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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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Collection Name MATLOCK, JACK: FILES

Withdrawer

JET 5/3/2005

File Folder DIVIDED SPOUSES 2/7

FOIA

F06-114/7

Box Number 24

YARHI-MILO

2409

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
9538	CABLE	012134Z MAR 86 [23 - 27]	5	3/1/1986	B1
	R	7/7/2008			NLRRF06-114/7

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

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

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

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

January 13, 1986

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM F. MARTIN

FROM: PAULA DOBRIANSKY ⁽¹⁷⁾

SUBJECT: Letter to President from Balovlenkov re Spouses
Denied Permission to Leave Russia

I have reviewed and concur, with minor annotated changes, with the draft response (Tab A) for the President's signature to Mrs. Elena Balovlenkov and The Divided Spouses. Attached at Tab I is a memorandum to Sally Kelley for your signature noting our concurrence.

^{pm} Matlock, ^{wh} Raymond, SM Mandel, and ^{SRS} Sestanovich concur.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum at Tab I

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

Attachments:

Tab I Memo to Kelley
Tab A Draft response
Tab II Incoming

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

MEMORANDUM FOR SALLY KELLEY

FROM: WILLIAM F. MARTIN

SUBJECT: Letter to President from Balovlenkov re Spouses
Denied Permission to Leave Russia

We have reviewed and concur, with minor annotated changes, with the draft response (Tab A) for the President's signature to Mrs. Balovlenkov and The Divided Spouses.

Attachment:

Tab A Draft Response

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SUGGESTED REPLY

Dear Mrs. Balovlenkov:

I have been asked to reply to your October 17 letter to President Reagan concerning the efforts of all of you to be reunited with your Soviet spouses. ^{I regret the delay in responding to your correspondence. We encourage you to} ~~I hope that you will~~ share this ^{reply} ~~letter~~ ^{the other} ~~all of the~~ divided spouses. The President is keenly aware of the serious emotional and financial hardships you ~~all~~ have suffered because of the Soviet Government's refusal to permit your spouses to be reunited with you.

Both publicly and through private diplomatic channels, we have expressed our strong concern about the Soviet refusal to allow your spouses to emigrate. We have made clear to the Soviets that if they are serious about improving relations with the United States, they will have to resolve these cases. We firmly believe that any improvement in U.S.-Soviet relations must be accompanied by an improvement in this area.

We raised the issue of divided spouses in our discussions with the Soviets in Geneva. The talks were frank and hopefully laid a constructive groundwork for future progress.

Mrs. Elena Balovlenkov

17 S. Conkling Street,

Baltimore, Maryland.

We were encouraged by the Soviet decision on the eve of the summit to allow several Soviet spouses to emigrate, and we were pleased for those who received this good news. However, almost 20 Soviet spouses continue to be denied exit permission. Much work remains to be done, both in diplomatic channels and in ~~all~~ ~~of~~ your efforts to publicize your plight.

~~Allow me to assure those whose Soviet spouse continue to be denied exit permission~~
Please be assured that
we will continue to make every effort to convince the Soviets to comply with their obligations under the Helsinki Final Act. President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev have agreed "on the importance of resolving humanitarian cases in a spirit of cooperation." This agreement will be given real meaning when all of you are finally able to live in peace together with your Soviet spouse^s.

If we can be of ass^sistance to you in this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

1089

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8532728

Date 26 DEC 1985

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

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: The Divided Spouses (Mrs. Balovlenkov)
Date: October 17, 1985 Subject: Group wishes president to speak with
Gorbachev about their spouses who have been denied permission to leave Russia.
WH Referral Dated: November 5, 1985 NSC ID# 358961
(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:

Reply should be sent to Elena Balovlenkov,
acting spokeswoman for the Divided spouses.
Sandra Gubin of Kalamazoo has had her
case resolved.

Nicholas Platt
For
Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

358961

ID # _____

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

AF
8532728

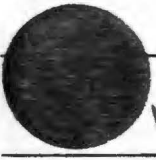
- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 8/10/14

Name of Correspondent: Mr. Mrs. Miss The Reverend [unclear]

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Group wishes President to speak with Gorbachev about their opinion who has been denied permission to leave Russia.

ROUTE TO:	ACTION	DISPOSITION			
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
 CoWals	ORIGINATOR	85/11/14			85/11/14
	Referral Note:				
	<u>D</u>	85/11/05			85/11/14
	Referral Note:	<u>for w/ [unclear] (reference to [unclear])</u>			
	Referral Note:				
	Referral Note:				
	Referral Note:				

ACTION CODES:
 A - Appropriate Action
 C - Comment/Recommendation
 D - Draft Response
 F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure

I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
 R - Direct Reply w/Copy
 S - For Signature
 X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:
 A - Answered
 B - Non-Special Referral
 C - Completed
 S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:
 Type of Response = Initials of Signer
 Code = "A"
 Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

8532728

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

REFERRAL

NOVEMBER 5, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF:
WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 358961

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 17, 1985

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM:

"THE DIVIDED SPOUSES"
122 WEST CROSSTOWN PARKWAY
KALAMAZOO MI 49001

SUBJECT: GROUP WISHES PRESIDENT TO SPEAK WITH
GORBACHEV ABOUT THEIR SPOUSES WHO HAVE BEEN
DENIED PERMISSION TO LEAVE RUSSIA

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



Your upcoming meeting with the General Secretary offers the best hope we have had in years that our cases can at last be successfully resolved. We hope that you will not fail to take advantage of this opportunity to demonstrate that the United States government is firm and serious in its commitment to protect the rights of its citizens, as well as its expectation that the USSR will honor its signature on agreements with us, by raising this issue in your meeting with the General Secretary.

We all would be so very grateful for your compassionate and humanitarian efforts to reunite us with our spouses.

Sincerely,

The Divided Spouses

cc: Secretary of State George P. Shultz
John F. Matlock, Jr.
Ken Hillas
Judyt Mandell

The Divided Spouses who signed the letter to General Secretary Gorbachev:

Elena Balovlenkov (Yuri Balovlenkov)
17 S. Conkling St.
Baltimore, Maryland 21224

Elizabeth Condon (Victor Novikov)
87 Newton Avenue
Lynn, Massachusetts 01905

Sioban Darrow (Dimitri Vasenkov)
2175 10th Avenue
Highland Park, New Jersey 08904

Susan Graham (Matvey Finkel)
Moscow, U.S.S.R.

Sandra L. Gubin (Aleksei Lodisev)
122 W. Crosstown Parkway
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49001

Mary Lou Hulceman (Dimitri Argakov)
2023 Murray Hill Road, Apt. 4
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Simon Levin (Tamara Tretyakova)
415 Elm, #6A
Deerfield, Illinois

Edith Luthi (Michael Iossel)
4 Kathryn Lane, #3
Holliston, Massachusetts 01746

Woodford McClellan (Irina McClellan)
Department of History
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Virginia

Fran Pergericht (Roman Kuperman)
457 West Roslyn Place, Apt. 2
Chicago, Illinois 60614

Gohar Rezian (Poghos Rezian)
1426 W. 179th Street, #12
Gardena, California 90248

Scott Kose (Elena Rose)
1401½ Kirkwood
Austin, Texas 78727

Robin Rubendunst (Leonid Ablavsky)
322 Beacon Street
Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

Mike Smith (Nina F. Smith)
7456 Vanalden Ave.
Reseda, California 91335

Deborah Woodcock (Alexandr Kalymykov)
1799 N. #11
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Keith Braun (Svetlana I. Braun)
25251 Maplebrooke
Southfield, MI 48034

Русский Перевод

Сентября 1985

Господину Михаилу Сергеевичу Горбачеву
Генеральному Секретарю Центрального
Комитета КПСС

Кремль, Москва СССР

Дорогой господин Генеральный Секретарь!

Мы, нижеподписавшиеся, граждане Соединенных Штатов, состоящие в браке с гражданами Советского Союза, обращаемся к Вам за помощью по вопросу который для нас так труден-- о воссоединении наших семей.

Много лет наши супруги не могут получить разрешение на выезд из Советского Союза на постоянное жительство в США для воссоединения с нами.

В этом положении находятся менее двадцати семей. Трудно поверить, что воссоединение такой горстки людей со своими мужьями и женами могло бы угрожать безопасности Советского Союза. Мы не можем понять, почему Советские власти так упорно сопротивляются нашему воссоединению.

В этом году отмечается десятая годовщина подписания Заключительного Документа Конференции по Безопасности и Сотрудничеству в Европе. Хочется верить, что дух конференции в Хельсинки не умер, как это выглядит в нашем случае, и то, что происходит с нами является только печальным недоразумением, а не преднамеренной политикой.

Наши супруги не диссиденты, не борцы против Советской системы. Единственное, что они и мы хотим--это воссоединение наших семей в США.

Мы надеемся, что Ваше личное участие в нашей судьбе изменит существующее положение и мы наконец сможем иметь нормальные семьи и быть вместе со своими любимыми.

С полным уважением,

September 1985

His Excellency Mikhail S. Gorbachev
 General Secretary of the Central Committee
 of the CPSU
 The Kremlin
 Moscow, USSR

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We the undersigned, citizens of the United States, married to citizens of the Soviet Union, appeal to you for assistance in the matter which is for us so difficult--reuniting our families.

For many years our spouses have been unable to obtain permission to leave the Soviet Union to join us for permanent residence in the United States.

There are fewer than 20 couples in our circumstances. It is difficult to believe that the reunification of such a handful of people with their husbands and wives could threaten the interests of the Soviet Union. We cannot understand why the Soviet government is so tenaciously opposed to our reunification.


This year marks the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Final Document of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. We wish to believe that the spirit of the Conference in Helsinki is not dead, as it would appear to be in our cases, but that what is happening to us is only a regrettable misunderstanding, and not a deliberate policy.

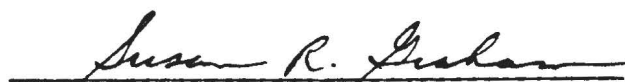
Our spouses are not dissidents, nor strugglers against the Soviet system. The only thing that they--and we-- want is for our families to be reunited in the United States.


We hope that your personal involvement in our fate will alter the existing situation and that we, at last, will be able to have normal families and be together with our loved ones.

Respectfully,


 Sandra L. Gubin


 Scott Rose


 Susan Graham


 Keith Braun

September 1985

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General Secretary of the Central Committee
of the CPSU
The Kremlin
Moscow, USSR

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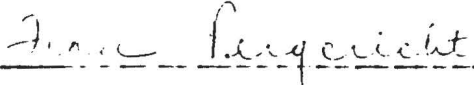
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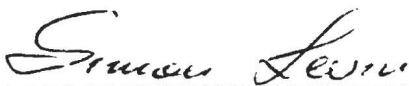
Respectfully,



Fran Pergericht



Sidhan Darrow



Simon Levin



Marv Lou Hulceman

September 1985

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General Secretary of the Central Committee
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The Kremlin
Moscow, USSR

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Respectfully,

Edith Luthi 
Edith Luthi and son Gregory

Elizabeth A. Condon
Elizabeth A. Condon

Robin Rubendunst
Robin Rubendunst

Deborah W. Woodcock
Deborah W. Woodcock

September 1985

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General Secretary of the Central Committee
of the CPSU
The Kremlin
Moscow, USSR

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Respectfully,

Gohar Rezian
Gohar Rezian

Michael R. Smith
Michael R. Smith

Elena K. Balovlenkov & children
Elena Balovlenkov and children

Woodford McClellan
Woodford McClellan

The signatories to this letter can be reached at the following addresses:

Elena Balovlenkov (Yufi Balovlenkov)
17 S. Conkling St.
Baltimore, Maryland 21224

Elizabeth Condon (Victor Novikov)
87 Newton Avenue
Lynn, Massachusetts 01905

Sioban Darrow (Dimitri Vasenkov)
2175 10th Avenue
Highland Park, New Jersey 08004

Susan Graham (Matvey Finkel)
Moscow, U.S.S.R.

Sandra Gubin (Alekssei Lodisev)
122 W. Crosstown Parkway
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49001

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Holliston, Massachusetts 01746

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Department of History
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1401 1/2 Kirkwood
Austin, Texas 78727

Robin Rubendunst (Leonid Ablavskv)
322 Beacon Street
Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

Mike Smith (Nina F. Smith)
7456 Vanalden Ave.
Reseda, California 91335

Deborah Woodcock (Aleksandr Kalvmykov)
1700 N. , #11
Lincoln, Nebraska, 68508

Копии посланы:

госпоже Горбачевой Раисе
по адресу господина Горбачева М.С.
Генерального Секретаря ЦК КПСС
Кремль, Москва

господину Шеварднадзе Эдуарду
Министру Иностранных Дел
Смоленская - Сенная площадь д. 32/34
Москва 121200

господину Кузнецову Рудольфу
Начальнику Всесоюзного ОВИРа
Ул. Огарева 6
Москва 103009

господину Савицкому Л.А.
Начальнику Ленинградского ОВИРа
Ул. Желябова д. 29
Ленинград 191186

господину Зинченко А.М.
Начальнику Московского ОВИРа
Москва

господину Заикову А.М.
Первому Секретарю Ленинградского Областного Комитета
КПСС / Областной Комитет КПСС
Ленинград

Копии посланы:

госпоже Горбачевой Раисе
по адресу господина Горбачева М.С.
Генерального Секретаря ЦК КПСС
Кремль, Москва

господину Шеварднадзе Эдуарду
Министру Иностранных Дел
Смоленская - Сенная площадь д. 32/34
Москва 121200

господину Кузнецову Рудольфу
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Ул. Огарева 6
Москва 103009

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Начальнику Ленинградского ОВИРа
Ул. Желябова д. 29
Ленинград 191186

господину Зинченко А.М.
Начальнику Московского ОВИРа
Москва

господину Заикову А.М.
Первому Секретарю Ленинградского Областного Комитета
КПСС / Областной Комитет КПСС
Ленинград

cc: Ms. Raisa Gorbachev
c/o Mikhail S. Gorbachev
General Secretary of the Central Committee
The Kremlin
Moscow, USSR

Mr. Eduard Shevarnadze
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Smolenskaya - Senaya Sq. 32/34
Moscow 121200

Mr. Rudolf Kuznetsov
Chief of All-Union OVIR
Ogarev 6
Moscow 103009

Mr. L.A. Savitsky
Head of Leningrad OVIR
Zhelyabova Street 29
Leningrad 191186

Mr. A.M. Zinshenko
Head of Moscow OVIR
Moscow, USSR

Mr. Lev Zaikov
First secretary of the Leningrad Communist Party
Oblastnoy Komitet KPSS
Leningrad, USSR

D·I·V·I·D·E·D SPOUSES COALITION

25251 Maplebrooke
Southfield, MI 48034
March 1, 1986

Paula Dobriansky
National Security Council
Old Executive Office Building
Room 308
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Paula:

On behalf of the Divided Spouses Coalition and myself, I want to thank you for attending our meeting with Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Mark Palmer on February 24, 1986.

I also understand that you promised Elena Balovlenkov that you would follow up on the Coalition's letter to the White House. I would only like to request that I be sent a copy of any reply sent to Elena so that I may circulate it to the other spouses.

Finally, and this was not meant as a criticism of you, our complaints about not receiving answers to White House letters relate to individual letters. I have the same record of response with the General Secretary on my individual letters as I do with the President.

Thank you again for your attendance and for your continuing support.

Sincerely,


Keith Braun

D·I·V·I·D·E·D SPOUSES COALITION

March 1, 1986

This week, Sonia Melnikova (Michael Lavigne) submitted an application for exit permission. Shortly, Roman Kuperman (Frances L. Pergericht) will be submitting an application. This will mean that at least 6 spouses have applied (or are about to apply). This will be a good test of the "spirit of cooperation."

WASHINGTON TRIP

On February 24, 8 divided spouses visited Capitol Hill and the State Department. On the Hill, the spouses visited the offices of Senators Dole, Kennedy and Gramm and of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

At the State Department, the 8 spouses, joined by Irina McClellan, recently arrived from the Soviet Union, met with the Bern working group, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State James Montgomery (Ambassador Richard Schifter had unexpectedly to be in Geneva that day) and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs Mark Palmer (Ambassador Rozanne L. Ridgway was unexpectedly forced to return home).

The consensus afterward was that the day had been very productive.

AMBASSADOR HARTMAN

As a show of unity, the Moscow spouses met with Ambassador Arthur G. Hartman on February 24 as well. The Ambassador has been very sympathetic to the plight of the divided spouses, and the Moscow spouses felt that the meeting with the Ambassador was useful.

PARTY CONGRESS

9 ask to join spouses in U.S.

MOSCOW — Nine Soviet citizens with American spouses sent a telegram to the 27th Communist Party Congress, asking for permission to leave the Soviet Union.

The telegram, sent yesterday to General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and the other delegates at the party congress, was signed by six men and three women who have been refused exit visas to join their wives and husbands in the United States.

They asked for the "speedy resolution" of their cases and thanked Gorbachev for a reference to "bina-tional marriages and family reunification" in his opening address to the Congress Tuesday. In his speech, Gorbachev endorsed "deciding in a humane and positive spirit questions related to the reuniting of families."

In addition, the Baltimore Sun reported that the Moscow spouses had petitioned the Party Congress to allow them to join their American spouses.

A joint appeal signed by Soviet and American spouses was also submitted to the Party Congress.

As part of ABC's coverage of the Party Congress from Moscow, the ABC Evening News Thursday carried a story on the Lavignes and the Finkels.

Michael Lavigne has given up his advertising job to work as a nanny so that he may live with his wife, Sonia Melnikova, in Moscow until she receives exit permission. According to the ABC piece, his visa will be expiring shortly.

Susan Graham has spent the last 2 years in Moscow living with her husband, Matvey Finkel. They have been waiting more than 6 years for Matvey to receive exit permission.

There will very likely be more stories in the future. The Party Congress ends Friday.

HEARINGS

The Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission) will hold hearings on March 13. Elena Balovlenkov will testify on behalf of the Coalition.



HUMAN RIGHTS -

~~SECRET~~

DIV. FAMILIES

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

PAGE 01 OF 05 SECSTATE WASHDC 4070 DTG: 012134Z MAR 86 PSN: 052534
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DECLASSIFIED

NLRR F06-114/7 #9538

BY CU NARADATE 7/7/08

NODIS
E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL PHUM UR US
SUBJECT: BILATERAL INITIATIVES FOR THE 1986 SUMMIT

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. EMBASSY SHOULD SEEK EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT TO SHEVARDNADZE OR MOST SENIOR MFA OFFICIAL AVAILABLE THE SUGGESTED BILATERAL INITIATIVES FOR THE 1986 SUMMIT WHICH FOLLOW IN PARA 3 OF THIS CABLE. EMBASSY SHOULD USE THE SAME MEETING TO MAKE THE POINTS ON HUMANITARIAN ISSUES IN PARA 4. WE WISH TO PRESENT THE BILATERAL INITIATIVES TO THE SOVIETS BEFORE MARCH 7, WHICH IS THE DATE WE PLAN TO NOTIFY THE SOVIETS (IN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK) ABOUT THE REDUCTIONS IN THE SIZE OF THE SMUN STAFF. WE WILL DOUBLE TRACK PRESENTATION OF THE BILATERAL INITIATIVES HERE IN WASHINGTON, AFTER EMBASSY HAS MADE ITS PRESENTATION IN MOSCOW.

3. SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS ON BILATERAL INITIATIVES

- AT THE GENEVA SUMMIT WE AGREED ON A NUMBER OF USEFUL BILATERAL INITIATIVES, SUCH AS THE CULTURAL EXCHANGES AGREEMENT AND THE PEOPLE TO PEOPLE EXCHANGES INITIATIVES, THE KIEV/NEW YORK CONSULATE EXCHANGE, AND THE CIVIL AVIATION AGREEMENT. AS YOU KNOW, WE ARE WORKING WITH YOU TO IMPLEMENT THESE AGREEMENTS AND OUR LEADERS SHOULD BE ABLE TO NOTE CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS IN THESE AREAS AT THE NEXT SUMMIT.

- WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO TAKE ADDITIONAL STEPS IN THE AREA OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. WE HAVE A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS WHICH WE ARE PREPARED TO BEGIN DISCUSSING WITH YOU NOW, WITH A VIEW TOWARD REACHING AGREEMENT ON THEM AT OR BEFORE THE 1986 SUMMIT.

- THE THRUST OF MOST OF OUR PROPOSALS IS TO EXPAND AND REGULARIZE EXISTING CONTACTS. TAKEN TOGETHER THEY WOULD REPRESENT A MAJOR EXPANSION, IN AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST, IN THE FRAMEWORK OF US-SOVIET COOPERATION ESTABLISHED AT THE 1985 GENEVA MEETING.

- WE THINK THAT AGREEMENT IN THESE AREAS WOULD BE A

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

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POSITIVE SIGN TO OUR PEOPLES THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER IN AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

- WE WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THESE PROPOSALS IN MORE DEPTH DURING FOREIGN MINISTER SHEVARDNADZE'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES. WE COULD ALSO DISCUSS THEM THROUGH EMBASSIES. WHERE NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE WE ARE PREPARED TO EXCHANGE SPECIAL NEGOTIATING TEAMS TO DISCUSS THESE PROPOSALS IN CAPITALS.

- WE DO NOT REGARD THESE PROPOSALS AS NECESSARILY AN EXHAUSTIVE OR FINAL LIST OF THE AREAS WHERE WE THINK AGREEMENT BETWEEN US IS POSSIBLE AT THE NEXT SUMMIT. WE ARE CERTAINLY PREPARED TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY ANY SUGGESTIONS YOU MIGHT HAVE FOR ADDITIONAL TOPICS OF POSSIBLE DISCUSSION IN THE BILATERAL AREA.

- WE ARE ALSO PREPARED TO WORK WITH YOU TO CONCLUDE MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS. WE THINK THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN'S MOST RECENT PROPOSALS, TOGETHER WITH THOSE OF GENERAL SECRETARY GORBACHEV OF JANUARY 16, OPEN UP A PROMISING PROSPECT FOR AN EARLY INF AGREEMENT. WE ARE PREPARED TO WORK WITH YOU IN THIS CHANNEL AND THROUGH OUR DELEGATIONS IN GENEVA TO ACHIEVE SUCH AN ACCORD.

- WE ARE PLEASED THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO AGREE ON A VENUE FOR A DISCUSSION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS PROLIFERATION, AND HOPE THAT WE WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING

DIFFERENCES ON MODALITIES FOR TALKS ON RISK REDUCTION CENTERS. THESE ARE BOTH AREAS WHERE WE THINK PROGRESS COULD BE POSSIBLE BEFORE THE NEXT SUMMIT. AND OF COURSE WE WISH TO CONTINUE OUR ON-GOING DISCUSSION OF REGIONAL ISSUES.

- THE FOLLOWING ARE THE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS WE WISH TO MAKE REGARDING BILATERAL INITIATIVES:

BILATERAL REVIEW COMMISSION

-CONSULAR AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES HAVE BECOME AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR RELATIONSHIP. THESE ISSUES RUN THE GAMUT FROM DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR IMMUNITIES TO MISSION SECURITY. THEY COMPRISE THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF OUR RELATIONSHIP. AS IN ALL RELATIONSHIPS, PROBLEMS CROP UP FROM TIME TO TIME. IN THE PAST, WE HAVE TENDED TO REACT TO THESE PROBLEMS AS THEY ARISE.

- THIS APPROACH HAS THE OBVIOUS SHORTCOMING THAT IT EMPHASIZES PUTTING OUT FIRES RATHER THAN LONG-TERM PROBLEM SOLVING. RATHER THAN REACTING TO PROBLEMS AFTER THEY HAPPEN WE THINK IT WOULD BE MORE USEFUL TO TRY TO PREVENT PROBLEMS FROM ARISING.

- WE THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR US TO GET TOGETHER EITHER ANNUALLY OR SEMI-ANNUALLY FOR ONE OR TWO WEEKS TO DISCUSS SUCH CONSULAR AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES THAT HAVE ARISEN. THIS COULD BE DONE BY CREATING A BILATERAL REVIEW COMMISSION WHICH COULD MEET ALTERNATIVELY IN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON. SETTING ASIDE TIME TO DISCUSS THESE ISSUES ON A REGULAR BASIS WOULD ENABLE US TO CONSIDER TRENDS, FOCUS ON PROBLEM AREAS AND PROPOSE SOLUTIONS.

- THESE MEETINGS MIGHT LEAD TO AGREEMENTS TO HOLD SUBSEQUENT NEGOTIATIONS, SUCH AS RENEWED CONSULAR REVIEW TALKS.

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
SECRETARIAT

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- WE WOULD PROPOSE TO HEAD OUR SIDE OF THE BRC AT THE LEVEL OF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OR OFFICE DIRECTOR. WE ARE PREPARED TO WORK WITH YOU TO REFINE THE DETAILS OF THE COMMISSION WITH A VIEW TOWARD ANNOUNCING ITS FORMATION AT THE NEXT SUMMIT.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

- AS YOU RECALL, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE US COAST GUARD AND THE SOVIET MINISTRY OF THE MARITIME FLEET MET IN JANUARY 1985, TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF REACHING AN AGREEMENT TO COORDINATE OUR SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS AT SEA.

- WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO TRY TO REACH SUCH AN AGREEMENT IN 1986. THIS WOULD BE A LOGICAL FOLLOW-UP TO THE AGREEMENT WE REACHED LAST YEAR TO IMPROVE NORTH PACIFIC AIR SAFETY.

- RECENT RESCUES BY SOVIET VESSELS OF US AIRMAN OFF THE FLORIDA COAST AND OF US FISHERMAN IN THE PACIFIC, TOGETHER WITH OUR SUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO EVACUATE AN AILING SOVIET CITIZEN FROM A SOVIET FISHING VESSEL NEAR THE CALIFORNIA COAST, DEMONSTRATE THAT WE CAN WORK TOGETHER IN THIS AREA. A SAR AGREEMENT WOULD HELP MAKE THESE EFFORTS MORE EFFECTIVE AND WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT SIGN OF OUR ABILITY TO COOPERATE IN HUMANITARIAN FIELDS.

- WE ARE PREPARED TO HAVE ANOTHER ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT AT AN EARLY DATE.

RADIO NAVIGATION

- THE US COAST GUARD AND SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES HELD TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW IN THE SPRING OF 1985 TO ATTEMPT TO COORDINATE THE FREQUENCIES OF OUR RESPECTIVE RADIO NAVIGATION SYSTEMS.

- WE THINK THESE DISCUSSIONS WERE USEFUL AND DEMONSTRATED THAT THE POTENTIAL EXISTS TO REACH AGREEMENT ON MUTUALLY COMPATIBLE PROCEDURES.

- WE ARE PREPARED TO HOLD ANOTHER ROUND OF EXPERT DISCUSSIONS IN THIS AREA IN WASHINGTON THIS SPRING.

EXCHANGE OF COAST GUARD VESSEL VISITS

- WE THINK THAT AN EXCHANGE OF VISITS BETWEEN A US COAST GUARD VESSEL TO A SOVIET PORT AND AN EQUIVALENT SOVIET VESSEL TO A US PORT WOULD BE A USEFUL STEP IN ENCOURAGING UNDERSTANDING AND MARITIME CONTACTS.

- IT WOULD BE A VISIBLE SIGN OF THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE IN OUR MUTUAL RELATIONS AND WOULD BE A NATURAL COMPLEMENT TO AGREEMENTS ON SAR AND RADIO NAVIGATION.

BILATERAL EXCHANGES AGREEMENTS

- WE ARE PLEASED WITH THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE IN BILATERAL EXCHANGES. THE CULTURAL AGREEMENT IS OFF TO A GOOD START AND WE WILL SHORTLY BE MEETING WITH YOU IN MOSCOW TO BEGIN WORK ON IMPLEMENTING THE PEOPLE TO PEOPLE EXCHANGE INITIATIVES AGREED IN GENEVA.

- WE ARE ALSO WORKING TOGETHER TO EXPAND BILATERAL COOPERATION IN S&T FIELDS. HUD SECRETARY PIERCE AND EPA ADMINISTRATOR THOMAS HAD USEFUL VISITS TO THE USSR LAST YEAR WHERE WE AGREED TO EXPAND COOPERATION IN THE HOUSING AND THE ENVIRONMENT AGREEMENTS.

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SECSTATE WASHDC 4070

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- WE ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR OTHER AREAS IN WHICH WE CAN EXPAND OUR COOPERATION. AT THIS TIME TRANSPORTATION AND SPACE EXPLORATION SEEM MOST PROMISING.

- AGREEMENTS IN THESE AREAS WOULD COVER GAPS IN OUR CURRENT COOPERATION. WE FOUND OUR COOPERATION IN THESE AREAS TO HAVE BEEN USEFUL IN THE PAST; WE THINK YOUR SCIENTISTS WOULD AGREE.

- WE WERE DISAPPOINTED THAT YOU WERE NOT PREPARED LAST YEAR TO ENTER INTO A SPACE COOPERATION AGREEMENT. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT SUCH COOPERATION WOULD HAVE BENEFITS FOR BOTH SIDES, ESPECIALLY AS SPACE SCIENCE AND EXPLORATION BECOMES MORE SOPHISTICATED AND EXPENSIVE.

- OUR AGREEMENTS ON CIVIL AVIATION AND NORTH PACIFIC AIR SAFETY DEMONSTRATE THE UTILITY OF EXTENDING OUR COOPERATION IN THE TRANSPORTATION FIELD. WE ARE READY TO ARRANGE A MEETING OF EXPERTS TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE AREAS OF COOPERATION.

5. TALKING POINTS ON HUMANITARIAN ISSUES

- I WANT TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE HUMANITARIAN ISSUES. WE HAVE FREQUENTLY STRESSED THAT THIS IS AN AREA OF BILATERAL RELATIONS WHERE PROGRESS IS ESSENTIAL IF OUR OVERALL RELATIONSHIP IS TO DEVELOP NORMALLY.

- WE HAVE NOTED WITH PLEASURE THE RESOLUTION OF A NUMBER OF LONG-STANDING HUMANITARIAN CASES SINCE THE GENEVA SUMMIT. SUCH ACTIONS CANNOT FAIL BUT HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON OUR RELATIONSHIP.

- AT THE SAME TIME, WE SHOULD POINT OUT THAT MANY MORE SUCH CASES REMAIN OUTSTANDING. THE HUMANITARIAN REASONS FOR RESOLVING THESE CASES ARE NO LESS COMPELLING THAN FOR THE CASES ALREADY RESOLVED.

- I WOULD LIKE TO MENTION SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS IN PARTICULAR:

-- GALINA GOLTZMAN AND HER DAUGHTER OLGA HAVE BEEN SEPARATED FROM ANATOLY MICHELSON, THEIR HUSBAND AND FATHER, FOR THIRTY YEARS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS CASE PRESENTS PARTICULAR DIFFICULTY FOR YOU BECAUSE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF MICHELSON'S DEPARTURE FROM THE USSR. NEVERTHELESS, YOU HAVE MADE EXCEPTIONS IN SUCH CASES IN THE PAST AND WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT THESE PEOPLE HAVE SUFFERED ENOUGH. HOLDING A BLIND AND ELDERLY WOMAN AND A DAUGHTER WHO HAS NOT SEEN HER FATHER SINCE INFANCY CAN SERVE NO RATIONAL PURPOSE.

-- YURIY BALOVENKOV HAS BEEN SEEKING TO LEAVE THE USSR SINCE HIS MARRIAGE TO A US CITIZEN IN 1978. HIS DESPERATION HAS DRIVEN HIM TO CONDUCT TWO LIFE THREATENING HUNGER STRIKES. WE UNDERSTAND THAT REASONS OF STATE SECURITY HAVE NOT RECENTLY BEEN CITED AS THE BASIS FOR A DENIAL OF EXIT PERMISSION. BALOVLENKOV HAS BEEN AWAITING A REPLY TO HIS LATEST APPLICATION FOR TEN MONTHS. THE SOVIET UNION EVENTUALLY WAS ABLE TO LET IRINA MCCLELLAN LEAVE, AND WE HOPE THAT THE BALOVENKOV CASE COULD BE RESOLVED SIMILARLY. HE HAS TWO DAUGHTERS LIVING IN THE UNITED STATES. ONE HAS NEVER SEEN HIM. IS THERE ANY REAL REASON WHY THIS FAMILY CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO LIVE TOGETHER IN THE COUNTRY OF THEIR CHOICE?

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PAGE 05 OF 05 SECSTATE WASHDC 4070 DTG: 012134Z MAR 86 PSN: 052534

--SERGEY PETROV MARRIED VIRGINIA JOHNSON IN FEBRUARY 1981. HE HAS BEEN SEEKING TO JOIN HER IN THE UNITED STATES SINCE THEN. PETROV ALSO ENGAGED IN A HUNGER STRIKE IN 1982, AND HAS BEEN DENIED EXIT PERMISSION FIVE TIMES SINCE THEN. NO REASON WAS GIVEN FOR LATEST DENIAL IN AUGUST 1985. PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS TAKEN A PERSONAL INTEREST IN THIS CASE. WE HOPE YOU WILL TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY NOW TO ALLOW PETROV TO JOIN MS. JOHNSON IN THE UNITED STATES.

-- MATVEY FINKEL AND SUSAN GRAHAM WERE ALLOWED TO MARRY IN FEBRUARY 1981. BECAUSE FINKEL HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN EXIT PERMISSION, HIS WIFE HAS TAKEN A JOB AS A NANNY IN MOSCOW IN ORDER TO BE NEAR HIM. HE WAS MOST RECENTLY DENIED EXIT PERMISSION IN JANUARY 1986. GRAHAM IS A RESIDENT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON. HER CONGRESSMAN, TOM FOLEY, IS THE MAJORITY WHIP OF THE U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND HE HAS EXPRESSED SERIOUS INTEREST IN THIS CASE, MOST RECENTLY DURING THE VISIT TO THE USSR LAST YEAR OF THE O' NEILL DELEGATION.

-- VLADIMIR FELTSMAN HAS BEEN TRYING UNSUCCESSFULLY TO EMIGRATE FROM THE SOVIET UNION SINCE 1979. WHEN HE FIRST APPLIED FOR EXIT PERMISSION HE WAS A RISING YOUNG

CONCERT PIANIST, WHOSE NAME WAS KNOWN THROUGHOUT EUROPE. HE HAS NOT BEEN ALLOWED TO PERFORM SINCE. PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS ALSO TAKEN A SPECIAL INTEREST IN HIS CASE. HE RAISED IT WITH GENERAL SECRETARY GORBACHEV IN GENEVA AND AGAIN IN HIS DECEMBER 7 LETTER TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY..

- IN ADDITION TO THESE INDIVIDUAL HUMANITARIAN CASES, LET ME TOUCH ON THE BROADER ISSUE OF EMIGRATION BY GROUPS SUCH AS JEWS, ARMENIANS OR PENTECOSTALS. I KNOW THAT WE HAVE VERY DIFFERENT VIEWS ON THIS TOPIC. AS YOU KNOW, PRESIDENT REAGAN DISCUSSED THIS SUBJECT AT SOME LENGTH WITH GENERAL SECRETARY GORBACHEV.

- WE HAVE AGREED TO HANDLE THIS SUBJECT BY WORKING TOGETHER QUIETLY WHICH IN OUR VIEW IS THE BEST WAY TO RESOLVE OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES. YOU SHOULD BE UNDER NO ILLUSION, HOWEVER, ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE THAT WE, THE CONGRESS AND THE ENTIRE AMERICAN PEOPLE ATTACH TO THIS SUBJECT.

- I WOULD BE LESS THAN CANDID IF I DID NOT TELL YOU THAT WE REMAIN DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED ABOUT THE LOW LEVELS OF EMIGRATION FROM THE USSR. IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR US TO SUSTAIN THE NECESSARY PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR IMPROVED US-SOVIET RELATIONS IN THE ABSENCE OF A SIGNIFICANT UPWARD TREND IN EMIGRATION LEVELS.

- THE PRESIDENT HAS STATED HIS VIEW OF THE NEED FOR BOLDNESS IN RESOLVING THESE ISSUES. WE HAVE NOTED AND ARE APPRECIATIVE OF THE PROGRESS IN RESOLVING INDIVIDUAL HUMANITARIAN CASES. WE HOPE THAT YOU HAVE NOTED THAT WE HAVE TAKEN STEPS OF OUR OWN IN THE FIELD OF LICENSES FOR OIL AND GAS TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT. WE ARE PREPARED TO MATCH FURTHER SOVIET STEPS WITH ADDITIONAL STEPS OF OUR OWN. SHULTZ
BT

NOONIS

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CONNIE MACK
13TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

FILE
MICHELSON
DIVIDED
SPOUSES
→

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE
504 CANNON BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2536

DISTRICT OFFICES:
GEORGE W. WHITEHURST
FEDERAL BUILDING
SUITE 108
FORT MYERS, FL 33901
(813) 334-4424

2015 SIESTA DRIVE
SUITE 204
SARASOTA, FL 33579
(813) 366-9482

March 14, 1986

Mikhail Gorbachev
General Secretary
Central Committee of the
Communist Party U.S.S.R.
The Kremlin, Moscow
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Dear Secretary Gorbachev:

We, the undersigned Members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, call upon you to demonstrate your concern for human rights and dignity by allowing the family of Mr. Anatoly Michelson to emigrate to the United States.

Mr. Michelson left the Soviet Union in 1956 with the expectation that his family would be allowed to follow. But after thirty years of pleading with Soviet authorities, his wife Galina, his daughter Olga, and his grandson Anatoly, whom he has never seen, are still prevented from leaving the Soviet Union.

Mrs. Michelson is 65 years old and legally blind. Mr. Michelson suffers from life-threatening heart disease and diabetes. What purpose can be served by continuing the cruel separation of this elderly couple and their family? No other Soviet-American family has been separated for so long. Surely, they have suffered enough, and the time to set aside any political or legal considerations is at hand.

The people of the United States have been encouraged by the recent release of nine Soviet spouses of American citizens and your recent statement that more emigration of spouses will be allowed. Americans hold respect for the family in the highest regard. We hope that you will use this opportunity to let the American people know that you value the sanctity of the family and that you will exercise compassion and humanitarian concern in this tragic situation.

We appreciate your interest in this important matter.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Donnell
Spears

Paula Hawkins
Sen. Paula Hawkins

Connie Mack
Connie Mack, M.C.

Elena is sewing etc -
to make sure other dis-
spouse approve - will
send out middle of
next week - 14 Mar

29

358961

ID # _____

WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET
from ORM AF 8532728

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 85/10/19


Mrs. Balovlenkov

Name of Correspondent: Mr. Mrs. Miss "The Divided Spouses"

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Group wishes President to speak with Gorbachev about their spouses who have been denied permission to leave Russia.

ROUTE TO:

Office/Agency	(Staff Name)
	CoWals
	<u>DoS</u>

ACTION	DISPOSITION		
	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
ORIGINATOR	85/11/01	AA A	85/01/28 AB
Referral Note:			
	85/11/05		C 86/01/15 AB
Referral Note:	<u>for w/11/05 (return to S. Lopez)</u>		
Referral Note:			
Referral Note:			
Referral Note:			

ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action
- C - Comment/Recommendation
- D - Draft Response
- F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure

- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

- A - Answered
- B - Non-Special Referral
- C - Completed
- S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: DBS sent response to Mrs. Y. K. 11/13/85

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

O (301) 955-0527

H (301) 342-2758

31

January 28, 1986

Dear Mrs. Balovlenkov:

I have been asked to reply to your October 17 letter to President Reagan concerning the efforts of all of you to be reunited with your Soviet spouses. I regret the delay in responding to your correspondence, but we have tried to be as fully responsive as we can. We encourage you to share this reply with the other divided spouses. The President is keenly aware of the serious emotional and financial hardships you have suffered because of the Soviet Government's refusal to permit your spouses to be reunited with you.

Both publicly and through private diplomatic channels, we have expressed our strong concern about the Soviet refusal to allow your spouses to emigrate. We have made clear to the Soviets that if they are serious about improving relations with the United States, they will have to resolve these cases. We insist that any improvement in U.S.-Soviet relations must be accompanied by an improvement in this area.

We raised the issue of divided spouses in our discussions with the Soviets in Geneva. The talks were frank and hopefully laid a constructive groundwork for future progress.

We were encouraged by the Soviet decision on the eve of the summit to allow several Soviet spouses to emigrate, and we are pleased for those who received this good news. However, almost 20 Soviet spouses continue to be denied exit permission. Much work remains to be done, both in diplomatic channels and through your efforts to publicize your plight.

Please be assured that we will continue to make every effort to convince the Soviets to comply with their obligations under the Helsinki Final Act. President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev have agreed "on the importance of resolving humanitarian cases in a spirit of cooperation." This agreement will be given real meaning when all of you are finally able to live in peace together with your Soviet spouses.

If we can be of assistance to you in this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Again, we regret the delay in this reply.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins
Special Assistant to the President
and Director of Correspondence

Mrs. Yuri Balovlenkov
17 South Conkling Street
Baltimore, MD 21224

AVH:DOS:DE:AVH:ebp (1AVH)

January 28, 1986

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please do not hesitate to contact us.

Again, we regret the delay in this reply.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins
Special Assistant to the President
and Director of Correspondence

Mrs. Yuri Balovlenkov
17 South Conkling Street
Baltimore, MD 21224

AVH:DOS:DE:AVH:ebp (1AVH)

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

January 15, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR SALLY KELLEY

FROM:

WILLIAM F. MARTIN

*Paul Cleveland
for*

SUBJECT:

Letter to President from Balovlenkov re Spouses
Denied Permission to Leave Russia

We have reviewed and concur, with minor annotated changes, with the draft response (Tab A) for ~~the President's~~ signature to Mrs. Balovlenkov and The Divided Spouses.

Attachment:

Tab A Draft Response

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

FOR: PAT YOUNG

Please close out I.D.# 35894

Agency DOS Date 86/01/15

Disposition Cotting Chuck

It was referred to
for RAD/RAR/RAA/

Mike Anne -
one edit

Agency unable to loc:

read "insist"

Please send me a one
for I.D.#

Tran CS
- Tran

Awaiting all materia

Awaiting incoming ma
agency.

*PS. Per DOS - she was
not one of the three
recent reunited families -*

Awaiting copy of age...

Send to Central Files.

Return to me when updated.

Agency indicates action will
be delayed for I.D.#

Thank You!!!

Sally E. Kelley
Sally E. Kelley

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

0089

37

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8532728

Date 26 DEC 1985

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

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: The Divided Spouses (Mrs. Balovlenkov)

Date: October 17, 1985 Subject: Group wishes president to speak with

Gorbachev about their spouses who have been denied permission to leave Russia.

WH Referral Dated: November 5, 1985 NSC ID# 358961
(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:

Reply should be sent to Elena Balovlenkov, acting spokeswoman for the Divided spouses. Sandra Gubin of Kalamazoo has had her case resolved.

Nicholas Platt
Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

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

REFERRAL

NOVEMBER 5, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF:
WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 358961

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED OCTOBER 17, 1985

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM:

"THE DIVIDED SPOUSES"
122 WEST CROSSTOWN PARKWAY
KALAMAZOO MI 49001SUBJECT: GROUP WISHES PRESIDENT TO SPEAK WITH
GORBACHEV ABOUT THEIR SPOUSES WHO HAVE BEEN
DENIED PERMISSION TO LEAVE RUSSIAPROMPT 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 HOUSESALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

October 17, 1985

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

358961

Dear President Reagan:

We are Americans married to Soviet citizens who have repeatedly been denied permission to come live with us in the United States. We are writing to request that these instances of Soviet violations of the rights of American citizens be raised in the strongest possible terms in your meeting with General Secretary Gorbachev.

We understand that the Soviets are most reticent about discussing human rights issues at the upcoming meeting. However, the divided spouses are more than a human rights issue. Soviet behavior in this matter is a direct action against citizens of the United States, and thus, this issue is part and parcel of our bilateral relations. As long as the USSR violates the rights of American citizens, it is hard, if not impossible, to believe that they are serious about wanting an improvement in relations with the United States. Further, if the shoe were on the other foot and it was the United States which was violating the rights of 24 Soviet citizens, (however improbable that may be), it is quite possible that the General Secretary would refuse to meet with you until the matter was resolved. Or, if the General Secretary would agree to such a meeting, you can be sure that he would give the issue a high priority. The Soviet press would launch into a tirade of criticism of the United States for such actions and point to this as an example of how America seeks to increase tensions between our two nations.

One of the foundations of United States - Soviet relations is reciprocity. The Soviet's continued illegal and arbitrary treatment of American citizens when they would not tolerate such actions toward their citizens makes a mockery of the notion of reciprocity, as well as their signature on several international agreements.

Helplessness, anxiety, despair that we will never be allowed to live together dominate the lives of the divided spouses. We waver between strength and apathy, action and depression. We struggle to rear children alone, to make ends meet, to keep open our limited communication with our spouses, to choose between building a future alone in America or being ever poised to return to the Soviet Union for the precious, grudgingly granted weeks or months together the USSR sometimes grants us. Our spouses in the USSR agonize as they wait for years, applying and reapplying for exit visas, only to hear again and again that they are trapped, lonely and empty, forbidden that most basic right - the right to live as a family.

We have appealed to American and Soviet officials, concerned private individuals, public figures, churches, the United Nations, the Red Cross, and other countries' governments. Some have been on hunger strikes, others have staged demonstrations. Our husbands and wives remain, despite these efforts thousands of miles away. We now have come together as a group in the hope that our appeal may be better heard collectively than as isolated individuals.

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter that some of us have sent to General Secretary Gorbachev as part of this effort to act collectively. Because the American spouses are located in various parts of the country, it was not possible to get all their signatures on this letter in time to forward it to the General Secretary. However, we are all united as we now turn to you, our President, for assistance.

Your upcoming meeting with the General Secretary offers the best hope we have had in years that our cases can at last be successfully resolved. We hope that you will not fail to take advantage of this opportunity to demonstrate that the United States government is firm and serious in its commitment to protect the rights of its citizens, as well as its expectation that the USSR will honor its signature on agreements with us, by raising this issue in your meeting with the General Secretary.

We all would be so very grateful for your compassionate and humanitarian efforts to reunite us with our spouses.

Sincerely,

The Divided Spouses

cc: Secretary of State George P. Shultz
John F. Matlock, Jr.
Ken Hillas
Judyt Mandell

The Divided Spouses who signed the letter to General Secretary Gorbachev:

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Baltimore, Maryland 21224

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Elizabeth Condon (Victor Novikov)
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Gohar Rezian (Poghos Rezian)
1426 W. 179th Street, #12
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2175 10th Avenue
Highland Park, New Jersey 08904

Scott Rose (Elena Rose)
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Susan Graham (Matvey Finkel)
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Simon Levin (Tamara Tretyakova)
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Deerfield, Illinois

Keith Braun (Svetlana I. Braun)
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Southfield, MI 48034

Edith Luthi (Michael Iossel)
4 Kathryn Lane, #3
Holliston, Massachusetts 01746

Woodford McClellan (Irina McClellan)
Department of History
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Virginia

Русский Перевод

Сентября 1985

Господину Михаилу Сергеевичу Горбачеву
Генеральному Секретарю Центрального
Комитета КПСС
Кремль, Москва СССР

Дорогой господин Генеральный Секретарь!

Мы, нижеподписавшиеся, граждане Соединенных Штатов, состоящие в браке с гражданами Советского Союза, обращаемся к Вам за помощью по вопросу который для нас так труден-- о воссоединении наших семей.

Много лет наши супруги не могут получить разрешение на выезд из Советского Союза на постоянное жительство в США для воссоединения с нами.

В этом положении находятся менее двадцати семей. Трудно поверить, что воссоединение такой горстки людей со своими мужьями и женами могло бы угрожать безопасности Советского Союза. Мы не можем понять, почему Советские власти так упорно сопротивляются нашему воссоединению.

В этом году отмечается десятая годовщина подписания Заключительного Документа Конференции по Безопасности и Сотрудничеству в Европе. Хочется верить, что дух конференции в Хельсинки не умер, как это выглядит в нашем случае, и то, что происходит с нами является только печальным недоразумением, а не преднамеренной политикой.

Наши супруги не диссиденты, не борцы против Советской системы. Единственное, что они и мы хотим--это воссоединение наших семей в США.

Мы надеемся, что Ваше личное участие в нашей судьбе изменит существующее положение и мы наконец сможем иметь нормальные семьи и быть вместе со своими любимыми.

С полным уважением,

September 1985

His Excellency Mikhail S. Gorbachev
 General Secretary of the Central Committee
 of the CPSU
 The Kremlin
 Moscow, USSR

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We the undersigned, citizens of the United States, married to citizens of the Soviet Union, appeal to you for assistance in the matter which is for us so difficult--reuniting our families.

For many years our spouses have been unable to obtain permission to leave the Soviet Union to join us for permanent residence in the United States.

There are fewer than 20 couples in our circumstances. It is difficult to believe that the reunification of such a handful of people with their husbands and wives could threaten the interests of the Soviet Union. We cannot understand why the Soviet government is so tenaciously opposed to our reunification.

This year marks the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Final Document of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. We wish to believe that the spirit of the Conference in Helsinki is not dead, as it would appear to be in our cases, but that what is happening to us is only a regrettable misunderstanding, and not a deliberate policy.

Our spouses are not dissidents, nor strugglers against the Soviet system. The only thing that they--and we-- want is for our families to be reunited in the United States.

We hope that your personal involvement in our fate will alter the existing situation and that we, at last, will be able to have normal families and be together with our loved ones.

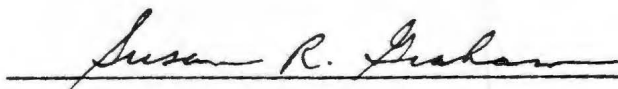
Respectfully,



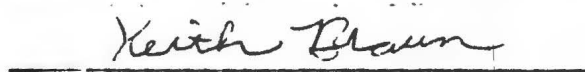
Sandra L. Gubin



Scott Rose



Susan Graham



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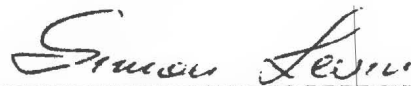
Respectfully,



Fran Pergericht



Sidhan Darrow



Simon Levin



Marv Lou Hulceman

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Moscow, USSR

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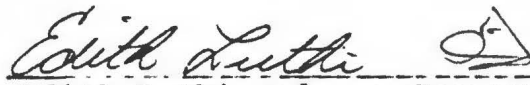
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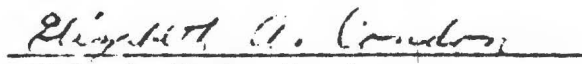
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Respectfully,


Edith Luthi and son Gregory


Elizabeth A. Condon


Robin Rubendunst


Deborah W. Woodcock

September 1985

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Respectfully,

Gohar Rezian
Gohar Rezian

Michael R. Smith
Michael R. Smith

Elena K. Balovlenkov & children
Elena Balovlenkov and children

Woodford McClellan
Woodford McClellan

The signatories to this letter can be reached at the following addresses:

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5

cc: Ms. Raisa Gorbachev
c/o Mikhail S. Gorbachev
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Moscow, USSR

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Mr. A. M. Zinshenko
Head of Moscow OVIR
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Mr. Lev Zaikov
First secretary of the Leningrad Communist Party
Oblastnoy Komitet KPSS
Leningrad, USSR