

### Israel Honors Elmer L. Winter As An 'Outstanding Exporter'



**JERUSALEM --** Elmer L. Winter (left) receives Israel's Outstanding Exporter Award from President Chaim Herzog at the latter's residence. Second from right is Ariel Sharon, Minister of Trade and Industry. Winter, chairman of the Milwaukee-based Committee for Economic Growth of Israel, which he established in 1976, is the first American to be so honored. The citation called Winter "the man who opened the gates of the United States to dozens of Israeli exporters."

### Landra Reid Links American Woman With Soviet Refusenik Spouse

WASHINGTON -- Progress is a personal measure, but Landra Reid, wife of Senator Harry Reid, has come one step closer in reuniting an American woman with her Soviet refusenik husband who have been separated since 1978.

That occurred earlier this week when Maryland Governor William Donald Schaefer, at Mrs. Reid's request, delivered a letter in Moscow to Yuri Bahlevlenkov, the Soviet spouse who has been refused permission to emigrate to the United States 14 times in the past nine years.

In the letter to her husband, Elena sent Yuri a picture of their two daughters, a tape of the girls playing their violins and drawings they created just for their father. This was a rare communication because, ordinarily, Elena's letters do not reach Yuri and her phone calls never connect. Yuri has never seen his youngest daughter who is four years old.

Mrs. Reid, a member of the Committee of 21 and herself the daughter of a Russian immigrant, has been working since April to reunite the Bahlevlenkovs. When she learned that the Maryland governor was planning a trip to Russia, Mrs. Reid requested his assistance in getting a

letter to Yuri. She also asked the governor to deliver a letter, explaining the Bahlevlenkov case, to Soviet Secretary General Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Committee of 21, a group of congressional wives organized in 1985 to defend human rights of political prisoners in the Soviet Union, also focuses on helping divided families to be reunited. Through her own efforts in the organization, in 1985, Mrs. Reid helped obtain the freedom of Alexander Yakir, a Soviet Jewish prisoner of conscience who had been incarcerated since 1974.

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