September 14, 2012

Dear Colleagues at the National Security Archive and the Memorial Society:

Congratulations on the launch of your project to publish essential documents previously unavailable to scholars or the public concerning President Carter’s support for Soviet dissidents. This was a signature issue of the Carter presidency, but it has taken considerable time for the fuller story to be told.

We know from your frequent visits to the Carter Presidential Library and to other key archives that this has been a laborious effort, requiring complex work in two major languages and an examination of massive amounts of previously classified materials.

The volume and the quality of the materials you are releasing will greatly enhance the ability of historians to understand an important turning point in world history. Your project demonstrates the finest aspects of careful research and public access on an issue with major impacts.

Sincerely,

Jay Hakes
Director