# Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: Speechwriting, Office of: Speech Drafts: Records Folder Title: Taping: Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom (Dolan)(Hayes) 09/20/1988 Box: 416

To see more digitized collections visit: <u>https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digitized-textual-material</u>

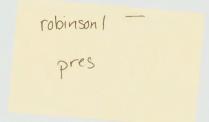
To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Inventories, visit: <u>https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/white-house-inventories</u>

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: <u>https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/research-</u> <u>support/citation-guide</u>

National Archives Catalogue: <u>https://catalog.archives.gov/</u>

Last Updated: 11/14/2024



(DOLAN)

.

TAPING: PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

DEAR FRIENDS AT PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM:

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO BE ABLE TO PERFORM EVEN THIS CAMEO ROLE FOR YOUR ANNUAL FAITH AND FREEDOM DINNER. AS YOU COME TOGETHER EACH YEAR TO HONOR ANOTHER CHAMPION OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, YOU PROVIDE VALUABLE ENCOURAGEMENT TO THOSE WHO HAVE RESPONDED **TO A VERY SPECIAL** CALLING. BUT EVEN MORE IMPORTANTLY, BY BRINGING ATTENTION TO THE WORK DONE ON BEHALF OF

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, YOU LIGHT A CANDLE OF HOPE IN THE DARK CELLS OF MEN AND WOMEN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHO SUFFER SO COURAGEOUSLY -- AND UNJUSTLY -- FOR THEIR RELIGIOUS FAITH. - 2 -

.

AS PRESIDENT, I AM DELIGHTED TO HELP LIGHT THIS CANDLE. INDEED, THERE IS HARDLY ANYTHING THAT RANKS HIGHER FOR ME, AS THE HEAD OF STATE FOR A FREE PEOPLE, THAN TO HELP EXTEND FREEDOM IN OTHER LANDS. AND I MUST SAY THAT, IN MY YEARS AS PRESIDENT, I HAVE MET NO **BRAVER PEOPLE THAN THOSE** WHO, THROUGH GOD'S HELP, HAVE ENDURED SUFFERING FOR THEIR RELIGIOUS FAITH: NOR HAVE I MET MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE MORE SELF-GIVING THAN THOSE WHOM GOD HAS USED TO VISIT THE "LEAST OF THESE" WHO SUFFERED IN HIS NAME.

.

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE A MOMENT TO SEND A SPECIAL GREETING TO THIS YEAR'S RECIPIENTS OF THE FAITH AND FREEDOM AWARD: (BLAH-HO-SLAHV) AND OLGA (HUH-RUBY). WHEN I THINK **OF YOUR EFFORTS OVER** THESE MANY YEARS ON BEHALF OF THOSE WHO HAVE **BEEN HELD CAPTIVE FOR** CONSCIENCE' SAKE, I AM **REMINDED OF THE TITLE OF** THAT MARVELOUS BOOK BY **IRVING STONE ON** MICHELANGELO, THE AGONY AND THE ECSTASY. IT MUST RF AGONT7TNG AS YOU

3

- 3 -

STRUGGLE TO TELL THE STORIES OF THOSE WHO SUFFER, TO AROUSE THE **INTEREST OF OTHERS WHO** ARE BUSY WITH THEIR OWN LIVES, TO WORK YOUR WAY THROUGH A BYZANTINE NETWORK OF CONTACTS TO FIND SOME WAY TO HAVE THEIR CASES REVIEWED, AND FINALLY TO WAIT, AND TO WAIT SOME MORE, HAVING DONE ALL YOU HUMANLY CAN -- BUT SAY ANOTHER PRAYER. ON THE OTHER HAND, I THINK WHAT ECSTASY IT MUST BE TO HAVE WORKED TO GAIN FREEDOM FOR SO MANY. (BLAH-HO-SLAHV) AND

- 4 -

4

OLGA, IN YOUR OWN WAY, YOU ARE ARTISTS, YOU HAVE HELPED TO PAINT A PICTURE FOR OTHERS TO SEE, AND TONIGHT YOU ARE JOINED BY SOME OF THOSE AMERICANS AND PRESBYTERIANS WHO HAVE SEEN THE PICTURE, WHO WISH TO SHARE JUST A PORTION OF YOUR SUFFERING AND YOUR JOY, AND WHO WISH TO SALUTE YOU FOR YOUR WORK OVER THESE YEARS AT R.C.D.A, - 5 -

5

IN RECENT MONTHS, AS ALL OF YOU KNOW, THE SITUATION HAS SHOWN SOME SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT. IN THE LAST 2 YEARS, MORE THAN 300 PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE HAVE BEEN RELEASED IN THE SOVIET UNION, AND THE NUMBER WHO HAVE BEEN IMPRISONED OR PLACED IN PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS HAS BEEN FEW. EQUALLY ENCOURAGING ARE

STATEMENTS FROM GENERAL SECRETARY GORBACHEV THAT **BELIEVERS IN THE SOVIET** UNION SHOULD NOT BE TREATED, AS THEY HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST, AS SECOND CLASS CITIZENS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO A DAY WHEN THERE ARE NO POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS PRISONERS, WHEN NO ONE **BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN IS FORCED TO SUFFER** IMPRISONMENT, HARASSMENT, **OR DISCRIMINATION BECAUSE** OF HIS OR HER RELIGIOUS FAITH.

- 6 -

6

PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, AS A FELLOW AMERICAN AND PARISHIONER FOR MANY YEARS AT BEL-AIR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CALIFORNIA, I AM INDEBTED TO ALL OF YOU FOR THE HARD WORK AND GENEROSITY THAT HAVE RESULTED IN ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING AND EFFECTIVE MOVEMENTS FOR RENEWAL IN THE CHURCH TODAY. JUST 2-YEARS-OLD, AND ALREADY 5,000 STRONG. MAY YOU CONTINUE TO FLOURISH. - 7 -

rı

I AM PARTICULARLY **GRATEFUL TO YOU, JOHN** BOONE, PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER OF P.D.R.F., FOR GIVING THE WORLD SUCH A SPLENDID EXAMPLE OF WHAT IS POSSIBLE THROUGH A KEEN SENSE OF STEWARDSHIP AND VOLUNTARISM. I ALSO SEND A SPECIAL GREETING TO DR. ERNEST GORDON, **RECIPIENT OF LAST YEAR'S** FAITH AND FREEDOM AWARD.

THERE IS NO ADEQUATE WAY TO SAY "THANKS" FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE FOR ALL MANKIND THROUGH YOUR DISTINGUISHED LIFE AS A WAR HERO, WRITER, PASTOR, AND PARTISAN FOR FREEDOM. AND AGAIN, A HEARTFELT THANKS TO YOU, (BLAH-HO-SLAHV) AND OLGA (HUH-RUBY), FOR THE **STEADY AND COURAGEOUS** WORK THAT HAS MADE THIS EVENING POSSIBLE.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

# # #

8

(Dolan edit) September 19, 1988 4:30 p.m.

### PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

Dear friends at Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom:

It is a great pleasure to be able to perform even this cameo role for your annual Faith and Freedom Dinner. As you come together each year to honor another champion of religious freedom, you provide valuable encouragement to those who have responded to a very special calling. But even more importantly, by bringing attention to the work done on behalf of religious freedom, you light a candle of hope in the dark cells of men and women throughout the world who suffer so courageously -- and unjustly -- for their religious faith.

As President, I am delighted to help light this candle. Indeed, there is hardly anything that ranks higher for me, as the head of State for a free people, than to help extend freedom in other lands. And I must say that, in my years as President, I have met no braver people than those who, through God's help, have endured suffering for their religious faith; nor have I met men and women who are more self-giving than those whom God has used to visit the "least of these" who suffered in His name.

I would like to take a moment to send a special greeting to this year's recipients of the Faith and Freedom Award: Blahoslav [blah-ho-slahv] and Olga Hruby [H-ruby]. When I think of your efforts over these many years on behalf of those who have been held captive for conscience' sake, I am reminded of the title of that marvelous book by Irving Stone on Michelangelo, <u>The Agony</u> <u>and the Ecstasy</u>. It must be agonizing as you struggle to tell the stories of those who suffer, to arouse the interest of others who are busy with their own lives, to work your way through a byzantine network of contacts to find some way to have their cases reviewed, and finally to wait, and to wait some more, having done all you humanly can -- but say another prayer. On the other hand, I think what ecstasy it must be to have worked to gain freedom for so many.

Blahoslav [blah-ho-slahv] and Olga, in your own way, you are artists. You have helped to paint a picture for others to see. And tonight you are joined by some of those Americans and Presbyterians who have seen the picture, who wish to share just a portion of your suffering and your joy, and who wish to salute you for your work over these years at R.C.D.A.

In recent months, as all of you know, the situation has shown some signs of improvement. In the last 2 years, more than 300 prisoners of conscience have been released in the Soviet Union, and the number who have been imprisoned or placed in psychiatric hospitals has been few. Equally encouraging are statements from General Secretary Gorbachev that believers in the Soviet Union should not be treated, as they have been in the past, as second class citizens. We look forward to a day when there are no political or religious prisoners, when no one behind the Iron Curtain is forced to suffer imprisonment, harassment, or discrimination because of his or her religious faith.

Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom, as a fellow American and parishioner for many years at Bel-Air Presbyterian Church in California, I am indebted to all of you for the hard work and generosity that have resulted in one of the most exciting and effective movements for renewal in the Church today. Just 2-years-old, and already 5,000 strong. May you continue to flourish.

I am particularly grateful to you, John Boone, President and founder of P.D.R.F., for giving the world such a splendid example of what is possible through a keen sense of stewardship and voluntarism. I also send a special greeting to Dr. Ernest Gordon, recipient of last year's Faith and Freedom Award. There is no adequate way to say "thanks" for what you have done for all mankind through your distinguished life as a war hero, writer, pastor, and partisan for freedom, And again, a heartfelt thanks to you, Blahoslav [blah-ho-slahv] and Olga Hruby [H-ruby], for the steady and courageous work that has made this evening possible.

God bless you all.

- 3 -

held captive for conscience' sake, I am reminded of the title of that marvelous book by Irving Stone on Michelangelo, <u>The Agony</u> <u>and the Ecstasy</u>. It must be agonizing as you struggle to tell the stories of those who suffer, to arouse the interest of others who are busy with their own lives, to work your way through a byzantine network of contacts to find some way to have their cases reviewed, and finally to wait, and to wait some more, having done all you humanly can -- but say another prayer. On the other hand, I think what ecstasy it must be to have worked to gain freedom for so many.

Blahoslav [blah-ho-slahv] and Olga, in your own way, you are artists. You have helped to paint a picture for others to see. And tonight you are joined by some of those Americans and Presbyterians who have seen the picture, who wish to share just a portion of your suffering and your joy, and who wish to salute you for your work over these years at <u>R.C.D.A.</u>

In recent months, as all of you know, the situation has shown some signs of improvement. In the last 2 years, more than 300 prisoners of conscience have been released in the Soviet Union and the number who have been imprisoned or placed in psychiatric hospitals has been few. Equally encouraging are statements from General Secretary Gorbachev that believers in the Soviet Union should not be treated, as they have been in the past, as second class citizens. We look to a day when there are no political or religious prisoners, when no one behind the Iron Curtain is forced to suffer imprisonment, harassment, or discrimination because of his or her religious faith.

Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom, as a fellow American and parishioner for many years at Belf-Air Presbyterian Church in California, I am indebted to all of you for the hard work and generosity that have resulted in one of the most exciting and effective movements for renewal in the Church today. Just 2-years-old, and already 5,000 strong. May you continue to flourish.

I am particularly grateful to you, John Boone, President and founder of P.D.R.F., for giving the world such a splendid example of what is possible through a keen sense of stewardship and voluntarism. I also send a special greeting to Dr. Ernest Gordon, recipient of last year's Faith and Freedom Award. There is no adequate way to say "thanks" for what you have done for all mankind through your distinguished life as a war hero, writer, pastor, and partisan for freedom, And again, a heartfelt thanks to you, Blahoslav [blah-ho-slahv] and Olga Hruby [H-ruby], for the steady and courageous work that has made this evening possible.

God bless you all.

- 3 -

(Dolan edit) September 15, 1988 4:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING:

Х

X

PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

Dear friends at Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom:

It is a great pleasure to be able to perform even this cameo role for your annual Faith and Freedom Dinner. As you come together each year to honor another champion of religious freedom, you provide valuable encouragement to those who have responded to a very special calling. But even more important by bringing attention to the work done on behalf of religious freedom, you light a candle of hope in the dark cells of men and women throughout the world who suffer so courageously -- and unjusty needlessly -- for their religious faith.

As President, I am delighted to help light this candle. Indeed, there is hardly anything that ranks higher for me, as the head of State for a free people, than to help extend freedom in other lands. And I must say that in my years as President, I have met no braver people than those who, through God's help, have endured suffering for their religious faith; nor have I met men re women who are more self-giving than those whom God has used to visit the "least of these" who suffered in His name.

I would like to take a moment to send a special greeting to  $\begin{bmatrix} b|ah \\ h \end{bmatrix}$ this year's recipients of the Faith and Freedom Award: Blahoslav house the semany and Olga Hruby. When I think of your efforts over these many years on behalf of those who have been held captive for conscience' sake, I am reminded of the title of that marvelous book by Irving Stone on Michelangelo, <u>The Agony and the Ecstasy</u>. It must be agonizing as you struggle to tell <u>their</u> stories, to arouse the interest of others who are busy with their own lives, to work your way through a byzantine network of contacts to find some way to have their cases reviewed, and finally to wait, and to wait some more, having done all you humanly can -- but say another prayer. On the other hand, I think what ecstasy it must worked to gain freedom for 50 manuf, be to have/<u>some success in gaining the release of a Solzhenitsyn</u>, a Shoharansky, a Georgi Vins, a Vladimir Bukovsky, or a group of-<u>Pentecostals known as the Siberian Seven</u>.

Blahoslav and Olga, in your own way, you are artists. You have helped to paint a picture for others to see. And tonight you are joined by some of those Americans and Presbyterians who have seen the picture, who wish to share just a portion of your suffering and your joy, and who wish to salute you for your work over these years at <u>R.C.D.A</u>.

In recent months, as all of you know, the situation has the situation has the occasions for joy have come more frequently. In the last 7 years, more than 300 prisoners of conscience have been released in the Soviet (\*) insert from draft Union should not be treated, as they have been in the past, as second class citizens.

Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom, as a fellow American and parishioner for many years at Bell-Air Presbyterian Church in California, I am indebted to all of you for the hard work and generosity that have resulted in one of the most exciting and effective movements for renewal in the Church We look N to a day when there are no plitical ir religious primers, when no one behind the Iron Curtain is creat to suffer imprisonment, is struct, or disc mination being the formation of the s failer



today. Just 2-years-old, and already 5,000 strong. May you continue to flourish.

. \*

X

I am particularly grateful to you, John Boone, President and founder of P.D.R.F., for giving the world such a splendid example of what is possible through a keen sense of stewardship and voluntarism. I also send a special greeting to my dear friend, Dr. Ernest Gordon, recipient of last year's Faith and Freedom Award. There is no adequate way to say "thanks" for what you have done for all mankind through your distinguished life as a war hero, writer, pastor, and partisan for freedom, And again, a heartfelt thanks to you, Blahoslav and Olga Hruby, for the steady and courageous work that has made this evening possible. God bless you-

### THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

9/16/88

Rebecca:

Several sentences were skipped on page 2 of the Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom speech.

Add the following sentence where I've noted:

"and the number who have been imprisoned or placed in psychiatric hostpials has been few. Equally encouraging are statements from General Secretary Gorbacheve that believers in the..."

Thanks,

Marian MJP



•

Document No. 576 891

## WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE:	09/15/88			MMENT DUE BY: C.O.B. Friday 'S SPORTS FOUNDATION	09/16/88		
SUBJECT:	PRESIDENTIAL	2.	YOUTH ALZHE THANK CHRIS	ENTREPRENEURSHIP SEMINA IMER'S ASSOCIATION DINNE SGIVING MESSAGE FOR THE	<u>ER</u> ARMED F ED FORC		
FREEDOM ACTION FYI						ACTION FYI	
VICE F	PRESIDENT			HOOLEY			
DUBERSTEIN				KRANOWITZ NONE	9		
POWI	ELL NHALD			MASENG hove 135	V		
MILLE	R - OMB			RANGE atta			
OGLE	SBY			RISQUE			
BAUE	R LOWE			RYAN			
CRIPP	en work and			SPRINKEL			
CULV	AHOUSE			тиск			
DAW	SON			TUTTLE			
DON	ATELLI	Ø		BOARD			
FITZV	VATER			MCKINNEY WOWE			
нове	35			DOLAN FAUIKNER			

### REMARKS:

-

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Tony Dolan by close of business on Friday, 09/16, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

#### **RESPONSE:**

Rhett Dawson Ext. 2702

(Dolan edit) September 15, 1988 4:00 p.m.

### PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND SEP 15 FI 5: 10 RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

Dear friends at Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom:

.

It is a great pleasure to be able to perform even this cameo role for your annual Faith and Freedom Dinner. As you come together each year to honor another champion of religious freedom, you provide valuable encouragement to those who have responded to a very special calling. But even more important, by bringing attention to the work done on behalf of religious freedom, you light a candle of hope in the dark cells of men and women throughout the world who suffer so courageously -- and needlessly -- for their religious faith.

As President, I am delighted to help light this candle. Indeed, there is hardly anything that ranks higher for me, as the head of State for a free people, than to help extend freedom in other lands. And I must say that in my years as President, I have met no braver people than those who, through God's help, have endured suffering for their religious faith; nor have I met men or women who are more self-giving than those whom God has used to visit the "least of these" who suffered in His name.

I would like to take a moment to send a special greeting to this year's recipients of the Faith and Freedom Award: Blahoslav and Olga Hruby. When I think of your efforts over these many years on behalf of those who have been held captive for conscience' sake, I am reminded of the title of that marvelous book by Irvine Stone on Michelangelo, <u>The Agony and the Ecstasy</u>. It must be agonizing as you struggle to tell their stories, to arouse the interest of others who are busy with their own lives, to work your way through a byzantine network of contacts to find some way to have their cases reviewed, and finally to wait, and to wait some more, having done all you humanly can -- but say another prayer. On the other hand, I think what ecstasy it must be to have some success in gaining the release of a Solzhenitsyn, a Shoharansky, a Georgi Vins, a Vladimir Bukovsky, or a group of Pentecostals known as the Siberian Seven.

Blahoslav and Olga, in your own way, you are artists. You have helped to paint a picture for others to see. And tonight you are joined by some of those Americans and Presbyterians who have seen the picture, who wish to share just a portion of your suffering and your joy, and who wish to salute you for your work over these years at <u>R.C.D.A</u>.

In recent months, as all of you know, the occasions for joy have come more frequently. In the last 3 years, more than 300 prisoners of conscience have been released in the Soviet Union should not be treated, as they have been in the past, as second class citizens.

Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom, as a fellow American and parishioner for many years at Bell Air Presbyterian Church in California, I am indebted to all of you for the hard work and generosity that have resulted in one of the most exciting and effective movements for renewal in the Church

today. Just 2-years-old, and already 5,000 strong. May you continue to flourish.

I am particularly grateful to you, John Boone, President and founder of P.D.R.F., for giving the world such a splendid example of what is possible through a keen sense of stewardship and voluntarism. I also send a special greeting to my dear friend, Dr. Ernest Gordon, recipient of last year's Faith and Freedom Award. There is no adequate way to say "thanks" for what you have done for all mankind through your distinguished life as a war hero, writer, pastor, and partisan for freedom, And again, a heartfelt thanks to you, Blahoslav and Olga Hruby, for the steady and courageous work that has made this evening possible. God bless you.

- 3 -

(Dolan edit) September 15, 1988 4:00 p.m.

### PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

Dear friends at Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom:

It is a great pleasure to be able to perform even this cameo role for your annual Faith and Freedom Dinner. As you come together each year to honor another champion of religious freedom, you provide valuable encouragement to those who have responded to a very special calling. But even more important, by bringing attention to the work done on behalf of religious freedom, you light a candle of hope in the dark cells of men and women throughout the world who suffer so courageously -- and needlessly -- for their religious faith.

As President, I am delighted to help light this candle. Indeed, there is hardly anything that ranks higher for me, as the head of State for a free people, than to help extend freedom in other lands. And I must say that in my years as President, I have met no braver people than those who, through God's help, have endured suffering for their religious faith; nor have I met men or women who are more self-giving than those whom God has used to visit the "least of these" who suffered in His name.

I would like to take a moment to send a special greeting to this year's recipients of the Faith and Freedom Award: Blahoslav and Olga Hruby. When I think of your efforts over these many years on behalf of those who have been held captive for conscience' sake, I am reminded of the title of that marvelous book by Irvine Stone on Michelangelo, <u>The Agony and the Ecstasy</u>. It must be agonizing as you struggle to tell their stories, to arouse the interest of others who are busy with their own lives, to work your way through a byzantine network of contacts to find some way to have their cases reviewed, and finally to wait, and to wait some more, having done all you humanly can -- but say another prayer. On the other hand, I think what ecstasy it must be to have some success in gaining the release of a Solzhenitsyn, a Shoharansky, a Georgi Vins, a Vladimir Bukovsky, or a group of Pentecostals known as the Siberian Seven.

Blahoslav and Olga, in your own way, you are artists. You have helped to paint a picture for others to see. And tonight you are joined by some of those Americans and Presbyterians who have seen the picture, who wish to share just a portion of your suffering and your joy, and who wish to salute you for your work over these years at <u>R.C.D.A</u>.

In recent months, as all of you know, the occasions for joy have come more frequently. In the last 3 years, more than 300 prisoners of conscience have been released in the Soviet Union should not be treated, as they have been in the past, as second class citizens.

Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom, as a fellow American and parishioner for many years at Bell Air Presbyterian Church in California, I am indebted to all of you for the hard work and generosity that have resulted in one of the most exciting and effective movements for renewal in the Church

today. Just 2-years-old, and already 5,000 strong. May you continue to flourish.

1

I am particularly grateful to you, John Boone, President and founder of P.D.R.F., for giving the world such a splendid example of what is possible through a keen sense of stewardship and voluntarism. I also send a special greeting to my dear friend, Dr. Ernest Gordon, recipient of last year's Faith and Freedom Award. There is no adequate way to say "thanks" for what you have done for all mankind through your distinguished life as a war hero, writer, pastor, and partisan for freedom, And again, a heartfelt thanks to you, Blahoslav and Olga Hruby, for the steady and courageous work that has made this evening possible. God bless you.

- 3 -

### WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: AC		NCE/CO WOMEN	MMENT DUE BY: C.O.B	. Friday 09/16/88
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL T	APING: 3. 4.	YOUTH ALZHH THANN CHRIS	I ENTREPRENEURSHIP EIMER'S ASSOCIATIO (SGIVING MESSAGE F TMAS MESSAGE FOR	SEMINARS N DINNER OR THE ARMED FORCES
	DOM	ACTION FYI		
VICE PRESIDENT			HOOLEY	
DUBERSTEIN			KRANOWITZ	
POWELL			MASENG	☞, □
MILLER - OMB			RANG	
OGLESBY			RISQUE	
BAUER			RYAN	
CRIPPEN			SPRINKEL	
CULVAHOUSE			тиск	
DAWSON		☑	TUTTLE	
DONATELLI	Ø		BOARD	
FITZWATER			MCKINNEY	
HOBBS			DOLAN FAULKNER	

#### **REMARKS:**

oʻ 🖷

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Tony Dolan by close of business on Friday, 09/16, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

**RESPONSE:** 

Please see additions to speeches 2+6

Rhett Dawson Ext. 2702

(Dolan edit) September 15, 1988 4:00 p.m.

#### PRESIDENTIAL TAPING:

• ·

PRESEVTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND SEP 15 F. 5: 10 RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

Dear friends at Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom:

> It is a great pleasure to be able to perform even this cameo role for your annual Faith and Freedom Dinner. As you come together each year to honor another champion of religious freedom, you provide valuable encouragement to those who have responded to a very special calling. But even more important, by bringing attention to the work done on behalf of religious freedom, you light a candle of hope in the dark cells of men and women throughout the world who suffer so courageously -- and needlessly -- for their religious faith.

> As President, I am delighted to help light this candle. Indeed, there is hardly anything that ranks higher for me, as the head of State for a free people, than to help extend freedom in other lands. And I must say that in my years as President, I have met no braver people than those who, through God's help, have endured suffering for their religious faith; nor have I met men or women who are more self-giving than those whom God has used to visit the "least of these" who suffered in His name.

> I would like to take a moment to send a special greeting to this year's recipients of the Faith and Freedom Award: Blahoslav and Olga Hruby. When I think of your efforts over these many years on behalf of those who have been held captive for

conscience' sake, I am reminded of the title of that marvelous book by Irvine Stone on Michelangelo, <u>The Agony and the Ecstasy</u>. It must be agonizing as you struggle to tell their stories, to arouse the interest of others who are busy with their own lives, to work your way through a byzantine network of contacts to find some way to have their cases reviewed, and finally to wait, and to wait some more, having done all you humanly can -- but say another prayer. On the other hand, I think what ecstasy it must be to have some success in gaining the release of a Solzhenitsyn, a Shoharansky, a Georgi Vins, a Vladimir Bukovsky, or a group of Pentecostals known as the Siberian Seven.

Blahoslav and Olga, in your own way, you are artists. You have helped to paint a picture for others to see. And tonight you are joined by some of those Americans and Presbyterians who have seen the picture, who wish to share just a portion of your suffering and your joy, and who wish to salute you for your work over these years at <u>R.C.D.A</u>.

In recent months, as all of you know, the occasions for joy have come more frequently. In the last 3 years, more than 300 prisoners of conscience have been released in the Soviet Union should not be treated, as they have been in the past, as second class citizens.

Suser .

Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom, as a fellow American and parishioner for many years at Bell Air Presbyterian Church in California, I am indebted to all of you for the hard work and generosity that have resulted in one of the most exciting and effective movements for renewal in the Church

today. Just 2-years-old, and already 5,000 strong. May you continue to flourish.

-

I am particularly grateful to you, John Boone, President and founder of P.D.R.F., for giving the world such a splendid example of what is possible through a keen sense of stewardship and voluntarism. I also send a special greeting to my dear friend, Dr. Ernest Gordon, recipient of last year's Faith and Freedom Award. There is no adequate way to say "thanks" for what you have done for all mankind through your distinguished life as a war hero, writer, pastor, and partisan for freedom, And again, a heartfelt thanks to you, Blahoslav and Olga Hruby, for the steady and courageous work that has made this evening possible. God bless you.

- 3 -

### THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

9/16/88

Rebecca:

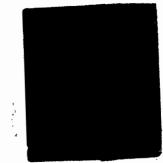
Several sentences were skipped on page 2 of the Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom speech.

Add the following sentence where I've noted:

"and the number who have been imprisoned or placed in psychiatric hostpials has been few. Equally encouraging are statements from General Secretary Gorbacheve that believers in the..."

Thanks,

Marian MA



Document No.

6704

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE:	09/15/88		ENCE/CO	MMENT DUE BY: C.O.B.	Friday 09/16/88	
SUBJECT:	PRESIDENTIA	2. L TAPING: 3. 4. 5.	YOUTH ALZHE THANK CHRIS	I'S SPORTS FOUNDAT ENTREPRENEURSHIP IMER'S ASSOCIATION SGIVING MESSAGE FOR TMAS MESSAGE FOR T YTERIANS FOR DEMOD	SEMINARS <u>I DINNER</u> OR THE ARMED FORCES	
		OM	ACTION FYI			
VICE	PRESIDENT			HOOLEY		
DUBERSTEIN				KRANOWITZ		
POW	ELL			MASENG		
MILLI	ER - OMB			RANGE		
· OGLE	SBY			RISQUE		
BAU	R			RYAN		
CRIP	PEN			SPRINKEL		
ϹႮႱჄ	AHOUSE		Ó	тиск		
DAW	SON			TUTTLE		
DON	ATELLI	Ø		BOARD		
FITZV	VATER			MCKINNEY		
НОВІ	85			DOLAN FAULKNER		$\square$

### **REMARKS:**

. .

Please provide any comments/recommendations directly to Tony Dolan by close of business on Friday, 09/16, with an info copy to my office. Thanks.

September 16, 1988

**RESPONSE:** 

The NSC Staff concurs as amended.

Lh

Paul Schott Stevens Executive Secretary

Rhett Dawson Ext. 2702

(Dolan edit) September 15, 1988 4:00 p.m.

### PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND SEP 15 P.1 5: 10 RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

Dear friends at Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom:

It is a great pleasure to be able to perform even this cameo role for your annual Faith and Freedom Dinner. As you come together each year to honor another champion of religious freedom, you provide valuable encouragement to those who have responded to a very special calling. But even more important, by bringing attention to the work done on behalf of religious freedom, you light a candle of hope in the dark cells of men and women throughout the world who suffer so courageously -- and needlessly -- for their religious faith.

As President, I am delighted to help light this candle. Indeed, there is hardly anything that ranks higher for me, as the head of State for a free people, than to help extend freedom in other lands. And I must say that in my years as President, I have met no braver people than those who, through God's help, have endured suffering for their religious faith; nor have I met men or women who are more self-giving than those whom God has used to visit the "least of these" who suffered in His name.

I would like to take a moment to send a special greeting to this year's recipients of the Faith and Freedom Award: Blahoslav and Olga Hruby. When I think of your efforts over these many years on behalf of those who have been held captive for conscience' sake, I am reminded of the title of that marvelous book by Irvine Stone on Michelangelo, <u>The Agony and the Ecstasy</u>. It must be agonizing as you struggle to tell their stories, to arouse the interest of others who are busy with their own lives, to work your way through a byzantine network of contacts to find some way to have their cases reviewed, and finally to wait, and to wait some more, having done all you humanly can -- but say another prayer. On the other hand, I think what ecstasy it must be to have some success in gaining the release of a Solzhenitsyn, a Shoharansky, a Georgi Vins, a Vladimir Bukovsky, or a group of Pentecostals known as the Siberian Seven.

Blahoslav and Olga, in your own way, you are artists. You have helped to paint a picture for others to see. And tonight you are joined by some of those Americans and Presbyterians who have seen the picture, who wish to share just a portion of your suffering and your joy, and who wish to salute you for your work over these years at <u>R.C.D.A</u>.

In recent months, as all of you know, the occasions for joy have come more frequently. In the last 3 years, more than 300 prisoners of conscience have been released in the Soviet Religious Sellevers Union should not be treated, as they have been in the past, as second class citizens.

Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom, as a fellow American and parishioner for many years at Bell Air Presbyterian Church in California, I am indebted to all of you for the hard work and generosity that have resulted in one of the most exciting and effective movements for renewal in the Church

today. Just 2-years-old, and already 5,000 strong. May you continue to flourish.

I am particularly grateful to you, John Boone, President and founder of P.D.R.F., for giving the world such a splendid example of what is possible through a keen sense of stewardship and voluntarism. I also send a special greeting to my dear friend, Dr. Ernest Gordon, recipient of last year's Faith and Freedom Award. There is no adequate way to say "thanks" for what you have done for all mankind through your distinguished life as a war hero, writer, pastor, and partisan for freedom, And again, a heartfelt thanks to you, Blahoslav and Olga Hruby, for the steady and courageous work that has made this evening possible. God bless you.

(Dolan edit) September 15, 1988 4:00 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL TAPING:

PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

Dear friends at Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom:

It is a great pleasure to be able to perform even this cameo role for your annual Faith and Freedom Dinner. As you come together each year to honor another champion of religious freedom, you provide valuable encouragement to those who have responded to a very special calling. But even more important, by bringing attention to the work done on behalf of religious freedom, you light a candle of hope in the dark cells of men and women throughout the world who suffer so courageously -- and needlessly -- for their religious faith.

As President, I am delighted to help light this candle. Indeed, there is hardly anything that ranks higher for me, as the head of State for a free people, than to help extend freedom in other lands. And I must say that in my years as President, I have met no braver people than those who, through God's help, have endured suffering for their religious faith; nor have I met men or women who are more self-giving than those whom God has used to visit the "least of these" who suffered in His name.

I would like to take a moment to send a special greeting to this year's recipients of the Faith and Freedom Award: Blahoslav and Olga Hruby. When I think of your efforts over these many years on behalf of those who have been held captive for conscience' sake, I am reminded of the title of that marvelous book by Irvine Stone on Michelangelo, <u>The Agony and the Ecstasy</u>. It must be agonizing as you struggle to tell their stories, to arouse the interest of others who are busy with their own lives, to work your way through a byzantine network of contacts to find some way to have their cases reviewed, and finally to wait, and to wait some more, having done all you humanly can -- but say another prayer. On the other hand, I think what ecstasy it must be to have some success in gaining the release of a Solzhenitsyn, a Shoharansky, a Georgi Vins, a Vladimir Bukovsky, or a group of Pentecostals known as the Siberian Seven.

Blahoslav and Olga, in your own way, you are artists. You have helped to paint a picture for others to see. And tonight you are joined by some of those Americans and Presbyterians who have seen the picture, who wish to share just a portion of your suffering and your joy, and who wish to salute you for your work over these years at <u>R.C.D.A</u>.

In recent months, as all of you know, the occasions for joy have come more frequently. In the last 3 years, more than 300 prisoners of conscience have been released in the Soviet Union should not be treated, as they have been in the past, as second class citizens.

Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom, as a fellow American and parishioner for many years at Bell Air Presbyterian Church in California, I am indebted to all of you for the hard work and generosity that have resulted in one of the most exciting and effective movements for renewal in the Church

- 2 -

today. Just 2-years-old, and already 5,000 strong. May you continue to flourish.

I am particularly grateful to you, John Boone, President and founder of P.D.R.F., for giving the world such a splendid example of what is possible through a keen sense of stewardship and voluntarism. I also send a special greeting to my dear friend, Dr. Ernest Gordon, recipient of last year's Faith and Freedom Award. There is no adequate way to say "thanks" for what you have done for all mankind through your distinguished life as a war hero, writer, pastor, and partisan for freedom, And again, a heartfelt thanks to you, Blahoslav and Olga Hruby, for the steady and courageous work that has made this evening possible. God bless you.

- 3 -

(Dolan edit) September 15, 1988 12:00 noon

## PRESIDENTIAL TAPING: PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

Dear friends at Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom:

It is a great pleasure to be able to perform even this cameo role for your annual Faith and Freedom Dinner. As you come together each year to honor another champion of religious freedom, you provide valuable and richly deserved encouragement to those who have responded to a very special calling. But even more importantly, by bringing attention to the work they do on behalf of religious freedom, you light a candle of hope in the dark cells of men and women throughout the world who suffer so courageously -- and needlessly -- for their religious faith.

As President, I am delighted to help light this candle. Indeed, there is hardly anything that ranks higher for me, as the head of State for a free people, than to help extend freedom in other lands. And I must say that in my years as President, I have met no braver people than those who, through God's help, have endured suffering for their religious faith; nor have I met men or women who are more self-giving than those whom God has used to visit the "least of these" who suffered in His name.

I would like to take a moment to send a special greeting to this year's recipients of the Faith and Freedom Award: Blahoslav and Olga Hruby. When I think of your efforts over these many years on behalf of those who have been held captive for

. - ^

conscience' sake, I am reminded of the title of that marvelous book by Irvine Stone on Michelangelo, The Agony and the Ecstasy. Far more than for the rest of us, your work must surely fit that description: agonizing, on the one hand, as you hear the stories of those who have been separated from their loved ones, separated fromt heir own callings, separated from the normal comforts and pleasures afforded by freedom, and separated in some cases from life itself. It must be agonizing, too, as you struggle to tell their stories, to arouse the interest of others who are busy with their own lives, to work your way through a byzantine network of contacts to find some way to have their cases reviewed, and finally to wait, and to wait some more, having done all you humanly can -- but say another prayer. On the other hand, I think what ecstasy it must be to have some success in gaining the release of a Solzhenitsyn, a Shoharansky, a Georgi Vins, a Vladimir Bukovsky, or a group of Pentecostals known as the Siberian Seven.

Blahoslav and Olga, in your own way, you are artists. You have helped to paint a picture for others to see. And tonight you are joined by some of those Americans and Presbyterians who have seen the picture, who wish to share just a portion of your suffering and your joy, and who wish to salute you for your work over these years at <u>R.C.D.A</u>.

In recent months, as all of you know, the occasions for joy have come more frequently. In the last 3 years, more than  $300^{(C)}$ prisoners of conscience have been released in the Soviet Union

- 2 -

should not be treated, as they have been in the past, as second class citizens.

We Americans have good reason to be pleased about these changes taking place in the Soviet Union -- changes that correspond to what seems to be a "democratic revolution" slowly unfolding in other parts of the world. At the same time, as those of you at P.D.R.F. know so well, we must continue to be vigilant and resolute advocates of freedom.

Freedom is not as some suppose, a luxury to be traded off for peace or justice. Rather, peace and justice are among the fruits of freedom. Few have seen this linkage so clearly as the Protestant theologian Reinhold Niebuhr, who remarked that "Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible: his capacity for injustice makes democracy necessary."

Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom, as a fellow American and parishioner for many years at Bell Air Presbyterian Church in California, I am indebted to all of you for the hard work and generosity that have resulted in one of the most exciting and effective movements for renewal in the Church today. Just two-years old, and already 5,000 strong. May you continue to flourish.

I am particularly grateful to you, John Boone, President and founder of P.D.R.F., for giving the world such a splendid example of what is possible through a keen sense of stewardship and voluntarism. I also send a special greeting to my dear friend, Dr. Ernest Gordon, recipient of last year's Faith and Freedom Award. There is no adequate way to say "thanks" for what you

- 3 -

have done for all mankind through your distinguished life as a war hero, writer, pastor, and partisan for freedom, And again, a heartfelt thanks to you, Blahoslav and Olga Hruby, for the steady and courageous work that has made this evening possible. God bless you.

. ÷

ING

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

RECEIVED

JUN 2 7 1980

RESPONSE DUE DATE: June 21, 1988

# REQUEST FOR SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATION

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** 

MARLIN FITZWATER JACK COURTEMANCHE PAUL STEVENS JAMES MCKINNEY FRANK DONATELLI REBECCA RANGE TOM GRISCOM ELIZABETH BOARD KEN DUBERSTEIN MARTY COYNE MARTY COYNE BOB TUTTLE ARTHUR CULVAHOUSE ALAN KRANOWITZ KENNETH CRIBB GARY BAUER IAN MACDONALD WILLIAM GRAHAM

1988

FROM: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR. PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

Please provide your recommendation on the following scheduling request:

EVENT: For the President to address and present an award to Mr. and Mrs. Blahoslav sponsored by the Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom.

September, 1988.

LOCATION: Open.

DATE:

Additional information concerning this event is attached.

June 24, 1988

YOUR RECOMMENDATION:

Accept X Regret Surrogate Message Priority Video Routine Written

If your recommendation is to accept, please cite reasons below:

This event would underscore the continuity and activism of the human rights issues raised during the Moscow Summit. Marybel Batjer/ Marybel Batjer/ Deputy Executive

PLEASE RETURN TO SANDY WARFIELD IN OEOB, ROOM 182 BY THE Executive RESPONSE DUE DATE ABOVE SO THAT YOUR COMMENTS MAY BE CONSIDERED AS WE PROCEED WITH THIS REQUEST. THANK YOU.

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

111N 1 3 1454

RECEIVED 42P

#### WASHINGTON

SCHEDULING OFFICE June 6, 1988

### SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

TO: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR., ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING REBECCA RANGE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE FROM: PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON **REQUEST:** President to appear as speaker and/or presenter of award at event sponsored by Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom, honoring Mr. & Mrs. Blahoslav Hruby, pioneers in the cause of human rights and long-time champions of religious freedom for dissidents in 5 Communist lands. PURPOSE: To underscore, several months after the successful summit, President Reagan's standing as a champion of human rights and religious liberty with an appropriately visible event and statement on the subject. 2) To give strength, visibility and impetus to the efforts of individuals and organizations in the U.S. who are helping to spearhead the movement to free religious dissidents in the USSR and elsewhere, and to broaden human rights in the Eastbloc countries. **BACKGROUND:** Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom (PDRF) was founded in 1985 to counter the leftward drift of the Presbyterian denomination, whose bureaucracy in recent years has become more stridently left-wing and pro-Soviet. PDRF have been a strong and vigorous advocate of President Reagan's agenda, especially on Central America, arms control and human rights. Mr. & Mrs. Hruby are now in their seventies and nearing the end of their lives. They are founders of the Research Center for Religious and Human Rights in Closed Societies and pioneers in the cause of human rights.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION:

None

 $\sim$ 

DATE:	September (anytime) DURATION: 15 minutes
LOCATION:	Open (Room 450 or event outside complex)
PARTICIPANTS:	PDRF conference attendees and Mr. & Mrs. Hruby.
OUTLINE OF EVENT:	To be determined
REMARKS REQUIRED:	To be provided by speechwriters
MEDIA COVERAGE:	TBD
RECOMMENDED BY:	Rebecca Range
PROJECT OFFICER:	Mariam Bell, x6585

r

•



## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 29, 1988

\$

ر

MEMORANDUM TO A. B. CULVAHOUSE

FROM: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR

SUBJECT: Presidential Videotapes

The attached videotape requests were approved at the Long Range Scheduling Meeting yesterday. Please review them and indicate if you have any objections.

Thank you.

1. (1.0 . 1575 in the AUN À 1 iV.

June 22, 1988

Dear Dortch:

ļ

Mariam Bell has given me your recent letter inviting President Reagan to address the Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom Award Dinner in September.

I was pleased to hear from you, and I have forwarded your request to Fred Ryan, Director of Presidential Appointments and Scheduling. You may be sure that your invitation will receive every consideration.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr. Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Dortch Oldham 25th Floor First American Center Nashville, TN 37238-0096

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/lynn (pc-6HHB)4

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB cc: Fred Ryan w/inc

## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Date: June 9, 1988

TO:

mcLaughlin Don Machaugheon

FROM: LURA NELL MITCHELL Personal Assistant to the Chief of Staff

Dortch Oldham is a friend of Senator Baker's. I think we should write a Dear Dortch letter saying we have received his note through Mariam Bell and that we are forwarding to Fred Ryan for consideration. The letter should be for HHB's signature.

> THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

---- --- ---

6/9/88

Lura Nell:

This was sent to me for Senator Baker. I understand he knows the Senator.

Thanks,

Mariam Bell

P.S. I have submitted a schedule proposal for this event. I think Rebecca is keeping it for the next long range scheduling meeting.



573532

# Dortch Oldham

Investments

First American Center, 25th Floor / Nashville, Tennessee 37238-00% Office-615-250-3502 Home-615-383-08%

June 7, 1988

The Honorable Howard Baker Chief of Staff to the President The White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Howard:

× . .

1.

The President's brilliant performance at the Moscow Summit-and particularly his eloquent statements on human rights and religious liberty -- prompt me to write to you with a suggestion, and with an opportunity for the President to further underscore his standing as a champion of human rights during the campaign season this fall.

As you know, I serve on the Board of a "caucus" within the Presbyterian Church known as PRESBYTERIANS FOR DEMOCRACY AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. PDRF was organized by a group of prominent Presbyterian lay people to counter our denomination's tragic drift to the political Left in recent years. The organization's headquarters is here in Nashville, close to the grassroots, and I have enjoyed giving it both moral and financial support. Since our founding, the success of PDRF has been beyond our imagining: The group has grown from 200 members to more than 5000 in only two years; we have hired a professional executive director, launched an ambitious program of publishing and advocacy -- and we have begun to have a real effect on the debate within the Presbyterian Church (USA), especially on issues like Central America and "tax resistance." Knowing the President's disappointment with the recent political stands of the Presbyterian Church, I suspect he would be proud of the work of PDRF.

One of PDRF's projects is an annual event in Washington at which the organization presents its FAITH AND FREEDOM AWARD to a prominent champion of religious liberty and human rights. This year's honoree, to be recognized at a FAITH AND FREEDOM luncheon or dinner, is Blahoslav Hruby, one of this nation's pioneer fighters for religious rights in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. (Last year's FAITH AND FREEDOM award winner was Dr. Ernest Gordon, hero of the Bridge on the River Kwai and director of CREED -- the Christian Rescue The Honorable Howard Baker Page 2 June 7, 1988

. . .

Effort for East European Dissidents. Dr. Gordon, as you may know, has met several times with the President, and they have become good friends.)

Since President and Mrs. Reagan have for years attended the Presbyterian Church, I am writing to extend an invitation, through you, to him -- to be the principal speaker at this year's PDRF FAITH AND FREEDOM event. The event could prove an important opportunity for the President to echo, on his own country's soil, the human-rights themes he struck in Moscow and London -- and moreover, an opportunity to challenge American citizens, especially church members, to exert all the pressure they can on behalf of imprisoned and persecuted believers and on behalf of a broadening of human rights in totalitarian societies. It would provide an opportunity, moreover, for the President to show support for those organizations in our country who are supporting his agenda of support for democracy -- and speaking out, incidentally, against the activists of the Religious Left.

While we know that this event will be held in September, we are deliberately holding the date open in the hope that you and he will consider this an attractive opportunity, and in an effort to suit the President's convenience. We will be happy to schedule the event at a time and place of your suggestion, after you have conferred with the President's schedule planners. We can guarantee an impressive gathering of citizens who support the President's actions and statements on democracy and human rights, and we will of course do all in our power, in cooperation with you, to ensure high visibility for the President at the event.

I am taking the liberty of sending this letter through Mariam Bell, of the White House Public Liaison Office, who knows our organization well and is familiar with the details of the event I have described rather sketchily in this letter.

I hope to hear from you soon, since our event planners need to have their plans in place by mid-July at the latest. Please know, Howard, that we will be happy to work with you and your staff to make this year's FAITH AND FREEDOM Dinner a perfect showcase for the President and the issues of human rights which he has raised so eloquently.

With warm regards,

Dortch Oldham

#### SCRIPT FOR VIDEO ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT REAGAN FOR THE FAITH AND FREEDOM AWARD DINNER September 30, 1988

Sponsors: Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom, Nashville, TN

Dear Friends at Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom:

00 10.00

. .

It is a great pleasure to be able to perform even this cameo role for your annual Faith and Freedom Dinner. As you come together each year to honor another champion of religious freedom, you provide valuable and richly deserved encouragement to those who have responded to a very special calling. But even more importantly, by bringing attention to the work they do on behalf of religious freedom, you light a candle of hope in the dark cells of men and women throughout the world who suffer so courageously--and needlessly--for their religious faith.

As President, I am delighted to help light this candle. Indeed, there is hardly anything that ranks higher for me, as the head of State for a free people, than to help extend freedom in other lands. And I must say that in my years as President, I have met no braver people than those who, through God's help, have endured suffering for their religious faith; nor have I met men and women who are more self-giving than those whom God has used to visit the "least of these" who suffered in His name.

I would like to take a moment to send a special greeting to this year's recipients of the Faith and Freedom Award: Blahoslav and Olga Hruby. When I think of your efforts over these many years on behalf of those who have been held captive for conscience' sake, I am reminded of the title of that marvelous book by Irvine Stone on Michelangelo, The Agony and the Ecstasy. Far more than for the rest of us, your work must surely fit that description: agonizing, on the one hand, as you hear the stories of those who have been scparated from their loved ones, separated from their own callings, separated from the normal comforts and pleasures afforded by freedom, and separated in some cases from life itself. It must be agonizing, too, as you struggle to tell their stories, to arouse the interest of others who are busy with their own lives, to work your way through a byzantine network of contacts to find some way to have their cases reviewed, and finally to wait, and to wait some more, having done all you humanly can--but say another prayer. On the other hand, I think what ecstasy it must be to have some success in gaining the release of a Solzhenitsyn, a Shcharansky, a Georgi Vins, a Vladimir Bukovsky, or a group of Pentecostals known as the Siberian Seven.

5

Blahoslav and Olga, in your own way, you are artists. You have helped to paint a picture for others to see. And tonight you are joined by some of those Americans and Presbyterians who have seen the picture, who wish to share just a portion of your suffering

2

and your joy, and who wish to salute you for your work over these years at RCDA.

CROW ONE MOUNTLEE

90 ii.00

· · • •

In recent months, as all of you know, the occasions for joy have come more frequently. In the last three years, more than 300 prisoners of conscience have been released in the Soviet Union, and the number who have been imprisoned or placed in psychiatric hospitals has been few. Equally encouraging are statements from General Secretary Gorbachev that believers in the Soviet Union should not be treated, as they have been in the past, as second class citizens.

We Americans have good reason to be pleased about these changes taking place in the Soviet Union--changes that correspond to what seems to be a "democratic revolution" slowly unfolding in other parts of the world. At the same time, as those of you at PDRF know so well, we must continue to be vigilant and resolute advocates of freedom.

Freedom is not as some suppose a luxury to be traded off for Freedom is not, as some suppose a luxury to be traded off for peace or justice. Rather, peace and justice are among the fruits of freedom. Few have seen this linkage so clearly as the Protestant theologian Reinhold Niebuhr, who remarked that "Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible; his capacity for injustice makes democracy necessary."

3

Presbyterians for Democracy and Religious Freedom, as a fellow Pue-huhamiann finn Banner for many years at Bel air American and Danishoner for many years at Bel air Fulle and MARL MARIANA AND THATS AT Bel air Church in California, I am indebted to all of you for the hard work and generosity that have resulted in one of the most exciting and effective movements for renewal in the Church today. Just two years old, and already 5,000 strong. May you continue to flourish.

- -- -- ---

. . \_ \_.

-

-- -- --

· · · · · · · · · · · ·

I am particularly grateful to you, John Boone, President and founder of PDRF, for giving the world such a splendid example of what is possible through a keen sense of stewardship and voluntarism. I also send a special greeting to my dear friend, Dr. Ernest Gordon, recipient of last year's Faith and Freedom Award. There is no adequate way to say "thanks" for what you have done for all mankind through your distinguished life as a war hero, writer, pastor, and partisan for freedom. And again, a heartfelt thanks to you, Blahoslav and Olga Bruby, for the steady and courageous work that has made this evening possible. God bless you.

4