

ALERT

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The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews

ANOTHER JEWISH PRISONER LOCATED

Dr. Arkady Dumanis has been imprisoned by the Russians in a Potma prison camp for the alleged crime of giving a ten ruble bribe. Arrested after boarding an airliner for Israel with his wife and parents, Dumanis was arrested and sentenced to a two and one half year term. Arkady's family is presently living in Lvov.

Dr. Dumanis is considered a stateless person as he gave up his citizenship before boarding the airliner. No country claims him and he has been imprisoned, unknown, in a prison camp at Leplai village in the Potma region of the Moldavian Republic.

Dr. Dumanis is not the first to be so inhumanly treated. Abe Stolyar and his family were removed from an airplane in 1976 and told their exit visas had been inexplicably rescinded, even though their luggage had already been shipped ahead. Last week's ALERT told of the Reznitsky's treated in a similar fashion. Newly released prisoner Zavurov had his exit visa rescinded the day before his departure, and was arrested for not having papers he had turned in before his imminent emigration.

IDA FIGHTS BACK; WILL FILE SLANDER SUIT

Ida Nudel, responding to an inflammatory article in the local Tomsk newspaper, KRASNOE ZNAMYA, has sent an indignant telegram to Leonid Brezhnev, Interior Minister Shchelokov, to the newspaper editor and to the Dutch Embassy as well, which represents the interests of Israel in the USSR.

The text of the telegram is as follows:

On February 28 of this year the regional newspaper in Tomsk Oblast published a slanderous article against me. The attitude of the local residents toward me in my place of exile was already hostile and the malicious allegations contained in this article have exacerbated the existing hostility. The townspeople are aroused--absurd suspicions and rumors are circulated about me. I accuse the authors of this article of knowingly inciting hatred for the purpose of bringing about violent reprisals.

Ida has indicated that she expects to file suit against the editors on three counts: libel, insulting behavior and racist incitement. She informed her sister in Israel of her intentions to study Soviet law during the next few months in order to present a strong case in court.

SHMIL ROSENBERG ON TRIAL IN TASHKENT

The trial of Shmil Rosenberg of Tashkent began on April 22. He faces a possible sentence of seven to fifteen years for bribing an official, though an objective reading of Soviet law shows him innocent because he acted under duress. An official told him that he must pay the bribe if he wanted to get permission for his daughter to emigrate, and thus provoked the incident.

Though he is innocent, the family is not optimistic about the outcome of the trial. Ana Shvartz, Rosenberg's daughter now living in Israel, asks that people send letters of support to her mother (Riva Lvovnaya Rosenberg, TS-6, No. 85, Kr. 38, Tashkent, Uzbek SSR, USSR) and telegrams to the Supreme Court of the Uzbek Republic in Tashkent asking for clemency.



LENINGRAD PRISONERS AND SHCHARANSKY NOW IN "STRICTEST REGIME" CAMP IN USSR

Prisoner of Conscience Yosif Mendelevich, along with Yuri Federov and Aleksei Murzhenko, has now been moved to camp 36 in Perm. Federov has written that he was denied hospital admission upon arrival at the camp because the camp commandant insisted "People who try to steal airplanes don't deserve hospital treatment."

Perm 36 holds about 250 prisoners, many of them categorized as "politicals". The same is true of Perm 35, where Shcharansky was moved to finish out the next decade of his sentence. According to the testimony of various former inmates, the food served is generally infested and rotten. The camp hospital is so unsanitary that seriously ill prisoners often refuse to be moved. Most unnerving is the information that camp authorities provoke anti-Jewish incidents in order to impose additional punishment upon the Jews. "Jews are forbidden from practicing their religious traditions or even to congregate for a few minutes. Such gatherings are immediately regarded as a Jewish assembly, a synagogue. Conversation in Hebrew or Yiddish is subject to punishment because these languages are not understood by the guards."

Former POC Hillel Butman, with deep sarcasm, detailed the conditions in Perm. He summarized its purpose: "Sometimes, the suspicion enters your mind that all this -- the bag-like clothing, shaved heads, the roll calls everywhere -- to work, from work, to the mess hall and from it, and the siren that wakes you and lulls you to sleep -- that perhaps all this has the purpose of killing your individuality, of snuffing out your ability to think and act as an individual."

Shcharansky faces his future with his ready wit. "While in prison," he wrote his mother in Moscow, "some people with experience told me, 'you'll quickly get used to camp. The first ten years are the hardest.'" Shcharansky is reported to be in solitary confinement in the labor camp where he arrived on March 28th.

Please write to them at the central address for prison mail: Uchr. 5110/1 VS, Moscow, RSFSR, USSR.

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY

The Friends of Anatoly Shcharansky Foundation is organizing an emergency tribunal in the Amsterdam Hilton, May 12 and 13, 1980. In addition to Shcharansky's case, the tribunal will also examine the cases of Yuri Orlov and Sergei Kovalev. However, the Shcharansky, Orlov and Kovalev cases are meant to symbolize the plight of all political prisoners in the USSR.

An international jury has been set-up that will comprise the following:

Coretta King (titular President of Tribunal)	Joop den Uyl (Netherlands)
Andrew Young (U.S.)	Gideon Hausner (Israel)
Ramsey Clark (U.S.)	Andre Wolff (France)
Rep. Robert Drinan (U.S.)	George Fernandes (India)
Bayard Rustin (U.S.)	Mario Soares (Portugal)
Eric Avebury (M.P., U.K.)	Roland Rappoport (France)

Experts and witnesses at the Tribunal will include:

Peter Reddaway (U.K.)	Robert Badinter (France)
Dina Beilina (Israel)	Avital Shcharansky (Israel)
Irwin Cotler (Canada)	Richard Pipes (U.S.)
Dina Kaminskia (U.S.)	Edward Kuznetsov (Israel)
Alexander Luntz (Israel)	

For further information on the tribunal, contact the Foundation at the following address:

Foundation: Friends of Anatoly Shcharansky, c/o House of Parliament, Second Chamber, Binnenhof 1A, The Hague, Netherlands. Tel. 61-49-11, xt. 2525.

MARK NASHPITZ EXILED FROM MOSCOW

Former POC Mark Nashpitz has been given a residence permit for a village 28 miles from Moscow. In a meeting with OVIR officials, Nashpitz was told that he would not be allowed to emigrate due to his father's defection. Zotov, the OVIR chief, explained "A traitor (meaning Mark's father) is not going to be rewarded." Zotov suggested Mark reapply in six months.

Mark's new address is: Osipenko St. 17, Strunino, Vladimir Oblast, RSFSR, USSR.

THE FORGOTTEN DOCTOR: VICTOR SHTILBANS

The following plea was written on Dr. Shtilbans' behalf by Dr. Zeev Itshar of Israel:

Almost nine years have passed since the first and then second Leningrad trials which had awakened the Jews of Russia and opened the gates of the country for mass emigration.

Most of the people convicted at these two trials have by now been freed as a result of the pressure of world public opinion. Three remain in a harsh labor camp but on whose guilt was considerably smaller than that of the others, even by the standards of the Soviet court, still suffers in obscurity. Victor Shtilbans, who was sentenced to only one year of imprisonment for so-called "anti-Soviet activities", is still unable to emigrate as his repeated requests for an exit visa are denied.

A quiet man, Shtilbans dreamed of going to Israel, the country which he considered to be his homeland, since he was a child. His life was typical for any Leningrad Jew: school, university, his work as a physician and a scientist. And intense longing for his homeland. Fate had brought him close to the Jews who were first in fighting for their right to freely leave for the State of Israel.

He was arrested in the summer of 1970. His "crime" was not great, even by Soviet standards, but he refused to give evidence to the investigating authorities when he was first called to give testimony as a witness.

Revenge was not late in coming. Charged with anti-Soviet activity, he spent one year in prison; during this year, however, his family broke up, his parents aged prematurely under the stress and tension, his almost completed Candidate of Medical Sciences thesis has remained unfinished forever.

He found work as a physician in a district on the outskirts of Leningrad. He applied in 1974 to the OVIR with a request to grant him a permit to go to Israel. Years have passed but he has been unable to receive his permit for almost a decade.

A quiet man, a dreamer, this 39 year old doctor never wanted to raise noise around his own name; he did not know how to draw attention to his case and so little by little, everyone forgot about him. Only the KGB did not forget, and they continue to take revenge against this abandoned man. However, Shtilbans still hopes and dreams of coming to Israel. (Address: Petropavlovskaya 8/29/29, Leningrad, RSFSR)

NEWS BRIEFS FROM THE USSR

* Isai Goldshtein, now 42 years old, has recently received two notices requiring him to register for army reserve service. He has refused to register, claiming he is an Israeli citizen.

* Isak Shkolnik has repeatedly asked for an exit visa from the OVIR in Vinnitsia, since his release from prison last July. He was told he would receive an answer in March. He is under house curfew in Lvov, where he lives at present with his father, but he has so far been refused residence registration.

* An unexpected event occurred recently. Moscow Jewish activists inserted an ad in an issue of Vechernaya Moskva requesting Jewish records. "It's hardly world-shaking, said one of the activists, "Nevertheless, it is something of an achievement to have got it into the paper at all. The last time such an ad appeared was at least nine years ago!

* A letter from Leonid (Arye) Volvovsky has been received by a friend in London. He writes: "Of course in Gorky my life will be very different from what it was like in Moscow. There are not many Jews and they have no desire whatsoever to learn the language (Hebrew). But I do not lose hope of finding pupils here as well I do not intend to stop fighting for the return of my books for the learning and teaching of the language [These had been confiscated.]...Dear friends, write to me here, because your letters are a very important support for me." Leonid's address is: Automobilnaya Str.20, apt.102, Gorky, RSFSR, USSR.

* Moscow-- On March 12th, Dmitri Shchiglik was warned by Moscow police to find a job or face charges of "parasitism". A mechanical engineer, Shchiglik formerly worked on repairs of ships engaged in weather research. In April 1979, he went on strike, notifying his employer and the Supreme Soviet that he will not work until he receives a valid explanation for not receiving an exit permit. He was recently fined 50 rubles for withholding his "work book" from the police. (Every employer records the progress of an employee in the work book, which is a record of the working life of every person).

SOUTH FLORIDA COUNCIL REQUESTS INFORMATION

The South Florida Conference on Soviet Jewry has been writing up cases for the seventh book of case histories of refuseniks. Hopefully, publication will be well before the Madrid Helsinki meetings.

Please send information and photos of new refuseniks to Miami. Data should include:

- I. Names and addresses of refuseniks, birthdates, occupations, marital status, date first applied, date when first refused, reason, address of relatives living abroad.
- II. Letter of appeal - one typewritten sheet giving details of case (e.g. official harassment, hardship of daily living, problems of separated families).
- III. Photos - please put names on back and specify if they should be returned.

By checking Updates, and Table of Contents in the back of the latest book, Soviet Jews: Hostages for Trade, one can ascertain if yours is a new case.

Send data to : South Florida Conference on Soviet Jewry, 4200 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, Florida 33137. ATT: Margery Sanford.

EMIGRATION INFORMATION

In March there were 3049 emigres, with 41% going to Israel.

Permissions:

Ernest Axelrod - Moscow
Riva Feldman - Moscow

Vladimir Modilevsky - Kharkov
Leonid Rudin - Riga

Emigres:

Tatiana Balanko - Kishinev
Aharon Dubinchik - Kishinev
Braina Karasik - Minsk
Khinan Karpilovsky - Kiev
Semion Kommisar - Minsk
Yakov Kozodoi - Leningrad
Roman & Larissa Levin - Leningrad
Alexander Livshitz - Leningrad
Aizik Perlberg - Kishinev

Savely Rabinovich - Kiev
Lydia Rosnovskaya - Leningrad
Anchel Sandler - Kishinev
Oleg Serebrany - Gomel
Larissa Spektrova - Leningrad
Pioter Skapinker - Ivano-Frankovsk
Yuri Uspensky - Kiev
Arkady Vapnik - Minsk
Grigory Yuris - Kolomyta

INTERNATIONAL SOVIET JEWRY MEETINGS

I. The London 35's Report on their International Conference

A very successful conference took place in London last month in which about ninety delegates participated, representing groups in the United Kingdom, in Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Norway and all parts of the United States. It was decided that international co-operation should be increased and that information on de-briefing in particular should be shared amongst all the groups in order to improve our work on behalf of Refuseniks and Prisoners.

One of the most exciting speakers was Vladimir Bukovsky, who spoke about the Olympic Games. He said that as a result of the preparations for the Games, visits to prisoners have been curtailed or cancelled and the treatment of political prisoners has become harsher. Bukovsky launched a campaign to remove the Games from Moscow eighteen months ago and the invasion of Afghanistan has made this campaign more feasible. He said that invasion could be a stroke of luck if it were not such a disaster. In the last few months fifty people have been arrested and he expects that tens of thousands will be expelled from the big cities in the Soviet Union. The "Hands Off Afghanistan" group in the British Parliament hopes to be able to produce ex-Soviet sportsmen who will explain the method used in the Soviet Union of choosing sportsmen for their Olympic teams. For instance, a Crimean Tatar who is an outstanding athlete could not be chosen because he is not allowed freedom of movement even inside the USSR. Bukovsky thinks that this sort of publicity would produce a better response than the present measures which are inclined to make British athletes planning to defy the ban and to travel to Moscow into national heroes. He is sure that some sort of Games will take place in Moscow, but he very much doubts that the West will not be taking part.

Bukovsky feels it would be better for the West to be split and have those who are willing to stand up for moral issues and human rights so that all may see who is willing to betray their principles. He was disappointed by the recent scientific meeting in Hamburg and felt that the official resolution was very weak. He fears that Madrid is likely to be a second betrayal of the Helsinki Agreement; and he advocates alternative hearings to take place at the same time so that pressure may be brought on the Press of the world who will be present at Madrid.

He considers the next three to five years will be a crucial turning point. If the pressure on the Soviet authorities is sufficient and is prolonged they will be forced to reconsider their position. All now depends on the strength of the groups working for human rights.

Other speakers at the conference were Captain Moshe Edelman, speaking on Soviet Jews in Israel; Avital Shcharansky, on the plight of the prisoners; Lord Bethell of the European Parliament on the deteriorating international scene; and M.P. Peter Blaker on the need to focus public opinion in the West on the human rights issue. Lynn Singer, vice-president of the UCSJ, spoke about how the Union groups involve synagogues in Soviet Jewry.

II. Robert Gordon Reports on Visits with Soviet Jews in Israel

How do Soviet Jews who settle in Israel rebuild their lives? Where do they settle? What do they do? Those questions were the basis of a UCSJ tour of Northern Israel that was part of the international conference on Soviet Jewry held last month. The following is a description of some of what we discovered.

A fascinating stop on our trip was Arshach, a tiny cooperative settlement of Soviet Jewish scientists near the Sea of Galilee. Members of Arshach spoke of their commitment to building up the country by settling in an underpopulated area, as well as creating employment opportunities for Soviet Jewish scientists who might otherwise be forced to settle outside Israel. We were impressed by the dedication of the settlers, as well as by the sophistication of the Arshach Applied Science Laboratories. All agreed that the story of this remarkable settlement must be told to Jews planning to emigrate from the Soviet Union.

The following day we visited the Galilee Development Absorption and Settlement Foundation in Safed. There Dr. Grigory Borun showed us a newly developed process of engraving patterns and inscriptions on stones taken from the Sea of Galilee. His group intends to market the stones and the process. The Foundation in Safed housed a number of similar incipient businesses which hopefully will one day provide employment of new immigrants in the Galilee.

Later the group visited Boris Penson at his studio overlooking the ocean at Netanya. We noted the change in Boris' work from the dark colors and heavy moods which had reflected his prison life to the bright colors and optimism of his present work.

In Tel Aviv at one location we met with representatives of three groups: Ya'akov Ro'i of the Professors' Action Group, Moshe Gitterman of the Organization of Russian Jews and Isai Averbuch of the Israel Institute of Innovation (III).

The Professors' Action Group (P.O.Box 30867, Tel Aviv) has been an activist group in support of Soviet Jews. Their interest centers on materials sent in to refuseniks. In my opinion they are a strong and independent voice in Israel in support of Soviet Jews, making their opinions and goals known to the "Special Office" and to the Prime Minister.

The Organization of Russian Jews is dedicated to simplifying the absorption process of Soviet Olim. They operate on a model similar to the Landsmanschaften which aided American immigrants at the beginning of the century. Their different groups concentrate on immigrants from different areas. They work on housing accommodations, employment opportunities and explaining Israeli society.

Lastly we were told of the Israel Institute of Innovation (III) which attempts to bring to market or to prototype stage technological ideas or processes which Soviet Jews possess when they arrive in Israel. Some bring processes already in use in the Soviet Union and others have concepts in mind, but do not understand how to arrange support for their ideas in the West. III attempts to bridge the gap with the goal of providing employment opportunities for technologically sophisticated people in Israel.

PLAN TO DEAL WITH SOVIET DROPOUTS

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, April 10 (JTA) -- Jewish Agency treasurer Akiva Levinsky suggested this week that the time allocated for Soviet emigrants to stay in Vienna should be limited to several hours only. Thus, Levinsky hoped, there would be no need for HIAS to function in that city.

Speaking at the Jewish Agency Executive on Tuesday, Levinsky said that if HIAS opposed the closing of its office in Vienna, it would be proof that all it wanted was to encourage the dropout of potential immigrants to Israel. Levinsky said that those Jews who would not want to emigrate to Israel should be transferred immediately from Vienna to Rome -- where it could be easier for the Jewish Agency to convince them to continue on to Israel.

Jewish Agency Executive chairman Leon Dulzin sent a cable Tuesday to Max Fisher, chairman of the Agency's Board of Governors, asking him to convene a meeting of the American Jewish leaders who are serving on a special committee aimed at reducing the dropout rate. In his cable, Dulzin noted that in a recent meeting in Jerusalem with Premier Menachem Begin, American leaders, including representatives of HIAS and the Joint Distribution Committee, agreed that Soviet Jewish emigrants should not be considered political refugees. This was an apparent reference to a new U.S. Refugee Act of 1980 making it easier for political refugees to enter the U.S. and providing additional aid for them.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 1980

Screen: Jews in Protest

TWO unusual documentaries, one about Jewish anarchists who led lives of protest in the United States and one about Jewish dissidents who are protesting in the Soviet Union, make a thoughtful, attractive pair of films being shown through Sunday and next Thursday through Sunday at the Film Forum, 15 Vandam Street.

The second film, "Avital," is about Avital Shcharansky, the wife of the exiled Soviet Jewish dissident, Anatoly B. Shcharansky. She emigrated, but has kept up the campaign to free her husband. Here we see Mrs. Shcharansky visiting Congressmen in Washington and crying from exhaustion and

frustration as she fails to get solid commitments for aid. She is so troubled, with eyes that are deep pools of anxiety, that it is like watching a sunrise when she finally smiles. The film shows those who are directing the movement to get Mr. Shcharansky out of a Soviet prison and into Israel.

Among the most striking footage are interviews in the Soviet Union with other Jewish dissenters. They are a brave lot, and as they speak in film secretly made their words may be ordinary but they make an eloquent plea for liberation and freedom. Tal Larish and Mordechai Gal are the producers. Richard Sobol did the segment in the Soviet Union.

RICHARD F. SHEPARD

For the Record

From a review by Peter Grothe in *Problems of Communism*, a publication of the International Communications Agency:

The major Western stations—the Voice of America, Radio Free Europe-Radio Liberty, the British Broadcasting Corporation, Deutsche Welle and RIAS (an American-funded station broadcasting to East Germany from West Berlin)—provide the only systematic, continuous and effective breach of the information barrier that communist rulers have attempted to erect around their states. . . . To the extent that Western radio is believed, the credibility of the communist media, and, indeed, the authority of the communist parties themselves, is challenged. . . .

Western broadcasting to the East is having a greater impact on the U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe than ever before. There are certainly more receiver radio sets capable of picking up Western signals. And there are more broadcast hours in more languages and from stronger transmitters than there were in the first decade of Western attempts to use radio to break the government monopoly on information in communist-ruled states. Concerted Soviet and East European efforts to suppress or counter the impact of Western broadcasting are probably the best indicators of its effectiveness.

What will the future bring? Developing technology will in all probability make it possible to transmit television programs via satellite directly into private homes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. . . . It is not surprising that Soviet spokesmen have already expressed extreme uneasiness over this imminent technological advance. Their discomfort is indicative of the extent to which they continue, as Lenin instructed, to fear the free flow of "ideas."

THE WASHINGTON STAR Sunday, April 20, 1980

■ D.C. Clerics Searched in Russia

MOSCOW — Two Washington clergymen visiting the Soviet Union as tourists said yesterday they were subjected to rigorous searches on entering the country, and their personal belongings were seized.

Two American women traveling on the same flight also were subjected to strict searches and seizures. Among the items confiscated from them was a Barbra Streisand record that had a song in Hebrew.

The items seized from the clergics included letters to two Russian Pentacostalist families who have been living in the U.S. Embassy for nearly two years, seeking permission from authorities to emigrate.

The clergymen are the Rev. John Steinbruck, a Lutheran, and the Rev. Eugene Brake, a Roman Catholic.

The New Purge

Peter Reddaway

The Soviet regime's current assault on dissent—of which Dr. Sakharov's exile is part—poses a serious new challenge to the West. The challenge overlaps with that of Afghanistan but is by no means identical to it. During 1980 we will see whether or not Western protests are determined enough—as they were during the last crackdown on dissent in 1977—to compel the Soviet leaders to draw back and bring the current purge to an end.

While protests and sanctions can seem ineffective when made, they usually have a salutary impact before very long, provided that they are strong and persistent. This is because the Soviet regime both needs the West economically and—Afghanistan notwithstanding—craves international respectability and prestige. Needless to say, the current power

and releasing a handful of well-known political prisoners and deporting them abroad.

In fact since August 1978 no fewer than ninety-seven trials have taken place on which reliable information has reached the outside world. Two hundred and seventeen people have either been sentenced at these trials, or forcibly interned in mental hospitals without trial, or are now in pre-trial detention. This figure includes only people jailed as a result of the peaceful expression of their beliefs, and for a considerable period. Excluded are a few cases of violent dissent and several hundred of imprisonment for short terms of a few months or less, or of people being fined. Only Dr. and Mrs. Sakharov, incidentally, have been exiled without trial—a measure apparently without legal foundation.

Beyond these cases, which mostly involve the court system, thousands of people have been interrogated during



struggle in the Kremlin will affect policy toward dissent and make it less predictable. But when the dust settles and the post-Brezhnev leadership emerges, the new men will have to deal somehow with the governments and organizations that have been making their protests and imposing sanctions. In this way the damage done to the dissenting groups and movements can be substantially limited, and the flow of information about their fates maintained.

The present purge is basically a pre-Olympic exercise, and well illustrates the inseparability of sports and politics in the Soviet Union. For many months the KGB has been striking against people in the provinces. Far from stopping political oppression when the trials of Orlov, Shcharansky, and others ended in August 1978, the authorities simply turned their attention away from Moscow to individuals and groups whose fate aroused less interest abroad. Simultaneously they distracted Western attention from provincial arrests by allowing Jewish emigration to rise to the unprecedented annual rate of 50,000

the last seventeen months in connection with political cases, and nearly a thousand have had their homes searched by police. Many of these have also been dismissed from their jobs, threatened with arrest, subjected to KGB blackmail, forced into emigration, or assaulted by officially sponsored thugs. About five hundred Crimean Tatars have been forcibly evicted from their homes and deported from the Crimea. Two people have committed suicide as a direct consequence of KGB persecution, and two more have been murdered in circumstances strongly suggesting official direction.

These figures—about twice as high as can be expected in a normal period of similar length—come from my own review of the available documents. The total figures must be higher still—perhaps by a factor of two—as the reporting of the dissident groups is still far from covering all areas of the world's free country. The fact that very few of the trials have been reported in the Western press can largely be explained by the severe restrictions placed on foreign correspondents in Moscow.

The samizdat documents which the dissident groups have compiled on the trials and oppression since August 1978 are a major source of information. Some 2,000 pages have reached the West. In addition I have used an invaluable new publication, *USSR News Brief: Human Rights*, which is issued fortnightly in Brussels and edited by Dr. Cronid Lubarsky, a prominent dissenter forced into emigration.

Of the 217 Soviet citizens tried or otherwise imprisoned, sixty-four were actively exercising or promoting basic human rights—rights for workers, intellectuals, artists, would-be emigrants, political prisoners, and so on. Fifty-eight were primarily defending the rights of the national minority to which they belong; and ninety-five were concerned with their rights as religious believers. Among the latter, forty-two are Baptists, twenty-three Adventists, and fourteen Russian Orthodox, with lesser numbers for Pentecostals, Jehovah's Witnesses, and others. The national minority victims are Ukrainians (14), Crimean Tatars (13), Jews (9), Lithuanians (7), and Germans (5), with an admixture of Armenians, Georgians, and Estonians.

Against this background the main KGB targets of recent weeks have been members of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group and key dissenters in Lithuania and Moscow. In the capital the following groups have suffered arrests or received serious warnings: the Moscow Helsinki Group, the "Working Commission" on political abuse of psychiatry, the Christian Committee to Defend Believers' Rights, the religious philosophy seminar founded by Alexander Ogorodnikov, the Moscow group of nonconformist artists, the Group to Defend the Rights of the Disabled, and the samizdat journals *Searches*, *Community*, *A Chronicle of Current Events*, and *Jews in the USSR*.

None of this is yet sufficient to force the various groups to mute their statements, let alone silence them. But a further fifty well-chosen arrests could do much to keep the dissidents quiet, at least until after the Olympic Games and the subsequent Madrid conference to review the working of the Helsinki accords. Everything suggests that this is the minimum goal the Kremlin has now set, and that it would dearly like to achieve a more radical outcome if possible.

The Soviet leaders are not of course worried about their regime's stability, at least for the time being. Dissent, though endemic and spreading, still involves only a tiny fraction of the population. But since official propaganda portrays the USSR as virtually perfect in every respect, this illusion needs to be preserved for the many thousands of visitors to the Olympics. And this requires the silencing, if possible, of dissent. Those who oppose a boycott of the games, seeing them as a chance for foreigners to talk to Russians, might ponder, among other things, the terrible price that dissidents are being forced to pay by the regime.

In January 1977 the Soviet authorities intensified their previous big crackdown in a way that resembles what they are doing now. They aimed then at suppressing dissent—and especially among the Helsinki groups—before the Helsinki review conference in Belgrade during the summer of 1977. Policy was spelled out

*Published in English and Russian editions, 48 rue du Lac, 1050 Brussels.

at a closed, high-level party meeting, where the main speaker said: "It has been decided to imprison the fifty most active dissidents and deal severely with their associates. It is time to show strength and not pay attention to the West."

However, just at this moment President Carter launched his human rights campaign, and the first arrests (of Orlov and others) provoked an unprecedented chorus of world condemnation. With only twenty of the "most active dissidents" arrested, the Soviet leaders hastily retreated. As a result, almost all the Helsinki and other groups survived. In subsequent months they often expressed gratitude for the foreign support which had saved them from much heavier losses.

Ironically, many Western commentators misread events and concluded that Carter's policy had been of doubtful value, or even counterproductive. Carter himself seems to have thought likewise. Nothing could be further from the truth. The cost to the Soviet leaders of all protests and sanctions—the loss in economic and political advantage, in scientific benefits and international prestige—was carefully counted and weighed, and policy adjusted accordingly. The same process has now begun again. This is why many governments and national and international organizations—scientific, literary, religious, ethnic, humanitarian, libertarian, cultural, and medical—now need to appreciate their power and responsibility and to take action. □

THE WASHINGTON POST

Saturday, April 19, 1980

JACK ANDERSON

• The Kremlin's crackdown of Soviet dissidents like physicist Andrei Sakharov and Father Dinitri Dudko was supposedly initiated as a means of keeping the regime from embarrassment during the summer Olympics. But it goes deeper than that, according to CIA documents. Under the direction from the highest level of the Politburo, the KGB is also rounding up Moslem leaders. The Soviets are afraid the Moslem fundamentalist revolution in Iran may, with proper leadership, extend to the 60 million Moslems chafing under anti-religious attacks in the Soviet Union.

Sharansky's mother says thanks for help from Washington group

Ida Milgrom, mother of Soviet prisoner of conscience Anatoly Sharansky, expressed her gratitude in a letter received this week by the Washington Committee for Soviet Jewry for committee efforts on behalf of her son. It was sent to Sharansky's wife Avital in Israel for transmittal to Irene Manekofsky, past president of the Washington group.

The letter reads, in part:

"Although we have never met each other, I know that you know of our family's great trouble, and I know how much you worry about my son's destiny, and about the very great role your organization has taken to defend him. Therefore, I turn to you with words of deep, heartfelt thanks to you and to every member of your organization for your deeds and efforts to secure Anatoly's release."

Milgrom describes "this terrible period since March 15, 1977," how Sharansky was subjected to pressures during investigations, how he was deprived of legal counsel during every state of his trial, how a "harsh, unjust verdict was handed down," and how she was deprived of any opportunity to lodge an appeal.

The letter also cites Anatoly's serious illness during his incarceration and neglect of his condition by authorities, which endangers his life.

"I turn to you," the letter continues "to intensify your efforts for Anatoly. I ask you to pass on my scream for help, that of a mother whose son is being lost. Help me! Use every possibility, every resource you have to save him. He is not guilty. Anatoly has struggled for his right and that of many others to emigrate from the country...he never violated the Constitution of the USSR and he, himself, has become a sacrifice to illegality..."

Sharansky was to be transferred from Chistopol Prison this week, three years since his arrest, to a labor camp. The family will not know his whereabouts until they receive a letter from him. Then, they may be allowed to visit him. In a letter written before his transfer Anatoly referred to Gelnn Richter of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, Irene Manekofsky of the Washington Committee for Soviet Jewry and Michael Sherbourne of London, saying he does not forget his friends.

officials. It is uncertain how they will be received. In a similar episode Drinan was forced to leave a petition on the embassy steps because no one would answer the bell.

Drinan pilots his 1972 Dodge Dart through Washington's crowded streets with a Bostonian's sense of abandon. He lurches at stop lights and accelerates around turns. He reaches 60 m.p.h. down one stretch of Independence Ave. Arriving at the embassy Drinan takes great pleasure in blocking one of the entrance alleys to the embassy itself where he parks. Two burly KGB guards pretend not to notice.

A group of students from a local Hebrew School collects across the street and sings a few songs in Hebrew and English. Drinan gives a small speech and reads a letter from Sharansky's wife. Senator Levin arrives and also makes a small speech. There are now four TV mini-cams and an assortment of print media reporters on hand to record the event.

Drinan and Levin walk across the street to curious stares of passersby. Surrounded by cameras, he and Levin push a call-button on the embassy's iron gate. After a five-minute wait a Soviet official walks to the gate

and allows the two politicians to enter. Five minutes later they return, make more statements to the press and then leave.

In the car driving back to Capitol Hill Drinan is asked what the Soviet official said to him inside the embassy. "He was very correct and cool," he says. "A lot of bull..." He appears genuinely perplexed by the Soviets and keeps shaking his head in wonderment. "It makes you so mad that they're dominating all of Eastern Europe and now Afghanistan," he says. "What is their image of us that they would continue to do these things?"

Not a political team player, Robert Drinan marches to his own drummer

By Keith R. Yocum

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It is the third anniversary of the arrest of Anatoly Scharansky. Drinan will attend, along with Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mi.), a small demonstration in front of the Soviet Embassy on 16th Street in Washington. It is sponsored by the Washington Committee for Soviet Jewry, who have maintained the longest running demonstration in the free world.

Every day for the past three years someone from the group has demonstrated in front of the Soviet embassy for at least 15 minutes.

Today's demonstration will culminate in a letter of protest to be delivered by Drinan and Levin to Soviet

Brookline (Mass.) Tab 4/2/80

Minneapolis - St. Paul
American Jewish World 2/28/80
Joyous Reunion Welcomes Elena to U.S.

There was a joyous reunion at the St. Paul-Minneapolis Airport February 17 when 14-year-old Elena Churakova Leikikh was reunited with her parents, Alexander and Marina Leikikh, and her brother, Alexander, Jr., after more than a two-year separation.

Through the efforts of Congressman Bruce Vento, a dedicated group of St. Paul citizens headed by Dr. Barry Handwerker, and the Minnesota-Dakotas Action Committee for Soviet Jewry, young Elena was finally allowed to leave Russia after being detained since 1977, when her family emigrated to the United States.

When the Leikikh family applied for visas, Soviet officials refused to approve Elena's visa to the U.S. on one technicality after another. At the same time, they more or less forced the Leikikh family to leave by causing them to lose their apartment and jobs.

"In view of the Soviet intransigence, it's a miracle that Elena was able to leave at this time. Perhaps public opinion about the Soviet incursions in the Middle East and the pressure about the Moscow Olympics made them decide to relent in this case," Congressman Vento said.

Larry Romans, a Vento staff member, has been working with State Department officials and Vice President Mondale's office for two years to persuade the Soviets to reconsider Elena's visa. At one point, Congressman Vento personally delivered a letter pleading for Elena's release to Russian Cultural Counselor Anatoly Dyuzhev when he was in St. Paul for the opening of a Russian Art Exhibit.

Congressman Vento called her arrival "a victory for all Americans" and a symbol of the need for perseverance and determination in larger scale dealings between the Russians and Americans. He was present for the reunion, along with the family, neighbors and friends, including members of the Committee for Soviet Jewry.

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Letters

Ida Nudel

Dear Editor:

As a member of the Board of the Union of Council for Soviet Jews, I appreciate your December article on Ida Nudel. Any publicity is needed, but there are several points with which I differ. To those of us who work for Soviet Jews, Ida was extremely well known long before her arrest. She was not "one woman patiently writing to prisoners, doctors, and statesmen," she was much more. She traveled thousands of miles to frozen Siberia to visit various prisoners. At risk to herself, she reported their conditions by telephone to the West, she sent vital food packages, she ruined her health on behalf of the prisoners. To say that she wrote letters to "statesmen" in the USSR is ridiculous. There are no statesmen in that country—there are just "the authorities."

The whole article implies that Ida spent her time in a "letter-writing campaign" similar to the campaign of American housewives who work for Jewish refuseniks. Not true! She

was endangering herself every day and she knew it! Your article says: "How little is required to be a hero in our time." You do not understand Ida Nudel if you think that "little" was required.

Also, I must take issue with your list of who is helping Ida Nudel. You say former refuseniks in Israel, several congressmen, and the National Conference on Soviet Jewry along with Ida's sister and brother-in-law. The Union of Council for Soviet Jews and its over 25 local councils have long been waging a vigorous campaign, as well as many, many members of Congress—not "several"—and there is Women for Ida Nudel (W.I.N.) composed of the most outstanding women in the country, the Comité de Quinze of France, the 35s of Great Britain, and I could go on and on.

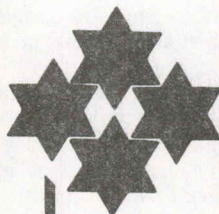
You are right. We must act as soon as an injustice is discovered, but all Jewish organizations should have known about Ida Nudel and her plight long before she was finally (and inevitably) arrested for being a true heroine of the Jewish people and a real woman of valor.

Babette Wampold
Montgomery, AL

Union of Councils for Soviet Jews

24 Crescent St., Suite 3A, Waltham, Ma 02154

April 24, 1980



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INSIDE TODAY'S ALERT

- * Another Soviet Jew is on trial. See article on Shmil Rosenberg on page 1.
- * A forgotten victim of the Leningrad trial is now being remembered. See page 3.
- * More on the recent international Soviet Jewry meetings on pages 5 and 6
- * Peter Reddaway, a member of the UCSJ Advisory Board, writes about "The New Purge." See page 8.

