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1 The Mountain Jews of Kuba, a remote area of Azerbaijan, are among the 1.2 million Jews who live in the 15 republics of the former Soviet Union. Despite government tolerance, Azerbaijan Jews fear the effects of a bitter ethnic war, social instability and general economic collapse. Detroit's Campaign dollars enable the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee to provide Jewish life there and throughout the former Soviet Union. Still, several hundred Jews leave Azerbaijan for Israel each month, assisted by Operation Exodus.

2 Frieda Shomanov (left) with her daughter and grandchildren, celebrated their first Passover in Israel after fleeing the civil war in Tajikistan in Central Asia. Fewer than 3,000 Jews remain in the former Soviet republic, where all Jewish cultural and religious functions of the Jewish community ground to a halt because of fear of the surrounding chaos. Following their rescue by the Jewish Agency, Frieda and her family are free to live as Jews in Israel.

3 An Ethiopian-born sergeant in the Israeli army cradles a new arrival from Addis Ababa -- one of 14,000 Ethiopian Jews airlifted to Israel in 36 hours. With support from Detroit's Allied Jewish Campaign, the United Jewish Appeal mounted a multi-million dollar campaign to cover the first phase of the rescue operation and the first year's expenses in absorbing the new arrivals.

4 Standing in the airport departure hall, Sonia Royzen bids farewell to her father, Yevgeny. The 18-year-old immigrant from Russia arrived in Israel earlier this year to work toward a degree in economics at Haifa University with help from the Jewish Agency and the government. Sonia is one of a growing number of young people who come without family in search of a better future for themselves in Israel. Sonia hopes her parents eventually will join her.

5 Two young Ethiopian Jews, airlifted from Addis Ababa to Israel, express wishes for a happy new year in Hebrew, Amharic and English. Ishimafet (left) and Nanu have been studying Hebrew at a religious girls' high school while living in an absorption center. Their rescue and absorption are thanks to the Operation Exodus appeal.

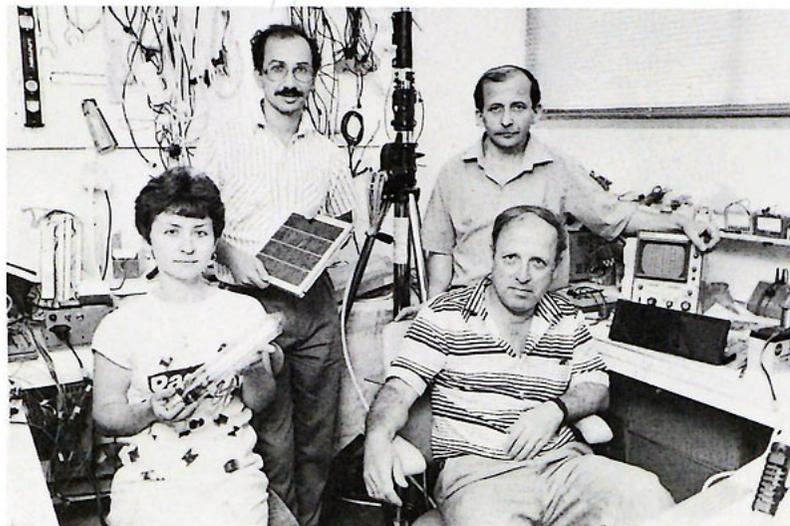
6 Bubil Yefim, an electronics engineer from Russia, assembles wheelchairs in the Jerusalem workshop of the Yad Sarah voluntary organization for rehabilitating the sick and disabled. The cost of retraining Yefim and other recent immigrants participating in this on-the-job program is shared by Yad Sarah, the Israel government and the Jewish Agency.

7 Irna Kirson, a former nuclear physicist in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, left behind ethnic violence for a new life with her family in Israel. Now a solar energy scientist, she works in an incubator industry housed at the Initiative Center of the Negev, funded by the Jewish Agency and the government. Irna and her colleagues are working on innovative projects relating to solar lighting systems and solar-powered generators.

8 The offspring of mixed marriages learned about anti-Semitism in the former Soviet Union. Now, in Israel, they're learning what it really means to be a Jew. Maxim Lieberman is assisted by Rabbi Menachem Waldman at the Yemin Orde Youth Village, part of a network of Youth Aliyah villages supported by Campaign dollars. Seventy-five percent of the 500 students at Yemin Orde are from Ethiopia and the former USSR; the remaining 25 percent are from 22 countries, including Israel.

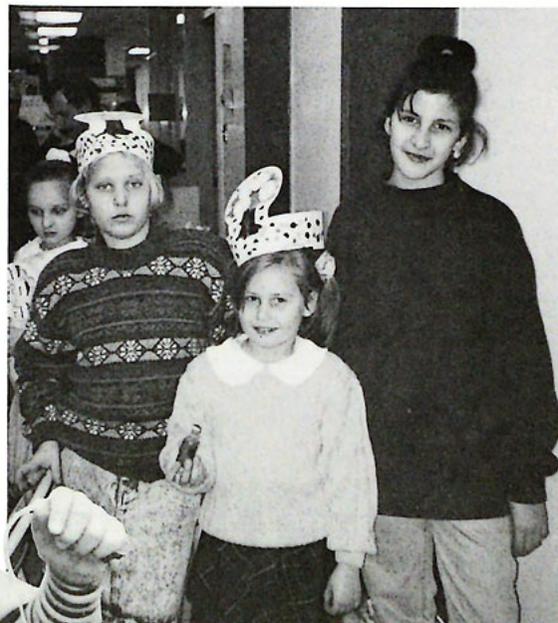


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9 Yana Vortsman (right) and her friends are among the Detroit Jewish community's newest members. Eleven-year-old Yana, who came here as a refugee with her parents and sister last fall, enjoyed a Tu b'Shevat seder sponsored by Jewish Experiences For Families at the Jewish Community Center's Jimmy Prentis Morris Building. Refugees from Uzbekistan, the family was assisted by Resettlement Service and its sister agencies, including Jewish Vocational Service and Fresh Air Society.



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