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PERSPECTIVE

Gorbachev's reforms stop at the border

DESPITE what even some normally skeptical hard-liners think, the fact that Mikhail Gorbachev has embarked on a program of domestic reform does not mean that the Soviet Union under his leadership will pursue a less aggressive foreign policy. Nor does the developing detente in Soviet-American relations mean that the Soviet threat will decline. Quite the contrary.

First of all, the history of Russia offers no support for the idea that domestic reform there requires a turning inward or a "breather" from international conflict. If anything, the opposite has been the case. Thus, as Dimitri K. Simes of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace reminds us in a recent article in Foreign Affairs, among Russian rulers from Peter the Great to Nikita Khrushchev "the modernizers rather than the conservatives have pursued the most ambitious international strategies."

Khrushchev, both because he was more recent and because he operated within the Communist system, provides a more relevant precedent than a czar like Peter the Great.

Certainly Khrushchev was a reformer — and a much more daring one than Gorbachev has yet proved or even promises to be. Nothing Gorbachev has done, for example, can re-

motely compare in boldness and radicalism with Khrushchev's expose of the crimes of Stalin.

But Khrushchev did not confine his attack to Stalin's character. He also attempted to change key features of Stalin's legacy. This entailed reforms in industry, agriculture and cultural life which (except perhaps in the area of bureaucratic administration) went much further in the direction of liberalization than anything Gorbachev has attempted.

Yet this same Khrushchev who freed millions from the Gulag (as against the hundred or so released by Gorbachev, admittedly from a much smaller population of political prisoners than Khrushchev had inherited from Stalin), this same Khrushchev who allowed one of those millions, Aleksander Solzhenitsyn, to publish the first words of truth about the prison camps ever to see the light of Soviet day — this same Khrushchev, taking advantage of the "thaw" in his relations with the U.S., outdid Stalin himself in the ferocity of his actions abroad. Simes sums up the record

succinctly:

"It was Khrushchev who ordered the crushing of the Hungarian rebellion, built the Berlin Wall and deployed Soviet missiles on Cuba. It was he who presided over the missile build-

Historically, modernization at home means aggression abroad

up and the aggressive effort to organize an 'anti-imperialist coalition' with Third World nations that transformed the USSR into a truly global power."

Clearly, then, where the Soviet Union is concerned, internal reform goes along very comfortably with external aggressiveness. More ominous yet, there is evidence suggesting that the time is almost ripe for a new Soviet offensive in the Third World.

This evidence is spelled out in a very important piece by Samuel P. Huntington of Harvard which appears in the current issue of The National Interest.

According to Huntington, there have been two Soviet "surges" into the Third World and both occurred during periods of detente with the U.S. The first was under Khrushchev and the second was under Brezhnev. These efforts, involving massive and escalating military and economic interventions, paid off handsomely. "In the 1960s," says Huntington, "there were only four self-proclaimed Marxist-Leninist states in the Third World. By the 1980s there were 16."

And now? Already, as we head toward yet another period of detente, there have been significant increases in Soviet aid to Nicaragua and North Korea. Gorbachev has also reaffirmed the Brezhnev Doctrine which holds that no Communist regime may ever be overthrown. And some of his subordinates have openly declared that arms-control agreements with the U.S. will make it

easier for the Soviets not only to preserve Communist regimes already in existence, but to encourage the creation of new ones in the Third World.

Putting all the pieces of this jigsaw puzzle in place, we see a horrifying picture taking shape.

First Gorbachev institutes domestic reforms calculated to increase his country's power, and somehow we interpret this to mean that the Soviet Union is on the way to becoming less dangerous to us. We therefore decide to give Gorbachev all the economic help we can.

In addition, we prepare to sign an arms-control agreement with him that will leave Europe more vulnerable than ever to the superior conventional forces of the Soviet Union. Furthermore, we get ready to sign another agreement that will prevent us from building a defense against the first-strike capability the Soviets have relentlessly been developing.

Not content with thus neutralizing ourselves on the central front of the struggle,



**NORMAN
PODHORETZ**

we also prepare to give the green light of detente to Gorbachev's ambitions in the Third World.

Finally, and in some ways worst of all, we move to kill off not Gorbachev's Sandinista clients in Nicaragua but the contras who are fighting both in their own interest and ours to overthrow them.

After such prodigious feats of self-destruction, it is a wonder that we have any energy left over for the congressional hearings into the Iran-contra affair that begin today. Evidently, though, enough self-destructive gas remains in our political culture to keep us hot on the trail of those great miscreants in our own government who may have committed the unforgivable crime of violating the Brezhnev Doctrine when, in a fit of temporary insanity, we briefly enacted it into American law under the name of the Boland Amendment, forbidding the U.S. government to aid in toppling the Sandinistas.



UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS

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May 21, 1987

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London 35's
Int'l. Physicians Commission for the
Protection of Jewish Prisoners

For: Members of the Congress, Administration, and Press

One of the things that makes the 100,000-member Union of Councils for Soviet Jews unique among grassroots human rights and rescue organizations is the extent to which we are in daily contact with Refuseniks and other Jewish activists inside the Soviet Union. Leaders among our 40 local councils, four domestic affiliates, and our cooperating organizations in Israel, England, France, and Canada, gather and report important information about the health and welfare of the Refuseniks -- hunger strikes, demonstrations, releases from prison, official harassment, conditions in the prisons and the psychiatric hospitals -- and about general conditions and emerging Soviet policies affecting Jews, dissidents, and Prisoners of Conscience. Thus, we were able to first report, for example, the trend now more generally understood whereby the Soviets are closing down the future emigration apparatus under the pretext of national security quarantines.

In the past, it has been our practice to summarize these reports in a weekly report to the members of our board of directors. Now, we have concluded that the information, including appropriate analyses, should be made available to a limited public audience. We are, therefore, pleased to enclose a set of recent issues of our Refusenik Update. You will be receiving future issues on a weekly or bi-weekly basis.

Also enclosed, please find two policy statement releases having to do with the American Bar Association/Association of Soviet Lawyers arrangement, which the UCSJ vigorously opposes, and an important analysis of our emigration policy in the context of the Helsinki follow-up meeting in Vienna and the Soviet proposal, which we also oppose, to hold a human rights conference in Moscow. Finally, for your permanent reference, we include a copy of the transcript of our important Commission of Inquiry, including testimony by Natan Scharansky and Yuri Orlov.

We appreciate your continuing interest in human rights and the plight of Soviet Jews. Our national office in Washington exists to serve your informational needs concerning this vital subject.

Sincerely,

Pamela B. Cohen
National President

Micah H. Naftalin
Washington Representative

Enclosures



Union of Councils for Soviet Jews

1819 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006
Suite 410

NEWSFLASH!

DATE: May 20, 1987

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: John Rosenberg

PHONE: (202) 775-9770

UCSJ RAPS ABA FOR SOVIET LAWYERS' AFFILIATION

Washington. Pamela B. Cohen, National President of the 100,000 member Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, today demanded that the American Bar Association's Committee on Law and Security, meeting here this week at the Park Hyatt Hotel, cancel the formal agreement of cooperation between the ABA and the Association of Soviet Lawyers (ASL).

"The ASL is the most prominent official sponsor and publisher of anti-Semitic material in the Soviet Union. It's propaganda is straight out of Goebbels. ASL lawyers, what's more, work only for the State, not for their clients. For the ABA to maintain this official relationship is to accord them a professional dignity that is not only underserved but an obscene insult to all Jews, dissidents and Prisoners of Conscience who live under the yoke of Soviet oppression. The Union of Councils opposed the arrangement when it was formed in 1985; we oppose it now," Cohen stated.

"During the past year or so this arrangement has permitted the ASL to bask in the warm glow of collegiality with the American legal profession, taking credit for it on Moscow television to the dismay of every accused Hebrew teacher who needed representation; denying viscious human rights violations, without effective rebuttal, at the Dartmouth College Seminar last September; asserting unfounded human rights progress at the Helsinki meetings in Vienna. In concert with the notorious Soviet Anti-Zionist Committee, the ASL published (Summer 1985) its major anti-Semitic tract, The White Book -- a disinformation effort comparable to Nazi propaganda. Meanwhile, the Soviets boast of 1,800 American lawyers visiting in 1986 and the ABA will recipricate by hosting an ASL delegation to the National Association of Attorneys General in June.

"Earlier this week, Anatoly Koryagin, released from the Gulag in February, had little difficulty explaining the Mengele-like abuses of medicine and psychiatry in the Soviet Union to the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association in Chicago. We simply can't understand why the ABA cannot even approach the degree of sensitivity of the medical profession. Clearly, the ABA cannot compel the ABA/ASL forum to deal honestly and forcefully with human rights. It should confess error and withdraw."



Union of Councils for Soviet Jews

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NEWSFLASH!

DATE: May 22, 1987
CONTACT: John Rosenberg
PHONE: (202) 775-9770

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VIENNA SECURITY CONFERENCE OFFERS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO RESCUE SOVIET JEWS By Pamela B. Cohen and Micah H. Naftalin

A little known and seriously underrated international conference, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) -- also known as the Helsinki process -- offers a spectacular array of diplomatic, economic and security opportunities to press on the Soviet Union considerations of human rights and the cause of full and open emigration for Soviet Jews. What is remarkable is the creativity and force by which the United States delegation, led by Ambassador Warren Zimmermann, is effectively deploying and leveraging these opportunities.

The third session of the follow-up CSCE meetings reconvened in Vienna May 5 in the continuing process whereby the 35 signatories of the Helsinki Final Act evaluate compliance to the three Baskets of the document. This phase of the conference is aimed at drafting and negotiating a concluding document. In his opening statement, Ambassador Zimmermann said: "The Vienna Final document is critically important. It should highlight and strengthen the obligations of the Helsinki Final Act, particularly those obligations -- as in the human dimension -- where implementation has been weak. [And]... we must not lose sight of an element of the Helsinki process that is even more important than words on paper -- performance on the ground.... Whether the people who live in the CSCE house do better or worse in their lives is the ultimate test of the value of the Helsinki process."

While there is an inclination and predisposition among human rights advocacy organizations to fear that the human rights concerns are in essence more negotiable and susceptible to weakening than the security issues

connected with Basket I, both the United States delegation under the expert guidance and direction of Ambassadors Warren Zimmermann and Samuel Wise as well as key NATO delegations are demonstrating a profound and unwaivering commitment to the human rights issues of Basket III. The assertions of the American delegation reflect the views and statements of Secretary Shultz which clearly maintain that if the Soviet Union cannot honor international obligations with respect to its own citizens -- and open and free emigration of Soviet Jews is generally considered a chief measure of such commitments -- it surely cannot be trusted to keep its agreements in arms reductions or negotiations.

The remarkable commitment by the U.S. government parallels the interests and concerns of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews: (i) commitment to a standard of high and sustained emigration of Soviet Jews, and all view the present indications of a heightened level of emigration in the past two months to be merely token; (ii) alarm at the clear indications of a shutting down of prospective applications for exit visas on the grounds of national security or the coerced objections of family members; and (iii) a concern that the Helsinki principles of freedom of choice for exiting Soviet citizens must not be compromised.

In addition to Most Favored Nation (MFN) status (Jackson-Vanik) and credit limitations (Stevenson Amendment), there are two additional matters of important concern to the Soviets that offer the drafters of the human rights portion of the Vienna Final Document extraordinary leverage. These are: The Soviet's proposal to hold a meeting in Moscow on humanitarian cooperation, within the CSCE framework; and its strong desire to begin conventional arms talks for Europe -- a major security issue for all CSCE nations. It is especially notable, therefore, that the United States, in concert with many other Western delegations, considers ratification of the final Vienna document, including substantial progress in Basket III, to be a firm prerequisite condition to beginning these arms talks. With such firm resolve and commitment to human rights on the part of our State Department and the allied diplomats at Vienna, the Soviet Jewry rescue movement has never before seemed stronger. We must do nothing to weaken the position of this committed alliance.

The Soviet-proposed Moscow human rights meeting also represents a fulcrum for discussing UCSJ policies and priorities. The following is the position advanced by National President Pamela B. Cohen with all delegations, including the Soviets, in Vienna on May 6, 1987:

Position of the UCSJ Opposing the
Soviet Proposal for a Human Rights Moscow
Conference

At present, the Soviet proposal to convene a Moscow Humanitarian Cooperation Meeting within the framework of the CSCE is entirely unsupportable. To agree to Moscow as the venue for such an official meeting at this time would undermine the principles of Basket III of the Helsinki Final Act by offering the Soviets a legitimacy in the area of human rights that its record does not warrant. It would also send a signal of retreat to all those who depend on world opinion and rescue action as their life line for human rights and dignity when what is needed is continuing, positive CSCE follow-up activities on behalf of genuine security and cooperation.

The United States delegation to CSCE, and many of its sister delegations, have voiced grave reservations. They have made known a number of general principles that they deem to be pre-conditions for the mere consideration of the Soviet proposal. These principles, which the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews whole-heartedly supports, include:

- * Maximum possible openness and access must be accorded to any private individuals, representatives of non-governmental organizations, and journalists, including all interested citizens of the host state;

- * There must be unhindered press coverage; and

- * The host government must have a demonstrable interest in the subject matter of the meeting or conference and an exemplary record of performance.

What's more, as U.S. Ambassador Zimmermann has stated, deeds rather than words must be the test of all Basket III proposals. The UCSJ thus urges that the following criteria be incorporated and established to measure the requisite good faith and exemplary performance by the Soviets in the field of human rights -- the Human Dimension:

1. The release from prison of the remaining Prisoners of Conscience, Alexei Magarik,

Yuli Edelshtein,* and imprisoned Helsinki monitor Josef Zisels, and the granting of exit visas for these and all former POCs.

2. The expeditious issuance of exit visas to all Soviet Jews who have had no contact with secret information at all or within "five to ten years" [in accordance with the statement of General Secretary Gorbachev on September 30, 1985] and who thus have been refused because of spurious national security allegations; and, for the rest of the so-called security refuseniks, the establishment of a definition of reasonable grounds for, and maximum terms of, security quarantines.

3. The issuance of exit visas to all long-term Jewish Refuseniks.

4. The expeditious emigration of all applicants based on health and other humanitarian grounds.

5. Tangible evidence (deeds, not words) of a commitment by the USSR to institutionalize an unimpeded process, consistent with the Final Act, for the free and open emigration of all Soviet Jews who wish to leave, currently estimated at approximately 400,000. Evidence of such a process would have to include:

a. Abandonment of national security as a pretext for denying Jews the right to emigrate.

b. Abandonment as well of the requirement of family permissions as a pretext for denying the right of Jews to apply for emigration. Pending this, the Soviet government must provide a judicial procedure whereby the would-be applicant may receive a signed document from the relative which details the basis of whatever claim against him they may be asserting.

c. Expansion of the family reunification guidelines set forth in the January 1, 1987, code to include family members beyond the first degree living outside the Soviet Union.

d. Establishment of a regularized, legal procedure for issuing and reviewing refusals, including the provision of a written statement of reasons, and the right to appeal in person and with counsel.

* Subsequently released from prison May 4, 1987.

e. Assurances of unimpeded delivery of invitations to emigrate.

The 14 pending proposals in the Human Dimension by the United States and other Western countries represent a high water mark of concern and comprehensiveness since the signing of the Helsinki Final Act. The Union of Councils supports these initiatives with gratitude on behalf of all Soviet Jews as well as the 100,000 members of our direct and affiliated grassroots organization in North America and Europe.

We are acutely aware, however, that the desperate need for adoption of these proposals is a grim reminder of the lack of progress in Ottawa, Budapest and Bern. In reviewing these proposals, and the further recommendations of the UCSJ, we urge all delegates never to forget that the acid test of human rights in the Soviet Union is high and sustained progress in behalf of the right of all Jews to full and free emigration to the extent that they wish to leave.

Discussions of these fundamental policies with several Western nation delegations -- policies which they all appreciated and endorsed -- revealed that they represent equally well UCSJ and the United States Government preconditions not only in respect to the proposed Moscow Conference, but also for approval of the Final Document in Vienna, and for holding conventional European arms talks.

It is the perception of the UCSJ that today, more than ever, human rights activists and Western governments have a multi-faceted arsenal of leverage techniques -- Jackson-Vanik, Stevenson, nuclear arms, trade, the Vienna final report, the Moscow Human Rights conference, conventional arms talks -- all available to induce the Soviet Union to open its gates to full and free emigration for the nearly 400,000 Soviet Jews who have signified a desire to escape. We need but apply them. Such an arsenal can only be deployed effectively if we make as a unifying principle adherence to the letter and spirit of those international agreements concerning human rights that we and the Soviets have both signed.

Part of the function of Glasnost has been to paint a more Western picture of Soviet society so as to improve its acceptability and enhance its opportunities in the fields of arms reduction and East-West trade. Recent limited but high visibility enhancement of Jewish emigration is calculated to obscure the fact that they are actually closing down the processes of emigration for the bulk of Soviet Jews. The Soviets must now come to believe what is

evident in Vienna and in Washington: that their word will not be trusted in the economic and security areas of their prime concern so long as it is worthless on as simple a proposition as the humane treatment of their own citizens.

Accordingly, the Union of Councils commends the Secretary of State and Ambassador Zimmermann, and calls on all Americans, including the American Jewish Community, to reaffirm the commitment to full and open emigration of all Soviet Jews who wish to leave, and thus to the preservation of the Helsinki-guaranteed, international principle of undiluted freedom of choice and movement of all individuals. The long-term strength and effectiveness of the Jewish emigration movement within the Soviet Union, and the viability of United States policies for Human Rights across the board, depend on the Soviet's continued appreciation that American Jews and their leadership reflect, at bottom, the essential values of the United States.

The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews is a 100,000 member, grassroots human rights and rescue organization, the oldest and largest such organization devoted exclusively to the cause of Soviet Jews. Its membership is distributed among 40 U.S. member councils, four U.S. affiliates, and cooperating organizations in Israel, England, France and Canada.

Pamela B. Cohen is the National President of the UCSJ and Co-Chair of Chicago Action for Soviet Jewry. Micah H. Naftalin is the UCSJ Washington Representative and staff director of the headquarters office. Both authors recently returned from attending the opening of the third session of the Helsinki-process follow-up meetings in Vienna.



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Protection of Jewish Prisoners

UCSJ WEEKLY REFUSENIK UPDATE

The UCSJ Refusenik Update provides a weekly summary, alerting for action by our Councils the most critical developments affecting Refuseniks and their families.

The information contained in these Updates comes to us from a variety of sources throughout our worldwide network. Inevitably some reports arrive second hand. When errors are brought to our attention, they are corrected in subsequent Updates.

Pamela B. Cohen, National President
Micah H. Naftalin, Washington Representative

The Refusenik Update is prepared by UCSJ staff member, Pat Spiller

Member: CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

MEMO: May 15, 1987
TO: UCSJ Member Councils
FROM: Pat Spiller
SUBJECT: REFUSENIK UPDATE

334 JEWS LEFT THE SOVIET UNION THE FIRST TEN DAYS OF MAY
25.1% WENT TO ISRAEL

Changes and Additions Appear in Bold Face

(FROM INFORMATION RECEIVED AFTER MAY 5, 1987)

Families Refused

Allievskaya and Igor Smirnov	Mark Chernobrodov (Vilna)
Belitsy Family (Vilna)	Fima Flomenblit (Krasnodar)
Anchislavsky (Tblisi)	Boris Geller
Igor (Chaim) Briskman (Moscow)	Lev Margulis (Moscow)
Andre Brusavanny (Moscow)	Iosif Radomylsilsky (Moscow)
Benjamin Charny	Vladimir Turkeltaub (Moscow)
(Moscow Cancer Patient)	Shlomo Veistukh (Tblisi)

Families Given Permission

Vladimir Abramson (Lvov)	Cherna Goldort (Novosobirsk)	Abel Rainus (Leningrad)
Vitaly Degtarov	Dimitry Gorgunov (Leningrad)	Lev Schegolev (Moscow)
Shasha Feigin (Tblisi)	Khanin Family (Moscow)	Nina Sorina (Moscow)
Iosef Fenerman (Moscow)	Olga Ioffe	Sheina-Lea Swartz
Grigory Geishis, Leningrad, his	Kopeikus (Baku)	(Moscow Cancer Patient)
mother, a cancer patient	Yakov Levin (Ex-POC)	Vaishtok (Tblisi)
his father, and his family	Anatoly Levitin (Kharkov)	Alexander Volavik (Moscow)
Vladimir Glazer (Moscow)	Leonid & Ina Lipkin (Kharkov)	Alexander and Marina Vorobiev
Ilana Goldfarb (Moscow)	Iosef Lokshin (Kishinev)	
	Mark Nepomniashchy (Ex-POC)	

Families Emigrated

Mikhail Beizer (Leningrad)	Daniel Fradkin (Leningrad)	David Kvartin (Moscow)
Mark Belenky (Moscow)	Mark Friedlin (Moscow)	Vladimir Tsukerman (Kishi)
Vladimir & Alex Belkin (Minsk)	Eugenia Greenblatt (Odessa)	Nelli Shpeizman (Leningrad)
Anatoly Chechik (Leningrad)	Vyacheslav Grinstein (Lvov)	Alex Shukhgalter (Odessa)
Yevgeny Chudnovsky (Kharkov)	Chaim Kilov (Riga)	Shupak (Vilnius)
Boris Deviatov (Leningrad)	Leonid Kleinman	Grigory Vainer (Vologograd)
Boris Elkin (Leningrad)	Kvartin (Moscow)	Yudaikin (Tallin)
Mikhail Fainberg (Moscow)	Dora Konstantinovskaya (Rustaveli)	Lilia Zaruchnaya (Kharkov)

(OVER)



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REFUSENIK UPDATE

May 15 1987

page two

INSIDE THE USSR

o For the past several months, Refuseniks have been told of a commission established to investigate and act upon the validity and length of security classification refusals. The composition of this commission, they were told, was the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the Human Rights Bureau (part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs). The Secretary of State was told of this process in Moscow and recently UCSJ national president Pamela Cohen was told of it by the Soviet delegate to the CSCE meetings in Vienna. Yet there has been some doubt and considerable frustration about this commission, especially when a number of "security" Refuseniks had tried in vain to elicit a name, or an address, to which they could apply to have their cases re-examined. Until today, only one individual was identified by name, N. A. Makarov, Deputy Director of the Consular Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and yet his actual function remains unclear. Today we were told that a Mr. Demitev, formerly of the Ministry of Culture heads this commission. This is the first time his name has been mentioned to us in this connection.

Mark TERLITSKY (Moscow), while cautious, feels there may finally be movement within this new commission. Just recently he was called by OVIR to check on and update his documents, as was Boris CHERNOBILSKY (Moscow). The alleged reason for this was review of their cases by the special commission which appears to be attached to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, at what Markarov told Lev Elbert was the "highest level." While Boris and Mark did supply the requested material, they, like many other security Refuseniks, are very skeptical. The Committee has given no answers on cases which are pending. It is requested that Mr. Demitev be telephoned at the office of the Supreme Soviet at 925-9051. The number for Makarov is 224-7213

Such an appeals commission is absolutely vital for long-term security Refuseniks. Lev SUD and Lev MARGULIS, among others, have sent appeals to this commission, copies of which are attached.

o Zagladen, former head of the Department of Information of the CPSU and now with the Central Committee in Foreign Affairs, told Canadian Parliamentarian in Moscow, in the presence of Afanaseyev, editor of Pravda that there are 20,000 old Refuseniks and 2,000 new Refuseniks.

o The tragedy of Yuri SHPEIZMAN, 55-year old civil engineer from Leningrad, who died on May 10 in Vienna just before boarding the flight to Israel that he and his wife, Nelly, had dreamed about and fought for during ten agonizing years of refusal is another chilling example of Soviet disregard for the sanctity of human lives.

Condolences may be sent to his family
c/o Rita Levin, Ramot 17/22, JERUSALEM



UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS

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REFUSENIK UPDATE

May 15, 1987

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INSIDE THE USSR CONT'D.

We recall Refusenik Chaya KUCHINA who died of cancer in February, 1987, only hours after receiving an exit visa to join her daughter in Israel; Michael SHIRMAN who died of leukemia in Israel on March 6, 1987 because his sibling, Inessa, was given an exit visa too late to donate an effective bone marrow transplant; and Inna MEIMAN, allowed to go to the West for cancer treatment only after years of struggle, of offers from clinics in the West, of intervention at the highest levels, only to die in the U.S. on February 9, 1987, two weeks after her arrival.

1987 was to have been the year of liberalized emigration regulations. Despite the temporary rise in emigration figures and the welcome release of many POC's, the Soviet attitude toward basic human rights appears unchanged.

o The May 10 issue of the weekly, multi-language Moscow News carried an open letter to Secretary Shultz by Zivs and Dragunsky, of the purportedly private Anti-Zionist Committee, and Rabbi Shaevitz of the Moscow Synagogue, alleging that the same pre-revolution atmosphere of anti-Semitism could be created by the efforts of Shultz and others on behalf of Jewish emigration. They alleged that the activities of Shultz and others are supposed to foster the opinion among the Soviet people that Jews are unique and that their problem of emigration is separate from all other nationalities. Again suggesting that such activity around the question of Jewish emigration leads to increased anti-Semitism among the Soviet people, the letter ends by asking that they "let the majority of Soviet Jews who love their country use their talents for the remarkable process of restructuring."

o On May 4 the REFUSENIK UPDATE commented on increased Soviet press attacks upon the U.S. Embassy staff in Moscow and Refuseniks. Attached are copies of relevant TASS releases.

DEMONSTRATIONS & HUNGER STRIKES

Karmi, 16-year old son of long-term Refuseniks Lev and Inna ELBERT (Kiev) was suspended from his school in Kiev because of "systematic absenteeism." Last month Karmi joined his parents in Moscow where they held a prolonged protest hunger strike.

On May 8, scientist Boris TONKILEVICH (Leningrad) ended a sixteen day hunger strike -- two days for every year he and his family have been in refusal, - and is now suffering from hypertension. A few days ago, an inspector from OVIR told Boris that he could leave the Soviet Union only if he divorces his wife. His wife's parents and sister don't want to submit the necessary documents that allege they have no material claims to Boris' family. (Chicago Action/May 14, 1987)

(OVER)



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DEMONSTRATIONS; Igor KASTAN (Riga) has stopped the demonstrations he had been staging every Monday in front of the Latvian Supreme Court.
HUNGER STRIKES (May 12 report)

The special gathering in Minsk at the monument built and financed by Jews memorializing the slaughter by the Germans of thousands of Minsk Jews attracted several hundred people on May 9, the day the Soviets observe V-E Day. Lev OVSISHCHER, long time Refusenik and Soviet war hero, travelled from Moscow for the occasion. Although the authorities turned on loudspeakers with noisy music trying to prevent ceremonies by activists, they managed to gather around a speaker who retold the story of the Minsk Ghetto and the Jewish resistance and martyrdom during World War II. (May 12 report. The photo of the monument [below] is from "The New Heroes" published by SSSJ)



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DEMONSTRATIONS; HUNGER STRIKES Boris and Galina LIVSHITZ (Moscow) are on hunger strike. Their son, Konstantin will join the strike on June 1. Boris is a scientist, his wife is a philologist. They have been in refusal since 1979 on the grounds of "no justification." Please make phone calls to the Livshitz family. Their number in Moscow is 307-1952. Their address is Sbovodny Pr. 9, Korp. 1, Apt. 144, Moscow 111578. Please alert your press contacts.

POC'S & EX-POC'S Former POC's Mark NEPOMNIASHCHY and Yakov LEVIN and their families have received permission! Yehudit, wife of Yakov LEVIN, told her uncle in Israel by phone that they hope to be there in a month. (SJEIC)

After months of frustration, Alexei MAGARIK (POC) was allowed a short, supervised meeting with his wife, Natasha Ratner, on May 12. Alexei was looking very poorly; his hands are disfigured by a vicious skin infection (streptodermatitis).

On May 14, Natasha visited Ustinov, head of the Institutions for Corrective Labor, to try to obtain a longer meeting with Alexei and plans to pursue the matter with Sizov, Deputy Minister of the Interior who supervises the Institutions for Corrective Labor.

Natasha needs all the support we can give her. Sizov's telephone number is 222-6669. (SJEIC/May 14, 1987)

Alexei's father, Vladimir MAGARIK, continues his unflagging efforts on behalf of his son, and appeared at a rally in Washington, D.C. on May 14, together with members of Student Struggle.

Leonid VOLVOVSKY (Ex-POC, now of Gorky) submitted documents for an exit visa. (Item dated May 12, 1987)

Yuli EDELSHTEIN (Ex-POC, now of Moscow) expects to get permission to live in Moscow at which time he plans to start procedures to emigrate. (Item May 12, 1987)

SPECIAL GROUPS The open movement of Jewish Women for Emigration and Survival in Refusal has been formed and will meet on Wednesdays every two weeks. They held their first meeting on May 13. Participating are: Batsheva YELISTRATOV, Judith RATNER, Nellie MAI, Svetlana TERLITSKAYA, Alla RUZER, Mikhailla KOGAN and Frada MALAMID. Freda's husband is a professor who has been expelled from Moscow University and whose mother is in Israel. They have been refused on the secrecy classification of their son-in-law based on his army service. However, Chicago Action was told that he has never served in the army. His name is Josef FAINERMAN (Chicago Action, May 14, 1987)

(OVER)



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SPECIAL GROUPS CONT'D.

On April 10 we reported that a group of Soviet women had banded together to importune the Soviet authorities to let their grown children emigrate. Irina BRAILOVSKY was one of six women who demonstrated in Moscow in early April carrying slogans saying "Let Our Children Go to Israel." We learned from Chicago Action on May 14 that Irina and Victor's son, Leonid, has been allowed to apply separately. On the other hand, long-term Refuseniks with teenage children are being told by OVIR that the younger generation applying for permission to leave will not be given permission to do so.

SPECIAL ACTION

The American Bar Association Standing Committee on Law and National Security will meet in Washington on May 20 and 21. We urge that telegrams be sent on these days urging the abrogation of the ABA/ASL [Association of Soviet Lawyers] Declaration on Cooperation. Telegrams should be sent to:

ABA Standing Committee on Law and National Security
Richard E. Friedman, Chairman
Park Hyatt Hotel
1201 - 24th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20037



UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS

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MEMO: May 8, 1987
TO: UCSJ Member Councils
FROM: Pat Spiller
SUBJECT: REFUSENIK UPDATE

(Information Received After May 5, 1987)

Families Refused

Benjamin Charny
(Moscow Cancer Patient)
Fima FLOMENBLIT (Krasnodar)

Families Given Permission

Olga Ioffe
Sheina-Lea Swartz
(Moscow Cancer Patient)
Alexander and Marina Vorobiev

Families Emigrated

Irina Alievskaya and Igor Smirnov (Leningrad)
Vladimir & Alex Belkin (Minsk)
Yevgeny Chudnovsky (Kharkov)
Boris Elkin (Leningrad)
Daniel Fradkin (Leningrad)
Anatoly Chechik (Leningrad)
Mark Friedlin (Moscow)
Chaim Kilov (Riga)
Kvartin (Moscow)
Dora Konstantinovskaya (Rustaveli)
David Kvartin (Moscow)
Vladimir Tsukerman (Kishinev)
Shupak (Vilnius)
Grigory Vainer (Volgograd)
Yudaikin (Tallin)
Lilia Zatuchnaya (Kharkov)



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INSIDE THE USSR

As we have seen, the number of Soviet Jews who have the courage to demonstrate for the right to emigrate is growing as both emigration figures on the one hand, and refusals on the grounds of secrecy on the other, increase sharply. For the hundreds of long-term Refuseniks refused on security grounds, the situation looks as bleak as ever.

It appears to have become policy in Moscow to tolerate demonstrations providing they are not too large. A Moscow correspondent writing in the London Daily Telegraph, contends that "the official hope, presumably, is that if small demonstrations are allowed quite frequently they will lose their novelty and will cease to be reported in the West." In his opinion, "there is evidence to support this."

The official media are even reporting demonstrations, but in a disparaging manner, suggesting that these "tiresome provocations" are instigated and stage-managed by Westerners and ridiculed by patriotic Soviet citizens. A TASS broadcast on April 26 categorized three days of demonstrations outside the TASS News Agency building as "a Zionist show" and accused the demonstrators of posing for the large number of Western journalists and TV cameras present and "trying on 'the martyr's crown of thorns.'"

The day after the April 23 demonstration outside the Smolny Institute in Leningrad, a TASS broadcaster reported in English that "Leningraders were offended by the choice of the site for the provocative demonstration." (The Smolny Institute has gone down in history as the headquarters of the October 1917 revolution.)

Media attacks against Moscow-based U.S. officials continue with a May 6th TASS report charging U.S. diplomats with attempts to incite anti-Russian ethnic tension and riots. U.S. officials, rejecting this second attack in nine days, charged the Soviet Union with conducting "a campaign of disinformation and slander against American Embassy personnel."

There is still concern about the April 3 article in Sovietskaya Rossiya which we reported in our April 10 UPDATE, and which charged that even Refuseniks who are no longer involved with secrets can be used by the CIA to threaten the security of the USSR. Given the fact that Sovietskaya Rossiya is the organ of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, some Refuseniks are worried. "The piece may be totally illogical," said one senior Refusenik, "but it is quite dangerous for us, and must not be allowed to go unchallenged." On the other hand, some Refuseniks are inclined to view the article as a testy reaction to the increase in protests regarding unfounded "secrets" classifications.



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DEMONSTRATIONS and HUNGER STRIKES

o On May 5, when OVIR had still not given David SHRAER (Moscow) the positive answer they had promised him, he conducted a personal demonstration in mid-afternoon in a little park near the House of Literature (Authors Union), where he read his poems. Some 15-20 Jews were present with no interference nor harassment. (Long Island Committee/May 5, 1987; other sources)

o On May 15, a group of elderly and ill Refuseniks intend to demonstrate in front of the All Union (Soyuznaya) OVIR in Moscow. Mark TERLITSKY (Moscow) plans to take his elderly mother, Fanya, who suffers from Alzheimer's disease. The TERLITSKYS have been in refusal for eleven years in spite of the tireless efforts of their son and brother, Leonid, who lives in New York. (Long Island Committee/may 5, 1987)

o Minsk Jews plan to hold a special Kaddish service, commemorating the slaughter of over 10,000 Minsk Jews by the Germans in 1942, at a monument in Minsk, funded and erected solely by Jews to memorialize this tragedy. Col. Lev OVSISHCHER, Soviet war hero and fifteen-year Refusenik, formerly of Minsk and now of Moscow, has urged well-known members of the international Jewish community to come to Minsk for this demonstration on May 9, the day the Soviets observe V-E day. A letter, signed by Lev OVSISHCHER, Alexander LERNER, Yuli KOSCHAROVSKY, Vladimir SLEPAK and Mikhail KHOLMIANSKY was sent to Elie Wiesel, Simon Wiesenthal and Martin Gilbert, among others, and reads:

"On 8 March 1942 over 10,000 Jews were slaughtered in Minsk by the fascists.

"Shortly after the war, friends and relatives returning from the front erected a monument at their own expense at the site of the tragedy. For years, Jews and non-Jews have gathered at this monument to pay homage to the victims of the genocide, but in recent times the memorial observance has been impeded by bureaucratic interference.

"This year marks the 45th anniversary of the massacre. We are very anxious that from now on these meetings, now intrinsically part of Minsk citizens' tradition, should become truly democratic so that all those who wishes to do so may be able to express their grief and sorrow for the loss of their nearest and dearest in whichever way they feel is appropriate.

"We ask those of you who survived the fascist genocide and who cherish the memory of those who perished in the war, and those who have been awarded prizes for furthering humanitarian causes, to visit Minsk and participate in the meeting on Victory Day, 9 May 1987."

(OVER)



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DEMONSTRATIONS; HUNGER STRIKES cont'd.

o On June 1, 1987, International Children's Day, a series of gatherings and seminars will take place at various locations in Moscow:

Andrei Lifshitz' apartment: General Seminar
Tel. 130-5923.

Yakir's apartment: "Children who Have Grown Up
in Refusal." Tel. 330-6153.

Sylvia Fiskina's apartment: "Parents Whose Children
are not in the USSR." Tel. 463-6943.

Frada Melamed's apartment: "Children whose Parents
are not in the USSR" Tel. 131-4427

All sessions will begin at 5:00 p.m. (Chicago Action/JUSSR)

o For Leonid YUSEFOVICH, his demonstration on Sunday, April 26 in Pushkin Square was a concluding act to a 38-day protest hunger strike. Leonid said he had a call from an OVIR official telling him their case is being considered and that they must have patience. YUSEFOVICH said, "I did remind her that I have already been patient for six years but nevertheless I must give them a chance to look through my documents." (JUSSR/30 April 1987)

o Lev ELBERT, who went off his hunger strike after having been importuned by international figures, and promised by OVIR that his case would be reviewed, has been assured by Makarov that his case is now being considered in the Supreme Soviet "on the highest level." The ELBERTS were also sent by Makarov to the Defense Ministry where a Lt. Col. Raschkov of Army Intelligence (GRU) spoke politely with them and promised to expedite the input of the Defense Ministry.

Inna, who developed kidney stones, is feeling better and Lev is recovering. His eyesight, impaired when he was in prison, worsened during the hunger strike and he developed periodontal problems. He plans to return to Kiev after May 12, since his permission to remain in Moscow is expiring. (Alex Mizrukhin to UCSJ/May 7, 1987; Chicago Action/May 5, 1987)

o Denied permission on February 2, 1987, Igor KAPSTAN (Riga) wrote of his plight to Soviet authorities and a number of Soviet newspapers and now stands outside the Latvian Supreme Court for several hours every Monday with a placard reading, "Allow me to go to Israel."



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**DEMONSTRATIONS;
HUNGER STRIKES
cont'd.**

o Seventy-one year old Salo and sixty-nine year old Chaya LIPCHIN (Moscow), refused since 1978 first on the pretext of being against the interest of the State, and later changed to having had access to secrets, finished a sixteen-day hunger strike on April 21st. They have struggled all these years to be reunited with their son, Leonid, who emigrated in 1976 and now lives in Boston. The OVIR representative, Savitsky, has claimed that his office has no authorization to make a decision in their case. (Chicago Action/May 7, 1987)

o In Leningrad, 300 people met in the Leningrad cemetery to observe Yom Hashoah and memorialize the six million of the Holocaust. The gathering was undisturbed by the authorities. The week before, on April 17 and April 20, scores of tombstones were smashed at the "Preobnrazhenskoe" and the "9 Yanvaria" Jewish cemeteries in Leningrad. Subsequently Leningradskaya Pravda denounced this desecration. (SJEIC/JUSSR)

o Mikhail LOSEV (Moscow), who had been on hunger strike and who had renounced his Soviet citizenship [see April 24 REFUSENIK UPDATE] was informed that he and his family may now submit their applications and that their case would be examined as an exception. On May 7 it was learned that Mikhail's phone has been cut. (SJEIC/April 30, 1987; Chicago Action/May 7, 1987.)

POC'S & EX-POC'S

o Yuli EDELSHTEIN (POC), freed from prison on May 4, arrived in Moscow on May 7, together with his wife, Tanya, who had travelled to Novosibirsk to make the train trip back with him. Almost 100 people and an "ocean" of flowers greeted him at the railway station. The police did not intervene. Yuli expresses his gratitude to all who participated in the struggle for his release, and sees special significance in the fact that he was released on Israel Independence Day.

The news of Yuli's release came as a surprise both to him and to the camp administration. He was not prepared for his release in any way and when Tanya arrived in Novosibirsk on May 4 she learned that the camp administration had only a telegram from the Department of the Interior of the City of Moscow ordering Yuli's release, which they held was not enough. It took a full day of visits to local authorities and phone calls to Moscow to cut through the red tape, until they finally let him go at 5:00 p.m.

At first Tanya said that they must leave for Kostroma, a town north of Moscow where Yuli's parents live, since ex-prisoners are not normally allowed to live in Moscow and must make their residence at least 100 km. away. However, we have since learned that he has been given permission to live at his wife's apartment in Moscow. Tanya and Yuli plan to go to OVIR today (May 8) and to the Ministry of the Interior to pursue the process of emigration.

Yuli now weighs 60 kilos, walks with a limp, and needs a thorough medical examination and attention. (Chicago Action/May 7, 1987/ SJEIC/May 7, 1987; Long Island Committee/May 8, 1987)



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POC'S & EX-POC'S

- o The authorities continue to deny Natasha Ratner, wife of Alexei **MAGARIK** (POC) the visit she was supposed to have been granted recently. She has visited office after office to no avail. Two officials of the Political Department of the Ministry of the Interior, Cherkasov and Astakhov, intimated to her that even if she were to travel to the camp, she would not be allowed to see him. Astakhov, who is attached to GUITU (Central Prison Authority) could give her no reason why she has been denied the visit. Natasha feels that at one point, at the beginning of April, the authorities were prepared to release Alexei, but that something has changed. (SJEIC/May 6, 1987)
- o Alexander **KHOLMIANSKY's** (former POC, now of Moscow) second daughter was born on May 2, 1987. (SJEIC/May 6, 1987)
- o Yosef **BERENSHTAIN** (ex-POC, now of Kiev) and his family submitted their visa applications in Kiev on May 7. (SJEIC/May 7, 1987)
- o Leonid **VOLVOVSKY** (ex-POC, now of Gorky) received a residence permit (propiska) on May 5 to live in Gorky, and thus is now able to apply for a visa. His wife and daughter applied one week ago. (SJEIC/May 7, 1987)
- o Boris **LIFSHITZ**, son of former POC Vladimir **LIFSHITZ** has been discharged from the army hospital where he was treated for a duodenal ulcer and is back with his unit. When the commanding officers tried to reassign him to digging trenches, he refused to do so and now is supposed to serve at the unit's infirmary. (SJEIC/May 7, 1987)

GENERAL

- o The Association of Israeli Citizens in the USSR has petitioned the Moscow City Council asking for premises in order to open a club for the Association. Their request was for a cultural center where Hebrew courses can be taught, where Jewish festivals can be observed, where a library can be housed and a theater for performing arts.
- o SJEIC has learned that no applications to visit relatives in the United States are accepted since the Soviet officials say that "declaring that they intend to emigrate to Israel these people went to the States and thus deceived the USSR." (SJEIC/May 7, 1987)



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MEMO: May 4, 1987
TO: UCSJ Member Councils
FROM: Pat Spiller
SUBJECT: REFUSENIK UPDATE

717 JEWS LEFT THE SOVIET UNION IN APRIL; 168 (23.4%) WENT TO ISRAEL
1,431 JEWS LEFT THE SOVIET UNION DURING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1987

PLEASE KEEP THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE; NEXT WEEK WE WILL BEGIN AGAIN
WITH LISTINGS OF EMIGRATIONS, PERMISSIONS, REFUSALS & POC RELEASES

(Changes in Status and New Listings Appear in Bold Face Type)

Families Refused Since March 20,

M. Aliev	Efim Goldberg (Riga)	Makushin (Leningrad)
Bestprovanny (Leningrad)	Yuri Fedorov (Alexandrov)	Naum Meiman (Moscow)
Chaim Briskman (Moscow)	Boris Friedman (Leningrad)	Ida Nudel (Bendery)
Budnyatsky (Leningrad)	Grigory Genusov (Leningrad)	Tatiana Ovsishcher (Moscow)
Benjamin Charny (Moscow)	Mikhail Kholmiansky (Moscow)	Dorina Paritsky (Kharkov)
Vitaly Degtyarev	Elena Keiss-Kuna	Shapiro (Leningrad)
Ruben Diagterev (Moscow)	Feliks Kochubievesky (Novosibirsk)	Alexander Sverdlov (Leningrad)
A. M. Demikin	Boris Konnikov (Moscow)	Boris Tonchilevich (Leningrad)
Maria Dobrusina (Leningrad)	Kotler (Leningrad)	Igor Uspensky (Moscow)
Lev Elbert (Kiev)	Yevgeny Lein (Leningrad)	Roald Zelichenok (Leningrad)
Victor Faiermark (Moscow)	S. I. Loshakov	M. Zubrich
	Mikhail Losyev (Moscow)	

Families Given Permission Since March 20, 1987

Veniamin Aleksandrov (Vilnius)	Alexander Lanis (Berdichev)	Alexandr Sheinin (Leningrad)
Simeon Ash (Leningrad)	Grigory Lemberg (Riga)	Yuri Shpeizman
Mikhail Averbukh (Leningrad)	Grigory Liederman (Kishinev)	Simon Shnirman (Kishinev)
Mikhail Beizer (Leningrad)	Valery Lemelman (Odessa)	Arkady Skakovsky
Michael Belkindas (Vilnius)	Likhterov (Moscow)	Josef Sternstein (Chernovits)
Aleksander Berdichevsky	Mikhail Lomonosov (Moscow)	Volf Sternstein (Chernovits)
Yuri Burlan (Dnepropetrovsk)	Mikhail Marinov (Moscow)	Zola Terevsky (Moscow)
Mikhail Fainberg (Moscow)	Mark Mezheborsky (Moscow)	Shalom Teyts (Tallin)
Yuri Federov (Moscow)	Raphael Neizvestny	Aleksandr Tsarovtsev (Leningrad)
Nadezhda Fradkova (Leningrad)	Mina Papiernik (Vinnitsa)	Vladimir Tsuckerman (Kishinev)
Isaac Golbraikh (Leningrad)	Alex Pasternak (Odessa)	Vladimir Tulovsky (Moscow)
Yuri Goldberg Leningrad)	Anatoly Raben (Moscow)	Michael Uvarov (Leningrad)
Henrietta Grossman (Odessa)	Nina Raben-Belenky (Moscow)	Pavel Vaidman (Leningrad)
Yacov Gofman	Ella Rabinoivich (Leningrad)	Grigory Vayner (Volgograd)
Mikhail Kara-Ivanov (Moscow)	Sheika Rabinovich (Chernovtsy)	Semion Vayner (Volgograd)
Boris Kanevsky (Moscow)	Yuri Ratner (Leningrad)	Boris Yelkin (Leningrad)
Grigory Kantorovich (Moscow)	Yevsy Ratner (Leningrad)	Boris Yudaikin (Tallin)
Yuri Karolin (Leningrad)	Mark Reznik (Leningrad)	Shner Zeichik (Leningrad)
Mikhail Khodorkovsky (Leningrad)	Vladislav Ryaboy (Moscow)	Leonid Zeliger (Leningrad)
Lev Kitrovsky (Moscow)	Michael Salman (Leningrad)	Mark Zolotarevsky (Moscow)
Boris Klots (Moscow)	Anna Serpin (Kishinev)	David Zolotnitsky
Kvartin (Moscow)	Sheina Schwartz (Moscow)	(Moscow cancer patient)
	Yosif Shchupak (Vilnius)	

(O V E R)



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Families Emigrated Since March 20, 1987

Ilya Belfor (Odessa)

Solomon Flax (Doneskt)

Mikhail Fuchs-Rabinovich (Moscow)

Alexander S. Kan

Grigory Kulesko (Chernogolovka)

Yakov Lerner (Kishinev)

Yefim Pitovsky (Kharkov)

Shmuel Reihael (Tallin)

Lev Slutsky (Beltsi)

David Toker (Chernvtsti)

Mikhail Tsivin (Leningrad)

Zakuta & Udalova (Moscow)

Wife of POC Josef Zissels and their children

POC's Released Since March 20, 1987

Yosef Berenshtein

Immanuel Tvaladzel

Tenghiz Gudava

Eduard Gudava

Leonid Shrayar

Yuli Edelshtein



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INSIDE THE USSR

As we reported in our April 24 REFUSENIK UPDATE, the Soviets have stepped up their use of secrecy to deny exit permission to many long-term Refuseniks who have first degree relatives in the West. This has prompted concern among Soviet Jewry activists that this development may become the way by which the Soviets deny exit visas to thousands of Jews.

Should this continue, it could become a signal not only to those in the scientific and academic communities, but also to others who have had no access whatsoever to secret information, not to even try to apply.

There has been an increase in Soviet press attacks upon the relationship between U.S. Embassy staff in Moscow and the Moscow Refusenik community. The Soviet newspapers Moskovskaya Pravda and Vechernaya Moskva denounced U.S. diplomatic personnel for attending a Moscow protest this past weekend by Soviet Jews seeking to emigrate to Israel, calling it a well-rehearsed show.

Moskovskaya Pravda claimed that many Muscovites were angered by this showing by "false sufferers and their foreign advocates, many of whom hold diplomatic passports and work at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow." The article singled out several U.S. Embassy staffers and especially third secretary Kathleen Kavaleck for her "daily" meetings with Refuseniks gathering all kinds of information to be distorted and "used as a hindrance to developing relations between the U.S. and the USSR."

Nor did the attendance by Refuseniks at the Embassy Seder go unnoticed by an acid and sarcastic Moscow press.

EMIGRATION:

717 Soviet Jews arrived in the West in April, the largest number for one month since July 1981 when 779 Jews were allowed to emigrate. For the first four months of this year, 1,431 Soviet Jews have been allowed the emigrate, the largest number for the same period since 1982, when 2,688 Soviet Jews departed. State Department spokesman Charles Redman said that while the U.S. welcomes the trend, the State Department "has repeatedly stressed to the Soviets, however, all those who wish to leave the Soviet Union should be allowed to do so." Redman noted, however, that today's figures remain "well below the Jewish emigration rate in the 1970's which peaked at 51,320 in 1979." (UPI/May 1, 1987)

[ed. -- Of the 1,431 Jews who have left the USSR so far this year, about 24% went to Israel.]

PRISONERS

Yuli EDELSHTEIN (POC) was released from prison at 5:00 p.m. Moscow time on May 4. He will be home at 7:00 a.m. Moscow time on Thursday, May 7, if the train is on time. (Long Island Committee! May 4, 1987)

(O V E R)



UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS

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Alexei **MAGARIK's** (POC) original sentence of three years has been reduced by one half by the Tblisi City Court, which originally sentenced him, and he will be released in September, 1987. His wife, Natasha **RATNER**, is upset with this decision since she demands immediate release now for her husband. She is concerned about his prison conditions, since earlier in April he was in the punishment cell and then in the hospital. She has not been granted a meeting with Alexei for an inordinate length of time and the meeting she was supposed to be granted recently is repeatedly delayed. Natasha asks to press for Alexei's immediate release by phoning **VLADIMIR ANDREYEVICH KHRAPKOV, ASSISTANT TO SDIZOV, THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR OF THE USSR. TELEPHONE FOR KHRAPKOV IN MOSCOW IS 239-5533.**

In the meantime, Alexei's 54-year old father, Vladimir **MAGARIK**, who lives in Jerusalem and who has given up his own work and career to travel widely in the UK, Europe and the United States on behalf of his son, appeared among the 200,000 demonstrators at New York's Solidarity Day rally on May 3 dressed in prison clothes to draw attention to Alexei's plight.

Leonid **SHRAYER** (POC) has been released from prison.

Tenghiz and Eduard **GUDAVA** (POC's-Tblisi) have been released from prison and are at home in Tblisi.

The wife and children of Josef **ZISSELS** (POC) have been in Israel for about ten days. (London 35's; Long Island Committee/April 30, 1987)

DEMONSTRATIONS; HUNGER STRIKES

More than 200 Refuseniks participated in an Israeli Independence Day celebration on Sunday, May 3, in a forest 18 miles outside of Moscow, among them members of the Union of Israeli Citizens (Soviet Jews who have renounced their Soviet citizenship and received Israeli citizenship), teachers and parents of children participating in an underground Jewish school, and former Jewish Prisoners of Conscience.

When the Refuseniks arrived at the site of their celebration, they were met by local police who informed them that they were not permitted to gather there. After some negotiation, they were allowed to proceed with their holiday observance, but were warned not to return.

The Yom Hatzmaut (Independence Day) observance started as it does in Israel, with kaddish and el mahle rachamim and a moment of silence in honor of Israel's war dead. The the Refuseniks sang Hatikva and other Israeli songs and discussed Israeli history and current events while their children played. It was a scene no different than those taking place in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and other Israeli cities at the same time, but with one exception -- the constant presence of the KGB, monitoring the celebration from a distance. (David Waksberg/Bay Area Council/5/3/87)



UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS

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MEMO: April 24, 1987

TO: UCSJ Member Councils

FROM: Pat Spiller

SUBJECT: REFUSENIK UPDATE

**482 JEWS LEFT THE SOVIET UNION IN THE FIRST 23 DAYS OF APRIL
110 OF WHOM WENT TO ISRAEL**

(Changes and New Listings Appear in Bold Face Type)

Families Refused Since March 20, 1987

M. Aliev	Boris Friedman (Leningrad)	Naum Meiman (Moscow)
Bestprovanny (Leningrad)	Grigory Genusov (Leningrad)	Ida Nudel (Bendery)
Budnyatsky (Leningrad)	Feliks Kochubiyevsky (Novosibirsk)	Tatiana Ovsishcher (Moscow)
Vitaly Degtyarev	Mikhail Kholmiansky (Moscow)	Dorina Paritsky (Kharkov)
A. M. Demikin	Kotler (Leningrad)	Shapiro (Leningrad)
Maria Dobrusina (Leningrad)	Yevgeny Lein (Leningrad)	Alexander Sverdlov (Leningrad)
Lev Elbert (Kiev)	S. I. Loshakov	Boris Tonchilevich (Leningrad)
Victor Faiernmark (Moscow)	Mikhail Losyev (Moscow)	Igor Uspensky (Moscow)
Efim Goldberg (Riga)	Makushin (Leningrad)	Roald Zelichenok (Leningrad)
Yuri Fedorov (Alexandrov)		M. Zubrich

Families Given Permission Since March 20, 1987

Veniamin Aleksandrov (Vilnius)	Grigory Liederman (Kishinev)	Yuri Shpeizman
Simeon Ash (Leningrad)	Valery Lemelman (Odessa)	Simon Shnirman (Kishinev)
Mikhail Averbukh (Leningrad)	Likhterov (Moscow)	Arkady Skakovsky
Mikhail Beizer (Leningrad)	Mikhail Lomonosov (Moscow)	Josef Sternstein (Chernovits)
Michael Belkindas (Vilnius)	Mikhail Marinov (Moscow)	Volf Sternstein (Chernovits)
Aleksander Berdichevsky	Mark Mezheborsky (Moscow)	Aleksandr Tsarovtsev (Leningrad)
Mikhail Fainberg (Moscow)	Raphael Neizvestny	Shalom Teyts (Tallin)
Isaac Golbraikh (Leningrad)	Mina Papiernik (Vinnitsa)	Vladimir Tsuckerman (Kishinev)
Yuri Goldberg Leningrad)	Alex Pasternak (Odessa)	Vladimir Tulovsky (Moscow)
Henrietta Grossman (Odessa)	Anatoly Raben (Moscow)	Michael Uvarov (Leningrad)
Yacov Gofman	Nina Raben-Belenky (Moscow)	David Vaidman (Leningrad)
Alexander S. Kan (Moscow)	Ella Rabinoivich (Leningrad)	Grigory Vayner (Volgograd)
Boris Kanevsky (Moscow)	Sheika Rabinovich (Chernovtsy)	Semion Vayner (Volgograd)
Grigory Kantorovich (Moscow)	Yuri Ratner (Leningrad)	Boris Yelkin (Leningrad)
Yuri Karolin (Leningrad)	Yevsy Ratner (Leningrad)	Boris Yudaikin (Tallin)
Mikhail Khodorkovsky (Leningrad)	Mark Reznik (Leningrad)	Shner Zeichik (Leningrad)
Lev Kitrovsky (Moscow)	Vladislav Ryaboy (Moscow)	Leonid Zeliger (Leningrad)
David Kvartin (Moscow)	Michael Salman (Leningrad)	Mark Zolotarevsky (Moscow)
Alexander Lanis (Berdichev)	Anna Serpin (Kishinev)	David Zolotnitsky
Grigory Lemberg (Riga)	Yosif Shchupak (Vilnius)	(Moscow cancer patient)

Families Emigrated Since March 20, 1987

Ilya Belfor (Odessa)	Yefim Pitovsky (Kharkov)
Solomon Flax (Doneskt)	Shmuel Reihael (Tallin)
Mikhail Fuchs-Rabinovich (Moscow)	Lev Slutsky (Beltsi)
Grigory Kulesko (Chernogolovka)	Mikhail Tsivin (Leningrad)
Yakov Lerner (Kishinev)	Zakuta & Udalova (Moscow)

POC's Released Since March 20, 1987

Yosef Berenshtein
Immanuel Tvaladzel



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INSIDE THE USSR

In our April 10 REFUSENIK UPDATE, we reported the charge by the Soviet newspaper Soviet Russia (Sovetskaya Rossiya) that Refuseniks are CIA agents. Attached is an English translation of the entire article, entitled "Breaking and Entering Bearing Gifts: A Large-Scale CIA Spy Operation Behind the Screen of 'Humanitarian Considerations.'" The last paragraph is particularly noteworthy in that it alleges that we are eager to get out those Refuseniks who have knowledge of USSR state and military secrets so that we can steal their secrets from them. That is how the paper explains the interest of the "political and public figures" whom we "drag in." They call it our "espionage interest." Also interesting is that it mentions Sharansky as a CIA agent in this context.

On April 10, the Moscow newspaper, Vechernaya Moskva printed an "interview" with Vladimir **SLEPAK** which was a vicious attack on **SLEPAK**, referring, among other unsavory remarks, to his having been imprisoned for "hooliganism." There was an allusion to Western interest in him as a "secrecy" case. (Leonid Terlitsky, New York, 4/22/87)

While it is true that the figures on Jewish emigration have shown an upward trend, moving from 98 in January to 146 in February to 470 in March and to 482 as of April 23, we still see few "state secrets" cases being granted exit visas nor very many names we recognize.

HUNGER STRIKES and DEMONSTRATIONS

Sensing that this is a propitious time to press their cases, those whose names are still passed over for permission are jeopardizing life and limb by staging public demonstrations and conducting hunger strikes. From the time that Alexander **IOFFE** launched a hunger strike on January 8, finally winning permission for his 23-year old son, Dmitri's family of three to leave the USSR, there has hardly been a week when hunger strikes and demonstrations - individual or en masse - have not been taking place in major Soviet cities.

It was only on the promise of OVIR that his case would be "reviewed" that Lev **ELBERT** (Kiev) ended his 47-day hunger strike on April 21. He had turned a deaf ear to pleas from many concerned people in the West as his condition deteriorated, and had held fast. Friends of Elbert were told that Elbert's case is in the Ministry of the Interior which is allegedly considering 60 cases, and that the process is as follows: The commission which considers security cases will make a decision and then pass the decision to the Ministry of the Interior. If the Ministry of the Interior is unable to make a positive decision, it will send the case back to the Commission. (Chicago Action/April 23, 1987)



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HUNGER STRIKES DEMONSTRATIONS. cont'd.

Leonid YUSEFOVICH (Moscow), in his 37th day of hunger strike, is very weak but determined to persist until his family, at least, is granted visas. He, his pregnant wife and their four children will be joined by at least 16 other Refuseniks in a demonstration near TASS headquarters on Nikitskaya Square in Moscow on April 26th. On April 27 he is planning to stage a protest demonstration, also together with his family, on Pushkin Square in the center of Moscow. YUSEFOVICH's brother from Kiev has come to stay with Leonid and his family in their Moscow apartment during this crisis. Leonid asks that we help him keep a high profile. (Chicago Action/April 22; Belle Schartz, New Jersey/April 24; SSSJ/April 24; SJEIC/April 24; other sources)

Boris TONCHILEVICH (Leningrad), eight year Refusenik, will begin a 16-day hunger strike, two days for every year refused. TONCHILEVICH, a physicist, was told that the only documents necessary at this time are releases from his wife's sisters that they have no material claims upon her. In view of the fact that the Tonchilevich family has had no contact with Ann's sisters during the eight years in question, the State Notary of the appropriate Leningrad office has indicated that this aspect is satisfied and has issued the relevant certificates. Yet Leningrad OVIR has illegally TONCHILEVICH claims, refused to even accept, let alone process, their documents. PLEASE GIVE THIS CASE ALL THE PUBLICITY AVAILABLE TO YOU. (Long Island Committee/April 22, 1987)

On April 26, a number of Refuseniks will hold a prayer vigil at the cemetery to pay their respects to Jewish martyrs on Yom HaShoah, the day memorializing the heroes and martyrs of the Holocaust. (Chicago Action/April 22, 1987)

Mikhail LOSEV (Moscow) is in the tenth day of his hunger strike. He had planned to demonstrate on April 18th, but the KGB surrounded his apartment and prevented him from leaving. They said they heard about his plans on Kol Yisrael and that they couldn't allow him to carry them out. LOSEV, who sent a letter to the Supreme Soviet relinquishing his Soviet citizenship, plans to demonstrate on April 28 with placards reading, "We don't want to live in a ghetto," and "Let us live in Israel." Mikhail and his wife, Luba, were not permitted to apply to leave. Joining him will be Moscow Refuseniks Grigory GREENBERG, who has also renounced his Soviet citizenship, REZNIK, and Yuri GOSHTAND. The LOSEVS' address is #2 Dorozhny Pr. #16, Apt. 30, Moscow.



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HUNGER STRIKES DEMONSTRATIONS cont'd.

Demonstrations are planned for the near future by various categories of Refuseniks, e.g., those denied because of secrets, children of Refuseniks, parents separated from children abroad, etc.

On June 1st, International Children's Day, mothers will gather on behalf of their children's right to emigrate. (SSSJ/April 24, 1987)

A demonstration was held in Leningrad on the 23rd of April in front of the Municipal Party Committee offices. Demonstrators held up posters saying "LET US GO HOME." The authorities dispersed the demonstration by using street cleaners. Boris **LOKSHIN**, one of the demonstrators was detained but later released. Their intention is to resume their demonstration on April 24. (SJEIC/April 23, 1987)

PRISONERS

Leonid **SHREIER** (POC) learned on April 22 that the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet issued a decision to release him. (SJEIC/April 23, 1987)

Leonid **VOLVOVSKY** (Gorky - former POC) are in the process of reapplying for an exit visa. (SJEIC/April 23, 1987)

On April 13, the USSR Procurator's office appealed to the Tblisi City Court asking that Alexei **MAGARIK**'s (POC) term be reduced. Magarik's poetry was recently published in a Russian language newspaper in the West. **MAGARIK** was released from 9 days in a punishment cell on April 5, and from April 6 to 13 he was in the camp hospital. (SJEIC/April 23, 1987)

Yuli **EDELSHTEIN**'s (POC) wife, Tanya, wants telegrams to USSR Procurator Rekunkov asking for Yuli's release. Yuli is very weak and cannot resist infection. Tanya alleges that the authorities are playing a cat and mouse game, and feels strongly that the authorities are prolonging their decision until September when Yuli's term expires. Tanya needs all the support we can give her. (South Florida/April 21, 1987; Chicago Action/April 22, 1987)

SECRECY

According to reports from Moscow and Leningrad, there are a large number of refusals (as well as visas) being issued by OVIR. The secrecy reason has expanded and quite remarkably, "secrecy" refusals are being given to people who never had any access to state secrets, such as teachers and librarians. A case in point is that of Igor **USPENSKY** (Moscow) who was refused again. The reason given was his mother's work at the Ministry of Agriculture from which she retired 11 years ago. They were told by OVIR that they could not apply again until 1992. More people than every before are getting refusals for state secrets, including people who were never refused for that reason before. (SJEIC/April 12; Boston Action/April 23)



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SECRECY (contd.)

An example of how far refusals on security grounds can go is the case of Mrs. Lea AKKERMAN, mother of well known Refusenik Vladimir PRESTIN (Moscow) who was refused again in early April, this time until 1993, on the grounds that her husband is privy to State secrets. Her husband, Naum, has been dead for two years. (JUSSR/April 2, 1987)

Refused for secrecy reasons was Dorina PARITSKY (Kharkov), daughter on former POC Alexander PARITSKY.

INSIDE UCSJ

Monday, April 27, is the birthday of a remarkable woman - Ida NUDEL of Bendery. The Washington Committee for Soviet Jewry conducts an annual vigil to honor the almost legendary NUDEL, this year on Monday, April 26, in front of the Soviet Embassy.

Acknowledgements and thanks must go to the Washington Committee for all their help and involvement during the Washington hunger strike of Sanya SLEPAK, son of Moscow Refusenik, Vladimir SLEPAK, and the Washington-based demonstration by Leon CHARNY, brother of Moscow cancer patient, Benjamin CHARNY (who now, it has been discovered, has another tumor.)

Earlier this month, UCSJ Board Member and Co-chair of Chicago Action, Marillyn Tallman, travelled to Honolulu to formally welcome UCSJ's newest member Council, Hawaii Action for Soviet Jewry. Marillyn met with the chair of the Hawaii Council, Jan Weinberg, and with the Governor of Hawaii, the Honorable John Waihee. Marillyn Tallman said of Governor Waihee, "he is informed, compasionate, and very eager to be part of the Soviet Jewry rescue movement."



UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS

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MEMO: April 17, 1987

TO: UCSJ Executive Committee and Board

FROM: Pat Spiller

SUBJECT: REFUSALS, PERMISSIONS, EMIGRATIONS

260 JEWS LEFT THE SOVIET UNION IN THE FIRST HALF OF APRIL, 1987

(Changes and New Listings Appear in Bold Face Type)

Families Refused Since March 20, 1987

M. Aliev	Yevgeny Lein (Leningrad)
Budnyatsky (Leningrad)	S. I. Loshakov
A. M. Demikin	Mikhail Losyev (Moscow)
Maria Dobrusina (Leningrad)	Makushin (Leningrad)
Lev Elbert (Kiev)	Naum Meiman (Moscow)
Victor Faiermark (Moscow)	Ida Nudel (Bendery)
Yuri Fedorov (Alexandrov)	Tatiana Ovsishcher (Moscow)
Boris Friedman (Leningrad)	Shapiro (Leningrad)
Grigory Genusov (Leningrad)	Alexander Sverdlov (Leningrad)
Feliks Kochubiyevsky (Novosibirsk)	Zelichenok (Leningrad)
Kotler (Leningrad)	M. Zubrich

Families Given Permission Since March 20, 1987

Veniamin Aleksandrov (Vilnius)	Lev Kitrovsky (Moscow)	Vladislav Ryaboy (Moscow)
Simeon Ash (Leningrad)	David Kvartin (Moscow)	Michael Salman (Leningrad)
Mikhail Averbukh (Leningrad)	Alexander Lanis (Berdichev)	Anna Serpin (Kishinev)
Mikhail Beizer (Leningrad)	Grigory Liederman (Kishinev)	Yuri Shpeizman
Michael Belkindas (Vilnius)	Grigory Lemberg (Riga)	Simon Shnirman (Kishinev)
Aleksander Berdichevsky	Valery Lemelman (Odessa)	Arkady Skakovsky
Vladimir Feltsman (Moscow)	Likhterov (Moscow)	Aleksandr Tsarovtsev (Leningrad)
Isaac Golbraikh (Leningrad)	Mikhail Lomonosov (Moscow)	Shalom Teyts (Tallin)
Yuri Goldberg (Leningrad)	Mikhail Marinov (Moscow)	Vladimir Tsuckerman (Kishinev)
Henrietta Grossman (Odessa)	Raphael Neizvestny	Vladimir Tulovsky (Moscow)
Yacov Gofmar	Alex Pasternak (Odessa)	DAvid Vaidman (Leningrad)
Alexander S. Kan (Moscow)	Ella Rabinoivich (Leningrad)	Grigory Vayner (Volgograd)
Boris Kanevsky (Moscow)	Yuri Ratner (Leningrad)	Semion Vayner (Volgograd)
Grigory Kantorovich (Moscow)	Yevsy Ratner (Leningrad)	Boris Yelkin (Leningrad)
Yuli Karolin (Leningrad)	Mark Reznik (Leningrad)	Boris Yudaikin (Tallin)
		Shner Zeichik (Leningrad)
		Leonid Zeliger (Leningrad)

Families Emigrated Since March 20, 1987

Ilya Belfor (Odessa)	Yefim Pitovsky (Kharkov)
Somonon Flax (Doneskt)	Shmuel Reihael (Tallin)
Mikhail Fuchs-Rabinovich (Moscow)	Lev Slutsky (Beltsi)
Grigory Kulesko (Chernogolovka)	Mikhail Tsvin (Leningrad)
Yakov Lerner (Kishinev)	Zakuta & Udalova (Moscow)



UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS

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MEMO: April 10, 1987

TO: UCSJ Member Councils

FROM: Pat Spiller

SUBJECT: REFUSENIK UPDATE

**161 JEWS LEFT THE SOVIET UNION IN THE FIRST NINE DAYS OF APRIL
FIFTY OF WHOM WENT TO ISRAEL**

(CHANGES AND NEW LISTINGS ARE IN BOLD FACE TYPE)

Families Refused Since March 20, 1987

Maria Dobrusina (Leningrad)	Kotler (Leningrad)
Victor Faiernmark (Moscow)	Yevgeny Lein (Leningrad)
Yuri Fedorov (Alexandrov)	Mikhail Losyev (Moscow)
Boris Friedman (Leningrad)	Makushin (Leningrad)
Grigory Genusov (Leningrad)	Tatiana Ovsishcher (Moscow)
Feliks Kochubiyevsky (Novosibirsk)	Shapiro (Leningrad)

Families Given Permission Since March 20, 1987

Simeon Ash (Leningrad)	Grigory Liederman (Kishinev)	Anna Serpin (Kishinev)
Mikhail Averbukh (Leningrad)	Grigory Lemberg (Riga)	Yuri Shpeizman
Mikhail Beizer (Leningrad)	Valery Lemelman (Odessa)	Simon Shnirman (Kishinev)
Isaac Golbraikh (Leningrad)	Likhterov (Moscow)	Arkady Skakovsky
Henrietta Grossman (Odessa)	Mikhail Lomonosov (Moscow)	Tasarovtsev (Leningrad)
Yacov Gofman	Mikhail Marinov (Moscow)	Shalom Teyts (Tallin)
Alexander S. Kan (Moscow)	Raphael Neizvestny	Vladimir Tsuckerman (Kishinev)
Boris Kanevsky (Moscow)	Alex Pasternak (Odessa)	Vladimir Tulovsky (Moscow)
Grigory Kantorovich (Moscow)	Yuri Ratner (Leningrad)	Grigory Vayner (Volgograd)
Lev Kitrossky (Moscow)	Yevsy Ratner (Leningrad)	Semion Vayner (Volgograd)
David Kvartin (Moscow)	Mark Reznik (Leningrad)	Boris Yelkin (Leningrad)
Alexander Lanis (Berdichev)	Vladislav Ryaboy (Moscow)	Boris Yudaikin (Tallin)

Families Emigrated Since March 20, 1987

Ilya Belfor (Odessa)	Yefim Pitovsky (Kharkov)
Somonon Flax (Doneskt)	Shmuel Reihael (Tallin)
Mikhail Fuchs-Rabinovich (Moscow)	Lev Slutsky (Beltski)
Grigory Kulesko (Chernogolovka)	Mikhail Tsivin (Leningrad)
Yakov Lerner (Kishinev)	Zakuta & Udalova (Moscow)

POC's Released Since March 20, 1987

Yosef Berenshtein
Immanuel Tvaladze



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HUNGER STRIKES and DEMONSTRATIONS

Leonid YUSEFOVICH (Leningrad) is in his 23rd day and Lev and Inna ELBERT (Kiev, now in Moscow) are in their 37th day of their respective hunger strikes. (See attached letters from and on behalf of YUSEFOVICH)

In an April 7 letter to Gorbachev about his parents and the history of their case, 16-year old Karmi ELBERT spoke of their "cold-blooded murder" and said, "I am joining their hunger strike - let your conscience be responsible for any danger to our health and lives." (Copy of Karmi's letter is attached.) Lev ELBERT reports that their morale is high. Claiming that he, Inna and Karmi are sure of what they are doing, he asks that people NOT send telegrams to them asking them to stop the hunger strike. Rather, he requests that telegrams be sent to Gorbachev, OVIR, and P. I. Sabaev (who he says heads the new Commission and is also Head of the Justice Department, Obukhova St. 4, Moscow) asking for exit visas. According to Lev, it is "Israel or die." (SJEIC/April 8, 1987; other sources)

Vladimir and Maria SLEPAK continue their hunger strike in Moscow as does their son, Alexander (Sanya) in Washington. On April 7, Vladimir and Maria held a demonstration outside the building that houses the Supreme Soviet. The militia came and told them to go away, giving as their reason that the arrival of the street washing machine was imminent and the Slepaks would get wet. A group of KGB people were nearby but did not speak to the Slepaks, who plan to continue to be publicly visible. They were called by the American Embassy and invited for the first seder there, staged by Secretary of State Shultz. [See attached news items and Slepak's letter.] (Long Island Committee/April 7, 1987)

After 42 days of hunger strike, Fyodor FINKEL (Moscow) was called into OVIR (he had to be taken on a stretcher) and given permission. (Long Island Committee/April 8, 1987)

The LOSIEV (Moscow) family completed a 7-day hunger strike on April 8, but they are still refused even the right to apply for a visa. Desperate, they will attempt to renounce their Soviet citizenship, and have applied for Israeli citizenship. [See attached copy of their appeal to the Foreign Ministry and then to the Presidium.] (SJEIC/April 8, 1987)

According to their son, Leonid, of Newton, Massachusetts, Khaya and Tsalo LIPCHIN (Leningrad), 69 and 71 respectively, began a hunger strike on Sunday, April 5. Throughout the last three months of 1986, Khaya and Tsalo were harassed by the Leningrad OVIR, who phoned them repeatedly suggesting that their case was being considered, until, on December 22, they were finally



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refused outright for the 17th time in 8½ years. N. Fedishina of the Leningrad OVIR told them then that according to the regulations, their departure is against the interests of the USSR. Clearly the Lipchins have a first-degree relative in the West - their son in Massachusetts. [see REFUSENIK UPDATE Jan. 16, 1987, page four] Please send telegrams to: General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, the Kremlin, Moscow, and Rudolf Kuznetsov, Head of National OVIR, 6 Ogareva Street, Moscow 103009, calling for the Lipchins' immediate emigration. Telegrams of support should be sent to Khaya and Tsalo Lipchin, ul. Vasja Alikseeva 21, Apt. 39, Leningrad 198188, RSFSR, USSR (Boston Action/April 8, 1987)

Meeting in Rome for the Socialist International Conference, SJEIC representatives appealed to delegates of the Socialist Parties from different countries on behalf of hunger strikers Leonid YUSEFOVICH, now beginning his fourth week of his hunger strike, the ELBERT family and the SLEPAK family. Vladimir Glozman, a close relative of YUSEFOVICH, Yuri Shtern, of SJEIC, and volunteers from the Jewish Students of Italy participated. (SJEIC/April 8, 1987)

A group of Soviet women, whose age range is from 50 to 60, has banded together to importune the Soviet authorities to let their grown children emigrate. By now most of their children are grown with families of their own; all of them are refused because of their parents; their parents are detained because of state secrecy. The state secrecy pretext is passed on to the children so that they are caught in the same hopeless position as their parents, despite the fact that they have had nothing at all to do with state secrets in their entire lives. It is tragic for these mothers to know that the lives of their children, from the very outset, are hopeless. On April 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, six women will demonstrate in Moscow, carrying slogans saying "Let Our Children Go to Israel." Participating will be: Irina Brailovsky, Erlina Matlina, Elena Maregulis, Nina Dikil, Evgenia Palanker, Natalia Rozenshtein. The women need support and telegrams should be sent to Shevardnadze, (Minister of Foreign Affairs) and Gorbachev. [See attached appeal signed by 15 Soviet mothers.] (South Florida Conference/April 6, 1987)

One of the women said, "It is no easy thing for parents to send away their beloved children. The fact that we are making such a plea can only be a measure of the depth of hopelessness and frustration to which we have been pushed." (JUSSR/April 2, 1987)



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REFUSENIK UPDATE

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In Moscow, on the Eve of Passover, Monday, April 13, about 100 Refuseniks, in a demonstration of "silent protest," will re-submit their papers to OVIR. (SJEIC/April 8, 1987)

One month ago, 17 women who had gone to the Moscow Party Committee office to discuss their cases, were told that their cases would be reviewed and they would receive an answer in one month. After one month had passed, with no response, they returned for the promised answer. They were rudely told they would receive no answer; that they should go to OVIR and leave the building. The police were called to physically remove them. On Friday, April 10, these women will demonstrate.

SECRETS

See mothers against secrecy clause as applies to their grown children under "Demonstrations" above.

Mark TERLITSKY (Moscow) had a meeting on April 7 with the Director at his former office, who told Mark (Mark is an architect) that he would state, if asked, that Terlitsky does not possess state secrets. This should, under normal circumstances, expedite Mark's emigration. (Long Island Committee/April 7, 1987) [ed...the First Department in any place of employment in the USSR deals with items of security and technically should be consulted in matters of job related state secrets. In this case, the Director represented the First Department.]

PRISONERS

Yuli EDELSHTEIN (POC) was told by the camp authorities that his wife's application for his release was denied because Yuli didn't "correct his ways." Yuli was recently released from a camp hospital but has been forced to work 12 hours a day. (SJEIC/April 7, 1987)

Tanya EDELSHTEIN, Natasha Ratner (wife of Alexei MAGARIK, POC), and the bride of SHRAYER (POC) [we had earlier reported that his release was imminent but that has not been substantiated] went to the Procurator's office where they were told that the authorities have not yet come to a decision relative to their husbands. Tanya and Natasha sent telegrams to Abrams, Bronfman, and Shultz. (SJEIC/April 7, 1987)

REFUSALS

Nadezhda FRADKOVA (Leningrad, former POC) who still does not have a propiska (permission to live in Leningrad) and is staying with various friends at various times, cannot get an exit visa because her father refuses to give his consent to her departure. [Fradkova has not seen her father for many years.] (Information item, April 2, 1987)



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POSTAL

The U. S. Postal Service has notified UCSJ that it has contacted Soviet postal authorities to protest the very limited advance notice of the new language requirement [see REFUSENIK UPDATE March 13, 10] and to seek a delay in its implementation. As of April 6, the Soviets had not responded. Enclosed in this packet is a list of typical items sent to the Soviet Union, developed by the U.S. Postal Service, and French translations for these items. For further information contact Ruth Newman of the Washington Committee.

GENERAL

On April 3 the newspaper, Soviet Russia ran an article accusing the West of gaining information through Refuseniks, charging that Refuseniks are CIA agents. According to SJEIC, these allegations could lead to demands for arrests. (SJEIC/April 7, 1987)

(over)



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REFUSENIK UPDATE
April 10, 1987
LATE BREAKING NEWS

LATE BREAKING ITEM

On April 9, Inna Elbert spoke with an official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who implied that the family should expect another refusal. Lev thereupon wrote the following:

To the People of Israel
To the Government of Israel
To the Jewish Communities Around the World

On April 9, 1987 an official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by the name of Mogilelschik informed us in a telephone conversation of the negative resolution of our case about to be issued in the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, this notwithstanding the fact that we have submitted documents indicating that we possess no secrets. We consider these decisions utterly illegitimate and unfounded, in fact an unconcealed attempt to destroy our family. Today, in the 36th day of our hunger strike, we appeal to you to use, in case of the tragic outcome, all the means available to you for bringing our son Karmi (16) and my brother, Mikhail, to Israel.

Lev Elbert

(SJEIC/April 10, 1987)



UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS

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MEMO: April 3, 1987
TO: UCSJ Member Councils
FROM: Pat Spiller
RE: REFUSENIK UPDATE

470 JEWS LEFT THE SOVIET UNION IN MARCH; 138 (29.4%) WENT TO ISRAEL

**SPECIAL NOTE: THESE NAMES ARE FROM SOURCES AVAILABLE TO US
AND IN NO WAY REFLECT A COMPLETE LISTING**

(Changes and New Listings are in Bold Face Type)

Families Refused Since March 20, 1987

Iosif Begun (Moscow)
Boris Friedman (Leningrad)
Yevgeny Lein (Leningrad)
Tatiana Ovsishcher (Moscow)

Families Given Permission Since March 20, 1987

Simeon Ashe (Leningrad)
Mikhail Beizer (Leningrad)
Henrietta Grossman (Odessa)
Yacov Gofman
Alexander S. Kan (Moscow)
(Father of Sergei Kan of Ann Arbor Action)
Lev Kitrossky (Moscow)
(son of the late Inna Meiman)
David Kvartin (Moscow)
Valery Lenelman (Odessa)
Likhterov (Moscow)
Mikhail Lomonosov (Moscow)
Mikhail Marinov (Moscow)
Yuri Shpeizman
Simon Shnirman (Kishinev)
Vladimir Tsuckerman
Boris Yelkin (Leningrad)

Emigrated Since March 20

Solomon Flax (Donestk)
Grigory Kulesko (Chernogolovka)
Yakov Lerner (Kishinev)
Yefim Pitovsky (Kharkov)
Shmuel Reihael (Tallin)
Lev Slutsky (Beltski)
Mikhail Tsivin (Leningrad)

POC's Released from Prison Since March 20

Yosef Berenshtein
Immanuil Tvaladze



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REFUSENIK UPDATE

April 3, 1987

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INSIDE THE USSR

When British Prime Minister Thatcher defined a central premise of her trip - that Gorbachev had to show through the Soviet Union's treatment of human rights that it could be trusted on arms control, the Soviet leader countered by accusing NATO of using human rights as an attempt to block arms control agreements. Gorbachev, whom the Western press called "nervous" when the human rights argument came up, dismissed Western concern with individual human rights cases as an attempt to draw attention from oppression in the West. "It would simply be unrealistic to expect us ever to forego our ideals," Gorbachev said, terming calls for adopting the values of Western society "just not serious."

Determined to evaluate things for herself, Thatcher invited Moscow Refuseniks Iosif and Inna **BEGUN** and Rose **IOFFE**, [whose husband, Alexander, is on a hunger strike] to a breakfast meeting at the British Embassy where she told them Soviet leaders seemed reluctant to discuss the matter of Soviet Jewish emigration, claiming that "it is an internal affair of the Soviet Union." (AP, UPI, March 27 - April 1) (Also see attached wire service clips.)

Among a large group of activists meeting with Edgar Bronfman at the **KHASIN** apartment on March 26th, were **KOSHOROVSKY**, **IOFFE**, **KHASSINA**, Natasha **RATNER**, **BEGUN**, and Tatiana **EDELSHTEIN**

EMIGRATION

The number of Jews leaving the Soviet Union during March was 470, a sharp rise from comparable months during the past several years, and more in line with the figure of 500 recently mentioned publicly by the Soviets. But even if that rate is consistently maintained, it would take 70 years for all the Jews who desire to emigrate to do so.

PRISONERS

Whatever glasnost holds for Soviet Jewry in the future [and we are all cautious] -- the release of POC's **BERENSHTEIN** and **TVALADZE** this past week can only be regarded with considerable relief. Efforts must continue on all levels on behalf of Alexei **MAGARIK** and Yuli **EDELSHTEIN**

Vladimir **MAGARIK**, father of POC Alexei **MAGARIK**, who left the Soviet Union for Israel in 1982, has given up his work as a mathematician to work exclusively on behalf of the release of his son. After a nationwide tour of Britain, where he spoke at 23 universities in three weeks gathering support for his campaign, he is now visiting Amsterdam to arouse public opinion there. Despite the fact that Alexei's imminent release was recently proclaimed by Samuil Zivs of the purportedly private Anti-Zionist Committee and spokesman for the Soviets on Jewish affairs, Alexei continues to be imprisoned and confined to an isolation cell. (JTA/March 30, 1987, London 35's/March 25, 1987)



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REFUSENIK UPDATE

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page three

Iosif **BERENSHTEIN** (Kiev, recently released POC) has received his residence permit (propiska) for Kiev. His health requires that he travels to doctors in Moscow. There are no signs that he will be given permission to leave in the near future. (SJEIC/March 31, 1987)

Leonid **VOLVOVSKY** (Gorky, former POC) reports that neither mail nor telephone calls reach him at his place of residence in Gorky. (SJEIC/March 31, 1987)

When Iosif **BEGUN** (Moscow, former POC) was issued a propiska, he applied to emigrate. He was refused. (Telephone conversation with Genya Intrator, Toronto/March 31, 1987)

After having been told about March 13 by a deputy in the office of the Prosecutor of the USSR that there would be a decision on the possible review of Yuli **EDELSHTEIN's** (POC) file, Yuli's wife, Tania, together with Natasha **RATNER**, wife of POC Alexei **MAGARIK**, went to the Chief Prosecutor's office on April 1, where they were refused a meeting. They will return in a week.

When Natasha **RATNER** arrived in Omsk for the scheduled meeting with her husband, she was told that it had been cancelled and she will not be able to meet with Alexei until the summer. (SJEIC/April 1, 1987; other sources)

On April 2, Tanya **EDELSHTEIN** left for Novosibirsk where she expects to have a meeting with her husband on April 5. (SJEIC/April 2, 1987)

PERMISSIONS

Among those given permission was Lev **KITROSSKY**, son of the late Inna **MEIMAN**, with his family! (See page one for other listings.)

PLEASE BRING THE FOLLOWING CASES TO THE ATTENTION OF YOUR POLITICIANS AND MEDIA.

HUNGER STRIKES and DEMONSTRATIONS

Tenghiz and Edward **GUDAVA** (POC's) and their mother, Raisa **UVAROVA** (Tbilisi) have begun hunger strikes, Tenghiz on March 23, and Edward and Raisa on March 28. A friend, Marina, is joining them. Both Tenghiz and Edward have been unwilling to sign pleas for amnesty (which would be admissions of guilt) and promises not to commit such "crimes" in the future, in spite of the fact that non-compliance could mean extension of their sentences and officially sanctioned beatings by other prisoners.



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Telegrams of support should be sent to Raisa at:

Raisa Uvarova
Digomskii Massiv, 3, 6b, Apt. 2
Tblisi
Georgian SSR, USSR

Telegrams of concern should be sent to:

D. I. Patiashvili
1st Secretary of the Communist Party
Tblisi
Georgian SSR, USSR

V. Razmadze
Procurator of Georgian SSR
Tblisi
Georgian SSR, USSR

Mikhail and Liubov **LOSIEV** (Moscow) began a 7-day hunger strike on April 2, protesting the authorities refusal to even accept their applications for an exit visa.

Still on hunger strike are Lev **ELBERT** (in his 29th day), Leonid **YUSEFOVICH**, (in his 16th day), Alexander **IOFFE**, Fyodor **FINKEL** (in his 46th day), Vladimir **SLEPAK** in Moscow, his son, Alexander (Sanya) here in Washington, (both in their 7th day), the wife and son-in-law of Benjamin **CHARNY** in Moscow, while Leon **CHARNY**, Benjamin's brother, demonstrates in Washington, where he held a press conference on behalf of his brother and all Soviet cancer victims. (See attached press packet for news coverage of Slepak and Charny in Washington.)

Lev and Inna **ELBERT** visited the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet on April 2, since they had been promised earlier they would get an answer. They were told to wait "with patience" for another two weeks. Inna's condition is increasingly worse. Chief Rabbis of Israel appealed to the couple on the request of Inna's mother to stop their hunger strike. Lev expressed his gratitude for their concern but said he won't stop for he sees the situation as a war and his only weapon is his own life. He ask that all rabbis read Psalm 119 for his sake, and send cables to all departments in Moscow on his behalf. (SJEIC/April 2, 1987)

During Lev **ELBERT**'s stay in Moscow, where he is conducting his hunger strike, his telephone number in Kiev was changed without any notice or warning. (Long Island Committee/April 3, 1987)



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REFUSENIK UPDATE

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On the eve of Thatcher's visit to Moscow, about twenty-five Refuseniks bearing placards demonstrated in Moscow Friday, March 27 in front of Moscow OVIR and Sunday, March 29, in a small park along the Garden Ring Road, a major thoroughfare. Plainclothes police officers using cameras, video recorders and microphones circulated through the demonstration near the center of Moscow, but they did not interfere, nor was there any violence, although protesters said most participants were telephoned by city authorities before the demonstration and warned that their safety could not be guaranteed. The official news agency TASS, in a brief commentary on Friday's demonstration, called the protest "a show intended for foreigners" and said reporters and diplomats outnumbered the protesting Jews. Tass said that "no sensational report came off because there was no expected 'repression from authorities.'" (AP March 27, 29, 1987/other sources)



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TO: UCSJ Member Councils
FROM: Pat Spiller
DATE: March 27, 1986
SUBJECT: REFUSENIK UPDATE

380 JEWS LEFT THE SOVIET UNION IN THE FIRST 26 DAYS OF MARCH

SPECIAL NOTE: OF THE 380 WHO LEFT DURING MARCH, WE CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT MOST, IF NOT ALL, OF THOSE WE LISTED PREVIOUSLY AS HAVING RECEIVED PERMISSION WERE INCLUDED IN THAT FIGURE

Families Refused Since March 20, 1987

**Yevgeny Lein (Leningrad)
Boris Friedman (Leningrad)
(wife is cancer patient)**

Families Given Permission Since March 20, 1987

**Yuri Shpeizman
Mikhail Beizer (Leningrad)
Henrietta Grossman (Odessa)
Valery Lenelman (Odessa)
Yacov Gofman
David Kvartin (Moscow)
Mikhail Lomonosov (Moscow)**

PRISONERS

After completing a full day's work, and without any warning, Yosef **BERENSHTEIN** (POC) was released from prison. He was finally able to reach a phone to contact his wife and is now home in Kiev. (Long Island Committee/March 26, 1987)

The release of Leonid **SHREIER** (POC) has either taken place or is imminent. (SJEIC/March 26, 1987)

Immanuil **TVALADZE** (POC) was released. His sentence, in June 1986, for anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda, was 5 years imprisonment and 3 years internal exile.

Yuli **EDELSHTEIN's** (POC) mother reported that Yuli is entirely covered with "oozing pus sores." Tanya has gone to the camp in hope of seeing him. **Please place calls to Chazov of the Ministry of Health in Moscow at 228-4478 or 225-2848 asking for medical help for Yuli as well as for Yuli's immediate release.** (Long Island Committee/March 26, 1987)

Tanya was received on March 26 by the Deputy of the State Prosecutor for criminal cases, who promised she would be given an answer next Wednesday about the review of Yuli's case. (SJEIC/March 26, 1987)



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page two

Alec **ZELICHENOK** (former POC now of Leningrad) was given a propiska for one year. When he asked why others sentenced under the same article received a permanent propiska, he was told it was because they were released under clemency and he was released because of "good behavior." (Chicago Action/March 27, 1987)

While Alec's temporary propiska (only for one year) does entitle him to the medical care which he needs, it precludes his getting a job, because he asserts that "no one will hire a person with temporary status." He is a qualified scientist; he cannot do physical work because his health has been impaired. He is concerned that this puts him in the potentially dangerous position of being accused of "parasitism." Yet he is optimistic. (Long Island Committee/March 23, 1987)

The contradiction in Alec's case is that Article 104 of the Corrective Labor Code states that released prisoners must be provided with a job by local authorities as far as possible according to their specialty. Alec's mother has recently suffered a heart attack and doctors have diagnosed a hormonal disorder in his daughter. The trembling in Alec's hands, and his lapses of memory, have gotten worse. (SJEIC/March 26, 1987)

Vladimir **LIFSHITZ** and his wife, Anya, have just returned from the military hospital where their son, Boris, is suffering from an advanced duodenal ulcer which local military doctors say is reason for him to be released from the army. However, that decision can only be made by the Leningrad medical commission which originally found him fit for service. Boris has to sign an "accord" stating that he wants his father to be given permission to live in Leningrad (the propiska). (Long Island Committee/March 23, 1987; SJEIC March 26, 1987; Chicago Action/March 27, 1987)

HUNGER STRIKES and DEMONSTRATIONS

Lev **ELBERT** (Kiev) is still on hunger strike in Moscow. His wife, Inna and their son, Karmi, are now in Moscow with him. Karmi who has insisted upon joining his parents' hunger strike, has been persuaded to wait ten days to give Makarov of the Consular Department of the Foreign Office, an opportunity to answer. (SJEIC/March 26, 1987)

Mikhail **BEIZER**, on work strike since March 2, and demonstration/hunger strike with nine other Leningrad Refuseniks since March 23, has been told to go to OVIR for his papers. (Long Island Committee/March 27, 1987)

Leonid **YUSEFOVICH** (Moscow) who began his hunger strike on March 19, has requested daily telegrams to Gorbachev, the Minister of the Interior, and the Chairman of the Supreme Soviet with the following message: Today is day number _____ of the Yusefovich hunger strike. Urge they be granted visas to Israel." (Chicago Action/March 26, 1987)



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REFUSENIK UPDATE

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Leon Charny, brother of cancer patient Benjamin CHARNY (Moscow) continues to demonstrate in Washington and will hold a press conference on March 31 on behalf of Soviet cancer patients. He has received support and help from the office Senators Wilson of California and Kennedy of Massachusetts. (UCSJ/March 27, 1987)

Alex Slepak, son of well-known Refuseniks Vladimir and Maria SLEPACH, began a hunger strike in Washington with a well attended and widely covered press conference. Alex plans to strike in the vicinity of the U.S. Capitol from today until the 12th of April on behalf of his parents. (UCSJ/March 27, 1987)

REFUSALS

As against waves of optimism in the West, activists in the USSR and families in Israel of Refuseniks are constantly reporting numerous new refusals, many of them to well known and long term Refuseniks. Among those refused this month: former POC Evgeny LEIN (Leningrad), Felix KOBUCHIEVSKY (Novosibirsk), Vladimir TUFELD (Moscow), Boris FRIEDMAN (Leningrad), Grigory GENUSOV (Leningrad), and KLEINERMAN (Chernovitz). (SJEIC/March 26, 1987)

SECRETS

On March 17, Mark TERLITSKY (Moscow) was telephoned by OVIR who informed him that in response to his letter to Gorbachev implying that his refusal on secrecy grounds was incorrect, his refusal in January was, indeed, correct and being upheld. (Long Island Committee/ March 24, 1987)



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TO: UCSJ Member Councils
FROM: Pat Spiller
DATE: March 20, 1987
SUBJECT: REFUSENIK UPDATE

242 JEWS LEFT THE SOVIET UNION IN THE FIRST 18 DAYS OF MARCH; 58 WENT TO ISRAEL

PLEASE KEEP THIS PAGE FOR REFERENCE
NEXT WEEK WE WILL BEGIN AGAIN, LISTING
EMIGRATIONS, PERMISSIONS, REFUSALS & POC RELEASES
SINCE MARCH 20, 1987

Families Emigrated Since January 1, 1987

Boris Agarkov	Mark Friedlin (Moscow)	Bezalel Shalolashvili
Mariya Bekerman (Kubishev)	Mikhail Frumker (Vinnitsa)	Misha Shipov
Lev Blitshtein	Arkady Goldman (Leningrad)	Grigory Shvartsband (Riga)
Chaim Burshtein	Frank Gulko	Yuri Tarnapolsky
Yuri Chekanovsky (Moscow)	Dima Ioffe	Iosif Tsatskin (Kubishev)
Evgeny Chudnovsky (Kharkov)	Leah Maryasin	Boris Vainerman
Gennady Dashevsky (Riga)	Vladimir Mitin (Riga)	Leonid Vestfried (Moscow)
The Dinabergs & Khassina	Aaron Moonblit	Jakov Volokh (Vinnitsa)
Leonid Doks (Vinnitsa)	Mark Polonsky (Kishinev)	Vitaly Yourik
Misha Elman	Irina Priakhina (Kiev)	Yosef Zaretsky
		Zachar Zunshain

Families Who Received Permission Since January 1, 1987

Pavel Astrakhan (Leningrad)	Mark Grunkin & family	Yakov Rozenberg
Alex & Vladimir Belkin (Minsk)	Evegny Gurevich	Saratov (Leningrad)
Anatoly Chechik (Leningrad)	Ilya Kanchik (Simferopol)	Arkady Shakovsky
Boris Deviatov	Boris Klemen	Yosif Shchupak (Vilna)
Piotr Dobrovinsky	Grigory Kulesko (Moscow)	Sasha Sheinin
Boris Elkin (Leningrad)	Vladimir Lensky	David Shekhter (Odessa)
Daniel Fradkin (Leningrad)	Lieberman (Kishinev)	Lev Sigalov (Leningradskaya Oblast)
Tsilya Fuks (Riga)	Mikhail Mirman	David Solovechik (Kharkov)
Konstantin Fucsimov (Kharkov)	Yefim Pitorsky	Valery Sorin
Riva Galperin	Mark Polonsky (Kishinev)	Misha Tzivin
Faina Glukhorn	Shmuel Reikhel (Tallin)	Ujamik Uzhokin (Tallin)
Faina Glukhova (Riga)	Mark Resnik (Leningrad)	Emanuil Yashchin (Chernogolovka)
Yakov Goikhman (Chernovtsy)	Boris Reznikov	Volkovskaya
Yoshia Grinfeld (Chernovtsi)	Irina Rogovaya (Leningrad)	Lilya Zatuchnaya (Kharkov)
		Grigory Zitserman (Riga)

Families Refused Since January 1, 1987

Mikhail Beizer	Genady Khassin	Yacov Rakhlenko
Victor & Irina Brailovsky	Natasha Khassina	Leonid Rokhlin
Chernobradov (Vilnius)	Vladimir Kislik	Lev Shapiro
Lev Elbert (Kiev)	Yuli Kosharovskiy	Vladimir Slepak (Moscow)
Levit Esfir (Leningrad)	Aleksandr Lerner	Yuri Shpeizman (Leningrad)
Leah Feldman	Valery & Janna Lerner (Moscow)	Valery Soifer
Yefim Feldman (Moscow)	Emanuil Mengevitsky	Lev Sud
Gregory Genusov	Marat Osnis (Chernovtsy)	Mark Terlitsky (Moscow)
Cherna Goldort (Novosibirsk)	Alexander Paritsky	Vladimir and Isolda Tufeld
Bella Gulko	Carmella and Vladimir Raiz	David Vodovoz
Igor Kafstan		

(O V E R)



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Prisoners of Conscience Released Since January 1, 1987

Roald (Alec) Zelichenok
Iosif Begun
Zachar Zunshain (served full term)
Vladimir Lifshitz
Mark Nepomniashchy
Yakov Levin



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HUNGER STRIKES
AND
DEMONSTRATIONS

[Hunger strikes and demonstrations taking place in the Soviet Union are of no avail unless there is Western media coverage and expressions of support to significant officials. It is vital that Western correspondents in the relevant Soviet cities be alerted and that we keep telegrams and phone calls going.]

A mass outpouring of protest against refusal and the secrecy element has erupted in planned hunger strikes and demonstrations in various Soviet cities in the next few weeks. The JEWAR women (Jewish Women Against Refusal), the same group who went on a weekend hunger strike on International Women's Day, plan to demonstrate in front of the OVIR office in the center of Moscow on Friday the 27th and Sunday the 29th of March. Prime Minister Thatcher of the U.K. will be visiting Moscow on those days.

Lev ELBERT is still on hunger strike in Moscow. Calls for him should go messenger call to Khassina. Inna returned to Kiev on March 19.

Karmi wants to begin a hunger strike. Inna will try to hold him off until at least Monday when she hopes to hear from Makarov of the Foreign Affairs Ministry. She wants calls to Gorbachev's reception room: Moscow 224-9555 and to Makarov: Moscow 244-7213. (Long Island Committee/March 18, 1987)

Mikhail BEIZER (Leningrad), has been on work strike since March 2. He and nine other Leningrad Refuseniks will go on hunger strike on the evening of March 23 at the Smolny (symbol of the October revolution).

Participating will be: Leah Shapiro, Mikhail Beizer, Elena Keiss-Kuna, Aba and Ida Taratuta, Simeon Frumkin, Boris Lokshin, Nellie Shpeizman and Inna Rozanskaya (wife of Boris Lobonikov).

Mikhail FUCHS-RABINOVICH (Moscow) demonstrated against his refusal in front of the Lenin Library on March 17, 1987. While this was going on, OVIR accepted his papers from his wife, Marina. (Boston Action/March 17, 19, 1987)

Leonid YUSEFOVICH (Moscow) began an "unending" hunger strike on March 18 in Moscow. Leonid, together with his four children and his wife, Ekaterina, pregnant with their fifth child, have been refused exit visas for the past eight years. Desperate, he sees a hunger strike and a demonstration as his last resort.

On March 19, Soviet police stopped YUSEFOVICH's demonstration in Pushkin Square. Leonid carried posters stating "I know no State secrets," as well as "Let Us Go to Israel." After seven minutes hostile onlookers tore down his posters and police took him to the police station where they released him shortly. Leonid plans to continue his demonstration and hunger strike beginning at 10:00 a.m. March 20. He vows to continue until he gets permission to go to Israel.



REFUSENIK UPDATE
March 20, 1987
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In both the YUSEFOVICH and ELBERT cases, appeals should be made to N. A. Makarov, Deputy Chief of the Consular Dept. at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Moscow (244-7213) who has promised to intervene in both cases. The phone is a direct line to Makarov who is reported to speak English well.

Here at home, Alex (Sanya) SLEPAK, son of well-known Refusenik Vladimir SLEPAK, will begin a 17-day hunger strike in the vicinity of the U.S. Capitol on behalf of his mother and father. Councils have been advised. Usable materials are enclosed with this packet.

Also in Washington Leon Charny, brother of Soviet cancer patient Benjamin CHARNY plans an open-ended vigil near the Soviet Embassy to begin on March 23 protesting the continued refusal of his brother and the other refused cancer patients. See attachments.

PRISONS &
PRISONERS

There appears to be a conflict between Moscow and some of the prison administrations, and an attempt at a resolution of that conflict. The REFUSENIK UPDATE of Feb. 6 reported that Col. Plotnitsky, commandant of the Omsk Labor Camp where Alexei MAGARIK (POC) is serving his sentence, and the Omsk Regional Procurator had both been dismissed from their positions. Now Bogdanov, Director of the Main Camps Administration (GUITU) has been dismissed from his job. (March 12, 1987)

Mark NEPOMNIASHCHY (POC) has been released and is back home in Odessa. Yakov LEVIN (POC) has been released and is on his way home to Odessa. (Chicago Action/March 19, 1987)

Alexei MAGARIK served another punishment term from Feb. 19 to March 5. He is being forced to wear a yellow badge, an indication that he is incorrigible. A former TB patient, Alexei is coughing. There is a feeling that pressure is being put on Alexei to quiet his wife. (Chicago Action/March 19, 1987)

Yuli EDELSHTEIN (POC) has contracted a contagious strep skin disease - streptodermititis - serious inflammation with open lesions on the skin. The hospital administration does not consider a skin disease sufficient reason for hospitalization and they are returning him to labor camp. This is in spite of his near renal failure. Tanya saw a man named Ankudiov in the Moscow Prosecutor's office who has had Edelshtein's file since Feb. 16, but was too busy to review it. Telegrams of complaint should be sent to Rekunkov, Procurator General, in Moscow. (Long Island Committee/March 18; SJEIC March 18, 1987; Chicago Action/March 19, 1987)

Recently released POC Zachar ZUNSHAIN and his wife have left the Soviet Union and are in Vienna. (Chicago Action/March 19, 1987)

Former POC's Iosif BEGUN (Moscow) and Roald ZELICHENOK (Leningrad) still do not have propiskas to live in their home cities. (JUSSR; Chicago Action, Long Island Committee/March 16, 18, 19)



UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS

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Former POC Vladimir LIFSHITZ (Leningrad) whom we erroneously reported released in last week's Update, actually remained in Kamchatka over last weekend due to a combination of snow and having been in the hospital. He returned to his home in Leningrad on March 17. In a telephone conversation he said he received a lot of mail in which people said they learned of him through Long Island and Chicago. This mail, he said, was a great support for him. (Long Island Committee/ March 17, 1987)

Andrei Sakharov and Yelena Bonner announced at the beginning of this week the release of eight dissidents early this week, including underground journalists Mikhail RIVKIN and Alexei SMIRNOV. [Both had been transferred from Chistopol to Lefortovo where they were kept incommunicado. See REFUSENIK UPDATE Feb. 6, Item 5 and Feb. 27, Item 10.] Andrei Sakharov said on March 17 that 87 Soviet Prisoners of Conscience had been released since the beginning of February. Soviet officials said 150 dissidents had now been pardoned and the cases of 150 others were under review. (Washington Times/March 18, 1987)

Yelena Bonner said that Sergei KHODOROVICH, who formerly administered royalties from Solzhenitsyn's books to help Soviet political prisoners and their families, was released from prison yesterday. [See REFUSENIK UPDATE Jan. 30, 1987, page four Anatoly KORAGIN, also mentioned at that time, was released on Feb. 18.] (Washington Times/March 18, 1987)

REFUSALS & REFUSENIKS

Anatoly CHERKASOV (Kyubishev) [REFUSENIK UPDATE Jan. 9, 30, 1987] was released from the Kyubishev Regional Psychiatric Hospital #1, where he had been transferred from the infamous Moscow Psychiatric Hospital #14. The diagnosis of his mental condition after forced hospital and confinement in Soviet psychiatric facilities was "stable remission." In spite of the fact that he has no first degree relatives abroad, he intends to apply again in the near future. (Ctr. for Democracy/March 16)

On March 13, Mikhail FUCHS-RABINOVICH (Moscow) was given oral permission to emigrate and told to bring his papers to OVIR on Monday, March 16. When he arrived with the forms, the OVIR official refused to accept them because his father-in-law refused to give his permission. Boston Action notes that this seems strange because his father-in-law did give permission in the past. [See HUNGER STRIKES & DEMONSTRATIONS for further information on Mikhail.] (Boston Action/March 18,19,1987)

Nadezhda FRADKOVA, former POC and formerly of Leningrad, who suffers severely from asthma, has had no reply to her application for permission submitted over 3 months ago. The usual and announced waiting time is 30 days. (Chicago Action/March 19, 1987)

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REFUSENIK UPDATE, MARCH 20, 1987

LATE BREAKING ITEMS

- LEONID VOLVOVSKY** Leonid VOLVSKY (POC) phoned his wife on March 20 and informed her he has been released and will be arriving in Moscow shortly. (SJEIC March 20, 1987)
- YULI EDELSHTEIN** YULI EDELSHTEIN's (POC) wife, Tanya, was told that Yuli's case is being reviewed. (SJEIC March 20, 1987)
- YURI SHPEIZMAN** Yuri SHPEIZMAN (Leningrad), cardiac and cancer patient, has received permission. (Boston Action/March 20, 1987)
- HUNGER STRIKE** The wife of Boris LIFSHITZ (Moscow), who suffers from a blood disease and spinal problems, is on hunger strike. This case should be called to the attention of national women's groups. Boris should be contacted and, if possible, seen. He is a physicist who lost his position as Professor of Theoretical Physics when he applied. Although he was never involved in secret work or research, he was denied a visa in 1979 on the grounds that there was "no justification" for leaving the Soviet Union.
His address is:
Boris Lifshitz
Svobodny Prospect 9/1, Apt. 144
Moscow
RSFSR, USSR
- The couple have a 15-year old son, Konstantin (David). (Chicago Action/March 19, 1987)
- POSTAL** With further reference to the new Soviet postal regulation on packages to the Soviet Union from the United States, the Soviet Union has further stated that not only must the customs declaration forms be completed in French or Russian, but as of May 1, 1987, parcels accompanied by incorrectly completed customs declarations will not be accepted for customs clearance
- The U.S. Postal Service has contacted Soviet postal authorities to protest the language restriction and will work in other ways, as well, to alleviate the burden this new requirement will place on some mailers. Copies of relevant documents are included in this packet. (Washington Committee/March 20, 1987)
- DINABURG** Elena and Mikhail Dinaburg have arrived in Israel. A message to all their friends is included in this packet.



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LATE BREAKING ITEMS
March 20, 1987

ELBERT

Karmi ELBERT, son of Lev ELBERT (Kiev), who is approaching draft age, told Ida Nudel: "My parents have made a commitment to fast to the end for my freedom. I cannot allow them to do that and so I join with them for I will not walk to freedom over their dead bodies." (Long Island Committee/March 20, 1987)

IDA NUDEL

In a meeting with Sakharov, he told Ida NUDEL (Bendery) that her case is a difficult one since the Soviets obviously want a big price for her. She hopes that Margaret Thatcher will bring her case up individually and that if she is on a list with others, she will be lost. She said, "I am tired of being a symbol; I want to be a person." (Long Island Committee/March 20, 1987)

PERMISSIONS

Henrietta GROSSMAN, Valery LENELMAN and Yacov GOFMAN, all of Odessa. (Long Island Committee/March 20, 1987)

YAKOV LEVIN

Yakov LEVIN (POC), reported in Update as on his way home, has arrived at his home. (Long Island Committee/March 20, 1987)

NEW REFUSENIK

Enclosed find biography of Roman Meyereovich SIGALOVSKY provided by Wahington Committee. (Washington Committee/March 20, 1987)



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TO: UCSJ Member Councils
FROM: Pat Spiller
DATE: March 13, 1987
SUBJECT: REFUSENIK UPDATE

NOTE: CHANGES IN STATUS OR NEW NAMES ONLY APPEAR IN BOLD FACE

Families Emigrated Since January 1, 1987

Boris Agarkov	Vladimir Mitin (Riga)
Mariya Bekerman (Kubishev)	Mark Polonsky (Kishinev)
Lev Blitshtein	Bezalel Shalolashvili
Chaim Burshtein	Misha Shipov
Yuri Chekanovsky (Moscow)	Grigory Shvartsband (Riga)
Gennady Dashevsky (Riga)	Yuri Tarnapolsky
The Dinabergs & Khassina	Iosif Tsatskin (Kubishev)
Misha Elman	Boris Vainerman
Arkady Goldman (Leningrad)	Leonid Vestfried (Moscow)
Frank Gulko	Jakov Volokh (Vinnitsa)
Dima Ioffe	Vitaly Yourik
Leah Maryasin	Yosef Zaretsky

Families Who Received Permission Since January 1, 1987

Pavel Astrakhan (Leningrad)	Mark Grunkin & family	Yakov Rozenberg
Alex & Vladimir Belkin (Minsk)	Evegny Gurevich	Arkady Shakovsky
Evgeny Chudnovsky (Kharkov)	Ilya Kanchik (Simferopol)	Yosif Shchupak (Vilna)
Boris Deviatov	Boris Klemen	Sasha Sheinin
Piotr Dobrovinsky	Grigory Kulesko (Moscow)	David Shekhter (Odessa)
Boris Elkin (Leningrad)	Vladimir Lensky	Lev Sigalov (Leningradskaya Oblast)
Mark Friedlin (Moscow)	Moisey Lieberman (Bendery)	David Solovechik (Kharkov)
Tsilya Fuks (Riga)	Mikhail Mirman	Valery Sorin
Konstantin Fucsimov (Kharkov)	Aaron Moonblit	Misha Tzivin
Riva Galperin	Yefim Pitorsky	Ujamik Uzhokin (Tallin)
Faina Glukhorn	Mark Polonsky (Kishinev)	Emanuil Yashchin (Chernogolovka)
Faina Glukhova (Riga)	Shmuil Reikhel (Tallin)	Volkovskaya
Yakov Goikhman (Chernovtsy)	Boris Reznikov	Lilya Zaruchnaya (Kharkov)
Yoshia Grinfeld (Chernovtsi)	Irina Rogovaya (Leningrad)	

Families Refused Since January 1, 1987

Mikhail Beizer	Genady Khassin	Yacov Rakhlenko
Victor & Irina Brailovsky	Natasha Khassina	Leonid Rokhlin
Chernobradov (Vilnius)	Vladimir Kislik	Lev Shapiro
Lev Elbert (Kiev)	Yuli Kosharovsky	Vladimir Slepak (Moscow)
Levit Esfir (Leningrad)	Khaya and Tsalo Lipchin	Yuri Shpeizman (Leningrad)
Leah Feldman	Aleksandr Lerner	Valery Soifer
Yefim Feldman (Moscow)	Emanuil Mengevitsky	Lev Sud
Cherna Goldort (Novosibirsk)	Marat Osnis (Chernovtsy)	Mark Terlitsky (Moscow)
Bella Gulko	Alexander Paritsky	Vladimir and Isolda Tufeld
Igor Kafstan	Carmella and Vladimir Raiz	David Vodovoz

Prisoners of Conscience Released Since January 1, 1987

Roald (Alec) Zelichenok
Iosif Begun
Zachar Zunshain (served full term)
Vladimir Lifshitz



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SPECIAL & LATE ITEMS Yuri SHPEIZMAN (Leningrad), gravely ill with leukemia, suffered a major heart attack on March 11 at the Leningrad OVIR after an OVIR official angrily listed the reasons why Yuri would not be allowed to emigrate. Yuri was hospitalized in critical condition. (Long Island Committee/March 12, 1987; Washington Times/March 13, 1987)

POC's In a telephone conversation with Leningrad, it was learned that Vladimir LIFSHITZ (POC) has been released from prison in Kamchatka and has returned to Leningrad! (Colorado Committee/March 13, 1987)

Yuli EDELSHTEIN (POC) may be on the verge of renal failure. Tanya went to the camp to see her husband even though it is not time for a visit. (Chicago Action/March 11, 1987)

Ari VOLVOVSKY's (POC) wife, Mila, received a telegram from the prison authorities informing her that Ari is in the hospital in Yakutsk, near the prison and that this was in reaction to her request that his teeth be fixed. Mila is most distressed and wants him out of the hospital since it is unspeakable - worse than a prison or labor camp. More than a month ago there were reports from the authorities that Volvovsky's case was being reviewed. As of now there is no indication that that is happening. Mila, accompanied by a British attorney, went to the authorities who refused to see her. (From Chicago Action/March 12, 1987)

In the meantime, Mila quit her job in Gorky and moved to Moscow. She is afraid that if she leaves the city she will not be allowed to return. (Chicago Action/Feb. 20 and other sources)

Zachar ZUNSHAIN, former POC, was released from prison on March 6 after serving his full three year term and returned to Riga on March 8. He and his wife, Tania, will leave the Soviet Union on March 16. (Long Island Committee/March 12, 1987)

Roald ZELICHENOK, former POC and now of Leningrad, has still not been issued a propiska. Since he cannot receive medical attention without the propiska and has many residual illnesses from his term in prison, friends have banded together to obtain and at least get him started on medication for high blood pressure. However, this is only a stop gap measure and proper medical attention continues to be unavailable to him. (FROM SJEIC March 10, 1987)

Returning travellers have brought back recent pictures of Zelichenok which reveal the broken man he became in prison. (Des Moines Action Committee/March 12, 1987)



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**HUNGER
STRIKES**

[Hunger strikes and demonstrations taking place in the Soviet Union are of no avail unless there is Western media coverage. It is vital that Western correspondents in the relevant Soviet cities be alerted.]

On March 8, International Women's Day, about 80 Jewish women began a three-day hunger strike in several cities across the Soviet Union to protest the refusal of the authorities to allow them and their families to leave the Soviet Union. Some 55 of the group, which calls itself Jewish Women Against Refusal, fasted in four Moscow apartments while similar demonstrations were held in various other Soviet cities. The fast was deliberately planned to coincide with International Women's Day. (Chicago Action and London 35's/March 8, 1987, Agence France Press/March 10, 1987, and other sources.)

On March 11, Ida Milgrom and Leonid Sharansky, mother and brother of Natan Sharansky, carried flowers to the Embassy of the USSR in Washington and requested that the embassy transmit the flowers to the fasting women. John Rosenberg, described by AP as spokesman for the sponsors, the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, was quoted by AP as saying the action was aimed at "expressing our sense of solidarity with more than six dozen Soviet women who have just ended a hunger strike in protest of Soviet delays in processing emigration visas." AP quoted Leonid Sharansky as saying "We only want to direct attention to these women. They say 'don't forget us.'" (UCSJ/March 11, 1987; AP March 11, 1987)

Reporters of the Moscow newspaper Vechernaya Moskva visited four of the apartments where the women were gathered. One of our sources speculated that the paper probably plans to publish articles condemning the women's hunger strike, and another reports that the article they did publish was "terrible." The women were accused of going on strike as a result of foreign encouragement to do so. (Chicago Action/March 12, 1987 and other sources)

Lev ELBERT continues his hunger strike begun on March 5 in Moscow.

Theodore FINKEL (Moscow) has been on hunger strike for 23 days.

Leonid YUSEFOVICH (Moscow) will begin an unending hunger strike Wednesday, March 14, with demonstration complete with placards and friends as support and witnesses. (Chicago Action, March 12, 1987)

Misha BEIZER (Lenigrad) has completed his second week of a work strike - not a hunger strike - in protest against his most recent refusal, again for the stated reason that his departure is "not in the interest of the Soviet State." Since March 2 he has refused to go to work. At this point he doesn't know if he has been dismissed from his job or not. His chief invited him back to work a week ago; he did not comply. Therefore there are legal grounds for his dismissal. He had planned to go back to work after



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two weeks of being on strike and thinks he will know more about his job situation by March 16. Misha intends to stage a demonstration with a few friends and wants our support, especially press coverage. He asks for phone calls in the evenings next week at his home in Leningrad, where his telephone is now operative once again: 225-7554. (Chicago Action; March 12, 1987; SJEIC/March 19, 1987)

REFUSALS Moscow OVIR handed down 53 refusals on March 9. (Chicago Action/March 10, 1987).

A chest bedecked with medals gives vivid testimony to the heroism of World War II Soviet Jewish combat pilot Naum RABINOVICH of Zaporozhie. As thanks for his courage, the Kremlin has repeatedly refused RABINOVICH an exit visa to rejoin his wife, son and daughter whom he has not seen for seven years. (Student Struggle/March 6, 1987)

Yuri FYODOROV (Moscow) was refused on February 4, although he had already received an exit visa, and was told to resign from his job. FYODOROV, a sick man, wishes to join his daughter who lives in the United States.

SECRECY At this time, when so many Refuseniks are being trapped in the "state secrets" ploy, we thought it would be well to reprint what Gorbachev said in an interview broadcast over French Television during his visit to Paris in October, 1985. When asked how long a Soviet seeking to emigrate would have to wait until the security restrictions were lifted, Gorbachev answered

"We will solve the problem this way. Where there is a problem of state secrets, we give them an opportunity to wait and those who, for five or ten years, have not been authorized to leave, will be allowed to leave and join their families."

Allowing for the least generous interpretation of that remark Gorbachev's statement is clear: any Soviet Jew who has not had access to classified information for 10 years or more, has the right to leave.

Yet there has been either a conflict of opinion or an official backing away from Gorbachev's statement. When Gennady Gerasimov, Soviet Foreign Office spokesman, was reminded of this statement of Gorbachev, he told foreign press correspondents on Feb. 19: "That was a mistake."

POSTAL

A new Soviet postal regulation, effective May 1, 1987, will put severe limitations on packages going from the United States. The Soviets have notified the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union that at that time, the customs declaration which must be attached to every parcel sent to the Soviet Union must be completed in either Russian or French. As of May 1, they will no longer accept such declarations in English. In addition, a much more detailed description of the contents than heretofore will be required. Ruth Newman will let us know of further details as they become available to her. (From Washington Committee/March 13, 1987)

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OTHER Vladimir BRAUDE (Vitebsk) has been called by the local prosecutor's office and informed that a criminal case had been brought against him - the same old charge of embezzlement of public property which was made against him in early 1986. There is a real danger because the case is an obvious KGB fabrication in revenge against BRAUDA's refusal to collaborate. See attached from SJEIC. (Chicago Action/March 12, 1987; SJEIC March 10, 1987)

Attached you will find, supplied by Washington Committee, biographical data on new Refuseniks, Mikhail BELKINDAS of Vilna, and his wife Eleonara KARASINA, both of whom are become increasingly desperate for help; and Dr. Anatoly RABEN of Moscow, in refusal since 1979, and whose sister lives in Jerusalem.



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