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# Committee for a Free Afghanistan

214 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 480, Washington, D.C. 20002 • (202) 546-7577

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The Hon. Paul Tsongas  
Dr. Jack Wheeler  
Freedom Research Foundation  
Rep. Charles Wilson (D-TX)

## MEMORANDUM

Date: 10/24/85  
To: Patrick Buchanan  
From: Gale Watlington, Director Dinner for Afghan Relief  
Ref: Participation of President Ronald Reagan

In regards to your conversation with Senator Humphrey, I am enclosing the background material for The Dinner for Afghan Relief, and the material regarding the endorsement letter we would like to have from President Reagan.

We still would very much like President Reagan to be the Guest of Honor at the dinner. If he is unable to do that then perhaps he could host a special reception at the White House or any where else, the afternoon of the ninth or even in the morning or afternoon of the tenth of December.

At this time Mrs. George Bush has agreed to have a reception at her house but not on the 9th. We are requesting that it be on the 10th. Perhaps the President and/or Vice President could be there.

The Dinner will be held December 9, 1985 at the J.W. Marriott, Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. The Dinner is for humanitarian relief for the children of Afghanistan who are internal refugees.

The following items are enclosed:

1. A model of the presidential endorsement letter, which will be enclosed in the invitations. Two to three thousand invitations will be sent.
2. A sample listing of the guests.
3. A copy of President Reagan's invitation to The dinner for Afghan Relief signed by twenty-six members of the House and Senate.
4. A copy of the cover letter sent to Frederick J. Ryan Jr., Director, Presidential Appointments and Scheduling, dated October 10, 1985.

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Freedom Research Foundation  
Rep. Charles Wilson (D-TX)

Page 2, Memorandum, Dinner for Dinner for Afghan Relief

5. Background information about the Dinner which includes the following:
  - a. A listing of the members on the Dinner Committee, the Honorary Committee, the Medical Committee, and the Steering Committee.
  - b. A letter from Robert B. Airey Jr., C.P.A., who will be auditing all funds.
  - c. Ronald Reagan's official Afghanistan Day proclamation of March 21, 1985.
  - d. A letter from Winston S. Churchill endorsing the Dinner.
6. For your interest, a copy of the endorsement Richard Nixon wrote to be read at the dinner by our Master of Ceremonies.

Invitations will be sent out next week, and if we can enclose an endorsement from the President, it would help tremendously.

If the president can not attend we would hope he could make a video-taped message.

I appreciate your time and efforts on this matter.

Please feel free to contact me at 546-7577 if you have any questions. Thank you.

draft letter from President Reagan

There are things more precious than life itself, things for which the ultimate price must be paid. These are our children, legacy of the future, and freedom--freedom from tyranny, from totalitarian oppression, from fear and want, from slavery of the mind or body.

Nowhere has a higher price ever been exacted from a people than in Afghanistan. There, for more than six years, the Soviets have waged a brutal war of genocide and scorched earth against the Afghan people.

Forced deportation of tens of thousands of children to the Soviet Union for ten to twenty years of communist indoctrination, toy bombs intended only to maim and mutilate children, little kids set on fire to make their parents talk and a host of other unspeakable atrocities and horrors are being visited upon a people who only desire to be free.

More than five million men, women and children--a third of the population--have been forced to flee Afghanistan as refugees. Perhaps another two to three million have been killed in Soviet blanket bombing, artillery barrages, massacres, helicopter gunship attacks or died from the Soviet-engineered famine, medical crisis and extreme hardship. A third of the children are estimated to be dying every year now of measles alone in Afghanistan.

No organization in America has done more than the Committee for a Free Afghanistan to bring to light this bestial war being waged by the Soviet Union against the courageous people of that ancient and proud land. And no organization has done more to raise effective aid and support for the Afghans.

I urge you to join me in saluting the courage of these valiant people in their struggle for freedom and the right to unfettered self-determination. Please support the Committee for a Free Afghanistan in its unflinching and unceasing efforts on behalf of the Afghans. Their struggle is ours.

Ronald Reagan

RECIPIENTS OF PRESIDENTIAL LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT

Mr. Robert Duvall	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Bennett Williams
Mr. Bob Hope	Mr. & Mrs. Arthur W. Arunde
Mr. Sidney Poitier	Mr. & Mrs. Mandell J. Oursiman
Mr. Walter Cronkite	Mr. Joe L. Allbritton
Mr. Gregory Peck	Mrs. Katherine Graham
Mr. Frank Sinatra	Mr. & Mrs Jorge J. Carnicero
Ms. Elizabeth Taylor	Mr. Oliver T. Carr
Ms. Lena Horne	Mr. Myer Feldman
Mr. Tony Bennett	Mr. W. Averell Harriman
Mr. Sammy Davis Jr.	Mr. John Hechinger
Mr. & Mrs. B.F. Saul II	Mr. Laughlin Phillips
Mr. & Mrs. Albert H. Small	Mr. & Mrs. Robert Michael Rosenthal
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Greenberg	The Honorable & Mrs. Roger L. Stevens
Mrs. Morris Cafritz	Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Haft
Mr. Abe Pollin	The Honorable Edward T. Breathitt
Mr. & Mrs. John Safer	Mrs. Harry H. Straus, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Zlotnick	Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Epstin
Mr. Marshall B. Coyne	Mr. & Mrs. Harry Minkoff
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Kreeger	Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Crosby
Mr. Phillip Merrill	Mr. & Mrs. Richard James
Mr. & Mrs. Austin H. Kiplinger	Lt. Gen. & Mrs. William Quinn
Mr. Smith Bagley	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Elicker
Mr. & Mrs. Hugh O'Brien	Mr. Richard V. Allen
Mr. & Mrs. Johnny Cash	Mr. Kenneth Boehm
Mr. Sebastian E. Cassetta	Mr. John Bookout
Mr. Spitz Channell	Mr. Charles L. Brown
Maj. Gen. Robert F. Cocklin	Mr. Willard C. Butcher
Mrs. Mary Crowley	Mr. Melvin Laird
Mr. Mario R. De Escobar	Mrs. Moya Olsen Lear
Mr. Richard DeVos	Mr. David S. Lewis
Mr. Paul Dietrich	Mr. & Mrs. Drew Lewis
Mr. James L. Dutt	The Rev. James W. Malone
The Hon. Angier Biddle Duke	Mr. Richard Morrow
Mrs. Thomas Enders	Mrs. John C. Newington
Dr. Edwin J. Feulner	Mr. John R. Opel
Mr. Robert Galvin	Mr. Alexander Papamarkou
Mr. Thomas Gleason	Mr. Jay A. Pritzker
Mr. Roberto Goizueta	Mr. Elliot Richardson
Mr. J. Peter Grace	The Most Rev. John R. Roach
The Most Rev. Philip N. Hannan	Mr. Donald H. Rumsfield
Admiral James L. Holloway, III	Mrs. Phyllis Schlafly
Mr. Cooper Holt	Mr. Richard Schubert
Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Bunker Hunt	Mr. Beurt Servaas
Mr. Lee A. Iacocca	Dr. John Silber
Mr. Edward G. Jefferson	Mr. Tommy Todd
Mrs. Sarah M. King	Dr. William B. Walsh
Mr. Paul G. Kirk, Jr.	Mr. John F. Welch, Jr.
The Hon. Fred Korth	Mr. Fred Webber
Dr. Juanita Kreps	Ms. Nancy DeMoss
Dina Merrill	Mr. John R. Gnau, Jr.

Pg. 2 Presidential Letter Recipients Cont.

Mr. David Godfrey	Mr. Sylvan Marshall
Lt. Gen. Leroy J. Manor	Maj. Gen. J.C. Pennington
Mr. Jack Hausmeman	Carolyn Lynch
Mr. Robert Devine	Mr. David L. Coffin
Mr. Russell W. Meyer, Jr.	Mr. R.R. Baxter
Mr. T.A. Wilson	Mr. E.H. Clark
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Mr. John J. Murphy	Mr. Edward G. Jefferson
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Mr. & Mrs. John Howell	Mr. Lewis Rudin
Mr. Howard Johnson	Mr. Spyros Skouras
Mr. Edson D. de Castro	Mr. L.L. Morgan
Mr. W. Michael Blumenthal	Mr. Vernon R. Loucks, Jr.
Mr. Charles D. Miller	Mr. Kenneth H. Olsen
Mr. E.M. de Windt	Mr. Mark Holtzman
Mr. Charles F. Knight	Mr. John J. Nevin
Mr. David S. Lewis	Mr. T. Marshall Hahn, Jr.

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 19, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the International Medical Corps and the Committee for a Free Afghanistan, it is our honor to invite you to speak at a dinner for the benefit of the people of Afghanistan. The dinner will mark the sixth year of Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. It is tentatively scheduled to be held on Monday December 9, 1985 and will be in Washington, D.C.

The International Medical Corps (IMC) is a humanitarian, non-profit organization under 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The IMC through its office in Peshawar, Pakistan, assists the internal refugees of Afghanistan, the majority of which are women and children, by providing medical/surgical care and supplies in a country which has virtually none. IMC also operates an Afghan Medic Training Program in Peshawar.

The Committee for a Free Afghanistan (CFA) is also a non-profit organization under 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. CFA cooperates with the IMC in providing humanitarian assistance to the Afghans in need and serves as an information source to mobilize support in the U.S. and abroad for an independent and free Afghanistan.

The initial goal of the dinner is to raise approximately \$800,000 to purchase medical equipment, food and other humanitarian programs for the internal refugees of Afghanistan. The funds will also be used to develop a medical training center in Peshawar. Both the IMC and the CFA will have representatives in Peshawar to monitor the distribution of the funds.

Celebrities from the political, entertainment and fine arts worlds will participate, one of whom will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

The people of Afghanistan deserve so much and have gotten so little. Your participation would ensure that at last the valiant people of Afghanistan would get the focus of attention they so deserve and need.

It is our sincere hope that you and the First Lady will be able to attend the Benefit Dinner. If you find it impossible to attend, a video taped message and/or a letter of endorsement would be of great importance.

Bob White

Fat Schroeder

Don Damm

BR Livingston

Paul Larnac

Jeremiah Denton

Bob Torrance

Neil Pungine

Don Ritter

Quinn Hotal

# Committee for a Free Afghanistan

(Member of the Coalition for Peace through Strength)

214 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 480, Washington, D.C. 20002 • (202) 546-7577

October 10, 1985

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Karen McKay

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The Hon. Paul Tsongas  
Dr. Jac. Wheeler  
The Heritage Foundation  
Rep. Charles Wilson (D-TX)

Mr. Fred Ryan  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
Scheduling Office  
The White House  
Room 182, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Ryan,

Enclosed is the formal invitation to President Ronald Reagan requesting his participation at the Dinner for Afghan Relief, on December 9, 1985, at the J.W. Marriott. We stress to the President that if he is unable to attend the dinner, we would very much appreciate a letter of endorsement and a video taped message. In addition perhaps he would lend his name as Honorary Chairman.

We realize the sensitivity of the Afghan situation. As you may recall on February 16, 1983, President Reagan saw Afghan freedom fighters in the Oval Office. He also signed the Afghanistan Day Proclamation for 1985.

Ten to twelve celebrities will be coming in for the event, provided the confirmation of the President and/or Vice President. The following are tentatively committed to coming in from California for the event: Cliff Robertson, Hugh O'Brien, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison, Cary Grant, Christi Brinkley, Billy Joel, Robert Duvall, and Michael Jackson.

Sir Michael Teilmann of International Celebrities Promotions Limited, who orchestrated the Tennis Tournament for the Nancy Reagan Drug Abuse Fund, is the principal contact for the celebrities. A saber jet will be flying them in.

I have enclosed background material for you. I look forward to your prompt attention to this urgent matter and I will be keeping you updated on the dinner. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Gale Watlington  
Dinner Coordinator

Enclosure:

cc: Preston Long, Senator G. Humphrey, Vincent Cannistraro, Patrick Buchanan

THE DINNER FOR AFGHAN RELIEF  
(to be expanded)

MASTER OF CEREMONIES Fred Travalena

HONORARY SPONSOR Senator Robert Dole

HONORARY COMMITTEE

His Excellency Ejaz Azim  
Lord Nicholas Bethell  
Rep. Bill Chappell, Jr.  
Winston Churchill, M.P.  
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Sen. Orrin G. Hatch

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Sen. Gordon J. Humphrey  
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Amb. Jeane Kirkpatrick  
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Most Rev. James W. Malone, D.D.  
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Rep. John McCain  
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Rep. Parren J. Mitchell  
The Hon. Richard Nixon  
Hugh O'Brien

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Rep. Don Ritter  
Cliff Robertson  
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Rep. Vin Weber  
Kimball Wheeler  
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The Hon. Henry Kissinger

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Dr. Al C. Janney  
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Jenkins

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Dr. Tirso del Junco  
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Lew Lehrman  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Cooper Lewis  
Amb. Charles Lichtenstein  
Rida von Luelsdorf  
Steven A. Martindale  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Minkoff  
Babak J. Mossadeghi  
Anne Orleans  
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Bill Riordan  
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Larry Spivey  
Darlene C. Stafford  
W. Clement Stone  
Charles W. Sutherland  
Sir Michael Teilmann  
Anna Maria Via  
Jack Wheeler  
Gail Percy Zolfaghari  
Adm. E.R. Zumwalt, Jr. USN (Ret.)

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Ibrahim M. Seraj, M.D.

Steve Shakeford, M.D.  
Robert R. Simon, M.D.  
David Solomon, M.D.  
Allan Zellis, M.D.  
Demetri Zukin, M.D.

\*\*\*\*\*

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Henry Kriegel  
Kathleen Brooks

Orin & Carolyn Yost  
Moriah Lucas  
Hassan Nouri  
Fabiola Paucar

MGen. J. Milnor Roberts AUS (Ret.)  
Mary Spencer  
Michael Utter  
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Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Lundgren  
Mr. & Mrs. John Panagos  
Richard & Joan Whalen  
Reverend & Mrs. Edmund W. Robb  
Jack & Ester Cooper Smith

For More Information: (202)546-7577

December 9, J.W. Marriott, Washington, D.C./ \$125 and \$250 per plate

A BENEFIT FOR THE CHILDREN WHO ARE INTERNAL REFUGEES OF AFGHANISTAN

ROBERT B. AIREY, JR., P.A.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

7915 OLD BRANCH AVENUE

CLINTON, MARYLAND 20735

(301) 868-3639

October 15, 1985

To Whom It May Concern:

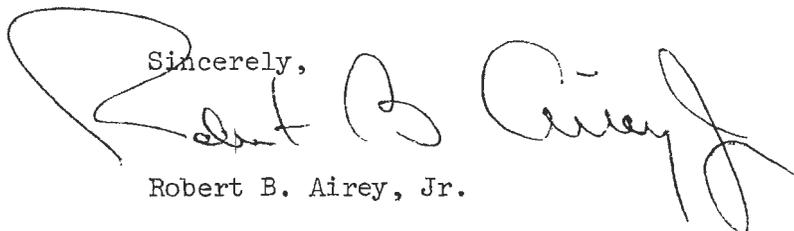
I have been engaged by the Committee For a Free Afghanistan to audit all incoming funds for the Dinner for Afghan Relief. I will also be monitoring the distribution effort after the dinner.

All funds after the cost of the dinner will be earmarked for medical and famine relief and other humanitarian needs especially for the children who are internal refugees of Afghanistan.

No funds will be administered for administrative costs.

Anyone interested in a financial statement after the dinner, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert B. Airey, Jr.", written in dark ink.

Robert B. Airey, Jr.

RBA,Jr.



## Afghanistan Day, 1985

*By the President of the United States of America*

### A Proclamation

In a time of prosperity, we do not think of hunger and hardship. In a time of peace, we do not think of suffering and war. In a time when our families are together and healthy, we do not think of the pain we would feel if they were pulled apart. Yet, for the people of Afghanistan, it is impossible to escape such thoughts, because terror, hardship, and suffering have become an everyday way of life ever since the Soviet Union brutally invaded and occupied their country over five years ago.

March 21 is the start of a New Year for the Afghan people. It is traditionally a holiday when they bring their families together to celebrate life's new beginnings and to rejoice and give thanks for God's many gifts.

But in Afghanistan today it may be hard to remember the days when their country had peace, when there was enough food to eat, and when their homes were safe, for the overwhelming majority of Afghans are engaged in a fierce struggle to end the Soviet occupation of their country and the rule of the puppet regime headed by Babrak Karmal.

The year 1984 was an especially hard one for the Afghans. The Soviets have become frustrated with their inability to crush their spirit of the Afghan Freedom Fighters and are increasingly turning their military might against the civilian population of the country, forcing hundreds of thousands more innocent people into exile away from their homeland.

Reports of Soviet atrocities and human rights violations are increasingly gaining the attention of the world's public. Respected organizations such as the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Amnesty International, and Helsinki Watch have recently released studies detailing the terror that the Soviets and the Karmal regime regularly inflict on the people of Afghanistan. Karmal's tenuous, and brutal, hold on power continues only because his rule is supported by more than 100,000 Soviet occupation troops.

All Americans are outraged by this growing Soviet brutality against the proud and freedom-loving people of Afghanistan. Moreover, the entire world community has condemned the outside occupation of Afghanistan. Six times, in fact, the UN General Assembly has passed strong resolutions—supported by the overwhelming majority of the world's nations—which have:

- called for the immediate withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan;
- reaffirmed the right of the Afghan people to determine their own form of government and choose their economic, political, and social systems;
- reiterated that the preservation of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, and nonaligned character of Afghanistan is essential for a peaceful solution of the problem; and
- called for the creation of conditions that would enable the Afghan refugees to return voluntarily to their homes in safety and honor.

All Americans are united on the goal of freedom for Afghanistan. I ask the American people, at a time when we are blessed with prosperity and security, to remember the Afghan struggle against tyranny and the rule of government-by-terror. We stand in admiration of the indomitable courage of the Afghan people who are an inspiration to all freedom-loving nations around the globe.

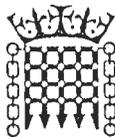
Afghanistan Day will serve to recall the fundamental principles involved when people struggle for the freedom to determine their own future and the right to govern themselves without foreign interference. Let us, therefore, resolve to pay tribute to the brave Afghan people by observing March 21, 1985, as Afghanistan Day. Let us pledge our continuing admiration for their cause and their perseverance and continue to do everything we can to provide humanitarian support to the brave Afghan people, including the millions of Afghan refugees who have been forced to flee their own country.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim March 21, 1985, as Afghanistan Day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and ninth.

*Ronald Reagan*

WINSTON S. CHURCHILL, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

01 - 219 3405

25 July 1985

Dear General Roberts,

I have been delighted to learn from my Parliamentary colleague Lord Bethell of the excellent work being undertaken by your Committee for a Free Afghanistan and of the fund-raising dinner you plan in the Fall.

It is vital that the outrage of the Soviet invasion and continuing occupation over six years by more than 100,000 Soviet military personnel, is kept constantly before the public eye.

Soviet expansion represents as grave a threat to Western democracies, as it does to the World as a whole. The efforts of your Committee in drawing media and public attention to the plight of the Afghan Freedom fighters struggling to liberate their soil from the invader, is most commendable. The greater the pressure of public opinion that can be brought to bear on the Soviets the greater the support that can be given to the Afghan Resistance, the sooner will the Soviets be forced to retreat. Lifting the veil of threat which today hangs so heavily over the nations of Southern Asia, the Middle East and, indeed, the occupied nations of Eastern and Central Europe.

With all good wishes to you and your Committee,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W.S. Churchill'.

Winston S Churchill

Major General J Milnor Roberts  
Chairman, Committee for a Free Afghanistan  
214 Massachusetts Avenue N.E.  
Washington DC20002  
U.S.A.

RICHARD NIXON

December 9, 1985

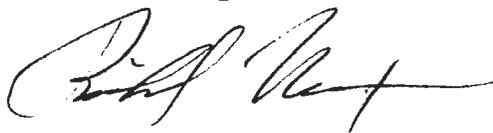
26 FEDERAL PLAZA  
NEW YORK CITY

To the Committee for a Free Afghanistan:

Having just returned from a trip to Pakistan during which President Zia and I visited the frontier and met with the leaders of the Afghan refugees, I am particularly pleased to have this opportunity to send my greetings, and also my thanks, to those who have gathered tonight in support of humanitarian relief for the Afghan people.

For six years we have been aware of Afghanistan as a geopolitical problem. During my visit what struck me hardest were the tragic dimensions of the humanitarian problem. Three million refugees crowd the camps in Pakistan. Their plight constitutes a brutal indictment of Soviet aggression. But they also represent a burden for Pakistan which that country cannot be expected to bear alone indefinitely. What you are accomplishing tonight is to send the message throughout the civilized world that the safety and care of the Afghan refugees are the responsibility of us all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be "Richard Nixon", written in dark ink.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

November 8, 1985

TO: FRED RYAN, DIRECTOR  
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: LINDA CHAVEZ, DIRECTOR  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON

REQUEST: For the President to videotape a message for the Dinner for Afghan Relief, being sponsored by the Committee for a Free Afghanistan

PURPOSE: A videotaped message will underscore the Administration's support and our commitment to the Afghani's resistance to the Soviet occupation of their country. This will send an important message to the Afghans who are so dependent on the West for moral and material support.

The message will also give credit to the organization which has arguably done more than any other to make the American people aware of the crimes which the Soviets have committed in Afghanistan. In so doing the organization has indirectly and directly mobilized popular support for the Administration's efforts to get the Soviets to withdraw their occupying army.

Furthermore, proceeds of this fundraising dinner will be used for a very worthwhile cause: humanitarian relief for the children of Afghanistan who are internal refugees.

BACKGROUND: The Committee for a Free Afghanistan has won impressive bipartisan political backing. For example, the Honorary Committee for the dinner includes among many others: Representative Newt Gingrich, Senator Paul Laxalt, Henry Kissinger and Representative Barney Frank.

DATE AND TIME: The dinner is December 9, 1985

LOCATION: J.W. Marriott Hotel, Washington, D.C.

PROJECT OFFICER: Max Green