

21 May 2009
by Martin Gilbert

Dear Ella,

Please accept my most sincere condolences. Si was a great man, and I feel honoured to have known him. I am determined in my book on Soviet Jewry to give him his proper place.

Si's words were always wise. I was a devoted reader of his broadsheet, and always felt good when a copy came through my letter box. I knew I would be in for a stimulating treat.

Si's contribution to the Kovno Ghetto film was very special indeed. I often look at it to hear and see him in it.

How can I set down words to give you comfort at this harsh time for you? So many of your friends are writing and thinking and crying for you today. Si had so many friends, all of whom knew and admired his qualities.

My thoughts are with you,

With affectionate regards,

Martin