

"Passage to Freedom" Educational Rally was Held at Shalom Park



(L to R) Rabbis Marc Wilson, Robert Seigel, Yossi Groner, cochairs of "Passage to Freedom" Campaign.

Zelig Chinitz, guest speaker.

Mark Barkan, a Soviet Jew. He and his family were resettled in Charlotte by our community.



Our youth doing a presentation on Soviet Jewry.



David Jordan in a skit on the KGB.

Call the Federation Office, 366-5007
With your "Passage to Freedom" pledge.

"Moscow News" Carried Jewish Outreach Information

History was made on April 12 when the Soviet daily newspaper "Moskowskiye Novosti" (Moscow News) carried a quarter page announcement about Passover observance. The message was created by CHAMAH, The International Society to Promote Jewish Culture and Tradition Among Russian Jews.

The publication of this message is a "first" in Soviet history, and it is clearly a direct result of the benevolent policies of Glasnost and Perestroika instituted by Mikhail Gorbachev.

When millions of Soviet Jews opened their newspaper, they were greeted with the following message in Russian:

The cultural and education organization CHAMAH

salutes all Jews who uphold the Torah by observing the Passover holiday which begins Wednesday night, April 19 and concludes on Thursday night, April 27. The Passover seders are celebrated on the nights of the 19th and 20th with the traditional matzoh and four cups of wine.

The first two days and the last two days, April 20, 21, 26 and 27, are special while the intermediate days are semi-holidays. On the last day of Pesach, April 27, Yizkor (the memorial prayer for the dead) is recited in the synagogues.

With very best wishes,
The Cultural-Educational Organization—CHAMAH

CHAMAH was established over 30 years ago by a handful of concerned ob-

servant Jews in the Soviet Union. As many of its original members emigrated to Israel and the United States, it grew into the major international organization for the dissemination of Jewish culture and tradition among Russian Jews in the USSR, Israel and around the world. CHAMAH is involved in the translation and publication of Jewish texts and periodicals as well as in the production of radio broadcasts. CHAMAH also publishes the weekly Russian language Jewish newsmagazine "ALEPH" which enjoys great popularity in the Soviet Jewish community.

Ladispoli Bulging at the Seams

ROME (JTA) — Concern over increasing numbers of Soviet Jewish refugees concentrated in the seaside town of Ladispoli has forced officials to limit the number of refugees assigned to the town and to expand refugee housing to other nearby locations.

Three or four months ago, there were 8,000 foreigners in Ladispoli, which naturally caused problems, Ladispoli Deputy Mayor Crescenzo Paliotta said in an interview. Ladispoli has a resident Italian population of 16,000 to 17,000, and public services could not cope.

Furthermore, despite the large refugee population, the state still counted Ladispoli

as a town of 16,000 to 17,000 when it came to funding and personnel.

Above all, public transport to Rome was not sufficient. There were 8,000 foreigners, none of them with cars, and when they wanted to go somewhere for tourism, or go to the embassy in Rome, they all had to go by bus or train, he said.

There were also problems with garbage collection, sanitation and emergency health services, as well as the greater overall problem of community relations: given that foreigners at one point made up 30 to 40 percent of the population, he said, there was the risk of conflicts and tensions.

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