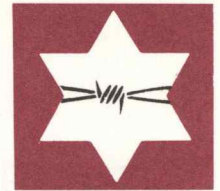


# ALERT

INFORMATION FROM THE  
UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS

1411 K Street, NW  
Suite 402  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 393-4117



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

Vol. X No. 13

October 19, 1984

## Zachar Zunshain Imprisoned in Irkutsk; Mother Dies of Heart Attack

Dora Zunshain, mother of Jewish Prisoner of Conscience Zachar Zunshain, died recently after hearing of the harsh conditions her son must endure in prison camp. A Refusenik since 1980, Zachar Zunshain was most recently arrested in March, 1984, and tried under Article 190-1 of the Soviet criminal code; he was charged with disseminating anti-Soviet slander. Until last week, the whereabouts of Zachar Zunshain were unknown. He was last seen on August 28, when he was placed on a train, presumably to a forced labor camp in Irkutsk, in the heart of Siberia.

Dora suffered the fatal heart attack when her husband brought her the news of the prison conditions her son endures. He told her the news that "the camps where Zachar has been placed are near lead mines and chemical processing plants from which no one comes back alive." Zachar apparently suffers from repeated attempts at intimidation from the head of the camp. (*See Congressional Record p. 11*).

## Searches in Moscow

On Thursday, September 20 the home of Dan Schapiro was searched for 9 hours by the KGB. All of his Hebrew language books were confiscated, as well as works by Pushkin and Tolstoy in Hebrew, a Talmud, and a Bible published in Berlin in 1971. Dan's mother was beaten by the KGB for "being impudent enough to demand a search warrant." When a photograph depicting the Nazi terror in Germany was removed from the home, Dan's father accused the KGB of acting like the Gestapo. The KGB also forcibly pried open a mezzuzah "looking for

## Anatoly Shcharansky Freedom Award to Senator Charles Grassley

The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews was pleased to present the Anatoly Shcharansky Freedom Award to Senator Charles Grassley, (R-IO) on Monday evening, September 10, "in recognition of his dedicated efforts on the plight, cause and freedom of Soviet Jewry" said Lynn Singer, UCSJ President.

Upon receiving the award — a "chanukiah," representing the lights of freedom, Grassley said, "Though we have never met, I feel close to Anatoly through my contact with Avital and many of you in this room. It is all of you who are largely responsible for my work on behalf of Shcharansky and the rest of the re-

fusenik community — work which I consider to be one of the most important aspects of my job as a United States Senator."

Grassley continued, "In the final analysis I believe that the Soviet government's goal here is to completely isolate their Jewish community making communications with the rest of the world impossible. The Soviets hope that — by isolating their Jews — by making contact extremely difficult — that the West will forget this population. Well, we cannot forget, for if we do, the Jewish community will die. We must remind the world of this situation so that no one forgets."



Senator Charles Grassley receives Anatoly Shcharansky Freedom Award from outgoing UCSJ President, Lynn Singer.

drugs." When the KGB demanded that Dan open the Tefillin, he refused and the KGB took them and said, "they may contain something prohibitive." In response to the nine hour search of his home Schapiro

said, "Hitler did not begin to kill Jews immediately... only after he was sure the world wasn't ready to protect and save them."

*Continued on page 9*



# NEWSBRIEFS

On August 22, the apartment of Hebrew teacher **ALEXANDER KOGAN** was searched, and a tanach (Bible) and Commentaries were taken. After confiscating the items, the militia told Kogan that "a tanach is anti-Soviet literature." He then asked Kogan if he knew of an all-Union Ulpan (Hebrew teaching seminar). Kholmiansky, Kogan was told, was in prison for being a part of such an Ulpan. As of Friday, Kogan had not been arrested. There have been further searches in a number of cities, including Moscow, concerning Kholmiansky's association with such an uplan. WRITE, CABLE, or CALL: The Estonia Prosecutors Office, Mr. Lang, Tallin, Estonian SSR. Tel: 443490; The Investigator of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Estonia, Deputy Maurer, Tallin, Estonian SSR. Tel: 663493.

The Moscow home of **DAN SCHAPIRO** was searched for nine hours by the KGB on Thursday, Sept. 20. His Hebrew language books, a Talmud, and other various Hebrew works were confiscated, and a mezzuzah was forcibly pried open; tefillin were taken. Dan's mother was beaten in the September 20 incident when she demanded a search warrant. Igor Charach was taken from the Schapiro home, interrogated, and told to either break off communications with Brukhina and Schapiro or suffer the same fate. In response to this search, Schapiro stated that Hitler did not begin to kill Jews immediately; only after he was sure that the world was not ready to protect and save them. WRITE TO: President of the USSR, Konstantin Chernenko, Kremlin, Moscow RSFSR; Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, 1125 16th St., NW., Washington, DC 20036.

On Thursday, September 20, the Moscow apartment of **INNA BRUKHINA** was broken into and searched for three hours by the KGB, supposedly in search of drugs. Confiscated were all of Inna's Hebrew books, 32 cassettes, a tape recorder, childrens songs in Hebrew, and a 1983 invitation to Israel. Inna, who has a heart condition and is pregnant, was warned by Moscow doctors that they were not to be held responsible if she dies before giving birth as a result of the strain incurred by the search. WRITE TO: President of the USSR, Konstantin Chernenko, Kremlin, Moscow RSFSR; Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, 1125 16th St., NW., Washington, DC 20036.

On September 13, **YACOV MESH** was invited to the Prosecutor's office where all his previously confiscated belongings were returned to him. He was threatened with imprisonment if he would not give testimony on the Levin case, and refused. WRITE TO: President of the USSR, Konstantin Chernenko, Kremlin, Moscow RSFSR; Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, 1125 16th St., NW., Washington, DC 20036.

**YEHUDITH NEPOMNISCHÉ** was told by the Odessa Prosecutors Office to "get a lawyer". A case has been opened against her based on her refusal to testify against her fiance, well-known refusenik **YACOV LEVIN**. WRITE: President of the USSR, Konstantin Chernenko, Kremlin, Moscow RSFSR. ALSO WRITE: Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, 1125 16th St., N.W., Wash., D.C. 20036.

The mother of **ALEXANDER K HOLMIANSKY** was called into the Prosecutors Office in Tallin regarding the gun that was "found" in her son's Alexander's apartment. Because of the illegality of the search, she has refused to answer any questions. WRITE: President of the USSR, Konstantin Chernenko, Kremlin, Moscow RSFSR. ALSO WRITE: Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, 1125 16th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

# NEWSBRIEFS

On August 14, **VLADIMIR TSUKERMAN**, who was released last May after three years of labor camp, reapplied for an exit visa to live in Israel, where his wife and son have been since 1978. He was told by the OVIR authorities that he has "poor chances of being allowed to leave." WRITE OR CABLE: President of the USSR Konstantin Chernenko, Kremlin, Moscow, RSFSR; Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, 1125 16th Street, NW. Washington, DC 20036.

Former prisoner **VLADIMIR KILSIK** and his wife **BELLA** were denied emigration because their invitation from Israel was from a minor — Kilsik's son Maksim, age 14. WRITE OR CABLE: President of the USSR Konstantin Chernenko, Kremlin, Moscow, RSFSR; Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, 1125 16th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20036.

**Inna Begun**, wife of **YOSEF BEGUN**, was recently informed by the Ministry of Health that her husband has been discharged from the prison hospital and is back in the camp compound. However, Inna has not heard from her husband directly since June 22. Earlier, Mrs. Begun told friends that her husband had gone on a hunger strike because the camp authorities had confiscated his prayer book. In response to this, Mrs. Begun received a letter from the camp governor stating that all religious articles were prohibited in prison. WRITE TO INNA AT: USSR, RSFSR, Permskaya Oblast 618801, Tchusovakoy Rayon, Stantsya Polovinka, Uchr. V.S. 389/37, Begun, Yosef; and USSR, RSFSR, Moscow 129243, Raketny Blvd. 11-1-15, Shlemova-Begun, Inna.

**Tatiana Zunshain** went to see her husband **ZACHAR** at the labor camp in Irkutsk on September 27. She reports that shortly after his arrival at the camp he was severely beaten because "he refused to be a model Soviet citizen." Because of the beatings he was unable to work the next day. He went back to work a day later and started to write appeals on his own behalf. A sergeant in the camp asked Zachar: "Do you like Hitler?" and then told him, "It's a great pity Hitler couldn't finish the job." He then told a soldier guarding Zunshain, "If this Jew tries to escape, be sure to aim accurately." Zachar's response: "They will never break me."

Carol Shapiro of the Long Island Committee received a pink "return receipt card" signed by **IDA NUDEL** with special greetings to all her supporters.

Rhoda Friedman, co-chair of the Colorado Committee of Concern for Soviet Jewry received news from recent visitors to **Valentina Kochabievsky** of Novosibirsk. She said her husband, Felix, who is in a labor camp "is in excellent spirits and wishes all a happy new year".



## UCSJ Elects New Officers

The UCSJ is pleased to announce its new officers elected at the September 9-11 Annual Meeting held in Washington, DC. The new President of the Union of Councils is Morey Schapira, former President of the Bay Area Council for Soviet Jewry. Lynn Singer, Director of the Long Island Committee who served as Union President for three years, will now serve as Chairperson of the Advisory Board. Elected as Vice Presidents: Hinda Cantor, of the South Florida Conference on Soviet Jewry; Pam Cohen, a Co-Chair of Chicago Action for Soviet Jewry; and June Daniels, Chair of Des Moines Action Council for Soviet Jewry.

The following were elected to the UCSJ Board of Directors: Carole Abramson, Long Island Committee; Harvey Barnett, Chicago Action; Bailey Barron, Boston Action; Jeff Colvin, Los Alamos Committee on Soviet Anti-Semitism; Betsy Gidwitz, Boston Action; Shirley Goldstein, Omaha Committee; Lillian Hoffman, Colorado Committee; Judy Patkin, Boston Action; Joel Sandberg, South Florida Conference; Sandy Spinner, Cincinnati Council; Marillyn Tallman, Chicago Action; David Waksberg, Bay Area Council; and Babette Wampold, Alabama Council to Save Soviet Jews.



UCSJ Vice President Hinda Cantor introducing the Hon. Elliott Abrams, Asst. Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs and Dr. John Lenczowski, Director of European and Soviet Affairs, National Security Council.



Outgoing UCSJ President, Lynn Singer, presents Peace Award to Sen. Paul Tsongas (D-MA). Pictured from left to right are Advisory Board Treasurer Robert Gordon, Bailey Barron of Boston Action, Tsongas, Singer, incoming UCSJ President Morey Schapira, Sheila Galland of Boston Action, and Judy Patkin of Boston Action.

## Message from the UCSJ President

The Soviet Union's campaign against its Jewish citizens has recently entered a dangerous phase. Under the evil guise of "drug searches", the KGB have been conducting raids in the apartments of Jews in the USSR. Mezzuzot and tefillin have been confiscated and ripped apart in the searches while looking for the drugs which the KGB claims the Jews use during religious services. Even more alarming: some

Jews are further victimized by drugs planted in their apartment by the KGB. It is clear that the Soviet government is resorting to these despicable tactics in an attempt to completely suppress Jewish religion and cultural life. This latest element in the Soviet's campaign of cultural genocide smacks of ugly Stalinist tactics. Strong outcries against this new campaign from the free world are needed to force the Kremlin to cease and desist in these horrible practices.

—Morey Schapira

## Kiernan Interim Executive Director

Bruce Alan Kiernan has agreed to act as interim Executive Director for the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

Mr. Kiernan has had a great deal of experience in the field of human rights. Formerly, he was head of the Office of Science and Human Rights of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Director of the Madrid Office of the U.S. Helsinki Watch Committee, and Executive Director of Scientists for Sakharov, Orlov and Shcharansky.

We greatly appreciate his helping us in this transition period.

# UCSJ Annual Meeting



Meeting participants (partial view).



Kevin Klose, former Washington Post Moscow Bureau Chief, and Marillyn Tallman Chicago Action Co-Chair listen as David Shipler, Former New York Times Moscow Bureau Chief addresses UCSJ Annual Meeting.



Shmuel Azarkh, Director, Soviet Jewry Education and Information Center, Jerusalem, and Larissa Vilinskaya, Bay Area Council.



Blanche Narby, Long Island Committee, describes her "intense harassment" during a recent trip to Leningrad.



## Kushnirs Meet With U.S. Reps.: Plea on Behalf of Alexander

Following the UCSJ Annual Meeting, on Tuesday, September 11, Rachel and Chaim (Efim) Kushnir visited eleven members of the House of Representatives, accompanied by UCSJ Director for Congressional Relations, Bob Arsenault. A number of the members of the Congress who met with the Kushnirs signed a letter to President Chernenko asking for Alexander Kushnir to be able to emigrate to Israel. A copy of that letter is below. (See photographs p. 9).

ROBERT W. EDGAR  
7TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

2362 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-2011

55 NORTH LANSOWNE AVENUE  
LANSOWNE, PENNSYLVANIA 19080

DEL. CO. EXCHANGE (215) 626-7000  
PHILA. EXCHANGE (215) 728-8100

### Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

October 1, 1984

Konstantin Chernenko  
General Secretary of  
the Communist Party  
The Kremlin  
Moscow, RSFSR

Dear General Secretary:

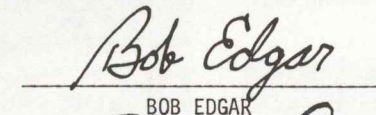
We recently met with Rachel and Efim Kushnir, mother and brother of Alexander Kushnir of Odessa, who has sought to join his family in Israel for the past eight years. As Members of Congress, we urge you to personally intervene in this case, allow Alexander Kushnir to emigrate to Israel, and end the suffering of his mother and brother.

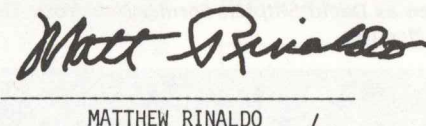
In our meetings, the Kushnirs spoke of the tragic separation of their family as well as the harassment and threats that have been made so much a part of Alexander's everyday life because of his struggle to join his only close relatives in Israel. His father, a construction engineer just as his two sons, was killed in a tragic work accident in December 1970 at the age of 42. His mother and brother emigrated in 1973. Now Alexander is all alone.

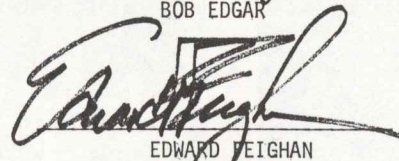
The case is clearly one of attempted family reunification and repatriation to the Jewish homeland of Israel. Refusal to allow Alexander Kushnir to emigrate to Israel is contrary to the consensus at Madrid to strengthen the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act.

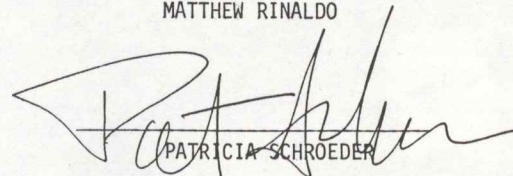
Again, we reiterate our deep concern for Alexander Kushnir and urge the quick resolution of his case. We will continue to monitor this matter, along with the many concerned citizens from this country.

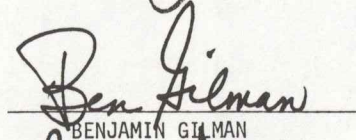
Sincerely,

  
BOB EDGAR

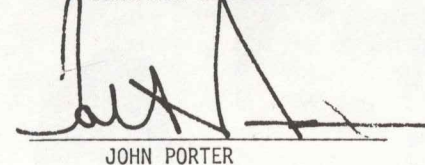
  
MATTHEW RINALDO

  
EDWARD FEIGHAN

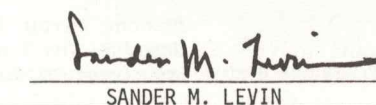
  
PATRICIA SCHROEDER

  
BENJAMIN GILMAN

  
TOM VANDERGRIFF

  
JOHN PORTER

  
ELLIOTT LEVITAS

  
SANDER M. LEVIN



## ALERT On Capitol Hill



### Congressman Larry Smith Condemns Recent Arrests of Soviet Jews

As a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East and the 98th Congressional Class for Soviet Jewry, I am deeply concerned about the Soviet Union's treatment of the Soviet Jews. Recently, I asked my colleagues to join me in signing a letter to President Konstantin Chernenko and other Soviet officials condemning the recent arrest of four refusenik Hebrew teachers. We are fearful these new actions are the beginning of an alarming, determined, stepped-up Soviet campaign to eradicate Hebrew teachers, and therefore Jewish culture, from Soviet society.

Four leading Hebrew teachers have been arrested on trumped-up charges in the last two months. On July 25, Muscovite Aleksander Kholmiansky was arrested and charged with "hooliganism and possession of a weapon". Kholmiansky still remains in prison after his August 23 trial date was postponed to September 25, to allow the prosecution additional time to form its case. Yakov Levin was arrested on August 12 and charged with "defaming the Soviet state", five days before he was to be married. In an unprecedented move, several weeks ago, Yakov Gorodetsky of Leningrad was ordered, without a trial, to report for two months of "correctional labor." And, on September 4, after a search of his home, Yuri Edelstein was taken into custody for allegedly possessing a cigarette containing opium.

I find preposterous the false charges the Soviets have made against these men. My letter urges the Soviet Union to comply with all the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act, the Declaration on Human Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Also, the charges against these four men should be dropped, and they and their families should be allowed to emigrate to Israel.



Larry Smith is a first-term Democratic Congressman from Florida's 16th District which comprises portions of Broward and Dade Counties.

It saddens me to know that the freedoms we enjoy everyday, such as the freedom of speech, the freedom of religion, the freedom to be secure in our own homes without unreasonable searches and seizures, the right to due process of the law, and the right to a speedy and public trial, are not shared by all. The denial of human rights is an issue dear to Americans and all freedom loving people. As an elected official, I have encouraged stepping up the U.S.-Soviet dialogue to maintain a constant and consistent message at every level of diplomatic negotiations so that one day these people who wish to emigrate will be free to enjoy the fundamental human rights that we enjoy.

### IPG Sakharov Initiative Passed by Congress

(SEPTEMBER 27, WASHINGTON, DC)—An amendment to rename the portion of 16th Street N.W. adjacent to the Soviet Embassy as Andrei Sakharov Plaza was agreed to by Senate and House conferees on the DC Appropriations bill.

This initiative was originally proposed by the International Parliamentary Group for Human Rights in the Soviet Union (IPG) at a conference of Western parliamentarians held in Paris last May. In the United States, the chief sponsors of the legislation were Senators Charles E. Grassley and Howard Metzenbaum, and Representatives Silvio Conte and Elliott Levitas. Similar efforts are being planned by IPG members in major Western capitals.

IPG is a voluntary association of 500 parliamentarians in 14 countries who are committed to improving human rights in the Soviet Union.

IPG Executive Director Paul W. Meek said the Sakharov Plaza project was an effort to symbolize Dr. Sakharov's plight and the deteriorating situation faced by Soviet human rights activists: "I believe that Andrei Sakharov Plaza will be a constant reminder to the Soviet Union of the West's commitment to freedom".

In other developments, IPG called on President Reagan and Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko to achieve progress on human rights issues at their meeting September 28.

IPG raised several issues in discussions with the Reagan Administration. "Specifically, the plight of Dr. Andrei Sakharov, the continuing low level of Jewish and German emigration from the Soviet Union, and the alarming increase in repression of many religious groups should be given high priority on the Reagan/Gromyko agenda", said Meek.

Meek expressed support for a US consulate in Kiev, a resumption of Soviet direct dial telephone service to and from the United States and Western Europe, and a verifiable reduction in Soviet harassment of American and Western tourists visiting the USSR.



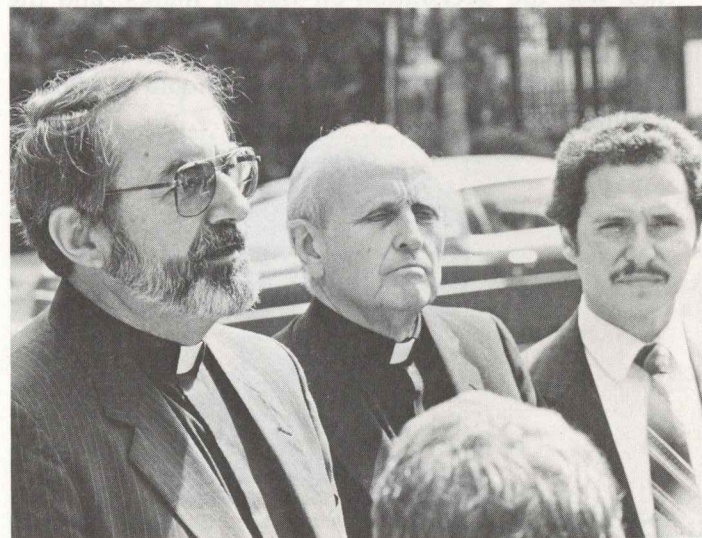
# UCSJ Participates at Daily Vigil across from Soviet Embassy



Former Refuseniks join hands in their fight to gain their separated families' freedom. Pictured from left to right are Anna Polulyauh and Valentina Eydelman, mother and sister of Janna Lerner; Simon Levin, husband of Tamara Tretyakova and father of Mark Lifshitz; and Rachel and Chaim Kushnir, mother and brother of Alexander Kushnir.



UCSJ participating in daily vigil across from Soviet Embassy.



At Vigil: The Rev. John Steinbruck, Father Robert Drinan, Morey Schapiro, UCSJ President.



Adele and Joel Sandberg of the South Florida Conference deliver a prisoners list to Soviet Embassy Official.

## Searches, Continued from p. 1

Igor Charach was taken from Schapiro's home at the time of the search, interrogated and told, "If you break off communications with Brokhina and Schapiro there will be no court case; if you continue, you'll have the same problems."

Also on September 20, the apartment of Inna Brokhina was searched for three hours. Even though the entire family was at home, the KGB broke down the front door to gain entrance. When Inna asked the Leningrad-based Korolov (who also searched Schapiro's apartment) what he wanted, he replied, "We are searching for drugs." The KGB took all of Inna's Hebrew books, 32 cassettes, a tape recorder, children's songs in Hebrew, as well as an invitation from Israel dated December 16, 1983. Inna, who suffers from a heart ailment and is pregnant with her third child, was warned by Moscow doctors that they would "not be responsible if she died before the birth" on account of the strain incurred by the search.



The Kushnirs with Congressman Matt Rinaldo (R-NJ).



The Kushnirs with Congressman Bob Edgar (D-PA).

## Urgent News Received by UCSJ at Presstime

The mother of Alexander Kholmiansky received a cable from the prison administrator in Tallin with the news that Alex went on a hunger strike September 13th as a result of the planting of false evidence and the false charges against him, and is in the prison hospital. A cable of protest, signed by 40 Moscow activists, was sent to the Chief Procurator and to the Presidium protesting Kholmiansky's arrest. Moscow activists will begin a hunger strike on October 19th and seek participation in the West. **Write and cable urging Kholmiansky's immediate release to:** Secretary General of the Communist Party and President of the USSR, Konstantin Chernenko, Kremlin, Moscow, RSFSR; Procurator General of the USSR, Alexander Rekunkov, 15a Pushkinskaya Street, Moscow, RSFSR.

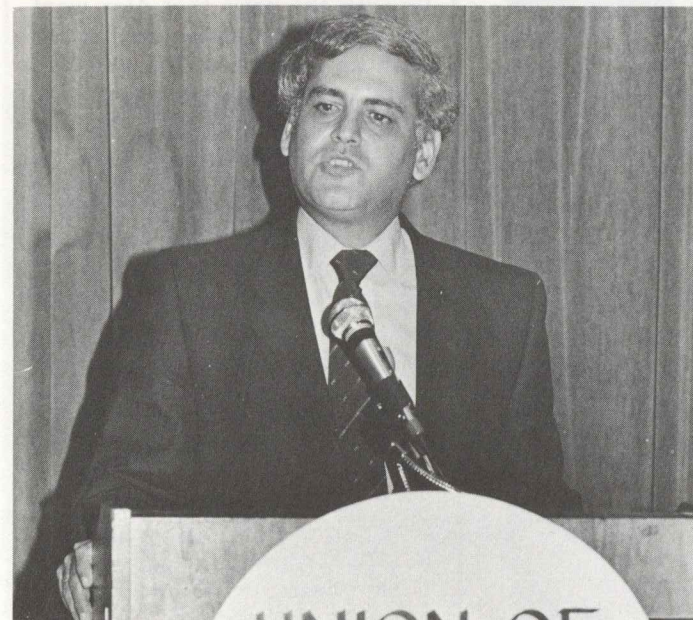


# UCSJ Annual Meeting (Continued)

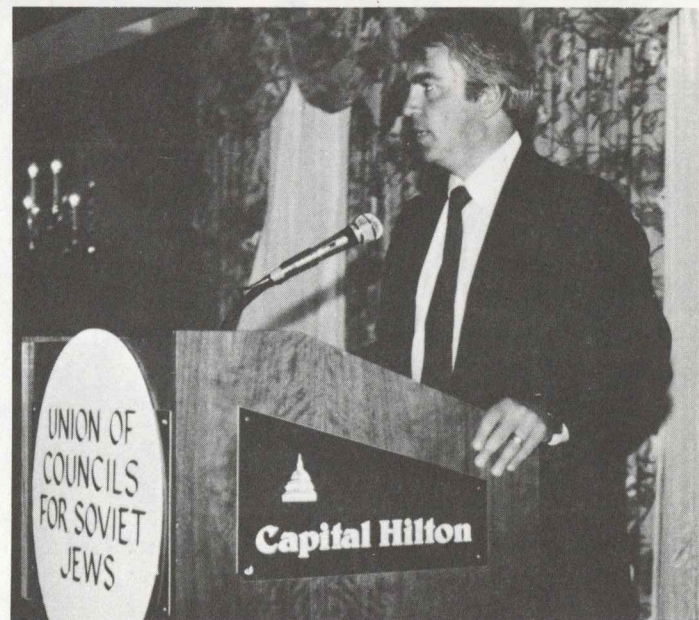


Dr. John Lenczowski of the National Security Council discusses Soviet disinformation with Marillyn Tallman of Chicago Action and Lillian Foreman and Michael Kesselman of Bay Area.

Participating in the UCSJ annual meeting were (left to right) Cynthia Dachowitz of New York, Congressman Howard Berman (D-CA), UCSJ President Morey Schapira, Mrs. Howard Berman, and Jacob Birnbaum of the Center for Russian and East European Jewry.



The Honorable Richard Perle, Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Policy presents an historical overview of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment at the UCSJ banquet.



Senator Paul E. Tsongas (D-MA) addresses the UCSJ annual meeting at a luncheon in his honor. Sen. Tsongas was presented a peace award for his tireless efforts on behalf of Soviet Jews.

# From the Congressional Record

**HON. THOMAS A. LUKE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 3, 1984

• Mr. LUKE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Cincinnati Council for Soviet Jews and the Congressional Call to Conscience Vigil, I would like to speak on behalf of Yuri Tarnopolsky, a Soviet Jewish Refusenik who is currently serving a 3-year sentence in a labor camp for "defaming the Soviet state." Before his arrest in 1983, Tarnopolsky was one of the leading Jewish activists in Kharkov.

Tarnopolsky is one of many Jewish citizens in the U.S.S.R. who are being robbed of their cultural identity and religious freedom. The Hebrew language is suppressed, Jewish cultural celebrations are prohibited, and, most importantly, Soviet-Jewish emigration is virtually paralyzed.

While approximately 350,000 Soviet Jews have applied for exit visas from the U.S.S.R. barely 1,000 will leave this year. Many families have been tragically separated, and the Soviet government refuses to let them be reunited in spite of numerous pleas from family members.

Finally, numerous Refusenik activists have suffered through interrogations, searches, and imprisonment in their quest for religious freedom. Yuri Tarnopolsky is one of these.

On June 20, 1984, 55 of my House colleagues co-signed a letter I sent to Soviet General Secretary, Konstantin Chernenko concerning the grave situation facing the Tarnopolsky family.

Tarnopolsky first applied to emigrate from the U.S.S.R. in December 1976, with his wife, Olga, and daughter, Irina. They were refused in September 1979, and reapplied in June of the same year. Three months later he was again refused on the grounds that his invitation to Israel had been from "insufficiently close" relatives. In the meantime, as a result of his emigration and application, Tarnopolsky had been forced out of his job and was after that prevented from obtaining all but menial employment.

Tarnopolsky taught chemistry at the Jewish University established in 1981 by Jewish community leader Alexander Paritsky for children of Refuseniks barred from other Soviet schools. He was also a member of a Kharkov activist group which organized a kindergarten and primary school for Refusenik children. In 1980 Tarnopolsky joined a group of Refuseniks in a protest hunger strike at the time of the opening of the Madrid Conference; his telephone was immediately disconnected thereafter.

In August, 1981, Tarnopolsky's home was raided by police and many of his books and papers were confiscated. On the same day, Alexander Paritsky was arrested. In October 1982, Yuri Tarnopolsky went on a 40-day hunger strike to protest his denial of permission to emigrate. In May of the same year, he signed a Refusenik protest letter and later composed an article describing the ordeal he and other Refuseniks had endured.

On March 15, 1983, Tarnopolsky was arrested and sentenced to 3 years in a labor camp. Since that time, Tarnopolsky has been on two hunger strikes during which his health has deteriorated seriously, and has been "subjected to an even more cruel treatment which could not be qualified as anything but torture."

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in protest of these crimes by the Soviet Government and to support Yuri Tarnopolsky and all other Refuseniks in their courageous fight for freedom.

**HON. EDWARD F. FEIGHAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 1, 1983

• Mr. FEIGHAN. Mr. Speaker, I have just heard the terrible news that the mother of Jewish prisoner of conscience Zachar Zunshain, Dora Zunshain, died yesterday of a heart attack after hearing of the harsh treatment her son endures in a Soviet prison camp. Until yesterday, the whereabouts of Zachar Zunshain were unknown. He was last seen on August 28, 1984, when he was placed on a train, presumably to a forced labor camp in Irkutsk, in the heart of Siberia. A refusenik since 1980, Zachar Zunshain was most recently arrested in March of this year and tried under Article 190-1 of the Soviet Criminal Code. He was charged with disseminating anti-Soviet slander.

Dora Zunshain suffered her fatal heart attack when her husband brought her the news of the prison conditions endured by her son. Zachar's father is reported to have brought the news that the "camps where Zachar has been placed are near lead mines and chemical processing plants from which no one comes back alive." Further reports indicate that Zachar Zunshain suffers from repeated attempts of intimidation from the head of the prison camp.

The inhuman cruelty, the harsh conditions, and the brutal terror which Zachar Zunshain endures must be brought to the attention of the world. Lynn Singer, former president of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, has written eloquently on this subject. She has written that: "The crackdown on Jewish emigration is a part of a general drive toward inhuman discipline and regimentation in the Soviet Union. As the number of Jews who are allowed to emigrate continues to decline, as the persecution of Baptists, Seventh-day Adventists, and young Russian Orthodox believers continues apace, so will the number of men like Zachar Zunshain, willing to face the consequences of their pursuits of freedom, continue to rise."

The death of Dora Zunshain is a tragedy, not only for her family and her friends, but for all of us who are inspired by the courage and determination of her son. The struggle of Zachar Zunshain is not an easy one, and it will not be won without the commitment of brave men and women everywhere. I know that other members will join in my expression of sorrow at this tragic news.





*The Denver Post / Tuesday, Aug. 28, 1984  
With Permission.*



**UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS**  
1411 K STREET, NW, SUITE 402  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

### **Inside Today's Alert**

Searches in Moscow .....	p. 1
Senator Grassley Receives Freedom Award .....	p. 1
Zunshain Imprisoned .....	p. 1
Newsbriefs .....	p. 2, 3,
UCSJ Elects New Officers .....	p. 4
Message From The President .....	p. 4
Kushnirs Meet with US Reps. ....	p. 6
Alert on Capitol Hill .....	p. 7
From the Congressional Record .....	p. 11

The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews is composed of 34 local councils, 3 domestic affiliates, 3 international affiliates and 55,000 individual members dedicated to helping Soviet Jews, especially those desiring to emigrate.

Editor: Bob Arsenault

President: Morey Schapira. Chairperson of the Advisory Board: Lynn Singer, Treasurer: Robert Gordon, Vice Presidents: Hinda Cantor (Miami, FL), Pamela Cohen (Chicago, IL), June Daniels (DeMoines, IA).

## **69 Jews left the Soviet Union in September**