



# NEWS FROM THE SEA ISLAND SUMMIT PLANNING ORGANIZATION

**Elliott Abrams, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Near East and North African Affairs at the National Security Council**

Mr. Abrams was president of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C., from June 1996 to June 2001, when he joined the NSC staff. He was a member of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom for two years, from May 1999 to May 2001, and Chairman of the Commission in the latter year.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Abrams spent four years working for the United States Senate: as Assistant Counsel to the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations in 1975; as Special Counsel to Senator Henry M. Jackson in 1975-1976; and as Special Counsel and then Chief of Staff to Senator Daniel P. Moynihan from January 1977 to June 1979. Mr. Abrams served in the State Department during all eight years of the Reagan Administration. In January, 1981 Mr. Abrams became Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs. In this capacity he supervised United States participation in the United Nations system. On December 10, 1981, he was sworn in as Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs. On July 17, 1985, Mr. Abrams was appointed Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, where he supervised U.S. policy in Latin America and the Caribbean. In August 1988, Mr. Abrams received the Secretary of State's Distinguished Service Award from Secretary George P. Shultz for his work in the Department.

Mr. Abrams was a Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute from 1989 to 1996, prior to becoming president of the Ethics and Public Policy Center.

Mr. Abrams's articles and book reviews have appeared in Commentary, The Weekly Standard, The National Interest, The Public Interest, and National Review, where he is a Contributing Editor. He is the author of three books, Undue Process (1993), Security and Sacrifice (1995), and Faith or Fear: How Jews Can Survive in a Christian America (1997), and the editor of three more, Close Calls: Intervention, Terrorism, Missile Defense and "Just War" Today; Honor Among Nations: Intangible Interests and Foreign Policy; and The Influence of Faith: Religion and American Foreign Policy. He has appeared on Meet The Press, Face The Nation, Nightline, and most major television news programs.

Mr. Abrams was born in New York City. He and his wife Rachel live in Virginia. They have three children: Joseph, a high school student; Sarah, a college student; and Jacob, who is serving in the United States Navy.