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# The Charlotte JEWISH NEWS

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## Charlotteans Marched in Washington for Soviet Jews

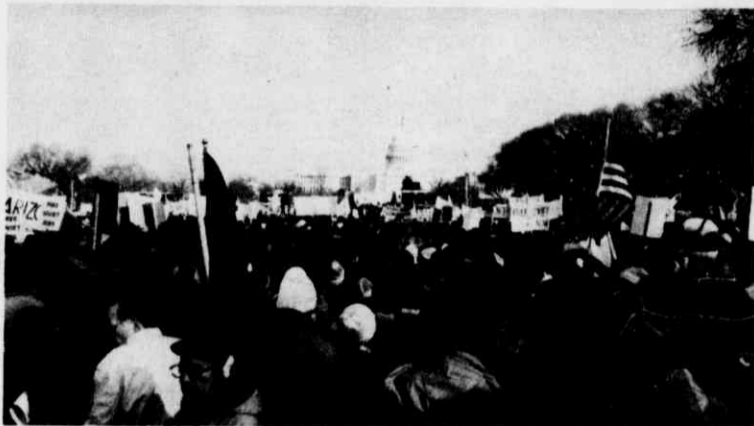
By Sidney Cojac

Unofficially, the Washington Soviet Jewry March began here in Charlotte with a stirring and stimulating Temple Shabbat service at Shalom Park on Dec. 4. A large turnout, including Soviet emigres, was evident to give support for this very important happening.

Imagine, if you will, a very busy El-Al flight departure area, and in it are people going to Israel for the first time. They are singing, chanting, hugging and greeting one another. However, the scene was not at an airport. Rather, it was at Shalom Park at 2 a.m. Sunday morning, Dec. 6. There was Vicki Hopkins along with her crew busy assigning bus seats. Other committee members were busy putting food and other goodies aboard the bus.

Everyone was in full spirits, even at this ungodly hour. Teen-agers were greeting and hugging each other, and adults were happy to see one another. We were all going on this very important mission to Washington to tell the Soviet Union to "Let My People Go."

At approximately 2:30 a.m. about one hundred individuals climbed aboard Air Bus 1 and 2 and departed Shalom Park for our nation's capital. And with such excitement and cam-



"People, People Everywhere! Note Sid Cojac in left foreground. photo/Phil Joffe

araderie, few of us could sleep. Arriving in Washington at about 10 a.m., our bus went directly to our designated parking area adjacent to the Pentagon (we were well protected). Before leaving the bus, we were given our final instructions.

Our group took the Metro to our designated staging area. Along the way we met up with thousands of our brothers and sisters, all going to their appointed gatherings. It was truly a wonderful sight to behold. Arriving at our appointed location, we met with other groups from North Carolina. We were adjacent to the Raleigh and Greensboro contingents, and a delegation from South Carolina was close by, which included our past Executive Director, Marvin Bienstock.

Our final marching instruc-

tions were to proceed to the front of the Capitol. And there our group remained for the balance of the afternoon. With bands playing, groups singing, and Congressmen, Senators and Vice President Bush plus leaders of World Jewry, we were confident our message of "Freedom For All People" would be heard loud and clear: Freedom of Religion, Freedom to Join Loved Ones Wherever They Are, Freedom to Dissidents. We hoped and prayed then, and continue to hope and pray, that our message will not go unheeded.

The later afternoon brought the day's ceremonies to an end. We made our way back to the bus and left for home. We arrived back in Charlotte at 2:30 a.m. Monday, tired but happy. Happy to be a part of a glorious and, we pray, a fruitful happening.

(Editor's note: For more articles and pictures of the March see pages 10 and 11.)

## UJA's Work "Is Just Beginning"

United Jewish Appeal's National Chairman, Martin F. Stein, acknowledged wide praise of UJA's vigorous and ongoing efforts for Soviet Jews as in the Freedom Sunday March and Rally in Washington, D.C., Dec. 6. But he said, "UJA support of the Soviet Jewry cause is just beginning."

Stein has made freedom for

march will remember how we stood here in the December cold of Washington to say to General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, 'Let our people go'."

After the successful conclusion of Freedom Sunday, the capstone of a multi-organizational effort called the Campaign to Summit III, Stein acknowledged wide praise of UJA's role.



UJA's National Chairman Martin F. Stein (L) and Natan Scharansky, the former refusenik, stand together as the Freedom Sunday March and Rally was about to begin.

UJA photo/R. Cumins

Soviet Jews a pillar of his 18 months as National Chairman and through the issue he has carried UJA into a more active role beyond fundraising.

"In the history of the Soviet Jewry movement and of human rights in the 1980s," Stein said during the Freedom Sunday march, "this is the moment.

"Every one of us in the

"I am proud of our national officers across the country, our national headquarters, regional staff, lay and professional leaders, our partnership with 200 local Jewish federations and 420 smaller fundraising campaigns," Stein said. "Yes, we helped. But we will not rest until every Soviet Jew

See UJA page 11

## Federation Elects New Board

By Joel Goldman

Six officers and fourteen board members were elected into their new positions the evening of December 21 at Shalom Park.

The new Federation President for 1988 is Bobbi (Mrs. Donald) Bernstein, an active Federation member and holder of numerous past offices. In addition to having served as Federation Vice President, Bobbi also has been president of Women's Division and chairperson of Jewish Family Services. She will take over the position from retiring President Ron Katz, who served in that capacity in 1986 and 1987.

Other new officers for 1988

are Emily (Mrs. Sam) Zimmern, vice president; Dr. Paul Putterman, vice president; Shelton Gorelick, vice president; Alan Blumenthal, secretary and Bennett Lyons, treasurer.

Board members elected to the Class of 1990 are Bill Ashendorf, Sandy Berlin, Mark Bernstein, Peggy Gartner, Joel Goldman, Michael Jaffa, Moses Luski, Jim Montag, Baila Pransky, Frank Rosen, Sally Schrader, Sara Schreiber, Marc Silverman and David Swimmer.

Retiring from the Federation Board are Anita Strauss-LaRowe, Class of 1987; Harry Berzak, Class of 1989; and Robert Speizman, temporary board member.

## "Auschwitz: A Crime Against Mankind"

### Women's Division to View Exhibit in Atlanta

By Rosalind Taranto

"Auschwitz: A Crime Against Mankind" chronicles the annihilation of the most basic human right — the right to live. This exhibition is a memorial to the millions who were murdered in Auschwitz from 1941 until its liberation by the Russian Army on January 27, 1945. It tells their story through photographs and personal items — and asks its audience to think about

what happened, how it could happen, why it happened, whether — in today's society — it could happen again and what can be done to prevent it.

This special exhibition will be in Atlanta during the month of January 1988. The Women's Division of the Charlotte Jewish Federation is planning a one-day excursion on Sunday, January 24, to view the exhibit. We will depart by bus from Shalom Park at 7:30 a.m.

In addition, if time permits, a visit is also planned to the ZACHOR Holocaust Center of the Atlanta Jewish Federation. The ZACHOR Holocaust Center focuses on Atlanta's community of survivors. Fam-



Hungarian Jews transported to Concentration Camp.

See "AUSCHWITZ" page 12

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