



ACTION FOR SOVIET JEWRY, INC.

Request

PCT 14 REC'D

October 12, 1988

Dear Friend;

I am writing to you on behalf of Georgi Samoilovich, a 66 year-old Jewish Refusenik from Moscow (UL. KRASNDARMEYSKAYA 21, Apt. 82), who is suffering from large cell lymphoma and is being denied medical treatment in the Soviet Union.

When Georgi discovered in mid-July that he had large cell lymphoma, he and his wife Vera, a physician, knew he had limited time to begin treatment. They immediately turned to the Blokhin Cancer Institute in Moscow, where Georgi was put on a waiting list and told it would be eight or nine weeks before he could begin treatment. Georgi then asked to be allowed to accept an invitation from the Hackensack Medical Center in New Jersey to begin lifesaving treatment immediately, and his name was subsequently removed from the Soviet hospital's waiting list. Officials there told him that since he had requested to be treated abroad, he no longer needed their help.

On Thursday, September 8, Georgi was refused an emergency medical visa by the Soviet authorities. This decision, if not reversed, amounts to a death sentence for a man whose only "crime" is his request to leave- a fundamental human right.

Georgi Samoilovich has been waiting over 16 years to emigrate from the Soviet Union. Since 1972, when he first applied, he and his wife and son have been denied permission on numerous occasions because of alleged "state secrets" dating back to Georgi's service during World War II in the Soviet Air Force. After the war, when Georgi completed his work for his PhD thesis in Engineering, he was not even allowed to defend it because he was already a Refusenik. He was demoted from his position as a senior scientific lecturer in applied mathematics and mechanics, then dismissed.

We cannot accept the "death sentence" which is about to be given to Georgi Samoilovich. This case reminds us of the Soviet Union of yesterday, when cancer patient Refuseniks Yuri Shpeizman, Chaya Kuchina, Michael Shirman and others were held in the Soviet Union against their will- without proper medical attention- until it was too late. This case is not in line with the Soviets' recent noble and buoyant talk of "glasnost" and change. This case, in fact, calls into serious question the Soviets' sincerity to improve their human rights record at all.

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LAWYERS' COMMITTEE
FOR SOVIET JEWRY
Marsha Blitzer
MEMBER: UNION OF COUNCILS
FOR SOVIET JEWS

Action for Soviet Jewry

Page 2

I request that you send telegrams to Moscow OVIR, General Secretary Gorbachev, Soviet Consul General Ankipov here in DC, and to Shevardnadze, urging them to intervene to release Georgi Samoilovich, so that he may obtain the lifesaving medical attention he so desperately needs. In this way, the Soviet Union may prove the validity of "glasnost".

I urge you to give this matter your prompt attention, since this case is really a race against time.

Please keep me informed regarding the telegrams and letters that you have sent out. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Judith A. Rubinger
Judith A. Rubinger
Congressional Liaison

Send to City Council for Dettie

#13

October 31, 1988

Councillor Graham

Whereas : Action for Soviet Jewry, Inc. has recently informed the public of the plight of Georgi Samoilovich, a 66 year-old Jewish Refusenik from Moscow; and

Whereas : Mr. Samoilovich was recently diagnosed with cell lymphoma and placed on an 8-9 week waiting list for treatment at the Blokhin Cancer Institute in Moscow; and

Whereas : Time is of utmost importance in the treatment of this Disease, Mr. Samoilovich sought ^{medical} treatment outside the Soviet Union; and

Whereas : On September 8, 1988 Soviet Authorities refused an emergency medical visa that would of allowed Mr. Samoilovich to begin treatment at the Hackensack Medical Center in New Jersey; and

Whereas : The Soviets have embarked on a policy

"glasnost" to improve their human rights record both at home and abroad; now therefore be it

Resolved : That this City Council go on record urging Soviet Officials to immediately release Mr. Samoilovich in order for him to obtain lifesaving medical treatment; and be it further

Resolved : That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to General Secretary Gorbachev, Foreign Minister Shervardnadze & Soviet Consul General Ankipov .



City of Cambridge

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM

13.

IN CITY COUNCIL

October 31, 1988

- WHEREAS: Action for Soviet Jewry, Inc. has recently informed the public of the plight of Georgi Samoilovich, a 66 year-old Jewish Refusenik from Moscow; and
- WHEREAS: Mr. Samoilovich was recently diagnosed with cell lymphoma and placed on an 8-9 week waiting list for treatment at the Blokhin Cancer Institute in Moscow; and
- WHEREAS: Time is of utmost importance in the treatment of this disease; Mr. Samoilovich sought medical treatment outside the Soviet Union; and
- WHEREAS: On September 8, 1988 Soviet authorities refused an emergency medical visa that would have allowed Mr. Samoilovich to begin treatment at the Hackensack Medical Center in New Jersey; and
- WHEREAS: The Soviets have embarked on a policy, "Glasnost" to improve their human rights record, both at home and abroad; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record urging Soviet officials to immediately release Mr. Samoilovich in order for him to obtain life-saving medical treatment; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to General Secretary Gorbachev, Foreign Minister Shervarnadze and Soviet Consul General Ankipos.

In City Council October 31, 1988.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of 9 members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

Joseph E. Connarton
Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

Order #13

S-643

C. Graham re: resolutions urging Soviet officials to immediately release Georgi Samoilovich, a Moscow Refusenik, in order that he may obtain life-saving medical treatment.

In City Council,

October 31, 1988

10-31-88

C. Graham

Order Adopted

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9