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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
1. memo letter case (8402004)	from Matlock to Robert McFarlane re: customs ban (1p) <i>R 9/7/07 NLRM02-009 #13</i>	3/13/84	P-1 P-5
2. memo	from Matlock to McFarlane re: gift from Mrs. Massie (1p) <i>R 5/23/03 M02-009 #14</i>	3/13/84	P 1
3. memo	from McFarlane to the President re: Mrs. Massie's gift (1p) <i>R - - #15</i>	n.d.	P 1
letter case (8402040)			
4. memo	from Matlock to McFarlane re: presidential statement (1p) <i>R - - #16</i>	3/13/84	P 1
5. memo	from Charles Hill to McFarlane re: presidential statement (1p) <i>R 10/17/05 M02-009 #17</i>	3/12/84	P 1
letter case (8402094)			
6. memo	from Matlock to McFarlane re: Berlin air corridors (1p) <i>R 5/23/03 M02-009 #18</i>	3/15/84	P 1
7. memo	from Hill to McFarlane re: Berlin air corridors (3pp) <i>R 10/17/05 M02-009 #19</i>	3/13/84	P-1 P-5
8. checklist	re: Berlin aviation (1p) <i>R 5/23/03 M02-009 #20</i>	3/8/84	P 1 P 5
COLLECTION: MATLOCK, JACK F.: Files			d/b
FILE FOLDER: Matlock Chron March 1984 [2 of 4] OA 90887 <i>Box 3</i>			10/19/95

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National security classified information [(a)(1) of the PRA].
- P-2 Relating to appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA].
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA].
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA].
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA].
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA].

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- F-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA].
- F-2 Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA].
- F-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA].
- F-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA].
- F-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA].
- F-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA].
- F-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA].

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
letter case (8490337)			
9. memo	from Matlock to McFarlane re: Hartman's meeting with Gromyko (1p)	3/16/84	P-1 P-5
10. memo	from McFarlane to the President re: Hartman's meeting with Gromyko (1p)	n.d.	P-1 P-5
11. memo	from George Shultz to the President re: Hartman's meeting with Gromyko (1p)	3/14/84	P-1 P-5
	<i>R 5/23/03 MOZ-009 # 21</i>		
	<i>R 10/17/05 MOZ-009 # 22</i>		
COLLECTION: MATLOCK, JACK F.: Files			dlb
FILE FOLDER: Matlock Chron March 1984 [2 of 4] GA-90887 <i>Box 3</i>			10/19/95

RESTRICTION CODES

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PENDING REVIEW IN ACCORDANCE WITH E.O 13233

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name MATLOCK, JACK: FILES

Withdrawer CAS

Box Number 3

FOIA M02-009

File Folder MATLOCK CHRON MARCH 1984 (2)

DATE 3/22/2007

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
7	MEMO	CHARLES HILL TO MCFARLANE RE BERLIN AIR CORRIDORS (#19)	3	3/13/1984	
			<i>MVH 3/17/08</i>		
8	CHECKLIST	RE BERLIN AVIATION (#20)	1	3/8/1984	
			<i>MVH 3/17/08</i>		
10	MEMO	MCFARLANE TO THE PRESIDENT RE HARTMAN'S MEETING WITH GROMYKO (#21)	1	ND	
			<i>MVH 3/17/08</i>		
11	MEMO	SHULTZ TO THE PRESIDENT RE HARTMAN'S MEETING (#22)	1	3/14/1984	
			<i>MVH 3/17/08</i>		

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~SECRET~~

March 13, 1984

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM: JACK MATLOCK *JM*

SUBJECT: Customs Ban on Soviet Products

Bob Kimmitt understands that Secretary Regan has expressed his intention to publish the ban on importation of six products from the Soviet Union on Thursday, March 15. The message from Treasury indicated that Regan had discussed the matter with Shultz at breakfast today.

I have checked with Eagleburger, who in turn checked with Shultz. Shultz says that the subject did not arise at his breakfast today, and that he remains strongly opposed to action by Customs, and considers the agreement worked out at the breakfast you attended week before last as binding.

I have suggested that Shultz call Regan direct and make his position clear, but I believe it will be necessary for you, also, to speak to Regan. Since the matter has such a short time fuse, a call tonight would be very desirable.

Absent assurances that Secretary Regan will desist from precipitate action, it may be necessary for you to discuss the matter with the President at your 9:30 tomorrow.

Whatever the merits of the case in the abstract, the action of publishing the customs ban at this time could cause a major disruption in our efforts to implement the President's wishes in U.S.-Soviet relations. Therefore, I think it is essential to do what is necessary to avoid the step which Secretary Regan apparently plans.

Recommendation:

That you telephone Secretary Regan in an attempt to dissuade him from moving as he has indicated, to publish a ban on certain imports from the Soviet Union Thursday.

Approve

Disapprove

DECLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

NLRR M02-009 #13

BY CN NARA DATE 9/7/07

c

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MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 13, 1984

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM: JACK F. MATLOCK *JFM*

SUBJECT: Mrs. Massie's Gift of Three Books

Attached at Tab I is a Memorandum to the President conveying the letter and books Mrs. Massie left for him, as well as a thank-you letter for his signature.

Recommendation:

That you sign the memorandum at TAB I.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Attachments:

- Tab I Memorandum to the President
- Tab A Letter to Mrs. Massie
- Tab B Letter from Mrs. Massie

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassify on: OADR

DECLASSIFIED

NLS 1402-009 #14

BY CS NARA DATE 5/23/03

MEMORANDUM

2004

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

SUBJECT: Mrs. Massie's Gift of Books

Following the lunch with you on March 1, Mrs. Suzanne Massie sent you the letter at Tab B and also copies of three of her books, which she mentioned during the lunch.

A letter of acknowledgement for your signature is at Tab A.

Recommendation:

That you sign the letter at Tab A.

OK

NO

—

—

Attachments:

Tab A -- Letter to Mrs. Massie
Tab B -- Letter from Mrs. Massie
Three books

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Declassify on: OADR

DECLASSIFIED
NLS M02-009 #15
BY CIJ NARA, DATE 5/23/03

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Suzanne:

You were most kind to send me copies of your books The Living Mirror, Journey and Land of the Firebird. Nancy and I will read them with great interest.

I very much enjoyed our chat at lunch March 1, and I appreciate all your efforts to try to improve our communication with the Russian people.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

Mrs. Suzanne Massie
One West 67th Street
Apartment 715
New York, New York 10023

SUZANNE MASSIE
1 WEST 67TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10023

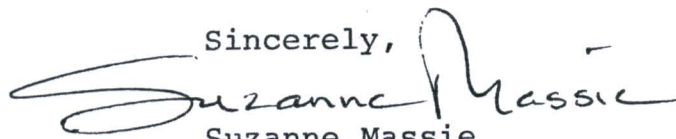
March 6, 1984

Dear Mr. President,

It was a great honor and pleasure for me to be asked to lunch with you last Thursday. Thank you so much for giving me so generously of your time and attention.

For many years it has been my deepest desire to see a relationship between the United States and the Soviet Union that is realistic and yet hopefully, constructive and looking toward a better future. It gives me a profound joy to be able to serve you in any way I can towards the fulfillment of this goal.

With respect and best wishes,

Sincerely,

Suzanne Massie

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

STATE
MAY 1 1984

BRIAN/NSC Secretariat:

It is essential that this package be kept in the sequence as it is attached.

Thanks much,

Wilma

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 9, 1984

FOR: JACK MATLOCK

FROM: Wilma Hall

Mr. McFarlane has asked that I send attached to you for preparation of an appropriate response for the President's signature.

Also, she has provided with the letter inscribed copies of her three books:

- 1) The Living Mirror
- 2) Journey
- 3) Land of the Firebird

which we have retained in our office, to be forwarded with reply for the President's signature.

I have attached copies of the inscriptions in the books in the order listed above.

March 8, 1984

THE LIVING MIRROR

FIVE YOUNG POETS FROM LENINGRAD

for President and Mrs. Ronald Reagan -

a glimpse into the life and
work of the poets of the
great city of Peter -

With best wishes,

Juranne Massie

March 8, 1984


To President -
and Mrs. Ronald Reagan -

It is said that God
wears straight on crooked
lines - These were those
years -

with best wishes,

Jacqueline Massie

March 8, 1984

To President and Mrs. Ronald Reagan — 

May the fire of the spirit
unite both nations —

with respect and
warm personal regards —

Suzanne Massie

C

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MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 13, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR SALLY KELLEY

FROM: ROBERT M. KIMMITT

SUBJECT: Letter to President from Lithuanian American Council

We have reviewed and concur with the Department of State's draft response to Mr. Romualdas Bielkevicius, President of the Lithuanian American Council, who wrote a letter to the President on the 66th anniversary of reestablishment of an independent Lithuania.

2008

Attachment

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 13, 1984

FOR BOB KIMMITT

I recommend that you forward the attached memorandum to Sally Kelley.

Jack
JACK MATLOCK





UNCLASSIFIED
(CLASSIFICATION)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8405669

Date 3/9/84

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane
National Security Council
The White House

Reference:

TO: The President From: Romualdas Bielkevicius
Date: February 12, 1984 Subject: 66th Anniversary of
Reestablishment of an independent Lithuania
WH Referral Dated: February 24, 1984 NSC ID # 196796
(if any)

_____ The attached item was sent directly to the
Department of State.

Action Taken:

- A draft reply is attached.
- _____ A draft reply will be forwarded.
- _____ A translation is attached.
- _____ An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- _____ We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.
- _____ The Department of State has no objection to the proposed travel.
- _____ Other.

Remarks.

for Kristie A. Kenney
Charles Hill
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED
(Classification)

Dear Mr. Bielkevicius:

Thank you for your and your colleagues' letter to the President taking note of his policies of support for freedom for the Lithuanian and other Baltic peoples now under Soviet domination.

The United States Government does not recognize the forcible incorporation of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia into the Soviet Union which occurred in 1940. We remain steadfast in our support for the just aspirations for liberty of the Baltic peoples, and we look forward to the day when they will be able to control their own national destiny, free of outside interference.

Sincerely,

Mr. Romualdas Bielkevicius,
President,
Lithuanian American Council,
276 Court Street,
Brockton, Massachusetts.

8405669

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

FEBRUARY 24, 1984

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 196796

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED FEBRUARY 12, 1984

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. ROMUALDAS BIELKEVICIUS
PRESIDENT
LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL
276 COURT STREET
BOSTON MA 02402

SUBJECT: WRITES CONCERNING THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT LITHUANIA

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 16, 1984

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. ROMUALDAS BIELKEVICIUS

SUBJECT WRITES CONCERNING THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT LITHAUANIA

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
LINAS KOJELIS	ORG	84/02/16		1 / /
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>99 DOS</i>		<i>84/02/24</i>		1 / /
REFERRAL NOTE:		1 / /		1 / /
REFERRAL NOTE:		1 / /		1 / /
REFERRAL NOTE:		1 / /		1 / /
REFERRAL NOTE:		1 / /		1 / /

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES _____

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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*****
*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:      *OUTGOING                *
*                       *                               * CORRESPONDENCE         *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED                *TYPE RESP=INITIALS     *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL      *           OF SIGNER   *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED             *           CODE = A     *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  *S-SUSPENDED              *COMPLETED = DATE OF   *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                               *           OUTGOING    *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                               *                               *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE        *                               *                               *
*X-INTERIM REPLY        *                               *                               *
*****

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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT. 2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.



AMERICAN COUNCIL
BROCKTON, MASS.

190273

February 12, 1984

L. Kojelis

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

February 16, 1984, marks the 733 anniversary of the founding of the Lithuanian State, and the 66th anniversary of the re-establishment of an independent Lithuania. While Americans of Lithuanian descent and Lithuanians throughout the Free World will commemorate these events, the people of Soviet occupied Lithuania cannot. Their independence was terminated by Soviet military occupation and illegal annexation into the Soviet Union more than forty years ago.

Your administration's re-affirmation of the non-recognition of the Soviet annexation of Lithuania, your support of the right of the Polish people for self-determination, and resolute stand against Soviet imperialism provides sustenance for the oppressed people of Lithuania.

The Soviet Union must be made to realize that efforts to stifle the rights of the Lithuanian people will be met by diplomatic confrontation, restrictions on trade agreements, shipping contracts and loan availability, and by hostile world opinion.

Please join us, the Lithuanian-Americans throughout the United States in our commemoration of these anniversaries on February 16, 1984. We urge your continued support of the right of people everywhere to self-determination, and we hope to see its realization in Lithuania and the rest of Eastern Europe.

Sincerely yours,

R. Bielkevicius

Romualdas Bielkevicius, President
276 Court Street
Brockton, MA 02402

Frank M. Wallen

Frank M. Wallen
Honorary Chairman
55 Chilton Road
Brockton, MA 02401

Peter A. Bizinkauskas

Dr. Peter Bizinkauskas
Chairman
424 N. Cary Street
Brockton, MA 02402

R E S O L U T I O N

We, the Lithuanian Americans of Brockton, Massachusetts assembled this 12th day of February, 1984, at St. Casimirs Church Hall to commemorate the restoration of Lithuania's independence, do hereby state as follows:

That February 16, 1984 marks the 66th anniversary of the restoration of the independence to the more than 733 year old Lithuanian State;

That Lithuania was recognized as a free and independent nation by the entire free world, she was a member of the League of Nations, however, she was by force and fraud occupied and illegally annexed by the Soviet Union.

That the Soviet Union is the last remaining colonial empire, subjugating independent countries; Lithuania was one of its first victims.

That the Soviet invaders, even though using tortures in jails, concentration camps, psychiatric wards are unable to suppress the aspirations of the Lithuanian people for self-government and independence as is highly evident from the numerous underground press and strong dissident activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT

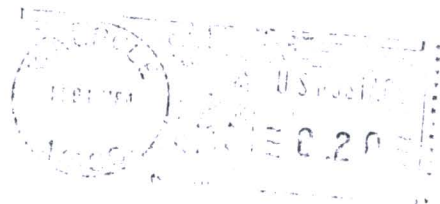
We are grateful to President Reagan and the Department of State for statements that an official diplomatic non-recognition of the forced incorporation into the U.S.S.R. of the three Baltic nations will continue to be a position of his Administration also; and we are very grateful for the declaration of Baltic Freedom Day.

We urge the United States of America and other nations of the free world to use diplomatic and other possible pressures that the Soviet Union withdraw its military forces, secret police apparatus, foreign administration, and release from jails, concentration camps and psychiatric wards people who struggle for human rights and liberty and restore self-government in Lithuania.

We express our most sincere gratitude to the U.S. Congress for the impressive annual commemoration of Lithuanian independence.

We desire that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, to the Secretary of State, to the U.S. Congressmen and Senators from our State and to the news media.

Romualdas Bielkevicius, President
Lithuanian American Council
276 Court Street
Brockton, Ma. 02402



The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 13, 1984

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM: JACK F. MATLOCK *JFM*

SUBJECT: Presidential Statement in Support of the
International Day of Concern for Soviet Jews,
March 15

Attached at Tab I is a memorandum from the Department of State forwarding a Presidential statement in support of the upcoming International Day of Concern for Soviet Jews, March 15. Secretary Shultz met with leaders of the major American Jewish organization in Washington on March 8 to review the situation faced by Soviet Jewry. The leaders were basically supportive of the Administration's efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry.

WR Raymond and *SL* Lenczowski concur.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Presidential statement be issued as drafted by the Department of State as amended on page 2.

Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Attachment:

Tab I Memo from State with Presidential statement

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Declassify on: OADR

DECLASSIFIED
NLS MOZ-009 #16
BY CIS, NARA, DATE 5/23/03

March 12, 1984

MAR 12 10: 23

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROBERT C. MCFARLANE
THE WHITE HOUSE

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: Presidential Statement in Support of the International Day
of Concern for Soviet Jews, March 15

In response to a number of requests, the Secretary of State met with leaders of major American Jewish organizations in Washington on Thursday, March 8, to review the situation faced by Soviet Jewry. The leaders were basically supportive of the Administration's efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry, and appreciated the chance to meet with the Secretary and voice their concerns. They expressed particularly strong interest in a Presidential statement in support of the upcoming International Day of Concern for Soviet Jews, March 15. That date marks the seventh anniversary of the arrest of noted refusenik and human rights activist Anatoliy Shcharanskiy.

We recommend that the President issue the requested statement for the March 15 commemoration. Such a statement would underscore the Administration's commitment to this aspect of human rights, and would usefully reinforce the positive reaction of the Jewish community leaders to the March 8 meeting. The President has issued statements on Soviet Jewry on a number of other occasions. The attached draft statement draws on some of those previous remarks.

Covey

Charles Hill
Executive Secretary

DECLASSIFIED / RELEASED

NLS MO2-009 #17

BY LOJ, NARA, DATE 10/17/05

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECL: OADR

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON THE
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CONCERN FOR SOVIET JEWS
MARCH 15, 1984

Today is the International Day of Concern for Soviet Jews. It marks the seventh anniversary of the arrest of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy for his activities on behalf of human rights in the Soviet Union. His courage and determination to stand up for those rights have earned him the respect and admiration of countless people worldwide. But he would not want this day to be dedicated solely to him. Rather it is a day when men and women of good will reflect on all the aspects of the situation of Jewry in the U.S.S.R. That situation has deteriorated over the past year. Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union has fallen to its lowest levels since the late 1960s; officially-tolerated anti-Semitism, manifesting itself in broadcasts, articles, and the widely-publicized formation of an "Anti-Zionist Committee of the Soviet Public", has increased; and individual refuseniks continue to be subjected to harassment.

All in all, this is a grim picture. But we will not be disheartened. Soviet Jews value the support of concerned individuals and organizations all over the world. In our country this support reflects the broad, grassroots concern which abuse of human rights elicits in the American public. Outrage where human rights are violated is one of the best American traditions. I endorse the International Day of Concern, and the goals for which it stands.

The United States Government shares these goals. It has actively supported the right of Soviet Jews to practice their cultural traditions freely and to emigrate from the U.S.S.R. if they so choose. This point has been emphasized to the Soviet authorities in many fora and at all levels; it has been conveyed to the new Soviet leadership. It is our sincere hope that the Soviets will ease their repressive human rights policies and fulfill the solemn international obligations they have undertaken, *including their commitment under the Helsinki Accords.* In our dialogue with the Soviet authorities, we have no higher priority. Those who care about the fate of Soviet Jews should know that we are with them today, and will be with them tomorrow.

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

~~SECRET~~

March 15, 1984

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

FROM: JACK MATLOCK *JM*

SUBJECT: Soviet Reservations in Berlin Air Corridors

State's report on the situation in the Berlin air corridors and the action taken is at Tab I.

In State's opinion, the series of reservations which have been posted recently by the Soviets for the air corridors is most likely related to expanded Soviet military air exercises which cross the corridors, rather than a calculated effort to undermine the Quadripartite Declaration on Berlin.

We have protested these actions both in Berlin and in our capitals and have refused a low-level Soviet offer to renegotiate the system of altitude allocations. Since a reservation was cancelled March 2, no new reservations by the Soviets have taken effect, although one was announced for March 10 and cancelled at the last minute.

State has convened an inter-agency meeting to discuss implications of the actions. In the meantime, it opposes discussing the issues involved with the Soviets so long as the new "policy" of reservations is in effect. If the Soviet response to our diplomatic protests is not satisfactory, other avenues will be considered, such as using military aircraft to fly through reserved space.

I believe these actions are appropriate for the moment, and we shall continue to monitor the situation closely.

L Lenczowski, Sommer, *T* Dobriansky, and *R* Levine concur.

Attachment:

Tab I - Hill to McFarlane Memo on Soviet Airspace Reservations in Berlin Air Corridors, March 13, 1984

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Declassify on: OADR

DECLASSIFIED
NLS MOZ-009 #18
BY CS NARA, DATE 5/23/03



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

March 13, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROBERT MCFARLANE
THE WHITE HOUSE

84 MAR 13 P10:47

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

Subject: Soviet Airspace Reservations in Berlin Air Corridors

Procedures which have governed operations of the Berlin air corridors since 1945 provide for use of the airspace by all four powers, including the USSR. Since 1980, the Soviets have increasingly been exercising this "right" to close off segments of the Berlin air corridors (usually lower altitudes) in order to conduct military air exercises without risking collisions with Allied civilian airliners. These Soviet reservations have at times been a matter of controversy with the Western allies, but in general the system functioned satisfactorily.

On February 20, the Soviets began applying a more restrictive approach on Berlin air corridor "reservations." Instead of reserving only the lower levels of some segments of the corridors, the new reservations extend throughout the entire corridors at lower altitudes, necessitating steeper landing and take-off patterns for Allied aircraft. Without time consuming adjustments to the flight pattern, which have now been adopted, this new pattern of reservations would raise a potential danger to the safety of allied flights, since the landing approach to West Berlin would be too short to allow a normal approach.

While this new pattern of reservations does not violate our rights of air access to Berlin as such, it does represent a unilateral Soviet change in agreed procedures which is unacceptable to us. Such unilateral changes are foreclosed by the so-called "Quadripartite Declaration" of November, 1972 in which the four Powers (including the Soviets) agreed to avoid altering existing procedures unilaterally.

There are thus both legal and practical reasons to oppose the Soviet move. As is normal in Berlin matters, the Allies have protested both in Berlin and in capitals. (Soviet Minister-Counselor Sokolov was called in to the State Department February 27, and a follow-up was made March 9). We have also refused to respond to a low-level Soviet offer to renegotiate the entire system of altitude allocations which would in effect close lower altitudes permanently to allied

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED / RELEASED

DECL:OADR

NLS MO2-009 #19

BY LOI, NARA, DATE 10/17/05

~~SECRET~~

- 2 -

aircraft. Our rationale in refusing to respond was: a) that we do not wish to begin negotiations under pressure from the Soviets and b) the question of altitude allocations is too complicated to discuss on short notice. Since a reservation which was abruptly cancelled March 2, no new reservations have taken effect, although one was announced for March 10 and cancelled at the last minute.

In response to a request for their views, Embassies Bonn, Moscow and Berlin and Mission Berlin have suggested that the Soviet moves in Berlin do not appear to be related to any larger pattern of Soviet actions; indeed, pressuring Berlin appears to run counter to Soviet efforts to appear as a peace-maker in Western Europe. The Soviets have other means of pressuring the FRG which would not run the risk of producing a dispute with the FRG and the Allies in Berlin. We thus do not believe that these steps are the precursor of a broader Soviet effort to pressure the West in Berlin.

While difficult to evaluate, the reasons for the Soviet actions appear to be based primarily on efforts by the Soviet military to obtain additional airspace for low level military air support exercises in the GDR. The main Soviet training areas lie below the air corridors and we do know that the Soviets have during the past four years introduced new concepts of close air support as more modern aircraft have been deployed with the GSFG. Over the past years, we have noticed increased pressure by the Soviet military in East Germany on their counterparts in the Soviet Embassy to push military concerns in Berlin. In the current instance, the Embassy officials have provided full support for the military demands, although they have taken pains to stress that this is a "technical matter" with no political implications.

Another indication that the military is the primary mover behind the changes was the visit of two high ranking Soviet generals to the Berlin Air Safety Control Center soon after the Allied protest in Washington. The generals asked openly why the Allies were so concerned about the reservations and said we should be able to reach agreement on organization of air space.

The Department will continue to monitor Soviet activities carefully while working with our posts in Germany and our British and French allies to formulate an adequate response to the Soviet moves. We have convened an inter-agency meeting to discuss implications of the actions, including the importance of low-level altitudes. In the

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

- 3 -

meantime, we believe strongly that the West should not discuss the issues involved with the Soviets as long as the new "policy" of reservations is in effect. If we receive no satisfactory response to our diplomatic protests, we will have to consider other avenues which are open to us -- such as flying through reserved airspace with military aircraft.

The Department will inform you regularly of further developments on this matter.

for *BMcKinley*
Charles Hill
Executive Secretary

~~SECRET~~

CONFIDENTIAL

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 12, 1984

FOR: → JACK MATLOCK
RON LEHMAN

FROM: ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

Attached with RCM note:

"I agree with this. What is
State's reaction?"

MEMORANDUM

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SITUATION ROOM CHECKLIST

March 8, 1984

CONFIDENTIAL

Berlin Aviation: New Soviet Restrictions

According to our mission in Berlin, Moscow's new air corridor restrictions do not reflect an attempt by the Soviets to merely adjust or fine tune past practice, but rather a conscious decision to seek changes in the Berlin air regime favorable to the East Germans and themselves.

- o The Soviets are counting on their own political finesse, current West German desires for calm and an improvement in inner-German relations, and the difficulties of allied coordination to achieve what they want.

In a separate assessment, our embassy in Moscow can perceive no compelling reason why the Soviet leadership should see it in their interests to ignite a controversy over Berlin at the present time. While erosion and ultimate elimination of Allied rights in Berlin may well continue to be a long-term Soviet goal, bringing matters to a head would surely complicate if not undermine current Soviet strategy towards Europe and the U.S.

- o The course of the air corridor dispute to date indicates that the higher Soviet foreign policy actors -- Gromyko, Chernenko and Ustinov -- have not been engaged in the issue.
- o The embassy does not believe the Soviet leadership would be prepared to see this issue lead to a full-blown controversy with its many negative ramifications.

Our goal, according to the embassy, should be to engage them to make them realize that any minor gains they might hope to make over Berlin would be outweighed by the negative consequences for bilateral relations and for efforts to resume the East-West dialogue.

- o The U.S. and its Allies should stand tough, escalate the level of protest as necessary, and make it clear that we cannot consider Berlin in isolation from broader questions of bilateral relations and arms control. (C)

USBerlin 722, Moscow 2838, PSN 25720, PSN 25888

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CLASSIFIED BY MULTIPLE SOURCES
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

DECLASSIFIED

NLS 402-009 #20

BY CS NARA, DATE 5/23/03

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3-12-84

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 16, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR SALLY KELLEY

FROM: ROBERT M. KIMMITT

SUBJECT: Letter to President from Estonian American
National Council

We have reviewed and concur with the Department of State's proposed draft letter to Mr. Juhan Simonson, President of the Estonian American National Council; in reply to Mr. Simonson's letter to the President.

2154

Attachment

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 16, 1984

FOR BOB KIMMITT:

I recommend that you sign the attached memorandum to Sally Kelley.


JACK F. MATLOCK



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8407008

Date March 15, 1984

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane
National Security Council
The White House

Reference:

TO: The President From: Juhan Simonson

Date: February 24, 1984 Subject: Resolution by Americans

of Estonian Descent commemorating 66th Anniv. of Estonian Independence

WH Referral Dated: March 7, 1984 NSC ID # 197409
(if any)

_____ The attached item was sent directly to the
Department of State.

Action Taken:

- A draft reply is attached.
- _____ A draft reply will be forwarded.
- _____ A translation is attached.
- _____ An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- _____ We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.
- _____ The Department of State has no objection to the proposed travel.
- _____ Other.

Remarks.

Christie A. Keane
Charles Hill
Executive Secretary

Dear Mr. Simonson:

The President has asked me to respond to your letter transmitting the resolution adopted by the Americans of Estonian descent at the commemoration of the 66th anniversary of the declaration of independence of the Republic of Estonia.

The United States does not recognize the forcible annexation of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania into the Soviet Union which occurred in 1940. We continue to extend full diplomatic recognition to representatives of the last free Baltic governments, and we work closely with them on Baltic issues of common concern.

We thank you for the expression of strong support for the President, and we too share your hope that one day Estonians will raise their blue-black-white tricolor in a declaration of freedom.

Sincerely,

Mr. Juhan Simonson,
President,
Estonian American National Council,
243 East 34th Street,
New York, New York.

8407008

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

MARCH 7, 1984

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 197409

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED FEBRUARY 24, 1984

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. JUHAN SIMONSON
PRESIDENT
ESTONIAN AMERICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL
POST OFFICE BOX 266
NEW YORK NY 10016

SUBJECT: FORWARDS RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE AMERICANS
OF ESTONIAN DESCENT COMMEMORATING 66TH
ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE OF ESTONIA

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

*Received in 575-I
2/7 at 12:20 pm (280)*

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 02, 1984

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. JUHAN SIMONSON

SUBJECT FORWARDS RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE AMERICANS
OF ESTONIAN DESCENT COMMEMORATING 66TH
ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE OF ESTONIA

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D
LINAS KOJELIS	ORG	84/03/02		___/___/___
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				___/___/___
<i>99 DOS</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____	D	840302		___/___/___
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___		___/___/___
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___		___/___/___
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___		___/___/___
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___		___/___/___

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: _____ MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

- *****
- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES: | *DISPOSITION CODES: | *OUTGOING | * |
| * | * | * CORRESPONDENCE | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION | *A-ANSWERED | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE | *C-COMPLETED | * CODE = A | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET | *S-SUSPENDED | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* | | * OUTGOING | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * | | | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE * | | | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY * | | | * |
- *****

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75,OEOb) EXT. 2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS



ESTONIAN AMERICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL

ESTONIAN HOUSE · 243 EAST 34TH STREET
 P.O. BOX 266 · NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016
 TEL. (212) 685-0776

Janis Kojala

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Paul Vesterstein

Viktor Vinkman

Acting Secretary General

Jaani Tiivel

February 24th, 1984

The President
 The White House
 Washington, DC 20500

Mr. President:

Enclosed please find a resolution which I have been asked to bring to your attention.

The said resolution was unanimously adopted by the Americans of Estonian descent who had gathered from the New York Metropolitan Area to New York City on February 19th, 1984, for a festive yet solemn mass meeting in order to commemorate the 66th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of the Republic of Estonia.

Yours respectfully,

Juhan Simonson

Juhan Simonson
 President

JS/hm

Enclosure

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Mr. President:

We, Estonian-Americans, assembled from throughout the New York Metropolitan area on this 19th day of February, 1984, to festively yet solemnly commemorate the 66th anniversary of the Declaration of the Independence of the Republic of Estonia, convey to you heartfelt greetings and pray that the Lord will bless your pursuits for peace among all nations.

Hitler-Stalin secret agreement, commonly known as Ribbentrop-Molotov pact, in 1939, delivered Estonia and the other Baltic states -- Latvia and Lithuania -- to the Soviet sphere of influence. Notwithstanding the fact that World War II ended in 1945, Estonia is still occupied as a result of this illegal pact. This situation is a cruel international injustice, which must be rectified.

We expect of you for the continued recognition of the independent status of the Republic of Estonia and its diplomatic and consular missions, and that attention be focused on all appropriate occasions at international political forums to the Estonian nation's struggle for freedom.

The Soviet rulers should take note that while they maintain brutal control over Estonia, they will never be able to obliterate the strong national traditions nor extinguish love for freedom and independence held by the Estonian people.

Estonians, everywhere, hope that someday they will once again raise the Estonian national blue-black-white tricolor in a declaration of freedom from the Soviet rule.

Estonia shall be a flourishing sovereign nation again!

We hope that this happy event is not far away!

We pledge that American citizens of Estonian descent will loyally support all steps that you take in promoting the welfare of the United States and in safeguarding the interests of all freedom loving nations.

RONALD W. REAGAN LIBRARY

THIS FORM MARKS THE FILE LOCATION OF ITEM NUMBER 9
~~9-4~~ LISTED ON THE
WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF THIS FOLDER.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

SUBJECT: Hartman's Meeting with Gromyko March 11

Attached at Tab A is a memorandum from George Shultz reporting on Art Hartman's meeting with Gromyko March 11.

Gromyko followed a very tough approach in the meeting, and charged that we had not yet offered anything to move us forward in a constructive way. This is not encouraging, but we probably should expect this approach from Gromyko, who seems intent on seeing how much he can squeeze out of us before offering something in return.

I believe that we should refrain from drawing pessimistic conclusions from this conversation, however. It will be more important to see how Chernenko responds to your letter, and whether the Soviets pick us up on some of the suggestions you made in your recent letter to him. As you are aware, some of the private signals we are getting are somewhat more encouraging than Gromyko's hard-line approach.

Attachment:

Tab A - Memorandum from Secretary Shultz of March 14, 1984

Prepared by:
Jack Matlock

cc: Vice President

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~
Declassify on: OADR

DECLASSIFIED
NLS 102-009 #21
BY AN NARA, DATE 5/23/03

NLS MOZ-009#22BY WOT, NARA, DATE 10/17/05 THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

March 14, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: George P. Shultz *GPS*

SUBJECT: Art Hartman's Meeting with Gromyko March 11

Art Hartman tells me that he met with Gromyko for two and a half hours Sunday to discuss your letter and my talk with Dobrynin March 7. Gromyko was careful to say his response was "preliminary" and that we will get an early formal reply to your letter, which has been passed to Chernenko. Art feels Gromyko may not yet have fully familiarized himself with what we have presented. That said, however, he was also very tough.

After Art had begun by stressing your sincerity and the very specific character of our message, Gromyko spent an hour and a half complaining that we had killed off a whole series of agreements and had not yet offered anything to move us forward in a constructive way. The chief items were:

-- START and INF, where the policy of the Administration makes talks impossible after the U.S. had "paralyzed" SALT II;

-- other arms control items -- TTBT, outer space, CW, nuclear non-first-use, non-use of force -- where the U.S. had refused to ratify, was ignoring Soviet proposals or was making promises of a kind it had not delivered on in the past; and

-- bilateral cooperation agreements (environment, health, etc.) which the U.S. had "cast aside."

In rebuttal, Art told Gromyko that he was defining negotiations in a one-sided way, that we need a give-and-take process and adjustments on each side, and that we should add deeds that address real problems to international life, rather than just words. He stressed that Gromyko was misunderstanding your intentions if he thought we are just repeating the importance of dialogue: you had made substantive decisions and are ready to move forward. Gromyko concluded that he was not convinced.

Art thinks that part of Gromyko's point was to prove that we cannot go around him; the fact that TASS immediately announced the meeting had made no progress suggests that he also continues to fear we will exploit any dialogue between us to prove we are in business-as-usual. It was not an encouraging meeting, but it is hard to draw conclusions from it, and both Art and I agree we should wait for the formal reply to your letter that Gromyko promised. In the meantime, we should do what we need to do here to be ready to move on the issues you identified in your letter.

~~SECRET/SENSITIVE~~
DECL. OADR

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 16, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR KATHY JAFFKE

FROM: ROBERT M. KIMMITT

SUBJECT: Telegram to President from Representative Stark

We have reviewed and concur with the Department of State's draft response to Representative Stark's letter to the President on U.S.-Soviet relations and suggesting meeting between the President and Chernenko.

1544

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 16, 1984

Attachment

FOR BOB KIMMITT:

I suggest you forward the attached memorandum to Kathy Jaffke.


JACK MATLOCK

UNCLASSIFIED
(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8405808

Date 64 MAR 15 10:31
March 15, 1984

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane
National Security Council
The White House

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

Reference:

To: The President From: Rep. Fortney H. Stark
Date: 2/10/84 Subject: Future US/Soviet Union Relations

WH Referral Dated: 2/24/84 NSC ID# 196570
(if any)

 The attached item was sent directly to the
Department of State.

Action Taken:

- xx A draft reply is attached.
 A draft reply will be forwarded.
 A translation is attached.
 An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
 We believe no response is necessary for the reason
cited below.
 The Department of State has no objection to the
proposed travel.
 Other.

Remarks:

for Kristie A. Keane
Charles Hill
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED
(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SUGGESTED REPLY

Dear Mr. Stark:

I have consulted with the President's foreign policy advisers concerning your suggestion of February 14 that President Reagan meet with Soviet General Secretary Chernenko, and I am pleased to provide you with our views on the subject.

We share your belief that it is in our national interest to maintain a dialogue with the Soviet Union aimed at solving some of the real problems that divide us. The President's January 16 address on US-Soviet relations is an emphatic endorsement of this view. Accordingly, we are participating in a number of arms reduction negotiations, and have had continuing discussions with the Soviet government at all levels on a wide range of bilateral and regional topics. President Reagan has also communicated his views directly, in exchanges of letters with Soviet leaders.

Secretary Shultz meets frequently with Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin and has held extensive discussions with Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko, most recently in January in Stockholm. Ambassador Hartman has also been in frequent contact with the Soviet Foreign Minister and other senior officials in Moscow. These exchanges have allowed each side to gain a clear understanding of the other's positions, and have provided the opportunity for confidential dialogue. We look forward to continuing these informative discussions with Soviet representatives.

The Honorable

Fortney H. Stark,

House of Representatives.

We deeply regret the fact that the Soviet Union has broken off the INF negotiations and has refused to set a date for resuming the START talks. We have on many occasions called on the USSR to return to the bargaining table, and we will continue to stress our flexibility and our willingness to meet the Soviets halfway in pursuit of meaningful and verifiable agreements. We share your view that more effective control of chemical and biological weapons is needed, and in the 40-nation Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, we will shortly be tabling a draft treaty on a global chemical weapons ban. In sum, we agree that the US-Soviet relationship and arms reduction issues are urgent items on our foreign policy agenda, and we hope, as you do, that the new Soviet leadership will take advantage of our dialogue and work with us on finding solutions to these pressing problems.

A summit could at some point be a useful step in our relations with the USSR -- and we have stated this publicly on several occasions. But we believe that a summit must be carefully prepared and have a prospect of meaningful results. The Soviet government has indicated that it shares this view.

Thus, although there are no plans at this point for a meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Chernenko, we are looking for solutions to some of the real problems in our relations, and it is possible that this ongoing diplomatic dialogue could set the scene for a productive summit over the longer term. I thank you for sharing your views with us on this issue.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

REFERRAL

DATE: 24 FEB 84

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPT OF STATE

8405808

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION

TO. PRESIDENT

SOURCE: STARK, FORTNEY H

DATE 10 FEB 84

KEYWORDS: USSR

CO

CHERNENKO, KONSTANTI

AP

SUBJ: TELEGRAM TO PRES FM REP STARK RE FUTURE US - SOVIET UNION RELATIONS

REQUIRED ACTION. DRAFT REPLY FOR WH SIG

DUE DATE: 03 MAR 84

COMMENTS

Loretta Grayton
72860

FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 11, 1984

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE FORTNEY H. "PETE" STARK

SUBJECT: SUGGESTS A MEETING WITH THE NEW LEADER OF
THE SOVIET UNION AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	84/02/13		
<i>NS atn Secretary D</i>		<i>84/02/22</i>	<i>mo A84/02/21</i>	<i>LD</i>
REFERRAL NOTE:				
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REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230
MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

- *****
- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES: | *DISPOSITION CODES: | *OUTGOING | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION | *A-ANSWERED | *CORRESPONDENCE: | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE | *C-COMPLETED | *OF SIGNER | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET | *S-SUSPENDED | *CODE = A | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* | | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * | | *OUTGOING | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE * | | | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY * | | | * |
- *****

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT. 2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

February 21, 1984

Dear Pete:

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your February 10 telegram offering your views on the future of U.S.-Soviet relations following the selection of Konstantine Chernenko as successor to Soviet President Yuri Andropov.

Please know that I have brought to the President's attention your suggestion that he indicate his interest in meeting with Mr. Chernenko at the earliest possible time. In addition, I have shared your correspondence with the appropriate foreign policy advisers for their consideration. In the interim, let me assure you that we share your desire for improved U.S.-Soviet relations, and we appreciate your comments.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

M. B. Oglesby, Jr.
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Fortney H. Stark
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MBO:KRJ:tjr

cc: w/copy of inc to NSC Secretariat - for DRAFT response

9
M.B. Gajda

196570

1-011015A041 02/10/84
ICS IPMWGWJ WSH
00190 GOVT BUWASHINGTON DC 143 02-10 217P EST
PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN
WHITE HOUSE DC

DEAR MR PRESIDENT:

THE DEATH OF SOVIET PRESIDENT ANDROPOV PRESENTS THE WORLD WITH A NEW OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO SUPER POWERS. I URGE THAT YOU IMMEDIATELY MAKE IT KNOWN THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH THE NEW SOVIET LEADER, ANY TIME, ANY PLACE, ONCE HIS POSITION WITHIN THEIR SYSTEM IS CONFIRMED. THIS MEETING WOULD NOT NEED TO BE AN ISSUES MEETING SIMPLY A SIGN THAT THE UNITED STATES AND ITS LEADERS WANT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS, AND WANT TO HAVE PERSONAL CONTACT AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS WITH OUR

SOVIET COUNTERPARTS. IF AN ISSUES DISCUSSION IS APPROPRIATE, AN IMPORTANT BUT RELATIVELY EASY AGENDA ITEM WOULD BE AN AGREEMENT TO UP GRADE THE TECHNOLOGICALLY INADEQUATE "HOT LINE" MECHANISM AND TO DEVELOP OTHER EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES.

BEST WISHES IN USING THIS NEW BEGINNING TO SET A NEW TONE IN SUPER POWER RELATIONS.

SINCERELY.

FORTNEY H (PETE) STARK MEMBER OF CONGRESS

1427 EST

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 16, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR KATHY JAFFKE

FROM: ROBERT M. KIMMITT

SUBJECT: Letter to the President from Representative Hillis

We have reviewed and concur with the Department of State's draft letter to Representative Hillis in response to his letter to the President concerning U.S.-Soviet relations.

1698

Attachment

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 16, 1984

FOR BOB KIMMITT:

I recommend that you sign the attached memo to Kathy Jaffke.


JACK MATLOCK

UNCLASSIFIED
(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

s/s 8406361
04 MAR 15 1984 F10: 31
Date 3/15/84

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane
National Security Council
The White House

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: Rep. Elwood H. Hillis
Date: 2/16/84 Subject: US/Soviet Relations

WH Referral Dated: 3/1/84 NSC ID# 196935
(if any)

_____ The attached item was sent directly to the
Department of State.

Action Taken:

- XX A draft reply is attached.
_____ A draft reply will be forwarded.
_____ A translation is attached.
_____ An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
_____ We believe no response is necessary for the reason
cited below.
_____ The Department of State has no objection to the
proposed travel.
_____ Other.

Remarks:

for Charles Hill
Charles Hill
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED
(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SUGGESTED REPLY

Dear Mr. Hillis:

I have consulted with the President's foreign policy advisers concerning your comments on US-Soviet relations, and I am pleased to provide you with our views on the subject.

As you note, it is essential for the Soviet Union to understand that the United States has the willingness and the means to defend its national interests. However, as the President stressed in his January 16 address, we do not seek confrontation with the USSR, and we believe that it is in our interest to maintain a dialogue with the Soviet Union aimed at solving some of the real problems that divide us.

Accordingly, we are participating in a number of arms reduction negotiations, and have had continuing discussions with the Soviet government at all levels on a wide range of bilateral and regional topics. Secretary Shultz meets frequently with Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin and has held extensive discussions with Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko, most recently in January in Stockholm. Ambassador Hartman has also been in frequent contact with the Soviet Foreign Minister and other senior officials in Moscow. These exchanges have allowed each side to gain a clear understanding of the other's positions, and have provided the opportunity for confidential dialogue. We look forward to continuing these informative discussions with Soviet representatives.

The Honorable

Elwood H. Hillis,

House of Representatives.

We deeply regret the fact that the Soviet Union has broken off the INF negotiations and has refused to set a date for resuming the START talks. We have on many occasions called on the USSR to return to the bargaining table, and we will continue to stress our flexibility and our willingness to meet the Soviets halfway in pursuit of meaningful and verifiable agreements. We share your view that more effective control of chemical and biological weapons is needed, and in the 40-nation Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, we will shortly be tabling a draft treaty on a global chemical weapons ban. In sum, we agree that the US-Soviet relationship and arms reduction issues are urgent items on our foreign policy agenda, and we hope, as you do, that the new Soviet leadership will take advantage of our dialogue and work with us on finding solutions to these pressing problems.

A summit could at some point be a useful step in our relations with the USSR -- and we have stated this publicly on several occasions. But we believe that a summit must be carefully prepared and have a prospect of meaningful results. The Soviet government has indicated that it shares this view.

Thus, although there are no plans at this point for a meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Chernenko, we are looking for solutions to some of the real problems in our relations, and it is possible that this ongoing diplomatic dialogue could set the scene for a productive summit over the longer term. I thank you for sharing your views with us on this issue.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

ID 8401698

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

8406361

PAGE E01

REFERRAL

DATE: 01 MAR 84

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION

TO: PRESIDENT

SOURCE: HILLIS, BUD

DATE: 16 FEB 84

KEYWORDS: USSR

CO

CHERNENKO, KONSTANTI

SUBJ: LTR TO PRES FM REP HILLIS RE US - SOVIET RELATIONS

REQUIRED ACTION: DRAFT REPLY FOR WH SIG

DUE DATE: 10 MAR 84

COMMENTS.

Loretta Grayton
45830

FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Received in S/S-1
2/29/84 - 4:00 p.m.
mm

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 21, 1984

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE BUD HILLIS

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO MEET WITH SOVIET
LEADER KONSTANTIN CHERNENKO AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	84/02/21	MO A	84P2123
<i>Water Secretary D</i>		<i>84/02/27</i>		<i>1 1</i>
REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				
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REFERRAL NOTE:				
REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240
MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION CODES:	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	* CORRESPONDENCE:	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	* OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	* CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC		* OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *			*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE *			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY *			*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT. 2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

8406361

February 23, 1984

Dear Bud:

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your February 16 letter offering your views on the future of U.S.-Soviet relations following the selection of Konstantine Chernenko as successor to Soviet President Yuri Andropov.

Please know that I have brought to the President's attention your suggestion that he meet with Mr. Chernenko at the earliest possible time. In addition, I have shared your correspondence with the appropriate foreign policy advisers for their consideration. In the interim, let me assure you that we share your desire for improved U.S.-Soviet relations, and we appreciate your comments.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

M. B. Oglesby, Jr.
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Elwood H. "Bud" Hillis
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MBO:KRJ:tjr

cc: w/copy of inc to NSC Secretariat - for DRAFT response

ELWOOD H. "BUD" HILLIS
5TH DISTRICT, INDIANA

COMMITTEES
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
HOUSE ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE

CO CHAIRMAN CONGRESSIONAL
AUTO CAUCUS

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER,
CONGRESSIONAL STEEL CAUCUS

MEMBER,
THE RURAL CAUCUS
THE TEXTILE CAUCUS
NORTHEAST-MIDWEST COALITION

8406361

WASHINGTON OFFICE
2336 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
TELEPHONE 202-275-5037

INDIANA OFFICES:

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2016 SOUTH ELIZABETH STREET
KOKOMO, INDIANA 46902
(P.O. Box 5048)
TELEPHONE: 457-4411

MARION
323 SOUTH ADAMS STREET
MARION, INDIANA 46952
TELEPHONE: 662-7227

VALPARAISO
2 INDIANA AVENUE
VALPARAISO, INDIANA 46383
TELEPHONE 219-462-6499

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

February 16, 1984

The Honorable
Ronald W. Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing you concerning a matter of grave importance and possible opportunity.

Relations between the United States and the Soviet Union have been strained for many months now with little hope of immediate improvement. The world has watched anxiously as tensions have increased in the Middle East, the START talks have broken down and both sides have deployed hundreds of new missiles in Europe.

As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I have supported your goal to rebuild and modernize America's defenses. I will continue to give you my support, believing as you do, that America must be strong if she is to remain free.

Under your Administration, the United States has demonstrated new resolve in meeting the growing Soviet military challenge. Now, I believe, the time is right to show the world that America is ready to take the diplomatic initiatives necessary to relieve East-West tensions.

With the succession of Konstantin Chernenko as the leader of the Soviet Union, the United States has the chance to open a new dialogue with Moscow which, hopefully, will lead to a better understanding between our two nations.

I believe, Mr. President, that you should call for an early meeting between yourself and Chairman Chernenko which would be a prelude to a full-scale summit within the next 12 months. I also believe you should call on the Soviets to return to the START talks and expand arms negotiations to include chemical and biological weapons.

Now is the time for the United States to take the high ground in our search for peace. These overtures would be well-received by our NATO allies and serve to foster a military and political stability that is vital at this crucial time.

Sincerely,

Elwood H. "Bud" Hillis
Member of Congress

EHH:u

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 21, 1984

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE BUD HILLIS

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO MEET WITH SOVIET
LEADER KONSTANTIN CHERNENKO AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	84/02/21	<i>ms A</i>	<i>84P2123</i>
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>W. Sater Secretaries D</i>		<i>84/02/21</i>		<i>1 1</i>
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REFERRAL NOTE:		<i>1 1</i>		<i>1 1</i>
REFERRAL NOTE:		<i>1 1</i>		<i>1 1</i>

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240 _____

MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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| *ACTION CODES: | *DISPOSITION CODES: | *OUTGOING | * |
| * | * | * CORRESPONDENCE: | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION | *A-ANSWERED | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE | *C-COMPLETED | * CODE = A | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET | *S-SUSPENDED | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* | | * OUTGOING | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * | | * | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE * | | * | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY * | | * | * |
- *****

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT. 2590
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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 16, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR KATHY JAFFKE

FROM: ROBERT M. KIMMITT

SUBJECT: Letter to President from Representative LaFalce

We have reviewed and concur with the Department of State's draft letter to Representative LaFalce in response to his letter to the President concerning better U.S.-Soviet relations and a possible meeting between the President and Chernenko.

Attachment

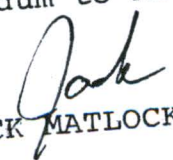
1543

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

March 16, 1984

FOR BOB KIMMITT:

I recommend that you sign the attached memorandum to Kathy Jaffke.


JACK MATLOCK

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

s/s 8405807

Date 3/15/84

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane
National Security Council
The White House

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: John J. LaFalce
Date: 2/14/84 Subject: Better US/Soviet Relations

WH Referral Dated: 2/24/84 NSC ID# 196835
(if any)

 The attached item was sent directly to the
Department of State.

Action Taken:

- xx A draft reply is attached.
 A draft reply will be forwarded.
 A translation is attached.
 An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
 We believe no response is necessary for the reason
cited below.
 The Department of State has no objection to the
proposed travel.
 Other.

Remarks:

for Kristine A. Keane
Charles Hill
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SUGGESTED REPLY

Dear Mr. LaFalce:

I have consulted with the President's foreign policy advisers concerning your suggestion of February 14 that President Reagan meet with Soviet General Secretary Chernenko, and I am pleased to provide you with our views on the subject.

We share your belief that it is in our national interest to maintain a dialogue with the Soviet Union aimed at solving some of the real problems that divide us. The President's January 16 address on US-Soviet relations is an emphatic endorsement of this view. Accordingly, we are participating in a number of arms reduction negotiations, and have had continuing discussions with the Soviet government at all levels on a wide range of bilateral and regional topics. President Reagan has also communicated his views directly, in exchanges of letters with Soviet leaders.

Secretary Shultz meets frequently with Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin and has held extensive discussions with Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko, most recently in January in Stockholm. Ambassador Hartman has also been in frequent contact with the Soviet Foreign Minister and other senior officials in Moscow. These exchanges have allowed each side to gain a clear understanding of the other's positions, and have provided the opportunity for confidential dialogue. We look forward to continuing these informative discussions with Soviet representatives.

The Honorable

John J. LaFalce,

House of Representatives.

We deeply regret the fact that the Soviet Union has broken off the INF negotiations and has refused to set a date for resuming the START talks. We have on many occasions called on the USSR to return to the bargaining table, and we will continue to stress our flexibility and our willingness to meet the Soviets halfway in pursuit of meaningful and verifiable agreements. We agree that the US-Soviet relationship and arms reduction issues are urgent items on our foreign policy agenda, and we hope, as you do, that the new Soviet leadership will take advantage of our dialogue and work with us on finding solutions to these pressing problems.

A summit could at some point be a useful step in our relations with the USSR -- and we have stated this publicly on several occasions. But we believe that a summit must be carefully prepared and have a prospect of meaningful results. The Soviet government has indicated that it shares this view.

Thus, although there are no plans at this point for a meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Chernenko, we are looking for solutions to some of the real problems in our relations, and it is possible that this ongoing diplomatic dialogue could set the scene for a productive summit over the longer term. I thank you for sharing your views with us on this issue.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

REFERRAL

DATE: 24 FEB 84

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPT OF STATE

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION

TO: PRESIDENT

SOURCE: LAFALCE, JOHN J

DATE: 14 FEB 84

KEYWORDS: USSR

CO

CHERNENKO, KONSTANTI

AP

SUBJ: LTR TO PRES FM REP LAFALCE RE BETTER US - SOVIET RELATIONS & POSSIBLE

REQUIRED ACTION. DRAFT REPLY FOR WH SIG

DUE DATE: 03 MAR 84

COMMENTS

Robert M. Kimmitt
45860
FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 17, 1984

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE JOHN J. LAFALCE

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO MEET WITH THE GENERAL
SECRETARY OF THE SOVIET UNION, KONSTANTIN
CHERNENKO WITHOUT DELAY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	84/02/17	<i>Ms A 840217</i>	<i>1/1</i>
<i>NS atn Secretariat J</i>		<i>84/02/17</i>		<i>1/1</i>
REFERRAL NOTE:				
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REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230 _____

MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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| *ACTION CODES: | *DISPOSITION CODES: | *OUTGOING | * |
| * | * | * CORRESPONDENCE: | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION | *A-ANSWERED | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE | *C-COMPLETED | * CODE = A | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET | *S-SUSPENDED | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* | | * OUTGOING | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * | | | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE | | | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY | | | * |
- *****

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT. 2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

February 21, 1984

Dear John:

Thank you for your February 14 letter urging the President to invite Konstantin Chernenko to the United States at the earliest possible opportunity.

We appreciate knowing that you share our desire for improved U.S.-Soviet relations, and we were pleased to share your recommendations in this regard with the President and his foreign policy advisers. You may be assured that they will carefully review the comments you made regarding the need for a clear and direct channel of diplomacy between our nations.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

M. B. Oglesby, Jr.
Assistant to the President

The Honorable John J. LaFalce
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MBO/KRJ/tjr

cc: w/copy of inc to NSC Secretariat - for
DRAFT response

JOHN J. LAFALCE

2ND DISTRICT, NEW YORK

2419 RAYBURN BUILDING

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

(202) 225-3231

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

FEDERAL BUILDING
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202
(716) 845-4056

MAIN POST OFFICE BUILDING
NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK 14302
(716) 284-9976

FEDERAL BUILDING
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14614
(716) 263-6424

February 14, 1984

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

Dear Mr. President:

The transfer of power in the Soviet Union has presented you with a rare opportunity to improve Soviet-American relations. Despite your reported rejection of a "get-acquainted summit", I urge you to take advantage of this opportunity, and to invite the new General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Konstantin Chernenko, to meet with you at the earliest possible date.

Escalation of Soviet-American tension in recent months has made this matter particularly urgent. The cold distrust with which our nations regard one another contributed to, and was deepened by, the Soviet destruction of a South Korean airliner last November. Mutual suspicion has deepened further with the acceleration of the arms race, especially the stockpiling of first-strike nuclear weapons, and with more active superpower involvement in the Caribbean Basin and the Middle East. Moscow's withdrawal from the Geneva arms control negotiations represents the latest, and one of the most dangerous of recent episodes in this chilling trend, as the channels through which diplomatic dialogue should flow freeze into the hard ice of harsh rhetoric.

A new Soviet administration offers hope of a new relationship between our governments, but patience will be required. The Kremlin's monolithic structure of authority discourages abrupt changes of policy. Indeed, the first weeks of a new Soviet leadership are apt to be especially conservative, as power is consolidated and the new government stabilized. Now is not the time to expect new treaties or breakthroughs in long-standing policy deadlocks.

Nevertheless, future progress demands present preparation. There is immediate need for a clear and direct channel of diplomacy between our nations. Your rapport with the incoming Soviet leader could warm the climate of our relations, and brighten our beclouded chances of peaceful coexistence.

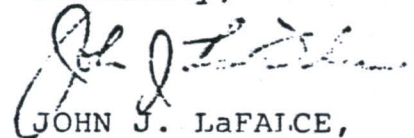
You can begin the establishment of mutual confidence by meeting personally with Mr. Chernenko.

Such a meeting would not require a rigidly formal agenda. You and your Russian counterpart already know one another's positions on the issues that stand between you, and seeking concessions from each other at this time would likely bear little fruit. Over time, however, a cordial personal relationship with the Soviet leader could prove fertile ground for substantive agreements. You and he should know each other not only as voices of adverse interests, but as individuals: fundamentally divided by your political convictions and loyal to the rival nations you lead, but mindful of your common interest in world peace, and sincerely dedicated to the task of its achievement.

It has lately been said that the superpowers seem propelled toward mutual destruction by forces beyond their control. I am certain, though, that you would join me in rejecting this canard of "historical inevitability". I share your profound and characteristically American faith in the efficacy of individual effort, and your belief that human history is made and mended by the free actions of men and women. You and the leader of the Soviet Union hold peace in your power. It is your duty and his to act with good will to secure it.

Again, I urge you to meet Konstantin Chernenko without delay. New Soviet policies cannot be expected immediately, but it is surely in our national interest that Soviet-American relations improve while those policies are being formulated. The moment is ripe for your action, and I trust that you will grasp it with vigor.

Sincerely,



JOHN J. LaFALCE,
Member of Congress

1230