

AN APPEAL TO THE DELEGATES OF THE

IWY WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN HOUSTON

from the Women's Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine

We American women of Ukrainian descent appeal to you to support our resolution as accepted by the IWY State Meeting held July 8-10, 1977 in Albany, N.Y. We need your SUPPORT and the support of all PEOPLE OF CONSCIENCE to secure the HUMAN AND NATIONAL RIGHTS denied to the people of UKRAINE. Only by mobilizing WORLD OPINION against the transgressions of the SOVIET UNION can we provide the moral support our Ukrainian sisters need to sustain their STRUGGLE FOR THEIR BASIC RIGHTS. Too many of them have already given up their freedom, and some even their lives to a cruel and unjust government in defense of their birthrights while we have remained SILENT AND OBLIVIOUS to their plight.

We American women of Ukrainian descent have known the REPRESSIONS of the SOVIET SYSTEM and have seen the systematic destruction of Ukrainian national identity, language and culture. Though America is far removed from the Soviet Union we cannot remain IMPASSIVE in the face of such TYRANNY AND INJUSTICE for it threatens the PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY AND DEMOCRACY without which the free world cannot endure.

RESOLUTION accepted by the New York State Women's Meeting, July 1977

Whereas, the twentieth century has not yet eliminated human degradation, persecution, denial of basic national and human rights in some parts of the world, the Soviet Union, in particular; and

Whereas, the quest of the UKRAINIAN WOMEN to secure these INALIENABLE RIGHTS for themselves and their fellow human beings have exposed them to LOSS OF FREEDOM, dire harassment, loss of jobs, shelter and EXILE and POSSIBLE DEATH; and

Whereas, women in the free world must rally their talents and efforts to cause these problems to be discussed and search for avenues to eliminate them by condemning the gross TRANSGRESSIONS AGAINST HUMAN AND NATIONAL RIGHTS AS PRACTICED BY THE SOVIET UNION; and

Whereas, in condoning NATIONAL GENOCIDE, guilt by blood and association whether in Ukraine or elsewhere in the free world, we are UNDERMINING the concept of the DIGNITY OF HUMAN BEINGS and the RIGHT OF INDIVIDUALS TO PRESERVE THEIR IDENTITY;

Now, therefore, we, in support of American-Ukrainian women, appeal to this Convention to support human and national rights.

Submitted by: Workshop on Equality: Is Equality a Question of Human Rights

[The page contains extremely faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the document. The text is too light to transcribe accurately.]