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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name MATLOCK, JACK: FILES

Withdrawer

JET 4/27/2005

File Folder DISSIDENTS (2/23)

FOIA

F06-114/6

Box Number 23

YARHI-MILO

2302

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
9269	MEMO	BRIEFING PAPER VICE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH AVITAL SHCHARANSKY MAY 19 [3 - 3] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	ND	B1
9272	TALKING POINTS	MEETING WITH AVITAL SHCHARANSKIY [4 - 4] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	ND	B1
9274	MEMO	BACKGROUND ON SHCHARANSKIY CASE [7 - 7] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	ND	B1
9255	MEMO	ALLEN TO HAIG RE MEETING WITH AVITAL SHCHARANSKIY [8 - 8] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	5/13/1981	B1

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.

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2302

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
9256	MEMO	ALLEN TO PRESIDENT REAGAN RE HAIG'S EVENING REPORT [9 - 9] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	5/14/1981	B1
9275	MEMO	HAIG TO PRESIDENT REAGAN RE MEETING WITH AVITAL SHCHARANSKIY [10 - 10] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	5/13/1981	B1
9277	CABLE	181348Z MAY 81 [11 - 12] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	4	5/18/1981	B1
9257	MEMO	DOBRIANSKY TO ALLEN RE AVITAL SHCHARANSKIY [30 - 30] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	5/22/1981	B1

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2302

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
9278	MEMO	BRIEFING PAPER VISIT OF LOZANSKY, BALOVLENKOV, FROLOV, JURGUTIS, SPOUSES OF SOVIET HUNGER STRIKERS, MAY 27 [38 - 40] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	3	ND	B1
9280	MEMO	SOVIET HUNGER STRIKERS [41 - 42] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	2	ND	B1
9260	MEMO	ALLEN TO PRESIDENT REAGAN RE MEETING WITH AVITAL SHCHARANSKIY AND IOSIF MENDELEVICH [46 - 46] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	ND	B1
9261	MEMO	PIPES TO ALLEN RE AVITAL SHCHARANSKIY [48 - 48] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	5/26/1981	B1

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
9262	MEMO	PIPES TO ALLEN RE IOSIF MENDELEVICH [49 - 49] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	5/26/1981	B1
9265	MEMO	SAME TEXT AS DOC #9260 [52 - 52] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	ND	B1
9266	MEMO	SAME TEXT AS DOC #9261 [53 - 53] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	5/26/1981	B1
9267	MEMO	SAME TEXT AS DOC #9262 [54 - 54] R 12/13/2007 F06-114/6	1	5/26/1981	B1

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington D.C. 20520

May 15, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. RICHARD V. ALLEN
THE WHITE HOUSE

SUBJECT: The Vice President's Meeting with Avital Shcharanskiy,
wife of Soviet dissident Anatoliy Shcharanskiy

As requested by the office of the Vice President, enclosed is a briefing memorandum for the Vice President's meeting with Avital Shcharanskiy, 6:30 p.m., May 19 in Room 274 of the Old Executive Office Building.

L. Paul Bremer, III
L. Paul Bremer, III
Executive Secretary

Enclosures:
As stated.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

7/12/02

RDS-1 5/13/01

GLS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BRIEFING PAPER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Vice President's Meeting
with Avital Shcharanskiy
6:30 p.m., May 19, Room 274
Old Executive Office Building

You are meeting with Mrs. Avital Shcharanskiy, wife of imprisoned Soviet dissident Anatoliy Shcharanskiy, at a time when her husband reportedly has been placed in isolation in his prison camp and has had visitor and letter-writing privileges removed. His health is also reported to be declining, although sources disagree as to the extent. Mrs. Shcharanskiy is convinced that Soviet authorities have decided to let her husband die in prison.

Secretary Haig met with Mrs. Shcharanskiy at the request of Senator Alfonse D'Amato (R - N.Y.), on Wednesday, May 13. In response to her request for a maximum USG effort to save her husband's life, Secretary Haig reassured Mrs. Shcharanskiy of continued USG concern and support for her husband. He indicated that the USG will pursue every appropriate opportunity to gain her husband's release, and agreed to issue a public statement on Shcharanskiy's behalf (Tab A). The statement, which was released on May 14, quoted the Senate resolution sponsored by Senator D'Amato and passed by the Senate May 12. It also stated that Secretary Haig agreed to give a copy of the Senate Resolution to Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin which he did May 15.

The Department of State has followed developments in Shcharanskiy's situation closely since his arrest in 1977. We repeatedly have made the Soviets aware of USG concern over Shcharanskiy's situation. Most recently, Ambassador Kampelman discussed the Shcharanskiy case at length in his April 10 speech to the Madrid CSCE Conference, and raised it again in a speech at the Conference on Tuesday, May 12. The case was also raised at a high level in diplomatic channels last fall. Background information on the Shcharanskiy case is attached (Tab B).

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FDS-1 5/13/01

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NLS FOI-114/6#9269

BY LOT NARA, DATE 12/13/07

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TALKING POINTS

-- THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION IS DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER ANATOLIY SHCHARANSKIY.

-- THE USG FOLLOWS DEVELOPMENTS IN HIS SITUATION AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE.

-- WE APPRECIATE YOUR BRINGING THIS LATEST INFORMATION TO OUR ATTENTION.

-- WE HAVE MADE THE SOVIETS AWARE OF OUR CONCERN ON EVERY APPROPRIATE OCCASION.

-- AMBASSADOR KAMPELMAN DISCUSSED THE SHCHARANSKIY CASE AT LENGTH IN HIS APRIL 10 SPEECH TO THE MADRID CSCI CONFERENCE, AND RAISED IT AGAIN IN A SPEECH AT THE CONFERENCE LAST TUESDAY, MAY 12.

-- THE CASE WAS ALSO RAISED AT A HIGH LEVEL IN DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS LAST FALL. AS SECRETARY HAIG TOLD YOU, HE WILL ALSO GIVE AMBASSADOR DOBRYNIN A COPY OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP.

-- GIVEN THE PRESENT STATE OF U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS, I WOULD NOT WANT TO MISLEAD YOU INTO BELIEVING THAT THE SOVIETS ARE LIKELY TO BE RESPONSIVE TO USG APPEALS IN THIS CASE AT THIS TIME.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RDS-1 5/13/01

DECLASSIFIED

NLS F06-114/6# 9272

BY h2J, NARA, DATE 12/13/07

DEPARTMENT PRESS STATEMENT

Secretary Haig met with Mrs. Avital Shcharansky, wife of imprisoned Soviet dissident Anatoly Shcharansky, on May 13. Mrs. Shcharansky described to the Secretary the suffering of her husband under his harsh conditions of incarceration in the Soviet Union and expressed fears for his welfare.

Accompanying Mrs. Shcharansky were Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato of New York, Senator Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, Mr. Jerry Goodman, Director of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, and Mr. Gordon Zacks, President of the R.G. Barry Corporation of Pickerington, Ohio. The two Senators presented to Secretary Haig the resolution concerning Mr. Shcharansky which was adopted on the evening of May 12 by the United States Senate. That Resolution (S. RES. 131) reads as follows:

"WHEREAS, the final act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe commits its 35 signatories to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms;

"WHEREAS, the Soviet Union is signatory to this Act;

"WHEREAS, Mr. Shcharansky's health has now deteriorated to the point where his life is threatened, as a result of the actions of Soviet officials, and

"WHEREAS, humanitarian interests and the provisions of the final act require that Soviet authorities cease their continued incarceration and inhumane treatment of Mr. Shcharansky;

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is the sense of the Senate that:

"Section I - Anatoly Shcharansky be released from prison and be given proper medical treatment and be permitted to emigrate to Israel.

"Section II - the Senate urges the President, the Secretary of State and the United States Delegation to the Current Madrid Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe meeting to continue to express at every suitable opportunity and in the strongest terms the opposition of the United States to the imprisonment of Anatoly Shcharansky,

"Section III - The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit copies of this resolution to the Soviet Ambassador to the United States and to the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics."

;

The Secretary emphasized that he fully supported the views expressed in the Senate resolution. He undertook to present a copy of the resolution to Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin at the first opportunity and to request that it be transmitted to the Soviet leadership.

1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BACKGROUND ON SHCHARANSKIY CASE

Anatoliy Shcharanskiy was a prominent Jewish activist and one of the leading members of the Moscow group established 1976 to monitor Soviet compliance with the Helsinki Final Act. He was arrested in March 1977, when the Soviets began a major crackdown on dissidents. He was accused of treason, falsely charged with working for U.S. intelligence agencies. Tried in July 1978, he was sentenced to 13 years' imprisonment followed by five years' internal exile.

President Carter publicly denied the Soviet allegation that Shcharanskiy had any connection with the CIA, and the U.S. has several times spoken out on the Shcharanskiy case, both publicly and through diplomatic channels. Although Aleksandr Ginzburg, another prominent dissident who had been sentenced at the same time, was included in the April 1979 exchange of Soviet dissidents for two Soviet spies held in the U.S., the Soviets refused to exchange Shcharanskiy. Meanwhile, he remains a symbol of Soviet repression against both Soviet Jews and human rights activists.

Shcharanskiy's wife Avital, who lives in Israel, conducts an active public relations campaign on her husband's behalf. She has been received in the U.S. by high officials of the previous Administration, and also by Rosalynn Carter.

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BY LOI, NARA, DATE 12/13/07

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May 15, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR ALEXANDER M. HAIG, JR.
THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with the Wife of
Anatoliy Shcharanskiy

The President has read your memorandum of May 13, 1981 concerning your recent meeting with Mrs. Avital Shcharanskiy.

He specifically noted: "Let us do all we can to help get her husband freed. RR"

The above is for your guidance.

Richard V. Allen

Richard V. Allen
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

CC: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Review on May 15, 1987

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NLS FOI-114/6 #9255
BY LOT, NARA, DATE 12/13/07

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ATTACHMENT

May 14, 1981

OK
RR

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

RICHARD V. ALLEN *ju*

SUBJECT:

Secretary Haig's Evening Report

Attached is Secretary Haig's Evening Report of May 13, 1981.

*Let us do all we can to keep
get her husband freed
RR*

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ATTACHMENT

DECLASSIFIED

NLS F06-114/6-9256

BY LOI, NARA, DATE 12/13/07

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

May 13, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From : Alexander M. Haig, Jr. 

1. Meeting with Wife of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy. Mrs. Avital Shcharanskiy, wife of imprisoned Soviet dissident Anatoliy Shcharanskiy, called on me today to appeal for Administration efforts to obtain the release of her husband. She pointed out that he was convicted on false charges of spying for the U.S. European leaders with whom she had spoken, including Mrs. Thatcher, told her that only U.S. influence would be great enough to effect his release.

Senators D'Amato and Spector accompanied Mrs. Shcharanskiy and gave me a copy of last night's Senate resolution concerning her husband. The Department is announcing to the press that I have agreed to give Dobrynin a copy of the resolution for transmittal to the Soviet leadership. (C)

2. Senate Action on the Clark Amendment. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee today approved the repeal of the Clark Amendment which restricts our activities in Angola. But other restrictive language has been added. Any military or paramilitary operations in Angola will require a Presidential determination that it is in our national security interest. This determination must be accompanied by a statement giving the reasons for the determination and a description of the assistance and its recipients. Further, the President will have to take into account the effect of such assistance on other African nations and the prospects for an internationally acceptable Namibia settlement.

This is better than the Clark Amendment but still unduly restrictive. We will work to cut back these strictures on the floor. (U)

RDS 2/3 5/13/01 (HAIG, Alexander M., Jr.)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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NLS F06-114/6 #9275

BY 105 NARA, DATE 12/13/07

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2907

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD PRIORITY 2928

AMEMBASSY MADRID 1036

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 3409

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 06811

MADRID FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 12065: RDS 4 5/18/01 (MCCALL, SHERROD) OR-M

TAGS: PINT, SHUM, CSCE, UR

SUBJECT: SHCHARANSKIY FAMILY EXPRESSES APPRECIATION
 . FOR THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH AVITAL
 . SHCHARANSKIY

1. (X - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. SUMMARY: THE SHCHARANSKIY FAMILY HAS EXPRESSED TO
 EMBOFFS ITS APPRECIATION FOR THE SECRETARY'S MEETING
 WITH AVITAL SHCHARANSKIY, AND HIS PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT
 IN THE CASE. THEY ASK THAT THEIR APPRECIATION BE PASSED
 TO THE SECRETARY. THE FAMILY GAVE US A REPORT ON THEIR
 UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO VISIT SHCHARANSKIY AT HIS PERM'
 LABOR CAMP IN EARLY MAY. END SUMMARY.

3. EMBOFFS ENCOUNTERED ANATOLIY SHCHARANSKIY'S MOTHER,
 BROTHER, AND SISTER-IN-LAW ON TWO OCCASIONS ON MAY 16.
 THE FAMILY WAS AWARE OF THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH
 AVITAL SHCHARANSKIY, BUT THEY DID NOT KNOW OF THE
 DEPARTMENT'S MAY 14 ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE SECRETARY
 WOULD DELIVER THE SENATE'S RESOLUTION ON SHCHARANSKIY
 TO SOVIET AMBASSADOR DOBRYVIN AT THEIR NEXT MEETING.
 EMBOFFS BRIEFED THEM ON THE CONTENTS OF THE SENATE
 RESOLUTION AND THE DEPARTMENT'S STATEMENT, AND THEY
 ASKED THAT THEIR APPRECIATION FOR THE SECRETARY'S
 PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT BE PASSED TO THE SECRETARY.

SIT: COL VP

EOB: PIPES, RENT, LORD

WHSR COMMENTS:

PAGE 01

MOSCOW 6811

DTG:181348Z MAY 81

PSN:010593

TOR: 138/1523Z

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NLS F06-114/6 #9277

BY 105 NARA, DATE 12/13/07

(NOTE: THEY INDICATED THEY HAD HEARD ABOUT A POSSIBLE MEETING BETWEEN VICE PRESIDENT BUSH AND AVITAL SHCHARANSKIY, BUT EMBOFFS WERE UNABLE TO PROVIDE CONFIRMATION THAT A MEETING HAD TAKEN PLACE.)

4. EMBOFFS ALSO ALERTED THE SHCHARANSKIY FAMILY TO A TASS ENGLISH PIECE BY YURI KORNILOV (ASSUME DEPARTMENT HAS TEXT) WHICH ATTACKED AVITAL SHCHARANSKIY AS WELL AS THE SECRETARY, FOR "HOB-NOBBING WITH A PATENT SWINDLER" AND ACTING IN A WAY THAT DOES NOT "ADD TO THE PRESTIGE OF A U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE." MUCH OF THE ARTICLE, WHICH WE HAVE NOT YET SEEN IN THE SOVIET PRESS, IS DEVOTED TO STANDARD SOVIET ALLEGATIONS THAT MRS. SHCHARANSKIY IS NOT "OFFICIALLY" MARRIED TO SHCHARANSKIY, THAT SHE IS BEING "ACTIVELY USED BY ZIONIST CENTERS, AND ENGAGING IN A CAMPAIGN OF ANTI-SOVIET SLANDER.

58: THE FAMILY EXPRESSED GREAT FRUSTRATION AND ANXIETY ABOUT SHCHARANSKIY'S CONDITION. THEY HAD JUST RETURNED FROM A MAY 4-5 TRIP TO PERM' LABOR CAMP NUMBER 36 WHERE SHCHARANSKIY IS BEING HELD. ALTHOUGH THEY DID NOT GET TO SEE SHCHARANSKIY, THEY SPOKE WITH THE CAMP ADMINISTRATOR AND "FELD'SHER" (MEDICAL ORDERLY). THEY LEARNED THAT SHCHARANSKIY HAS BEEN IN THE INTERNAL PRISON IN THE CAMP SINCE JANUARY 13, WITH LONG PERIODS IN THE EVEN MORE HARSH PUNISHMENT CELLS. HE WAS ALLEGEDLY SENT TO THE PRISON "FOR REFUSING TO WORK," BUT THE CAMP OFFICIALS WOULD NOT EXPLAIN THE CIRCUMSTANCES. SHCHARANSKIY WAS DUE TO COME OUT OF THE INTERNAL PRISON ON JULY 13, BUT HIS SENTENCE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO SEPTEMBER. ACCORDING TO HIS SISTER-IN-LAW, THIS MEANS HE WILL HAVE SPENT APPROXIMATELY THREE MONTHS IN A SOLITARY CONFINEMENT PUNISHMENT CELL.

6. THE MEDICAL "FELD'SHER" SAID SHCHARANSKIY'S CONDITION WAS NO CAUSE FOR CONCERN, AND THAT HE IS EXAMINED EVERY OTHER DAY, BUT SHE REFUSED TO STATE WHAT HIS CURRENT WEIGHT IS. ACCORDING TO MRS. SHCHARANSKIY, SHCHARANSKIY'S LATEST LETTER OF MAY-JUNE INDICATED THAT HE WAS AGAIN SUFFERING FROM EYE PROBLEMS AND LOSS OF MEMORY, AND HAD LOST A GREAT DEAL OF WEIGHT. SHCHARANSKIY REPORTEDLY WROTE THAT "HE WEIGHS NO LESS THAN HE

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DID IN CHISTOPOL," (I.E., 43 KILOS), WHERE HIS
CONDITION WAS VERY SERIOUS.

7. THE FAMILY ALSO MET WITH THE LOCAL PROCURATOR
IN CHARGE OF CAMP OVERSIGHT IN PERM', WHO GAVE THEM
LITTLE INFORMATION OTHER THAN TO IMPLY THAT
SHCHARANSKIY'S CASE "DEPENDS ON MOSCOW" AND THAT
THE LOCAL CAMP AND JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION HAD
VERY LITTLE SAY IN THE MATTER. IN RELATING THESE
DETAILS TO EMBOFFS, THEY EXPRESSED THE FERVENT HOPE
THAT THE SECRETARY'S PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT WOULD
BT

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IN

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DE RUEHMO #6811/02 1381351
O 181348Z MAY 81
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2908

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD PRIORITY 2929
AMEMBASSY MADRID 1037
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 3410

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 MOSCOW 06811

HASTEN SHCHARANSKIY'S RELEASE, AND THEY URGED A
REDOUBLING OF INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE THIS.

8. THE SHCHARANSKIY FAMILY MEMBERS SAID THEY WERE
AWARE OF THE RUMORS WHICH HAD CIRCULATED LAST
WINTER ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A "TRADE" BETWEEN
THE SOVIET AND SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS, BUT
THEY SAID THE RUMORS HAD DIED DOWN SEVERAL MONTHS
AGO WITHOUT PRODUCING ANY CONCRETE RESULTS. THEY
SAID THEY HAD NO IDEA WHETHER OR NOT DISCUSSIONS
ON THE REPORTED EXCHANGE WERE STILL UNDER WAY.
MATLOCK
BT

SIT:
EOB:
WHSR COMMENTS:

PAGE 01 OF 01 MOSCOW 6811

DTG:181348Z MAY 81 PSN:010595
TOR: 138/1524Z CSN:HCE122

*****C O N F I D E N T I A L*****E COPY

MEMORANDUM

2697

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 19, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR GREGORY NEWELL

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN *for*
SUBJECT: President's Invitation to Attend Sakharov's
Birthday Celebration at the Kennedy Center

In reference to your memorandum of May 13, I recommend that no form of Presidential recognition of Andrei Sakharov's 60th birthday party concert at the Kennedy Center on May 19 be issued. First, the President already issued a message on May 2 congratulating Sakharov on his 60th birthday and second, Sakharov has indicated his displeasure over some of the activities of Edward Lozansky, the Executive Director of the Sakharov International Committee, who invited President Reagan to attend the birthday party concert. For these reasons, I do not think this occasion merits additional Presidential recognition. Instead, I suggest that appropriate recognition be given by the Assistant Secretary-designate for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, Ernest Lefever.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ACTION

May 14, 1981

SIGNED

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD V. ALLEN

FROM: PAULA DOBRIANSKY *PD*

SUBJECT: President's Invitation to Attend Sakharov's
Birthday Celebration at the Kennedy Center

The attached memorandum from you to Gregory Newell at Tab I recommends against issuing any form of Presidential recognition of the 60th birthday party concert at the Kennedy Center for Andrei Sakharov on May 19. Instead, it suggests recognition be given by the Assistant Secretary-designate for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Ernest Lefever.

I conferred with Richard Pipes on this matter before he left for Switzerland and he recommended the above. Stearman was unavailable and received no comments from Lord and Guhin.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I.

Approve ✓Disapprove

Tab I Memo for Gregory Newell

12 MAY 1981

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM

13 MAY 1981

TO: RICHARD V. ALLEN
VIA: GREGORY J. NEWELL
FROM: PATRICIA A.E. RODGERS
SUBJ: SCHEDULING REQUEST RECOMMENDATION.

The President has been invited to attend a 60th birthday party concert at the Kennedy Center for Andrei Sakharov on May 19. Tributes will be paid to Sakharov during the event. This invitation will be regretted; do you recommend any form of Presidential recognition of this program?

President
Sheldon Lee Glashow
Board of Directors
Thomas Ferbel
Thomas F. George
Elvin Hoffman

Executive Director
Edward Lozansky
Counsel

Quart M. Cook
Thomas A. Fink
Iri I. Luryi

Treasurer
Stanford A. Gradinger
Secretary

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Herman Feshbach
Paul J. Flory
Arthur J. Goldberg
Melvin B. Gottlieb
Henri Hajdenberg
Jarek Halter
J. Hayakawa
Margaret M. Heckler
Robert W. Holley
Frank Horton
Eugene Ionesco
Jack Kemp
Edward M. Kennedy
Marc de Kock
Arthur Kornberg
Mel Lebowitz
Leon Lederman
Louis Leprince-Ringuet
Bernard Henry Levy
Andre Lvoff
Vladimir Maximov
Mikhail Pessian
Louis Michel
Jack Miller
Robert S. Mulliken
Nikolai Neizvestny
Ilya Prigogine
James Rainwater
Vladimir Rostropovich
Arthur G. Schneke
Herbert Schwartz
Joseph Silverstein
Robert A. Simon
Edward Teller
Edward Temin
Julius E. Tsongas
George Vineyard
George Wald
Norman B. Wiesner
Robert R. Wilson
Abraham L. Lippman

Sakharov International Committee, Inc.

305 Massachusetts Ave., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002
Tel. (202) 547-6601



May 7, 1981

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan,

On Tuesday, May 19, Soviet exile Andrei Sakharov will be honored by a 60th birthday party concert at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. We sincerely hope that you can take part in this important and timely event.

There are literally tens of thousands of intellectual and political prisoners in the world today, and Sakharov's birthday provides us with an appropriate occasion to express our solidarity for these prisoners, to demonstrate our strong concern for human rights, and to protest the world's oppressive governments.

Sakharov, who is an outspoken human rights advocate, has been forced to live in academic isolation in Gorki, 250 miles east of Moscow. He is not permitted to communicate with foreigners by mail or telephone, but his son-in-law, Efrem Yankelvich of Boston, anticipates delivering a message from Sakharov to the people who will be attending the Sakharov birthday concert.

Tributes to Sakharov will be offered during the Kennedy Center Concert Hall event. Former United Nations Ambassador Arthur Sheldon Lee Glashow, who is President of the Sakharov International Committee will participate.

17.
The Honorable Ronald Reagan
May 7, 1981
Page two

Funds raised through ticket sales will be used to publicize the plight of Soviet human rights activists, as well as to provide direct support for them and their families. Funds will also be used to establish a Sakharov Scholarship Fund which will award scholarships to individuals pursuing Sakharov's ideas in Science and the Humanities.

The program for the evenings events includes a buffet dinner for our special guests in the Atrium Room at the Kennedy Center, beginning at 7:00 p.m., followed by the concert, and ending with a reception to follow the concert.

Again, we would be especially honored if you can find time in your busy schedule to join us as our guests in what I'm sure will be a very memorable evening.

Thank you for your attention. We look forward to your support and participation.

Sincerely,

Edward Lozansky
Edward Lozansky
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
May 20, 1981

2719

Pipes
H. 7D
dissidents

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR JACOB STEIN

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN *for*
SUBJECT: Iosef Mendelevich Meeting with the President
or Vice President, May 20-21

In regard to your memorandum of May 12 concerning a proposed meeting on May 20 or 21 between the President or the Vice President and Iosef Mendelevich, I would advise against it. The Vice President is already meeting with Avital Shcharansky next week on Tuesday, May 19. Thus, this obviates the necessity of scheduling a meeting with Mendelevich so as to further manifest the Administration's strong position on Soviet Jewry.

'Next Year in Jerusalem'

In March and April, during interrogation, the chief investigators warned me that in the position I have taken during investigation, and held to here in court, I would be threatened with execution by firing squad, or at least 15 years. If I would agree to cooperate with the investigation for the purpose of destroying the Jewish emigration movement, they promised me early freedom and a quick reunion with my wife.

Five years ago, I submitted my application for exit to Israel. Now I'm further than ever from my dream. It would seem to be cause for regret. But it is absolutely otherwise. I am happy. I am happy that I lived honestly, in peace with my conscience. I never compromised my soul, even under the threat of death.

I am happy that I helped people. I am proud that I knew and worked with such honest, brave and courageous people as Sakharov, Orlov, Ginzburg, who are carrying on the traditions of the Russian intelligentsia. I am fortunate to have been witness to the process of the liberation of Jews of the U.S.S.R.

I hope that the absurd accusation against me and the entire Jewish emigration movement will not hinder the liberation of my people. My near ones and friends know how I wanted to exchange activity in the emigration movement for a life with my wife, Avital, in Israel.

For more than 2,000 years the Jewish people, my people, have been dispersed. But wherever they are, wherever Jews are found, every year they have repeated, "Next year in Jerusalem." Now, when I am further than ever from my people, from Avital, facing many arduous years of imprisonment, I say, turning to my people, my Avital: Next year in Jerusalem.

Now, I turn to you, the court, who were required to confirm a predetermined sentence: to you I have nothing to say.

Anatoly B. Shcharansky
Moscow — July 14, 1973



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Burton S. Levinson, Los Angeles

Vice-Chairpersons

Beatrice Feldman, Hadassah

Donald Lefton, Miami

Jacqueline K. Levine, National Jewish

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Workmen's Circle

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*American Jewish Conference

on Soviet Jewry

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Task Force on Education and Culture

Demond White,

Washington Advisory Committee

Greater New York Conference

On Soviet Jewry

May 6, 1981

Mr. Jacob Stein
Special Advisor to
the White House

Dear Mr. Stein,

Thank you for arranging yesterday's informative update. I found Admiral Nance's presentation particularly interesting.

With regards to our conversation concerning Iosef Mendelevich, he will be in Washington on Wednesday, May 20 and Thursday, May 21. I believe that his visit would provide an excellent opportunity for the administration to reinforce their already strong position on Soviet Jewry, especially in light of the President's recent statement at the Holocaust Commemorative Program.

Iosef Mendelevich is probably one of the best known Soviet Jewish Prisoners of Conscience in the world today. A meeting between Iosef Mendelevich and President Reagan or Vice-President Bush would best symbolize the United States continuing commitment to the struggle of Jews in the Soviet Union.

I would appreciate any help your office could offer in arranging for Iosef Mendelevich to meet with the President or Vice-President.

In addition, I have enclosed further background material on Iosef Mendelevich.

Sincerely,

Mark B. Levin
Washington Representative

MBL:mkb

2

Born into a family close to Jewish tradition, Iosif Mendelevich studied Hebrew on his own as an adolescent and read whatever he could find on Jewish history and culture. He and his family were refused permission to emigrate to Israel three times between 1967 and 1970.

On June 15, 1970, Mendelevich was arrested at Leningrad's Smolnii Airport for the attempt to steal a plane to fly to Israel. Simultaneously, Soviet Jewish activists were apprehended in cities throughout the Soviet Union.

Mendelevich, who had studied engineering at the Riga Polytechnical Institute, admitted to having long been involved in the Jewish movement in the USSR. As an editor of Jewish Samizdat ("underground" publications), he was accused of publishing anti-Soviet articles, using as "evidence" articles on the significance of the Jewish holidays and on the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

After world-wide expressions of outrage, Mendelevich's original sentence of 15 years was reduced to 12 years in a strict regime labor camp.

An observant Jew, Mendelevich refuses to eat certain foods in his already bare, subsistence diet because they are not kosher, although he is forced to work long hours at hard labor.

In the Spring of 1977, he was accused of "maliciously violating the regime of confinement" - the main evidence being his refusal to work on Sabbath (though he worked extra hours on other days to make up the lost time) and his "violation of the form of camp dress", i.e. his insistence on wearing his "yarmulke". He was punished by being transferred to the notorious Vladimir prison and thereafter to the equally notorious Chistopol prison in Central Russia.

Iosif's father died in 1978 on the eve of departing for Israel. All Iosif's relatives are now in Israel and the camp authorities are refusing to permit a visit from his friends. Thus he has seen neither relatives nor friends for six years. Most of the letters sent from family and friends are confiscated and do not reach him.

In April 1980, after serving 3 years in prison, Iosif was returned to camp No.36 in the Perm region. Since the sudden release in April 1979 of his co-defendants, Mendelevich remains the only Jewish prisoner from this trial still in Soviet prison.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY

10 East 40th Street Suite 907
New York, New York 10016

IOSIF MENDELEVICH

PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE

BORN: August 3, 1947

FROM: Riga

MARITAL STATUS: Single

OCCUPATION: Engineering student

ARRESTED: June 1970

TRIED: December 1970 (First Leningrad Trial)

CHARGES: Article #64 - "Treason"
Article #93/1 - "Stealing of State property"

SENTENCE: 12 years - strict regime (to June 1982)

CAMP: Perm

CAMP ADDRESS UCHR 5110/1 V.S.
Moscow, RSFSR
USSR

SISTER'S ADDRESS: Rivka Drori
Alon Shvut
Gush Etzion, Israel

OVER



IOSIF MENDELEVICH

Riga

Prisoner Of Conscience

National Conference on Soviet Jewry

Prepared By
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY

IOSIF MENDELEVICH

Born into a family close to Jewish tradition, Iosif Mendelevich studied Hebrew on his own as an adolescent and read whatever he could find on Jewish history and culture. He and his family were refused permission to emigrate to Israel three times between 1967 and 1970.

On June 15, 1970, Mendelevich was arrested at Leningrad's Smolnii Airport for the alleged attempt to steal a plane to Israel. Simultaneously, Soviet Jewish activists were apprehended in cities throughout the Soviet Union.

After world-wide expressions of outrage, Mendelevich's original sentence of 15 years was reduced to 12 years in a strict regime labor camp.

The release in April 1979 of seven prisoners serving heavy sentences imposed at the infamous Leningrad Trials, would have marked a triumph for morality and justice; yet it was marred by the cruel and unexplained retention of the last founding members of the group, Iosif Mendelevich, as well as the two non-Jewish members, Yuri Federov and Aleksei Murzhenko.

Although Iosif carried a lighter sentence than some of his comrades, his release was refused. Throughout the nine long years of his internment, Iosif has courageously persisted in the strict observance of his religious beliefs, despite the additional hardships and suffering this has brought upon him.

In the spring of 1977, he was accused under the Corrective Labor Code of "maliciously violating the regime of confinement" - the main evidence being his refusal to work on Sabbath (though he worked extra hours on other days to make up the lost time) and his "violation of the form of camp dress", i.e. his insistence on wearing his "yarmulke". He was punished by being transferred to the notorious Vladimir prison and thereafter to the equally notorious Chistopol prison in Central Russia where he is today.

Mendelevich refuses to eat any unkosher foods in his grossly inadequate daily diet, and he has lost considerable weight. During the eight days of Passover, he existed on nothing more than a few ounces of Unleavened Bread - the only ration he was permitted. According to Soviet Law, every prisoner is entitled to receive only two food parcels of 1 kilogram each per year, and this has made it impossible to provide Mendelevich with sufficient provisions for his sustenance.

Iosif, 32, suffers from hypertension, and his health is rapidly and dangerously deteriorating under the subhuman conditions in which he fights to exist. Throughout his painful struggle, Mendelevich has never complained, but in a desperate letter to his family in Israel, he expressed his fear and anguish at his increasingly failing health and overwhelming fatigue.

IOSIF MENDELEVICH

PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE

BORN: August 3, 1947
FROM: Riga
MARITAL STATUS: Single
OCCUPATION: Engineering student
ARRESTED: June 1970
TRIED: December 1970 (First Leningrad Trial)
CHARGES: Article #64/15 - "Betrayal of the Fatherland"
Article #93/1 - "Misappropriation of state or
public property"
SENTENCE: 12 years - strict regime (to June 1982)
CAMP: Chistopol
CAMP ADDRESS: UCHR 5110/1
Moscow RSFSR
USSR
SISTER'S ADDRESS: Rivka Drori
Alon Shvot
Gush Etzion, Israel

YOU CAN HELP IOSIF MENDELEVICH!

Write or cable Soviet officials and
humanitarian groups to urge Iosif's
release:

Secretary General Leonid Brezhnev
The Kremlin
Moscow RSFSR, USSR

Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin
Embassy of USSR
1125 16th St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Write to U.S. officials:

Honorable Cyrus Vance
The Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Write to Iosif Mendelevich (see address above)

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

May 16, 1981

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD V. ALLEN
THROUGH: CHARLES TYSON
FROM: PAULA DOBRIANSKY *PD*
SUBJECT: Iosef Mendelevich Meeting with the President
or Vice President, May 20-21

SIGNED

Attached for your signature at Tab I is a memorandum from you to Jacob Stein advising against a meeting on May 20 or 21 between the President or the Vice President and Iosef Mendelevich, the Soviet Jewish Prisoner of Conscience. The Vice President is already meeting with Avital Shcharansky next week on Tuesday, May 19. Thus, there is no need to schedule so many meetings with Soviet Jewish activists to manifest this Administration's strong position on Soviet Jewry.

Stearman was not available, Guhin and Lord had no comments.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I to Jacob Stein.

Approve */ R-0-0*
ATCSA

Disapprove _____

Tab I Memorandum to Jacob Stein
A Incoming memorandum

MEMORANDUM

13 MAY 1981

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 12, 1981

FOR: RICHARD ALLEN
FROM: JACOB STEIN 
RE: IOSEF MENDELEVICH

Please advise re: the attached.

RECEIVED 14 MAY 81 14

TO ALLEN

FROM STEIN, J

DOCDATE 12 MAY 81

LEVIN, MARK B

06 MAY 81

KEYWORDS: USSR

HUMAN RIGHTS

MENDELEVICH, IOSEF

AP

AVP

SUBJECT: NATL CONF ON SOVIET JEWERY REQUESTS THAT PRES OR VP MEET W/
MENDELEVICH MAY 20 - 21

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO ALLEN TO STEIN DUE: 16 MAY 81 STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR COMMENT

FOR INFO

PIPES

STEARMAN -

LORD

TYSON

GUHIN

COMMENTS

REF#

LOG

NSC/FID

(C /)

ACTION OFFICER (S)

ASSIGNED

ACTION REQUIRED

DUE

COPIES TO

DISPATCH

W/ATTCH FILE (C)

UNCLASSIFIED
Department of State

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

PAGE 01
ACTION EUR-12

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INFO	OCT-01	ADS-00	INR-10	SS-15	OIC-02	CIAE-00	ICA-15
	DODE-00	H-01	IO-15	NSC-05	NSAE-00	HA-06	CSCE-04
	PM-09	PA-02	SMS-01	SP-02	SPRS-02	/102 W	

-----223022 230639Z /10

R 221522Z MAY 81
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1663
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY MADRID
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 03603

EO 12065 N/A
TAGS: SHUM, UNHRC, NL
SUBJECT: DUTCH PARLIAMENTARY CONCERN REGARDING
SAKHAROV AND SHCHARANSKY

REF: (A) 80 THE HAGUE 5690, (B) 80 THE HAGUE 3123

1. JUST BEFORE ENDING THEIR PARLIAMENTARY SESSION FOR FINAL ELECTION CAMPAIGNING, MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED MEMBERS OF THE FIRST AND SECOND CHAMBERS OF THE DUTCH PARLIAMENT SIGNED A LETTER ADDRESSED TO SOVIET PRESIDENT LEONID BREZHNEV URGING HIM TO END THE BANISHMENT OF ANDREI SAKHAROV. THE LETTER WAS TRANSMITTED TO THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES MAY 18 BY THE DUTCH EMBASSY IN MOSCOW. THE INITIATIVE FOR THE LETTER WAS TAKEN BY LABOR PARTY MP HARRY VAN DEN BERGH, WHO TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT THE LETTER WAS INTENDED TO MARK SAKHAROV'S 60TH BIRTHDAY. HE NOTED THAT EFFORTS OVER THE LAST THREE WEEKS TO REACH SAKHAROV'S WIFE IN MOSCOW BY TELEPHONE HAD ALL FAILED. VAN DEN BERGH ATTRIBUTED THE PROBLEM AND THE "GROWING ISOLATION" OF THE SAKHAROV'S TO INCREASING REPRESSION IN THE SOVIET UNION AND WANING INTEREST IN THE DISSIDENTS IN THE WEST.
2. DURING THE SAME PRESS CONFERENCE, VAN DEN BERGH ALSO REFERRED TO THE CASE OF ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY AND REPORTS FROM HIS MOTHER THAT SHCHARANSKY'S HEALTH IS FAILING. VAN DEN BERGH, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE FRIENDS OF ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY FOUNDATION, SAID THAT HIS WEIGHT IS NOW DOWN TO 46 KILOGRAMS AND HE IS NOT ALLOWED TO RECEIVE ANY VISITORS.
3. SEVERAL ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, THE SAKHAROV FOUNDATION AND INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS, WILL MEET IN THE HAGUE ON JUNE 12 TO CONSIDER POLITICAL AND OTHER MEANS TO BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR TO IMPROVE THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN THE SOVIET UNION. DUNNIGAN

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
INFORMATION

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

May 22, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD V. ALLEN

FROM: PAULA DOBRIANSKY
SUBJECT: Mrs. Shcharanskiy

Mrs. Shcharanskiy refused to speak with me at any great length for she said the matters which she wished to discuss were too sensitive to be conveyed to too many people, and that she specifically wanted only your reactions. She also wanted to respond to those questions which you raised in her meeting with Vice President Bush. (C)

However, she did, after considerable prodding, tell me she was asked to speak on "Good Morning America" and heard that you might be appearing at the same time. She hinted that on "Good Morning America" she had some announcements and information to present which she thought would be wise to clear with you first. She did not know when she is scheduled to appear on the show. Furthermore, Mrs. Shcharanskiy wanted to discuss her husband's current condition (she received a call from the USSR last night) and her ideas on how he can be released. Timing was critical.

She asked if you could telephone her or even meet with her next week. However, you should be aware that a religious holiday will prevent her from answering the telephone from 8 o'clock tonight until 9 p.m. tomorrow. Moreover, she will be in New York on Sunday but is willing to come back to Washington to meet with you. (C)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Review on May 22, 1982

DECLASSIFIED
NLS FOG-114/6#9257
BY LOJ, NARA, DATE 12/13/07

2788 91
PPES file
Referral

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

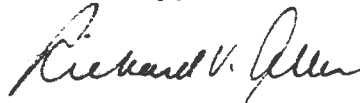
May 26, 1981

Dear Professor Muller:

Thank you for your letter of May 14, in which you suggest that the President issue an invitation to Alexander Solzhenitsyn to visit the White House during Captive Nations Week.

Mr. Solzhenitsyn's stature as a great writer and a heroic figure in the Russian dissident movement is beyond any question. We will give your suggestion careful thought. Whatever our decision, you may rest assured that it will not be influenced by our perception of the preferences of the Soviet Government in this matter.

Sincerely,



Richard V. Allen

Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

Professor James W. Muller
Department of Government
Franklin and Marshall College
P. O. Box 3003
Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17604

2788

[Handwritten signature]

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

May 21, 1981

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD V. ALLEN
FROM: RICHARD PIPES *R*
SUBJECT: Letter re Solzhenitsyn to James W. Muller

Attached at Tab I is a letter for your signature responding to a suggestion by Mr. Muller that Alexander Solzhenitsyn be invited to visit the White House. The incoming letter, dated May 14, with its attachment is at Tab II.

Stearman not available.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the letter to Mr. Muller at Tab I.

Approve ✓ Disapprove _____
RVA

Attachments:

- Tab I Letter to Mr. Muller
- Tab II Incoming letter from Mr. Muller

18 MAY 1981

FRANKLIN and MARSHALL COLLEGE

P.O. BOX 3003
LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA 17604

DEPARTMENT of GOVERNMENT

May 14, 1981

Hon. Richard Allen
National Security Advisor
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Allen,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have written to President Reagan, suggesting a White House reception for Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. I should be very grateful for any efforts you might make on behalf of this proposal.

Sincerely yours,

James W. Muller

James W. Muller
Instructor

Solzhenitsyn personifies that fragile excellence better than any other man--as an American by choice rather than by birth, he reminds us that devotion to freedom is really what makes a man an American.

Your administration has already done much to bring us back to the idea that this country is devoted to human freedom. To extend your hand in friendship to the man who speaks for the prisoners of Gulag would be an important step in restoring our national honor.

Sincerely yours,

James W. Muller

James W. Muller
Instructor

cc. Hon. Richard Allen
Hon. Alexander Haig

President

*Sheldon Lee Glashow

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S.I. Hayakawa

Margaret M. Heckler

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Frank Horton

Eugene Ionesco

Jack Kemp

Edward M. Kennedy

Marc de Kock

*Arthur Kornberg

Joel Lebowitz

Leon Lederman

Louis Leprince-Ringuet

Bernard Henry Levy

*Andre Lwoff

Vladimir Maximov

Messian

Louis Michel

Jack Miller

*Robert S. Mulliken

Ernst Neizvestny

*Ilya Prigogine

*James Rainwater

Mstislav Rostropovich

Arthur G. Schnek

Laurent Schwartz

Joseph Silverstein

*Herbert A. Simon

Edward Teller

*Howard Temin

Paul E. Tsongas

George Vineyard

*George Wald

Jerome B. Wiesner

Robert R. Wilson

*Nobel Laureates

Sakharov International Committee, Inc.

305 Massachusetts Ave., N.E.

Washington, D.C. 20002

Tel. (202) 547-6601

May 26, 1981



President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

A group of men and women in the USSR has asked me to represent them in the West and to help them in their fight with Soviet authorities for the reunification of their families.

The Sakharov International Committee, which has been recently organized to help human rights activists in the Soviet Union and East European countries, has decided to adopt this group named "The Soviet Committee of Separated Husbands and Wives, Moscow-Washington, D.C." We are planning to offer them any help they need, including financial and legal aid. And, of course, we hope that the United States government and you Mr. President, will be willing to help these people to join their families here in the United States and other Western countries.

I just received a letter from Moscow which was originally sent to you Mr. President, but as I understand people who sent it did not trust the Soviet mail and asked me to send a copy to you from Washington.

On behalf of this group and the Sakharov International Committee, may I ask you, Mr. President, to forward your reply to the US Embassy in Moscow, so that the Embassy could invite members of the group to be read your answer. This would certainly give them great moral support they need so badly.

Thank you very much, Mr. President, for your help and firm stand on Human Rights. Nothing can make people in this country prouder than when they hear former Soviet citizens arriving to the United States and saying: "God, bless America". I hope and pray that some day my wife and daughter, who are also members of this group, will say these words in Washington.

I wish you and your wife good health and blessing from God in leading our country along the path of freedom and democracy.

Sincerely,

Edward Lozansky
Executive Director
Sakharov International Committee

In an age of instantaneous global telecommunications, the exiling of Andrei Sakharov to Gorki is absurd. Our collective witnessing emphasizes the absurdity—a prolonged embarrassment to the Soviet regime.

May our voices ring out to Gorki, and Andrei's voice to us! Free Andrei Dmitrievich, Viktor Brailovsky, Anatoly Scharansky, Ida Nudel and all Soviet dissidents! Let our people go!

SMOLOSKYP, THE ORGANIZATION FOR THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN UKRAINE



Mykola Rudenko

The Ukrainian community of the Greater Washington-Baltimore Metropolitan Area salutes the courageous human-rights champion Andrei Sakharov on the occasion of his sixtieth birthday and calls the attention of freedom-loving mankind to the persecution of Mykola Rudenko, writer, co-founder of the Ukrainian Helsinki Monitoring Group in Kiev, former political officer of the Soviet Army and Secretary of the party organization of the Ukrainian Writers' Union, nominee for the 1981 Nobel Peace Prize.

Sentenced in 1977 to confinement for seven years in a Soviet labor camp and five years of exile. A war invalid, Rudenko can be reached at this address: RSFSR, Mordovian ASSR, St. Potma, P/O Lesnoy, URCH. ZHKH 385/3-5.

THE SOVIET COMMITTEE OF SEPARATED HUSBANDS AND WIVES, MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON, D.C.



*Members of the
Committee of Separated
Husbands and Wives*

On the 60th birthday of Andrei Dmitrievich Sakharov, who was sent into internal exile because he was helping people whose basic human rights have been violated in the Soviet Union, we send him our best wishes to Gorki via Washington.

We think it is also appropriate to mention today that we, citizens of the Soviet Union who have been forced to live in separation from our husbands, wives



*Tatyana Lozanskaya,
28-year-old chemist,
fired from the Institute
of Organic Chemistry,
Academy of Sciences,
U.S.S.R. in 1979. Con-
tinuously harassed by
KGB for her desire to
be reunited with her
husband who lives in
the U.S.A.*



*Tanya Lozanskaya,
nine years old, is wait-
ing for your help.*



*Lisa and Sasha Aleiner:
Do you know why the
Soviets are keeping my
father?*

and children, decided to organize a group named "The Soviet Committee of Separated Husbands and Wives." Members of this Committee have spent many years attempting to reunite their families. Our group was organized in November 1980 and we announced our existence by sending a telegram to the Madrid Conference. We also tried to call a press conference in Moscow on November 10, 1981, but it was brutally suppressed by the KGB.

Since that time we have tried many times to make an appointment with the highest Soviet authorities in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Central Committee of the Communist Party. It was hopeless. We also sent three letters and a telegram to the 26th Congress of the Communist Party. We received no response. Beginning March 6, 1981 we sent more than 150 letters to different organizations and well known individuals in the Soviet Union asking for support.

Today, we and our children are appealing to all people in all countries. Please, help us to reunite our families.

If you have any ideas or suggestions please write to our office in Moscow: c/o Tatyana Lozanskaya, SCSHW, 1-st Krasnokursantski proezd 1/5 apt. 88, Moscow, U.S.S.R., 111250.

Or, you may contact our official representative in the West, Dr. Edward Lozansky, 305 Massachusetts Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002. Tel. (202) 547-6602.

Boris Aleiner (wife in the U.S.A.), Raisa Al-Rokhmen (husband in Syria), Yuri Balovlenkov (wife in U.S.A.), Elena Kaplan (husband in U.S.A.), Iosif Kiblitky (wife in West Germany), Inna Lavrova (husband in France), Tatyana Lozanskaya (husband in U.S.A.), Irene McLennan (husband in U.S.A.), Nikolai Schiryaev (wife in Austria), Olga Yermakova (husband in India).

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BRIEFING PAPER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HUNGER STRIKERS

Visit of Eduard Lozansky, Elena Balovlenkov, Lois Becker Frolov, and Aloyzas Jurgutis, Spouses of Soviet Hunger Strikers, 11:00 a.m., May 27

I. SETTING AND OBJECTIVES

Eduard Lozansky, Elena Balovlenkov, Lois Becker Frolov, and Aloyzas Jurgutis, whose spouses began a hunger strike in Moscow two weeks ago, met May 25 at the State Department with Assistant Secretary for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Elliott Abrams. Three of the four are American citizens; the fourth is a permanent resident who has filed for citizenship. Their efforts on behalf of their spouses have the support of the Young Republicans, Senator Dole, and Congressman Kemp. Mrs. Frolov is also on a hunger strike.

Consistent with our long-term policy (as enunciated in the recent Sakharov and Embassy Pentecostal hunger strikes), Abrams told the group that, while we do not believe that hunger strikes are the proper tactic in these cases because of the real physical damage, even death, that could result, we have followed these cases closely from our Embassy in Moscow, and intend to raise them with the Soviet Embassy here.

The cases of the hunger strikers are diverse. Until the hunger strike politicized the Frolov case, it had appeared to be one of the few problem cases which might have been resolved fairly easily. The other three are among the most difficult cases currently pending. Aloyzas Jurgutis is a defector, the Balovlenkov case has had an extraordinary amount of publicity, and Eduard Lozansky has been active in the US on behalf of a variety of human rights groups. The Soviet Union is more than usually resistant to granting exit visas in such cases. Except under extraordinary circumstances (which are not present in this situation) we have not observed the Soviet authorities to be responsive to the concerns of hunger strikers.

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GDS 5/26/88 (TULL, Theresa A.)

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NARA, DATE 12/13/03

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All cases except the relatively new Frolov case have been raised repeatedly in Moscow by our Embassy. The general problem of divided families, including the hunger strikers, has been most recently raised in Moscow May 25 and May 26, with no apparent positive response.

Objectives of the Vice President's meeting are:

1. to demonstrate the Administration's concern in this humanitarian issue, while making clear that we do not support hunger strikes;
2. to show the Administration's continuing support for the reunification of divided families;
3. to reassure these persons that the U.S. Government is pursuing their spouses' cases, and those of other divided families, vigorously.

II. ISSUES

The Administration does not support hunger strikes but wishes to make clear its concern over divided families.

-- We do not approve of hunger strikes and cannot support them. Hunger strikes unnecessarily create the risk of permanent physical damage, or even death.

-- The Administration is, however, deeply concerned about all families divided by Soviet restrictions on emigration.

-- We continue to support the reunification of such families.

-- The US Government is following your spouses' cases vigorously, as well as those of other divided families.

-- Your spouses' cases are being followed closely by our Embassy in Moscow, and they have been the subject of discussions with Soviet authorities there.

-- We also intend to raise these cases with the Soviet Embassy here.

Attachment:
Biographic Information.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DR
Drafted: HA/HR: DRoberts: cml
Ext. 22126 5/26/82

Clearance: HA/HR: TATull *2*
HA: EAbrams
EUR/SOV: ADarbyshire
EUR: JDScanlon (subs)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON SOVIET HUNGER STRIKERS
(Listed by US Spouse, with Soviet Spouse in Parentheses)

Elena Kuzmenko Balovlenkov (Yuri Balovlenkov).

Mrs. Balovlenkov, a Baltimore nurse, met her husband, a computer specialist, while on a tourist visit to Moscow in May, 1978. After overcoming a series of bureaucratic obstacles, they were married in December, 1979. She left the Soviet Union shortly afterward; he has been unable to obtain an exit visa, possibly due to a reaction of the Soviet authorities against the large amount of publicity received by the wedding. The Balovlenkovs have a daughter whom Mr. Balovlenkov has never seen in person.

Lois Becker Frolov (Andrei Frolov).

Mrs. Frolov, a Stanford University graduate student residing in Chicago, met her husband, a free-lance journalist and photographer, while she was in Moscow on a scholar exchange program in September, 1980. They were married in May, 1981, a month before her visa expired and she returned to the U.S. Mr. Frolov's application for an exit visa has been turned down twice, on grounds of "bad relations with the US" and because it was "not in the interest of the Soviet state", reasons normally indicating that the case would have possibilities of gaining approval within a reasonable time span. Mrs. Frolov has filed a multi-million dollar court case against the Soviet Union. She began a hunger strike after her husband began his.

Aloyzas Jurgutis (Marija Jurgutis).

Jurgutis, a professional musician, conductor, and composer from Lithuania, defected while on tour in Yugoslavia in May, 1974, and escaped to Italy. He came to the US in September, 1974, and is now a US citizen. Over the years, Mr. Jurgutis and his wife have repeatedly filed the necessary documents for the emigration of Mrs. Jurgutis and their daughter (now 17 years old) and have appealed to numerous US and Soviet officials, including over 30 Senators and 100 Congressmen. We fear that Mr. Jurgutis' status as a defector and his association with Baltic ethnic organizations in this country make his case almost impossible to resolve.

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BY LOT NARA, DATE 12/13/07

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-2-

Eduard D. Lozansky (Tatyana Lozansky).

Dr. Lozansky, a Soviet Jewish physicist, married Mrs. Lozansky, the daughter of a senior Soviet general, in 1971. Mrs. Lozansky is a chemist. Unable to get a permanent job because of persecution, Dr. Lozansky decided to emigrate in 1976, but was unable to do so unless he first obtained a divorce. Since coming to the US shortly afterward, he has been attempting to get permission for his wife and their daughter (now 9 years old) to join him, but permission has been denied on the basis of the 1976 divorce. The Soviet authorities do not recognize the Lozanskys' proxy remarriage by telephone. Dr. Lozansky has been active in the US with various human rights groups concerned about problems in the Soviet Union; these activities may be a further factor in the Soviet refusal to grant exit visas in this case.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

May 27, 1981

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD V. ALLEN
FROM: RICHARD PIPES *h*
SUBJECT: Presidential Meeting with Maxim Shostakovich

The memorandum for your signature to Kenneth Duberstein at Tab I recommends that no meeting be arranged for the President to meet with Maxim Shostakovich.

Stearman and Lord had no comment.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to Kenneth Duberstein at Tab I.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Attachments:

Tab I Memorandum to Kenneth Duberstein for signature
Tab II Incoming memorandum dated May 19, 1981.

MEMORANDUM FOR KENNETH M. DUBERSTEIN

THROUGH: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF
FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN
SUBJECT: Invitation to Maxim Shostakovich

In view of the fact that Haig and Clark have seen Maxim Shostakovich, and that he ultimately defected for personal reasons (to be able to perform abroad), it is not recommended that he be invited to the White House for a meeting.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 19, 1981

FOR: Richard V. Allen
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

THRU: Max L. Friedersdorf *MLF*
Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

FROM: Kenneth M. Duberstein *KMD*
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Legislative Affairs

Congressman Mickey Edwards (R-Oklahoma), head of the American Conservative Union, suggests that the President invite Maxim Shostakovich to the White House for a brief meeting. He believes this would send an important and strong message to the Soviet Union.

Shostakovich defected from the Soviet Union on April 11. He will be conducting the National Symphony on the West Lawn of the Capitol on May 26.

If you would like to discuss this further, please call Mickey at 225-2132. Please keep us posted. Many thanks.

Staff.

*I think not.
Harry & Clark have
seen her.*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The President has seen _____
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MEMORANDUM

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NLS FDG-114/6 #9260

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

BY LOS, NARA, DATE 12/13/07

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN *Allen*

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with Avital Shcharanskii and Iosif Mendelevich
(Thursday, May 28, 1981; 10:00 a.m.)

Attached (Tab A) are brief biographical sketches of Avital Shcharanskii and Iosif Mendelevich whom you are scheduled to meet at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, May 28. (C)

These two visitors personify the tragedy of Soviet Jewry in a very special way:

- Avital Shcharanskii has been married to her husband, Anatolii, for one single day in 1973. She has not seen him since and has devoted herself totally to securing her husband's release. Anatolii is serving a 13-year sentence in special Soviet jails on trumped up charges of spying for the United States. Latest reports indicate that his weight is down to 101 pounds. (C)
- Iosif Mendelevich has recently been released from Soviet camps and prisons where he had spent 11 of his 34 years. His crime was to seek to emigrate to Israel, and when that request was repeatedly denied, to help organize a clandestine flight to Sweden which the KGB thwarted. In prison he was singled out for especially harsh treatment for his refusal to work on the Sabbath, insistence on wearing a skull-cap, and observing Jewish dietary laws. He is a truly heroic figure, fully dedicated to improving the condition of his coreligionists under growing Soviet anti-Semitism. (C)

Present at your meeting with Shcharanskii and Mendelevich will be Vice President Bush, Edwin Meese, James Baker, Michael Deaver, Gordon Zacks, as well as Richard Pipes of the NSC Staff and myself. (U)

Attachments:

Tab A Brief biographic sketches of Avital Shcharanskii and Iosif Mendelevich

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Review May 27, 1987.

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

UNCLASSIFIED with
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Attachment

May 27, 1981

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD V. ALLEN
THROUGH: CHARLES P. TYSON *CT*
FROM: RICHARD PIPES *R*
SUBJECT: President's Meeting with Shcharanskii
and Mendelevich

At Charles Tyson's suggestion, I have written the memorandum attached at Tab I from you to the President for tomorrow's meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign and forward the memorandum at Tab I.

Tab I Memorandum to the President
Tab A Biographic sketches

UNCLASSIFIED with
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Attachment

CS 7/12/02

MEMORANDUM,

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May 26, 1981

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD V. ALLEN

FROM: RICHARD PIPES *RP*

SUBJECT: Avital Shcharanskii *Background:*
PC *↓* *Case*

Avital Shcharanskii is the wife of imprisoned Soviet dissident, Anatolii Shcharanskii, who together with Iurii Orlov (also presently in a Soviet jail) founded in 1976 the Moscow Helsinki Watch Group. This organization is dedicated to monitoring Soviet compliance with the terms of the Helsinki Final Accords. Prior to that, Shcharanskii had been primarily interested in securing permission to emigrate to Israel. (U)

The Shcharanskiis were married in 1973, one day before she was allowed to leave the Soviet Union for Israel; at the time the couple was told that his exit visa would be issued soon. In fact, they have not seen each other since. Anatolii was arrested in March 1977, and given a show trial in July 1978. Accused of serving U.S. secret services, he drew an unusually severe sentence of 13 years imprisonment to be followed by five years of internal exile. At the time of the trial, President Carter emphatically denied that Shcharanskii had any connection with U.S. intelligence. (C)

Shcharanskii's case is unusual in that he is a martyr for the cause of Judaism as well as that of human rights in the USSR (the two movements usually march their separate ways). He is presently reported to be confined to the "strict regime" barracks of the Perm prison complex where he receives sub-standard rations of food and clothing, and is allowed virtually no contact with the outside world. His health is said to be deteriorating. (C), On Sept. 27, he went on a hunger strike to protest his unjust imprisonment.

Mrs. Shcharanskii, who resides in Israel, has worked indefatigably for the past eight years to secure the release of her husband of one day. (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Review May 26, 1987.

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NLS FOIA-114/6#9261BY LOJ, NARA, DATE 12/13/07

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May 26, 1981

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD V. ALLEN
FROM: RICHARD PIPES *RP*
SUBJECT: Iosif Mendelevich

A Jewish prisoner of conscience, Mendelevich is 34 years old -- 11 of those years he has spent in Soviet prisons and camps. (U)

As a child in Riga, he tried to study Hebrew and learn Jewish traditions. His family was denied permission to emigrate to Israel three times between 1967 and 1970, whereupon he and several friends organized an attempt to escape the Soviet Union by plane. The would-be escapees were apprehended. Mendelevich was sentenced in the so-called Leningrad Trial to 12 years in a labor camp of "strict regime" (1970). In 1977 as punishment for his refusal to work on the Sabbath and insistence on wearing a skullcap, the prison authorities sent him to the notorious Vladimir prison, where he spent much time in solitary confinement. (C)

He was released several months ago, one year before his sentence was due to expire but two years after the other co-defendants in the Leningrad trial had been freed. (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Review May 26, 1987.

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BY LOI, NARA, DATE 12/13/07

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JANET COLSON

BUD NANCE

DICK ALLEN

IRENE DERUS

JANET COLSON

BUD NANCE

KAY

CY TO VP

SHOW CC

CY TO MEESE

SHOW CC

CY TO BAKER

SHOW CC

CY TO DEEVER

SHOW CC

CY TO BRADY

SHOW CC

He spoke of
a change in
state as yet
to be

MEMORANDUM

3043

Missidents 2

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ with
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Attachment

May 27, 1981

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD V. ALLEN
THROUGH: CHARLES P. TYSON *CT*
FROM: RICHARD PIPES *N*
SUBJECT: President's Meeting with Shcharanskii
and Mendelevich

At Charles Tyson's suggestion, I have written the memorandum attached at Tab I from you to the President for tomorrow's meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign and forward the memorandum at Tab I.

Tab I Memorandum to the President
Tab A Biographic sketches

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ with
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Attachment

CAS 7/12/02

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NLS

F06-114/6 # 9265

BY

LOI

NARA, DATE 12/13/07

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN

SUBJECT: Your Meeting with Avital Shcharanskii and Iosif
Mendelevich
(Thursday, May 28, 1981; 10:00 a.m.)

Attached (Tab A) are brief biographical sketches of Avital Shcharanskii and Iosif Mendelevich whom you are scheduled to meet at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, May 28. (C)

These two visitors personify the tragedy of Soviet Jewry in a very special way:

- Avital Shcharanskii has been married to her husband, Anatolii, for one single day in 1973. She has not seen him since and has devoted herself totally to securing her husband's release. Anatolii is serving a 13-year sentence in special Soviet jails on trumped up charges of spying for the United States. Latest reports indicate that his weight is down to 101 pounds. (C)
- Iosif Mendelevich has recently been released from Soviet camps and prisons where he had spent 11 of his 34 years. His crime was to seek to emigrate to Israel, and when that request was repeatedly denied, to help organize a clandestine flight to Sweden which the KGB thwarted. In prison he was singled out for especially harsh treatment for his refusal to work on the Sabbath, insistence on wearing a skull-cap, and observing Jewish dietary laws. He is a truly heroic figure, fully dedicated to improving the condition of his coreligionists under growing Soviet anti-Semitism. (C)

Present at your meeting with Shcharanskii and Mendelevich will be Vice President Bush, Edwin Meese, James Baker, Michael Deaver, Gordon Zacks, as well as Richard Pipes of the NSC Staff and myself. (U)

Attachments:

Tab A Brief biographic sketches of Avital Shcharanskii
 and Iosif Mendelevich

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Review May 27, 1987.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May 26, 1981

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD V. ALLEN

FROM: RICHARD PIPES *RP*

SUBJECT: Avital Shcharanskii

Avital Shcharanskii is the wife of imprisoned Soviet dissident, Anatolii Shcharanskii, who together with Iurii Orlov (also presently in a Soviet jail) founded in 1976 the Moscow Helsinki Watch Group. This organization is dedicated to monitoring Soviet compliance with the terms of the Helsinki Final Accords. Prior to that, Shcharanskii had been primarily interested in securing permission to emigrate to Israel. (U)

The Shcharanskiis were married in 1973, one day before she was allowed to leave the Soviet Union for Israel; at the time the couple was told that his exit visa would be issued soon. In fact, they have not seen each other since. Anatolii was arrested in March 1977, and given a show trial in July 1978. Accused of serving U.S. secret services, he drew an unusually severe sentence of 13 years imprisonment to be followed by five years of internal exile. At the time of the trial, President Carter emphatically denied that Shcharanskii had any connection with U.S. intelligence. (C)

Shcharanskii's case is unusual in that he is a martyr for the cause of Judaism as well as that of human rights in the USSR (the two movements usually march their separate ways). He is presently reported to be confined to the "strict regime" barracks of the Perm prison complex where he receives sub-standard rations of food and clothing, and is allowed virtually no contact with the outside world. His health is said to be deteriorating. (C)

Mrs. Shcharanskii, who resides in Israel, has worked indefatigably for the past eight years to secure the release of her husband of one day. (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Review May 26, 1987.

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NLS FOI-114/b #9266BY LOS, NARA, DATE 12/13/07

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May 26, 1981

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD V. ALLEN
FROM: RICHARD PIPES *RP*
SUBJECT: Iosif Mendelevich

A Jewish prisoner of conscience, Mendelevich is 34 years old -- 11 of those years he has spent in Soviet prisons and camps. (U)

As a child in Riga, he tried to study Hebrew and learn Jewish traditions. His family was denied permission to emigrate to Israel three times between 1967 and 1970, whereupon he and several friends organized an attempt to escape the Soviet Union by plane. The would-be escapees were apprehended. Mendelevich was sentenced in the so-called Leningrad Trial to 12 years in a labor camp of "strict regime" (1970). In 1977 as punishment for his refusal to work on the Sabbath and insistence on wearing a skullcap, the prison authorities sent him to the notorious Vladimir prison, where he spent much time in solitary confinement. (C)

He was released several months ago, one year before his sentence was due to expire but two years after the other co-defendants in the Leningrad trial had been freed. (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Review May 26, 1987.

DECLASSIFIED
NLS F06-114/6 #9267
BY LOJ, NARA, DATE 12/13/87

5/28

Dissidents

The President and the Vice President met this morning for half a hour with two leading representatives of Soviet Jewry, Avital Shcharanskii and Iosif Mendelevich. Mrs. Shcharanskii's husband, Anatolii, has been languishing in Soviet jails for the past five years, having been accused of engaging in espionage on behalf of the United States -- a charge that the United States Government has unqualifiedly repudiated. Iosif Mendelevich was recently released from Soviet jail after 11 years of imprisonment for attempting with several friends to escape the Soviet Union by plane in order to settle in Israel. The President expressed deep sympathy for the persecuted Jewish and other religious communities in the Soviet Union, as well as for the plight of Mrs. Shcharanskii's husband, and promised to do all in his power to help alleviate the situation.

May 28, 1981