

# ALERT

Vol. IV, No. 14/ Jan. 30, 1980/ Robert Gordon, Pres./Davida Manon, Ed.

## The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews

### ANDREI SAKHAROV EXILED

A person is free only if he has all his rights. When you live in a house whose door is locked, you are a prisoner even if you don't need to leave. All of us are such prisoners now.

Andrei Sakharov

There was a sharp reaction from around the world to the Soviet decision to exile dissident leader Andrei Sakharov to the closed city of Gorky. Demonstrations took place in many cities in the US and Europe, and Nobel laureates signed petitions on behalf of their exiled colleague.

In recognition of Sakharov's long-standing support of Soviet Jews, The Washington Committee for Soviet Jewry and the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews demonstrated in the nation's capital to protest his exile. UCSJ president Robert Gordon spoke at a rally for Sakharov at Harvard University describing him as "The preeminent defender of human rights of Soviet Jews, Christian minorities and dissidents." He called on the nations of the world "to react firmly and powerfully by expressing concern to the Soviet government and by taking further actions in their intergovernmental relations with the Soviet Union." Among those actions called for by Mr. Gordon was the removal of the 1980 Olympics from Moscow.

It should be noted that Dr. Sakharov has spoken out against anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union throughout the years. He has supported Israel's right to exist and defend herself and criticized the Soviet Union's "irresponsible encouragement" of violence in the Middle East. It was he who spoke out to the Western press on behalf of the defendants in the Leningrad trials and later visited POC Edward Kuznetsov in prison. More recently, he was close to Anatoly Shcharansky.

It is fitting that some of the first reports of Sakharov in exile to reach the West should come from a Soviet Jew. Refusenik Mark Kovner of Gorky visited the Sakharov's new apartment, in spite of KGB harassment, and later described his visit to reporters from the West. (An article by Kevin Klose is reprinted on page 5).

A petition on behalf of Andrei Sakharov appears after page 8 of this Alert. We urge you to get as many signatures as possible on this petition and return it to the UCSJ office, 24 Crescent St., Suite 3A, Waltham, MA. 02154.

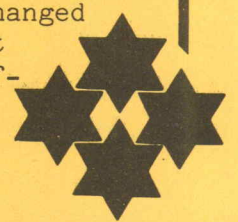
### SHCHARANSKY'S FATHER DEAD

It is with sorrow that we report that Anatoly Shcharansky's father, Boris, died of a heart attack on January 20. He was stricken while riding on a Moscow trolley, traveling to a birthday party being held in absentia for Anatoly at the home of Alexander Lerner. Anatoly had not seen his father since his arrest on March 15, 1977.

Ida Milgrom, Anatoly's mother received many condolences from the West and a telegram from Anatoly in prison. Anatoly was not allowed to attend his father's funeral which was held on January 23. Letters may be sent to: Ida Milgrom Shcharansky, Cooperativnaya 8, apt.4, Istra, Moscow Oblast, RSFSR, USSR.

### THE EIGHTIES - A NEW ERA FOR SOVIET JEWS?

In the wake of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the furor over a possible Olympics boycott and the exile of Andrei Sakharov, we're still trying to get a picture of what's happening to Soviet Jews in Moscow and out in the provinces. Has their situation changed drastically as many fear, or is there a slow deterioration of conditions or is it business as usual? The signals are mixed and communication is slow making it difficult to put together a coherent picture. These are some of the pieces of the puzzle:





\* Alexander Lerner, Naum Meiman and Victor Yelistratov report that they feel that they are "living on the edge of a knife." Meiman's phone was cut off, and Yelistratov has been summoned to the police (He has not gone, but he carries an extra change of warm clothing with him at all times so that he will be prepared for arrest.)

\* Sergei Braude and Yevgeny Tsirlin have received permission to emigrate. They may be out of the Soviet Union by the time this ALERT is out. (Many other names appear on the list of recent emigrants which appears on page 4).

\* In recent weeks numerous refuseniks have lost their jobs, leaving them open to charges of parasitism. Among them are: Grigory Rosenstein, Boris Chernobilsky, Yakov Rahklanko, Victor Yelistratov and Vladimir Slepak.

\* Emigration statistics for January are down 30% from December. This, however, reflects the pre-Afghan situation and may be a result of OVIR offices having used up their 1979 emigration quotas too early.

\* Amnesty International reports that a major crackdown on dissenters in the Soviet Union has been taking place over the last 3 months. Those imprisoned include Helsinki monitors, Ukrainian nationalists, refuseniks and religious believers, among others. (A reaction to Amnesty's charges from Radio Moscow appears on page 7).

\* Kiev is a bad place to be for refuseniks and tourists. Harassment and arrests continue there, along with rumors of visas being taken away from would-be emigrants.

\* We hear frequent rumors of OVIR offices being closed in various cities. It does not seem, however, that there is a general cut-off of applications.

In the West, Soviet Jewry activists are trying to put together the various bits of information in order to help Soviet Jews in the post-detente era. The UCSJ is organizing a series of international meetings in March to plan strategies for the eighties. The London 35's (Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry), will focus on the Olympics and the Madrid conference to review the Helsinki Accords. The Israel Leadership Mission which follows will deal with other issues including internal Soviet developments and emigration choices for Soviet Jews. (A more complete description of the Israel mission appears on page 10).

We hope that all those who share our concern for the fate of Soviet Jews in these perilous times will join us in planning strategies for the eighties.

#### NEWS BRIEFS:

- Victor Yelistratov went to Kiev on Jan. 5, planning to visit activist Sergei Rothstein who was due to be released from detention. Yelistratov was expelled immediately and put on the next train out of Kiev.
- POC Slexander Vilig has been released from the prison camp and has been transferred to work fro the state under "controlled" conditions. He has been promised release in May 1980 if he "behaves". Vilig was arrested for draft evasion.
- Arkady Feldman and Y. Groberman are imprisoned in the same camp in Moldavia, while Alexander Milner is being held in another camp in the same region. Their arrests followed a party celebrating Feldman's receipt of permission. (Their story appeared in the Nov. 7 ALERT).
- Riva Feldman, prominent member of the Moscow Women's Group, has been given verbal permission for an exit visa, although both of her twin sons have been refused.
- Benjamin Bogomolny has not received mail for three months and would very much like to hear from his friends in the West. His address is: Kuskovskaya 10A, apt. 43, Moscow, RSFSR, USSR.
- Victor Brailovsky would like to make the Moscow Mathematics Seminar into a leading forum for mathematicians the world over. He was delighted recently when a leading scholar from the West flew in, addressed the seminar and flew out.
- In mid-December Moscow activists tried to commemorate the Leningrad trials at the Lenin Library. Most were detained but three - Vladimir Prestin, Felix Abramovich and Elena Dubien-skaya did arrive. They were put on a bus and let off in a remote area some 2 hours from the center of the city.



- The Goldstein brothers from Tbilisi were arrested last month during the stay at the flat of refusenik Rakhlenko. They were later released but told they must leave Moscow.
- Alexander Magidovich, the only known refusenik in Tula, wrote the following message in Hebrew on a postal return-receipt: "Thank you. Help me to go to Israel. I have no visa. I sent many letters. Why are there no answers?" His address is: N. Rudneva St.60/65, Tula, RSFSR, USSR.
- In a recent card from Ida Nudel, she requested that all mail addressed to her should indicate "Personal Delivery". Her new address is: 636 300 Tomskaya Oblast, Poselok, Krivosheino, USSR.

#### SPOTLIGHT ON A JEWISH PRISONER: YAKOV KANDINOV

The case of Yakov Kandinov, the only Jew in Karshi prison, has been so little publicized that even refuseniks in Moscow do not know about him. We have received the following information from the London 35's who urge people to send letters of support to Yakov and his wife Polina.

Yakov was sentenced to 8 years imprisonment in Feb. 1978. Polina visited him last November. She reports that he is in poor health and is not receiving medical attention.

Polina and her children suffer great hardship. She resigned her Soviet citizenship when she was given a visa before Yakov's arrest and she has never had her papers returned, so she is unable to work under the Soviet constitution. In addition to this she is continually vilified in the local press because of the family's desire to emigrate to Israel. The 3 children have been expelled from their school and although they have now been accepted by another school, they were left without education for more than a year. They suffer economic hardships because Polina's family in the Soviet Union is in no position to support her entirely. Please write to them at:

Polina Kandinov

Paravoznaya 43

Tashkent

Uzbekhistan SSR,USSR

Yakov Kandinov

Utch. U. Ya-64/39

p/ya 5110/1

Moscow, USSR, RSFSR

#### EMIGRATION: SONS AND MOTHERS

\* Ever since November 26th when she was told by Boris Shumlin, himself, that she could leave the Soviet Union as soon as she wished, Riva Feldman, one of Moscow's best-known woman activists, has been postponing actually applying for her emigration visa.

Already distressed by the fact that one of her sons Efim will not be allowed to accompany her, she had been hoping against hope that at least her second son, Vladimir, Efim's twin, might get a visa for himself, his wife and their young baby. This week, those hopes were finally dashed, when Vladimir was finally told that he too must stay in Moscow. Then, on top of that blow, Riva was told at the Moscow OVIR that they had no official information that she was to get a visa. "One way or another I am sure that they will clear things up" - Riva told us this week. "Meanwhile I'm so upset about Vladimir that I can no longer think straight."

\* Mrs. Faina Shnirman of Kerch, the mother of POC Simon Shnirman, wrote the following to relatives in Israel:

.....I was allowed a brief visit to Simon on August 24. I have no idea when I will be permitted to see him again. He didn't look too bad... He continues to write as often as he can. His letters are encouraging...He does not give in...He still has a whole year to suffer his fate in a labor camp...There is very little hope that he will be released before expiration of his sentence...On his birthday Nov.8th, Simon received 10 greeting cards from friends and from some he did not know. He was very happy about that...

\* Victor and Irina Brailovsky, the prominent Moscow scientists and refuseniks of six years standing, asked the Head of All Union OVIR, Konstantin Zotov, if their 18 year old son Leonid could be allowed to leave the Soviet Union without them. They based their request on the



permission given to 18 year old Misha Rosenshtein, the son of Natalya and Grigory Rosenshtein. "Your case is much more complicated", Zotov told the Brailovskys. When Victor pressed Zotov to explain the "complications", the Head of OVIR told them that he could not do that.

\* Senem Abramova lives with her ten year old son German in Derbent. She has been divorced since 1971. Her father emigrated to Israel in 1976 with a promise from German's father that he would allow his son to leave with Senem. Unfortunately, the agreement was made only verbally. Now Senem's mother and the rest of her family are leaving to join her father in Israel and she will be left alone with her son, as her husband now refuses to sign the document permitting German's emigration. Her address is: Lenina St.38, apt. 1, Derbent, Dagenstanskaya ASSR, USSR, RSFSR.

#### EMIGRATION ROUNDUP:

The following people left the Soviet Union late in 1979:

Yanko Vanshtuk - Kishinev	Lev Godlin - Moscow	Dodik Yusupov - Dushanbe
Yuly Bykov - Tashkent	Valentin Gankin - Moscow	Vladimir Khasin - Donetsk
Maer Gleizer - Riga	Abram Kats - Khust	Efim Israilson - Riga
Efim Shkliar - Leningrad	Abram Kharab - Kiev	Eduard Kirshtein - Baku
Grigory Kogan - Chernovtsy	Grigory Knif - Khmelniysky	Dmitry Kornitsky - Moscow
Viktor Kotliar - Donetsk	Boris Litvin - Leningrad	Igor Lipovetsky - Donetsk
Yakov Livshits - Leningrad	Gotlib Man - Donetsk	Efim Matiukov - Tashkent
Boris Vainer - Tashkent	Efim Zlatin - Kharkov	Anna Ladyzhenskaya - Lvov
Anatoly Spivak - Kishinev	Khuna Siderman - Kiev	Iosif Medonezov - Leningrad
Alexander Melamud - Khmel.	Isay Mirovich - Kishinev	Anatoly Mikhnevich - Donetsk
Yakov Shnaider - Kishinev	Ilia Shparber - Moscow	Svetlana Pavlitskaya - Leningrad
Iosif Shukman - Lvov	Efim Kuris - Slavuta	Stella Spirodonova - Lvov
Paul Solodnik - Chernovtsy	Maria Mazur - Chernovtsy	Karl Varmbrand - Tashkent
Yagu Mishiev - Derbent	Raisa Sukala - Minsk	Matitiagu Istakharov - Kuba
Srul Abulak - Chernovtsy	Boris Fradkin - Leningrad	Vladimir Cherkassky - Moscow
Mark Belenkov - Moscow	Iosif Gros - Beregovo	Rafail Rozhansky - Derbent
Yefim Levich - Riga	Lev Ulanovsky - Moscow	Nisim Eliashvili - Ulianovka
Dmitry Bershadsky - Lvov	Bension Liviev - Samarkand	Valery Frumkin - Dnepropetrovsk
Efim Frimerman - Kiev	Lev Gleiberg - Moskov. Obl.	Khizgil Naftaliev - Derbent
Konstantin Luk - Minsk	Levi Mikhailov - Derbent	Alexander Belkin - Leningrad
Perl Sabova - Zak. Obl.	Yuly Gutman - Odessa	Boris Davidov - Leningrad
Yury Grinchuk - Lvov	Artur Gumenik - Gomel	Israel Ilkovich - Mukachevo
Yury Kalenov - Moscow	Semion Iliashev - Rostov	Maya Eliashkevich - Minsk
Boris Tsitlionok - Moscow	Vadim Ilivitsky - Leningrad	Yuly Borodovsky - Tashkent
Efraim Gusman - Kalining.	R. Galitsky - Leningrad	Perets Goldmakher - Chernovtsy
Val. Simanovsky - Leningrad	Leonid Mirovich - Kishinev	Alexander Levin - Donetsk
Ilia Golbraikh - Leningrad		

#### REFUSENIK UPDATE

Adolph and Margarita Parnitsky  
Ul. Kardashova 2 Kv 38  
394000 G Voronezh, USSR  
Adolph-born June 4, 1913  
applied for visa Dec. 1978  
They are pensioners. He was  
professor of mechanic tech.  
They have 2 children, Yuri-33,  
daughter -married with 2 children

Georgy Sagallo (born 1954)  
Ul. Chaikovskogo 20, kv. 27  
Leningrad 192194, RSFSR, USSR  
Refused twice because his uncle was a revolution-  
ary (Volodarsky).

Change of Address: Natalia Khassina, Kv. 74  
ul. Shossenaya 40, Moscow, RSFSR, USSR

Oscar Mendeleev, Bulvar Rainisa D16, Corp.2  
Moscow 123459, RSFSR, USSR



# Sakharov's exile: A life in restraints

By Kevin Klose  
Washington Post

MOSCOW — Dissident leader Andrei Sakharov lives in the regional election district of KGB chief Yuri Andropov, with a police station next door to intercept every visitor and a post and telegraph office nearby from which he may not receive mail or make telephone calls.

When Sakharov, 58, leaves his four-room, ground-floor apartment in Gorky, he is followed by three plainclothesmen who never leave him. No meat, fresh vegetables, fruit or rice are on the shelves of the state stores nearby. He has no telephone, and the bathroom sink can't be used because it has no drain. He must report to the police every 10 days for a review of his conduct.

But the Nobel Peace Prize laureate is said to be "relaxed, in good humor and staying calm" in the city 250 miles from Moscow where he and his wife, Elena Bonner, were sent last Tuesday by the secret police. Their exile further damaged East-West relations after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

The Sakharovs keep up with foreign news by a shortwave radio they were allowed to bring with them. They are aware of the official assurance made last Friday that the physicist will not be prosecuted for allegedly passing Soviet military secrets to Western agents.

This picture of Sakharov in exile was provided yesterday by Mark Kovner, a resident of Gorky who has

visited the couple every day since they arrived in the city under heavy guard.

Kovner, a 48-year-old theoretical physicist who met Sakharov outside the closed political trial of dissident Alexander Ginzburg in July 1978, was interviewed yesterday in Sakharov's old apartment in central Moscow. He said that, despite the isolation, police surveillance, round-the-clock presence in their apartment of a woman assumed to be a police agent and the lack of wholesome food in Gorky stores, Sakharov is "enjoying his surroundings. He likes Gorkyites."

Kovner, a Jew refused emigration at least until 1985 although his wife and family live in Israel, said the banishment order forbids Sakharov "any contact with foreigners, including letters or phone calls, as well as contacts with 'criminal elements,'" a label for dissidents.

Kovner said a state prosecutor told Sakharov last Tuesday that the order also applied to contact with the physicist's two stepchildren, who live in the United States. Sakharov is restricted to Gorky's city limits. The city of about 1.2 million is closed to foreigners because a military aircraft factory is there.

The police station is across a narrow alley from the new, 12-story building where the Sakharovs are sequestered. Station windows are parallel with windows of the two rooms the couple uses as bedroom and study. A third small room is occupied by the unasked-for woman com-

panion, whom Kovner described as being in her late 40s, well-dressed, tidy and who announced to the couple she was their "housekeeper."

The low-ceilinged apartment's fourth room is the largest, used as a living room, with big windows looking across a small street and down to the Oka River, which joins the Volga River at Gorky.

Kovner said the apartment was well-furnished and came equipped with a refrigerator stocked with food, for which the Sakharovs were charged.

Kovner said uniformed police from the station intercept all visitors after they leave the apartment, then take them for questioning and documentation at the station. This has already happened several times, he said, because a number of Russians have come to the activist's home despite his exile and savage denunciation by the official Soviet press.

Officials allege he told foreign agents, chiefly Americans, secrets he learned during his years as mastermind of the Soviet hydrogen bomb program in the 1950s and '60s, before he took up the cause of individual freedoms in the country. He became the best-known Soviet dissident, whose cause was defended by many, including President Jimmy Carter.

Sakharov's banishment has brought a storm of protest from foreign capitals and communist parties.

Andrei Sakharov's address:

Shcherbinka 2  
Gagarina 214, Apt. 3  
Gorky, RSFSR, USSR

## SPOTLIGHT ON A REFUSENIK: MARK KOVNER

Professor Mark Kovner and his wife Anna are experts in the physics of the magnetosphere and plasma. Professor Kovner has more than 50 scientific works to his credit. He has been officially informed that neither his work nor the documents he dealt with were considered secret.

In October, 1975, his son Lyonya (born in 1952) applied for an exit visa to Israel and was rejected in March of the following year for "security reasons". He was never involved in work of a sensitive nature. The entire family planned to make application in January 1977. They were warned that all would be refused if the Professor were included. As a result, Anna, Lyonya and his two sisters Masha and Galya (both aged 18) applied and emigrated to Israel in August 1977 where they now live. When Kovner made his last request for a visa in April, 1978, he was again refused and told he would be held back until 1985 for security reasons.

Now Professor Kovner is an ordinary refusenik, dismissed after 20 years as a teacher from his institution -- accused by the KGB of "Zionist agitation", involvement in unofficial seminars and warned not to leave Gorky. He receives no mail and has no official position any longer with the State University.

There is no justification for the continued punishment of the Kovner family. Hardship and suffering continue to be the fate of this closely-knit family.

Your letters of support may be sent to the following address: Prof. Mark Kovner, 156 Gorky St., Apt. 3, Gorky N-6, USSR.

THE JEWISH WEEK-AMERICAN EXAMINER WEEK OF JANUARY 27, 1980

## Sakharov exile feared as sign of a new drive

WASHINGTON (JTA)—Jewish circles active on behalf of Soviet Jewry expressed concern that the arrest of Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov in Moscow Tuesday may herald a new drive against dissidents generally in the Soviet Union. This concern seemed to be shared by the State Department.

The Department's chief spokesman, Hodding Carter, commenting on Sakharov's arrest, said that a number of reports from other sources, including Amnesty International, suggest that there has been a heightening crackdown against dissidents, including several who have been closely associated with human rights activities in recent months.

Sakharov, a Nobel prize-winning physicist and human rights activist, was arrested in a Moscow street. Carter said the arrest was reported in a Tass dispatch in the newspaper Izvestia which said Sakharov had been stripped of his state awards for alleged subversive activities. He is reported to be in enforced internal exile in the village of Gorky.



SCIENTISTS PROTEST SOVIET VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

This page contains two examples of actions by the Western scientific community to help colleagues in the Soviet Union. The first, a petition on behalf of Andrei Sakharov, was signed by 25 Nobel laureates. The letter by Prof. Shott was obviously written before the Sakharov arrest, but shows the commitment to take real disciplinary action against the Soviets as a response to their treatment of Yuri Orlov. Concrete actions, such as those of this major French physics lab, should convince the Soviets that they will be penalized for violations of the Helsinki Accords, of which they are a signator.

His Excellency Leonid I. Brezhnev, President  
Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR  
Moscow, USSR

We deplore the banishment of Academician Andrei Sakharov to Gorky and the action of the Soviet government divesting him of his state honors. His consignment to internal exile in a closed city will silence an eloquent voice of wisdom desperately needed in our troubled world.

It is our understanding that Dr. Sakharov's expulsion came in response to his alleged "subversive activities against the Soviet state for a number of years." We wish to point out that these activities centered on his efforts to further Soviet compliance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Helsinki Final Act, documents to which the USSR is a signatory. Punishing Dr. Sakharov for his attempts to ensure your government's respect for its human rights commitments, honorably undertaken in these and other international agreements, is a travesty of justice.

Moreover, Dr. Sakharov's exile will serve to isolate him further from his scientific colleagues. While in Moscow, he was able to regularly attend scientific seminars sponsored by the Academy of Sciences and to meet on occasion with visiting Western scientists. This enforced exile will preclude further scientific interaction of this nature in contravention of Soviet commitments to the free flow of people and ideas.

American scientists will not fail to react to the repression of their gifted colleague. In the name of human decency we urge that you return Dr. Sakharov to his home in Moscow and restore his state honors. His continued detention in Gorky will only serve to deter Western scientists from engaging in scholarly exchanges with the USSR and to heighten international tension.

Philip Anderson  
Christian Anfinsen  
John Bardeen  
Baruch Blumberg  
Owen Chamberlain  
Leon Cooper  
Carl Cori  
Allan Cormack  
Andre Cournand  
Paul Flory  
Ivar Giaever  
Donald Glaser  
Sheldon Glashow

Alfred Hershey  
Gerhard Herzberg  
Robert Hofstadter  
Robert Holley  
Arthur Kornberg  
Polykarp Kusch  
Simon Kuznets  
Edward Purcell  
Howard Temin  
George Wald  
James Watson  
Rosalyn Yalow

UNIVERSITÉ PARIS VII

**GROUPE DE PHYSIQUE DES SOLIDES**

DE L'ÉCOLE NORMALE SUPÉRIEURE

LABORATOIRE ASSOCIÉ AU CENTRE NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE

Tour 23, 2. place Jussieu, 75221 Paris Cedex 05

TELEPHONE 336 25-25 - 325 12-21 POSTE

TELEX PARISSET 270075

PARIS, le January 4th 1980

Dr Morris PRIPSTEIN  
508 - 5238  
Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory  
University of California

BERKELEY, CAL. 94720

Dear Dr Pripstein,

Dr Caroli has shown to me your letter dated Dec. 9. We had learned independently that Y. Orlov has been put in solitary confinement for 6 months. As far as I know, he was sentenced for trying to send a scientific paper out of the camp, not for being in possession of a scientific report. I would like to make this clear, and would appreciate communication of any information you have.

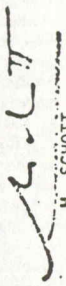
I think you will be interested in knowing that the french "Académie des Sciences" has sent a telegram to the Soviet Academy, demanding (in diplomatic words) Orlov to be released from solitary confinement, and to be given freedom of scientific communication.

In our laboratory, we have decided the following (I translate the decision from the french, and I hope there is no error):

"The Council of the Groupe de Physique des Solides de l'ENS decides not to receive any Soviet visitor or trainee in the laboratory until the disciplinary punishment imposed on Yuri Orlov be cancelled (solitary confinement for having tried to send a scientific paper out of the camp in which he is imprisoned)".

The Council is an elected body which plays a major role in the laboratory's policy in all matters. The decision was unanimous. It means, as I see it, that we are concerned enough in Orlov's case and life, to accept some real scientific inconvenience. Perhaps it can help your action to know and let know that a fairly large (more than 100 scientists) french laboratory has taken such a step. I would appreciate knowing of any similar action taken in the US.

Yours sincerely,

  
M. SCHOTT  
Director  
G.P.S. de l'ENS



## WHAT THE RUSSIANS ARE SAYING

(This transcript of a Soviet radio broadcast is reprinted from the Foreign Broadcast Information Service report of October 15, 1979).

### COMMENTARY ON AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S 'OPEN LETTER'

LD121738 Moscow TASS in English 1626 GMT 12 Oct 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, October 12, TASS--TASS political news analyst Yevgeniy Babenko writes:

The Amnesty International has released "an open letter" which, for an umpteenth time, touches on the issue of "human rights" in the Soviet Union. When one embarks on reading this long letter, the following question comes to mind: What has, in this case, been the pretext or underlying cause for its appearance? When one comes to the end of the letter, the answer comes by itself.

The letter appeared because the Moscow Olympiad-80 is drawing near.

The authors of "the letter" inform of their intention to enter into contacts with the International Olympic Committee and the national olympic committees of different countries to use the Moscow games for "informing" international public. Also announced is the intention to re-edit, in April 1980, "The Revised and Updated Report on the Status of Human Rights in the USSR" produced five years ago.

Thus, we are faced with a clear attempt to denigrate the Soviet Union on the eve of the Olympic games by a resort to out and out misinformation. It is also evident why it was the Olympic games of next year that have been selected as the object for reviving the loud slanderous campaign which has, so many times already, backfired against its organizers and instigators. During the Olympiad-80, Moscow and other Soviet cities will host hundreds of thousands of Western tourists, many of whom will be able, for the first time in their lives, to see for themselves, on the spot, the reality of the accomplishments of developed socialism. Besides, millions of Western citizens will, for the first time, familiarize themselves with Soviet reality through watching Olympic games on TV screens.

The organizers of the new wave of anti-Soviet speculative insinuations on the well-known topic are trying to foist in advance on the Western public a prejudiced and biased attitude to anything that is Soviet, already now attempting to sow in the minds of future guests of the Moscow Olympic games the seeds of unfriendliness, mistrust, and suspicion with regard to the Soviet Union.

Among the people who consider themselves to be members of Amnesty International there are probably people that who genuinely believe they are serving a just cause. It is exactly in order to attract such "partishioners" that Amnesty International, alongside of its active anti-Soviet activity, from time to time makes statements exposing the dictator Pinochet and his ilk. However, the chief and the dominant feature of the organization is to invent different moves to try to discredit socialism and its real achievements, including real safeguards and guarantees for the rights and freedoms of people. As to the hypocritical propagandist campaign, pharisaically called "the struggle for human rights", it in effect represents nothing more than a ramified ideological diversion against the world socialist system and, in the first place, against the Soviet Union. And the "open letter" released by the Amensty International is an integral element of such diversion.



# Soviet Repression Hasn't Risen Since Afghan Crisis

By CRAIG R. WHITNEY

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, Jan. 16 — Despite a series of arrests and trials of dissidents that started months ago, there is no sign yet that Soviet authorities have taken major repressive steps as a result of the international crisis over Afghanistan.

Members of the Jewish community here report that they are still getting exit visas, as more than 50,000 of them did last year. Prominent dissidents like the physicist Andrei D. Sakharov and the Marxist historian Roy A. Medvedev continue to associate freely with foreign journalists, who get much of their news on the arrests and trials of lesser-known dissenters from Dr. Sakharov. Soviet journalists continue to engage their foreign colleagues in debate and conversation. Writers and artists with Western friends continue to invite them to their homes.

Still, there is a feeling of waiting for the other shoe to drop, waiting for the Soviet Government to respond after the Carter Administration's angry reaction to the intervention in Afghanistan. Perhaps the most nervous are the Soviet citizens with the most to lose — the artists, writers and musicians for whom détente meant a chance to travel abroad, the Jews for whom it meant a chance to emigrate, the dissidents for whom it meant a chance to write and speak freely yet stay out of jail.

So far, no consistent pattern indicating a Soviet response has emerged. The official position so far is that only actions by Washington are responsible for the worsening of Soviet-American relations.

## Permission to Leave

On Friday, the authorities even told Irina Ginzburg, wife of a dissident who was among five freed from Soviet prisons April 27 and flown to the United States in exchange for two Soviet spies, that she could leave and join her husband.

Aleksandr Ginzburg agreed with his wife last summer that she should not go because officials would not let a 19-year-old youth who lived with the family for five years accompany them. The young man, Sergei Shibaev, is now serving with the army in Siberia.

Yesterday, in an interview, Mrs. Ginzburg said she had decided she had to leave without him because her husband's 72-year-old mother, Lyudmila, has a heart condition and may not have long to

live. Her two sons, Aleksandr, 7, and Aleksei, 5, have not seen their father since his arrest nearly three years ago.

"Last month I was told I was no longer a special case and would have to apply to emigrate like anybody else, starting from scratch," Mrs. Ginzburg said. "But the American Embassy interceded and on Jan. 11, the Soviet office of visas and registration told me I could have the passports and leave by Jan. 20."

## She Will Carry On Fight

She said the news took her breath away. "I replied that I couldn't possibly get ready to go so soon," she said, "but they told me, 'Well, about the end of the month, then.'"

Life for Soviet dissidents has not been easy in the best of times. But since November, the arrest rate has increased.

Yesterday Amnesty International, the British-based human rights organization, was reported to have said in London that a major Soviet crackdown on dissent appeared to be under way, with more than 40 people known to have been arrested in the last three months for asserting their rights to basic freedoms.

Dr. Sakharov had reported many of these arrests here, ever since the arrest on Nov. 1 of Tatyana Velikanova, a 47-year-old mathematician who had been active in the Soviet human rights movement for more than a decade.

## Priest Taken Away

Gleb Yakunin, a Russian Orthodox priest, was taken the same day. Dr. Sakharov reported the arrest on Dec. 7 of Viktor Nekipelov, author of "Institute of Fools," a book about Soviet psychiatric hospitals.

Two members of a human rights group in Kiev, Yuri Litvin and Oles Bernik, were arrested later in the month and sentenced to long terms in prison and labor camps for "resisting authority" and "anti-Soviet propaganda." Similar fates have been suffered by others — dissident workers, religious believers, human rights activists and would-be emigrants in cities from the Ukraine to Siberia.

Some dissidents here, such as the writer Lev Kopelev, have signed petitions for the release of friends without suffering reprisals. But, as Mr. Medvedev said, "The authorities obviously feel free to strike down emerging dissent as it arises, even though right now they are leaving the established figures alone."

Two young contributors to an underground journal of free debate called *Searches*, Valery Abramkin and Viktor Sorokin, were seized. Older contributors, like Raissa Lert, 73, were interrogated and searched and their journal was confiscated, but they were not arrested. Mrs. Lert was expelled from the Communist Party last year.

## Reasons Still Unclear

Whether the actions represent a new hard line, as Amnesty International speculated, a pre-Olympic sweep to rid Moscow of troublemakers, as rumors here have it, or business as usual, as the Soviet authorities see it, is not yet clear.

The picture is also mixed on Jewish emigration. Rumors of a curb have not been borne out. Visa requests are being processed and granted, activists say.

One of the main reasons for last year's surge in emigration, however, was thought to be the Soviet hope of winning trade concessions from Washington. United States law since 1974 has denied them unless Moscow lifted emigration restrictions. Now the Carter Administration has drastically restricted trade, possibly for the year.

"It's probably too early to say there won't be a decline in emigration," said one leader of the Jewish movement, Prof. Aleksandr Y. Lerner, who has been trying to go to Israel for eight years.

## Fear of a Crackdown

"If Afghanistan represents a fundamental change in the Soviet foreign policy position," he said, "and they don't see what happens to relations with the West, then maybe there will be a crackdown in the short term. But I hardly think it will happen over the long term."

He said that despite last year's high figures, obstacles to emigration had multiplied. He estimated that at least 200,000 applications had not been acted on. The average wait for a visa in Moscow increased last year to 10 to 12 months, he

said, and Jewish activists have been harassed, interrogated, arrested and tried, particularly in the Ukraine.

In September, Igor Guberman, editor of an unofficial journal called *Jews in the U.S.S.R.*, was arrested and charged in

formally with speculation in icons. He has not yet been brought to trial.

There has been a restriction of cultural exchanges with the West, but even those affected are not sure of the reasons and here, too, the picture is mixed.

JTA Daily 1/24/80

## BEGIN ISSUES SPECIAL STATEMENT IN PRAISE OF SAKHAROV; CALLS HIM ONE OF THE 'BRAVEST PEOPLE OF OUR TIME'

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Jan. 23 (JTA) — Premier Menachem Begin opened today's Knesset session with a special statement in praise of Russian human rights activist and dissident Andrei Sakharov who was arrested in Moscow yesterday and sent into internal exile at Gorky, a city closed to foreigners because it is a military industry center.

The Israeli leader praised Sakharov, a Nobel Laureate in physics, as one of the "bravest people of our time" who gave up the scientific career that won him world fame in order to fight for the "basic and sacred human rights."

Begin referred to Sakharov's efforts on behalf of Jewish dissidents and Prisoners of Conscience in the USSR. "From the podium of the Knesset we send him our blessings and we demand his release. We join free people throughout the world in this demand," Begin said. The Premier's remarks reflected outrage over the Soviet government's treatment of Sakharov and mounting concern in Israel that this may herald a new crackdown on dissidents in general and on Jews seeking to emigrate.

## Decrease In Visas Noted

Rafael Kotlowitz, head of the Jewish Agency's immigration and absorption department, appeared uncertain today as to whether or not the recent decrease in the number of visas issued to Soviet Jews was a manifestation of the same wave of oppression that engulfed Sakharov. Kotlowitz told a press conference in Tel Aviv that the drop in visas may be due to the fact that most Jews leaving the Soviet Union are going to the U.S.

He reported that the drop-out rate was 63 percent during the first three weeks of January, a slight decrease from the 65 percent rate in December. The average drop-out rate in 1979 was 66.3 percent, meaning that exactly two-thirds of the Jews allowed to emigrate from the USSR chose to go to countries other than Israel.

On the other hand, Kotlowitz noted that in 1979, 51,317 Jews left the Soviet Union, a 43 percent increase over the previous year. Therefore, he said, Israel should not "close off options" in its relations with Moscow. He cautioned specifically against making hasty decisions with respect to Israel's participation in the Olympic Games in Moscow next summer.

## Greater Difficulties Cited

A more pessimistic view was expressed today by Soviet emigre Alexander Levin. In an interview with Kol Israel Radio, Levin said that the Soviet Union was experiencing internal difficulties which means greater obstacles to Jews seeking to leave because "Jews are always the first candidates for any repression." Levin contended that the liberalization era in Soviet politics has ended and that the invasion of Afghanistan signaled a return of the hardliners to power in Moscow.

## Renewed Soviet Oppression

Recent reports from the Soviet Union indicate that the Russians have embarked on a new campaign to obstruct and discourage emigration. For example:

1) The waiting period for an exit visa has been extended to between 8 and 18 months. During this period, applicants frequently lose their jobs and are harassed by Soviet authorities.

2) Normally, an application for an exit visa is based on an invitation from an applicant's relatives outside the U.S.S.R. The Soviets will now grant visas only if the inviting relative is (politically) "acceptable."

There are now several thousand "refuseniks" and the number is increasing daily. Their very existence serves as a deterrent to other political emigrants.

If the Carter administration is truly committed to human rights, it will protest these actions, which violate international law and international agreements, by the Soviets.

DAVID J. MARTIN

Washington



TO: AMBASSADOR ANATOLY DOBRYNIN

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, DEPLORE AND PROTEST THE REPORTED ACTION OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT WHICH, ON JANUARY 22, 1980, ARRESTED NOBEL LAUREATE AND NUCLEAR PHYSICIST ANDREI SAKHAROV, STRIPPED HIM OF ALL HIS HONORS IN THE USSR, AND FORCEABLY EXPELLED HIM FROM MOSCOW TO LIVE AN ISOLATED AND RESTRICTED LIFE OF INTERNAL EXILE IN GORKY.

WE WHOSE LIVES HAVE THRIVED ON FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION DECRY THIS BRUTAL DENIAL OF PERSONAL FREEDOM TO ONE WHOSE NAME HAS BEEN SYNONYMOUS WITH BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS WITHIN THE SOVIET UNION.

WE CALL UPON THE SOVIET UNION FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF ANDREI SAKHAROV FROM EXILE AND FOR HIS IMMEDIATE REINSTATEMENT AS AN HONORED CITIZEN OF THE USSR.

SIGNED:

Send signed petitions to UCSJ, 24 Crescent St., Suite 3A, Waltham, MA. 02154







WASHINGTON (JTA) -- Rep. Robert Drinan (D.Mass.) on Wednesday sent to President Carter petitions compiled by the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews containing 65,000 signatures which urged that the sight of the 1980 Olympic Games be moved from Moscow to another location.

# THE MIAMI HERALD

To The Editor:

The Herald reported Jan. 12 on Page 1 that President Carter is trying to marshal support for a boycott of the Moscow Olympics. The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews has long contended that Moscow is not an appropriate site for the Olympics because of the Soviet regime's flagrant violation of human rights.

Two years ago, after the arrests in the Soviet Union of Anatoly Scharansky, Vladimir Stepak, Ida Nudel, and Yuri Orlov, the Union of Councils called for moving the site of the Olympics from Moscow to another country. There was but scattered support for this move since "only human rights were being denied within the Soviet Union," despite the obvious comparison with the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Now that the Soviet Union has invaded Afghanistan, threatening the vital Persian Gulf, there has been renewed interest in removing the Olympics from Moscow.

President Carter concedes that we should interject politics into sports, cultural exchange, and trade in dealing with the Soviet threat. The point is that when a country such as the Soviet Union violently suppresses human rights, everyone's rights and freedoms are threatened. We, as people fortunate to live in freedom, must protest sufficiently at these early stages of human-rights violations before the invasion begins.

JOEL SANDBERG  
National Vice-President,  
Union of Councils  
for Soviet Jews  
Hollywood

Jan. 19, 1980

JTA Daily

## KGB BREAKS ATTEMPT TO MARK NINTH ANNIVERSARY OF LENINGRAD TRIAL

NEW YORK, Jan. 1 (JTA) -- Soviet KGB agents broke up an attempt several days ago by Moscow Jewish activists to mark the ninth anniversary of the 1970 Leningrad Trial, it was reported here today by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ) and the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews (UCSJ).

The two groups said that most of the Jews who sought to demonstrate at the Lenin Library near the Kremlin were detained in their homes. The three who managed to reach the protest site -- Vladimir Prestin, Pavel Abramovitch and Elena Dubenskaya -- were put in a KGB bus and driven around for two hours before being released in a remote suburb of Moscow.

The SSSJ and UCSJ also reported that on Dec. 19 in Kishinev, refusenik Vladimir Tsuckerman was arrested and sentenced to 15 days after he attempted to demonstrate by carrying a placard bearing the logo of the International Year of the Child and the slogan: "Let Me Immigrate to My Wife and Son."

Meanwhile, the two groups said that Prof. Alexander Voronel, founder of the unofficial samizdat Moscow journal "Jews in the USSR," and who now teaches at Tel Aviv University, has issued an open appeal for imprisoned Moscow author, Igor Guberman, one of the magazine's current editors. Guberman, a well-known author of popular science books for younger readers, was arrested Aug. 13 on the false grounds of "dealing in stolen icons" after he refused to inform on the journal's contributors to the KGB.

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## ISRAEL APPEARS TO BE OPPOSED TO BOYCOTTING OLYMPICS IN MOSCOW

By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Jan. 17 (JTA) -- Israel is quietly in favor of this year's Olympic Games being held in Moscow and is unofficially pressing Western Jewish communities not to join in the current worldwide attempts to have the Games moved elsewhere. This emerged here on the eve of today's meeting of the Olympics Committee of the Brussels World Conference on Soviet Jewry, to discuss its attitude towards the Games.

Prof. Yosef Rom, a leading Likud member of the Knesset, will tell the special committee that the Games are an opportunity to gain concessions from the Kremlin over the numbers of Jews allowed to leave the USSR and the release of Prisoners of Conscience, including Ida Nudel, Anatoly Shcharansky and Yosef Mendelevich.

Rom, a member of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, outlined his views last night at a meeting with British Herut supporters, who agreed with what he said. The Jewish people should act in accordance with its own interests, he said, and not be swayed by what was happening in Afghanistan. "I hope 1980 will be the year of the Soviet Jewish Prisoner," he said.

Rom is one of two Israeli delegates -- the other is Prof. Yaakov Roi -- attending the Olympics committee meeting of the World Conference on Soviet Jewry. Its chairman is Charlotte Jacobson, chairman of the World Zionist Organization-American Section.

The meeting is being held against the background of deep divisions among Soviet Jewish activists over whether the Olympics should be boycotted. These divisions existed long before hints of a boycott were announced by President Carter, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and other Western leaders.

In Britain, calls for a boycott of the Games have been made by the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry, one of the most active groups in the Soviet Jewry movement. However, Britain's National Council has opposed the boycott campaign, claiming that Soviet refuseniks and prisoners themselves want the Olympic Games to be used as a springboard for strengthening the Jewish emigration movement.

The Montgomery (Ala) Advertiser

## 'Refuseniks' hope for Montgomery home

By KATHY BEASLEY  
Advertiser Staff Writer

Irina and Boris Ghinis of Moscow, Russia, will apply for visas to leave their homeland for the third time in February. If the visas are granted, Irina, Boris and daughters Julia and Alla will come to Montgomery to live with Irina's family.

The Ghinis family first applied to leave Russia during the summer of 1978 along with Irina's parents and her brother's family.

Valentin and Clara Litvin, Irina's parents, and her brother, Yuri, and his wife, Maria, and daughter, Margaret, were granted permission to leave, but Boris and Irina were refused in January 1979. The couple applied again later that year and were turned down for the second time in August.

The government's reason for turn-

ing down the Ghinises' request was "state's secrets" -- the reason given for many refusals -- but no further explanation was given.

The Litvins' visas were good for only four weeks, leaving them no choice but to leave without the rest of their family or give up their visas permanently, according to Litvin. After leaving the Soviet Union, the Litvins decided to settle in Montgomery and await the arrival of the rest of their family.

The Montgomery-based Alabama Council to Save Soviet Jews is trying to help Irina and Boris in their efforts to gain exit visas and be reunited with their relatives.

The council has printed information about the Ghinis family that is to be sent out through the mail. The leaflet asks that Americans show support to the family by writing letters

of encouragement to Irina and Boris and requesting their congressmen to write Soviet officials about the family's release.

Babette Wampold of the council says letters will strengthen the couple in their fight to rejoin their family and show the Soviets that they have the support of many "friends."

"We ask tops that somebody write once a week for 31 cents... (or spend) \$4 every two months for a registered letter with return receipt," Mrs. Wampold says.

The council requests that the letters be on a personal basis as friends of their family or supporters, and that they do not express any political or anti-Soviet statements, says Mrs. Wampold.

The effort is purely humanitarian, not political. It is rare that the Soviet govern-

ment refuses exit visas to part of a family, according to Mrs. Wampold.

The Litvins are hopeful that granting the request of their daughter and son-in-law will correct the unusual and painful situation.

"The most important thing is the unity of the family," Litvin says. "Our family is split. It is a very severe thing to split a family."

Clara Litvin seems to have been affected the most by the six-month separation from her daughter. She cries a lot and could not even speak to Irina during a rare telephone call because she could not stop crying.

Mrs. Litvin does not understand why the government of her native land will not permit her daughter to come to her. "I ask this simple, human question," she says.

The family keeps in touch regularly by letters since their separation.



THE UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS  
in cooperation with  
Soviet Jewry Organizations in Israel and Europe  
announces a  
LEADERSHIP MISSION IN ISRAEL  
"DEVELOPING NEW STRATEGIES FOR THE EIGHTIES"

March 19-20 Jerusalem

Topics: The movement in the USSR  
and Israel, Soviet anti-semitism,  
The Cultural Movement, Emigration  
choices and Absorption Issues.  
Strategic changes within the  
USSR  
Activist modes for the future.

March 23-24 Northern Israel

Visits to Soviet Jews in development towns,  
Soviet Jewish scientists in Safed,  
Settlement of Soviet Jews in the Golan Heights,  
Computer industry kibbutz founded by Soviet Jews.

This will be preceded by a conference on March 15-17 in London on "Soviet Jewry: The Moscow Olympics and the Madrid Conference", sponsored jointly by the London 35's, the UCSJ and the French Comite des Quinze.

Contact UCSJ if you are interested in attending for further information on hotels etc.

**Union of Councils for Soviet Jews**

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

January 30, 1980

INSIDE TODAY'S ALERT

\* Soviet Jewry activists are protesting Andrei Sakharov's exile. See our lead article on Sakharov and reprints from the press on pages 5 and 8.

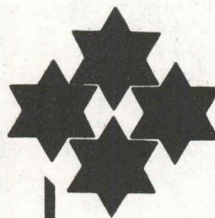
\* On page 4, a listing of people who left the Soviet Union in late 1979.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

...These days, when the tragedy of the hostages has come into your own house and become the problem of your nation as well, you can understand much better those who, from the camps and places of exile in the Soviet Union, send you their appeals and calls for struggle....

Ida Nudel

(To US political leaders).



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