



INFORMATION FROM THE
UNION OF COUNCILS FOR SOVIET JEWS
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ALERT

Vol. X No. 3

February 1, 1984

Western Regional Meeting: Soviet Trade & Predictions for '84

USSR: 1984 and Beyond

'Impasse' for '84? Experts give Prognoses

The USSR: 1984 and Beyond, one of several workshops held during the UCSJ's mid-year meeting in San Francisco, January 27-29, provided the opportunity for UCSJ member activists to hear expert insights and prognoses from prominent Sovietologists Vladimir Bukovsky and Dr. Alexander Shtromas.

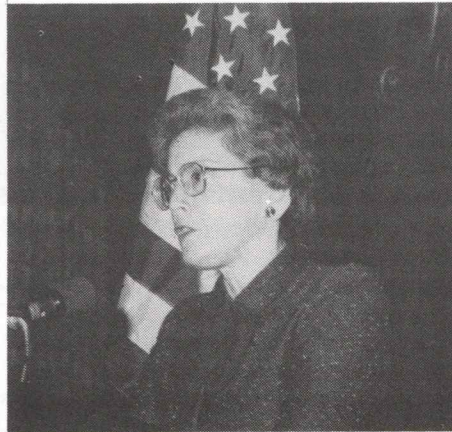
One of the most prominent of Soviet dissidents, Vladimir Bukovsky spent twelve years in Soviet prisons, labor camps, and psychiatric hospitals. Released to the West in 1976, Bukovsky subsequently published his *To Build a Castle: My Life as a Dissenter*, as well as several other books.

Characterizing the state of affairs in the Soviet Union as in a "transitional period", Bukovsky reflected: "The detente of the 1970's will not re-enter East-West relations, nor will the Stalinization of the 1930's occur in the '80s. The Stalin era of the 1930s was like a 'crest of a wave'. A leader cannot do this on his own; it is the result of events that add up (to such conditions)." Bukovsky addressed the "questionable status" of Andropov's health as germane to the issue of a "transitional period", asserting that "it is when the Soviet Union is most vulnerable, that it is the time to step up public pressure. A 'window of opportunity' is here; we must use it as much as we can."

Whereas Bukovsky referred to a "transitional period", Dr. Alexander Shtromas interpreted the current state of affairs in the Soviet Union as at an "impasse".

Trained as a lawyer in the USSR, Dr. Shtromas emigrated to England from Moscow in 1973. As a professor

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Keynote speaker Dr. Betsy Gidwitz delivers powerfully informative remarks on Soviet anti-semitism at UCSJ regional meeting in San Francisco.

Death of Pres. Yuri Andropov

UCSJ calls for positive direction in human rights

The news of President Yuri Andropov's death on February 10 brought a "call to conscience" to the Soviet government by the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

While we recall that in the past, a change of Soviet leadership has meant an immediate crackdown and further isolation of Soviet Jews, it is our hope that this transitional time will be an opportunity for a new and more positive direction in their human rights policies.

We ask that the Soviet government will look upon this time as a 'window of opportunity' to send a signal to the West that the love of life is sacred and human rights revered.

The Union of Councils for Soviet Jews hand-delivered a message to Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, calling for a "positive direction in their human rights policies through respect of the Helsinki Agreements of family reunification and national repatriation".

US-Soviet Trade

Expert Soviet Economists Debate Sanctions/Strategies

A panel of experts on U.S.-Soviet trade addressed UCSJ activists at the regional meeting in San Francisco last month. Leading the discussion was Dr. Mikhail Bernstam, a professor of economic demography at the University of Chicago and a visiting scholar at the Hoover Institution, who recently co-authored *Andropov: A Challenge to the West*. Other panelists included Dr. Andrej Brzeski, formerly an economic planner who is currently working on problems of comparative economics and socialism at the University of California at Davis, and Dr. Kenneth Gray, who has visited the USSR in three extended stays, and is the editor of the quarterly "Newsletter for Research on Soviet & East European Agriculture".

Bernstam, contending that "freedom begins with economic freedom", noted that the Carter grain embargo "could have led to a strata of private farmers", and asserted that the U.S. government "could force the USSR to face their food and population problems (by imposing economic sanctions)."

While Bernstein "doesn't see any 'real' East-West trade", Brzeski remarked that he "expects the future to include further liberalization of trade as well as export licenses."

Brzeski's remarks were pointed: "The U.S. is not about to impose sanctions because of the disunity on the subject, and because of the substitution of supplies and suppliers." Regarding Soviet Jewish emigration, Brzeski was more "optimistic": "It (emigration) may be used by the Soviets to improve conditions (for trade)."

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NEWSBRIEFS

Jewish refusenik **VALERY GODYAK**, who was arrested with **OLGA LUSNIKOVA** and **OLGA MEDVEDKOVA** for "resistance" last December, received permission.

OLGA MEDVEDKOVA has been hospitalized in Moscow for heart problems for one week. As a Jewish leader and activist of the Moscow unofficial peace movement, Medvedkova faces trial — the date uncertain.

ALEXANDER PODRABINEK, a Prisoner of Conscience since May 1978 charged with 'damaging the Soviet State and social system' for publishing his book entitled "Punitive Medicine", was released from his labor camp this month. Podrabinek was in a labor camp since 1980 when he was taken from exile. He had been suffering from a series of ailments, and was recently examined by a doctor. Although Podrabinek was found to have a black spot on his lung, he feels reasonably healthy. He sends his gratitude to everyone in the West who has worked on his behalf. He is registered in Kirzhach, a village where his wife and son are living. HIS ADDRESS IS: UL. KIROVA NO. 10, KIRZHACH, VLADIMIRSKAYA OBLAST, 601010.

NADEZHDA FRADKOVA, is still on hunger strike in the hospital and is being force fed. She was refused a visa on the pretext that her father has access to "state secrets". Nadezhda's parents were divorced before her birth. Furthermore, Nadezhda has never lived in the same city as her father, and does not know his "state secrets". SEND LETTERS OF PROTEST URGING SHE BE GRANTED A VISA TO: Leningrad OVIR, 26 Zheliabova St., Leningrad 116749.

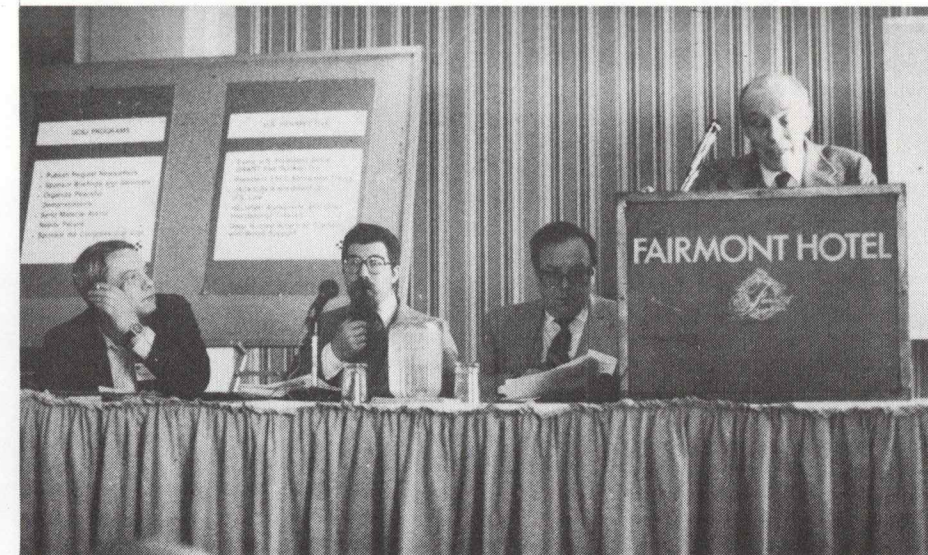
LEONID KLEIMAN of Leningrad is on a hunger strike "until death". Kleiman, his wife Ludmilla, and their three-year old son received permission last November 1983, but the visa was revoked January 20. SEND TELEGRAMS URGING APPROVAL OF HIS VISA APPLICATION TO: Leningrad OVIR, Vorotyntsev Vyacheslav Michailovich, 26 Zheliabova St., Leningrad 116749.

Jewish Refusenik and Former Colonel **LEV OVSISHCHER** of Minsk recently married **TATIANA ULANOVSKAYA**, the mother of former refusenik Lev Ulanovsky who emigrated to Israel. SEND LETTERS OF CONGRATULATIONS TO: USSR, Moscow 117246, Hersonskaya 29, Apt. 39.

MIKHAIL GART of Livani in Latvia received an exit visa. Gart had originally applied in October 1979 and was refused for "insufficient kinship".

IDA MILGROM received a letter from her son **ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY** on February 3. His letter indicated that he is feeling better, his heart/chest pains diminished. Anatoly wrote that he is very happy because he received a letter from his wife Avital after his last meeting with his mother on January 6.

Riga activists **LEONID UMANSKY** and **ZAKHAR ZONSHEIN** went to Moscow to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet to give up their Soviet citizenship, to demand they be granted visas, and to demonstrate on behalf of their fellow activists **GRIGORY VASSERMAN**, **LEONID ROKHLIN**, **LEONID RASKIN** and **SASHA LEIN** (Evgeny Lein's daughter) who are now without jobs. (See last issue of *Alert Newsbriefs*.)



UCSJ Regional Meeting Workshop included expert panelists on U.S.-Soviet relations and trade, (left to right) Vladimir Bukovsky, Dr. Mikhail Bernstam, Dr. Alexander Shtromas, and (at podium) Dr. Andrej Brzeski.

USSR: 1984 and Beyond

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of politics and contemporary history at the University of Salford in Manchester, Great Britain and a visiting scholar at the Hoover Institution, Shtromas outlined a historical perspective before offering his prognoses for 1984 and beyond.

"The Brezhnev regime operated with 'defensive immobilization' — a stagnating policy — where the philosophy was that every drastic movement could be lethal," explained Shtromas. Further, the Brezhnev regime conducted its international affairs with "machinistical opportunism" and "expansional" policies.

The leadership became divided, according to Shtromas, between those whose philosophies promoted "stagnation" and those whose philosophies included the "introduction of some changes with the consolidation of power". Shtromas noted that Andropov and his Party are "the victors" — the Party that wanted change. "Yet," asserted Shtromas, "no changes have been introduced." Posing rhetorically 'who are the replacement in leading positions?' Shtromas reviewed the Andropov leadership, noting that Andropov "has been unable to appoint anyone to top positions." Although Vasily Vorodnikov, President of the Council of Ministers, is "an Andropov man", conceded Shtromas, First Secretary Grigory Romanov was a "compromise appointment".

"The Soviet Union is an oligarchy par excellence — a product of the Brezhnev years." To the question, who will succeed Andropov, Shtromas answered: "Whoever is his successor will bear the mark of Brezhnev."

In terms of East-West relations, Shtromas indicated that it "is a result of tensions inside the Soviet Union, stemming from the internal competition for power." His analysis was recently elaborated upon by Washington Post correspondent Dusko Doder in a February 3 article entitled "Andropov's Purge Shakes up Regional Party Leadership".

Although the impasse "will continue", Shtromas cautioned UCSJ activists "not to say 'what will be the reaction of the Soviets' if we. . ." Concluded Shtromas: "We must be active to provoke the Soviet Union; the time for action is now. The more rigid they are, the more active we should become."

State Dept. Responds to Soviet Anti-Semitism

In response to the *Pravda* article which appeared January 17, the State Department issued the following response: "On January 17, *Pravda* ran an article drawing sweeping connections between Zionism and Nazism. The views expressed in that piece are so outrageous and so indefensible that we are reluctant to dignify them or even to call further attention to them with a response. Nevertheless, the Soviet Union should

US-Soviet Trade

Continued from page 1

Dr. Kenneth Gray argued that economic sanctions "are not always effective". If sanctions are not used correctly, Gray explained, the leverage may be small and dissipated. Gray then addressed the question of "optimal sanctions", or an "optimal strategy". No trade with the Soviet Union would not be a position for an optimal strategy, contended Gray. "We must trade only if there is a willingness to take it away." Referring to the earlier discussion of a grain embargo, Gray asserted that "it will hurt us instead of hurting them. We should not pretend that sanctions don't impact on us. In fact," Gray added, "perhaps we should consider compensation for those U.S. sectors most affected."

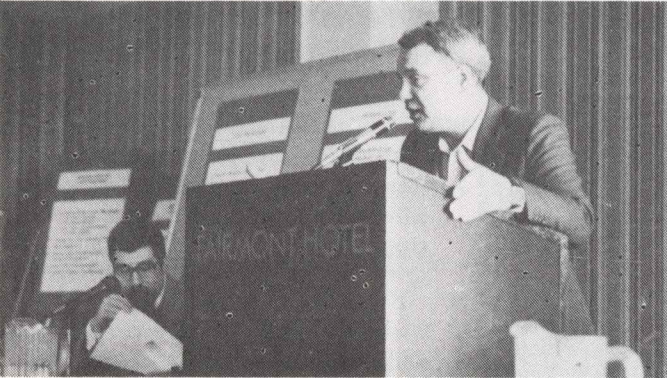
Finally, in defining an "optimal strategy", Gray affirmed that the presentation of sanctions is important: "There is always the danger of U.S. rhetoric backfiring. While the Reagan Administration exaggerated the harm the grain embargo did to American farmers, stated Gray, the "strong bargaining chip is MFN (most-favored-nation) status. In the 1970's, the Soviet Union sold oil at a high price, but in the 1980's the petroleum prices went down; The Soviet Union wants MFN status."



know that no intelligent person could be swayed by the insupportable charges made in that article, and the efforts to refute charges of widespread anti-semitism in the USSR by slandering the Jewish victims of Nazism have convinced no one but rather have precisely the opposite effect. The Soviet authorities cannot disguise their responsibility for the publication of such slander. It comes on the heels of other similar articles in recent months. And as we see it this is a trend that does no honor to the USSR."

Local Council Hosts UCSJ Regional Meeting

Photos by Michael Kesselman and Irwin Lazarus



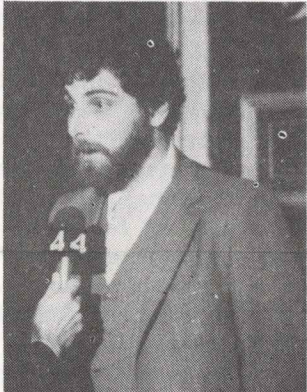
Vladimir Bukovsky (at podium) explains current 'transitional period' in the USSR to UCSJ activists attending regional meeting workshop on USSR: 1984 & Beyond. Seated is economist Dr. Mikhail Bernstam, reviewing notes on U.S.-Soviet trade.



As a guitarist sang Hebrew songs, UCSJ activists chanted "Freedom now!" during candlelight vigil held outside the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco. The demonstration marked the end of a 3-day regional meeting of information and programmatic workshops on US-USSR relations, trade, predictions, and a unique symposium on cultural genocide in the USSR.



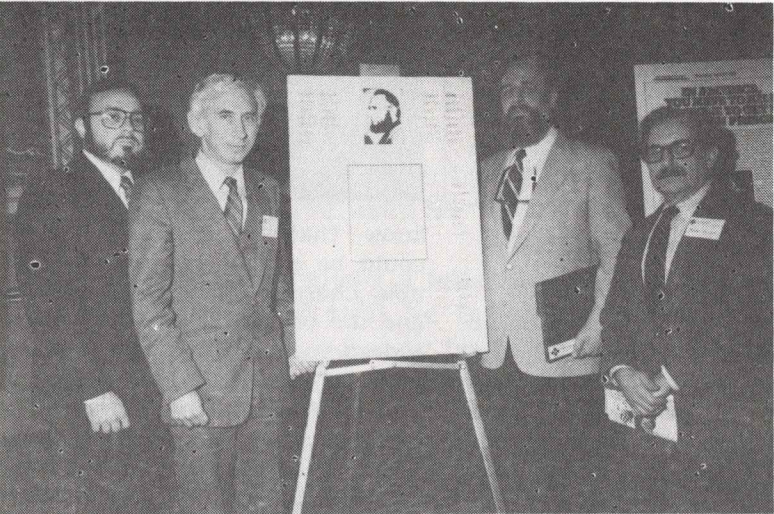
Founder of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry (SSSJ) Jacob Birnbaum discusses a program for "nourishing the Jewish lifeline" in the Soviet Union with UCSJ Vice President Morey Schapira (BACSJ).



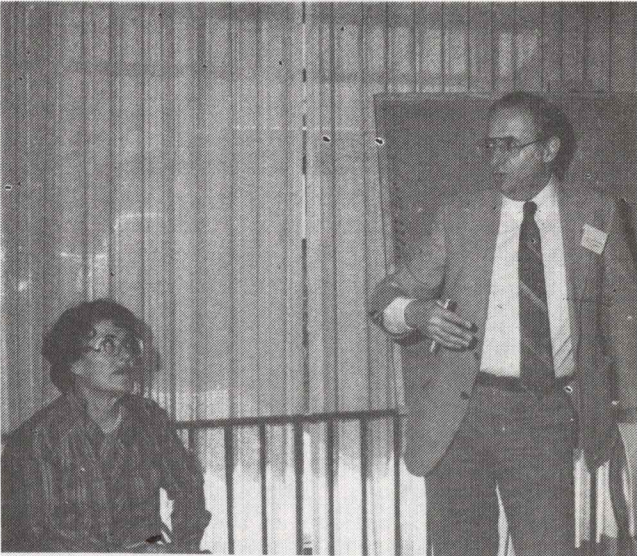
Local press and media interview BACSJ Executive Director David Waksberg during symposium on cultural genocide in the USSR.



Rabbi Abraham Cooper of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles addresses some 150 people at the candlelight vigil.



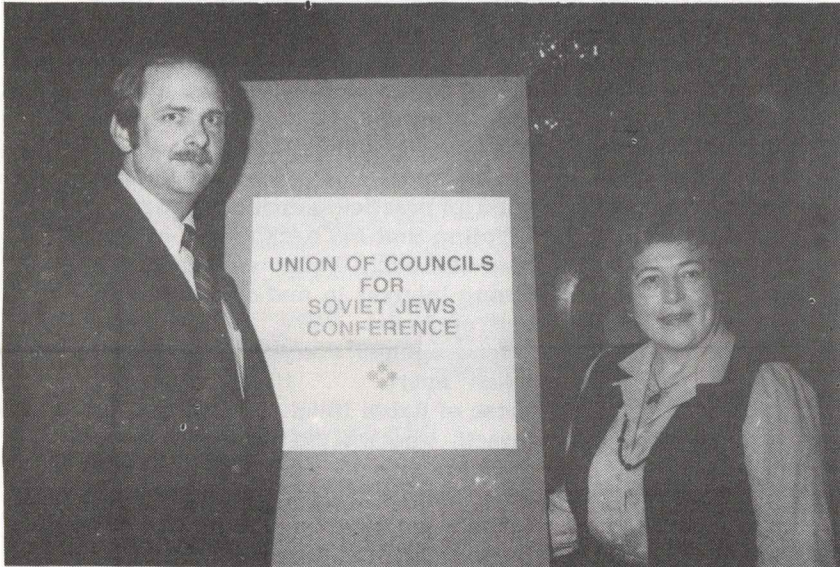
Expert panelists participating in a symposium on cultural genocide against Jews in the USSR is (standing left to right): Rabbi Abraham Cooper (Simon Wiesenthal Center); Dr. Benjamin Fain, Jacob Birnbaum, and Moshe Decter. In the foreground is a copy of a letter sent by 98 Senators in protest of Yosef Begun's arrest last summer.



UCSJ Executive Director Lawrence Y. Goldberg leads political action workshop at regional meeting. Seated is UCSJ activist Lillian Hoffman (Colorado Committee for Soviet Jewry).



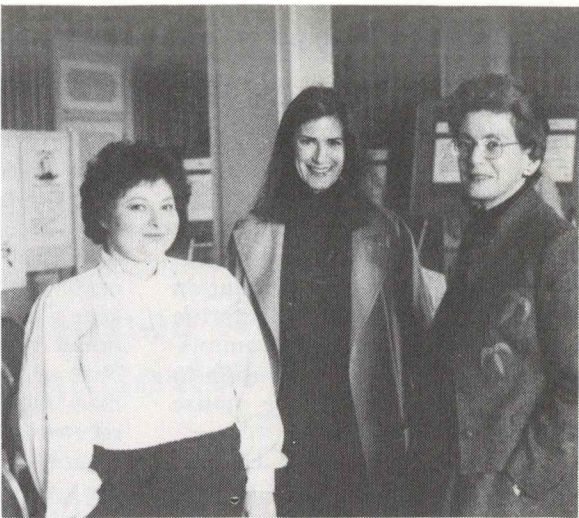
UCSJ activists seen with workshop panelists, (left to right): Esther Noble (Vancouver, B.C.); Dr. Mikhail Bernstam; Judy Patkin (Boston Action); June Daniels (Des Moines Action); Lillian Hoffman (Colorado Committee); Dr. Alexander Shtromas; Dr. Andrej Brzeski.



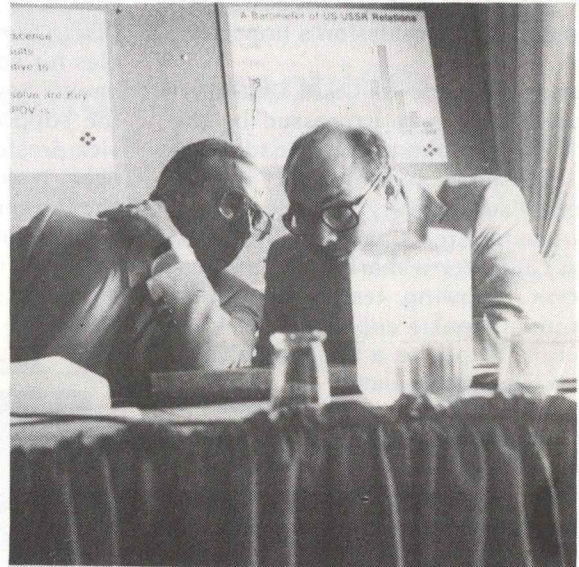
Reverend Douglas Huneke (left); UCSJ President Lynn Singer.



BACSJ Executive Director David Waksberg and Rabbi Abraham Cooper (left foreground) lead UCSJ activists in candlelight vigil following regional meeting in San Francisco.



Dr. Betsy Gidwitz (right) share research on Soviet anti-semitism with Cincinnati Council Director Sandra Spinner (left) and BACSJ activist (center).



UCSJ Executive Director Lawrence Y. Goldberg confers with panelist Dr. Alexander Shtromas during workshop on US-Soviet trade.



Left to Right: UCSJ Vice President Morey Schapira (Bay Area Council); Esther Nobleman (Vancouver, B.C.); Vladimir Bukovsky.

WASHINGTON TALK

By Judith Slovin, Associate Director for Congressional Affairs

The UCSJ testified on February 6 before the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Operations in support of House Resolution 4504 which provides for the rotation of the chairmanship of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) between the House and the Senate.

The UCSJ supports the bill because it will provide for: 1) greater involvement of both bodies of Congress in the issue of Soviet Jewry; 2) continuity of CSCE staff, which maintains a high level of excellence and expertise, and 3) direction and focus of the Commission's important work.

Deep gratitude to CSCE Chairman Dante Fascell was expressed by the UCSJ for his outstanding leadership and personal commitment to the cause of Soviet Jewry.

Subcommittee Chairman Rep. Dan Mica called for a mark-up of the resolution following testimony, which was unanimously approved. HR 4504 will now be put to a full House vote, and is expected to pass.

The Congressional "Call to Conscience" Vigil enters its ninth year of activity on behalf of Soviet Jewry, under the 1984 chairmanship of Representative Lawrence Coughlin (R-PA). Coughlin, a longstanding opponent of human rights violations in the USSR, sees the vigil as "a vehicle for focusing attention on the plight of prisoners of conscience and the many others seeking permission to emigrate from the Soviet Union."

Representative Benjamin A. Gilman (R-NY), a senior Member of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee and the subcommittee on Operations, held hearings on February 3 in Chicago, Illinois for new evidence regarding the interference with and interruption of international mail going into the Soviet Union.

Attorney Harvey J. Barnett testified on behalf of UCSJ member Chicago Action for Soviet Jewry, of which he is the chairman of the Legal Advisors for Refusenik Affairs, noting several instances of Soviet abrogations on postal matters.

The Long Island Committee's Freedom Dinner: Five Years and Going Strong

On March 11, 1984, the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry will hold its fifth annual Freedom Dinner, drawing almost 1,000 attendees. Mr. Herbert Brauer, as this year's honoree, will receive the traditional Freedom Award — a shalom bird of peace. New York Congressman Jack Kemp, as co-honoree, will receive the Anatoly Shcharansky Award — a channukiah representing the lights of freedom.

Last week, Brauer was accompanied by UCSJ President Lynn Singer and Long Island Committee President Carole Abramson to meet with the UCSJ Staff in Washington, D.C. Discussion centered around strategies for educating the general public about Soviet Jewry, and widening the support on the issue. As senior vice president of Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company in New York, Mr. Brauer has broadened the participation of the Long Island community in the cause for Soviet Jewry, and in particular, has brought "new blood" to the Long Island Committee.



Reverend Huneke

Reverend Huneke: 'Tears that stain'

Reverend Douglas K. Huneke, a prominent scholar of the Holocaust, has written numerous articles on the moral and theological implication of the Holocaust and on Jewish-Christian relations.

Speaking to UCSJ activists at the San Francisco Regional meeting last month, Rev. Huneke described his visit to the Soviet Union last April 1983 "to witness" and be a "messenger" upon his return. Travelling with S.F. Bay area Rabbi Sheldon Lewis, Huneke met with 50 refusenik families.

"The greatest fear," Huneke related, "is the isolation of Soviet Jews — from the West and within their own society." Huneke noted that the recent decentralization of the Anti-Zionist Committee "will further isolate Soviet Jews."

"Jews are considered 'non-entities' in the Soviet Union," Huneke stated. "Their Jewish observances are interrupted by raids, arrests and interrogations. Their tears stain the fabric of Jewish life in the Soviet Union; they are oppressed and must be set free."



UCSJ Pres. Lynn Singer w/L.I. Committee Pres. Carole Abramson and Freedom Dinner Honoree Herbert Brauer meet with NY Rep. Jack Kemp and Avital Shcharansky.

"If nobody screams, nothing happens," Brauer explained to the UCSJ Washington staff, adding that he sees the Long Island Committee and the UCSJ as "conducting an awareness program" so that people "do not lose sight that there are people in the Soviet Union who are imprisoned for practicing their religion."

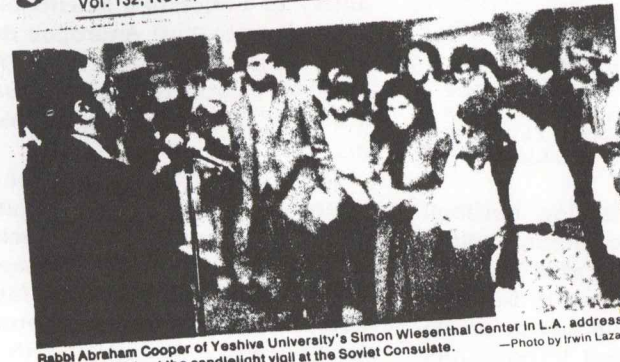
Noting that his background is German-Catholic, Brauer explained his strong interest in and efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry: "If you don't defend against everything, you'll be taken apart. . . ." His words echo those of Rabbi Hillel: "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? If not now, when?"

Following their meetings with the UCSJ staff, Brauer, Singer and Abramson met with New York Congressmen Robert Mrazek, Ray McGrath, Norman Lent, Jack Kemp, and Senators Al D'Amato (NY) and Charles Grassley (IA) — all of whom are strong supporters of Soviet Jewry and the UCSJ.

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Rabbi Abraham Cooper of Yeshiva University's Simon Wiesenthal Center in L.A. addresses some 150 people at the candlelight vigil at the Soviet Consulate. —Photo by Irwin Lazarus

Panel urges world Jewry to fight Soviet tyranny

By PEGGY ISAAK GLUCK
Of the Bulletin Staff

A panel of Soviet Jewry experts urged this week that Jews throughout the world continue to bolster Jewish culture in the USSR despite the cutoff of emigration.

The three panelists took part in a symposium Sunday on "Cultural Genocide in the USSR," part of the annual meeting of the Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry.

The Sovietologists included Jacob Birnbaum, founder of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and long-time activist; Dr. Benjamin Fain, a leader of the Jewish emigration

movement in the Soviet Union until making aliyah to Israel in 1977; and Moshe Dector, a pioneer in the Soviet Jewry movement.

"Today, as the gates of Russia are closed, Jewish self-education and the struggle for its legitimization is the strongest fight we have against genocide," said Dr. Fain in his talk describing the birth and growth of Jewish culture in the USSR.

Fain and the other speakers discussed the historical plight and future expectations for Soviet Jews.

Moderator Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Simon Wiesenthal

(See GENOCIDE Page 24)

Panel urges Jewry to fight cultural genocide

(Continued From Page One)

Center of Yeshiva University of Los Angeles, noted in his introductory remarks that "one generation ago, the Soviets declared an open war on Jewish people and civilization which has resulted in an unprecedented attack on Jewish life."

All four speakers used the term genocide in describing the continual Soviet repression of Jewish culture, charging that Jewish life for "20 years" has been "destroyed without

Lenin inherited this approach "not because he was anti-Semitic, but they looked around and saw poor Jews living in a 'ghetto' environment, a 'ghetto' exclusivity."

"Jews therefore, for well as practical as vulnerable group in unique circumstances," he said the 11th or 12th last only one without a

Today, Jews are the majority of its

Fain outlined the three regional variations in the non-homogeneous Soviet Jewish community and how each had reacted to the culture movement, higher and

anti-Soviet agitation, begun, as described by Birnbaum, "is obsessed with salvaging humanity and the Jewish people in the monster Soviet system, whatever the cost. After each release (from prison), he resumes his activities and resumes teaching Jewish heritage."

the Soviets continue their attempts to destroy Jewish knowledge and

S.F. rally protests Soviet seizure of Jewish dissidents

By Angel Fernandez
The Tribune

SAN FRANCISCO — About 125 American Jews demonstrated outside the Soviet Consulate here Sunday evening on the 36th birthday of an imprisoned Soviet Jew and the fourth anniversary of the arrest of Nobel laureate Andre Sakharov.

The 5 p.m. candlelight vigil marked the end of a three-day conference on "Cultural Genocide in the U.S.S.R.," held in the Fairmont Hotel by the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

The 55,000-member Union of Councils, which has 33 chapters in the United States and Canada, is the largest organization devoted to Soviet Jewry in North America.

As a guitarist sang Hebrew songs and protesters chanted "Freedom now!" Union of Councils president Lynn Singer of New York lashed out at Soviet officials for "closing the door" to Jewish emigration. She complained that emigration dropped last year to about 1,300 from a high of 50,000 in 1979.

"We will not accept the closing of the door," she told the crowd. "We will use whatever means is available — the Olympics, whatever — to get the Soviets to let our people go."

Singer later explained her reference to the Olympics by saying, "We will only be doing constructive, positive things to educate people about the hoax that the Soviets are perpetrating by bringing their athletes into the free world."

Besides marking the arrest of Nobel Peace Prize winner Sakharov, the demonstration paid homage to Anatoly Scharansky, who reportedly began a hunger strike Sunday along with six other inmates of Chistopol Prison in the Soviet Union.

The City Weekend vigil for Soviet Jews Soviets accused of 'cultural genocide,' especially banning of Hebrew

By Richard F. Harris
Examiner staff writer

A candlelight vigil at the Soviet Embassy in San Francisco ended a weekend symposium on "cultural genocide" threatening 3 million Jews in the Soviet Union.

Not only has the number of people allowed to emigrate dropped from 51,000 in 1979 to 1,500 last year, but the Jewish culture, experts at the meeting said yesterday, One of the most devastating Soviet actions has been a

campaign against the Hebrew language, said Jacob Birnbaum, founder of the 20-year-old American movement to free Soviet Jews. Yosef Begun, unknown to Soviet Jews but a hero to those who know about his struggle in the United States, is serving at least 12 years in jail for undermining the Soviet Union. His crime, Birnbaum said, was teaching

The only schools in the Soviet Union that teach Hebrew are three universities — and Jews are largely banned from taking the classes, meeting participants said. People who attempt to teach it privately are considered unproductive and jailed as "saboteurs," Birnbaum said.

"Hebrew is a Jewish crime," Birnbaum said. "Soviet slander," said

effects of the campaign can be measured in the new emigrants, said Benjamin Fain, who was arrested for promoting Jewish culture in Moscow and has since emigrated to Israel as a professor of physics at Tel Aviv University.

Fain studied Jews fleeing the Soviet Union and found that those from regions most severely affected by anti-Semitic acts were least likely to be drawn to Israel, he said 83 percent of emigrants from European Jews. For example, he said 83 percent of emigrants from Odessa — where Jewish oppression is high — "dropped out" from the program steering them to Israel. By contrast, 90 to 95 percent of people leaving Soviet Jewish strongholds still go to Israel, he said.

Fain attributed this high "dropout" rate from Odessa, as well as Leningrad and Moscow, to the decay of Jewish identity there.

In addition to the anti-Hebrew campaign, the Soviets are confiscating materials about the Jewish culture. In some cases, they are beginning to rewrite "history," publishing propaganda denying that the Holocaust of World War II claimed the lives of 6 million Jews, participants said.

Jews trying to retain their culture, the Soviet Union is trying for crumbs of information and language, participants said.

There was no sign of activity inside the seven-story consulate at Green and Baker streets, and the demonstrators dispersed after about half an hour

LOCAL

THE TRIBUNE, Oakland, California

Scharansky, who is serving a 13-year sentence on charges of spying for the CIA, went on a hunger strike last year that lasted four months

There was no sign of activity inside the seven-story consulate at Green and Baker streets, and the demonstrators dispersed after about half an hour

New Approaches for the 80's

"Public opinion and concerns for 1984 focus on international affairs and the Soviet Union. . ." stated Los Angeles attorney Bill Pearl, who participated in a workshop on strategies for the 80s at the regional meeting in San Francisco. Pearl, who hosts a nationally-syndicated radio talk show, offered strategies in handling the media. Pearl negated the typical media arguments of Soviet Jewry a "chronic issue" and the "relativistic attack" (Soviet Jewry versus human rights violations in other countries). "These arguments can be easily turned around," Pearl countered. The acute issues of 1984 increase the opportunity for media attention on Soviet Jewry.

The workshop was followed by luncheon remarks from Los Angeles City Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky. Yaroslavsky founded the California Students for Soviet Jewry in 1968, and became the chairman at that time. In 1969, he became the director of the Southern California Council for Soviet Jews, and visited the USSR in 1968 and again in 1973.



Los Angeles Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky with Colorado Committee's Lillian Hoffman and UCSJ Vice President Morey Schapira (BACSJ).

"We ought to be playing 'hardball' and utilize trade, legislation, diplomacy and protests," stated Yaroslavsky. "Human rights has to be made our priority; the issue has to be elevated to national and international agendas. Soviet Jewry should be part of the lexicon of every Congressman and every world leader."

Yaroslavsky noted that the Olympic Games make 1984 "a big year" and an opportunity to "utilize the Olympics as a vehicle" for elevating the issue of Soviet Jewry. "There is no room for non-activism," concluded Yaroslavsky.

Committee for Concerned Scientists: Meetings Produce Appeals

Last month's meetings of the American Mathematics Society and the Mathematics Association of America, coordinated by the Committee of Concerned Scientists, sent a message to Yuri Andropov demonstrating strong support for **YOSEF BEGUN**. Begun is presently serving a term of five years to be followed by his third term in exile.

The continued repression of Soviet scientists who seek to emigrate and exercise the remainder of their freedom was a major topic for the Joint 1984 Mathematics Meetings last January, coordinated by the Committee for Concerned Scientists. Three petitions were issued in response to the treatment of their colleagues **VALERY SENDEROV** and **BORIS KANEVSKY**. In his study entitled "Intellectual Genocide", Senderov documented the increasingly difficult exams which Jews must take in order to enter Russian institutions of higher learning; Kanevsky is presently in internal exile.



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The **Alert** is published by the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, an organization dedicated to helping the Jews of the Soviet Union, especially those desiring to leave.

Editor: Claudia Zorn.

President: Lynn Singer. Vice Presidents: Hinda Cantor, Pam Cohen, Ruth Newman, Morey Schapira.