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STUDENT COALITION FOR SOVIET JEWRY



10th ANNUAL

WASHINGTON LOBBY FOR SOVIET JEWS

FEBRUARY 26-27, 1986

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February, 1986

Dear Student Activist,

Shalom! It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Tenth Annual SCSJ Lobby. The Student Coalition for Soviet Jewry (SCSJ) was founded as a protest to the arrest of Anatoly Shcharansky on March 15, 1977. At that time thirteen undergraduates from Brandeis University bought bus tickets to Washington, D.C., where they discussed that specific case and the general situation of Soviet Jewry with Members of Congress. The Lobby has greatly expanded since the original trip nearly one decade ago.

The Lobby has become an annual event involving several hundred students from nearly 50 Universities. It is now expected and welcomed by most Members of Congress, and has the distinction of being the largest, single lobbying event in the United States on behalf of Soviet Jewry. This opportunity to speak to our government is one of the best ways to raise awareness, and to make sure that Congressional Representatives are serving the interests of their constituents.

The need for action on an individual as well as political level increases every year, especially since the condition of Jews in the Soviet Union has deteriorated. The sharp decline in emigration, combined with the increased number of anti-Semitic incidents and arbitrary arrests, creates an intolerable situation. Although it may seem intimidating to have an adversary who is one of the most powerful countries in the world, efforts such as this lobby have made a difference in the past. They will continue to do so as long as people are willing to help.

This Sourcebook has been prepared with the goal of providing a basic understanding of the issues. It is divided into three sections: History, the Current Situation, and Action. I hope that you will be able to form a clear view of the situation from this information. If you want further details, contact any of the sources listed in the bibliography.

I would like to thank the people who helped to prepare this book by writing articles: Julie Brenman, and Lynn Scheele. I would also like to thank you, the lobbyists, for your support of Soviet Jews on the lobby, and for your continuing support throughout the year. Please remember: YOU CAN HAVE AN IMPACT IN SAVING THE JEWS OF THE SOVIET UNION.

Sincerely,



Lori Shapiro
SCSJ Sourcebook Editor

1. HISTORY

ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE USSR

The Jews of the Soviet Union form one of the three largest surviving Jewish communities in the world. Despite living for centuries under the Tsars and Commissars as productive and loyal citizens, they have experienced a long history of endemic anti-Semitism and official persecution. Recent years have witnessed a renaissance among Russian Jews. Those born after the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, who have not been allowed contact with their heritage, are fighting for the right to remain Jews. They must struggle to exercise their fundamental human rights: the right to their own culture, the right to practice their own religion and the right to live in the land of their choice.

Few Jews regretted the toppling of the Tsarist Government in 1917. The initial rule of the Provincial Government was liberal and enlightened, removing all restrictions on Jews and other minorities. However, the subsequent Bolshevik coup precipitated a Civil War from 1918-1921, in which over 200,000 Jews were murdered in pogroms. Clearly historic anti-Semitism was then and remains today a barrier to Jewish assimilation into Russian culture.

Jews also faced many problems in adjusting to the new Soviet state. Confined in the past to commercial occupations, such as shop-owners, tradesmen and artisans, they were badly suited to the industrial and agricultural goals of the new regime. Stripped of their means to make a living, and classified as "bourgeois," they often found it difficult to obtain housing, food and jobs.

The Soviet Government, attempting to deal with the problem of minority nationalities in their territory, established a Jewish section in the Commissariat for Nationalities, and later created an "Autonomous Jewish Region" in Birobidzhan, in far eastern Siberia. Many Jews were resettled on the land in the Crimea, the Ukraine and in Birobidzhan. Eventually this policy failed, particularly because the government found it politically expedient to again tighten restrictions on Jews. The 1920's and 30's saw a savage campaign against all religious groups. Traditional Jewish institutions and means of education were closed, and the last Yiddish newspaper was suppressed in 1938. The 1936-1938 purge of the Old Bolsheviks included many Jewish revolutionary leaders, as well as leaders of Birobidzhan as a particular part of Stalin's anti-nationalist policy.

In 1939, Stalin signed a nonaggression pact with Nazi Germany. A secret protocol of the agreement called for the division of Poland. Many Polish Jews fled eastward into Russia to escape the German onslaught. In 1941, the Nazis invaded Russia. Within days they implemented their anti-Semitic policies -- nearly 34,000 Jews were massacred at Babi Yar, a ravine outside of Kiev. Pogroms erupted in several cities even though many Jews were serving with the Red Army.

The following is a chronological history of events in the Jewish experience in the USSR, detailing the situation since 1945. It is important to know these details, since they provide a solid background, especially regarding anti-Semitism.

CHRONOLOGY

- 1945 The Second World War ends; 1,500,000 Soviet Jews have been killed.
- 1946 The 30th anniversary of the death of Sholom Aleichem, the great Yiddish writer, is held in Moscow; thousands of Jews attend.
- 1947 Andrei Gromyko, Soviet delegate to the United Nations, speaks ardently in favor of the Palestinian Partition Plan.
- 1948 Soviet Government recognizes the State of Israel; Golda Meir arrives in Moscow as Israel's first Ambassador to the Soviet Union; Solomon Mikhoels is murdered and the Jewish Art Theater is closed; Jewish newspapers are shut down and their leadership imprisoned.
- 1949 The Soviet press begins a campaign against "rootless cosmopolitans," most of whom are identified as Jews.
- 1952 Twenty-four Jewish scientists and writers are secretly executed on August 12th.
- 1953 Nine Soviet physicians, six of them Jews, are charged with killing Soviet leaders and conspiring against others; the announcement of this "Doctor's Plot" is accompanied by anti-Zionist attacks in the press; Stalin dies of a stroke on March 5; a month later the physicians are declared innocent and released.
- 1955 Yiddish writers murdered by Stalin are rehabilitated, posthumously.
- 1957 The Israeli delegation to the Youth Festival in Moscow is greeted by crowds of Russian Jews; 3,000 copies of the Shalom Prayerbook are photostated, the only such publication since the Revolution; a yeshivah is opened briefly in Moscow.
- 1958 Khrushchev becomes Premier. No fundamental changes in Jewish life occur.
- 1959 Anti-Semitic incidents take place in Moscow, including the burning of a synagogue. On the occasion of Shalom Aleichem's centenary, a volume of his work is printed, the first Yiddish book since 1948.
- 1960 Khrushchev denies Jews permission to leave the USSR; blood libels are reported in Buinaksk, Tashkent, Vilna and other cities; the Council of Religions and Cults acknowledges that there are still half-a-million practicing Jews in Russia.

- 1961 Sovietish Heimland a monthly literary magazine in Yiddish appears; Yevgeni Yevtushenko's poem "Babi Yar" is published.
- 1961-63 The Soviet government reinstates capital punishment for "economic crimes" and stages dozens of trials. Anti-Semitic overtones surface; more than half of those sentenced to death are Jews.
- 1963 Judaism Without Embellishment, a blatantly anti-Semitic book, reminiscent of crude Nazi propaganda, is published in the Ukraine. Baking matzot is prohibited. Additional synagogues are closed, leaving less than 90.
- 1964 Khrushchev falls from power and is replaced by Leonid Brezhnev as head of the Communist Party and Aleksei Kosygin as Premier.
- 1966 While in Paris, Kosygin declares that there will be no problem for people who wish to leave the Soviet Union to be reunited with their families abroad.
- 1967 Six day War in the Middle East. A fierce anti-Israel campaign begins in East Europe: Gomulka of Poland calls Jews who support Israel a "fifth column"; on the last day of the war, the Soviet Union severs diplomatic relations with Israel; the rest of Eastern Europe, with the exception of Rumania, follows suit; the Soviet Union sends technicians and arms to Arab countries.
- 1968 A renaissance of national feelings gives Jews added incentive to protest. Pride in the past achievements of the Jewish people and the State of Israel is fueled by Soviet anti-Semitism. Jews demand the right of cultural expression. When the Soviet government refuses to respond, they increasingly seek to emigrate. The dissident movement grows in the Soviet Union; the "Chronical of Current Events," an underground bi-monthly journal, appears. The first government sponsored meeting is held at Babi Yar to condemn Israel; Boris Kochubiyevsky, a young man whose father and grandfather were killed at Babi Yar, protests and is sentenced to three years in prison for "anti-Soviet slander."
- 1969 Fifty Soviet citizens petitioned the UN to investigate repression of basic civil rights in the Soviet Union; 18 Jewish families from the Georgian Republic publicly demand the right to emigrate to Israel.
- 1970's Anti-Semitic and anti-Israel books, cartoons and articles proliferate.
- 1970 The national census claims 17% of Russian Jews list Yiddish as their mother tongue; the First Leningrad Trial takes place; Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn wins the Nobel Prize for Literature.
- 1971 World Jewish Conference is held in Brussels, devoted to the problems of Soviet Jewry; emigration of Jews begins.

- 1972 Trials of Jewish activists take place in Kalinin, Kharkov, Sverdlovsk, Odessa, Moscow, Kishinev, and other cities; an education tax is imposed on those wishing to emigrate; over one million Americans petition Richard Nixon to intervene on behalf of Soviet Jews during US-USSR summit meeting.
- 1973 The Yom Kippur War is launched against Israel. It serves to heighten Soviet anti-Zionist and anti-Semitic propaganda. It also stimulates a new interest in Judaic and Hebraic activities among Soviet Jews.
- 1974 The Jackson-Vanik Amendment, linking trade with communist countries to open emigration, is passed overwhelmingly by Congress.
- 1975 Helsinki Final Act is approved by 35 European and North American nations.
- 1976 Dissidents in the Soviet Union set up a Helsinki monitoring committee, with the cooperation of some Jewish activists. Authorities break up an unofficial international symposium on Jewish culture in Moscow.
- 1977 Dr. Iosif Begun, a leading unofficial Hebrew teacher, is sentenced to Siberian exile. Anatoly Shcharansky, a prominent Jewish activist, is arrested and placed in solitary confinement.
- 1978 Shcharansky is sentenced to 13 years in prison and labor camps for "treason." Noted Moscow aliyah activists Vladimir Slepak and Ida Nudel are sentenced to Siberian banishment. Begun, back in Moscow, is again sentenced to Siberian exile.
- 1979 Leningrad refusenik Boris Kalendariov is sentenced for "draft evasion," one of a growing number of such cases. Seven hundred Jewish activists in Moscow participate in a week-long series of unofficial seminars marking the 100th anniversary of the revival of modern Hebrew. Soviets show liberalization and try to have the Jackson-Vanik Amendment waived by releasing a record 51,000 Jews. Two prisoners from the 1970 Leningrad Trial are part of US exchange for Soviet spies.
- 1980 Igor Guberman, an editor of the samizdat journal "Jews in the USSR" is sentenced; Dr. Viktor Brailovsky, its editor-in-chief, is arrested. Other unofficial Jewish publications come under KGB attack. The rate of exit drops precipitously.
- 1981 Joseph Mendelevich, the last remaining Jewish prisoner from the 1970 Leningrad Trial, is released to Israel. Dr. Aleksander Paritsky of Kharkov, founder of an unofficial "Jewish free university" for refusenik students, is sentenced.
- 1982 One hundred and nine members of the House of Representatives protest to Chairman Leonid Brezhnev against the Kremlin's drive to destroy the unofficial Jewish cultural movement and the slashing of emigration, followed by a joint resolution of

both houses without dissent. Dr. Felix Kochubiyevky of Novosibirsk, who sought to revive the USSR-Israel Friendship Society, is sentenced. On Yom Kippur, Anatoly Shcharansky begins a hunger strike that lasts 110 days. Long-term activist and scientist, Prof. Alexander Lerner of Moscow, is threatened with Siberian exile for his persistence in meeting with foreigners, highlighting the tightening of efforts to isolate Jews. Dr. Iosif Begun completes his second sentence. Brezhnev dies; his successor, Yuri Andropov, the former KGB chief, cracks down on Jews and dissidents.

1983 A non-Jewish Russian historian, Dr. Ivan Martinov, protests Soviet anti-Semitism. World Conference on Soviet Jewry (the third) is held in Jerusalem. The Kremlin forms an "Anti-Zionist Committee of the Soviet Public," which announces that no more Soviet Jews wish to emigrate. Iosif Begun is sentenced for a third time, now for 12 years, sparking large-scale protest in Israel and Europe; 98 US Senators call for his release. Lev Elbert of Kiev is sentenced; spurious charges of "drug dissemination" are dropped, after intense Western pressure. One hundred and one House members urge release of POC Dr. Yuri Tarnopolsky of Kharkov, sentenced for "anti-Soviet slander." Sovietskaya Rossiya accuses Soviet Jewish activists of being "spies." After Western pressure is applied, Odessa authorities withdraw a threatened "draft evasion" trial of refusenik Yakov Mesh. Emigration drops to 2% of the 1979 figure.

1984-85 Emigration figures continue at lowest point in over a decade, with only 896 Jews permitted to leave in 1984, and 1,140 the year after. Although there is a movement to strengthen Jewish ties and cultural life, anti-Jewish activity increases dramatically. More than half of the Jewish Prisoners of Conscience are sentenced during this period, all drawn from the ranks of the informal group of Hebrew teachers. Alexander Kholmiansky, Yuli Edelshtein, Mark Nepomniashchy, Yakov Mesh and Yakov Levin, Jewish emigration and cultural activists, are among those sentenced, many for allegedly "defaming the state." Mikhail Gorbachev replaces Konstantin Chernenko as General Secretary of the Communist Party.

In November 1985, Geneva is the site of the first summit meeting between General Secretary Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan. The meeting does not produce any concrete results in the area of human rights, or for Jewish emigration from the USSR.

JEWISH RESISTANCE TO SOVIET OPPRESSION

Following the post-Revolution Provisional Government, led by Alexander Kerensky, the hopes of Soviet Jews were raised with expectations of a better life. On April 2, 1917, the new government abolished previous restrictions on national and religious groups, including those against the Jews. Jewish optimism soon died, however, when the Bolshevik government imposed policies restricting religious freedom.

The Soviet constitution and national law guarantees cultural freedom for all nationalities within the Soviet Union. The smallest nationality groups are given the opportunity to pursue a cultural, social and political life of their own -- except Jews. They are constantly and institutionally being denied their basic rights: the right to self-determination and the right to live according to their culture.

While Judaism is viewed as a religion in the USSR, Jews are also considered a nationality. Therefore, any assault the Soviet authorities make against religion will include Jews. Jews are thus the only group affected as a nationality by pressure against religious institutions. Jews, because of their history, culture and ethnic ties with Jewish communities outside the Soviet Union, may also be regarded with distrust.

Despite State guarantees of religious freedom, the Soviet Union, in accordance with Communist ideology, places heavy restrictions on all religions while encouraging the teaching of atheism. Synagogues and churches are required to register with the government, giving it the right to regulate their very existence. It is illegal to teach religion to minors, though the distribution of atheistic propaganda is legal. Publication of religious materials, including prayer books and Bibles, is restricted. Amid general religious oppression, the Jews have been singled out for special treatment. The Russian and Greek Orthodox Churches, Islam and Buddhism have central coordinating bodies, albeit co-opted. Judaism has none. No communication is permitted among synagogues. No printing of the Hebrew Bible nor any edition of the Siddur, with the single exception of a 300-copy printing in 1956, has been authorized since 1917. In recent years, no Jewish religious publication has been allowed, although religious items are available, even in limited quantities to other religions, particularly the Russian Orthodox Church.

There are less than 60 known functioning synagogues for an estimated two to two and a half million Jews in the USSR, while there is a church for every 1,880 Russian Orthodox adherents. The teaching of Hebrew, though theoretically legal, is prohibited as is the teaching of religious texts. Hebrew books printed outside the USSR are continually confiscated, and Hebrew teachers are systematically harassed and frequently arrested.

Jews also suffer discrimination as a cultural group. Even Yiddish, the officially recognized language of Jews in the USSR, is not taught and only a handful of Yiddish books and one periodical is available. In addition, the establishment of Jewish cultural institutions is prohibited. Smaller minorities, however, like the Chechans, Ossetians and Komis, are allowed newspapers and literature in their own language, as well as schools where their language is taught.

In the Soviet Union, individual persecution and discrimination of Jews also occur. Until the 1960's Jews in the USSR were disproportionately represented in institutions of higher learning. With increased anti-Semitism, fewer Jews were admitted to the prestigious universities and technological institutions.

The combination of these factors presents an inescapable situation. Jews are discriminated against with no legal recourse and little freedom. Should Jews try to make the label which stigmatizes them a positive identification, persecution is intensified. The only way to remain a free Jew is to leave the Soviet Union. The restrictions are tight and most exit visas are denied. Thus, Jews who are forced to remain must struggle to keep Judaism alive and to transmit it to their children.

Though the penalties are severe, informal classes in Hebrew and Judaica are held in cities throughout the USSR. Several Jewish pre-school programs operate.

Many Soviet Jews active in promoting Jewish culture have been arrested and sent to prisons, forced labor camps or internal exile. These people are known as Prisoners of Conscience. Their ranks include Anatoly Shcharansky and others. They suffer physically and psychologically and are allowed little contact or communication with the outside world and their families. However, despite the severe conditions, Prisoners of Conscience often display extraordinary spiritual resistance. For example, prisoners in the Perm labor camp staged a hunger strike in 1977 as a protest message to the 35 participant nations in the Belgrade Conference who were meeting to monitor the Helsinki Accords.

In working for Soviet Jewry, it is important to emphasize the necessity of legalizing and making available more religious, educational, and cultural opportunities within the USSR for those still waiting to get out, and to facilitate the emigration of those who wish to leave.

INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES ON USSR ON BEHALF OF SOVIET JEWS

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

The Declaration was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 10, 1948. This document is the most commonly accepted definition of "human rights." It was seen as a "common standard of achievement for all people and all nations" in preserving the dignity and worth of all human beings.

The Declaration is not a legally binding document, but a statement of principles and intentions. However, under the Charter of the United Nations, member states are pledged to act to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms. This obligation is legal and binding, and the Declaration is an authoritative definition of these rights and freedoms.

The following are some excerpts from the Declaration:

Article 9: No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 13: Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own.

Article 18: Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

Article 19: Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

The Helsinki Final Act

In August, 1975, the leaders of 35 nations met in Helsinki, Finland to sign the final accord of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. Although this document, known as the Helsinki Final Act, is not legally binding, it has some positive effects. Furthermore, as a multilateral agreement, including the US and the USSR, it provides firm ground for Congressional action on human rights issues.

The Final Act was happily received by many religious and nationality groups in the USSR. Groups of citizens were formed to assure that compliance with the accords was maintained by the government. Anatoly Shcharansky, Aleksandr Slepak, and other Soviet Jews participated in these groups.

The Soviet authorities have attempted to downplay the human rights aspect of the Final Act. By doing so, they have distorted the original intentions of the accords. As an example, the Final Act, in Principles VII and X, specifies that family reunification is grounds for emigration. Soviet officials have twisted this to mean that ONLY family reunification is a justifiable basis. Since a negligible number of Jews leave, there are few relatives outside the USSR who need reunification. Furthermore, permission is often denied to visa applicants, because there are remaining relatives in the USSR. In doing this, they cite the clause in the Helsinki accords which discourages the "separation of families." The definition of "family" to the Soviets in terms of Jewish emigration includes only parents and children. Their own law in "Soviet Fundamental Legislation on Marriage and the Family" defines "family" as man and wife, parents and children, grandparents, and "other members of a family." In fact, the Soviet Union has kept hundreds of Jewish families separated from members in Israel and elsewhere.

In 1977, representatives of the 35 countries met in Belgrade, Yugoslavia to review the process of compliance. The next review took place in Madrid, Spain in November of 1980, and lasted for three years. It was the scene of bitter attacks by the USSR, when violations of human rights were catalogued, largely by the American delegation, headed by Ambassador Max Kampelman. In his final statement, he declared that the Kremlin is "engaged in acts of anti-Semitism" and repression that are worse than at any time since the Accord was signed in 1975.

At the Madrid meeting, the NATO countries offered 14 human rights amendments. However, the Soviet delegation refused to consider them. Since unanimous agreement was needed on the final document of the review conference, the US and others had no choice but to accede to minimal statements.

The next review is scheduled for November 4, 1986, in Vienna.

On the surface, the Kremlin proclaims that it takes the Helsinki Final Act seriously, and it published the full text of the agreement in its press. However, the unofficial Helsinki Monitoring Group in the USSR was brutally broken up by the KGB, and its members imprisoned, exiled, or driven underground.

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

It is a common misconception that Soviet Jews who are arrested for their emigration-related activities are tried under harsh, inhumane laws. On the contrary, the Soviet Constitution allows for free speech and protest. Jewish activists, and dissidents who are tried for criticizing the government are, therefore, being treated in violation of the Soviet Constitution.

This is illustrated by the following excerpts from the Constitution:

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

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

Article 49: Persecution for criticism is prohibited. Persons guilty of such persecution shall be called to account.

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

Actions by officials that contravene the law or exceed their powers, and infringe the rights of citizens, may be appealed in a court in the manner prescribed by law.

Article 55: Citizens of the USSR are granted inviolability of the home. No one may, without lawful grounds, enter a home against the will of those residing in it.

Article 56: The privacy of citizens, and of their correspondence, telephone communications and telegraphic communications, is protected by law.

2. CURRENT SITUATION

THE PRESENT CONDITION

Emigration Statistics

To see the sharp decline in Jewish emigration one need only compare the most recent figures to those of the 1970's.

x = 1,000 Jews with exit visas

1970 - 4,235	xxxx
1971 - 13,022	xxxxxxxxxxxx
1972 - 31,681	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
1973 - 34,733	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
1974 - 20,628	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
1975 - 13,221	xxxxxxxxxxxx
1976 - 14,261	xxxxxxxxxxxx
1977 - 16,736	xxxxxxxxxxxx
1978 - 28,864	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
1979 - 51,320	xx
1980 - 21,471	xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
1981 - 9,447	xxxxxxxxxx
1982 - 2,688	xxx
1983 - 1,314	xx
1984 - 896	x
1985 - 1,140	x

From 1970 - December 1985, 265,657 persons left the Soviet Union with Israeli visas. Approximately 163,557 of them went to Israel.

Cultural Repression

The Soviet Union is a multi-national state, with over 100 recognized nations and nationalities. It is Soviet policy to encourage the development of the various national cultures as stated in its own law. The 1977 Constitution grants equal rights to citizens of different nationalities including, specifically, "cultural life." Moreover, the "Violation of Equality of Rights of Nationalities and Races" is regarded as a special crime. The Jews are one of the recognized nationalities in the Soviet Union; in fact they are a major one, ranking sixteenth in size among more than 100 Soviet nationalities.

There are still no Jewish schools in the USSR, not even in the so-called Jewish Autonomous Oblast (Region) of Birobidzhan. There exist only two press organs: The Birobidzhaner Shtern, a Yiddish newspaper of four pages which appears five times a week in Birobidzhan in 1,000 copies; and the monthly Yiddish literary journal Sovietish Heymland, published in Moscow in 7,000 copies, of which apparently half are sent abroad. Not a single one is permitted in the Russian language, spoken by 97.03% of Soviet Jews.

In 1977, there was only one professional Jewish theater, the Moscow Jewish Dramatic Ensemble, which, however, is a traveling company without a building of its own. In 1978, permission was given to form a Jewish Chamber Musical Theater. This was undoubtedly a concession to Jewish demands in the USSR and abroad, but approved under peculiar conditions. Though the theater could travel within the country, it had to be legally based in remote Birobidzhan, where, according to the 1979 census, only 10,166 Jews (or .5 percent of Soviet Jewry) live. Birobidzhan is also far from the traditional Jewish population centers of the Western regions in the USSR. The sporadic performances by both of these theaters have been enthusiastically welcomed by Jews, but their activities are extremely restricted.

There still does not exist any other Jewish cultural institution, lecture course, publishing house, artistic establishment, etc., with the sole exception of the Shalom Aleichem Library in Birobidzhan. In 1979, a memorial museum to Shalom Aleichem was established in his birthplace, Pereyaslav-Khmelnitsky.

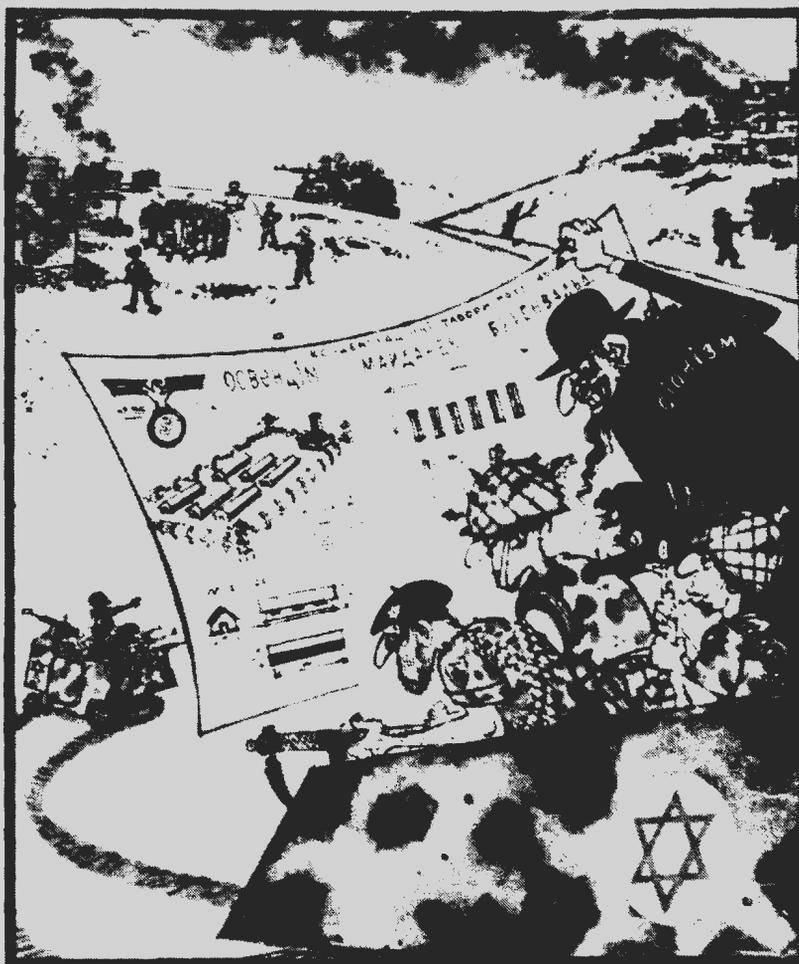
As the opportunity to emigrate exists for fewer and fewer Soviet Jews, there is a movement to strengthen Jewish ties and cultural life in the USSR. By confiscating Hebrew books, arresting teachers of Hebrew and Jewish culture, banning classes of the unofficial education movement, and disrupting holiday celebrations, Soviet authorities have attempted to squash this Jewish cultural renaissance.

After July 1984, anti-Jewish activity increased dramatically. Although Hebrew is the only language which may not be legally taught or studied in the Soviet Union, many teachers take great personal risks to teach it. Among those arrested were Alexander Yakir, Dan Shapiro, Zachar Zunshain, and Moshe Abramov. False charges against these men included planted firearms and drugs. The drugs, authorities claim, are a "part of Jewish ritual practices." In addition, there has been the confiscation and mutilation of Jewish religious objects, such as prayer books, tfillin and mezuzoth.

Official Anti-Semitism

A constant drumbeat of anti-Semitism continues to fill the Soviet press and media, making little distinction between attacks on "Zionists" and Jews. Peretz, the Ukranian "humor" magazine, in 1983, placed a cartoon on the front page of a hook-nosed, bearded, black-hatted figure labelled "Zionism" who held up a blueprints for concentration camps for Arabs based on the Nazi models (see cartoon #1). Lev Korneyev, Russia's most notorious official anti-Semitic writer, continues to flood the press with articles and books proclaiming Jews "parasites." A series of "anti-Zionist" posters is available in Soviet book stores. Much of the propaganda seeks to portray "Zionists" as Nazis. For example, Pravda of January 17, 1984 openly compared Zionism to Nazism, stating that Zionists helped Nazis send Jews to the gas chambers, and that Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir of Israel had links with the Nazis. In a country continually reminded by the Kremlin that 20 million Soviet citizens died at the hands of the brutal fascists, this is social dynamite.

CARTOON # 1



Another example of anti-Semitism in the Soviet media is an illustration (see cartoon #2) in Bakinsky Rabochii, June 4, 1985, which not only depicts that all religions are poisonous, but graphically points to Judaism as having a "special" venom. The cartoon caption reads, "These poisons act, first of all, on the brain." The two bottles are labeled poison and venom.

CARTOON # 2



А вот эти яды действуют прежде всего на голову.

On April 1, 1983, an "appeal" carried by Pravda and other central Soviet newspapers, called for the creation of an "Anti-Zionist Committee of the Soviet Public." Signed by eight state-sanctioned "prominent" Soviet Jews, the appeal was a violent diatribe, calling for multi-sector public mobilization in a broad campaign against Zionism. The appeal was also widely broadcast on television and radio programs across the Soviet Union. Three weeks later, a meeting was held to formally announce the creation of the "Anti-Zionist Committee."

Since that time, the Committee has held many press conferences, where it condemned the United States and Israel, especially for their "aggression in Lebanon." In 1985, the Committee sent a letter to the US Congress condemning anti-Semitism in the United

States. The membership of the Committee is distinctly Jewish; a tactic used by the government to foster an impression of legitimacy, giving the Committee the pretense of speaking for Soviet Jews. It has explained the decline in emigration since 1980 by claiming that all Jews who wish to leave the Soviet Union have already done so, despite facts to the contrary. Furthermore, it contends that many of those who left the USSR have returned or sought to do so. The Committee's formation was seen as part of an escalating campaign to isolate Soviet Jews from supporters in the West. Its actions repeatedly evoked angry reactions from the activists and former Prisoners of Conscience. It is clear that the group gathered around Mikhail Gorbachev has shown no inclination to dissolve the Committee, despite its anti-Jewish and anti-Zionist campaign -- a campaign which casts suspicion on Jews and further alienates them from other Soviet minorities.

Academic Anti-Semitism

Many Jews have been barred from places in universities, graduate and professional schools. Jews applying for positions in higher education are subjected to admissions exams and standards more stringent than those for other candidates. For example, Andrei Sakharov, a prominent mathematician, needed over an hour to solve what is known as a "Jewish Question" on a university examination. This question is supposedly designed to be solved in ten minutes. Deliberate discrimination such as this leads to inequality of representation in Soviet schools for Jews. Between 1979 and 1983, 13% of qualified Jewish applicants were accepted, compared to 80% of non-Jewish applicants, to Moscow State University's Department of Mathematics and Mechanics. The newly adopted School Reform Laws will reduce the number of students accepted into higher education by one half. This will greatly increase the competition for entrance into universities, and the situation of Jews could be significantly worsened.

THE FUTURE?

Life for Soviet Jews is steadily becoming more difficult. In some respects, in fact, the situation has deteriorated since Gorbachev became the General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party.

With respect to emigration, a relatively constant level has been maintained, with about 100 Jews per month permitted to leave. Even those few allowed to leave did not include veteran refuseniks waiting over ten years, despite welcome news that a handful of refuseniks, notably Lev Tukachinsky, Anatoly Khazanov and Chaim Solovei, refused in the late 1970's and Mark Nashpitz, a former Prisoner of Conscience, were unexpectedly allowed to go to Israel.

While emigration was kept low, the number of arrests, trials and other forms of harassment of Jewish activists rose alarmingly. Last year approximately one Hebrew activist per month was sent to prison or labor camps. The tough policy of the government was aptly demonstrated by the brutal police beatings of Yakov Mesh in Odessa, and Mischa Elman and Evgeny Lein in Leningrad, as well as the shocking treatment of Iosef Berenshtein while in police custody. Rumors circulated that Berenshtein's beating by incarcerated criminals, resulting in near total blindness, was a police provocation.

The response of Soviet Jews has been a renewal of public activities, manifested in petitions and protests to Soviet authorities, as well as to individuals and organizations abroad. These have focused on official abuses, and on the renewed demand for "repatriation to Israel." A parallel development has been a steep rise in requests for Israeli citizenship.

Soviet Jews still need our help. If we work with diligence, remaining sensitive to the individuality of every Soviet Jew in need, and fully utilize our strength, many more of our people will ultimately be redeemed.

PROCEDURE FOR EMIGRATING FROM THE SOVIET UNION

Applying for an exit visa in the Soviet Union is a long and laborious process which is entangled in red tape. Here is a brief description of that process.

First the applicant needs a visov - a legally attested invitation from a first degree relative living in Israel, although there are no international regulations or agreements which indicate the necessity for such an invitation from the country to which an applicant desires to emigrate. Even if it is sent, the KGB often blocks the receipt of the visovs, which must come through the mail. A dozen visovs can be sent from Israel without success.

Applicants need a certificate of release from their place of employment. Many enterprises will not give the certificate, insisting that the applicant submit a "voluntary" resignation. Until 1976 it was necessary to state your places of employment for five years previous to the application. In 1976, officials began to insist on such details for the previous 15 years.

In addition to the bureaucratic barriers a prospective emigrant faces, there are great financial barriers. There is a set fee per person for the application. The applicant must pay to have living quarters restored to their original condition. Finally, the applicant must pay for the trip to Moscow and then out of the country.

Once the applicant has submitted all of the appropriate documents, and paid for all the fees, he may still be refused, and becomes a refusenik. The refusal may be for a number of reasons which are arbitrary or vague. The government might suddenly claim that the applicant must fulfill military obligations, even if he was never required to do so before he applied. Others are refused because they allegedly possess state secrets. In certain places a person is granted permission, only after the applicant has vacated his apartment. This means that the prospective emigrant must then live and store his possessions where he can.

There is no standard appeals system, except to reapply to OVIR, the Office of Visas and Registration. This contradicts a Soviet requirement that appeals be examined by agencies other than the one complained about. When an application is refused, you must wait at least six months. If lucky, the application will be approved. If not, you must wait an additional six months. This process can go on indefinitely, while the system wears you down.

Some applicants don't get past first base. OVIR simply refuses to accept their applications. Other applicants never receive a reply from OVIR. Many applicants are refused for the most absurd reasons:

- a. "You don't have immediate family members in Israel" (a violation of the UN Declaration on Human Rights which guarantees freedom to leave).
- b. "You know state secrets." (Everything in Russia can be a "state secret!")
- c. "Your departure is inexpedient."
- d. "You'll have family members remaining in Russia."

OVIR has told scores of refuseniks "You're refused forever -- don't bother applying again." Benjamin Bogomolny, an 18-year refusenik from Moscow, is the record holder, and won a listing in the Guinness Book of World Records!

PROMINENT PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

An increasing number of Soviet Jews have been jailed for their desire to emigrate. Other Jews were arrested for violations otherwise overlooked, or given harsher sentences in criminal trials, simply because they wish to practice Judaism.

Kremlin policy is to make examples of prisoners to terrify other Jews, and to discourage them from involvement in unofficial Jewish activities, or applications for emigration. They serve as reminders to other Jews in the Soviet Union as to what may happen to Jewish activists.

Alexander Paritsky

In 1976, Alexander Paritsky was denied permission to emigrate because of a "secrecy classification." Although he was working as a scientist at the Kharkov Institute of Meteorology, all the projects with which he was concerned were done openly and not considered secret. His scientific credentials were removed in 1977, and since then he has worked in any menial job available.

As an activist in Kharkov, Alexander has participated in many seminars and conferences since 1977. Consequently, he and his family have been the subject of much KGB harassment, including interrogation, threats, and slanderous articles published in local newspapers.

In the fall of 1981, Paritsky was sentenced to three years in prison for the crime of "changing the happy life of his daughters in the Soviet Union." In August of 1984 he was released from prison, after serving his full sentence. He has since returned to Kharkov with his wife, where they support themselves as boiler stokers. He was told by OVIR, the Soviet emigration office, that he must start the entire emigration process over again.

Anatoly Shcharansky

Anatoly's first application for a visa to Israel was refused in 1973 on the grounds that he was "in possession of classified information." He was repeatedly denied permission, despite the fact that the Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, where he worked, was unclassified. As a result of his application for emigration, he lost his job and began tutoring individuals in English, mathematics and physics.

A victim of much harassment, Shcharansky was subject to arrests, detention and threats. One day after their marriage in a religious ceremony, in a Moscow apartment on July 4, 1974, his wife, Avital, was told she could leave the Soviet Union. Shcharansky was labelled a "hooligan" and placed under KGB surveillance. He was then arrested and, after being held incommunicado for 16 months, was charged with "treason and espionage" and "anti-Soviet agitation." He was sentenced to 13 years imprisonment.

For infractions, such as trying to light Hanukkah candles, Shcharansky has spent much time in solitary confinement and punishment cells. In the two visits from his family that he had early in his sentence, he appeared in terrible health, with high blood pressure, and considerable head and eye pain. His mother reported that he "looked like a prisoner from Auschwitz." In September 1982, he began a hunger strike to protest confiscation of his mail, and refusals of visits from his family. His hunger strike lasted 110 days, during which time he was brutally force fed. While he still suffers serious heart and spinal trouble, these ailments are not considered significant by the prison authorities, and he has not received treatment in the prison hospital.

He did, however, receive a letter from Avital. In September of 1983, she received the first direct letter from him since his imprisonment. In spite of the terrible conditions that dominate Shcharansky's life, his brother reports that he remains brave and morally strong.

Shcharansky's mother was refused permission to visit her son in August of 1984, but learned that he had been punished with a curtailment of privileges for refusal to carry out his required work of making carrier bags. On October 26, 1984, he was transferred from prison to a labor camp, where he must complete the last seven years of his sentence. His mother and brother visited him in January of 1985, and reported that his health had improved. However, in September, a 10-page missive was received from him which detailed his vision, head and heart problems, and his daily collapse after hours of work at a sewing machine. He also stated that he had spent most of the past year in punishment cells.

Iosif Begun

The sentence of Dr. Iosif Begun, a leading unofficial Jewish educator, to twelve years was a clear warning to all activists promoting Hebrew, Jewish culture and religious study.

Begun first applied for aliyah in 1971. From 1972, he campaigned, unsuccessfully, to have himself officially recognized as a private Hebrew tutor. He was regularly harassed by the KGB and his home was regularly searched. In 1977, and again in 1978, he was sentenced to internal exile in Siberia for "parasitism" and "violating internal passport regulations." He continued to pray, celebrate Jewish holidays, and send a stream of protest letters to Soviet and international officials, even while in Siberia.

In November of 1982, he was arrested for a third time. The charges were "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda." Without an attorney, he was tried and sentenced to a pre-determined term of twelve years at Perm Labor Camp, in October, 1983. He was denied the presence of his wife and son for most of the trial, but, nevertheless, stated his innocence to the Soviet officials.

Since being imprisoned, letters to and from Begun have been confiscated, and his wife, Inna, has been refused permission to visit her husband. In May of 1984, he began a hunger strike in protest. Later Iosif was in the prison hospital, where he experienced difficult conditions and ill health.

Lev Elbert

Thirty-five year-old engineer Lev Elbert, together with his wife Dr. Inna Mizruchina-Elbert, were leading Jewish activists in Kiev, and have sought emigration to Israel since 1974. In 1983, Lev was illegally summoned for reserve call-up. He refused to go unless he received written assurance that he would not be involved in classified activities, since his original exit application was rejected on similar grounds. His previous army stint, which ended in 1973, included digging earth for swimming pools, and involved no sensitive "military secrets."

In May of 1983, Elbert was sentenced to a year for "draft evasion." Seeking an opportunity to incarcerate him for a longer term, the government accused him of "drug dissemination" in the labor camp. The charge could have brought an additional ten years to his sentence. Elbert was put in a cell with hardened criminals, and he threatened to commit suicide unless he was removed.

Meanwhile, police broke into the Elbert's home and "discovered" a brown substance on the bookshelf, which they reportedly planted. They hinted at new drug charges. While Inna was in Moscow seeking intervention in her husband's case, and was on a prolonged hunger strike, a KGB investigator entered the Elbert's apartment and terrified their then 12-year old son Karmi, saying that: "Your mother might die, but we don't care."

Western intervention was successful in having the government drop the charges against Lev. In June of 1984, he was released and returned home. Since then the former engineer has been unemployed, and six consecutive job applications have been rejected.

He was recently told by OVIR that he and his family would be unable to emigrate until 1992. He contested the ten-year delay on his application, but to no avail.

Zachar Zunshain

Zachar Zunshain, a 33-year-old math teacher from Riga, was sentenced to three years imprisonment in a corrective labor camp in Siberia on June 29, 1984. He was charged with "defaming the Soviet state," after standing with a placard on the street in Moscow. The placard read: "We demand to give up our Soviet citizenship." The sentence that he received was a maximum for spreading "anti-Soviet propaganda."

After his arrest, Zunshain was held in solitary confinement and only permitted a small amount of food per day. His wife, Tatiana, remains under constant KGB surveillance. In September, 1985, Tatiana journeyed to the labor camp to visit her husband, only to be told that he had been transferred to another location. His transfer had occurred after being put in a punishment cell twice, for two-week stretches, in July and August.

3. ACTION

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Fifteen years ago, sparked by Israel's victory in the Six Day War, Jews in the Soviet Union began to defiantly express their desire to emigrate to Israel. Soviet attempts to crush this ideological awakening promoted even more Jewish awareness, and Soviet Jews responded accordingly to the increased discrimination and anti-Zionist campaign.

In 1970, there was a crucial turning point in the struggle for Soviet Jewry. That year, twelve people whose waiting had become intolerable undertook a desperate attempt to commandeer a Soviet airplane and fly it to Israel and freedom. Understanding that their effort was doomed to failure, they hoped that their attempt would make a political statement and open the eyes of the Soviet government and the rest of the world to the plight of Soviet Jewry.

The twelve were arrested. In a courtroom echoing with accusations of Zionist conspiracies, two of the Leningrad Trial defendants, Eduard Kuznetsov and Mark Dymshitz, were sentenced to death. The news was relayed to the West, where protests emanated from the United States, Israel, Western Europe, the Vatican, Western communist parties, as well as activists within the USSR. The Soviets acquiesced and the sentences were commuted. Kuznetsov and Dymshitz were saved through the pressure of governments and private citizens in the West.

In the years following 1970, this same activism resulted in expanded opportunities for Soviet Jews. Today, however, the increased emigration of Soviet Jews, which began in earnest in 1971, has dwindled to almost nothing. The pressure exerted years ago may not seem to have the same impact on the Soviet government. Yet, it does work, within limits. The Jewish prisoners in the Leningrad Trials were released to freedom before the end of their sentences, in 1979 and 1981. (The two non-Jews who were imprisoned in the trials, Alexander Murzhenko and Yuri Fedorov, remain in the USSR.) In 1983, Lev Elbert was saved from a possible ten-year extension of his sentence.

What can be done? What should be done? Soviet Jews need our voices and our hearts. The pressures brought to bear on the Soviet government directly and indirectly, through our own government, must be intensified. Through letters, calls and visits from us and our representatives in government, we must protest the blatant violations of human rights, of which the Soviet Union is most guilty. Our negligence will only bring about the further suppression of Soviet Jews. Our continued effort is their only hope.

WILL YOU STAND IDLY BY?

HOW MEMBERS OF CONGRESS CAN AID SOVIET JEWS

The Jews of the Soviet Union are very much in need of our assistance and support. It is particularly at this bleak time that the voice of support of a Member of Congress is needed. There are several ways in which Senators and Representatives can help. Here are some possibilities for your consideration:

1. Adoption of a Refusenik and/or Prisoner of Conscience. Adopting an individual's case means agreeing to work on his or her behalf by directly communicating with the particular Soviet Jew, publicizing the case, and in general, seeking to better his situation. All of the following suggested action could be undertaken on behalf of an "adoptee." It is vital that this action be a regular commitment -- something should be done at least every three months.

A. Writing to the Refusenik. Correspondence has been called the "life-line" of these people who are often ostracized by their communities. A letter from a U.S. legislator can provide the spark which gives one the courage to continue. Of course, even if the letter does not go further than the Soviet censors, it serves as a clear statement to the Soviet authorities that a Senator or Representative cares about a certain refusenik and will monitor that refusenik's situation.

B. Phoning a Refusenik. Phoning a refusenik, wherever possible, may have more direct impact than just a letter.

C. Contacting the Department of State and Appropriate Federal Agencies. Inquiries concerning Soviet Jews will stimulate further activity on their part. Write on behalf of specific individuals as well as the issue in general, particularly before multi and bilateral conferences.

D. Contacting a Refusenik's Family. These people are in need of moral support. For obvious reasons, relatives are generally one of the best sources of updated information concerning the case. Quite possibly such relatives may live in your constituency; Soviet Jewry organizations can arrange a match-up.

E. Constituent Newsletters. Inform your constituents of your efforts. It will keep them involved and also supply them with data regarding cases.

F. Put a picture of your refusenik and his family on your wall -- make your involvement and concern obvious to others. Moreover, it will remind you to maintain your activities!

2. "Call to Conscience" Vigil. The Union of Councils for Soviet Jewry sponsors this vigil in the House of Representatives. For several months Representatives enter the case of a refusenik into the Congressional Record. This enables them to make statements on the floor of the House, express concern for Soviet Jews, and heighten Congressional and public awareness of the plight of specific refuseniks.

3. The Congressional Coalition for Soviet Jews. This is a program of ongoing activity, organized by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, to involve and integrate Senators and Representatives in adoptions, travel, and political education, as well as projects with colleagues in other countries.

4. "Dear Colleague" Letters. Letters, sponsored by a particular legislator, on behalf of a refusenik, have the potential to involve many other Members in the effort. They make an important statement of concern to either American or Soviet officials.

5. Publicity. Use various means of communications, including press conferences and releases, to inform the public of the legislator's efforts.

6. Making a Personal Visit to the Soviet Union. This allows for direct personal contact with refuseniks, as well as the opportunity to express concerns to Soviet officials.

Addresses of Soviet Officials

Mikhail M. Gorbachev
General Secretary of the
CPSU Central Committee
The Kremlin
Moscow
RSFSR, USSR

Rudolf Kuznetsov
Chief, OVIR
ul.Ogareva 6
Moscow 103009
RSFSR, USSR

Anatoly Dobrynin
Ambassador
Embassy of the USSR
1125 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Oleg Troyanovsky
Ambassador
Soviet Mission to the UN
136 East 67th Street
New York, New York 10021

Resources Available to Congress

National Conference on Soviet Jewry
10 East 40th Street, Suite 907
New York, New York 10016
212-679-6122

National Conference on Soviet Jewry
Washington Office
2027 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
202-265-8114

American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, New York 10022
212-751-4000

Amnesty International
304 West 58th Street
New York, New York 10022
212-582-4440

Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith
823 United Nations Plaza
New York, New York 10017
212-490-2525

B'nai B'rith International
1640 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
202-857-6600

Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry
210 West 91st Street, Suites 30-31
New York, New York 10024
212-799-8900

Student Coalition for Soviet Jewry
c/o B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations
Brandeis University
Waltham, MA 02254
617-647-2178

Soviet Jewry Legal Advocacy Center
24 Crescent Street
Waltham, MA 02154
617-893-2331

Union of Councils for Soviet Jewry
1411 K Street, N.W., Suite 402
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-393-4117

National Jewish Community Relations
Advisory Council
443 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016
212-684-6950

GUIDELINES FOR CONGRESSIONAL MEETINGS

Meeting with Members of Congress and/or aides can be very fruitful. These guidelines have been prepared to assist you in the sessions with your Representatives and Senators. PLEASE: read them before your meetings.

Before

1. Read the background sheet on your Senators and Representatives. Be familiar with this information -- it is a record of your Congressional Representatives' activities on behalf of Soviet Jewry. These records are not complete; your legislator may have done much that we simply do not know about.

LOOK FOR;

- frequency of action on behalf of Soviet Jews
 - span of dates of those activities
 - the most recent activities of your legislator
2. Be prepared to discuss:
- The current situation in the USSR
 - Possible action that Congress can take
 - The refusenik update that we have assigned to your particular legislator

ALL OF THIS INFORMATION WILL BE IN YOUR PACKETS AS WELL!

3. Review the situation in the Soviet Union, lobby techniques and general strategies in your state and district caucuses. Also read the sheet of answers to questions that might arise in your meetings.

Outline for your Meeting

Courtesy is the key to a profitable meeting. You are neither an expert nor a moral authority on this issue. You are a concerned constituent. Be respectful of your Congressional Representatives, their aides and the institutions of American government they represent. Remember to make requests, not demands -- over-zealous or shrill aggressiveness can have a negative impact.

1. Explain who you are and what SCSJ, and the Washington Lobby, are all about. Tell him/her that 1,000 university students from nearly 65 campuses and representing nearly 50 states are participating in the Lobby.

2. Show a basic knowledge of your Congressional Representatives' stance on this issue. Thank them for work done in the past and encourage them to continue. Express your support as a constituent.

3. Express concern over the deteriorating situation of Soviet Jewry. Stress the declining numbers of people leaving (from 51,320 in 1979, to 896 in 1984), and the increasing harassment to which they are subject. Forced to remain in the USSR, they are not even allowed to retain their religious and cultural identity.

4. Request that your legislators sign a letter to the President sponsored by SCSJ's honorary chairs, and refer to them by name.
5. Ask about their adopted refuseniks. If they have not previously adopted a refusenik, request that they do so now. Specific cases will be provided in their packet: THESE CASES WILL BE UPDATES OF THE CASES THAT WERE PRESENTED LAST YEAR. Be prepared to mention other possible Congressional activities. Refer them to the sheet in their packet entitled "How Members of Congress Can Aid Soviet Jews."
6. Above all, listen to and tailor your presentation to what you hear. Don't lecture a knowledgeable Congressional Representative; just discuss past actions and opinions.

Important Advice

1. STAY ON THE SUBJECT. You are here to talk about Soviet Jewry. SCSJ is a non-partisan human rights effort whose only goal is to help free Soviet Jews. DO NOT DISCUSS OTHER POLITICAL ISSUES such as Israel, nuclear weapons, etc. Do NOT let your Representative sidetrack you.
2. LACK OF KNOWLEDGE. If you do not know the answer to a question: SAY SO. NEVER TRY TO FAKE IT. Offer to find out the information and pass this request on to SCSJ in the evaluation sheet. Remember, there are no absolute answers to many of the questions you will be asked.
3. Don't be disappointed about meeting with an aide. These people recommend and often decide what the Congressional Representative will or will not do. Meeting with them is just as important and effective as meeting with your actual legislator.
4. As issues arise in your meetings, you may well find yourself disagreeing with your Congressional Representative or their aide on certain points. Be sure to discuss the point and express your opinion, but do not criticize their position.
5. Inactive legislators are not a lost cause. Spend a great deal of time emphasizing the urgency of the current situation in the USSR. Explain how a small action such as signing the letter to the President, and/or writing a letter, can have possible positive effects. Finally, emphasize that you are a constituent and this is a concern of yours.
6. At this time of Soviet-American relations, it is easy for a Representative to say, "We don't have leverage on the USSR." Point out that we must build up a policy position so that as US-USSR relations thaw, the issue of Soviet Jewry will be a specific part of bilateral discussions and agreements.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters to Soviet Jews

1. Letters should be personal. Don't include any political or anti-Soviet statements.
2. Say that you've received their name(s) from a mutual friend.

3. Describe yourself. Write about your family, work or studies and your interests.
4. Ask about their situation. Ask if there's anything they need.
5. Encourage them to write to you. Let them (and the Soviet censors) know that you, your friends, and your government officials are very concerned.
6. You may need to send two or three letters before you receive a return response. Number your letters (1, 2, 3, etc.).
7. Let the tone of possible replies guide you in writing future letters.
8. After receiving a response, you may send a photograph of yourself and ask for their photograph.
9. Do not include stamps or any items of value in your letter. This is illegal.
10. Feel free to make reference to coming Jewish holidays.
11. If you are a member of a Jewish organization, do not say that you are writing as a member. You are writing as a concerned individual. (Otherwise, your letter may be confiscated.)
12. Don't underestimate the importance of letter-writing. If the letters don't arrive, they still have a strong impact on the Soviet response toward the Jewish population. It is a message that you care, and that they have not been forgotten.
13. Ask your Representatives to intervene on their behalf. When you receive a reply, send copies of their reply to your Soviet pen pal and to Gorbachev and Dobrynin.

Write to:

Representative _____
 _____ House Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20515

Senator _____
 _____ Senate Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20510

Urge the "adoption" of a prisoner and suggest specific interventions. Keep Members of Congress periodically informed; ask them to read information into the Congressional Record about, or actions on behalf of, the prisoner.

DO NOT FORGET THAT YEAR-ROUND ACTIVITY IS IMPORTANT!

ADOPT-A-COLLEGE-AGE REFUSENIK

The B'nai B'rith Hillel National Student Secretariat has recently joined their efforts with those of the Student Coalition for Soviet Jewry. In addition to lending its support for the Coalition's Annual Lobby and International Solidarity Day activities, the Hillel Student Secretariat sponsors a continuing "Adopt-a-College-Age Refusenik" project.

The purpose of this effort is to enable each campus in the United States to creatively mobilize the entire academic community in a personalized advocacy campaign on behalf of a Soviet Jewish peer. This project is of national and international scope and has

been of tremendous value to the Soviet Jewry movement. Most important of all, it has given college-age Soviet Jewish youth a renewed sense of solidarity and identification. Soviet Jewish students who are subjected to harassment in class, or who have been denied admittance to universities on spurious grounds because of their Jewish identity, have been heartened by the support and attention they have received through this project. They now know that their own contemporaries are aware of their situation and are working on their behalf.

Many university communities have conducted campus-wide campaigns for their adoptees. The Student Government, University Senate, Faculty and Administration have all been involved. The school newspaper and city, state and national governmental officials have also taken up the cause of a number of college-age refuseniks.

Following the Washington Lobby, each participant will receive a B'nai B'rith Hillel National Student Secretariat Adopt-a-College-Age Refusenik Kit, for whom your campus can lend support in this nationwide project. Included will be the name and resume of a young person.

Additional information and materials are available from the National Office of the Hillel Student Secretariat.

Adopt-a-Refusenik Project
B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations
1640 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 857-6550

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

DISSIDENT: An Activist interested in changing the Soviet system from within.

FIRST DEGREE RELATIVE: Members of an immediate family. An invitation from a "first degree relative" in Israel is necessary for a Soviet Jew to apply for emigration.

HELSINKI FINAL ACT: An international agreement signed in 1975 by the USSR and 34 other European and North American nations, supporting specific human rights, including reunion of families. It also deals with other issues.

IZVESTIA: The official Soviet Government news publication.

JACKSON-VANIK AMENDMENT: Part of the 1975 trade bill linking U.S. trade benefits with the USSR to Jews and others being allowed to emigrate.

KGB: The Soviet secret police. This organization is responsible for much of the harassment inflicted on Soviet Jews.

OVIR: The office to which Soviet Jews must apply for emigration. (Office of Visas and Registration.)

POC: A Jewish "Prisoner of Conscience" (in Hebrew, Asir Zion), is one who has been put on trial as a result of their active role in trying to go to Israel, and/or to further cultural or religious work in the USSR.

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E. Prisoners/Psychiatric Abuse

Edward Kuznetsov, Prison Diaries (Stern and Day 1975) - surreptitiously written in prison in 1970-71; his view of the Leningrad Trial and prison conditions. (Available from NCSJ.)

Vladimir Bukovsky, To Build a Castle: My life as a Dissenter (Viking 1979) - brilliant account of the dissident movement, his experience in a labor camp and as a victim of psychiatric abuse.

Sidney Bock and Peter Reddaway, Psychiatric Terror: How Soviet Psychiatry is Used to Suppress Dissent (Basic 1977)

F. The Jackson-Vanik Amendment

Paula Stern, Water's Edge: Domestic Politics and the Making of American Foreign Policy (Greenwood Press 1979) - perceptive study of Sen. Henry Jackson's effort to enact this important piece of legislation.

William Orbach, The American Movement to Aid Soviet Jews - see above

G. Anatoly Shcharansky

Avital Shcharansky with Ilana Ben-Josef, Next Year in Jerusalem (William Morrow 1979) - well-written memory and moving personal story of Anatoly's refusenik life, arrest, trial, and imprisonment, and the campaign for his release.

H. Anti-Semitism

Grigori Frieman, It Seems I am a Jew (Southern Illinois University Press 1980) - anti-Semitism in Soviet mathematics, described by a former professor at Kalinin University.

Some recent publications

Kevin Klose, Russia and the Russians: Inside the Closed Society (Norton Publishers 1984) - daily lives of the people who must cope with Soviet bureaucracy, by former Moscow correspondent.

Ludmilla Alexeyeva, Contemporary Movements for National, Religious and Human Rights (Wesleyan University Press 1985)

Sylvia Rothchild, A Special Legacy, An Oral History of Soviet Jewish Emigres in the United States (Simon and Schuster 1985)

*** SOME OLDER TITLES ARE OUT OF PRINT, BUT MIGHT BE AVAILABLE IN A LIBRARY, OR CONTACT THE PUBLISHER.**

**National Lobby
Coordinating Center**
Usdan Suite 148
Brandeis University
Waltham, Massachusetts 02254
(617) 647-2178

**International Student Solidarity Day
Coordinating Center**
University of Michigan
B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation
1429 Hill Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104
(313) 663-3336

**Washington Office
B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations**
1640 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 857-6560

THE STUDENT COALITION FOR SOVIET JEWRY

Honorary Chairmen

Senator Arlen Specter
Senator Frank L. Lautenberg
Representative Hamilton Fish, Jr.
Representative Sander Levin

Honorary Executive Committee

Father Robert F. Drinan
Elie Wiesel
Hon. Arthur J. Goldberg
Alexander Lerner
Yosef Mendeleovich
Avital Shcharansky
Eduard Kuznetzov
Alexander Slepak
Jerry Goodman
Glenn Richter
Rabbi Stanley A. Ringler
Lynn Singer
Eric Mattenson
Neil Kritz

Supporting Organizations

American Jewish Committee
American Jewish Congress
American Mizrahi Women
Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith
B'nai B'rith Hillel/JACY
B'nai B'rith International
Hadassah
Jewish Student Projects
Jewish War Veterans
National Council of Jewish Women
North American Jewish Youth Council
Pioneer Women
National Federation of Temple Youth
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations
United Synagogue Youth
University Services Department of
American Zionist Youth Foundation
Workmen's Circle
Young Israel Youth
Zionist Organization of America

The Student Coalition for Soviet Jewry (SCSJ) was founded in response and protest to the arrest of Anatoly B. Shcharansky on March 15, 1977. Thirteen undergraduates from Brandeis University bought bus tickets to Washington, D.C. They discussed with their congressmen the Shcharansky case and others like it in order to get Congress actively involved in the issue of Soviet Jewry.

That initial lobbying effort has become an annual event involving students in colleges across the U.S. The SCSJ Ninth Annual Washington Lobby for Soviet Jewry (1985) included approximately 800 student lobbyists from 40 states and 175 congressional districts. Foreign students also played a vital role by meeting with officials at their embassies.

The scope of the Lobby extends beyond Capital Hill in a special lobbying effort reaching critical government agencies such as the Departments of State and Commerce, as well as international organizations.

International Student Solidarity Day for Soviet Jewry (ISSDSJ) is a program organized at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) for those unable to join the Lobby in Washington. On that day marches, seminars, speakers, rallies and other programs are held at schools all over the world, including the U.S., Israel, England, France and South Africa.

Student activity, however, is not limited to the Lobby. Each campus is urged to become involved in this issue of basic human rights. The Annual Washington Lobby for Soviet Jewry is just one program of the Student Coalition for Soviet Jewry. Other activities include marches, concerts, speakers, films, "adopt-a-refusenik" and letter-writing campaigns. The goal of these activities is to educate and involve students in constructive activism for this increasingly complex issue.

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HOW MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

CAN AID SOVIET JEWS

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Neil Kritz**

It is particularly at a time like this that the voice of support of a Member of the United States Congress is called for.

There are several ways in which Senators and Representatives can concretely aid Soviet Jewry. We herein list some possibilities for your consideration:

1. Adoption of a Refusenik and/or Prisoner of Conscience
Adopting an individual's case means agreeing to work on his or her behalf by directly communicating with the particular Soviet Jew, publicizing his case in various ways, and, in general, seeking to better his situation. All of the following suggested action could be undertaken on behalf of an adoptee. It is vital that this 'action' be a regular commitment--something should be done at least every three months.

A. Writing to the Refusenik. Such correspondence has been called the "life-blood" of these people who are often ostracized by their communities. A letter from a U.S. Legislator can provide the spark which gives one the courage to continue. Of course, even if the letter does not get further than the Soviet censors, it serves as a clear statement to the Soviet authorities that a Senator or Representative cares about a certain refusenik and will monitor that refusenik's situation.

B. Phoning a Refusenik. Phoning a refusenik may have more direct impact than a letter alone.

C. Writing to one or two Soviet Officials. Such action indicates to the Soviets that U.S. Senators and Representatives will continue to press for liberalization of Soviet emigration policy, that the plight of the Jews in the U.S.S.R. is still a high priority concern.

D. Contacting the Department of State and Appropriate Federal Agencies. Inquiries concerning Soviet Jews will stimulate further activity on their part. Write on behalf of specific individuals as well as upon the issue in general and do so particularly before all multi and bilateral conferences.

**Supporting Organizations
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American Jewish Congress
American Mizrahi Women
Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith
B'nai B'rith Hillel/JACY
B'nai B'rith International
Hadassah
Jewish Student Projects
Jewish War Veterans
National Council of Jewish Women
North American Jewish Youth Council
Pioneer Women
National Federation of Temple Youth
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations
United Synagogue Youth
University Services Department of
American Zionist Youth Foundation
Workmen's Circle
Young Israel Youth
Zionist Organization of America**

E. Contacting a Refusenik's Family. These people are also in need of moral support. For obvious reasons, relatives are generally one of the best sources of updated information concerning the case. Quite possibly, such relatives may live in your constituency; the Soviet Jewry organizations can arrange such a match-up, should you so desire.

F. Constituent Newsletters. Inform your constituents of your efforts. It will keep them involved and also supply them with information regarding the cases.

G. Put a picture of your refusenik and his family on your wall-- make your involvement and concern obvious to others. Moreover, it will remind you to maintain your activities!

2. "Call to Conscious" Vigil. The Union of Councils for Soviet Jewry sponsors this vigil in the House of Representatives. Three days a week for a series of months a Representative enters the case of a refusenik into the Congressional record. This program enables Representatives to make statements on the Floor of the House, thereby expressing their concern for Soviet Jews and heightening Congressional and public awareness of the plight of specific refuseniks. The present coordinators are Senator Rudy Boschwitz and Rep. Sander Levine

3. "99th Congressional Class on Soviet Jewry". A similar program as the above Vigil, but specifically for Congressional freshmen.

A sub-group of Congressional Coalition for Soviet Jewry

4. Congressional Coalition for Soviet Jewry. Created at the opening of the 99th Congress. A bi-partisan program, uniting Senators and Representatives in a more effectively organized support campaign for the Jewish minority trapped in the Soviet Union. Chaired by Congressional leaders from both political parties.

5. "Dear Colleague" Letters. Letters, sponsored by a particular Legislator on behalf of a particular refusenik, have the potential to involve many other Members in the effort to aid Soviet Jews. They make an important statement of concern to either American or Soviet officials.

6. Publicity. Use various means of communications, including press conferences and releases, etc., to inform the public of the legislator's efforts.

7. Making a Personal Visit to the Soviet Union. This allows for direct personal contact with the refusenik communities, as well as the opportunity to express your concerns to Soviet officials.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO CONGRESS

National Conference on Soviet Jewry
Suite 907
10 East 40th Street
New York, N.Y. 10016
212-679-6122

American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022
212-751-4000

Union of Councils for Soviet Jewry
Suite 402
1411 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-393-4117

Amnesty International
304 West 58th Street
New York, N.Y. 10019
212-582-4440

Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry
Suites 30-31st
210 West 91st Street
New York, N.Y. 10024
212-799-8900
contact: Glenn Richter

National Jewish Committee
Relations Advisory Council
Room 1530
55 West 42nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10036
212-564-3450

Student Coalition for Soviet Jewry
c/o B'nai Brith Hillel Foundation
Brandeis University
Waltham, M.A. 02254
617- 647-2178

Soviet Jewry Legal Advocacy Center
24 Crescent Street
Waltham, M.A. 02154
617-893-2331

B'nai Brith International Council
823 United Nations Plaza
New York, N.Y. 10017
212-557-9008

ADDRESSES OF SOVIET OFFICIALS

Konstantin Chernenko
Chairman, Supreme Soviet
The Kremlin
Moscow
RSFSR, U.S.S.R.

Konstantin I. Zotov
Chief, OVIR
Ogarev Street 6
Moscow 103009
RSFSR, U.S.S.R.

Anatoly Dobrynin
Ambassador
Embassy of the U.S.S.R.
1125 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Oleg Troyanovsky
Ambassador
Soviet Mission to the U.N.
136 East 67th Street
New York, N.Y. 10021

Congressional Record

CONGRESSIONAL CALL TO
CONSCIENCE

HON. DOUGLAS H. BOSCO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 5, 1985

Mr. Bosco. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to add my voice to those of my colleagues who are protesting the continued persecution and mistreatment of Soviet Jews. As a participant in the Congressional Call to Conscience, I would like to bring to my colleagues attention the plight of a young refusnik that I have adopted.

Pavel Astrakhan was born in 1955 and first applied to emigrate in 1978. He was refused permission to do so on the grounds that he "choose to emigrate without his elderly parents, thus breaking up a family." Although Pavel is an English teacher/translator by profession, he is unable to find work. Thus, he devotes a great deal of his time to studying the Torah and helping other Jews process their applications for emigration. Pavel is also involved in religious seminars which take place unofficially and are attended by refusniks and nonrefusniks. As many as 100 people have attended these seminars at one time; however, a tourist has reported that attendance has begun to drop off because of KGB raids on the homes where seminars are held. Pavel lives in Lenin-grad with his wife Sonya and their two-year-old daughter Ruth. In 1984, the family received an invitation and began the long procedure of resubmitting their emigration papers once again. Unfortunately, on July 12, of this year, Pavel received notice that they had once again been refused the right to emigrate.

Mr. Speaker, every day 2 to 3 million Jews residing in the Soviet Union are denied the basic freedom of religious expression and experience routine discrimination in education, social life, and employment. Physical abuse, unlawful property searches, and arrests on trumped up charges are not uncommon. Anti-Semitism is officially endorsed and propagated. While the practice of the Jewish religion and culture is prohibited, Jews are also denied the right to emigrate. Pavel Astrakhan and his family are just one example of the plight of thousands of Soviet Jews striving to free themselves from religious persecution.

It is my hope that when President Reagan meets with the Soviet Secretary General Gorbachev in Geneva this month, that the issue of human rights, especially for Soviet Jews, will be among the top items to be discussed. We in the Congress and the American people must insist that immediate action be taken to ensure that the Soviet Government comply with the Helsinki accords. We must continue to focus attention on the issue of Soviet Jewry so that one day soon individuals like Pavel Astrakhan may be granted the right to worship free from the threat of reprisal.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SOLIDARITY DAY

FOR SOVIET JEWRY -- 1986

On Thursday, February 27, 1986 several hundred students will come to Washington D.C. to participate on the Washington Lobby for Soviet Jewry. While these students are being briefed on the current situation of Soviet Jewry, and visiting with their Members of Congress to ask for their support and action, they will be actually part of a much larger effort-- International Student Solidarity Day for Soviet Jewry (ISSDSJ).

ISSDSJ is a program that was developed by the Student Coalition for Soviet Jewry to enable students who are beyond the traveling distance to Washington to participate in student activism on behalf of Soviet Jewry. This year on February 2, in solidarity with their fellow students in Washington, students at over fifty universities throughout the United States will participate in a variety of ISSDSJ programs. These programs are aimed at involving students in the struggle to free Soviet Jews through political action, educational awareness, and consciousness-raising. Among the activities that will take place on this day will be information tables in student unions, lectures by former refuseniks and sovietologists, letter writing campaigns to both Refuseniks and legislators, and rallies.

The programs and activities sponsored by the following universities highlight the events that took place on ISSDSJ 1985:

- * Students at Indiana University showed a slide show about refuseniks, put a full-page petition in their school newspaper, set up information table in the student union, and held a noontime march through the campus.
- * Former Refusenik Leonid Feldman spoke about human rights in the Soviet Union at a lecture co-sponsored by the Hillel at UC Berkley, the College Democrats, and the Young Republicans. Slides of a recent trip to the USSR by a local rabbi were shown at a noontime program.
- * A rally was held at University of Texas at Austin, featuring law professor David Sokolow, who met with refuseniks during his recent trip to the USSR.
- * Students at UCLA approached the administration of their University in respect to officially accepting their adopted refusenik as a student at the University.
- * A mock prison was constructed in the student union at Washington University, with information and letter-writing tables set up.

ISSDSJ activities are not restricted to the United States, extensive programming took place in Canada, Israel, SouthAfrica, and several other countries.

It is crucial for us to be aware that the Washington Lobby is not the only component of International Student Solidarity Day. Important and effective programming takes place at universities worldwide, complementing the lobby efforts of the day. Moreover, the many activities that are scheduled on Solidarity Day stimulate the important year-round activism that is greatly needed in the on going struggle to free Soviet Jews. Those who are participating on the Lobby should recognize that their efforts should motivate us all in our personal, continual committment to Soviet Jewry.

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February 27, 1986

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Representative Hamilton Fish, Jr.
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Pioneer Women
National Federation of Temple Youth
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations
United Synagogue Youth
University Services Department of
American Zionist Youth Foundation
Workmen's Circle
Young Israel Youth
Zionist Organization of America

Dear Lobbyist,

Welcome to the Tenth Annual Student Lobby for Soviet Jewry!! The Student Coalition for Soviet Jewry (SCSJ) wants to thank you for your participation in this year's lobby. The Lobby is one of the most effective actions one can take to generate world-wide support for the plight of Soviet Jews. Being here shows your concern for the issue and for the people!

However, your commitment should not end at the completion of this day. To be truly effective you must follow up on what was accomplished at today's Lobby:

1. You must continue with your involvement in Soviet Jewry by writing letters, Adopting a Refusenik, etc.
2. You must check to see that your Congressperson follows through with their promises
3. Correspond with your Congressperson throughout the year to urge them to take action on behalf of Soviet Jews!

The Philadelphia office of SCSJ is designed to coordinate Congressional action on college campuses from one lobby to the next. We maintain a computerized file of all Congresspeople and specific actions that they have taken on behalf of Soviet Jewry. And, we urge you to be in touch with us. Please let us know what your Congressperson has done.

If I am not for myself,
Who will be for me?
If I am for myself only,
What am I?
If not now, when?

SCSJ

STUDENT COALITION FOR SOVIET JEWRY

OUTREACH

בזרוע נטויה

With an Outstretched Arm

WASHINGTON LOBBY!! FEBRUARY 27, 1986

This year's most spectacular event certainly was the recent release of Anatoly Scharansky from the U.S.S.R. - and his adoption of the Hebrew name, Natan, to remind the world that he has been delivered. But, WE cannot forget the over 400,000 Jews who are still waiting for permission to emigrate!

Emigration this year increased by only 244 people from last year. In 1984 896 Jews received permission to emigrate - this year, 1985, 1,140 Jews emigrated. In light of recent developments, we are trying to keep the momentum - up!

Here is a brief description of some of the recent updates on some of the Refuseniks and Prisoners of Conscience who still remain in the Soviet Union.

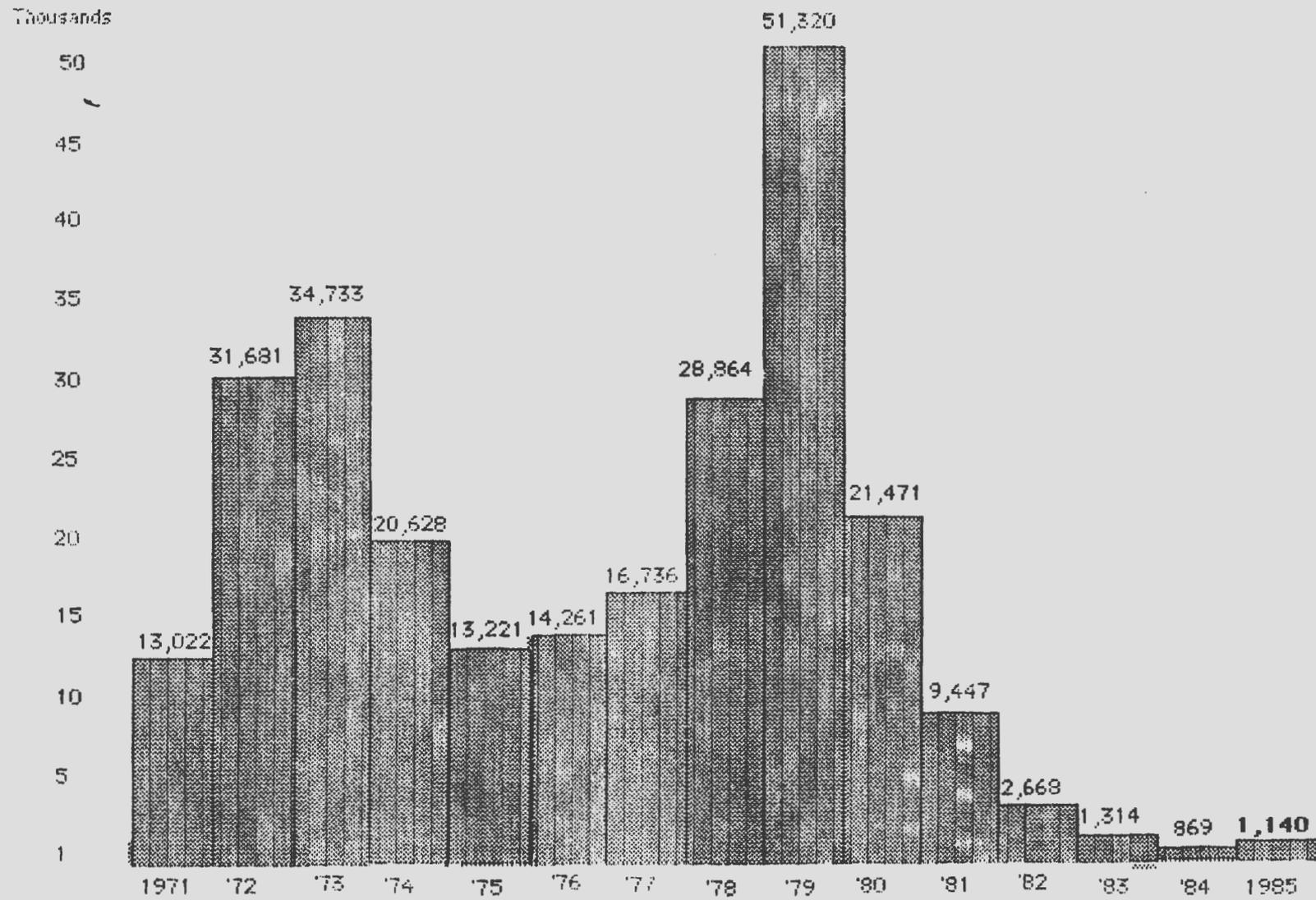
VLADIMIR BRODSKY

Vladimir Brodsky is a cardiologist and a member of the unofficial Moscow peace group. Since 1980, Brodsky and his family have been refused exit visas from the Soviet Union. In 1983, a patient, already dying, passed away under his care, and, although Brodsky was exonerated, he was dismissed from work and unemployed for a long time. In August 1984, after only three months of marriage, he was arrested for alleged "hooliganism", sentenced to a 15-day jail term and beaten in the station house so brutally that he had to be hospitalized. Brodsky's current plight is much more serious. He is now faced with the prospect of three torturous years in a labor camp.

ALBERT BURNSTEIN

Albert Burnstein was arrested for staging a work strike to protest the denial of an exit visa to Israel. He was sentenced to 15 days in jail. Burnstein suffers from a disease which is decaying his shin bone. Israeli hospitals have said they can definitely cure him, but Soviet physicians told Burnstein they could only amputate his leg. In announcing his work strike, which he had intended to last for three weeks, Burnstein declared: "I am an observant Jew. I respect and love the history, culture and religion of our people. Because of my desire to participate in unofficial Jewish classes, I was detained and threatened more than once." He is 20 years old.

Jewish Emigration from the USSR



TENTH ANNUAL LOBBY

Wednesday, February 26, 1986

7:00 Registration
8:00 Sen. Lautenberg
8:45 How to Lobby Congress
9:30 Presentation of Scenarios
10:20 Announcements and Refrshments
10:30 Buses leave for Washington Hebrew Congregation
11:00 Goodnight!

Thursday, February 27, 1986

Washington Hebrew Congregation

6:00 Wake-up! Boker Tov!!
6:30 Minyan
7:00 Breakfast and Luggage
7:30 Board Buses
8:15 Arrive at Adas

Thursday, February 27, 1986

Adas Israel

6:30 Wake-up! Boker Tov!!
7:00 Minyan
7:30 Breakfast
8:00 Clean-up
8:30 Announcements
8:45 Honorary Chairpeople
9:15 Israeli Embassy Representative
9:35 Presentations
9:40 Rabbi Albert Axelrad
9:50 Glenn Richter (SSSJ)
10:10 Leonid Feldman
10:20 Bus Directions
10:45 Movement to Hill
11:15 Concurrent Briefings
12:00 State Caucus meetings
1:00 District Meetings
2:00 Senate Meeting #1
3:00 Senate Meeting #2
4:00 House Meetings
5:00 Back To School!

CAPITOL HILL

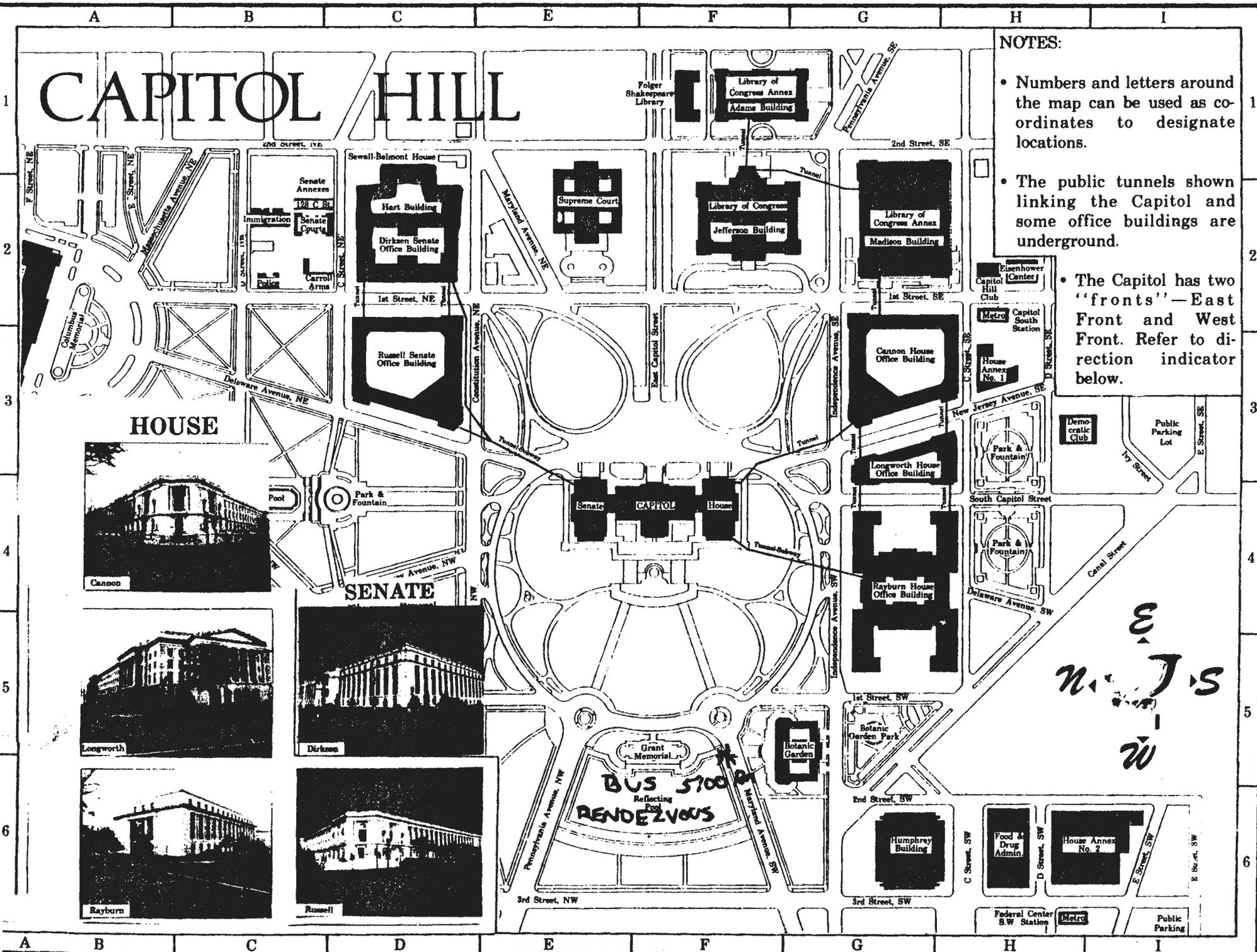
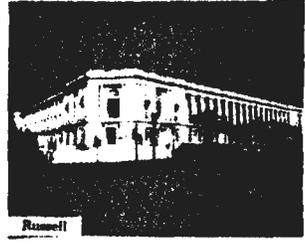
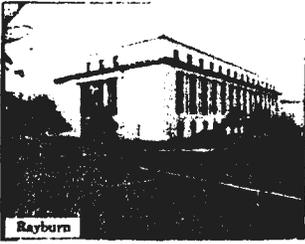
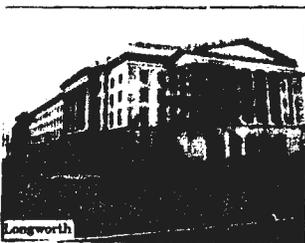
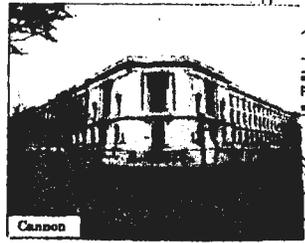
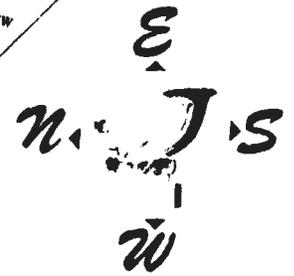
NOTES:

- Numbers and letters around the map can be used as coordinates to designate locations.
- The public tunnels shown linking the Capitol and some office buildings are underground.
- The Capitol has two "fronts"—East Front and West Front. Refer to direction indicator below.

HOUSE

SENATE

BUS STOP
Rendezvous



WASHINGTON LOBBY - EVALUATION SHEET

Please complete the evaluation sheet as completely as possible for each Congressional meeting you attend. Feel free to attach additional sheets for more extensive responses. RETURN THIS FORM TO THE SCSJ DROP-IN CENTER OR TO YOUR COORDINATOR BEFORE REACHING HOME. YOUR INPUT IS CRUCIAL TO FUTURE PLANNING. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO FILL THIS OUT.

Lobbyist's Name: _____ Grad. Yr.: _____
School Address: _____ Phone No.: _____
Home Address: _____ Phone No.: _____

Did you play any sort of role in planning for your trip to Washington or in Soviet Jewry programming on your campus this year? If so, what was the role? _____

Meeting with Senator _____ . Representative _____ . Name _____

Did you meet with the legislator or aide? _____

Aide's name and position: _____

How many lobbyists were present in your meeting? _____

a) 1-5 b) 5-10 c) 10-15 d) 15-25 e) 25-35 f) 35-50 g) over 50

Did the legislator agree to sign the Presidential Letter that is being distributed throughout Congress? YES NO

Was the Legislator familiar with the issue of Soviet Jewry?

a) no background at all b) vaguely familiar c) moderately familiar
d) knowledgeable

What action did you request that your Congressperson take on behalf of Soviet Jewry? Please circle the action(s) that he agreed to pursue.

1. Adopt a Refusenik 2. Write to a Refusenik 3. Phone a Refusenik
4. Write to the State Department or Executive Office
5. Write to soviet Officials 6. Sponsor a "Dear Colleague Letter"
7. Other: _____

Please name the Refusenik your Congressperson adopted or agreed to adopt:

Please list the numbers of those activities listed above that your Congressperson was most enthusiastic about pursuing: _____

Please list the numbers of those activities your Congressperson was most resistant to (if possible, explain why:) _____

Please list the numbers of those activities that your Congressperson has previously pursued that were not noted on the Congressional Activities Sheet. (Please try to get the documentation of those activities)

Do you feel your Congressperson was:

- a) Very enthusiastic b) Somewhat enthusiastic c) Neutral
d) Difficult to approach initially, but more receptive by the end of the meeting e) Very negative

If c,d, or e, briefly explain why: _____

GENERAL PROGRAM

Please indicate your feelings about aspects of the Washington lobby on a scale of 1-5.

1-Excellent 2-Good 3-Fair 4-Poor 5-Of no value

Wednesday night program: _____

Thursday morning program: _____

Caucus meeting: _____

Concurrent program (please indicate which program you attended): _____

Congressional Appointments: _____

Accommodations: _____

Organization in general: _____

Did you feel that you were adequately prepared for your meeting: _____

Yes No

If no, in which area would you have liked to have been more informed?

_____ History of Soviet Jewry _____ General lobbying techniques

_____ Current situation for Soviet Jews

_____ Your Congressperson's personal record

_____ Other _____

How do you feel overall about the lobby program? Would you participate in the Washington lobby again? Do you have any suggestions for the future?

THIS INFORMATION IS VERY IMPORTANT: Feel free to expand on your answers or provide any new comments in the space remaining.

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Aide's name and position: _____

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- a) Very enthusiastic
- b) Somewhat enthusiastic
- c) Neutral
- d) Difficult to approach initially, but more receptive by the end of the meeting
- e) Very negative

If c,d, or e, briefly explain why: _____

GENERAL PROGRAM

Please indicate your feelings about aspects of the Washington lobby on a scale of 1-5.

1-Excellent 2-Good 3-Fair 4-Poor 5-Of no value

Wednesday night program: _____

Thursday morning program: _____

Caucus meeting: _____

Concurrent program (please indicate which program you attended):

Congressional Appointments: _____

Accommodations: _____

Organization in general: _____

Did you feel that you were adequately prepared for your meeting: _____

Yes No

If no, in which area would you have liked to have been more informed?

_____ History of Soviet Jewry _____ General lobbying techniques

_____ Current situation for Soviet Jews

_____ Your Congressperson's personal record

_____ Other _____

How do you feel overall about the lobby program? Would you participate in the Washington lobby again? Do you have any suggestions for the future?

THIS INFORMATION IS VERY IMPORTANT: Feel free to expand on your answers or provide any new comments in the space remaining.

WASHINGTON LOBBY - EVALUATION SHEET

Please complete the evaluation sheet as completely as possible for each Congressional meeting you attend. Feel free to attach additional sheets for more extensive responses. RETURN THIS FORM TO THE SCSJ DROP-IN CENTER OR TO YOUR COORDINATOR BEFORE REACHING HOME. YOUR INPUT IS CRUCIAL TO FUTURE PLANNING. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO FILL THIS OUT.

Lobbyist's Name: _____ Grad. Yr.: _____
School Address: _____ Phone No.: _____
Home Address: _____ Phone No.: _____

Did you play any sort of role in planning for your trip to Washington or in Soviet Jewry programming on your campus this year? If so, what was the role? _____

Meeting with Senator _____ Representative _____ Name _____

Did you meet with the legislator or aide? _____

Aide's name and position: _____

How many lobbyists were present in your meeting? _____

a) 1-5 b) 5-10 c) 10-15 d) 15-25 e) 25-35 f) 35-50 g) over 50

Did the legislator agree to sign the Presidential Letter that is being distributed throughout Congress? YES NO

Was the Legislator familiar with the issue of Soviet Jewry?

a) no background at all b) vaguely familiar c) moderately familiar
d) knowledgeable

What action did you request that your Congressperson take on behalf of Soviet Jewry? Please circle the action(s) that he agreed to pursue.

1. Adopt a Refusenik
2. Write to a Refusenik
3. Phone a Refusenik
4. Write to the State Department or Executive Office
5. Write to soviet Officials
6. Sponsor a "Dear Colleague Letter"
7. Other: _____

Please name the Refusenik your Congressperson adopted or agreed to adopt: _____

Please list the numbers of those activities listed above that your Congressperson was most enthusiastic about pursuing: _____

Please list the numbers of those activities your Congressperson was most resistant to (if possible, explain why:) _____

Please list the numbers of those activities that your Congressperson has previously pursued that were not noted on the Congressional Activities Sheet. (Please try to get the documentation of those activities)

Do you feel your Congressperson was:

- a) Very enthusiastic
- b) Somewhat enthusiastic
- c) Neutral
- d) Difficult to approach initially, but more receptive by the end of the meeting
- e) Very negative

If c, d, or e, briefly explain why: _____

GENERAL PROGRAM

Please indicate your feelings about aspects of the Washington lobby on a scale of 1-5.

1-Excellent 2-Good 3-Fair 4-Poor 5-Of no value

Wednesday night program: _____

Thursday morning program: _____

Caucus meeting: _____

Concurrent program (please indicate which program you attended):

Congressional Appointments: _____

Accommodations: _____

Organization in general: _____

Did you feel that you were adequately prepared for your meeting: _____

Yes No

If no, in which area would you have liked to have been more informed?

_____ History of Soviet Jewry _____ General lobbying techniques

_____ Current situation for Soviet Jews

_____ Your Congressperson's personal record

_____ Other _____

How do you feel overall about the lobby program? Would you participate in the Washington lobby again? Do you have any suggestions for the future?

THIS INFORMATION IS VERY IMPORTANT: Feel free to expand on your answers or provide any new comments in the space remaining.