

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 20, 1982

Dear Mr. President:

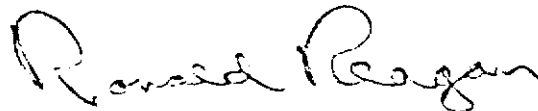
I am writing to express my deep personal concern about the condition of Anatoly Shcharansky. His plight has aroused a great deal of sympathy and support in the United States.

Since September 27, Mr. Shcharansky has been on a hunger strike which he has undertaken to protest the denial to him by Chistopol' prison authorities of permission to write letters to his friends and relatives or to receive visits from his mother or brother. After five years of incarceration, his health is said to have deteriorated significantly. The continuation of a hunger strike places his life in jeopardy.

I urge you to give your personal attention to this matter, and I trust that some way can be found to accommodate Mr. Shcharansky's needs for greater communication with his family within the requirements of your penal system.

While I am writing you because of the particular urgency of this situation, I also urge your personal intervention to secure Mr. Shcharansky's release from prison and permission to join his family in Israel.

Sincerely,



His Excellency
Leonid Ilich Brezhnev
President of the Presidium of the
Supreme Soviet of the
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Moscow

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BY smf, NARA, DATE 10/16/00