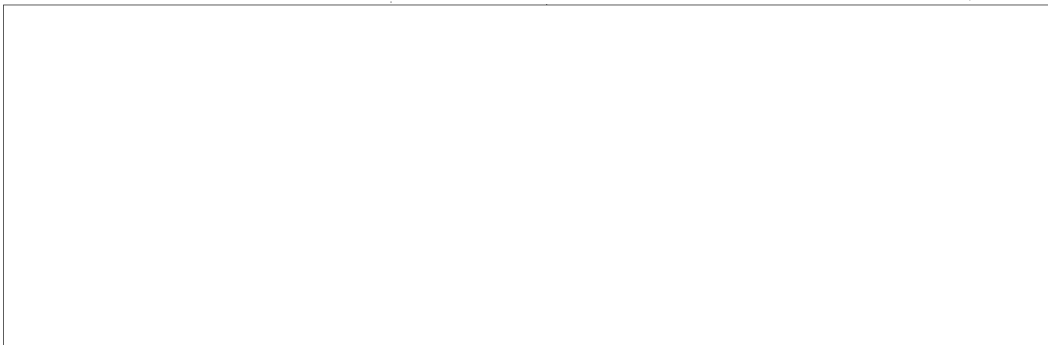


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~~SECRET~~
 Rep Fascell
 Rep Broomfield
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 page 2+3)

E.O. 12356: N/A
 TAGS: UNHRC-1, PHUM, CU, XM
 SUBJECT: 44TH UNHRC: ITEM 12: CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT
 -- FOR CUBA RESOLUTION

REF: STATE 64577

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A LETTER TO THE SECRETARY FROM CONGRESSMEN DANTE B. FASCELL AND WILLIAM S. BROOMFIELD AND SIGNED BY 63 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. IT DETAILS THE WIDESPREAD CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN ABOUT THE EGREGIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN CUBA AND EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR U.S. EFFORTS TO RAISE THE ISSUE AT THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE UNHRC IN GENEVA. LETTER SHOULD BE USED AS APPROPRIATE WHEN DEMARCHING HOST GOVERNMENTS TO SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT INITIATIVE. DEPARTMENT NOTES THAT OTHER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS HAVE WRITTEN TO FOREIGN MISSIONS URGING SUPPORT FOR THE CUBA INITIATIVE. THE TEXT OF ONE SUCH LETTER IS CONTAINED REFTEL.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

FEBRUARY 17, 1988

DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

AS MEMBERS OF CONGRESS GREATLY CONCERNED ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS WHEREVER THEY MAY OCCUR, WE HAVE WELCOMED THE EFFORTS OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO BRING THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN CUBA BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. WE WERE EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED WHEN THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION REFUSED LAST YEAR TO EVEN VOTE ON THE MERITS OF A RESOLUTION ON CUBA. THE WILLINGNESS OF LATIN AMERICAN DEMOCRACIES SUCH AS ARGENTINA, COLOMBIA, VENEZUELA AND PERU TO VOTE WITH CUBA WAS A MAJOR SETBACK TO EFFORTS TO PROMOTE MORE BALANCED TREATMENT BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF THESE IMPORTANT ISSUES.

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THE APPOINTMENT OF ARMANDAO VALLADARES AS CHIEF U.S. DELEGATE TO THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE UNHRC HAS CERTAINLY REINFORCED THE MORAL POSITION OF THE U.S. TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CUBA. WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL UNDERTAKE EVERY POSSIBLE EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT SUFFICIENT POLITICAL SUPPORT IS FORTHCOMING TO BRING ABOUT A DIFFERENT OUTCOME AT THE UNHRC THIS YEAR.

IN THIS REGARD, WE ASK THAT YOU ENSURE THAT APPROPRIATE SENIOR GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENTARY OFFICIALS AMONG UNHRC MEMBERS ARE AWARE OF THE STRONG FEELINGS OF THE U.S. CONGRESS CONCERNING THIS ISSUE, AS OUTLINED IN SECTION 1211 OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT (P.L. 100-204), AND IN SECTION 1501 OF H.R. 3100, WHICH PASSED THE HOUSE IN DECEMBER 1987. IN PARTICULAR, WE WOULD REQUEST THAT APPROPRIATE SENIOR OFFICIALS IN THOSE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WHICH VOTED LAST YEAR TO MAINTAIN THE CURTAIN OF SILENCE ON CUBAN HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BE MADE AWARE OF OUR CONCERN, AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, OF OUR HOPE AND EXPECTATION THAT ALL WESTERN DEMOCRACIES WILL TAKE A COMMON STAND IN DEFENSE OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOM IN CUBA AT THE UNHRC THIS MARCH.

SINCERELY YOURS,

DANTE B. FASCELL, CHAIRMAN

WILLIAM S. BROOMFIELD, RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

GUS YATRON
CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

GERALD B. SOLOMON
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

JIM COURTER, M.C.
MARY ROSE OAKER, M.C.
FRANK HORTON, M.C.
MICHAEL BILIRAKIS, M.C.
GARY L. ACKERMAN, M.C.
WAYNE OWENS, M.C.
NORMAN D. SHUMWAY, M.C.
CURT WELDON, M.C.
DON RITTER, M.C.
HENRY J. HYDE, M.C.
WILLIAM F. GOODLING, M.C.
JAMES H. BILBRAY, M.C.
HERBERT H. BATEMAN, M.C.
THOMAS C. MCMILLEN, M.C.
MICHAEL DEWINE, M.C.
TOM LEWIS, M.C.
JOHN EDWARD PORTER, M.C.
JOSEPH M. MCDADE, M.C.
WILLIAM LEHMAN, M.C.
JIM LEACH, M.C.
BILL GREEN, M.C.
WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI, M.C.
STEVE GUNDERSON, M.C.
ROY DYSON, M.C.
THOMAS J. BLILEY, JR., M.C.
SANDER M. LEVIN, M.C.
BUDDY MACKAY, M.C.
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DAVE MCCURDY, M.C.
TONY ROTH, M.C.
JACK F. KEMP, M.C.

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JAMES MCCLURE CLARK, M.C.
HARRIS W. FAWELL, M.C.
THOMAS J. MANTON, M.C.
WILLIAM J. HUGHES, M.C.
BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, M.C.
DAN MICA, M.C.
CLAUDE PEPPER, M.C.
FRED GRANDY, M.C.
KWEISI MFUME, M.C.
BARNEY FRANK, M.C.
CONNIE MACK, M.C.
ROBERT K. DORMAN, M.C.
LAWRENCE J. SMITH, M.C.

DAN BURTON, M.C.
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JOHN MILLER, M.C.
ROBERT G. TORRICELLI, M.C.
RICHARD K. ARMEY, M.C.
VIN WEBER, M.C.
DONALD E. "BUZ" LUKENS, M.C.
FRANK MCCLOSKEY, M.C.
NANCY PELOSI, M.C.
BEAU BOULTER, M.C.

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