



International Human Rights LAW GROUP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gregory B. Craig
Chair

Roberta Cohen
Vice-Chair

Richard Danzig
Vice-Chair

Steven M. Schneebaum
Treasurer

Goler T. Butcher
Secretary

Millard W. Arnold
Donald B. Ayer

Elizabeth Bagley
Michael D. Barnes

Samuel R. Berger
Joan Bingham

David Carliner
Russell Carpenter

Tom J. Farer
Nancy Folger

Charles Fried
Robert K. Goldman

Claudio Grossman
(Rev.) J. Bryan Hehir

Robert Herzstein
Roderick M. Hills

Robert H. Kapp
Abe Krash

William Lake
Stuart Lemle

Patrick F. J. Macrory
Frank Mankiewicz

Gay J. McDougall
Roberts B. Owen

Ronald Pump
Nancy Rubin

Mark L. Schneider
Eli Segal

Sanford J. Ungar
Richard Viets

Edward L. Weidenfeld

ADVISORY COUNCIL

M. Bernard Aidinoff
Prafull N. Bhagwati

Richard B. Bilder
George Blow

Theo C. van Boven
Stephen Cohen

Eldon H. Crowell
Lloyd Cutler

Francis Deng
Adama Dieng

John W. Douglas
Thomas M. Franck

Diego Garcia-Sayan
David Ginsburg

Jaime Malamud-Goti
Hurst Hannum

Monica Jimenez
Robert A. Klayman

Monroe Leigh
Richard B. Lillich

Bert B. Lockwood, Jr.
Daniel H. Margolis

Fali S. Nariman
Diane F. Orentlicher

Louis Pettiti
John H. Pickering

William D. Rogers
Seymour J. Rubin

Charles Runyon
Robert L. Wald

Burns H. Weston

1601 Connecticut Avenue NW • Suite 700 • Washington DC 20009

Telephone (202) 232-8500 Telefax (202) 232-6731

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Reed Brody

February 18, 1994

His Excellency Patricio Aylwin
Palacio de la Moneda
Santiago
CHILE

Your Excellency:

ARCHIVO

REPUBLICA	
PRE	
REGISTR	
NR.	94/3533
A.	28 FEB 94
P.A.A.	<input type="checkbox"/>
R.C.A.	<input type="checkbox"/>
C.B.E.	<input type="checkbox"/>
M.L.P.	<input type="checkbox"/>
M.T.O.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
E.D.E.C.	<input type="checkbox"/>
M.Z.C.	<input type="checkbox"/>

I am writing on behalf of the International Human Rights Law Group Board of Directors to invite you to serve as a member of the Host Committee for the Law Group's 1994 Human Rights Awards Dinner. The dinner will honor Madame Sadako Ogata, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Each year the Law Group presents its Human Rights Award to groups or individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the cause of human rights internationally. We have chosen to honor Madame Ogata for her defense of the human rights of refugees, asylum seekers and of persons internally displaced around the world, and especially in troubled areas such as the former Yugoslavia, Northern Iraq, the Horn of Africa and Central America.

The Law Group's 1994 Awards Dinner will take place on Wednesday, June 8. We expect more than 500 people to attend the ceremony, including Members of Congress and representatives of the Clinton Administration, the diplomatic community, the legal community, and the press.

We hope you will lend your support to this event by agreeing to serve on our Host Committee. As a member of the Committee, your name will be listed on the invitation and program for the event. The Committee includes Members of Congress, diplomats, distinguished lawyers, and leaders in the human rights and refugee fields.

As you may know, the Law Group is a not-for-profit, nonpartisan advocacy organization, based in Washington, that mobilizes the special skills of the legal community to empower frontline human rights advocates and lawyers internationally to promote and protect human rights in their own countries. Founded in 1978, the Law Group has worked in more than 80 countries to promote the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary, to strengthen international standards governing human rights, and to represent abuse victims before domestic and international tribunals.

PRO BONO ASSOCIATION

CHAIR

Martin Wagner

The International Human Rights Law Group is affiliated with the International Commission of Jurists, and maintains formal relations with the United Nations, UNESCO, and the Organization of African Unity.

February 18, 1994
Page 2

Our Board members, a bipartisan group including members of the most prominent law firms in the nation, along with internationally recognized law professors and human rights specialists, very much look forward to your becoming a member of the Host Committee for our 1994 Awards Dinner. More details on the event will be sent to you shortly.

I hope you will inform me in writing before Friday, March 18, 1994 of your interest in serving on the Committee. You can reach me at the above address and facsimile number.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gregory B. Craig". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Gregory B. Craig
Chairman of the Board

Japanese Diplomat Puts Refugees Before Politics

-The New York Times,
April 7, 1993

By SUSAN CHIRA

When Sadako Ogata became the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees two years ago, she may have anticipated an uncontroversial tenure as a do-gooder struggling to draw the world's attention to humanitarian issues.

But Mrs. Ogata was plunged almost immediately into bitter political disputes as fighting in the former Yugoslavia displaced more than two million Muslims, Croats and Serbs on the doorstep of Europe. Along the way, she has been challenged to defend her actions at almost every turn.

"I never thought I would be working so much in Europe," Mrs. Ogata, 65, said in a recent interview. She probably never expected such intense scrutiny or second-guessing, either.

Uncomfortable Diplomats

This week, she made many officials at the United Nations extremely uncomfortable when she requested drastic action by the Security Council to halt the Serbian siege of Srebrenica in eastern Bosnia or to carry out a sweeping evacuation of people from the area.

In blunt language, Mrs. Ogata said that Serbian forces had ignored earlier assurances and blocked aid deliveries to the besieged town. But there was no support at the Security Council for her proposals — only embarrassment, because her request had called attention to the inability of the United Nations to stop the fighting or provide adequate relief.

By far the most controversial action taken by Mrs. Ogata was in mid-February, after both the Bosnian Government and Serbian nationalists began obstructing deliveries of food and blankets to hungry and freezing victims of the war to gain leverage over their foes. At that time, Mrs. Ogata announced the suspension of aid relief to Bosnia, a move that drew the public wrath of Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

Later she was criticized for alerting the Security Council to ham radio reports of a massacre by Serbian nationalist forces in eastern Bosnia without obtaining corroboration.

Wins Agencies' Support

Mrs. Ogata remained publicly unflustered by the criticism, by most accounts, and leaders of several refugee organizations eventually judged that she had acted properly in both these cases.

A former professor of international relations with a calm and elegant demeanor, Mrs. Ogata maintains a low-key approach that sometimes masks considerable strength.

Although Mrs. Ogata has spent much of her career in a classroom, other work experience and her family background had steeled her for such disputes. Her father and grandfather were diplomats, she was the first woman to hold senior positions in the Japanese Mission to the United Nations, from 1976 to 1979, and she was Japan's representative on the Commission on Human Rights from 1982 to 1985.

As High Commissioner for Refugees, she has restored the credibility of an agency shaken by administrative and financial crises, leaders of several refugee groups said. With 2,220 employees and an annual budget of \$748.3 million, the commission is now responsible for 18 million refugees, more than at any other time in its 42-year history.

"For those people who had doubts whether she had the background, experience and fortitude to lead — the answer is yes," said Dennis Gallagher, executive director of the Refugee Policy Group, a private organization based in Washington.

Mrs. Ogata is an idealist who has also pricked her own country's conscience, criticizing Japan for failing to give shelter or contribute enough money to the world's refugees.

In addition to aiding people displaced by fighting in former Yugoslav republics, the High Commissioner is supervising vast resettlement projects after wars in Cambodia and Ethiopia. In the former Soviet Union and parts of Eastern Europe, nationalist tensions and economic dislocation also threaten to create waves of migrants at a time when affluent Western nations like Germany are stiffening the criteria used to admit refugees.

In her most controversial action, Mrs. Ogata's suspension of relief operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina on Feb. 17 led to Secretary General Boutros-Ghali countermanning her order.

Her action had angered several United Nations officials and mediators who felt that they should have been consulted before she took such a dramatic step. Other critics accused her of playing into the hands of Serbs who were trying to starve Bosnian Muslims in the towns under siege.

Recalling the episode, Mrs. Ogata was unrepentant. "I had been suspending operations on and off all the time," she said.

Praise From Refugee Group

Mrs. Ogata's decisive actions have won her widespread praise, however.

"She got a lot of flak, but she did precisely the right thing," said Roger



Agence France-Press

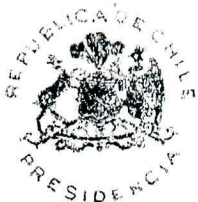
"I never thought I would be working so much in Europe," said Sadako Ogata, who is the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

P. Winter, director of the U.S. Committee for Refugees, a nonprofit group based in Washington. "What she did was confront the world with the disparity between the responsibilities with which she had been charged and the tools she had."

Mrs. Ogata, who earned graduate degrees from Georgetown University and the University of California at Berkeley, and her husband, Shijuro Ogata, an economist and banker in Tokyo, are among the most prominent of their generation of Japanese internationalists, and their shared vision of an open Japan seems to have bred a close and egalitarian marriage. The couple has a son, Aisushi, 30, a video artist based in Germany, and a daughter, Akiko, 25, who works for the Bank of Tokyo.

Because Mrs. Ogata is based in Geneva and travels constantly to trouble spots, she manages to see her husband just once a month.

"I don't recommend this kind of complicated life," she said. "But I think we are mature people."



CBE 94/3533

ARCHIVO

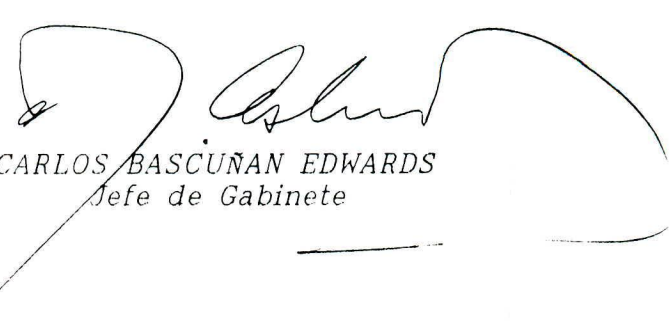
Señor
Gregory B. Craig
Chairman of the Board
International Human Rights Law Group
Washington, D.C.

De mi consideración:

Por especial encargo de S.E. el Presidente de la República de Chile, don Patricio Aylwin Azócar, me refiero a su carta de fecha 18 de Febrero, en la que lo invita a participar en la Cena de Honor que ofrecerán para otorgar el Premio de Derechos Humanos 1994 a la señora Sadako Ogata, Alto Comisionado de Naciones Unidas para los Refugiados, acto que se llevará a cabo el 8 de Junio, en Washington.

El Presidente, informado de su invitación, me ha encargado manifestarle que para él habría sido muy grato formar parte del Comité de Invitados a esta recepción. Lamentablemente, no será posible que en esa fecha pueda viajar a Washington, por lo que le ruega excusarlo. No obstante, por mi intermedio, desea hacer llegar a usted, a todos los participantes y en especial a la señora Ogata, su más cordial saludo y sus mejores deseos de éxito.

Muy atentamente,


CARLOS BASCUÑAN EDWARDS
Jefe de Gabinete

Santiago, Marzo 4 de 1994

CBE/psa