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THE WHITE HOUS WASHINGTON

Covey's offe. called back.

1) Walt Raymond - Proj offe. re: Afghan visit

z) Afghan Proc. - PKg. Sent forward today. Sent tagged to Dave Chew. MEMORANDUM FOR HOWARD TEICHER, NSC Sery 3/3 Jock Cobern Jock it was it with the service of the s

SUBJECT:

Request for President to meet with Afghan Freedom Fighters, March 20, 1985

Howard, I would appreciate your views on the attached request from Kmxmx the Committee for a Free Afghanistan. I would appreciate your thoughts by COB February 28. Thanks.

Booking of my must letter is in Start file 3 Post reminder to bug Teichais office y no response ky March 1.

### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 20, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR HOWARD TEICHER, NSC

FROM:

LINAS KOJELIS, OPL

SUBJECT:

Request for President to Meet with Afghan

Freedom Fighters, March 20, 1985

Howard, I would appreciate your views on the attached request from the Committee for a Free Afghanistan. I would like to receive your thoughts and comments by COB February 28. Thanks.

gen. Ruberts 654-1511 FEB 12 1985

### Committee for a Free Afghanistan

(Member of the Coalition for Peace through Strength)

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

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Nathan Hale Foundation
Sen. Paul Tsongas (D-MA)

Free Congress Foundation
Ur. Jack Wheeler
Freedom Research Foundation

February 8, 1985

President Ronald Reagan The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

In regard to the State of the Union address presented last Wednesday evening, we at the Committee for a Free Afghanistan would like to express our gratitude for the support that you have bestowed upon the freedom fighters around the world. We all recognize that they continue to struggle for not only their freedom but ours as well.

Mr. President, as you recall, March 21st is Afghanistan Day. The Committee for a Free Afghanistan will be hosting a day-long forum in Congress, co-sponsored by a bi-partisan joint coalition of members from both houses. The forum will be followed by a reception.

In the past, you have always honored us by having your representatives participate in our Afghanistan Day events to express your own demonstrated commitment to the cause of freedom. May we count on your support again this year?

Joining us from Afghanistan will be several of the top commanders of the freedom fighters. Brigadier Rahmatullah Safi, senior military commander of the freedom fighters, Commander Wali Khan, leader of the freedom fighters in Kabul, Hassan Gailani, chief military advisor to the Afghan freedom fighters of NIFA and Dr. Khalid Akram, a freedom fighter-physician who attended medical school in Kabul by day while clandestinally treating freedom fighters at night. All aspects of the Soviet war against a valiant race of people fighting desperately to regain what is rightfully theirs--their right to freedom and self-determination--will be covered.

It would be a great honor for these commanders to meet with you. May we request a meeting on the 20th of March and a statement in behalf of the people of Afghanistan on your weekly radio broadcast? It would serve as a powerful exercise of leadership on your part, reminding the American people of the moral and strategic imperatives calling for our support of the Afghan freedom fighters.

Your contributions are tax-deductible

And it would drive home to the Soviets that we won't forget or ignore their barbaric, imperialistic behavior. And the Afghans will know that you haven't forgotten them.

Your continued support is vital to the survival of these people, their nation, and the right to freedom and self-determination.

We look forward to a continued warm relationship with your Administration, and please know that we are at your service.

Best wishes,

Karen M Kay

Milan M. Gen. Poberts, Ret. Com Har for Fra Afglansta little to Fait W. o Dead letter -D Date of letter 2-3 weeks ago. - Photo of persident - Morhejaden Ceden Do hue now ED 215+ of March - 546-7577. waiting for raply Break for from NSC on tring

#### AFGHANISTAN DAY, 1985

# BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA A PROCLAMATION

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

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

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

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

Reports of Soviet atrocities and human rights violations are increasingly gaining the attention of the world's public. Respected organizations such as the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Amnesty International, and Helsinki Watch have recently released studies detailing the terror that the

Soviets and the Karmal regime regularly inflict on the people of Afghanistan. Karmal's tenuous, and brutal, hold on power continues only because his rule is supported by more than 100,000 Soviet occupation troops.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ronald Ragan

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## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

March 21, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR FAITH WHITTLESEY

FROM:

LINAS KOJELIS

SUBJECT:

Afghanistan Day Proclamation

Faith, I recommend no changes on the Afghanistan Day Proclamation as drafted.

start file

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## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON



Document No. 245031

March 20, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BOB KIMMITT, NSC FRED FIELDING ALFRED H. KINGON M. B. OGLESBY JACK SVAHN LEE VERSTANDIG FAITH WHITTLESEY

ED ROLLINS

FRED RYAN (FYI)

ROC

FROM:

Duncan Clark
(for) ANNE HIGGINS
18-OEOB/Ext. 7610

SUBJECT:

(DRAFT PROCLAMATION)
Afghanistan Day, 1985

Attached for your review is the above mentioned proclamation designating March 21, 1985, as "Afghanistan Day, 1985."

It was submitted by the Department of State and a couple of minor editorial changes have made by this office -- as noted on the draft.

IMMEDIATE ATTENTION REQUIRED. WRITTEN response required by no later than 10:00 a.m., THURSDAY, MARCH 21.

Thank you.

cc: Ron Geisler



#### **EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT** OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

March 20, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

SUBJECT:

COUNSEL TO THE DIRECTOR MI

AFGHANISTAN DAY 1985

Attached, for your consideration, is a proposed proclamation which would designate March 21, 1985, as Afghanistan Day.

The proposed proclamation was prepared by the Department of State and has been retyped in this office solely as to format.

Issuance of the proposed proclamation is urged by the State Department.

The proposed proclamation has the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Attachment

# BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA A PROCLAMATION

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

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The year 1984 was an especially hard one for the Afghans.

The Soviets have become frustrated with their inability to crush the spirit of the Afghan Freedom Fighters, and are increasingly turning their military might against the civilian population of the country. Reports of Soviet atrocities and human rights violations are increasingly gaining the attention of the world's public. Respected organizations such as the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Amnesty International, and Helsinki Watch have recently released studies detailing the terror which

the Soviets and the Karmal government regularly inflict on the people of Afghanistan. Karmal's tenuous, and brutal, hold on power continues only because his rule is supported by more than 100,000 Soviet troops.

United States policy on Afghanistan remains clear and consistent. We are seeking a negotiated end to the Afghanistan conflict based on the conditions spelled out six times in resolutions endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

These resolutions, passed by the overwhelming majority of the world's Nations, call for the immediate withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan; reaffirm the right of the Afghan people to determine their own form of government choose their economic, political, and social system; reiterate that the preservation of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, and nonaligned character of Afghanistan is essential for a peaceful solution of the problem; and call for the creation of the conditions which would enable the Afghan refugees to return voluntarily to their homes in safety and honor.

I call on the new Soviet leadership to reinvigorate the United Nations negotiating process, and to agree to a withdrawal timetable for their forces so that a negotiated settlement can be reached which will bring peace to the war-torn Afghan homeland.

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

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without foreign interference. Let us therefore resolve to pay tribute to the brave Afghan people by observing March 21, 1985, as Afghanistan Day. Let us pledge our continuing admiration for their cause and their perserverance, and lend our support to the Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this

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