

## NOTES ON PEOPLE;

### A Brand-New 99-Year-Old Nephew for Uncle Sam

The New York Times

July 23, 1981, Thursday, Late City Final Edition

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**Section:** Section B; Page 6, Column 1; Metropolitan Desk

**Length:** 186 words

**Byline:** By Albin Krebs and Robert McG. Thomas Jr.

## **Body**

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He knows only four English phrases and can name only three American Presidents, and that, said the Immigration and Naturalization Service, meant that Gabriel Isahar Isaharov could not become an American citizen.

But Mr. Isaharov, a 99-year-old Russian immigrant who had dreamed of coming to the United States for 65 years and finally made it in 1975, is not one to give up.

Gabriel Isahar Isaharov, 99-year old Russian immigrant, is granted US citizenship after being exempted from literacy requirements

So yesterday, aided by an interpreter, he pleaded his case in United States District Court in Brooklyn, arguing that he should be exempted from the literacy requirement because of his advanced age.

Unfortunately, argued Howard Baum, a Government lawyer, the law makes no such provision. In this case, ruled Judge Henry Bramwell, it does.

"Thank you very much and God bless America," said Mr. Isaharov, who was promptly sworn in as a citizen.

And why had Mr. Isaharov been so determined to become a citizen? "Because I was born free," he said, "and I want to die free as a citizen of this great country."

## **Graphic**

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Illustrations: photo of Gabriel Isahar Isahaov

## **Classification**

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**Language:** ENGLISH

**Subject:** CITIZENSHIP (91%); IMMIGRATION (90%); NATURALIZATION (78%); LAWYERS (71%); LAW COURTS & TRIBUNALS (70%); LITERACY & ILLITERACY (70%)

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**Company:** IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (84%); IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (84%)

**Organization:** IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (84%); IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (84%); IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (84%); IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE (84%)

**Industry:** LAWYERS (71%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (94%)

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