

17 Oct 91

TO: President George Bush  
Sen. Phil Gramm  
Sen. Lloyd Bentsen  
Rep. Mike Andrews  
Rep. Jack Brooks  
Gov. Ann Richards  
Mayor Kathy Whitmire  
R. I. President Raja Saboo  
U. S. Information Agency  
FROM: Rotary District 5890

Re: Assisting the Soviet people

Dear President Bush and others:

I am writing a collective letter because the message is the same for each of you .... can you be of any assistance to the Soviet people through your resources and contacts?

I am a Rotarian in Houston who has been engaging Rotarians in the U.S.S.R. to do youth exchange, and more recently, free enterprise seminars given by a Rotary Information Team from Houston sent to Eastern Europe in May 1991.

The Free Enterprise team idea was first proposed to Moscow in 1989, and it was turned down as too big a project-- due to meeting room requirements, etc. and anticipated civil disturbances.

Houston's Rotary District 5890 is right now assembling another team to go back to Eastern Europe to give more free seminars on free enterprise so we proposed, once again, to Moscow that the Rotarians there host a seminar in their city.

Alexander Tarnavsky is a charter member and officer of the Moscow Rotary Club who I have dealt with for over two years. If you will take the time to read his response to our seminar proposal, you will see an appeal which is heartfelt and on an entirely different scale than our Rotary project. This reply also represents a very different perspective, willingness and attitude from what previously existed.

I view this letter as a serious, significant appeal from a well-placed Rotarian and lawyer who is familiar enough with us to sense that we just might be able to do something. Or, at least that we will try.

I am writing you, collectively, to ask each of you to give the utmost consideration to the thrust of Tarnavsky's appeal for help, "Because now the change of economic system is a question of life and death, it is a problem of our survival."

Rotary is non-political and accomplishes its service largely by volunteering time and money for worthwhile causes. Alexander's appeal is more for the economic and government sectors. Our seminar is helpful, fundamental information; but the scope of this appeal would require an involvement which Rotary is not suited for.

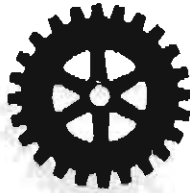
The idea behind this letter to each of you is that you may be able to forward this information along to groups or resources that can respond, or be a part of the concerted effort to respond.

Please let me know if you do anything with this opportunity to assist the Soviets because I can try to make efforts by various entities known to one another.

As Rotarians, we will continue to do what we can. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Taylor



**Rotary Club of Moscow**  
**Московский клуб «Ротари»**

ALEX GABRILES  
DAVID TAYLOR  
Rotarians  
Texas  
fax: 713/ 480-7145

October 11, 1991

Dear Rotarians,

It was a pleasure for me to receive Alex Gabriles's letter of September 7. I am delivering it to our Secretary for further consideration. It is an interesting proposal, thank you for it but remembering our Club's failure to participate in it I do not know if this year for us it will be workable.

I would like also to use this letter as a possibility to give you an information about the Rotary project which from my point of view our country needs badly.

I would be happy to hear from you as well as start immediatly realizing of it. Please send me confirmation of receiving the fax and your attitude to the project.

Yours in Rotary  
Charter Vice-President  
Honorary Texan  
Alexander Tarnavsky  
Moscow  
fax: 095/ 420.2262

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Alexander Tarnavsky', is written over the typed name.



# Rotary Club of Moscow Московский клуб «Ротари»

DEAR FELLOW-ROTARIANS FROM TEXAS

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I write this letter in the hope of finding your support and active participation in a project which our country needs badly.

Last year Rotarians from all over the world were so active to help soviet community to survive in the hard situation the country had been found itself. Textbooks from California, medical equipment from Japan, food products from Tailand and other charitable presents as well as letters of support were given to soviet people. We are so gratefull to all the Rotarians for it.

Many of such letters, and faxes, telephone calls were received from Texas. Rotarians from Texas were among other visiting Rotarians who participated in the meetings of our Moscow Rotary Club. Many of you asked me: What kind of help you need? What we can do for Soviet community?

These questions were asked so often that I would like to answer it. Of course we need good relations and better understanding between our countries. Of course we need your help. But from my point of view first of all it must not be charities. What we need badly it 's your active participation in reconstucturing our economy, converting our society in market oriented one. We need joint commercial projects, increasing bylateral trade and economic cooperation.

I guess some of you had a chance to realize that it is not an easy job. But let's try together. If you can, help us in this point BECAUSE NOW THE CHANGE OF ECONOMIC SYSTEM IS A QUESTION OF LIFE AND DEATH, IT IS A PROBLEM OF OUR SURVIVAL.

The IDEA of the project is with the help of Rotary Clubs from Texas to establish a stable and solid BUSSINESS BRIDGE between TEXAS and THE SOVIET UNION.

As a first step in this activity we can start helping in very active development of bussiness connections not with the whole the SOVIET UNION but with one of the big its parts - for example with UKRAINE which from my point of view has many similarities with Texas.

Ukraine is a republic in the USSR. Being the second on its influence Ukraina is situated on the South-West of European part of the USSR, it, is the most (or one of the most) wealthy, developed and stable part on the USSR territory. Its population - 55 million (1/6 of the whole population), territory - 63.000 square kilometers; 25 local regions, 477 local areas, 398 towns and cities, 143 high colleges and Academy of Sciences. Ukraine has well-developed industry and agriculture, good infrastructure.

In the situation of proclaiming an independence Ukraine is eager to do international bussiness and put into effect international diplomatic, bussiness and cultural relations directly with other countries and areas. It was being stressed every time by Ukrainian leadership to the President of your country George Bush during their last meetings in Kiev (capital of Ukraina) and Washington D.C..

I had preliminary talks with many officials and bussinessmen from Ukraine. An idea of establishing BUSSINESS BRIDGE (ASSOCIATION) UKRAINE-TEXAS was highly appreciated both by state authorities and by commercial organizations. It was supported by the leadership of Provisional Kiev Rotary Club, Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce, banks, local Councils etc. There is a readiness to form a HEADQUATER of Association in Kiev with the aim to help in development all necessary contacts. There is a nessesicity to send to Texas a REPRESENTATIVE of UKRAINE who will work as a liason officer, as a bussiness and legal consultant, as a so called Ambassador of UKRAINE in USA.

So, I address Rotarians from Texas

- 1) is it possible for you to support the project, to take an initiative in development ties between Ukraine and Texas?
- 2) could Rotary Clubs from Texas be financially responsible for the representative of Ukraine (give or collect money for his living and travel expences)?
- 3) could they give any help to the representative of Ukraine in particular in arranging contacts, giving a chance to speak at Rotary and other meetings, visiting bussiness companies etc.?

If an answer YES is given is it possible for Rotary Clubs from Texas to organize SUPPORT COMMITTEE with which representative of Ukraine will coordinate its activity.

I look-forward to hearing from you.

Yours  
Active supporter of the Project  
Founder of MOSCOW ROTARY CLUB  
PAUL HARRIS FELLOW  
HONORARY TEXAN  
ALEXANDER TARNAVSKY



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