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"Moscow to Jerusalem" Demonstration at Democratic National Convention, 8/11/1980, Item 06

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NEWS FROM

Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry

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THE SHOFARS TO CARTER: WE ARE OUR BROTHER'S KEEPER

The sounds of shofar blasts and chants, "Jimmy, repent -- Jerusalem is one!" resounded off the walls of Madison Square Garden last evening as members of the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry demonstrated at the Democratic National Convention's opening "for Prisoners of Conscience in the USSR to be able to rejoin their loved ones in a united, peaceful Jerusalem."

Some of the protesters wore mock Soviet prison uniforms and others prayershawls and kittels (white robes worn on Yom Kippur) to mark the evening, which was both the 28th anniversary of Stalin's mass liquidation of 24 leading Russian Jewish intellectuals and the beginning of the Jewish month of Elul, traditionally a period of self-introspection before the High Holidays. One SSSJnik was dressed in a Carter mask, topped by an Arab headdress.

Signs read "Jimmy Carter: We Are <u>Our</u> Brother's Keeper", "Mr. Carter: Remember Anatoly Sharansky" and "No Billygate on Jerusalem". Some demonstrators held up photos of POCs as Sharansky, Joseph Mendelevich, Ida Nudel and Joseph Begun and refuseniks as Marina Tiemkin.

"Since ancient times, the shofar has traditionally been both the call to repentance and to action," a SSSJ spokesman stated. "We are telling Mr. Carter to repent from his actions to divide a united Jerusalem, and to actively work for the release of the prisoners in the USSR. Mr. Carter openly flouts the Democratic national platform's strong stand on Israel. Will his human rights policies go the way of his promimes on Israel?"