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Max

Fun 12:30

May 3, 1988 Religious Rights Seminar, East Room

- 1:00 pm -- VP or Colin Powell to open
Panel: Colin Powell, Amb. Schifter, Amb.
Ridgway, Lisa Jameson
- 1:05 pm -- Short testimonies (5 min each)
General - Peter Redeway (T) *Lisa*
Russian Ortho - Fr. Victor Potapov
Ukr Ortho - *Kathy / Myron*
Ukr Cath - Card. Lubachivsky
Sov Jewry - Morris Abram
Lithuanian Cath - Bishop Baltakis
Bap/Pent/7th Day/Jeh Wit - Kent Hill (T) *Mariam*
Muslims - Ayshe Seitmuratova *Max*
Armenians - UCLA prof. (T) *Max*
- 2:00 pm -- Q & A's
- 2:20 pm -- Break for press/stretch
- 2:30 pm -- President enters and make remarks
- 2:40 pm -- President sits down to listen to witnesses.
(3 min each)
Fr. Vladimir Chibaev -- Russian ortho priest *Eugene Rita*
(state exploitation of the church) (T)
-- Sov Protestant *Mariam*
Mykola Rodenko -- Ukr monitoring commit
Josef Begun -- Jewish, educ movement (T) *Max*
- 2:55 pm -- End of program

Max-

re: Angola tape

The person who would make
call is DAN LEVIN²³⁸⁵⁴, deputy
legal advisor in the NSC.

→ can't edit out line on Shultz
legal + pr problem

→ needs to know where
came from, ~~pr~~ who produced, etc.

We can coordinate w. Hank
Cohen & Levin, or put them
in touch with each other

MZ

ETHNIC GROUPS

Millenium of Christianity in Kievan-Rus

The Millenium of Christianity in Kievan-Rus will be celebrated throughout 1988 by the Ukrainian, Russian and Bielorussian American communities. This is the most important event for these communities this decade, and should receive due recognition by the White House.

White House outreach:

Recommendation: A joint White House, NSC and State working group is coordinating planning for this event. OPL/NSC have already requested for the President to prepare a video-taped message for the Millenium of Christianity in Kievan-Rus to be used at all commemorative celebrations in the Ukrainian and Russian American communities. (Note this is a politically sensitive issue within the communities.) - why?

Italian Americans

The 12 million Americans of Italian heritage make up the largest traditional ethnic group. Unfortunately, President Reagan has not met with, or hosted their leadership for six years.

White House outreach:

Recommendation: For the President to host luncheon for 90 leaders in State Dining Room. Luncheon preceded by briefings by Frank Carlucci and Frank Donatelli in Room 450.

Must event:

10/12 Columbus Day. Appropriate Presidential event.

Polish Americans

There are 8 million Polish Americans. The President last hosted a luncheon for this group in August 1984.

White House outreach:

Recommendation: For the President to host a reception for 100 leaders in State Dining Room. Reception preceded by briefings on domestic and foreign policy in Room 450.

- what % of population
what states does it
affect - are
they generally
Republican - what
about 80% votes
all these political
issues.

- What states are
affected. Are
they generally
Repub or
Dem? What
about 80% votes.
are these political
interests.

4/6/8 4203

This will
not happen
what's realistic.

May 3, 1988 Religious Rights Seminar, East Room

Arrival ~~9:30~~ am -- VP or Colin Powell to open
Panel: Colin Powell, Amb. Schifter, Amb.
Ridgway, Lisa Jameson

9:35 am -- Short testimonies (5 min each)

- Ukr Ortho
- Ukr Cath - Card. Lubachevsky (T)
- Russian Ortho
- R Sov Jewry - M. M. G.
- r - Lithuanian Cath - Bishop Baltakis (T)
- r - Bap/Pent/7th Day/Jeh Wit - Kent Hill (T)
- R Muslims - Arabic Script
- Hari Krishna
- (e - Armenians? P. J. Rick Armenian up & down
- General - Michael Bordeaux (T) P. Redmond -
- (Lutherans and Buddhists in audience only.)

11:15 am -- Break for press/stretch

11:30 am -- President entrance and remarks.
Congressional delegation takes their place. (T)

11:45(50)-- President sits down to listen to witnesses.
(3 min each)

x Shebiev -- Russian ortho priest (state
 exploitation of the church
 frot au Vladimir Khalo -- Sov Baptist evang
 Vytautas Skuodis -- Lithuanian Catholic
 prisoner of conscience
 1400x Mykola Rodenko -- Ukr monitoring commit
 x Begun -- Jewish, educ movement

Consist for Rome
Max

FYT

Rita

from 3/31
Jameson ntg.

An Appeal for Religious Freedom in the Soviet Union
On the Occasion of the Millennium of Christianity
In Kievan Rus'

To Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev
General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union

I. 1988 marks the Millennium of Christianity in Kievan Rus'. While this anniversary has special meaning for the Christian community throughout the world, it also provides an occasion for all men and women of goodwill to celebrate the great and varied spiritual heritages carried by the peoples of the Soviet Union--Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist.

Religious freedom has been acknowledged as a fundamental human right in such landmark steps towards the growth of international law as the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Social, Economic, and Cultural Rights, the Convention Against Discrimination in Education, the Helsinki Final Act, and the U.N. Declaration Against Religious Intolerance -- agreements to which the Soviet Union has solemnly pledged its adherence. The international community recognizes that respect for such fundamental human rights as religious freedom is an essential building block of peace, within and among nations.

Unhappily, present state policy in the U.S.S.R. puts pressure on religious believers of all faiths, and circumscribes the activities of religious communities. We join with believers in the Soviet Union who hope that this remarkable anniversary, the Millennium of Christianity in Kievan Rus', can become the occasion for fundamental change in Soviet state policy and practice toward religious communities.

We the undersigned, Americans of many different creeds and political persuasions, joined by a common concern for human rights and peace, appeal to you, General Secretary Gorbachev, to honor your nation's commitments to international agreements on the fundamental human right of religious freedom.

We are heartened by the progress our two countries have made in the area of arms reduction, and by your call for a new era of openness in the Soviet Union.

We note the resolution of a number of individual emigration and prisoner cases.

But we urge deeper, more permanent, systemic change, commensurate with your commitment to glasnost, perestroika, and democratization. Thus we urge you to redress the continuing pattern of discrimination and harassment against religious believers in your country.

We believe that significant progress in the matter of human rights, and especially on the fundamental right of religious freedom, will contribute to a new pattern of relationships between our countries, and thereby enhance the prospects of peace.

II. We join in solidarity with believers of all faiths in the Soviet Union, urging you to undertake immediately the actions necessary to effect these specific constitutional and legal steps toward full religious freedom in the U.S.S.R.:

* We urge that Article 52 of the Soviet Constitution be amended so that citizens of the U.S.S.R. are guaranteed the right, not only to "religious worship," but also to "form religious associations and disseminate religious beliefs" on terms of full constitutional equality with atheistic organizations and atheistic propaganda. We urge you to restore to all religious associations the full status of "juridical person" under Soviet law.

* We urge that the Decree of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee and the Council of People's Commissars of the RSFSR of April 8, 1929 (and its equivalents in other Soviet republics, as amended by a decree of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium of June 23, 1975), and the equivalent laws "On Religious Associations" adopted subsequently in other Union republics, be repealed.

In particular, we urge you:

- to return to individual religious groups the houses of worship, religious artifacts and religious books which have been expropriated by the authorities;
- to restore the right to construct and own new houses of worship;
- to allow religious instruction of children, young people and adults outside the public school system;
- to lift the ban against charitable activities by religious groups;
- and to end the requirements of preliminary state "registration" of religious associations and the clergy.

* We urge that Articles 142 and 227 of the RSFSR Criminal Code (and their equivalents in other republican criminal codes), as well as the March 18, 1966 Decrees of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium "On the Application of Article 142 of the RSFSR Criminal Code" and "On the Administrative Liability for the Violation of the Legislation on Religious Cults" (and the equivalent decrees adopted by the Supreme Soviet Presidia of the other Union republics), be repealed as contrary to the constitutional separation of church and state.

* We urge you to publish and submit for public reconsideration, with the participation of religious believers, all hitherto secret or only partially-published decrees and instructions setting the structure, powers, and procedures of the Council for Religious Affairs [CRA] attached to the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers, its republican and oblast branches and commissioners. We urge that you assure representation on the CRA, at all government levels, of representatives of religious

believers, and that the activities of the Council for Religious Affairs be guaranteed full legality and publicity (glasnost).

* We urge you to legalize the Greek Catholic (Uniate or Ukrainian Catholic) Church and other religious groups (such as, for example, the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church) that were banned by the Stalin government, and to restore to these religious groups the churches, houses of prayer, religious artifacts, monastic and seminary buildings, and other confiscated property necessary for their religious activities.

III. The fundamental right of religious freedom, as codified in the U.N. Declaration Against All Forms of Religious Intolerance, has many concrete expressions in daily life. Therefore we urge the following:

* Religious believers should be able to practice their faith without interference, harassment, or persecution. The requirements for compulsory state "registration" of religious congregations and the clergy, prior to their starting their activities, should be abolished, along with the prerogative of state authorities to veto any members of congregations' executive and auditing committees. Membership on these committees (including chairmanship) should be open to the clergy.

* Religious communities should enjoy the freedom to preach, to publish, and to disseminate their teachings through the mass media. Independent religious publishing institutions should not be hindered in their work.

* Parents should be able to transmit their faith to their children without being harassed or discriminated against on this account. Religious organizations should be able to conduct institutions of religious education without state interference. Clergy should be allowed, with parental permission, to provide religious instruction to children. School children and students at secondary or university levels should not be pressured to join organizations espousing atheism; punished for declining to do so; or otherwise be denied equality of educational opportunity and advancement on account of their religious beliefs and practices.

* The state should not interfere in the appointment of seminary faculties, and should relinquish its control over the appointment of candidates to seminaries.

* Religious believers, including children, should be able to absent themselves from work or from school on religious holidays.

* Believers who wish to emigrate from the Soviet Union on religious grounds should be allowed to do so.

* Believers, clergy, and religious groups in the Soviet Union who wish to maintain contacts with fellow-believers and religious institutions throughout the world should be free to do so.

* Religious communities should enjoy the full rights of social organizations in the Soviet Union. Religious communities should be able to solicit funds for charitable activities, to engage in works of charity, to own property, and to participate in organizations such as temperance societies.

* Religious services should be permitted in hospitals, prisons, and homes for the aged. Religious believers should be able to wear religious symbols, and to have access to religious literature, while they are in hospitals, prisons, and homes for the aged.

* A general amnesty should be declared for all religious prisoners of conscience.

IV. Establishment of these basic guarantees of the fundamental right of religious freedom is an important measure of the status of human rights in the Soviet Union. We call on you, Mr. General Secretary, to demonstrate your commitment to peace by assuring all the peoples of the Soviet Union the right of religious freedom, which is an essential guarantor of peace. We appeal to you, on this occasion of the Millennium of Christianity in Kievan Rus', to join with us in working for an international community committed to defending the dignity of human beings as a fundamental requisite of peace.

GEORGE S. WEIGEL, JR. President

THE JAMES MADISON FOUNDATION

Board of Directors

ROBERT PICKUS

PAUL EKMAN

HERBERT LUTISON

JAMES LINN

LYRON M. KIRKPATRICK

THEO S. GUTMAN

KATH WILLIAMS

AN APPEAL FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN THE SOVIET UNION ON THE 'OCCASION OF THE MILLENNIUM OF CHRISTIANITY IN KIEVAN RUS'

A Project of the James Madison Foundation In Cooperation with
the Trinitarians and The Puebla Institute.

1988 marks the Millennium of Christianity in Kievan Rus'.

While this anniversary has particular meaning for the Christian community throughout the world, it is also an occasion for all men and women of goodwill to celebrate the great and varied spiritual heritages -- Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Buddhist, and Muslim -- carried by the peoples of the Soviet Union.

Unhappily, present government policy in the U.S.S.R. puts great pressure on religious believers of all faiths -- and this despite the Soviet Union's accession to such international affirmations of the fundamental right of religious freedom as the U.N. Charter, the International Declaration of Human Rights, The U.N. Declaration on Religious Intolerance, and the Helsinki Final Act.

Since religious freedom has been acknowledged in these and other documents as a basic human right, and since the international community has long recognized that respect for basic human rights is an essential building-block of peace within and among nations, the Millennium of Christianity in Kievan-Rus offers an important opportunity to call upon the present leadership of the U.S.S.R. to honor its commitments to religious freedom, human rights, and peace.

I. An Appeal to General Secretary Gorbachev

An "Appeal for Religious Freedom in the Soviet Union" will be addressed to General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, urging the Soviet government to initiate immediately specific measures to safeguard the right of religious freedom for all Soviet citizens. Such steps would include the release of all prisoners of conscience, freedom for church, synagogue, and mosque to publish literature and to proselytize, and various reforms in the legal code that would allow religious communities the status of juridical person, end discrimination against believers, and permit charitable and educational activities to be carried out by believers.

The appeal, which will be drafted in consultation with leading specialists on Soviet religious policy, will be signed by 500 prominent American religious, human rights, and intellectual leaders of all faiths and all political perspectives. Latin American, North American, and European religious, intellectual, and political leaders will be kept apprised of this effort and encouraged to launch similar enterprises in their own countries.

The appeal, printed in both English and Russian in a booklet containing the names and affiliations of all signatories, will be released at a major Washington, D.C. press conference during the Passover-Easter season of 1988. Possibilities for an ecumenical worship service featuring the appeal will also be explored. We will seek publication of the appeal in several religious/human rights journals, including, but not limited to: Freedom at Issue, This World, Christianity Today, Crisis, and Christian Century.

II. Development of Materials for Christian Pilgrims to Millennium Celebrations

Numerous denominational and ecumenical religious agencies are planning trips to the Soviet Union throughout the Millennium season. Individual pilgrims will wish to use this time as an occasion for worship, fellowship, and celebration; but their presence in the U.S.S.R. at this historic moment can also be an opportunity to show solidarity with religious believers of all faiths. Groups attending the Millennium celebrations in the U.S.S.R. will be informed of the appeal and urged to carry the English/Russian booklet with them as an expression of their commitment to the principles it espouses, and as an invitation to frank dialogue with Soviet officials on the relationship between religious freedom, the broader cause of human rights, and the pursuit of peace.

Contacts

George Weigel, President, The James Madison Foundation
Amy L. Sherman, Program Officer and Millennium Project Coordinator
(202) 842-1514

AN APPEAL FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN THE SOVIET UNION ON THE OCCASION OF THE MILLENNIUM OF CHRISTIANITY IN KIEVAN RUS'

12 February 1988

1988 marks the Millennium of Christianity in Kievan Rus'. While this anniversary has particular meaning for Christians, it is also an opportunity for men and women of goodwill to celebrate the rich spiritual heritages -- Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Buddhist, and Muslim -- carried by the peoples of the Soviet Union. It is also an occasion to express solidarity with believers of all faiths in the U.S.S.R.

Present Soviet state policy puts pressure on all religious believers -- and this despite the Soviet Union's accession to such international affirmations of the right of religious freedom as the U.N. Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the U.N. Declaration on Religious Intolerance, and the Helsinki Final Act.

Since religious freedom has been recognized in these and other documents as a basic human right, and since respect for basic human rights is an essential building-block of peace within and among nations, the Millennium of Christianity in Kievan Rus' is an historic opportunity to ask that the leaders of the U.S.S.R. honor their country's commitments to religious freedom.

The enclosed Appeal calls on General Secretary Gorbachev to initiate the measures necessary to ensure religious freedom in the Soviet Union. The Appeal, which has been drafted in consultation with leading scholars in the field, outlines specific steps essential for guaranteeing that all Soviet believers enjoy this basic human right.

We are seeking the signatures of 500 prominent citizens, across the full spectrum of American society, for the Appeal. And we are asking you to join us.

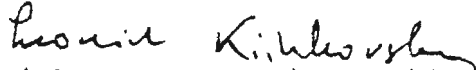
The Appeal will be presented to Soviet officials in Moscow and Washington, and will be publicly released at a Washington press conference during the Passover/Easter season. An English/Russian booklet containing the Appeal and a list of signatories will be made available to Millennium pilgrims visiting the U.S.S.R.

A project of the James Madison Foundation, in cooperation with the Puebla Institute and the Trinitarians

1030 - 15th ST. N.W., SUITE 412, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005 (202) 842-1514

Please show your support for religious freedom by signing the Appeal. Your prompt return of the enclosed response form will be appreciated.

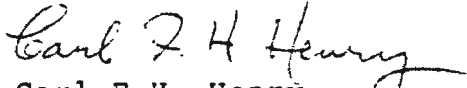
Cordially,



(The Very Rev.) Leonid Kishkovsky
President-elect of the National Council of Churches
Secretary for Ecumenical Affairs, Orthodox Church in America



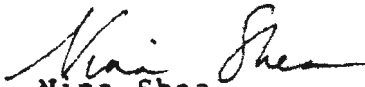
Rabbi Leon Klenicki
Director, Interfaith Affairs Department
Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith



Carl F.H. Henry
Evangelical Author and Theologian



George Weigel
President, James Madison Foundation



Nina Shea
Washington Director
Puebla Institute



(The Rev.) Stan DeBoe, O.S.S.T.
Director, Office of Persecuted Believers
Holy Trinity Fathers

P.S. Signatories join the Appeal as private citizens. The printed text will state that organizational affiliations are for identification purposes only.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

TO: FREDERICK RYAN, Director Presidential Appointments and Scheduling

FROM: PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS

REQUEST: Dropby attendance and remarks at White House Seminar on Religious Rights in USSR.

PURPOSE: This seminar is planned as the main human rights public diplomacy event before the Moscow Summit. The President's participation will strengthen and underline the Administration's continuing commitment to human rights, and, especially this year, to furthering the cause of religious freedom.

BACKGROUND: 1988 marks the millenium of Christianity in Kiev Rus--an anniversary of great importance to Russian, Ukrainian, and Belorussian Christians in particular, and to all Soviet believers in general. While pegged to the Millenium, the seminar will focus attention on Soviet abuse of religious rights across the board, affecting all faiths and denominations.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: The President has expressed concern about religious persecution in the USSR in many speeches, letters, and proclamations over the years. The President last participated in a White House seminar devoted to Soviet human rights matters on December 3, 1987--several days prior to the Washington Summit. That seminar, and the President's remarks, evoked a highly favorable public response.

DATE AND TIME: April 12, 1988; 11:30 a.m.
Duration: 30 minutes

LOCATION: Room 450, OEOB

PARTICIPANTS: The President, Assistant Secretary of State Ridgway, Assistant Secretary of State Schifter, Special Assistant to the President Ermarth, Director for European and Soviet Affairs, NSC, Jameson; (Tentative): Senators Lugar, Deconcini; Representatives Smith, Hoyer, Wolf, Henry, Miller.

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~DECLASSIFIED
Sec.34(b), E.O. 12958, as amended
White House Guidelines, Sept. 11, 2006
BY NARA *MM* DATE *11/4/11*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2

Representatives of religious and human rights organizations (list to be provided); Former Soviet Witnesses/believers (list to be provided).

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: The seminar will begin at 10:00, with presentations by spokesmen for religious and human rights organizations. The President will drop by at 11:30 to deliver remarks (15 minutes) and join Administration/Congressional panel in listening to testimony of several guests of honor--former Soviets who suffered religious persecution. The seminar will break for lunch at 12:00 and resume for an additional hour and a half at 1:30. The President will not participate in the afternoon session.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Keynote speech on freedom of conscience and religion in the Millennial year.

MEDIA COVERAGE: Pool for Presidential participation.

RECOMMENDED BY: NSC; OPL; Humanitarian Affairs Bureau, Department of State.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 6, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR MARTY SCHNEPPER
MAX GREEN
RITA BUREIKA
CURT ANDERSON
MARIAM BELL

FROM: JUANITA DUGGAN

SUBJECT: OPL/NSC POTUS event: Religious freedom in the
USSR, May 3, East Room, 9:30-12:00 p.m.

On May 3, OPL and NSC are hosting a seminar on religious freedom in the USSR. The event will be chaired by an administration panel and will provide a forum for spokespersons from all major denominations suffering persecution. The POTUS is scheduled to give a major speech at 11:30 and to remain to hear testimony from 4 - 5 persons who have personally experienced persecution for the practice of their religion in the USSR.

The event will be in the East Room. OPL'S contribution to the event will be to provide an invitation list of 240 names to the social office.

I would appreciate your submitting the names of persons to be invited from your respective office. We need representation from the following major groups:

1. Russian Orthodox - Max/Rita
2. Jews - Max
3. Ukrainian Catholics - Max/Rita
4. Ukrainian Orthodox - Max/Rita
5. Baptists - Mariam
6. Pentecostal - Mariam
7. Seventh Day Adventists - Mariam
8. Jehovah's Witness - Mariam
9. Lithuanian Catholics - Max/Rita
10. Poles - Max/Rita
11. Armenians - Max/Rita
12. Georgians - Max/Rita
13. Muslim - Max/Rita
14. American Catholics - Juanita
15. Conservatives - Curt
16. Hare Krishna - Max/Rudy
17. business leaders - Marty
18. human rights groups - Juanita

I will divide the list as follows:

Max/Rita/Rudy	-	80	seats
Juanita	-	40	seats
Mariam	-	75	seats
Curt	-	30	seats
Marty	-	15	seats

Your list should include full name, addresses, and telephone numbers, as well as honorific (Mr., Mrs, Miss, Mrs).

Please provide your list to me no later than April 13, 1988
COB.

Call if you have questions.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 24, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR LINDA WESLAR

FROM:

RITA BUREIKA *RB*

SUBJECT:

Ukrainian Millenium Event in
Clifton, NJ

Linda, I think that it would be appropriate for this group to receive the Presidential video-tape for the Millenium of Christianity of Kievan-Rus which should be taped on March 31. The purpose of the video-tape is to send greetings to Ukrainian, Russian, and Byelorussian groups as they celebrate the Millenium of Christianity.

Thanks.

Halycia, Pastor

201-473-8665

Ukrainian Orthodox Holy Ascension Church
635 Broad Street
Clifton, New Jersey 07013

Mr. Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

February 9, 1988

Dear President Reagan:

In the first century A.D. the Apostle Andrew stood on a hill in what is now the city of Kiev, Ukraine, and prophesied "a great city with many churches will be built here". Some nine centuries later his prophecy was fulfilled when in the year 988, Volodymyr, Prince of Rus-Ukraine declared the Orthodox Faith the official faith of his beloved nation and her people. This year, the 1000th anniversary of the Baptism that took place in the waters of the Dnieper River in 988 will be commemorated by Ukrainian Orthodox faithful, everywhere they are free to worship.

It is therefore with all due honor and respect we, the heirs of the Faith, from the Ukrainian Orthodox Holy Ascension Church, Clifton, N.J., graciously extend to you our invitation to commemorate with us that hallowed event in Ukrainian history.

The observances will take place on Sunday June 5, 1988 at 9:00 a.m. with the greeting of our Hierarch, His Beatitude, Metropolitan Mstyslav Skrypnyk, Primate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America and Diaspora. Hierarchical Liturgy will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m., followed by a banquet at the Wayne Manor, Route 23, Wayne, N.J., beginning at 12:30 p.m.

We look forward to your participation at the occasion of our Millenium Celebration and await the favor of a reply indicating whether our observances will be shared by you personally or a representative of your office.

In closing, may you be Blessed with continued service to the peoples of this nation in good health and spirit.

Yours in Christ,

Dr. George Halycia

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Rebecca Range

Copy attached for your info.

Marybel Batjer



NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506ACTION

March 14, 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS

FROM: LISA R. JAMESON *LJ*SUBJECT: Schedule Proposal: Direct Connection

Direct Connection is a private domestic organization that promotes contacts between U.S. and Soviet youth. It has twice requested a meeting with the President, the first time during the Washington Summit in December and the second time during the group's February visit to Washington for the Senate Youth Program. It was not possible to schedule a Presidential meeting on either earlier occasion, but Linas Kojelis of the Office of Public Liaison and I met with members of the group for about an hour last month.

Both Linas and I were quite impressed by the organization's representatives, five young people (four high schoolers, the fifth a freshman at Georgetown) and their executive director, Michael Killigrew. We understand that Assistant Secretary of State Rozanne Ridgway, who met with them later that afternoon, was similarly impressed. Unlike some other peace-promoting groups, the Direct Connection representatives seem to have a balanced view of U.S.-Soviet relations, and are equally concerned about problems on both sides. They were aware, for example, of the inequity in student exchanges between our countries (there are only twenty Soviet undergraduates studying in the United States). They seemed most intent on establishing a dialogue with Soviet young people on issues of mutual concern -- disarmament, of course, but also subjects like drugs, media and information, and cultural exchanges.

The organization was founded in a California high school three years ago, but now has more than two thousand affiliated chapters around the country. The President sent a congratulatory message to the group in 1986. Direct Connection has exchanged video messages with young Soviets and appeared in talk sessions on U.S. and Soviet television and radio. Seventeen Direct Connection members had a half-hour discussion with Mr. and Mrs. Gorbachev during the Washington Summit. The General Secretary referred to this meeting at length in his final press conference.

The group plans to hold a "Youth Summit" with Soviet students in Helsinki in late April. They have again requested an audience with the President and, if possible, the First Lady, hopefully to take place on their way to Helsinki next month. We recommend a ten-fifteen minute meeting with Executive Director Killigrew and five or six students. The Office of Public Liaison joins in this recommendation.

^{FWE}
Fritz Ermarth and Nelson ^{NCL}Ledsky concur.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you forward the Schedule Proposal at Tab I.

APPROVE _____

DISAPPROVE _____

Attachment

Tab I Schedule Proposal for Direct Connection

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

1866

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

TO: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR., Director Presidential Appointments and Scheduling

FROM: PAUL SCHOTT STEVENS

REQUEST: Meeting with six to seven members of Direct Connection, a nationwide organization that promotes contacts between U.S. and Soviet youth.

PURPOSE: To acknowledge and express support for Direct Connection's activities; to encourage these young people in their attempts to establish contacts with Soviet counterparts; to explain U.S. policies vis a vis the USSR as the group departs for a 'Youth Summit' with Soviet youngsters in Helsinki, Finland.

BACKGROUND: Founded in a single California High School in 1985, Direct Connection now has more than two thousand chapters around the country. The group has exchanged video messages with Soviet students and participated in exchanges of views on Soviet and U.S. television. Seventeen group members met with General Secretary Gorbachev for a half-hour discussion during the Washington Summit. Among others, the organization is endorsed by the National Association of Student Councils, the California Association of Student Councils, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, and the California Superintendent of Public Instruction.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: In 1986, the President sent a congratulatory message to the original Direct Connection group at Sierra Mountain High School in Grass Valley, California, when it initiated a video exchange with Soviet students.

DATE AND TIME: Week of April 11, 1988.
Duration: 15 minutes

LOCATION: Oval Office / *Roosevelt Room.*

PARTICIPANTS: The President, the First Lady, Colin L. Powell, Rebecca Range, Lisa R. Jameson (NSC),

Michael Killigrew, Executive Director, Direct Connection.

Five or six student members of Direct Connection (list to be provided).

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: Brief photo opportunity in Oval Office, followed by meeting with student members.

REMARKS REQUIRED: To be provided by NSC.

MEDIA COVERAGE: Pool photos.

RECOMMENDED BY: NSC, OPL.

start at 10:00 AM.

May 3, 1988 Religious Rights Seminar, East Room

9:30 am -- VP or Colin Powell to open
Panel: Colin Powell, Amb. Schifter, Amb. Ridgway, Lisa Jameson

9:35 am -- Short testimonies (5 min each) *Covered*
Ukr Ortho
Ukr Cath - Card. Lubachevsky (T)
Russian Ortho
Sov Jewry
Lithuanian Cath - Bishop Baltakis (T)
Bap/Pent/7th Day/Jeh Wit - Kent Hill (T)
Muslims
Hari Krishna *Paul G. del*
Armenians? *B. b. k.*
General - Michael Bordeaux (T)
(Lutherans and Buddhists in audience only.)

11:15 am -- Break for press/stretch *Review*

11:30 am -- President entrance and remarks. *Khailo, Shebayev*
Congressional delegation takes their place. (T) *R. d. c. k.*

11:45 (50) -- President sits down to listen to witnesses.
(3 min each)

Shebiev -- Russian ortho priest (state exploitation of the church)
Vladimir Khailo -- Sov Baptist evang
Vytautas Skuodis -- Lithuanian Catholic prisoner of conscience
Mykola Rodenko -- Ukr monitoring commit
Begun -- Jewish, educ movement

Congress

De Concini
Lugar
Hoyer
(Wolf Smith)
Lantos
(Pitter)

D'Amato
Chiles
Helms
Bradley
Humphrey