

State and Local

Ginzburg's life in Soviet Union 'torture'

By Jeanne Isenberg
Staff Writer

Alexander Ginzburg, a former Soviet dissident, said Wednesday night in Rudder Auditorium that living in the Soviet Union is total and continuous psychological torture for a man like him — a supporter of human rights.

Ginzburg, who made his speech with the aid of a translator, said a country with a system of oppression or a "reign of terror" like the one in the Soviet Union always has the same goals and the same pattern.

The most important of these, he said, is to put enough fear of the state into the people to insure that counter-revolution can take place.

A second goal, he said, is to erase from the minds of the people, who aren't allowed to grasp the idea of a better option to the way the state works.

The first step, Ginzburg said, is

to destroy the church and thus arrest the soul of the people.

And sure enough, he said the first major oppressive legal processes were against the priests and the clergy.

The intellectuals must be the next to go, he said, "the people in whose hands rest the reasoning power of the people."

And by the 1920s in the Soviet Union, he said, few individuals from this part of society remained.

Through the collectivization of farms, the free peasants were the last to go, Ginzburg said, as this process destroyed the most creative elements of the peasants, the promoters of culture.

The Soviet Union also went through a genocide phase, he said, which ended with the death of its organizer, Joseph Stalin.

The beginning of Ginzburg's and the people's fight for rights came when Nikita Krushchev exposed a small number of Stalin's "crimes."



Alexander Ginzburg

Krushchev released a significant number of people in 1956 from labor camps that Stalin had placed them in, and they began to tell their stories to others.

Ginzburg became a journalist in 1956, but after becoming fed up with censorship in Soviet newspapers, he began publishing a magazine of poetry.

This led to his first arrest in 1960 and a two-year sentence in a forced labor camp.

Upon his return to Moscow, he spent several years working odd jobs and wrote as a hobby.

When a "show trial — Soviet style" sent two colleagues to labor camps, Ginzburg obtained an official transcript of the trial and threatened to publish a comparison with the trial's newspaper reports.

He was again arrested and sentenced to five years.

Out in 1972, he again began his fight to return to the Soviet Union in a sense of compassion.

In 1977, he was arrested a third time, labeled an "especially dangerous enemy of the state," and sent to the harshest labor camp for eight years.

By this time, Ginzburg's had become an internationally-supported case and in 1979, he was stripped of his Soviet citizenship and exchanged to the West for two convicted Soviet spies.

Nine Texans selected 'reporter in space' semifinalists

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reactions from the nine Texans among 100 semifinalists competing for a place in history as the first reporter in space ended Wednesday from "nervous" to "delighted" "can't wait."

The semifinalists, culled from 1,703 applications and announced at a NASA news conference, include CBS special correspondent Walter Cronkite and Pulitzer prize-winning science writer John Noble Wilford of the New York Times.

The nine Texans are among 20 regional semifinalists who will be interviewed May 1-2 at the University of Kansas at Lawrence. NASA will eventually select one journalist and an alternate.

The Texas finalists are: Associated Press aerospace writer Paul Recer of Houston; James Asker of the Houston Post; Stephen Gauvain, KTRK-TV, Houston; Robert "Chip" Moody II, KHOU-TV, Houston; Daniel O'Rourke, KPRC-TV, Houston; Scott Pelley, WFAA-TV, Dallas; Katie

"I've always been interested in the space program. When I was 10 years old I had a subscription to Missiles and Rockets magazine."

— Chris Marrou, reporter in space semifinalist.

Sherrad of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram; Lacey R. Oberg, a freelance writer from Dickinson; and Chris Marrou, KENS-TV, San Antonio.

"I'm honored and nervous and not necessarily in that order," Marrou said. "I've always been interested in the space program. When I was 10 years old I had a subscription to Missiles and Rockets magazine. I didn't become a scientist because I couldn't handle calculus."

Asker said, "It would be a fantastic opportunity for a reporter to add another dimension to what we've learned about space travel. It would be a big challenge to explain it in a way that would be comprehensive to the average person but still put a little personality into it."

Sherrad said she was always sure she would go into space.

"I grew up in West Texas," she said. "Have you ever seen a West Texas night sky? I used to go out and lie on the grass and look at all the stars, and I knew."

She said she was not afraid, despite the loss of the space shuttle Challenger.

Pelley said, "I was there the day of the Challenger accident. I was there a couple of weeks after that and that was quite disturbing. The accident really proves the point that there is a need for a specialty in this area."

"This is the closest I've ever been to being an astronaut," he said.

Corrections

In Tuesday's story on the passage of the core curriculum by the Faculty Senate, *The Battalion* incorrectly identified Sen. Gary Hart, professor of soil and crop sciences, as saying, "The core is

In the April 11 issue, *The Battalion* incorrectly reported that the local support group for parents of children with cancer would meet April 24.

The group's next meeting ac-

cutting into the meat of our engineering program."

In fact, Sen. Ron Hart, professor of nuclear engineering, made the statement, according to the Faculty Senate minutes.

tually will be May 8. The group meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church on 1100 FM Rd. 2818 in College Station.

The Battalion regrets the errors.

White: Austin shouldn't harbor immigrants

AUSTIN (AP) — With the Austin City Council scheduled to hear more testimony on a plan to declare the city a sanctuary for Central American refugees, Gov. Mark White said Wednesday that Texas cities should keep out of immigration policy.

The City Council's hearing Thursday night will be the second on a proposed resolution that would declare Austin a sanctuary for political refugees. If approved, Austin would become the first city in Texas to take such action.

But White said the decision isn't up to cities since immigration policy

is a matter for the federal government.

"For cities or states to interject themselves in this area is counterproductive," White said in an interview.

"For us to set up a 'mini-immigration service' in every city, I think, is not appropriate."

The City Council last week heard four hours of public testimony on the resolution that is backed by Mayor Frank Cooksey. The council postponed a decision on the plan, but a majority of council members have indicated they support it.

Newborn twin filly at Horse Center dies after 2 weeks

By Alice Allison
Reporter

Two weeks after the miraculous foaling of twins at the Texas A&M Horse Center, the first born has died.

The twins were born March 23 at 5 a.m. to Hyleo's Bimbo, a mare involved in a research project conducted by Jim Kubiak, a graduate student.

He said it's very unusual for a mare to have twins.

Only 1 to 2 percent of all mares will have twins, Kubiak said, and only 1 out of 10 twins survives.

Kubiak said both foals were very weak at birth and he was surprised both survived the first two weeks.

Yet students tried a 24-hour nursing program.

"The foal that died had weak legs and couldn't stand up to nurse, so 20 to 30 students took turns bottle feeding her," Kubiak said.

Finally, the foal became so weak she just gave up, Kubiak said.

There was also a possibility the foal had some lung problems and a cracked rib, he said.

The remaining foal seems to be doing all right, Kubiak said.

"Her legs are crooked and still weak but we think she'll make it," he said.

Twinning is caused by double ovulation on the ovary, Kubiak said.

Sheep and cattle multiple ovulate regularly, but horses only double ovulate 15 percent of the time, he said.

Contrary to what most people

would think, Kubiak said, horse owners don't want two foals from one mare because the strain on the mare is too great.

Kubiak said a mare's term of pregnancy is 340 days and a foal usually weighs 80 to 110 pounds when born.

Kubiak said both of these foals were about the same size, which also is very unusual.

"You normally end up with one being big and the other pretty small, or both small," he said.

Normally an ultrasound machine is used a few days after breeding to detect pregnancy, he said.

Kubiak said either an ultrasound wasn't used on this mare or a mistake was made in the reading.

"When she went into labor, I could tell she was having problems, but it looked like the back feet were trying to come first," he said. "Then I palpated her and found she had two foals."

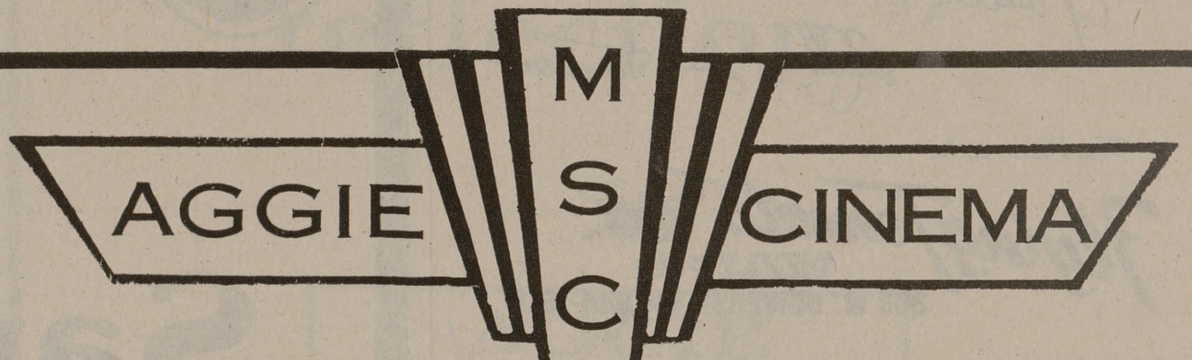
Kubiak said they have no idea why both foals lived past birth or why they were both the same size, but it could possibly have something to do with the research the mare was involved in.

Kubiak is working on a project that compares foaling and re-breeding difficulty of obese mares to mares of normal weight, he said.

This mare is in the obese group, he said.

"There are no indications, but it could have been possible that the extra nutrition the mare was getting to fatten her up helped to maintain both foals," Kubiak said.

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