Rabbi Marc Schneier Of Park East Synagogue Conducting Passover Services In Moscow



MATZOS FOR MOSCOW - Rabbi Marc Schneier of Park East Synagogue in Manhattan, now in the Soviet Union conducting services at Moscow's historic Chorale Synagogue, stands with portions of two tons of kosher-for-Pesach foods shipped to the Soviet capital in time for the Passover holidays. The food, contributed by the synagogue with the help of metropolitian New York area food industry leaders, was donated as part of the synagogue-to-synagogue link recently established between Park East and the Chorale Synagogue, the largest functioning Jewish house of worship in the Soviet Union. Rabbi Arthur Schneler, senior rabbi of Park East and president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, arranged for Rabbi Marc Schneler and the synagogue's two cantors, Moshe Geffen and Dr. Joel Seltzer, to officiate during Passover in place of the Moscow's synagogue's permanent clergymen, who will be studying at Yeshiva University until after Passover.

Rabbi Marc Schneier of Park East Synagogue is in Moscow this week to conduct Passover services and to lead the communal seder at the city's historic Chorale Synagogue.

He is believed to be the first rabbi from the

United States to conduct Passover services in the Soviet Union.

Rabbi Schneler has been joined in Moscow for the first two days of Passover by Dr. Joel Seltzer, associate cantor of Park East Synagogue, who will chant the services and sing at the Soviet congregation's seder. For the last two days of the eight-day holiday, Moshe Geffen, cantor of Park East, will be the hazzan at services in the Moscow synagogue.

Rabbi Schneier and the two cantors will be substituting for the synagogue's two regular clergymen -- Rabbi Adolph Shayevich and Cantor Vladimir Pliss -- both of whom are now enrolled in an intensive program of study at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University in New York. The two will remain in the United States until after the Passover holiday.

2 Tons of Passover Food Arrive in Moscow

Last week, two tons of kosher food and other Passover supplies contributed by Park East Synagogue to the Chorale Synagogue arrived by air in the Soviet capital. The shipment marked the first time that kosher food had been shipped directly to the Soviet Union from the United

Arrangements for Rabbi Marc Schneier to serve the Chorale Synagogue in the absence of its regular rabbi, and for the shipment of kosherfor-Passover food supplies to go directly to Moscow from New York, were concluded last January in Moscow by Rabbi Arthur Schneier,

Israel Bombs Terrorist Facilities

TEL AVIV (JTA) -Israel Air Force jets attacked terrorist targets in southern Lebanon recently for the second consecutive day and the fourth time this month.

Pilots reported direct hits on buildings used to store ammunition and equipment southeast of the Lebanese port city of Sidon. The bases and ammunition dumps were used by Nidal Fatah Revolutionary Council and other terrorist organizations, military spokesman

Reports from Beirut said nine people were killed and five injured. Ten deaths were reported in the earlier attack on the same area.

Happy Passover senior rabbi of Park East Synagogue, and Konstantin Kharchev, chairman of the USSR's Council on Religious Affairs.

Rabbi Marc Schneler, 29, is the son of Rabbi Arthur Schneier.

In his capacity as president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, an interfaith group that works to promote religious freedom around the world, Rabbi Arthur Schneier helped bring both Rabbi Shayevich and Cantor Pliss to the United States last month.

According to Rabbi Arthur Schneier, the gift inaugurates a new synagogue-to-synagogue relationship between Park East and the Chorale Synagogue, which is the largest functioning Jewish house of worship in the Soviet Union. The two congregations will be linked in a way similar to the "sister city" arrangement designed to foster friendship and good will between American cities and cities in various parts of the world, he said.

The kosher-for-Passover supplies consisted of 34 cases Streit's matzos, 42 cases each of Rokeach gefilte fish and Messing macaroons, 21 cases each of Horowitz-Margareten matzo ball soup, Gold horseradish and Boston Fruit Company preserved fruit slices; 20 cases of Kedem wine and seven cases of Rokeach kosher-for-Passover soap.

The gift to the Moscow synagogue was made possible through the cooperation of three leaders of the food industry in the metropolitan area headed by Mel Weitz of Mel's Market Foodtown, East Rockaway, L.I. Working with him were Mark M. Karsch of Cresco Sales, West Nyack, N.Y. and Moe Kolpen of Kolpen Distributors, Inc., Brentwood, L.I. The wine was donated by Herman Hochberg of Queens Wine & Liquors, Ridgewood, Queens, a member of Park East Synagogue.

The supplies will be used by the Chorale Synagogue in two ways, Rabbi Arthur Schneier said. Most of the items will be sold by the synagogue to Jews in Moscow for their personal use during passover.



