

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 30, 1979

Dear Dr. Geokas:

Through the courtesy of Congressman Vic Fazio, I have learned of your significant work. I have also reviewed the considerable amount of support which you have received as a candidate for the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

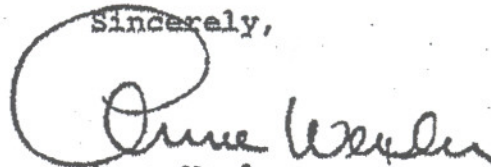
Since no Medals of Freedom were presented this year on July 4, 1979, as was anticipated, I felt that a brief explanation of the selection process and the status of your candidacy would be in order.

As you know, President Carter has presented only four Medals. In 1977, he awarded the Medal to Jonas Salk and to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; in 1978 he presented Arthur Goldberg the Medal; and, in 1979, he honored Margaret Mead. On September 18, 1979, the President announced his intention to present the Medal to Archbishop Iakovos, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church of North and South America.

The process of evaluating candidates remains a continuous one, and all of those individuals nominated at any time for the Medal continue to be eligible. No specific date or occasion is prescribed for presentation of the Medal, and President Carter has chosen to make the award in a fairly random manner.

As our deliberations continue, I assure you that your name will be among those receiving careful consideration for this prestigious award. Your contributions certainly merit evaluation for the highest civilian award given in the United States.

Sincerely,



Anne Wexler

Assistant to the President:

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