

JH draft
on duquette Book
(MANDEL/TP)

HUMAN RIGHTS

- The last several months have shown that we can make progress in narrowing our differences and resolving some contentious problems. The record in the human rights area, however, has been deeply disappointing.
- Americans care about this issue at a very profound level. The strong American reaction to Daniloff should tell you something about the importance we attach to individual rights and the lengths we are prepared to go to when individual rights are violated.
- The Daniloff affair seriously damaged our relations. I am concerned that if there is not early and substantial improvement in human rights, particularly emigration, reunification of divided families, and better treatment of prominent human rights activists such as Sakharov, we could be moving toward the same result.
- In Geneva, you made a commitment to resolve humanitarian cases in a spirit of cooperation and consistent with Soviet law. Resolution of a large number of our divided family cases this year reflects that spirit, and we welcomed it, and other steps.
- But this represents a small fraction of the problem: it is important to resolve the remainder of these American divided family cases now, especially separated husbands and wives.
- Emigration is today at a 20 year low, and Soviet Jewish activists subjected to increased persecution. There is growing domestic political pressure to do something about it. American Jewish groups with whose leaders I met just before coming to Reykjavik, and many members of Congress have been asking us how we can sign agreements with the Soviets on cultural and scientific cooperation while this situation continues. Major demonstrations and other political actions are being discussed.
- On the positive side, if Jewish emigration rises to levels of 1978-79 -- and is sustained -- progress in overcoming Jackson-Vanik Amendment trade/credit limitations could be achieved. Prompt resolution of several hundred "long-term" refusenik cases would remove a major irritant.
- Improved treatment of prominent human rights activists such as Sakharov and others would also go a long way toward improving atmosphere.
- We noted and welcomed new willingness on part of Soviet Union to consider human rights legitimate topic of discussion.
- I have spent much time on this issue because you should realize how important it is to the political context of our relationship. I urge you to act now. The sooner we can resolve these issues, the easier it will be for us to move ahead in an improved atmosphere.

DECLASSIFIED/RELEASED

Given to Soviet
11 Oct 1986 14
Ray, J. V. K.

NLRR FD6-114/5 #8629

BY CW NARADATE 11/29/87

SOVIET JEWRY

-- I want to discuss the subject of Jewish emigration from your country.

-- I'm raising this issue, not to cause controversy, but because I want you to understand its importance to me and my countrymen.

-- Our concerns have grown since our last meeting as the number of Jews permitted to leave has steadily declined.

INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS

-- I know that sometimes your officials claim that raising this issue is "interference in your internal affairs."

-- Raising this issue is perfectly legitimate. Both our Governments have signed politically binding international instruments which require respect for basic human rights.

In the Helsinki Final Act, we agreed to respect basic human rights and to promote family reunification.

We also agreed to act in conformity with the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, which guarantees the right to leave one's country and to return.

TRENDS IN JEWISH EMIGRATION

-- Jewish emigration is of deep concern to the American people and to me personally. The decline in emigration is a serious obstacle in our efforts to improve our relations.

-- I want to briefly review the trends in emigration.

In the 1970s your Government permitted more than 250,000 Jews to emigrate.

In the peak year, 1979, more than 51,000 emigrated.

-- These developments were welcome although even then substantial numbers of Soviet Jews were denied the right to emigrate.

In the 1980s the numbers began to plummet.

By 1984, the total had dropped to 894, down 98 percent from the 1979 high.

So far this year only 631 Soviet Jews have been allowed to leave.

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If this unfortunate trend continues, 1986 could be the lowest in 20 years.

CLAIMS THAT ALL WHO WISH HAVE ALREADY LEFT

-- Your officials sometimes claim this fall in emigration resulted from the fact that all Soviet Jews who wish to leave have already done so.

But we know the names and addresses of approximately 11,000 Soviet Jews who have applied for and been denied permission to emigrate. These are the "refuseniks."

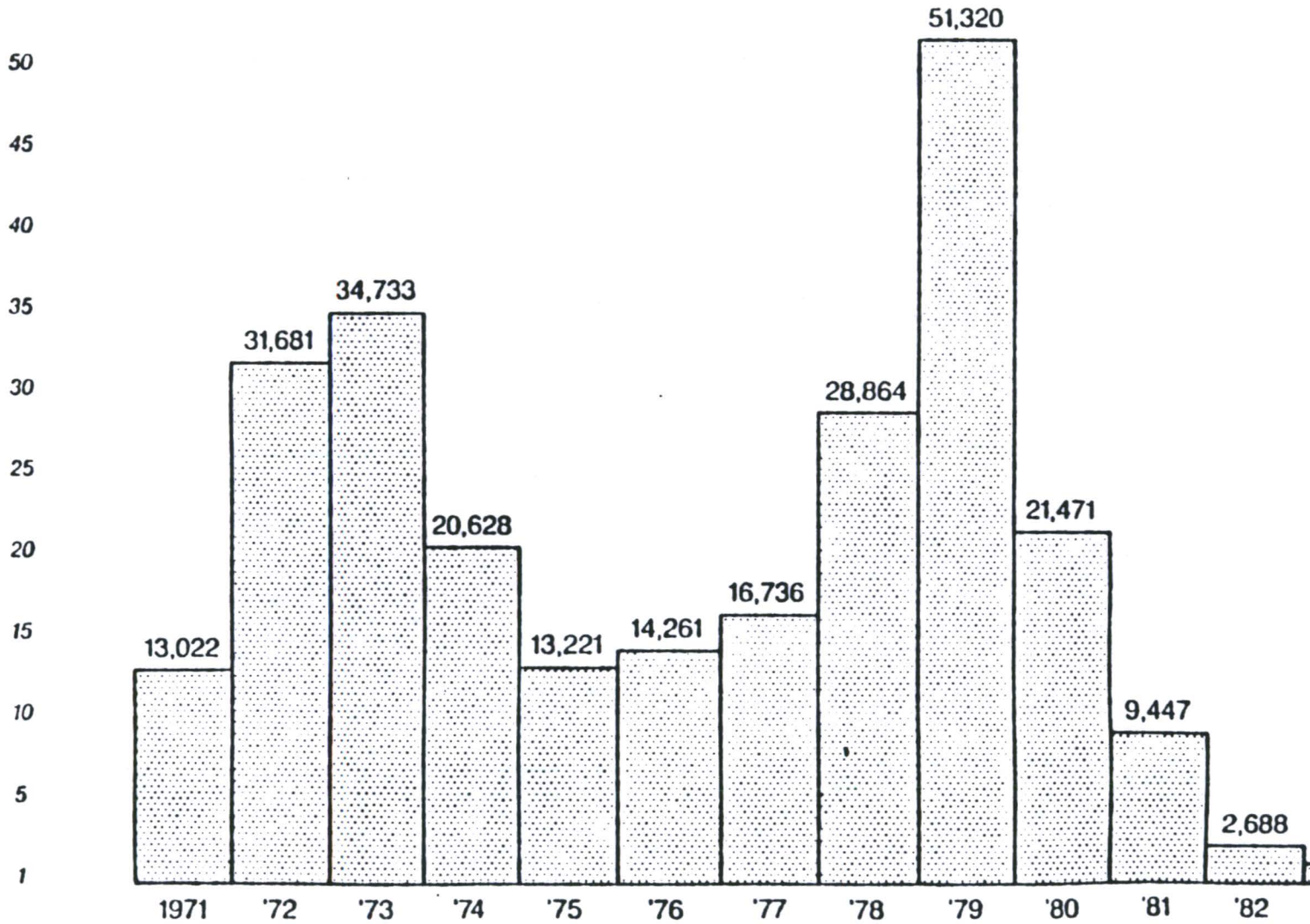
We can confirm that approximately 380,000 additional Soviet Jews have requested the invitations from abroad that are the first step in the long and cumbersome Soviet process of obtaining permission to leave the USSR.

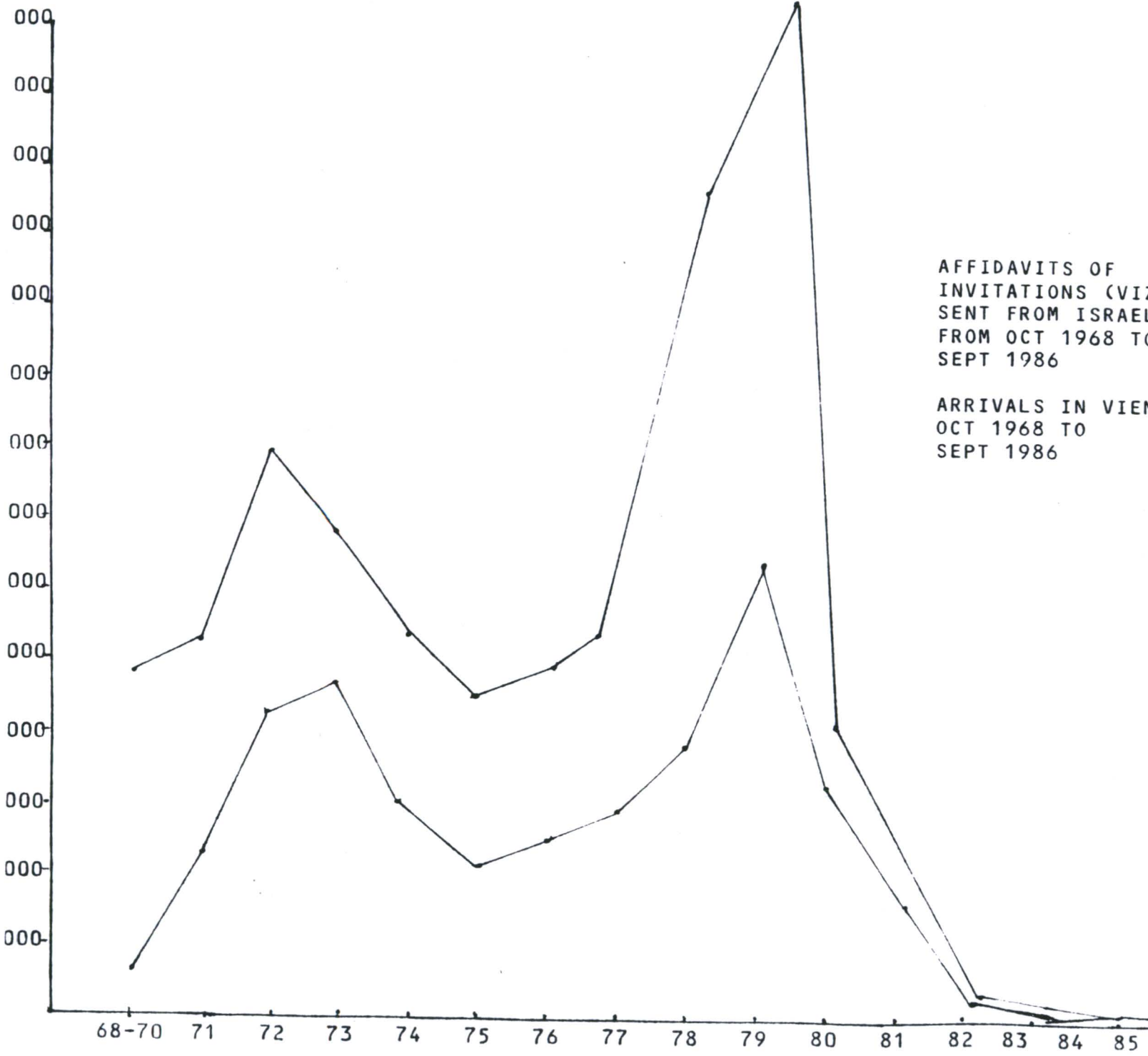
Some of these people may not have applied for exit permission because they fear the consequences of becoming "refuseniks." Some have been fired from their jobs, harassed or even imprisoned.

-- There is, then, a very serious problem of Jewish emigration, of deep concern to me, to American Jews and to members of Congress. If there isn't progress on this soon, it could jeopardize our efforts to improve relations.

JEWISH EMIGRATION FROM THE SOVIET UNION

Thousands





AFFIDAVITS OF
INVITATIONS (VIA)
SENT FROM ISRAEL
FROM OCT 1968 TO
SEPT 1986

ARRIVALS IN VIETNAM
OCT 1968 TO
SEPT 1986

POPULATION

JEWISH POPULATION OF THE SOVIET UNION

REQUESTED
VYZOVS

EMIGRATED
1968-1986

REFUSENIKS

EMIGRATED
1985

1,800,000

380,000

266,000

11,000

1,140

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Selected Representational List Cases
Presented to Foreign Minister Shevardnadze
September 19-20, 1986

American Citizens (Dual Nationals)

Abe Stolar: Soviets promised his case would be resolved, but have denied his daughter-in-law permission to depart with Stolar and his family.

Garo Chrovian: Was told in January his case would be resolved. Thus far, no action.

Separated Spouses

Matvey Finkel: Married since 1979 to American citizen Susan Graham. First child expected in December. Finkel has applied 10 times.

Yuri Balovlenkov: Married 1978 to American citizen Elena Kusmenko Balovlenkova. Two daughters, only one of whom has ever seen her father. Two hunger strikes, most recently in 1985.

Galina Goltzman: Separated from her husband, defector Anatoliy Michelson, since 1956.

Sergei Petrov: Married 1981.

Divided Families

Isabella Livshits and family: U.S. informed twice this year their cases would be resolved, but family has had no confirmation.

Bogdan Kuz'min and family: Refused repeatedly. No reasons ever given. Reportedly "lost hope" earlier this year and has stopped applying for emigration.

Faina Glukhova and family: Repeated refusals have resulted in three nervous breakdowns. July 1986 application refused because of "state of relations between U.S. and USSR."

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Remaining 18 Separated Spouse Cases

Balovlenkov, Yuri

Married 1978. Two young daughters; only one has seen father.

Bogomolov, Mikhail

Married 1985.

Braun, Svetlana Ilyinichina

Married 1984.

Finkel, Matvey

Married 1979. One of cases raised by Secretary with Shevardnadze in September. First child by American wife Susan Graham expected in December.

Goltzman, Galina

Most long standing case. Husband, Anatoliy Michelson, defected 1956. One adult daughter and grandson also want to leave.

Jachno, Lydia Mikhailovna

Husband defected 1981.

Jurgutiene, Mariya

Husband defected 1974. Mariya lost job; she and daughter harassed.

Kaplan, Elena

Married 1974. Attacked in Soviet press.

Koldre, Valentin

Married 1982.

Kostin, Vladislav

Married 1979.

Krylova, Yelena

Married 1983.

Melnikova-Eichenwald, Sonia

Married 1985. Husband reports she is deeply depressed, possibly suicidal.

Pakenas, Petras Tuozo

Married March 1986. Lost job as lawyer; now clerk in meat factory.

Petrov, Sergei

Married 1981.

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Rezian, Poghos

Has been informed case will be resolved.

Smith, Nina

Married 1981.

Vlasenkov, Dmitriy

Married 1981.

Zhukovskiy, Evgeniy Aleksandr

Has been informed case will be resolved.

Persons of Special Interest to the U.S.
List Given to Foreign Minister Shevardnadze
September 19-20, 1986

Ida Nudel

Naum and Inna Meiman

Josef Begun and family

David and Tsitsilia Goldfarb

Vitautis Skuodis and family

Anatoliy Marchenko and Larisa Bogoraz

7, Irina Ratushinskaya and Igor Gerashchenko

Leyla Ali-Guseynova Gordievskaya and daughters Mariya and Anna