

## November 21, 2000: Commission Congratulates Theodore McCarrick on His Appointment as Archbishop of Washington, D.C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Vice Chairman of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, Firuz Kazemzadeh, today congratulated Archbishop Theodore McCarrick, a Commission member, on his appointment as Roman Catholic Archbishop of Washington, D.C. by Pope John Paul II. "Archbishop McCarrick has impressed his fellow Commissioners by his gentle nature, clear-mindedness, and strict devotion to the cause of religious freedom for all peoples," Dr. Kazemzadeh said. "I'm sure the Catholic faithful of the Washington archdiocese will quickly come to value those qualities as well." As a member of the Commission, Archbishop McCarrick has participated in its regular monthly meetings and periodic public hearings and has represented the Commission on trips overseas. He was appointed by Senate Minority Leader Thomas Daschle (D) of South Dakota under the terms of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, which created the Commission. Archbishop McCarrick's two-year term, like that of all Commissioners, expires May 14, 2001, and he is eligible for reappointment.

Hon. Elliott Abrams, Chair

- Dr. Firuz Kazemzadeh, Vice Chair Rabbi David Saperstein Laila Al-Marayati, M.D. Hon. John R. Bolton Dean Michael K. Young Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick Nina Shea Justice Charles Z. Smith Ambassador Robert Seiple, Ex-Officio Steven T. McFarland, Executive Director