

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 14, 1999

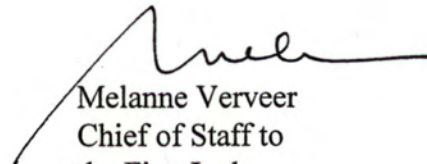
June Zeitlin
Executive Director
Women's Environment and Development Organization
335 Lexington Avenue, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10017-6603

Dear June:

Congratulations on your new position with WEDO.
You bring vision, commitment and competent leadership. I'm
sure Bella is smiling down on you, happy that her work will be
in good hands!

Best wishes and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

September 14, 1999

June Zeitlin
Executive Director
Women's Environment and Development Organization
355 Lexington Avenue, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10017-6603

Dear June:

Congratulations on your new position with the
~~Women's Environment and Development Organization. It is~~
~~wonderful to hear that you are thriving.~~ *WEDO. You*

~~Best wishes for your new job and please stay in touch~~
~~with us.~~ *we look forward*

Sincerely,

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

*you ~~are~~ bring
vision,
commitment
& competent
leadership.
I'm sure
Bella is
Smiling down on
you hoping
that her
work will
be in good
hands!*

*to working
with you.*

THE FORD FOUNDATION
320 EAST 43RD STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017

@

August 30, 1999

Melanne Verveer
Old Executive Office Building
Room 100
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Melanne:

I am writing to let you know that I will be leaving the Ford Foundation in early September to take up an exciting new position as Executive Director of the Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO).

Founded in the early 1990s by the late Congresswoman Bella Abzug, WEDO works with women around the world to advocate for a comprehensive women's agenda. It has been instrumental in bringing women's voices and a gender lens to the United Nations, through the world conferences on environment, population, social development and women.

While I know I will miss the work, colleagues and many friends I have made during my years at the Ford Foundation, I look forward to the many new challenges I will face in leading WEDO into the future.

Enclosed is a card with my new contact information on it.

Sincerely,



June Zeitlin
Director
Gender and Institutional Change Project

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 17, 2000

Ms. Angela E. Zavala
President & CEO
TIYM Publishing Co., Inc.
6718 Whittier Ave., Suite 130
McLean, VA 22101

Dear Ms. Zavala:

Thank you for the copy of the 2000 Anuario Hispano-Hispanic Yearbook and the invitation to attend the reception in New York on April 19.

As you already know, Mrs. Clinton's schedule will not permit her to attend the event, as she is committed to be elsewhere. However, she is sending a greeting to the gathering. Please accept her appreciation for the thoughtful invitation, along with her best wishes to you and your colleagues.

All the best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melanne Verveer', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the left.

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady



C

March 27, 2000

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to the First Lady
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. Verveer:

First of all, thank you again for dedicating some of your valuable time to us. I have enclosed a copy of the 2000 ANUARIO HISPANO-HISPANIC YEARBOOK, as well as the invitation for the event in New York, to be held on the 19th of April. We hope to have Mrs. Clinton join us at The National Hispanic Society of America.

The event will be magnificent! General Charles C. Krulak, Vice Chairman of MBNA will be speaking and will be introduced by the Consul General of Spain, Emilio Cassinello. The Deputy Director of OPM, John Sepulveda, will be closing the event.

If the First Lady cannot attend, but would like to send a message, I will be more than happy to read it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angela E. Zavala", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Angela E. Zavala
President & CEO



Mitchell A. Coddling
Director
The Hispanic Society of America

and

Angela E. Zavala
President and CEO
TIYM Publishing Co., Inc.

cordially invite you to a reception
celebrating the 14th edition of

ANUARIO HISPANO-HISPANIC YEARBOOK

"Hispanics at the Dawn of the New Millennium"

Wednesday, April 19, 2000
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
The Hispanic Society of America
613 West 155th Street
New York, NY

RSVP (703) 734-1632
or fax (703) 356-0787

Valet Parking

Please present this invitation at the door.

Private transportation departing promptly at 6:15 pm, provided by TIYM,
on 5th Avenue between 41st and 42nd Streets
(in front of The New York Public Library)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

**Greetings to the Participants of the Horovitz Competition for Young Pianists
from U.S. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton**

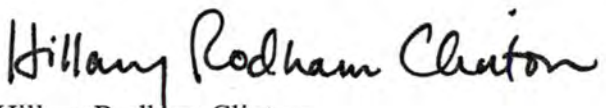
April 12, 1999

Dear Friends,

It is my great honor to extend best wishes to all of you who are gathered in Kiev for the 3rd Horovitz Competition of Young Pianists. This competition is fittingly named in honor of the great music genius, Vladimir Horovitz, who was born in Kiev and later became a citizen of the United States. His musical talent, however, was confined neither to Ukraine nor to the United States, for he truly belonged to the world.

It is therefore fitting that accomplished young pianists from around the world gather in Kiev for this competition. I send my congratulations to each and every one of you for your success in qualifying to participate in this competition and I wish you countless blessings and much success in the future.

Sincerely,


Hillary Rodham Clinton



**Посольство України
в Сполучених Штатах Америки
Embassy of Ukraine**

3350 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007
Tel.: (202) 333-0606, FAX (202) 333-0817, Web site: <http://ukremb.com>

**Mrs. Melanne Verveer
Assistant to the President
Chief of Staff to the First Lady
The White House, DC 20500**

fax: (202) 456 6244

April 2, 1999

**Re: First Lady's Greetings to the Participants of the Horovitz Competition for
Young Pianists**

Dear Melanne,

Further to our conversation concerning First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's patronage of the International Competition for Young Pianists in memory of the world-known pianist Vladimir Horovitz who was born in Kiev, I am pleased to inform you that the third Horovitz contest will be inaugurated in Kiev on April 23, 1999 and will last though May 7, 1999.

Nearly 230 young pianists from 22 countries, participated in selection tours in Cincinnati, Sydney, Prague, London and Kiev, but only 86 of them will be allowed to take part in the competition. They will represent Australia, Armenia, Belarus, China, Hungary, Finland, France, Great Britain, Japan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Turkey, Uzbekistan, and, of course, the USA and Ukraine.

The international jury board will be headed by Ivan Karabytz, professor of the P.Tchaikovsky National Musical Academy of Ukraine. Please find enclosed herewith the list of the jury board of the 3rd Horovitz Competition.

We would very much appreciate it if the First Lady could sent her greetings to the participants of the 3rd Horovitz Competition and later, during their tour of the USA which is planned for next October (tentatively, October 10-20, 1999), meet them at the White House. I would be grateful if I could receive the First Lady's Address by April

14, 1999 because we have diplomatic mail sent to Ukraine on April 15. Thus, the Organizing Committee would be able to get it on time.

In 1999-2000, the winners of the competition will also tour Hungary, Germany, Croatia, France. In 1997-1998, the winners of the 2nd Competition toured the USA, Israel, Romania, Hungary, Australia, Germany, China, France, Great Britain, Japan Croatia and Ukraine.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Natalia Zarudna
Minister Counselor (Acting)

P:S: I hope, your recent trip was quite an experience and a great success.

Enclosure

**Jury board of the 3rd International Competition for Young Pianists
in Memory of Vladimir Horowitz**

The head of the Jury — People's artist of Ukraine **Ivan Karabytz**,
professor of the P.Tchaikovsky National Musical Academy of Ukraine.

1. **A.Vardi (Israel)** — the head of the jury of the Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition, professor of piano. Consent received on Oct.25, 1997.
2. **N.Fisher (Great Britain)** — an art director of London Master Classes, the head of the London Qualifying Round, jury member of the 2nd International Competition for Young Pianists in Memory of Vladimir Horowitz. Consent received on Dec.16, 1997.
3. **J.Lowenthal (USA)** — a member of the jury board of the most prestigious piano competitions (Arthur Rubinstein, F.Buzoni, and others), professor of the Julliard School of Music. Consent received on Jan.28, 1998.
4. **M.Suk (USA, Ukraine)** — Honored Artist of Ukraine, pianist Mykola Suk received world recognition at the International competition Liszt-Bartok in Budapest in 1971, where he won a Gold Medal. He participated in jury boards of the 1st and 2nd International Competition for Young Pianists in Memory of Vladimir Horowitz. Currently he lives in New-York, where he is an Artist-Resident of the Ukrainian Institute in America. Consent received on May 05, 1997.
5. **W.Thomson (Australia)** — an artistic director of the piano competition in Sidney, jury member of the 1st and 2nd International Competition for Young Pianists in Memory of Vladimir Horowitz. Consent received on Nov.03, 1997.
6. **D.Yoffe (Israel)** — eminent pianist, professor of piano, jury member of the 2nd International Competition for Young Pianists in Memory of Vladimir Horowitz. Consent received on Dec.11, 1997.
7. **V.Gornostayeva (Russia)** — People's Artist of Russia, professor of Moscow conservatory. Consent received on Nov.28, 1997.
8. **M.Stepanenko (Ukraine)** — People's Artist of Ukraine, the board director of the Union of Composers of Ukraine, the head of the piano department of the P.Tchaikovsky National Musical Academy of Ukraine. Consent received on Jan.26, 1998.
9. **I.Koch (Austria)** — a pianist, the best interpreter of Mozart in Europe, jury member of M.V.Lysenko competition. Consent received on Feb.09, 1998.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 25, 1999

Claudia Zorn
Green Thumb
2000 North 14th Street, #800
Arlington, VA 22201

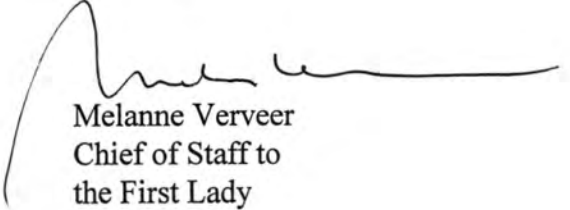
Dear Ms. Zorn:

Thank you for your invitation to the First Lady to address Green Thumb's 1999 Prime Time Awards, March 21-24.

Regrettably, the First Lady will be out of the country and unable to attend this year's ceremony. She conveys her appreciation for Green Thumb's work highlighting the contributions of our nation's oldest workers.

Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,



Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady



Green Thumb
experience works!

R
Regret will
be out of me
Country

January 15, 1999

Ms. Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Melanne:

On March 21-24, Green Thumb will honor America's oldest worker and outstanding older workers from each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico at our 1999 Prime Time Awards, a series of high-profile media and congressional events culminating in a Gala Awards Ceremony.

Inaugurated last year to highlight the valuable contributions older Americans make to their communities and places of work, the Prime Time Awards immediately follows "National Employ the Older Worker Week," offering an opportunity for maximum exposure on mature workforce issues.

Co-sponsored by the U.S. Departments of Labor and Health & Human Services, the Prime Time Awards and Gala will be held this year on Wednesday evening, March 24 at the National Building Museum, where prominent leaders from business, government, and the service sector will join our honorees and guests for an inspiring evening.

We would be honored to have the First Lady share remarks at the Gala Awards Ceremony. Mrs. Clinton's participation in the 1999 Prime Time Awards would be a wonderful tribute to our award recipients and would add tremendous value to this high-profile national event.

In addition, we would like to request that this year's Oldest Worker have an opportunity for a brief meeting and photograph with the First Lady, Secretary of Labor Herman and Assistant Secretary for Aging Jeanette Takamura. Last year, the First Lady graciously met with America's Oldest Worker, then 102 year-old Milton Ward Garland, and his wife Alice. Their visit to the White House made a lasting impression on them, and was a highlight of their visit to Washington, D.C.

I am attaching background information and a copy of a letter from Green Thumb's president, Andrea Wooten, to Barbara Woolley in the Office of Public Liaison, for your reference. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the Prime Time Awards or Green Thumb's activities, and appreciate any assistance you can provide to help make the 1999 Prime Time Awards a special experience for America's oldest worker and outstanding older workers from across the country.

Sincerely,

Claudia Zorn
Director of Marketing & Communications



Green Thumb
experience works!

January 15, 1999

Ms. Barbara Woolley
Associate Director of Public Liaison
Office of Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Barbara:

Many thanks for helping us make Green Thumb's second annual Prime Time Awards a special experience for our awardees. The Prime Time Awards honors America's Oldest Worker and outstanding older workers representing each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. We expect to have America's Oldest Worker selected by the end of the month, and will have all outstanding older workers selected by mid-February.

The honorees arrive in Washington, D.C. on Sunday, March 21, and will stay at the Holiday Inn in Old Town, Alexandria. We are in the process of arranging high-profile media and congressional activities beginning Monday morning, March 22 through Wednesday afternoon, March 24.

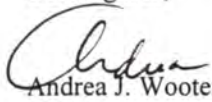
Most of our honorees will be visiting Washington, D.C. for the first time. Because last year's awardees listed their visit to the White House at a highlight of their trip, we would like to request a White House tour for approximately 120 people including our 1999 Prime Time Awards honorees (53 individuals), their spouses, and special guests. Tuesday, March 23 is our preferred date, although we could accommodate a tour on Wednesday, March 24.

In addition, we would like to request that America's Oldest Worker have a similar opportunity as last year's awardee, Milt Garland, who was invited to the White House for a VIP tour, brief meeting and "photo op" with the First Lady, Secretary of Labor, and Assistant Secretary for Aging. This year, a similar event could take place either on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday, however we would prefer to schedule this for late Wednesday afternoon.

The Prime Time Awards Gala takes place on Wednesday evening, March 24 at the National Building Museum. We have invited Vice President Gore to serve as keynote speaker, and have requested the First Lady, Secretary Herman and Assistant Secretary Takamura to share remarks. We would appreciate any assistance you can provide to encourage their participation.

Barbara, we look forward to working with you and appreciate all your efforts. Please contact me or Green Thumb's Director of Marketing and Communications, Claudia Zorn, for any further information you may need.

Best regards,


Andrea J. Wooten
President

Enclosure

bcc: Melanne Verveer

Green Thumb National Office
2000 North 14th Street, Suite 800
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone 703.522.7272
Facsimile 703.522.0141

Prime Time Awards
Washington, D.C.
March 1999

In 1998, Green Thumb, Inc. launched the Prime Time Awards, our nation's premier older worker recognition event, to highlight the valuable contributions older Americans make to their communities and places of work. Prime Time Awards activities focus national attention on the fastest growing segment of our population and a group of Americans who exemplify the positive work ethic, experience, loyalty, and dependability that are so important to our society and economy.

The Prime Time Awards honor the nation's oldest worker, identified by a nationwide search, and outstanding older workers representing each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, selected through an extensive network of partners from business, government, and the service sector. These individuals are recognized during a series of state, local, and national events preceding, during, and immediately following "National Employ the Older Worker Week" (March 14-20, 1999), offering opportunities for maximum exposure on mature workforce issues.

Honorees arrive in Washington, D.C. on March 21, and stay at the Holiday Inn in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia. The 1999 Prime Time Awards activities begin on March 22 with a series of high-profile congressional and media activities that conclude with an awards ceremony and gala at the historic National Building Museum in Washington, D.C. on March 24. Invited guests include the President and Vice President of the United States and First Lady; White House officials; the Secretaries of Labor, Health and Human Services, Agriculture, Education, Housing and Urban Development, and Veteran's Affairs or their designees; Commissioner of Social Security; all members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives; chief executive officers of sponsoring and other major U.S. corporations; and members of the media.

Selection Process

America's Oldest Worker. The search for America's oldest worker was launched with a media event on September 30, 1998 in Washington, D.C. The search is coordinated by the Green Thumb national office in Arlington, Virginia, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Aging.

Outstanding Older Workers. The search for outstanding older workers representing each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico is conducted on a state by state basis under the leadership of the Green Thumb directors in each state. A typical selection process and recognition involves the solicitation of nominations statewide and selection of a winner through a collaborative process with business, government, and community-based organizations.

Schedule – 1999 Prime Time Awards Activities

Sunday, March 21, 1999

Welcome Dinner

Holiday Inn Select, Old Town Alexandria, Virginia

Award winners and their families will be welcomed to Prime Time Week at a dinner in the headquarters hotel for the 1999 Prime Time Awards.

Monday, March 22, 1999

Press Conference

The National Press Club, Washington, D.C.

Prime Time Award key sponsors and supporters will join representatives of Green Thumb, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the United States Department of Labor in introducing America's oldest worker and outstanding older workers to the press.

Twilight City Tour, Washington, D.C.

Award winners, their families, and special guests will tour Washington, D.C. by luxury coach to view the city's major monuments and attractions. Boxed snack dinners and beverages will be provided.

Tuesday, March 23, 1999

White House Tour

Award winners, their families, and special guests will have a special tour of the White House.

Senate Town Meeting

Senate Hearing Room (TBD), Washington, D.C.

The Senate Special Committee on Aging will host an interactive town meeting to recognize the awardees and to discuss issues relating to mature workers.

Senate Visits

Senate Office Buildings, Washington, D.C.

Award winners meet with their respective Senators and participate in special recognition activities planned for them.

Wednesday, March 24, 1999

Congressional Breakfast or Hearing

House Office Building (Room TBD), Washington, D.C.

Award winners, families, and sponsor representatives meet with members of the House Older Americans Caucus and discuss issues of concern to older workers.

House Office Visits

House Office Buildings, Washington, D.C.

Award winners meet with their respective Representatives and participate in special recognition activities planned for them.

White House Tour and Photo

America's Oldest Worker and spouse/guest will be greeted at the White House and have a photo taken with First Lady Hillary Clinton, Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman, and Assistant Secretary for Aging Jeanette Takamura.

Prime Time Awards and Gala

The National Building Museum, Washington, D.C.

A reception and formal seated dinner will be followed by an awards ceremony, remarks by dignitaries, and entertainment.

April 14, 1999

His Excellency Miomir Žužul
Embassy of the Republic of Croatia
2343 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Ambassador Žužul:

Thank you for your letter and kind invitation for the First Lady to serve as honorary chair for the *Croatia in Chicago* program on April 7.

Regrettably, Mrs. Clinton's busy schedule made it impossible for her to attend the proceedings, but we trust they were a success. I know Mrs. Clinton greatly appreciates your important work to strengthen Croatian-US ties.

Please accept our thanks and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff to
the First Lady

Don't need
since it's
over +
I'm not
sure on
what we
did re:
hon. chair

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

3/3/99

Melanne -

I would advise against associating the First Lady with this event. Croatia is on a major "charm offensive" with the US at present, but it is still far from meeting our expectations in terms of assisting Dayton implementation and protecting human rights, particularly of Serb minorities. Today's NYT has an article (attached) that accurately summarizes an OSCE report on this matter.

Greg Schulte

with the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia. All this morning, tanks, ranged on the main road close to the border, shelled the hillsides where the rebels hold positions amid mountain villages.

The shelling has caused thousands

creased numbers.

The Kosovo Liberation Army is a secretive organization, but four commanders in their late 20's are emerging as its central leaders. All are former student activists and now possibly the most powerful ethnic

a visit to Pristina on Monday.

"I'm pretty convinced that this deal is going to stick, that we'll have Albanian signatures," he said. "And I hope the Serbs will come to understand that it's in their interest to sign."

Croatia Branded as Another Balkans Pariah

By RAYMOND BONNER

ZAGREB, Croatia, March 2 — Serbia and the Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic, are generally considered the pariahs in the Balkans, but according to an international report the verdict on Croatia and its President, Franjo Tudjman, is equally harsh.

"There has been no progress in improving respect for human rights, the rights of minorities and the rule of law" in Croatia, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said in the recent report, which has not been made public.

Beyond that summary, the report, which is astonishing for its lack of diplomatic circumlocution, is filled with damning details — about repression of the media by the Croatian Government, about its lack of cooperation with the international war crimes tribunal in The Hague and, above all, about the Government's harsh treatment of ethnic Serbs.

Only a small percentage of the approximately 300,000 ethnic Serbs forced to flee their homes here during the fighting between Serbs and Croats have been allowed to return. Most fled when the Croatian Army carried out its own "ethnic cleansing" during military operations against Serbian-controlled areas in August 1995.

"It is harsh, but it is not an exaggeration," Andreas Stadler, the deputy Austrian Ambassador here, said about the report, which was delivered in late January to the 54 member countries of the organization. The organization, which includes the United States, is charged with overseeing the development of democracy in former Communist countries.

Mr. Tudjman has been elected twice, most recently in 1997, but the State Department in a human rights report made public last week described Croatia as "nominally democratic," but "in reality authoritarian."

Still, Mr. Stadler and other Western diplomats said, the European Union and the United States, which is the most powerful outside influence

here, must temper their criticism of Mr. Tudjman, in part for strategic reasons: his cooperation is vital to the NATO-led peacekeeping operations in neighboring Bosnia. Today, for example, Apache helicopters for use in Bosnia are being unloaded from an American ship and assembled on the Croatian island of Krk.

There are also concerns that criticizing the country too harshly will give ammunition to the hard-liners in the ruling party, the Croatian Democratic Union, who are in a fight with moderates over who will succeed Mr. Tudjman, 76, as party leader. He has

A report is damning about the treatment of ethnic Serbs.

incurable stomach cancer, and his condition has worsened in the last two weeks, diplomats here said.

The delicate diplomatic quandary is reflected in the visit here by Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright last August. In her meetings with President Tudjman, Ms. Albright delivered a tough message about the need for Croatia to become more democratic, to comply with the Dayton accords, which ended the fighting in Bosnia, and to allow for the return of the Serbian refugees.

But after returning to Washington, she sent Mr. Tudjman a letter, which so pleased the Croatian leader that it was promptly leaked. A newspaper in the coastal town of Split described it as having the "taste of apology."

Mrs. Albright wrote that while she was aware that her visit had been difficult, "I want to see you as a part of Europe where you belong." Becoming part of Europe is a primary goal for Mr. Tudjman, who bristles when his country is referred to as Balkan, but one that will not become a reality unless Croatia becomes far more democratic, European diplomats have told him repeatedly.

The report did not address the economic situation of the country, but that too is, in a word, miserable. While a few at the top, the political allies of Mr. Tudjman and the ruling party, have acquired fabulous wealth, which they flaunt with flashy cars and expensive clothes, on display in coffeehouses and bars, the middle class is quickly being squeezed into poverty.

The report says that under pressure from the United States and the European Union, the Croatian Government has made commitments to freedom of the press. But it says Croatian Television, the main source of news for up to 90 percent of Croats, "remains subject to political control by the ruling party."

Croatian Television programs are marked by "hate speech," the report says, and news about the political opposition, Bosnia and the international tribunal is "misleadingly presented, distorted by selection and by prejudicial terminology or comment."

The Croatian Foreign Ministry declined to comment on the report.

On the international war crimes tribunal, the report says that the Croatian Government has embarked on a campaign to "encourage distrust and hostility" toward it among the Croatian populace.

Mr. Tudjman, who diplomats say is convinced he will be indicted by the tribunal, has declared that the tribunal has no jurisdiction over anything that happened when the army regained control, in 1995, of territories in the hands of Serbian separatists.

The Government has given repeated assurances that the Serbian refugees will be allowed to return. But it is unlikely that they will.

"We have resolved the Serbian question," Mr. Tudjman declared, referring to the 1995 military actions in a speech to his generals in December. Then he added, "There will never be 12 percent of Serbs" in Croatia, as there were before the war.

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* Not true. The letter took
Tudjman to task for his
non-cooperative behavior.

CP
Regul

Dr. Miomir Žužul
Ambassador to the United States

Embassy of the Republic of Croatia

MRS. HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
THE WHITE HOUSE
1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

January 14, 1999

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

It is my distinct pleasure to write to you on an occasion so dear to me and to all Croats around the world. Seven years ago, on April 7, 1992, the United States of America, the leader of the free world, recognized the budding state of a European nation full of history, pride, and above all, an indestructible determination to build a democratic society. Today, I am very proud to be the Ambassador of that very country, Croatia, in the United States of America.

Through the first decade of our existence in the international arena, the relationship with the United States and, in particular, with President Clinton, has been of paramount importance. Without his leadership, it would not have been possible to stop the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina and create conditions for political stability and democratic prosperity in Central and South-Eastern Europe.

Three years ago, Croatia was blessed with the vision of two men, President Clinton and the late Secretary Ron Brown, to send and lead a US Trade and Business mission to help rebuild its economy and develop close business ties between our two countries. Today, trade and business relations between our two nations have broadened and deepened in many respects, and more than US\$1 billion has been generated in investments since the first mission.

This time, Croatia has the honor to present itself to the United States of America. We are organizing a two day manifestation called "Croatia in Chicago", during which time we hope to present Croatia in its full splendor – its culture, people, business and trade tradition and deep ties to democracy and genuine closeness and friendship with the American people. In particular, a reverse Presidential Trade and Business mission will come to Chicago, led by the Croatian President or his special envoy (at the level of Prime Minister or the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs), that will include more than 20 leading companies and some 20 journalists from Croatia to further the work that Ron Brown and his courageous colleagues began three years ago.

Dear Mrs. Clinton, I feel honored to invite you to serve as the Chair of the Honorary Board which will include leaders from American political, business, cultural life and sports, along with leaders in the Croatian American community. The Honorary Board will guide the program for the mission in Chicago by hosting several spectacular events.

The central event of the Croatian-US two day encounter in Chicago will be a Gala Dinner with distinguished political and business leaders from Chicago to join 3,000 Croatian-Americans on the evening of Wednesday, April 7, 1999. The Croatian-American community has throughout this century built perennial bridges between our two countries and laid foundations for the excellent relationship that today exists between Croatia and the United States. Your attendance at the Gala Dinner as our very special and dear guest would certainly endear the hearts of all Americans of Croatian origin and beyond. Your message will reach a very broad community in Illinois, which numbers about 200,000 and reach the more than 2 million Americans of Croatian origin throughout the United States. I am proud that your message will be heard through the Croatian media in Croatia itself.

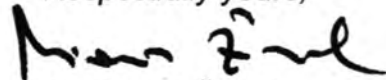
The program in Chicago will also include a concert at the historic Orchestra Hall with a performance by the Chicago Symphonic Orchestra and the renowned Croatian pianist Ivo Pogorelić, to benefit the children's hospital in Croatia, an institution which requires special attention for needy children affected by the traumas of war.

The Republic of Croatia will also be opening a General Consulate in the City of Chicago as part of the festivities in April. We trust that it will energetically work on developing business and cultural relations between Croatia and the United States in Chicago and the broader area under its responsibility.

I sincerely hope that you will consider accepting the invitation to preside as Chair of the Honorary Board and attend the Gala Dinner as our very special guest to address the Croatian American community. As one of Chicago's foremost natives, a city where a huge number of Croats found solace from political persecution and prosperity instead of economic hardship, your message of support and encouragement will leave a lasting mark on the friendship and understanding of our two nations and countries.

It took the vision of the American Administration led by President Clinton to bring peace and build democratic prosperity in Croatia and beyond. Secretary Brown and his colleagues fully understood the importance of that mission and built their own lives in the search for human dignity and well-being. There would be no more fitting tribute to them and to us, if you graced us with your attendance in Chicago, knowing how precious a part of that same vision you have been throughout these years.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Miomir Žužul".

*Dr. Miomir Žužul
Ambassador*