

APpa 10/25 1907 Slepak

By ALISON SMALE Associated Press Writer

VIENNA, Austria (AP) -- Jewish "refusenik" Vladimir Slepak arrived in Vienna on Sunday, ending a 17-year struggle to leave the Soviet Union. "It's like a dream," he said.

Slepak and his wife, Maria, were hugged at the airport by their eldest son, Alexander Slepak of Philadelphia, who said it was a "living hell" waiting a decade to see his parents again.

Slepak, who first applied to emigrate in 1970, planned to travel to Israel on Monday with wife and son and probably settle in Tel Aviv. He has a sister-in-law and a niece in Israel. A second son, Leonid, lives in Jersey City, N.J.

"It's like a dream," Slepak told reporters at an airport news conference. "It's unbelievable to be here, to be free."

Slepak said he did not see his release as a change of policy toward Soviet Jewish emigration but rather as the result of Western pressure, and he urged that pressure to continue.

Soviet authorities "are Communists, they are tyrants. Of course, if they do something, it is a concession, it is made under the pressure of the West," he said.

"The change of the policy .. will be when every Soviet Jew, every human being in the Soviet Union, has the right to leave his country when he wants and where he wants.

"I think our task is to fight for this moment, and let's fight together," he said.

"I'm in a complete fog right now. It's impossible to believe," said Alexander Slepak, a 35-year-old medical student who hadn't seen his parents since leaving the Soviet Union on Oct. 27, 1977.

"We didn't see each other for 10 years, and here we are. I want you to know it was a living hell for me and I'm sure for my parents.

"We heard so many times that we will never see each other... but this is the example that we don't take 'never' for an answer," he said.

Sen. John Heinz, R-Penn, U.S. Ambassador to Vienna Ronald Lauder and U.S. Ambassador to the Helsinki Conference Warren Zimmerman were among those greeting Slepak.

Heinz, who visited the Slepaks on a recent visit to Moscow, called Slepak's emigration "a great victory of courage and perseverance."

Soviet authorities denied Slepak's request to leave the country because they said he had access to state secrets in his earlier work as a radio engineer. But on Oct. 14, they suddenly told him he could leave.

Slepak, one of the leading figures among Soviet Jews fighting to emigrate, hugged and kissed relatives and friends at Moscow's crowded Sheremetyevo Airport before leaving.

Of Israel, he said, "first, I dream to step on the Holy Land. And then bless my friends, my relatives."

Slepak, whose 60th birthday is Thursday, said he was happy to go, but also saddened to leave many friends behind.

"First of all I'm very happy of course. Then I feel some bad feelings because many of my very good friends are here now have no possibility to leave yet," he

said.

"So many, many, many of my good friends are still here and I'll never be happy, really happy, until they get the possibility to leave," Slepak said.

Slepak and his wife displayed a banner from their balcony in 1978 demanding permission to emigrate to Israel. That led to charges of malicious hooliganism and a five-year term in internal exile in a village near the Siberian border.

Since returning from internal exile, they have staged a series of demonstrations, the last of which was in March on the 17th anniversary of their first application to emigrate.

Since September, more than a dozen long-term refuseniks have been granted permission to leave the Soviet Union. U.S. officials say more than 6,000 Jews have been allowed to emigrate this year, compared to less than 1,000 all of last year.

However, the numbers are still far below the peak year of 1979, when 51,000 Jews emigrated.

AP 10/24 2353 Bork-Replacement
By JEFF BARKER Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Sen. John Heinz, R-Pa., has written President Reagan asking him to consider nominating a former Pennsylvania federal appeals judge to the Supreme Court.

Heinz said in the letter, mailed Friday, that former transportation secretary Drew Lewis and Walter Annenberg, a publishing executive and close friend of the Reagans, joined him "in urging you to nominate Arlin Adams for this post." Annenberg and Lewis are both Pennsylvanians.

Adams, 66, said in an interview that he was told about the letter by a Heinz aide and did not object.

"If he (Reagan) is looking for someone with conservative credentials and an academic background who believes in judicial restraint, I guess I fit that profile," Adams said.

Adams, who recently stepped down from the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals after 17 years and returned to a private law practice, "would be ideally suited for the position on the grounds of both legal ability and philosophy," Heinz said in the letter.

He is committed to judicial restraint, Heinz said. "His votes and opinions demonstrate an unswerving commitment to the principle that the judiciary should interpret the Constitution and the law, rather than attempting to usurp powers properly delegated to the legislative branch," he said.

Adams, a former chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, said he had twice been considered for the high court. He said he was a serious enough candidate once that a routine background check was done on him by the FBI, but that John Paul Stevens was eventually selected instead.

Heinz wrote the letter on the same day that the Senate rejected, by a 58-42 vote, nominee Robert H. Bork. Heinz voted for Bork.

Heinz has spoken with several White House aides about Adams, the senator's aides said. In his letter, Heinz requested a meeting with the president "to discuss Judge Adams with you personally."

Adams' name was not included on a list of four potential nominees said by

Senate sources Friday to be given the closest consideration.

They are Clifford J. Wallace of San Diego and Anthony M. Kennedy of Sacramento, Calif., both on the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals; Pasco M. Bowman II of Kansas City, Mo., who is on the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, and Ralph K. Winter Jr. of New Haven, Conn., who is on the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Others mentioned earlier as under consideration include Judge Patrick E. Higginbotham of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Dallas; Judge Laurence H. Silberman of the District of Columbia Circuit Court, Washington; Judge William W. Wilkins Jr. of the 4th U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Greenville, S. C., and Judge Roger J. Miner of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Albany, N.Y.

In addition, the Washington Post in its Sunday editions also said President Reagan was considering three women, Judge Edith H. Jones of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Houston; Judge Cynthia Holcomb Hall of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Pasadena, Calif., and Judge Pamela Ann Rymer of the U.S. District Court, Los Angeles. Also under consideration, the Post said, are Judge Douglas H. Ginsburg of the District of Columbia Circuit Court, and Judge Gerald B. Tjoflat of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Jacksonville, Fla.

APpa 10/24 1602 PA-Slepak

By STEFAN FATSIS Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) -- After 10 years of government-forced separation, Alexander Slepak said he is "very jittery" about being reunited with his Soviet refusnik parents Vladimir and Maria Slepak in Vienna on Sunday.

Slepak, 35, is a graduate of Temple University's medical school and is now a resident at Episcopal Hospital in Philadelphia. He said he spoke with his father earlier this week and both were anxious to meet again.

Slepak's father and mother have been trying for 17 years to leave the Soviet Union.

"I'm very jittery," Alexander Slepak told The Associated Press on Saturday before leaving for Vienna. "It's basically the finale, and I'm excited and anxious to see them, more than anxious to gain the result."

Vladimir Slepak first applied for an exit visa from the Soviet Union in 1970. He was internally exiled in 1978 for five years for hanging a banner from a balcony announcing he wanted to emigrate.

The 59-year-old Slepak, an electronics engineer and one of the Soviet Union's most prominent Jewish refuseniks, and his wife were granted permission to leave earlier this month. His son said he was "incredibly impatient" about emigrating.

"They got their visa and wanted to leave immediately," Alexander Slepak said. "They couldn't wait until flight time."

He said his parents were due to leave Moscow at 8:10 p.m. local time Sunday on an Aeroflot plane due to arrive in Vienna at 9:05 p.m. local time.

U.S. Ambassador to Austria Ronald S. Lauder, U.S. Helsinki Review Committee Ambassador Warren Zimmerman and Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel also are expected to greet the Slepaks in Vienna.

Pennsylvania U.S. Sen John Heinz, a member of the Helsinki Commission, and his wife, Teresa, who co-founded the Congressional Wives for Soviet Jewry, will

travel with Alexander Slepak to Vienna.

The younger Slepak said he heard reports that fog had shrouded Moscow in recent days.

"I hope the literal fog at Moscow Airport has been lifted and at the same time the political fog has been lifted," Slepak said.

He added that he wanted to believe "the fact that my father has been released is not just another gesture by the Soviet government but in fact change in the entire emigration policy."

The son of a Bolshevik revolutionary, Vladimir Slepak was a leading member of the Helsinki Watch Committee, an unofficial group of dissidents that monitored the 1975 Helsinki human rights agreement signed by the Soviet Union.

The dissident group was disbanded in 1982 after a crackdown by Soviet authorities reduced it to three members. The rest of its 20 or so members were imprisoned, internally exiled or banished abroad.

But the Soviet government has eased the tight rein on Jewish emigration in recent years. More than 5,000 Jews have been given permission to leave so far this year. The Slepaks announced on Oct. 14 that they had been notified by authorities.

"We definitely welcome all reforms that (Soviet leader Mikhail) Gorbachev is bringing into the system," Alexander Slepak said. "At the same time we have to make it clear to the Soviet government that unless the logistic law will be set by the administration, we will continue to seek to pursue this issue."

He said his parents plan to leave Vienna on Monday for Tel Aviv, where they will be met by relatives including their other son, Leonid, 28, who was allowed to leave the Soviet Union in 1979 and now lives in New York with his American wife and three children.

The Slepaks then plan to spend several weeks in the United States before permanently settling in Jerusalem, he said.

Alexander Slepak was permitted to leave the Soviet Union in October 1977, shortly before his family's case was to be examined at a conference in Belgrade to review the Helsinki accords.

He lives in suburban Philadelphia with his wife, Alyona, and two children, Denise, 5, and Daniel, 2.

Slepak went on a 17-day hunger strike in Washington, D.C., last April to mark the 17 years his parents had been refused visas.

APPA 10/24 0141 PA-Bork-Philly Judge
By JEFF BARKER Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Sen. John Heinz, R-Pa., has written President Reagan asking him to consider nominating former federal appeals judge Arlin Adams, a Philadelphian, to sit on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Heinz said in the letter, mailed Friday, that publishing executive Walter Annenberg and Drew Lewis, the former transportation secretary, joined him "in urging you to nominate Arlin Adams for this post." Annenberg and Lewis are both Pennsylvanians.

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