The original documents are located in Box 18, folder "Hungarian Freedom Fighters" of the John Marsh Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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October 18, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JIM CAVANAUGH MYRON KUROPAS RUSS ROURKE

PROM:

JACK MARSH

Please note the attached in reference to the 200th Anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution.

I think we should send a message from the President, and Russ, would you please coordinate this? Also, touch base with NSC.

Many thanks.

Attachment -- Letter from Leo Cherne



Leo Cherne



October 15, 1976

The Hon. John O. Marsh, Jr. Counsellor to the President The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Jack:

On Friday evening, the Federation of the various Hungarian organizations are holding a commemorative ceremony in Washington. Since the occasion is the 20th Anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution and because I was in Budapest to bring some help at that time, I am among those who will be honored and I have been asked to make the commemorative address. I say this simply for background.

The important element is that there be a strong identification by the President with the importance of that anniversary. The President will, of course, be in Williamsburg at the time and the program is being arranged to enable those who are there to hear the last of the debates.

I am enclosing a xerox of the program itself. I believe, however, that the message should go to Dr. Andras Pogany, 201 Raymond Ave., South Orange, New Jersey, the headquarters of the World Federation of Hungarian Freedomfighters. If a copy of such a message is sent across the street to Wheaton Byers, I will be in the office that day in the OEOB before going to these ceremonies just in case the message to Dr. Pogany goes astray.

In giving thought to my remarks, I've just unearthed an article I wrote on my return from Hungary twenty years ago, which I know you will find interesting.

Please don't trouble to answer this letter.

Warm/regards,

LC:ll Enc.



COMMITTEE TO COMMEMORATE THE AMERICAN AND HUNGARIAN REVOLUTIONS (1776, 1956)

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Dr. Edward Teller Professor Emeritus, University of California

Mr. David A. Lovenheim Administrative Assistant to Congressman Horton

Mr. István B. Gereben
Executive Secretary,
Coordinating Committee of Hungarian
Organizations in North America

Vou Are Cordially Invited By THE COMMITTEE TO COMMEMORATE THE AMERICAN AND HUNGARIAN REVOLUTIONS (1776, 1956)

1 1 1

In The

CELEBRATION OF THE 20th ANNIVERSARY OF THE HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION

In order to reaffirm your belief in the self-evident truth "that all men are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness," and to pay tribute to those who fought and fell for these rights.

Commemorative Address

Leo Cherne Chairman of the Board of Directors International Rescue Committee

The program includes the presentation of the "Freedom Award 1976 for outstanding service for a free Hungary," a performance of selected works of Liszt by pianist Miklos Ivanich.

Friday the 22nd of October, 1976 at 8:00 in the evening

Free parking

Donations are gratefully accepted

For further details, please consult the attached cards



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Thirty Days That Shook the World

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 18, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

JACK MARCH

You have a request for a brief meeting with a small delegation of Hungarians as a part of the observance of the 20th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution.

It is my understanding that this request, which I believe you had earlier approved, has now been disapproved. I would strongly urge you to reconsider this matter for the following reasons:

- (1) I believe your failure to meet with the group will be associated with the Eastern and Central European debate comments, and give critics an opportunity to reopen an issue which I think has been laid to rest;
- (2) A failure to meet with them opens you up to a Solzhenitsyn type of charge;
- (3) There is a question in my mind as to whether the Hungarian group feels there was some commitment for a meeting. This attitude may have been encouraged by their sponsor, Congressman Frank Horton;
- (4) A meeting provides an opportunity to demonstrate your concern about countries behind the Iron Curtain.

I realize there are those who take an opposing view on such a meeting principally the NSC and for that reason I have sent a copy of this memorandum to Brent.

My principal concern is the 20th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolt will receive public attention and I do not want to have develop a situation that provides an opportunity to attack you by those who will try to reopen the Eastern and Central European comments. There is a potential for trouble here that I would like to avoid.

cc: Richard Cheney
Brent Scowcroft
Jerry Jones
Bill Nicholson

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 19, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JACK MARSH

FROM:

JIM CONNOR JEE

SUBJECT:

Meeting with Delegation of mangarians

The President reviewed your memorandum of October 18 on the above subject and made the following notation:

"Jack - Have Dick bring it to my attention tomorrow (Tuesday)."

This matter was discussed this morning when Dick Cheney was in the Oval Office.





THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 19, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO:

MILT MITLER

FROM:

RUSS ROURKE

Milt, unfortunately, Myron Kuropas is out sick today, and I am fearful that he will not return to work prior to my departure. You may have to substitute for Myron at a meeting the President has just agreed to with the officers of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters' Federation.

Although I intend to discuss this matter with you personally, I thought the following points might be helpful:

The President will do a drop by in the Roosevelt Room during a 30-minute (or one hour) meeting, organized by Myron Kuropas. The meeting is set for this Thursday, October 21. Nicholson advises that if the meeting will run for an hour, it should be scheduled for 11:30 - 12:30 p.m. If only a 30-minute meeting is arranged, it should be scheduled for 12:00.

I have asked Myron Kuropas' secretary to reserve the Roosevelt Room (your office should double check these arrangements).

- The key man for this entire event is Dave Lovenheim, A. A. to Rep. Frank Horton. (Horton is the Chairman of this year's event.) I have called Lovenheim today, and asked him to get in touch with you and/or Myron directly.
- As indicated in the attached file, this organization is holding their dinner on October 22, here in Washington. Leo Cherne (Chairman of PFIAB) and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the International Rescue Committee, will give the commemorative address at the dinner. Please arrange for a message from the President to be read at the dinner. It is important that some brief mention of Leo

Cherne is made in the message (e.g., I am pleased that my good friend, Leo Cherne, could be with you tonight).

4) Once you and/or Myron have worked out the final details, please advise Jack Marsh and Bill Nicholson. A short briefing paper will, of course, have to be prepared (this should be coordinated with NSC).

If you have any further questions, please call me directly.

cc: JMarsh 🗸