

FOIA MARKER

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Folder Title: POTUS Trip to Brussels, Belgium; Prague Czech Republic; Moscow, Russia; Kiev, Ukraine; Minsk, Belarus; and Geneva, Switzerland (January 8-16, 1994) [4]				
Staff Office-Individual: Press-Crowley, Philip J. (PJ)				
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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. book	The Trip of the President to Moscow, Russia, Minsk, Belarus, Geneva, Switzerland [Schedules, Manifests, Scenarios and Diagrams] (134 pages)	01/12/1994	b(7)(C), b(7)(E), b(7)(F), b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
 National Security Council
 Office of Press and Communications (Crowley, Philip J (PJ))
 OA/Box Number: 3460

FOLDER TITLE:

POTUS Trip to Brussels, Belgium; Prague, Czech Republic; Moscow, Russia; Kiev, Ukraine; Minsk, Belarus; and Geneva, Switzerland (January 8-16, 1994) [4]

2017-0413-F
sb2258

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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U S D E P A R T M E N T O F S T A T E

DISPATCH

B U R E A U O F P U B L I C A F F A I R S

SD SUPPLEMENT

**The Trip of President Clinton
To Brussels, Prague, Kiev,
Moscow, Minsk, and Geneva**

January 9-16, 1994



January 1994 Vol. 5, Supplement No. 1

The Visegrad States: Crossroads to Change in the Heart of Europe

President Clinton

Remarks at a luncheon with the leaders of the Visegrad states, Prague, Czech Republic, January 12, 1994

I am delighted to be here with the leaders of the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia. This region has contributed so much to my nation's history. Officers from your lands helped lead our fight for independence, and your sons and daughters helped build our cities and communities. Two of my senior national security advisers were born in this region—my UN Ambassador, Madeleine Albright; and the Chairman of our Joint Chiefs of Staff, General John Shalikashvili. I asked Vice President Gore to make his first official trip abroad to this region—to Poland, in April. And I asked him to come here again in December to pay my nation's respects to Hungary's great Premier, the late Jozsef Antall.

The Visegrad states hold a special place in modern history. This is where the transformations of our era began—with Poland's elections in June of 1989, the opening of Hungary's frontiers, and the Velvet Revolution in Prague and Bratislava. Just as your states have been at the heart of European civilization for centuries, your courageous bid for freedom inspired the march to freedom for half a continent and hundreds of millions of people.

At that time, many doubted your ability to succeed. They said achieving freedom was one thing; building new democracies and market economies was quite another. Some said it would all come to tears—that carrying through

reforms of such magnitude was simply impossible. And there are those who still say that today. But you have confounded such skeptics. Indeed, you have surprised even the optimists. Against great challenges, your people are repairing the devastation of a half-century of communism, building new market economies—and doing all of this by way of democracy. And your success helps persuade other nations that such reforms can work.

I have come to Europe this week to work with our European partners in building a new security for a broader, democratic Europe in the 21st century. For a half-century, the security of the U.S. and Western Europe was based on the defense of half of Europe against the other half. The new security must be found in Europe's integration—in the successful expansion of military cooperation, democratic government, and market economies. The combination of those practices across a broader Europe is the best protection all our nations can build against creeping instability or a return to the old ways and the old, imposed divisions. Now those old days are gone, and we want to make sure they are gone for good. Let me be absolutely clear: The security of your states is important to the security of America.

Two days ago in Brussels, I began laying out my ideas for how all our states can put the Cold War behind us and move from artificial division to integration. But I am mindful of the

old Polish saying, "nothing about us without us," and so I have come to share my thoughts directly with you as well. I want to discuss three sets of ideas I have about how to build the new security and advance the integration of a broader Europe. First, I want to talk with you about the NATO summit. Second, I want to discuss how the United States can support your democratic and free market transformations. Third, I want to discuss how our nation can support regional cooperation among your new democracies.

As you know, the NATO summit approved my proposal, the Partnership for Peace, which builds on shared values and a willingness to assume shared responsibilities. The partnership invites the countries of the former Warsaw Pact, plus others, to join in military cooperation with NATO—military training, exercises, and operations. We hope Poland will host such an exercise this year.

The partnership sets in motion a process that will lead to the enlargement of NATO's membership. I know that many in this region prefer immediate membership. I want to say two things about that. Partnership for Peace is not NATO membership. But neither is it a permanent holding room. It changes the entire dialogue about enlarging NATO's membership. Now the question is no longer whether NATO will take on new members, but when and how we will do so.

I also say to all in your countries and mine who would draw a new line in Europe: We should not foreclose the possibility of the best future for Europe—democracy everywhere, market economies everywhere, countries cooperating for mutual security everywhere. We must guard against a lesser outcome, and we have time to do so. But just as others were wrong to assume the failure of your

reforms, I urge you not to assume the failure of Russia's reforms. Freedom's boundaries now should be defined by new behavior, not by old history. As Vice President Gore suggested last week in a meeting with Polish-, Czech-, Slovak-, and Hungarian-Americans, this is not a rerun of Yalta; it is a first-run of democracy.

Like any security agreement among nations, the partnership requires a two-way effort. For our part, we have begun ending Cold War restrictions on the sale or transfer of defense articles to some Central and Eastern European countries. We are prepared to help train some of your military units to NATO standards. For your part, we hope you will join the partnership, participate actively, and work with us to make this the road toward NATO enlargement.

Our second goal is to help solidify your democratic and market reforms. Your progress since 1989 shows that deep, thorough-going reforms work. Today, your cities are alive with commerce. But the benefits of reform are unevenly distributed. Those who have had no experience with any system other than a command economy often feel the insecurities of the new economy more than its opportunities. This is a problem that your nations will solve for themselves. But we are determined to do what we can to help. I have ordered that our programs give greater emphasis to helping you tend to reform's human dimension.

Ultimately, the success of your economic reforms will depend less on aid than on trade and investment. In Brussels, I called on the European Union to work with us to help open the world's markets to fair exports from your countries.

Today, I am pleased to announce that the United States will support your states in the process of achieving early membership in the Organization

of Economic Cooperation and Development. I also am pleased to announce a major expansion of programs by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation—OPIC—in Central Europe. And in the first half of this year, the U.S. will sponsor a special conference on trade and investment opportunities in Central and Eastern Europe.

We also are working to help you bolster your new democracies. Today, all of Europe is facing hard questions about economic transition, social change, and ethnic diversity. Those challenges provide a fertile soil for demagogues preaching militant, intolerant nationalism. They say all the problems are caused by "others." They say they will solve everything overnight.

We all have an obligation to foster tolerance, to protect individual human rights, and to denounce those who sow hatred. That is important in my country as well as in yours. But over time, democracy relies on a robust civil society, embedded in a thriving economy. Today, across your cities and towns, your people are fulfilling the promise of 1989 by creating such a civil society—community groups, free trade unions, environmental organizations, and more. To help support this process, this year we are significantly increasing our support for such groups in this region and elsewhere. And today I am announcing a new initiative, "the Democracy Network," to bring new resources to grass-roots and independent groups throughout Central and Eastern Europe.

One of the most important building blocks of democracy is a free media. Over the years, we supported a free flow of information throughout this region and the former Soviet Union through Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. Since taking office, I have

insisted that these important broadcasting services be continued because they still have a role to play. The Czech Government has made a generous offer to help, if we decide to move them to Prague—and we are looking at this option very seriously.

Finally, my Government is eager to foster regional cooperation among your countries. Our belief in regional cooperation flows from our own experience after World War II. One of the central features of the Marshall Plan and the integration of Western Europe was the development of cooperation among those states. It helped turn wary neighbors into staunch allies. We see cooperation among the states of Central and Eastern Europe as an integral part of Europe's broader integration. We are determined to foster that integration in practical ways. We will provide technical assistance to regional or bi-national groups. We will help mobilize international support for regional infrastructure projects, such as highways and communication networks. And we want to support the development of an integrated system of airports and air traffic control for the region.

All of these steps can advance the larger purpose we share—the integration of Central and Eastern Europe into a broader Europe that is thriving, democratic, and at peace. Ultimately, that is the best source of security for all of us.

You and I both understand this work will be neither easy nor instant. But we are not deterred or dismayed. We have been with you in this struggle since the beginning. We pledged in 1989 to stand by you as long as you continued your reforms—and we stand by you today. Together, we can place Central and Eastern Europe at the heart of an integrated Europe—democratic, prosperous, secure, and free. ■

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U.S. Support for Russia's Transition to Democracy And Free Market Reform

Focus on Russia:
Highlights of Successful
U.S. Support for Market Reform

Fact Sheet:
U.S. Assistance to Russia

Fact Sheet:
Implementation of Vancouver
Initiatives



United States Department of State
Bureau of Public Affairs
Office of Public Communication
January 1994

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