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Folder Title:

Eleanor Roosevelt Speech [1]

Staff Office-Individual:

Speechwriting-Orzulak, Paul

Original OA/ID Number:

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. note	Phone No. (1 page)	12/05/1999	P6/b(6)
002. statement	re: Draft President William Jefferson Clinton remarks to the Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Awards (6 pages)	12/03/1999	P5
003. memo	Address (Partial); Phone No. (Partial) (1 page)	12/02/1999	P6/b(6)
004. email	Personal (1 page)	12/03/1999	P6/b(6)
005. email	To NSC Speechwriters from Steven J. Naplan. Subject: Ramadan (1 page)	12/04/1999	P5

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Speechwriting (Paul Orzulak)
OA/Box Number: 4023

FOLDER TITLE:

Eleanor Roosevelt Speech [1]

2008-0702-F

jm209

RESTRICTION CODES

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

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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

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OFFICE: NSC Speech

PREPARED BY: *Orzulik*

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BOX NUMBER

4023



The President's Interagency Council on Women

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
Honorary Chair

Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright
Chair

Secretary of Health and Human Services
Donna Shalala, Immediate Past Chair

DATE: Dec. 2

TO: Paul Orzulak

ORGANIZATION: _____

PHONE: _____

FAX: 456-9370

FROM: Lois Gochbauer

PHONE: (202) 647 - 6306

FAX: (202) 647 - 5337

MESSAGE:

Background talking points for the President's speech on
Human Rights Day Dec. 6. This covers women of Afghanistan.

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): (11)

TALKING POINTS ON WOMEN OF AFGHANISTAN
For Human Rights Day
December 6, 1999

Situation of women and girls in Afghanistan:

- The situation of women and girls in Afghanistan has remained mostly unchanged since 1998. Although there have been reports of relaxation in their implementation, most of the Taliban's gender policies remain in place. In addition, the humanitarian situation for all Afghans, and particularly the most vulnerable women and children, continues to deteriorate as a consequence of the ongoing civil war between the mainly Pashtu Taliban and the mainly minority-dominated Northern Alliance.
- The situation of women and girls deteriorated rapidly with the resumption of fighting between the Afghan factions in 1992. Lawlessness, rape and kidnapping were rampant throughout much of the country, as a welter of local militia commanders dominated the country. When the Taliban appeared on the scene in 1994, they enjoyed a series of rapid victories and were initially popular with many that were tired of the war and general anarchy. When they took over Kabul in 1996, they began to enforce a series of ultra-conservative social strictures, many of which impacted women and their position in society. Although Afghan women traditionally have suffered disadvantages in many areas of Afghan society prior to the civil war, a limited but growing number of Afghan women, particularly in urban areas, worked outside the home in nontraditional roles. There were female lawyers, government officials and doctors in Kabul. These educated women have suffered the most from the Taliban's restrictions.
- The Taliban forbade women to work outside the home, but soon allowed exceptions for female doctors and nurses in restricted circumstances and have since stated that widows could work outside the home to support their families. In urban areas, women were forbidden to leave home unless accompanied by a male relative. Some changes have taken place since then. Women now can appear on the streets alone. However, particularly in cities, when they go out they must wear a traditional long robe called the "burqa" covering them from head to toe. A small mesh covered opening about five inches square provides the only means to see. Some women have been beaten by the Taliban "religious police" on the street for failure to wear the burqa or for not being fully covered.
- The burqa is a traditional women's garment in Afghanistan, and is similar to garments worn in a number of other Muslim countries. Many Afghan women wore the burqa before the Taliban took control. However, wearing the burqa was not part of a legally enforced dress code, as the Taliban have decreed. (The Taliban also enforce a dress code for men, which includes an obligatory wearing beards of a certain length.) Many women in Kabul, as well as most rural women, typically appeared in public wearing scarves that just covered the head. Many rural women continue to be unveiled today.

- The Taliban restricted education for girls, particularly in urban areas such as Kabul. Girls are restricted to receiving religious instruction only, at local mosques. Private home-based schools, which had quietly continued to operate, were ordered closed last year in Kabul. Those that continue to operate do so at the risk of being shut down. Although the Taliban claim that they are not against female education and have requested resources from foreign donors for educating both boys and girls, we have as yet seen no serious effort to provide wider educational opportunities for women and girls and they have yet to accept offers of assistance which are on the table.
- The impact of Taliban restrictions on women is most acutely felt in cities such as Herat and Kabul, where there are some numbers of educated and professional women. In rural areas women do chores, tend animals, gather water and fire wood and, when working in the fields, do not wear burqas and enjoy a greater degree of mobility. At one time before the Taliban takeover, Kabul University had several thousand women students while professional women worked in different capacities in the city. Especially hard hit has been war widows (there are over 30,000 in Kabul alone), many of who are the sole providers of their families. Many were reduced to begging on the streets to feed their children. Partly due to employment restrictions, but particularly as a result of deteriorating economic conditions throughout the country, many women and children have been forced to beg on the streets.
- Women and girls now do have access to medical services and hospitals in Kabul, with the exception of two military hospitals reserved for men. Male doctors can and do treat female patients and many female doctors have returned to work. Women and children patients need not be accompanied by a male relative. Access to medical facilities, however, is impaired for all by a critical and chronic shortage of medicine and equipment. This affects both male and female patients.

U. S. humanitarian efforts for women and girls:

- In FY 1999, the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) provided \$3.14 million in funding to NGOs to carry out health and education projects for Afghan women and girl refugees principally in Pakistan. These contributions were in addition to those made to the South Asia regional programs of the UNHCR and ICRC, which include Afghan women and girls among the beneficiaries.
- In addition to continuing existing health and education programs with Save the Children, Church World Service and the International Rescue Committee (IRC) (\$1.7 million), major new initiatives included an IRC project to expand and improve secondary education for Afghan girls in Peshawar and nearby camps (\$480,632); an IRC project to fund projects of local women's NGOs working to improve women's and girls' health and education (\$349,603); and funding for the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children to place a gender technical adviser in

Peshawar, who will assist other NGOs to improve the treatment of Afghan women in their projects (\$199,301).

- PRM is also providing \$408,000 to the International Medical Corps for the Afghan Women's Refugee Camp project. The project will be implemented with the Afghan NGOs Ibn Sina, Afghan Women's Resource Center and Afghan Women's Clinic. It will provide training and capacity building to mobilize educated Afghan women to meet the health needs of women and children in six refugee camps in the Northwest Frontier Province of Pakistan. It will also provide a donation of medicines and medical supplies to health units in those camps.
- In FY 2000 PRM is continuing to emphasize health and education programs for women and girls in Pakistan and, to the extent possible, in Afghanistan.
- The Bureau of South Asian Affairs, through its Regional Democracy Fund, will provide \$420,000 in FY 1999 funding for NGOs with programs in the Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan and within Afghanistan to improve the civic participation and human rights status of Afghan women. One of these NGOs, the International Human Rights Law Group, will provide training and funding for human rights monitors in the refugee camps and in Afghanistan.

Resettlement of refugees:

- PRM is also strengthening resettlement efforts in FY 2000. As part of an overall increase in the regional ceiling for refugee admissions from the Near East and South Asia, PRM has established a working goal with UNHCR of identifying at least 400 Afghan Women-at-Risk cases (which include a woman head of household and family members in the same household).
- Besides traditional urgent protection and rescue cases, UNHCR will also refer for permanent U.S. resettlement, persecuted ethnic and religious minorities and other groups singled out by the Taliban. Under the expanded program, the U.S. government expects to resettle about 1,500 Afghan women and their families this year, a 500 percent increase over FY 1999.

U. S. diplomatic efforts:

- The efforts of the United Nations have been central to the peace process. The United States supported the efforts of the Secretary General's Special Envoy, Ambassador Lakhdar Brahimi, and the work of the UN Special Mission to Afghanistan. The United States also has participated in the Six-Plus-Two Group's efforts to bring a peaceful negotiated settlement of the conflict and the formation of a broad-based government. Unfortunately, as noted earlier, the Taliban offensive following the July Tashkent Six-Plus-Two meeting has called the group's effectiveness into question.

- The United States consults with other interested governments and continually raises the issue of the Taliban's treatment of women and girls in international fora – e.g., the UN General Assembly, UN Human Rights Commission and the UN Commission on the Status of Women where the U.S. authored a resolution on women in Afghanistan in 1998 and again in 1999.
- We have raised the situation in Afghanistan with countries that have indicated support for the Taliban such as Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Our message to all factions within Afghanistan is the same: cease fire, negotiate, work with the UN, combat narcotics and terrorism and respect international norms of behavior, including rights of women and girls.
- Promoting the observance of human rights, particularly the rights of women and girls, is one of our highest foreign policy priorities in Afghanistan. We continue to press all Afghan factions, including the Taliban and their supporters, in public and private, and at senior levels, to extend humanitarian treatment to women and girls.
- We call upon the Taliban to lift restrictions on the mobility and employment of women and the schooling of girls. We also call upon the Taliban and all factions to abide by internationally accepted norms of human rights, including the rights of women and girls.
- President Clinton raised the issue of respect for the human rights of all Afghan citizens, including women and girls and ethnic minorities, with then Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan during his visit to Washington last year.
- The United States is neutral toward the various Afghan factions fighting in that country, but we are not neutral about their violations of international norms of behavior. We condemn Taliban human rights violations, particularly against women and girls and minorities.
- The United States condemns the Taliban for sheltering international terrorists Usama bin Laden and his network, its facilitating narcotics production and trafficking and its failure to adhere to calls for a cease-fire and negotiations for a political settlement. In July, the President issued an executive order blocking property and banning business transactions with the Taliban. In August, a second executive order placed Taliban-owned Ariana airlines under sanctions. Since then the United States has frozen tens of millions of dollars in Taliban assets. Ariana's operations have been disrupted, thanks to cooperation from India and several other countries.
- In October, a U.S.-initiated resolution passed unanimously by the UN Security Council demands that the Taliban stop sheltering bin Laden and ensure that he is expelled and brought to justice. Since the Taliban failed to expel bin Laden by November 14, their assets are being frozen worldwide and Taliban owned or leased aircraft are now banned from landing and taking off from UN member state

territories. This resolution is the result of the intense efforts of the United States and others and represents a significant step in our campaign to end bin Laden's terrorist activities.

- We have made clear to the world that even if the Taliban expel bin Laden, there are other issues, such as human rights, including the human rights of women and girls, and narcotics, that they must address before they can expect progress towards acceptance by the international community.
- The United States does not recognize the Taliban, the Northern Alliance or any other Afghan faction as the government of Afghanistan. The United States has made it clear that a future government in Afghanistan must be broad based and represent the interests of all Afghans. It must also observe international norms of behavior, such as the respect for human rights, particularly the human rights of women and girls, and actively reject narcotics and terrorism. We believe that only such a government can bring lasting peace to Afghanistan on its territory.
- We want to see the UN Afghan seat occupied by a broad-based, multi-ethnic representative government that respects international norms of behavior, including the human rights of women and girls.

Nazoo Anna School for Afghan Refugee Girls:

- At last year's Human Rights Day ceremony, the First Lady recognized Nazaneen Jabarkel, the founder and principal of the Nazoo Anna School for Afghan Refugee Girls which educates 700 children, mainly girls from five Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan. Today Nazaneen is being supported by an ecumenical effort of Muslim and Christian NGOs. She has begun work with the International Rescue Committee's proposal to make the school a model school and resource center for other students and schools in the Peshawar area, thanks to the efforts of the State Department's Bureau of Population, Migration and Refugees.

Feminist Majority Scholarship program:

- Last March the President met with the Feminist Majority Foundation to discuss the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan. Out of that meeting came the idea of a scholarship program for qualified Afghan refugee girls to attend higher education in the United States. The Feminist Majority has located several colleges that have offered scholarships for this purpose.
- The United States continues to emphasize health and education programs for Afghan girls in Pakistan where it has increased its funding of education programs in refugee camps.

International Human Rights Law Group and Belquis Ahmadi who will be a featured speaker at today's event: (The Law Group should also be recognized by the President and First Lady):

The International Human Rights Law Group (in particular Sameena Nazir and executive director, Gay McDougall) have been instrumental in arranging for the appearance of Ms. Belquis Ahmadi, who will be recognized and, we expect, a featured speaker at today's White House event.

The International Human Rights Law Group is a non-profit organization of human rights and legal professionals engaged in human rights advocacy, litigation and training around the world. It works in 85 countries during its 20-year history. The Women's Rights Advocacy Program of the Law Group supports the work of women's rights activists in Afghanistan, Morocco, Yemen, Pakistan and Turkey to help empower local women's groups and to ensure that women everywhere enjoy the full range of human rights.

Ms. Belquis Ahmadi, an Afghan refugee from Kabul, has courageously worked for women's rights in Afghanistan for over ten years. She currently serves as an Advisor to the International Human Rights Law Group's work on Afghanistan. She has also been a member of the Law Group's delegation to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva in 1998 and 1999 where she eloquently highlighted the violations of women's rights in Afghanistan and appealed to the international community to support the rights of women in Afghanistan.

U. S. government's public condemnation of the Taliban's treatment of women:

U.S. government officials have all condemned the treatment of women and girls of Afghanistan by the Taliban.

President Clinton:

- President Clinton pledged this government's continued assistance to "women suffering under the Taliban regime in Afghanistan" at the December 10, 1998 Human Rights Day ceremony.
- The President pledged U. S. assistance to Afghan women and girls suffering under the Taliban at the March 11, 1998 International Women's Day celebration.
- In a joint statement issued on December 4, 1998, President Clinton and the then Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, "...agreed to work for an immediate end to the conflict in Afghanistan and the restoration of durable peace, stability and normalcy in the country based on the principals of sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs, as well as a political reconciliation and respect for the human rights of all Afghan citizens, including women and girls and ethnic minorities."

- At a Vogue magazine reception on October 26, 1999, the President stated, "And the last thing I would like to say, because no one has mentioned this yet - perhaps the most difficult place in the world for women today is still Afghanistan. And I hope that the fact that we have had two Afghan women here in one of our human rights events, and the fact that we continue to push for changes in the lives of those people and to take as many in as we can here, will someday lead to a change in that country - because no women should have to undergo what those women have experienced."

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton:

- First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has consistently spoken out against the treatment of women by the Taliban in forums around the world. At the Human Rights Day ceremony December 10, 1998, she recognized two Afghan women in the audience for their invaluable work on behalf of women and girls of Afghanistan and said "We cannot allow these terrible crimes against women and girls - and, truly, against all of humanity - to continue with impunity. We must all make it unmistakably clear this terrible suffering inflicted on the women and girls of Afghanistan is not cultural, it is criminal. And we must do everything we can in our power to stop it."
- At the United Nations International Women's Day celebration on March 4, 1999, the First Lady said "There probably is no more egregious and systematic trampling of fundamental rights of women today than what is happening in Afghanistan under the iron rule of the Taliban."
- In her remarks at the United Nations on the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on December 10, 1997, the First Lady spoke about the importance of education for girls and the Taliban's prevention of girls from receiving an education. "Two-thirds of the 96 million people worldwide who can neither read nor write are women. Even now, the Taliban in Afghanistan are blocking girls from attending school. Not only that - they are blocking those, like Emma Bonino, European Commissioner for Humanitarian Affairs, who would speak out on behalf of this injustice."

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright:

- Secretary of State Albright aptly characterized the Taliban's treatment of women in Afghanistan as "despicable" when she visited the Nasir Bagh refugee camp in Pakistan in 1997. She said "We are opposed to their [the Taliban] approach to human rights, to their despicable treatment of women and children, and their lack of respect for human dignity, in a way more reminiscent of the past than the future."
- At the March 11, 1998 International Women's Day celebration, Secretary Albright said "In Afghanistan, all the major factions are guilty of violence against women. But the most powerful, the Taliban, are determined to drag Afghan women from the dawn

of the twenty-first century back to the thirteenth. The only female rights they seem to recognize are the rights to remain silent, and invisible, uneducated and unemployed."

- At her induction into the National Women's Hall of Fame, at Seneca Falls, New York on July 11, 1998, Secretary Albright reaffirmed our government's commitment to the women of Afghanistan when she said "Afghan women and girls have asked for our help. I know because last fall, I sat in a tent in the high mountains of Central Asia and listened to their stories. I'll tell you what I told them. The United States cannot and will not abandon them. We are increasing our support for education and training. And we have made it clear that if leaders of the Taliban or any other Afghan faction want international acceptance, they must treat women not as chattel, but as people; and they must respect human rights."
- At a speech before the California Women's Conference October 5, 1999, Secretary Albright reiterated U.S. support for the women of Afghanistan. "The United States can not and will not abandon you. We are increasing our support for education and training. And we have made it clear that if the leaders of the Taliban or any other Afghan faction want international acceptance, they must treat women not as chattel, but as people; and they must respect human rights."

Theresa Loar, Senior Coordinator for International Women's Issues and Director of the President's Interagency Council on Women:

- Appearing before Senator Dianne Feinstein on March 2, 1998, Ms. Loar said "At the time women are moving forward in most other countries of the world, the Taliban have cruelly pushed Afghan women backwards. Since the 1995 United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, there has been increasing agreement in the international community on the importance of women's human rights. The situation in Afghanistan presents us with a test of this principle. This is a pivotal moment for human rights. If the international community is steadfast and united in its resolve, the human rights of women will prevail and the lives of women and girls in Afghanistan will go forward."

Julia V. Taft, Assistant Secretary for Population, Refugees and Migration:

- Before the Senate Appropriations Committee/Foreign Operations Subcommittee on March 9, 1999, Assistant Secretary Taft commented on the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan. "We have publicly condemned the Taliban's human rights violations in multiple fora – for example the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women, the U.N. Security Council and the Afghan Support Group. But beyond the human rights issue, the Taliban's position on women constrains the delivery of humanitarian assistance, because it challenges the basic humanitarian principle that such assistance must be available equally to beneficiaries, without regard to gender, race or other characteristics."

12/05/99 Final
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**PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE
ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS
WASHINGTON, DC
DECEMBER 6, 1999**

[Acknowledgments: First Lady; Belquis Ahmadi (Bel-KEYS AH-Mah-Dee); members of Congress including Senator Kennedy, Congresswoman Jackson-Lee, Congressman Romero-Barcelo, and former Senator Wofford; members of the Cabinet including Secretary Cuomo and Administrator Alvarez; distinguished honorees; last year's awardees including Congressman John Lewis, Bette Bao Lord, and Dorothy Thomas; distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Let me say Happy Chanukah to everyone now celebrating the festival of lights; and to our Islamic friends preparing for the rise of the new crescent moon, I wish you Ramadan Mubarak.

It occurs to me that at some point tonight, somebody in America will be flipping through channels, and they will come across the speech we just heard. They may stop and listen, or they may not. They may know what the Taliban is, or they may not. But I wonder if that person will stop and think even for a moment that in nearly half the world, doing what Belquis (Bel-KEYS) just did -- simply standing and speaking freely -- could get her arrested, jailed, beaten, and even tortured. And I wonder if that person will realize that until people like Eleanor Roosevelt came along, the rest of the world did not recognize that the right to speak out is an international right.

Sometimes we forget how long it took the world to agree on a common definition -- a universal declaration -- of what freedom actually means. Half a century ago, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights said it in simple words: all human beings are free and equal in dignity and human rights. All have the right to life, liberty, and security. All are endowed with reason and conscience. All have the right to a standard of living adequate to health and well being.

The real genius of the Declaration of Human Rights is that it affirmed that basic human rights are not cultural but universal, that what a country does to people within its own borders is not its business alone, but the business of all of us.

We in the United States know how hard it is to achieve its aspirations. One hundred years ago, Eleanor Roosevelt was a 15 year-old girl growing up in a country where women could not vote. Half a century ago, if the standards of the Universal Declaration were held up to segregated schools and lunch counters, we would have failed the test.

This Century has taught us that even though human rights are endowed by the hand of our Creator, they are ensured by the hearts and hands of men and women who inch by inch have moved our world forward. We are here today to honor five brave Americans whose lives have made a difference.

It is said that when Burke Marshall first met Robert Kennedy, they sat across a table for ten minutes and didn't say a single word. Perhaps Burke can now tell us who spoke first. From that silent moment sprang an extraordinary partnership. As Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights in the Kennedy Administration, he was a bridge between the government and those activists fighting every day to oust Jim Crow. John Lewis, who received this same award last year, once recalled that whenever Martin Luther King or James Farmer needed to talk to somebody in Washington, they would simply say: call Burke. His work was crucial to passing the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act. After he had helped shape a new America, Burke Marshall later worked equally hard to shape young minds at Yale Law School. I know – because Hillary and I were two of them. Burke, thank you for all you have done for our country.

When Leon Sullivan was eight years old, he walked into a grocery store, slapped a nickel on the counter, and said, "I want a Coke." The place being segregated South Carolina, the shopkeeper threw him out. That moment was the beginning of his life's work. The pastor of two churches by the time he was 17, Reverend Sullivan went on to write the Sullivan Principles, which called upon companies around the world to act in a socially responsible fashion. By compelling dozens of businesses to de-segregate their plants in South Africa, his work helped pull down apartheid. Today, as the author of the new Global Sullivan Principles, Leon Sullivan is still changing the world. Reverend, thank you for keeping your eyes on the prize for nearly 80 years.

For those of you who wonder if there is a divine plan guiding our lives, consider this: in Spanish, the name Dolores Huerta means "sorrowful orchard." But if Dolores has her way, her name will be the only sorrowful orchard left in America. Dolores Huerta began her career teaching young migrant children, but she couldn't stand seeing kids come to class hungry. So in 1962, she and Cesar Chavez co-founded the United Farm Workers. While Cesar Chavez worked the fields, Dolores Huerta worked the boardrooms and the state houses -- negotiating contracts and fighting for laws that have lifted the lives of thousands of Americans. In the process, she found time to raise 11 children. Dolores, thank you for all you are still doing to promote the dignity of millions of American workers.

It is no accident that when America opened its arms to Kosovar Albanians earlier this year, one of the first calls that went out was to a Dominican nun in the Fordham section of the Bronx. Scripture tells us that "if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry, and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness and your night will become like noon day." If that's true, there are few people who live their lives in more sunshine than Sister Jean Marshall. Disturbed by the sight of refugee families picking up garbage off the street to feed their children, in 1983, Sister Jean founded St. Rita's Center for Immigrant and Refugee Services. In the days since, it has helped thousands of refugees -- from Vietnam to Cambodia to Bosnia -- find jobs, learn English, and live better lives. Sister Jean, we thank you for all you are doing to make democracy real and dreams come true for thousands fleeing human rights abuses.

Lastly, there are few people who have done more to directly build on Eleanor Roosevelt's work on women's rights around the world than Charlotte Bunch. Gloria Steinem once observed that for every question that comes up regarding women's rights, sooner or later someone asks, "what does Charlotte think?" As the founder of the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers University, she has worked to build a world-wide network of activists. As a result, when the World Conference on Human Rights was held in Vienna in 1993, for the first time, there was a

network in place to raise international awareness of issues like violence against women, and gay and lesbian issues. And for the first time, the UN acknowledged that women's rights are human rights. Today, I think the best way to thank Charlotte Bunch is for the Senate to finally ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

We honor these five Americans today with the thanks of a grateful nation. But if we truly want to honor their work, we must stay committed in the places where the glory has not come yet, and continue to speak out for human rights around the world, from Burma to Cuba to Sudan, from Serbia, to North Korea and Vietnam. We must do so because it is the right thing to do – but also because it is the surest path to a world that is safe, democratic, and free.

In Afghanistan, we have worked with the United Nations to impose sanctions against the Taliban, while ensuring that the Afghan people continue to receive humanitarian assistance. We are Afghanistan's strongest critic but also its largest humanitarian donor, and today we take another step forward. I am pleased to announce that next year, we will spend at least \$2 million to educate and improve the health of Afghan women and children refugees. We are also making an additional \$1.5 million available in emergency aid for those displaced by the recent Taliban offensive. And we are dramatically expanding our resettlement program for women and children who are not safe. But these are temporary solutions. We must continue to work until that day when Afghanistan has a government that reflects the wisdom of its people.

The whole world is also concerned about the plight of innocent people in Chechnya. Two weeks ago at the OSCE Summit in Turkey, I raised the issue directly with President Yeltsin. I made clear that Russia's fight against terrorism is right, but the methods it is using in Chechnya are wrong. We have seen rocket and artillery attacks on largely civilian areas, with heavy losses of innocent life and at least 200,000 people pushed from their homes. Innocent Chechens are bearing the brunt of this war, not just the militants that Russia is fighting. But Russia is also paying a heavy price. With each passing day, Russia is sinking more deeply into a morass that will intensify extremism and diminish its standing in the world.

Another country about which we must continue to express concern is China. China is progressing and opening to the world today in many ways that are welcome, including its entry into the WTO. Yet its progress is still held back by its government's response to those who test the limits of freedom. A troubling recent example is the detention by Chinese authorities of adherents of the Falun Gong movement. Its targets are not political dissidents, and their practices and beliefs are unfamiliar to us. But the principle is the same: freedom of conscience and association. And our interest is the same: seeing China maintain stability and growth at home by meeting, not stifling, the growing demands of its people for openness and accountability.

For all our challenges, we enter the new millennium more hopeful than we have been at any time the past 100 years. The second half of the Century began with delegates from 18 nations including the United States coming together to write the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Century is ending with 18 nations having come together with the United States to reaffirm those basic rights in Kosovo. With progress from Indonesia and East Timor to Nigeria, more than half the world's people now live with governments of their own choosing. We must build on that progress as we enter a new Century.

But we also know this work must begin at home. On the tenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Eleanor Roosevelt dedicated a book called "In Your Hands." On that day, she reminded us that "human rights begin in small places, close to home . . . Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in a larger world." Today, we honor that message by honoring five people whose work close to home has made our world better. May their work inspire all of us for generations to come.

Commander, read the citations.

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

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

1. JS
2. SRB

Scott-Perez, Marilyn L. (NSA)

From: Orzulak, Paul K. (SPCHW)
Sent: Friday, December 03, 1999 4:32 PM
To: @NSA - Natl Security Advisor
Cc: @SPEECH - NSC Speechwriters
Subject: Draft POTUS Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award Remarks [UNCLASSIFIED]



humanrights4.doc

For SRB/JBS:

Here are draft POTUS remarks for the Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Awards ceremony on Monday. Input from @speech, @russia, @multilat, @asia, and State. Will try to get down to five pages. Please get changes to Orzulak. Thanks.

→ Paul
Very good
C

See note

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. statement	re: Draft President William Jefferson Clinton remarks to the Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Awards (6 pages)	12/03/1999	P5

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Speechwriting (Paul Orzulak)
OA/Box Number: 4023

FOLDER TITLE:

Eleanor Roosevelt Speech [1]

2008-0702-F
jm209

RESTRICTION CODES

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

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 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.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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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**PRESIDENT CLINTON AND FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
PRESENT THE 1999 ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS**

Presidential Hall, Eisenhower Executive Office Building

December 6, 1999

Today, President Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will commemorate Human Rights Day and present the 1999 Eleanor Roosevelt Awards to five distinguished human rights leaders. With this week marking the 51st anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the President and First Lady will acknowledge the remarkable work of these U.S. citizens on human rights, both at home and abroad, and will underscore the Administration's commitment to universal human rights. The President will also address the Administration's concerns on current international human rights issues.

President Clinton will be introduced by Belquis Ahmadi, a 27 year old womens' rights activist and relief worker who left Afghanistan when the Taliban regime prevented thousands of women from working and attending school. As part of his remarks, the President will announce new U.S. policy initiatives to address the conditions in Afghanistan, especially those facing women and girls.

The Eleanor Roosevelt Awards for Human Rights were established by President Clinton in 1998 to honor her leading role in advancing the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948. The awards are presented to recognize distinguished U.S. citizens who have made especially meritorious contributions to the promotion and protection of civil and human rights within the U.S. or around the world. The Secretary of State recommends to the President up to 5 individuals for these awards each year. Awards can be made posthumously.

1999 Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award Winners

Charlotte Bunch, of New Brunswick, New Jersey, is founder and Executive Director of the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers University, where she serves as Director and Professor of Urban Studies. She is receiving this award for her efforts to secure the inclusion of gender and sexual orientation on the global human rights agenda. Bunch was a critical leader in calling for the inclusion of women's rights in the work of the UN Conferences on Human Rights in Vienna (1993) and Beijing (1995).

Dolores Huerta, of Central California, is one of the century's most powerful and respected labor movement leaders. She is the co-founder and leader of the United Farm Workers of America and a lifetime supporter of labor and political activism.

Burke Marshall, of New Haven, Connecticut, has demonstrated a life-long commitment to civil rights, including his efforts to dismantle "Jim Crow" as Assistant Attorney General in the Kennedy Administration.

12/06/99 Final
Orzulak

Harnett Babbitt - USAID
Debra Vereen - OSECP
Harris Wolford - Finance
Harold Coe - AS of State
Julia Taft - Population
Isaiah 58:10
NIV

PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE
ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS
WASHINGTON, DC
DECEMBER 6, 1999

Rea Gilman

[Acknowledgments: First Lady; Belquis Ahmadi (Bel-KEYS AH-Mah-Dee); members of Congress including Congresswoman Jackson-Lee and Congressman Romero-Barcelo; members of the Cabinet, including Administrator Alvarez; distinguished awardees; Reverend Jackson; last year's awardees including Bette Bao Lord; distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Let me say Happy Chanukah to everyone now celebrating the festival of lights. And to our Islamic friends preparing for the rise of the new crescent moon, I wish you Ramadan Mubarak.

It occurs to me that at some point tonight, somebody in America will be flipping through channels, and they will come across the speech we just heard. They may stop and listen, or they may not. They may know what the Taliban is, or they may not. But I wonder if that person will stop and think even for a moment that in nearly half the world, doing what Belquis (Bel-KEYS) just did -- simply standing and speaking freely -- could get her arrested, jailed, beaten, and even tortured. And I wonder if that person will realize that until people like Eleanor Roosevelt came along, the rest of the world did not recognize that the right to speak out is an international right.

Sometimes we forget how long it took the world to agree on a common definition -- a universal declaration -- of what freedom actually means. Half a century ago, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights said it in simple words: all human beings are free and equal in dignity and human rights. All have the right to life, liberty, and security. All are endowed with reason and conscience. All have the right to a standard of living adequate to health and well being.

The real genius of the Declaration of Human Rights is that it affirmed that basic human rights are not cultural but universal, that what a country does to people within its own borders is not its business alone, but the business of all of us.

We in the United States know how hard it is to achieve its aspirations. One hundred years ago, Eleanor Roosevelt was a 15 year-old girl growing up in a country where women could not vote. Half a century ago, if the standards of the Universal Declaration were held up to segregated schools and lunch counters, we would have failed the test.

This Century has taught us that even though human rights are endowed by the hand of our Creator, they are ensured by the hearts and hands of men and women who inch by inch have moved our world forward. We are here today to honor five brave Americans whose lives have made a difference.

It is said that when Burke Marshall first met Robert Kennedy, they sat across a table for ten minutes and didn't say a single word. Perhaps Burke can now tell us who spoke first. From that silent moment sprang an extraordinary partnership. As Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights in the Kennedy Administration, he was a bridge between the government and those activists fighting every day to oust Jim Crow. John Lewis, who received this same award last year, once recalled that whenever Martin Luther King or James Farmer needed to talk to somebody in Washington, they would simply say: call Burke. His work was crucial to passing the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act. After he had helped shape a new America, Burke Marshall later worked equally hard to shape young minds at Yale Law School. I know – because Hillary and I were two of them. Burke, thank you for all you have done for our country.

When Leon Sullivan was eight years old, he walked into a grocery store, slapped a nickel on the counter, and said, "I want a Coke." The place being segregated South Carolina, the shopkeeper threw him out. That moment was the beginning of his life's work. The pastor of two churches by the time he was 17, Reverend Sullivan went on to write the Sullivan Principles, which called upon companies around the world to act in a socially responsible fashion. By compelling dozens of businesses to de-segregate their plants in South Africa, his work helped pull down apartheid. Today, as the author of the new Global Sullivan Principles, Leon Sullivan is still changing the world. Reverend, thank you for keeping your eyes on the prize for nearly 80 years.

For those of you who wonder if there is a divine plan guiding our lives, consider this: in Spanish, the name Dolores Huerta means "sorrowful orchard." But if Dolores has her way, her name will be the only sorrowful orchard left in America. Dolores Huerta began her career teaching young migrant children, but she couldn't stand seeing kids come to class hungry. So in 1962, she and Cesar Chavez co-founded the United Farm Workers. While Cesar Chavez worked the fields, Dolores Huerta worked the boardrooms and the state houses -- negotiating contracts and fighting for laws that have lifted the lives of thousands of Americans. In the process, she found time to raise 11 children. Dolores, thank you for all you are still doing to promote the dignity of millions of American workers.

It is no accident that when America opened its arms to Kosovar Albanians earlier this year, one of the first calls that went out was to a Dominican nun in the Fordham section of the Bronx. Scripture tells us that "if you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry, and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness and your night will become like noon day." If that's true, there are few people who live their lives in more sunshine than Sister Jean Marshall. Disturbed by the sight of refugee families picking up garbage off the street to feed their children, in 1983, Sister Jean founded St. Rita's Center for Immigrant and Refugee Services. In the days since, it has helped thousands of refugees -- from Vietnam to Cambodia to Bosnia – find jobs, learn English, and live better lives. Sister Jean, we thank you for all you are doing to make democracy real and dreams come true for thousands fleeing human rights abuses.

Lastly, there are few people who have done more to directly build on Eleanor Roosevelt's work on women's rights around the world than Charlotte Bunch. Gloria Steinem once observed that for every question that comes up regarding women's rights, sooner or later someone asks, "what

does Charlotte think?" As the founder of the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers University, she has worked to build a world-wide network of activists. As a result, when the World Conference on Human Rights was held in Vienna in 1993, for the first time, there was a network in place to raise international awareness of issues like violence against women, and gay and lesbian issues. And for the first time, the UN acknowledged that women's rights are human rights. Today, I think the best way to thank Charlotte Bunch is for the Senate to finally ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

We honor these five Americans today with the thanks of a grateful nation. But if we truly want to honor their work, we must stay committed in the places where the glory has not come yet, and continue to speak out for human rights around the world, from Burma to Cuba to Sudan, from Serbia, to North Korea and Vietnam. We must do so because it is the right thing to do – but also because it is the surest path to a world that is safe, democratic, and free.

In Afghanistan, we have strongly condemned the Taliban's despicable treatment of women and girls. We have worked with the United Nations to impose sanctions against the Taliban, while ensuring that the Afghan people continue to receive humanitarian assistance.

We are Afghanistan's strongest critic but also its largest humanitarian donor, and today we take another step forward. I am pleased to announce that next year, we will spend at least \$2 million to educate and improve the health of Afghan women and children refugees. We are also making an additional \$1.5 million available in emergency aid for those displaced by the recent Taliban offensive. And we are dramatically expanding our resettlement program for women and children who are not safe. But these are temporary solutions. The Taliban must stop violating the rights of women, and must respect the human rights of all its people. We must continue to work until that day when Afghanistan has a government that reflects the wisdom of its people.

The whole world is also concerned about the plight of innocent people in Chechnya. Two weeks ago at the OSCE Summit in Turkey, I raised the issue directly with President Yeltsin. I made clear that Russia's fight against terrorism is right, but the methods it is using in Chechnya are wrong. We have seen rocket and artillery attacks on largely civilian areas, with heavy losses of innocent life and at least 200,000 people pushed from their homes.

I am deeply disturbed by reports that suggest that innocent Chechens will continue to bear the brunt of this war, not just the militants that Russia is fighting. Russia has set a deadline for all inhabitants to leave Grozny or face the consequences – a demand that threatens the lives of old, infirm, and injured people and others who simply cannot leave or are too scared to leave their homes. Russia pays a heavy price for such actions. With each passing day, Russia is sinking more deeply into a morass that will intensify extremism and diminish its standing in the world.

Another country about which we must continue to express concern is China. China is progressing and opening to the world today in many ways that are welcome, including its entry into the WTO. Yet its progress is still held back by its government's response to those who test the limits of freedom. A troubling recent example is the detention by Chinese authorities of

adherents of the Falun Gong movement. Its targets are not political dissidents, and their practices and beliefs are unfamiliar to us. But the principle is the same: freedom of conscience and association. And our interest is the same: seeing China maintain stability and growth at home by meeting, not stifling, the growing demands of its people for openness and accountability.

For all our challenges, we enter the new millennium more hopeful than we have been at any time the past 100 years. The second half of the Century began with delegates from 18 nations including the United States coming together to write the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Century is ending with 18 nations having come together with the United States to reaffirm those basic rights in Kosovo. With progress from Indonesia and East Timor to Nigeria, more than half the world's people now live with governments of their own choosing. We must build on that progress as we enter a new Century.

But we also know this work must begin at home. On the tenth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Eleanor Roosevelt dedicated a book called "In Your Hands." On that day, she reminded us that "human rights begin in small places, close to home . . . Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in a larger world." Today, we honor that message by honoring five people whose work close to home has made our world better. May their work inspire all of us for generations to come.

Lt. Colonel, read the citations.

12/06/99 Final
Orzulak

PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE
ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HUMAN RIGHTS
AWARDS
WASHINGTON, DC
DECEMBER 6, 1999

[Acknowledgments: First Lady; Belquis Ahmadi (Bel-KEYS AH-Mah-Dee); members of Congress including Congresswoman Jackson-Lee and Congressman Romero-Barcelo; members of the Cabinet, including Administrator Alvarez; distinguished awardees; Reverend Jackson; last year's awardees including Bette Bao Lord; distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Let me say Happy Chanukah to everyone now celebrating the festival of lights. And to our Islamic friends preparing for the rise of the new crescent moon, I wish you Ramadan Mubarak.

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**Dolores, thank you for all you are still doing to
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Lt. Colonel, read the citations.

Orzulak, Paul K. (SPCHW)

From: Orzulak, Paul K. (SPCHW)
Sent: Monday, December 06, 1999 10:07 AM
To: Malinowski, Tomasz P. (SPCHW)
Cc: Orzulak, Paul K. (SPCHW)
Subject: afghanistan [UNCLASSIFIED]

I suggest adding a few words to respond to Ann Lewis' point about Afghanistan (addition in bold).

In Afghanistan, we have worked with the United Nations to impose sanctions against the Taliban, while ensuring that the Afghan people continue to receive humanitarian assistance. We are Afghanistan's strongest critic but also its largest humanitarian donor, and today we take another step forward. I am pleased to announce that next year, we will spend at least \$2 million to educate and improve the health of Afghan women and children refugees. We are also making an additional \$1.5 million available in emergency aid for those displaced by the recent Taliban offensive. And we are dramatically expanding our resettlement program for women and children who are not safe. But these are temporary solutions. **The Taliban must stop violating the rights of women, and must respect the human rights of all its people.** We must continue to work until that day when Afghanistan has a government that reflects the wisdom of its people.

61830
Doc

From: Pascual, Carlos E. (RUE)
Sent: Monday, December 06, 1999 10:11 AM
To: Malinowski, Tomasz P. (SPCHW); @NSA - Natl Security Advisor
Cc: @RUSSIA - Russia/Ukraine; @SPEECH - NSC Speechwriters
Subject: RE: chechnya [UNCLASSIFIED]

Sandy wanted to modify the insert. I believe the following addresses his concerns. He said he could not be reached; unless Jim wants to review this, we should go with the following:

"The whole world is also concerned about the plight of innocent people in Chechnya. Two weeks ago at the OSCE Summit in Turkey, I raised the issue directly with President Yeltsin. I made clear that Russia's fight against terrorism is right, but the methods it is using in Chechnya are wrong. We have seen rocket and artillery attacks on largely civilian areas, with heavy losses of innocent life and at least 200,000 people pushed from their homes. **I am deeply disturbed by reports today that suggest that innocent Chechens will continue to bear the brunt of this war, not just the militants that Russia is fighting. Russia has set a deadline for all inhabitants to leave Grozny or face the military consequences -- a demand that threatens the lives of old, infirm, and injured people and others who simply cannot leave or are too scared to leave their homes.** Russia pays a heavy price from such actions. With each passing day, Russia is sinking more deeply into a morass that will intensify extremism and diminish its standing in the world."

-----Original Message-----

From: Malinowski, Tomasz P. (SPCHW)
Sent: Monday, December 06, 1999 9:29 AM
To: @NSA - Natl Security Advisor
Cc: @RUSSIA - Russia/Ukraine; @SPEECH - NSC Speechwriters
Subject: chechnya [UNCLASSIFIED]

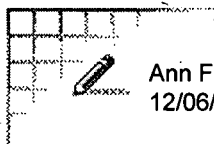
Sandy:

Carlos and I feel that the President's comments on Chechnya at the human rights award event need to reference the new Russian demand that civilians leave Grozny or be destroyed.

Here is the paragraph, with proposed new language in bold:

"The whole world is also concerned about the plight of innocent people in Chechnya. Two weeks ago at the OSCE Summit in Turkey, I raised the issue directly with President Yeltsin. I made clear that Russia's fight against terrorism is right, but the methods it is using in Chechnya are wrong. We have seen rocket and artillery attacks on largely civilian areas, with heavy losses of innocent life and at least 200,000 people pushed from their homes. **I am deeply disturbed by reports today that Russia has set a deadline for all inhabitants to leave Grozny or face annihilation -- a demand that threatens the lives of old, infirm, and injured people and others who simply cannot leave or are too scared to leave their homes. This is simply more evidence that innocent Chechens are bearing the brunt of this war, not just the militants that Russia is fighting. But Russia is also paying a heavy price.** With each passing day, Russia is sinking more deeply into a morass that will intensify extremism and diminish its standing in the world."

- Tom



Ann F. Lewis
12/06/99 08:50:01 AM

Record Type: Record

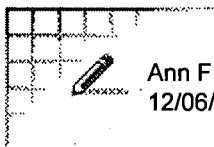
To: Paul K. Orzulak/NSC/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Human Rights speech

Lovely language , and very moving about the nominees . But at the end of the Taliban paragraph, the sentence beginning We must continue... seems short of what we have consistently said: that Afghanistan must respect human rights of all its people -- or that Taliban must stop violating human rights of women . There is no other reference in the draft to condition of women in Afghanistan today -- needs to be explicit somewhere.

*Lead of
micrograph*



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12/06/99 08:50:01 AM

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To: Paul K. Orzulak/NSC/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Human Rights speech

Lovely language , and very moving about the nominees . But at the end of the Taliban paragraph, the sentence beginning We must continue... seems short of what we have consistently said: that Afghanistan must respect human rights of all its people -- or that Taliban must stop violating human rights of women . There is no other reference in the draft to condition of women in Afghanistan today -- needs to be explicit somewhere.

network in place to raise international awareness of issues like violence against women, and gay and lesbian issues. And for the first time, the UN acknowledged that women's rights are human rights. Today, I think the best way to thank Charlotte Bunch is for the Senate to finally ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

We honor these five Americans today with the thanks of a grateful nation. But if we truly want to honor their work, we must stay committed in the places where the glory has not come yet, and continue to speak out for human rights around the world, from Burma to Cuba to Sudan, from Serbia, to North Korea and Vietnam. We must do so because it is the right thing to do – but also because it is the surest path to a world that is safe, democratic, and free.

In Afghanistan, we have worked with the United Nations to impose sanctions against the Taliban, while ensuring that the Afghan people continue to receive humanitarian assistance. We are Afghanistan's strongest critic but also its largest humanitarian donor, and today we take another step forward. I am pleased to announce that next year, we will spend at least \$2 million to educate and improve the health of Afghan women and children refugees. We are also making an additional \$1.5 million available in emergency aid for those displaced by the recent Taliban offensive. And we are dramatically expanding our resettlement program for women and children who are not safe. But these are temporary solutions. We must continue to work until that day when Afghanistan has a government that reflects the wisdom of its people.

The whole world is also concerned about the plight of innocent people in Chechnya. Two weeks ago at the OSCE Summit in Turkey, I raised the issue directly with President Yeltsin. I made clear that Russia's fight against terrorism is right, but the methods it is using in Chechnya are wrong. We have seen rocket and artillery attacks on largely civilian areas, with heavy losses of innocent life and at least 200,000 people pushed from their homes. We are disturbed by reports today that Russia has set a deadline for all inhabitants to leave Grozny or face annihilation – a demand that could threaten the lives of old, infirm and injured people and others who simply cannot leave or are too scared to leave their homes. Such tactics are patently more evidence that ~~unjustifiable counterproductive.~~ Innocent Chechens are bearing the brunt of this war, not just the militants that Russia is fighting. But Russia is also paying a heavy price. With each passing day, Russia is sinking more deeply into a morass that will intensify extremism and diminish its standing in the world.

Another country about which we must continue to express concern is China. China is progressing and opening to the world today in many ways that are welcome, including its entry into the WTO. Yet its progress is still held back by its government's response to those who test the limits of freedom. A troubling recent example is the detention by Chinese authorities of adherents of the Falun Gong movement. Its targets are not political dissidents, and their practices and beliefs are unfamiliar to us. But the principle is the same: freedom of conscience and association. And our interest is the same: seeing China maintain stability and growth at home by meeting, not stifling, the growing demands of its people for openness and accountability.

For all our challenges, we enter the new millennium more hopeful than we have been at any time the past 100 years. The second half of the Century began with delegates from 18 nations including the United States coming together to write the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



Eleanor Roosevelt regarded the Universal Declaration as her greatest accomplishment.

Eleanor Roosevelt

"Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home - so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person; the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm, or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world."

Eleanor Roosevelt

Although she had already won international respect and admiration in her role as First Lady to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt's work on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights would become her greatest legacy. She was without doubt, the most influential member of the UN's Commission on Human Rights.

Unlike most other members of the Commission, Mrs. Roosevelt was neither a scholar nor an expert on international law. Her enthusiasm for her work at the United Nations was rooted in her humanitarian convictions and her steady faith in human dignity and worth. Although she often joked that she was out of place among so many academics and jurists, her intellect and compassion were great assets, and proved to be of crucial importance in the composition of a direct and straightforward Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

With characteristic modesty, Eleanor Roosevelt considered her position on the Commission to

be one of ambassador for the common man and woman: "I used to tell my husband that, if he could make me understand something, it would be clear to all other people in the country, and perhaps that will be my real value on this drafting commission!"

The delegates to the Commission on Human Rights elected Eleanor Roosevelt their Chairperson. Like so many individuals throughout the world, the delegates recognized Eleanor Roosevelt's unparalleled humanitarian convictions. During her tenure in the White House she had assisted her physically disabled husband in political matters, serving as his "eyes and ears," traveling throughout the U.S. to gauge the mood of the people. Through this work, she became widely esteemed as a person who both understood and felt the plight of the common man and woman.

Even prior to her years in the White House, Eleanor Roosevelt was actively engaged in politics and advocacy on the local and national level. She was an astute, accomplished, and intelligent woman, thoroughly familiar with the world of political negotiation. Just as she had served as a liaison of sorts between the President and his constituency, so she acted as a liaison between the Commission and the hopes of humanity. She may have lacked certain factual knowledge, but she had a keen sense of what the average person expected out of life - what men, women and children needed to flourish as individuals.

Her common sense approach, constant optimism and boundless energy were integral to the smooth facilitation of meetings. On any given issue, her colloquial style and good humor were engaged not only to win over the majority of delegates who generally supported a particular U.S. position, but to confound those who opposed it. A New York Times reporter who was present at the Commission meetings wrote of the power Mrs. Roosevelt's personality had over certain unreasonable diplomats:

The Russians seem to have met their match in Mrs. Roosevelt. The proceedings sometimes turn into a long vitriolic attack on the U.S. when she is not present. These attacks, however, generally denigrate into flurries in the face of her calm and undisturbed but often pointed replies.

If Mrs. Roosevelt made one sort of impression with her familiar style, she made another with her commitment to produce a universally accepted, "living" declaration. She was recognized as a tireless worker, stating triumphantly at one point, "I drive hard and when I get home I will be tired! The men on the Commission will be also!" Many of the delegates found this aspect of her personality less agreeable than her charm. One went so far as to suggest that his own human rights were violated by the length of the meetings!

Envisioning a declaration with enduring principles that would be perpetually recognized by all nations, she was a strong advocate of true universality within the Declaration. She was adamant that different conceptions of human rights be deliberated during the UDHR's composition:

We wanted as many nations as possible to accept the fact that men, for one reason or another, were born free and equal in dignity and rights, that they were endowed with reason and conscience, and should act toward one another in a spirit of brotherhood. The way to do that was to find words that everyone would accept.

Eleanor Roosevelt's personal sense of accomplishment with the finished Declaration was unparalleled in her life. Her speech before the General Assembly as she submitted the Declaration for review demonstrates the historical significance she placed upon its adoption:

We stand today at the threshold of a great event both in the life of the United Nations and in the life of mankind. This declaration may well

become the international Magna Carta for all men everywhere. We hope its proclamation by the General Assembly will be an event comparable to the proclamation in 1789 [of the French Declaration of the Rights of Man], the adoption of the Bill of Rights by the people of the U.S., and the adoption of comparable declarations at different times in other countries...

Eleanor Roosevelt's concern for humanity made her the driving force behind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Her leadership of the Commission on Human Rights led to the composition of a Declaration that has endured as a universally accepted standard of achievement for all nations. As our respect for and understanding of the Universal Declaration has grown, so too has our gratitude and admiration for this modest woman who passionately pursued what she imagined would become a cornerstone in the struggle for human rights and fundamental freedoms for everyone - everywhere.

She lived her life in the center of what many would regard the Twentieth Century's most consequential events, the Great Depression, World War II, the establishment of the United Nations and the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. She confronted both opportunity and adversity with a sense of optimism and determination. A former Democratic presidential candidate, Adlai Stevenson, once said of Eleanor Roosevelt, "She would rather light a candle than curse the darkness."

Eleanor Roosevelt on Human Rights:

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (December 10, 1948) United Nations.

The Universal Declaration is the primary international articulation of the fundamental and inalienable rights of all members of the human family. It represents the first comprehensive agreement among nations as to the specific rights and freedoms of all human beings. The Declaration has become a cornerstone of customary international law, binding all governments to its principles.

Human Rights and Human Freedom: An American View (1946) Eleanor Roosevelt

As a member of the United States delegation to the United Nations General Assembly, Mrs. Roosevelt debates Andrei Vishinsky, chief Soviet delegate, over the proposed amendment that no propaganda should be permitted in refugee camps against the interests of the United Nations or its members. The success of her argument, based on the idea that such an amendment would violate human rights by restricting freedom of speech and expression, strengthened Mrs. Roosevelt's position as a leading voice in the international defense of human rights.

The Promise of Human Rights (April 1948) Eleanor Roosevelt.

This article, from the journal *Foreign Affairs*, provides a brief history of the Commission on Human Rights and its efforts to write a draft international Bill of Human Rights, including a Declaration and a Convention. Mrs. Roosevelt discusses both documents, including the articles she thinks are of vital importance, and her views on the Commission's work in general.

Making Human Rights Come Alive (1949) Eleanor Roosevelt.

This speech to the Second National Conference on UNESCO reflects on the Universal Declaration and the problems that had to be overcome in writing a truly international document. Mrs. Roosevelt cites the difficulties in searching for appropriate wording and precedents in law and especially in bridging the gaps between cultures.

Statement on Draft Covenant on Human Rights (1951) Eleanor Roosevelt.

The American delegation proposes that the Draft Covenant be divided into two separate documents of equal importance to be considered for adoption simultaneously; one for civil and political rights and the other for economic, social, and cultural rights. Mrs. Roosevelt argues that differences in terms of the time, methods and machinery needed to implement the various provisions make such a division a practical step.

On the Draft Convention on Political Rights of Women (1953) Eleanor Roosevelt.

Discussing the specific articles of the Convention, Mrs. Roosevelt argues that the objectives of the United Nations are not only to encourage equal political rights for women in all countries, but also to ensure that women fully participate in directing the policy making of their governments.

In Your Hands (March 27, 1958) Eleanor Roosevelt.

Presenting a "guide to community action" on the eve of the Universal Declaration's Tenth Anniversary, Mrs.

Presenting a "guide to community action" on the eve of the Universal Declaration's Tenth Anniversary, Mrs. Roosevelt declares that "the destiny of human rights is in the hands of all our citizens in all our communities." She urges people to improve human rights conditions "in small places, close to home" as the first step towards global progress.

Adoption of the Declaration of Human Rights (December 9, 1948) Eleanor Roosevelt.

National Coordinating Committee for UDHR50.
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Revised: August 05, 1998.

Pam Orzulak FYI

8768

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

December 2, 1999

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR SAMUEL R. BERGER

THROUGH: ERIC SCHWARTZ *gm for*

FROM: STEVEN J. NAPLAN *gm*

SUBJECT: The President's Human Rights Day Event

Attached is a Meeting Memorandum to the President for his Monday event to commemorate Human Rights Day.

Concurrences by: David Leavy, Tom Malinowski

Via Email

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the attached Memorandum to the President.

Attachments

- Tab I Meeting Memorandum to the President
- Tab A Draft Citations for the Five Awardees
- Tab B Biographies of the Five Awardees and Afghan refugee Belquis Ahmadi
- Tab C Draft List (in-progress) of Invitees for Presidential Hall Event

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

REMARKS TO COMMEMORATE ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY AND ANNOUNCEMENT
OF RECIPIENTS OF ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

DATE: December 6, 1999

LOCATION: Presidential Hall, OEOB Room 450

TIME: 1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER

MELANNE VERVEER

Help for the MV

I. PURPOSE

To commemorate annual Human Rights Day (the actual date of which is December 10) by delivering remarks detailing your commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights at home and abroad, and by honoring outstanding American human rights leaders.

II. BACKGROUND

This year's commemoration of Human Rights Day will mark the 51st anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the UN General Assembly declaration affirming universal standards of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

-- The Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights

Eleanor Roosevelt was the driving force behind the Declaration. Last year, to honor her commitment to human rights and to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Declaration, you established the Award. The 1999 recipients of the second annual Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights will be:

- Charlotte Bunch, for her efforts to secure the inclusion of gender and sexual orientation on the global human rights agenda. Bunch was a critical leader for the inclusion of women's rights at UN Human Rights Conferences in Vienna (1993) and Beijing (1995).

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2

- Delores Huerta, for co-founding and leading the United Farm Workers of America and a lifetime of labor rights activism.

- Burke Marshall, for his life-long commitment to civil rights, including his efforts to dismantle "Jim Crow" as Assistant Attorney General in the Kennedy Administration.

- Sister Jean Marshall, a Dominican nun who founded St. Rita's Immigrant and Refugee Center in the Bronx, which has served victimized immigrants from Vietnam, Cambodia, Russia, Albania, Ethiopia, Bosnia and Kosovo.

- Rev. Leon Sullivan, author of the "Sullivan Principles," which encouraged companies working in South Africa to take steps to end apartheid and "Global Sullivan Principles" which promote corporate social responsibility worldwide.

-- Your Remarks

In addition to issuing the second annual Eleanor Roosevelt Awards, you will deliver general remarks regarding your commitment to the continued promotion of human right globally. You will emphasize your particular concern about Taliban abuses of Afghan women, as well as a number of other significant human rights abuses (including PRC persecution of the Falun Gong and Russian violations of human rights in Chechnya).

III. PARTICIPANTS

(Greetings in Presidential Hall, OEOB Room 450 "Hold Room")

Burke Marshall
Sister Jean Marshall
Charlotte Bunch
Delores Huerta
Rev. Leon Sullivan

HH-madhi
Belquis Ahmadi ("bell-KEEHS ~~AH-MAH-dee~~") (Afghan woman refugee)

The First Lady
Jim Steinberg
Melanne Verveer
Eric Schwartz
Harold Koh

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IV. PRESS PLAN

Open press coverage of remarks made in Presidential Hall, OEOB Room 450.

V. SEQUENCE

- You will greet the award recipients inside Presidential Hall's "Hold Room"
- Jim Steinberg, Melanne Vermeer, Eric Schwartz, and Harold Koh will take their seats in Presidential Hall.
- Following an off-stage announcement, you will take the stage of Presidential Hall accompanied by the First Lady, Burke Marshall, Sister Jean Marshall, Charlotte Bunch, Delores Huerta, Rev. Leon Sullivan and Belquis Ahmadi (Afghan refugee).
- The First Lady will deliver brief welcoming remarks and will introduce Ms. Ahmadi.
- Ms. Ahmadi will deliver brief remarks regarding the plight of refugees from Taliban persecution and will introduce you.
- You will deliver remarks on human rights.
- A military aide will read the citations as you and the First Lady present the awards to the recipients. The five awardees will not be offering remarks.
- Following the awards ceremony you will thank the guests for coming and close the event.

Attachments

- Tab A Draft Citations for the Five Awardees
- Tab B Biographies of the Five Awardees and Afghan refugee Belquis Ahmadi
- Tab C Draft List (in-progress) of Invitees for Presidential Hall Event

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1999 ELEANOR ROOSEVELT AWARD **DRAFT** CITATIONS:

CHARLOTTE A. BUNCH

Through her work at the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers University, Charlotte Bunch has built a worldwide network of activists and raised international awareness of discrimination against women, gender violence, gay and lesbian rights, and other crucial issues. She was a key leader in ensuring the inclusion of women's rights at the UN human rights conferences in Vienna and Beijing. We honor her for her courageous advocacy and activism.

DOLORES C. HUERTA

For more than thirty years, Dolores Huerta has been at the vanguard of the workers' and women's rights movement in the United States. As co-founder with Cesar Chavez of the United Farm Workers of America, she has helped farm workers secure their rights to organize and to bargain collectively, in the process educating millions of Americans on the central importance of these rights. We honor her today for her courage and determination and for her achievements in promoting the dignity and welfare of millions of American workers.

BURKE MARSHALL

As Assistant Attorney General in the Kennedy and Johnson Administrations, Burke Marshall played a key role in the civil rights struggle and the passage of the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act. In the years since, he has inspired new generations to pursue public service. We honor him for his essential contribution to ending segregation and transforming our Nation.

SISTER JEAN MARSHALL

Sister Jean Marshall has helped make real the dreams of thousands of people who have fled persecution and abuse overseas. As founder of St. Rita's Immigrant and Refugee Center in the Bronx, she has helped refugees and asylum-seekers to learn English, find jobs and homes, and receive health and social services. We honor her for her outstanding humanitarian efforts.

REV. LEON SULLIVAN

Rev. Leon Sullivan has spent a lifetime helping to improve the lives of others. As author of the Sullivan Principles, and as a champion of civil and political rights, he has moved mountains to help end apartheid in South Africa, secure civil rights at home, and promote corporate responsibility and social justice worldwide. We honor him for his tireless crusade to help others find the greatness within themselves.

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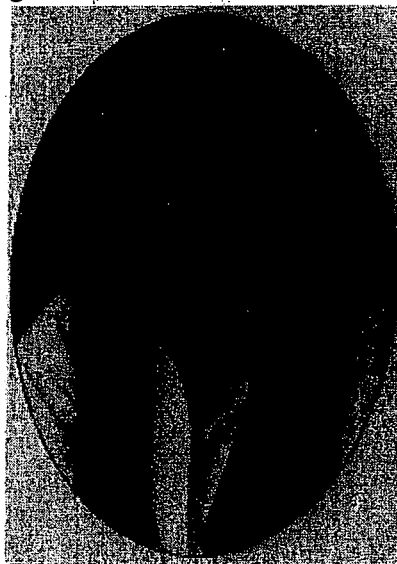
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Charlotte Bunch 1944-

A pioneering strategist and organizer, Charlotte Bunch is one of the foremost advocates of international attention to women's issues, and the inclusion of gender and sexual orientation on global human rights agenda.



A 1966 Magna Cum Laude graduate of Duke University, Bunch became active on the national scene as a writer, lesbian activist and lecturer, particularly in movements for women's liberation and women's rights. She created and edited *Quest: A Feminist Journal* (1974), one of the first and the leading journals to promote analysis and policy making to improve women's status in society.

Expanding her activities into the international arena, Bunch built an international network of women, united by common concerns, and prepared by education and training for effective action. Through her speeches and organizing at international conferences, she served as a critical catalyst for action on women's issues. For example, her speech to Amnesty International in 1989 marked the beginning of that organization's efforts to address gender-specific human rights issues. Her leadership was crucial to the adoption by the 1993 U.N. Conference on Human Rights, in Vienna, of strong support for women, and at the 1995 U.N. Conference on Human Rights, in Beijing, for supporting woman's place in human rights advocacy.

In 1989, Bunch founded The Center for Women's Global Leadership at Douglass College, Rutgers University, where she serves as Director and Professor of Urban Studies. Through the Center, she continues her role as leader of national and international networking, advocacy and training, to advance women's well-being around the world.

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HALL OF FAME

Dolores Huerta 1930-

Dolores Huerta is one of the century's most powerful and respected labor movement leaders. Huerta left teaching and co-founded the United Farm



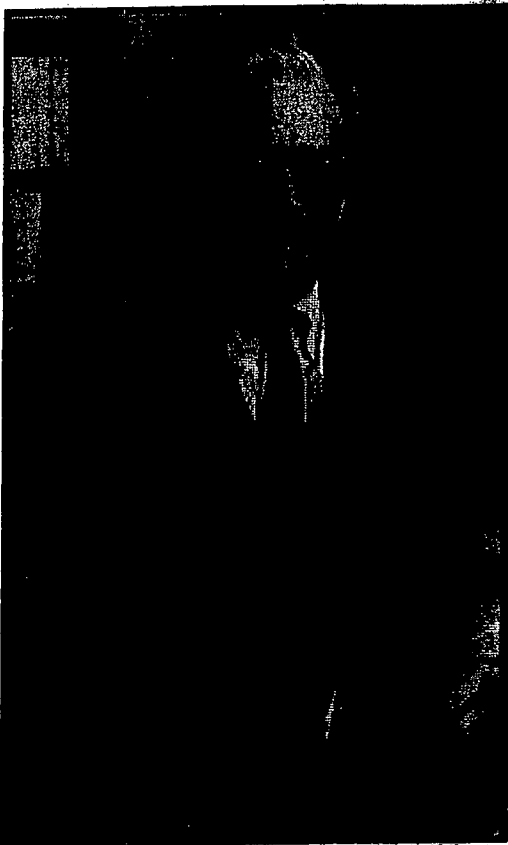
Workers with Cesar Chavez in 1962: "I quit because I couldn't stand seeing kids come to class hungry and needing shoes. I thought I could do more by organizing farm workers than by trying to teach their hungry children." Huerta has raised her own 11 children while organizing for the labor movement.

The 1965 Delano Grape Strike launched UFW into a period of fast-paced organizing, with Huerta negotiating contracts with growers, lobbying, organizing strikes and boycotts and well as spearheading farmworker political activities. Always politically active, she co-chaired the 1972 California delegation to the Democratic Convention. She led the fight to permit thousands of migrant/immigrant children to receive services. She also led the struggle to achieve unemployment insurance, collective bargaining rights, and immigration rights for farmworkers under the 1985 Rodino amnesty legalization program. Huerta continues as an outstanding labor and political activist.



To learn more, explore the books available at our Book Shop.

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T. Charles Erickson, Office of Public Affairs

Burke Marshall '44 LLB, received the Law School's Medal of Merit during October's Law School Alumni Weekend.

 [Back to text](#)

Yale Law School - Burke Marshall

Page 1 of 1

B.A., Yale, 1943, LL.B., 1951. LL.D., U. New Haven, 1990. Articles Ed. and Book Rev. Ed., Yale L.J. Admitted to bar: DC, 1952. Member, Covington & Burling, 1951-61. Asst. U.S. Atty. Gen. for Civil Rights Div., U.S. Dept. of Justice, 1961-65. Vice President and Gen. Counsel, IBM Corp., 1965-69; Sr. Vice President, 1969-70. Prof., Yale, 1970-78; John Thomas Smith Prof., 1978-86; Katzenbach Prof., 1986-93; Prof. Emeritus and Crawford Lecturer since 1993; Deputy Dean, 1970-75. Chairman, Natl. Adv. Comm. on Selective Service.

Author of: *Federalism, and Civil Rights*, 1964; *The My Lai Massacre and Its Cover-Up: Beyond the Limits of the Law?* (with J. Goldstein and J. Schwartz), 1976; *The Supreme Court and Human Rights* (ed.), 1982; *A Workable Government?* (ed.), 1989.

Subjects: Federal jurisdiction; legislation; political and civil rights; constitutional law.



Sister Jean Marshall:

A Dominican nun, Sister Jean founded St. Rita's Immigrant and Refugee Center in the University Heights neighborhood of the Bronx in 1983. The center helps victimized immigrants from Vietnam, Cambodia, Russia, Albania, Ethiopia, and Bosnia, and most recently linked Kosovar refugees to the Area's ethnic Albanians.

The Center, which is financed with city, state and federal funds, teaches refugees and immigrants English language skills, helps them find apartments, get food, work and clothing, as well as health and social services. There is a staff of 10 as well as a two-person staff at another satellite site in Queens.

Sister Jean has done a great deal of work with Amerasians, who have had particular resettlement problems, helping to provide them with the skills and education needed to qualify for jobs. The Center houses an alternative high school for Amerasians.

St. Rita's has been home to fistfights and knife fights and small-unexplained fires. According to Newsday, Sister Jean is not above hauling the combatants into her office by the scruff of their frayed collars. She is fluent in Spanish and Khmer.

THE BACKGROUND ◀

I envision a bridge

A bridge builder

SUMMITS

Summit 1

Summit 2

Summit 3

Summit 4

Summit 5

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Debt Relief

Schools for Africa

The Best Bankers

Teachers for Africa

Physicians for Africa

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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HOME

A BRIDGE BUILDER

*"The time is not far off
when Black technicians, artisans and craftsmen
will help mold a flourishing Africa into a new greatness."*
-Rev Leon Sullivan

THE REV. LEON SULLIVAN-



union organizer A. Philip Randolph, who Rev. Sullivan assisted in working on the first March on Washington movement in the early years.

Nicknamed the "Lion of Zion,"

A native of Charleston, West Virginia, the impressive 6 foot 5 inch Rev. Sullivan says that he learned his organizational skills "at the knee" of two of the greatest African Americans of the twentieth century: New York congressman the Rev. Adam Clayton Powell and legendary



when he was the charismatic minister of the 6000 member Zion Baptist Church in Philadelphia, Rev. Sullivan established the Opportunities Industrialization Centers (OIC), one of the nation's most comprehensive and successful training programs. This community-based organization now provides job training and education to some 70 U.S. cities and 15 African countries, the Philippines and Poland. OIC has trained more than 3 million for jobs worldwide.

Rev. Sullivan has been recognized as a man of unparalleled vision and action. Nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, awarded the president's Medal of Freedom, recipient of some 50 honorary degrees and board member of Mellon Bank and the Boy Scouts of America, Rev. Sullivan has enjoyed a personal relationship with every president since John F. Kennedy.

In 1971, Sullivan made history when he was elected to the Board of Directors of General Motors. He was the first African American ever elected to the board of a major corporation. In 1977, while still at General Motors, Sullivan created the landmark seven Sullivan Principles, which outlined guidelines for corporations and governments interested in doing business with South Africa's racially divided system and helped to end apartheid. With the dismantling of apartheid, Rev. Sullivan's talent for bringing world leaders together to discuss international issues and to find solutions has led to the establishment of the not-for-profit International Foundation for Education and Self-Help (IFESH), sponsor of the first African-African American Summit.

African - African American Summit 5040 East Shea Boulevard
Suite 260 Phoenix, AZ 85254 - 4610

Tel: 1 - 800 - 835 - 3530 Fax: 1 - 602 - 443 - 1824

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FOLDER TITLE:

Eleanor Roosevelt Speech [1]

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P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Bio- Ms. Belqisa Ahmadi from Afghanistan

Current address:

[REDACTED] P6(b)(6)

[003]

Ph:

[REDACTED] P6(b)(6)

E-mail:

Belqisa@yahoo.com - or- Belqisa@hotmail.com

Belqisa Ahmadi is 28 years old women's rights activist from Afghanistan. She has worked for women's rights in Afghanistan for over ten years. Currently, she is Afghanistan Advisor for the Women's Rights Advocacy Program of Washington DC based non-profit organization, the International Human Rights Law Group. Ms. Ahmadi has highlighted the women's rights situation in Afghanistan at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva as a NGO delegation member of International Human rights Law Group in 1998 and 1999.

Ms. Ahmadi is one of the three founding members of the Afghan Women's Network which was started in Kabul in 1996 after the Taliban takeover of the Afghan capital. She has also worked as Program Officer for Women's Affairs at ACBAR (Agency Coordinating Body for Afghan Relief) in Peshawar, Pakistan and Kabul, Afghanistan from 1996 to 1999. Earlier, Ms. Ahmadi worked as Office Manager for CARE International office in Kabul, Afghanistan from 1995 to 1996. She started her work for women as a Deputy Head Nurse and Administrator for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRW) at the War Wounded Hospital in Kabul, Afghanistan from 1988 where she worked till 1995.

Ms. Ahmadi has written articles and papers on Violence Against Women in Afghan Society and about the struggle for women's human rights in Afghanistan.

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DRAFT LIST (Invitations in-progress) General Invitees

Sheppy Abramowitz, Vice President for Government Affairs, International Rescue Committee

Mario Acosta, Executive Director, Latino Civil Rights Center

Mahnaz Afkhami, Sisterhood Is Global Institute

Zekia Ahmadzai, Senior Social Worker for Afghan Women, International Rescue Committee

Ria Burghardt, Development Director, International Human Rights Law Group

Holly Burkhalter, Physicians for Human Rights

Vilay Chaleunrath, Indochinese Community Center

Phavann Chhuan, Cambodian Network Council

Kerry Kennedy Cuomo

Mary Diaz, President, Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children

Bishop DiMarzio, US Catholic Conference, Bishops Committee on Migration and Refugee Settlement

Rick Dovalina, President, LULAC

Cathy Fitzpatrick, Executive Director, International League for Human Rights

Felice Gaer, Director, Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights

Carl Gershman, National Endowment for Democracy

Curt Goering, Acting ED, Amnesty International USA

Jack Healy, President, Human Rights Action Center

Antonia Hernandez, Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund

Ron Howard, Executive Vice President, Opportunities Industrialization Centers, International

Gloria Johnson, President, Coalition of Labor Union Women

Mrs. Coretta Scott King, Chair, Martin Luther King Center for Non Violence Social Change

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Hon. William Luers, President, UN Association of the USA

Gay McDougal, International Human Rights Law Group

Sameena Nazir, International Human Rights Law Group, Women's Rights Advocacy Program

Aryeh Neier, Open Society Institute

Karen Nussbaum, AFL-CIO

Michael Posner, Lawyers Committee for Human Rights

Steve Rickard, Amnesty International USA

Ken Roth, Human Rights Watch

Len Rubenstein, Physicians for Human Rights

Suraya Sadeed, Executive Director, Help the Afghan Children, Inc.

Elisa Sanchez, MANA, A National Latina Organization

Zieba Shorish-Shamley, Director, Women's Alliance for Peace and Human Rights in Afghanistan

Eleanor Smeal, Feminist Majority Foundation

George Soros, Open Society Institute

John Sweeney, President, AFL-CIO

Sr. Nancy Sylvester, Leadership Conference of Women Religious

Linda Tarr-Whelan, Center for Policy Alternatives

Arturo Vargas, Executive Director, NALEO

Ka Ying Yang, Southeast Asia Research Action Center

Raul Yzaguirre, President, La Raza

ROOSEVELT FAMILY: Anne Roosevelt, James Roosevelt Jr., Michael Roosevelt, Ambassador William vanden Heuvel, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute

DRAFT

In Your Hands

Eleanor Roosevelt

I am here in behalf of thirty-two national organizations representing millions of citizens -- of all faiths; of every complexion; in all parts of the United States. The devotion of so many Americans to human rights is symbolized by this booklet, IN YOUR HANDS. It is a guide to community action. It is a spontaneous and resounding answer to the United Nations' call for world-wide, year-long observances of the Tenth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home -- so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any map of the world. Yet they *are* the world of the individual person: the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world.

Thus we believe that the destiny of human rights is in the hands of all our citizens in all our communities. That is why we have called this guidebook IN YOUR HANDS. We shall do our utmost, in the coming months, to put it in the hands of individuals and groups across the land.

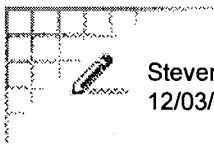
It is our hope that this book may inspire them to strengthen their relations with one another; to acquaint themselves with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; to discuss it with their neighbors; to examine their own practices in the light of the standard it has raised; and to improve these practices wherever improvement is needed. In so doing, all of us together can make a vital and enduring contribution to this Tenth Anniversary observance.

I now have the honor, as spokesman for the organization joined in this effort, to present to you and your colleagues in the Commission on Human Rights these 18 copies of IN YOUR HANDS, one for each commission member -- a token of our faith that, under your leadership, the communities of every country will bring human rights to full reality in the community of the world.

Eleanor Roosevelt at the presentation of *"IN YOUR HANDS: A Guide for Community Action for the Tenth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."*

Thursday, March 27, 1958 10:00 a.m. United Nations, New York

Paul - FYI



Steven J. Naplan
12/03/99 09:29:28 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc: Donald A. Camp/NSC/EOP@EOP

Subject: Belquis' DRAFT remarks

Katy: State's Lois Gochnauer faxed Belquis' draft remarks to Don Camp and myself. The version that we reviewed was in the form of a Dec 3 11:53 PST email from Belquis to Alyse Nelson.

Don and I are fine with the substance of these remarks from a foreign policy standpoint.

On style, I would note that her remarks struck me as a bit too long, and it would be nice if she could comment on POTUS and FLOTUS leadership, but those are just personal observations. I leave it to you to work with her on the remarks from here on out.

I will share a copy of the remarks with NSC speechwriter Paul Orzulak for his info.

thanks.

SN

Message Sent To:

laura e. schiller/who/eop@eop
julie d. eddy/who/eop@eop
paul k. orzulak/nsc/eop@eop
maureen t. shea/who/eop@eop
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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
004. email	Personal (1 page)	12/03/1999	P6/b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Speechwriting (Paul Orzulak)
OA/Box Number: 4023

FOLDER TITLE:

Eleanor Roosevelt Speech [1]

2008-0702-F
jm209

RESTRICTION CODES

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

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
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- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
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RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]



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From: Belquis Ahmadi <belquisa@yahoo.com> **Save Address Block Sender**

To: Alyse Nelson <vitalvoices@hotmail.com>

Subject: Re: speech for International Human Rights Day

Date: Fri, 3 Dec 1999 11:53:55 -0800 (PST)

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Dear Alyse,

I apologize for not submitting this to you on time, i am sorry it is not in good order. please call me if you have more questions.

Dear Alyse,

I apologize for the delay. Please contact me if you have further questions. I can be reached through my email or my work number, which is 314-457-9224.

My life and thousands of others changed overnight.

In 1996 I was working as office manager in an agency of about 350 people. My job included supervising engineers and employees working on projects that involved higher education, the water department and health management. I worked with men and women, and the decisions that I made at my work affected many people in the community.

On September 25, this was my life; on September 26, 1996 everything changed.

I no longer was allowed to go to work. I turned on the radio, and heard the announcement that women were not allowed to work anymore. Girls were not allowed to go to school. Women had to wear burqa outside the home and needed to be accompanied by a male. In 1997 all medical services and hospitalization was suspended for women.

The freedoms and violations did not just occur outside of the home, but inside as well. We were not allowed to listen to music or watch TV. Women were even allowed to walk freely inside of their homes.

Homes and buildings where women were present had to have painted windows. Women were not allowed to look out of the windows. because a woman was not allowed to walk in front of an unpainted

I felt that I had no hope at all. It was like the end of the world. I could not do anything. I just hated to be a woman. I heard repeatedly that if women were given freedom, they would bring corruption on the society.

In the Mosque they make announcements to the men such as don't let your wife or daughter wear nail polish if they do, you should beat them.

One family member was told, "Aren't you immodest to walk with your wife on the street?"

My ten-year old brother refused to go with his mother in public because being in public with a woman was considered shameful.

One of my family members was beaten because she was walking quickly on the streets. She was asked, "Why are you walking like a horse?"

Once, when I wore white shoes outside of my home, I was told to be careful. I could have been beaten for having white shoes because it was disrespectful; the white color is on the flag.

This situation is more hateful and painful to bear because it is presented to be right in the name of religion, but these ideas are not a part of our religion or our cultural tradition. My grandmother did not wear a burqa; and in the history of Afghanistan citizens have never been humiliated and oppressed in this way.

Women are not the only ones suffering from human rights violations. Children have also suffered.

The Taliban said there was not enough security to allow girls to go to school. When people gathered in home schools to educate the girls, the Taliban closed the schools, and teachers were beaten. Children were not allowed to play with toys. In many cases children were beaten on the streets who were seen playing with toys.

One young girl told her mother, "I had a dream that I could go to school today." Her mother allowed her to visit her former school. When she went to the school, she was beaten at the gate.

Men were told that they had to grow a beard; men had to go to mosque five times daily. Men could not wear suits or western-style clothing.

Every single member of the society has been affected. The Taliban searched people's houses. They destroyed family portraits because they said photographs were against religion. People had to hide tv's and tape

recorders, and musical instruments. All weapons were taken from homes.

The Taliban encouraged people to report and spy on their neighbors; for example, reporting that a family had a gun would cause the Taliban to search the home. If the family did not have a gun they had to buy one to give the Taliban just because it had been reported by a neighbor.

My father had a long beard when he visited me in Pakistan. I didn't recognize my own father. When I sent him pictures, he couldn't take them from his office to his home because he would have been searched on the streets or on the bus and photographs are illegal.

I consider myself very lucky to be able to describe the situation. I can not emphasis enough the value of groups IHLRG, the US embassy in Pakistan, the United Nations, without their help I would not be here speaking to you today.

The situation continues today and millions of people are affected by the war and the oppressed political situation. Today people are being forced to disappear, people have lost lives, family members, basic human rights, human dignity and rights to be respected. Soon, they might lose something that destroys humanity. They might lose hope. The rest of the world should not allow this to happen. There is a need to end the war, and there is a need for internal and external pressure to be placed on the Taliban so that these violations of human rights do not continue.

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005. email	To NSC Speechwriters from Steven J. Naplan. Subject: Ramadan (1 page)	12/04/1999	P5

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- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Orzulak, Paul K. (SPCHW)

From: Naplan, Steven J. (MULTI)
Sent: Friday, December 03, 1999 9:18 PM
To: Orzulak, Paul K. (SPCHW)
Cc: Naplan, Steven J. (MULTI)
Subject: FW: REVISED dignitaries attending Monday HR Event [UNCLASSIFIED]

for acknowledgement purposes:

as of this moment, and no doubt likely to change by Monday morning:

WH/NSC:

(Podesta? or deputy CoS?)
Ann Lewis
Melanne Verveer
(Ucelli?)
Jim Steinberg (conceivable that Mara will either attend or sub for JS)
Eric Schwartz

STATE:

DepSecState Talbott (tent)
UndersecState Loy (Global)
AsstSecState Koh (DRL)
AsstSecState Taft (PRM)
Amb. Robert Seiple
Amb. Nancy Rubin
Senior Women's Coordinator Theresa Loar

OTHER USG:

HUD Sec. Cuomo
SBA Administrator Aida Alvarez
USAID's Amb. Harriet Babbitt
former Sen. Harris Wofford
(Vern Newton, PAS)

1998 AWARDEES (both of whom should be acknowledged):

Bette Bao Lord
Dorothy Thomas

CONGRESSIONAL:

Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee
Rep. Carlos Romero-Barcelo

more to come from Congressional Affairs: Sen. Kennedy and Rep. John Lewis (1999 awardee) are both possibilities, among others

No Roosevelt family members can attend this year

Sean O'Shea of Cabinet Affairs dealing with non-WH/NSC senior USG attendees.

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