

AJHS Finding Aid for the Lillian Foreman Papers

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Foreman, Lillian
Title:	Guide to the Lillian Foreman Papers, undated, 1965, 1967-1976, 1979, 1981-1984, 1987-1990 *P-945
Dates:	Creation: undated, 1965, 1967-1976, 1979, 1981-1984, 1987-1990
Abstract:	The papers of Lillian Foreman reflect her work on behalf of Soviet Jews as a member of the Bay Area Council for Soviet Jews. The collection includes correspondence with Jews in the Soviet Union, materials used to create a database of the Refuseniks, materials pertaining to Bar and Bat Mitzvah Twinning and Adopt-A-Family projects, clippings collected in order to monitor the situation of Jews in the USSR and newsletters from Soviet Jewry movement organizations.
Identification:	P-945
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Historical Note

<p>The Papers of Lillian Foreman represent one collection housed within the Archive of the American Soviet Jewry Movement (AASJM). These papers reflect the effort, beginning in the 1960s through the late 1980s, of thousands of American Jews of all denominations and political orientations to stop the persecution and discrimination of Jews in the Soviet Union. The American Soviet Jewry Movement (ASJM) is considered to be the most influential Movement of the American Jewish community in the 20th century. The beginnings of the organized American Soviet Jewry Movement became a model for efforts to aid Soviet Jews in other countries, among them Great Britain, Canada, and France. The movement can be traced to the early 1960s, when the first organizations were created to address the specific problem of the persecution and isolation of Soviet Jews by the government of the Soviet Union.</p>

San Francisco-based Lillian Foreman was an activist in the American Soviet Jewry Movement in the 1970s and 1980s. She was active in the Bay Area Council for Soviet Jews (BACSJ) and served as the Council's president in the 1980s. Lillian Foreman participated in numerous rallies and demonstrations in the Bay Area to raise awareness to the plight of Soviet Jews. She built an extensive filing system documenting thousands of Refuseniks that became a resource for BACSJ and other Soviet Jewry organizations in the United States. Foreman helped connect Jewish families in the US and USSR with special project such as Adopt-A-Family and Bar/Bat Mitzvah Twinning. She visited the Soviet Union in the 1970s and met with many Refuseniks and Prisoners of Conscience, including Ida Nudel and Leonid Slepak.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Lillian Foreman reflect her work on behalf of Soviet Jews as a member of the Bay Area Council for Soviet Jews. The collection includes correspondence with Jews in the Soviet Union, materials used to create a database of the Refuseniks, materials pertaining to Bar and Bat Mitzvah Twinning and Adopt-A-Family projects, clippings collected in order to monitor the situation of Jews in the USSR and newsletters from Soviet Jewry movement organizations.

The collection consists of five manuscript boxes.

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

The collection is open to all researchers, except items that may be restricted due to their fragility, or privacy.

Acquisition Information

Donated by the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2007.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into a single series.

[Papers of Lillian Foreman, undated, 1965, 1967-1976, 1979, 1981-1984, 1987-1990](#)

Preferred Citation

Published citations should take the following form:

Description of item, date of item, Papers of Lillian Foreman, *P-945, Box #, Folder #, Collection of the American Jewish Historical Society, New York, NY.

Related Material

The Papers of Lillian Foreman is one individual collection within the Archive of the American Soviet Jewry Movement (AASJM) located at the American Jewish Historical Society (AJHS). Other Soviet Jewry Movement collections at AJHS include the records of [Action for Soviet Jewry \(I-487\)](#), the [National Conference on Soviet Jewry \(NCSJ; I-181 and I-181A\)](#), the [Union of Councils for Soviet Jews \(I-410, I-410A\)](#), [Houston Action for Soviet Jewry \(I-500\)](#), [Bay Area Council for Soviet Jews \(I-505\)](#), [Seattle Action for Soviet Jewry \(I-507\)](#), [The Jewish Chronicle Soviet Jewry Collection \(I-523\)](#), [B'nai B'rith Klutznick National Jewish Museum Soviet Jewry Movement Collection \(I-529\)](#), [Chicago Action for Soviet Jewry \(I-530\)](#), the papers of [Joel Ackerman \(P-787\)](#), [Julia Mates Cheney \(P-806\)](#), [Jerry Goodman \(P-863\)](#), [Laurel and Alan J. Gould \(P-866\)](#), [Carolyn W. Sanger \(P-870\)](#), [Leah Lieberman \(P-869\)](#), [Si Frumkin \(P-871\)](#), [Elaine Pittell \(P-873\)](#), [Sanford A. Gradinger \(P-880\)](#), [Shaul Osadchey \(P-882\)](#), [Leonard S. Cahan \(P-883\)](#), [Doris H. Goldstein \(P-887\)](#), [David H. Hill \(P-888\)](#), [Margery Sanford \(P-889\)](#), [Pinchas Mordechai Teitz \(P-891\)](#), [David Waksberg \(P-895\)](#), [Pamela B. Cohen \(P-897\)](#), [Moshe Decter \(P-899\)](#), [William Korey \(P-903\)](#), [Morey Schapira \(P-906\)](#), [Charlotte Gerper Turner \(P-907\)](#), [Myrtle Sitowitz \(P-908\)](#), [Kathleen M. Hyman \(P-911\)](#), [Babette Wampold \(P-912\)](#), [Rabbi David Goldstein and Shannie Goldstein \(P-918\)](#), [Leslie Schaffer \(P-923\)](#), [Arthur Bernstein \(P-925\)](#), [Dolores Wilkenfeld \(P-927\)](#), [Sylvia Weinberg \(P-928\)](#), [Irwin H. Krasna \(P-934\)](#), [Constance S. Kreshtool \(P-935\)](#), [Grace Perlbinde \(P-942\)](#) and [Mort Yadin \(P-943\)](#)

Additional materials from other collections include records dealing with the Student Struggle for Soviet

Jewry (SSSJ) located within the [North American Jewish Students Appeal \(NAJSA, I-338\)](#) and the records of the [National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council \(NJCRAC, I-172\)](#). Related records are also located at the AJHS in Newton Centre, MA including [memorabilia and ephemera of the New England Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry \(I-237\)](#) and the [Records of the Student Coalition for Soviet Jewry – Brandeis University \(I-493\)](#).

Use Restrictions

No permission is required to quote, reproduce or otherwise publish manuscript materials found in this collection, as long as the usage is scholarly, educational, and non-commercial. For inquiries about other usage, please contact the Director of Collections and Engagement at mmeyers@ajhs.org.

For reference questions, please email: inquiries@cjh.org

Controlled Access Headings

- Antisemitism
- Clippings (information artifacts)
- Correspondence
- Human rights
- Jews, Soviet
- Memorandums
- Newsletters
- Pamphlets
- Photographs
- Publications (documents)
- Refuseniks
- Soviet Union
- United States

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series I: Lillian Foreman Papers, undated, 1965, 1967-1976, 1979, 1981-1984, 1987-1990

Box	Folder	
1	1	Adopt-A-Family Data Bank, 1982-1983
1	2	Articles and Reports, 1973-1975
1	3	Bar and Bat Mitzvah Twinning, 1984
1	4	Bar and Bat Mitzvah Twinning, 1984
1	5	Bar and Bat Mitzvah Twinning (contains photographs), 1983-1984, 1988
2	1	Clippings, 1965, 1967-1969, 1972-1976
2	2	Clippings, 1970-1976
2	3	Correspondence, undated, 1974, 1976
2	4	Events, undated, 1975-1976, 1979, 1981
2	5	Kravis, Eugene, 1982
2	6	Newsletters: <i>Jews in the USSR</i> [Board of Deputies of British Jews], 1972-1973
2	7	Newsletters: <i>Samizdat Bulletin</i> , 1974-1975
3	1	Newsletters: <i>Samizdat Bulletin</i> , 1975-1976
3	2	Newsletters: Miscellaneous, 1972-1975, 1984
3	3	Publications, 1972-1975, 1984
3	4	Refuseniks Biographies, 1987-1990
4	1	Refuseniks Lists, 1970s
4	2	Refuseniks Lists, 1987-1989
4	3	Refuseniks Lists, 1989-1990
4	4	Refuseniks Lists: Permissions, 1988
5	1	Refuseniks Profiles, 1988
5	2	Refuseniks Profiles, 1988
5	3	Refuseniks Profiles, 1988