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## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 2, 1987

DROP-BY HUMAN RIGHTS EVENT

DATE: December 3, 1987

LOCATION: Room 450, OEOB

TIME: 10:00 AM - 10:15 AM

FROM: COLIN L. POWELL

I. PURPOSE

To reaffirm U.S. commitment to human rights everywhere and concern about the Soviet human rights situation in particular prior to next week's summit talks.

II. BACKGROUND

The seminar has been arranged to enable representatives of nine U.S.-based non-governmental organizations that monitor human rights in the USSR to hear your remarks and to discuss issues of concern with Administration officials. The organizations range from Amnesty International, which focuses on human rights issues across the board, to the Committee on International Abuse of Psychiatry. Spokesmen from each of the organizations will address the Administration panel, briefly detailing current progress or problems as they see them, and commenting on Administration policies. The floor will then be opened to questions to the Panel from the audience.

III. PARTICIPANTS

See Tab A

IV. PRESS PLAN

White House photographer, Open press.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Several members of the Coalition of Divided Spouses will be waiting outside the holding room; they will present you with a photo album of their spouses and pose for a photograph. After the photo you proceed to Room 450 where you will make remarks provided by Speechwriters.

## Attachments:

Tab A      Participants

cc: Vice President  
Chief of Staff (2)

PARTICIPANTS:

The President

Photo Opportunity

Andrea Wine  
Galina Vileshina  
George Szostkowski  
Antoinette Bohonovsky  
Shoshana Riemer  
Elizabeth Condon

Remarks

Dais Participants:

John Whitehead, Deputy Secretary of State  
Rozanne Ridgway, Asst. Secretary of State for European and  
Canadian Affairs  
Richard Schifter, Asst. Secretary of State for Humanitarian  
Affairs  
Fritz Ermarth, Special Assistant to the President and Senior  
Director for European and Soviet Affairs, NSC,  
Lisa Jameson, Director for European and Soviet Affairs, NSC

Organizations:

Amnesty International  
Helsinki Watch  
Joint Baltic American National Committee  
Captive Nations Committee  
National Conference on Soviet Jewry/ Union of Councils for Soviet  
Jews  
CREED  
VISA  
Divided Spouses Coalition  
Committee on International Abuse of Psychiatry and Psychiatrists

Ashley

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

DRAFT

SCENARIO

DROP-BY HUMAN RIGHTS EVENT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1987

450 OEOB

8:30 a.m. USSS sweep.

9:00 a.m. Press pre-set.

9:00 a.m. Guests begin arriving Pennsylvania Avenue Entrance and are escorted via elevator to 450 OEOB.

9:40 a.m. Press set-up.

9:45 a.m. Photo participants take their places in corner hallway outside 450 OEOB.

9:55 a.m. THE PRESIDENT departs The Oval Office en route 450 OEOB.

10:00 a.m. THE PRESIDENT arrives 450 OEOB corner hallway and participates in photo opportunity with Coalition of Divided Spouses members.\*

Photo Participants

Andrea Wine  
Galina Vileshina  
George Szostkowski  
Antonette Bohonovsky  
Shoshana Riemer  
Elizabeth Condon

NOTE: Andrea Wine will present THE PRESIDENT with a photo album of their spouses.

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER ONLY

THE PRESIDENT concludes photo opportunity and proceeds into 450 OEOB anteroom.

Announcement (off-stage)

\* Subject to confirmation

12/1/87 12:00 p.m.

10:05 a.m. THE PRESIDENT proceeds on-stage and makes remarks.

OPEN PHOTO/WRITING POOL

Dais Participants

THE PRESIDENT

Mr. John Whitehead, Deputy Secretary of State

Amb. Rozanne Ridgeway, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs

Amb. Richard Schifter, Assistant Secretary of State for Humanitarian Affairs

Mr. Fritz Ermarth, Special Assistant to the President, Senior Director for European and Soviet Affairs, NSC

Mrs. Lisa Jameson, Director for European and Soviet Affairs, NSC

10:15 a.m. THE PRESIDENT concludes remarks and departs 450 OEOB en route The Oval Office.

NOTE: Program continues.

10:20 a.m. THE PRESIDENT arrives The Oval Office.

12/1/87 12:00 p.m.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 2, 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR REBECCA RANGE

FROM: LINAS KOJELIS

SUBJECT: Soviet Human Rights Seminar, Thursday, December 3,  
10:00 a.m., Room 450

You are scheduled to welcome the participants to the Soviet Human Rights Issues Seminar, one of our pre-Summit events. The program is as follows:

9:58 a.m.	Welcome -- Rebecca Range
10:00 a.m.	Address -- The President
10:10 a.m.	Opening Remarks -- John Whitehead, Deputy Secretary of State

Presentations by organizations concerned about Soviet human rights violations, including; Amnesty International, Freedom House and Christian, Jewish and ethnic groups.

General discussion

11:30 a.m.	Seminar concludes
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Attached are suggested remarks. You are scheduled to welcome the guests, stay for the President's remarks and depart with the President.

SUGGESTED REMARKS FOR  
HUMAN RIGHTS SEMINAR

Good morning, my name is Rebecca Range. I am the Director of the Office of Public Liaison. It is my pleasure to welcome you to the White House this morning. We are especially pleased that you have taken the time to be with us as we at the White House, along with our colleagues from the State Department, continue our work in preparation for the summit.

Of course, you are not strangers to any of us: we have worked with many of you on issues of our mutual concern for many years. Nonetheless, I know that (Dep.) Secretary Whitehead and the other distinguished panelists are especially eager to hear from you about the latest developments in the areas of your expertise and perhaps to receive guidance on appropriate U.S. responses to the ongoing Soviet public relations campaign on the issue of human rights and bilateral issues.

Our first speaker will be the President, who will be with us shortly. Thank you.

Rita

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCENARIO

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9:55 a.m. Rebecca Range makes welcoming remarks.

9:55 a.m. THE PRESIDENT departs The Oval Office en route 450 OEOB.

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Galina Vileshina  
George Szostkowski  
Antonette Bohonovsky  
Shoshana Riemer  
Elizabeth Condon

NOTE: Andrea Wine will present THE PRESIDENT with a photo album of spouses.

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER ONLY

THE PRESIDENT concludes photo opportunity and proceeds into 450 OEOB anteroom.

Announcement (off-stage)

12/2/87 3:00 p.m.



10:05 a.m. THE PRESIDENT proceeds on-stage and makes remarks.

OPEN PHOTO/WRITING POOL

Dais Participants

THE PRESIDENT

Mr. John Whitehead, Deputy Secretary of State

Miss Rozanne Ridgway, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs

Mr. Richard Schifter, Assistant Secretary of State for Humanitarian Affairs

Mr. Fritz Ermarth, Special Assistant to the President, Senior Director for European and Soviet Affairs, NSC

Mrs. Lisa Jameson, Director for European and Soviet Affairs, NSC

10:15 a.m. THE PRESIDENT concludes remarks and departs 450 OEOb en route The Oval Office.

NOTE: Program continues.

10:20 a.m. THE PRESIDENT arrives The Oval Office.

Linas Kojelis

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCENARIO

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 2, 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR JIM KUHN

FROM: LINAS KOJELIS, x6573

SUBJECT: Photo-op with Divided Spouses Coalition, December 3,  
10:00 a.m., outside Room 450

Jim, as I mentioned to you over the phone, we would greatly appreciate for the President to spend one minute with the Divided Spouses Coalition immediately preceding the Soviet human rights event tomorrow. The Coalition consists of U.S. citizens whose Soviet spouses have been denied permission to join them in the U.S. The Coalition also includes one person, George Szostkowski, who is engaged to a Soviet citizen who has not received permission to come to the U.S. for the wedding.

The delegation will be in the corner hallway of the OEOB, outside of 450 and will be set for a group shot. They will present the President with a photo album of their spouses.

Participants list attached.

DIVIDED SPOUSES COALITION

Andrea Wine (will present photo album)

Galina Vileshina

George Szostkowski

Antonette Bohonovsky

Elizabeth Condon

NOTE TO MARYBEL

FROM: LINAS *UK*

RE: Soviet Human Rights Photo Op;  
Solidarity Endowment Dinner;  
Women/SDI event

1. We have decided that only divided spouses will have photo-op with President before the Soviet human rights event. Please excuse me for jerking you around on this one.
2. Solidarity Endowment Dinner sched prop will be on Long Range Scheduling today. Rebecca will strongly support. Rudy Perina from NSC also strongly supports. I hope you will pitch in.
3. Women/SDI event is now scheduled as post-Summit event, tentatively on 12/16.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 25, 1987

Dear Friend:

You are cordially invited to attend a White House seminar on U.S./Soviet Human Rights Issues. Administration participants at the seminar will include: Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead; Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, Rozanne Ridgway; Senior Director for European Affairs (NSC), Fritz Ermarth; Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights, Richard Schifter; and will conclude with an address by President Reagan. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 3rd, 1987, in Room 450 of the Old Executive Office Building.

If you are able to attend, please call (202) 456-6411 by 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 1st, to confirm your participation. Please give your full legal name (as it appears on your driver's license or current passport), social security number, and date of birth.

Please arrive at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday at the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance of OEOB (17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.). Remember to bring your photo identification (driver's license or current passport).

I look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Linas Kojelis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Linas" and last name "Kojelis" clearly distinguishable.

Linas Kojelis  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Guests for Human Rights Seminar 12/3/87

Amnesty International -- Joshua Rubenstein, President, N.E.  
region, Boston

Helsinki Watch Committee -- Catherine Fitzpatrick, Research  
Director, NYC

National Conference on Soviet Jewry -- Morris Abram, Chairman,  
NYC

Divided Spouses Coalition -- Andrea Wine, Spokesperson,  
Cranberry, N.J.

CREED -- Fr. Victor Potapov, Member, Board of Advisors, D.C.

VISA -- Daniel Horodysky, Chairman, Berkeley, CA

*Appointed*  
Captive Nations Committee -- Amb. Lev Dobriansky, *Chairman*  
Initiator of the Captive Nations resolution; D.C.

Joint Baltic American National Committee -- Ojars Kalnins, Public  
Relations Director of the American Latvian  
Association and representative of JBANC, D.C.

Committee on International Abuse of Psychiatry and Psychiatrists  
-- Ms. Ellen Mercer, Director, Office of  
International Affairs, American Psychiatric  
Assoc., D.C.



*Daniel Horodysky*  
*Co-chair*

*(415) 540-VISA*

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*VISA*

*PO Box 2361*

*Berkeley, California 94702*

*Human rights advocates of family visits between millions  
of related people in the USA and USSR*



←VISA— Visits International for Soviets and Americans —BNI3A—→



VISA  
PO Box 2361  
Berkeley, California 94702  
(415) 540-VISA

Linas Kojelis  
Special Assistant to the President  
Office of Public Liaison  
The White House

Dear Linas:

Greetings!

I assume the President once again will be giving a Human Rights Day speech on December 10th, and will be inviting activists as last year

I was invited and attended last year, and have a request for this year. My wife Tamara, Co-chair of **VISA**, and I would both like to attend. I would appreciate greatly if we had an invitation extended to both of us.

We plan to meet with some of our co-sponsors in Congress of the Family Visits Resolutions and members of the Administration.

As you may remember we initiated Resolutions in the US Congress (enclosed). The US Senate passed **Senate Concurrent Resolution 29** unanimously on July 29, and **House Concurrent Resolution 68** passed October 27th unanimously (405-0)

As the President so eloquently stated in his pre-Geneva Summit speech, November 14, 1985, "... **the cause of peace would be well served if more individuals and families... could come to know each other in a personal way.**" and at another occasion; "**Quiet diplomacy can help only if it is supported by strong public pressure, strong public diplomacy.**"

Hope all is well with you and yours. I take it your father had an enjoyable trip to Lithuania.

Best regards,

Daniel Horodysky  
Co-chair and Founder



# Congressional Record

## House Concurrent Resolution 68 Senate Concurrent Resolution 29

100th CONGRESS  
FIRST SESSION

### Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the inability of American citizens to maintain regular contact with relatives in the Soviet Union

Whereas millions of United States citizens, including members of national and ethnic groups such as Armenians, Byelorussians, Estonians, Germans, Jews, Latvians, Lithuanians, Poles, Russians, and Ukrainians, have relatives in the Soviet Union;

Whereas the Soviet Union, as a signatory of the 1975 Final Act of the Conference of Security and Cooperation in Europe, commonly known as the Helsinki Accords, committed itself to "favourably consider applications for travel with the purpose of allowing persons to enter or leave their territory temporarily, and on a regular basis if desired, in order to visit members of their families.";

Whereas in that same document the Soviet Union pledged that "applications for temporary visits to meet members of . . . families will be dealt with without distinction as to country of origin or destination . . . ; cases of urgent necessity — such as serious illness or death — will be given priority treatment.";

Whereas the Soviet Union has ratified the United Nations Charter and signed other international human rights documents such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, documents which clearly protect the right to leave one's country and return thereto;

Whereas in anticipation of the Geneva Summit Conference of November 1985, President Reagan stated, ". . . the cause of peace would be served if more individuals and families . . . could come to know each other in a personal way.";

Whereas home visits would immeasurably aid our understanding of the Soviet people and improve relations with the Soviet Union, since family visitation is one of the most basic forms of cultural exchange;

Whereas it is not proper for governments to decide which relationships constitute close family ties for the purpose of determining which relatives should be allowed to visit each other;

Whereas the present policies of the Soviet Union make it virtually impossible for the millions of relatives in the two countries to exchange visits in their homes, and relatives

who have used other forms of communications, such as mail, telephone, telegraph, and gift parcels have experienced enormous difficulties;

Whereas because of restrictive Soviet policies, less than 1,000 of the many thousands of Americans who visited the Soviet Union in 1986 were allowed a private visa to stay with their relatives in their homes, and only about 1,500 Soviet citizens were allowed to visit their relatives in the United States;

Whereas many Americans who have been frustrated by the delay or denial in obtaining private visas to visit family members in their homes in the Soviet Union have resorted to joining package tours to the Soviet Union as a means of seeing their family members;

Whereas relatives should be able to comfort and assist each other in the event of medical emergencies such as those which resulted from the Chernobyl disaster, or when specialized medical treatment is not available in a particular country;

Whereas in the case of serious illness or death the victim's relatives should be guaranteed expeditious determination of their visa applications;

Whereas family visitation is an issue which transcends political differences, and governments which permit normal and regular family visitation demonstrate a commitment to basic values of decency and fairness which are shared by all mankind; and

Whereas at the Vienna Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe Follow-up Meeting, the United States delegation enumerated the inappropriate restrictions placed by Soviet authorities on Soviet citizens who wish to travel abroad and on United States citizens who wish to visit family members in the Soviet Union: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives and the Senate,*  
That it is the sense of the Congress that —

- (1) the promotion of unrestricted family visits between related people in the United States and the Soviet Union is an essential part of American policy toward the Soviet Union; and
- (2) the President, the Secretary of State, and other members of the administration should raise the issue of family visitation at all appropriate opportunities in discussion with the leadership of the Communist Party and the Government of the Soviet Union.

House Concurrent Resolution 68 introduced by Christopher H. Smith (R-NJ) on March 5, 1987.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 29 introduced by Dennis DeConcini (D-Ariz), Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), Paul Simon (D-Ill),

Bill Bradley (D-NJ), Al D'Amato (R-NY), Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ), and Pete Wilson (R-Calif) on March 11, 1987.

VISA (Visits International for Soviets and Americans) — Human Rights Advocates of visits between millions of related people of many national and ethnic groups in the USA and USSR. A Project of the World Without War Council of Northern California, an organization which, since 1958, links peace, freedom, and human rights concerns. VISA • PO Box 2361 • Berkeley CA 94702 • (415)540-VISA



# Отчет Конгресса США

Совместная Резолюция Конгресса 68

Совместная Резолюция Сената 29

100й КОНГРЕСС  
1я СЕССИЯ

## Выражающая отношение Конгресса к невозможности для Американских граждан поддерживать регулярные контакты с их родственниками в Советском Союзе

Поскольку миллионы граждан Соединенных Штатов, включая представителей национальных и этнических групп, таких как Армяне, Белоруссы, Эстонцы, Немцы, Евреи, Латыши, Литовцы, Поляки, Русские и Украинцы, имеют родственников в Советском Союзе;

Поскольку Советский Союз, подписав в 1975 году окончательный Акт Конференции по Безопасности и Сотрудничеству в Европе, общеизвестный под названием Хельсинские Соглашения, обязался «благожелательно рассматривать заявления о поездках с целью выезжать и въезжать в страну временно, и регулярно, если они того пожелают, для посещения членов их семей»;

Поскольку в том же документе Советский Союз обязался в том, что «заявления о временных визитах с целью встретиться с членами ... семьи будут рассматриваться без различий в отношении страны отправления или назначения ...; случаи срочной необходимости — такие как серьезная болезнь или смерть — будут рассматриваться в срочном порядке»;

Поскольку Советский Союз принял Хартию Объединенных Наций и подписал другие международные документы о правах человека, такие как Международное Уложение о гражданских и политических правах, т.е. документы, явно констатирующие право покидать свою страну и возвращаться в нее;

Поскольку в предверии женевского совещания в верхах в ноябре 1985, Президент Реган заявил, что «дело мира выиграет, если большее число отдельных лиц и семей узнают друг друга лично.»;

Поскольку частные визиты неизмеримо помогли бы нашему пониманию Советского народа и улучшению отношений с Советским Союзом, так как семейные визиты являются основной формой культурного обмена;

Поскольку не подобает правительствам решать, какая степень родства является достаточно близкой для того, чтобы разрешить родственникам посещать друг друга;

Поскольку современная политика Советского Союза делает практически невозможным для миллионов родственников в обеих странах обмениваться домашними визитами, и родственники, прибегающие к другим формам поддержания общения, таким как переписка, телефон, телеграф, и посылки, встречаются с огромными трудностями;

Поскольку советская политика накладывает ограничения,

меньше чем 1000 из многих тысяч американцев, которые посетили Советский Союз в 1986 году, получили разрешение посетить родственников у них дома, и только 1500 советских граждан получили разрешение посетить своих родственников в США;

Поскольку многие американцы, обескураженные задержкой или отказом в получении частной визы для посещения членов семьи по их месту жительства в Советском Союзе, стали прибегать к групповым туристическим поездкам по Советскому Союзу как к средству повидать своих родных;

Поскольку родственники должны иметь возможность помогать и поддерживать друг друга в критических обстоятельствах, таких как Чернобыльская катастрофа, или когда специализированная медицинская помощь недоступна в определенной стране;

Поскольку в случае серьезной болезни или смерти родственники должны иметь гарантию на немедленное получение визы;

Поскольку посещение родственников выходит за рамки различий в политических взглядах, и правительства, которые разрешают нормальные и регулярные семейные визиты, демонстрируют соблюдение важнейших принципов порядочности и справедливости, разделяемых всем человечеством; и

Поскольку на Венской конференции по безопасности и сотрудничеству в Европе делегация Соединенных Штатов перечислила недопустимые ограничения, наложенные Советскими властями на Советских граждан, желающих путешествовать за границей, и на американских граждан, желающих посетить родственников в Советском Союзе; таким образом,

*Палата Представителей и Сенат Постановляют, что по мнению Конгресса —*

- (1) поощрение неограниченных визитов между родственниками в Соединенных Штатах и в Советском Союзе является неотъемлемой частью Американской политики в отношении Советского Союза; и
- (2) Президент, Государственный Секретарь и другие члены администрации должны поднимать вопрос о семейных визитах при всех подходящих обстоятельствах в обсуждении с руководством Коммунистической партии и Правительства Советского Союза.



←VISA— Visits International for Soviets and Americans —B13A→



VISA  
PO Box 2361  
Berkeley, California 94702  
(415) 540-VISA

Linas Kojelis  
Special Assistant to the President  
Office of Public Liaison  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Linas,

Enclosed are copies of request for signing ceremony to the President as per your suggestion.

I contacted Dorothy Taft, Congressman Chris Smith's Legislative Assistant, regarding the signing ceremony, in order that he may work on it from his end.

In addition to my wife and co-chair, and our children Anna and Sophia, may we suggest that the following be invited, if appropriate:

Congressman Chris Smith (R-NJ), member, Helsinki Commission, and member, House Foreign Affairs Committee, who originally liked the idea, introduced it, and steadfastly worked on it (and his most able and sympathetic Legislative Assistant, Dorothy Douglas Taft.)

Senator Dennis DeConcini (D-Ariz), co-chair Helsinki Commission, who introduced it in the Senate [along with a bi-partisan group, Grassley (R-Iowa), Simon (D-Illinois), Bradley (D-NJ), D'Amato (R-NY), Lautenberg (D-NJ), and Wilson (R-Calif).]

Bozhena Olshaniwsky, President, Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine (AHRU), who personally organized her organization to visit every Congressional office to urge co-sponsorship of the Resolutions. AHRU, 43 Midland Place, Newark, NJ 070106, (201) 373-9729 or days (201) 581-4357

Zinta Arums, Executive Director of the Joint Baltic American National Committee (JBANC), whose organization was instrumental in contacting Congressional offices. PO Box 432, Rockville, Maryland 20850, (301) 340-1954

Ginte Damusis, Lithuanian Information Center, whose involvement and advice to the effort was invaluable. 351 Highland Blvd., Brooklyn, NY 11207 (708) 647-2434. Also Rev. Casimir Pugevicius, of the Center.

Please keep in close touch!

Best regards,



Daniel Horodysky

November 11, 1987

Also enclosed is information for private visas to and from The Giant Gulag. Use them as masters for copies for yourself and others. One of our projects is to contact as many national and ethnic churches, newspapers, etc. in the USA to encourage people to apply for private visas, give them the instructions and applications, and to complain if they are denied. We will be working with JBANC, Lithuanian Info Center, AHRU, and many others to create a data base. We want to create a grassroots outrage to this basic problem.

The idea of family visits on the US agenda can lead to a Nobel Peace Prize nomination. It would make a great addition to the disarmament process. Family visits can lead to understanding and *trust* whereas the disarmament treaties are mere pieces of paper.

### **Decree of the USSR Council of Ministers: Temporary Entry and Departure**

USSR Council of Ministers Decree No. 1064, issued August 28, 1986 and effective January 1, 1987.

[Addenda to the Statute on Entry into the USSR and Departure from the USSR issued September 22, 1970 as Decree No. 801, USSR Council of Ministers]:

163. On introducing Addenda to the Statute on entry into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and departure from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, The USSR Council of Ministers decrees:

That the following addenda be added to the Statute on entry into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which was approved by the USSR Council of Ministers as Decree No. 801 (SP SSSR, 1970, No. 18, p. 139) on September 22, 1970: To add a new section, which reads as follows, after Point 19 of the Statute: Consideration of application for entry into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and for departure from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for personal reasons.

20. Soviet citizens, foreign citizens and stateless persons may enter the USSR and Depart the USSR irrespective of origin, social and property status, race or nationality, sex, education, language or religious attitudes.

21. Applications for entry into the USSR and departure from the USSR for personal reasons (reunification with family members, meeting with close relatives, contracting marriage, visiting gravely ill relatives, visiting graves of close relatives, solving questions of inheritance and other valid matters) are submitted as appropriate to diplomatic representatives or consular establishments of the USSR or to the organs of USSR internal affairs according to the place of residence of the citizen or stateless person.

The procedure for considering applications and registering entry into the USSR and departure from the USSR for personal reasons is established by this Statute, by other legislative documents of the USSR and by instructions published in accordance with them by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and, with respect to matters relating to the contraction of marriage, also by an instruction of the USSR Ministry of Justice on the procedure for registration in the USSR of marriages between Soviet citizens and stateless persons.

22. Persons 18 years of age and above may submit applications to invite citizens living abroad to the USSR and to go abroad for personal reasons.

Children under the age of 18 years of age may go abroad only at the request of their legal representatives and, as a rule, in their company.

23. Application for temporary departure from the USSR for personal reasons is considered upon presentation of appropriate documents.

The length of a temporary stay in the USSR and abroad for personal reasons is set in accordance with the reason for the journey. This time limit may be extended as appropriate by organs of internal affairs of the USSR and by the diplomatic representatives or consular establishments of the USSR upon agreement by authorities of the receiving state.

24 - 27. (concern emigration and other matters)

28. Application for temporary entry into the USSR and departure from the USSR for personal reasons is considered in as short a time as possible and, as a rule, in the course of a month, and if the trip is connected with a serious illness or death of a relative, in the space of 3 days.

Results of the consideration of the application, as well as the reasons for a refusal, will be communicated to the petitioner.

Permission for entry into the USSR and departure from the USSR is valid for a six-month period.

29. When applications for entry into the USSR and departure from the USSR for personal reasons are denied, subsequent applications on these same matters are considered, as a rule, no sooner than six months after the decision was taken to refuse the application. In this case the documents submitted earlier, if no changes have a vital bearing on consideration of the application are made, are either fully or partially taken into consideration.

30. Questions of entry into the USSR and departure from the USSR for personal reasons may also be regulated by bilateral treaties between the USSR and other states.

This Decree becomes legally valid on January 1, 1987.

N. Ryzhkov  
Chairman, USSR Council of Ministers

M. Smirnyukhov  
Administrator, USSR Council of Ministers

#### **Informal Translation**

VISA • Human rights advocates of family visits between millions of relatives in the USA and the USSR.

VISA • PO Box 2361 • Berkeley, California 94702 • telephone (415) 540-VISA

## PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING VISITOR'S VISA FROM THE USSR TO THE USA

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

In order to visit the USA, a person residing in the USSR must have an invitation, known as a "Vyzov" (Вызов, in Russian), from a person, usually a relative, in the USA. The Invitation or Vyzov is a notarized application form which is merely an invitation — it is not a visa. The Invitation must be submitted to a local OVIR (Office of Visas and Registration), or *militia* (police) office where there is no local OVIR. The Invitation must be submitted along with a passport and visa application.

A USSR Council of Ministers decree in effect January 1, 1987, states that "Application for temporary departure from the USSR for personal reasons is considered in as short a time as possible, and as a rule, in the course of a month, and if the trip is connected with a serious illness or death of a relative, in the space of 3 days."

### INVITATION PROCEDURE

The following are necessary, although there may be local variations in requirements:

1. An Invitation application form may be obtained from a Soviet consulate in Washington, DC or San Francisco, California, or from **VISA** at the address below. Two (2) copies of a notarized Invitation for each applicant is necessary (except for children under 16 accompanying a parent.)
2. The Invitation should be written in Russian and English.
3. The Invitation must state the relationship between the sponsor and the person in the USSR, and mention the sponsor's ability and willingness to assume full support of the invited person, including housing and medical expenses.
4. The Invitation must be notarized by a local notary public in the USA. The notary public's signature and seal must then be certified by the local County Clerk.
5. The two (2) copies of the notarized Invitation application with attached local County Clerk certification must be sent to the Soviet Consular Division, 1825 Phelps Place NW, Washington, DC 20008 [telephone (202) 332-1513 or 332-0737] or Soviet Consulate, 2790 Green St., San Francisco, CA 94123 [telephone (415) 922-6642] for legalization with a check or money order for \$15.00 per Invitation application.
6. The Soviet Consulate will return one (1) copy of the legalized Invitation to you. Make a photocopy for your records and send the legalized Invitation directly to the invited person in the USSR. Registered air mail is recommended.

Note: The Soviet Consulate will not answer any questions as to the status of the application after it is made by the person in the USSR.

Applicants in the USSR may correspond with the US Embassy as may be necessary, in English or Russian, if they wish to inform the Embassy of the exact date and place that an Invitation application is made to OVIR, and/or is refused by OVIR. The address is Consular Section, US Embassy, Ulitsa Chaikovskogo 19/23, Moscow 123242, USSR [telephone 252-24-51]. Correspondence from the USA may be sent to Consular Section, US Embassy, APO New York, NY 09862.

If exit permission is granted for a temporary visit, the applicant need not notify the US Embassy in advance that a Soviet exit visa was received. The applicant has only to appear at the US Embassy any working day (Monday through Friday, other than US and Soviet holidays) with Soviet passport and visa, two photographs and address of US sponsor. A US visa is normally issued the same day to a qualified applicant.

If exit permission is denied, US citizens may make formal complaint to the US Congressional Helsinki Commission (CSCE), House Annex #2, Room 237, Washington, DC 20515 [telephone (202) 225-1901] and Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Human Rights & Humanitarian Affairs, US State Department, Washington, DC 20520 [telephone (202) 647-9454]. If permission is denied, please request a Family Visit Survey form from **VISA** to document your case.



**ПРИГЛАШЕНИЕ В СОЕДИНЕННЫЕ ШТАТЫ АМЕРИКИ**  
**INVITATION TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

В связи с просьбой о выдаче паспорта для выезда моего нижеуказанного родственника из СССР для посещения меня в США, я ниже подписавшийся заявляю следующее:  
In connection with the petition for issuance of an USSR passport for my relative, whose name and address are given below, I, the undersigned, hereby certify as follows:

**ДАННЫЕ КАСАЮЩИЕСЯ ПРОСИТЕЛЯ**  
**DATA CONCERNING PETITIONER IN USA**

1. Фамилия, имя и отчество  
Family name, first name,  
middle initial
2. Национальность и гражданство  
Nationality and citizenship
3. Адрес постоянного  
местожительства  
Permanent address

**ДАННЫЕ КАСАЮЩИЕСЯ ПОСЕТИТЕЛЯ**  
**DATA CONCERNING VISITOR**

4. Фамилия, имя и отчество  
Family name, first name,  
father's first name
5. Степень родства ко мне  
Relationship to petitioner
6. Адрес постоянного  
местожительства  
Permanent address

Настоящим я под присягою обещаю и подтверждаю в присутствии Нотариуса, что я уплачу все расходы по путешествию в связи с приездом в США и отъездом обратно в СССР моего родственника (цы).

Фамилия, имя и отчество  
Relative's family name, first name  
and father's first name

I hereby certify under oath, before a Notary Public, that I will pay for all expenses incurred in connection with my above mentioned relative's trip to the USA and the return to the USSR.

Я также обещаю дать полное содержание и квартиру во время его (ее) пребывания в США.

I also guarantee to provide him (her) with living quarters and full support during his (her) visit in the USA.

Почтительнейше прошу надлежащих властей СССР выдать заграничный паспорт моему родственнику (це) дабы он мог (она могла) посетить меня в США.

I respectfully petition the proper authorities in the USSR to issue an USSR passport to my relative to enable him (her) to come to the United States.

Подпись просителя  
Petitioner's signature

Штат  
State

Район  
County

Место  
City

Подписано под присягой в моем присутствии

г.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this

day of

Нотариус  
Notary Public

## PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING VISITOR'S VISA FROM THE USA TO THE USSR

### GENERAL INFORMATION:

In order to obtain a visa to visit the USSR, a person residing in the USA must receive an official permit from Soviet authorities. The person must complete an application which needs to be "verified and registered" by a Soviet Consulate. The application is then mailed to one's own relatives who turn it over to local Soviet authorities.

A USSR Council of Ministers decree effective January 1, 1987, states that "Application for temporary *departure* from the USSR for personal reasons is considered in as short a time as possible, and as a rule, in the course of a month, and if the trip is connected with a serious illness or death of a relative, in the space of 3 days." One assumes that temporary *entry* visas should take the same amount of time.

However, written instructions distributed by the Soviet Consulate in September 1987 state that a visitor's visa to the USSR may take more than 4 months to process. In the past, relatively few people obtained a visa to stay in a relative's home.

### INVITATION PROCEDURE

The following are necessary:

1. An application form and instructions may be obtained from a Soviet Consulate in Washington, DC, or San Francisco, California, any travel agent who handles Intourist, or from VISA at the address below.
2. The Invitation must be written in Russian (English portion is optional), in triplicate, and all questions must be answered.
3. Each person is required to fill out an application except children under 16 years of age who are included in the parent's application. Separate applications are required for visiting relatives in different republics or regions.
4. Black and white passport type photos with front view on a white background are preferred. Children under 16 years of age should appear in group photos with an adult. Dark or tinted glasses and machine photos are unacceptable.
5. Send completed application forms to the Soviet Consular Division, 1825 Phelps Place NW, Washington, DC 20008 [telephone (202) 332-1513 or 332-0737] or Soviet Consulate, 2790 Green St., San Francisco, CA 94123 [telephone (415) 922-6642] for processing, along with a check or money order for \$10.00 per application.
6. Send registered application to relatives in the USSR, who then submit it to their local authorities. The permit is valid for one year, and may not be extended.
7. In order to obtain your visa, you must present the permit and your passport (photocopy of passport acceptable) in person or by mail to a Soviet consulate, along with two passport type photos, a ten (\$10.00) dollar check or money order for each person/visa, and your exact travel plans. A visa will usually be issued in 7 to 14 days.

Note: Keep photo copies of all documents. Registered mail is recommended. The Soviet Consulate claims it will not answer any questions as to the status of the application while it is being considered by Soviet authorities.

US citizens may make formal complaints about denial of entry permission to the US Congressional Helsinki Commission (CSCE), House Annex #2, Room 237, Washington, DC 20515 [telephone (202) 225-1901] and Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Human Rights & Humanitarian Affairs, US State Department, Washington, DC 20520 [telephone (202) 647-9454]. If permission is denied, please request a Family Visit Survey form from VISA to document your case.

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VISA — Nonprofit, human rights advocates of family visits between relatives in the USA and USSR.

VISA • PO Box 2361 • Berkeley, California 94702 • telephone (415) 540-VISA

## QUESTIONNAIRE

## ВИЗОВАЯ АНКЕТА

 Place for  
 photograph

ATTENTION! Please type, or print using ball-point pen. Incorrect information may cause denial of visa, denial of permission to cross the USSR border, or annulment of visa on the USSR territory.

ВНИМАНИЕ! Писать четко, обязательно шариковой ручкой или на машинке. Неправильные данные могут повлечь за собой отказ в визе, в пересечении границы СССР или аннулирование визы на территории СССР.

1	Nationality		Национальность	
2	Present citizenship (if you had USSR citizenship when and why you lost it)		Гражданство (если Вы имели гражданство СССР, то когда и в связи с чем его утратили)	
3	Surname (in capital letters)		Фамилия	
4	First name, patronymic (names)		Имя, отчество (имена)	
5	(If changed, your surname, name (names) and patronymic before the change)		(Если изменяли, то Ваша фамилия, имя и отчество (имена) до изменения)	
6	Day, month, year of birth	7. Sex	Дата рождения	Пол
8	Object of journey to the USSR		Цель поездки в СССР	
9	USSR department, organizations proposed to be visited		В какое учреждение	
10	Route of journey (points of destination)		Маршрут следования (в пункты)	
11	Date of entry	12. Date of departure	Дата начала действия визы	Дата окончания действия визы
13	Passport №		14. Категория, вид и кратность визы	
15	Index and name of the tourist group Индекс, наименование туристской группы			
16	Place of work or study, position its address, telephone number Место работы или учебы, должность, адрес, номер телефона			
17	Permanent address, telephone number Адрес постоянного местожительства, номер телефона			
18	Place of birth (if born in the USSR, when and where-to emigrated) Место рождения (если Вы родились в СССР, то куда и когда эмигрировали)			
19	Number of previous trips to the USSR Сколько раз были в СССР		Date of the latest trip Дата Вашей последней поездки	
		Surname Фамилия	First name, patronymic Имя, отчество (имена)	Date of birth Дата рождения
				Permanent address Адрес местожительства
20. Children under 16 years travelling with you				
Дети до 16 лет, следующие с вами				
21. Relatives in the USSR				
Ваши родственники в СССР				

I declare that the data given in the Questionnaire are correct

Я заявляю, что все данные, указанные в анкете, являются правильными

 Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Дата

 Personal signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Подпись

## Nureyev wants to dance in U.S.S.R.

ROME (AP) — Ballet star Rudolf Nureyev says he would like to dance again in the Soviet Union after living more than 25 years in the West.

In Milan for a performance of the Paris Opera ballet, Nureyev said he would like to see his mother and show his countrymen "how we dance the classics in the West."

"I can't say I am nostalgic in the sense of the Russians who cry when they are far from home. I have been living in the West for a long time and I have grown up as a man and an artist here," he was quoted as saying Tuesday.

Nureyev noted that the Soviet Union has invited another Russian exile dancer, Mikhail Baryshnikov of the American Ballet Theater, to dance in the Soviet Union.



Rudolf Nureyev

95th Congress }  
1st Session }

COMMITTEE PRINT

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TWO YEARS AFTER HELSINKI REPORT

TRANSMITTED TO THE  
COMMITTEE ON  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
BY THE  
COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND  
COOPERATION IN EUROPE



SEPTEMBER 23, 1977

Printed for the use of the Committee on International Relations

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON : 1977

94-438

#### *Contacts and regular meetings on the basis of family ties*

The Final Act contains, in the human contacts section of Basket III, specific provisions meant to promote travel for the purposes of family visits:

The participating states will favorably consider applications for travel with the purpose of allowing persons to enter or leave their territory temporarily, and on a regular basis if desired, in order to visit members of their families.

Moreover, the Final Act states that these applications "will be dealt with without distinction as to the country of origin or destination . . ." The signatories pledged to prepare and issue the necessary travel documents "within reasonable time limits" and give priority treatment to urgent cases involving illness or death. As with applications for family reunification, the rights and obligations of the applicant and his family are not to be restricted.

The record of compliance with the family visit provisions of the Final Act is difficult to ascertain. Public knowledge of and attention to this portion of Basket III has been much less than that given to the family reunification provisions. As a result, the amount of information available for a statistical measurement of compliance is limited. Many individuals are reluctant to "go public" even by informing their own governments of efforts to arrange visits with their families. In spite of this reluctance, however, certain cases which have come to the attention of the Commission illustrate the problems which still exist.

Although the issuance of Soviet exit visas for private visits, including family visits, to the United States rose by 40 percent from 1,184

in 1975 to 1,654 in 1976, Soviet policy on family visits continued to be restrictive and far below the objectives set in the Final Act. Some families have continually been denied permission to visit relatives abroad, particularly when relatives in the West have left the U.S.S.R. "illegally." The world-renowned dancer, Rudolf Nureyev, who defected from the Soviet Union in 1961, has sought since that time to have his aged mother, sister, and niece visit him in the West. Despite repeated intercessions in the family's behalf by government officials from several nations, all efforts have failed. In May 1977, Nureyev, appearing before the Commission, said that his 78-year-old mother had told him, "Well, I guess I am too old now, and I probably will never see you."

Another similar case involves a U.S. citizen, Vladislav Krasnov who left the U.S.S.R. in 1962, and now teaches at Southern Methodist University in Texas. He invited his parents to visit him in 1971 and their application was rejected. Says Krasnov, "Encouraged by the Helsinki Accords of 1975 and by the talk of détente, I made another attempt and issued an invitation to my mother to visit us in Dallas during the summer of the Bicentennial year. In her letter of May 25, 1976, my mother informed me that her application was rejected by an unnamed 'lady boss' in the city of Perm with an oblique explanation that from 'our district' nobody has yet gone to 'such a country.'" Furthermore, Krasnov's mother, Ekaterina Ivanovna Krasnova, was reprimanded by a Ministry of Internal Affairs official for not "having brought your son up properly."

Elvyra Skopas, an Illinois resident, in 1976, invited her son, whom she has not seen for 33 years, to visit her from Lithuania. He, too, received a rejection of his application for a temporary exit visa. Seventy-year-old Arvids Plakans of Riga, Latvia, has, every year since 1907, tried unsuccessfully to obtain permission to visit his three sisters living in the United States. The Commission has, in its files, documentation of over 300 cases involving Ukrainians and other Soviet citizens who, although invited by their U.S. relatives, have been unable to visit them here. Scores of letters have been received by the Commission from family members with all too familiar, tragic stories of planned reunions thwarted by the actions of the Soviet authorities. Most of these cases involve relatives in the United States. It should be noted that West German reports indicate an upturn in the number of visas issued to Soviets for visits to relatives from 860 in 1975 to 1,180 in 1976.

On the basis of these illustrative examples, it is clear that problems still persist in the area of Soviet compliance with the family visit provisions of the Final Act. Although the dimensions are not clear, the fact that some individuals in the Warsaw Pact nations are unable—2 years after the Helsinki summit—to visit with their families is undeniable and disturbing.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

November 20, 1987

TO: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR., DIRECTOR OF  
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: REBECCA RANGE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE  
PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF  
PUBLIC LIAISON

REQUEST: Signing Ceremony for S. Con. Res. 29 and H.  
Con. Res. 68

PURPOSE: To underscore the President's support of  
unrestricted family visits between relatives  
in the U.S. and U.S.S.R.

BACKGROUND: S. Con. Res. 29 and H. Con. Res. 68, which  
state that promotion of unrestricted family  
visits between relatives in the U.S. and  
U.S.S.R. is an essential part of American  
policy, were passed unanimously. They call  
for the Administration to raise the issue of  
family visits between the millions of rela-  
tives of many national and ethnic groups in  
the U.S. and U.S.S.R. at every opportunity,  
such as the U.S./Soviet summit in December.

A brief signing ceremony would help publicize  
this issue which is of such great importance  
to millions of Americans.

PREVIOUS  
PARTICIPATION: None

DATE AND TIME: Before December 8 DURATION: 5 minutes

LOCATION: Oval Office

PARTICIPANTS: Original Congressional sponsors,  
Daniel and Tamara Horodysky, Co-Chairs  
of Visits International for Soviets and  
Americans (VISA)

OUTLINE OF EVENT: Guests enter Oval Office and photos are  
taken. Brief remarks are exchanged,  
the President signs the bill.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Talking points

MEDIA COVERAGE: To be determined

RECOMMENDED BY: Rebecca Range, NSC

PROJECT OFFICER: Linas Kojelis, X6573



←VISA— Visits International for Soviets and Americans —BН3A→



VISA  
PO Box 2361  
Berkeley, California 94702  
(415) 540-VISA

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

Senate Concurrent Resolution 29 and House Concurrent Resolution 68, which state that promotion of unrestricted family visits between relatives in the US and USSR is an essential part of American policy, were passed unanimously. They call on you and your Administration to raise the issue of family visits between the millions of relatives of many national and ethnic groups in the USA and USSR at every opportunity.

These Resolutions follow your lead when you rightfully stated in your pre-Geneva Summit speech of November 14, 1985,

**"... the cause of peace would be well served if more individuals and families... could come to know each other in a personal way,"**

and when you forcefully said,

**"Quiet diplomacy can help only if it is supported by strong public pressure, strong public diplomacy."**

Please schedule — in your pre-Summit agenda — a signing ceremony with the original Congressional sponsors, our organization which initiated these Resolutions, and other supporters.

Our hopes and prayers are with you. We have the honor to remain,

Respectfully yours,

November 11, 1987  
Enclosures  
Copy to Office of Public Liaison

Daniel and Tamara Horodysky  
Co-chairs, VISA

Please urge the President to place the family visits issue on the US-Soviet agenda —  
Senate Concurrent Resolution 29 unanimously passed July 29, 1987.  
House Concurrent Resolution 68 unanimously passed (405-0) October 27, 1987



# Congressional Record

100th CONGRESS  
FIRST SESSION

## House Concurrent Resolution 68 Senate Concurrent Resolution 29

### Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the inability of American citizens to maintain regular contact with relatives in the Soviet Union

**Whereas** millions of United States citizens, including members of national and ethnic groups such as Armenians, Byelorussians, Estonians, Germans, Jews, Latvians, Lithuanians, Poles, Russians, and Ukrainians, have relatives in the Soviet Union;

**Whereas** the Soviet Union, as a signatory of the 1975 Final Act of the Conference of Security and Cooperation in Europe, commonly known as the Helsinki Accords, committed itself to "favourably consider applications for travel with the purpose of allowing persons to enter or leave their territory temporarily, and on a regular basis if desired, in order to visit members of their families.";

**Whereas** in that same document the Soviet Union pledged that "applications for temporary visits to meet members of . . . families will be dealt with without distinction as to country of origin or destination . . . ; cases of urgent necessity — such as serious illness or death — will be given priority treatment.";

**Whereas** the Soviet Union has ratified the United Nations Charter and signed other international human rights documents such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, documents which clearly protect the right to leave one's country and return thereto;

**Whereas** in anticipation of the Geneva Summit Conference of November 1985, President Reagan stated, "... the cause of peace would be served if more individuals and families . . . could come to know each other in a personal way.";

**Whereas** home visits would immeasurably aid our understanding of the Soviet people and improve relations with the Soviet Union, since family visitation is one of the most basic forms of cultural exchange;

**Whereas** it is not proper for governments to decide which relationships constitute close family ties for the purpose of determining which relatives should be allowed to visit each other;

**Whereas** the present policies of the Soviet Union make it virtually impossible for the millions of relatives in the two countries to exchange visits in their homes, and relatives

who have used other forms of communications, such as mail, telephone, telegraph, and gift parcels have experienced enormous difficulties;

**Whereas** because of restrictive Soviet policies, less than 1,000 of the many thousands of Americans who visited the Soviet Union in 1986 were allowed a private visa to stay with their relatives in their homes, and only about 1,500 Soviet citizens were allowed to visit their relatives in the United States;

**Whereas** many Americans who have been frustrated by the delay or denial in obtaining private visas to visit family members in their homes in the Soviet Union have resorted to joining package tours to the Soviet Union as a means of seeing their family members;

**Whereas** relatives should be able to comfort and assist each other in the event of medical emergencies such as those which resulted from the Chornobyl disaster, or when specialized medical treatment is not available in a particular country;

**Whereas** in the case of serious illness or death the victim's relatives should be guaranteed expeditious determination of their visa applications;

**Whereas** family visitation is an issue which transcends political differences, and governments which permit normal and regular family visitation demonstrate a commitment to basic values of decency and fairness which are shared by all mankind; and

**Whereas** at the Vienna Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe Follow-up Meeting, the United States delegation enumerated the inappropriate restrictions placed by Soviet authorities on Soviet citizens who wish to travel abroad and on United States citizens who wish to visit family members in the Soviet Union: Now, therefore, be it

**Resolved by the House of Representatives and the Senate,**

That it is the sense of the Congress that —

- (1) the promotion of unrestricted family visits between related people in the United States and the Soviet Union is an essential part of American policy toward the Soviet Union; and
- (2) the President, the Secretary of State, and other members of the administration should raise the issue of family visitation at all appropriate opportunities in discussion with the leadership of the Communist Party and the Government of the Soviet Union.

House Concurrent Resolution 68 introduced by Christopher H. Smith (R-NJ) on March 5, 1987.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 29 introduced by Dennis DeConcini (D-Ariz), Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), Paul Simon (D-Ill),

Bill Bradley (D-NJ), Al D'Amato (R-NY), Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ), and Pete Wilson (R-Calif) on March 11, 1987.

VISA — Human rights advocates of visits between millions of related people of many national and ethnic groups in the USA and USSR  
A Project of the World Without War Council of Northern California, an organization which, since 1958, links peace, freedom, and human rights concerns  
VISA • PO Box 2361 • Berkeley, California 94702 • (415) 540-VISA

# Congressional Record



United States  
of America

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES

OF THE 100<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

H 9037

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5, rule I, the Chair will now put the question on the motion to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed.

The vote will be taken on House Concurrent Resolution 68.

## SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING INABILITY OF AMERICAN CITIZENS TO MAINTAIN REGU- LAR CONTACT WITH RELA- TIVES IN THE SOVIET UNION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 68.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. YATRON] that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 68, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 405, nays 0, not voting 28, as follows:

[Roll No. 378]

### YEAS 405

Ackerman	Cardin	Edwards (CA)
Akaka	Carper	Edwards (OK)
Alexander	Carr	Emerson
Anderson	Chandler	English
Andrews	Chapman	Erdreich
Annunzio	Chappell	Espy
Applegate	Cheney	Evans
Archer	Clarke	Fascell
Armey	Clinger	Fawell
Aspin	Coats	Fazio
Atkins	Coble	Feighan
AuCoin	Coelho	Fields
Badham	Coleman (MO)	Fish
Baker	Coleman (TX)	Flake
Ballenger	Collins	Flippo
Barnard	Combest	Florio
Bartlett	Conte	Foglietta
Barton	Cooper	Foley
Bateman	Coughlin	Ford (MI)
Bates	Courter	Frank
Beilenson	Coyne	Frenzel
Bennett	Craig	Frost
Bentley	Crane	Gallagher
Bereuter	Crockett	Gallo
Berman	Daniel	Garcia
Bevill	Dannemeyer	Gaydos
Bilbray	Darden	Gejdenson
Bilirakis	Davis (IL)	Gekas
Bliley	Davis (MI)	Gibbons
Boehrlert	de la Garza	Gilman
Boggs	DeFazio	Gingrich
Boland	DeLay	Glickman
Bonior	Dellums	Gonzalez
Bonker	Derrick	Goodling
Borski	DeWine	Gordon
Bosco	Dickinson	Gradison
Boucher	Dicks	Grandy
Boulter	DioGuardi	Grant
Boxer	Dixon	Gray (PA)
Brennan	Donnelly	Green
Brooks	Dorgan (ND)	Gregg
Broomfield	Dornan (CA)	Guarini
Brown (CO)	Dowdy	Gunderson
Bruce	Downey	Hall (OH)
Bryant	Dreier	Hall (TX)
Buechner	Duncan	Hamilton
Bunning	Durbin	Hammerschmidt
Burton	Dwyer	Hansen
Bustamante	Dymally	Harris
Byron	Dyson	Hastert
Callahan	Early	Hatcher
Campbell	Eckart	Hawkins

Hayes (IL)	McGrath	Saxton
Hayes (LA)	McHugh	Schaefer
Hefley	McMillan (NC)	Scheuer
Hefner	McMillen (MD)	Schneider
Henry	Meyers	Schroeder
Herger	Mfume	Schuetz
Hertel	Mica	Schumer
Hiller	Michel	Sensenbrenner
Hochbrueckner	Miller (CA)	Sharp
Hopkins	Miller (OH)	Shaw
Horton	Miller (WA)	Shays
Houghton	Mineta	Shumway
Howard	Moakley	Shuster
Hoyer	Molinar	Sikorski
Hubbard	Mollohan	Sisk
Huckaby	Montgomery	Skaggs
Hughes	Moody	Skeen
Hunter	Moorhead	Skelton
Hutto	Morella	Slattery
Hyde	Morrison (CT)	Slaughter (NY)
Inhofe	Morrison (WA)	Slaughter (VA)
Ireland	Mrazek	Smith (FL)
Jacobs	Murphy	Smith (NE)
Jeffords	Murtha	Smith (NJ)
Jenkins	Myers	Smith (TX)
Johnson (CT)	Nagle	Smith, Denny
Johnson (SD)	Natcher	(OR)
Jones (NC)	Neal	Smith, Robert
Jones (TN)	Nelson	(NH)
Jontz	Nichols	Snowe
Kanjorski	Nielson	Solomon
Kasich	Nowak	Spratt
Kastenmeier	Oaker	St Germain
Kennedy	Oberstar	Staggers
Kennelly	Obey	Stallings
Kildee	Olin	Stangeland
Kleczka	Ortiz	Stark
Kolbe	Owens (NY)	Stenholm
Kolter	Owens (UT)	Stokes
Konnyu	Oxley	Stratton
Kostmayer	Packard	Studds
Kyl	Parris	Stump
LaFalce	Pashayan	Sundquist
Lagomarsino	Patterson	Sweeney
Lancaster	Pease	Swift
Lantos	Peios	Swindall
Latta	Penny	Synar
Leach (IA)	Pepper	Tallon
Leath (TX)	Perkins	Tauke
Lehman (CA)	Petri	Tauzin
Lehman (FL)	Pickett	Taylor
Lent	Pickle	Thomas (GA)
Levin (MI)	Porter	Torres
Levine (CA)	Price (IL)	Towns
Lewis (CA)	Price (NC)	Trafficant
Lewis (FL)	Pursell	Traxler
Lewis (GA)	Quillen	Udall
Lightfoot	Rahall	Upton
Lipinski	Rangel	Valentine
Lloyd	Ravenel	Vander Jagt
Lott	Ray	Vento
Lowery (CA)	Regula	Visclosky
Lowry (WA)	Rhodes	Volkmer
Lujan	Richardson	Vucanovich
Luken, Thomas	Ridge	Walgren
Lukens, Donald	Rinaldo	Walker
Lungren	Ritter	Watkins
Mack	Roberts	Waxman
MacKay	Robinson	Weber
Madigan	Rodino	Weiss
Manton	Roe	Weldon
Markey	Rogers	Whittaker
Marlenee	Rose	Whitten
Martin (IL)	Rostenkowski	Wilson
Martin (NY)	Roth	Wise
Martinez	Roukema	Wolf
Matsui	Rowland (CT)	Wolpe
Mavroules	Rowland (GA)	Wortley
Mazzoli	Roybal	Wyden
McCandless	Russo	Wylie
McCloskey	Sabo	Yates
McCollum	Saiki	Yatron
McCurdy	Savage	Young (FL)
McDade	Sawyer	

### NOT VOTING--28

Anthony	Holloway	Smith, Robert
Biaggi	Kaptur	(OR)
Brown (CA)	Kemp	Solarz
Clay	Leland	Spence
Conyers	Livingston	Thomas (CA)
Daub	McEwen	Torricelli
Dingell	Panetta	Wheat
Ford (TN)	Roemer	Williams
Gephardt	Schulze	Young (AK)
Gray (IL)	Smith (IA)	



## SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING INABILITY OF AMERICAN CITIZENS TO MAINTAIN REGULAR CONTACT WITH RELATIVES IN THE SOVIET UNION

Mr. YATRON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res.

68) expressing the sense of Congress regarding the inability of American citizens to maintain regular contact with relatives in the Soviet Union.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 68

Whereas millions of United States citizens, including members of national and ethnic groups such as Armenians, Byelorussians, Estonians, Germans, Jews, Latvians, Lithuanians, Poles, Russians, and Ukrainians, have relatives in the Soviet Union;

Whereas the Soviet Union, as a signatory of the 1975 Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, commonly known as the Helsinki Accords, committed itself to "favourably consider applications for travel with the purpose of allowing persons to enter or leave their territory temporarily, and on a regular basis if desired, in order to visit members of their families";

Whereas in that same document the Soviet Union pledged that "applications for temporary visits to meet members of . . . families will be dealt with without distinction as to country of origin or destination . . . ; cases of urgent necessity—such as serious illness or death—will be given priority treatment";

Whereas the Soviet Union has ratified the United Nations Charter and signed other international human rights documents such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, documents which clearly protect the right to leave one's country and return thereto;

Whereas in anticipation of the Geneva Summit Conference of November 1985, President Reagan stated, ". . . the cause of peace would be served if more individuals and families . . . could come to know each other in a personal way";

Whereas home visits would immeasurably aid our understanding of the Soviet people and improve relations with the Soviet Union, since family visitation is one of the most basic forms of cultural exchange;

Whereas it is not proper for governments to decide which relationships constitute close family ties for the purpose of determining which relatives should be allowed to visit each other;

Whereas the present policies of the Soviet Union make it virtually impossible for the millions of relatives in the two countries to exchange visits in their homes, and relatives who have used other forms of communication, such as mail, telephone, telegraph, and gift parcels have experienced enormous difficulties;

Whereas because of restrictive Soviet policies, less than 1,000 of the many thousands of Americans who visited the Soviet Union in 1986 were allowed a private visa to stay with relatives in their homes; and only about 1,500 Soviet citizens were allowed to visit their relatives in the United States;

Whereas many Americans who have been frustrated by delay or denial in obtaining private visas to visit family members in their homes in the Soviet Union have resorted to joining package tours to the Soviet Union as a means of seeing their family members;

Whereas relatives should be able to comfort and assist each other in the event of medical emergencies such as those which resulted from the Chernobyl disaster, or when specialized medical treatment is not available in a particular country;

Whereas in the case of serious illness or death the victim's relatives should be guaranteed expeditious determination of their visa applications;

Whereas family visitation is an issue which transcends political differences, and

governments which permit normal and regular family visitation demonstrate a commitment to basic values of decency and fairness which are shared by all mankind; and

Whereas at the Vienna Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe Follow-up Meeting, the United States delegation enumerated the inappropriate restrictions placed by Soviet authorities on Soviet citizens who wish to travel abroad and on United States citizens who wish to visit family members in the Soviet Union: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That it is the sense of the Congress that—*

(1) the promotion of unrestricted family visits between related people of the United States and the Soviet Union is an essential part of American policy toward the Soviet Union; and

(2) the President, the Secretary of State, and other members of the administration should raise the issue of family visitation at all appropriate opportunities in discussions with the leadership of the Communist Party and the Government of the Soviet Union.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, a second is not required on this motion.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. YATRON] will be recognized for 20 minutes and the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] will be recognized for 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. YATRON].

Mr. YATRON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. YATRON asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YATRON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 68, regarding the inability of American citizens to maintain regular contact with relatives in the Soviet Union. The Foreign Affairs Committee approved this measure without dissent and it was warmly endorsed by the administration.

I want to commend the bill's sponsor, Congressman CHRIS SMITH, for his outstanding leadership and tireless efforts to promote respect for human rights in the Soviet Union.

As chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Human Rights and International Organizations, I have been closely monitoring recent developments in the Soviet Union with respect to human rights. While I welcome the positive gestures the Soviet Government has taken in certain human rights areas, the Kremlin is still far from meeting its international commitments under the Helsinki Final Act, the U.N. charter and other such covenants to which it is a signatory.

Family visitations and contacts is a universally recognized fundamental right. Unfortunately, the Soviet Union continues to make it virtually impossible for millions of relatives in our two countries to exchange visits. Soviet authorities also erect substantial obstacles to other forms of communication, such as mail, telephone, and telegraph.

Further, only a fraction of Soviet citizens were permitted to visit relatives in the United States, and a small portion of Americans visiting the Soviet Union in 1986 were allowed a private visa to stay with relatives in their homes.

House Concurrent Resolution 68 sends an important signal to Soviet authorities. By maintaining that unrestricted family contacts is an essential policy toward the Soviet Union, and by calling on the administration to raise this issue at all appropriate opportunities, House Concurrent Resolution 68 ensures that we will continue to pressure the Soviet Government to comply with its international human rights commitments.

Approval of House Concurrent Resolution 68 is certainly warranted by the present circumstances and deserves the support of every Member of this Chamber.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first I want to again thank the subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. YATRON], for helping to bring this legislation to the floor.

I rise in strong support of this resolution; and in doing so, I would like to salute its chief sponsor, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, for his continued yeoman service in bringing to the attention of the House, important issues of this kind. Mr. SMITH has been tireless in his efforts to hold the Soviets' feet to the fire—to hold them accountable to the commitments they made at Helsinki.

It is no accident, either, that the two issues that concern all of us the most, do involve families and freedom of religion. And these issues will be with us for as long as the Soviet authorities insist on maintaining the idolatry of the State. In the final analysis, there are only two forces that can compete with the State's claim to absolute loyalty: Fidelity to one's family, and faith in the God and creator of us all. Since 1917, the Soviet State has sustained the greatest assault on the family unit and the Judeo-Christian ethic that the world has ever witnessed.

Mr. Speaker, I will be yielding to Mr. SMITH in just a moment so that he can explain his resolution in detail. Suffice for me to say that this resolution lays out the wretched history of the Soviet Union's despicable policy of breaking up families and preventing loved ones from maintaining contact with each other.

I cannot help but think of the "Capital to Capital" broadcast on "Nightline" a few nights ago in which the freely and openly elected representatives of the American people debated our supposed counterparts in the supreme Soviet. In truth, of course, we were debating the appointed flunkies of the ruling elites in the Communist Party Secretariat. But that is beside the point, anyway. When I raised the issue of family visitation and freedom

of movement, the Soviets responded by saying "We don't have an Iron Curtain. . . . There is no wall." If that is anything other than a hollow lie, there would not be a need for us to pass this resolution.

And so I urge that this resolution be passed unanimously. It makes an important statement, and it will keep reminding the Soviets of the solemn pledges they signed at Helsinki—pledges they have continued to break. Above all, the innocent people who suffer under these inhumane practices will know that we are standing with them.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the very distinguished gentleman from New Jersey, Mr. CHRIS SMITH, the sponsor of this legislation. Again I thank him for bringing it to the attention of this Congress and the world.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the gentleman from New York, GERRY SOLOMON, for that very powerful statement, and also commend the chairman of the Subcommittee on Human Rights and International Organizations, the gentleman from Pennsylvania, GUS YATRON, for his leadership on the Human Rights Committee. We have had a number of hearings this year from diverse areas and from around the globe, from Chile to Tibet. We have had human rights hearings that have really focused on what is truly occurring in the world, and the Soviet Union, of course, has been one of our prime focuses on the committee. Again I want to commend my good friend for his effective leadership on behalf of human rights. It is recognized on both sides of the aisle as well as in the world.

Mr. Speaker, the House has before it today a resolution which addresses the right of family members to maintain unfettered contact with their relatives, and is of importance to all who advocate human rights and, a deep and assiduous concern to the thousands of families who are adversely affected by current Soviet policy. With 236 cosponsors, House Concurrent Resolution 68 enjoys broad, bipartisan support, has been given a very favorable recommendation by the administration, and an identical measure, introduced by Senator DeCONCINI, was approved in the Senate on July 29.

Throughout the years, Mr. Speaker, Congress, the administration, clergy, human rights organizations, and others have emphasized the Soviet Union's disregard for basic human rights such as the right to practice one's religious beliefs, the right to emigrate and live in the country of one's own choosing, and the right to free political and civil expression. Keeping focus on these points is fundamental to our interaction and dealing with the Soviet Union and other countries of the world. Certainly, as a member of the Helsinki Commission, there are principles of the Helsinki ac-

cords that I have stressed repeatedly in meetings in this country and abroad with the Soviets, Romanians, Czechoslovakians, and others in the Warsaw Pact.

One aspect of the Helsinki accords which has not received adequate attention is the provision requiring the signatory nations to, in the specific language of the Helsinki accords, "favorably consider applications for travel with the purpose of allowing persons to enter or leave their territory temporarily, and on a regular basis if desired, in order to visit members of their families."

It is estimated that about 5 million Americans have familial ties in the U.S.S.R. For some the relatives are distant, but for many others the ties are more immediate—a brother or sister, a mother or father, a grandparent. The number of individuals who have emigrated from the U.S.S.R. to the United States over the last 15 to 20 years alone is approximately 200,000. Almost without exception, emigres leave loved ones behind. Many of them are then denied permission to see each other. Mr. Speaker, I believe Andrei Sakharov summarized the issue well when he said simply, "It is the inalienable right of all human beings to see their families."

For those contemplating emigration from the Soviet Union, prohibiting the exercise of this "inalienable right" can be a deciding factor not to attempt emigration at all. It can have a chilling effect on the decision to emigrate. In effect, emigres who are not allowed to return for visits have been condemned to a form of "exile"—they are forced to choose between their adopted residence and their cherished family ties.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the issue of family visits is a human rights issue which the Soviets can and must live up to. And it behooves us to vigorously press the point, particularly in this era of so-called openness or glasnost.

Mr. Speaker, the evidence is clear that for those wishing to visit relatives in the Soviet Union, the process can be quite lengthy despite the new visa regulations which came into effect on January 1, 1987. As with any visitor to the U.S.S.R. individuals must submit the application for a visitors visa. Too often applicants have had denials, especially among the emigre community. The new Soviet regulations suggest that such applications should be reviewed within 1 month while visa requests for funerals, family illnesses, or other emergencies would be reviewed within 3 days. Because Soviet citizens are prohibited to have foreigners staying in their home without permission, a private visa must be obtained prior to departure, should the visitor wish to stay with relatives. In 1986, less than 1,000 Americans were allowed private visas by Soviet officials.

The new regulations look good on paper but results have been disappointing. The cumbersome, bureaucratic delays and thousands of rejec-

tions are especially frustrating for Soviet citizens seeking the necessary exit visa to travel outside the U.S.S.R. As an example, for the past 11 years, Yelena Sofronitskaya, an 87-year-old woman living in Moscow applied for and was denied an exit visa twice each year. She was unable to come to the United States to visit her daughter and grandchildren. Finally, after several rejections, her daughter was granted a tourist visa allowing her into the Soviet Union. Nonetheless, unable to obtain a private visa, the daughter was forced to stay in a nearby hotel instead of in her mother's home. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately there have been thousands of other similar stories.

Mr. Speaker, the President put the issue well in his pre-Geneva summit speech in 1985, "... the cause of peace would be well served if more individuals and families ... could come to know each other in a personal way." For some this has meant simply facilitating cultural and scientific exchanges. Mr. Speaker, I believe it would be mutually beneficial for the same emphasis to be placed on contacts among siblings, and other family exchanges. Isn't it ironic that the trend of the eighties has been one of closer person to person ties with Soviet citizens and yet there are parents and grandparents who are regularly and routinely denied a personal exchange with their sons and daughters and grandchildren?

Mr. Speaker, in order for this aspect of the Helsinki Accords to be given the focus needed to engage the Soviets, I introduced a - resolution requesting that a coordinated and clear policy be stressed by the President, the Secretary of State and all administration negotiators and officials dealing with the Soviets. A few days later, Senator DeCONCINI introduced the identical resolution. As noted in the executive comment requested for House Concurrent Resolution 68 there has been a "slight improvement in 1987 in Soviet performance on private travel and family visitation (but) it remains very difficult to exchange family visits." The administration welcomes this resolution and is mutually committed to working toward a resolution.

I am pleased to inform the House, Mr. Speaker, that the issue of family visits has been on the agenda for the ongoing Helsinki meeting now in progress in Vienna. The deliberators in Vienna have given consideration to a proposal dubbed WT24, which reiterates the commitments found in basket III of the accords. The proposal which is still under review calls upon the signatories to deal favorably and expeditiously with all applications for travel, particularly for humanitarian reasons.

I hope and trust that the House will overwhelmingly approve House Concurrent Resolution 68. The time has come to allow families to see each other without Big Brother objecting.

As Ambassador to the human contacts meeting held in Bern, Switzerland, last year, Michael Novak said, "We look forward to the day when ordinary families are no longer victimized by the ebb and flow of political considerations." The right to visit one's family is elemental and will be another test of Soviet commitment to human rights and glasnost.

□ 1540

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I yield to another valuable member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the gentleman who has been foremost in the effort to hold, again, the Soviets' feet to the fire when it comes to human rights violations.

Mr. Speaker, he joined me on the program the other night, Capitol to Capitol, and asked some very penetrating questions of the Soviet politburo members that they could not answer because they could not defend the terrible human rights violations of the Soviet Union.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN].

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for his kind remarks and for yielding and I commend the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. YATRON], the distinguished chairman of the Human Rights Subcommittee, and the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], the committee's ranking member, for bringing this measure to the floor at this time.

I am pleased to rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 68 which reaffirms the need for our Nation to do all that it can to assure that the basic and fundamental right of visiting one's loved ones will not be denied by the Soviet Government. In this country there are millions who have relatives in various parts of the Soviet Union. No government or person respecting the dignity of man could wish to keep mother from son or brother from sister.

In spite of the numerous international commitments of the Soviet Union to respect human rights, including family unification and emigration, only a small fraction of those wishing to see their relatives are permitted to do so. Many in the United States want to have a more productive relationship with the Soviet Union. Recent progress on arms control has been encouraging. But there can be no fundamental transformation in Soviet-American relations as long as the Soviet Government does not show a much greater appreciation of human rights.

This resolution appropriately urges the President and Secretary of State to continue to raise the issue of family

visitation with the Soviet authorities at all appropriate opportunities. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution to make it clear that the American Government and the American people are unanimous in supporting the human right to family visitations.

Mr. YATRON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to commend and thank my ranking minority member, the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], for his cooperation and hard work in trying to forge a bipartisan foreign policy.

I also want to commend the sponsor of the resolution, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, for his leadership in this area and the hard work that he has put in on the subcommittee, and also our very good friend, the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], who has worked tirelessly in this area.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, before yielding back the balance of my time, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I yield once again to the sponsor of the resolution, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. SMITH].

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to alert the Members of the House that I will be asking for a recorded vote. This is an oft-neglected human rights issue and I think by having a recorded vote we bring additional attention to the family visitation issue. I certainly hope my colleagues would be amenable to that suggestion.

Mr. PORTER. I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 68 concerning unrestricted visits between people in the United States and their relatives in the Soviet Union. I want to commend my colleague, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, for his leadership on this resolution and human rights issues in general. As a member of the Helsinki Commission, the Human Rights Subcommittee, and the Human Rights Caucus, his commitment to helping those in need is evident.

House Concurrent Resolution 68 touches upon a very important issue. Despite numerous international commitments by the Soviet Union, Soviet policies still prohibit U.S. citizens from visiting their relatives living in the U.S.S.R., and those policies also prevent those relatives from visiting the United States. For example, Maya Kabakov emigrated from the Soviet Union with her husband and son in 1978. For the past 3 years, she has attempted to get a visa for her mother to visit her and her family in the United States.

Maya's 69-year-old mother lives alone and is in poor health. Although she talks to her family on the phone, it is not the same as seeing them in person. I have written to Soviet and American authorities requesting a visitation visa for Mrs. Kabakov and will continue my efforts until her visa is granted.

Unfortunately, Mrs. Kabakov's plight is not an isolated one. Millions of American citizens have relatives in the Soviet Union. I encour-

age my colleagues to support House Concurrent Resolution 68 and send a strong message to the Soviet authorities: they must adopt a more favorable attitude toward Soviet citizens wishing to travel abroad.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 68, expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the inability of American citizens to maintain regular contacts with their families in the Soviet Union. I commend our colleague and fellow member of the Helsinki Commission CHRIS SMITH for his leadership in sponsoring this resolution and his tireless efforts in promoting human rights issues.

In agreeing to the Helsinki Final Act, the 35 signatory states, including the Soviet Union, committed themselves to "favorably consider applications for travel with the purpose of allowing persons to enter or leave their territory temporarily, and on a regular basis if desired, in order to visit members of their families." Unfortunately, despite recent steps forward, the Soviet Union has not adhered to the family visits provision of the Final Act.

While the number of Soviet citizens allowed to visit the United States has more than doubled in recent months, many Soviet citizens still face considerable obstacles in attempting to get governmental permission to visit their family in the United States. As a result, many Soviet citizens, due to governmental restrictions, cannot visit their relatives who are ill or even dying. They are not able to share times of family remembrance of sorrow, or, for that matter, times of family joy and celebration. They are prevented from spending private moments or share reminiscences with brothers, sisters, sons or daughters, parents or cousins. Even when permission to travel for family visits is granted, rarely are entire families allowed to travel together. In essence, one part of the family is held hostage to ensure the traveler's return.

Considerable difficulties also exist for those Americans who wish to visit relatives in the Soviet Union. Many Americans have been frustrated by delay or denial in obtaining private visas to visit family members in their homes and have had to resort to joining package tours to see their relatives. These tours only stop in a limited number of Soviet cities, forcing the Soviet relatives to sometimes travel long distances to meet with their United States relatives. Thus they often act as a brake to normal family contact.

Mr. Speaker, I also welcome this resolution in my capacity as chairman of the Helsinki Commission and vice chairman of the U.S. delegation to the ongoing Vienna CSCE follow-up meeting. Passage of House Concurrent Resolution 68 will signal to the delegations at the Vienna meeting, including the Soviet delegation, the strong, bipartisan concern of the U.S. Congress on the family visits issue and strengthen the efforts of the West to include strong family visits and travel language in any concluding document that may ultimately be adopted at Vienna. While we welcome recent positive developments by the Soviet Government in the area of family visits, we must continue to emphasize the importance we attach to unrestricted family visits. This resolution, Mr. Speaker, reinforces our commitment to this end. I urge my colleagues to support passage of House Concurrent Resolution 68.



# Отчет Конгресса США

Совместная Резолюция Конгресса 68  
Совместная Резолюция Сената 29

100й КОНГРЕСС  
1я СЕССИЯ

## Выражающая отношение Конгресса к невозможности для Американских граждан поддерживать регулярные контакты с их родственниками в Советском Союзе

Поскольку миллионы граждан Соединенных Штатов, включая представителей национальных и этнических групп, таких как Армяне, Белоруссы, Эстонцы, Немцы, Евреи, Латыши, Литовцы, Поляки, Русские и Украинцы, имеют родственников в Советском Союзе;

Поскольку Советский Союз, подписав в 1975 году окончательный Акт Конференции по Безопасности и Сотрудничеству в Европе, общеизвестный под названием Хельсинские Соглашения, обязался «благожелательно рассматривать заявления о поездках с целью выезжать и въезжать в страну временно, и регулярно, если они того пожелают, для посещения членов их семей»;

Поскольку в том же документе Советский Союз обязался в том, что «заявления о временных визитах с целью встретиться с членами ... семьи будут рассматриваться без различий в отношении страны отправления или назначения ...; случаи срочной необходимости — такие как серьезная болезнь или смерть — будут рассматриваться в срочном порядке»;

Поскольку Советский Союз принял Хартию Объединенных Наций и подписал другие международные документы о правах человека, такие как Международное Уложение о гражданских и политических правах, т.е. документы, явно констатирующие право покидать свою страну и возвращаться в нее;

Поскольку в предверии женевого совещания в верхах в ноябре 1985, Президент Реган заявил, что «дело мира выиграет, если большее число отдельных лиц и семей узнают друг друга лично.»;

Поскольку частные визиты неизмеримо помогли бы нашему пониманию Советского народа и улучшению отношений с Советским Союзом, так как семейные визиты являются основной формой культурного обмена;

Поскольку не подобает правительствам решать, какая степень родства является достаточно близкой для того, чтобы разрешить родственникам посещать друг друга;

Поскольку современная политика Советского Союза делает практически невозможным для миллионов родственников в обеих странах обмениваться домашними визитами, и родственники, прибегающие к другим формам поддержания общения, таким как переписка, телефон, телеграф, и посылки, встречаются с огромными трудностями;

Поскольку советская политика накладывает

ограничения, меньше чем 1000 из многих тысяч американцев, которые посетили Советский Союз в 1986 году, получили разрешение посетить родственников у них дома, и только 1500 советских граждан получили разрешение посетить своих родственников в США;

Поскольку многие американцы, обескураженные задержкой или отказом в получении частной визы для посещения членов семьи по их месту жительства в Советском Союзе, стали прибегать к групповым туристическим поездкам по Советскому Союзу как к средству повидать своих родных;

Поскольку родственники должны иметь возможность помогать и поддерживать друг друга в критических обстоятельствах, таких как Чернобыльская катастрофа, или когда специализированная медицинская помощь недоступна в определенной стране;

Поскольку в случае серьезной болезни или смерти родственники должны иметь гарантию на немедленное получение визы;

Поскольку посещение родственников выходит за рамки различий в политических взглядах, и правительства, которые разрешают нормальные и регулярные семейные визиты, демонстрируют соблюдение важнейших принципов порядочности и справедливости, разделяемых всем человечеством; и

Поскольку на Венской конференции по безопасности и сотрудничеству в Европе делегация Соединенных Штатов перечислила недопустимые ограничения, наложенные Советскими властями на Советских граждан, желающих путешествовать за границей, и на американских граждан, желающих посетить родственников в Советском Союзе; таким образом,

*Палата Представителей и Сенат Постановляют,*  
что по мнению Конгресса —

- (1) поощрение неограниченных визитов между родственниками в Соединенных Штатах и в Советском Союзе является неотъемлемой частью Американской политики в отношении Советского Союза; и
- (2) Президент, Государственный Секретарь и другие члены администрации должны поднимать вопрос о семейных визитах при всех подходящих обстоятельствах в обсуждении с руководством Коммунистической партии и Правительства Советского Союза.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Date: November 13, 1987

TO:

Lisa Jameson  
Room 368

TO:

FROM:

LINAS KOJELIS  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison  
Room 196 OEOB, Ext. 6573

The attached is for your:

- |                                                 |                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review & Comment<br>by COB Monday |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Response        | <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Action                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Letter           | <input type="checkbox"/> Signature                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> File                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Let's Discuss                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please Return By _____ |                                                                       |

Comments:

*Again, you have our full  
support - this is  
an important issue to which  
~~that~~ State has not given  
sufficient attention of late.  
Lisa*



# DRAFT

## SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

November 13, 1987

TO: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR., DIRECTOR OF  
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: REBECCA RANGE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE  
PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF  
PUBLIC LIAISON

REQUEST: Signing Ceremony for S. Con. Res. 29 and H.  
Con. Res. 68

PURPOSE: To underscore the President's support of  
unrestricted family visits between relatives  
in the U.S. and U.S.S.R.

BACKGROUND: S. Con. Res. 29 and H. Con. Res. 68, which  
state that promotion of unrestricted family  
visits between relatives in the U.S. and  
U.S.S.R. is an essential part of American  
policy, were passed unanimously. They call  
for the Administration to raise the issue of  
family visits between the millions of rela-  
tives of many national and ethnic groups in  
the U.S. and U.S.S.R. at every opportunity,  
such as the U.S./Soviet summit in December.

A brief signing ceremony would help publicize  
this issue which is of such great importance  
to millions of Americans.

PREVIOUS  
PARTICIPATION: None

DATE AND TIME: Before December 8                      DURATION: 5 minutes

LOCATION: Oval Office

PARTICIPANTS: Original Congressional sponsors,  
Daniel and Tamara Horodysky, Co-Chairs  
of Visits International for Soviets and  
Americans (VISA)

OUTLINE OF EVENT: Guests enter Oval Office and photos are  
taken. Brief remarks are exchanged,  
the President signs the bill.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Talking points

MEDIA COVERAGE: To be determined

RECOMMENDED BY: Rebecca Range, NSC  
PROJECT OFFICER: Linas Kojelis, X6573



←VISA—Visits International for Soviets and Americans—B13A→



VISA  
PO Box 2361  
Berkeley, California 94702  
(415) 540-VISA

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

Senate Concurrent Resolution 29 and House Concurrent Resolution 68, which state that promotion of unrestricted family visits between relatives in the US and USSR is an essential part of American policy, were passed unanimously. They call on you and your Administration to raise the issue of family visits between the millions of relatives of many national and ethnic groups in the USA and USSR at every opportunity.

These Resolutions follow your lead when you rightfully stated in your pre-Geneva Summit speech of November 14, 1985,

**"... the cause of peace would be well served if more individuals and families... could come to know each other in a personal way,"**

and when you forcefully said,

**"Quiet diplomacy can help only if it is supported by strong public pressure, strong public diplomacy."**

Please schedule — in your pre-Summit agenda — a signing ceremony with the original Congressional sponsors, our organization which initiated these Resolutions, and other supporters.

Our hopes and prayers are with you. We have the honor to remain,

Respectfully yours,

November 11, 1987  
Enclosures  
Copy to Office of Public Liaison

Daniel and Tamara Horodysky  
Co-chairs, VISA

**Please urge the President to place the family visits issue on the US-Soviet agenda —**

**Senate Concurrent Resolution 29 unanimously passed July 29, 1987.**

**House Concurrent Resolution 68 unanimously passed (405-0) October 27, 1987**



## **Congressional Record**

100th CONGRESS  
FIRST SESSION

**House Concurrent Resolution 68**

**Senate Concurrent Resolution 29**

### **Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the inability of American citizens to maintain regular contact with relatives in the Soviet Union**

Whereas millions of United States citizens, including members of national and ethnic groups such as Armenians, Byelorussians, Estonians, Germans, Jews, Latvians, Lithuanians, Poles, Russians, and Ukrainians, have relatives in the Soviet Union;

Whereas the Soviet Union, as a signatory of the 1975 Final Act of the Conference of Security and Cooperation in Europe, commonly known as the Helsinki Accords, committed itself to "favourably consider applications for travel with the purpose of allowing persons to enter or leave their territory temporarily, and on a regular basis if desired, in order to visit members of their families.";

Whereas in that same document the Soviet Union pledged that "applications for temporary visits to meet members of . . . families will be dealt with without distinction as to country of origin or destination . . . ; cases of urgent necessity — such as serious illness or death — will be given priority treatment.";

Whereas the Soviet Union has ratified the United Nations Charter and signed other international human rights documents such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, documents which clearly protect the right to leave one's country and return thereto;

Whereas in anticipation of the Geneva Summit Conference of November 1985, President Reagan stated, "... the cause of peace would be served if more individuals and families . . . could come to know each other in a personal way.";

Whereas home visits would immeasurably aid our understanding of the Soviet people and improve relations with the Soviet Union, since family visitation is one of the most basic forms of cultural exchange;

Whereas it is not proper for governments to decide which relationships constitute close family ties for the purpose of determining which relatives should be allowed to visit each other;

Whereas the present policies of the Soviet Union make it virtually impossible for the millions of relatives in the two countries to exchange visits in their homes, and relatives

who have used other forms of communications, such as mail, telephone, telegraph, and gift parcels have experienced enormous difficulties;

Whereas because of restrictive Soviet policies, less than 1,000 of the many thousands of Americans who visited the Soviet Union in 1986 were allowed a private visa to stay with their relatives in their homes, and only about 1,500 Soviet citizens were allowed to visit their relatives in the United States;

Whereas many Americans who have been frustrated by the delay or denial in obtaining private visas to visit family members in their homes in the Soviet Union have resorted to joining package tours to the Soviet Union as a means of seeing their family members;

Whereas relatives should be able to comfort and assist each other in the event of medical emergencies such as those which resulted from the Chernobyl disaster, or when specialized medical treatment is not available in a particular country;

Whereas in the case of serious illness or death the victim's relatives should be guaranteed expeditious determination of their visa applications;

Whereas family visitation is an issue which transcends political differences, and governments which permit normal and regular family visitation demonstrate a commitment to basic values of decency and fairness which are shared by all mankind; and

Whereas at the Vienna Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe Follow-up Meeting, the United States delegation enumerated the inappropriate restrictions placed by Soviet authorities on Soviet citizens who wish to travel abroad and on United States citizens who wish to visit family members in the Soviet Union: Now, therefore, be it

**Resolved by the House of Representatives and the Senate,**

That it is the sense of the Congress that —

- (1) the promotion of unrestricted family visits between related people in the United States and the Soviet Union is an essential part of American policy toward the Soviet Union; and
- (2) the President, the Secretary of State, and other members of the administration should raise the issue of family visitation at all appropriate opportunities in discussion with the leadership of the Communist Party and the Government of the Soviet Union.

House Concurrent Resolution 68 introduced by Christopher H. Smith (R-NJ) on March 5, 1987.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 29 introduced by Dennis DeConcini (D-Ariz), Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), Paul Simon (D-Ill),

Bill Bradley (D-NJ), Al D'Amato (R-NY), Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ), and Pete Wilson (R-Calif) on March 11, 1987.

**VISA — Human rights advocates of visits between millions of related people of many national and ethnic groups in the USA and USSR**

**A Project of the World Without War Council of Northern California, an organization which, since 1958, links peace, freedom, and human rights concerns**

**VISA • PO Box 2361 • Berkeley, California 94702 • (415) 540-VISA**



W

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Shoshana Riemer

362-0923

D.C. contact for +  
spouses.

you only need to  
call her now.

MEMORANDUM  
OF CALL

Previous editions usable

TO:

Gusa

☒ YOU WERE CALLED BY- ☐ YOU WERE VISITED BY-

Dr. Vileshina

OF (Organization)

☒ PLEASE PHONE ▶ ☐ FTS ☐ AUTOVON  
(305) 491-4252  
☐ WILL CALL AGAIN ☐ IS WAITING TO SEE YOU  
☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL ☐ WISHES AN APPOINTMENT  
MESSAGE

tomorrow

RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

63-110 NSN 7540-00-634-4018

☆ U.S. GPO: 1986-181-246/40015

16 420  
STANDARD FORM 63 (Rev. 8-81)  
Prescribed by GSA  
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

MEMORANDUM  
OF CALL

Previous editions usable

TO:

☒ YOU WERE CALLED BY- ☐ YOU WERE VISITED BY-

OF (Organization)

Andrea Riemer  
London

☐ PLEASE PHONE ▶ ☐ FTS ☐ AUTOVON  
441-7991565 or

☐ WILL CALL AGAIN ☐ IS WAITING TO SEE YOU  
☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL ☐ WISHES AN APPOINTMENT  
MESSAGE

441-6305433

RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

Dec 19 925

63-110 NSN 7540-00-634-4018

☆ U.S. GPO: 1987-181-246/40025

STANDARD FORM 63 (Rev. 8-81)  
Prescribed by GSA  
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

MEMORANDUM  
OF CALL

Previous editions usable

TO:

☐ YOU WERE CALLED BY- ☐ YOU WERE VISITED BY-

OF (Organization)

Michèle Cardella  
(415) 566-5353

☐ PLEASE PHONE ▶ ☐ FTS ☐ AUTOVON

☐ WILL CALL AGAIN ☐ IS WAITING TO SEE YOU  
☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL ☐ WISHES AN APPOINTMENT  
MESSAGE

÷ spouses  
(she will call you  
on Tues.)

RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

63-110 NSN 7540-00-634-4018

☆ GPO : 1982 0 - 361-529 (210)

STANDARD FORM 63 (Rev. 8-81)  
Prescribed by GSA  
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

Victor Fairmark

Victor Novikov  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

1. Andrea Wine

2. Eliz. Condon

Ants Silins

647-8671

Jim Coon

SD-226

comm.

~~END~~

224524

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Phone conv.

congressional

Max Robinson  
in Moscow

- ptg. in foreign ministry

~~discussing unresolved cases~~  
~~gov. action~~

- by telegram full list

Highlight

① Andrea Wine -

Victor Fairmark

Elizabeta Condon

② Victor Novikov

blocking marriage

---

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

beginning bureaucratic  
process.

Days → months

---



# Telegram

IPMWGW1 WSH1-009992A324 11/20/87  
ICS IPMWGWC WSH  
01071 11-20 1252P EST  
ICS IPMWGW1  
1-009873A324 11/20/87  
ICS IPMMOZF MTN  
03581 MOORESTOWN NJ 11-20 1245P EST MOZE  
ICS IPMWGWS  
4-014446S324 11/20/87  
ICS IPMMTZZ CSP  
3054914252 FRB TDMT FT LAUDERDALE FL 38 11-20 1237P EST  
ICS IPMMOZZ  
FRITZ ERMARTH  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL ROOM 368  
OLD EXECUTIVE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON DC 20506  
URGE YOU GIVE POSITIVE ANSWER TO OUR REQUEST TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT  
REAGAN OR MRS REAGAN. WE ARE THE MOST DIRECT AMERICAN VICTIMS OF  
SOVIET IMMIGRATION POLICY. OUR HUSBANDS FATE DEPENDS ON PRESIDENT  
REAGANS PUBLIC SUPPORT  
  
PHONE 305-491-4252

W.U. 1201-SF (R5-69)



# Telegram

GALINA VILESHINA  
ANDREA WINE  
MICHELL CARDEL  
DIVIDED SPOUSES COALITION  
  
3051 SOUTH OCEAN BLVD APT 707  
BOCA RATON FL 33432

1238 EST

1251 EST

1256 EST

IPMWGW1 WSH

W.U. 1201-SF (R5-69)

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

November 16, 1987

TO: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR., DIRECTOR OF  
PRESIDENTIAL SPPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: REBECCA RANGE, *Rebecca G. Range* DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE  
PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF  
PUBLIC LIAISON

GRANT GREEN, *G* SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE  
PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

REQUEST: To meet with members of the Divided Spouses  
Coalition

PURPOSE: To reaffirm the President's sympathy and  
support for unification of spouses of  
Americans living in the Soviet Union.

BACKGROUND: Many of the members of the Divided Spouses  
Coalition have been separated from  
their spouses for many years. The Soviet  
Union has refused to issue exit visas for  
Soviets to join their American spouses. A  
brief Oval Office visit would help publicize  
this issue which is of such great importance  
to many Americans and impress upon the  
Soviets the importance the President places  
on this issue.

PREVIOUS  
PARTICIPATION: None

DATE AND TIME: Before December 8 DURATION: 15 minutes

LOCATION: Roosevelt Room

PARTICIPANTS: 10 Members of the Divided Spouses Coalition

OUTLINE OF EVENT: Guests enter Roosevelt Room and photos are  
taken. President makes brief remarks and  
opens to general discussion.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Talking points

MEDIA COVERAGE: To be determined

RECOMMENDED BY: Rebecca Range, NSC

PROJECT OFFICER: Linas Kojelis, X6573

Friday, November 13, 1987

Terry Abdoo  
Press and Research Assistant  
Office of Public Liaison  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Terry,

Thank you for speaking with me by phone this afternoon. I know your time is very valuable.

I am writing on behalf of the Divided Spouses Coalition. We are very interested in the possibility of a group meeting with President Reagan the First Lady prior to the upcoming Soviet-American summit.

We hope that by personally sharing our plight with the President and the First Lady, they will gain added insight into our problem and renew their conviction to help us be reunited with our spouses.

Though the Soviets have made a great deal of progress where human rights and emigration issues are concerned, myself and other Americans with Soviet spouses have not benefited. In the last eleven months only two couple have been reunited. So much for "glasnost".

Approximately seven people would like to attend the proposed meeting. I have enclosed a list with the names, addresses, and phone numbers of each individual, in addition to a short biography of each case.

We would ideally like to meet with the President and the First Lady on the week of November 30th, with December 3rd and 4th preferred dates. However, other dates could be arranged.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Terry, it was a pleasure speaking with you and we genuinely appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

*Michele Cardella*

Michele Cardella  
1363 7th Ave., #5  
San Francisco, CA 94122  
(415) 664-7278

## DIVIDED SPOUSES COALITION

### DIVIDED SPOUSES

#### Soviet Spouse

Yuri Balovlenkov  
Ul. Smolenskaya  
Dom 12, Kv. 21  
Moscow

Victor Moiseevich Faermark  
Srednye-Kalitnikovskaya 24, Kv.30  
Moscow 109029

Galina Goltzman Michelson  
Prospect Vernadskogo 59, Kv. 156  
Moscow

Pyatras Yuozo Pakenas  
Ul. Komunarų Street 13, Kv. 7  
Vilnius, Lithuanian SSR

Leonid L'vovitch Sheiba  
165 Moscovsky Prospect, Kv. 105  
Leningrad 196070

#### American Spouse

Elena K. Balovlenkov  
17 South Conkling St.  
Baltimore, MD 21224  
(301) 342-2758 (home)

Andrea Wine  
11D Rothwell Dr.  
Cranbury, NJ 08512  
(609) 395-7660 (parents)

Anatoly Michelson  
4524 Medalwood Circle, Apt. 3  
Naples, FL 33999  
(813) 566-1660 (home)

Galina Vileshina  
3051 So. Ocean Blvd., Apt 707  
Boca Raton, FL 33432  
(305) 392-7916 (home)

A. Michele Cardella  
1363 7th Ave, #5  
San Francisco, CA 94122  
(415) 664-7278 (home)

### BLOCKED MARRIAGES

#### Soviet Fiance

Evgeniye Grigorishin  
Ul. Scherbakova 55A, Kv. 21  
Kiev, Ukrainian SSR

Victor M. Novikov  
Ul. Novatorov  
Dom 36, Korpus 9, Kv. 54

#### American Fiance

Antonette (Toni) Bohonovsky  
480 Park Ave.  
New York, NY 10022  
(212) 758-3673 (home)

Elizabeth Condon  
87 Newton Avenue  
Lynn, MA 01905  
(617) 593-8061 (home)

There are approximately 15 additional separated couples.

**SHORT BIOGRAPHIES OF  
SOVIET-AMERICAN DIVIDED SPOUSES AND BLOCKED MARRIAGE CASES**

**YURI BALOVLENKOV (ELENA BALOVLENKOV-Baltimore, Maryland)**

Yuri and Elena were married on December 5, 1978. Yuri and Elena have two daughters, the youngest of whom has never seen her father. Soviet authorities seldom even allow the couple to talk by phone. Yuri has staged two prolonged hunger strikes.

**VICTOR FAERMARK (ANDREA WINE-Cranbury, New Jersey)**

Forty-five year old Victor first applied to emigrate in 1971. He has been refused for 16 years on the grounds of secrecy although he has not worked as a scientist since 1971 when he was 27 years old. Victor and Andrea were married on November 21, 1985 after a twelve year relationship. Since they were married, Victor has received three additional refusals.

**YEVGENY GRIGORISHIN (ANTOINETTE BOHONOVSKY-New York, New York)**

Soviet authorities blocked Yevgeny and Toni's planned weddings on March 15, 1986 and May 14, 1986. Yevgeny has been imprisoned for a 5 year term on trumped up charges stemming from their efforts to be married. Toni was also subjected to harassment, including a one week confinement to a hospital against her will for interrogation.

**GALINA MICHELSON (ANATOLY MICHELSON-Naples, Florida)**

Galina, 67, and daughter Olga, 38, have not seen Anatoly for over 30 years. He has never seen his grandson. Galina and Olga have applied for exit visas 24 times and have always been refused without explanation. Galina worries that they will die before they see each other again.

**VICTOR NOVIKOV (ELIZABETH CONDON-Lynn, Massachusetts)**

Soviet authorities blocked Victor and Elizabeth's planned October 23, 1979 wedding by the use of an anonymous and false letter. Since that time, Victor has been refused visas nine times to join Elizabeth, and Elizabeth has been refused visas ten times to return to Moscow to marry Victor, most recently in June of this year.

**PYATRAS PAKENAS (GALINA VILESHINA-Boca Raton, Florida)**

Pyatras first applied to emigrate in 1978. His request for an exit visa has been refused 17 times without any reason. Pyatras was recently hospitalized for two weeks with a heart problem. He is in need of bypass surgery. As a consequence of her separation from her husband, Galina too has had heart problems.

**LEONID SHEIBA (MICHELE CARDELLA-San Francisco, California)**

Leonid and Michele were married on August 13, 1985. Leonid has been refused a visa three times because it was "Against the Interest of the (Soviet) State". Soviet officials now claims there are security issues involved, though Leonid has never had exposure to security matters. Neither has received the others letters since January of 1987 and their phone calls are often disconnected.



**DRAFT**

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*sent to  
R. Range  
11/15/87*

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

November 13, 1987

TO: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR., DIRECTOR OF  
PRESIDENTIAL SPPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: REBECCA RANGE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE  
PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF  
PUBLIC LIAISON

GRANT GREEN, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE  
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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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to many Americans and impress upon the  
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PREVIOUS  
PARTICIPATION: None

DATE AND TIME: Before December 8 DURATION: 15 minutes

LOCATION: Roosevelt Room

PARTICIPANTS: 10 Members of the Divided Spouses Coalition

OUTLINE OF EVENT: Guests enter Roosevelt Room and photos are  
taken. President makes brief remarks and  
opens to general discussion.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Talking points

MEDIA COVERAGE: To be determined

RECOMMENDED BY: Rebecca Range, NSC

PROJECT OFFICER: Linas Kojelis, X6573

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

1. Keith Braun.  
Detroit.

(313) 256-7646

(h) (313) 356-2598

Current President

of Divided Spores  
Coalition.

MEMORANDUM  
OF CALL

Previous editions usable

TO:

*LJ*

☒ YOU WERE CALLED BY—

☐ YOU WERE VISITED BY—

*Michelle*

OF (Organization)

*Coalition - Divided Spaces*

☐ PLEASE PHONE ►

☐ FTS

☐ AUTOVON

*445/664-7278 (home)*

☒ WILL CALL AGAIN

☐ IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL

☐ WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

*(LISA Jamison)*

RECEIVED BY

*Lee*

DATE

*12*

TIME

*2:15*

63-110 NSN 7540-00-634-4018

☆ U.S. GPO: 1987-181-246/40025

STANDARD FORM 63 (Rev. 8-81)

Prescribed by GSA

FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

- 6 people

- ~~Mel~~ Cardella



office  
415/566-5353

- Michelle Cardella - S.F.
- Andrea Wine - London
- ~~Alena~~ Balalencov - MD
- Anatoly Michelson - Florida
- Galina Villeshina -

- two block marriages -  
Elizabeth Condon - (M.A.)  
(roni) Antoinette Bohonovsky - NYC

[two weeks]  
[one week]

[Kathleen Lange - State Dept.]

[Kelly - <sup>who is a</sup> country  
that <sup>who in charge</sup> Middle East]  
Americans Home

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

November 16, 1987

TO: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR., DIRECTOR OF  
PRESIDENTIAL SPPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: REBECCA RANGE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE  
PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF  
PUBLIC LIAISON

GRANT GREEN, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE  
PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

REQUEST: To meet with members of the Divided Spouses  
Coalition

PURPOSE: To reaffirm the President's sympathy and  
support for unification of spouses of  
Americans living in the Soviet Union.

BACKGROUND: Many of the members of the Divided Spouses  
Coalition have been separated from  
their spouses for many years. The Soviet  
Union has refused to issue exit visas for  
Soviets to join their American spouses. A  
brief Oval Office visit would help publicize  
this issue which is of such great importance  
to many Americans and impress upon the  
Soviets the importance the President places  
on this issue.

PREVIOUS  
PARTICIPATION: None

DATE AND TIME: Before December 8 DURATION: 15 minutes

LOCATION: Roosevelt Room

PARTICIPANTS: 10 Members of the Divided Spouses Coalition

OUTLINE OF EVENT: Guests enter Roosevelt Room and photos are  
taken. President makes brief remarks and  
opens to general discussion.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Talking points

MEDIA COVERAGE: To be determined

RECOMMENDED BY: Rebecca Range, NSC

PROJECT OFFICER: Linas Kojelis, X6573

OK  
EP  
FJRTHE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTONSCHEDULE PROPOSAL

November 16, 1987

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RECOMMENDED BY: Rebecca Range, NSC

PROJECT OFFICER: Linas Kojelis, X6573

Regret  
8:45 12/3/87  
Tary Kay (NSC)  
says to  
drop it

8 SEE 10514351  
534884  
Published monthly by  
RESEARCH CENTER FOR RELIGION AND  
HUMAN RIGHTS IN CLOSED SOCIETIES



475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10027, USA

212-870-2481 or 2440

Blahoslav S. Hrubý  
*Executive Director and Editor*

*L. Kovelis*  
November 9, 1987

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of our Research Center for Religion and Human Rights in Closed Society I should like to express to you our deep appreciation and gratitude for your inspiring message addressed to us on the occasion of RCDA's 25th anniversary dinner in New York City.

The proceedings of that evening were broadcast by Voice of America, Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty and thus, heard by millions of listeners particularly behind the Iron Curtain. For them your words meant enormous encouragement in their struggle for civil rights and religious freedom of which they are being deprived by Communist governments. This was confirmed by two former victims of Communism who were present at our celebration -- Soviet virtuoso Vladimir Feltsman and Cuban poet Armando Valladares, both of them our "cases" in the past years. They were testimony to the fact that we in the West can affect in a positive way the policies and methods of totalitarian regimes, if we persist in our efforts.

We shall pray for your leadership, wisdom and courage in this time when you will meet with Mr. Gorbachev to make major decisions of a great impact on the life of mankind, not only in terms of limitation of nuclear weapons but also in terms of human rights.

May God bless you and guide you in all your endeavors.

Thank you again for your thoughtful message.

Respectfully yours,

*Blahoslav Hrubý*  
Rev. Blahoslav Hrubý  
Executive Director



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Date: 11-13-87

TO: *Lisa Jameson*

FROM: LINAS KOJELIS  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison  
Room 196 OEOB, Ext. 6573

The attached is for your:

- |                                                 |                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review & Comment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Response        | <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Action          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Letter           | <input type="checkbox"/> Signature                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> File                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Let's Discuss               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Please Return By _____ |                                                      |

Comments:

*Fully endorse this proposal.  
It's also in keeping with a  
proposal from STATE received  
this afternoon (13 Nov.) LJameson  
(Action # 8342)*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

November 13, 1987

TO: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR., DIRECTOR OF  
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: REBECCA RANGE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE  
PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF  
PUBLIC LIAISON

GRANT GREEN, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE  
PRESIDENT AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR THE  
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

REQUEST: President to host pre-Summit lunch for U.S.  
religious leaders

PURPOSE: To discuss U.S. goals at U.S./Soviet summit,  
and to hear concerns of religious leaders on  
arms control, human and religious rights

BACKGROUND: Religious and human rights leaders have  
met with the President before both of the  
previous meetings with the Soviets. The  
meeting would provide the President with a  
good opportunity to be informed about human  
rights cases and to listen to the religious  
communities concerns and requests before the  
Summit. It would also provide a striking  
contrast between the U.S. and Soviet Union as  
regards church/state relations.

The luncheon would be preceded by a briefing  
on U.S. goals at the Summit by senior  
administration officials in the Roosevelt  
Room.

PREVIOUS  
PARTICIPATION: October 1987

DATE: November 23-December 4 DURATION: 1 hr.

LOCATION: Cabinet Room

PARTICIPANTS: 25 religious leaders, representing Catholic,  
Protestant, Baptist, Jewish, Orthodox and  
other major denominations and faiths

OUTLINE OF EVENT: President enters Cabinet Room welcomes  
guests, eats lunch, makes remarks, leads  
general discussion

*picked  
regretted  
11/87*

REMARKS REQUIRED: 10 minute remarks

MEDIA COVERAGE: Pool for President's remarks only

RECOMMENDED BY: Rebecca Range, NSC

PROJECT OFFICER: Linas Kojelis, x6573