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OA/ID Number: 6275

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Reception-National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 19, 1995

DEDICATION CEREMONY AND TOUR NATIONAL CZECH AND SLOVAK MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

DATE: October 21, 1995
LOCATION: Cedar Rapids, Iowa
TIME: 10:30 pm
FROM: Alexis Herman

I. PURPOSE

To participate in the dedication of the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library.

II. BACKGROUND

You will participate in the Official Dedication of the new building for the National Czech and Slovak Museum in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The celebration began on Tuesday, October 17 and will end on Sunday, October 22. This new facility actually opened its doors in March of this year. Visitors to the \$2.6 million, 18,000 square foot facility are greeted with "vitame vas" (VEE-tha-may-vaas), Czech for "We Welcome You".

The original museum was founded in 1974 by the Czech Fine Arts Foundation. Between 1975 and 1978, this museum consisted of a travelling exhibit of artifacts. In the summer of 1978, a small house was rented in Czech Village to accommodate the museum project. This new building will exhibit over 5,000 artifacts -- some 350 to 400 years old. It is the largest collection outside the Czech and Slovak republics. In addition, the library contains more than 10,000 volumes in Czech, Slovak and English. The library will offer genealogy research and geographical information.

Cedar Rapids has a rich Czech history. Czech immigrants started to arrive around 1850 and were the largest ethnic group in the city. There are eight major American-Czech organizations in Cedar Rapids. The largest of which is Western Fraternal Life Association with 46,000 members nationwide.

Prior to your arrival, there will be pre-program. Museum President, Robert Schaffer will introduce Mayor Larry Serbousek, Governor Terry Branstad, Representative Jim Leach and Senator Tom Harkin. All will give brief remarks.

Following the dedication ceremony you will participate in a tour of the museum. You then meet individually with President Kovac and President Havel. After those meetings you will participate in a short reception with some of the museum staff, Board of Directors, volunteers, sponsors and supporters.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Vaclav Havel, President, Czech Republic
Michael Kovac, President, Slovak Republic
Governor Terry Branstad
Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA)
Representative Jim Leach (R-IA)
Mayor Larry Serbousek (Non-Partisan)

IV. PRESS PLAN

Open Press.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- o When you arrive at the museum you proceed inside where you will be greeted by:
 - Governor Terry Branstad (R)
 - Congressman Jim Leach (R)
 - Mayor Larry Serbousek (NP)
 - Ann Bergren, Event Coordinator
 - Alan Beach, Executive Director
 - Tom Hruska, Board Chairman
 - Robert Schaffer, President
 - John Rocarek, Development Director
 - Lynne Nejdrl-Berger, (she will present you with flowers)
- o You proceed to a holding room where you will meet President Havel and President Kovac.
- o You and President's Havel and Kovac will proceed to an offstage position.
- o WHCA will announce you and President's Havel and Kovac.
- o You proceed to the stage and remain standing.
- o The Slovak National Anthem is played.

- o The Czech National Anthem is played.
- o The Star Spangled Banner is played.
- o WHCA will introduce Slovak President Michael Kovac.
- o President Kovac will make remarks and introduce President Havel.
- o President Havel will make remarks and introduce you.
- o You make remarks

For President's Havel and Kovac remarks they will have consecutive translation. For your remarks, President's Havel and Kovac will have whisper translation only.]

- o Following your remarks, you proceed with President's Havel and Kovac to work a rope line.
- o After the rope line, you and President's Havel and Kovac proceed back into the exhibit hall where you will receive a tour. [THE TOUR WILL BE CLOSED PRESS]
- o After the tour, you and President's Havel and Kovac proceed to a wooded kiosk in the main lobby. The three of you will sign your names to a placque commemorating the dedication. [THE SIGNING WILL BE POOL PRESS]
- o You and President's Havel and Kovacs proceed to a balcony off the main lobby. The balcony overlooks the river and a bridge. The bridge is a replica of the Charles bridge that you crossed when you visited Prague. [THIS IS OPEN TO POOL PRESS]
- o You proceed back into the museum and go to a brief hold before proceeding to the Bilateral meetings.

VI. REMARKS

To be provided by speechwriters

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 19, 1995

RECEPTION
NATIONAL CZECH AND SLOVAK MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

DATE: October 21, 1995
LOCATION: Czech and Slovak Museum
Conference Room
TIME: 1:30 pm
FROM: Alexis Herman

I. PURPOSE

To meet and take a photo with the Board of Directors, staff, volunteers, sponsors and supporters of the National Czech and Slovak Museum.

II. BACKGROUND

Following the Bilateral meetings with President's Havel and Kovac you will have the opportunity to meet some of those involved in running and funding the museum.

We have invited some of the Leadership the Slovak-American and Czech-American communities. Because of difficulty with accomodations and travel, as of this writing, only eight people had accepted our invitation, (list attached).

III. PARTICIPANTS

Vaclav Havel, President Czech Republic
Michael Kovac, President, Slovak Republic

List Attached

IV. PRESS PLAN

Closed Press.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- o You participate in a receiving line.
- o You depart.

VI. REMARKS

None required.

**PARTICIPANTS LIST
RECEPTION WITH MUSEUM STAFF AND OTHERS
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA
OCTOBER 21, 1995**

Museum Board of Directors

Robert Schaffer, President
Leo Modracek, Vice President
Thomas Hruska, Past President, Board Chairman
Betty Petrzalek, Assistant Treasurer
Don Janda, Secretary
Allan Peremsky, Executive Committee Member
Georgiana Brejcha
Evelyn Lamparek
Milo Lanka
Marj Nejd1
Mildred Ortner
Donald Smith
Robert Stone

Museum Staff

Alan Beach, Interim Executive Director
Ann Kloubec, Gift Shop Coordinator
Sheryl Nejd1, Visitor Services Manager
Jody Noite, Administrative Assistant
John Rocarek, Development Director
Barb Sherman, Volunteer Coordinator
Delores Usher, Pledge Coordinator

Consultants

Ann Bergren, Dedication Week Coordinator
Fran Brown, Tour Guide
Diane Petrie, Library Coordinator
Ludmila Stejskal, Assistant
Stan Wiederspan, Design Consultant
Lee Wright, Custodial Services

Event Sponsors

John Cosgrove, Rockwell
Steven Dolezal, LeFebure Corporation
Roger Vincent, Quaker Oats Company

Major Contributors

E.J. Buresh
Roman Hruska
Ray Jiruska
Raymond Miller
William Pitlik
William Whipple

Supporters

Alice Anderson, Cedar Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
Michael Blouin, Cedar Rapids Chamber of Commerce
Robert Carson, Hawkeye Labor Council
Steven Caves, Firststar Bank
Michael Dexter, Cedar Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
Robert Doubek, American Friends of the Czech Republic
Will Ewart, Teamsters
Joe Hladky, The Gazette Company
Robert Kazimour, RFK Transportation
Janis Kazimour, RFK Transportation
Pay Marshall, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Thomas Miskimen, Heritage Area Agency on Aging
Dave Nagle, Attorney
Norm Nielsen, Kirkwood Community College
Steve Ovel, Kirkwood Community College
Robert Ruch, Attorney
John Smith, Cedar Rapids Chamber of Commerce
Timothy White, Attorney

White House Guests

Dr. and Mrs. John Hosmanek
Editor
Wisconsin Slovak Historical Society
Kenosha, Wisconsin

Mr. Stephen J. Baniak
Professor
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Rajec
Slovak League of America and
First Catholic Slovak Union
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Chabron
Slovak League of America
Brookfield, Wisconsin

Hon. Charles A. Vanik
Former Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
Cleveland, OH