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Lithuania

Staff Office-Individual:

Russia/Ukraine/Eurasian Affairs-Gati, Toby

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68

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1

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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	re: Russian Troop Withdrawals (3 pages)	04/01/1993	P1/b(1) K8H 11/20/2023

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
National Security Council
Russia/Ukraine/Eurasian Affairs (Toby Gati)
OA/Box Number: 68

FOLDER TITLE:

Lithuania

2011-1038-F
kh1055

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]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

April 9, 1993

Lithuanian

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

THROUGH:

TOBY GATI *TG*

FROM:

BETH SANNER *BS*

SUBJECT:

Response to Lithuanian American Council Regarding
Russian Troop Withdrawals

Valdemaras Sadauskas, office manager of the Lithuanian American Council, wrote the President a letter requesting that he raise the issue of Russian troop withdrawals from the Baltics with President Yeltsin in Vancouver. We have drafted a response, for your signature, assuring Mr. Sadauskas of the President's commitment to working for the total withdrawal of Russian troops.

Concurrence by:

Nick Burns *NB*

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the response at Tab I.

Attachments

Tab I Response
Tab II Incoming

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Sadauskas:

Thank you very much for your letter to the President regarding the continuing presence Russian troops in the Baltic states.

The President is firmly committed to achieving the rapid withdrawal of all Russian troops from the Baltic countries at the earliest possible time. We agree that there is no justification for Russian troops to remain on the sovereign territory of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia.

During the summit meeting in Vancouver, President Clinton urged President Yeltsin to continue expeditious troop withdrawals. While we were pleased to hear in Vancouver that the Russian government intends to withdraw all troops from Lithuania this year, we were disappointed that the same commitment was not made to Estonia and Latvia. I can assure you that we registered our strong view with President Yeltsin and other Russian officials that all troops should be withdrawn from all three countries as soon as possible.

President Clinton also announced a pilot program that will provide housing and job retraining for Russian troops returning from the Baltic countries and other states of the former Soviet Union. We intend to expand this program in the future to help speed the withdrawal of Russian forces.

Let me assure you that this Administration is fully committed to the sovereignty and independence of the Baltic countries. We will continue to press the Russian government at the highest levels until all troops are withdrawn.

Sincerely,

Anthony Lake
Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

Mr. Valdemaras M. Sadauskas
Office Manager
Lithuanian American Council USA
6500 S. Pulaski Road
Chicago, Illinois 60629

LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL USA

6500 S. Pulaski Road + Chicago IL 60629 + 312-735-6677 + Fax 312-735-8793

March 10, 1993

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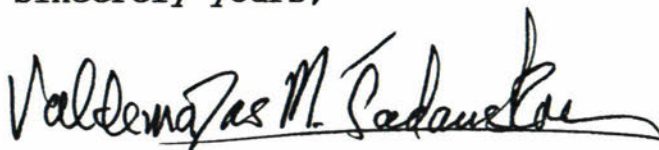
The Honorable William J. C. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

At your forthcoming meeting with President Jeltsin of Russia, I urge you to include as an agenda item the withdrawal of the occupational forces of the former Soviet Union, now under the control of Russia, from the sovereign territories of the Republics of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. Also, I suggest that the status of this issue be included in any communique or statement issued at the conclusion of that meeting.

There is no excuse or justification for keeping "Soviet" troops in countries that are peaceful and obeying international commitments. It must demonstrate that the United States cares for the freedom of all countries, and that illegal Russian behavior can not be tolerated.

Sincerely yours,



Valdemaras M. Šadauskas
Office Manager

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 25, 1993

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: VALDEMARAS M. SADAUSKAS

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO INCLUDE ON HIS AGENDA
FOR HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT YELTSIN THE
WITHDRAWAL OF THE OCCUPATIONAL FORCES FROM
ESTONIA, LATVIA, AND LITHUANIA

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION		
		ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
ANTHONY LAKE		ORG	93/03/25			___/___/___
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___			___/___/___
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___			___/___/___
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___			___/___/___
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___			___/___/___
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___			___/___/___

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION          *OUTGOING          *
*                        *                      *CORRESPONDENCE:  *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *      OF SIGNER   *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED        *      CODE = A     *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  *S-SUSPENDED        *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                      *      OUTGOING    *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                      *                      *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                      *                      *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                      *                      *
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

SCANNED

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

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2016-0384-17 (1.98)
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PAGE 01 OF 03

PRT: BERGER FUERTH ITOH KENNEY KYIM LAKE SIT SODERBERG
SIT: BURNS FILE GATI SANNER SUM SUM2 VAX

<PREC> IMMEDIATE <CLAS> ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ <DTG> 011430Z APR 93

FM AMEMBASSY VILNIUS

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1801
INFO RUFHMB/USMISSION USVIENNA 0082
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW 0383
RUEHRA/AMEMBASSY RIGA 0915
RUEHTL/AMEMBASSY TALLINN 0883
RUFHNA/USMISSION USNATO 0071
RUFHSA/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 0219
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY MINSK 0230
RUFHOS/AMEMBASSY OSLO 0086
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0477
RUFHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN 0310
RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KIEV 0224
RUEHLN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG 0265
RUSNDNA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ VILNIUS 000595

EXDIS

FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR
DEPT ALSO FOR EUR/EE, D/EEA
COPENHAGEN ALSO FOR USDAO
USVIENNA FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: MARR. PREL. RS. LH

SUBJECT: RUSSIAN TROOP WITHDRAWALS FROM THE BALTICS:
SUMMIT-LEVEL ATTENTION

REF: A) VILNIUS 0584. B) USNATO 1417. C) VILNIUS 0527

1. ~~8~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. FROM THE LITHUANIAN STANDPOINT, IT WOULD BE HIGHLY
DESIRABLE FOR THE PRESIDENT TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF RUSSIAN
TROOP WITHDRAWALS FROM THE BALTICS IN HIS MEETINGS WITH

Lithuanian

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PAGE 02 OF 03

PRESIDENT YELTSIN THIS WEEKEND. THE LITHUANIANS HAVE REACTED WITH RELATIVE CALM TO DEFENSE MINISTER GRACHEV'S THREAT TO HALT THE WITHDRAWALS. AND DEFENSE MINISTER BUTKEVICIUS HAS TOLD US THAT THE WITHDRAWALS FROM LITHUANIA ARE APPARENTLY CONTINUING (ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE TOO EARLY TO TELL) (SEE REF A). BUT THE RUSSIAN THREAT TO HALT THE WITHDRAWALS IS BEING TAKEN SERIOUSLY. EQUALLY SERIOUS IS THE SUGGESTION IN GRACHEV'S STATEMENT THAT THE SUSPENSION MAY BE LINKED TO A WESTERN-SUPPORTED HOUSING PROGRAM FOR THE RETURNING TROOPS. THE LITHUANIANS (AND PRESUMABLY THEIR BALTIC NEIGHBORS) SUPPORT THE IDEA OF PROVIDING HOUSING FOR THE DEPARTING RUSSIAN TROOPS, AND IN FACT ARE ALREADY HELPING WITH A CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN KALININGRAD. BUT GRACHEV'S SEQUENCE IS BACKWARDS: THE HOUSING PROGRAM SHOULD BE A REWARD FOR COMPLIANCE. NOT AN EXCUSE FOR NONCOMPLIANCE. IT SHOULD ALSO, IF POSSIBLE, BE STRUCTURED IN A WAY THAT THE BALTIC ECONOMIES COULD BENEFIT FROM THE PROGRAM. E.G. BY DOING SOME OF THE CONSTRUCTION.

3. THE MORE SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR THE LITHUANIANS IS THAT MOSCOW'S STATEMENTS ON BALTIC ISSUES IN RECENT MONTHS HAVE BEEN ERRATIC AND INCONSISTENT AND POTENTIALLY THREATENING. IN OCTOBER, YELTSIN STATED THAT THE TROOP WITHDRAWALS WOULD BE SUSPENDED AND HE LINKED THAT DECISION BOTH TO THE LACK OF HOUSING AND TO THE ALLEGED MIS-TREATMENT OF THE RUSSIAN MINORITY IN THE BALTIC COUNTRIES. BUT THE TROOP WITHDRAWALS DID NOT STOP AND THE STATEMENT WAS DESCRIBED BY RUSSIAN OFFICIALS AS AN EFFORT TO PLACATE YELTSIN'S NATIONALIST CRITICS. FOREIGN MINISTER KOZYREV'S "FALSE ALARM" SPEECH OF DECEMBER 1992 IN STOCKHOLM ALSO CAUSED QUITE REAL SHIVERS HERE. AND IT HAS FREQUENTLY BEEN RECALLED EVEN THOUGH THE WORDS WERE OFFICIALLY RESCINDED. PERHAPS GRACHEV DID NOT REALLY MEAN WHAT HE SAID EITHER. BUT THE WORDS ARE TROUBLING. WHETHER OR NOT THEY LEAD TO ACTION.

4. ON A RELATED POINT, MOSCOW HAS IN RECENT MONTHS BEGUN

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PAGE 03 OF 03

TO REFER TO THE SMALL COUNTRIES ON RUSSIA'S PERIPHERY AS
THE "NEAR ABROAD." LITHUANIA AND OTHERS ARE VERY TROUBLED
BY THE IMPLICATION THAT THEY THEY ARE PART OF AN AREA IN
WHICH RUSSIAN ASSERTS SPECIAL SECURITY RIGHTS. IF THESE
COUNTRIES ARE TRULY SOVEREIGN, AS YELTSIN HAS SAID AND AS
DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION IMPLIES, THEY DESERVE TO BE TREATED
AS SUCH, NOT AS REMNANTS OF THE FORMER EMPIRE.

JOHNSON

BT

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