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Five KC speeches

~~SECRET~~  
#12  
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# All Political Prisoners to Be Freed, Moscow Informs Visiting Germans

## Move Appears to Be a Bid For West's Acceptance Of Human Rights Event

By PETER GUMBEL

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

MOSCOW—The Soviet Union told visiting West German leaders that it will release all people regarded by the West as political prisoners before the end of this year.

German officials said Soviet authorities hope the move, which follows a relaxation of Soviet emigration policies, will win international support for Moscow's desire to host a human rights conference in the early 1990s. So far only the French government has said it is prepared to support such a conference. West Germany now appears to be moving toward support.

Gennady Gerasimov, the Soviet spokesman, refused to confirm the prisoner release, which was announced by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl following three days of talks here.

German officials, however, said Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze stated during a meeting with his German counterpart, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, that political prisoners will be released this year. Mr. Genscher told a news conference that Mr. Shevardnadze had made a similar statement to French leaders during a recent visit to Paris. In Washington, a State Department spokesman said that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz received a similar assurance from Mr. Shevardnadze in late September.

If carried out, the release would be a dramatic gesture by a country long reviled for locking up people who dared to speak out against official policy. Mikhail Gorbachev is allowing greater openness and criticism in Soviet society as part of his wide-ranging reforms, but the idea of completely free speech remains an alien and virtually untested concept here.

Diplomats urged caution about the release because of the unusual way it was announced, and because of disagreements over the definition of a political prisoner.

The Kremlin, which long denied that there were political prisoners here, now concedes they do exist. The most recent official Soviet estimates put the total between 12 and 29. Moscow defines political prisoners as people sentenced under two articles of the Soviet criminal code that make behavior loosely defined as anti-Soviet a criminal offense. Both articles of the code were widely used in locking up dissidents in the 1970s.

The U.S. and some other Western countries estimate there are many more political prisoners. The human rights organization Amnesty International said last month that about 200 prisoners of conscience are still jailed, in exile or held in psychiatric hospitals against their will.

German officials declined to give the number or names of those the Soviets say will be released. But Moscow is expected to act on the basis of lists handed to it by Germany and other Western countries.

In the past two years, Mr. Gorbachev has moved to reduce international criticism of Moscow's human-rights violations. Several hundred political prisoners have been released, and emigration policies have been relaxed. One of the most celebrated dissidents of the 1970s, nuclear physicist Andrei Sakharov, has been rehabilitated to such an extent that he has held officially sanctioned press conferences and can now travel abroad.

Perhaps the most significant change now under consideration here is a plan to revamp the criminal code as part of a broader reform of the Soviet legal system. Mr. Gorbachev, a lawyer by training, has frequently said that Soviet society should become law-based.

Under the reform, Soviet sources say at least one of the two criminal code articles used to imprison dissidents may be revised or eliminated. But the legislative overhaul isn't completed and Mr. Gerasimov said "there are lots of differing opinions

EUROPEAN MEDIA...  
from Pg. 14

French Rafale will be the only multi-purpose fighter aircraft available until 1999, said a 26 Oct. W. German article in Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. The newspaper quoted French PM Michel Rocard as saying the Rafale meets the W. German Luftwaffe requirements better than the Fighter 90. Rocard noted that Dassault, the company producing the Rafale, has made a 50-50 offer to W. German aircraft industries to cooperate in the production of the Rafale, but has not yet received an answer.

(Summarized from transcripts and translations provided by SHAPE Public Information Office. Source material available from SAF/AAR, 4C881)

voiced" about proposed modifications.

Among measures taken to clean their international image of the dark stain of human rights abuses, the Soviets have set up a human rights committee that is spreading the word that Moscow has shifted its policies. Moscow also is quietly seeking to reenter the World Psychiatric Association, which they left five years ago just before they would have been expelled. And, for two years, the Soviets have tried to win international support to hold a Moscow human rights conference.

Mr. Genscher said the release of political prisoners was one of three conditions the Bonn government had placed on its participation at such a conference. The other two were an end to the jamming of foreign radio stations and greater freedom to emigrate. Jamming has been reduced and the Soviets appear to have satisfied the last demand in the past two years by allowing several tens of thousands of the two million ethnic Germans living in the Soviet Union to leave the country for West Germany.

The number of Soviet Jews allowed to

MOSCOW...Pg. 16

# Japanese Not At Libya Site, U.S. Is Told

By David B. Ottaway  
Washington Post Staff Writer

Japan has told the United States that no Japanese nationals or companies are working at an industrial site in Libya near where a huge

chemical weapons plant is also under construction, the State Department said yesterday.

Department spokesman Charles E. Redman said the Japanese government has told the United States that Japanese firms "intend no further involvement in the industrial plant project" because of its "proximity" to the chemical factory.

Director of Central Intelligence William H. Webster said Tuesday that the Libyan chemical weapons production plant is "as large as anything we have seen" and warned of the danger of such weapons to world peace. It reportedly is located

within an industrial complex Libya is building 45 miles southwest of Tripoli.

The United States earlier had asked Japan about any possible involvement of Japanese firms in the plant because of reports that the Japan Steel Works had played a major role in building a Libyan metallurgical works at the same industrial site.

U.S. officials had feared the metal works might be used to make containers or delivery vehicles for poison gases manufactured at the nearby chemical plant.

A Washington Post article Tuesday incorrectly left the impression that the Japanese firm had helped to build the chemical plant and that the United States had expressed its concern to the Japanese government about this.

Redman said the United States had no information indicating Japanese firms were ever involved in any way either in Libyan production of chemical warfare agents or in the construction of the chemical plant.

Japan has also told the United States that "there are no Japanese nationals now working at the industrial site," Redman said.

spin obtained the 6351 alloy from Luxfer USA Limited.

The microscopic cracks referred to in the DOT safety warning, Jensen contended, are caused by different manufacturing processes used in forming the necks of the aluminum bottles.

Jensen said most of the bottles made under the DOT civilian specifications are shaped by using a die, which he suggested accounts for the tiny cracks that eventually develop. This problem doesn't occur, he said, with the necks of the military bottles, which are formed in a spinning process.

"Jensen is no metallurgist," replied Corbin, who used to buy bottles from Hydrosin. Corbin said the molecular properties and grain structure of the alloy don't change regardless of the shaping process used.

When Corbin sold his business to Johnson Industries in 1982, he remained with the company as director of research and development. But a falling-out occurred in 1984, spawning a continuing — and bitter — competitive and legal battle.

Corbin and his wife, Tedi, ultimately moved to Florida and Corbin Superior Composites, Inc., was incorporated. Tedi became president and Corbin is director of research and development.

In 1987, as Corbin prepared to resume production of lifeboat cylinders, Comdyne sued in U.S. District Court in Trenton, N.J., charging him with trade name infringement and unfair competition. The initials of the old Corbin Sales Corporation bought by Johnson in 1982 are CSC, the same initials as those of Corbin Superior Composites.

Corbin responded with a counterclaim, charging that Comdyne had filed the lawsuit in an attempt to block competition.

Corbin alleged that Comdyne officials had made false statements about Corbin to potential customers and, according to court documents, followed a "pattern of racketeering activity" and defrauded the Navy by changing serial numbers on lifeboat cylinders selected for testing.

Comdyne responded with an amended complaint, adding "trade libel" to the list for statements Corbin allegedly made that Com-

# First Soviet shuttle is poised for launch

MOSCOW (AP)— The first Soviet space shuttle will be launched Saturday, the Soviet Union said yesterday.

The liftoff follows months of delays similar to those that plagued the maiden voyage of the shuttle's U.S. twin.

A government commission set the launch for 6:23 a.m. Moscow time Saturday (11:23 p.m. EDT tomorrow) after receiving reports from specialists following several thousand tests of the Buran and its booster rocket, the Energia, the official news agency Tass reported.

"Buran" is Russian for snow-storm.

Preparations for pouring nearly 2,000 tons of liquid hydrogen, oxygen and hydrocarbon fuel into Energia, billed as the world's most powerful booster rocket, are to begin today, Tass said. The rocket is capable of carrying more than 100 tons of cargo into Earth orbit, and up to 20 tons to the planets Mars and Venus.

Energia is less powerful than the Saturn rocket that powered the American Apollo capsules to the moon.

State-run television yesterday showed the white delta-shaped

Buran, with its name emblazoned in red, attached to the Energia on a launch pad at the Soviet Union's Baikonur Cosmodrome on the Central Asian steppes of the republic of Kazakhstan.

Launch originally was planned for the first half of this year but was postponed as technical problems arose, officials said. A Soviet TV announcer indicated yesterday the launch time could be pushed back because tests of systems may take longer than anticipated.

"The 29th of October is a day when confidence, hopes and fears will be confirmed or refuted," the announcer said.

The maiden flight of the U.S. shuttle Columbia in 1981 was postponed many times because of technical snags.

Soviet officials have said the first flight would be pilotless to prevent accidents like the Jan. 28, 1986, explosion of the U.S. shuttle Challenger that killed seven astronauts.

Soviet media did not say how long Buran's mission would last. If the test flight is successful, a mission with two cosmonauts is to follow, but Soviet officials have not said when.

dyne had defrauded the government.

Corbin, in a subsequent court filing, was unrepentant. He acknowledged making statements to "various governmental agencies," including naval intelligence, based on "my belief that the plaintiff had, in fact, committed a crime. I regard it as my civic duty to the public to report this matter."

A Naval Investigative Service spokesman confirmed the matter has been under investigation.

The competitive feuding has continued with a fight over new Navy contracts.

After Corbin was awarded a contract to supply replacement lifeboat cylinders to the Navy in July, Comdyne filed a protest, charging the Navy with improperly awarding the contract. Politicians, including Sen.

Howard Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, made inquiries to the Navy about the matter.

The Navy disallowed Comdyne's bid protest, calling it "without merit."

In its letter to Comdyne, the Navy also noted that Comdyne's claim of having a "100 percent record" for quality was "no longer a valid situation."

Corbin, who obtained copies of the correspondence under the Freedom of Information Act, also received copies of the quality deficiency reports showing that 34 of 106 Comdyne cylinders tested in March were found to be deficient.

Twenty of 100 cylinders tested in May were deficient because of cracked and unraveled wrappings, the reports said.

**Space Services Inc.**, a private company headed by former astronaut Deke Slayton, has won the first government contract to launch a rocket and scientific payload on a sub-orbital mission next year, NASA announced. The commercial launch contract is for \$1 million. The company's two-stage Starfire rocket will be fired into the upper atmosphere in March 1989.

On Sept. 29, Tass said the first mission was planned "to conduct a comprehensive flight test of the spaceship's design and its on-board systems without a crew on board during liftoff, in orbit and during automatic landing as well as to continue upgrading the booster rocket and ground flight control aids."

The Soviet shuttle program has been shrouded in secrecy since it began in 1982, and Soviet Foreign Ministry officials said yesterday foreign reporters would not be allowed to view the launch.

What little information the Soviets have given about the shuttle has appeared timed for political purposes, to highlight the capabilities of their manned space program as measured against the American counterpart.

Tass transmitted the first pictures of the Soviet shuttle on Sept. 29, at about the same time the U.S. shuttle Discovery was launched from Cape Canaveral, Fla. The Discovery mission marked a return of the American manned space program after a 2½-year suspension caused by the Challenger accident.

French officials in Paris, meanwhile, said an Ariane rocket will be launched between 10:17 p.m. and 11:13 p.m. EDT tomorrow from the European Space Agency launch site in Kourou, French Guiana, on the northern coast of South America.

The new satellite will provide a better TV picture and stereo sound. It represents the first step for Europe toward the new technology of high-definition television, officials say.

The satellite was developed over a decade for about \$250 million by the government's broadcasting authority.

emigrate also has risen. In 1986, about 2,000 were permitted to leave. Last year the number climbed to 8,155 and this year about 10,000 have departed.

The Reagan administration has said it would consider the proposal for a Moscow conference if the Soviets meet certain criteria, including releasing political prisoners, generally improving their human rights performance, guaranteeing that any group that wished to be allowed to attend the session, demonstrate and hold press conferences, and resolving a number of pending family reunification cases.

"Morning Edition," 10 Oct. 1988, interview with Aleksandr Alexyev, author of a Rand Corp. study titled Inside The Soviet Army In Afghanistan; TR-80, NPR's "All Things Considered," 19 Oct. 1988, report on Defense Science Board study

concerning DOD and high-tech industries; TR-85, CNN's "Newsmaker Sunday," 23 Oct. 1988, interview with Sec/Energy John Harrington and House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman John Dingell (D-MI) on nuclear weapons plants.)

~~Lil's com~~

Fix  
the Soviet  
HR

DRAFT SPEECH FOR UNGA

Parla: Here is a conglomeration  
of NVEL's, YOUR, EBY, LDR, &

LEAH'S VIEWS, INCLUDING

UP dates from EBY on BULGARIA,

WHY DON'T YOU FIX IT UP

THE WAY YOU WANT AND GIVE

IT TO A TYPIST TO

PRODUCE A clean TEXT to

RECIRCULATE?

Sam

HUMAN RIGHTS IN EASTERN EUROPE

↓ ~~In assessing the situation throughout~~ <sup>in</sup> Eastern Europe today, Human rights remains a subject of major concern. The past decade has seen ~~few~~ <sup>SOME</sup> concrete advances ~~and, indeed, some notable~~ <sup>but also</sup> reversals. One has only to think of the brutal tactics of the ZOMOS <sup>Riot Police</sup> in suppressing Solidarity in the early 1980s or, more recently, the repression of Bulgaria's ethnic Turks in that country's campaign of forced assimilation -- an effort which would have been comic, even ludicrous had the results not been tragic for so many. *These and other examples show how dangerous is the condition of human rights in the region.*

Yet in the long, slow process of seeking change there are, I think, signs of great hope -- of great potential. In large part, these result from pragmatic judgments by the current *regimes* ~~leadership~~ in Eastern Europe. Forty years and more of experience have convinced all but the most stubborn that classic Marxist economics <sup>and their LEININIST-STALINIST application</sup> are doomed to fail in a modern world. *At the same time their populations, like it or not, are inevitably being drawn closer to the rest of the world, moving into the modern world.* Though some still try, no one yet has invented an infallible, "air-tight" seal to prevent the flow of information across national borders. As a result, the "revolution of rising expectations" is as strong today in Eastern Europe as anywhere in the world.

*And events of the last decade have shown the futility of trying to isolate these economies from the world economy.*

2.

The classic response to such popular pressure, totalitarianism, is no longer an option. Few of Eastern Europe's present leaders are prepared to accept the costs which doctrinaire absolutism -- the terror tactics and unbridled repression of 40 years ago -- would bring today. Instead, they must seek to meet the aspirations of their people, or risk becoming, -- as some already have, -- irrelevant anachronisms who must eventually pass from the scene "unwept, unhonored and unsung." For these we can only continue to press for whatever incremental gains seem possible, continue to argue their true interests in the face of their apparent self-delusion, and continue to hope for their early and easy departure.

For the majority of the peoples of Eastern Europe today, however, I believe there is great hope. As the vast system which has controlled their fates for forty years becomes more pragmatic, it must inevitably turn more and more to what we Americans see as the true and only purpose of Government -- that of securing for the people those inalienable rights which are the birthright of all mankind.

We have seen evidence this process is beginning to occur throughout much of Eastern Europe today. ~~Indeed, the examples I mentioned above bear witness to this fact. In Poland today,~~

the Government has agreed, after many years, to reopen discussions with the ~~Solidarity Free Trade Union~~. *OPPOSITION, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES of Solidarity.*

Looking at the whole of Eastern Europe, I think it is fair to say there has been some progress on human rights almost everywhere. The nations of Eastern Europe ~~have~~ <sup>are</sup> become <sup>ing</sup> for the most part, active and responsible participants in the CSCE process established at Helsinki in 1973. *This is a major step forward.* ~~They~~ no longer seek to hide behind charges of "interference in internal affairs" to deflect criticism of their human rights behavior. They acknowledge the standards they accepted in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Helsinki Accords, and they acknowledge, implicitly, that these standards are absolute, not subject to interpretation as the interests of socialism -- or any other doctrine -- might dictate. In their striving to achieve economic and social progress, the leadership of Eastern Europe appears increasingly to understand that such economic and social "rights" in practice cannot be fully realized where true civil and political freedom does not exist.

*Acceptance, their leaders recognize they can*

In Hungary, the leadership has long sought innovative solutions to the economic challenges facing the country. As a result, Hungary's <sup>new</sup> ~~economy~~ <sup>AGE</sup> became one of the <sup>most far-reaching</sup> ~~strongest~~ in Eastern Europe. With that change occurred a concomitant -- one

*see me to copy about H.R. or comment refer*

*FEY COMMENT*

U

political-social

might almost say a necessary -- relaxation of the iron/grip which had seized the country in 1956; Hungarians became, and remain, among the freest people in Eastern Europe today. Despite current economic problems, and occasional retrogression on the human rights front, as Hungarians prepare to write a new constitution the potential for further advances toward real democracy and respect for human rights remains high.

Still suffers from the legacy of two decades of repression, known as "reorganization", there are reports of high

forced

In Czechoslovakia, another nation once ~~crushed~~ into the mold of Marxist orthodoxy by Soviet tanks, a new leadership has taken over and continues ~~cautiously but predictably~~ to consolidate its position. <sup>THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION, HOWEVER</sup> Though no dramatic advances in human rights have occurred, negotiations between the Government and the Roman Catholic Church continue, and there continues to be some relaxation of sanctions formerly applied against those who disagreed with the Government. We continue to press for further improvement.

remains mixed, with progress in some areas but not in others.

We continue to press as well in Romania, whose leadership's record is a sad one of unkept promises misrepresentations and apparent self-delusion. Despite constitutional guarantees, freedom of speech does not exist in Romania today, <sup>&</sup> even more tragic, the legitimate concerns of the people have no avenue of expression except through spontaneous outbursts of violence like that brutally suppressed in the Transylvanian city of Brasov last year. Grandiose, ill-conceived economic



schemes have brought the people of this <sup>fertile</sup> ~~rich agricultural~~ land to the brink of real hunger and want. Claims to the contrary notwithstanding, the Government seeks to stifle religion: the Roman Catholic Church is, technically, illegal as are Nazarenes, Mormons, Christian Scientists, Jehovah's Witnesses and other religions known and respected in the West. Uniata believers, thought still to number close to a million, are forced to worship in secret. Even "approved" denominations, such as the Baptists, Pentecostals, Evangelical and Reformed Churches and Seventh-Day Adventists are denied adequate facilities, clergy and even Bibles while Government officials -- and even some churchmen -- mouth pious denials. Saddest of all, under its present leadership the young people of Romania today -- as we hear constantly from those both in and outside the country -- have lost faith in their country's future. The forces of change affecting the Soviet Union today have less effect in Romania than anywhere else in Eastern Europe.

These forces are, however, being felt strongly in Romania's neighbor Bulgaria, a nation especially closely aligned with Russia, ~~even from Tsarist times~~. As a result, the country's old-guard leadership is turning more toward the West for possible solutions to its economic difficulties; and with this <sup>approach</sup> ~~partial economic reorientation~~ has come a ~~demonstrated~~ willingness at least to discuss areas of concern more frankly and openly.

Moreover, the regime has announced a program of rural "industrialization" that would demolish thousands of traditional villages, many situated by ethnic minorities, and destroy their culture, all in the name of economic progress and modernization.

replaced by typical Soviet

... and without a by-gone - how from the people's efforts

UNCLASSIFIED

These forces, however, are beginning to be felt in Romania's neighbor, Bulgaria, a nation especially closely aligned with the USSR. There has been some ~~notable~~ progress in our bilateral relations. We have seen 11 of the 27 divided family cases now resolved, a heartening step forward. The government has announced new social and political measures designed to lessen the official burden on travel and emigration. ~~At the same time~~ At the same time, we have been very disappointed to witness the continued persecution of the Turkish minority and their enforced "assimilation." The government also continues to harass Bulgarians who protest peacefully against human rights abuses in their own country. Such a conflict among policies must be resolved in favor of greater democracy and glasnost if Bulgaria is ever to achieve the potential which it could achieve under a free society.

*A tightly controlled flow of information and a repressive regime combine to harshly restrict fundamental freedoms.*

Drafted: EUR/EEY/RA:JWZerolis (1229A)

Cleared: EUR/EEY:JSeymour

*However,*

UNCLASSIFIED

*Sam,  
It's inconsistent to be so tough on the GDR + so soft on Bulgaria (which is basically a totalitarian, nasty place.)*

6.

In the German Democratic Republic, another traditionalist "old-guard" regime has not relaxed its grip on the people, or its xenophobia. Nevertheless some improvement has occurred: travel to the West is increasing; some of the more lethal devices guarding the frontier against westward penetration have been eliminated. And, despite strong inclinations toward ideological orthodoxy, some economic experimentation has been undertaken. ~~if successful, this could further erode the foundations of totalitarian Marxism in East Germany.~~

*Yp...  
12/1/67*

The most dramatic changes, of course, have occurred so far in Poland, where the Government continues to seek avenues for real dialogue with the people, within the constraints it perceives for itself. While ~~absolute strategic~~ <sup>geopolitical and other</sup> ideological ~~and other~~ limits remain, it is in Poland -- with its strongly Western orientation, its independent and courageous <sup>church,</sup> ~~judiciary,~~ its long experience in the struggle for liberty, and the morality implicit in its religious orientation -- that the greatest potential for further progress toward true democracy and respect for human rights exists.

Just as in the rest of Eastern Europe, however, real, lasting progress in Poland remains potential. ~~We have seen in the past how exogenous factors~~ <sup>out or in</sup> A serious downturn in the world economy; a shift in the fresh breezes of reform now blowing through the Kremlin -- might doom this potential to be

↑ How much do we trust the protection of human rights depends on economies?  
→ EBY COMMENT

In the German Democratic Republic another "old guard" regime deploys an efficient and pervasive security apparatus to maintain tight control over the people. Fundamental freedoms are restricted. Nevertheless some improvement has occurred, particularly in the area of human contacts. Travel has increased over the past three years to the point where almost one quarter of the population will visit the West this year. *Travel* Opportunities for those below pension age in particular have gone up dramatically. Some of the more lethal devices designed to prevent escape have also been eliminated; but despite reports of a change in the "shoot-to-kill" order in force along the Wall, shots continue to be fired at individuals seeking to leave. Travel and other contacts contribute to the overcoming of barriers between East and West and the erosion of totalitarian Marxism in East Germany.

long delayed of realization. So, despite the progress which has occurred, and the vastly greater potential for further improvement, we cannot afford to relax. We must, and will, continue to look closely at the individual circumstances of each of the countries of Eastern Europe and, in the formulation and execution of our policy, to seek to exploit every opportunity to encourage more rapid progress toward true democracy and true respect for human rights.

INFLAMMATION  
LAVINATE

Political reality dictates that one cannot talk about human rights in East Central Europe without discussing the nation that has effectively controlled the destiny of Eastern Europe since the end of World War II. I am referring, of course, to the Soviet Union.

EEY  
Came →

When General Secretary Gorbachev came to power in March 1985, there was little reason to believe that there would be major advances in the area of human rights, and indeed, the first years of Mr. Gorbachev's tenure <sup>were</sup> ~~was~~ not distinguished by significant improvement in this area. But by late 1986, a few glimmers of hope began to appear. Political arrests were dramatically reduced, a handful of political prisoners were quietly released ahead of schedule, and on December 19, 1986, Dr. Andrei Sakharov stepped off a train in Moscow after almost seven years illegal exile in the city of Gorky. In 1987, the Soviet government pardoned or amnestied approximately 350 political prisoners out of approximately 750 known to the West.

MORR in USSR

PAULA:

My "Soviet input" attached to Nuel's draft "Human Rights in East Europe".

FIN 10/14/88

cc: NPazdral  
SVSmith  
LLerner  
NKingsley  
CGlunt

(ATTACHMENT TO NLP'S DRAFT, "HUMAN RIGHTS IN  
IN EAST EUROPE"

When General Secretary Gorbachev came to power in March 1985, there was little reason to believe that there would be major advances in the area of human rights, and indeed, the first years of Mr. Gorbachev's tenure was not distinguished by significant improvement in this area. But by late 1986, a few glimmers of hope began to appear. Political arrests were dramatically reduced, a handful of political prisoners were quietly released ahead of schedule, and on December 19, 1986, Dr. Andrei Sakharov was released from his seven years of illegal exile in the city of Gorky. In 1987, the Soviet government pardoned or amnestied approximately 350 political prisoners out of approximately 750 known to the West. To the best of our knowledge, however, none of these former prisoners have been rehabilitated as provided for by Soviet law, and, should the political climate change, they could find themselves back in labor camp or internal exile. In addition, the West is still aware of approximately 250 persons believed to be political prisoners still held in labor camp, prison, or internal exile.

There is a more tolerant attitude by authorities in some parts of the Soviet Union toward public dissent, both in terms of demonstrations and independent publications. An increasing number of persons are no longer afraid to speak openly, and books and authors that had been "in the drawer" for years previously, are now being published, or serialized in journals. Of course, whether or not to publish still depends on government permission. For instance, we understand that parts of Alexander Solzhenitsyn's "GULag Archipelago" may be published in a Soviet periodical. But we would note that "GULag" has already been published, in Russian, in Paris. Why not simply allow the book to be brought freely into the Soviet Union, and save the time, money and periodical space for other valuable works of literature that may have been repressed in the past.

In January of this year, <sup>the</sup> USSR Supreme Soviet promulgated new regulations that theoretically make it more difficult to incarcerate individuals in psychiatric facilities against their will. We hope that these regulations will be assiduously honored, and in addition, call for the release or reexamination of dozens of persons still believed by the West to be involuntarily held in psychiatric hospitals on the basis of

(a sentence <sup>or a page</sup> must be missing here.)



seat of their faith? The Ukrainian Catholic Church, which was illegally and brutally abolished in Lviv in 1946, must be allowed to exist openly in the Soviet Union, its members permitted to worship in peace.

*To that end, on that regard, we hope the discussions between the Russian Orthodox Patriarchate and the Vatican will continue.*

We hope that the promised new regulations on religion will allow more freedom for believers to engage in charitable activities, religious education of children, and evangelizing outside of church premises. But then, when one thinks about it, why does any nation need "laws on religion"? As long as believers observe the civil liberties of their fellow citizens, why should they be subject to restrictions on their activities? If atheists are allowed to openly propagate the "non-faith", why shouldn't believers be allowed to go forth and preach their ~~beliefs~~ <sup>teachings</sup> ~~gospel?~~ *(Protestants, Jews, etc. have a "gospel")*

One of the basic rights recognized by the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights is the "right to leave one's country and return" to it. In the past few years, the number of Soviet citizens allowed to emigrate has consistently risen compared to the first years of this decade. Nevertheless, there are still dozens of long-time "refuseniks" who are being allowed to emigrate, many <sup>on</sup> of the specious grounds of "state secrecy". It is inconceivable to think that the security of the Soviet Union could be seriously undermined by the departure of a woman who last worked as a secretary for the secret police in 1947. Or that a man could represent such a

threat to any country that he could be prevented from leaving seventeen years later. These cases, and many similar, simply must be resolved by a nation whose leaders claim<sup>d</sup> to wish to develop a civil society for their people.

The changes, in all areas, taking place in the Soviet Union, are indeed welcome. No one would seriously deny that incremental changes have taken place in the area of human rights, an area that Soviet spokes<sup>e</sup>man have admitted has "given us trouble in the past. We look forward to continued progress in this area and for the inst<sup>i</sup>tutionalization of these changes, to the extent that this is possible, as a means to assure that there will be no retreat regardless of whom is at the helm in Moscow.