

## Promoting Religious Freedom During the Campaign Against Terrorism": Panel 3 Introduction

November 27, 2001 CHAIRMAN YOUNG: Thank you very much. We're delighted to welcome our next panel which will address the issue of policy tools available to deal with many of the concerns that were discussed in the earlier part of the day. We very much appreciate all of you being with us. We know that you will have submitted prepared statements to us which we have found very useful and appreciate very much. In the interest of being able to engage in some interchange with you, I'm wondering if I could ask everyone to cut their prepared remarks down to a maximum of eight minutes, if that would be possible. It will give us, I think, more chance to converse, and as I say, we have found the question and answer part of these hearings to be enormously beneficial. Let me introduce our distinguished panel who are with us today. Ambassador Robert Seiple sits at the center. Prior to founding the Institution for Global Engagement, of which he's now President, he was appointed by President Clinton as the first Ambassador at Large for Religious Freedom. In that position he served ex officio as a member of this Commission. Ambassador Seiple has spent many years traveling the globe, working in and with other countries to promote religious freedom. Those of us who served on the Commission from its inception have always been deeply grateful for Ambassador Seiple's extraordinary advocacy of freedom of religion within the State Department and abroad, and indeed have ourselves had the opportunity to testify in front of Congress and say that in that context as well. So we're delighted to welcome him back with us. We also have with us today Richard Newcomb, who is a lawyer by training and Director of the Office of Foreign Asset Control, which is the agency within the U.S. Treasury Department that's responsible for implementing and enforcing economic sanctions and embargo programs ordered by the President, including those most recently ordered as part of the campaign against terrorism. He's been awarded the presidential rank, Meritorious Executive Award from President Reagan, and the presidential rank, Distinguished Executive Award from both Presidents Bush and Clinton. Delighted to welcome Mr. Newcomb here with us today. We had scheduled Dr. Georges Fauriol, who's Vice President of Strategic Planning for the International Republican Institute, who was going to testify here today. He was called out of the country at the last minute to monitor village elections in China, and Mr. Zlatko Kovach, IRI's Senior Manager for Strategic Planning, will present his testimony. In that regard, I am told Mr. Kovach, while willing to give the testimony, does not entirely assume the persona of Dr. Fauriol, so he will not answer questions, as I understand it. Thank you. Fourth we have with us Patrick Merloe, who is also an attorney by training, and he's a Senior Associate with the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs. He's participated in over 80 NDI missions in 35 countries, covering subjects such as the promotion of political dialog, constitutional and law reform projects, programs concerning domestic nongovernmental organizations and political parties, and delighted to have him with us. Finally, we have Dr. Judith Siegel, who is the Deputy Coordinator of International Information Programs at the Department of State. She's responsible for international information programs in the field of democracy and human rights, political security, economic and trade issues, to name just a few. Dr. Siegel has extensive experience in international exchange programs and other educational and cultural activities. So we're delighted to welcome you all here, appreciate very much your taking time out of your schedules to spend with us on this important topic. Ambassador Seiple?