

A Letter from Avraam Shifrin

People! You who live in cozy apartments, who eat three meals a day. You who don't know the terrors of arrest and the distress for those who are left behind — family and children. You who express your indignation about the persecution of Manolis Glesos and Angela Davis.

I want to shout to your faces: where is your conscience?

Once again arrests are being conducted in the USSR, once again people are being thrown into jails, and yet you remain silent. Your governments want "friendly relations" with criminals who tyrannize over their own people. "We do not get involved in internal affairs." How convenient! Let them oppress and murder the Czechs, Hungarians, Ukrainians, Jews and dozens of other nations — your conscience sleeps. Yet, all the Glesoses and Davises can shout and you hear them — the press and TV are at their beck and call.

Whereas, in the USSR, my friend, Yuriy Shukhevych has just been arrested and he can't shout — they've sealed his lips.

I sat with Yuriy in the same concentration camp, and he had been there for 20 years. And now he has been arrested again. Again the persecution of his family, again his children without bread.

The sole "crime" of the Ukrainian, Yuriy Shukhevych, consists in the fact that he is the son of General Shukhevych, who courageously fought against the enslavement of the Ukrainians. The sole "crime" of Yuriy consists in the fact that he loves his country — and in Ukraine one cannot be a Ukrainian. And so, after 20 years of prison, Yura is once again in jail.

He is silent. You won't hear him. But I, a Jew, who is proud of being a nationalist, appeal to you, citizens of the free world: Help Yuriy Shukhevych. Demand that the Soviet authorities let him go.

Jerusalem, May 18, 1972

Avraam Shifrin

Born in the USSR Avraam Shifrin settled in Israel in 1970. From 1952 to 1962 he was an inmate of Soviet-Russian concentration camps.



Yuriy Shukhevych. Born 1933. Son of Commander-in-Chief of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army, Roman Shukhevych. Sentenced in 1948 at the age of 15 to 10 years of imprisonment. On the day of his release, August 21, 1958, Shukhevych was rearrested and shortly thereafter sentenced to a second 10-year term. Released on August 21, 1968 and denied the right to return to Ukraine for five years, Shukhevych was living with his wife and two small children in Nalchik, Kabardinian-Balkarian ASSR, at the time of his third arrest in the early months of 1972. Now he was sentenced again to 12 years of harsh prison for his convictions. (Photo taken prior to most recent arrest.)

If you wish additional information, please write to us at: **Ukrainian Central Information Service 8 München 80, Zeppelinstr. 67/0, Telefon: 44 10 69** Contributions to aid in our efforts would be appreciated.

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