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# REAGAN FOUNDATION AND LIBRARY AND HERITAGE FOUNDATION TO HOST CONFERENCE COMMEMORATING 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL

## Former First Lady Nancy Reagan to host conference focused on President Reagan's legacy ending the Cold War: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"

(SIMI VALLEY, Calif.) – The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Library and The Heritage Foundation will commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the advent of freedom and democracy in Eastern Europe with a one-day conference on Friday, November 6, 2009, at The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in California. Speakers will include: George Shultz, Secretary of State under President Reagan; Richard Allen, former National Security Advisory; Ed Meese, former United States Attorney General; Vaclav Klaus, President of the Czech Republic, Lord Charles Powell, foreign advisor to Margaret Thatcher; Mart Laar, former prime minister of Estonia; as well as other policy makers and Reagan scholars.

"Today, countless people around the world enjoy greater freedom, more economic prosperity and better lives as a result of President Reagan's leadership," said Frederick J. Ryan, Jr., chairman of the board of trustees of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation. "This conference will recognize the leadership that led to this truly historic event."

"Conqueror of communism, sworn enemy of statism, leader of unshakable conviction and contagious optimism, Ronald Reagan became one of history's heroes long before his death. And history has proved Reagan right," said Ed Feulner, president of The Heritage Foundation. "As Margaret Thatcher memorably

put it, 'He won the Cold War without firing a shot.' The Fall of the Berlin Wall marked the end of the Cold War. Twenty years later, we can see that it also marks Reagan's greatest and most enduring triumph."

Former First Lady Nancy Reagan will host a luncheon at which Secretary Shultz will offer a behind-the-scenes look at U.S.-Soviet negotiations and the instrumental role President Reagan played in the fall of the Berlin Wall. Other panel discussions will include:

#### Insider Perspectives on Ronald Reagan and the Fall of the Wall

Panelists: Ed Meese (United States Attorney General, 1985-1988), Richard Allen (National Security Advisor, 1981-1982), John Lehman (Secretary of the Navy, 1981-1987), Martin Anderson (Chief Domestic Policy Advisor, 1981-1982) and Peter Robinson (White House Speechwriter)

Moderator: Mike Duffy (Managing Editor, Time Magazine)

#### The Unfinished Legacy of the Fall of the Wall

Panelists: Vaclav Klaus (President of the Czech Republic), Steve Forbes (Former chairman of the bipartisan Board for International Broadcasting), Mart Laar (Prime Minister, Estonia, 1999-2002), Lord Charles Powell (Foreign Advisor to Margaret Thatcher, 1983-1990).

Moderator: Edward Lucas (Deputy Editor, International Section, The Economist)

#### Worldwide Perspectives on the Fall of the Wall

Panelists: Dr. Robin Harris (Heritage Foundation), John O'Sullivan (Radio Free Europe), Peter Brookes (Heritage Foundation) and Lee Edwards (Heritage Foundation)

Moderator: Matthew Kaminski (Member, Editorial Board, Wall Street Journal)

To commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Reagan Library will unveil a new temporary exhibit on October 15<sup>th</sup>: Fall of the Wall – The 20th Anniversary. The exhibit tells the story of the Cold War, from the innocent people who sacrificed their lives for freedom and democracy, to President Reagan's role in ending the Cold War and bringing down the Berlin Wall. Items on display include the original "Tear Down This Wall" speech cards; an American flag that flew over "Checkpoint Charlie"; the original Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty and the pen General Secretary Gorbachev used to sign it; and a Gulag prison uniform and map of Gulag locations from Father Alfonsas Svarinskas, a priest in the Lithuanian Catholic Church who was imprisoned for more than two decades.

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation has also created a dedicated mini-site with historical materials, true stories of families separated by the Wall, and other educational items at <a href="www.reaganfoundation.org/berlinwall">www.reaganfoundation.org/berlinwall</a>. The site will include drafts of President Reagan's Brandenburg Gate speech, his final speech-cards, hand-written correspondence with Mikhail Gorbachev, and more, all from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Archives.

Tickets for the conference are \$75 per person and include free admission into the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum and Air Force One Pavilion. Tickets can be purchased at <a href="https://www.reaganfoundation.org/november6">www.reaganfoundation.org/november6</a>. For more information, please call 805-522-2977.

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the promotion of the legacy of Ronald Reagan and his timeless principles of individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy, and national pride. It sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Walter and Leonore Annenberg Presidential Learning Center and The Air Force One Pavilion. Located in Simi Valley, California, the Library houses over 55 million pages of Gubernatorial, Presidential and personal papers and over 40,000 gifts and artifacts chronicling the lives of Ronald and Nancy Reagan. It now also serves as the final resting place of America's 40th President. www.reaganfoundation.org

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