

Lockshin & Lein

(In October, cancer researcher Dr. Arnold Lockshin, an American Jew, arrived in Moscow with his family, citing unverifiable incidents of harassment for his political beliefs as the basis of their emigration. In a letter to a Western friend, obtained by the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, former Prisoner of Conscience and 8-year refusenik, Dr. Evgeny Lein of

Leningrad offers a comparison with his own plight --) The press and tv here has devoted special attention to Lockshin's arrival. He stated in an interview, "When the question arose in our family where to find a new homeland, I had no doubts, though I am not a communist, that if possible we would live and work in the USSR." Andrei Gromyko, chairman of the Supreme Soviet, met the Lockshins personally in the

Kremlin, expressed full support for their step and stated, "Here in the USSR we quite well understand the views and motives of the Lockshins." Dr. Lockshin, a 47-year-old American scientist, began an interview on the national tv news program Vremia by stating, "I am happy that this nightmare is now behind me for good. We will be living as free people."

Sad Song Of Separation



Chana Rosnovsky, a member of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, practices on her violin next to photos of her sister Elena Keiss-Kuna, brother-in-law Gennady and nephew Andrei, who remain in Leningrad. Chana and Elena's mother, Meita Leikina, was thrown into a Siberian psychiatric institution for four years as cruel retribution for sending Chana's violin out to her in Israel. The Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry and Washington Committee for Soviet Jewry, which are spearheading American efforts for the Keiss-Kunas' release have expressed concern that Andrei will soon be subjected to a forced Red Army draft which will prevent the family's emigration for many years. The SSSJ and WCSJ urge letters of support to the Keiss-Kunas at: Ulitsa Blekhanova 27/28, apt. 48, Leningrad, USSR. The SSSJ has also opened an information/action recorded hotline, 10 p.m.-9 a.m. Eastern time (except Sabbath), at (212) 799-8900.

I am also 47. I am also a PhD in science. Like Lockshin, I am not a communist. The question of "where in the world will we find a homeland" has also risen in our family. The difference lies in the fact that Lockshin decided to live and work in the USSR, and I, in Israel. The difference also lies in the fact that American authorities did not seek to prevent Lockshin from leaving, while Soviet authorities continue to deny me an exit visa.

Dr. Lockshin worked in his profession until August 1986, almost up to his departure from the U.S. I was dismissed from work in July 1978, the day I submitted my application to emigrate.

Dr. Lockshin did not have to go to prison, but I did. Lockshin has no idea what the words "Kresty" (a Moscow prison) and "Stolypin" (rail transport vehicles for prisoners) mean.

Soviet authorities displayed a humane attitude towards American citizen Lockshin and favorably resolved his request to come to the USSR. It would also be a humane and logical step to favorably consider my request to leave the USSR for Israel. However, this does not occur. For over eight years, my family and I have been denied emigration. At the same time, we cannot even appeal through the courts because the refusals are verbal. My Israeli citizen certificate (#1002) and statement to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of my desire to renounce my USSR citizenship have been ignored.

(A detailed description of Dr. Lein's plight is in Martin Gilbert's noted book on Soviet Jewry, *The Jews of Hope*.)

Happy Hanukkah and A Prosperous New Year.

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