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**THE WHITE HOUSE
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TO:

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

The attached is for your:

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information | <input type="checkbox"/> Review & Comment |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Letter | <input type="checkbox"/> Signature |
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Comments:

Independent Task Force on ABA-Soviet Relations, Inc.

Co-Chairpersons:

Patience Tipton Huntwork
Orest A. Jajna
William J. Wolf

374 East Monte Vista Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85004
(602) 253-3623

December 14, 1987

Treasurer:

Taras G. Masnyj

Executive Director:

Janet K. Klein

Advisory Board:

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Dear Friend:

It was my pleasure to meet with you at the recent Federalist Society meeting in Washington, D.C. We of the Independent Task Force on ABA-Soviet Relations appreciate your support for our attempt to abrogate the Declaration of Cooperation between the American Bar Association and the Association of Soviet Lawyers.

The next opportunity for us to urge abrogation of the Declaration of Cooperation will be at the 1988 Annual Meeting of the American Bar Association, to be held in Toronto, Canada in August, 1988. The ABA Assembly will debate and vote on this issue on Monday, August 8, 1988. All interested attorneys are urged to attend this meeting to express their opinion on the wisdom and propriety of a Declaration of Cooperation with the Soviets. Please inform all of your attorney friends, so that an effective opposition can be mounted.

The only possibility for the ABA to avoid an embarrassing and confrontational debate on this issue at the August 1988 Annual Meeting is to decide not to renew the Declaration of Cooperation, which expires in July of 1988.

Please be assured that ABA-Soviet dialogue can continue after abrogation of the Declaration of Cooperation since a decade of "dialogue", conferences and visits preceded the signing of the formal agreement. A formal agreement was therefore not necessary to open channels of communication for discussion of human rights. Termination of the Declaration of Cooperation will, however, end the ABA's symbolic support of the Association of Soviet Lawyers and repressive Soviet system, which we know are not "pledged to advance the rule of law in the world."

Letters and telephone calls to the American Bar Association President, Robert MacCrate, 750 North Lakeshore Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60611, telephone (312) 988-5100 expressing your opinion as to the nonrenewal of the Declaration of Cooperation would be quite effective. Even more effective would be letters sent to the entire ABA Board of Governors, which is responsible for deciding whether or not to renew the Declaration of Cooperation. A list of all members of the ABA Board of Governors is attached.

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Again, thank you for your interest and assistance in
this most important matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. J. Wolf', written in a cursive style.

William J. Wolf
Independent Task Force on
ABA-Soviet Relations, Inc.

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Philip K. Yachmetz
Dr. Yuri Yarim-Agaev

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Phoenix, Arizona 85004
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Pictured above, American Bar Association President Eugene Thomas toasts Igor Karpetz, Vice-President of the ASL, and other participants at the ABA-ASL Seminar held at Dartmouth College, September, 1986.

Earlier, Karpetz and his Soviet colleagues had engaged in dialogue with the ABA on human rights. Following are examples of that dialogue:

"We have never incarcerated to mental hospitals people who were not indeed ill." ASL Vice-President Igor Karpetz, tour "leader".

"It is purely illegal for the (Communist) party to tell a judge what to do." Vasily Vlasikhin, ASL tour "escort".

"You claim that people who hold certain ideas are persecuted. That is not true." ASL member Igor Torgashev.

"We (in the USSR) have a situation where a person can freely emigrate." ASL Vice-President Igor Karpetz.

"I am not qualified to respond to that (a question on Afghanistan). I just teach law." Unidentified woman law professor and ASL member.

-More-

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126 Second Avenue N.
Post Office Box 366
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
(208) 733-5463

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500 Buhl Building
Detroit, Michigan 48226
(313) 444-4848

John L. Carey (1988)
6th Floor
First Source Center
100 North Michigan
South Bend, Indiana 46601
(219) 233-1171

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One Shell Plaza
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Miami, Florida 33130
(305) 358-2800

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Washington, D.C. 20500
(202) 456-2553

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Supreme Court
State Capitol Building
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
(602) 255-4535

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Brattleboro, Vermont 05301
(802) 254-8733

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3200 National City Center
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
(216) 621-0200

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Third Floor
Metro Federal Building
P.O. Box 2757
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
(615) 244-4994

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Bristol, Connecticut 06010
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ABA Board of Governors and Officers
Page Two

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3340 Peachtree Road, N.E.
Suite 1530 Tower Place
Atlanta, Georgia 30026
(404) 261-4411

Robert MacCrate (1989)
125 Broad Street, 28th Floor
New York, New York 10004
(212) 558-3614

Richard H. McGee (1989)
P.O. Box 998
Minot, North Dakota 58702
(701) 852-2544

J. Michael McWilliams (1988)
201 N. Charles St., 26th Fl.
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
(301) 752-6100

L. Clair Nelson (1987)
6th Floor
1730 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 653-5652

Joseph M. Nolan (1990)
P.O. Box 203
Mantoloking, New Jersey 08738
(201) 899-0101

David L. Pennington (1989)
1600 Market Street, 12th Fl.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103
(215) 563-4470

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91 Court Street
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(603) 352-3630

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Dallas, Texas 75201
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555-17th Street, Suite 2900
Denver, Colorado 80202
(303) 295-8238

Robert B. McKay (1989)
New York University School
of Law
40 Washington Square South
New York, New York 10012
(212) 598-2445

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18th Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
(301) 625-3700

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16011 N.E. 36th Way
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Redmond, Washington 98073-9717
(206) 882-8046

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700 Midtown Tower
Rochester, New York 14604
(716) 232-6500

H. Holcombe Perry, Jr. (1988)
Post Office Box 527
409 Jackson
Albany, Georgia 31703
(912) 432-7438

William B. Poff (1990)
Post Office Box 720
105 Franklin Road, S.W.
Roanoke, Virginia 24011
(703) 982-4249

ABA Board of Governors and Officers
Page Three

Llewelyn G. Pritchard (1989)
1111 Third Avenue, Ste. 2500
Seattle, Washington 98101
(206) 223-1313

Robert D. Raven (1990)
345 California Street
San Francisco, California
94104
(415) 434-7294

William E. Schuyler, Jr. (1989)
Suite 400
4801 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016
(202) 895-1540

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Room 402
Milwaukee County Courthouse
901 North 9th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233
(414) 278-5351

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P.O. Box 360
Larned, Kansas 67550
(316) 285-3157

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8th Floor
1111 Lincoln Road
Miami Beach, Florida 33139
(305) 673-1100

Joe Stamper (1989)
112 N. High Street
P.O. Box 100
Antlers, Oklahoma 74523
(405) 298-3153

Eugene C. Thomas (1988)
Suite 300
First Security Bank Building
Boise, Idaho 83702
(208) 345-2334

Frank Trotta (1990)
24 North Avenue
New Rochelle, New York 10805
(914) 632-7000

Howard H. Vogel (1988)
P.O. Box 214
416 Cumberland Ave, S.W.
Knoxville, Tennessee 37902
(615) 546-7190

Sharp Whitmore (1988)
2005 Gird Road
Fallbrook, California 92028
(619) 728-1754

Edward B. Winn (1988)
3330 Republic Bank Building
Dallas, Texas 75201
(214) 969-0001

M. Truman Woodward, Jr. (1990)
1100 Whitney Bldg.
228 St. Charles Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
(504) 581-3333 (ext. 249)