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December 11, 2000

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Melanne:

Attached is a letter from Slava Rostropovich to Mrs. Clinton enclosing a copy of his letter to the President.

Please note the footnote and, if all goes well, we can make this a great reunion for all of us – Phil and Elaine included!

Thank again.

Best regards,

Sincerely,



Vishnevskaya-Rostropovich Foundation

1776 K Street, N.W., Suite 800

Washington, D. C. 20006

Tel: 202-296-5730 • Fax: 202-833-5075 • Email rostro@erols.com

Mstislav Rostropovich
President

December 8, 2000

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
Office of the First Lady

My dear Hillary:

Here is a copy of a letter to the President concerning the proposal of the Vishnevskaya-Rostropovich Foundation to vaccinate over 1 million children in Siberia. Knowing of your interest in children and the work of my Foundation, I wanted to be sure to send you a copy.

With all my congratulations on your election to the Senate, and the wish that I will see you in New York, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Mstislav Rostropovich



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December 8, 2000

Mstislav Rostropovich
President

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

Dear Friend!
It gives me great joy to report to you that the Vishnevskaya-Rostropovich Foundation has begun the vaccination of over one half million children in the Nizhny Novgorod region. This is the most ambitious public health program for children in Russia since the collapse of the Soviet Union. Your support of the donation of soybean meal by the USDA was indispensable to the realization of this humanitarian effort. Thousands of teenagers have already received the first dose of hepatitis B vaccine. My staff is closely monitoring the program to ensure that every child is protected from infection. You have my personal guarantee that every dollar spent will be accounted for.

I have made it my responsibility to inform the Russian people about this gift from the people of the United States, which comes at a time when the health of the Russian population continues to deteriorate.

It is for the sake of the youngest generation of Russians that I turn to you, once again, to ask for your help in extending the vaccination program to other parts of Russia where there are no vaccines for children. The Foundation has submitted to the USDA a proposal to repeat the successful monetization of soybean meal so that over 1 million children in Siberia can be immunized. If this program is approved, the U.S. government will leave a remarkable legacy of people-to-people assistance that will be remembered by our children and grandchildren. I have no doubt that this generous humanitarian assistance will promote lasting friendship between our two countries.

I send you and your family my warmest wishes. Please convey my heartfelt congratulations to the First Lady on her election to the U.S. Senate.

Sincerely yours,

Mstislav Rostropovich

Slava
Mstislav Rostropovich

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P.S. Of course, my performance schedule takes me to the U.S. nearly every year. I will be in New York with the London Symphony Orchestra in 2002 (on the occasion of my 75th birthday) and again in 2003 with the New York Philharmonic for three weeks for my festival. Wherever you and the First Lady may be, I would like to give a special concert for you to show my appreciation for your help to children.