

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Verveer, Melanne S <VerveerMS@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 5:07 PM
To: H
Subject: Note from Ukraine

From: Tefft, John F
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2012 9:32 AM
To: Verveer, Melanne S; Russo, Robert V
Subject: FW: Note to Father Gudziak

Melanne and Robert: I delivered the Secretary's letter to Father (now Bishop) Gudziak at the luncheon banquet yesterday in Lviv, immediately following his three hour (yes three hour) installation as Bishop in a sweltering St. George's cathedral.

As soon as he saw it Father Borys asked if I would read the letter in front of the 500 or so guests, which included his mother, brother and many family members.

Melanne: I extended congratulations to Father Borys from you, Mariella, me and the many other friends he had in the USG. I then said I had received a letter from another admirer, which I proceeded to read without initially identifying the author. When I got to the end and read, "With blessings and warm regards, I am, Hillary Rodham Clinton" the place exploded in applause.

Father Borys asked me to extend to the Secretary his deep appreciation for remembering him on this special day. Many members of Father Borys' family and his friends, came up to me after the banquet, as well as at the airport this morning, to thank me for the letter which they thought was tremendous.

So thanks for your help in getting me the letter. Well done Robert. You can tell the Secretary that it had just the kind of impact we hoped.

Best, John

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Russo, Robert V
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2012 11:11 PM
To: Tefft, John F
Cc: Graeme, Llywelyn C; Johnson, Eric A (Kyiv); Verveer, Melanne S
Subject: RE: Note to Father Gudziak

Attached is a copy of the note from S to Father Gudziak. It will go in the mail to you today. Thanks!

Robert Russo
Special Assistant to Secretary Clinton
U.S. Department of State
RussoRV@State.gov

From: Tefft, John F
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2012 3:57 AM
To: Russo, Robert V
Cc: Graeme, Llywelyn C; Johnson, Eric A (Kyiv)
Subject: RE: Note to Father Gudziak

Robert: could you scan and send me by email a copy of the original. I will give it to Father Gudziak. Then pouch the original to me in the Ambassador's office and we will get it to the good father. Many thanks. jft

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

From: Russo, Robert V
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2012 12:40 AM
To: Tefft, John F
Subject: Note to Father Gudziak

Mr. Ambassador:

Per Melanne Verveer, I've prepared a congrats note from Secretary Clinton to Father Gudziak. Melanne suggested that you wanted to hand deliver the note. Once it is signed (most likely tomorrow) to what address shall I send it?

Thanks!

Robert Russo
Special Assistant to Secretary Clinton/Writer
U.S. Department of State
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(202) 647-5298

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