

## CHRONOLOGY

The first column of this concise chronology records events of biographical significance, while the second focuses on world events, with a special focus on those mentioned in the letters. At the end of each year is an abbreviated summary of IB publications full bibliographical references may be found online at [\*]. We have given as continuous and accurate a record of IB's movements as the sources, primarily his letters, allow, but there are naturally gaps in our understanding, and this listing should not be considered either comprehensive or infallible. Aline generally, but not always, accompanied IB on his travels. When in Oxford IB's home address was Headington House, Old High Street, Headington; and his main place of work was his room in All Souls; when in London the Berlins stayed at their flat in Albany, Piccadilly; when in Italy they stayed at their house in Paraggi; when in New York they often stayed at the Ritz Towers Hotel on 57<sup>th</sup> & Park Avenue; when in Jerusalem, they generally stayed at the King David Hotel.

### 1975

New Year to mid-July	Oxford/London: IB retires as President of Wolfson 15 March, and is elected to a Distinguished Fellowship at All Souls in April; accepts invitation to become a Trustee of National Gallery 12 June	11 February: Margaret Thatcher elected leader of Conservative Party  17 April: Khmer Rouge capture Phnom Penh, inaugurating a genocidal regime that claims lives of at least 1.7 million Cambodians  30 April: Government in Saigon surrenders unconditionally to North Vietnamese forces, ending Vietnam War  5 June: British referendum on membership of European Community: 67 per cent vote in favour on a turnout of 64 per cent
Mid-July to end of August	Paraggi	
Early September	Oxford/London	
3 September to mid-November	Visiting lecturer at History of Ideas Unit at ANU, Canberra: visits Tahiti, Fiji, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Tasmania, and New Zealand	29 October: General Franco's Spanish dictatorship ends with announcement that Prince Juan Carlos will become provisional head of state
Mid-November to c. 10/11 December	Return journey via Bali, Jakarta, Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, and Jerusalem (arriving c. 1 December)	10 November: UN General Assembly passes resolution 3379 determining 'that Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination'; revoked 16 December 1991 (resolution 46/86)
c. 10/11 December to end of year	Oxford/London	

## 1975 Publications

*John Petrov Plamenatz, 1912–1975*

a Foreword (on Avraham Harman) to Dov Noy and Issachar Ben-Ami (eds), *Studies in the Cultural Life of the Jews in England*

‘L’apoteosi della volontà romantica: la rivolta contro il tipo di un mondo ideale’, *Lettere italiane* 27 (1975) (‘The Apotheosis of the Romantic Will: The Revolt against the Myth of an Ideal World’)

‘Performances memorable and not so memorable’, *Opera*

Presidential Address, *Proceedings of the British Academy*

Speech at the Official Opening of Wolfson College, Oxford, 12 November 1974, *Lycidas*

(unattributed) ‘Sir John Wheeler-Bennett’ (obituary), *The Times*

‘Sir John Wheeler-Bennett’ (supplementary obituary), *The Times*

(with others) ‘Writers and the Closed Shop’ (letter), *TLS*

## 1976

New Year to 26 January	Oxford/London	21 January: Concorde supersonic airliner enters service with British Airways and Air France
26 January to mid-February	New York: IB keynote speaker at conference on ‘Vico and Contemporary Thought’; lectures at MIT 5 February; at Yeshiva University 8–14 February	
Mid-February to 15 April	Oxford/London; IB ‘now installed in a large panelled room in All Souls’ (letter to Burdon-Muller, 17 March)	16 March: Harold Wilson announces his resignation as Prime Minister 5 April: James Callaghan elected Labour leader, and becomes Prime Minister
15–25 April	Paraggi	
25 April to mid-July	Oxford/London, with a visit to Zurich 16–17 May, and a dinner marking 75 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of British Academy 1 July	16 June: Soweto protest turns violent, leaving many dead; beginning of popular uprising against South African apartheid state
Mid-July to early September	Paraggi	9 September: death of Mao Zedong
Early September to end of year	Oxford/London; hernia operation in Oxford early December	3 November: Democrat Jimmy Carter wins US presidential election, defeating the incumbent, Gerald Ford

## 1976 Publications

*Vico and Herder: Two Studies in the History of Ideas*

Contribution to John Jolliffe (ed.), *Auberon Herbert: A Composite Portrait*

‘Comment on Professor Verene’s Paper’ [Donald Phillip Verene, ‘Vico’s Philosophy of Imagination’, *Social Research*

‘Go there to find your identity’, *Jewish Chronicle* (16 April 1974, supplement on 50th anniversary of the Friends of the Hebrew University)

Presidential Address, *Proceedings of the British Academy*

‘Vico and the Ideal of the Enlightenment’, *Social Research*

Letter dated 11 July 1973 to Douglas Villiers, in Douglas Villiers (ed.), *Next Year in Jerusalem: Jews in the Twentieth Century*

‘Vico’s Doctrines’ (letter), *History Today*

## 1977

New Year to 3/4 April	Oxford/London	
3/4–10 April	New York: delivers one of three Trilling Seminars, on subject of nationalism	
10 April–1 May	Japan: visits Tokyo and Kyoto, at invitation of The Japan Foundation	
2 May to mid–July	Oxford/London; gives presidential address at Annual Dinner of British Academy 30 June	17 May: Likud, headed by Menachem Begin, win historic landslide in Knesset election, the first victory by a party other than Alignment/Mapai; popularly known as the <i>Mahapakh</i> (‘upheaval’)  20 June: Begin becomes Prime Minister of Israel
Mid–July to mid–September	Paraggi; visits Salzburg 14–19 August, staying at Hotel Goldener Hirsch and with Hofmannsthal in Scholss Prielav, Zell am See	12 September: South African anti-apartheid activist Steve Biko dies in police custody
15–17 September	Basle and Geneva	
17 September–17 October	Oxford/London	
17–26 October	Tehran, on behalf of British Academy, to open new British Institute of Persian Studies; stays at British Embassy	
26 October–4 November	Jerusalem	
4 November to end of year	Oxford/London, with brief visit to Paraggi c. 17–22 December	19 November: Egyptian President Mohamed Anwar al-Sadat becomes first Arab leader to visit Jewish state; addresses Knesset the following day

## 1977 Publications

*Sir Harry d’Avigdor Goldsmid, 1906–1976*

Contribution to *Mstislav Rostropovich: 50th Birthday Gala Concert*, concert programme for Rostropovich’s 50th birthday concert at the Royal Festival Hall, 6 March 1977

‘Hume and the Sources of German Anti-Rationalism’, in G. P. Morice (ed.), *David Hume: Bicentennial Papers*

‘Old Russia’, review of Marvin Lyons, *Russia in Original Photographs 1860–1920*, ed. Andrew Wheatcroft, and Kyril Fitzlyon and Tatiana Browning, *Before the Revolution: A View of Russia under the Last Tsar*, *Guardian*  
 Presidential Address, *Proceedings of the British Academy*  
 Contribution to ‘Reputations Revisited’, *TLS*

## 1978

New Year to 7 April	Oxford/London: diagnosed as suffering atrial fibrillations, and cancels lectures; c. 12 January, hospitalized for more than a week with high fever and hepatitis-like symptoms	16 March: former Italian Premier Aldo Moro kidnapped in Rome, and later murdered, by Red Brigade terrorists
7–c. 15 April	Paraggi	
c. 15 April to mid–July	Oxford/London; retires as President of BA 29 June (term began 10 July 1974)	
Mid–July to end of August	Paraggi	20 August: two killed and nine injured in a gun and grenade attack on El Al staff in London, carried out by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine
Early September to mid–September	48 hours in UK, then to Corfu for week, then Jerusalem for Isaac Stern’s Music Foundation	17 September: President Carter facilitates talks between Begin and Sadat at his Camp David retreat, leading to framework for peace known as the Camp David Accords
c. 20 September–5 November	Oxford/London	16 October Polish Cardinal Karol Jozef Wojtyla elected Pope: takes name John Paul II (subsequently canonized)  27 October: Sadat and Begin named joint winners of 1978 Nobel Peace Prize
5–19 November	Ritz Towers Hotel, New York; lecture at Yale 8 November; weekend in Washington 11 November	
19 November to end of year	Oxford/London; IB awarded 1979 Jerusalem Book Prize	6 December: Spanish voters overwhelmingly endorse a new constitution establishing democracy

## 1978 publications

*Russian Thinkers*

*Concepts and Categories: Philosophical Essays*

*Decline of Utopian Ideas in the West*

Introduction to *Derek Hill: Portraits*

‘Comments’ (on Abraham Kaplan, ‘Historical Interpretation’, in the same volume), in Yirmiahu Yovel (ed.), *Philosophy of History and Action*

‘Marx’s Kapital and Darwin’, *Journal of the History of Ideas*

‘El nacionalismo: descuido del pasado y poder actual’, *Diá logos* (‘Nationalism: Past Neglect and Present Power’)

(with others) 'Is a Philosophy of History Possible?', in Yirmiahu Yovel (ed.), *Philosophy of History and Action*

Presidential Address, *Proceedings of the British Academy*

'Corsi e Ricorsi', review of Giorgio Tagliacozzo and Donald Phillip Verene (eds), *Giambattista Vico's Science of Humanity*, *Journal of Modern History*

'Tolstoy Remembered', review of Tatyana Tolstoy, *Tolstoy Remembered*, *New Review*

'Mr Nicholas Nabokov' (obituary), *The Times*

## 1979

New Year to mid March	Oxford/London	<p>3 January: lorry drivers' strike begins, intensifying the labour unrest of Britain's 'Winter of Discontent'</p> <p>8 January: victory of Vietnamese-led rebels over Khmer Rouge in Cambodia</p> <p>16 January: Shah of Iran flees into exile after months of violent protests against his regime; on 1 February Ayatollah Khomeini returns to Iran from 14 years' exile and takes over the revolution</p>
Mid-March to late March	Jerusalem: attends meetings regarding Stern's Music Centre; interviews Rothschild scholarship candidates; gives talk on Einstein as part of centenary celebrations	<p>30 March: Shadow Northern Ireland Secretary Airey Neave killed by car bomb as he leaves Parliament: Republican terror group Irish National Liberation Army claims responsibility</p>
Late March to c. 6 June	Oxford/London	<p>26 March: Egypt-Israel Peace Treaty signed in Washington by Sadat and Begin, in presence of President Jimmy Carter</p> <p>3 May: Conservative victory in General Election, with 43 seat majority; Margaret Thatcher becomes Britain's first woman Prime Minister</p>
c. 6–10 June	New York, Ritz Towers Hotel; visits Harvard 6 June to receive honorary degree	
10–20 June	Oxford/London	18 June: President Carter and Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev sign Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (Salt II) in Vienna
20 June to c. 12 September	Paraggi; short return to Oxford/London c. 11–20 July; conference in Pisa 28 August–1 September	27 August: murder of Earl Mountbatten and two teenage boys at Mullaghmore, Co. Sligo, and of 18 British soldiers at Warrenpoint, Co. Down, by the IRA

c. 12 September to end of year	Oxford/London: aborts planned trip to China, as head of BA delegation to Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, after contracting high fever 24 hours before departure; declines offer of peerage from Mrs Thatcher 10 December	4 November: militant Islamist students storm US Embassy in Tehran, taking more than 90 people hostage  15 November: Mrs Thatcher identifies Sir Anthony Blunt as fourth man in the Cambridge spy ring  24 December: beginning of Soviet invasion of Afghanistan
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### 1979 publications

*Against the Current: Essays in the History of Ideas*

‘Einstein and Israel’, *New York Review of Books*

‘Professor Scouten on Herder and Vico’, *Comparative Literature Studies*

Note on Lydia Chukovsky, *Notes about Anna Akhmatova*, in ‘In absentia: Some Books of the Year’, *TLS*

Letter to Adam Podgorecki (on the intelligentsia), in Adam Podgorecki and Maria Los, *Multi-Dimensional Sociology*

### 1980

New Year to 13 January	Oxford/London	
13 January to 14 February	New York and Princeton	20 January: President Carter announces US boycott of Moscow Olympics unless Soviet troops withdraw from Afghanistan  22 January: Andrei Sakharov ordered into internal exile in Soviet Union after calling for withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan
Mid–February to late February	Oxford/London	
c. 27 February to 5 March	Jerusalem, with Herbert Hart, to interview candidates for Rothschild Fellowships	
5 March to mid–July	Oxford/London; delivers Bowra Lecture at Oxford 15 May	
c. 15 July to mid–September	Paraggi, via Aix in France; to Salzburg, via Genoa, 20 August; Salzburg 20–28 August; Vienna 28 August–1 September; returns to Paraggi 1 September	31 August: Polish trade union federation Solidarność (Solidarity) emerges, under leadership of Gdańsk shipyard worker Lech Wałęsa
Mid–September to 9/10 November	Oxford/London	10 October: Mrs Thatcher tells Conservative Party Conference that ‘The Lady’s not for turning!’  22 September: beginning of 8-year

		long Iran-Iraq War  4 November: Republican candidate Ronald Reagan elected US President by a landslide, defeating the incumbent, Jimmy Carter
9/10–16 November	Jerusalem, for Stern's Music Centre	10 November: Michael Foot becomes new Labour leader
16 November to late December	Oxford/London	
Late December to end of year	Paraggi	

## 1980 publications

### *Personal Impressions*

Story in *Pass the Port Again: The Best After-Dinner Stories of the Famous*

'The Incompatibility of Values', in Melvin Kranzberg (ed.), *Ethics in an Age of Pervasive Technology*

'Virtue and Practicality', in Melvin Kranzberg (ed.), *Ethics in an Age of Pervasive Technology*

'Meetings with Russian Writers in 1945 and 1956', in PI; trans. French (in part), Spanish (in part), Russian

'Conversations with Russian Poets' (given as a Bowra Lecture), *TLS*

'Note on Alleged Relativism in Eighteenth Century European Thought', *British Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies*

'On Philosophy', *Good Book Guide*

'A Tribute to my Friend' (on Jacob Talmon), *Forum*

'Upon Receiving the Jerusalem Prize', *Conservative Judaism*

Contribution to 'Books of the Year', *Sunday Times*

'The Hedgehog and the Fox Continued' (letter), *New York Review of Books*

## 1981

New Year, to 4 January	Paraggi	
4 January to 22 March	Oxford/London: cancels planned trip to Princeton in February due to viral infection and arrhythmia	21 January: US hostages finally freed from captivity in Tehran
c. 22–24 March	Jerusalem, for Rothschild Fellowship interviews	
24 March to 28 May	Oxford/London	26 March: formation of Social Democratic Party (SDP) by Roy Jenkins, David Owen, Bill Rodgers, and Shirley Williams
28 May to c. 3 June	Baltimore, Washington, New York	11 April: Brixton riots in south London  5 May: Bobby Sands becomes first IRA prisoner to die on hunger strike in Maze prison protest
3 June to July	Oxford/London	16 June: formation of SDP-Liberal Alliance

		July: first cases of HIV/Aids begin to be seen in US
July to c. 20–23 September	Paraggi; returning for Royal Wedding; visits Salzburg around 19 August	29 July: wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer at St Paul's Cathedral
c. 20–23 September to end of year	Oxford/London	6 October: President Anwar Sadat assassinated by members of Egyptian Islamic Jihad opposed to peace with Israel

## 1981 publications

*For Teddy Kollek*

Introduction and unattributed contributions to H. G. Nicholas (ed.), *Washington Despatches 1941–45: Weekly Political Reports from the British Embassy*

Translation, with Introduction, of Ivan Turgenev, *A Month in the Country*

Reply to Hans Aarsleff, 'Vico and Berlin', *London Review of Books*

'Russian Thought and the Slavophile Controversy', review of Andrzej Walicki, *A History of Russian Thought (From the Enlightenment to Marxism)* and *The Slavophile Controversy, Slavonic and East European Review*

Contribution to 'Books of the Year: A Personal Choice', *Observer*

'Plea for a Library' (letter), *Jewish Chronicle*

Contributions to Sandra Martin and Donald Hall (eds), *Where Were You? Memorable Events of the Twentieth Century*

'How Russian and English Lines Can Get Crossed' (letter), *Guardian*

## 1982

New Year to 6 February	Oxford/London; IB ill with mumps, subsequently contracted by Aline	
6–20/21 February	New York	
20/21 February to 6 June	Oxford/London	2 April: Argentina invades Falkland Islands, precipitating the Falklands War  3 June: Shlomo Argov, Israeli ambassador in London, shot and severely wounded by Arab assailants
6–11 June	New York, staying in an apartment on 110 East 57th Street	6 June: Begin uses Argov shooting as pretext for invading Southern Lebanon to drive out PLO
11 June to c. 21 July	Oxford/London, with a visit to Jerusalem; notified, 18 June, of award of Erasmus Prize	14 June: surrender of Argentine garrison brings Falklands War to an end  20 July: IRA bombings in Hyde Park and Regent's Park in central London: 11 die and nearly 50 injured, with seven horses killed or destroyed
c. 21 July to	Paraggi; Salzburg 18–26 August	16–18 September: Sabra and Shatila



19/20 September		massacre of Palestinians and Lebanese Shiites, by Christian Phalangist militiamen, in an area under IDF control
19/20 September to 17 December	Oxford/London	12 November: Lech Wałęsa released from 11 months' internment by Polish government
17 December to end of year	Princeton, as one of a committee of visitors at Historical School there; afterwards joins Aline in New York, 110 East 57th Street	

## 1982 publications

'A Letter from Sir Isaiah Berlin', *Intellectual History*

'Mrs Salome Halpern' (obituary), *The Times*

'Prof. Roman Jakobson' (supplementary obituary), *The Times*

## 1983

New Year to 2 March	Oxford/London: IB forbidden to speak in public by his doctors: 'I have lost my voice – that is, one of my vocal chords is paralysed (don't laugh)' (Sheila Sokolov Grant, 10 January 1983)	8 February: Israeli government's Kahan Commission finds Israel indirectly responsible for Sabra-Shatila massacre, and Defence Minister Ariel Sharon personally responsible: he resigns 14 February
2 March to [?mid] April	Jerusalem, later joined by Herbert Hart, to interview candidates for Rothschild Fellowships; remains abroad with Aline for health reasons	23 March: President Reagan announces 'Star Wars' strategic defence initiative (SDI)
[?mid] April to early July	Oxford/London	9 June: Conservative landslide victory in General Election, with 144 seat majority
Early July to mid-/late September	Paraggi	23 June: Pope John Paul II meets Lech Wałęsa in Poland  22 July: Polish government ends martial law and embarks on steps to create civil society  1 September: Korean Airlines Flight KAL 007 shot down by Soviet jet, after straying off course; all 269 on board are killed
30 September to 4 October	Jerusalem	
4 October to end of year	Oxford/London; possibly with a trip to New York to receive an honorary degree from CUNY, c. 14 November	23 October: over 300 servicemen, principally US Marines, killed by truck bombs in Beirut planted by Islamist terror group

		25 October: US invasion of Grenada
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### 1983 publications

‘Giambattista Vico and Cultural History’, in Leigh S. Cauman and others (eds), *How Many Questions? Essays in Honor of Sidney Morgenbesser*

‘The Conscience of Israel’ (in Hebrew translation), tribute to Yishayahu Leibowitz, *Ha’aretz*

‘Maynard and Lydia Keynes’, in Milo Keynes (ed.), *Lydia Lopokova*

‘The Gentle Genius’, review of *Turgenev’s Letters*, selected, trans. and ed. A. V. Knowles, *New York Review of Books*

‘Isaiah Berlin et le progrès’ (letter), *Le Monde Dimanche*

‘Reply to Robert Kocis’, *Political Studies*

Contribution to ‘Books of the Year’, *Sunday Times*

(with others) ‘Charges Against KOR Repudiated’ (letter), *The Times*

Contribution to Linda Sternberg Katz and Bill Katz, *Writer’s Choice: A Library of Rediscoveries*

Contribution to Morris Halle and Paul E. Gray (eds), *A Tribute to Roman Jakobson 1896–1982*

### 1984

New Year to early/mid–March	Oxford/London	
9–c. 15 March	Jerusalem	12 March: National Union of Mine Workers begin 51-week strike over threatened pit closures
15 March to 15 July	Oxford/London, with an early visit to Paraggi	8 May: Moscow announces boycott of Los Angeles Olympics, followed by almost the entire Eastern Bloc  30 May: Prince Charles denounces design for an addition to National Gallery in London as a ‘monstrous carbuncle on the face of a much-loved and elegant friend’ (000/0)  6 June: Indian troops storm the Golden Temple in Amritsar in an action directed against Sikh militants; many hundreds killed
15 July to 11/12 September	Paraggi, with a visit to Salzburg in August	
11/12 September to end of year	Oxford/London	26 September: Britain & China finalize agreement to hand control of Hong Kong to China in 1997  12 October: IRA targets British cabinet in bombing of Grand Hotel, Brighton, during Conservative Party conference; five killed, with Mrs Thatcher narrowly escaping injury  31 October: Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India, assassinated in New Delhi by Sikh

		<p>bodyguards</p> <p>6 November: Ronald Reagan re-elected US President, defeating Democrat Walter Mondale</p> <p>16 December: future Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife Raisa entertained by Mrs Thatcher at Chequers</p> <p>29 December: Rajiv Gandhi, son of Indira, wins landslide election victory</p>
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### 1984 publications

‘A New Woman in Russia’, review of John Carswell, *The Exile: A Life of Ivy Litvinov*, *Sunday Times*  
‘Mozart at Glyndebourne Half a Century Ago’, in John Higgins (ed.), *Glyndebourne: A Celebration*  
Foreword to Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, *If Only My People...’: Zionism in My Life*  
Tribute to Sir Hugh Casson, *RA* (the magazine for the Friends of the Royal Academy)

### 1985

New Year to mid July	Oxford/London	<p>29 January: Oxford University votes against a proposal to award Mrs Thatcher an honorary degree</p> <p>3 March: National Union of Mineworkers votes to end coal strike without winning any concessions over pit closures</p> <p>11 March: Mikhail Gorbachev becomes Soviet leader, and pursues ‘glasnost’ (‘openness’) in politics and society, and ‘perestroika’ (‘restructuring’) in the Soviet economy</p>
Mid–July to mid September	Paraggi	
Mid–September to end of year	Oxford/London; planned trip to New York 27 December–4 January called off due to Aline’s ill health	<p>1 October: riots in Toxteth in Liverpool, and Peckham in south London</p> <p>6 October: riot at Broadwater Farm housing estate in Tottenham claims life of a police officer, Keith Blakelock</p> <p>15 November: Mrs Thatcher and Eire Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald sign Anglo-Irish Agreement at Hillsborough, Co. Down., giving Dublin a role in government of Northern Ireland</p> <p>19-21 November: President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev meet at Geneva summit</p>

		27 December: 18 killed and more than 100 injured in gun attacks at Rome and Vienna airports: the Palestinian terror group Abu Nidal is held responsible
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### 1985 publications

'Nahum Goldmann (1895–1982): A Personal Impression', in William Frankel (ed.), *Survey of Jewish Affairs 1983*

'On Vico' (reply to Zagorin), *Philosophical Quarterly*

Contribution to 'Terence Cornelius Farmer Prittie, 15 December 1913 – 28 May 1985, In Memoriam', *Britain & Israel*

### 1986

New Year	[?] IB in Jerusalem for funeral of his aunt Ida Samunov	
New Year to early June	Oxford/London	28 January: US space shuttle <i>Challenger</i> explodes shortly after takeoff, killing all seven astronauts on board: the event is broadcast on live television  28 April: Soviet authorities admit to accident at Chernobyl nuclear reactor in Ukraine: the worst civil nuclear disaster in history unfolds  15 April: US air raids, mostly flown from British bases, target Libya's President Muammar Qaddafi
Early to mid-June	Jerusalem, to sit on panel overseeing design of new Supreme Court building	
Mid-June to late July	Oxford/London	27 June: International Court of Justice finds US guilty of backing the armed insurgency of Contra rebels in Nicaragua
Late July to mid-September	Paraggi, with visit to Salzburg late August	
Mid-September to mid-December	Oxford/London	12 October: Soviet-US disarmament summit at Reykjavik ends in failure, with President Reagan's refusal to abandon SDI programme  27 October: UK government introduces 'big bang' to City of London, i.e. deregulation of financial markets, notably stock exchange
Mid- to late December	Jerusalem	
Late December to end of year	Oxford/London	23 December: Andrei Sakharov vows to continue public advocacy of human rights after returning to Moscow from seven years' internal exile

### 1986 Publications

‘The Cost of Curing an Oyster’, *Jerusalem Post*  
 ‘Martin Cooper: In Memoriam’, in programme for memorial concert by Lindsay String Quartet, 29 June 1986  
 ‘Memories of Brief Meetings with Ben-Gurion’, *Jewish Quarterly*  
 ‘A Personal Tribute to Adam von Trott (Balliol 1931)’, *Balliol College Annual Record*  
 ‘A Personal View of Super-Titles’, in Glyndebourne Touring Opera 1986 (programme)  
 ‘On Yitzhak Sadeh’ (in Hebrew translation), *Davar*  
 ‘Spender’s “Journals” ’ (letter), *TLS*  
 Entry on J. P. Plamenatz in Lord Blake and C. S. Nicholls (eds), *The Dictionary of National Biography 1971–1980*  
 (with others) ‘Polish-Jewish Studies’ (letter), *New York Review of Books*  
 Contribution to ‘Greetings’, *Secular Humanistic Judaism*  
 Foreword to Neil Cornwell, *The Life, Times and Milieu of V. F. Odoyevsky 1804–1869*

## 1987

New Year to mid-July	Oxford/London, with visits to Jerusalem 8–13 March and Germany 21–30 March; receives honorary degree from New School of Social Research, New York, in May; leaves Board of Royal Opera House 14 July	<p>11 June: Conservative victory in General Election, with a 102 seat majority; Margaret Thatcher becomes the first Prime Minister since Lord Liverpool (1812, 1818, 1820) to win a third successive term</p> <p>12 June: President Reagan, in a speech at Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, urges Mikhail Gorbachev to ‘tear down this wall!’</p> <p>24 June: Roy Jenkins installed as Chancellor of University of Oxford</p> <p>3 July: Klaus Barbie, former head of Gestapo in Lyon, sentenced to life imprisonment by a Lyon court for his role in Holocaust</p>
Mid-July to mid-September	Paraggi, with a flying visit to London, 30 July, to attend a performance of ‘The Queen of Spades’ during historic visit of Kirov Opera to Covent Garden; ten day visit to Salzburg in August; later two/three days in Pesaro attending Rossini operas	
Mid-September to end of year	Oxford/London	<p>22 October: Joseph Brodsky awarded Nobel Prize for Literature</p> <p>8 November: IRA bomb kills eleven at Remembrance Day service in Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh</p> <p>8 December: President Reagan and Mikhail</p>

		Gorbachev sign Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty
		9 December: beginning of the First Intifada ('uprising') against Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories of Gaza and West Bank

### 1987 publications

'David Cecil (1902–1986)', in *Reports for 1985–86 and 1986–87* (List of Fellows and Members for 1987) (London, [1987]: Royal Society of Literature)

'Edmund Wilson at Oxford', *Yale Review*

Contribution to 'Books of the Year: Who read what in 1987?', *Sunday Times*

### 1988

New Year to 14 February	Oxford/London	
14–16 February	Turin: IB receives inaugural Agnelli Prize, 15 February	
Second half of February	Oxford/London	
End of February	Jerusalem, interviewing for Rothschild Fellowships	
First half of March	Oxford/London	3 March: SDP-Liberal merger creates Liberal Democrats  16 March: Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein launches chemical weapons attack on Kurdish city of Halabja, northern Iraq, killing thousands
18–c. 30/31 March	USSR: Moscow and Leningrad	
1 April to early May	Oxford/London	14 April: Soviet Union commits to withdrawal from Afghanistan (beginning May, completed February 1989)
Early to mid-May	Jerusalem: receives honorary degree from Ben-Gurion University, 2 May	
Mid-May to mid-July	Oxford and London	3 July: USS <i>Vincennes</i> shoots down Iranian passenger airliner over Persian Gulf, mistaking it for a hostile fighter
Mid July to mid-September	Paraggi, with visit to Salzburg mid-August	28–31 July: King Hussein announces disengagement of Jordan from West Bank, and recognition of Palestinian sovereignty there

Mid–September to 1 November	Oxford/London	9 October: mass movement launched in Riga, seeking greater independence for Latvia from Soviet Union
1–30 November	Washington and New York	8 November: Republican George H. W. Bush wins a landslide victory in US Presidential election, defeating Michael Dukakis
1 December to end of year	Oxford/London	21 December: Libyan terror plot causes Pan AM Flight 103 from London to New York, to blow up over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing all on board and 11 on ground

### 1988 publications

Foreword to Ada Rapoport-Albert and Steven J. Zipperstein (eds), *Jewish History: Essays in Honour of Chimen Abramsky*

*On the Pursuit of the Ideal* (Turin, 1988: Giovanni Agnelli Foundation)

‘Dorothy de Rothschild’ (obituary), *Independent*

‘Israeli Solution’ (letter), *Independent*

‘Wybór listów od Isaiaha Berlina’ (letters to Beata Polanowska-Sygulska, translated into Polish, with commentary by the recipient), in Beata Polanowska-Sygulska, *Filozofia wolności Isaiaha Berlina*

### 1989

New Year to early March	Oxford/London	14 February: Ayatollah Khomeini issues fatwa condemning British author Salman Rushdie to death for publication of his novel <i>Satanic Verses</i>
Early to mid–March	Jerusalem	
Mid–March to late May	Oxford/London	27 March: many Communist Party candidates defeated in unprecedentedly open Soviet parliamentary elections: Boris Yeltsin wins landslide in Moscow constituency
Late May to early June	New York	3 June: Tiananmen Square massacre: unknown number of civilian protestors killed by Chinese military in bloody suppression of political protest movement centred on there
Early June to mid–July	Oxford/London	
Mid–July to end of September	Paraggi	
End of September to end of year	Oxford/London	18 October: Erich Honecker, leader of German Democratic Republic, forced to step down because of widespread public discontent  9 November: GDR opens its border with West, allowing protestors access to West Berlin, and signifying effective end of Berlin Wall

		<p>10 November: demolition of Berlin Wall begins, prefiguring the end of the Soviet Eastern Bloc, and the reunification of Germany</p> <p>25 December: Nicolae Ceausescu, deposed Communist President of Romania, and his wife Elena, shot by firing squad</p>
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## 1989 publications

‘Writers Remembered: Virginia Woolf’, *The Author*

Foreword to Anatoly Nayman, *Remembering Anna Akhmatova*

Contribution to *Academy of St Martin in the Fields 1959–1989*, 30th anniversary booklet

## 1990

New Year to late June	Oxford/London	<p>11 February: Nelson Mandela freed from prison in South Africa, as President F. W. de Klerk takes steps towards ending apartheid</p> <p>31 March: violent anti-Poll Tax riot in London’s West End, centred on Trafalgar Square</p> <p>24 April: US Hubble space telescope launched from Cape Canaveral in Florida</p> <p>4 May: Latvia's parliament declares country’s de jure independence from Soviet Union</p>
Late June to 1 July	Hohenems, Austria, for Schubert festival	
1 July to mid-July	Oxford/London	
Mid-July to mid-September	Paraggi, with visits to music festivals at Pesaro, Salzburg and Mondsee	2 August: Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, beginning sequence of events that lead to the Gulf War; Saddam Hussein annexes Kuwait, declaring it the 19th Iraqi province
Mid-September to end of year	Oxford/London	<p>3 October: East and West Germany reunited in a single democratic state</p> <p>14 November: Michael Heseltine stands as Conservative leader, forcing an election</p> <p>22 November: Mrs Thatcher resigns as Conservative leader, and Prime Minister, after failing to win outright in first round ballot of leadership contest</p> <p>27 November: John Major wins second round</p>



		ballot, becoming Conservative leader and Prime Minister
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## 1990 publications

*The Crooked Timber of Humanity: Chapters in the History of Ideas*

‘Joseph de Maistre and the Origins of Fascism’, in CTH, 91–174; repr. in slightly shortened form in *New York Review of Books*

Contribution to *The Evolution of the Symphony Orchestra: History, Problems and Agenda*

Contribution to *Robert B. Silvers*

Contribution to ‘The State of Europe: Christmas Eve 1989’ in *Granta*

Contribution (on Mozart) to *Vita*

Contribution to programme insert on Garrett Drogheda ([London, 1990: Royal Opera House]) (with others) ‘An Open Letter On Anti-Armenian Pogroms in the Soviet Union’ (letter), *New York Review of Books*

Letter on Boris Pasternak, *TLS*

Reply to letter on Herder, *New York Review of Books*

## 1991

New Year to mid-July	Oxford/London	<p>17 January–28 February: Operation Desert Storm: US-led coalition drives Iraq from Kuwait</p> <p>7 February: IRA attempts to assassinate British cabinet in mortar attack on 10 Downing Street</p> <p>21 May: former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi assassinated while campaigning in Tamil Nadu</p> <p>13 June: Boris Yeltsin elected President of Russian Federation</p> <p>25 June: Slovenia and Croatia declare independence from Serb-dominated Yugoslav Federation, beginning years of ethnic conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina</p>
Mid-July to late September	Paraggi, with a brief visit to London early September	13–21 August: hard line Communist Party and KGB members attempt to depose Mikhail Gorbachev; their coup fails, signalling the end of Communist Party in Russia
Late September to mid-/late December	Oxford/London	
Mid-/late December	Israel (Dead Sea and Jerusalem), where IB contracts ‘a mysterious illness’: admitted to Hadassah Hospital	25 December: Mikhail Gorbachev formally resigns as President of USSR; Boris Yeltsin effectively succeeds him, as President of Russian Federation

		26 December: USSR formally ceases to exist, replaced by Commonwealth of Independent States
End of year	Oxford/London	

### 1991 publications

‘Der Vetter aus Oxford’ (Yehudi Menuhin), in Jutta Schall-Emden (ed.), *Weder Pauken noch Trompeten: Für Yehudi Menuhin*  
Letter to Antonio Verri, in Antonio Verri (ed.), *Vico e il pensiero contemporaneo*  
(with others) ‘The Detention of Sari Nusseibeh’ (letter), *Independent*  
(with others) ‘The Detention of Sari Nusseibeh’ (letter), *New York Review of Books*  
‘Position on the Chair’ (letter), *Observer*

### 1992

New Year to 23 June	Oxford/London; appears on Desert Island Discs, Radio 4, Sunday 19 April	9 April: Conservatives win General Election with reduced majority of 21 seats
23–29 June	Hohenems music festival, Austria	
29 June to end of July	Oxford/London	18 July: John Smith elected Labour leader, in succession to Neil Kinnock
August to end of September	Paraggi	16 September: ‘Black Wednesday’: John Major’s government suspends British membership of European Exchange Rate Mechanism, as pound plummets in value
End of September to end of year	Oxford/London	4 November: Democratic candidate Bill Clinton defeats the incumbent George H. W. Bush to win US Presidential election

### 1992 publications

‘Alexander and Salome Halpern’ (in Russian translation), in a Russian collection: Mikhail Parkhomovsky (ed.), *Jews in the Culture of Russia Abroad: Collected Articles, Publications, Memoirs and Essays*  
‘The Early Years’, in Freda Silver Jackson (ed.), *Then and Now: A Collection of Recollections* (Oxford, 1992: Oxford Jewish Congregation)  
‘Reply to Ronald H. McKinney, “Towards a Postmodern Ethics: Sir Isaiah Berlin and John Caputo” [Journal of Value Inquiry 26 (1992), 395–407]’, *Journal of Value Inquiry*  
Introduction to *Founders and Followers: Literary Lectures given on the occasion of the 150th Anniversary of the Founding of the London Library*  
Introduction to programme for concert given to celebrate the inauguration of Israel’s new Supreme Court Building, November 1992  
Letters to Connor Cruise O’Brien in Conor Cruise O’Brien, *The Great Melody: A Thematic Biography and Commented Anthology of Edmund Burke*  
‘Mixing It’ (letter), *Oxford Magazine*  
‘No Trace of Roguery’ (letter), *Spectator*  
(unattributed) ‘Professor H. L. A. Hart’ (obituary), *The Times*  
Contribution to feature on the literary canon, *Times Higher Education Supplement*

Appreciation of David Patterson, *Centre Piece* [Newsletter of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies]  
 Comment in Charles C. Brown, *Niebuhr and His Age: Reinhold Niebuhr's Prophetic Role and Legacy*

## 1993

New Year to 16 June	Oxford/London	26 February: Islamist terrorists detonate car bomb in World Trade Center in New York, killing five and injuring scores more  20 March: IRA bombs Warrington, killing two boys, aged three and fifteen, and injuring over 50
16–21/22 June	Feldkirch (formerly Hohenems) music festival, Austria	
21/22 June to late July	Oxford/London	
Late July to [? Mid–] September	Paraggi	13 September: Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO leader Yasser Arafat shake hands on White House lawn, affirming the Oslo I Accord, aimed at bringing an end to the Palestine-Israel conflict
[? Mid–] September to end of year	Oxford/London	4 October: US forces in Somalia embroiled in fierce battle in Mogadishu after attempt to capture local warlord fails  15 December: British and Irish premiers sign Joint Declaration of Peace, in an effort to bring an end to Northern Ireland 'Troubles'

## 1993 publications

*The Magus of the North: J. G. Hamann and the Origins of Modern Irrationalism*

'England's Mistaken Moralists' (G. E. Moore in *Principia Ethica*), contribution to 'Speaking Volumes', *Times Higher Education Supplement*

'A Reply to David West', *Political Studies*

'Yitzhak Sadeh', *Midstream*

Contribution to Sir Isaiah Berlin and others, *Herbert Lionel Adolphus Hart 1907–1992: Speeches Delivered at Memorial Ceremony on 6 February 1993*

Contribution (on books read during 1992) to *Misuzu*

Contribution to tenth anniversary CD booklet for Music at Oxford

## 1994

New Year to end of August	Oxford/London	5 February: mortar bomb explodes in Sarajevo market place, killing 68 and wounding 200; Serb artillery subsequently withdraws from near Sarajevo, after threat of NATO airstrikes
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		<p>6 April: death of Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana triggers ethnic violence that results in deaths of at least 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus at hands of Hutu militants in roughly 100-day period</p> <p>10 May: African National Congress wins South Africa's first democratic elections, its leader, Nelson Mandela, becoming the country's first black president</p> <p>27 May: Alexander Solzhenitsyn returns to Russia from 20 years' exile in US, and is highly critical of new leadership there</p> <p>1 July: Yasser Arafat returns to Gaza after 27 years' exile</p> <p>21 July: Tony Blair elected Labour leader, following untimely death of John Smith in May</p> <p>31 August: IRA announces a complete ceasefire; Russian troops withdraw from Estonia and Latvia, and other former Eastern Bloc states</p>
September [dates unknown]	Paraggi	
September to mid-October	Oxford/London	
Mid-October	New York, and Toronto for an honorary degree	<p>13 October: Loyalist paramilitaries in Northern Ireland announce ceasefire</p> <p>14 October: Yasser Arafat, Shimon Peres, and Yitzhak Rabin share Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts to create peace in Middle East through the Oslo Accords</p>
Mid-October to end of year	Oxford/London	<p>26 October: Yitzhak Rabin and King Hussein of Jordan sign treaty ending 46 years of war between Israel and Jordan</p> <p>9 December: British officials meet representatives of Sinn Féin for formal talks</p>

### 1994 publications

'La rivoluzione romantica: una crisi nella storia del pensiero moderno', in Isaiah Berlin, *Tra la filosofia e la storia delle idee: intervista autobiografica*, ed. Steven Lukes

(with Bernard Williams) 'Pluralism and Liberalism: A Reply' (to George Crowder, 'Pluralism and Liberalism', *Political Studies* 42 (1994), 293–303), *Political Studies*

Introduction to Joseph de Maistre, *Considerations on France*, ed. Richard A. Lebrun

Introduction to James Tully (ed.), *Philosophy in an Age of Pluralism: The Philosophy of Charles Taylor in Question*

Contribution to Brian Harrison (ed.), *Corpuscles: A history of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, in the twentieth century, written by its members*

Contribution to 'Brushes with Genius' (meetings with Picasso), *Independent on Sunday*

Contribution to 'Classics of Our Time', *Sunday Telegraph*

Contribution to 'Referred Pleasures: Fifteen writers celebrate their favourite reference books', *TLS*

Tribute to Sir Neville Marriner, in souvenir programme for his 70th birthday concert, 5 April 1994, Royal Festival Hall

## 1995

January to December	Remains in Oxford and London, travelling to Bologna, 3 May, to receive honorary degree; in September/early October has a pacemaker fitted	<p>17 January: earthquake measuring 7.2 on Richter scale strikes Japanese city of Kobe, killing more than 6,000</p> <p>19 May: bomb in government building in Oklahoma City kills 168: a former Gulf War veteran with grievances against Federal government is convicted of the crime</p> <p>11-13 June: more than 8,000 Bosnian Muslims, sheltering in a UN 'safe area', are massacred by units of Bosnian Serb Army in town of Srebrenica</p> <p>29 June: <i>Mir</i> Russian space station and US shuttle <i>Atlantis</i> dock in orbit, signalling a new era of cooperation in space between the former Cold War adversaries</p> <p>28 September: Yitzhak Rabin and Yasser Arafat sign deal in Washington giving Palestinians self-rule on West Bank</p> <p>4 November: Yitzhak Rabin assassinated by radical Orthodox Jew opposed to Oslo Accords; succeeded by Shimon Peres</p> <p>10 November: Nigeria suspended from Commonwealth after government of General Sani Abacha executes writer and activist Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other dissidents</p> <p>14 December: presidents of Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia sign Dayton Accord, in Paris, aimed at bringing an end to ethnic conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina</p>
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		20 December: Buckingham Palace announces that The Queen has written to Prince and Princess of Wales advising them to divorce
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### 1995 publications

'Liberty', in Ted Honderich (ed.), *The Oxford Companion to Philosophy*

Contribution to 'Remembering Stephen' (a tribute to Stephen Spender), *Index on Censorship*

(with Andrzej Walicki) 'Sir Isaiah Berlin do Andrzeja Walickiego' (letters from IB to AW,  
translated by Magda Pietrzak-Merta and Tomasz Merta, with comments by AW), *Res Publica*  
(with Robert Grant) 'Tolstoy and Enlightenment: An Exchange', *Oyster Club*

'Nin Ryan' (obituary), *Independent*

Foreword to '... *from the fruits of her labour she planted a vineyard.*', Essays on the Role of Private  
Philanthropy in Israel to Mark the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of Dorothy de Rothschild,  
7 March 1995

Contribution (on Boris Pasternak, *Doctor Zhivago*) to 'On the Shelf', *Sunday Times*

### 1996

New Year to c. 7 August	Oxford/London	<p>2 January: US combat troops enter Bosnia as peacekeeping force under terms of Dayton Accords</p> <p>10 January: King Hussein of Jordan visits Tel Aviv, in a sign of rapprochement with Israel</p> <p>31 January: Tamil Tiger rebels kill more than 50 in a suicide bombing in financial district of Colombo, during Sri Lanka's long-running civil war</p> <p>9 February: IRA bomb in London's Docklands signals end of its 18 month ceasefire</p> <p>18 April: 17 Greek tourists and an Egyptian tour guide shot dead by Islamist terrorists in Cairo</p> <p>29 May: Benjamin Netanyahu, of Likud, becomes Prime Minister of Israel, narrowly defeating Shimon Peres, of Labor; Netanyahu campaigns against Rabin-Peres peace plan</p> <p>15 June: massive IRA car bomb devastates a busy shopping centre in Manchester</p>
7–12 August	Salzburg	
12–18 August	London	
18–21 August	Pesaro	
21–31 August	London	23 August: Osama bin Laden, founder of militant Islamist al-Qaeda network, issues a

		fatwa declaring war on what he terms the Zionist-Crusaders' alliance  28 August: divorce of Prince and Princess of Wales finalised
31 August to late September	Paraggi	
Late September to end of year	Oxford/London	27 September: Taleban fighters in Afghanistan's civil war take Kabul, declaring an Islamic state, and imposing Sharia law  6 November: Bill Clinton becomes first Democratic President since FDR to be re-elected, defeating Republican Bob Dole  13 December: Ghanaian diplomat Kofi Annan elected Secretary-General of UN, in succession to the Egyptian, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, whose second term was opposed by US

### 1996 publications

*The Sense of Reality: Studies in Ideas and their History*

'Berlin', in Thomas Mautner (ed.), *A Dictionary of Philosophy*

Contribution to 'Why be Jewish?', *The UJS Haggadah*

Supplementary obituary note on Lydia Chukovskaya, *Guardian*

'A Flick back' (letter), *Guardian*

'No smoking in class' (letter), *Sunday Telegraph*

(with others) 'Solidarity with Turkish Writers' (letter), *Independent*

### 1997

New Year to 5 November	Oxford/London; plans to visit Israel in January cancelled due to illness; subsequent plans to visit in April, for Passover, never materialize	1 May: Labour Party wins landslide victory in British General Election: Tony Blair becomes Prime Minister  1 July: sovereignty of Hong Kong transferred from UK to China  19 July: IRA announces a new ceasefire, effective next day  8 July: NATO invites Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland to join the alliance  31 August: Diana, Princess of Wales, dies of injuries sustained in car crash in Paris  6 September: funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales
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		11 September: Scottish voters decisively endorse proposals for a Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh, with powers devolved from Westminster
5 November	IB dies in Oxford	

### 1997 publications

*The Proper Study of Mankind: An Anthology of Essays*

‘Literature and Art in the RSFSR’ (1945) (Russian Translation of part of ‘A Note on Literature and the Arts in the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic in the closing months of 1945’, in Public Record Office FO 371/56725), *Kulisa NG*

‘Sir Thomas Armstrong (1898–1994)’, in *Christ Church 1996*

Contribution to ‘Books of the Century’, *Sunday Telegraph*

Contribution (on his favourite images) to *RA* (The Royal Academy Magazine)

Letters to Rocco Pezzimenti in Rocco Pezzimenti, *The Open Society and its Friends, with letters from Isaiah Berlin and the late Karl R. Popper*