

# EXODUS

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**STREET SCENE** — Celebrities join protest in front of Soviet Consulate in San Francisco Feb. 13 to protest expulsion by Soviets of author Alexander Solzhenitsyn. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE Joel Grey, left, Rev. Robert Morse, St. Peter's Episcopal Church and (fourth from left) Joan Baez. The protest was coordinated by the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

photo/Jon Haber, SJAG

## Activist Details Plight of Jews Struggling to Leave Russia

By Kirill Chenkin

When it is early afternoon here in the United States, in Moscow, and other Soviet cities it is evening. And, for those whom we call the Jewish activists, the end of another day lived in hope and despair. For some it is also the long

### Scientists Stage Hunger Strike

The Soviet Jewry Action Group has learned that two Russian scientists began a hunger strike Feb. 15 in Moscow to protest the Soviet government's refusal to grant them exit visas. The scientists are David Azbel, 63, a professor of physics, and Vitali Rubin, 51, a sinologist.

A telephone call was made from San Francisco to the two Russian scientists by Kirill Chenkin, a visiting Soviet journalist and linguist, now residing in Israel, and Jon Haber, executive director of the Soviet Jewry Action Group.

awaited hour to hurry to the home of the lucky one whose telephone has not yet been disconnected. Gathered there are several people waiting for a friendly voice from overseas to bring them comfort, courage, and the opportunity to tell the world outside the latest developments in the daily struggle.

The activists are the spearhead of the movement of Soviet Jews fighting for their right to emigrate to Israel. Why is this particular group under constant pressure? In what moral and psychological climate has this group appeared?

Remember, that in the USSR, as in almost all East European countries, the very intention or desire to go abroad, unless you are sent on a government mission "in the interest of the State," is considered suspicious, or even subversive. How could one wish to live anywhere but in the country officially proclaimed as ideal and a model for the future of all mankind?

Also remember that Article 64 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation designates as high treason "flight abroad or refusal to return from abroad to the USSR." This crime is punishable by 10 to 15 years in a prison camp or by death.

It is true that some ethnic groups have been allowed to

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### Ovir Office Now At Police Dept.

The Soviet Jewry Action Group learned that the Soviet government is no longer allowing Russian Jews to apply for visas to emigrate at the OVIR office, the official Soviet emigration office. Instead, the Soviet government now is requiring Russian Jews to submit their visa applications at Soviet police stations.

Howard Wexler, president of the Soviet Jewry Action Group, condemned this action, describing it "as a further step on the part of the Soviet government to terrorize any Russian Jew who wishes to emigrate from the Soviet Union". Wexler called upon all who believe in basic human rights and individual liberties to send letters and telegrams of protest to the Russian Embassy in Washington and to the Soviet Consul General, Alexander Zinchuk, in San Francisco.

### Solzhenitsyn

## Writers, Artists Protest Expulsion

Some 70 Bay Area writers, artists and religious leaders held a noontime vigil Feb. 13 in front of the Soviet consulate (on Green Street) in San Francisco, to protest the expulsion of dissident author

Alexander Solzhenitsyn from Russia, the San Francisco Chronicle reported.

As part of the protest, Peter Berest of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews — dubbing himself "Radio Free Green Street" — mounted a kitchen stool across the street from the vigil and read excerpts from a recent work by Solzhenitsyn.

The reading was from the Soviet author's "The Gulag Archipelago: 1918-1956," a work about Russia's prison camps.

Earlier, while the protesters were assembling, a consulate spokesman appeared briefly on the front steps of the six-story building.

"There are no problems in the Soviet Union," the spokesmen told reporters. "Furthermore, no comment."

Those participating in the vigil included folksinger Joan Baez, entertainer Joel Grey, Rabbi Jacob Traub of the Northern California Board of Rabbis, Episcopal monks from the Community of Our Lady, and authors Kay Boyle, Paul Jacobs, George Leonard and Niven Busch.

"We're here because we must be here — in the name of freedom," Grey told reporters.

Miss Boyle found some comfort in the expulsion of Solzhenitsyn. "At least we know he's not being tortured by the Soviet police, whatever small solace that is," she said.

### Atrocity

Rabbi Traub called the expulsion "an atrocity in terms of human development in the Soviet Union . . . All we can hope is that Solzhenitsyn's wife and children will be able to join him in exile."

## Six Month Sentence: Parasitism

Leonid Zabelishensky received a sentence of six months after a four-day trial in Sverdlovsk. Such a long trial on a charge of parasitism is unprecedented.

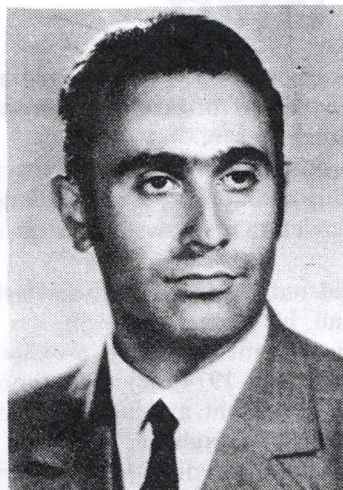
Zabelishensky was defended by a local attorney, Tokarev, as no Moscow lawyer was permitted to travel to Sverdlovsk for his defense. In addition, numerous documents which testified to his attempts to find work were removed from the defense brief.

Zabelishensky, a graduate engineer, had been dismissed from his post as a lecturer at the Ural Polytechnic Institute in Sverdlovsk in Oct., 1971, immediately after he had handed in application papers for emigration to Israel.

He was prevented from practicing as an engineer, and has looked for and accepted any kind of work — as a machine maintenance man, a porter, etc.

He later succeeded in obtaining work at another Institute, but was dismissed on the pretext of absenteeism. He tried twice to be reinstated — even taking the matter to court — but was unsuccessful.

The verdict against him stated that he "did not look for work and as such was a parasite."



Leonid Zabelishensky

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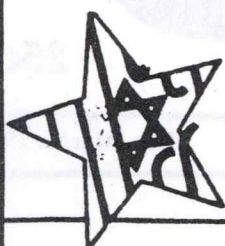
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 'Shh! If you displease them, they  
 might not let us give them any  
 more special bargain wheat deals'

## EDITORIALS

### Feldman Case: Travesty of Justice

The case of Alexander Feldman, a Kiev Jew, has become one of the great travesties of justice ever committed.

Feldman, who is obviously innocent of all charges made against him, faces a three and one-half year prison sentence for "malicious hooliganism."

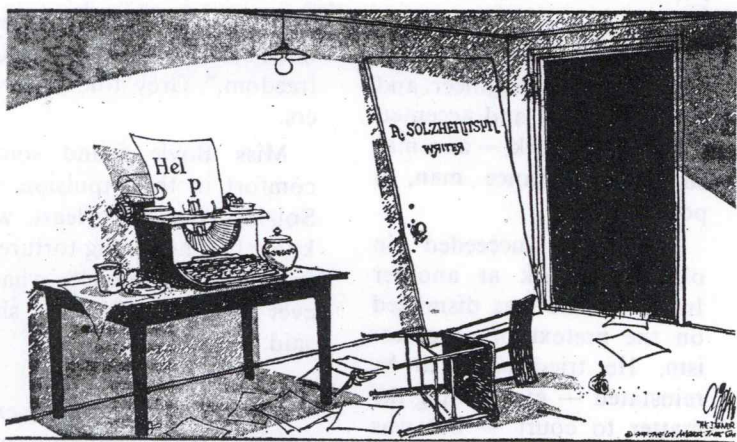
The fact is that the case is a frame up. The Kiev authorities staged the altercation where Feldman was alleged to have attacked a "by-stander."

In the trial, held in a Kiev factory and not in a courtroom, the judge did not permit pertinent evidence to be entered on Feldman's behalf. Issues such as why the "victim" was standing around Feldman's apartment for an extended period of time prior to the "attack," why she had no bruises where she had been allegedly attacked and beaten, and why several agents "happened" to be in the immediate vicinity when the "attack" took place were ruled "irrelevant and not germane to the trial" by the judge.

Feldman's attorney, Mr. Ezhov, was so perturbed by the lack of justice that he filed a formal complaint with the Kiev District Court urging a dismissal of the case.

Now, Mr. Ezhov (a non-Jew) is out of a job. He was put on premature and forced retirement and removed from the attorney's list in Kiev.

In the interest of justice, the Ukrainian Supreme Court, which next hears Feldman's appeal, should overturn the Kiev court's rulings, dismiss all charges against Feldman, and permit him to leave for Israel.



### Solzhenitsyn: Dignity Intact

It is ironic that the Soviets, who do not permit free emigration to those who wish to leave, have now forced exile upon one of its native sons, Alexander Solzhenitsyn.

Perhaps the greatest writer in Russian history, Solzhenitsyn has been stripped of his citizenship and uprooted from his land — as if it is that simple for the Soviets to wash away the truth of his writings.

The truth cannot be drowned out. Although Solzhenitsyn has been forced to leave his land, his message lives on.

The Soviets have made an important statement in exiling Solzhenitsyn. They have shown that in 1974 they still cannot live with the truth, with freedom of thought, and in accordance with most accepted standards of human rights.

Solzhenitsyn has not been stripped of his dignity. His contribution to freedom will live on long after most of us have gone. Such thoughts and contributions cannot be exiled.

### D. Azbel: Still A Grievance

(The following article was written by Murray Seeger in Moscow and appeared recently in the Los Angeles Times.)

The old man had great spring in his step and more spirit than many Soviet citizens half his age. He has a doctor's degree in technical sciences but little of the pedantic manner of some academics.

On paper he should be a satisfied Soviet citizen. He has a pension and an apartment, and the political crime charged against him nearly 40 years ago has been rubbed from the books. He has been rehabilitated politically and is secure economically.

Still, David Azbel, 62, is a dissident, a tough-minded man with a grievance against the regime. He asked to go to Israel with 30,000 other Jews in 1972 and was refused.

He was refused again in 1973 when nearly 35,000 others were allowed to go. Instead, he was jailed twice and stopped many times by the police for protesting his predicament. His telephone has been cut off and his mail is examined and often stopped. He is watched much of the time. He has protested with hunger strikes, a traditional Russian device.

A metallurgist, Azbel is one of the 200 technically trained Jews who have been blocked from emigration for two years.

Despite his experiences as a Stalin prisoner and a victim of current political policies, Azbel has never lost his courage. He showed this recently when he threw his solitary voice against the whirlwind of official condemnation which has been turned loose against Alexander Solzhenitsyn, the Nobel Prize-winning novelist. Solzhenitsyn has just published in the West a documentary history of the Stalinist repression. The title, "The Gulag Archipelago," takes its significance from the first word, which is the Russian acronym for the prison camp administration.

In attacking Solzhenitsyn, Soviet authorities take the position that the ruling Communist Party has properly

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Harold B. Light

### Vanik Bill: A Victory But Struggle Continues

By Harold B. Light, Chairman  
Union of Councils for Soviet Jews

On Dec. 11, 1973, the Soviet Jewry movement scored a tremendous victory. The U.S. House of Representatives voted 319 to 80 to deny Most Favored Nation status and U.S. Credit guarantees to any nation which does not allow free emigration. This was a day for great rejoicing, for who would have dreamed that the problems of Soviet Jews could have become so important as to thwart the combined efforts of the Nixon Administration and the American business interests to promote their political-commercial detente with the U.S.S.R.?

Still, we must realize that a battle has been won, but the war still goes on. Moreover, there is little question that there is a serious decline in the momentum we gained in the long sustained struggle to save 3 million Jews in the Soviet Union. Let me explain: Anyone familiar with the history of the American movement knows that its tedious uphill campaign was created by a handful of dedicated people, mostly young Jews, plus a few older zealots. They worked together to jolt the established Jewish community out of its apathy.

During the first few years, emphasis was on demonstrations of solidarity, activities focused on Soviet visiting groups, and Embassies and Consulates. The involvement of the broader public came through mass rallies, greeting cards and letters direct to Soviet Jews, telephone calls to Russia, medallions for Prisoners of Conscience, all programs initiated by independent Soviet Jewry organizations. The first English speaking Soviet Jews were brought to this country by the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, and it is significant that *Exodus*, published by the Soviet Jewry Action Group in San Francisco is still the only newspaper devoted solely to the Soviet Jewry issue. All these activities and the resultant publicity were aimed at exposing the Kremlin's inhumanity toward its Jews, and as the Soviets' image worsened, the emigration increased. Our best asset was Public Relations, and we all worked at it.

Several attempts to gain favorable legislation from the U.S. government were largely frustrated. In Aug. 1972, the Soviet Union imposed its education tax on would be emigrants, and suddenly the picture changed. Congressman Charles Vanik and Senator Henry M. Jackson later joined by Congressman Wilbur Mills introduced that all-important legislation that would make free emigration a requirement before the Soviet Union could enjoy all the benefits of U.S. trade. We all know about the tremendous efforts expended by our "troops." We also know that Dr. Henry Kissinger and Richard M. Nixon used every kind of "persuasion" on American Jewish leaders to deny support to Mills-Vanik-Jackson.

Last April, 14 heads of Jewish organizations met with Kissinger and Nixon for 70 minutes. I received several phone calls from some of those people, and we know that 1) Kissinger and Nixon were very diplomatic but very clear about what they wanted, and they did not hesitate to link the survival of Israel with their request that the leaders withdraw their support. That was not surprising, but we learned 2) that the 14 Jews were almost evenly split, and they agreed that they would issue no statement until they agreed unanimously. Happily, the Soviet Jewry activists went to work, and the 14 Jews were "convinced" that they should continue their backing. Now, the Bill has passed the House, but I believe that we still face problems. I am convinced that Kissinger and Nixon have not given up, and there are indications that overtures will still be made to large Jewish contributors (quietly this time) to undercut the Jackson Amendment in the Senate.

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# Jackson Sees Bill 'Years Overdue'

WASHINGTON, (JTA)—Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D. Wash.) declared that when the Soviet Union comes to the U.S. to supply its technological and agricultural needs, "we have a right to ask of them, not for ourselves but for mankind, to live up to the declaration that provides for the right of a citizen to leave and return to his own country."

Jackson was referring to the amendment to the East-West Trade Bill that bears his name. He said that the Jackson Amendment was in fact "25 years overdue" because its principles are contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations a quarter century ago.

Jackson spoke at a luncheon of the Washington, D.C. chapter of the American Jewish Committee which presented him with its annual Isaiah Award for the pursuit

of Justice. The luncheon, at the Mayflower Hotel, was attended by more than 600 persons, nearly triple the number that normally attend. The guests included Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle, D.C. Mayor Walter Washington and Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz, who read a cable from Premier Golda Meir hailing Jackson as "a staunch friend of Israel."

Jackson drew prolonged applause when author Herman Wouk, luncheon chairman, referred to the Senator as "Perhaps the person to lead this nation in supreme office."

The Senator elicited laughter when he noted that the luncheon had drawn the attention of Tass, the Soviet news agency, which, he said, identified the AJ Committee as "one of the leading reactionary Zionist organizations in the United States."

## Mathematicians Back Lunts and Brailovsky

Almost 500 mathematicians who attended the national convention of the American Mathematical Society in San Francisco last month signed a petition protesting the harassment and imprisonment of mathematicians and other scientists in the USSR.

The petitioners focused specifically on Victor Brailovsky and Alexander Lunts, who have been dismissed from the Moscow Institute of Control Machines and denied permission to leave the country. Brailovsky and Lunts were first arrested in December 1972, after they publicly protested the refusal of the Soviet government to grant them visas. In June of 1973 they ended a two-week hunger strike only after appeals from scientists in the West. Lunts was rearrested on November 7, 1973 after he gave a statement to western newsmen defending dissident physicist Andrei Sakharov. He was released after intensive interrogation.

The mathematicians had

hoped to present the petition, a joint project of the Committee of Concerned Scientists and the Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry, to Consul General Alexander Zinchuk, but he refused to meet with them. An aide told Dr. Jonathan Gross of Columbia University, "We don't care what you do with the petitions. You can bring them anywhere except here."

The petition will be forwarded to Chairman Brezhnev in Moscow with copies to Ambassador Dobrynin in Washington. "Since the event was witnessed by the television and news media, and the wire services carried the story," said Harold B. Light, "Consul General Zinchuk must send a report to his superiors, so his refusal to accept the petition is actually a positive result."

On January 19, the Bay Area Council placed a call to Alexander Lunts in Moscow. The Soviet mathematician was overjoyed by the demonstration in his behalf.



**STRENGTH IN NUMBERS** — Mathematicians in San Francisco display petition containing signatures of almost 500 of their colleagues protesting Soviet injustice. An aide to the Soviet Consul General in San Francisco attempted to convince police that the men should be arrested.



**SIDE EFFECT** — Members of Southern California Council for Soviet Jews adorned Soviet Ship docked in Long Beach with message (LET JEWS GO) to take back home. Council members had continually attempted to give personal message to crew of Soviet ships that dock in Long Beach port, but were refused permission. The event, which took place in the pre-dawn hours, was coordinated by Si Frumkin and Zev Yaroslavsky.

## Smuggled Legal Document Details Feldman Frame-Up

(The following article on Alexander Feldman was written by Mel Jaffe and appeared recently in the New York Post.)

A legal document believed to be the first of its kind ever made public outside the USSR, reveals that Alexander Feldman, the Soviet Jew whose 3½-year sentence to hard labor touched off heated demonstrations here and in several Soviet cities, was convicted because he allegedly knocked a box of cake out of a woman's hands.

The newly translated document, an appeal brief filed unsuccessfully by a Soviet lawyer, was released by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry.

The appeal strongly implied that Feldman, who had tried futilely for two years to emigrate to Israel, was the target of a frame-up that caught him in a web of trivial charges.

The document tactfully avoids mentioning Feldman's efforts to leave the USSR, nor does it mention the widespread charges that his arrest last October was part of a new secret police campaign against Jews seeking to emigrate.

Feldman, 26, an engineer, was convicted and sentenced during a one-day trial behind closed doors Nov. 23 in a Kiev clothing factory. According to the appeal, only prosecution witnesses were allowed to testify.

Stanley H. Lowell, chairman of the Conference said the brief — smuggled out of the USSR in December by O'Dwyer and Manhattan President Percy Sutton — showed that "Jews in the USSR are being convicted on trumped-up charges solely because they wish to emigrate."

The appeal summarized the

government's case: "The verdict pronounces Feldman guilty of the following — on Oct. 18, 1973, in the evening, meeting in the street a passing citizen, Tellakoya Valentina, he hit her with a briefcase for no reason, knocked a cake out of her hands, caused her light bodily harm without harming her health, insulted her using obscene language and dirtied her coat."

Feldman then allegedly insulted and slightly injured two men who suddenly appeared to rescue the citizen and her box of cake.

### Feldman Version

According to Feldman, the strange incident unfolded as he was entering his home. Citizen Tallakova, a total stranger, "unexpectedly appeared out of the shrubs, bent down or stumbled and dropped a box on the pavement."

As she began shouting,

"there suddenly ran up to him two persons and grabbed him by the hand." Then "ran up to a third person in civilian clothes and said he was a worker of the militia." The militia man ordered Feldman and the others into a car and drove them to a police station.

Feldman denied touching the box of cake, or hitting anyone or using obscene language.

The appeal filed by a lawyer named I.S. Ezhov, protested that the police never carefully investigated the identities and motives of the four strangers who suddenly accosted Feldman. Ezhov notes that the police had never questioned why the four had suddenly appeared outside Feldman's house nor did the court call defense witnesses who would have testified that the men had followed Feldman home.

## Baby Shower Honors Heroic Jewish Mother

Fifteen women of all ages braved sub-zero temperatures Jan. 10 to honor a young woman and welcome her to motherhood.

Unfortunately, the new mother, Elizabeth Bykova Goldshtein, was unable to attend. In fact, it's doubtful that she was even aware of the shower that had been planned in her honor by women of the Minnesota Action Committee for Soviet Jewry.

For Elizabeta, who gave birth to her first child on December 29, is a Soviet Jew who has been repeatedly denied permission to leave.

More than two years ago she, her husband Isai, and

brother-in-law, Grigori, applied for visas to leave Tbilisi, Georgia, for Israel. Since then, they have received repeated refusals, have been the objects of police harassment and nearly became the subjects of a trial for "anti-Soviet slander," as a result of their protest.

In welcoming the women to the shower, Judy Silverman noted that "those of us who have been involved with the Soviet Jewry movement sometimes forget that our heroes and heroines of the

struggle for Exodus are also mothers, fathers, husbands and wives.





**THE OTHER CHILDREN**—Children from the Merrick Methodist Church gather in front of the Russian Compound in Glen Cove, Long Island, and deposit gifts to be sent to children of Jewish prisoners of conscience in the Soviet Union. Pastor James C. Watson coordinated the event, saying, "Youth as well as adults need to be aware that the freedoms they have in this land are not enjoyed by their counterparts in the USSR. . ."

photo/courtesy  
Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry

## Rep. Biaggi Intercedes with Soviet To Obtain Release of Gutman Family

Rep. Mario Biaggi (D/C-N.Y.) announced that the Soviet Embassy has informed him Hersh Gutman, a Soviet Jew whose exit visa was suddenly revoked shortly before he and his family were due to depart for Israel in the summer of 1972, would be granted a new visa.

Gutman's mother, Faina Gutman, contacted the 10th C.D. Representative by letter from Israel last fall on the advice of Matvei Weig, who was released by the Soviet Union after Biaggi's direct intercession on his behalf in February, 1973.

"Clearly, the rapport I developed with Andre Verein, chief of the Soviet Office of Visas and Registrations, during my private visit there last year is responsible for this remarkable turn of events," Biaggi said. "I hope it signals a growing change of heart on the part of the Soviet officials to permit freedom of emigration from their country."

(Following that visit, State Department officials indicated that Verein was greatly impressed by the fact that Biaggi, a non-Jew and former police officer, would make a special plea on behalf of a Soviet Jew and promised his cooperation.)

The Embassy letter, signed by Counselor Victor F. Isakov said:

"With reference to your letter of October 25, 1973, addressed to A. Kosygin, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, I would like to inform you that Hersh Gutman has received permission to leave the Soviet Union for Israel."

The Gutman family, which also includes Hersh's father and sister were prepared to leave for Israel when the So-

viet secret police came in and revoked Hersh's visa saying that he was a former member of the Armed Forces and might have state secrets. The rest of the Gutman family left hoping their son would soon join them. If they had stayed, their visas would have been revoked also.

His mother received only two letters from him in over a year.

In her letter to Biaggi, she said:

"I am a very sick woman, my husband's vision was affected by all these terrible experiences. More than once I turned to the authorities in the USSR, but without any results. I am, therefore, turning to you with my ardent plea. I

know you have helped others and they have already reached this country (Israel). I beg of you, save my son. Help me, alone I am completely helpless. Please do not refuse my desperate plea."

Biaggi's contacts with the State Department proved unsuccessful. They responded:

"It is clear from Mrs. Gutman's letter that she and her family have suffered much frustration, disappointment and hardship. The United States Government is deeply concerned about the plight of all who are denied the fundamental human right of emigration. . ."

## Politics Pervert Soviet Psychiatry

The president of the American Psychoanalytic Association has accused Russian psychiatrists of allowing their practice to be perverted for political reasons, according to an AP report.

In a letter he told the Soviet Union's Society of Psychiatrists that its members could win respect abroad only by freeing themselves of political and ideological coercion.

The reference was to reported instances in which political dissidents have been diagnosed as being mentally ill and then were confined to mental hospitals.

A letter from the association's president Burness E. Moore, charged that "psychiatry has been extensively and continuously abused for

political purposes in the Soviet Union. While the documentary evidence of such misuse of psychiatry is convincing, there is no court of redress to which it can be presented."

Without naming individual Soviet victims, the letter went on, "To diagnose political dissent as a symptom of schizophrenia or paranoia, to regard original opinions in the behavioral sciences or on the political scene as mental aberrations and to incarcerate persons for the expression of such views are actions contrary to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

Moore said the letter was written January 21 "in a response to numerous appeals from Soviet dissenters, often men of great eminence in their fields."

# Stalin's Death Thwarted Pogrom

NEW YORK, (JTA) — For centuries Jews throughout the world have been celebrating Purim as the day when the Jewish population in ancient Persia miraculously escaped a general massacre prepared for them by Haman, the grand vizier of the Persian King Ahasuerus. Purim became a day of merriment in Jewish history. The day of March 5 — when Stalin died in 1953 from a stroke — should similarly be marked by Jews as a miraculous day to remember. His sudden death came as a great miracle for the 3,000,000 Jews in the Soviet Union. It thwarted his plans, scheduled to be started the next day, to annihilate the Jews in Russia through mass-pogroms and deportation of all surviving Jews to slave labor camps in remote Arctic regions to die there a slow and tortuous death.

The signal to this brutal plan was to be given March 6 at the opening of the notorious "Doctors' Trial" at which six prominent Jewish and three non-Jewish physicians were accused by Stalin falsely of having plotted to poison him and other Soviet leaders in the Kremlin. The trial was cancelled immediately upon Stalin's death, the physicians were released and rehabilitated. Soviet Jews — who lived in mortal fear during weeks of intensified anti-Jewish propaganda in the Soviet press preparing the climate Stalin wanted for the trial — breathed freely.

Details of the pogrom planned by Stalin and of his sudden death which saved the Jews in the Soviet Union from a catastrophe similar to Hitler's annihilation of the 6,000,000 Jews in Europe, were related by me in my book, "Soviet Jewry Today and Tomorrow," published by Macmillan in 1971. The book was a product of my revisiting the Soviet Union in 1968, when I spoke to hundreds of Jews and to numerous Soviet officials and when it was indicated to me by one of the latter that the Soviet government would soon start permitting Jewish emigration on a limited scale. Emigration of Jews from the Soviet Union to Israel started surprisingly a few weeks later.

The details which I related of Stalin's sudden death revealed that Stalin suffered a stroke during an angry discussion over his plan about the Jews at a meeting with top Soviet leaders in the Kremlin. He anticipated that none in the Kremlin would dare to oppose his plan and was shocked when Marshall Clement Voroshilov, the President of the USSR and a popular military figure in the country, said that he would tear up his Communist Party membership card if Stalin's plan against the Jews was carried out. His sentiments were echoed by Vyacheslav Molotov, Soviet Foreign Minister whose Jewish wife had earlier been deported to distant Soviet territory on Stalin's orders, allegedly because she had shown friendship to Golda Meir when she was Israel's first Ambassador to the Soviet Union. Taken aback by this open and sharp opposition — probably the first daring opposition since he became the dictator of the Soviet Union — Stalin collapsed at the meeting from a stroke. Two days later he died. With him also died his brutal plan to destroy all the Jews in the Soviet Union.

Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn, the eminent Soviet writer and Nobel Prize winner who has been courageously exposing and fighting the inhuman methods and system of the Soviet secret police, dwells now at greater length on the Stalin plan than I did. In his new book, "The Gulag Archipelago" — an explosive massive expose of the Soviet terror system — represents hitherto unknown facts on Stalin's devilish connivance to wipe out the Jews in Russia while posing as an opponent of anti-Semitism. The book, already published in Paris and soon to be published in this country, is "forbidden fruit" in the Soviet Union from where the manuscript had been smuggled out.

According to Mr. Solzhenitsyn's version, Stalin proposed the holding execution of the accused doctors by hanging them on the Red Square, in front of the Kremlin. The mobs attracted to this morbid scene would have to be incited by speakers to violence. They would then, under leadership of party officials, have spread out over Moscow carrying out a pogrom against Jews wherever they were found in the style of the Czarist regime. After a night of looting and killing, Stalin would have stepped in as a "savior" of the Jews from the "anger of the masses" by transporting them to remote places in the Arctic. There they would meet a slow death in the forced labor camps which were prepared for them. Stalin was known as an anti-Semite in the inner circle of the Kremlin but, according to his successor, Nikita Khrushchev, was always careful not to make his anti-Jewish feeling known publicly, since this would contradict with the tenets of Leninism. Khrushchev pointed out in his memoirs that Stalin's hostile attitude toward the Jewish people was a "major defect" in his character, but that he took care never to hint at his anti-Semitism in his written works or in his speeches.

In his anti-Semitic acts, Stalin liked others to do his dirty work, while himself posing as a fighter against anti-Semitism. Khrushchev asserted. He related an episode revealing that Stalin once suggested to him to organize the "beating up with clubs" of Jewish workers at an aviation factory in Moscow by the non-Jewish workers there.



# Brezhnev: Only Traitors Refused

MONTREAL, (JTA) — Soviet Communist Party Secretary Leonid I. Brezhnev told a group of Jewish demonstrators at the Gander, Newfoundland, airport recently that "as many Jews as want to go to Israel may go" and that "those who are forbidden to leave the Soviet Union are enemies of the State who want to give away State secrets." The Soviet Ambassador to Canada, V. Miroshnicenko, who was with Brezhnev, told the demonstrators, in the presence of reporters and TV cameramen, "You are all a pack of fools and all misinformed."

The encounter occurred when Brezhnev and his entourage landed at Gander enroute home to the Soviet Union after an official visit to Cuba. He was met at the airport by 10 Newfoundland Jews who carried signs reading "Let my people go." The group was led by Dr. Avram Richler and his wife, Marsha, who is chairman of the Hadassah-Wizo public affairs committee in Newfoundland.

The Canadian Minister of Transport, Don Jamieson intervened on behalf of the demonstrators and Brezhnev came to the barrier to address them. He told them that "There is no such question as hundreds of thousands of Jews wanting to leave the Soviet Union. There are only 3000 of them waiting for permission to leave," he said, adding, "But we are bothered with all the Russian Jews who want to come back from Israel."

The Jewish delegation also asked Brezhnev to intercede on behalf of Silva Zalmanson, sentenced to 10 years strict regime in the first Leningrad trial in 1970, now seriously ill. Brezhnev responded by calling her an enemy of the state who committed a criminal offense in trying to hijack an airliner and, therefore, intercession was impossible.

## Activist Charged: 'Schizophrenia, Militant Zionism

NEW YORK, (JTA) — Jan Krylsky, a 23-year-old Soviet Jew, was released from the Sechovka Psychiatric Institution after a two-year confinement for "schizophrenia and militant Zionism," it was learned by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry.

This is the first case known to the West of a patient who has been released from this "special" psychiatric institution. Jan, who was kept in a ward for the criminally insane, was given injections that left him delirious and completely swollen. He had been charged with hitting a drunk, who yelled anti-Semitic epithets at him.

Julius Krysky, Jan's father, has been campaigning in the West for his son's release for over a year. Jan and his mother, Rachel, hope to rejoin the older Krylsky in Israel shortly. The member agencies of the GNYCSJ mounted an extensive campaign for Jan and other Soviet Jewish activists incarcerated in mental institutions. A spokesman expressed the hope that others being held, including Hillel Chayit and Yuri Rothstein, would soon be released.



U.S. TOUR — Soviet Jews Kirill Chenkin (standing) and Boris Einbinder (second from left) begin nation-wide tour telling of their experiences in Russia as Jewish activists, who recently received visas. Participating in forum, which was held Feb. 10 in Congregation Sherith Israel in San Francisco, are Howard Wexler, president of Soviet Jewry Action Group (left) and Harold Light, chairman of Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, sponsor of the tour.

# Jews Struggle in Soviet Union

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made at government level, exclusive of any consultation with the people themselves. The specific character of Jewish activism is that Jews have proclaimed their decision to leave for Israel as a right; they demanded it as a due. By taking this position, they became dissidents. In a regime where you are not leave the Soviet Union, like the Poles or the Spaniards, for instance. The decision allowing them to go, however, was supposed to demand anything, demand or protest equals dissidence. To this impudence on the part of the Jews, the authorities reacted. As a consequence a considerable number of Jews who apply for exit visas face a series of hardships.

It has been repeated time and again that a Jew who applies for an exit visa for Israel loses his job. But think what it means in a country where everything belongs to just one employer: the State. Everything belongs to the State: the Academy of Sciences and the gas station, the hospital and the fruit store, the garage and the newspaper. Everything! So, once out of a job, it is eternal unemployment. Because in every new place, the personnel department, before hiring, checks with your former place of work. And since the boss is the same . . .

Often, in order to make a living, a highly skilled specialist looks for unskilled work. No luck though — people with college degrees are not accepted for manual work.

Going to another city is not the answer. The system of identity cards, or internal

passports, prevents you from changing your place of residence at will.

For a Jewish activist, even going away for a few days is sometimes a problem. At the railway station or in the airport the police may prevent you from leaving town.

### Slander

Once you are out of work, even through no fault of your own, you are in violation of the law. Protest? Complain? Since the right to work is a constitutional right in the USSR, it is a criminal offense to say that you are jobless. You can, and will, be charged under Article 190-1 with anti-Soviet slander.

But in fact, the *right* to work implies for a Soviet citizen the *obligation* to work. You are entitled to "temporary unemployment" of four months. After that, unless your age allows you to retire, you might be called by the local Soviet commission which will assign you to a job of their choice. If you are a skilled professional you can be certain that it will involve hard unskilled manual labor. You will have to stay on this job for a year or be tried for "parasitism."

Let us suppose that your health will not allow you to do hard manual labor. You can always see a doctor about it. But he, too, is a State official. He obeys orders. If the police decide to push you hard, the doctor will not certify that you are ill. Or, if the authorities have it in for you, you might be declared mentally ill, or an alcoholic, as was Ida Nudel, one of the noblest figures of the Soviet aliyah.

Let us not forget that the USSR is a country where any kind of protest can be, and is,

considered a mental disease to be treated by physicians in the employ and under the supervision of the political police.

And, if you simply refuse to take the work imposed upon you, you become a "parasite" and can be sent to jail. You can also go to prison for other imaginary offenses. Every day brings new proofs.

You might say that not all Jews who apply for a visa and openly fight for their rights to leave are imprisoned. Certainly not. But the constant threat of such reprisals — often turning into reality — contribute to a Kafka-like climate, a suffocating atmosphere. Everyone is not arrested, but everyone lives under the threat.

Why don't the authorities strike down the activist? Wouldn't it be simpler to finish them off once and for all? No, because the activists also have another part to play. Through measures applied to this group, the Soviet authorities keep up a sophisticated game with world opinion, with all of you: balancing the number of visas granted (very parsimoniously) against the number of refusals (numerous), and repressive measures toward Jews against reactions from the West.

You should know that your financial aid as well as your aid to the morale of the Jewish activists guarantees their survival. For these men and women who live in a state of social weightlessness, threatened by all laws and protected by none, who for a long time have lost contact with anyone outside their own circle, need you. They need to know that throughout the world other men and women

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## Judicial Murder In Siberia

Soviet authorities in Novosibirsk are guilty of "quasi-judicial murder" in the death of an elderly Jew after repeated interrogations, the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry charged.

Yefim Borisovich Goldsberg was a friend of the activist Poltinnikov family in Novosibirsk. The 63-year-old man, who had not applied to go to Israel because of his age, was nevertheless interrogated repeatedly about the Poltinnikovs. "As a result," Mrs. Irma Poltinnikov reported to student callers, "he had a very strong cerebral hemorrhage." Mrs. Poltinnikov, who is a cardiologist, said Goldsberg "was paralyzed on the whole right part of his body."

Goldsberg died Dec. 12.

"This is nothing less than quasi-judicial murder on the part of Novosibirsk authorities," SSSJ declared, "and obviously is intended to serve as a warning to the growing number of Jews from that area who are seeking to leave that their friends will also be subjected to the same pressure as they when they apply for exit to freedom."

## Synagogues To Adopt 50 Families

PHILADELPHIA (JTA) — A year-long program to "Free 50 Families" seeking to leave the Soviet Union for a new life in Israel has been undertaken by the 36 Conservative congregations in this area with more than 15,000 families affiliated with the United Synagogue of America. The program calls for each synagogue to "adopt" one or two Soviet families plus a political prisoner.

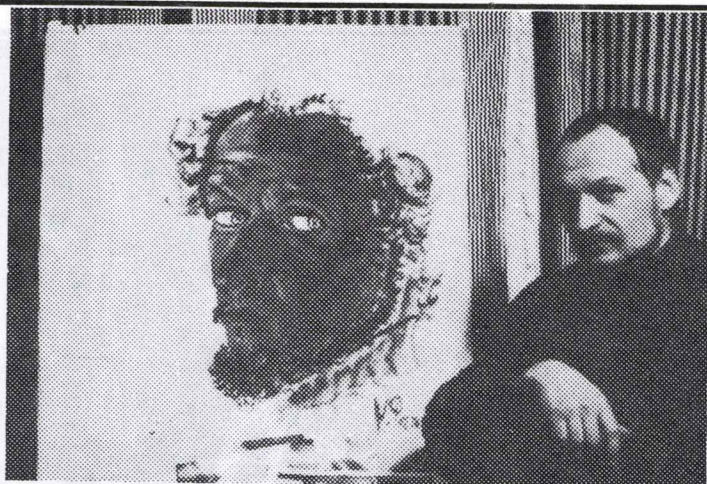


# Veterans Condemn Expulsion

Three former Red Army veterans from Minsk condemned the expulsion from Russia of author Alexander Solzhenitsyn recently in a telegram to Soviet President Nikolai Podgorny.

"We vigorously condemn the expulsion from the country the great Russian writer, Alexander Solzhenitsyn, fearless fighter against Stalin's crimes; fighter for liberty, for democracy, for the rights of man. The exile of Solzhenitsyn is a manifestation of Stalinism in our time. By such an abominable and shameful action you have condemned yourself for a longer time than his exile might last. You have condemned yourself forever. You have expelled from this country the honor and the conscience Russia."

Alshansky is a Red Army war veteran who received 13 orders and medals. Davidovich was a colonel and war veteran awarded 15 orders and medals. Ovsicher is a war veteran awarded 15 orders and medals.



**UNTENABLE CHOICE** — Haunted look on Valery Panov's self-portrait reflects his plight. Subject to mounting harassment by Soviet authorities, the famed dancer has been given an untenable choice: leave his wife Galina in Leningrad and exit to Israel alone, or be denied permission permanently and face trial as a "parasite."

## Rabbi Hertzberg's Stand Brings Critical Response

The President of the American Jewish Congress charged recently that the "American Jewish leadership" views the Jackson Amendment "not as something to be enacted."

Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, known to be an outspoken opponent of the Jackson Amendment over the last year, told the Network conference in Liberty, New York, that "the Jackson Amendment is not something that we want ultimately voted in. That is the considered opinion across the board. The American Jewish leadership is not for the enactment of the Jackson Amendment — it never was and it isn't today."

Hertzberg told the Jewish student leaders that the issue of the Jackson-Mills-Vanik

Amendment "has been booby-trapped with a lot of emotions."

Hertzberg went on to say that "Jackson is not for the enactment of the Jackson Amendment." Senator Jackson's office denied that charge categorically.

### Shock

The response to Hertzberg's statement has been one of shock and amazement. "We are not questioning the fact that the statement represents Hertzberg's viewpoint, but we know that it does not represent any semblance of opinion in the Jewish community or of its leadership. Nor do we think that it represents the feeling of the American Jewish Congress itself,"

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# ACTIONLINE

(The following information was obtained from a phone call by Kirill Chenkin from Washington, D.C. in a conversation with a group of activists in Moscow on Sunday, February 3.)

The decision on ALEXANDER FELDMAN'S final appeal still has not been handed down. His family had written a protest to the administrative section of the Central Committee of the Communist party of the USSR, with copies sent to the President of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine and Andropov, head of the Committee for State Security (KGB) and member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of the USSR. The letter protested the irregular conduct of the Feldman trial which was in violation of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the USSR.

Yakov Khantsis, a Prisoner of Conscience who was originally sentenced for two years in a labor camp for an attempt to enter the Dutch Embassy in Moscow (the agent for Israel's affairs, since there are no formal diplomatic relations) was due to be released on March 7, 1974. Because of severe beatings by prison authorities, his physical condition is very poor. An attempt is being made to extend his sentence for two additional years, presumably for "alleged anti-Soviet activities." "Something must be done quickly or it might be too late," said Alexander Luntz.

Two weeks ago Mark Nashpitz sent a letter to Andropov saying that February 1, 1974 would mark the third anniversary of his first application for a visa to go to Israel. To commemorate this anniversary, he announced his intention to demonstrate, citing the time and the place. He stated that if the militia attempted to stop him, he would return day after day to carry out his intent. Three days in succession he was arrested by the KGB as he left his home and later released.

*Organized Provocation Against Young Activists.* Apparently the Soviet authorities have decided to create a campaign to provoke the younger activists so as to incite them into a response that could be construed as criminal acts.

The first incident took place on January 31, when Len Gendin was going down an escalator to the Moscow subway and the KGB agent who had been tailing him stood above the escalator and spit in his face.

A second incident occurred on the evening of February 2, when a group of activists attended a farewell party for Alexander Reisfeld who had received permission to leave. Three young activists, Mark Nashpitz (who had gone to the party after being released from jail), Arkadi Rutman, and Anatoly Sharanovsky, were set upon by KGB agents as they left the party. The agents attempted to provoke a fist fight but were unsuccessful. One KGB agent was putting on a drunk act. According to some sources in Moscow, the Soviet officials have decided that they had a better chance of provoking a fight with younger activists and therefore decided to concentrate their efforts in that direction.

The Sorokos today are experiencing the tragedy of a separated family. Husband Yuri and 9-year-old son Jenia are living Israel. Wife Basia is in USSR, Ukrainian SSR, Kiev, 15/14 Vasilkovskaya St., apt. 20. The separation has come about not through their mutual consent but as a result of the actions of the Soviet Government. The family, including Yuri's mother Lia, a pensioner, first applied for an exit visa in June, 1971. Prior to this, Basia had already been dismissed from her job as a laboratory technician, checking measuring instruments.



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# Holtzman Appeals To Soviet Leaders

WASHINGTON, (JTA) — Representative Elizabeth Holtzman (D.NY) has sent letters to Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin and President Nixon on behalf of Leonid Zabelishensky, a Jew on trial for "parasitism" in the Soviet Union.

Rep. Holtzman stated that Zabelishensky had lost his job after applying for exit visas to Israel for himself, his wife and child, and that the charge of "parasitism" was made despite the fact that Zabelishensky's wife was working.

In her letter to Dobrynin, Rep. Holtzman said, in part: "I hope you will convey this concern to your government, and seek from it information about Mr. Zabelishensky's case and that of other Soviet Jews. Reports of improved treatment and eased restrictions would be extremely encouraging to those of us in the United States who hope for improved relations between our country and the USSR, but are determined

that it shall not take place unless due regard is given to human dignity and liberty."

In her letter to the President, the Congresswoman said, in part: "In view of the overwhelming support for the Mills-Vanik Amendment shown by the House of Representatives (in Dec.), I am confident that you can make clear to the Soviet government how strongly the Congress and the American people feel about the freedom and dignity of people of all nations."

## Russ Police Seize U.S. Newsmen

Secret police stopped an American newsmen on a Moscow street Jan. 23 and seized written replies to questions he had posed to a group of Jewish activists.

United Press correspondent Gordon F. Joseloff said he was confronted by two plainclothes policeman on the street corner after completing the 90-minute interview at the home of one of the activists. All have been denied permission to emigrate to Israel.

## Activists Hit Treatment of UPI Writer

NEW YORK, (JTA) — Eleven Soviet Jews issued a statement protesting the detention by the KGB of Gordon Joseloff, a United Press International correspondent in Moscow, after he met with the Jews to discuss the government refusal to give them exit visas, according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry.

The statement noted that the KGB confiscated "the notes which each of us had written about his own personal situation about the difficulties he had encountered on the difficult road of emigration to Israel."

### Voting Error

In the January issue of EXODUS we mistakenly listed Rep. Hugh L. Carey (D-NY) as "not voting" on the Vanik Amendment. The error was due to an electronic error in the voting machine. Carey avidly supports the basic human right of free emigration and was a co-sponsor of the Vanik Amendment.



**FOR PRISONERS** — Rabbi Charles Lachs (center), president of Board of Rabbis, reads names of each of the seven Soviet Jewish political prisoners and his biography during symbolic Hanukkah candle-lighting service on the steps of Independence Hall. The service was sponsored by the Greater Philadelphia Council for Soviet Jewry. Gathered around make-shift Menorah are children who lit candles for political prisoners who left their children behind them.

## ADL Sets 'Adoption'

NEW YORK, (JTA) — One thousand Jewish families in the Soviet Union will be "adopted" by metropolitan area residents belonging to B'nai B'rith, in a project under the direction of the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League Citywide Coordinating Committee.

In making the announcement, Nathan Nagler, a member of ADL's New York board and chairman of the coordinating committee, said that Soviet Jews who want to emigrate are grateful for the personal support extended to them by concerned persons in the Western world. Letters, packages and phone calls are an invaluable aid and indicate to Soviet Jews that they have not been forgotten, he said.

"Harassment and loss of employment are often the prices paid by Soviet Jews who seek to emigrate," Nagler said.

## Symbolic Ceremony For Seven Prisoners

Seven Hanukkah candles for seven Soviet Jewish political prisoners were lit on the steps of Independence Hall in Philadelphia last December during the holidays.

The symbolic candle-lighting service was sponsored by the Greater Philadelphia Council for Soviet Jewry. Rabbi Charles Lachs, president of the Board of Rabbis, read each prisoner's name and his biography which will end, in each case, with his current imprisonment.

A Philadelphian represented each prisoner in lighting one of the Hanukkah candles for him in absentia. Several children lighted candles for prisoners who left their children behind them.

Petitions to American and Soviet officials were circulated among the audience for their signatures. Medallions, etched with the names of Soviet political prisoners, were distributed.

The "crimes" for which the political prisoners have been sentenced range from "zionist activity" to "hooliganism" and "deception."

This is the Hanukkah service message delivered by Rabbi Lachs:

"We are here today to participate in a symbolic Hanukkah service honoring the 'Prisoners of Conscience' in the Soviet Union; and thus to remind people of good will everywhere that the plight of Soviet Jewry continues.

"Our meeting today is therefore an assembly of prayer, protest and petition. It is a 'Convocation of Conscience.' It is an appeal to the Russian people to stand up and be counted among those who seek to do justice, to practice mercy and who wish to build a world in which all people can live in human dignity and de-

cency.

Here are the seven Soviet Jewish political prisoners for whom Hanukkah candles were lit at Independence Hall.

1. Piotr Pinkhason, a carpenter from Derbent, married, father of six children who are now living in Israel. The crime for which he was sent to a Soviet labor camp is "deception."

2. Leonid Zabelishensky, electrical engineer, has a wife and six-year-old son. His crime is "parasitism" (translation he is "living off the state," without a job). But he was fired from his job when he requested official permission to emigrate to Israel.

3. Alexandr Feldman, 26 years old. His crime is "malicious hooliganism" (translation, picketing a Soviet Government office, carrying placards.)

4. Vladimir Markman, 33-year-old engineer from Sverdlovsk, with a wife and eight-year-old child. His crime is "leading a Zionist group."

5. Silva Zalmanson, of Riga. Her husband and brother are in the same prison work camp. Her crime is "an active Zionist."

6. Boris Penson, 26-year-old artist from Riga, whose exhibition of paintings, "Art from a Soviet Prison", was shown in Philadelphia last May, and elsewhere throughout the United States. His crime is "participation in an attempt in Leningrad to hijack an airplane."

7. Valeri Kukui, 36-year-old engineer, whose wife and child have moved to Israel. His crime is "writing a letter of sympathy to residents of Los Angeles after an earthquake there."

Seven Hanukkah candles, one for each prisoner, were lit.



**SIDEWALK PROTEST** — Bars served as a prop outside the Sheraton Palace in San Francisco as Sheila Xoreges and Glenn Charles Musagetes danced to demonstrate their protest over the Russian treatment of Soviet ballet dancer Valery Panov and his wife Galina.



# Rabbi Hertzberg's Stand Criticized

from page 6

said Harold Light, chairman of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews. "I am shocked that Hertzberg would be so presumptuous as to speak for the entire American Jewish leadership", Light said.

Jerry Goodman, executive director of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, said that Hertzberg "reserves the right to provoke discussion." Goodman added that "based on my knowledge of the AJC the issue has been over-inflated. Rabbi Hertzberg and the Congress leadership continue to support the policy of the Jackson Amendment since they are a constituent organization of the National Conference."

Goodman said that Hertzberg had told him that he was not fully prepared to discuss the issue when the question was asked of him at the conference. "He had no notes," Goodman said.

Yet, as a preface to his statement, Hertzberg categorically stated: "Listen carefully. I've been waiting for that question. I want it."

The Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, which has been maligned for suggesting Hertzberg's weakness on the amendment, released a statement after the Network conference: "We hope that this sets the record straight. What we are trying to do is be very objective and let the facts speak for themselves. We think that many of his arguments and conclusions are fallacious."

Hertzberg told the Network conference last December that "the bulk of the Rus-

sian Jews involved in emigration, which is not very melodramatic, say 'cool it.'"

Hertzberg's statement did not jive with repeated public statements from Soviet Jews in Israel and the U.S.S.R. for full support of the Jackson-Vanik efforts. One Soviet Jew told *Exodus* that it is "solely due to actions such as the Jackson Amendment that the emigration continues at its present pace."

## Confrontation . . .

Hertzberg charged that information he was getting from "our own sources inside Russia" is that they say "don't confront the Russians because if you confront them they will eventually stop all emigration. The chances are less than even that in confrontation we'll all get out. Don't confront them."

Leaders in the Soviet Jewry movement challenged that statement as being "patently false." One New York activist challenged Hertzberg "to produce any representative group of Soviet Jews who subscribes to that feeling."

The Hertzberg statement was expected to be one of the principal topics of discussion at the AJC biennial convention in New York in mid-February. Some have been calling for Hertzberg's resignation or removal from office.

Word reaching *Exodus* indicated that AJC leaders were seeking a "convenient" way of repudiating Hertzberg's statement. However, neither Hertzberg nor other AJC officials were available for comment.



**SOUVENIR** — Soviet Jew Dimitri Ram recuperates in hospital after attending Simchas Torah (1973) holiday services in a Moscow Synagogue, in which police used violence to break up the crowd.

Photo courtesy  
South Florida Conference on Soviet Jewry

## D. Azbel's Grievance Remains

from page 2

faced the issue of Stalin's crimes and that the bloody era is officially closed. Azbel argues that the chapter is not closed.

Because the only letters printed in the Soviet press are those which endorse official policies, Azbel's letter supporting Solzhenitsyn was given to Western correspondents. The text:

"I have learned about Gulag Archipelago by Solzhenitsyn from foreign radio reports. Certainly I could not read it in the Soviet Union as it was not published even in samizdat. (Underground press.)

"Though I do not know its contents, I wish I had been among those 200 who told the author about the dreadful years in Stalin's torture chambers. I am only consoled by the fact that my prisoner's biography is so typical that it could be reconstructed from the recollection of others.

"I was imprisoned in Gulag Archipelago for 16 years from 1935 to 1951. I visited its various 'islands' — a solitary confinement cell, death chamber, hard labor camps, special prisons and shooting range.

"After rehabilitation, I got documentation which clearly shows the degree of lawfulness in my case. 'Sentenced to five years imprisonment. Spent 16 years in prison. Dismissed before the term expired.'

"Dismissed, but I have not become free.

"In April, 1972, I applied for an exit visa to Israel. But I was refused without any explanation and since that day the sinister shadow of 'Gulag' has been hanging over me.

"Our life after the application for an exit visa is regulated not by law but by the KGB (secret police). It is this office that gives orders to policemen to detain us at home and on the street; to the

court to bring us to trial; to the interior ministry to keep us in prisons; to postmen not to deliver mail to us; and to the communications service to disconnect our telephones.

"My attempts to protest against all that ended up twice in imprisonment. Once more I saw the familiar surroundings of prison cells and the only companions of my wanderings about Gulag Archipelago prison warders.

"Plainclothes agents in two cars followed me all over Moscow and surrounded my house. Their belligerence awoke my memory: alas, it was not a nightmare.

"My life experience and facts show that the authorities neither forget anything nor have they learned anything.

"I have no inclination to compare 1974 and 1937 or 1953 when Stalin charged Jewish doctors were out to kill him.

"But the scale of operations is not a justification for inhumane deeds. And what is more important — history teaches that one act of arbitrary ruling breeds a lot of new ones. And the more the chain reaction of violence is intensified, the more difficult it is to keep it in check.

"The situation gets out of hand and becomes intolerable. It is high time for the authorities to stop the escalation of repressions and make attempts at finding understanding. But this is not the case.

"Thirty years ago, driven to desperation, I went on a hunger strike in a prison in Saratov. For each day of a hunger strike I got one year. Ten days of hunger strike — ten years behind bars.

"Today, I have to resort to the same act of protest and desperation again. It is interesting how many years I will get for each day now. I

understand that even today I can become a citizen of Gulag Archipelago any day.

"And if this happens to me, David Azbel, former prisoner, it means that Gulag Archipelago did not go down as the legendary Atlantis — it exists, it is very much alive.

## Terrorist Group

A ten-year-old Soviet Jewish girl has received a written threat from the Black September Movement, according to the Philadelphia Council for Soviet Jewry.

The letter was addressed to Miss Natasha Korenfeld from Black September, British Section. It read:

"Having just read your letter to the Jewish Chronicle, the well known Zionist paper, we thought it was wise to write to you to advise you of the sad future which awaits you in Israel. Do you want to be a victim of Israeli aggression? Do you want to be killed in the Middle East, or your parents? Stay in the Soviet Union. It is your future and your only country. Let us have your reply on the pages of the Jewish Chronicle. Even Moscow is not too far for us (sic.)"

## Chenkin Story

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think of them, are concerned with their problems, and are ready at a moment's notice to voice their protest. This helps us to keep up the struggle.

I say "us" because I come from there. I am one of them. And with them, I say to you: Look at your watch and think what time it is in Moscow, in Leningrad, in Kiev, in Novosibirsk. What are they doing there? Are they preparing to begin a new day of hardship? Or is it night, the hour when they await your telephone call . . . ? Look at your watch. Think what time it is in Moscow. . .

## Struggle Continues After Vanik Victory

from page 2

Across the country, our people are tired. Except for a few leaders of the Soviet Jewry movement, much of the attention has been dissipated by the Yom Kippur War, as if it were impossible to address ourselves to two problems of Jewish survival.

Let's face it. Israel needs money, and we should all do our best, and Israel will fight its battle and Israel will win! The money devoted to Soviet Jewry is so small we can hardly count it. What we need is that tremendous drive, plus imagination, plus an eternal vigilance to make sure that not one Jewish leader abandons the Soviet Jews.

That takes Unity!

That's why I call upon the Jews of America to regenerate themselves on behalf of our Jewish brethren, to reactivate some of the great programs that worked so well before, that made it possible to force the Soviet Union to open their gates wider. Clearly, the Kremlin is testing us right now, with their increased harassments, new trials, and consistent denials of visas to the activists.

We cannot fail that test. We cannot afford an energy crisis. They must LET OUR PEOPLE GO!