

Witnesses Say Scharansky

THE WASHINGTON POST Wednesday, July 12, 1978

A13

Sent Intelligence to West

By Kevin Klose

MOSCOW—A parade of Soviet prosecution witnesses accused Jewish dissident Anatoly Scharansky at a secret session of his treason trial yesterday of gathering and sending to the West intelligence on Soviet space research, "classified" sociology and parapsychology data, and defense factories.

According to a press statement issued by the court—the only information source for yesterday's session—11 witnesses testified against Scharansky. The witnesses included the principal accuser, Dr. Sonya Lipavsky, a physician who ministered to dissidents and who has turned out to be both a KGB informer and a one-time "volunteer" for the Central Intelligence Agency.

The official court account gave little information on Scharansky's responses to these accusers, as the trial completed its second day amid continued strong reaction from the United States and other Western countries to this trial and that of Alexander Ginzburg, a longtime human rights activist.

The anger and frustration in Washington especially constitutes a factor in the strategic arms limitation talks scheduled to begin in Geneva today between Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko.

At the Ginzburg trial, also in its second day in Kaluga, a provincial city south of here, Arina Ginzburg, Alexander's wife, was ejected after she stood up and protested that one prosecution witness' testimony was "lies from beginning to end."

The witness was Arkady Grado-boyev, an artist friend of Ginzburg's who reportedly testified that Arina Ginzburg had threatened him after he testified Monday.

Prosecution witnesses finished yesterday, alleging that reports issued by the Moscow group to monitor Soviet compliance with the human rights provisions of the Helsinki accords slandered the Soviet state. Ginzburg,

Scharansky and Yuri Orlov nepea found the group, one of several set up around the county. Orlov has been convicted of anti-Soviet agitation, the same charge lodged against Ginzburg and against Scharansky, whose addition treason charge carries a maximum penalty of death.

The Ginzburg accusers sought to rebut reports of the Helsinki group that alleged psychiatric imprisonment of political prisoners and inhumane conditions in Soviet labor camps. They also alleged that a relief fund for political prisoners that Ginzburg administered from Western royalties earned by his friend Alexander Solzhenitsyn's works "has been set up specially to finance hostile-minded persons," the official court report said. The money went to enemies of the state, they said.

Ginzburg, 41, who suffers from

heart and stomach illnesses, was made to stand throughout the proceedings, his wife said.

Much of yesterday's prosecution of Scharansky, 30, a computer programmer who was refused an exit visa to Israel and became a pivotal figure in the Moscow human rights movement, apparently centered on his relations with Robert Toth, a former Los Angeles Times correspondent here.

The court statement did not mention Toth by name, but Leonid Scharansky, Anatoly's brother, who attended the opening session Monday, reported then that the prosecutor, Pyotr Solonin, had identified Toth as an American intelligence agent posing as a journalist. Toth denied the allegation.

Scharansky was aided, according to the official account of the prosecution evidence, by Vitali Rubin, a former Soviet who now lives in Israel. Rubin was a spy who sent Scharansky "through the diplomatic mail of one of the embassies a written assignment" to collect information on the role, staffing and location of various defense enterprises, the court statement said.

According to the official account, "a number of witnesses asserted that Scharansky, guided by ambitious, selfish aims," and "through an agent of a military intelligence service, who

worked in Moscow as a correspondent, (passed) on the information collected to the West."

The account asserted that "the witnesses also gave evidence on other concrete facts of Scharansky's subversive activity," saying it was "paid from the outside and the defendant himself did not work anywhere and was comfortable off being fully supported by the West in recent years."

Witnesses alleged that Scharansky "repeatedly assisted" Toth "in the course of 1976-77 in establishing on a conspiratorial basis, contacts with bearers of secrets from among Soviet scientists and experts in various fields."

Toth was accused of "worming out information that is not subject to publication in the open press, on Soviet space research, classified information in the field of sociological research and parapsychology."

On Toth's personal instructions, Scharansky is said to have "personally questioned a Soviet scientist on the development of engineering genetics, and also obtained information on gene research institutions."

Toth has denied ever spying anywhere and said that the information Scharansky helped obtain was used only in articles for the Los Angeles Times.