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THE WHITE HOUSE

FROM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Meeting with Elizabeth Dole and
leaders of Soviet Jewry Movement

Ida Nudel vigil in front of Soviet
Embassy

Tuesday, July 20, 1982

REPRODUCTION COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DRAFT

MICHAEL GALE'S COMMENTS TO THE SOVIET JEWRY VIGIL
JULY 20, 1982
12:30 p.m.

I am honored to participate in this vigil, which ~~highlights~~ ^{reminds} the plight of Ida Nudel and so many others like her who are being denied the freedoms that are so important and that all Americans enjoy.

The President's policy is one of unswerving support of basic human rights, including the freedom of all persons to emigrate and be united with their families and loved ones.

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Ida Nudel reminds us that there are thousands of Soviet Jews and others who desire to emigrate. The President has been deeply disturbed by recent reports that the flow of emigrants from the Soviet Union has been sharply reduced.

This is a tragic situation, for behind the cold statistics lies the cold realization that tens of thousands of Soviet Jews are now being denied their right to build new lives and to exercise their fundamental cultural, religious and personal freedoms.

The United States government continues to raise the issue of Soviet emigration at top level U.S. - Soviet meetings. It was on the agenda at every meeting between former Secretary of State Haig and Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko. The President's concern over this persecution and other denials of basic human freedoms must be an integral element of U.S. foreign policy. Our country is based on freedom ^{of} human rights. We seek to expand freedom and human rights in the world. We must maintain our national economic and military strength and thereby enable ourselves to press effectively for the right of people to live in freedom. The President shares your hope that the leaders

in the Soviet Union will reconsider their policies on emigration and human rights and renew their commitment to the Helsinki Final Act, not just with empty words, but with deeds.

Remember, Ida Nudel serves as a beacon to others who want to speak out.

JUDY MANN

MARTYR

Ida Nudel, the only Jewish woman to serve a term in Siberia as a "prisoner of conscience," has disappeared. Nudel, 51, has spent the last 11 years of her life trying to leave the Soviet Union to join her sister in Israel. For her efforts, she was sentenced to four years of internal exile, living part of the time in barracks that housed hardened male criminals.

She was released in March but told she would never be allowed to leave the Soviet Union. Her last contact with the West was on July 13, when she spoke with her sister, and signed off in despair. She was being made a homeless person.

Ida Nudel first requested permission to leave in 1971. At the time she was an economist, working in the Institute of Planning and Production and monitoring hygiene standards in food stores. Permission was refused on the grounds she possessed "state secrets." Her room was bugged. She was followed. She was repeatedly detained and beaten. She was also fired from her job and, in order to avoid the charge of being a parasite, worked as a cleaning woman. She spent the next seven years trying to get out and sending chocolates, photographs, reading material, clothing, food and medicine to imprisoned Jews on the rare visits they could have with their families. She came to be known as the "guardian angel" of the "prisoners of conscience" and in the Soviet Jewish community, she became a legend.

Then on June 1, 1978, she hung a banner from the balcony of her Moscow apartment saying, "KGB, give me my visa." She was arrested and three weeks later convicted of malicious hooliganism and banished to Krivosheina, 1,800 miles east of Moscow. Her main companion was a collie that was with her when she returned to Moscow.

Marcia Weinberg, who is married to Rabbi Joseph Weinberg of the Washington Hebrew Congregation and who heads the Committee for Soviet Jewry here, met Ida Nudel shortly before her arrest. Nudel has been "adopted" as a special prisoner by the sisterhood of the Washington Hebrew Congregation.

After her release, says Weinberg, Nudel told her sister by telephone that she had been told she should "rehabilitate herself and become a good Soviet citizen." In April, she was denied permission to live in Moscow. Then she was sent to Riga. "But when she got to Riga she was told she couldn't live in Riga," says Weinberg.

The last contact she had with her sister came on the 13th of July. Weinberg says Nudel told her sister she had spent one night in a bus station. "This is when we, as a world group, became concerned," says Weinberg. "She's not an alarmist. She said, 'Don't try to reach me; I just don't know where I'm going to be. I will try to find you.' It was in that kind of despair she signed off and nobody knows where she is. We know she's not in Moscow and not in Riga." One theory is that she has been sent to a closed city where no Western press or tourists are allowed to go.

On Tuesday, July 20, a delegation from organizations concerned with Soviet Jews met with presidential assistant Elizabeth Dole. Dole, who is a member of Congressional Wives on Soviet Jewry, says Nudel's plight has now been drawn to the attention of the highest levels of the American government. The reduced flow of emigrants from the Soviet Union has been raised again and again at meetings with Soviet officials, says Dole, and it is a concern of which President Reagan often speaks.

The meeting with Dole left Weinberg with a profound sense of the difference between the two nations. "We could call the White House and say 'help.' The United States is a place where government can stop long enough to talk about one human being and that person's plight. It's such a juxtaposition to the Soviet Union where individuals are trampled on and stomped on and lost." Later that day, a vigil was held at the Soviet Embassy on Nudel's behalf; among the speakers was a representative of Dole's office.

What has happened to Ida Nudel is so alien to the American experience that it seems unbelievable. As Weinberg puts it, it is senseless. "It is almost like they are trying to destroy a spirit totally. For what? Why? She's done it already. She's been in exile, she's been in prison. It would just seem enough."

Sometimes the story of a single person can tell more about a system of government than all the statistics in the world. The Soviets have created a martyr, yet another human being who is a living indictment of a system that doesn't work. It is only fitting that when

those in the free world think of the Soviet Union they should think, also, of Ida Nudel.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 19, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR ELIZABETH DOLE

VIA: JACK BURGESS

FROM: MICHAEL R. GALE *M.R.G.*

SUBJECT: Background and Talking Points for
7/19 meeting with leaders of the
Soviet Jewry Movement concerning
Ida Nudel

You have agreed to meet with leaders of the Soviet Jewry movement on Tuesday, July 20 at 11:00. Immediately following this meeting, members of the delegation along with leaders in the Jewish community will hold a vigil across the street from the Soviet Embassy to call attention to the plight of Ida Nudel. The 12:30 vigils have been held each day for 12 years in an effort to illustrate to the Soviets that the American Jewish community will not forget their brothers and sisters who have been denied permission to leave the Soviet Union.

BACKGROUND:

The term "refusenik" refers to Jews within the Soviet Union who have been refused a visa to emigrate to Israel. These people often have their jobs taken away from them and are subject to continual harassment from KGB officials.

Ida Nudel has been refused an exit visa to emigrate to Israel since 1971. In 1978 she was arrested and charged with malicious hooliganism for holding a sign on her balcony which read, "Let me go to my sister in Israel." She was released in March 1982. Since that time, she has been told by Soviet officials that she will never be allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union. She was refused permission to live in Moscow and Riga. She has not been heard from in several weeks, and the Jewish community fears that she has been banished to a "closed city" where there is no press or tourists for her to make contact.

There has also been continual concern by the Jewish community over the well-being of Anatoly Scharansky and Vladimir Slepak. Both men were arrested because they too expressed the desire to emigrate to Israel. A special vigil was held for Scharansky last week to commemorate the day he was taken prisoner, July 14, 1978. At that time, he was sentenced to 13 years in a labor camp.

In the past, the President has received high marks and support from the Jewish community for his position on Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union. In 1979 Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union was at its peak. The figures for June 1982 were the lowest in a decade. In June 1982, 182 people were allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union, down 96% from June 1979.

The American Jewish community supports not explicit, but implicit linkage between commercial trade agreements and emigration from the Soviet Union. The community strongly supports the idea that Soviet Jewry be weaved into U.S.- Soviet relations and negotiations, particularly in light of the upcoming grain negotiations.

The members of the delegation you will be meeting with are as follows:

- * Marcia Weinberg, Chairman of the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington's Soviet Jewry Committee; Nathan Lewin, Chairman of the Jewish Community Council; Samuel Sislén, Director of International Affairs of the Jewish Community Council; David Harris, Washington Representative for the National Conference on Soviet Jewry; Sol Goldstein, Executive Board Member of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry; Bernard White, Executive Board Member of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry
- * Marcia Weinberg is the mother of my intern. You met Rachel, my intern at a meeting of the Women's Press Association of Washington last year.

TALKING POINTS

- 1) The matter of Soviet Jewry will remain high on the President's United States - Soviet Union agenda.
- 2) It is the hope of this Administration that talks between the President and leaders in the Soviet Union will be productive and increase emigration of Soviet Jews.
- 3) The President will include the issue of Soviet Jewry in future negotiations with the Soviet Union.
- 4) Former Secretary Haig has met with Foreign Minister Gromyko on several occasions at which time he has raised the issue of Soviet Jewry.
- 5) The President is aware of the tremendous decrease in the numbers of Jews allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union.
- 6) The President is concerned for the safety and well-being of Ida Nudel as well as Anatoly Scharansky and Vladimir Slepak.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 20, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR ELIZABETH H. DOLE

VIA: JACK BURGESS

FROM: MICHAEL R. GALE *MRG*

SUBJECT: Vigil for Ida Nudel

Attached is a pamphlet from today's 12:30 vigil for Ida Nudel. I thought you might find the background information helpful.

I am told that my appearance at the vigil today was the first time that a White House official has attended these events. The members of the delegation from this morning's meeting have asked me to express to you their thanks for taking the time to discuss the plight of Ida Nudel with them.

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REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENTS

To: Officer-in-charge
Appointments Center
Room 060, OEOB

Please admit the following appointments on Tuesday, July 20, 19 82

for Michael R. Gale of Office of Public Liaison
(NAME OF PERSON TO BE VISITED) (AGENCY)

Marcia Weinberg
Nathan Lewin
Samuel Sislen
David Harris
Sol Goldstein
Bernard White

MEETING LOCATION

Building OEOB

Requested by Michael R. Gale

Room No. 197

Room No. 197 Telephone X2164

Time of Meeting 10:45

Date of request July 19, 1982

Additions and/or changes made by telephone should be limited to three (3) names or less.

APPOINTMENTS CENTER: SIG/OEOB - 395-6046 or WHITE HOUSE - 456-6742

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 16, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR RED CAVANEY

VIA: JACK BURGESS

FROM: MICHAEL R. GALE *MRG*

SUBJECT: Ida Nudel - former Soviet Jewish
prisoner of conscience

I would like to request that a five minute meeting be arranged for Mrs. Dole and me to meet with a delegation from the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry on Tuesday, July 20, sometime before 12:30 p.m. The delegation will be holding a vigil at the Soviet embassy at 12:30 p.m. in an effort to bring to public attention the blatant human rights denial concerning Ida Nudel.

Former Soviet Jewish prisoner of conscience, Ida Nudel, served out her four year exile sentence and returned to Moscow last March. Upon returning, she was told by KGB officials to act as a "rehabilitated citizen" and to abandon efforts to emigrate.

Ida, of course, proceeded to apply for permission to emigrate to Israel to be reunited with her sister, Elana Friedman. In response, the KGB revoked her Moscow residency permit and compelled her to seek residency elsewhere.

Some days ago, Ida left Moscow, travelling toward Riga. Her precise whereabouts and status are unclear. One report indicates that she was compelled to spend the night in a railroad station, another report indicates that the KGB has now told Ida that her residency for Riga will be denied.

While the U.S.S.R.'s plans for her are unclear, it is clear that Ida has suffered sufficiently and should not be further harassed and should be permitted to leave.

In addition to the vigil being held at the Soviet embassy in Washington, communities around the world will be seeking to bring this human rights denial to public attention on July 20. I feel that a meeting with Mrs. Dole and the delegation arranging the vigil at the Soviet embassy would highlight the Administration's concern over the plight of Soviet Jews. Such a meeting would be consistent with suggestions made by Lyn Nofziger in his July 8th memorandum to Mrs. Dole.

Nofziger and Bragg
COMMUNICATIONS

JUL 10 REC'D

Ed Dole

EHD	
RC	<i>W</i>
JB	
<i>MS</i>	

MEMORANDUM TO: Edwin Meese
James Baker
Edwin Harper
William Clark
✓ Elizabeth Dole

FROM: Lyn Nofziger

LN

DATE: July 8, 1982

The President's decision regarding the Israel-Lebanon invasion seems to have gotten us back on the political track with most of the Jewish community. It seems logical to me that we ought to try to follow-up and do two or three things that would insure Jewish support over the next couple of years and into the 1984 election.

A friend of mine suggests these things which I think ought to be given serious consideration: The institution of a refugee policy for Iranian Jews; more visible action on behalf of Soviet Jews; and a look at the Genocide Treaty. If it is not acceptable in its present form, we might publicly call for some revisions so that we could support it.

None of these things are earthshaking, but I do think we need to make a start at changing the perception of the Administration that it is unsympathetic in these areas. I think it would do a lot of good.

*Mike -
Please advise
your thoughts.
JL*

This week

The war in Lebanon continues to be a focus of news coverage in The Jewish Week.

In hearings before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Richard V. Allen, former national security advisor, supported the Jewish state. Former under secretary of state George Ball lashed out against Israel's policies and its leaders, back to David Ben Gurion. Story by Joseph Polakoff on page 3.



Israel has been rebuilding Lebanon after seven years of Palestine Liberation Organization destruction. Story on page 7.



Five panelists discussed the situation in Lebanon at a briefing sponsored by the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington. Story on page 7.

Major news organizations are beginning to admit that they circulated inaccurate, inflated figures on the casualties in Lebanon, but they're not dealing openly with the problem. Editorial on page 12. Former Washington residents now living in Israel have written letters describing Israeli reaction to the war. Story on page 27.

Secretary of State George Shultz promised to help Soviet Jews last week in his confirmation hearings in the Senate. However he did not discuss the Camp David Accords or aid to Israel. Two stories by Joseph Polakoff on page 2.



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Montgomery County leads state in racial incidents

By Debra Baron

Montgomery County leads the state of Maryland in reported racial, religious and ethnic incidents for January through March 1982 and was second for July through December 1981, according to a preliminary report issued by the Governor's Task Force on Violence and Extremism.

The survey shows Montgomery County with 37 incidents, or 36 per cent of the state total, for January through March 1982, and with 59 incidents, or 31 per cent of the total reported, for July through Dec. 31, 1981. Prince George's County shows nine reported incidents, nine per cent of the state total for January through March 1982 and 20, or 10 per cent, of the reported incidents in Maryland for July through Dec. 31, 1981.

The Task Force was initiated to examine the prominence in Maryland of such activities as cross burnings, swastika daubings and vandalism of religious institutions, and assault, arson and threats which have racial, religious or ethnic overtones.

The Prince George's County Board of Human Relations has recorded more incidents than are shown on the Task Force report, according to Bonnie Beck, chief of community relations for the board.

Amy Goot, former assistant director of the Maryland-D.C. regional office of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, when asked about the Task Force statistics, said that the two counties which noted the

highest number of incidents, Baltimore County and Montgomery County, also have the highest concentrations of Jews. Baltimore County ranked second in the state for number of incidents for January through March 1982 with a total of 37 and first in the state for July through Dec. 31, 1981, with 67 incidents.

Recent incidents

Incidents such as those mentioned in the Task Force report which *The Jewish Week* has learned of in the past six months include:

- A red spray-painted swastika was discovered May 22 at Har Shalom in Potomac on a Soviet Jewry sign.

- A newsletter, published by the National Socialist White People's Party, was distributed door-to-door in Rockville and Potomac on May 15.

- Beth Messiah, a congregation of self-proclaimed Messianic Jews, discovered their playground well covered with swastikas and slogans such as "Hitler Rules" and "No Jews," on June 11.

- A Jewish student was shot with a BB-pistol by a classmate at the University of Maryland. Her assailant marched up and down their dorm hallway shouting German slogans and dressed in Nazi-like garb, on March 10.

- In a related incident, a newsletter, published anonymously for 27 years at the University of Maryland College Park campus, named the assailant "Man of the Month."

- Swastikas and "German sayings" attached to police, were discovered June 26, on Post Oak rd. in Potomac.

- A note, found on an automobile on Rossett terrace in Rockville, according to police, written on a cash register tape, said "KKK is on you Jew bait," "SCRIME,"

Please turn to page 6

White House aide attends Nudel vigil

For the first time in the 11-year history of the Soviet Jewry vigil, a representative of the White House has taken part officially in the daily event across from the Soviet embassy.

Michael Gale, White House liaison with the Jewish community, speaking Tuesday at a vigil for former prisoner of conscience Ida Nudel, said, "Ida Nudel reminds us that there are thousands of Soviet Jews and others who desire to emigrate." He said President Reagan is concerned by the recent drop in the number of Jews allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union.

The vigil was called amid reports that Nudel, who was denied a residency permit in Moscow, was sent to Riga where she was told that she would not receive a permit either. She was last known to be travelling to Strunino, but her exact whereabouts and welfare are unknown.

Also on Tuesday, a delegation representing the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and the Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington met with Elizabeth Dole, director of the White House office of public liaison, to appeal on behalf of Nudel. Dole indicated that she was aware of the plight of the former prisoner of conscience and was "chilled" by the Soviet mistreatment of her. She said she would raise

Please turn to page 6



Photo by Alyza Levin

Young thinker

Five-year-old Avraham Adam of White Oak stands deep in thought while watching a kickball game at Camp Shalom. The camp is located at the Hebrew Academy of Greater Washington and is one of several Jewish day camps in the area.

Holocaust Council seeks chief as Agus' name is withdrawn

By Janice L. Kaplan

Robert E. Agus said this week that he has withdrawn his name from consideration as director of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. Agus, who served as temporary head of the Council office from early April to June 28, declined to say why he had withdrawn his name.

However, several sources said that Agus is no longer being considered for the post because the White House was opposed to his appointment. Remarks he made in an interview in *The Jewish Week* April 8-14, in which he said he was the Council's new director, were seen as contributing to his name being withdrawn. In the interview, Agus said he had been named director and would serve as acting director of the Council until President Reagan approved the appointment.

However, another source who is close to the situation said that at that time Agus' name had not been submitted to the President and that he was only serving as a con-

sultant to the Holocaust Council.

Agus told *The Jewish Week* in April that he had been congratulated by Council chairman Elie Wiesel upon his being named Council director.

According to the Council's statute, the President appoints a Council director based on a nomination from Wiesel.

A search for a new director, conducted by a committee led by Monroe Freedman, former Council director, and Sigmund Strochlitz, a council member, is said to be continuing. Interviews with as many as 10 possible candidates were scheduled after Agus' departure. The list is being narrowed and an appointment is expected within the next month.

Freedman was unavailable for comment on the withdrawal of Agus' name.

Agus said this week that he will continue his work as a consultant to the Council. President of his own consulting firm, Agus was the co-founder and first director of Fab-rangen, a Washington area chavurah.

Nudel denied permit

Continued from front page

Nudel's case with the President and the secretary of state and urge their direct intervention on her behalf.

At the vigil, Gale told 100 participants that, "The United States government continues to raise the issue of Soviet emigration at top U.S.-Soviet meetings. It was on the agenda at every meeting between former Secretary of State Haig and Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko."

"President Reagan's concern over this persecution and other denials of basic human freedoms must be an integral element of U.S. foreign policy," Gale said.

"The President shares your hope that the leaders in the Soviet Union will reconsider their policies on emigration and human rights and renew their commitment to the Helsinki Final Act, not just with empty words, but with deeds."



Nudel

Montgomery County leads state

Continued from front page

and "Watch you're step!" The car owner is Jewish.

Lt. Charles Federline, director of information services for the Montgomery County police, said the higher number of reported incidents for Montgomery County resulted from Montgomery County's reporting system rather than from a greater concentration of violence and extremism.

"There must be clear evidence of racial, religious or ethnic" elements, said Federline. "If two kids are fighting over a parking space—one is Black and the other is white—and there are no racial overtones, then this case would not be reported according to our guidelines."

Telephone survey

In addition to using statistics gathered for the Uniform Crime Report by local police

stations and collated by the Maryland State Police, the Task Force commissioned the University of Maryland to do a telephone survey. According to Connie Beims, chairperson of the Task Force, of the 530 individuals interviewed no one under 18 was questioned in this 45-minute survey which consisted of "a shopping list of questions." The survey, which will be used as an internal tool by the Task Force, asked such questions as, "how warm do you feel toward Blacks, Jews and other minorities," and "how do you feel about different situations."

According to Beims, one surprising result of the survey was the higher tolerance for prejudice that 18-to-22-year-olds interviewed had. The survey will be used to determine the direction the Task Force will take.

HOMEMADE PASTA

RAVIOLI (meat and spinach or Ricotta FETTUCCINE (white or green); CANNELLONI (meat and spinach or spinach and Ricotta MANICOTTI (Ricotta), LAZAGNA; AGNOLOTTI (spinach and Ricotta); GNOCCHI (patata, Tortellini, pesto sauce).

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AGUDAS ACHIM SISTERHOOD

AGUDAS ACHIM CONGREGATION

2908 VALLEY DRIVE, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22302 998-6460

July 20, 1982

Mr. Michael Gale
Special Liaison to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Gale:

How pleased I was to have met you today as you stood with us at the special solidarity vigil on behalf of Ida Nudel at the Soviet Embassy, and to have been personally introduced by Joan Sacarob. It is so encouraging to know that as a representative of the White House, you joined us in our efforts on behalf of Ida and the other refuseniks. You might like to know what a tremendous impression the White House presence made on the group of teenagers from the Northern Virginia Jewish Community Center camp, Al Galgalim. My son was in the group and was most vocal about the White House representation at the vigil. I will relay information about today's vigil to my fellow board members at our very next meeting. Again, I thank you for your attendance on behalf of President Reagan.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Sanders

ANN SANDERS
Soviet Jewry Chairman
Agudas Achim Sisterhood

106A West Rosemont Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22301

Ida Nudel, Soviet Jewish Emigration and Human Rights

-- Ida Nudel was exiled to Siberia for having called attention to the plight of Soviet citizens who wish to emigrate. She served her four years' sentence, and now seeks a place of residence to enable her to apply for the emigration she has desired for so long.

-- The USG are watching her case ~~very~~ closely and hope that Soviet~~x~~ authorities will permit her to emigrate. We believe very strongly in the right of freedom of movement.

-- Ida Nudel reminds us that there are thousands of Soviet Jews and others who desire to emigrate. The level of emigration has fallen this year to fewer than 300 per month, the lowest level in years.

-- ~~Nevertheless,~~ ^TThe USG continues to raise the issue of Soviet emigration at top level U.S. - Soviet meetings. It was on the agenda at every Secretary of State ^{Ho. 9} - Foreign Minister ^{Granyko} meeting.

-- Human rights ~~issues~~ are at the core of U.S. foreign policy. This includes~~x~~ as a major component the rights~~x~~ of freedom of movement -- the rights~~x~~ to emigrate.~~xxx~~

-- We seek to expand freedom in the world. We must maintain our ~~xxxxxxx~~ national economic and ~~military~~ strength, and thereby enable ourselves to press effectively for the right of people to live in freedom.

-- Our country is based on freedom and human rights. We must continue to demonstrate this. Ida Nudel serves as a beacon to others who want to speak out.

TRANSMITTED BY:
(Date & Time Stamp)

1982 JUL 19 PM 5 39

[Handwritten signature]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Operations Center

LDX MESSAGE RECEIPT

S/S #

RECEIVED BY:
(Date & Time Stamp)

JUL 19 5:44

LDX MESSAGE NO. 000154 CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED, NO. PAGES 1

DESCRIPTION OF MSG. Ida Nudel, Soviet Jewish Emigration and Human Rights

FROM: Hugh Simon, HA/HR, 632-2590, 7802
Officer Office Symbol Extension Room Number

LDX TO: DELIVER TO: EXTENSION: ROOM NUMBER:
White House Mr. Michael Gale, 456-2164, 197

FOR: CLEARANCE INFORMATION PER REQUEST COMMENT

REMARKS: _____

VALIDATED FOR TRANSMISSION BY: *[Signature]*
Executive Secretariat Officer

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Sept. 21 - Emergency North American Conference on
Soviet Jewry

Reagan began in a Presidential message to _____,

As you know our policy is one of unswerving support of basic human rights, including the freedom of all persons to emigrate and be united with their families and loved ones.

I have been deeply disturbed by recent reports that the flow of emigrants from the Soviet Union is being sharply reduced. This is a tragic situation for behind the cold statistics lies the realization that tens of thousands of Soviet Jews are now being denied their right to build new lives and to exercise their fundamental, cultural, religious and personal freedoms.

I share your hope that the leaders of the Soviet Union will reconsider their policies on emigration and human rights and renew their commitment to the Helsinki Final Act not just with empty words, but with deeds.

I fully share your grave concern over the issue of Soviet Jewry. Our concern over this persecution and other denials of basic human freedoms must be an integral element of our policy.

MEMORANDUM TO ELIZABETH DOLE

VIA: JACK BURGESS

FROM: MICHAEL R. GALE

SUBJECT: Meeting with leaders of the National Conference on
Soviet Jewry concerning Ida Nudel.

Background

You have agreed to meet with leaders from ~~the National Conference~~ on *the*
Soviet Jewry ^{movement} on Tuesday, July 20 at 11:00 am. Immediately following
this meeting, members of the conference along with leaders in the
Jewish community will hold a vigil across ^{the street} from the Soviet Embassy
to call attention to the plight of Ida Nudel. The 12:30 vigils have
been held each day for 12 years in an effort to illustrate to the
Soviets that the American Jewish community will not forget their
brothers and sisters ~~behind the Iron Curtain~~ *who have been denied*
** insert 1* *permission to leave the SU.*

* Ida Nudel has been refused an exit visa to emigrate to Israel
since 1971. In 1978 she was arrested and charged with malicious hool-
iganism for holding up a sign on her balcony which read, "Let me go to
my sister in Israel." She was released in ^{March} 1982. Since that time, she
has been told by Soviet officials that she will never be allowed to
emigrate from the Soviet Union. She was refused permission to live
in Moscow and Riga. She has not been heard from in several weeks and
the Jewish community fears that she has been banished to a "closed city"
where there is no press or tourists for her to make contact with.

** Insert 2*

* In the past the President has received high marks and support from
the Jewish community for his position on Jewish emigration from the
Soviet Union. The President has been made aware of the decrease in
numbers of Jews allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union. In 1979
Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union was at its peak. The figures

for June 1982 were the lowest in a decade. In June 1982, 182 people were allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union, down 96% from June 1979.

* The American Jewish community supports not ~~an~~ explicit, but ~~an~~ implicit linkage between commercial trade agreements and emigration from the Soviet Union. The community strongly supports the idea that Soviet Jewry be weaved into U.S.- Soviet relations and negotiations, particularly in light of the upcoming grain negotiations.

Insert #1

*The term refusenik refers to Jews within the Soviet Union who have been refused a visa to emigrate to Israel. These people often have their jobs taken from them and are subject to continual harassment by KGB officials.

insert 2

* There has also been continual concern by the Jewish community over the well being of Anatoly Scharansky and Vladimir Slepak. Both men were arrested because they too expressed the desire to emigrate to Israel. A special vigil was held for Scharansky last week to commemorate the day he was taken prisoner, July 14, 1978. At that time he was sentenced to 13 years in a labor camp.

TALKING POINTS

- 1) The matter of Soviet Jewry will remain high on the President's United States - Soviet Union agenda.
- 2) It is the ~~true~~ hope of this Administration that talks between the President and leaders in the Soviet Union will be productive *and increase Soviet emigration* and ~~increase negotiations between our two countries.~~
- 3) The President will include the issue of Soviet Jewry in future negotiations with ^{the} Soviet ^(Union) officials.
- 4) Secretary Haig has met with Foreign Minister Gromyko on several occasions at which time he has raised the issue of Soviet Jewry.
- 5) The President is aware of the tremendous decrease in the numbers of Jews allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union.
- 6) The President is concerned for the safety and well being of Ida Nudel as well as Anatoly Scharansky and Vladimir Slepak, ~~also refuseniks who have been sentenced to exile in Siberia for asking to leave the Soviet Union.~~

1

DRAFT

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 19, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: DODIE LIVINGSTON

FROM: MICHAEL R. GALE

SUBJECT: Presidential Message on Soviet Jewry

Tomorrow, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and the Jewish Community Council of Washington are sponsoring a vigil in front of the Soviet embassy at 12:30 p.m. to bring public attention to the plight of Ida Nudel, a former prisoner of conscience in the Soviet Union.

Ida Nudel was arrested by the KGB in Moscow in 1978 for placing a sign on the balcony of her apartment in Moscow that read, "Let me go to my sister in Israel." The charge was "malicious hoolaganism." She was released in March, 1982, and returned to Moscow where she was told by the KGB not to apply for an exit visa from the Soviet Union to go to Israel. She, of course, applied for a visa, where upon her request to emigrate was denied and she was told that she may no longer live in Moscow. Upon being forced to leave Moscow, she applied for residency in Riga, Russia. Word has it that her application for residency in Riga has also been denied and she has been banished to a "closed city" where there is no press or tourists contacts.

The vigil scheduled for tomorrow is an effort to heighten public awareness of the violation of human rights in the Soviet Union and also the drastic decrease in Soviet Jews and others being allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union.

Elizabeth Dole will meet with the leadership who is sponsoring the vigil prior to the vigil in an attempt to highlight the President's deep concern over the plight of Soviet Jewry.

I will be attending the vigil and would like to have a Presidential statement that I may read regarding Soviet Jewry.

ITEM #: 413 ()

Efforts on Behalf of Soviet Jewry

TIP/SI-TRF (1): SOV/JEWRY

TYPE OF DOC.: Issue

CREATE DATE: JAN-25-78

UPDATE DATE: FEB-09-82

HIDE: 5

I am replying to your message to ##(Reagan/Haig)## regarding the efforts of Soviet Jews to emigrate.

The U.S. Government has taken a strong stand in favor of the right of free emigration from the Soviet Union. We have encouraged the Soviet authorities to be less harsh and more responsive toward Jews wishing to emigrate. Yet, despite our efforts, there has been a general downturn in emigration from the USSR since late 1978. Furthermore, the Soviet Government in recent months has tightened its already severe restrictions on emigration of its citizens.

We continue to seek opportunities to persuade the Soviet Government to liberalize its policies on emigration and freedom of movement. At the Madrid Review Meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), we expressed our concern over Soviet emigration policies. More recently, Secretary Haig and Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko met in January 1982 and discussed the full range of humanitarian issues, including emigration of Soviet Jews.

The Department of State maintains lists of persons repeatedly refused permission to emigrate from the Soviet Union to Israel and the United States. These lists are presented to high-level Soviet officials whenever an appropriate occasion arises. Although we cannot represent directly Soviet citizens who request permission to emigrate to Israel rather than to the United States, we consider both lists effective vehicles for expressing to the Soviet Government our concern for those who are forced to remain in the USSR against their will.

Regrettably, the Soviets consider emigration to be a domestic policy issue. This factor, added to the tension currently prevailing in our bilateral relations, works to reduce the effectiveness of our efforts in support of emigration from the Soviet Union. Nonetheless, we will continue to raise this issue in our future conversations with Soviet officials, keeping in mind the great concern of the American people for the plight of Soviet Jewry.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 11, 1982

Dear Mr. Eisenbach:

Thank you for your letter to the President on June 1.

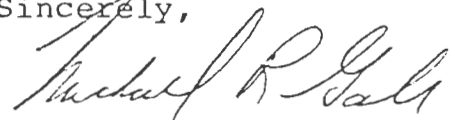
As you stated in your letter, President Reagan is very much aware of the decrease in Jews allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union.

It is the true hope of this Administration that talks between the President and leaders in the Soviet Union will be productive and increase negotiations between our two countries.

The matter of Soviet Jewry will remain high on the President's United States - Soviet Union agenda.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Gale
Office of Public Liaison

Mr. Steven Eisenbach
National President
Hashachar - Young Judea
50 West 58th Street
New York, New York 10019

Jack Burgess

Hashachar · Young Judaea

50 West 58th Street · New York, N.Y. 10019 · 212-355-7900

June 1, 1982

President Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C.

082540

Dear Mr. President:

Last year, Soviet Jewish emigration declined to 9,447, and this year emigration has come to a virtual halt; fewer than 3,500 Soviet Jews may be allowed to leave the Soviet Union for freedom in 1982.

President Reagan, you have promised to discuss Soviet Jewry in all talks between your administration and Moscow. Now is the time for you to ensure that this promise is fulfilled.

While we are not suggesting linkage between grain sales and Soviet Jewish emigration at this time, the issue of emigration, especially of long-term refuseniks, must be vigorously advocated at all meetings between the administration and Moscow.

Sincerely,

Steven Eisenbach

Steven Eisenbach
National President

SE/en

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DRAFT

MICHAEL GALE'S COMMENTS TO THE SOVIET JEWRY VIGIL
JULY 20, 1982
12:30 p.m.

I am honored to participate in this vigil, which ^{recognizes} ~~highlights~~ the plight of Ida Nudel and so many others like her who are being denied the freedoms that are so important and that all Americans enjoy.

The President's policy is one of unswerving support of basic human rights, including the freedom of all persons to emigrate and be united with their families and loved ones.

Ida Nudel has been refused an exit visa to emigrate to Israel since 1971. In 1978 she was exiled to Siberia for holding a sign on her balcony which read, "Let me go to my sister in Israel." She was released by Soviet authorities in March of 1982 but was told that she will never be allowed to emigrate from the Soviet Union. The United States government is watching her case closely and hopes that Soviet authorities will permit her to emigrate.

Ida Nudel reminds us that there are thousands of Soviet Jews and others who desire to emigrate. The President has been deeply disturbed by recent reports that the flow of emigrants from the Soviet Union has been sharply reduced.

This is a tragic situation, for behind the cold statistics lies the cold realization that tens of thousands of Soviet Jews are now being denied their right to build new lives and to exercise their fundamental cultural, religious and personal freedoms.

The United States government continues to raise the issue of Soviet emigration at top level U.S. - Soviet meetings. It was on the agenda at every meeting between former Secretary of State Haig and Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko. The President's concern over this persecution and other denials of basic human freedoms must be an integral element of U.S. foreign policy. Our country is based on freedom ^{of} human rights. We seek to expand freedom and human rights in the world. We must maintain our national economic and military strength and thereby enable ourselves to press effectively for the right of people to live in freedom. The President shares your hope that the leaders

in the Soviet Union will reconsider their policies on emigration and human rights and renew their commitment to the Helsinki Final Act, not just with empty words, but with deeds.

Remember, Ida Nudel serves as a beacon to others who want to speak out.