confrontation is not a sensible approach. But it is also clear that a durable relationship cannot be based on US weakness. In

- 3 primary concerns:
- denial of emig.
 - " of cult./ling.
 - persist anti-semitic propaq.

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

the meantime, we continue to press the Soviets, publicly & through diplomatic channels, on emigration & other human rights issues.

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BY JN MARA DATE 3/14/19

③ Instruments Employed:

a. Messages (public / private) -

Examples include in ~~Aug~~^{May} 1982 the Pres.'s message to the mass Rally in NY city in support of Soviet Jewry.

Pres. said, "US will continue to bring to world attention the ' Soviet Gov.'s continued refusal to grant its citizens the basic human rights to which men & women everywhere justly aspire."

b. Exchanges - ^{Haiq} Gromyko / Shultz Mtgs.

- highest priority
- multicultural
other levels - Hartman, - private citizens
Congressional Deleg. -

c. Meetings w/ those affil. w/ the cause of Soviet Jewry & who symbolize what it stands for -- Pres. met w/ Avital Shehar, in VP met w/ leaders 1981; McFarlane in 1982 of major Jewish org.; Pres. met w/ world Jew. leaders.

d. Int'l fora - CSCE - called upon Sovs to adhere to provisions of Helsinki Accords, Brought out Sov. abuses of basic rights of their citizens.

nk

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ci Briefings - to Pres, about an issue of Sov. Jewry.

w/ the leadership Δs in the Sov. Union - we don't see the situation as improving, we see the continuing decline in Sov. Jewish emigration as part of a larger phenomenon involving cutbacks of emigr. of all types - Jewish, Armenian, Germans, etc. Entails increased repression of Jewish cultural / relig. activists, causes - related to internal Sov. factors (Δ of leadership) + the int'l situat., climate,

A: "spiritual genocide" - VOA, RFE/RL

Utility of radios -

(strategy) - 75
need for optics
army control -
semi-emerg.
agreements.

B. Mtg. - w/ Pres. at VP.

a. NSC mtg. in Jerusalem - wants ^{very} high level official,
recog. official.

b. FSOs

1 Jan 82

Max M. Kampelman

Soviet Anti-Semitism and Anti-Zionism

Following are excerpts from a statement by Max M. Kampelman to the conference in Madrid where delegations from 35 states have been meeting for more than a year to review compliance by their governments with the European security and human rights accord they had signed at Helsinki in 1975. Mr. Kampelman, chairman of the United States delegation, delivered his statement on December 1.

It is with regret that our delegation has concluded that the Soviet Union is clearly identified with a pattern of anti-Semitic behavior that could not function without government support and acquiescence. . . . Government-condoned and government-propagated anti-Semitism flourishes in the Soviet Union today . . . an officially sanctioned campaign, stimulated by state-controlled publication and exhibition of overtly anti-Semitic books, articles, cartoons and exhibitions.

The evidence is overwhelming. I will refer to only a few out of the hundreds of examples:

Fact: A book published in 150,000 copies in Moscow in 1977 and republished in 1979, written by Vladimir Begun and entitled *Invasion Without Arms*, characterizes the Torah, the Old Testament of the Bible, as, among other things, "an unsurpassed textbook (of) . . . hypocrisy, treachery, perfidy and moral degeneracy—all the basest human qualities. . . ."

Fact: There are frequent cartoons—we have them here—representations in the official Soviet press portraying Jews with large hooked noses and evil-looking unshaven jowls. . . .

Fact: A 1979 exhibition of paintings in Minsk by the official Soviet artist Mikhail A. Savitsky included a canvas depicting the brutalities of the Nazi occupation of Byelorussia. The painting, entitled "Summer Theater," showed a pile of naked corpses in a concentration camp. Standing over them and grinning sadistically at each other are a helmeted Nazi officer and a Jew with the stereotype hooked nose and wearing a Star of David, presumably a camp trusty. Despite protestations against the work's blatant anti-Semitic character, a reprint of the painting also appeared in the Byelorussian Ministry of Culture's official journal. . . .

Fact: There is constant derogatory reference in the official Soviet press to persons with obvious Jewish names and background. Thus, I quote a reference to American capitalism as being "led by the Lehmans, Lazard, Blausteins, Stillmans, Warburgs, Kuhns, Guggenheims, Loeb, Kahns, Rosenwalds and Schiffs." (B. Banov, "A Provocative Confluence," *Vechernyaya Moskva*, September 3, 1977.)

Fact: Reference to Jewish ownership of "death concerns," to "growing financial might," to the "Zionist Mafia of death," to Jewish control of media and banks and crime and multilateral corporations, government, and the theater—all these abound. (L. Korneyev, "The Secret Wars of Zionism," *Neva*, No. 4, 1978; L. Korneyev, "The Most Zionist Business" (part one), *Ogonyok*, No. 28, 1978; V. Meshcheryakov, "With Someone Else's Voice," *Zhurnalist*, No. 4, 1976; and B. Antonov, "America in the Web of the Zionists," *Moskovskaya Pravda*, March 1, 1978.)

Fact: Last year, it was announced that the book *Judaism and Zionism* by Trofim K. Kichko was to be published. Designed for a "mass audience," the book pretends to "unmask the criminal activities of various Zionist organi-

zations and Zionist-oriented Judaism". The author's previous work of 17 years ago, *Judaism Without Embellishment*, was so virulent in its anti-Semitism that after international protests were made—including some from the major Western Communist parties—Soviet authorities were forced to withdraw the book for "erroneous statements".

Fact: The Soviet Union—with the third largest Jewish community in the world—is the only country with a Jewish population in which there is not a single approved Jewish school and no means for teaching Jewish history and tradition. The private teaching of Hebrew is outlawed, while the official study of the language is restricted to a very few non-Jews. In recent weeks, over 80 Jewish teachers of Hebrew, in Moscow alone, received threats of prosecution and banishment should they continue their instructions. . . .

During the past 15 years, a total of at least 112 Soviet books and brochures with anti-Semitic overtones of various degrees have been identified, some of them printed and reprinted in editions of 150,000-200,000 copies. Anti-Semitic propaganda is also carried out through lectures, stimulated by the Communist party and the state.

Soviet anti-Semitism is not limited to domestic consumption. It is also widely exported to Arab, African and other third world countries. The writings of outspoken Soviet anti-Semites—Kichko, Begun, Korneyev and others—have been featured prominently in publications of the PLO, for instance. In addition, their writings are often published in English and distributed throughout the English-speaking world.

A publication of the Novosti Press Agency, the 77-page *Sword of David* by Leo Korn, has been widely distributed at Soviet embassies and international fairs. Clearly aimed at Western readers, the pamphlet purports to reveal the "monstrous lie of Zionism," which is called "the most reactionary force of Jewish bourgeois nationalism." The booklet alleges that anti-Semitism is, after all, the fault of the Jews themselves. . . .

In March of 1979, this same author raised the spectre of an international Jewish conspiracy, a familiar anti-Semitic theme, in the journal, *Communist of the Armed Forces*. In an article entitled "Zionism—The Tool of Imperialistic Expansion and Neo-Colonialism," he wrote: "The Jewish financiers and industrialists strive to direct the domestic and foreign policies of the U.S.A., England, France, the FRG, Belgium and of other capitalist states. . . ."

There are many more instances of blatant government-condoned anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union. These are accompanied by harassment and imprisonment of Jewish leaders, discrimination against Jews in education and employment, active and frequently violent interference with the study of Hebrew and the possession of articles of prayer, and by a drastic reduction in the number of Jews being allowed to escape this pervasive anti-Semitism through emigration. . . . □

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BY JN NARA DATE 3/14/2019

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*WF-110 (5/3/82)

*
REAGAN RENEWS SUPPORT FOR SOVIET JEWS (600)

*
NEW YORK -- PRESIDENT REAGAN SAYS HE REMAINS COMMITTED
"TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ASSIST THE EMIGRATION OF JEWS
AND OTHERS WHO WISH TO LEAVE THE SOVIET UNION."

IN THE LETTER READ TO A MASS RALLY IN SUPPORT OF SOVIET
JEWRY, MAY 2 IN NEW YORK CITY, THE PRESIDENT SAID THE UNITED
STATES WILL CONTINUE TO BRING TO WORLD ATTENTION THE "SOVIET
GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUED REFUSAL TO GRANT ITS CITIZENS THE
BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS TO WHICH MEN AND WOMEN EVERYWHERE JUSTLY
ASPIRE."

SOME 25,000 PERSONS GATHERED IN DAG HAMMARSKJOLD PLAZA
ACROSS FROM THE UNITED NATIONS TO PROTEST THE VIRTUAL HALT
IN JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM THE SOVIET UNION AND THE
INCREASING OPPRESSION OF JEWS IN THAT NATION.

SPEAKERS AT THIS ELEVENTH ANNUAL "SOLIDARITY SUNDAY FOR
SOVIET JEWRY" RALLY CALLED UPON THE MOSCOW GOVERNMENT TO
GRANT MORE EXIT VISAS TO JEWS WANTING TO LEAVE AND TO PERMIT
THOSE WHO REMAIN TO PRACTICE THEIR RELIGION FREELY.

JEANE KIRKPATRICK, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS,
TOLD THE CROWD THAT THE SOVIET BARS AGAINST EMIGRATION ARE
"ILLEGAL, IMMORAL AND UNACCEPTABLE AMONG CIVILIZED PEOPLE
ANYWHERE."

REAGAN, IN HIS LETTER TO THE RALLY SAID:

"I WANT TO EXPRESS TO YOU AND TO ALL WHO HONOR THIS DAY
MY DEEP CONCERN AND THE DEEP CONCERN OF ALL PERSONS WORKING
IM MY ADMINISTRATION FOR THE PLIGHT OF SOVIET JEWRY. THE
SOVIET GOVERNMENT'S ACTIONS DENYING SOVIET JEWS THEIR
FREEDOM TO EMIGRATE AND ITS PERSECUTION OF SOVIET JEWS WHO
WISH ONLY TO FOLLOW THE PRECEPTS OF THEIR FAITH AND TEACH
THEIR CHILDREN THE TRADITIONS OF THEIR PEOPLE ARE AN AFFRONT
TO ALL OF US WHO CHERISH INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY.

"MY ADMINISTRATION REMAINS COMMITTED TO DO EVERYTHING
POSSIBLE TO ASSIST THE EMIGRATION OF JEWS AND OTHERS WHO
WISH TO LEAVE THE SOVIET UNION AND TO BRING BEFORE THE EYES
OF THE WORLD THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUED REFUSAL TO
GRANT ITS CITIZENS THE BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS TO WHICH MEN AND
WOMEN EVERYWHERE JUSTLY ASPIRE.

"THE FACT THAT SO MANY THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS HAVE

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PAGE 2 -- SOVIET JEWS

RALLIED TO SHOW THEIR CONCERN FOR SOVIET JEWRY CAN ONLY SERVE TO REAFFIRM THE IMPORTANCE THIS ISSUE HAS IN U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS. THE LEADERS OF THE SOVIET UNION MUST TAKE HEED OF THIS EXPRESSION OF CONCERN ON THE PART OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN THEIR EFFORTS TO LIVE UP TO THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE HELSINKI ACCORDS AND ESTABLISH A FIRM FOUNDATION FOR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING.

"WE IN THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL CONTINUE TO USE EVERY MEANS AT OUR DISPOSAL TO DEMONSTRATE OUR FIRM SUPPORT FOR SOVIET JEWRY, TO ADVANCE THE CAUSE OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS AND TO CARRY ON THE GREAT WORK YOU ALL HAVE SO GENEROUSLY CONTRIBUTED. YOU HAVE MY RESPECT AND FULL SUPPORT."

*

PPO/JA/ES/PMK/SG 3:14 5/3/82 CAT (JU-4)

item

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Q's and A's on Soviet Jewish Emigration
and Human Rights Issues

Q. The U.S. commitment to Soviet Jewish emigration and human rights in general gave great hope to dissidents and refuseniks in the Soviet Union. Has this Administration backed away from this strong commitment?

A. This Administration maintains a firm commitment to Soviet Jewish emigration and human rights in general. Secretary Haig has repeatedly stated that concern for human rights is integral to our national interest and that it remains a major focus of our foreign policy. The question is how to advance the cause of human rights most effectively. We are interested in results, not rhetoric, particularly with regard to the Soviet Union.

None of us are satisfied with the present levels of emigration. We are also very concerned over the increased harassment and arrest of dissidents and refuseniks that we have seen in recent months. Our view is that the situation can only be improved if the Soviets respect our determination and power, and begin to respect international norms of behavior.

We are committed to building a relationship of restraint and reciprocity with the Soviet Union which can provide a more durable basis for emigration over time. It is clear that simple-minded U.S. belligerence and confrontation is not a sensible approach. But it is also clear that a durable relationship cannot be based on U.S. weakness. In the meantime, we continue to press the Soviets, publicly and through diplomatic channels, on emigration and other human rights issues.

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JN NARA DATE 3/14/2019

Drafted:EUR/SOV:JGoldstein:lc
7/8/82 X28671 s/s #8218642
Cleared:EUR/SOV:TWSimons, Jr.
EUR:JDScanlan
H:TTowell

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Dear Mr. Frank:

I am responding to your letter of June 23 to the President concerning the plight of Jews in the Soviet Union, and particularly in the port of Odessa.

As you know, the United States Government has consistently encouraged Soviet authorities to be less harsh and more responsive towards Soviet Jews attempting to exercise their right to emigrate. Both publicly and via diplomatic channels, we have deplored Soviet harassment of refuseniks. The United States has also consistently condemned Soviet persecution of Jews who wish to maintain and practice their cultural traditions. We have repeatedly called upon the Soviet Government to adhere to the human rights provisions of the Helsinki Accords. We have brought Soviet abuses of the basic rights of their citizens to world attention in a variety of forums, such as the CSCE Review Conference in Madrid. In bilateral discussions we have stressed to the Soviets the deleterious impact of such abuses upon U.S.-Soviet relations.

Letter

Regrettably, the Soviet authorities view the treatment of Jews in the USSR as strictly an internal matter. Our ability to influence them in this area is therefore limited. The Soviets further contest our right to present views in matters of emigration to third countries such as Israel where they acknowledge no direct U.S. interest. These factors, coupled with the current state of heightened bilateral tensions, work to reduce the effectiveness of our efforts in support of Soviet Jewry.

Although we cannot be optimistic that we will be able soon to alleviate the plight of those suffering in the Soviet Union, we intend to continue to make every effort on behalf of Soviet Jews. Let me assure you that it is our intention to continue to raise the plight of Soviet Jewry in our future conversations with Soviet officials, and at all relevant multilateral forums.

We look forward to working with you on this important issue in the future.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely,

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Authority NLR-170-17-27-89-3
BY JN NARA DATE 3/14/2019

Powell A. Moore
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

The Honorable
Barney Frank,
House of Representatives.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

*Mr. Abrams XI
FYI*

USSR - Emigration

May 5, 1982

UNCLASSIFIED

MEMORANDUM

TO: HA - Ms. Kuzmich

FROM: HA/HR - Hugh Simon *HS*

SUBJECT: Remarks to Students for Soviet Jewry - For the Record

At the request of John Siegel of Congressman Schumer's office, I spoke today to about 150 high school students from the Bronx, meeting on the Hill. I used Elliott's approach to the subject, which got a positive response during the question period. Afterward, however, several students vented their sense of frustration at the failure of the USG to do more, i.e., to declare a trade embargo against the USSR to improve the treatment of Soviet Jews and to increase emigration. One student pointedly said that when the President's statement to the Solidarity Sunday for Soviet Jews was read in New York, it was booed, both because of disappointment on Soviet Jews and U.S. Israel policy.

During the question period, the organizer also asked about Jews in Ethiopia. Rabbi Birnbaum was there, pressing for mention of the treatment of Soviet Jews as an issue along with emigration.

*Hugh -
Sounds as if you did
very well. Thanks,*

JA

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 Authority NLR-17D-17-27-4D-1
 BY JN NARA DATE 3/14/2019

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Department of State

INCOMING
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INFO AMCONSUL Leningrad

~~DG~~
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ MOSCOW 05687

E. O. 12065: GDS 5/10/88 (MCCALL, SHERROD B.) OR-P
TAGS: SHUM, UR
SUBJECT: POLICE DISPERSE SATURDAY EVENING GATHERING
OUTSIDE SYNAGOGUE

1. ~~(C~~ - ENTIRE TEXT)
2. AT APPROXIMATELY 8:15 P.M. ON SATURDAY, MAY 8, POLICE AND AUXILIARIES (DRUZHINNIKI) PEACEFULLY DISPERSED THE WEEKLY SATURDAY EVENING GATHERING OF LOCAL JEWS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES IN THE STREET IN FRONT OF MOSCOW'S CHORALE SYNAGOGUE. AT THE TIME, THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY TWO TO THREE HUNDRED PERSONS ASSEMBLED THERE, INCLUDING NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT CAROLE BELLAMY, HER ASSISTANT NANCY DUBLER, AND EMBOFF.
3. EMBOFF HAD NOTICED A LARGE NUMBER OF POLICE AUXILIARIES ON BOTH SIDES OF ARKHIPOVA STREET WHILE DRIVING DOWN THE HILL TOWARD THE SYNAGOGUE. AT ABOUT 8:15 P.M., A POLICE JEEP WITH A BULLHORN MOUNTED ON ITS ROOF AND LINES OF POLICE AND AUXILIARIES ON FOOT BEGAN COMING DOWN THE HILL TOWARD THE SYNAGOGUE. ONE POLICE OFFICIAL BROADCAST OVER THE JEEP'S BULLHORN THE MESSAGE THAT THE PERSONS CONGREGATED OUTSIDE THE SYNAGOGUE EITHER HAD TO ENTER IT OR LEAVE THE AREA. THE POLICE AND AUXILIARIES WALKING DOWN THE STREET SPREAD THROUGH THE CROWD AND REITERATED THE COMMAND. WITHIN SEVERAL MINUTES, EVERYONE HAD GONE EXCEPT EMBOFF AND THE THREE PERSONS HE HAD BEEN SPEAKING WITH, INCLUDING IDA NUDEL. THE AUTHORITIES WERE COURTEOUS AND PEACEFUL AND MADE NO ATTEMPT TO FORCE EMBOFF OR MEMBERS OF HIS GROUP TO LEAVE. AS SOON AS EVERYONE ELSE HAD GONE, THE POLICE AND THEIR AUXILIARIES VANISHED, LEAVING ARKHIPOVA STREET DESERTED.
4. BOTH CAROLE BELLAMY AND EMBOFF ASKED THE PERSONS WITH WHOM THEY HAD BEEN CONVERSING AT THE TIME POLICE DISPERSED THE CROWD, IF POLICE EVER BEFORE HAD FORCIBLY DISPERSED SATURDAY EVENING GATHERINGS OUTSIDE THE SYNAGOGUE. ALL INTERLOCUTORS INSISTED THAT IT WAS THE FIRST TIME SUCH HARASSMENT HAD BEEN EMPLOYED. (WHEN EMBOFF BEGAN GOING TO THE SYNAGOGUE AFTER ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW LAST SUMMER, HE OBSERVED OBTRUSIVE SURVEILLANCE OF PERSONS IN THE STREET ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS. SINCE THE END OF THE SUMMER, HOWEVER, HE HAD NOTICED NOTHING UNUSUAL THERE UNTIL THIS INCIDENT.)
5. COMMENT: SEVERAL LOCAL REFUSENIKS EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THIS INCIDENT WAS SOMEHOW CONNECTED TO THE ONGOING "WORLD PEACE CONFERENCE" HERE. WE WILL WAIT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS NEXT SATURDAY. END
COMMENT. HARTMAN

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230495	CABLE 091650Z AUG 82	1	8/9/1982	B1

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