



PRESIDENT OF THE NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
Newport, Rhode Island
02840

Feb 20, 1978

DEAR MR. Solzhenitsyn,

I Read your books with Great Empathy, for I have spent many days of my life in a manner very similar to those you describe in the life of Ivan Denisovich. I was the senior American Naval Officer in the prison camp system of Hawaii for nearly eight years.

I Am now, five years after my release, the President of the Naval War College at Newport, the oldest war college in America. It would be the most proud moment in this college's existence - since its founding in 1804 - if you would come to our campus and address our students and faculty. We have About 300 American

Students - professional Army, Navy, Air Force,
and Marine officers of Ages between 35 and
45, with Ranks from Major through Colonel.
We also have an enrollment of about 75 Allied
officers.

I can provide privacy, military security,
transportation (we're not far from you), quarters,
and an harmonium, of course. I can bar the
Newport towns people from your speech, or invite
them as you desire; I can arrange to have
you talk to American students only, or to the
entire student body. In Summary, for all
practical purposes I can totally control the social
environment in accordance with your wishes.

Most of all, I want to personally shake
your hand and have you as a guest in my
quarters. Will you please consider coming to
Newport, Sir?

Very respectfully,

James B. Stockdale
Vice Admiral US Navy