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**The Jacob Blaustein Building**  
165 East 56 Street  
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(212) 751-4000  
www.ajc.org

**Harold Tanner**  
President

**David A. Harris**  
Executive Director

May 31, 2001

**Dr. Solomon Passy, President**  
**The Atlantic Club of Bulgaria**  
**29 Slavyanska Street**  
**1000 Sofia,**  
**Bulgaria**

Dear Dr. Passy:

I am pleased to write you as the new President of the American Jewish Committee. In assuming this challenging position, I am grateful for the opportunity and proud to stand on the shoulders of those giants, beginning in 1906, who preceded me.

The Agency has an important mission to which I have been committed for over 35 years – first as chapter board member in Los Angeles and Westchester and later as a National Officer. During those years, I watched the Agency tackle some of the thorniest issues facing Jews at home and abroad and saw the Agency make a profound difference.

I believe that America today is more open, tolerant and pluralistic than ever before and that AJC has played and continues to play a critical role in opening minds and doors for all Americans. We are all beneficiaries of AJC's efforts.

If American Jews have assumed an increasingly active role in our nation's domestic and international policy deliberations, then the AJC has been in the vanguard, promoting equal rights and equal opportunity for all of America's citizens, advancing respect for international human rights, building ties with other ethnic and religious communities, reinforcing Jewish life in the U.S. and abroad, and, not least, making a strong case for Israel's rightful place in the family of nations.

As an investment banker, I appreciate timely and wise investments. The same applies to our communal organizations, and those of us who have invested time, energy and financial support in AJC have been provided with great returns.

Today, this Agency stands unrivaled in Jewish life as an organization that draws from the talent and dedication of a committed lay constituency and a superb professional staff. AJC today enjoys an impressive network of friends and a broad sphere of influence. This was exemplified by our most

recent Annual Meeting's remarkable list of speakers highlighted by President George W. Bush, President Vicente Fox of Mexico, Joschka Fischer, Foreign Minister of Germany, and Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister of Israel. The *New York Times* has named AJC the "dean of American Jewish organizations," *Reuters* called us one of the world's "most influential" Jewish organizations, and the late John Cardinal O'Connor declared: "No organization I know in this country or this world has done more to improve Christian-Jewish relations than the American Jewish Committee."

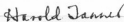
As I begin my three-year term, I acknowledge a debt of gratitude to the inspired and dedicated leadership of my most recent predecessors, Bruce Ramer, Bob Rifkind and Al Moses, as well as to those committed leaders who preceded them. Together, with an excellent staff led by David Harris, Executive Director, Shula Bahat, Associate Executive Director, and Jaime Kelstein, Assistant Executive Director for Institutional Development, with the support of those of you reading this letter, whether chapter or national officers, members of commissions or institutes, or dedicated supporters, an organization of unprecedented strength and influence has been forged.

During my tenure as President, I hope to visit all the chapters and to meet as many of you as possible. There will be sufficient challenges to keep us on our toes, literally and figuratively, and whatever should arise, I know that my fellow senior officers, Bob Goodkind, Chair, Board of Governors; Dottie Bennett, Chair, National Council; and Michael Gould, Chair, Board of Trustees, and I will need the counsel and support of men and women who share our respect and passion for the Agency and all it stands for – in other words, people like you.

I look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead in our common goal of moving closer to the vision of a world at peace, and a society in which our children and children's children can flourish.

With all good wishes.

Very sincerely,



Harold Tanner



The American Jewish Committee

Bruce M. Ramer  
President

David A. Harris  
Executive Director

September 27, 2000

Dr. Solomon Passy  
President  
The Atlantic Club of Bulgaria  
29 Slavyanska Street  
1000 Sofia,  
Bulgaria

Dear Dr. Passy:

Ten years ago this month David A. Harris began his tenure as executive director of the American Jewish Committee, and under his creative and visionary leadership AJC has continued to grow from strength to strength, fulfilling our mission of making a difference on the issues of uppermost concern to Jews in the U.S. and around the world.

David, as you know, is very special – a political and social activist, a leader of intellect, and an individual deeply committed to the well-being of Jews worldwide.

And he brings unbounded passion for the American Jewish Committee to his work, summed up in David's poignant observation: "We have the recipe – intelligent, caring, dedicated people banded together in a movement we call the American Jewish Committee, who are confident, even brazen, enough to tackle the major pathologies afflicting society, humble enough, though, to recognize that there are no easy or quick answers, and committed enough to want to help shape our destiny."

The past decade has been an extraordinary period of growth for AJC, and with David at the helm, aided by a first-rate talented staff and a dedicated lay leadership, AJC is positioned solidly, programmatically and financially, for the 21st century – as well as for the next century of AJC, which begins in 2006.

In his own unique and effective style of communication, David tells this story of AJC's golden decade in the enclosed copy of his wonderful presentation to AJC's Annual Meeting in May. I trust you will find this as compelling as David's just published book, *In the Trenches*, which chronicles 20 years of worldwide Jewish political and social activism in which David – and the American Jewish Committee – have played key and influential roles.

Wishing you a very happy and healthy New Year. L'Shana Tova.

Sincerely,

Bruce M. Ramer

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***DRAFT***

President William Jefferson Clinton  
The White House  
Washington D.C. 20500

September 13, 1999

Dear Mister President:

I was pleased to learn about your expected visit to Sofia later next month. This visit will certainly be a great and timely encouragement for Bulgaria's reunification with the Atlantic community.

As you may probably know, since its establishment in 1990 the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria has always been at the forefront of the democratic changes in this country, a solid pillar of US-Bulgarian relations and a public engine of Bulgaria's membership in NATO.

Conceived during the Persian Gulf crisis the Atlantic Club succeeded to herald and shape the public opinion raising significant public support for actions of the international community in periods when those actions were far from being popular even in the West.

In the meantime, the Club has evolved into an influential bipartisan think-tank gaining impressive international recognition. The Club has hosted key leaders and opinion makers, among whom, very recently, several Prime Ministers: Tony Blair, Joze-Maria Aznar, Mesut Yilmaz, Romano Prodi and Lyubcho Georgievski. We hosted also Nobel Peace Laureates Shimon Peres, Lech Walesa and the Dalai Lama of Tibet. Public opinion polling of 1999 shows the Atlantic Club as the most popular NGO in this country.

Therefore I will avail myself of this opportunity to extend an invitation to host you at the Atlantic Club during your expected visit. As usually, we shall be privileged to have such a meeting attended by the cream of Bulgaria's elite: leading opinion makers, students, Bulgarian and American businessman, politicians, statesmen and journalists, military establishment, as well as a representative selection of the non-governmental community.

I am looking forward to your reply and wish you every success in your endeavors.

Sincerely yours,

Solomon Passy  
President of the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria  
Vice-President of the Atlantic Treaty Association





# АТЛАНТИЧЕСКИЯТ КЛУБ В БЪЛГАРИЯ

## THE ATLANTIC CLUB OF BULGARIA

FOUNDED ON APRIL 4, 1991 - ASSOCIATED WITH THE ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION SINCE 1992

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PRESIDENT  
THE HON. DR. SOLOMON PASSY

### American Jewish Committee Delegation visit to Sofia, February 17-19, 1998

#### Tuesday, February 17

- 12:45 - Arrival of Rabbi Andrew Baker (*Lauda Air*, Flight 9232 from Vienna)
- 16:00 - Arrival of Dr. David Singer (*Swissair*, Flight 440)
- 16:30 - Rabbi Andrew Baker will be picked up from the lobby of the Sheraton Hotel by Victor Melamed
- 16:45 - Meeting with leaders of the Jewish Community in Bulgaria
- 17:30 - Visiting the Synagogue in Sofia
- 20:30 - Dinner (*Retro Crystal Restaurant*, tel. 87 20 85, 988 50 53)

#### Wednesday, February 18

- Morning & lunch free
- 15:00 - Arrival from Istanbul of David Harris and Mr & Mrs Nicholas Lane (*Turkish Airlines*)
- 15:40 - Rabbi Andrew Baker and Dr. Singer will be picked up from the lobby of Sheraton Hotel by Mrs. Tzvetkova
- 16:00 - Meeting with the Chairman of the National Assembly Yordan Sokolov
- 17:00 - Meeting with the Prime Minister of Bulgaria Ivan Kostov
- 17:30 - David Harris and Mr. and Mrs. Lane will check in
- 18:05 - The bus will pick up the whole delegation from Sheraton Hotel (Meeting at the lobby)
- 18:30 - Speech of David Harris before the Atlantic Club and reception hosted by the President of the Club
- 20:15 - Dinner with the presence of the Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Bozhkov (*Ambassador Restaurant*)

#### Thursday, February 19

- 07:45 - Breakfast with Mr. Christopher Dell, First Secretary, Embassy of the USA in Sofia
- 08:45 - Check out
- 09:00 - Bus leaves the Sheraton Hotel
- 09:15 - Meeting with the Minister of Interior Bogomil Bonev
- 10:15 - Meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs Nadezhda Mihaylova
- 11:15 - Meeting with the President Petar Stoyanov
- 12:30 - Lunch (*Pri orlita Restaurant*)
- 14:30 - Meeting with the General Director of the General Department of Archives at the Council of Ministers Panto Kolev
- 15:15 - Meeting with the Minister of Justice Vassil Gotzev
- 17:00 - Departure to Zürich.

David Harris, Executive Director, New York, N.Y., and Chairman of the Delegation  
Rabbi Andrew Baker, Director of European Affairs, Washington, D.C.  
Dr. David Singer, Director of Research  
Nicholas Lane & Mrs Lane

#### Important Phone Numbers:

Solomon Passy - (home) 27 63 43, (mobile) 088 57 22 57  
 The Atlantic Club of Bulgaria - 980 67 24, 980 48 40, 981 06 99, 981 57 82

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 WILLIAM H. TAFT IV  
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May 12-15, 1998  
Washington DC

March 11, 1998

Dr. Solomon Passy  
President, The Atlantic Club of Bulgaria  
Vice-Chairman, The Atlantic Treaty Association  
29 Slavyanska Street  
1000 Sofia  
Bulgaria

Dear Dr. Passy:

We are pleased to extend to you a personal invitation to participate in the American Jewish Committee's 92nd Annual Meeting and Fifth International Leadership Conference, Tuesday, May 12-Sunday, May 17, 1998, to be held in Washington, DC. In both programs we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Israel.

The Annual Meeting, our most important national gathering, brings together hundreds of people from across the United States and abroad for debate and discussion on significant issues of the day. The attached tentative schedule will give highlights and information about the meeting. There will be a dinner orientation session exclusively for the international participants on **Tuesday, May 12**, at the Capital Hilton Hotel.

Following the Annual Meeting, we will convene our Fifth International Leadership Conference. From Friday afternoon through Sunday noon, **May 15-17**, there will be an opportunity for international participants and AJC leadership to discuss the critical issues facing world Jewry in both formal and informal sessions.

The American Jewish Committee will defray the cost of your stay in Washington including: hotel room, conference program, registration fees and all related meals. In addition, limited subsidies are available to cover the cost of your air travel; please let us know if you will require this assistance.

We hope you will accept this invitation to join us for our Annual Meeting and International Leadership Conference. Should you accept, we will share with you more detailed information about these events as the date approaches. We also invite you to contribute a written paper on the relationship of the Jewish community in your country with Israel that can be shared with other participants.

We ask that you return the accompanying form to us along with a brief biographical sketch as soon as possible but no later than Friday, March 27, 1998, to enable us to make the necessary arrangements for all aspects of your participation. If we do not hear from you by then, we will not be able to honor this invitation.

Rabbi Andrew Baker, AJC's Director of European Affairs, is the Coordinator of the Fifth International Leadership Conference. Should you have any questions please contact him, or Marc Ittelson, AJC's Assistant Director of European Affairs, directly in Washington at (telephone) 202-785-4200 or fax (202) 785-4115. Rabbi Baker can be reached by e-mail at [ABaker@ajc.org](mailto:ABaker@ajc.org) and Marc Ittelson at [Ittelson@ajc.org](mailto:Ittelson@ajc.org).

I look forward to greeting you in Washington this May.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Rifkind  
President

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Executive Director

March 30, 1998

Dr. Solomon Passy  
President, The Atlantic Club of Bulgaria  
Vice-Chairman, The Atlantic Treaty Association  
29 Slavyanska Street  
1000 Sofia Bulgaria

Dear Dr. Passy:

I am pleased to extend to you an invitation to become an *International Associate* of the American Jewish Committee.

AJC's National Council established this new category of membership to encourage a more formal affiliation with the Committee's many friends and partners in the Jewish communities of other countries, who identify with and support our work.

As you know, the American Jewish Committee has established a broad network of international Jewish leaders throughout the world, many of whom we have had the opportunity to visit and consult on our frequent visits abroad, and whom we have welcomed and honored at our springtime Annual Meeting in Washington, DC. On those occasions and throughout the year, the Committee works to ensure the security and well-being of Jews around the world—and seeks to enhance and enrich Jewish life through research, publications, conferences and by improving the lines of communication among Jews around the world.

Most important, you will identify yourself with our cause, joining the thousands of American Jews who have made the Committee the significant agency for Jewish policy planning and advocacy that it is.

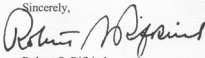
As an *International Associate* of the American Jewish Committee, you will receive: our bi-monthly newsletter, the *AJC Journal* and our Annual Report; invitations to national events and periodic briefings from our International Relations and Jewish Communal Affairs commissions on issues of concern to Jewish communities world-wide. You will also receive discounts on the American Jewish Yearbook, Anti-Semitism World Report, Patterns of Prejudice and East European Jewish Affairs; a reduced subscription rate to *Commentary* magazine; reduced rates on all AJC publications.

To become an *International Associate* of the American Jewish Committee please complete the enclosed enrollment form and return it with your check, payable to the American Jewish Committee, in the amount of \$25 U.S. dollars. A return envelope has been provided for your convenience. We look forward to adding your name to the list of respected international supporters of the American Jewish Committee.

I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert S. Rifkind". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

Robert S. Rifkind

RSR/rt

Encl.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Dr. Solomon Passy, Sofia, Bulgaria  
From: David Harris  
Date: June 3, 1998

Dear Solomon,

I'm so glad you were able to join us in Washington for this year's Annual Meeting and International Leadership Conference. Frankly, these two events wouldn't be the same without you.

I have gone over my speech at The Atlantic Club and enclose both the disc and hard copy of the final version. You are now welcome to do with it what you will. I only ask that you let me know what, if anything, you plan to do with it.

Earlier today, I spoke with David Singer. I inquired about the status of our archival project in Bulgaria and was told that you are being helpful to us. As always, I appreciate your efforts. This project is important to AJC and to me personally, and I am eager to see us make progress as quickly as may be feasible.

With every best wish.

Cordially,



David A. Harris

P.S. Please give my best regards to Victor who was kind enough to send me a lovely note after the Annual Meeting.

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**Bruce M. Ramer**  
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**David A. Harris**  
Executive Director

July 24, 1998

The Honorable Dr. Solomon Passy  
The Atlantic Club of Bulgaria  
29, Slavyanska Street  
Sofia 1000  
Bulgaria

Dear Solomon:

I simply wanted to take advantage of this efficient courier service to say hello and send best regards.

I am delighted that Shula will spend several days with you and the members of the Jewish Committee, further widening and deepening the ties between us.

Even at the risk of repeating myself, Bulgaria is an important country to us, and we would like to do all that we can here to assist you in strengthening Bulgaria's truly historic process of democratization, turn to the West, and revitalization of the Jewish community.

I look forward to my own return visit before too long. In the meantime, please accept my best wishes.

Cordially,

  
David A. Harris



# АТЛАНТИЧЕСКИЯТ КЛУБ В БЪЛГАРИЯ

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Robert Rifkind  
President  
The American Jewish Committee  
Fax: (202) 785 4115  
E-Mail: OEA1@aol.com

by e-mail

February 22, 1996

Dear Mr. Rifkind,

Thank you very much for your kind fax of February 5 and for your kind invitation to attend the 90-th Annual Meeting of AJC and the Third International Leadership Conference, May 7-12.

It will be a great honor for me to be among the participants of this event and I accept this invitation with pleasure. Moreover, this will give the chance to renew my friendship with members and leaders of AJC with whom I had the chance to meet twice in USA and once in Bulgaria during 1995.

As far as the logistic is concerned: I would much appreciate to make use of the subsidies available to cover the air travel. I am planning to be accompanied by my wife and I will let you know the flight reservations as soon as I have them ready.

As of now, I hope to be able to visit some of AJC's Chapters, May 12-14. I still do not know whether my calendar will permit me to do so, but if there is any choice among the different cities, please let me know.

I have one more request: one or two of my colleagues from the Council are also interested to attend the AJC meeting, at own expences. Please let me know whether this will be possible, so that we undertake the necessary steps.

I herein attach the registration form for me and my wife.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

Sincerely yours,

*Kindest regards,*

Solomon Passy  
President

c.c. Rabbi Andrew Baker, Marc Ittelson

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To the Participants in  
the 89-th Annual AJC Meeting &  
2-nd International Leadership Conference

May 4, 1995

Dear Participants in These Terrific Meetings:

Please find attached a presentation document of my organization -- the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria. Our Club serves as a national foreign policy think-tank and a lobbyistic group, promoting the common values of the Atlantic community in Central Europe as well as Bulgaria's and Central Europe's future inclusion in NATO.

My organization would appreciate to establish further cooperation with the American Jewish Committee -- which I was happy to discover for myself as a rather impressive organization -- and its members, for the realization of many goals, which are common for our two associations.

*Sincerely,*  


Solomon Passy  
President  
The Atlantic Club of Bulgaria

**INVITED SPEAKERS (1990-1994)**  
Dr. JOHN A. BAKER  
Dr. MAXFRED HORNBER  
WILLIAM H. TAFT IV  
The XIX DALAI LAMA at Tibet  
Dr. ZHELIV ZHELIV  
WILLIAM E. COLBY  
BRUCE E. SOHN  
Dr. MICHAEL ALEXANDER  
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May 16, 1995

**Dr. Solomon Passy, President**  
**The Atlantic Club of Bulgaria**  
**29, Slavyanska Street**  
**Sofia 1000**  
**BULGARIA**

Dear Solomon,

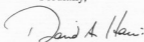
I just had the chance to read the materials about The Atlantic Club that you left with me in Washington and am very impressed with the aims and scope of the organization. You truly are to be commended for the impressive array of activities and speakers that are listed in the attachment. And no doubt, there ought to be areas of cooperation developed between The Atlantic Club and the American Jewish Committee, which I know Rabbi Andrew Baker, our Director of European Affairs, will be pursuing with you.

As I mentioned when we chatted outside the Israeli Embassy, we are hoping to have an AJC delegation visit Bulgaria this fall. Such an occasion would provide an opportunity for us to learn more about the Club and to consider more carefully, together with you, our joint interests.

I am pleased you were able to join us for the Annual Meeting and the International Leadership Conference, and hope you found both events enjoyable and worthwhile.

With every best wish.

Cordially,

  
David A. Harris

cc: Rabbi Andrew Baker



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The American Jewish Committee  
The Jacob Blaustein Building  
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fax: (212) 751 4017

July 2, 1995

Dear David:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of May 16. I was pleased to see the confirmation of your hope to visit Bulgaria during this fall. This will be an interesting political moment in my country: we shall be having local elections.

I myself have on my calendar scheduled a few short trips abroad, and therefore I would much appreciate to learn your proposed dates to visit Bulgaria at your earliest convenience. As I mentioned before, I would be happy to organize parts of your program in my country.

I take this opportunity to repeat my thanks for the superb organization and friendship which my wife and I met during the AJC Annual meeting in May.

I look forward to meeting you in Sofia.

Sincerely,

*Best wishes,  
Solomon*

Solomon Passy  
President

DAVID A. HARRIS

July 3, 1995

Dr. Solomon Passy  
The Atlantic Club of Bulgaria  
26, Slavyanska Street  
Sofia 1000  
Bulgaria

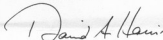
Dear Solomon,

Thank you very much for your letter of July 2nd. Stoyan Ganev was in my office last week to present us with a formal invitation from President Zhelyu Zhelev. I told Mr. Ganev that we gladly accepted the invitation and that Andy Baker would be coordinating our trip, which was likely to take place in mid-September. In that context, I am grateful for your offer to assist us, and I know that Andy will be in touch with you as plans develop.

On a separate note, I appreciate your kind words about our Annual Meeting and am pleased you were able to join us.

With every best wish.

Cordially,

  
David A. Harris

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**August 22, 1995**

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**Sofia 1000 Bulgaria**

**Dear Solomon:**

**I am very pleased to send you this newsletter about the 89th Annual Meeting of the American Jewish Committee.**

**Please hold the date for the 90th Annual Meeting of the American Jewish Committee - May 8-10, 1996, in Washington D. C. This will be followed by the Third International Jewish Leadership Conference from May 10-12.**

**I look forward to your participation in these events and to hearing from you from time to time about developments in your community.**

**Please don't hesitate to contact us if you think we can be of any assistance.**

**Warmest personal regards.**

**Cordially,**

**Shula Bahat**  
**Associate Executive Director**

**SB:es**  
**enc.**



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Shula Bahat  
Associate Executive Director  
The American Jewish Committee  
Fax: (212) 83 82 120

September 1, 1995

Dear Shula:

Thank you for your kind letter of August 22. I was glad to remember again our Meeting in Washington while reading the newsletter

I will be pleased to have the chance to attend the 90-th Annual Meeting & the Third International Jewish Leadership Conference in May.

Please extend my regards to David Haris and Marc Ittelson. I mail enclosed some documents reflecting the developments in The Atlantic Club of Bulgaria.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

Sincerely yours,

*Best wishes,*

Solomon Passy  
President



# АТЛАНТИЧЕСКИЯТ КЛУБ В БЪЛГАРИЯ

## THE ATLANTIC CLUB OF BULGARIA

FOUNDED ON APRIL 4, 1991 - ASSOCIATED WITH THE ATLANTIC TREATY ASSOCIATION SINCE 1992

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Rabbi Andrew Baker  
 Director of European Affairs  
 The American Jewish Committee  
 Fax: (202) 785 4115

December 26, 1995

Dear Andy:

Thank you very much for your kind fax. We had a great fun during your visit to Sofia. It was both a pleasant and a successful visit, at least from our perspective.

I am sending by mail the press review covering the press clippings from your visit. I was pleased to notice that the Bulgarian press paid a great attention to the AJC visit to Sofia. As a whole, both the press and the public opinion were very favorable to AJC's visit. The Atlantic Club, known for its tolerance program (including the Dalai Lama of Tibet, Pope John Paul II, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew) was accepted as a natural host of the visit.

I indeed hope that the future initiatives that we talked about will be given a green light and this will put the beginning of a deeper cooperation in future.

Please find attached a copy of the bill for the reception totaling US\$ 4 320 (four thousand three hundred & 20), of which you may reimburse the half, as reportedly agreed with Stoyan Ganev. You may send a cheque, made payable to the Atlantic Club of Bulgaria, or, if you prefer so, may send a bank transfer to: # 680 1100103410; at Credit Bank: 3. Angel Kanchev Str.; Sofia 1000.

I do hope to have the chance to meeting you soon.

Sincerely,

*Best wishes to the whole group,*  
*Mari*

Solomon Passy  
 President