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**Collection:** Green, Max: Files  
**Folder Title:** Meeting Pre-Summit Soviet  
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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** GREEN, MAX: FILES

**Withdrawer**

MJD 11/17/2001

**File Folder** MEETING PRE-SUMMIT SOVIET JEWRY/POTUS 11/17/87

**FOIA**

F03-0020/06

**Box Number**

THOMAS

100

DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
1	NOTES	RE PARTICIPANTS	3	ND	B6
2	FORM	REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENTS	1	11/16/1987	B6

**Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]**

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

YOEL

Yuli Edelstein

8-5-58

Vladimir Slepak

10-29-27

Maria Slepak

11-7-26

Alexander → no

~~Jane H~~  
→ Scott Eisen

→ Romania  
→ David Harris

Green  
Goodman Edel Khan R.A. Cardin Slepals Slepals <sup>ms</sup> Plesky  
page

Bellevue  
Lisak ~~Plesky~~ (Ciba) Cohen S/S (Dutra) Emmett's Stern Punks

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TO: PROJECT OFFICERS  
FROM: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.  
SUBJECT: CHECKLIST FOR PRESIDENTIAL EVENTS

General Responsibilities

\_\_\_\_\_ The Presidential Advance Office has responsibility for all logistical arrangements for any event involving press coverage. Please coordinate with them from the time your event is approved in order to avoid the need for last-minute modification.

\_\_\_\_\_ Notify and clear all participants. (Full name, social security number, date of birth and place of birth).

\_\_\_\_\_ Prepare and submit briefing paper to Rhett Dawson's Office by 3:00 pm of the preceding day. (14 copies)

\_\_\_\_\_ Coordinate with James Kuhn (x2168) on Presidential involvement.

\_\_\_\_\_ Coordinate with Press Office (x2100) and Media Relations (x6623) regarding Press Coverage. Provide Media Relations with hometowns of participants. No organizational photographers will be admitted to any event unless other press is present. Clearance of such photographers should be coordinated

\_\_\_\_\_ If remarks are required, coordinate with the Speechwriters Office (x6266) well in advance through Media Relations

\_\_\_\_\_ For outdoor events at the White House, in case of inclement weather, clear and reserve the backup location indicated.

\_\_\_\_\_ If participant plans to bring a gift, contact the White House Gift Unit (x7133), in advance, for review and proper procedure for handling.

\_\_\_\_\_ If any foreign visitor or dignitary is to be involved, please coordinate with Grant Green of the NSC (2224).

\_\_\_\_\_ If any Department of Defense or Military personnel are to be involved, please coordinate in advance with the White House Military Office (x2150).

\_\_\_\_\_ If press coverage is expected, please provide all pertinent information concerning this event (guests, scenario, backdrop, etc.,) to the Presidential Advance Office at least 72 hours prior to the event.

\_\_\_\_\_ Submit a complete, confirmed list of staff and attendees, identified by title, as well as the actual starting and completion times, to the President's Diarist, Office of Presidential Appointments and Scheduling (x7560) within five (5) days after the event.

\_\_\_\_\_ If tent name cards are needed, send a list of names to Social Secretary's office (x7064) at least 48 hours in advance.

\_\_\_\_\_ For West Wing Meetings all room arrangements (chairs, notepads, pencils, etc.) should be made through Carl Jones (x2275) or Dottie Dellinger (x2605).

Residence Events

\_\_\_\_\_ Coordinate with the Social Secretary's office (x7064) for all arrangements.

\_\_\_\_\_ Send guest list to Social Secretary's office, preferably three weeks prior to the event.

\_\_\_\_\_ The President's attendance at this event should not be announced until official notification is given by the White House Press Office and any public announcement must be coordinated with that office. Also, prior to the distribution of any printed material, particularly details of the invitation, contact must be made with the White House Social Secretary, Linda Faulkner, at x7064.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Manis

Visa <sup>if</sup> found Range Duber RR Shulte Costo Frite AB



FILE Red Folder  
Summit  
Human Rights

United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Backs on Soviet Jews

HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE SOVIET UNION - AN OVERVIEW

I. Restrictions on Emigration

Restrictions on emigration pose a human rights issue quite different from all others. Typically, human rights abuses are designed to suppress the individual rights of persons who are suspected of wanting to change an oppressive government. Many such governments, in fact, welcome or even encourage the departure of dissidents.

The Soviet Union has, basically, followed an anti-emigration policy since around 1930. Permission to leave the USSR has been granted only under very exceptional circumstances.

400 In the 1970s, the Soviet Union decided to grant exceptions from its general anti-emigration policy to members of three ethnic groups: ~~Armenians, Germans, and Jews.~~ Two of these groups, Germans and Jews, did not have an ethnic homeland within the Soviet Union. Armenians do have such a homeland, but the families who were allowed to leave had a unique background: they had returned to Soviet Armenia after World War II, but had not adjusted well in their ancient homeland.

There seems to be a bond that unites the three ethnic groups in the minds of the Soviets, thus justifying an exception to the general policy: (a) they belong to groups that seem to be difficult to assimilate, that might be disloyal, and that could be dispensed with; (b) some foreign policy benefits could be derived from their emigration. (In the case of Germans and Jews the foreign policy benefits are self-evident. In the case of Armenians, there are indications of a rather complex set of contacts between the Soviets and some Armenian groups outside the Soviet Union.)

Looking back at the Seventies, the Soviets appear to have concluded that Jewish emigration, in particular, got out of hand when it climbed past an annual rate of 50,000 in 1979. After cutting Jewish emigration back to 1,000 per year in the period 1983 to 1986, they have now relaxed again, letting the Jewish emigration figure increase to the present annual rate of just under 10,000. However, in doing so they sought to discourage large numbers of new applications and seem to have succeeded.

Under the Helsinki Final Act, the Soviets agreed to the principle of free emigration. They have never taken these commitments seriously, however. We have recognized that reality and have been aware of the fact that if we were to press in our face-to-face dealings with the Soviets for full compliance with the emigration provisions of the Helsinki Final Act, we would get nowhere. It is for that reason that we have focused in our discussions on the relaxation of restrictions on emigration for those groups which the Soviets have in the past been willing to let emigrate. As the FRG appears to have made the appropriate representations for the ethnic Germans and as the Armenians have not asked us to intercede, this means that we press the emigration issue principally on behalf of Soviet Jews.

The problems posed by the Soviet Jewish emigration issue at the present time can be categorized as follows:

*Spurious*

\* approx. 75%  
on) been turned  
A. As to persons who have applied for exit permits: ~~We believe there were in excess of 12,000 Jewish exit applications pending at the beginning of 1987. In the course of the year close to an additional 2,000 applications appear to have been accepted. All of these applications are being processed now. Close to 6,500 persons in this category have left the Soviet Union this year. But some applicants are being turned down again. We take issue on turn-downs which are based on the following contentions:~~

*we have taken issue on the following contentions:*

- (1) Spurious claims that the applicant is in possession of secret information: We have said that we recognize the Soviet Union's right under the Helsinki Final Act to deny exit permits to persons who are truly in possession of secret information. We have contended however, that in a number of cases the time that has lapsed since the applicants in issue last worked on secret material is so long that the agreement of secrecy does not stand to reason. We are continuing to press these cases.



- (2) Absence of parental consent: We have argued that there is no legal or moral basis for giving the parents of adult sons and daughters the power to veto their children's emigration from the Soviet Union. ~~The Soviets contend~~ that they are adhering to this interpretation of their policy because of their interest in preserving family ties.

B. As to persons who have not applied for exit permits: An estimated 2,000,000 persons in the Soviet Union belong to families that consider themselves or are considered Jewish. We do not really know what percentage of that group would want to leave the Soviet Union if they had a chance to do so, but even if it were as low as 5% it would be 100,000. Why are they not applying? Soviet Jews offer two answers to this question:

- (1) The emigration decree which took effect on January 1, 1987 provides that exit permits will be granted only to those Soviet citizens who are sponsored by a spouse, parent, child or sibling living abroad. The Soviets now tell us that they will apply this law "flexibly," meaning that they will accept new applications from persons sponsored by more distant relatives. Nevertheless, a good many potential applicants are scared off by the fact that the emigration law clearly disqualifies them. A good many would-be applicants earlier this year did not have their applications accepted if they did not appeal an invitation from a "first-degree" relative living abroad.
- (2) Even those who are technically eligible for emigration are frightened. They are doubtful that new applications will, in fact, be processed. Having seen the Refuseniks live for many years in a no-man's land, having lost their jobs and status yet unable to leave, they don't want to risk the same fate for their families.

*Since most Soviet Jews  
fell outside of the  
category, many would-be  
applicants are scared off  
by the fact that the new  
law clearly disqualifies them*

II. Repression of Civil Liberties

Full compliance with the Helsinki Accords, into which the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has been incorporated by reference, is possible only if a country maintains a democratic government and respects individual liberties. The Soviets clearly had no intention to take the commitments derived from

the Universal Declaration of Human Rights seriously when they signed the Helsinki Accords.

Though we do hold the Soviets accountable in our public statements for all their violations of the Helsinki Final Act, we are more selective in our face-to-face discussions with them. Our purpose initially is to press them to take those steps in the direction of greater openness which even in their view would not constitute fundamental change in their system. If we are successful in achieving forward movement in these limited areas, we can then go on to press the Soviets to abide by their other commitments. *with request Soviet July special colls, etc*

In our recent meetings we have urged the Soviets to move forward with changes in their criminal codes, as they relate to punishment activity. Our agenda can best be summarized as follows:

- (1) Release of all political and religious prisoners: We need to check our lists against the names of persons who might benefit from the promised November 7 amnesty and make representations on behalf of those still in prison. Our current list of known political and religious prisoners totals over 500 names. Of particular concern are the prisoners of conscience who are known to be in very poor health, such as those in Perm Special Regimen Camp 36-1.
- (2) Release of persons committed to psychiatric institutions for political or religious reasons: Here, too, we need to check on news emanating from the Soviet Union as to persons in this category who might now be released and present our concerns on the basis of an updated list. As the Soviets have mentioned that they are looking into reform in this area, we need to ascertain what steps they have decided to take to prevent psychiatric abuse in the future.
- (3) Elimination of laws forbidding political and religious activity: The Soviets claim that they are considering a revision of their criminal code, specifically mentioning that they may do away with the laws against "defamation of the state" and religious activity. We have also pressed them to eliminate Article 70 forbidding "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" and Article 188.3, which has been used to resentence prisoners while they are still in labor camp.
- (4) Rehabilitation of released prisoners: Almost all of the political and religious prisoners released to date

have been forced to sign statements admitting their "guilt" and promising not to engage in further dissident activity. Many who refused to sign were not freed. There is also the problem of harassment and denial of housing and employment to released dissidents.

(5) Modification of restrictions on religious activity to include the following:

- (a) legalization of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, which the Soviets falsely claim disbanded itself in 1946;
- (b) less suppression of the activities of unregistered Protestant denominations, Lithuanian Catholics, and Muslims;
- (c) free importation of bibles, prayerbooks and other religious objects;
- (d) ~~arrangements~~ for the training of ~~priests, ministers and~~ rabbis either inside or outside the Soviet Union and permission for them to return if trained outside the country;
- (e) permission for ~~religious~~ congregations to sponsor religious training for adults;
- (f) permission for ~~religious~~ congregations to sponsor religious training for children if requested by their parents;
- (g) permission for ~~religious~~ congregations to engage in charitable work.

(6) Granting seriously ill persons permission to travel abroad for medical treatment: We have presented the Soviets a list of individuals who have asked to be allowed to travel to the West for medical treatment unavailable in the USSR. Sadly, in many cases the delay was so long that the patients died without treatment.

(7) Modification of restrictions on unofficial publications and organizations: Publishers of independent journals like the Moscow-based "Glasnost," and members of unofficial organizations have been subject to detainment, threats of imprisonment, and confiscation of materials and equipment.

Lisa

Here - Saturday  
603 Beeper →  
Home: 759-6869.

1) who - ① MA → 6

→ ② Yuli Edelstein <sup>not hit back</sup> friend  
Sharon's [Chris] ← also recently → Publicity  
Issa  
Ido Nudel → friend →

Let Albert  
212 794-8706

→ ③ NSC Staff → Schiff → not here → Jerry Goodman  
→ HR/SLU  
Myra Scheinbaum (NY)

④ Powell → Gen. interest Jewish community -  
Evmarth Lisa Green Range

2) Statement read at demonstration. →

Draft statement for future →  
↳

① → Cam  
~~scribble~~ ?

① → Shultz  
→

→

① Lisa →  
② Jerry Goodman  
③ ~~for~~ for the

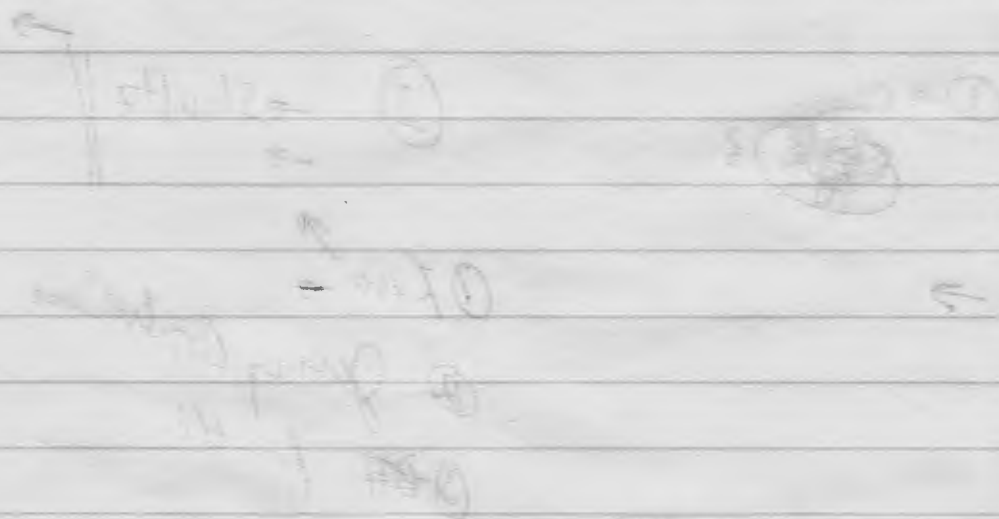
364-1942

200 women NCJW

Revised 3pm - 3:15 Shultz

→ Call Myel Levitsky

Marty Skem Lane?



Some (written in NC 211)  
 version 3-1-13  
 2011 April 1st

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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*File Folder*  
MEETING PRE-SUMMIT SOVIET JEWRY/POTUS 11/17/87

*FOIA*  
F03-0020/06  
THOMAS

*Box Number*

100

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<i>NO Document Description</i>	<i>pages</i>		<i>tions</i>
1 NOTES RE PARTICIPANTS	3	ND	B6

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**C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.**

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR  
MEETING WITH SOVIET JEWRY LEADERS

- Let me say at the outset that I fully understand that your December 6 demonstration for Soviet Jewry and in support of our efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry. Soviet Jewry will be an issue at the summit, I will make sure of that.
  
- The Soviets would prefer that the issue disappear, that we all forget the plight of Soviet Jews. It is our business, yours and mine, to make the plight of Soviet Jewry an ever present public issue. That is why we have raised the issue on every conceivable occasion.
  
- Perhaps we are at an historical crossroads. The Soviets are hurting very badly. Their economy falls farther and farther behind each year and their political ideology has lost much of its force. Therefore, they seek better relations with the West. We have to make them understand that in part this is function of how much confidence we can have in their ability to observe agreements.

→ Romania  
x5112

-- In 1975, when Soviet leader Brezhnev signed the Helsinki accords, he committed himself in effect to the freedom of Soviet Jewry -- the freedom to practice their religion and the freedom to emigrate. Unfortunately, that turned out to be largely a paper promise. But we must keep their feet to the fire, so to speak. I think that the policy is beginning to bear some fruit as evidenced by the increase in emigration, but increases in numbers, while welcome, one which all we should demand. There has to be the institutionalization of more liberal emigration procedures, also a greater freedom for Jewish religious and cultural life.

-- I would be interested in hearing from you on two related matters: 1) how much progress has been made; and 2) what you think we should be demanding of the Soviets at this time.

-- (At the conclusion of the meeting) I applauded your efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry. While it would be improper for me to ~~seek~~ <sup>speech</sup> at your demonstration, I do plan to write a letter to you, through Mr. Abram, to be read on the 6th.



*jewry bp/mz3*

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR  
MEETING WITH SOVIET JEWRY LEADERS

- Let me say at the outset that I fully understand that your December 6 demonstration <sup>for Soviet Jewry, and</sup> is in support of our efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry. Soviet Jewry will be an issue at the summit, I will make sure of that.
- The Soviets would prefer that the issue disappear, that we all forget the plight of Soviet Jews. It is our business, yours and mine, to make the plight of Soviet Jewry an ever present public issue. [That is why we have raised the issue on every conceivable occasion. I am sure you all saw the article in the paper about Undersecretary of State Whitehead's current talks with the Soviets and that is why you are holding the December 6 demonstration.]
- Perhaps we are at an historical crossroads. The Soviets are hurting very badly. Their economy falls farther and farther behind each year and their political ideology has lost much of its force. Therefore, they seek better relations with the West. We have to make them understand that in part this is function of how far we can trust them: <sup>much confidence we can have in their</sup> ~~That in turn depends on their human rights policy, for example, on their treatment of Soviet Jewry.~~

*ability  
to observe  
agreements*



SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR  
MEETING WITH SOVIET JEWRY LEADERS

✓ -- Let me say at the outset that I fully understand that your  
✓ December 6 demonstration ~~is for Soviet Jewry and~~ <sup>is</sup> in support  
of our efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry. ~~Soviet Jewry~~ <sup>this</sup> will  
✓ be an issue at the summit, I will make sure of that.

-- The Soviets would prefer ~~that the issue disappear~~, that we  
all forget the plight of ~~Soviet Jews~~ <sup>Jews in the Soviet Union U.S.S.R.</sup>. It is our business,  
yours and mine, to make ~~the plight of Soviet Jewry an ever~~  
~~present public issue~~ <sup>sure that they are not forgotten.</sup>. That is why we have raised the issue  
on every conceivable occasion. - *Reference text of announcement which  
sep = part of summit.*

-- Perhaps we are at an historical crossroads. The Soviets ~~are~~  
~~hurting very badly~~. ~~Their~~ economy falls farther ~~and farther~~  
behind each year and their political ideology has lost much  
of its force. Therefore, they <sup>are now</sup> seek better relations with  
the West. ~~We have to make them understand that~~ <sup>and, we have an opportunity to let them know that</sup> in part this  
*better relations are a* ~~is~~ a function of how much confidence we can have in their  
ability to observe agreements.

✓ -- In 1975, when Soviet leader Brezhnev signed the Helsinki accords, he committed himself <sup>Do we need?</sup> (in effect) to the freedom of Soviet Jewry -- the freedom to practice their religion and the freedom to emigrate. ~~Unfortunately~~, that turned out to be largely a paper promise. ~~But~~ we must keep the Soviet's feet to the fire, so to speak. I think that our policy is beginning to bear some fruit, as evidenced by the increase in emigration. But increases in numbers, ~~while welcome, are~~ <sup>is not enough</sup> ~~not all we should demand.~~ There ~~has to be~~ <sup>must be</sup> the institutionalization of more liberal emigration <sup>(1) ~~is~~</sup> procedures, and <sup>(2)</sup> ~~also~~ greater freedom for Jewish religious and cultural life.

-- I would be interested in hearing from you on two related matters: 1) how much progress has been made; and 2) what you think we should be demanding of the Soviets at this time.

(At the conclusion of the meeting)

-- I applaud your efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry. While it would be improper for me to speak at your demonstration, I do plan to write a letter to you, through Mr. Abram, to be read on the 6th.

+ line on Romania

PAUL WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON & GARRISON

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LOUIS S WEISS (1927-1950)  
JOHN F WHARTON (1927-1977)

ADRIAN W DEWIND  
LLOYD K GARRISON  
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JAMES B LEWIS  
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COUNSEL

DOMINIQUE FARGUE\*\*  
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BAYLESS MANNING  
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JOHN P MCENROE  
COLLEEN MCMAHON  
ROBERT E MONTGOMERY JR  
ROBERT H MONTGOMERY JR  
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MATTHEW NIMETZ  
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ALLEN L THOMAS  
JUDITH P THOYER  
JAY TOPKIS  
JOSE E TRIAS  
DAVID T WASHBURN  
ALFRED C YOUNGWOOD  
NORMAN ZELENKO

(212) 373-3237

November 5, 1987

\*NOT ADMITTED TO NEW YORK BAR  
\*\*COUNSEL JURIDIQUE IN FRANCE ONLY

The Honorable Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President:

First, I want to congratulate you and your entire Administration for the persistent and effective way in which you have pushed the cause of Soviet Jewry in your negotiations at the Summits in Geneva and Reykjavik, and in the preparatory work of the upcoming Summit in Washington. Truly, you and Secretary Shultz have made the cause of Soviet Jewry that of America, and by your leadership, the cause of much of the West.

I have read, with the greatest satisfaction, the text of the joint Soviet-American announcement of the scheduled meeting in Washington, and especially the portion that reads:

"The President and the General Secretary attach the highest importance to holding a substantive meeting which covers the full range of issues between the two countries -- arms reductions, human rights and humanitarian issues, settlement of regional conflicts and bilateral relations -- and which makes significant headway over the full range of these issues."

I need not tell you that only your efforts and those of your Administration could have caused the Soviets to acknowledge Human Rights as an appropriate subject for international discussion, and not (as the Soviets had contended in the past), a domestic and internal matter. This is but another example of how your persistence has paid off.

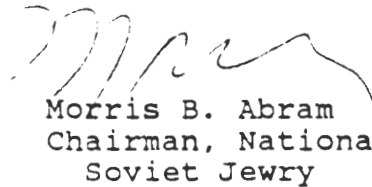
The upcoming Summit may well determine the fate of 2,000,000 Soviet Jews -- whether those who wish to leave may do so (as is their right under the Helsinki Accords and other agreements) and whether those who elect otherwise, may lead a full cultural and religious life as Jews in the USSR.

As you prepare for this historic meeting, I request that you receive a small delegation of Jewish leaders so that we may exchange views and express our deep appreciation of your leadership in this vital endeavor. This will also highlight the importance of this item on the Summit agenda.

I must say, Mr. President, that in planning for the Washington mobilization on Sunday, December 6, we have emphasized, over and over again, that this demonstration will be in support of your negotiating position at the Summit. We would, of course, like to say this to you when, and if, we can meet.

With great respect, I am

Ever,



Morris B. Abram  
Chairman, National Conference on  
Soviet Jewry

Chairman, Conference of Presidents of  
Major American Jewish Organizations

/vc

BY HAND

bcc: Mr. Max Green

11/12/87

1  
TO: Max Green

FROM: Lisa Jameson

Per our conversation today --  
Yes, we're all for it!

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Date: November 9, 1987

TO: Fritz Ermarth

*Lisa*

FROM: MAX GREEN *MG*  
Associate Director  
Office of Public Liaison  
Room 196 OEOB, Ext. 6270

The attached is for your:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review & Comment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Response  | <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Action          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Letter     | <input type="checkbox"/> Signature                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> File             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please Return By | <u>COB 11/12/87</u>                                  |

Comments:

Would NSC like to co-sponsor?



# DRAFT

## SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

November 10, 1987

TO: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR., DIRECTOR OF  
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: REBECCA RANGE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE  
PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF  
PUBLIC LIAISON

REQUEST: To meet with the leaders of the Soviet Jewry  
movement.

PURPOSE: To reaffirm publicly the President's  
commitment to the cause of Soviet Jewry  
before the Summit.

BACKGROUND: On December 6, the day before the arrival of  
Mikhail Gorbachev, there will be a  
demonstration on the Ellipse in support of  
freedom for Soviet Jews. The demonstration  
has the strong backing of virtually all  
Jewish organizations and nearly the entire  
Jewish community. The purpose of the  
demonstration is to lend support to the  
President in his effort to secure the freedom  
of Soviet Jews. The leaders of this  
demonstration would like to meet with the  
President before the date of the  
demonstration.

PREVIOUS  
PARTICIPATION: While never meeting with this particular  
group, the President has met with many people  
on the question of Soviet Jewry. For  
example, he has met with Morris Abram, one  
member of the group.

DATE: Open DURATION: 15 minutes

LOCATION: Oval Office

PARTICIPANTS: The Summit Task Force Officers:  
Morris Abram, National Conference on Soviet  
Jewry  
Shoshana Cardin, Council of Jewish  
Federations  
Robert Loup, United Jewish Appeal  
Sandra Weiner, National Conference on Soviet  
Jewry  
Ed Robin, United Jewish Appeal

# DRAFT

# DRAFT

Jacqueline Levine, National Jewish Community  
Relations Advisory Council  
Jerry Goodman, National Conference on Soviet  
Jewry

OUTLINE OF EVENT: Guests enter Oval Office and photos are taken. Brief remarks are exchanged, and guests depart. A Presidential statement is issued upon conclusion of the meeting.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Talking points.

MEDIA COVERAGE: TBD

RECOMMENDED BY: Rebecca Range

PROJECT OFFICER: Max Green, x6270

DRAFT

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 12, 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.  
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: MAX GREEN, *mc*  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON

SUBJECT: Meeting with Jewish Leaders

It is vital that we agree to this request. NSC agrees. The President and the Secretary of State have made a point of raising the issue of Soviet Jewry in every meeting with their Soviet counterparts. This meeting will confirm publicly the President's intentions to press once again for the freedom of Soviet Jewry when he meets the General Secretary.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

11/13/87

MEMORANDUM

TO: REBECCA RANGE (Coordinate with NSC)

FROM: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR. *FR*

SUBJECT: APPROVED PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITY

MEETING: Meeting with Jewish Leaders re Summit

DATE: November 17, 1987

TIME: 3:30 pm

DURATION: 20 minutes

LOCATION: Cabinet Room

BACKUP LOCATION:

REMARKS REQUIRED: To be covered in briefing paper

MEDIA COVERAGE: Coordinate with Press Office

FIRST LADY  
PARTICIPATION: No

NOTE: PROJECT OFFICER, SEE ATTACHED CHECKLIST

M. Archambault  
W. Ball  
J. Courtemanche  
E. Crispen  
R. Dawson  
F. Donatelli  
D. Dellinger  
A. Dolan  
J. Erkenbeck  
L. Faulkner  
C. Fuller  
M. Fitzwater  
T. Griscom

Advance Office  
J. Hooley  
J. Kuhn  
J. Lamb  
J. Manning  
J. McKinney  
N. Risque  
D. Johnson  
R. Shaddick  
G. Walters  
WHCA Audio/Visual  
WHCA Operations

G. Green

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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*Withdrawer*  
MJD 11/17/2001

*File Folder*  
MEETING PRE-SUMMIT SOVIET JEWRY/POTUS 11/17/87

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2	FORM	1	11/16/1987	B6
	REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENTS			

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**Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]**

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]**
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]**
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]**
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]**
- B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]**
- B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]**
- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]**
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]**

**C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.**

Rebecca Range, Director, Office of Public Liaison  
Fritz Ermarth, Special Assistant to the President and Senior  
Director for European and Soviet Affairs, NSC  
Paula Dobriansky, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human  
Rights, Department of State  
Max Green, Associate Director, Office of Public Liaison  
Lisa Jameson, Director, European and Soviet Affairs, NSC

IV. PRESS PLAN

To determined by the Press Office.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- 3:30 p.m. You enter Cabinet Room where guests are assembled.
- ✓ 3:31 p.m. You make brief remarks and open discussion.
- 3:33 p.m. Discussion is led by Morris Abram.
- 3:50 p.m. Discussion concludes; you depart Cabinet Room.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 16, 1987

MEETING WITH SOVIET JEWRY LEADERS

DATE: November 17, 1987  
LOCATION: Cabinet Room  
TIME: 3:30 p.m.  
FROM: REBECCA G. RANGE *Rebecca G. Range*

I. PURPOSE

To reaffirm publicly the President's commitment to the cause of Soviet Jewry before the Summit.

II. BACKGROUND

On December 6, the day before the arrival of General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, there will be a demonstration on the Ellipse in support of freedom for Soviet Jews. The demonstration has the strong backing of virtually all of the Jewish community. The purpose of the demonstration is to lend support to the President in his effort to secure the freedom of Soviet Jews. The leaders of the demonstration have sought this meeting with you. They are also bringing with them two Refuseniks who have been recently released from the Soviet Union.

Attached is a background paper on the situation of Soviet Jewry.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Morris J. Abram, Chairman, National Conference on Soviet Jewry  
Jerry Goodman, Executive Director, National Conference on Soviet Jewry  
Alan Pesky, Chairman, Coalition to Free Soviet Jews  
Michael Pelavin, Chairman, National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council  
Shoshana Cardin, President, Council of Jewish Federations  
Pamela B. Cohen, President, Union of Councils for Soviet Jews  
Martin Stein, Chairman, United Jewish Appeal  
Yuli Edelstein, recently released Soviet Refusenik  
Vladimir Slepak, recently released Soviet Refusenik  
Maria Slepak, wife of Vladimir Slepak

Kenneth M. Duberstein, Deputy Chief of Staff  
Rebecca G. Range, Deputy Assistant to the President and  
Director of Office of Public Liaison  
Fritz Ermarth, Special Assistant to the President and Senior  
Director for European and Soviet Affairs, NSC  
Paula Dobriansky, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human  
Rights, Department of State  
Max Green, Associate Director, Office of Public Liaison  
Lisa Jameson, Director, European and Soviet Affairs, NSC

IV. PRESS PLAN

To determined by the Press Office.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

3:30 p.m.            You enter Cabinet Room where guests are  
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3:31 p.m.            You make brief remarks and open discussion.  
3:33 p.m.            Morris Abram makes opening response.  
3:50 p.m.            Discussion concludes; you depart Cabinet  
                         Room.

Attachments: Talking Points  
                         Background Paper



SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR  
MEETING WITH SOVIET JEWRY LEADERS

- Let me say at the outset that I fully understand that your December 6 demonstration is in support of our efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry. This will be an issue at the summit, I will make sure of that.
  
- The Soviets would prefer that we all forget the plight of Jews in the U.S.S.R. It is our business, yours and mine, to make sure that they are not forgotten. That is why we have raised the issue on every conceivable occasion. We have already announced publicly that the issue of human rights will be an important part of the Summit talks.
  
- Perhaps we are at an historical crossroads. The Soviet economy falls farther behind each year and their political ideology has lost much of its force. Therefore, they are now seeking better relations with the West, and we have an opportunity to let them know that better relations are a function of how much confidence we can have in their ability to observe agreements.

-- In 1975, when Soviet leader Brezhnev signed the Helsinki Accords, he committed himself to the freedom of Soviet Jewry -- the freedom to practice their religion and the freedom to emigrate. That turned out to be largely a paper promise. We must keep the Soviet's feet to the fire, so to speak. I think that our policy is beginning to bear some fruit, as evidenced by the increase in emigration. But increases in numbers is not enough. There must be institutionalization of (1) more liberal emigration procedures, and (2) greater freedom for Jewish religious and cultural life.

-- I would be interested in hearing from you on two related matters: (1) how much progress has been made; and (2) what you think we should be demanding of the Soviets at this time.

(At the conclusion of the meeting)

-- I applaud your efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry. While it would be improper for me to speak at your demonstration, I do plan to write a letter to you, through Mr. Abram, to be read on the 6th.

## BACKGROUND ON SOVIET JEWRY

In the 1970s, the Soviet Union decided to grant exceptions from its general anti-emigration policy to Jews. However, looking back at the 70s, the Soviets appear to have concluded that Jewish emigration got out of hand when it climbed past an annual rate of 50,000 in 1979. After cutting Jewish emigration back to 1,000 per year in the period 1983 to 1986, they have now relaxed again, letting the Jewish emigration figure increase to the present annual rate of just under 10,000. However, in doing so they have sought to discourage large numbers of new applications and seem to have succeeded.

The problems posed by the Soviet Jewish emigration issue at the present time can be categorized as follows:

- A. As to the approximately 7,500 who have applied for exit permits and have been turned down, we have taken issue on the following contentions:
  1. Spurious claims that the applicant is in possession of secret information.
  2. Absence of parental consent: we have argued that there is no legal or moral basis for giving the parents of adult sons and daughters the power to veto their children's emigration from the Soviet Union.
- B. As to persons who have not applied for exit permits: An estimated 2,000,000 persons in the Soviet Union belong to families that consider themselves or are considered Jewish. We do not really know what percentage of the group would want to leave the Soviet Union if they had a chance to do so, but even if it were as low as 5%, it would be 100,000. Why are they not applying? Soviet Jews offer two answers to this question:
  1. The emigration decree which took effect on January 1, 1987 provides that exit permits will be granted only to those Soviet citizens who are sponsored by a spouse, parent, or child or sibling living abroad. Since most Soviet Jews fall outside of this category, many would be applicants are scared off by the fact that the new law disqualifies them.

2. Even those who are technically eligible for emigration are frightened. They are doubtful that new applications will, in fact, be processed. Having seen the Refuseniks live for many years in a no-man's land, having lost their jobs and status yet unable to leave, they don't want to risk the same fate for their families.

With regard to the repression of civil liberties of Soviet Jewry, we have pushed for modification of restrictions on religious activity to include the following:

- Free importation of bibles, prayerbooks, and other religious objects;
- training of rabbis either inside or outside the Soviet Union and permission for them to return if trained outside the country;
- permission for congregations to sponsor religious training for adults and children if requested by their parents; and
- permission for congregations to engage in charitable work.

#### BACKGROUND ON ROMANIA

In the event that you are asked, serious human rights problems continue to exist in Romania. The Jewish community has not escaped difficulty although emigration continues at a fair pace.

We are doing all we can to impress upon Romanian authorities that human rights problems can only complicate our bilateral relations and they are aware of amendments in both Houses to the trade bill which remove their most favored nation status. We think passage of the legislation will only worsen the situation for minorities in Romania.

MARY  
DEWHIRST

November 16, 1987

MEETING WITH SOVIET JEWRY LEADERS

DATE: November 17, 1987  
LOCATION: Cabinet Room  
TIME: 3:30 p.m.  
  
FROM: REBECCA G. RANGE

I. PURPOSE

To reaffirm publicly the President's commitment to the cause of Soviet Jewry before the Summit.

II. BACKGROUND

✓ On December 6, the day before the arrival of Mikhail Gorbachev, there will be a demonstration on the Ellipse in support of freedom for Soviet Jews. <sup>title?</sup> The demonstration has the strong backing of virtually all Jewish community. ✓ The purpose of the demonstration is to lend support to the President in his effort to secure the freedom of Soviet Jews. The leaders of the demonstration have sought this meeting with you.

Attached is a background paper on the situation of Soviet Jewry.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Morris J. Abram, Chairman, National Conference on Soviet Jewry  
Jerry Goodman, Executive Director, National Conference on Soviet Jewry  
Alan Pesky, Chairman, Coalition to Free Soviet Jews  
Michael Pelavin, Chairman, National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council  
Shoshana Cardin, President, Council of Jewish Federations  
Pamela B. Cohen, President, Union of Councils for Soviet Jews  
Martin Stein, Chairman, United Jewish Appeal  
Yuli Edelstein, recently released Soviet Refusenik  
Vladimir Slepak, recently released Soviet Refusenik  
Maria Slepak, wife of Vladimir Slepak

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x6270

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1987

MEETING WITH SOVIET JEWRY LEADERS

DATE: November 17, 1987  
LOCATION: Cabinet Room  
TIME: 3:30 p.m.  
FROM: REBECCA G. RANGE *Rebecca G. Range*

I. PURPOSE

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Attached is a background paper on the situation of Soviet Jewry.

III. PARTICIPANTS

- The Pres., Mr. Baker, Sec. Shultz*
- Mr. Morris J. Abram, Chairman, National Conference on Soviet Jewry
- Mr. Jerry Goodman, Executive Director, National Conference on Soviet Jewry
- Mr. Alan Pesky, Chairman, Coalition to Free Soviet Jews
- Michael Pelavin, Chairman, National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council
- Ms. Shoshana Cardin, President, Council of Jewish Federations
- Ms. Pamela B. Cohen, President, Union of Councils for Soviet Jews
- Mr. Martin Stein, Chairman, United Jewish Appeal
- Mr. Yuli Edelstein, recently released Soviet Refusenik
- Mr. Vladimir Slepak, recently released Soviet Refusenik
- Ms. Maria Slepak, wife of Vladimir Slepak

*Text Cards*  
*# memo on*  
*(Mr. Smith)*  
*17*

Mr Kenneth M. Duberstein, Deputy Chief of Staff  
Mrs Rebecca G. Range, Deputy Assistant to the President and  
Director of Office of Public Liaison  
Mr Fritz Ermarth, Special Assistant to the President and Senior  
Director for European and Soviet Affairs, NSC  
Mrs Paula Dobriansky, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human  
Rights, Department of State  
Mr Max Green, Associate Director, Office of Public Liaison  
Mrs Lisa Jameson, Director, European and Soviet Affairs, NSC

IV. PRESS PLAN

To determined by the Press Office.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

3:30 p.m.	You enter Cabinet Room where guests are assembled.
3:31 p.m.	You make brief remarks and open discussion.
3:33 p.m.	Morris Abram makes opening response.
3:50 p.m.	Discussion concludes; you depart Cabinet Room.

Attachments: Talking Points .  
Background Paper



THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of Media Relations

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For Immediate Release

November 18, 1987

In the Roosevelt Room of the White House yesterday, President Reagan met with members of the Jewish community who plan to lead a demonstration December 6 on behalf of Soviet Jews. The demonstration is being held in Washington to lend support to the President in his efforts to secure the freedom of Soviet Jewry, and will take place one day before the arrival of General Secretary Gorbachev.

The President wanted to meet with the group before the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Summit to express his commitment to the cause of Soviet Jews, and to assure the Jewish community that the plight of Soviet Jewry will be an issue at the Summit. The President also wanted to hear from the Jewish leadership regarding their concerns and to find out what they think we should be demanding from the Soviets on this important human rights issue.

Attending the meeting were: Morris J. Abram, Chairman, National Conference on Soviet Jewry, New York City; Jerry Goodman, Executive Director, National Conference on Soviet Jewry, New York City; Alan Pesky, Chairman, Coalition to Free Soviet Jews, Stamford, Connecticut; Michael Pelavin, Chairman, National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, Flint, Michigan; Shoshana Cardin, President, Council of Jewish Federations, Baltimore, Maryland; Pamela B. Cohen, President, Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, Chicago, Illinois; Martin Stein, Chairman, United Jewish Appeal, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Yuli Edelstein and Vladimir Slepak, recently released Soviet refuseniks; and Maria Slepak, Vladimir's Slepak's wife.

Enclosed is a photo of the President with part of the group. From left to right: Jerry Goodman, Yuli Edelstein, and Morris Abram. Mary Dewhurst, Associate Director of the White House Office of Public Liaison, is seated behind them.

For more information, call (202)456-6623.

