

*file child
soldier*



Christine L. Anderson
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Subject: Statement by the President: Child Soldiers

THE WHITE HOUSE

**Office of the Press Secretary
(Los Angeles, California)**

For Immediate Release

January 21, 2000

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Today, the United States joined a consensus in Geneva on the text of a Protocol that addresses the problem of child soldiers. I am very pleased with the final result, and I look forward to the early adoption of the Protocol by the United Nations.

The forcible recruitment of very young children - some no more than 9 or 10 years old - into an increasing number of civil wars and other conflicts shocks the conscience and shames humanity. By addressing forced recruitment and the conduct of armed rebel groups, this agreement strikes at the heart of the problem of child soldiers. Countries that become parties to the Protocol would prohibit the use of soldiers under 18 by non-state forces, and would cooperate in rehabilitating and reintegrating child soldiers into society.

The Protocol also deals in a realistic and reasonable way with the issue of minimum ages for conscription, voluntary recruitment, and participation in hostilities by national armed forces. The Protocol would establish an 18-year minimum age for compulsory recruitment; require parties to raise their minimum age for voluntary recruitment to an age above the current 15-year international standard; and require parties to take all feasible measures to ensure that armed forces personnel who are not yet 18 do not take a direct part in hostilities.

This Protocol is an important advance for human rights. At the same time, it fully protects the military recruitment and

readiness requirements of the United States. I am committed to a speedy process of review and signature and to working with the Senate on this historic achievement to protect the world's children.

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Message Sent To:

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UN protocols

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 5, 2000

FACT SHEET

United Nations Protocols on Child Soldiers and the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

President Clinton today signed two historic agreements advancing international efforts to eliminate abuses committed against the world's children. The United States is among the first signatories to these United Nations protocols, which prohibit the forcible recruitment of children for use in armed conflict and protect children from slavery, prostitution and pornography.

The Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict and on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography were adopted by the UN General Assembly on May 25, following several years of negotiations. The United States played an active role in negotiating both Protocols over the past several years. The Administration intends to submit both Protocols to the United States Senate for advice and consent later this month and will continue to work with the Senate to achieve speedy ratification of these two Protocols.

Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.

In many parts of the world, children as young as seven or eight years old tote guns and ammunition and are deeply engaged in armed conflict, including:

- Angola, where over 10,000 children have been forced to become soldiers;
- Colombia, where the Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) uses children as soldiers;
- Sierra Leone, where children comprise nearly half of the Revolutionary United Front forces, and where up to 7,000 children are involved in the conflict; and
- Burma, where many thousands of children serve as combatants.

The Protocol raises international standards in the effort to end the forced recruitment of children into armed conflict, gives governments additional tools to pressure violators and promotes rehabilitation to help reintegrate child soldiers into civilian life. Specifically, this Protocol:

- Bars compulsory recruitment below the age of 18;

- Requires that States set the minimum age for voluntary recruitment above the current 15 year-old standard and declare what minimum age they intend to adopt. States that recruit under the age of 18 are required to describe the steps they will take to ensure protection of under-18-year-old enlistees. (In this respect, the U.S. practice is to accept qualified volunteers at age 17 provided they show parental consent and reliable proof of age. Related programs such as ROTC and military schools will be unaffected.);
- Mandates that parties “take all feasible measures to ensure that members of their armed forces who have not attained the age of 18 years do not take a direct part in hostilities”;
- Prohibits the recruitment or use of soldiers under 18 by non-governmental armed forces, which are the principal culprits in the use of child soldiers, since many rebel or militia groups abduct children to fight in civil wars; and
- Promotes assistance and rehabilitation of children who have been victimized by armed conflict by requiring state parties’ cooperation in prevention and rehabilitation efforts, including in partnership with non-governmental organizations. (The United States already contributes more than \$20 million per year to programs for children affected by war.)

The Departments of State and Defense were deeply involved in the international negotiation leading to the adoption of the Protocol, which would require the United States to take all feasible measures to ensure that 17-year olds do not take a direct part in hostilities. The Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Service Chiefs carefully considered whether the U.S. military could undertake such an obligation and concluded we could do so while fully protecting our military recruitment and readiness requirements.

On June 8, the U.S. Senate adopted a resolution calling for ratification of this Protocol as quickly as possible.

Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.

This Protocol is a significant advance in efforts to strengthen law enforcement action against those responsible for sexual abuse of children, with strong provisions that:

- Define the terms “sale of children,” “child prostitution” and “child pornography” for the first time in an international agreement and require that these abuses be treated as criminal acts;
- Establish stronger, clearer grounds for jurisdiction and extradition to better ensure that offenders can be prosecuted regardless of where they are found; and
- Include extensive provisions on international cooperation among nations, which will help child victims receive protection and assistance.

This Protocol supplements other U.S. efforts in the international arena and builds on the adoption last year of the International Labor Organization's Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention. That Convention, which the United States has ratified, calls for immediate and effective measures to stamp out exploitation of children for prostitution, pornography and other abuses.

Both Protocols are stand-alone international agreements open to all States without the need to be part of the underlying international agreement, the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Signature and ratification of these two Protocols do not create any obligations in relation to the underlying Convention or to any other international agreement to which the United States is not a party.

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The Clinton/Gore Administration: A Strong Record of Working To Eliminate Abusive Child Labor Around The World

July 5, 2000

Today's signing by President Clinton of the United Nations Optional Protocols prohibiting the forcible recruitment of children for use in armed conflict and protecting children from slavery, prostitution and pornography builds on the Clinton/Gore Administration's record of working to eliminate the worst forms of child labor around the world.

PRESIDENT CLINTON HAS MADE AMERICA A LEADER IN WORKING TO PREVENT ABUSIVE CHILD LABOR AROUND THE WORLD:

- In his 1998 State of the Union address, President Clinton called upon the Congress and other nations to join in the fight against "the most intolerable labor practice of all – abusive child labor."
- Building on these commitments, the President in his 1999 State of the Union address vowed: "[We] will lead the international community to conclude a treaty to ban abusive child labor everywhere in the world."
- In his 2000 State of the Union address, the President again called for the elimination of abusive child labor.

IN 1999, THE PRESIDENT SPOKE TO THE ILO IN GENEVA URGING THE ADOPTION OF CONVENTION 182 TO ELIMINATE THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR:

- In June of 1999, President Clinton became the first U.S. President to travel to Geneva to address the ILO Conference. He urged members to adopt Convention 182 and pledged to seek its ratification.
- On December 2, 1999, with bipartisan support from the Senate, President Clinton signed ILO Convention Number 182 - "the Convention Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor."
- In signing Convention 182, President Clinton noted that tens of millions of children "are still forced to work in conditions that shock the conscience and haunt the soul. If we want to slam the door shut on abusive child labor," he stated, "we must open the door wide to education and opportunity."
- Recognizing the importance of education in eliminating child labor, the convention requires ratifying nations to take steps to ensure access to basic education.
- The convention applies to all children under the age of 18, and defines the worst forms of child labor to include:
 - ✓ All forms of slavery and practices similar to slavery such as forced or compulsory labor, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflicts.
 - ✓ The use of children in prostitution, pornography, drug production and drug trafficking.
 - ✓ The employment of children in work likely to harm their health, safety or moral well being.

UNDER THE CLINTON/GORE ADMINISTRATION, THE UNITED STATES HAS BECOME THE WORLD'S LARGEST CONTRIBUTOR TO THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOR (IPEC):

- In fiscal year 1999, President Clinton, with the encouragement and support of Senator Tom Harkin (D. Iowa), increased U.S. contributions to IPEC tenfold to \$30 million - making this country the world's largest contributor. That funding level was maintained for fiscal year 2000.
- Since 1995, the U.S. has funded projects to prevent or remove some 120,500 children in Africa, Asia and Latin America from dangerous or abusive work in many industries (including commercial agriculture, mining, fishing, the production of soccer balls, carpets, garments, fireworks, and footwear), as well as prostitution and domestic service.

BUILDING ON THIS RECORD, THE CLINTON/GORE ADMINISTRATION HAS PROPOSED TO MORE THAN DOUBLE RESOURCES TO COMBAT ABUSIVE CHILD LABOR IN THE 2001 BUDGET:

- President Clinton has proposed \$110 million in his FY 2001 budget – more than doubling last year's level of \$45 million -- to help eliminate abusive child labor around the world. This \$110 million commitment includes:
 - ✓ A 50% increase in the U.S. contribution to the ILO's International Program for the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC) - to \$45 million.
 - ✓ \$55 million in new funding for targeted bilateral educational assistance to promote school rather than work in countries where exploitative child labor is prevalent.
 - ✓ Doubling - to \$10 million - Customs Service resources to enforce the ban on the importation of goods made with forced or indentured child labor, denying such products access to the lucrative U.S. marketplace.

THE PROBLEM OF ABUSIVE CHILD LABOR

- The ILO estimates that there are at least 250 million working children between the ages of five and 14 in developing countries -- about half of them work full-time and do not attend school.
- Tens of millions of children work under very hazardous and abusive conditions. Around the world, young children in their formative years are exposed to hazardous conditions, including toxic and carcinogenic substances in manufacturing, dangerous conditions in mines and on sea fishing platforms, and backbreaking physical labor.
- Some children labor in bondage, are sold into prostitution, or are indentured to manufacturers, working against debts for wages so low that they will never be repaid.
- The majority (61 percent) of the working children are found in Asia, followed by Africa (32 percent), and Latin America and the Caribbean (seven percent). While Asia, by far the most populous region, has the highest number of child workers, Africa, the poorest region, has the highest proportion of child workers, with 41 percent of its children engaged in some form of economic activity.
- Basic education improves the lives of children, their families, their countries, and the global community. Despite the benefits of education, about 20 percent--or 145 million--of the world's children six to 11 year-olds are out of school.
- Groups under-served by education are often over-represented in child labor. Among these groups are girls, rural communities, specific linguistic and ethnic groups and the poor. For example, girls are more likely to work longer hours and be engaged in "invisible" domestic service. It is estimated that two-thirds of the out-of-school population are girls.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 4, 2000

90 JUL 4 PM 4:35

SIGNATURE OF OPTIONAL PROTOCOLS TO THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS
OF THE CHILD ON (1) THE INVOLVEMENT OF CHILDREN IN ARMED
CONFLICT AND (2) THE SALE OF CHILDREN, CHILD PROSTITUTION AND
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

DATE: July 5, 2000

LOCATION: UN Headquarters, New York

TIME: 2:55 p.m. - 3:40 p.m.

FROM: SAMUEL BERGER *mu 6r*I. PURPOSE

To sign two recently adopted UN Protocols relating to children.

II. BACKGROUND

These Protocols on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict and on the Sale of Children, Child Pornography and Child Prostitution are significant achievements. The first raises the legal age for compulsory and voluntary military service, and for participation in armed conflict; the second criminalizes the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

The UN General Assembly adopted both Protocols on May 25, and the United States would be among the first governments to sign them. Obtaining acceptable language on the first Protocol, relating to children in armed conflict, was the greater challenge for us. Some European governments and advocacy groups were pushing to require that only those 18 years of age and older could be recruited or participate in armed conflict, a position we could not support due to the critical importance of 17 year-olds to our recruitment goals and concerns about undercutting readiness. With the support of the Department of Defense and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, skillful negotiation, and help of some allies, we reached agreement on a compromise which permits recruitment below age 18, but requires that governments use "all feasible measures" to prevent those under 18 from "taking a

cc: Vice President
Chief of Staff

direct part in hostilities." DoD is now drawing up proposed guidelines for implementation, and we will shortly present this Protocol, along with its companion Protocol described below, to Congress.

The second Protocol, relating to the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography, was less controversial for us. It would mandate that these practices be criminalized, and would provide law enforcement and cooperation tools to help guarantee that offenders will not go unpunished.

III. PARTICIPANTS

Ambassador Holbrooke
UN Deputy Secretary General Louise Frechette
Dr. Palitha Kohona, Chief of the UN Treaty Section

Up to 80 people will be in the audience, including representatives of leading human rights and non-governmental organizations, Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Security Council, senior members of the Administration including Under Secretary of State Frank Loy and Deputy Secretary of Defense Rudy DeLeon, and Congressmen Ben Gilman (R-NY) and Gregory Meeks (D-NY). The President of Mali, Alpha Oumar Konare, will be at the UN on Wednesday, and has also been invited to the Protocol signing.

IV. PRESS PLAN

Pool Press

V. SEQUENCE

The motorcade will arrive at the UN Secretariat, and you will be greeted by Ambassador Holbrooke and UN Deputy Secretary-General Frechette. You will be held in Room 207 for several minutes until everyone is seated in the signing room, the West Foyer. After entering the West Foyer, you will pause for a moment while the Chief of the UN's Treaty Section, Dr. Palitha Kohona, announces the signing of the Protocols. You will then be escorted to a table holding the two Protocols, at which you will be seated. You will sign the signature pages of each of the Protocols underneath the written text, and then date the documents underneath your signature.

While you sign the documents, Ambassador Holbrooke, UN Deputy Secretary-General Frechette, and Dr. Kohona will stand behind you from left to right; all others will be seated in the audience facing you. After you sign the documents, Ambassador Holbrooke and you will be seated in the front row of the audience while Deputy Secretary-General Frechette makes remarks of approximately three minutes at a podium. Ambassador Holbrooke will then take the podium and introduce you, and you will proceed to the podium and deliver your statement. There will be no questions by the press, and you will depart the Secretariat.

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Final 07/04/00 2:00pm
Heather Hurlburt

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PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS ON SIGNING CHILD PROTECTION PROTOCOLS
THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK, NY
July 5, 2000

Thank you, Ambassador Holbrooke. Deputy Secretary-General Louise Frechette, thank you for hosting me here today. I'm glad to have Congressman Gilman and Congressman Meeks with us, as well as many senior UN officials, Permanent Representatives, and members of the NGO community. I am glad to see that many of the State, Defense and Justice Department negotiators who worked on these agreements are with us today. Thank you for your hard work. I also want to acknowledge the leadership of the Defense Department and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in ensuring that the United States could sign the child soldiers protocol in good faith without compromising our military readiness or our national security in any way.

I am very proud to represent the people of the United States in signing these two protocols. With the Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labor I signed last year, they form a trio of vital protections for children. And they are signposts for our global future. To give life to our dream of a global economy that lifts all people, we must stand together for our children – and the world's children. Yet every day, tens of millions of children work in conditions that shock the conscience. Every day, thousands of children are killed and brutalized in fighting adults' wars. And every day, around the world and even in the United States, children are sold into virtual slavery and trafficked for the worst forms of sexual abuse.

Think about what has been lost for the future because roughly two million children have fought in wars over the last 20 years. In Sierra Leone today, as many as half of the rebel forces are children under 18. Some are as young as 5 or 6. In Colombia, guerrilla forces have taken thousands of children from their villages to serve as soldiers. Two years ago, when we went to Africa, my wife Hillary met with Ugandan children who had been abducted. She heard stories of unspeakable horror, of children forced to kill each other, family members, even their own parents. Since then, she has been an eloquent voice on behalf of children who have been abused, exploited and forced into war. She is an important part of the reason we're here today. And she reminded me this morning of what she said two years ago: that there is no worse sin than sending a child to kill the people who gave him life.

The Optional Protocol on Children in Armed Conflict sets a clear, high standard. No one under 18 may ever be drafted by any army, in any country. Its signatories will do everything feasible to keep even volunteers from taking a direct part in hostilities before they are 18. They will make it a crime for any non-governmental force to use children under 18 in war. And they will work together to meet the needs of children who have been forced into war, to save a generation that has lost so much.

What happens to the world's children in peacetime can be just as shocking. Can you believe, in the 21st century, that the global traffic in human beings is the third-largest source of income for organized crime? Hundreds of thousands of children are bought and sold, exploited and prostituted every year. Yet many countries don't even have laws against this noxious trade. The Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography will do a great deal to change that. It specifies that child pornography, prostitution and enslavement are crimes everywhere. It provides better tools for law enforcement to extradite and prosecute those who profit from this dirty business. We are already waging a firm fight against those who traffic in children – and this protocol will make a big difference.

These are two agreements that every American should be proud of. It's true that words on paper alone are not enough. But these two documents are a starting point for action: for punishing offenders, dismantling trafficking networks, and caring for young victims. They represent an international coalition, formed to fight a battle that one country could never win alone. They represent a worldwide consensus on basic values – values that every American shares. In short, they represent the United Nations at its best. And they remind us why, at a time when crime, disease and hate can spread faster than ever before, we need a strong United Nations more than ever before.

The U.S. Senate has already passed a Sense of the Senate resolution in support of the protocol on children in armed conflict. I will send both protocols to the Senate this month, and I hope they can be ratified this year. Both agreements are stand-alone documents. They create no obligations to other agreements which the United States has not ratified. They speak to an international sense of justice – and to a profoundly American belief that children, our most precious resource, deserve all our love and protection.

During one of the darkest moments of the century just past, the German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer reminded us that “the test of the morality of a society is what it does for its children.” Today, more than ever, this is a test that the world cannot afford to fail. The United States should always be at the forefront of that effort. I am proud of America's leadership in negotiating these two protocols and that we are among the first nations to sign them. I pledge my own best efforts to see that we are leaders in implementing them – and in doing so, granting the world's children a future that is better than the past.

Thank you.

TALKING IT OVER

HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

March 24, 1998

KAMPALA, Uganda -- For most Ugandans, the night of Oct. 9, 1996, marked the end of a day celebrating the country's Independence Day. For Angelina Acheng, it was the beginning of a nightmare.

That evening, her 14-year-old daughter, Charlotte, was kidnapped from St. Mary's School in Aboke, Uganda, by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), a terrorist group based in Southern Sudan that abuses civilians in Northern Uganda. The kidnappers broke the windows of this girls' boarding school. They tied up the girls, all of whom were younger than 16. They beat those who dared to cry. And then they took away 139 of them -- 75 percent of the student body -- and sent them into a life of unspeakable horror. Many, like Charlotte, have not returned.

When I met with Angelina at the White House a few weeks before I came to Uganda, she spoke movingly about her daughter and told me about the organization she and other local parents had formed -- the Concerned Parents Association. They work to save their children and all the other children held captive by this group. Since 1994, with the shameful support of the Sudanese government, the LRA has kidnapped as many as 10,000 children in Uganda. These children are literally being snatched away from their homes. The boys are used in battle as human shields. The girls are sent into slave labor, raped and given away as "wives" to rebel commanders. They are often forced to kill other children who don't obey or -- worse yet -- who try to escape.

The LRA invokes the name of the Lord, but there is no greater sin than making children kill children or even the parents who brought them into this world. Followers of the LRA call themselves soldiers, but they are cowards. Only cowards would hide behind children in battle.

The plight of these children is part of a growing and alarming trend. It used to go without saying that innocent women and children were not supposed to be the targets of war; now, increasingly, they are not only targets but even compelled to participate.

According to a 1996 U.N. Report, "Impact of Armed Conflict on Children," war affects millions of children all over the world. It steals their lives, violates their innocence and destroys their families, leaving them to fend -- often unsuccessfully -- for themselves. Unaccompanied children are far more likely to be raped and assaulted. War forces vulnerable children as young as 8 to become soldiers. It deforms their sense of right and wrong, turning 12-year-olds into cold-blooded killers. It ends hope. More than 60 percent of Rwandan children interviewed in the aftermath of the 1994 genocide said they did not care whether they ever grew up.

One of Charlotte's classmates who managed to escape talked about what happened when another girl tried to flee: "The girl was brought in front of us, and the rebels told us to stomp her to death. We killed the poor innocent girl. ... If we did not kill the girl, we were going to be shot by guns. We prayed for that girl in our hearts, silently, and asked God to pardon us and forgive us because it

was not our will to kill her."

Another rescued student from St. Mary's School said, "I saw people's legs being cut with either a panga or an ax. I saw a young baby of a few months held in hand and beaten to death against a tree. Innocent people were being killed in a way I never thought a human being could (act toward) another human being."

One girl simply wrote: "I'm pleading with you to find a way of stopping this rebel activity so that we children of Northern Uganda could also share in the peace that other children around the world are sharing in. ... We need peace."

I hope every citizen listens to these calls for peace and reaches out to Ugandans like Angelina who are answering them. Already, groups like Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International are shining a spotlight on this tragedy. UNICEF is helping to investigate child abductions and get assistance to groups working at the local level. And non-governmental organizations like World Vision and Save the Children are operating trauma centers to care for children who escape.

But we must join with the Ugandan people to do much more -- both to care for the victims and address the root causes of this tragedy. During a speech at Makerere University in Kampala this week, I was pleased to announce, on behalf of the President, new steps that the U.S. government is taking to provide assistance to local groups like the Concerned Parents Association to help them find abducted children and give them the medical care they need to heal. The United States will provide \$2 million to help people plagued by rebel activity in Northern Uganda get jobs rebuilding roads, dams, schools, health clinics and ultimately their own lives and communities.

Finally, all nations should pressure Sudan to end its support for the LRA and its cowardly abductions of children.

Children should never be used as weapons of war. If we speak with one voice against these atrocities, then, next Independence Day in Uganda, parents like Angelina will be able to celebrate freedom in the best possible way -- surrounded by their children.

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Talking it Over

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First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
Georgetown University, Eleanor Roosevelt Lectures
Washington, DC -December 4, 1998

I am delighted to be here at this wonderful university. I want to thank my friend and your president, Father O'Donovan, for his introduction, for his leadership, for his many contributions. Not only here to this university but to the much broader American community as well.

I am delighted to be here with others, from whom you will hear as the program goes on. Dr. Glen Johnson from Val-Kill and Dr. Dorothy Brown and Dr. Sue Martin, Ambassador Betty King and Dr. McGrab and Dr. Milnik...and your own Dr. Jo Ann Moran Cruz and Tracy Roosevelt.

This is a very important first lecture and a very significant series that was undertaken by the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill at Hyde Park in New York. I am very honored to be taking part in this extraordinary lecture series and I'm very pleased to be a part of something that preserves the legacy of Eleanor Roosevelt. That gives new generations of all of us, men and women, here in America and around the world, a real opportunity to know more about this extraordinary woman.

What I wish to discuss this afternoon is how Eleanor Roosevelt's legacy as a person, as a leader, as someone who in her own way makes human rights part of our everyday experience and vocabulary, how she can help today to continue to guide us in protecting the human rights of all people and, in particular, of children. I believe that this is an important piece of unfinished business in our century and one of the challenges of the new millennium. It is of course more than fitting to have this first conversation about human rights at this great university and community --one which has always responded to the call of service, God, and humanity. It is the home, as Father O'Donovan just reminded us, of a student community that sends more than a thousand young people a year into Washington, DC schools and neighborhoods bringing math, and reading, and role modeling, and friendship, and a hug to some of our nation's most vulnerable children. It is the home of a brilliant faculty that has devoted their lives to their students, to scholarship, to service. Whether it's in the classroom or in some other activity, Georgetown continues to make an important mark on what we are as a people, how we define ourselves now and in the future. It is certainly the home of many distinguished alumni who have used the Jesuit ethos of service in this world, from Mark Gearan who sends Peace Corps volunteers to every corner of the Earth, to George Mitchell who helped bring peace to Northern Ireland, from my husband, to my Chief of Staff Melanne Verveer who is with me here today.

Now, as you might imagine, being somewhat in awe of this great university which has produced so many important people and that has made so many important contributions to our country, I thought I needed to discuss this speech with Eleanor Roosevelt. (laughter and applause) When I first told people some years ago that I sometimes hold imaginary conversations

with Mrs. Roosevelt, there were some --particularly, I must say, in the journalistic community --who thought they finally had irrefutable evidence that I'd gone off the deep end. (laughter) Well, I only can commend to you this imaginary conversation technique --whether it is with a parent, a grandparent or a beloved former teacher or a famous person --it does help to get your ideas straight because you say, "What would my grandmother say about this?" Or, "what would Mrs. Jones, who desperately tried to prevent me from dangling participles, have to say about this?" So talking to Mrs. Roosevelt, even in my imagination, has proven to be a very great source of strength and inspiration. You can imagine some of the situations I find myself in when I say, "Oh my good gracious, what would Mrs. Roosevelt say?" (laughter)

As anyone can tell you, particularly my daughter, I am technologically challenged. But, I decided in preparation for this speech to try a more modern, more acceptable way of communicating. So, first I tried to email her at eroosvelt@heaven.com, but I think the server was down. I tried calling on her cell phone, but the circuits were busy. Then I tried paging her but was told she had traveled to another part of Heaven to work with a group of angels on strike, and that I would need a universal skype to get through to her.

So there I was last night, I got home from New York late, worried about what I was going to say, staring at some pages of print when I realized that her life has already given us the guidance we need on today's topic so many times over. Not just some inspirational words that we might hear in our minds, in our imaginary conversations such as, "The thing to remember is to do the thing you think you cannot do." But also in her example, in the path that she created, in the life that she lived. Wherever I go as First Lady, I am always reminded of one thing: that usually, Eleanor Roosevelt has been there before. I've been to farms in Iowa and factories in Michigan, welfare offices in New York, where Mrs. Roosevelt paid a visit more than half a century ago. When I went to Pakistan and India we discovered that Eleanor Roosevelt had been there in 1952, and had written a book about her experiences.

So I was particularly honored when I received the Eleanor Roosevelt Center Gold Medal at Val-Kill. A beautiful wooded retreat where she went to entertain friends and family to think and to write. As I walked through her home I tried to imagine again how she worked tirelessly there for what she believed in. And I was told a story that I've never forgotten. It was a day in the 1950s and she had a speech to give in New York. She was so sick that her throat was literally bleeding. Everyone wanted her to cancel, but she refused. She drove from Hyde Park to 125th Street in Harlem. And when she got out of the car, a young girl with her face beaming handed her a bouquet of flowers. Eleanor Roosevelt turned to the person with her and said, "You see, I had to come. She was expecting me."

Well, they were always expecting her and she always came. She came to give support and to give a voice to those without either. To the migrant workers who watched her march through fields that had been newly plowed and were thick with muck, they would just matter-of-factly greet her by saying, "Oh Mrs. Roosevelt, you've come to see us." As if it were the most natural thing in the world. To the Japanese -Americans during World War II and to

African Americans every day during her long life, she would help support people who faced discrimination and challenges.

Another of my favorite stories is of an African American child, a first grader, whose mother worked in a laundry mat. His father was a mechanic who couldn't get good work. They lived in a tin shack without any foundation so every time it rained their house slid down the hill. This child wrote to Eleanor Roosevelt telling her that his house was literally falling down a hill. So she went to Kentucky, set up a meeting with the heads of the realty association and the banks, which led not only that child getting his house on much firmer footing, but also eventually to integrated housing in Lexington, Kentucky. The next year in the mail, he sent his second grade picture to Mrs. Roosevelt and she carried it with her to remind her of the boy she had never personally met. On the back, he had written his name with such care, erasing it many times so that it was just right, that it left an imprint on the front of the photo. He also included a letter, "Dear Mrs. Roosevelt," it said "Thank you for my house. I know you did it."

Without fanfare, she went anywhere and everywhere she thought her presence would make a difference. She wanted to see with her own eyes the everyday violations that rob individuals of their dignity and all of us of our humanity. And then she rolled up her sleeves and tried to do something about what she saw.

And that is the path she is asking us to walk today; to open our eyes and hearts, to use our minds and hands, and fulfill the promises of her greatest achievements of all, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It happened exactly 50 winters ago. As the Chair of the commission drafting the Universal Declaration of Human rights, Eleanor Roosevelt worked tirelessly from 1946 to 1948. Imagine how she must have felt on December 10, at 3:00 a.m. when the nations of the world agreed to create this new common standard for human dignity. We know how everyone else felt. The delegates stood and gave her a standing ovation.

Let me read a passage from that document: "The advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief, freedom from fear and want have been proclaimed as the highest aspirations of the common people." The declaration, as we know, did not take place in a vacuum. As Father O'Donovan has already reminded us, it was a worldwide response to evil, and I use that word deliberately. Those who study Hitler's rise to power and the Holocaust know that the Nazis were able to pursue their crimes precisely because they were successful at constricting the circle of those were defined as fully humans. The proceeded step by step, through laws and propaganda --Jews, the mentally ill, the infirm, gypsies, homosexuals --all of whom they identified as unworthy of life, as not human, as alien, other.

Throughout history, and even today, we have seen in many places and in many times this cold dark region of the human soul, this schizophrenia of the soul that permits one group to de-humanize another. And it was that all-too-human characteristic that the Declaration and Eleanor Roosevelt wanted to help us resist. In the half century since the declaration, this document has created an ideal that nations and individuals have reached towards, knowing that

they will never quite achieve it, but knowing that we must never stop trying. Many countries have used the Declaration for their own constitutions. Courts of law look to it. It has laid the groundwork for the world's war crimes tribunals.

At the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, it was the strength and challenge of this Declaration that enabled us to say for the world to hear that human rights are women's rights and women's rights are human rights. It was the power of the Declaration that led in 1989 to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. I am very proud that my husband signed that. And now I hope with all my heart that the United States will join with the Vatican and all the other nations of the world except Somalia and ratify the Convention once and for all. (applause) And this is why. In spite of our progress on human rights over the last half century, it is unconscionable that we still have not seen the circle of human dignity expanded to include all the children of our world. There are still too many excluded from the Declaration, too many whose suffering we fail to see, to hear, to feel, or to stop.

Now, any look back in the course of human history shows that every nation, every society, has its blind spots. Spots that somehow prevent us from understanding how the full circle of rights should include all of our fellow human beings. In our country it has taken us most of our 222 years --most of them bloody, few of them easy --to extend the benefits of citizenship to African Americans, to those without property, and to women. Eleanor Roosevelt was 35 years old before she was given the right to vote.

And we also know --especially in this new global economy --that no nation can move ahead when its children are left behind. Eleanor Roosevelt understood that. She knew that whether we treated children with respect would not only determine the quality of our lives, but also who we were as a nation and what kind of life it would be for the next generation. You could see it in the way she talked to children. I've seen so many pictures of her bending down from her tall frame and leaning her entire body over to hear a child, looking right into the eyes of that child, trying to understand that child's dream, trying to convey that she believed in that little boy or girl, and she always tried to give those children a voice.

The Declaration makes that clear. It reads, "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights." All human beings --it did not say all men, or all members of certain races, regions or religions. It did not say all adults. It also did not make choices between children because, in fact, it says specifically, "All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection." Because human rights are not given to us by a parent or the government. They do not miraculously appear when we turn 18. No piece of paper can give them or take them away. We know that children should be treated with extra care --not less. And every child should be viewed as endowed with all rights and dignity accorded to all human beings.

Now of course that's not always been the view of children. For millennia we viewed

children as the property of their families, principally of their fathers. They were mostly used for work --work outside and inside the house. Parents were given the right in every culture to abandon, ignore or sell their children. But over the centuries, we grew to understand that children were not just little adults, that they need the care, discipline and the love of a family. And we began to understand too --as industrialization spread across the world --that in order for children to be successful in the world that is being created, they needed education, they needed protection, they needed to grow slowly but surely into adulthood. We have to only go back to the 19th century to see how different times were. In Dickens' Hard Times, poor children grow up in a town where the black soot from the factory virtually extinguishes the sun and the school is taught by a teacher appropriately named Choke M. Child. So in this century, we have begun to appreciate more that children are people, are individuals, and not property.

Now what does that mean to us? Well, clearly in our country, it has meant passing laws, and enforcing them to prevent children from being abused in labor; being abused by those who are closest to them --their family; being given certain protections, whether they are caught up in the court system or the welfare system; being given the right of --which sounds like an oxymoron --compulsory education; being viewed in other words as people themselves who we must nurture into full citizenship. If you've ever worked with children, you can see in their eyes how so often we fail at that very fundamental task of respecting them. I've worked with abused and neglected children for more than 25 years. I've looked into the eyes of many poor children, many abandoned children, and I'm always amazed that there are some in our world who continue to dismiss the suffering of children, who believe that somehow children are so resilient that they will always bounce back, and it is not all of our responsibility to care for all of our children, and that we interfere with the rights of parents when we do something as simple as try to prevent children from being physically abused.

So we've changed attitudes, and we have seen great progress doing so here in our own country and around the world. There are others who say that human rights are a Western invention and that they come from a Judeo-Christian base and that they don't have universal application. But we also know differently. We can go back and trace the roots of the beliefs that were set forth in the Declaration. They were not invented 50 years ago. They are not the work of a single culture, whether it is Confucius who articulated them in ancient China, or Sophocles who wrote 2500 years ago about such rights and had Antigone declare there were ethical laws higher than the laws of kings. But whether it is the Golden Rule --which appears in every possible religion in one form or another --we know that at root we understand --whether we admit it or not --that we as human beings are vowed to each other in a mutual realm of respect, that we should nurture for our own sake, as well as for others.

Now what are these rights? Well, for children, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child declares that every child is born with the right to be protected from abuse and abduction, violence and work that threatens his or her development. It says that every child has the right to worship freely and express opinions and aspirations, that every child has the right to health, to education, to life. These are the promises that Eleanor Roosevelt and every other champion of

human rights held out for all people, but it has been up to us adults to make these promises real in the lives of children.

In many African villages, I'm told that neighbors greet each other not by saying hello, but by asking, "How are the children?" Well the answer is that today, 50 years after the Declaration, children are doing better around the world. They are more likely to live to see their 5th birthday and even their 75th. In health, nutrition, education, water supply and sanitation, three out of five countries are pretty much on track to reach the child survival goals set by the 1990 World Summit on Children. Over the last two decades, infant immunization rates rose from 5 percent to 80 percent, saving more than 3 million lives a year.

Around the world, I have personally seen governments and non-governmental organizations come together to put the lives of children first. Just a few months ago, Yemen adopted a national strategy for girls' education, including eliminating school fees for girls. Last year in the United States, we extended health insurance to millions of children, and enacted the Adoption and Safe Families Act, which says that our first priority in the child welfare system is the health and well-being of children. There are many examples I could give you of the progress we have made--certainly over 50 years, but even over 10 and the last 5 years. But still we have to ask, "How are the children?" And the honest answer is, which children? Where do they live? Who are their parents? How affluent are they? What kind of societies are they part of? Because, despite the advances, in many places around the world children are not doing very well at all. There are old foes like malnutrition and malaria and new foes like trafficking and child prostitutes and laborers. There is still a long distance for us to travel.

Over the last few weeks I randomly had pulled headlines from around the world. From Hong Kong, "Child Prostitutes Make Tearful Plea," in Bangladesh, "The Plight of Street Children," in Nairobi, "Poverty Blamed for Child Labor." Eleanor Roosevelt certainly would be the first to point out that a child's rights go far beyond simply responding to the images that we see on TV, or that reach us through the Internet or the newspaper. We have to ask ourselves, each of us, "What is it I can do? What is it I can ask others to do? How can I move my government, my church, my friends forward to do more for children?"

I think there are some very specific ways we can bear witness and things we can do to support those children whose lives are not much better today than they were 50 years ago, or who face new challenges --like being kidnaped, or being forced into combat --that we didn't even dream of 50 years ago. We have to understand that we can't just be satisfied by giving children help and nutrition for emergencies. We have to look at root causes. We have to support work by our own government, by our development agencies like USAID, by international organizations such as UNICEF. And it is particularly important that we do not forget the faces of the children here in our country, at this time of prosperity and peace. Americans have so many blessings, but there are even those among us who are being left out.

If we talk about human rights and freedoms we have to ask ourselves, "What does that

mean to the 7 million children who still die every year of malnutrition?" What does it mean to the 585,000 women who still die of childbirth complications or the girls who are fed last and fed least because they are not valued as much as their brothers?

What meaning can it have for a child who does not have access to school or for one who is shut out at school? We know that education, especially for girls, is the single best investment any country can make. It is what will give children a better future, keep them out of the labor market before they're ready, and keep them off the streets. And yet, 140 million primary school age children are not in school --60 percent of that 140 million are girls. And I have seen first-hand the obstacles, the cultural and economic obstacles that stand in the way of sending girls to school. In a small village outside of Lahore, Pakistan I visited with mothers who had sent their daughters to local primary school, and now they had daughters who had graduated who wanted to go on with their education, but there was no secondary school. I've met with families in Bangladesh, who in return for food and money permitted their daughters to go to school. It was a bribe, but it was a worthy bribe.

I've also visited places where child labor is the norm not the exception and, as Eleanor Roosevelt said when she championed the Child Labor Amendment in our own country so many years ago, "No civilization should be based on the labor of children." But that is happening every day --even in this country because children are being forced into labor, sold into labor, and we are not doing enough about it. The types of labor children are subjected to in this new global economy have perhaps changed, but not the impact on the child. It is not a problem of the past. It should not be excused by saying that parents need money. And we should not close our eyes to the work of children that goes into beautiful carpets or comfortable running shoes because the fact remains that one quarter of the children in the developing world, 120 million, work full time. It's a very difficult problem because many of them are the sole support of their families often with widowed or abandoned mothers, with younger siblings, or they're helping to supplement the hard earned income of a father.

The new face of child labor also includes things that I don't think Eleanor Roosevelt even thought to worry about. Girls are being sold as part of an international trade in human beings from South Asia, to the Middle East, to Central America. It is estimated that there are 250,000 children in Haiti alone who are virtually enslaved as domestic servants. I heard about that on my recent trip to Haiti. How they are often given away, sold, separated from their families, sexually and physically abused, malnourished, and literally sometimes worked to death. There are girls that I've met in Northern Thailand, when I visited their village I could tell by looking at their parents' homes which ones had sold their daughters into prostitution. The homes were bigger, nicer, they sometimes even had an antenna or satellite on top. But the next day I visited with some of the daughters that had been sold into the brothels in Bangkok and other cities who, after they became infected with HIV, were thrown out onto the streets and found their way home. They were rejected by their families, and thanks to the good services of relief and religious organizations they were taken in. And I met those girls --some of them as young as 12 --dying from AIDS.

Eleanor Roosevelt worked hard to rescue European refugee children during World War II. But I don't know if she, or anyone, could have seen the horrific ways in which children are now being brutalized by war. Until relatively recently in human history, war was being fought out between soldiers. Some conscripts, some volunteers, but by in large adult men --counting teenagers in their mid to late teens in some societies who were part of whatever the war effort was. In the last twenty or so years, that has increasingly not been the case. Who will speak today for the two million children that have been in conflicts in the last two decades, with six million seriously injured or permanently disabled, the one million left without parents or the twelve million left without homes? The primary victims of modern warfare are women, and children, and civilians --people who are picked on as victims, who are kidnaped by perpetrators, who are forced into being refugees. Who will speak for those children who are being used as instruments of war? From the young girls systematically raped in Bosnia, to the quarter of a million child soldiers around the world.

Who will speak for the three children I recently met in Uganda --Janet Issac and Betty? Like many children in Northern Uganda, they have literally been stolen from their homes. The boys are used in battle as human shields. The girls are sent into slave labor, usually raped, and then given away as wives to rebel commanders. The children are often forced to kill other children who don't obey or try to escape. The rebels call themselves soldiers but they are cowards, for only cowards would hide behind children in battle.

I met the head of a boarding school, a nun, Sister Rachele. Her 139 female students had been the subject of a raid by the rebels who had crossed the Sudanese border, had taken the school, tied the girls up, beaten them, and then taken them all away into the dead of night. But this tiny little woman of God was determined to get them back. She went after them, she was armed usually only with her faith, but she was able to pull together some funds to ransom some of the children out. She served as a safe haven for those who could find their way back. Many have, but I was sad to talk with the mother of one of those students who has not been rescued. Her mother doesn't know if she's alive or dead. She only knows that she was taken as part of a war that she has no say in whatsoever.

We also know that we cannot fulfill the journey that the Declaration started us on when 100 million street children now live in the developing world alone. They are out of school, without homes or families. They're left to take care of themselves, they roam the streets in tattered clothing, they sell gum, and they beg and they dig through the trash for food. I've seen them in Bulgaria. Roma children --one of the most discriminated against groups in Europe --you might call them gypsies. Roma children, sometimes by their own parents, are put out on the street to beg. Or if there are too many children in the family some are just left there. Or if they want to go to school instead of turning tricks they are left there.

I also saw them in Brazil where three street children a day are killed, usually by police doing the bidding of merchants who are tired of having these children camped in front of their stores. In both Bulgaria and Brazil, I saw how caring people can make a difference. I visited a

center run by a Bulgarian-American who has taken in children off the streets who are now going to school and learning, and thinking about a better future. But it's a small number of those that need to be helped. I visited a unique program in Brazil in Salvador de Bahia. A circus school where children were taken in and taught skills to entertain people who would come and see them perform. They would then have money so they could be housed, and given food, and educated --children who once had no future, thinking they wouldn't have one. It's not only in warm places like Brazil --I visited a center for street children in Mongolia where the children, because of the rapid changes in social life, because of problems adjusting to the new global economy, are either being pushed out or running away from homes that are in a great deal of stress and turmoil.

When we think about what is happening with these tens of millions of children around the world, we certainly cannot forget that there are still children here in Washington, DC and throughout America that need their rights protected as well. We should not, for example, condemn violence against children in Kosovo and turn away from it on the streets of Washington. We cannot mourn the children of Mongolia and forget about homeless children here, or raise our voices about children out of school in Guatemala and close our mouths when young people here drop out. We have to do better by our own children as well. We've been making progress here and around the world.

I've been pleased that this administration, under the President, has put the protection of children on the front burner. For example, this year, we are increasing by tenfold our U.S. commitment to take children out of abusive workrooms and put them in classrooms all over the world. Since September, the Voice of America has been broadcasting monthly public service announcements asking parents if they've talked about their children's health today, focusing on child survival issues, talking hard talk in some places, like not feeding your girl children, or being exposed to HIV and AIDS. We join with Ukraine to combat trafficking of girls in and out of that country. And from Guatemala to Nepal, I've seen how small investments in educational scholarships for girls, or safe birthing kits, or Vitamin A, can lift up and transform lives. So there is much that we can point to that is heading in the right direction, but there is much more we have to do.

Another story from Eleanor Roosevelt. She once talked about receiving a letter from an African American boy who had taken a drink out of what was then considered the wrong water fountain, and he was beaten up for it. He sent her the cup he had used to get the water and explained what happened. She not only kept that cup, she carried it around with her as a reminder of all the work yet to be done. I wish we each had some little talisman that we could carry around with us, that would remind us everyday of the work still to be done. I hope we remember the children who are victims and weapons of war when Congress revisits our United Nations dues. It should be unacceptable to all Americans of any political persuasion that the richest and most powerful country in the world is the number one debtor to the United Nations. (applause)

I hope we remember the children toiling in glass and shoe factories as we work to fulfill

the promises and one day ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. I hope we continue to do all that we can to help promote democracy around the world to make sure that all parents have a voice that will be heard from the ballot box, and even the soap box, so they can speak out on behalf of the needs of their children. We know that we have to do more than pass, and even implement new laws. We have to teach people that they do have rights, and how to exercise them.

I was particularly pleased by an American-funded project I saw recently in Senegal. Where out in the villages they're learning about democracy, they're acting out skits. Someone stands up and expresses an opinion and then another stands up and they discuss it and take a vote on it. The rudiments of democracy. And in this skit are both men and women participating. As a result of that democracy skit one small village, after talking about issues that effected them --health, the education of their children --to put an end to female circumcision. That was a very brave decision. They convinced people in the village that it should be done, and they put it to a vote and they voted for it. And then, two men in their village went from their village to other villages and started talking to the people in the other villages and explaining that they had read the Koran and there was nothing in it that talked about this. It was not good for their daughters, it sometimes led to them hemorrhaging and bleeding to death, and sometimes caused grave complications in childbirth. Slowly, village after village began to recognize that it was a fundamental right of a young girl to grow up whole, to have her health protected. And then, the next thing I knew I got a letter saying these villages had banded together and presented a petition to the President and that a law would be passed. Now that law will not end this cultural custom, but it will begin to change attitudes about it. More and more girls and women will say, "No, this is not necessary."

There are certain rights to health that we need to protect. First, think of what we could accomplish if we valued and respected every child, with particular emphasis on girl children, because they are still the most at risk in so many societies around the globe. If we are to put children's rights on the same level as adult's rights, then we have to think about what it is that we want for our own children. Those of us in this beautiful Gaston Hall, who try to keep our children healthy, who try to give them good educations that lead to a fine university education like this one here at Georgetown. We try to protect them from abuse and neglect and abandonment and desertion. We try not to put them to work in full time jobs before they are ready. So we have to think about what we want for ourselves, and in many countries where some of the worst violations of children's rights occur, those who are in power protect their own children and then look at others' children as being beyond the circle of human dignity.

So we have to complete that circle, and that falls to every generation. It fell to our parents who fought off depression and oppression. It fell to the generation that fought for civil rights and for human rights. And it falls to each of us, particularly the students who are here today. I like very much the article that Tracy Roosevelt recently wrote. She talked about the legacy that her great grandmother left all of us and that any young person could follow by standing up for the rights of others by standing against stereotyping of any person or group of

people.

Now we might not have Eleanor Roosevelt's stature --either in height or in life --but each of us can contribute to a child's future. We can make sure that we are part of a society that values health care for everyone, a good education for everyone, the strength of families to give them the tools they need to raise their own children with future possibilities, to make sure we do everything we can to live free from abuse and violence and war, and to make it possible for every person and every child to speak freely and live up to their own God-given potential.

As we look forward to the next fifty years, we will face many challenges and opportunities. It was almost 50 years ago that Eleanor Roosevelt spoke about this. She spoke about democracy and human rights to a group of students, both high school and college students, in New York. As we listen to her those words still ring true today. She said, "Imagine it's you people gathered here in this room who are going to do a great deal of the thinking and the actual doing because a good many of us are not going to see the end of this period. You are going to live in a dangerous world for quite a while I guess, but it's going to be an interesting and adventurous one. I wish you courage to face yourselves and when you know what you really want to fight for, not in a war, but to fight for in order to gain a peace, then I wish for you imagination and understanding. God bless you. May you win."

Those words are just as true for this generation of students as they were fifty years ago for the ones that Eleanor Roosevelt spoke to. I go back to that first story, despite how sick she was, she showed up and took that bouquet of flowers from that young girl. "You see" she said, "I had to come, she was expecting me." Think about all of the children who are expecting us. Think about, as we go forward into Advent and celebrate this Christmas season, about a particular child who no one was expecting but grew up to give us a chance to think anew, to live again in ways that connect us more deeply and profoundly to one another. Eleanor Roosevelt can serve as an inspiration, and a reminder that although as President Kennedy said, "God's work on this Earth is our own," we know that we can never complete it. But we know that we can live richer lives if we try. To the children of America and the world, you see, we have to come, because they are expecting us to make good on the promises that were made to them fifty years ago.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

**Office of the Press Secretary
(Kampala, Uganda)**

For Immediate Release

March 25, 1998

**REMARKS OF THE FIRST LADY
AT MAKERERE UNIVERSITY**

Kampala, Uganda

4:51 p.m. (L)

MRS. CLINTON: Bana' Uganda. Muli mutyano. (Applause.) It is such a great honor and pleasure for me to be here on this campus of this great university. (Applause). Before I begin, I want to thank President and Mrs. Museveni for the warm hospitality that they have extended to us during our visit. And I particularly want to thank Mrs. Museveni, not only for that kind introduction, but I want to acknowledge her leadership on so many fronts, especially her creation of the Uganda Women's Effort to Save the Orphans. (Applause.) I also want to congratulate her on her recent graduation from the university. (Applause.)

Thank you for your warm welcome, Mr. Vice Chancellor. And, no, I do not mind at all, for you're asking that the needs of the students and faculty here be met, and I will carry your message back to the United States. (Applause.)

It is a pleasure once again to be with your Vice President, whom I admire so much and who told me that she, too, was a student and a teacher here at the University. (Applause.) I am also delighted to be joined by the Speaker of the Parliament, and the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and Deputy Chief Justice, the Minister of Education, the Minister of Gender and Community Development, and so many of you distinguished guests and faculty and students.

It is wonderful for me to have been able to return to Uganda. Last year when I visited with my daughter, I made the promise that I would return with my husband. And I'm very pleased I could keep that promise. (Applause.) I learned a lot about your country, your struggles and challenges, last year. Since then I have followed your development with great interest and very great admiration, because I have some small sense from the conversations I have had with many men and women here in Uganda and Ugandans in the United States about what you have had to overcome.

As the choir sang the Uganda National Anthem a few minutes ago, I thought about how appropriate it is for these words to fill Freedom Square today - - united, free for liberty. For 75

years.. Makerere University has stood for these principles. And yet, I know that forces of evil stole the life of Makerere's first Ugandan Vice Chancellor. I know that the forces of evil arrested, tortured and vilified students. They pushed faculty out of the country and tried to demean those who stayed. They wanted to destroy this world class university. (Applause.)

People like Idi Amin and his ilk are not comfortable in the light of freedom and education -- they prefer ignorance and backwardness. And you did not let them succeed. (Applause.) Instead you healed the wounds of the past and you are now building this university for the future, just as Uganda is doing, just as Africa is doing.

Out of the hard soil of the Cold War, democracies, free market economies and civil societies are all taking root. Students who once fought oppression underground re-emerged as liberators and now are leaders of a free Uganda. And voices for freedom and dignity and human rights once silenced are now again echoing through the halls of this university and across this country.

Many such voices are here with us today. I could call the names of many faculty and students, government and academic leaders, members of the professions and businesses here in Uganda -- people who stood up for freedom when it really counted. We can hear the voices of freedom from Sister Rachele Frassera, the Deputy Head Mistress of St. Mary's College in Aboke. When the Lord's Resistance Army kidnaped 139 girls, 75 percent of the student body, she chased down the terrorists, convinced them to release 109 girls and is working day and night to make sure all of them return safely. (Applause.)

We can hear the voice of freedom from Dr. Joy Kwesiga, the former Chair of Action and Development, and now Dean of Social Sciences here at Makerere. (Applause.) She has worked hard to ensure that the victims of domestic violence are heard, that their accusations are treated seriously and that the crimes are punished.

We can hear the voice of freedom from Sarah Bagalaliwo. As a founder and Chair of the NGO FIDA, Sarah instituted a legal aid clinic, which over the last 10 years has helped thousands of vulnerable women understand and exercise their fundamental legal rights. (Applause.)

Just a few hours ago my husband and I were in Rwanda, where we spoke with survivors of the 1994 genocide. It is still hard to imagine that in the space of three months, one million people were murdered. Nowhere has that number of people ever been murdered in such a short period of time in history. We listened to a delegation of six Rwandans who spoke of their experiences. One member was a woman whom I met exactly a year ago here in Kampala. I could not myself go to Rwanda, but several women came to see me and we met here to talk about their experiences.

Last year and again today, I will forever see the faces of the people I spoke with as they described the human toll of Rwanda's violence and what they were doing to rebuild their lives and communities. As my husband said in his remarks today, genocide destroys not only individuals, but our humanity. We must continue to bring healing to the victims, and we must

bring the perpetrators of genocide to justice. (Applause.) We must continue to be vigilant about the dangers that still exist and do everything we can to make sure that nothing like what happened in Uganda in the '70s and what happened in Rwanda in 1994 happen again.

That means every one of us must act. Not just our leaders - - we must hold our leaders accountable - - it is for all of us to stand up for the rights of all people. We must work to end atrocities around the world, not just the ones that grab headlines, but the indignities that people suffer quietly, when they are denied the chance to speak or learn, to work or eat; when they're denied the chances to live free from fear or want. In other words, we should stand up for the rights of all persons to be fully human.

You have made many steps toward that goal here at this university. I could not name them all, but I want particularly to commend the University for creating the Department of Women's Studies, and now for creating the Human Rights and Peace Center. (Applause.) There is no better time for all of us now to reaffirm our commitment to human rights and peace, for it was 50 years ago that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was born and the world acknowledged a common standard for human dignity. The document puts it very directly: All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. All human beings - - not just men, not just adults, not just people of particular cultures or nations, races or religions. This declaration means that we must expand the circle of human dignity to all human beings.

And just think how much wider that circle has grown in Africa in just a few short years. Only a decade ago who would have imagined that Nelson Mandela would move triumphantly from prisoner to President of South Africa. (Applause.) Or that more than 30 years of turmoil would give way to healing and unity in Mozambique. And who would have imagined that it would have been your brave President, President Museveni, that would have taken on the scourge of AIDS with his public health campaign, and that he would and you would, working together, stem the rise of AIDS in Uganda. That is also standing up for human rights.

And who would have imagined that Uganda would produce your Vice President, the highest ranking woman in any African government. (Applause.) I could add, the highest ranking woman in many governments around the world, not just in Africa. (Applause.)

And yet, despite the steady march of progress, the commitment here to universal primary education, for example, there are still those who will claim that human rights are a luxury of the West; that they have nothing to do with Africa, or Asia; that they are just a province of people like Americans. But the beliefs inscribed in the Universal Declaration were not invented 50 years ago; they are not the work of any single culture or country. They are universal and timeless.

Sophocles wrote about universal human rights 2500 years ago, when he had Antigone declare that there were ethical laws higher than those of even kings. Confucius articulated them in ancient China. And we can look throughout this continent and find examples of ancient leaders of Africa who also said that all people walk the same way, all people must be treated with dignity. These are the core teachings of all major faiths in the world. They are the foundation of

what it means to be a respected human being-- in Africa, in Asia, in America-- because they live in the human soul.

Around the globe, I have seen many women and men pushed to the margins of their societies. They may know nothing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, but they are eloquent in their beliefs that they were born with God-given rights just as surely as they were born into the human family.

It is absolutely untrue that individual human rights and community rights cannot co-exist. The truth is, they are indispensable to each other. Democratic progress is possible when all citizens can be heard. Economic progress is possible when all citizens have the tools of opportunity, such as education and health care, that will enable them to support their families.

Yesterday, President and Mrs. Museveni went with my husband and me to visit a village - the Jinja Village. We saw women who are working together through a village bank to make their lives better, increasing their income, helping their husbands support their families better, taking care of the children that were orphaned that they have taken in from their brothers or sisters or other relatives. And they are doing it because they've been given access to credit; they've been given tools to enable them to make economic progress.

Real security is only possible when we learn to live together and to respect each other's fundamental differences. I found a quote I particularly like from a Dinak Chief, who put it like this: "If you see a man walking on his two legs, do not despise him; he is a human being. Bring him close to you and treat him like a human being. This is how you will secure your own life."

But yet, it is not an easy task, in my own country, or any country, to make human rights a reality. The work is not done when a law is passed or a constitution is drafted. Securing human rights for all people is a never-ending struggle. In my own country, it has taken most of our 222 years-- some of them bloody and a few of them easy-- to extend the benefits of citizenship to all Americans.

We went from a very small group of white, property-owning men having citizenship, and gradually expanded it to include black men, and then to include women. But then we had to work to make sure that the words in the constitution meant what they said. One of my predecessors, Eleanor Roosevelt, who helped to write the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, was 35 years old before she could vote. My own mother was born before women were allowed to vote in the United States. And yet, if we do not secure human for all, none of us is secure in our own rights.

Some of you may recall the words of the Protestant minister living in Nazi Germany who said: "In Germany, first they came for the Communists, but I didn't speak out because I wasn't a Communist. Then they came for the Jews and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for trade unionists and I didn't speak out because I wasn't a trade unionist. Then they came for Catholics and I didn't speak out because I was a Catholic. Then they came for me, and

by that time, no one was left to speak out.”

At the dawn of the millennium, those of us who have the power to speak, and all of you here affiliated with this great university, by virtue of you being here and attaining this education, not only have the power to speak, but the obligation. We must speak up wherever we see injustice and inequality.

And particularly today, I want to speak up for women in African and all over the globe. Too many of them everyday do the work that needs to be done-- managing the home, feeding, schooling, and caring for the children; providing water and fuel. But every day, too many women are also being fed less and last; too many are trafficked like drugs and sold into prostitution; too many are left out when important decisions are made about their lives and their families and in their communities.

I want to commend Uganda for your new Local Government Act, which will help more women be a part of the decisions that will affect their lives. (Applause.) I am pleased to announce today that the United States government will provide \$2 million to help train these elected official women as they assume their new roles and responsibilities. (Applause.)

Because, yes, women's rights are human rights. And everywhere I travel, I meet women who are struggling to make sure that occurs. We have to speak out when either laws or customs treat women like children or second class citizens, when women are blocked from owning land, receiving inheritances, securing credit, or participating in the political process. We also have to speak out for more countries like Uganda to make sure that girls are educated.

Two-thirds of the 130 million children out of school worldwide are girls. I wish that some of those people in those countries that still prevent girls from being educated would come and visit the classrooms I have seen here in Uganda-- the bright faces of the young boys and girls ready to learn so they can become better citizens. I am so pleased that universal primary education is a critical part of Uganda's future.

There is much else we must speak against: violence against women; the practice of genital mutilation; women and children who are brutalized by conflict whenever it occurs.

In Uganda, a pilot program here has reduced the number of women who endure genital mutilation by more than one-third. And when I go to Senegal in a few days, I will meet with a group of women who over the past year have voted in their villages to end this practice and they are helping others to do the same.

We must also speak up for women and children caught up in war in and conflict around the world. It used to be that women, children, and civilians were to be protected during a war. Today, they are increasingly the targets of war. Since the turn of this century, civilian fatalities during war have increased from 5 percent to 90 percent, and 80 percent of war's refugees are women and children.

You have seen this here in your country, because nothing so offends any definition of human rights than the use of children as pawns of war and the mistreatment and abuse of women as a tactic of war. The war in Rwanda was waged against the lives and dignity of women. Rape and sexual assault were committed on a mass scale. Here, according to a U.N. report, the children of northern Uganda, like children throughout the world, are also at risk.

Last year when I spoke with President Museveni, he talked to me about the more than 10,000 Ugandan children who have been abducted by the Lords Resistance Army. One of those children is Charlotte, and she is one of the girl's that Sister Rachele tried to save. I met with her mother, Angelina, at the White House a few weeks ago before we came on this trip. She told me what had happened the night that the LRA kidnaped Charlotte and the other girls from St. Mary's school; how they broke the windows, tied up the girls, beat them if they cried; took them away into a life of unspeakable horrors. Thankfully, many have been rescued or escaped, or their freedom has been purchased. But many others, like Angelina's daughter, have not returned.

Like terrorists and dictators throughout history, the LRA claims to be doing the Lord's work. But there is no greater sin than forcing children to murder each other, family members, and even the parents who brought them into existence. There is no greater sin than raping young girls and sending them into slave labor. And there is no greater sin than using children as human shields in battle.

The LRA call themselves soldiers, but they are cowards, for only cowards would hide behind children in battle. (Applause.) Through a group called Concerned Parents Association, Sister Rachelle, Angelina and other parents are working to save their children and all children.

One of Charlotte's classmates who escaped talked about what happened when another girl tried to escape. Listen to her words: "The girl who is brought in front of us and the rebels told us to stomp her to death. We killed the poor innocent girl. If we did not kill the girl, we were going to be shot by guns. We prayed for that girl in our hearts, silently, and asked God to pardon us and forgive us because it was not our will to kill her."

Another girl who was rescued wrote: "I'm pleading with you to find a way of stopping this rebel activity, so that we children of northern Uganda could also share in the peace that other children around the world are sharing in. We need peace."

I'm hoping that every government around the world and every citizen joins your government and people in Uganda in your fight for peace and in your efforts to save these children. Already Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International are shining a spotlight on this tragedy. UNICEF is helping to get assistance to groups working at the local level. And non-governmental organizations like World Vision and Gulu Save the Children Organization are caring for children who escape.

There are three of those children here with us that I just had a chance to meet before I came out to see you. Their names are Isaac and Janet and Betty. They were kidnaped by the LRA in the north. They managed to escape, eventually finding refuge. As I looked into their

faces and their eyes, I saw the faces and eyes of children the world over. And I thought to myself as I looked at these young men and women of Uganda that we owe them and the thousands more like them everything we can do to make sure that they, too, have a chance, like the children I saw yesterday, to grow up in peace, to be educated, and to look forward to their own families and futures.

There are no easy answers, but I want Janet and Betty and Isaac to know, and I hope that someday Angelina will be able to tell her daughter, Charlotte, as well, that America cares about your children, and we want to work with you to try to stop this tragedy and to care for the children who are its victims. (Applause.)

That's why I am very pleased to announce new steps our government is taking through the United States Agency for International Development. First, we will provide \$500,000 directly to local groups like the Concerned Parents Association and GUSCO, to help them find abducted children and give them the medical care they need to heal. (Applause.)

Second, we will provide \$2 million over the next three years for a new Northern Uganda Initiative that will help the people living there plagued by rebel activity get jobs rebuilding roads, dams, schools, health clinics and their own communities. (Applause.) I am very pleased that other donors, including the World Bank, have agreed to support these efforts.

Third, we will provide \$10 million to local African NGOs who are working to improve food security and to prevent, ease and respond to conflict in the region. (Applause.)

And, finally, my husband and our government will increase their efforts to pressure Sudan to end its support for the LRA and their cowardly abductions of children. (Applause.) We will work with you to end this terror, and we will work with you to continue your rebuilding of your country.

But I want to add just one more thought, because when we talk about democracy and human rights we know how important laws and institutions are. We know that strong and free markets are also important because they unleash so much creative entrepreneurial energy from people like the women I saw in Jinja yesterday. But, ultimately, the struggle to protect human rights depends upon the millions of decisions and actions that are taken every day by ordinary people like us.

It is what Alexis de Tocqueville called, the habits of the heart. It is what we tell our children. Do we continue to tell them to hate those who our grandparents hated, or do we try to help them give up that hatred? It is what we tell each other in our neighborhoods, our villages, our workplaces when we hear someone making disparaging comments about someone of another ethnicity or tribal or racial or religious background. Do we say: Why do you say that about a person's group? Do you know the person? Can you make a judgment about that person as an individual? If you cannot, don't engage in stereotypes. There have been too many stereotypes between us. (Applause.)

In so many ways every day each of us can stand up for human rights. We don't have to be as brave as Sister Rachele rescuing girls. We don't have to be as brave as these three young children who have endured so much, but have come back to build their own lives. We can in so many ways stand up for human rights every day.

That is why I'm pleased that the Human Rights and Peace Center is developing a curriculum to be used throughout the campus, so that the lessons taught and learned here will stay with everyone forever. Because, ultimately, all the work that the President or Mrs. Museveni, or the Vice President or the Vice Chancellor, any of those who are currently leaders in Uganda can do will not be successful unless the students at this University and the children in the schools today understand how important it is to stand up for democracy and freedom and human rights.

No one understand better the importance of human rights than Ugandans. You understand the nightmares that come when they are abused. No one is in a better position to honor the past generations by passing these lessons on to the next generations. I hope that you will accept this challenge, not only now as you are doing, but for many years in the future. Many of us will look to Uganda as an example; as a country that is putting the past behind it in ways that the rest of us not only can admire, but follow. You have a historic opportunity to build a future that is not only one that you are proud to pass on to your children, but one that stands as a beacon not only for Africa, but for the world.

Many of us know what you suffered. Today we stand in admiration of what you are doing now to build a better future. And we will look to you as we move toward this new century and new millennium to show us how people develop new habits of the heart, to make it clear that every person is worthy of dignity and respect, and that peace and freedom, democracy and human rights will always be part of Uganda's life.

Thank you all very much. (Applause.)

END

5:23 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 5, 2000

PRESS BRIEFING BY
ERIC SCHWARTZ,
SENIOR DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
FOR MULTILATERAL AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

The James S. Brady Briefing Room

11:20 A.M. EDT

MR. CROWLEY: We basically have a foreign policy morning in progress here. You've heard from the President. This afternoon he goes up to New York to sign two protocols regarding children. And then also, in a couple of minutes, the President meets with family members and representatives from religious organizations regarding the recent verdicts regarding the Baha'i Jews that were convicted by Iranian courts. And after that, there will be representatives at the stakeout, and we'll do a readout of that meeting informally.

But first, just to briefly tee up the President's trip to New York this afternoon, Eric Schwartz, who is the Senior Director of the National Security Council for Multilateral and Humanitarian Affairs, will give you a brief synopsis of these two protocols.

We'll start off with Eric ON THE RECORD.

MR. SCHWARTZ: I'll just take a minute or two to describe what the President is going to be doing this afternoon in New York. He'll be signing two important protocols. These are basically international agreements advancing international efforts to eliminate abuses against children.

The United States will be among the first to sign these two protocols, these two agreements. The first is on the involvement of children in armed conflict, and the second is on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

The President intends to submit these protocols to the Senate later this month for advice and consent, and the administration will seek to work very closely with the Senate in efforts to achieving ratification.

Let me say a very brief word about each one of these agreements. The protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict in the United States, I think we will be about the eighth government to have signed this protocol when the President does it this afternoon. This is a terrible problem, from Angola to Colombia. Children as young as seven or eight are engaged in various forms of armed conflict in many parts of the world.

Now, this agreement has a few critical features. First, it will mandate that governments take all feasible measures to ensure that persons below the age of 18 do not take a direct part in hostilities. It will also bar compulsory recruitment below the age of 18 and mandate that all states set a minimum voluntary recruitment age above the current standard, which is 15. It will also require that states do everything possible to prevent nongovernmental groups, insurgencies, from using and recruiting children under 18.

Let me just say that, especially in terms of the requirement, that we take all feasible measures to ensure that those under 18 do not take an active part in hostilities. The Departments of State and Defense were deeply involved in these negotiations. The Department of Defense in particular carefully considered whether we could undertake such an obligation, and concluded that we could do so while fully protecting our recruitment and our readiness requirements.

Let me say a quick word about the second agreement, the second optional protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. This agreement is a significant advance for several reasons. First, it actually defines these terms internationally for states that are looking to promulgate domestic law, and it requires that these abuses be criminalized. States that are part of this protocol are required to criminalize these abuses.

It also establishes clear and strong grounds for jurisdiction and extradition. In fact, the protocol itself provides a basis for extradition for these crimes, and there are extensive provisions in the protocol for cooperation between states in dealing with these really horrendous abuses.

So these are the two instruments that the President will sign this afternoon in New York, and if anyone has any questions, I'd be happy to take them.

Q Do you have any idea of how many children are involved in conflict and prostitution and pornography? And secondly, am I right in thinking that these are protocols to an agreement or a convention that the United States has not ratified, so we're lending our name to something that we haven't approved the overall agreement?

MR. SCHWARTZ: The short answer to your second question is yes, but these protocols are free-standing, and by their terms they indicate that countries that have not ratified the underlying convention can certainly ratify -- sign and ratify the protocol.

The U.S. signed the convention -- the underlying convention on the rights of children in 1995 and we certainly support its objectives of promoting children's rights throughout the world. We haven't submitted the convention to the Senate for advice and consent.

Frankly, many senators have expressed concerns that the convention would infringe on U.S. sovereignty, on the rights of parents and on state and local law, and given these particular concerns, our own first priority as an administration has been to work toward Senate advice and consent and ratification of those human rights instruments where we have clearly a broader consensus within both the Executive and Legislative Branches, such as earlier in this administration the elimination on all forms of racial discrimination.

Last year, we ratified an ILO convention on the worst forms of child labor. So that has been our priority focus. But these protocols stand on their own and we are fully authorized to sign and ratify them, notwithstanding the underlying convention.

Q And the number of children involved that you're --

MR. SCHWARTZ: It's difficult to say, but I don't think tens of thousands would be too much of an overstatement.

Q In both categories, or just --

MR. SCHWARTZ: I can't speak about sale of children, child pornography and prostitution. I just don't know.

Q So your tens of thousands is involved in conflict -- armed --

MR. SCHWARTZ: Yes, in recent years tens of thousands. I would say at least.

Q The first protocol deals with keeping children directly out of conflict. Is there any measure to address children playing other roles in the conflict? I mean, like cooking food or bringing supplies? Children play a lot of roles in some of these Third World conflicts.

MR. SCHWARTZ: This gets into sort of definitions. I really would refer you to the Department of Defense, which is in the process of putting together proposed guidelines. And the all-feasible measures standard in the protocol recognizes the fact that you could have a company or battalion in a certain situation

where they are not involved in hostilities, but they could find themselves involved in hostilities. And the protocol obviously allows for that fact.

Q Presumably, these protocols achieve some or most of the named intentions of the '95 convention on rights of children, which has yet to be ratified. And if that's the case, is there anything in the wording of these protocols that suggest they'll have any trouble with the Senate?

MR. SCHWARTZ: Well, first, let me say in direct response, our ratification of these protocols do not imply obligations to any other agreements which the United States has not ratified, and that's a critical point, and I think it addresses your question directly, because the United States was deeply involved in the negotiations surrounding both these protocols, and there were a great deal of discussions back and forth within the Departments of Defense, State and Justice with respect to the exploitation of children protocol, and we fully supported adoption of both protocols on their terms.

The problem you suggested doesn't exist because our accession to these two protocols, again, does not imply undertaking obligations to an agreement that we haven't ratified.

Q Did they require any changes in U.S. law?

MR. SCHWARTZ: On the children in armed conflict, the answer to that question is no, and I believe the answer to the second one is no, but I would need to check on it and we'll get back to you. I'm not 100 percent sure on the second, but let me get back to you on the second.

THE PRESS: Thank you.

END

11:33 A.M. EDT

(62617)

Invitation List for 7/5/00 POTUS Signing Event

Draft of 7/1, 6:00 p.m.

[Bracketed Names] indicate courtesy invitations, though unlikely to attend.

Members of Congress (All cleared by Susan Jacobs and Miles)

Invitee	Organization/Reason for Invite	Contact/Inviter/Response
[Sen. Jesse Helms]	SFRC	
[Marshall Billingsley]	Helms staffer on child soldiers; on vacation in NJ	
[Richard Douglass]	Helms staffer on Sale of Children	
[Sen. Joseph Biden]	SFRC	
Sen. Paul Wellstone	Sponsored Child Soldiers Bill	
[Sen. John Warner]	Armed Services Comm.	
[Sen. Levin]	Armed Services Comm.	
Sen. Brownback	Trafficking Legislation	
[Rep. Spence]		
[Rep. Skelton]		
Rep. John Lewis	Sponsored Child Soldiers Bill	Susan Jacobs thinks may attend
Joe Bryant	Lewis staffer	Susan Jacobs suggested
[Rep. Gejdensen]	HIRC	
[Rep. Ben Gilman]	HIRC, NY delegation	
[Sen. Chuck Schumer]	NY delegation	
[Sen. Daniel Moynihan]	NY delegation	
Rep. Nita Lowey	NY delegation; cosponsor of Child Soldiers bill	
[Rep. Charlie Rangel]	NY delegation	
[Rep. Jerry Nadler]	NY delegation	

White House (to be completed by OPL):

Invitee	Organization/Reason for Invite	Contact/Inviter/Response
POTUS...		

First Lady's Office (to be completed by Office of First Lady):

Invitee	Organization/Reason for Invite	Contact/Inviter/Response
FLOTUS...		
Melanne Verveer		

NSC:

Invitee	Organization/Reason for Invite	Contact/Inviter/Response
Sandy Berger		
Eric Schwartz	Multilat	
Dan Feldman	Multilat	
Anne Witkowsky	Defense	
Brooke Anderson	Comm.	
Jane Stromseth	Former Multilat; negotiated child soldiers	
Sarah Schear	Jane's daughter	

State Dept:

Invitee	Organization/Reason for Invite	Contact/Inviter/Response
[Sec. Albright]		
[Theresa Loar]		Koh suggested
Amb. Frank Loy	Trafficking initiatives	Would like to attend
Dan Smith	Loy staffer	No - on leave
Amb. Michael Southwick	Child Soldiers Head of Delegation	Would like to attend
David Welch	IO	
Bill Wood?	IO	
Asst. Sec. Harold Koh	DRL	Would like to attend; 203-865-8817 (h)
Koh Family: Mary-Christy Fisher, Emily Koh (14), William Koh (10)	Harold can only attend if family attends with him.	
Rosa Ehrenreich	DRL; negotiated Child Soldiers	
[Asst. Sec. Julia Taft]	PRM	Harold suggested

[Amb. Susan Jacobs]	State/H	
Mike Dennis	L: Sale of Children Head of Delegation	Would like to attend

DOD:

Invitee	Organization/Reason for Invite	Contact/Inviter/ Response
[U/S Walt Slocombe]		
[Brian Sheridan]		
Jim Bodner	Principal Dep'y Sec.	Schear thought might attend
Admiral Patricia Tracey	Responsible for implementation guidelines	
Col. Halliday?	Tracey's staff; testified on Hill	
Jim Schear		Would attend
Eliana Davidson	OSD Legal; negotiated treaty	Would attend
Deborah Rosenblum	OSD	
Marc Cheek	Schear's staff	
Hagenbach	JCS	
Col. Kevin Vietti	JCS	
Col. Chip Brooks	JCS Legal	
Maj. Esther Swartz	JCS Legal	

DOJ:

Invitee	Organization/Reason for Invite	Contact/Inviter/ Response
[A/G Reno]	Will be in NY on 4 th ; interest in children's rights	
[Asst AG James Robinson]	Criminal Division	
Regina Hart	Head of delegation on Sale of Children Protocol	

Misc. Govt:

Invitee	Organization/Reason for Invite	Contact/Inviter/Response
Sec. Summers	Will be at UNHQ for ECOSOC lunch w/Holbrooke	
Gene Sperling	NEC - responsible for child labor and originally child soldiers	Schear suggested
Sarah Rosen Wartell	NEC - responsible for child labor and originally child soldiers	Schear suggested
Hugh Parmer	USAID	Southwick/Schwartz suggested
Andrew Samet?	U/S of Labor - tied to last year's ILO 182	

Brady Anderson

USUN:

Invitee	Organization/Reason for Invite	Contact/Inviter/Response
Amb. Holbrooke	USUN	
Jim Cunningham		
Mike Gallagher	ECOSOC	
Betty King		
Mary Ellen Glynn		
Peter Londono?		

Rebecca Dwyer

UN:

Invitee	Organization/Reason for Invite	Contact/Inviter/Response
Deputy SYG Frechette	(SYG unavailable)	Ruggie invited; will attend
John Ruggie		
Olara Otunnu (+ others?)	Special Representative of the SYG for Children in Armed Conflict	Available to speak, if we want him to
Catherine Von Heidenstam	Chaired Child Soldier's Standing Committee	In country?

Ralph Ekeus	Retiring Swedish Ambassador to U.S.; interest in child soldiers	Stromseth suggested due to his interest and Sweden's assistance
Ophelia Carleta Santos (sp?)	Special Rapporteur for Sale of Children	CUBAN CITIZEN - IS SHE IN NY?

NGO Suggestions by State/DOD (Koh/Southwick/Ehrenreich/Schear):

Invitee	Organization/Reason for Invite	Contact/Inviter/Response
Jo Becker	Human Rights Watch; played key NGO role in child soldiers	Southwick contacted 6/30; said she would attend and act as "validator"
Lois Whitman	Human Rights Watch	Harold suggested
Ken Roth	Human Rights Watch Executive Director	Rosa suggested 212-290-4700
Mike Posner	Executive Director, Lawyers Committee for Human Rights (and played substantial role in child labor)	
Norman Dorsen	Board Member, LCHR, NYU Law Prof.	212-998-6233
Tom Bernstein	Board President, LCHR	212-336-6855
Bob Bernstein		212-252 472-8400
Kurt	Amnesty Int'l	Harold suggested
Adatei Akwey	Amnesty Int'l	Rosa suggested
Gail Furman	Committee for Refugee Women and Children	Harold suggested
Mary Diaz	Committee for Refugee Women and Children, Exec. Dir.	Rosa suggested 212-551-3086 212-551-3000
Prof. Marty Guggenheim	NYU Law Prof.	
Prof. Lou Henkin & Alice Henkin	Columbia Law Prof. Aspen Institute	
Prof. Lori Damrosch	Columbia Law Prof.	
Jim Silk	Director, Schell Center of Human Rights, Yale Law	Rosa suggested

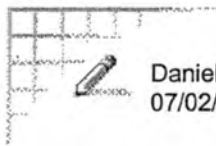
Prof. Paul Kahn	Schell Center of Human Rights, Yale Law	Rosa suggested
Carol Bellamy	Director, UNICEF	
Contact Name?	American Friends Service Center	
Larry Korb	CFR; former Ass't SecDef for Manpower under Bush; Republican; advocate of child soldiers protocol	
Ruth Wedgwood	CFR; Yale Law prof.; interest in child soldiers	
Gen. Shalikashvili	Played behind scenes role; friendly w/Julia Taft	Schear suggested
Steve Rickert	Formerly of Amnesty	
Marian Wright Edelman	CDF; children's rights advocate	
Tom Franck	NYU Law Prof	
Ren Levy, President	Int'l Rescue Committee	212-551-3000
Wendy Luers	Foundation for a Civil Society	212-223-6530
Joan Ganz Cooney?	(HCLBROCK-157)	

NGO Suggestions Culled from 5/29/97 UN Invite (note: contacts are 3 years old, so follow-up could prove difficult):

Invitee	Organization/Reason for Invite	Contact/Inviter/Response
Barry Steinhardt	ACLU	212-354-5290
Trudy Mason	American Jewish Congress	212-879-4500
Andrew Clapham, UN Rep	Amnesty Int'l	212-867-8878
Murray Koppelman	American Ort	212-353-5800
Deborah Jacobs	Association of Bar of City of New York	212-382-6600
Marjorie Sorensen	Association for World Education	212-988-3225

Mr. Techeste Alderon, UN Rep	Baha'i International Community (and also) NGO Community on Human Rights	212-803-2500
Sandra Sennett Tully	CARE; UN Program Liaison	212-362-2763
James Sullivan, Director	Catholic Relief Services	212-742-8778
Elena Chaves	Caritas Internationals	212-759-2248
Michael McCoy, Director	Center for Citizen Advocacy	212-431-3938
Dr. Kevin M. Cahill	Center for International Health and Cooperation	212-434-2994
Rodney Page, Executive Director	Church World Service	212-870-2175
Dr. Peggy McEvoy	Doctors of the World	212-226-9890
Nancy Marvel	Episcopal Church of the USA, Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief	212-922-5129
John Palmer	Hellen Keller Int'l	212-943-0890
Livia Farkas	Int'l Catholic Migration Commission	212-777-5400
Peter Kung, Head of Delegation	Int'l Comm. Of the Red Cross	212-599-6021
Satnam Chana	Int'l Federation of Human Rights USA	212-501-7435
Eigil Pedersen	Int'l Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Liaison Office at the UN	212-338-0161
Robert Grant	Int'l Humanist & Ethical Union	914-633-7900
Robert Kaplan, UN Rep.	Int'l League for Human Rights	212-684-1221
Contact name?	Int'l Peace Academy	212-687-4300
Joelle Tanguy	Medecins Sans Frontieres USA	212-679-6800
Dr. Harry Lerner	Medical Action for Global Security	212-983-3353
Paul Wilson, Director, Inter. Affairs	National Council of Churches	212-870-2511

Vera Rivera	Nat'l Council of Women of the U.S.	212-697-1278
Betty Obal	Peace Action Int'l	212-750-5795
Stephen and Berit Collett	Quaker UN Office	212-682-2745
Charles MacCormach, President	Save the Children	212-682-6881
Jonathan Cohen	United Nations Association - USA	212-907-1300
Charles J. Lyons, President and CEO	U.S. Comm. For UNICEF	212-686-5522
Rody Reyes-Russi	U.S. Committee for UNICEF	212-922-2657
Ann Florgat	Women's Int'l League for Peace and Freedom	212-924-8708
Gail Lerner	World Council of Churches	212-867-5890



Daniel F. Feldman
07/02/2000 04:16:55 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Laura Efurd/WHO/EOP@EOP, Christine A. Stanek/WHO/EOP@EOP, Ruby Shamir/WHO/EOP@EOP, Heather L. Davis/WHO/EOP@EOP
cc: Eric P. Schwartz/NSC/EOP@EOP, Brooke D. Anderson/NSC/EOP@EOP, Robert A. Bradtke/NSC/EOP@EOP, Leah F. Pisar/NSC/EOP@EOP
Subject: Amb. Holbrooke's Input into the Guest List

Laura/Christine -- Additions to the list from Holbrooke. Looks like we may not need to worry about filling space after all -- this has more than 50 names on it. Of those, almost half are affiliated with the UN, which Holbrooke's office has offered to call if you'd like. The Security Council is considering a resolution at the same time as our event on Wed. afternoon, so we may not need to worry about the 14 UNSC PermReps showing up. Let's talk later tonight or first thing Mon. morning about the logistics of paring down our collective list, making the calls Mon. morning, and as Rick asked me this morning, being able to get a list to UN Protocol by 3:00 Mon. that's 80% final as to attendees at the event. Thanks. Dan

----- Forwarded by Daniel F. Feldman/NSC/EOP on 07/02/2000 01:47 PM -----



"Syptak, Stephanie USUN" <SyptakS@state.gov>
07/02/2000 12:08:17 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Daniel F. Feldman/NSC/EOP
cc:
Subject: Amb. Holbrooke's Input into the Guest List

Good morning, Dan.

Amb. Holbrooke would like the following people invited to Wednesday's event. I have broken the list into three categories. Amb. Holbrooke will personally invite all the people in Category 1 as they are all close friends of his. We will leave Category 2 and 3 people to your office so as to minimize the confusion. I will be sure to let you know ASAP of any RSVP's that we might receive from the folks in Category 1.

Category 1 -

1. Mrs. Robin Chandler Duke
2. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Beattie

3. Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Mai

4. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Peterson

5. Ms. Adrienne Germaine - Exec. Director, International Women's Health Coalition

6. Ms. Joan Dunlop - Rockefeller Brothers Fund. also part of International Woman's Health Coalition

7. Dr. and Mrs. Isadore Rosenfeld

8. Ms. Ellen Schessler

9. Ms. Joy de Menil

10. Dr. Mitchell and Sarah Rosenthal - Phoenix House Group

11. Amb. William Luers - UNA/USA (please note that he is the husband of Wendy Luers who is already on your list) 212-288-0034

Category 2 -

12. Sen. and (Mrs.) Tim Wirth 202 887-9040

13. Congressman Joe Crowley

14. Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney

15. Congressman Ben Gilman

16. Congressman Donald Payne

17. Sen. Robert Torricelli

18. Sen. and Mrs. Charles Schumer

19. Gov. and Mrs. Pataki

20. Congressman Gregory Meeks

21. Congressman Jose Serrano

22. Congressman Charles Rangel

Category 3

23. Mr. and Mrs. Mark Malloch Brown - Administrator, UNDP (Phone: (212) 906-5791)

24. Ms. Katherine Bertini - Director, World Food Program (Phone : (212) 963-8439)

25. Representatives to the UN Security Council -

PROBABLY
(X)
Amb. Jeremy Greenstock (UK) (Phone: (212) 745-9334)
Amb. Jean David Levitte (France) (Phone: (212) 702-4949)
Amb. Wang Yingfan (China) (Phone: (212) 655-6191)
Amb. Sergey Lavrov (Russia) (Phone: (212) 861-4327)
Amb. Arnaldo Listre (Argentina) (Phone: (212) 688-6300)
Amb. Robert Fowler (Canada) (Phone: (212) 848-1150)
Amb. Agam Hasmy (Malaysia) (Phone: (212) 986-6310)
Amb. Martin Andjaba (Namibia) (Phone: (212) 685-1952)
Amb. Peter Van Walsum (Netherlands) (Phone: (212) 697-5547 Ext. 1612)
Amb. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh) (Phone: (212) 867-3434)
Amb. Patricia Durrant (Jamaica) (Phone: (212) 935-7509)
Amb. Moctar Oaune (Mali) (Phone: (212) 737-4150)
Amb. Said Ben Mustapha (Tunisia) (Phone: (212) 751-7503)
Amb. Volodymyr Y.Yel'chenko (Ukraine) (Phone: (212) 759-7003)

26. Amb. Kamallesh Sharma (India) (Phone: (212) 490-9670)

27. Amb. M. Abdallah Baali (Algeria) (Phone: (212) 750-1960)

28. Amb. Ahmed Aboul- Gheit (Egypt) (Phone: (212) 503-0338)

29. Amb. Dumisana Kumalo (South Africa) (Phone: (212) 692-2465)

30. Amb. Penny Wensley (Australia) (Phone: (212) 351-6611)

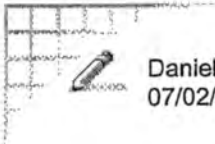
31. Amb. Shamshad Ahmad (Pakistan) (Phone: (212) 879-8600)

Please note that Amb. Holbrooke had also included Wendy Luers, Reynold Levy, Carol Bellamy, Congresswoman Nita Lowey, and Sen. and Mrs. Moynihan on his list. They are already on your list.

Please also note that I will take care of inviting the USUN employees that are on your list. Let us know if you need assistance with any other phone numbers.

Thanks.

Stephanie



Daniel F. Feldman
07/02/2000 05:43:32 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Laura Efurd/WHO/EOP@EOP, Christine A. Stanek/WHO/EOP@EOP

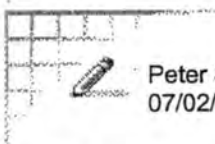
cc:

Subject: Re: Amb. Hobrooke's Input into the Guest List

laura/christine --

some final additions to the list. think that the "save the children" contact makes good sense (and they're in ct, so could easily get there). let's put the others on our NGO "B" list. dan

----- Forwarded by Daniel F. Feldman/NSC/EOP on 07/02/2000 03:44 PM -----



Peter Smith
07/02/2000 05:33:10 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Daniel F. Feldman/NSC/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Re: Amb. Hobrooke's Input into the Guest List 

here are some additional NGOs with offices in/near NYC, that might be good matches for the signing event:

If you want to read more about the orgs, see the Interaction member profiles book on Wendy's chair...



Save the Children/US
Dr Charles MacCormack, President
Westport CT 203-221-4000

UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)
Bishop Elias Galvan, Chairperson
NY NY 212-870-3816

USA for UNHCR
Jeffrey Meer
Washington DC 202-296-1115

The Africa-America Institute
Mora McLean, President
NY NY 212-949-5666

Childreach
Samuel Worthington, CEO
Warwick RI 401-738-5600

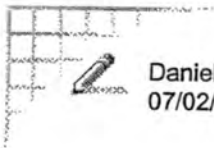
Concern Worldwide
David Begg, Chief Executive
NY NY 212-557-8000

Mercy Corps Intl
Nancy Lindborg, Exec VP
Washington DC (I can get you her number in the AM)

Oxfam America
Raymond Offenheiser, President
Boston 617-482-1211

Physicians for Human Rights
Leonard Rubenstein, Exec Director
Boston 617-695-0041

pdrs



Daniel F. Feldman
07/02/2000 05:43:32 PM

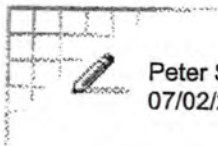
Record Type: Record

To: Laura Efurd/WHO/EOP@EOP, Christine A. Stanek/WHO/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: Re: Amb. Hobbrooke's Input into the Guest List

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