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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

April 23, 1987

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

FROM:  MARI MASENG, DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE
PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF
PUBLIC LIAISON

REQUEST: Videotape message for Solidarity Sunday for
Soviet Jewry

PURPOSE: To reaffirm the Administration's support for
the cause of Soviet Jewry

BACKGROUND: Solidarity Sunday is an annual march and rally
in support of Soviet Jewry in New York city.
Attendance has ranged between 200,000-500,000,
with approximately 250,000 being expected to
attend this year. John Whitehead, Jeanne
Kirkpatrick, Senator Dole, and Richard Allen
have addressed previous rallies and/or
delivered Presidential greetings.

PREVIOUS
PARTICIPATION: None

DATE: May 3, 1987

LOCATION: Diplomatic Reception Room

PARTICIPANTS: The President

OUTLINE OF EVENT: The President videotapes a 5 minute message.

REMARKS REQUIRED: To be prepared by speechwriters

MEDIA COVERAGE: Open coverage at event.

RECOMMENDED BY: Mari Maseng, NSC Staff (Ermarth, Dobriansky)

PROJECT OFFICER: Max Green, x6270



COALITION TO FREE SOVIET JEWS

Representing concerned organizations in New York City, Long Island, Westchester, Rockland and Bergen Counties.

Rabbinical Council of America, American Jewish Committee, Center for Russian Jewry, Westchester Jewish Conference, International Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, New York Legislators Coalition for Soviet Jewry, B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, Women's League for Conservative Judaism, Queens Council for Soviet Jewry, Brooklyn Coalition for Soviet Jewry, Herut Zionists of America, Rabbinical Assembly, Betar, Council of Jewish Organizations in Civil Service, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, Y Legal Coalition to Free Soviet Jews, Survivors of Nazi Camps and Resistance Fighters, International League for the Repatriation of Russian Jews, Association of Orthodox Jewish Teachers, Poale Agudath Israel, Zionists Organization of America, Jewish Community Council of Canarsie, B'nai B'rith Metropolitan Conference, Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization, Rockland County Committee for Soviet Jewry, Association of Reform Rabbis New York, Labor Zionists Alliance, Women's League for Israel, Staten Island Committee for Soviet Jewry, Americans For Progressive Israel, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, Jewish War Veterans, B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation, United Jewish Community of Bergen County, Manhattan Coalition for Soviet Jewry, American Jewish Congress, Oceanfront Council for Soviet Jewry, Jewish Association of College Youth/Hillel, American ORT Federation, Queens Jewish Community Council, Emunah Women, Alumni Association Teachers Institute of Seminary College of Jewish Studies, Religious Zionists of America, B'nai Akiva, Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry, National Council of Young Israel, Economists for Ida Nudel, Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst, Women's American ORT, Board of Jewish Education, Jewish Teachers Association, AMIT Women, United Synagogue Youth, American Federation of Jewish Fighters, Camp Inmates and Nazi Victims, National Federation of Temple Youth, B'nai Zion, National Conference on Synagogue Youth, Association of Orthodox Jewish Scientists, Noar Mizrachi, Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry, Jersey Action for Soviet Jewry, Washington Heights-Wood Council for Soviet Jewry, Jewish Labor Committee, Young Israel Collegiates and Young Adults, New York Federation of Reform Synagogues, Workmen's Circle, Pioneer Women, Jewish American Political Affairs Committee, Hadassah, National Council of Jewish Women, B'nai B'rith Women, Masada/ZOA

8 West 40th Street, Suite 1510, New York, NY 10018 (212) 354-1316

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April 8, 1987

The President
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President:

We regret that you will not be able to join us at Solidarity Sunday for Soviet Jewry on May 3, 1987. We fully understand the scheduling difficulties that make a trip to New York impossible at this time.

We would be profoundly appreciative, however, if you would join the rally via a pre-recorded video message. This year we plan to have two giant "DiamondVision" screens at the rally site. Your -- televisual -- presence and support in the fight for freedom for Soviet Jews would be a truly powerful and moving event.

The Solidarity Sunday rally remains the largest and most significant public demonstration in the world on behalf of Soviet Jews. Last year Solidarity Sunday was attended by hundreds of thousands and was highlighted by the presence of Natan Sharansky -- making his first appearance in the United States.

This year the scope and impact of Solidarity Sunday will be uniquely important. Mikhail Gorbachev's much heralded campaign of openness or "glasnost," has yet to reach issues like Jewish emigration and religious and cultural freedom. Solidarity Sunday will be an important opportunity for us to recognize the steps toward progress that Mr. Gorbachev has made and at the same time demonstrate to the Soviets and to a dangerously credulous global community that there is still far to go in the area of basic human rights. We in America will not rest until all Soviet Jews who wish to be free are, at last, free.


Your words and support will serve as a poignant reminder that those who are not yet free will not be forgotten -- their dreams, their heroic struggle is our's as well. During your Administration, Sharansky and Orlov were freed, and Bonner and Sakharov returned to Moscow. It would


The President
April 8, 1987
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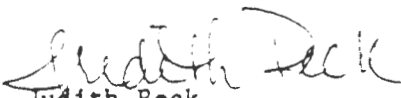
be a deeply significant occasion if you spoke to us as we rededicate ourselves to all the others whose hope still depends on us.

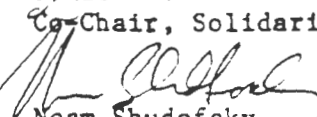
Thank you for your consideration, Mr. President. We look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,


Alan D. Pesky
Chairman


Zeesy Schnur
Executive Director


Judith Peck
Co-Chair, Solidarity Sunday


Noam Shudofsky
Co-Chair, Solidarity Sunday