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Brunson, Anne C (L-LM)

From: Harris, Robert K (SBU)
Sent: Wednesday, December 10, 2003 10:44 AM
To: Schou, Nina E (SBU); Brancato, Gilda M (SBU); Gaffney, Francis M (SBU); Gorove, Katherine M (SBU); Dolan, JoAnn (SBU)
Cc: Witten, Samuel M (SBU)
Subject: FW: Letter to Kofi Annan from the East Turkistan National Congress

FYI, The Uighurs are on a public diplomacy campaign, and have also sent a letter to the Secretary. I think DRL is drafting a reply, which they will send to us.

-----Original Message-----

From: Osullivan, Susan X (DRL)
Sent: Wednesday, December 10, 2003 10:03 AM
To: Dugan, Elizabeth X (DRL); Craner, Lorne W (DRL); Jackson, Robert P (DRL); Jackson, Ann M (DRL); Siu, Rana Ann H (DRL)
Cc: Morrow, Holly H (EAP/CM); 'pprosper@hotmail.com'; Miller, Ronald W; Fujimura, Paul N; Harris, Robert K (SBU)
Subject: FW: Letter to Kofi Annan from the East Turkistan National Congress

Letter to Kofi Annan from the Uighur community

-----Original Message-----

From: Nury A. Turkel [mailto:nuryturkel@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 09, 2003 10:54 PM
To: Gardner Bovingdon; Gene Sharp; AAtawulla@aol.com; Abduselam Gopur; 'Ali Koknar'; Alpha Lillstrom; Anwar Can; Ayca Ariyoruk; Ayschem Niyaz; Betul Keskin; Bhuchung Tsering; Brad Armstrong; Brown, Lary; 'Bulent AliRiza'; Celim Yildizhan; 'CEVDET SEYHAN'; Christian Tyler; Clara Abdurazak; Craig Smith; Debbie Mason; Dilxat Rexit; dolkun; Dolkun Kembari; 'Dr. Mahmudeli Cohreganli'; Dru Gladney; Dyson, Pat (E-mail); Enver Can; 'Ercument Kilic'; Erkin Alptekin; Frederick Starr; Greg Mergen; Gulamettin Pahta; Gulnara Miralieva; Gunay Evinch; 'Gurcan Balik'; Hakan Yavuz; Hans Hogrefe; 'Hasan Mesut Hazar'; Hiram Ruiz; Horowitz, Paul D; Ilyar Semseddin; 'Inci Bowman'; James Zirkle; Jana Mason; Jayadeva Ranade; 'Jayhun Mollazade'; Jilil Musa; John Fredrikson; John Kelly; Jürgen Thierack; Louisa Coan Greve; Mahmure Bilkic; Mark Allison; Matthew McGinn; May Chow; Melissa Birchard; Mustafa Rouzi; Nabijan Tursun; Nazlanan@aol.com; O. Faruk Logoglu; Omar Gokcek; 'Orhan Ketene'; Osullivan, Susan X (DRL); Reyhan Gahyit; Rugiya Fataliyeva; Saltanat Sulaimanova; Sara Han Jackson; Sarah Hymowitz; Sayora Nurmatova; Semih Lütfü Turgut; Soner Cagaptay; Steve Baughman; T. Kumar; Taif_Camii@yahoo.com; Terken Hacaloglu; Thierry Antoine Kellner; Tugluke Abdurazak; Tugrul Keskingoren; Uerkesh Daolat; UNPO; Wang Dan; William Farris (E-mail); Zakir Ali
Cc: Turkistan List
Subject: Letter to Kofi Annan from the East Turkistan National Congress

10th December 2003

Honorable Kofi Annan
General Secretary
The United Nations

Dear Sir,

In this "The United Nations Human Rights Day" the global human rights situation is far from being joyfull, on the contrary, in many countries, including the Peoples Republic of China human rights activists and promoters of democracy are increasingly being suppressed with the tacit approval of

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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Western democracies. Increasingly more and more Western Democracies, contrary to their values and ideals, putting short term economic and national interests above human rights.

Unfortunately, the people of East Turkestan (also called Uyghur Autonomous Region of Xinjiang by the Chinese Government) commemorating The United Nation's Human Rights Day under more suppression than before, constant intimidation and fear of existence.

Today their basic human rights, including political, economic and social, the right for worship, assembly, free travel, receiving and disseminating information are systematically violated by the communist Chinese authorities. The harsh oppression of Uyghur people includes arbitrary executions and detentions, denial of fair trials and horrific torture of dissidents. Under the Chinese policy of "Strike Hard", forcible sinization, population transfer (including Han Chinese migration into Eastern Turkestan) and intimidation by executions, extra-judiciary killings and mass arrests the Uyghur people are struggling for existence as a nation.

Especially after the 11th September terrorist attacks the Chinese leadership has hijacked the international campaign against terrorism and stepped up its crack down against any kind of Uyghur dissent by branding all Uyghurs, including diaspora Uyghur organisations which operate lawfully, advocate democracy and non-violence as "terrorists" to justify its campaign of "ethnic cleansing" and persecution.

Neighbouring countries like Pakistan, Nepal and Kazakhstan forcibly handed over several Uyghur refugees to China in recent years in violation of their international obligations, many of whom have been executed on political charges. One such Uyghur refugee who had received refugee status by UNHCR in Nepal, but was deported to China, was executed by the Chinese government as recent as October 2003.

Most annoying for us is the reports about returning of an unspecified number of Uyghurs who fled the Chinese persecution and were caught by the U.S. forces in Afghanistan (since their capture have been held in Guantanamo, Cuba) to the cruel disposal of the Beijing regime by the most powerful democracy of the world.

Dear Mr: General Secretary,

In commemoration of the Human Rights Day the East Turkestan (Uyghuristan) National Congress*, on behalf of the Uyghur nation, would kindly ask you:

To use all available channels to persuade China to end its oppression of the Uyghur nation and to permit the free expression of opinions and practice of religion in East Turkestan

To pressure the Peoples Republic of China to grant immediate free and open elections in East Turkestan and allow it the UN granted right to self-determination

To urge China for an immediate halt of arbitrary trials and executions, for the release of all Uyghur prisoners of conscience, including Mrs. Rabiye Kadeer

To appoint special rapporteurs to East Turkestan both to see the victims of the inhumane torture perpetuated on the Uyghur prisoners of conscience, to assess the real situation of the civilians and to expose to international community what is happening in that region

Through UN Agencies, help to create conditions to safeguard Uyghur language and cultural heritage

To persuade Beijing to immediately open political negotiations with representatives of the Uyghur people with the aim of ensuring the implementation of the basic human rights of the people of East Turkestan and

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to permit them to determine their own future

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Enver Can
President

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D-80638 München
Tel: 49-1738912048
e.can@onlinehome.de

* East Turkestan (Uyghuristan) National Congress (ETNC) is the legitimate umbrella body of the Uyghur people abroad which includes 18 organisations legally operating in 13 countries around the world. It abhors violence and declares its unconditional adherence to the internationally accepted human rights standards as laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and International Covenant and Political Rights and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; adherence to the principles of democratic pluralism and rejection of totalitarianism and any form of religious intolerance, and rejection of terrorism as an instrument of policy.

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