

VASHCHENKO AND CHMYKHALOV FAMILIES'
DENIAL OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM BY U.S.S.R.—
EXPRESSION OF U.S. CONCERN

Mar. 25, 1982

[H. Con. Res. 100]

Whereas since 1962, thirteen members of the Vashchenko family and eleven members of the Chmykhalov family have been denied permission to emigrate from the Soviet Union;

Whereas the Soviet Union has consistently denied the right of such individuals to practice their Pentecostal faith;

Whereas the Soviet Union has subjected such individuals to physical and psychological harassment, including imprisonment, beatings, confinement in mental institutions, and separation of family members;

Whereas such actions violate the commitments to freedom of thought, conscience, religion, and emigration made by the Soviet Union through its adoption of, or participation as a signatory to, the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

Whereas on June 27, 1978, Maria and Timofei Chmykhalov, and Lilia, Peter, Liubov, Lidia, and Augustina Vashchenko sought refuge in the United States Embassy in Moscow, in the Soviet Union, because of the suppression of their religious beliefs by the Soviet Union, and have lived in the Embassy since such time;

Whereas Augustina and Lidia Vashchenko began a hunger strike on December 27, 1981, to protest their treatment by the Soviet Government;

Whereas Lidia Vashchenko was removed from the United States Embassy compound in Moscow, away from her family and American protection, to Botkin Hospital where she is undergoing treatment for ailments resulting from her hunger strike; and

Whereas the Soviet authorities have not indicated their intentions regarding Lidia Vashchenko once she has recovered and is physically able to leave Botkin Hospital: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),
That it is the sense of the Congress that the President of the United States should—

(1) express to the Government of the Soviet Union the deep concern of the United States with respect to the deprivation by such Government of the religious freedom of the members of the Vashchenko and Chmykhalov families, and the refusal of such Government to permit the emigration of the members of such families;

(2) take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that Maria and Timofei Chmykhalov, and Lilia, Peter, Liubov, Lidia, and Augustina Vashchenko will be permitted to reside in the United States Embassy in Moscow, in the Soviet Union, until such time as the Government of the Soviet Union authorizes their emigration; and

(3) take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that Maria and Timofei Chmykhalov, and Lilia, Peter, Liubov, Lidia, and Augustina Vashchenko will be provided every possible assistance and courtesy during their residence in the United States Embassy in Moscow.

Agreed to March 25, 1982.

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST—CAPITOL ROTUNDA CEREMONY

Mar. 31, 1982
[H. Con. Res. 299]

Whereas, pursuant to Public Law 96-388, the United States Holocaust Memorial Council shall provide for appropriate ways for the Nation to commemorate the Days of Remembrance, as an annual, national, civic commemoration of the Holocaust, and to encourage and sponsor appropriate observances of such Days of Remembrance throughout the United States;

Whereas, the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, pursuant to Public Law 96-388, has designated April 18 through April 25, 1982, as "Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust";

Whereas, April 20 has been designated internationally as a day of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust, known as Yom Hashoah;

Whereas, the United States Holocaust Memorial Council has recommended that a one-hour ceremony be held in the Capitol Rotunda at noon on April 20, consisting of speeches, readings and musical presentations as part of the Days of Remembrance activities;

Whereas, the United States Holocaust Memorial Council has recommended that the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives should stand in recess during the ceremony: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That from 10:00 a.m. on April 20, 1982, the Capitol Rotunda shall be available until 3:00 p.m. for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust.

Agreed to March 31, 1982.

ADJOURNMENT—HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE

Apr. 1, 1982
[S. Con. Res. 78]

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate adjourns on Thursday, April 1, 1982, or on Friday, April 2, 1982, pursuant to a motion made by the Majority Leader, or his designee, in accordance with this resolution, it stand adjourned until 12 o'clock meridian on Tuesday, April 13, 1982, and that when the House of Representatives adjourns on Tuesday, April 6, 1982, it stand adjourned until 12 o'clock meridian on Tuesday, April 20, 1982.

Agreed to April 1, 1982.