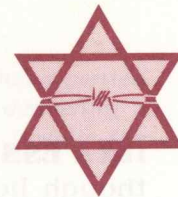


# ALERT

INFORMATION FROM THE  
UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS  
1411 K Street, NW  
Suite 402  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 393-4117



The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews is a Washington-based, independent organization dedicated to the freedom of emigration and human rights for all Soviet Jews.

Vol. XI No. 8

December 31, 1985



Rabbi Bruce Kahn speaking to the press after the trial of the "Maccabee Five." To his right are Rabbi Harold Bayar, Rabbi David Oler and Rabbi Mark Levine.

## After the Summit

As many experts predicted, the Summit has not resulted in any increase of Jewish emigration from the USSR. While the news media has focused on the temporary permission granted to Yelena Bonner, and the reported release of long-divided spouses, the overall situation for refuseniks and POCs appears to be unchanged. The optimism that was evident among refuseniks, and the rumors of impending massive immigration to Israel, have been put to rest for the time being.

Despite the Soviet Union's attempt to limit the focus of the Summit to arms control, UCSJ, as well as other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and concerned citizens, urged the Administration to make human rights and Soviet Jewry a primary issue at the Summit. Activists have been disappointed however, upon hearing the terms describing

the United States human rights strategy that have emerged post-Summit: "quiet diplomacy" and "case-by-case basis".

*Continued on page 11*

## Bonner Arrives In United States

Yelena Bonner, after years of western pressure, and repeated hunger strikes by her husband Andrei Sakharov, was finally allowed to travel to the West for medical treatment. As a condition for the temporary visa, Bonner signed a commitment to Soviet authorities that she would not hold a news conference or give interviews during her travels.

Prior to Bonner's departure from the Soviet Union, hints of Sakharov's hunger strikes and deteriorating

*Continued on page 11*

## Rabbis Convicted: 15 Days in Federal Pen

On December 13, five Rabbis began serving a 15-day sentence at the Federal Correctional Institution at Petersburg, Virginia, after being convicted of breaking a law banning demonstrators from approaching within 500 feet of an Embassy.

The five were among a group of 22 Rabbis and one Christian clergyman from the Washington area tried and convicted on December 11 for participating in a demonstration at the Soviet embassy on May 10. Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly gave each defendant with a 15-day suspended sentence, six months unsupervised probation, and a \$50 fine. (One Rabbi, who pleaded guilty, was given a suspended sentence and probation, but was not fined.)

However, Rabbis Harold S. Bayar, Mishkin Torah Congregation, Greenbelt; Leonard Cahan, Congregation Har Shalom, Potomac; Bruce Kahn, Temple Shalom, Chevy Chase; Mark Levine, Board of Jewish Education, Rockville; and David Oler, Gaithersburg Hebrew Congregation, Gaithersburg, each chose to serve a prison sentence in lieu of the suspended sentence.

"We are going to jail to dramatize the plight of oppressed Jews in the Soviet Union. They are in grave danger and we must keep world attention on their perilous situation," declared Rabbi Kahn.

Rabbi Oler said the five were accepting the sentences as "an act of solidarity with Soviet Jews." He called the sentences, "extreme, considering our crime was reading the Torah in front of the Soviet Embassy."

*Continued on page 10*

## NEWSBRIEFS

**ILYA ESSAS**, a Soviet Jewish refusenik for 12 years, was granted permission in November, though he still has not been permitted to leave. The mathematician was initially refused permission on the grounds of "secrecy of his work."

**LEONID VOLVOVSKY's** appeal was denied on December 5. Volvovsky, who was forced to move to Gorky after his permit to reside in Moscow expired, was arrested in June, 1985 on charges of anti-Soviet Agitation and Propaganda.

**AVI GOLDSHTEIN**, an eleven year old child, was recently beaten and humiliated by anti-Semitic classmates in Tblisi. Avi is the son of **ISAI GOLDSHTEIN**, who has been denied permission to emigrate for 14 years. His parents felt compelled to take him out of school to protect him as school officials have disclaimed all responsibility.

**EDUARD GUDAVA**, a member of the "Phantom Orchestra" of Tblisi, was arrested after he displayed a banner asking that the KGB set his brother free.

**YOSEF BERENSHTEIN**, who is serving four years in a labor camp, had his scheduled meeting with his wife cancelled. The December 2 meeting cancellation was, his wife Faina suspects, because he agreed to sign an official document allowing his daughter permission to leave the Soviet Union. Berenshtein is also being deprived of a long meeting with his wife originally scheduled for February 1986, purportedly because he tried to get a light for his cigarette in a no-smoking area. This punishment is also suspected to be for signing the document. Berenshtein, who was virtually blinded by inmates immediately after he was sentenced, has had continuous health problems while in prison.

**VLADIMIR BRODSKY** was sent on November 23 to the Region of Tomesk in Siberia. Brodsky is a Moscow physician who is serving three years on a charge of malicious hooliganism. Brodsky was active in an unofficial peace group.

**ABE STOLAR**, who was rumored to be among those granted exit visas immediately following the Summit, is still waiting for notification from OVIR. The Chicago native's parents moved the family to the Soviet Union in 1931. He had been granted permission to leave the Soviet Union before, but was taken off the plane just before its departure. Soviet officials have refused an exit visa to Stolar's daughter-in-law, without whom the family will not leave.

**IDA NUDEL** received another refusal after the Summit.

**LEV BLITSHTTEIN** received his 23rd refusal.

West German Chancellor **HELMUT KOHL** and nine other leaders of European Christian Democratic parties urged the Nobel Committee to leave Yevgeni Chazov out of the award ceremony for his part in denouncing Sakharov. The U.S., Great Britain, and West German ambassadors to Norway did not attend the awards ceremony.

On December 8, prior to the Nobel Prizes being awarded, a Norwegian protest group awarded an alternative peace prize to the imprisoned Soviet psychiatrist **ANATOLY KORYAGIN**, who was arrested for protesting Moscow's use of mental hospitals to incarcerate political dissidents.

## Refuseniks' Summit Appeal

*On November 18, 1985, on the eve of the Reagan-Gorbachev Summit, ten Moscow refuseniks hand-carried the following letter to the office of the Central Committee of the Communist Party. Signing and delivering a letter such as this, and the various other appeals by refuseniks, is done at great personal risk. Despite the danger, however, refuseniks boldly and consistently continue to state their position to Soviet officials.*

For nearly 2,000 years, Jews have not had their own state and have had to settle in other countries where they encountered politically motivated hostility. But now that such a state exists, what could be more natural than one's desire to change his nation and to live in his own country? Why then has it become a problem for us?

Even the process of applying for emigration is connected with almost insurmountable difficulties:

The rules for application are constantly changing. Many people cannot receive invitations which were already sent to them and without these invitations, it is impossible to apply. There are prerequisites which are almost impossible to fulfill, for example, the permission of parents. The efforts to achieve parental permission can be tragi-comic. Adult children who have their own family are forced to look all over the Soviet Union for a parent who may have abandoned them in childhood.

After applications are made, people are waiting for answers for very drawn out and undetermined time periods. They are usually refused.

Why then, are we being refused? Some are refused for "regime considerations." But the majority of "regime" Refuseniks have not any access to secret documents for five, ten or even 15 years and some of them never had access to secret documents. These same people who are not allowed to leave are deprived the right to choose for themselves where they will live. The Soviets say, "there is no reason for them to emigrate." Another reason for our refusals is "insufficient kinship" which deals with the individual situations of families. However, very often people who are trying to emigrate to their children, parents, and siblings are also being refused. The officials at OVIR can each time give a different reason for a refusal. They even suggest that Jews themselves are the reason.

Why are our personal human problems becoming the problems of policy? Why does the Soviet press call people hooligans whose only desire is to leave this country? For the whole period of human history, people have emigrated and changed their country of residence, but never was this perceived as being something "shameful."

In our time, in one of the most powerful countries in the world, such situations are imposed upon us without repatriation to the State of Israel. Why instead of satisfying our requests and desires are we hung in suspension for many years? Why in the press, on the radio and television are we stigmatized? Why are we forced to live in an atmosphere of isolation and open animosity with our neighbors and colleagues? And why, even when one does receive permission, is he practically thrown out of the country without time to prepare for his exit or to say good-bye to his closest friends? Why are people who have left the USSR deprived of the possibility of seeing their relatives and friends who they left behind?

We are not criminals. We are not socially dangerous and we tell the Soviet government that we have no negative influences or intentions toward the Soviet Union and our only desire is to leave for the State of Israel, to live with the interests of our people, and to share their destiny, both the good and the bad.

We ask the Soviet government:

1. To satisfy the applications for exit that have already been processed.
2. To determine and publicize the application process, the terms of consideration of the application, and the terms for postponing visas for people who previously have had access to secret documents as regards each type of secrecy classification.
3. To stop the persecution of Hebrew teachers and those connected with Jewish culture and religion, as well as those who actively are trying to achieve permissions for their departure to live in Israel.
4. To stop the incitement of negative attitudes for the use of disinformation toward those who are seeking to leave the Soviet Union.

*Signed by 77 Soviet Jews wishing to leave the USSR.*



# ALERT

## On Capitol Hill



In conjunction with the Reagan-Gorbachev Summit, ninety U.S. Senators sent a letter to President Reagan urging him to speak out on behalf of freedom of emigration for Soviet Jews. The letter's contents were based on and reflect the priorities outlined in UCSJ's Policy Statement. Senators Alan Cranston (D-CA) and Charles Grassley (R-IA) were responsible for garnering the Senate's overwhelming support for this letter.

### United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 1, 1985

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are hopeful that your upcoming summit meeting with Secretary Gorbachev will be successful and will mark a new, more positive chapter in U.S.-Soviet relations. There are many important goals to be accomplished, chief among them are arms control and human rights.

We wish to call your attention in particular to our serious concerns over the welfare of Soviet Jewry. You know the details of the current persecutions against Soviet Jews as well as we do. It is our belief that the Jews in the Soviet Union face grave danger. We pledge to do all we can to prevent a recurrence of mass violence against Jews by a totalitarian regime in this century. We seek a similar pledge from you.

When you speak in support of Soviet Jews you speak for us as well. But words of support alone were not enough 40 years ago and they will not suffice now. They must be backed up by action.

You are in a unique position to save Soviet Jewry, when you meet with Secretary General Gorbachev in Geneva, we urge you not only to raise our concern for Soviet Jews, but to do your utmost to achieve their release, and to secure an agreement to that effect. Such an agreement would ensure:

1. The prompt release and emigration of all Jewish prisoners of conscience and their families.
2. The prompt emigration of all former Jewish prisoners of conscience and their families.
3. The prompt emigration of all refuseniks who have been waiting for visas for ten years or more.
4. The expeditious emigration of all refuseniks who have been waiting for visas for three years or more.
5. The emigration hereafter of substantial numbers of Soviet Jews who desire to emigrate in accordance with procedures fairly and consistently applied.
6. The cessation of punitive actions against potential emigrants and against Jews who attempt to engage in Jewish cultural or religious activities.

Please strive to attain these key goals, guaranteed by the Helsinki Final Act. Soviet compliance with that commitment will enhance the cause of peace by building trust and good will between our two nations, reducing the deep suspicions which have divided our two peoples and contributed to our difficulties in achieving significant progress on arms reductions as well as on other vital issues. Your firm advocacy will offer protection not only for endangered Soviet Jews, but for human rights activists such as Andrei Sakharov and Yuri Orlov, heroes in our time.

People all across America and all over the world join us in hoping that you can chart a course for peace in Geneva. We believe that the issues of peace and human rights are intricately connected. We must, at all times, demonstrate our firm commitment to both.

We pray for your success and anticipate concrete, positive results.

Sincerely,

Alan Cranston	John F. Kerry	Lowell Weicker, Jr.	Jeremiah Denton	Paul Sarbanes	Joe Biden
Charles E. Grassley	John Heinz	Chic Hecht	Orrin Hatch	Claiborne Pell	Robert C. Byrd
Paula Hawkins	Alfonse D'Amato	Carl Levin	Gordon Humphrey	John Glenn	Lloyd Bentsen
Robert Dole	Don Riegle	Strom Thurmond	Larry Pressler	John Melcher	Bill Bradley
Dennis DeConcini	Rudy Boschwitz	Daniel J. Evans	Phil Gramm	Wendell Ford	Jeff Bingaman
Pete Wilson	Tom Harkin	Slade Gorton	John C. Danforth	Edward Zorinsky	J. Bennett Johnston
John Chafee	David Pryor	Paul Simon	Jesse Helms	Max Baucus	Fritz Hollings
Dave Durenburger	Frank Lautenberg	William Armstrong	Nancy Kassebaum	Tom Eagleton	John D. Rockefeller IV
Albert Gore, Jr.	William Cohen	Thad Cochran	Jim Abdnor	Daniel Inouye	Gary Hart
Howell Heflin	Bob Kasten	Alan K. Simpson	Mack Mattingly	Howard Metzenbaum	Russell Long
Ted Kennedy	Paul Trible	Spark Matsunaga	Bob Packwood	Quentin Burdick	John C. Stennis
Steve Symms	Arlen Specter	David L. Boren	Pete Domenici	Daniel Moynihan	Mark Andrews
J. James Exon	Jim Sasser	Lawton Chiles	Dan Quayle	Sam Nunn	William Roth
William Proxmire	Christopher J. Dodd	Alan J. Dixon	Malcolm Wallop	George J. Mitchell	Warren B. Rudman
	Don Nickles	James A. McClure	Patrick Leahy	Dale Bumpers	Mitch McConnell
					John P. East

# Action ALERT

## From Local Councils

### Bay Area Children Query Gorbachev

• Just before the Geneva Summit talks between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, a children's demonstration was held at the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco. The special program included a ceremony honoring the Jewish children of the Soviet Union.

More than 200 children stood alongside 78 empty chairs, each one representing a Soviet Jewish child denied an exit visa. The American children, who have "twinned" with the 78 Soviet youngsters, paid tribute by placing flowers on the chair of their "twin". In addition, thousands of letters written by the American children to Gorbachev were delivered to the Soviet Consulate. The event was sponsored by the **Bay Area Council for Soviet Jews**.

### Solidarity Demonstration

More than 4,000 people demonstrated solidarity with the Jews of the Soviet Union at the San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Community's annual Simchat Torah street fair and rally held outside the Soviet Consulate. The event was co-sponsored by the Bay Area Council.

### Local Council Makes Summit Major Item on Agenda

• The **Colorado Committee of Concern for Soviet Jewry** asked President Reagan to "hang tough" on human rights issues during his meeting with Soviet leader Gorbachev. The group made their statement at a demonstration held at the Colorado State Capital, in conjunction with the Summit.

Committee members gave Governor Richard D. Lamm and other political leaders bracelets, each one with the name of a POC, to wear during the Summit week. Rep. Dan Schaefer (R-CO) was also present at the demonstration.

### New Member Council

• UCSJ welcomes its newest member, **Dallas Action for Soviet Jewry**. The recently formed council has already undertaken a number of activities on behalf of Soviet Jews and promises to become a large and active member council of UCSJ.

### ... On Capitol Hill (Continued)

### Colorado Senator Stresses Import Ban

Imports to the United States of goods produced by Soviet slave labor are a key issue to Senator Bill Armstrong (R-CO).

Armstrong questioned Francis Keating, a candidate for Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Enforcement

and Operations about enforcement of a 1930 law which calls for banning imports produced by inmates of forced labor camps. Keating responded by emphasizing that he believes in following the letter of the law. Armstrong was critical of Keating's predecessor, John Walker, who prevented the customs commissioner from enforcing the law regarding goods imported from the Soviet Union.



Linking arms in a solidarity walk to the Soviet Embassy are (r. to l.) Rep. Ben Gilman (R-NY); Pamela Kostmayer, wife of Rep. Peter Kostmayer (D-PA); Avital Scharansky; Senator John Kerry (D-MA); Annette Lantos, wife of Rep. Tom Lantos (D-CA); and Katie Lowery (partially hidden), wife of Rep. Bill Lowery (R-CA). Mrs. Scharansky, accompanied by Congressional leaders and members of the Spouses' Committee of 21, attempted to deliver to Soviet authorities a letter signed by 99 Senators, asking for the release of her husband, POC Anatoly Scharansky. She was turned away at the Embassy gates.

# HANG TOUGH MR. PRESIDENT

## Human Rights?

## The Soviets say it is none of our business.

But as you, Mr. President, have so often, and so eloquently said, **it is our business.**

- **It is our business** when, in blatant violation of every international human rights agreement, hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews are denied their fundamental right to emigrate.
- **It is our business** when brave men and women are jailed in the Soviet Union for "crimes" like calling upon their own government to observe fully the Helsinki Accords—or for "crimes" like teaching classes in the Hebrew language.
- **It is our business** when Soviet emigration policy callously separates parents from children, husbands from wives.

We know, Mr. President, of your passionate commitment to the cause of Human Rights in the Soviet Union.

We know that you yourself are responsible for placing these issues on the Summit agenda.

And we implore you, Mr. President, to hang tough.

- **It is not enough** to secure the release of a few well-known *Refuseniks*—not when hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews are praying for their day of deliverance.
- **It is not enough** to secure the release of one or more famous Prisoners of Conscience—not when hundreds of others, who deserve to be free, are incarcerated in the prisons and labor camps of the Soviet Union.
- **It is not enough** to secure agreements to reunite a few divided families—not until the Soviet government fulfills its pledge to permit the reunification of all divided families and repatriation to Israel.

We urge you, Mr. President, to demand in your discussions with Mr. Gorbachev what you and we have every right to expect—that the Soviets keep the solemn promises they made at Helsinki.

We hope, Mr. President, you will point out to the Soviet government that if we cannot trust their promises about Human Rights, it will be very difficult to convince the American people that we can trust a new Soviet leader to keep his word on any other agreements or treaties.

The 57,000 members of UCSJ and our 38 regional councils stand beside you. And, to hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews, you symbolize their fondest hopes.

Hang tough, Mr. President.

**May God be with you.**

## We need your help, too.

Because Mr. Gorbachev is hoping that American support for Soviet Jewry will just wither up and die.

But we won't let that happen.

We're going to hang tough, too.

The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, a nationwide, grass-roots coalition of volunteers, will continue to work day and night to focus world attention on Soviet anti-Semitism and the plight of Refuseniks.

Because we are the voice of Soviet Jews.

And to make our voice heard, loud and clear, we need the help of those who share our commitment and hope.

Please join us. Make a generous contribution to UCSJ today. Thank you.

Morey Schapira      Mark Epstein  
National President      Executive Director  
**UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS**



- ☐ I want to help. Enclosed is my check for:
  - ☐ \$100 Circle of Freedom      ☐ \$50 Circle of Conscience
  - ☐ \$30 Circle of Hope
  - ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I am already a UCSJ member.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (please print)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

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Alabama Council to Save Soviet Jews ■ Alamo Council for Soviet Jewry ■ Arizona Council on Soviet Jewry ■ Baltimore Council for Soviet Jewry ■ Bay Area Council for Soviet Jews  
(Boston) Action for Soviet Jewry ■ Burlington Action Committee for Soviet Jews ■ Chicago Action for Soviet Jewry ■ Cincinnati Council for Soviet Jewry ■ Cleveland Council on Soviet Anti-Semitism  
Colorado Committee of Concern for Soviet Jewry ■ Connecticut Committee for Soviet Jews ■ Des Moines Action Committee for Soviet Jewry  
Detroit Soviet Jewry Committee of the Jewish Community Council ■ Greensboro Action for Soviet Jewry ■ Houston Action for Soviet Jewry ■ Jewish Federation of South Broward  
Knoxville-Oak Ridge Council for Soviet Jews ■ Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry ■ Los Alamos Committee on Soviet Anti-Semitism ■ Minnesota-Dakotas Action Committee for Soviet Jewry  
Newport News Soviet Jewry Committee, United Jewish Community ■ Oceanfront Council for Soviet Jews ■ Oklahoma Commission for Soviet Jewry ■ Omaha Committee for Soviet Jewry  
Pittsfield Council for Soviet Jewry ■ Sarasota Conference on Soviet Jewry ■ Seattle Action for Soviet Jewry ■ South Florida Conference on Soviet Jewry ■ Southern California Council for Soviet Jews  
Soviet Jewry Action Council of Harrisburg ■ Soviet Jewry Committee, Jewish Federation of South Bend ■ Soviet Jewry Committee of the Jewish Federation of the North Shore  
Soviet Jewry Council of the JCRC (Philadelphia) ■ Vancouver Soviet Jewry Action Committee ■ Waco Council of Concern on Soviet Jewry ■ Washington Committee for Soviet Jewry  
West Palm Beach-Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County

## Nobel Questions

On December 10, in Oslo, Norway, the American and Soviet Co-chairmen of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) accepted the Nobel Peace Prize amid controversy over the Soviet winner's history. Dr. Yevgeni Chazov, Soviet Deputy Health Minister, leading cardiologist, and IPPNW co-founder, signed a 1973 letter denouncing Soviet physicist Andrei Sakharov. The letter accused Sakharov of slandering his country and committing "blasphemy" against peace. Chazov is also the author of a recent article in Pravda placing responsibility on the U.S. for the nuclear arms race.

Dr. Bernard Lown, representing the U.S. chapter of IPPNW, is Professor of Cardiology at the Harvard School of Public Health. In Oslo, Dr. Lown described Dr. Chazov as "indispensable", and added, "what Chazov did was bring the nuclear issue home to every Russian." Lown made no mention that it was Sakharov who first publicly declared his opposition to nuclear weapons, a stance for which he has paid dearly. Lown did speak of Sakharov's situation, however, stating, "This is not an issue in which IPPNW can be involved in any way." Lown further added, appearing as an apologist for the Soviets, "They don't understand him. Many of them regard him as a traitor because he has been attacking Soviet nuclear policy and not American nuclear policy. . . ."

In Boston, IPPNW member and Harvard physician Dr. Loring Conant, Jr., asserted that Sakharov might very well support IPPNW's statements and actions, citing a quote of Sakharov's relating to disarmament. While a direct response from Sakharov is not available, the article written by Sakharov's son-in-law clearly belies Dr. Conant's presumptions about Sakharov's views.

## Peace Prize Awarded at Expense of Humanity

Efrem Yankelevich

This year's decision of the Nobel Peace Prize Committee was a drastic reversal of the position the committee took 10 years ago when the award went to Dr. Andrei D. Sakharov. The 1975 Peace Prize was more than just a recognition of Sakharov's contribution to the cause of peace and justice; it was an endorsement of the "Sakharov doctrine" — the indivisibility of peace and human rights.

"In a convincing fashion," read the Nobel Committee citation, Sakharov "has emphasized that the individual rights of man can serve as the only sure foundation for a genuine and long-lasting system of international co-operation."

This year's laureate, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), does not share this view of the importance of the "individual right of man." Indeed, the group believes even a mention of these rights is detrimental to its cause.

What, then, is the goal of the IPPNW that human rights conspires to undermine? According to IPPNW, the goal is "to alert the people and governments to the medical dimension of nuclear weapons." It certainly is a worthy cause. If there was a nuclear war, most of us would die instantly, or later, in pain, with no medical help available. It is an important message, and those of us who overlooked this possibility should be made aware of it.

Still, can human rights, which includes, according to the international agreements, the right "to seek, receive and impart information and ideas, of all kinds, regardless of frontiers," harm the cause of the International Physicians?

The IPPNW's aversion to human rights is due to its sponsorship by the Soviet government. The Soviet government has good reason to support the IPPNW because it prefers to fight for peace on American territory. But why should the IPPNW accept the Soviet sponsorship and "Moscow rules" that go along with it: no human rights, no Afghanistan, etc. A founding member of the IPPNW told me that this allows the IPPNW access to the Soviet audience.

It is important that the IPPNW's message be spread among the Soviet population, which is still taught at compulsory civil defense courses how to avoid being killed in a nuclear attack.

Unfortunately, IPPNW access to the Soviet audience so far has been limited to one TV appearance. Human rights in exchange for an opportunity to appear once in five years on the Soviet TV does not sound like a square deal. Perhaps the IPPNW should consider instead spending money on radio transmitters and joining Voice of America and Radio Liberty in their attempts to break through Soviet jamming.

Of course it is possible that the IPPNW will soon be granted much more Soviet air time. Soviet internal propaganda could certainly use the IPPNW's message to justify a further arms build-up to repel "imperialistic aggression." Nuclear scare tactics are a two-edged sword, as most swords are. In experienced hands they could be used to justify not the abolition but a build-up of nuclear arsenals.

The frantic desire to talk, to have relations, to make deals with the Soviet officialdom have their roots in fear of nuclear confrontation. But does this desire

always serve constructive purposes? In satisfying this desire, do we not too often betray both victims of injustice and our own moral values? Our ideals and self-respect? Is it not outright silly and demeaning to betray all these for no constructive purpose?

A personal note. In June 1984 my wife and I went to Helsinki, where the IPPNW was having a conference. We wanted to persuade the physicians' group to help Sakharov, who was then on a hunger strike demanding to let his wife go abroad for medical treatment. We felt we have a strong case to present: Sakharov was the first prominent person in the USSR to recognize the danger of the fallout from nuclear tests in the atmosphere and, since 1957, to advocate successfully cessation of the tests.

Sakharov is also well recognized for his contribution to the cause the IPPNW professes to be dedicated to; and, finally, we thought, physicians cannot fail to uphold the right of a patient. Mrs. Sakharov, to seek medical help from a doctor of her choice.

We were not well received by the physicians. In fact, we were not received at all. The Co-presidents of the IPPNW, Dr. Bernard Lown and Dr. Yevgeni Chazov, categorically refused to see us, so we communicated with each other through the Scandinavian press. The reason for the refusal, as explained by Lown, was that "the IPPNW is trying to save millions and therefore cannot be concerned with the fate of one family."

I do not know whether the millions are reassured by Lown's concern for their fate. I would not be. I lived long enough in the Soviet Union to know the practical results of caring for everybody: for the "Soviet people," for "progressive mankind," and for no one in particular.

Nazi Germany prohibited all its subjects from accepting Nobel prizes after the Peace Prize was awarded to Carl von Ossietzky, a journalist who spoke against the rearmament of Germany. The Soviet government is more flexible. It did not allow Andrei Sakharov to go to Oslo to accept the prize, but undoubtedly Chazov, a member of the Communist Party's Central Committee and co-chairman of IPPNW, will come to Oslo in December. Would it not be a little embarrassing for the IPPNW? Aren't they going to do something about it, like trying to get Sakharov out of Gorky alive?

*Efrem Yankelevich is a former participant in the Soviet human rights movement. This article is reprinted from the Boston Globe, November 2, 1985.*

## Scharansky and Sakharov Remembered

January 20 marks **Anatoly Scharansky's** 38th birthday. He was sentenced in July 1978 to 13 years imprisonment on charges of treason. No communication whatsoever has been received from Anatoly for many months. Send birthday greetings to the central mailing address for the Perm labor camp:

Anatoly Scharansky  
Uchr. 5110/1 VS  
Moscow  
USSR

January also marks the 6th anniversary of **Andrei Sakharov's** exile in Gorky. Five years is the maximum sentence for exile allowed by the judicial system. Sakharov, however, was not exiled in a court proceeding and the ending date of his sentence is unknown. Send greetings with your best wishes to:

Andrei Sakharov  
Gagarina 214, Apt. 3  
Shcherbinka 2  
Gorky  
USSR

## International Human Rights Day

On the 37th Anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, Morey Schapira, President of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, called upon the Soviet Union to demonstrate their commitment to the Declaration's principles.

In particular, Schapira challenged the Soviets to comply with Article 13 of the Universal Declaration, which states, "Everyone has the right to leave any country including his own, and return to his country."

"The Soviet Union must realize that if it wishes to sign any agreement in the areas of culture, science, and trade, it must first observe the basic human rights principles upon which these areas are founded," Schapira said. "It is clear that in the Soviet Union all people are equal but that Jews are less equal than others. The government controlled anti-Semitic news media, the ugly attacks, both verbal and physical, on Hebrew teachers, and the virtual shut off of emigration have clearly shown that the Soviets are not interested in the contents of the Universal Declaration."

Schapira also took the opportunity to again attack the oppressive apartheid system in South Africa. Noting some of the recent repressive measures there, Schapira stated, "the leaders of South Africa appear to be trying to emulate their counterparts in the Kremlin and must be vigorously opposed."

## Rabbis, Continued from page 1

Rabbi Oler, speaking for the group, which has come to be known as the "Maccabee Five," declared, "Today, on this festival of Chanukah, this festival of dedication to religious freedom, we call on the Soviet Union to let our people go. Furthermore, we call upon the world community to continue pressing the Soviet Union to live up to its international obligations toward human rights. We will never be silent," he proclaimed.

He urged that attention "not be focused on us or our families or our conditions," but rather, on "our oppressed brethren in Soviet jails, their families, and on the unbearable conditions of Soviet Jews who seek to live in freedom."

### Series of Trials

The trial was the second in a series scheduled for more than 150 individuals all arrested over the past six months in front of the Soviet Embassy. Participants in the demonstrations, sponsored by the Washington Board of Rabbis Soviet Jewry Committee, have included cantors, Christian clergy, Hebrew school principals and teachers, college students, community leaders, and lay activists.

A motion seeking dismissal of the first case on the grounds of selective prosecution had been denied. The defense argued that prohibiting individuals from demonstrating within

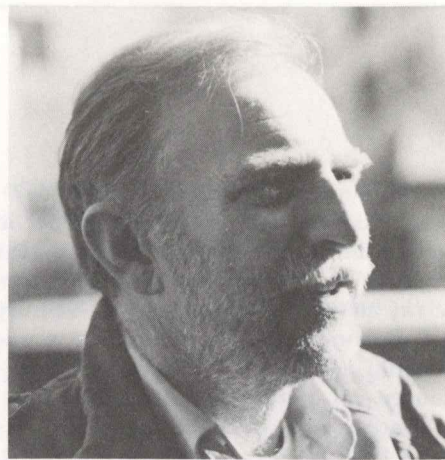
500 feet of an Embassy is a violation of the First Amendment guarantee of free speech. The judge also denied this motion to dismiss the case.

At the first trial, on December 5, twenty-one Rabbis from Washington, Baltimore, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Florida arrested at a June 10 rally were found guilty. Those Rabbis received the same suspended sentence, unsupervised probation, and fine that was served on the second group, though none in the first group chose to serve a prison sentence.

At both trials, the judge focused on the group's attempt to influence public opinion in the U.S., and did not acknowledge the ultimate purpose of the arrests, which is to make a statement to Soviet authorities. Moreover, she prohibited the defense from calling expert witnesses to testify at the first trial and again, at the December 11 trial, the attorney for the second group, Henry Asbill, was prevented by the judge from presenting the "necessity defense."

A third trial will be held in mid-January for the group arrested and charged at a Soviet Embassy demonstration in late October.

In all, seven demonstrations with arrests were held, the last of which took place on November 17 on the eve of the summit, in which D.C. police arrested 48 Hebrew school principals and teachers. The religious school principals who were arrested were: Phyllis Greene, Linda Perlberg, Barry Krasner, Rachel Sobel, Louis Nagel, Ilene Bayar (wife of Rabbi



Rabbi Leonard Cahan

Harold Bayar, one of the five imprisoned on December 13), Ann Rubin, Roberta Greenberg, and Marsha Bokman.

Reverend John Steinbruck, who was one of the demonstrators arrested on May 1, and tried with the "Maccabee Five," accepted the suspended sentence because serving 15 days would require that he be absent from his Church during the Christmas season. "I'll be back on January 30, your honor," he said, to stand trial for a subsequent demonstration he took part in with other Christian clergy on Yom Kippur.

### Selective Prosecution and Moral Outrage

UCSJ president, Morey Schapira, who stated he was "dismayed" by the judge's decision against the rabbis, pointed out that "it is most puzzling that those arrested for demonstrating against human rights violations within 500 feet of the South African embassy were neither charged nor tried. . . ." Schapira was referring to the more than 2,000 anti-Apartheid demonstrators against whom all charges have been dropped, though they have broken the same law as the one for which the Soviet Jewry activists were charged and convicted.

Representative Michael Barnes (D-MD), calling the sentences "unusually harsh," introduced a resolution in Congress to ask President Reagan to pardon the Rabbis.

The DC-Maryland chapter of B'nai B'rith has agreed to underwrite the defense of all those arrested in the series of protests and UCSJ will continue to support the demonstrators as their cases are appealed.



Yelena Bonner

### Bonner, Continued from page 1

health emerged. Sakharov's son and son-in-law, who live in the U.S., affirmed that their suspicions of brutal force-feedings and long separations from his wife were correct. Clues about Sakharov's and Bonner's tenuous situation in Gorky were gleaned by studying various altered and forged messages from them, as well as from news slipping out of Gorky, and sporadic phone calls.

Sakharov's last hunger strike, which lasted six months, ended on October 23 when Sakharov learned that his wife might be given the long-sought permission. Bonner left Moscow on December 2, stopped in Italy, and continued on to Boston, where the extent of her heart disease is being evaluated by medical authorities.

Sakharov was exiled to the closed City of Gorky in January 1980, and Bonner was confined to Gorky in 1984. They have been surreptitiously filmed on several occasions and the footage released by Soviet authorities. President Reagan, in his International Human Rights Day statement on December 10, declared, "We find particularly odious the Soviet practice of filming Dr. Sakharov and his wife Mrs. Bonner during medical examinations and consultations, a violation of basic medical ethics." Film clips recently released show

Sakharov carrying Bonner's luggage as she prepared to leave Gorky. Sakharov was so weakened by his extended hunger strike that he was able to carry the suitcases only a few steps before stopping. His true condition was hidden by extensive editing by the Soviets in their attempt to portray a healthy man. A phone call from Boston to Gorky, in which Bonner tried to tell Sakharov about the hidden cameras, was abruptly cut short.

### Summit, Continued from page 1

The Soviets were not completely successful in diverting attention away from human rights issues in Geneva. Lynn Singer, chair of the Advisory Board and former president of UCSJ, met with the press and State Department officials. Former POC Josef Mendelevich, along with four other activists, occupied the offices of the Soviet Airlines, Aeroflot, in Geneva. All five were arrested, spent three days in prison, and were expelled from Switzerland.

The Soviets took a new tack in an attempt to deflect Western criticisms and accusations on human rights issues. This approach, in which they mimic Western censure of Soviet human rights practices, marks a departure from their standard criticisms of the U.S., in which they cite general social indicators of poverty such as unemployment and homelessness. The Soviets accused the U.S. of hypocrisy for criticizing other countries' human rights policies, and of practicing "genocide" against native Americans. In addition, the Novosti news agency printed a petition signed by fourteen Jewish officials in the Soviet Union asking that the U.S. government stop the wave of anti-Semitism sweeping the U.S.

Swiss police also arrested Avital Scharansky as she stood down the street from the Soviet Mission in a silent vigil to call for the liberation of her husband, Anatoly. Canadian attorney for Anatoly Scharansky, Irwin Cotler, stated she was held in a local prison for 2½ hours before being released, and this, only after the U.S., Canadian, and Israeli governments lodged complaints. Advocacy on behalf of Soviet Jewry also came from an unexpected source — Jesse Jackson, in an impromptu public discussion with Gorbachev in which

Reverend Jackson pressed the Soviet leader on the predicament of Soviet Jews.

## Scientists Petition for Emigration of Soviet Colleagues

Responding to the stunting of the careers of two Soviet colleagues simply because they wish to leave the USSR, close to 250 physicists petitioned Soviet authorities on their behalf. The petition was circulated at the Annual Meeting of the Division of Plasma Physics (DPP) of the American Physical Society (APS) which was held in San Diego in November.

The signers expressed collegial concern about Professors Yakov Alpert and Marks Kovner, "who are prevented from pursuing their professional activities fully because they have declared their desire to emigrate." They urged the Soviet officials "to allow our colleagues to leave the Soviet Union so that they can relocate in Israel where they will be free to resume their scientific work."

The Committee of Concerned Scientists, an independent organization of 4,500 American scientists dedicated to the protection and advancement of the human rights and scientific freedom of colleagues worldwide, has been integral in the physicists' campaign.

## In the Soviet Press

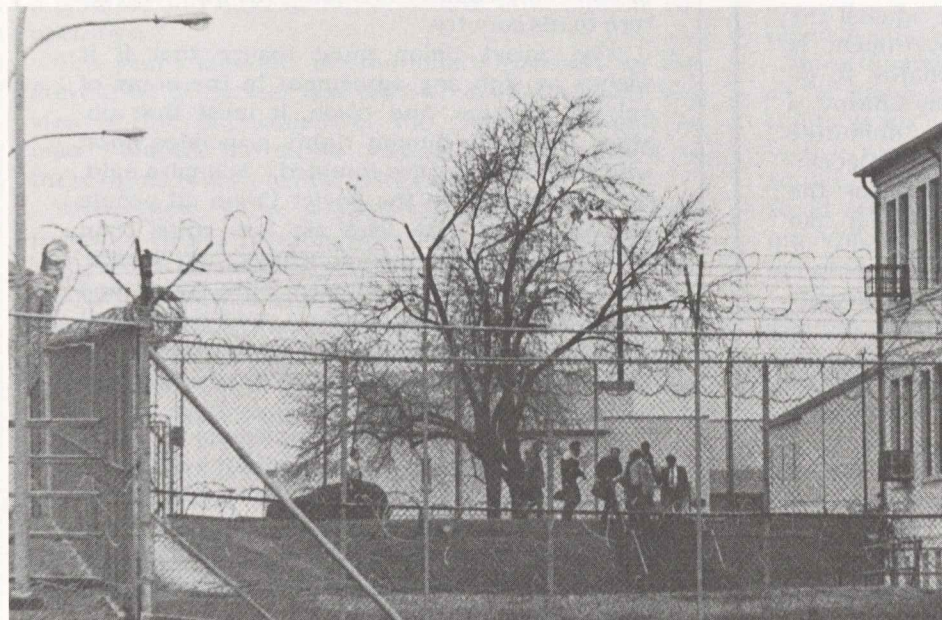
*Khommunist Tadzshikistana*  
October 20, 1985

### The Retribution

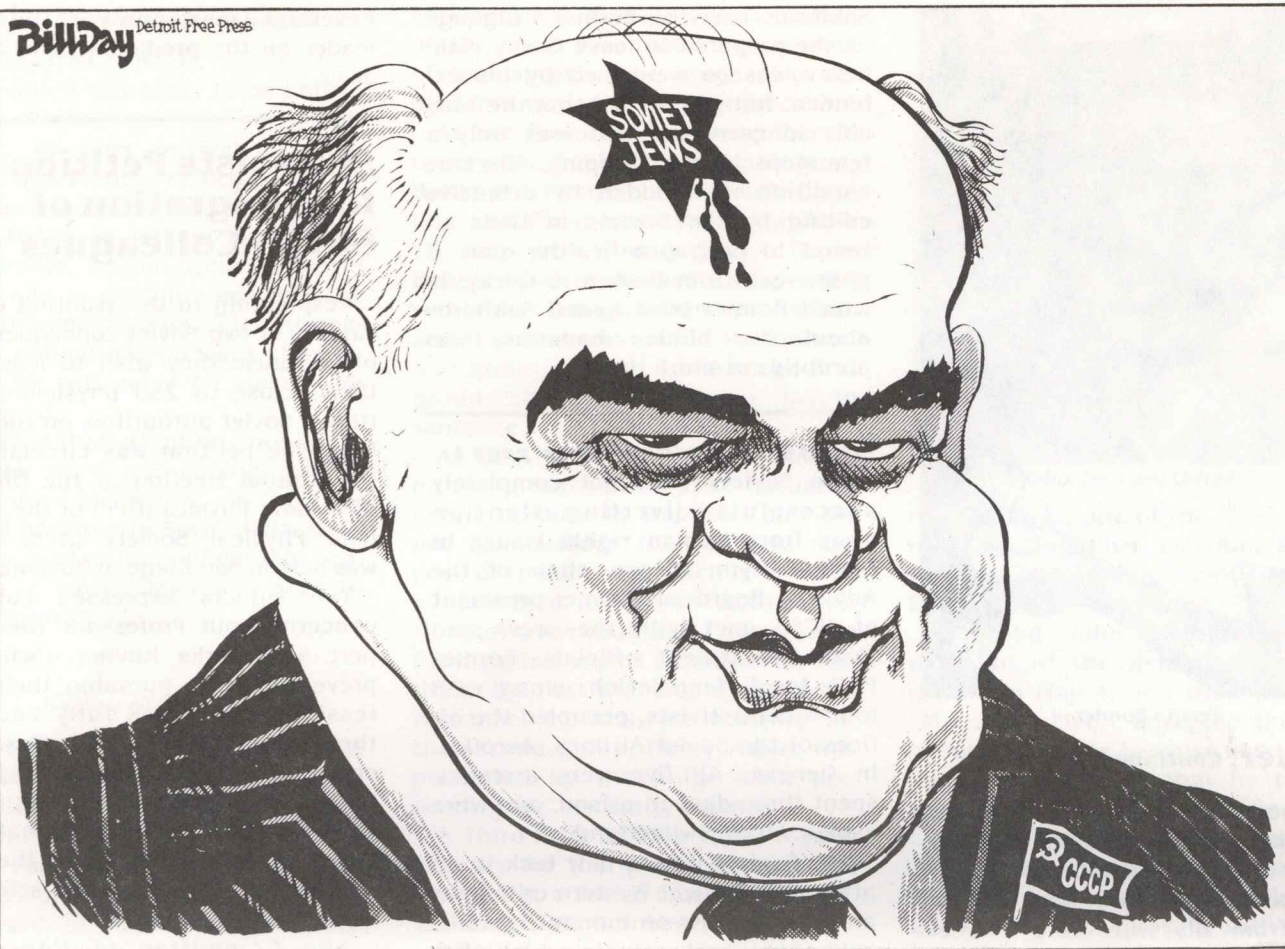
"The fate of Jews — emigrants from the Soviet Union who moved to Israel or other countries of the so-called 'free world,' is often tragic.

At the same time, these Jews — former Soviet citizens — more and more often get involved with organized crime because many become members of criminal organizations connected with Zionists or their victims. . .

The USA is not the only country in the "free world" where Jews — emigrants from the Soviet Union — become criminals. . .



Rabbis entering the Federal Correctional Institution at Petersburg, Virginia



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The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews is composed of 39 local councils, 3 domestic affiliates, 3 international affiliates and 55,000 individual members dedicated to helping Soviet Jews, especially those desiring to emigrate.

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## 128 Jews left the Soviet Union in November