## The Soviet Union Tightens Restrictions On Jews

NEW YORK, N.Y. - The Soviet Union has "tightened controls" on Jews far beyond even the restrictions of the Khruschev and Brezhnev eras, according to a top State Department official.

Richard Schifter, Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, told Jewish community leaders at a session of the 73rd National Commission meeting of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith at the Grand Hyatt Hotel here that Soviet "quotas and exclusions and bars to promotions (of Jews) amount to a social policy...without parallel in the world."

Mr. Schifter was one of four speakers who discussed Soviet Jewry at two separate sessions of the National Commission. The others were Rep. Steve Bartlett (R-Texas), Jerry Goodman, executive director of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, and Isai Goldstein, a former Soviet refusenik who described his experiences before emigration.

Rep. Bartlett said that Soviet Jews look to the West "as their only hope" and Mr. Goodman asserted that Soviet policy toward the nation's approximately two million Jews is "the elimination of the Jewish community as a community."

Mr. Schifter said that the Gorbachev regime is "accelerating" an anti-Semitic policy initiated by Stalin when he dismissed Maxim Litvinov as Commissar of Foreign Affairs in 1939. As a result, he declared, the Soviet foreign service will soon be Judenrein if it is not so already."

Las Vegas Israelite

According to Mr. Schifter, Jews have responded to the hostility by strengthening their ties to Judaism and Jewish culture in order "to find new meaning in life."

Isai Goldstein and his brother, Grigori, were recently permitted to exit from the Soviet Union after applying for 14 1/2 years. He said the Kremlin is eliminating Jewish community leaders by sending them to gulags and called the tactic "a clear message to Soviet Jews to be silent and abandon all hope of getting out."

Speaking in slow, slightly accented English, Mr. Goldstein described the brothers' experiences with the KGB after they applied for permission to emigrate.

Conditions for Soviet Jewry were described by Rep. Bartlett, who has visited the Soviet Union. He recounted "unforgettable" meetings and encounters with Soviet Jews -- the affirmation of Jewishness by a couple who lit candles in their window and how, on another occasion, he was followed by two KGB agents when taking a walk with a group of Jews.

Mr. Goodman told the ADL Leaders that American Jews must step up their efforts to assist in the "rescue" of Soviet Jewry. "The road to that rescue," he said, "goes through Washington and for that reason we have to increase the effectiveness of our advocacy with U.S. government officials."

Warning against a "tendency to believe that someone else is doing the job." Mr. Goodman called for a massive demonstration in Washington in the event of a summit visit by Soviet leader Gorbachev.

He also urged that as many Americans as possible, from every ethnic background, visit the Soviet Union to "see for themselves" what conShavuot Celebrated In Jerusalem



Jerusalem...Shavuot, the Festival of the First Fruits, is celebrated in Pediatrics Department of Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center. Pictured above is a pupil from neighborhood school giving the baby an offering of the first fruits of the season.

ditions are for Soviet Jews.

"We should also encourage as many congressmen as possible to visit the Soviet Union," he said.

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7:30 AM DAILY-8:30 AM SAT.-9:00 AM SUN. FRIDAY NIGHT AT SUNDOWN

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