

SHAARNA
FILE

Call 4-8pm
in Hospital

8/29 - JG informant in
couldn't reach parking but got
Dr. J. Paley, member with Am
Sci, to write to head of Jav.
from Jav. This week, Jav.
will work himself.

July 5, 1973

Dr. Jack Goldman
Xerox Corp.
Stamford, Conn.

Dear Jack:

The following are the facts in the case of the Russian Jewish family whom I am trying to help emigrate to Israel.

Dr. Benjamin Josephovitz Shapira, of 21-A/37 Frunze Street, Belgorod Oblastnoi, 308614, USSR, is a 40-year old chemical engineer. His wife, Margareta, is 37 years old and is a teacher. They have a 12 year-old daughter. Dr. Shapira is the only son of a Rabbi and Mrs. S. Joseph Shapira who emigrated from Czernowitz-Bucovina to Israel in 1967, after having spent 27 years in Siberian exile. They reside at 14/5 Almagor Street, Neveh Sharey, Tel Aviv.

Dr. Shapira has applied six times for permission to emigrate and be reunited with his parents. The last such application was on February 5, 1973. All have been turned down, and no serious reason offered for it. The result of his requests has been that since July 1972 he lost his job as a lecturer in chemistry in the university of Belgorod, and has remained unemployed save for some temporary unimportant work. (He had previously been employed in vitamin production.)

As stated his sixth application was made on February 5, 1973. All six were presented to the local authority, Col. Alexander Ivanovitz Epichin in Belgorod Oblastnoi, and not to Moscow.

On March 15, 1973, he went to the Home Ministry, Central OVIR, and they promised to look into the matter. They asked Col. Epichin for his answer, but he has not replied other than a vague assertion that the local organization has to meet on the problem. On April 26, Col. Epichin gave a negative response. On April 25, all 3 members of the family travelled to Moscow, but could not get in to see the Assistant Minister of Interior.

In the beginning of May Dr. Shapira learned that Epichin's reply in April was fraudulent, for he had never cleared it in Moscow. Dr. Shapira and his family have been included on the lists presented to the Russians by Dr. Kissinger, Mr. Rogers and Mayor Lindsay, all to no avail.

Most recently they have forbidden Dr. Shapira and family to travel to Moscow to pursue their case. They are now virtually imprisoned in Belgorod. The entire family is in despair.

It is felt, by those who are knowledgeable in these matters, that a personal intervention by an internationally distinguished scientist is the last hope of this unfortunate and persecuted family.

Whatever assistance you can arrange for this family will be deeply appreciated by them and by me and will unquestionably be a great humanitarian act.

Cordially yours,

NL:pj

RABBI NORMAN LAMM