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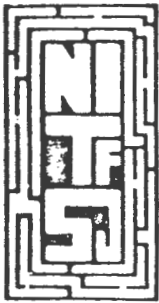
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*M. Lile*

# National Interreligious Task Force on Soviet Jewry

1307 SOUTH WABASH, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60605

SISTER ANN GILLEN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

312-922-1983

102237

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RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM  
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September 29, 1982

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ED SULLIVAN\*  
THEODORE H. WHITE  
ROY WILKINS

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Av. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Jack Anderson today listed ways in which the Administration is allegedly considering retaliation against Israel.

I wonder if the U.S. knows how few friends it has today and who they are? It would serve us right if Israel began to look elsewhere for friends and support.

After the massacre of Palestinians at the hands of "Christian" militia can we doubt what would happen to Israel if we force them to accept a Palestinian state on their borders? I protest the shifting sands of American Middle East foreign policy which makes Israel see us as a very uncertain, shifty friend! Let us stand firm with our friends!

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Chairman, Coordinating Committee  
DAVID GELLER

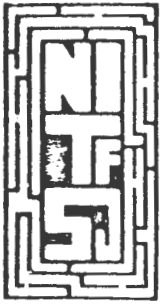
Sincerely,

*Sr. Ann Gillen*

(\* Deceased)

SrG:rb

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PROF. THOMAS E. BIRD  
PROF. FERALD BRAUER  
SR. GLORIA COLMAN  
MSGR. CHARLES DEVLIN  
REV. EDWARD FLANNERY  
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REV. WILLIAM WEILER  
ELMER WINTER

September 29, 1982

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Av. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Jack Anderson today listed ways in which the Administration is allegedly considering retaliation against Israel.

I wonder if the U.S. knows how few friends it has today and who they are? It would serve us right if Israel began to look elsewhere for friends and support.

After the massacre of Palestinians at the hands of "Christian" militia can we doubt what would happen to Israel if we force them to accept a Palestinian state on their borders? I protest the shifting sands of American Middle East foreign policy which makes Israel see us as a very uncertain, shifty friend! Let us stand firm with our friends!

Sincerely,

*Sr. Ann Gillen*

SrG:rb

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 21, 1982

Dear Sister Gillen:

Thank you for your recent message. We appreciate your concern, and would like to take the opportunity to reiterate this Administration's enduring commitment to the security and well-being of the State of Israel.

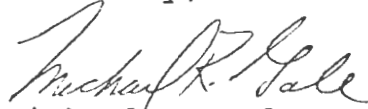
President Reagan is working diligently toward peace in the Middle East and he is convinced peace and reconciliation can be achieved in Lebanon.

The United States and Israel have an enduring special relationship based on moral as well as strategic interests. As the President said, "Israel has the right to exist in peace behind secure and defensible borders and it has a right to demand of its neighbors that they recognize those facts. Israel has the right to exist free of the threat of terrorism and other forms of aggression." President Reagan has concluded that there now exist new opportunities for peace in the Middle East. These opportunities must now be seized.

With regard to the PLO, the President has made clear that the United States' position has not changed. The United States will not negotiate with the PLO until the PLO recognizes Israel and accepts UN resolutions 242 and 338.

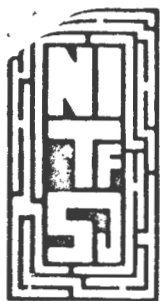
Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and concerns with the Administration.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Gale  
Deputy Special Assistant  
to the President

Sister Ann Gillen  
National Interreligious Task Force  
on Soviet Jewry  
1307 South Wabash  
Chicago, Illinois 60605



# National Interreligious Task Force on Soviet Jewry

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SR. ANN PATRICK WARE  
REV. WILLIAM WEILER  
ELMER WINTER

September 30, 1982

102236

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Av., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to urge your support for VYTAUTAS  
SKUODIS, a Lithuanian born in Chicago, a U.S.  
citizen now serving an unjust prison sentence  
in the USSR.

Mr. Skuodis suffered a mild heart attack on  
June 15, 1982 while on hunger strike. His wife  
Irena is very anxious about his ability to  
survive the prison ordeal. We urge your  
compassionate, positive response to her request  
for legal and diplomatic support, possibly  
asylum in the U.S. for her husband, herself and  
her family.

Our organization represents a cross-section of  
U.S. citizens, people of all faiths and ethnic  
backgrounds, who affirm both Jews and Christians  
in the USSR and Eastern Europe who are struggling  
to attain the liberties we enjoy.

Please help the Skuodis family to return home,  
Mr. President.

Sincerely,

*S. Ann Gillen*

SrG:rb

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
November 2, 1982

Dear Sister Gillen:

Thank you for your letter of September 30, regarding the plight of Vytautas Skudias.

This administration has taken a strong stand in favor of the right of free emigration from the Soviet Union and we continue to seek opportunities to persuade the Soviet government to liberalize its policies on emigration and freedom of movement.

Regrettably, the Soviets consider emigration to be a domestic policy issue. Nevertheless, we will continue to raise this issue in our future conversations with Soviet officials, keeping in mind the great concern of American people for the plight of those unable to emigrate.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Gale  
Deputy Special Assistant  
to the President

Sister Ann Gillen  
National Interreligious Task  
Force on Soviet Jewry  
1307 South Wabash  
Chicago, Illinois 60605