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Divider Title: **L – KG – Recent News**

**Remarks by Vice President Al Gore
10th Anniversary of Chornobyl Memorial
The White House
May 1, 1996**

Let me begin by thanking you, Mrs. Clinton, for that nice introduction and for your moving words. All of us are in your debt for the hard work you do to ease the pain and lift the lives of so many people around the world. Your deep concern for the future of the peoples of Ukraine, Belarus, Russia and other nations who were affected by the tragedy of Chornobyl has touched the hearts of all of us here today.

Ten springs ago, when reactor #4 of the Chornobyl nuclear power plant disintegrated in a blast of steam, flaming graphite, and deadly radionuclides, the promise of a new season of renewal and hope gave way to a long, sad winter of unspeakable suffering that remains with us to this day.

From that moment on, life for all of us would never be the same.

Chornobyl caused the complete social disintegration of whole communities. It caused dangerous radiation exposure of over half a million courageous men and women involved in the clean-up and medical care of survivors. In all, well over 50 million curies of radioactivity were released during the accident. This is dozens the times of radiation emitted by the atomic explosions over Hiroshima and Nagasaki -- about one million times as much as the Three Mile

Island accident of 1979.

And its effects still linger. They are measured in the anxiety of young Ukrainian and Belarussian and Russian parents who hope and pray that their newborns will grow healthy and whole. They are measured by the degraded natural resources that trace a poisoned arc across Ukraine, through Belarus, into Russia, and reaching as far as Scandinavia. They are measured by the uncertainty that we all share as we wonder whether one day another Chornobyl might once again unleash its fury.

But as Mrs. Clinton so eloquently reminds us, out of this mire of tragedy also has emerged great stores of hope, and deep reservoirs of resolve. Selfless men and women -- thousands and thousands of them -- risked their lives to protect those of others. And courageous leaders like so many of you here today are working tirelessly to relieve suffering. Leaders like young Vova Malofienko who have taught the world so much about courage and constancy. We salute you, and we honor you for your heroic efforts.

Let there be no doubt: all Americans stand with you. President Clinton is determined to do whatever we can to overcome this tragedy, and to help ensure that all reactors everywhere are safer, cleaner, and forever free from the sort of catastrophe we remember on this important anniversary.

That is why the United States has delivered one hundred tons of medical supplies to

hospitals in Ukraine and Belarus. In cooperation with several visionary private voluntary organizations, we've launched Operation Provide Hope to send critical supplies to hospitals and cancer wards throughout the region. We've also launched through USAID several innovative partnerships between American and Ukrainian and Belarussian health providers to improve the efficiency and quality of health care. Our National Cancer Institute, together with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Department of Energy are hard at work examining the health effects of the accident on children and clean-up workers so that treatment and care might be improved. And just a few days ago, we delivered over twelve million dollars in additional aid and medical relief to Ukraine and Belarus, including a mobile laboratory enabling Ukraine to test its air, water and soil for contamination.

That's also why President Clinton just recently joined the leaders of the G-7, Russia and Ukraine in Moscow at the Summit on Nuclear Safety and Security to work towards the day when another Chornobyl will never happen again. The President and his G-7 counterparts reaffirmed their commitment to a landmark agreement with Ukraine to mobilize over 3 billion dollars, with more forthcoming, to support Ukraine's decision to close Chornobyl by the year 2000. And President Kuchma -- to his great credit -- announced his commitment to close one of Chornobyl's two operating reactors by the end of this year.

This agreement represents a historic opportunity to eradicate one of the world's gravest environmental threats. Safety is indeed a hallmark of this agreement. But so are energy efficiency and economic prosperity. For in working to close Chornobyl, Ukraine and the G-7

have developed a plan to create a viable and competitive energy sector that treats energy as the scarce and precious commodity that it is. And in so doing, Ukraine will emerge a stronger economic competitor with the means to sustain the courageous course of economic reform on which it has embarked.

Can we meet these goals? I believe we can, but only through the concerted efforts of Ukraine and its international partners. We recognize that much work needs to be done, and that many challenges -- such as stabilizing the so-called “sarcophagus” over the wreckage of unit 4 -- still lie before us. But it is our strong belief that the people of Ukraine, Russia, and Belarus have the resilience, the will, and the fortitude to overcome Chernobyl’s physical and psychological legacies once and for all time. As President Yeltsin himself said recently about his own country, Russia “must and will” make sure another Chernobyl does not recur. And let me be clear: this appeal to common sense is not simply for one nation -- but for all nations. It is a call to action for all people everywhere who have a stake in the well-being of their families and their environment, and who nurse a passion for reform and freedom.

Indeed, the future looks brightest for those with the will for reform... with the will to take their futures into their own hands.

Chernobyl, after all, wasn’t simply an act of God. It was caused first and foremost by man. It was a product of a closed authoritarian system that had little concern for the welfare of its people. In retrospect, I think it was no surprise that just like the faulty nuclear reactor it

created, the Soviet system itself would implode into ash and dust. Chornobyl -- perhaps more than any other symbol of Communist era -- exposed the weakness and corruption of the Soviet system. As Secretary of State Christopher rightly said just a few weeks ago, and I quote, "Governments that abuse their citizens too often have a similar contempt for their environment."

This, perhaps, is the most enduring lesson of Chornobyl -- a lesson we'd do well to remember on this solemn anniversary: that only in freedom can people claim their rightful destiny to live in safety and security. Only in freedom can people insist on public health systems that work and on natural resources that are safeguarded and clean. Only in freedom can people hold bureaucracies accountable for how they manage potentially dangerous technologies.

Today, at long last, the people of Ukraine and Belarus and Russia have enormous opportunities before them. The promise of democracy and reform burns brightly, and the dream of a Europe no longer at risk of nuclear disaster slowly is becoming a reality. But the future of reform cannot be taken for granted. A more prosperous -- and democratic -- future will only take hold with the active commitment of all those who truly believe in freedom and the right of all people to have a voice in their political and economic destinies. President Clinton and I -- and each of us here today -- are not neutral bystanders. We know which forces we want to prevail, and they are the forces of reform. We have a stake in their prevailing, and we have the capacity through economic assistance, through generous private and voluntary efforts, and through rigorous diplomacy, to help them do so. And I know, with God's help, that we will not fail, that we shall never waiver.

Thank you all very much.

And now, it is a great honor to introduce the Coordinator of the Chornobyl Challenge '96,
Mr. Alexander Kuzma. Mr. Kuzma?

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OPENING STATEMENT BY VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE
First Plenary Session
Gore-Kuchma Commission
Washington, D.C.
May 16, 1997

- *Vee-TIE-you-vahs.* Welcome, and thank you very much. Mr. President, Ministers, ladies and gentlemen, it is a privilege to welcome you here today, and to formally convene the first session of the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission.
- This is indeed an historic moment for our nations and our peoples, for today we begin a grand new turning point in our relationship.
- We have much to celebrate. From Donetsk to Lviv, Ukraine's citizens have chosen to look towards a future nurtured by free minds and free markets. They have said yes to reform and democracy. And they have said no to tyranny. No to rule by fiat. No to corruption. No to the stranglehood of planned economies and planned lives.
- But we also have much hard work ahead of us to lock-in these gains. Though the bulk of this work must be accomplished by the citizens of Ukraine themselves, we continue to be ready to help where possible, but there are many things we cannot do for you. In the end, economic development, trade and investment can only proceed in Ukraine if the objective conditions for such progress exist and if investors, Ukrainian and foreign, conclude that they have reasonable conditions in which to operate.

- We know reform is not easy. And we applaud your achievements to date, and recognize that many decisions on reform policy required vision and courage. It is the same vision and courage Ukraine showed in its historic decision to eliminate its nuclear arsenal, to accede to the NPT, to make possible full implementation of START I, and to approve the CFE Flank Agreement. The world is grateful for Ukraine's leadership.
- We also have good reason to take pride in what has been accomplished in establishing independent Ukraine's proper place on the European and world scene.

From UNPROFOR to IFOR, to the Partnership For Peace, Ukraine has shown readiness to actively contribute to building a new Europe, and the United States is committed to working with you to keep your further integration into Europe's structures and institutions on a dynamic track.

- So let us begin. There is much to do as we build and nurture our strategic partnership; a partnership based on shared ideals, mutual respect, and a commitment to work in good faith towards the resolution of issues even at times when our interests may naturally diverge. And as we proceed, let us remain flexible to meet changing needs and situations, and let us speak frankly to each other as mature partners and friends do.

-- I am optimistic about the future, Mr. President. But I am also realistic about the challenges ahead. A more prosperous -- and democratic -- future will only take hold with the active commitment of all those who truly believe in freedom and the right of all people to have a voice in their political and economic destinies.

President Clinton and I -- and each of us here today -- are not neutral bystanders. We know which forces we want to prevail, and they are the forces of reform.

That is what brings us here today to convene this important session. The stakes are high. Failure is not an option. Our day will be busy as our future will be bright. So let us get to work. *DYAH-koo-yoo*, thank you very much.

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VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE
NOTES FOR LUNCHEON TOAST

May 16, 1997
The White House

-- Mr. President, distinguished guest, friends, welcome..... *Vee-TIE-you-vahs*.

-- It is an honor to welcome you here. Very pleased by our session this morning. I am optimistic about the future of our Commission, and the future of our strategic partnership.

-- We understand the magnitude of the task at hand. Reform is not easy. Democracy is not easy. Requires tremendous commitment. Faith. Constancy. Hard work.

-- But the world has marveled at how far Ukraine and the Ukrainian people have come in so short a time. You have overcome the decades of dominion, and have given rise to a bright new season in the lives of your people.

-- In the days and months ahead, The United States will be your partner. We will work with you, side by side, as we build a new era of prosperity and hope and freedom and progress for all our citizens. Failure, Mr. President, is not an option... Retreat is not an option.... for in the powerfully resonant words of your poet LESS-ya Ooo-cry-EEN-kah,

“Yes through all my tears I still will smile,
Sing my songs though troubles round me loom;
Hopeless, still hope against all odds,
I will live, Away, ye thoughts of gloom.

-- I raise my glass to hope, Mr. President. To the future of a free and prosperous Ukraine. To our Commission. And to the Ukrainian people.....

(Note: Lesia Ukrainka, a 19th century woman poet and nationalist, has a huge literary legacy and following in Ukraine. The line above comes from her most famous poem, “Contra Spem Spero”.)

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Divider Title: **M – Bishkek, KG**

Building blocks: Novosibirsk remarks

--Akademgorodok, since its founding in 1958, has been dedicated to intellectual inquiry and the exchange of ideas.

--One of the intellectual birth-places of modern Russia; some of Gorbachev's key architects of perestroika developed their ideas here.

--Mikhail Lomonosov, the renowned Russian scholar who founded Moscow University, said that "Russia's might will grow by way of Siberia."

--Siberia has always been a source of energy for Russia and Siberians have always been distinguished by pragmatism, entrepreneurial energy and outspoken candor (the joke was: "what are they going to do if I criticize the government, send me to Siberia?")

--In the 17th century, Russians explored Siberia by land. In the 18th century, they continued by sea, discovering the Bering Strait, reaching Alaska (which for a while was known as "Russian America") and the coast of California. In the 19th century, Russians began to explore Siberia's mineral wealth. Now, at the end of the 20th century, Novosibirsk is the "internet capital of Russia" and Siberians are in the forefront of exploring the frontiers of cyberspace.

--Democracy is hard work and it demands efforts by everyone in society: students, women, journalists, businesspeople, public servants, members of unions, NGO activists.

--Teachers and parents have unique responsibilities in this regard; they must educate the younger generation about the ingredients of a civil society: respect for religious and ethnic diversity; tolerance for differing points of view; respect for the rule of law and the institutions of governance; and the conviction that those institutions are accountable and responsive to the people.

--Also of critical importance is the training of young Russian professionals. President Yeltsin recently announced a new multilateral initiative under which thousands of Russian managers will receive business training in Russia, followed by internships in foreign companies.

--I'm happy to report that the United States is responding to President Yeltsin's request. We have put together a pilot program which will provide internships in U.S. companies for Russian managers. We are also proposing to

expand this program throughout Russia and all of the New Independent States in the coming year.

PUBLIC EVENT: SPEECH BUILDING BLOCKS

*M- I think
you have this
but just in case*

Address to Central Asian Conference on "Women in Politics"

Building democracy is a slow and complicated process--but to build democracy all members of society must be active participants. As we approach the new century, we know that we cannot build the kind of future we want without the contributions of women

I am pleased to see participants from all over Central Asia here today. I am gratified to see that among women there is an understanding that the equality for all citizens is essential for a successful move into the new century.

Women are particularly active in Central Asia in starting NGO's, in founding small business, and in teaching future generation about their role in democracy. For example, the Kazakhstan Association of Youth Leaders was founded by two women, former teachers, and is led by a 17-year-old woman. The Association teaches students how to become leaders, and promotes civic education projects.

Women are beginning to play a more active role in founding small businesses in Central Asia. In Kazakhstan, women have founded the Association of Businesswomen and, through this Association, have set up a "market economy training center for women" that introduces women to skills essential for success in this newly-emerging market economy.

NGO's play an important role in building democracy. It is heartening to see that of approximately 300 registered NGO's in Kazakhstan, 148 are headed by women. It is clear that women are already playing a significant role in building democracy from the grass-roots up in Kazakhstan.

Getting the word out through the media is an essential aspect of getting women fully involved in the political process. In Kazakhstan, women journalists just recently joined together to form an association whose goal is to support and explain efforts by women to improve society, and to educate women journalists about their rights.

In some countries, "women's rights" is a catchphrase that men fear. While this should not be so, neither should women shirk from making clear that they will no longer accept harassment in the workplace, or know that a man will be hired in place of a woman when the woman is more qualified. Your government and your newly-founded NGO's have a lot of work to do, not only to educate

women about their rights, but to educate men that these discriminatory practices are unacceptable.

Women are becoming more and more active in politics, but more needs to be done to teach women how to break into the political arena. There are currently five women senators and nine women members of the lower house of parliament in Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan appointed its first female Cabinet minister in 1996 (note: Natalya Korzhova, Minister of Labor and Social Protection), and hundreds of women serve at various levels in local and regional government. However, women need to serve not only at the "deputy" level, but at the topmost levels of government, academia and business.

Three women in Kazakhstan just formed a new NGO to provide political consulting for women candidates. They call themselves "image makers" but their goal is to enable women to become successful in running for political office.

The critical element of success is: taking the initiative, taking responsibility. No one will hand us power or authority. We must identify the issues of importance to us. We must persuade women, and men, of their importance. We must work together to create the strategies to bring about the changes in our societies that benefit women, and all citizens.

Democracy is fertile ground for women. But we can make things grow in that fertile ground only if we are activists, only if we speak out, only if we work together for responsible growth and change.

TALKING POINTS: RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY AT THE PARTNERSHIP
SPONSORED WOMEN'S WELLNESS CENTER; NOV 13, 1997

1. I am pleased to be able to join you today to help initiate the official opening of the Women's Wellness Center here at the Tashmi II - Second State Medical Institute.

2. This Women's Wellness Center represents a welcome new approach to meeting the health care needs of women in Tashkent and will serve as a model for the development of similar services elsewhere in Uzbekistan. Your approach - to meet the total health care needs of women from adolescence through the reproductive years involving pregnancy, lactation and safe motherhood and continuing through menopause and old age - is one that leading health care professionals in both our countries have only recently begun to adopt. As I was walking through your new Center, I was struck by how welcome such comprehensive approach would be to women in any city in the United States.

3. For too long, women's health has been too narrowly focused. It is only recently that traditional maternal and child health programs have expanded to include education, prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted and other reproductive related infections. But, while reproductive health concerns remain undeniably paramount, women also suffer disproportionate levels of chronic and infectious disease, nutritional deficiency and disability as they mature.

4. In 1995, I was privileged to attend the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China. A series of presentations at that Conference brought worldwide attention to the very real disparities between both health care needs and health care services for women and men. The Beijing Conference also underscored the critical relationship between health issues and the economic and social issues that concern women: The successful empowerment of women requires healthy women in all stages of their lives.

5. This Women's Wellness Center stands at the forefront of the international effort to better address the health care needs of women by providing an affordable, accessible continuum of care under one roof for women of all ages. Through a mix of health promotion education, screening, early diagnosis, treatment and follow up, the Center has structured a comprehensive range of services to prevent unintended pregnancies and abortions, poor prenatal care and pregnancy outcomes, sexually transmitted infections and

infertility and unhealthy lifestyles across the continuum; and detect and intervene in acute and chronic conditions such as cardiovascular disease and cancer.

6. As I listened to Dr. Yusupov and his staff describe the programs that they are implementing to address this full range of issues, I was particularly impressed by their emphasis on education and health promotion - an approach that we in the United States have also come to appreciate as the most effective way to improve our individual health and that of our people as a whole.

7. But what impressed me most of all, was the very evident commitment of the Center's staff to addressing their patients with respect as individual women and with a view toward empowering their clients with the knowledge and information to better manage their health care and improve their general well being. I can tell you from my visit just a few minutes ago with a group of patients who have already been served by programs here at the Center, this informed, patient-centered approach is not only appreciated but is truly effective. The Center is expected to serve over 100 patients per week and reach a much larger number through its education programs.

8. Now we all know that a Center and a comprehensive approach like this do not just happen; it takes a tremendous commitment - a lot of resources from many, many sources. A Center like this takes a true, multidimensional partnership - in every sense of the word.

9. The "partners" who made this happen are all represented here today:

The USAID and American International Health Alliance sponsored hospital partnership between Tashmi II and University of Illinois-Chicago has collaborated in developing this Center. Other AIHI partnerships, including the partnerships between Tucson and Almaty which I visited on Tuesday are developing other centers along a similar model - a model designed to be replicable throughout the region but yet flexible in meeting local health care needs.

As they have in other aspects of their partnership program here in Uzbekistan, the UIC partners have helped the Women's Wellness Center staff develop their skills and adapt their programs through extensive exchanges of personnel over the course of the last four years. Over 140 person exchanges involving over 2,600

days have taken place since the partnership began. With the help of the larger Chicago community, this volunteer driven partnership has also donated tens of thousands of dollars of needed supplies and equipment.

These donations have been further supplemented by equipment and supply contributions by USAID, AIHA and the US State Department's Operation Provide Hope.

[Note: Following talking points adapted from Ambassador Morningstar's Office Draft]

1. It was my distinct pleasure in June to participate in a ceremony at Andrews AFB that launched the 500th humanitarian mission to the Newly Independent States under Operation Provide Hope. That mission carried over \$7million in pharmaceuticals donated through US private volunteer organizations to the people of Uzbekistan. This was the beginning of a \$22million USG medical package that delivered medicines, medical supplies and medical equipment to four outlying regions in Uzbekistan and twelve hospitals in Tashkent - including Tashmi II which received \$2 million of the total donation. Some of that equipment is being used in this Women's center and Dr. Karimov informs me that the remaining equipment and supplies are meeting critical needs throughout the hospital.

2. Other USAID sponsored programs such as JHPIEGO and AVSC and internationally sponsored programs like UNICEF have also provided training programs and materials related to contraceptive technology, breast feeding and maternal care practices and have lent their expertise to the development of the NIS wide model that the partnerships are implementing.

3. Tashimi II and the Ministry of Health have invested scarce resources and created a beautiful, efficient space for this Center and have assured its sustainability by guaranteeing its future staffing and operating costs.

4. The Ministry of Health has also created an environment supportive of the Center's integrated primary care and health promotion approach.

5. As is often the case, "how" something is accomplished is as important as "what" we specifically accomplish. This is particularly true in this instance, where the Governments and health care providers of our two countries have come together in partnership to develop new and innovative solutions to problems that face us as individuals and as

human beings. This new integrated, empowering "consumer and patient based" approach which this Women's Wellness Center demonstrates so well is not only essential to improving the health of women but can be applied throughout our respective health care systems, improving the quality of care and the quality of life for all of our peoples.

6. As I have seen in my previous visits around the NIS and CEE, these volunteer driven partnerships are making a real difference in people's lives - here and in the United States. We should all take great pride in what we have accomplished and in how we have accomplished it - together and not alone; in a partnership that draws our people together in common purpose and to common benefit.

**Tashkent Women's Wellness Center
Enhanced Remarks**

- The U.N. Fourth World Conference on Women's Platform for Action calls for a life-span approach to women's health. This comprehensive approach works to improve access to health care and education for women of all ages. Wellness centers such as these work to keep women and their families healthy while heightening the communities awareness about health issues.
- Uzbekistan has a literacy rate for women of 96%. This offers great potential for women to take charge of their own healthcare.
- Recently we have seen great reforms in women's healthcare in Uzbekistan. Your government has indicated it's readiness to pursue health reforms more consistent with a market oriented economy. The U.S. government and USAID supports these reforms. Currently USAID is focusing on issues of health care financing and improved primary healthcare. This complements USAID's existing assistance in improving access to contraceptives through the private sector; reducing vaccine-preventable infant deaths; strengthening epidemiological monitoring of infectious diseases; and developing hospital partnerships with U.S.- based hospitals to transfer modern clinical technologies.
- The Government is forward looking in it's support of contraceptives and family planning.
- Lack of access to potable water continues to be a major problem for half a million people in the Aral Sea area. This is a main cause of the higher incidence of diarrheal disease in the region. Clean water to drink is a necessity of life. The United States government has made a strong commitment to bring potable water to this region through USAID's \$22 million Aral Sea Initiative in 1994. This initiative has now shifted from infrastructure projects to ones addressing water policy and sustainability.

November 11 - Almaty, Kazakstan

Event: Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at the Almaty Women's Wellness Center

- Talking points on this AIHA event will be provided by Jim Smith of AIHA.

- Should the First Lady wish to include remarks encompassing total USG humanitarian assistance through Operation Provide Hope, the following are suggested remarks:

o This Wellness Center, as part of the USAID funded partnership program, is a symbol of a total U.S. commitment to the people of Kazakstan that has been able to deliver over \$315 million in humanitarian assistance since 1992. NOTE: This is assistance from all sources including Department of State, Department of Defense Excess Property, USAID, and USDA.

o Since 1992, Operation Provide Hope, a continuing USG (Department of State/Department of Defense) transportation program funded through the Freedom Support Act, has worked with over 400 U.S. private volunteer organizations to deliver humanitarian commodity to the people of the Newly Independent State (NIS) during a critical period of change and transition. To date this program has delivered over \$142 million to the people of Kazakstan, assistance given from the heart from Americans throughout the United States. We estimate that through the end of this calendar year this Operation Provide Hope will have delivered over \$2 billion in humanitarian assistance to the twelve countries of the NIS.

November 12 - Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Event: USG Humanitarian Flight (IL-76) to Bishkek and Osh
(AN-26)

Discussion: A USG contracted IL-76 carrying pharmaceuticals for 10 medical institutes in Bishkek, clothing for Bishkek and Osh, and pharmaceuticals for Osh will land the evening of November 11 in Bishkek. This aircraft and a second cargo aircraft (An-26) will be on the ramp in Bishkek and should be downloading cargo while the First Lady is in Bishkek on Nov 12.

Suggested talking points that might be included in the First Lady's remarks concerning the Bishkek humanitarian mission are:

o This humanitarian mission is carrying pharmaceuticals and clothing for both Bishkek and Osh donated through three U.S. private volunteer organizations.

o I want to personally acknowledge the hard work and dedication of CitiHOPE and the Reverend Paul Moore and his staff, who I understand are here today, Heart-to-Heart/The American Academy of Family Physicians, and Americorps/RSVP of Indiana. Their cooperative efforts go well beyond global politics and humanitarian assistance programs and are a shining example that the people of the U.S. care for and support the people of Kyrgyzstan during a period of critical change.

o I encourage you to continue your humanitarian efforts in Kyrgyzstan and the rest of the Newly Independent States during this critical time of transition.

o The aircraft that you see unloading cargo here today is the 30th humanitarian airlift to Kyrgyzstan funded through a USG funded transportation program called Operation Provide Hope which has delivered over \$70 million in humanitarian assistance from the American people to the people of Kyrgyzstan since 1992.

o By the end of this year, it is estimated that this program will have delivered over \$2 billion in humanitarian assistance to the twelve countries of the Newly Independent State (NIS).

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November 13 - Tashkent Uzbekistan

Event: Opening of the Women's Wellness Center at Tashkent Institute

- Talking points to be provided by Jim Smith of AIHA
- Suggested tie-in talking points:

- o It was my distinct pleasure in June to participate in a ceremony at Andrews AFB, just outside of Washington DC, which launched the 500th humanitarian mission to the Newly Independent States under Operation Provide Hope. This mission, a USAF C-5A, carried over \$7 million in pharmaceuticals donated through U.S. private volunteer organizations to the people of Uzbekistan.

- o This was the beginning of a \$22 million USG medical package that delivered medicines, medical supplies and medical equipment to four outlying regions in Uzbekistan and twelve hospitals in Tashkent.

- o I understand that you here at Tashmi-2 received over \$2 million of this Department of Defense relief commodity which included x-ray systems, sterilizers, operating room surgical instruments, and consumable supplies. I sincerely hope that this donation, given from the heart, has helped enhance your ability to provide quality patient care.

- o Humanitarian relief efforts like the June Operation Provide Hope mission and AIHA Partnership affiliations like the one we find here at Tashmi, teamed with the University of Illinois at Chicago and focusing on key areas like neonatal care and nursing education, are invaluable links between our two peoples during a difficult period of change and transition. Since I was raised in Chicago, I am particularly proud that a Chicago hospital is involved in this program.

Burkhara:

NOTE: As part of the 500th Operation Provide Hope mission in June 97, the U.S. private volunteer organization AMERICARES distributed over \$900,000 in anesthetics, ophthalmics, vitamins and medical consumables to the Buhara/Karshi region.

Samarkhand:

NOTE: As part of the 500th Operation Provide Hope mission in June of 97, the private volunteer organization PROJECT HOPE distributed \$1.7 million in antihypertensives, anti-infectives, antiulcer drugs, anticeptics, penicillins, and medical consumables to the Samarkhand/Navoi/Dzniznak Region.

November 15 - Novosibirsk, Russia

NOTE: After a recommendation from the Moscow Embassy and discussions through the NSC level, it was decided that the Heart-to-Heart/American Academy of Family Physicians mission programmed for the Novosibirsk Region in calendar year 1998 not be announced by the First Lady but be kept low key. This PVO was informed they should not send a representative to Novosibirsk to join the First Lady's entourage as previously planned and that the two boxes of "representational" medicines which were to be on board the First Lady's aircraft would not be sent.

- Should the issue of this planned assistance surface during her visit or if a new decision is made to announce this project, I recommend the following talking points be used:

- o I have been briefed that the Department of State through a continuing humanitarian program called Operation Provide Hope is working with the U.S. private volunteer organization Heart-to-Heart and the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) to accomplish a "Physicians With Heart" mission next year to the Novosibirsk Region.
- o Heart-to-Heart and AAFP are a highly qualified team who have performed similar mission in both Moscow and St. Peterburgh in the area of medical relief and family practice care and have delivered over \$60 million in pharmaceutical medicines to countries of the Newly Independent States (NIS).
- o Heart-to-Heart plans to be in Novosibirsk in the spring of 98 to meet with the Ministry of Health and local officials to determine what assistance they might provide to hospitals in the region relating to family practice medicine. After close coordination with local officials, a USG contracted flight carrying pharmaceuticals tailored to meet this need should arrive in Novosibirsk in the fall of 98.
- o This effort began with a petition for assistance for the Novosibirsk from Faith Fischer of Project Aid/Siberia, the founder of a U.S. private volunteer organization that has worked here in Akademgorodok for over four years.

NOTE: Miss Fischer will most likely be part of the Novosibirsk contingent meeting the First Lady.

November 17 - Lviv, Ukraine

Event: A USG contracted IL-76 will arrive in Lviv on November 6th carrying approximately \$650,000 in humanitarian cargo donated through the U.S. private volunteer organization the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. Most of this cargo is destined for the Lviv Regional Childrens Pediatric Center and includes neonatal resuscitation equipment, medicines and medical supplies, and an ambulance. Also on this aircraft is 5 pallets of cold weather clothing and relief supplies organized by Congresswoman Kaptur of Ohio from the Anastasia Fund and the Toledo Sister Cities organization.

Suggested talking points relating to this relief flight are:

- o In the area of neonatal care, I am pleased that on November 6th a USG contracted IL-76 delivered humanitarian cargo destined for the Lviv Regional Childrens Pediatric Center. Thanks to Nadiya Matkiwsky and the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund for their continued commitment to the people of Ukraine and this humanitarian project in Lviv.
- o This mission was the 53rd airlift of humanitarian commodity to Ukraine since 1992 funded through the Department of State as part of a continuing humanitarian program called Operation Provide Hope. I am especially pleased to see that the recipients of this assistance are the children of Ukraine.
- o Over the last five years Operation Provide Hope has worked with over 400 U.S. private volunteer organizations to deliver donated humanitarian commodity to the Newly Independent States (NIS). It is estimated that by the end of this calendar year Operation Provide Hope will have delivered over \$2 billion in assistance to the twelve NIS countries. This cooperative effort goes well beyond global politics and humanitarian programs and is a shining example that the people of the U.S. care for and support the people of Ukraine and the rest of the NIS during a critical period of change.
- o To date this Operation Provide Hope has delivered over \$300 million in humanitarian commodity to the people of Ukraine from donors throughout the United States.

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Divider Title: **Mc – Vorontskova, KG**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Katy Button, Office of the First Lady
Russ Hardesty, Office of the Special Advisor to the President
Wendy Wallace, USAID

FROM: Jim Smith, American International Health Alliance 

DATE: November 5, 1997

SUBJECT: Draft Talking Points and Background Materials

I am attaching draft talking points for each of the three AIHA related events. These were developed for your consideration with regard to the AIHA site visit only and will obviously have to be integrated with your suggestions in the First Lady's overall presentation.

I have also redrafted the L'viv related materials to more fully describe the Ford ambulance donation and the earlier but related donation of an infant transport isolette by a Michigan Ukrainian-American senior citizen housing association. The information is reflected in the talking points as well. I have also attached a few clippings from the Detroit press regarding the latter donation. This is obviously just a small piece of the over \$1.5 million in supplies and equipment donated by the Detroit health care community to L'viv but its symbolic of how deeply and widely the partnership has extended.

It would appear from my communications with my field staff and John Post that everything related to the events is progressing. I spoke with Ambassador Safaev from Uzbekistan before he left this afternoon for Tashkent and he confirmed that Mrs. Karimova will participate in the event as planned. We have spoken with the Kazakh embassy as well but have yet to receive confirmation.

The only loose end is the problem with getting accommodations in L'viv. As it stands now, neither my staff nor I or the representatives from Ford can get rooms in L'viv or the immediately surrounding area because the State Dept/Embassy have everything blocked. Anything that you can do would be greatly appreciated.

If we can be of any further assistance, please let me know. I will be in the office through Friday.

ALMATY, KAZAKHSTAN

TALKING POINTS: RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY AT THE PARTNERSHIP SPONSORED WOMEN'S WELLNESS CENTER; NOV 11, 1997

- I am pleased to be able to join you today to help initiate the official opening of the Women's Wellness Center here at the Almaty Perinatal Center.
- This Women's Wellness Center represents a welcome new approach to meeting the health care needs of women in Almaty and will serve as a model for the development of similar services elsewhere in Kazakhstan. Your approach – to meet the total health care needs of women from adolescence through the reproductive years involving pregnancy, lactation and safe motherhood and continuing through menopause and old age – is one that leading health care professionals in both our countries have only recently begun to adopt. As I was walking through your new Center, I was struck by how welcome such a comprehensive approach would be to women in any city in the United States.
- For too long, women's health has been too narrowly focused. It is only recently that traditional maternal and child health programs have expanded to include education, prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted and other reproductive related infections. But, while reproductive health concerns remain undeniably paramount, women also suffer disproportionate levels of chronic and infectious disease, nutritional deficiency and disability as they mature.
- In 1995, I was privileged to attend the United Nation's Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China. A series of presentations at that Conference brought worldwide attention to the very real disparities between both health care needs and health care services for women and men. The Beijing Conference also underscored the critical relationship between health issues and the economic and social issues that concern women. The successful empowerment of women requires healthy women in all stages of their lives.
- This Women's Wellness Center stands at the forefront of the international effort to better address the health care needs of women by providing an affordable, accessible continuum of care under one roof for women of all ages. Through a mix of health promotion, education, screening, early diagnosis, treatment and follow up, the Center has structured a comprehensive range of services to prevent unintended pregnancies and abortions, poor prenatal care and pregnancy outcomes, sexually transmitted infections and infertility and unhealthy lifestyles across the continuum; and

detect and intervene in acute and chronic conditions such as cardiovascular disease and cancer.

- As I listened to Dr. Chuvakova and her staff describe the programs that they are implementing to address this full range of issues, I was particularly impressed by their emphasis on education and health promotion -- an approach that we in the United States have also come to appreciate as the most effective way to improve our individual health and that of our people as a whole.
- But what impressed me most of all, was the very evident commitment of the Center's staff to addressing their patients with respect as individual women and with a view toward empowering their clients with the knowledge and information to better manage their health care and improve their general well being. I can tell you from my visit just a few minutes ago with a group of patients who have already been served by programs here at the Center, this informed, patient-centered approach is not only appreciated but its truly effective. The Center is expected to serve over 80 patients per week and reach a much larger number through its education programs.
- Now we all know that a Center and a comprehensive approach like this do not just happen; it takes a tremendous commitment -- a lot of resources from many, many sources. A Center like this takes a true, multi-dimensional partnership -- in every sense of the word.
- The "partners" who made this happen are all represented here today:
 - The USAID and American International Health Alliance sponsored hospital partnership between Almaty and Tucson, Arizona NIS have collaborated in developing this Center. Other AIHA partnerships are developing a dozen other such centers along a similar model -- a model designed to be replicable throughout the region but yet flexible in meeting local health care needs.
 - As they have in other aspects of their partnership program here in Almaty, the Tucson partners have helped the Women's Wellness Center staff develop their skills and adapt their programs through extensive exchanges of personnel over the course of the last four years. With the help of the larger Tucson community, this volunteer driven partnership has also donated tens of thousands of dollars of needed supplies and equipment.
 - These donations have been further supplemented by equipment and supply contributions by USAID, AIHA and the US State Department's Operation Provide Hope;
 - Other USAID and internationally sponsored programs and non-governmental organizations such as JHPIEGO, AVSC, the Futures Group/SOMARC, ABT and Wellstart International have also provided

training programs and materials related to contraceptive technology, breast feeding and maternal care practices and have lent their expertise to the development of the NIS wide model that the partnerships are implementing.

- The Almaty City Health Administration has invested scarce resources and created a beautiful, efficient space for the program here at the Perinatal Center and has assured its sustainability by guaranteeing its future staffing and operating costs;
 - The Ministry of Health and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan has adopted health care reforms that create an environment supportive of the Center's integrated primary care and health promotion approach.
-
- It is often the case that "how" we accomplish something is as important as "what" we accomplish. This is particularly true in this instance, where the Governments and health care providers of our two countries have come together in partnership to develop new and innovative solutions to problems that face us as individuals and as human beings. This new integrated, empowering "consumer and patient based" approach which this Women's Wellness Center demonstrates so well is not only essential to improving the health of women but can be applied throughout our respective health care systems, improving the quality of care and the quality of life for all of our peoples.
 - As I have seen in my previous visits around the NIS and CEE, these volunteer driven partnerships are making a real difference in people's lives – here and in the United States. We should all take great pride in what we have accomplished and in how we have accomplished it – together and not alone; in a partnership that draws our people together in common purpose and to common benefit.

(NOTE: USAID AND DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS)

L'VIV UKRAINE

TALKING POINTS: VISIT TO PARTNERSHIP SPONSORED NEONATAL RESUSCITATION TRAINING CENTER AND NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT AT L'VIV OBLAST CLINICAL HOSPITAL : NOV 17, 1997

- I am pleased to be able to visit the L'viv Oblast Clinical Hospital and see first hand the results of your partnership with Henry Ford Health System in Detroit, Michigan. I cannot help but be impressed by both the systematic and comprehensive approach to newborn care that you have taken and by the great success that has resulted.
- As Dr. Khobzei and Dr. Kryvko have outlined to me, you have integrated the training of health care workers in the most basic assessment, prevention, and newborn resuscitation skills within a new regional organization and transport system to assure that very ill babies can be brought to this hospital from throughout the region for high quality treatment.
- This combination of (1) low tech prevention and intervention in birth distress of otherwise normal infants and (2) organizing a regional network with this hospital as the centerpiece to address the special needs of critically ill or premature babies through the careful application and concentration of technology and expertise – has significantly reduced both rates of mortality and developmental disabilities in the region. And it has done so in a manner that is affordable in the long run.
- The results of this effort: a mortality rate of only 7.8 per thousand for the first six months of 1997 and a reduction of over 30% since the partnership began are something that we are all very proud of.
- With results like this, I was not surprised to learn from Ambassador Morningstar that the Ministry of Health is working with USAID and AIHA to replicate the basic neonatal resuscitation training center concept throughout Ukraine. Ambassador Morningstar and Mr. Pressley attended the opening ceremonies of the first of these new training centers in Kiev last month and I understand from the partners that the trainers at these new centers are being trained here in L'viv.
- This replication of successful model programs in close collaboration with local and national government is indicative of the maturation of our assistance programs here in Ukraine and the continuing evolution in our countries' relationship to one of equal partnership. Over the course of the past four years, the partnerships here in L'viv, Kiev, Odessa and Donetsk have developed a number of model programs improving the quality of care and the efficiency and organization of the delivery of that care. When I was in Kiev

several years ago, I saw first hand the model prenatal and birthing education programs that the partnership with the University of Pennsylvania had developed. I understand that the Kiev partnership effort is in the process of expanding to include a comprehensive women's wellness center and a breast cancer screening program and that similar Women's centers will open early next spring here in L'viv at the Railway Clinical Hospital and in Odessa. I had the opportunity to attend the opening of women's wellness centers developed by the partnerships in Central Asia last week. The model that the partnerships have developed together with its mix of health promotion, education, screening, early diagnosis, treatment and follow-up for women of all ages under one roof stands at the forefront of the international effort to better address the health care needs of women. By developing the model together and replicating it in three cities in Ukraine, the partnerships are taking an important step in changing practice in the country as a whole.

- Model programs in emergency medicine, infection control, and nursing are also being replicated.
- What has impressed me most of all during my short visit this morning is the way in which you have accomplished these results – through partnership. The comprehensive, multi-faceted programs that I have just seen just don't happen; they take a tremendous commitment – a lot of resources from many, many different sources.
- The “partners” who made this happen are all represented here today:
 - The USAID and American International Health Alliance sponsored hospital partnerships between health care providers here in L'viv and their partners at Henry Ford Health System in Detroit and Millard Fillmore Hospital in Buffalo have collaborated in developing a wide range of programs addressing -- in addition to neonatology and women's health -- surgery, infection control, nursing and management education, rheumatic fever, emergency care, hospital administration and health informatics.
 - As they have in other aspects of their partnership program here in L'viv, the US partners have helped their colleagues in L'viv develop their skills and adapt their programs through extensive exchanges of personnel over the course of the past four years. Over 300 exchanges involving almost 5,000 days of volunteer time have taken place since 1993 as part of these two partnerships. With the help of the larger Detroit and Buffalo communities, these volunteer driven partnerships have also donated almost \$2.5 million dollars of needed supplies and equipment.
 - The donations in equipment that are key to the neonatal transport system that the partnership has developed here at the Oblast Hospital are a good example of how the partnership has reached out to encompass communities on both sides. The infant transport isolette, which allows for

premature and seriously ill newborns delivered within an 80-mile radius of this hospital to be transported safely, was provided through contributions by senior citizens of the Ukrainian Village housing association in Warren, Michigan. These, mostly elderly Ukrainian-Americans were concerned about infant mortality here in Western Ukraine and impressed by the willingness of non-Ukrainian-Americans from Henry Ford Hospital to donate their time and resources in helping Ukraine. They and their donation have become an integral part of this partnership effort.

- I am really pleased to be here in L'viv today when another key piece of this transport system fits into place -- through the donation of a new Ford Transit ambulance to carry the Hospital's isolette unit. This donation is noteworthy because it involves contributions to the Henry Ford Health System and the partnership from Ford Motor Company's operations in the US and Europe and from the independent Ford Dealership in Ukraine: Winner of Ukraine. This is a good example of the importance of corporate citizenship to healthy market economies and healthy societies.
 - These partner driven donations have been further supplemented by equipment and supply contributions by USAID, AIHA and the US State Department's Operation Provide Hope;
 - Other USAID and internationally sponsored programs and non-governmental organizations such (Note: Organizations to be provided by USAID) have also provided training programs and materials that have advanced the partnership programs here in L'viv;
 - The L'viv Oblast Health Administration and the L'viv hospitals have invested scarce resources of their own and have assured program sustainability by guaranteeing future staffing and operating costs;
 - And, finally, as I have mentioned, the Ministry of Health has adopted policies and procedures supportive of both the model programs that the partnerships have developed and their replication.
- It is often the case that "how" we accomplish something is as important as "what" we accomplish. This is particularly true in this instance, where the Governments and health care providers of our two countries have come together in partnership to develop new and innovative solutions to problems that face us as individuals and as human beings.
 - As I have seen in my previous visits around the NIS and CEE, these volunteer driven partnerships are making a real difference in people's lives -- here and in the United States. We should all take great pride in what we have accomplished and in how we have accomplished it -- together and not alone; in a partnership that draws our people together in common purpose and to common benefit.

(NOTE: USAID AND DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS)

TASHKENT, UZBEKISTAN

TALKING POINTS: RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY AT THE PARTNERSHIP SPONSORED WOMEN'S WELLNESS CENTER; NOV 13, 1997

- I am pleased to be able to join you today to help initiate the official opening of the Women's Wellness Center here at the Tashmi II – Second State Medical Institute.
- This Women's Wellness Center represents a welcome new approach to meeting the health care needs of women in Tashkent and will serve as a model for the development of similar services elsewhere in Uzbekistan. Your approach – to meet the total health care needs of women from adolescence through the reproductive years involving pregnancy, lactation and safe motherhood and continuing through menopause and old age – is one that leading health care professionals in both our countries have only recently begun to adopt. As I was walking through your new Center, I was struck by how welcome such a comprehensive approach would be to women in any city in the United States.
- For too long, women's health has been too narrowly focused. It is only recently that traditional maternal and child health programs have expanded to include education, prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted and other reproductive related infections. But, while reproductive health concerns remain undeniably paramount, women also suffer disproportionate levels of chronic and infectious disease, nutritional deficiency and disability as they mature.
- In 1995, I was privileged to attend the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China. A series of presentations at that Conference brought worldwide attention to the very real disparities between both health care needs and health care services for women and men. The Beijing Conference also underscored the critical relationship between health issues and the economic and social issues that concern women: The successful empowerment of women requires healthy women in all stages of their lives.
- This Women's Wellness Center stands at the forefront of the international effort to better address the health care needs of women by providing an affordable, accessible continuum of care under one roof for women of all ages. Through a mix of health promotion, education, screening, early diagnosis, treatment and follow up, the Center has structured a comprehensive range of services to prevent unintended pregnancies and abortions, poor prenatal care and pregnancy outcomes, sexually transmitted

infections and infertility and unhealthy lifestyles across the continuum; and detect and intervene in acute and chronic conditions such as cardiovascular disease and cancer.

- As I listened to Dr. Yusupov and his staff describe the programs that they are implementing to address this full range of issues, I was particularly impressed by their emphasis on education and health promotion -- an approach that we in the United States have also come to appreciate as the most effective way to improve our individual health and that of our people as a whole.
- But what impressed me most of all, was the very evident commitment of the Center's staff to addressing their patients with respect as individual women and with a view toward empowering their clients with the knowledge and information to better manage their health care and improve their general well being. I can tell you from my visit just a few minutes ago with a group of patients who have already been served by programs here at the Center, this informed, patient-centered approach is not only appreciated but its truly effective. The Center is expected to serve over 100 patients per week and reach a much larger number through its education programs.
- Now we all know that a Center and a comprehensive approach like this do not just happen; it takes a tremendous commitment -- a lot of resources from many, many sources. A Center like this takes a true, multi-dimensional partnership -- in every sense of the word.
- The "partners" who made this happen are all represented here today:
 - The USAID and American International Health Alliance sponsored hospital partnership between Tashmi II and University of Illinois-Chicago has collaborated in developing this Center. Other AIHA partnerships, including the partnership between Tucson and Almaty which I visited on Tuesday are developing other centers along a similar model -- a model designed to be replicable throughout the region but yet flexible in meeting local health care needs.
 - As they have in other aspects of their partnership program here in Uzbekistan, the UIC partners have helped the Women's Wellness Center staff develop their skills and adapt their programs through extensive exchanges of personnel over the course of the last four years. Over 140 person exchanges involving over 2,600 days have taken place since the partnership began. With the help of the larger Chicago community, this volunteer driven partnership has also donated tens of thousands of dollars of needed supplies and equipment.
 - These donations have been further supplemented by equipment and supply contributions by USAID, AIHA and the US State Department's Operation Provide Hope.

- [Note: Following talking points adapted from Ambassador Morningstar's Office draft] –

It was my distinct pleasure in June to participate in a ceremony at Andrews AFB that launched the 500th humanitarian mission to the Newly Independent States under Operation Provide Hope. That mission carried over \$7 Million in pharmaceuticals donated through US private volunteer organizations to the people of Uzbekistan. This was the beginning of a \$22 Million USG medical package that delivered medicines, medical supplies and medical equipment to four outlying regions in Uzbekistan and twelve hospitals in Tashkent. – including Tashmi II which received \$2 Million of the total donation. Some of that equipment is being used in this Women's center and Dr. Karimov informs me that the remaining equipment and supplies are meeting critical needs throughout the hospital.

- Other USAID sponsored programs such as JHPIEGO and AVSC and internationally sponsored programs like UNICEF have also provided training programs and materials related to contraceptive technology, breast feeding and maternal care practices and have lent their expertise to the development of the NIS wide model that the partnerships are implementing
 - Tashmi II and the Ministry of Health have invested scarce resources and created a beautiful, efficient space for this Center and have assured its sustainability by guaranteeing its future staffing and operating costs;
 - The Ministry of Health has also created an environment supportive of the Center's integrated primary care and health promotion approach.
- As is often the case, "how" something is accomplished is as important as "what" we specifically accomplish. This is particularly true in this instance, where the Governments and health care providers of our two countries have come together in partnership to develop new and innovative solutions to problems that face us as individuals and as human beings. This new integrated, empowering "consumer and patient based" approach which this Women's Wellness Center demonstrates so well is not only essential to improving the health of women but can be applied throughout our respective health care systems, improving the quality of care and the quality of life for all of our peoples.
 - As I have seen in my previous visits around the NIS and CEE, these volunteer driven partnerships are making a real difference in people's lives – here and in the United States. We should all take great pride in what we have accomplished and in how we have accomplished it – together and not alone; in a partnership that draws our people together in common purpose and to common benefit.

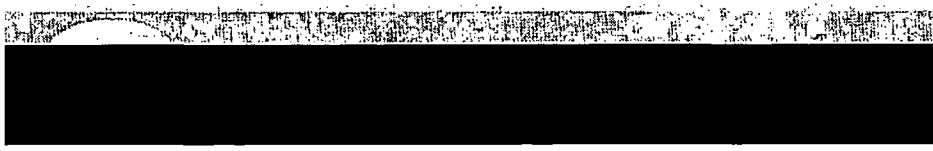
(NOTE: USAID AND DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS)

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White House Press Release

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT KUCHMA OF UKRAINE AND PRESIDENT CLINTON UPON ARRIVAL

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

(Kiev Ukraine)

*I have been inspired +
aided by Ukraine. Most
notably by my chief of
staff, Mr. who is 100%
Ukrainian*

For Immediate Release

May 12, 1995

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT KUCHMA OF **UKRAINE** AND PRESIDENT CLINTON UPON ARRIVAL

Marinskiiy Palace Courtyard
Kiev, **Ukraine**

3:22 p.m. (L)

PRESIDENT KUCHMA: Welcome to Kiev, the heart of **Ukraine** and her capital. Welcome to the time on our Dnipro Hills where millennium- old Christian civilization was born and flourished, our saints and prophets, warriors and statesmen, establishing the powerful ancient state of Kievrus, were gazing at the future from these hills.]

Our **Ukrainian** state has revived out of sources of life of our history, from an irrevocable yearning for freedom and independence. This is the place, Mr. President, a few steps from here where an historic act of independence of **Ukraine** was adopted on August the 24th of 1991. |

As you see, the past, the present and the future of **Ukraine** meet on this soil. Today, **Ukraine** welcomes you, the President of the friendly nation with a luxuriant spring and blossoming key of chestnut trees -- though there is a bit of rain, but it's for happiness, I think.

Spring has always been a symbol of hope, and thus, the first state visit of the United States visit to **Ukraine** is very symbolic. We believe that the visit will take special place in the records of the **Ukrainian**-United States relationships, for **Ukraine** has set an example of nuclear disarmament to mankind, initiated radical economic reforms, it shapes democratic society and it is a reliable, forecasted partner, ready for constructive, mutually beneficial cooperation.

I am confident, Mr. President, that your visit shall not only be bilaterally important, but it shall become a notable international event, taken into account a key geostrategic role of **Ukraine** in the

European security system, and an outstanding role of the USA in supporting European and global security.

We have just marked the 50th anniversary of the victory over Nazism and comprehended horrible lessons of the World War II, in which our people suffered heavy losses. So we clearly see today the necessity of building an efficient world security system in the framework of which there will be no room for misanthropic dictatorships, empire arrogance, aggressive separatism and striving to redraw the political map by means of force.

Ukraine is ready to collaborate closely with the United States, neighboring countries, the world community in shaping the world order meant for the 21st century. The order which would make Cold War or even "Cold Peace" impossible.

This country was an objective of aggressions and alien invasions burning in the flames of war about 200 times in the course of the millennium of our history. That's why we have cherished an inspiring dream -- to live and to build the state system and prosperous, free economy in peace and harmony, feeling indispensable to the European security system.

Mr. President, Mrs. Clinton, I'd like to assure you that our hearts are always open for friends. We respect and cherish kindly feelings for industrious, talented and historical, optimistic people of the United States. We're glad for your achievements in the development of economy, social life, health protection, science, culture and sports. We're together with you in mourning the victims of the Oklahoma City tragedy.

We hope that our understanding and trust will enhance after your visit. We'll have new prospects for **Ukrainian**-American cooperation which has got every chance to be elevated at a qualitatively higher level of special partnership of our countries and peoples.

We'll try to use your short stay here to acquaint you with historical, spiritual and cultural values of our people to tell you about our transformations and problems. We are proud of an important role in every sphere of life in the United States of our compatriots, Americans of the **Ukrainian** descent, who have retained the best features of the **Ukrainian** people -- diligence, tolerance, democracy, love to native land, persistence in achieving their goals.

Yes, we are persistent, and we do believe that we'll attain our reign of building independent, democratic, prosperous, stable European state of **Ukraine**. We also believe that we may rely on the American experience, your understanding of our problems, friendly support and assistance in achieving this goal.

Thank you. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT CLINTON: President Kuchma, Mrs. Kuchma, distinguished members of the government: It is a great honor for me and for our party to be in one of Europe's oldest nations and youngest democracies.

This trip, which follows my stopover here in January of 1994, and President Kuchma's trip to Washington last fall will give us an opportunity to continue the tremendous progress we have made in building strong and productive ties between our countries.

This week in Washington, Moscow, and now Kiev, we celebrated an alliance that turned back the forces of fascism 50 years ago. Our victory was shared. But its cost to the people of the former Soviet Union was unique. On this land alone, more than 5 million **Ukrainians** lost their lives to the war.

Now, the tremendous will the **Ukrainian** people brought to the war effort is building a great future for this nation. The United States has an important stake in that future. A secure, stable and prosperous **Ukraine** can become a hub of democracy for Central Europe, and an important political and economic partner for the United States.

Already, we have seen what such a partnership can accomplish. **Ukraine** chose to give up nuclear weapons when the former Soviet Union dissolved. Your decision has made the **Ukrainian** people, the American people and the entire world much safer and more secure.

On behalf of the United States, I want to thank you for that brave and wise decision. We have also been heartened by the bold steps **Ukraine** has taken over the past several months to foster free markets. Those were the right steps and the international community has given the right response; large-scale assistance to help **Ukraine** stay on the path of reform. I want President Kuchma and the **Ukrainian** people to know that the United States and the West will stay the course with you.

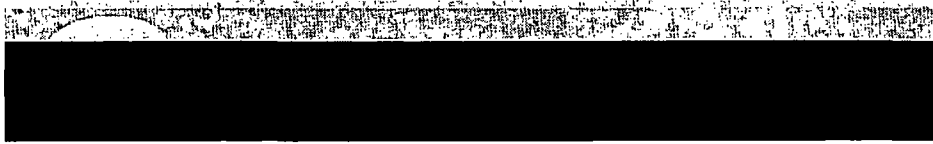
I look forward to discussing the potential for strengthening the economic ties between our two nations. The private sector can be the engine of economic growth for **Ukraine**. And as prosperity takes hold, 52 million **Ukrainians** can become major consumers of our goods and services. That will produce more jobs, at better wages, in both our countries.

The United States admires the extraordinary progress **Ukraine** has made in such a short time. Building democracy and a successful market economy takes time and patience. **Ukrainian** people are demonstrating an abundance of both and I am here to reaffirm our country's strong support for your courage and vision.

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END 3:20 p.m. (L)

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White House Press Release

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT CLINTON, PRIME MINISTER AZNAR OF SPAIN, SECRETARY GENERAL OF NATO SOLANA, AND PRESIDENT KUCHMA OF UKRAINE IN SIGNING CEREMONY OF NATO-UKRAINE CHARTER

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Madrid, Spain)

For Immediate Release

July 9, 1997

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT CLINTON,
PRIME MINISTER AZNAR OF SPAIN,
SECRETARY GENERAL OF NATO SOLANA,
AND PRESIDENT KUCHMA OF **UKRAINE**
IN SIGNING CEREMONY OF NATO-**UKRAINE** CHARTER

Palacio Municipal de Congresos
Madrid, Spain

9:35 A.M. (L)

SECRETARY GENERAL SOLANA: Good morning. I would like to welcome you here today to this historic event, the signing of the charter in the distinctive relationship between NATO and **Ukraine**. May I first give the floor to President Aznar, the President of the host country.

PRIME MINISTER AZNAR: Heads of state and government, good morning. For an ally such as Spain, it is an honor to welcome you to this ceremony. For the President of the government of Spain, it is, besides, a privilege. For my country, the signing of a charter for a distinctive partnership between NATO and the **Ukraine** is clear and effective proof of the importance we in the Atlantic Alliance attach to the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the **Ukraine** as key factors for stability in Europe. The fact that a country as important as the **Ukraine** is joining the Euro Atlantic community is a significant event in the history of our peoples.

The contents of the charter we are about to sign are also a source of satisfaction. On the one hand, the charter recognizes an indisputable strategic reality, namely, the role the **Ukraine** has to play in European security. On the other, it also demonstrates the gravity of the Atlantic Alliance to respond to the challenges posed by the end of the century, particularly the creation of an indivisible and transparent system of European security, one which avoids new dividing lines in Europe and gray areas in security.

The relations between the Alliance and the **Ukraine** are substantive in themselves and reflect the concrete historic reality. **Ukraine's** efforts to consolidate its recent independence to democracy and the decisive impetus the country has given to good neighborly relations have served to reaffirm its role in Europe and in the world.

The recent agreements concluded by the **Ukraine** with the Russian Federation and with Romania represent solid evidence of its commitment to peace and stability in Europe. So, too, does the ratification of the flanks agreement within the framework of the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty. The NATO-**Ukraine** Charter seeks to support these efforts and to contribute to the strengthening of our shared security, institutionalizing a specific partnership which will serve as a framework to develop relations between **Ukraine** and the Atlantic Alliance in the future.

The flexible nature of the charter is clearly one of the most positive aspects of this important document and will contribute to the consolidation of its contents, broadening it when necessary, and adapting it to future needs and to the new security environment.

Before closing, allow me to address some special words to President Kuchma. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you personally. The signing today of the NATO-**Ukraine** Charter would not have been possible without the political, economic and social transformations which have taken place in your country, thanks to your decisive commitment and the efforts of the people of the **Ukraine**. All this makes the **Ukraine** an indispensable partner of the Atlantic Alliance and a stabilizing presence in Europe.

Thank you. (Applause.)

SECRETARY GENERAL SOLANA: Thank you very much. I would like to give the floor to President Kuchma. Thank you.

PRESIDENT KUCHMA: Esteemed Secretary General and dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, this is a great honor for me to speak from this rostrum. And first of all, I would like to thank the leaders of Spain and this beautiful capital for the business-like and, at the same time, warm atmosphere that surrounds our work.

Madrid '97 will undoubtedly go down into history as a city where a dividing line left by the Cold War in the very center of Europe is eliminated. Yesterday, a decision was made to invite for membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization the Polish Republic, Hungary, and the Czech Republic -- democratic countries, close neighbors, and partners of **Ukraine**.

But today is of particular significance, too. Right after the ceremony the Euro Atlantic Cooperation Council session will start. This new forum of deepening cooperation will enable us all to work closer together in the political field, and it will provide for a new approach to the realization of the Partnership for Peace program.

In a few minutes, the charter of special cooperation between **Ukraine** and NATO is to be signed. This historic document is going to be another convincing evidence that on the European continent the new security architecture based on openness and partnership is being shaped. In the conclusion of the charter, the deep, internal transformation of the North Atlantic Alliance is reflected, as well as the democratic course of **Ukraine**, and its real gains in the integration into the European and Euro Atlantic structures.

I am convinced that these processes will go on and go on in parallel -- by the European dimensions, the state of **Ukraine** feels to be an integral part of the Central, Eastern and Southern Europe and is ready to take part in providing peace and stability in these regions and in the continent in general.

The formation of a favorable international environment gives us an opportunity to focus on resolving the topical internal problems, first of all, to continue profound transformation in our economy and further democratization of our society.

Esteemed ladies and gentlemen, irrespective of the fact that during the preparation of the charter, not all wishes of **Ukraine** were taken into account, we have all grounds to be happy with the results. At the end of the day, we do not consider it final, but rather a transitional one; we have a lot of common work to be done in the future.

I would like to thank the esteemed Secretary General and the leaders of the Alliance member states for having supported the idea of establishing this special partnership between **Ukraine** and NATO and its finalizing in the charter. Political will and sense demonstrated by all the participants in the preparation of the charter allow us to affirm the following: Europe has changed, and it is only through joint efforts that security in the continent can be guaranteed, since now **Ukraine** and NATO are going to work together to that end.

In the context of the radical changes in the European house, I can not only mention such an important event in the development of the international security at the conclusion of the Founding Act NATO Russia. We welcome the relations of cooperation and understanding set up between Russia and NATO and we think that gradual and open development of this relationship is going to be speeded up.

I would like to emphasize in particular that the integrity and comprehensiveness of European security for **Ukraine** are not among the principles that could be only declared. From the point of view of our country's national security, they have real political dimensions. **Ukraine**, a nation's history of many centuries, a lot of pages of which have recently been written with blood and human tragedies, is reentering the root of stability and civilization.

The changes which have taken place and the relations between NATO and other countries are the accomplishments preventing the repetition of past divisions of the continent. All this, together with the effective peacekeeping activity of NATO and the former Yugoslavia, the stabilizing role of the Alliance in Central, Eastern and the Southeastern part of Europe, has proved that the level of security has not decreased as a result of the enlargement of NATO. On the contrary; the relations between the candidates and their neighbors have been normalized.

And what now after Madrid? There are all grounds to hope that the key principles in European security will be a higher transparency of the development, cooperation and security and common goals. That's why the doors of the European and transatlantic institutions should remain open to all the countries which would like to join them and need corresponding criteria.

We shall be able to respond to the challenges of the 21st century with dignity unconditioned that every state assumes responsibility for its own contribution to the international security. **Ukraine** has made her choice and is ready, together with the NATO member countries and the partners of the Alliance, to take an active part in the construction of the secure future for Europe, and thus for the whole world.

Thank you for your attention.

SECRETARY GENERAL SOLANA: Distinguished persons, honorable ministers, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, today will rank as a memorable day in the relations between NATO and **Ukraine** because it is today that a new era is beginning within the nations between NATO and the **Ukraine**. Therefore, a truly memorable day, indeed.

The signing of this Charter today is the visible symbol of a new Europe -- not a Europe of the past, not a Europe of division, not a Europe of confrontation between East and West, but, on the contrary; the Europe of the future, a united Europe, a Europe where East and West are partners, alliances working for peace, a durable peace based on friendship, a friendship which stems from close and numerous contacts at all levels between the allies, **Ukraine**, and beyond with all our partners.

Ladies and gentlemen, in May, the Alliance opened a NATO documentation center in Kiev, the first of this kind in any partner country. Its purpose is a simple, but essential one --to make information available on the Alliance, on **Ukraine**, and to the **Ukraine** people. It is open to anyone to walk in, to ask questions, to get information. There is a huge interest in the Alliance in **Ukraine**. The more we respond to that interest, the more we discover that misconceptions and misunderstandings are coming down. There is, instead, a growing understanding of our common interest and our common heritage.

We, too, have learned -- and we have to do it -- about our partners with an open mind. Our mutual openness strengthens our ability and strengthens our commitment to work together.

The Alliance and **Ukraine** are now ready to take the process to a significant step forward. Together, our aim is to make a real, substantive contribution to cooperative security in the Euro Atlantic area. The NATO-**Ukraine** Charter now needs to be implemented -- implemented steadily and implemented to the fullest. The partnership will grow by making the greatest possible use of the new mechanisms that it provides.

Finally, let me just say a warm thank you to all those who made today's signature possible. The result of your many hours of hard work was well worth the effort. Thank you very much.

The President of the United States.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Secretary General, fellow leaders, ladies and gentlemen, from the four quarters of our Alliance, we have come to Madrid to build a new Europe, where old divides are bridged by new ties of friendship and cooperation; where we recognize no spheres of influence, but instead the influence of shared ideals.]

Today, we take another step toward that new Europe with the signing of this charter between a new NATO and a democratic **Ukraine**. From the moment we declared this goal last fall, all have worked hard toward this day. I thank President Kuchma for his vision and courage in leading his great nation down the path of reform. I also thank Secretary General Solana for his efforts on behalf of our Alliance.

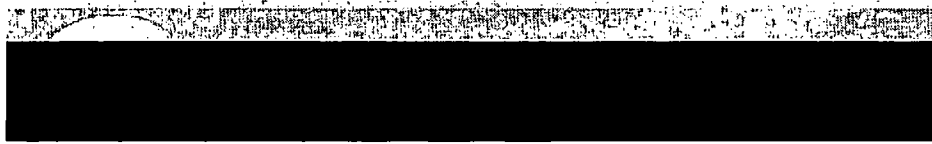
This charter launches a closer relationship between NATO and **Ukraine** that will benefit both. It lays a foundation for consultation and cooperation. It welcomes **Ukraine** as our partner in building an undivided Europe.

Over the last two months, **Ukraine's** bold steps have made this continent more stable and more secure through its treaty of friendship and cooperation with Russia, its border agreement with Romania, its declaration of reconciliation with Poland. Now an open dialogue and joint activities with NATO will help **Ukraine** solidify reform and strengthen stability throughout Europe.

This charter reflects and reinforces the way this continent has changed. **Ukraine** has emerged from a century of struggle to pursue the highest standards of dignity and freedom. It is tackling tough economic reform. It has been a leader in reducing the nuclear danger. It has embarked on a course of peaceful integration with the community of democracies. NATO also has evolved to meet these new times -- with new missions, new members, a stronger Partnership for Peace, and now new partners, with Russia and, of course, today with **Ukraine**.

Today, Europe's security is not a matter of competition, but of cooperation on behalf of common goals. It is natural for **Ukraine** to reach out to NATO and for NATO to do the same, helping to secure **Ukraine** firmly in the heart of a new, undivided democratic Europe.

May the charter we sign today be just the opening page in a long history of unity, partnership, and peace that NATO and **Ukraine** will write together. Thank you. (Applause.)



White House Press Release

JOINT SUMMIT STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT CLINTON AND PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE LEONID D. KUCHMA

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

November 22, 1994

JOINT SUMMIT STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT CLINTON AND PRESIDENT OF **UKRAINE** LEONID D. KUCHMA

On the occasion of his State visit to the United States on November 21-23, 1994, Leonid D. Kuchma, President of **Ukraine**, met with William J. Clinton, President of the United States, to open a qualitatively new stage in the growing U.S.-**Ukrainian** partnership aimed at furthering bilateral and multilateral cooperation on a broad range of issues between the two countries.

The Presidents renewed their shared commitment to broaden the bilateral democratic partnership into which the two countries have entered. President Clinton underscored the importance the United States attaches to the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of **Ukraine**. In this context, President Clinton assured President Kuchma that the United States will continue to give high priority to supporting **Ukraine** in its efforts to achieve genuine economic independence, its transition to a market economy and its integration into the global economic system.

Bilateral Relations

In keeping with their commitment to strengthen bilateral relations, President Clinton and President Kuchma signed the Charter of American-**Ukrainian** Partnership, Friendship and Cooperation. The Presidents praised the Charter as the framework for developing closer relations over the coming years. President Clinton noted in particular **Ukraine's** valuable contribution to this new framework by its momentous decision to accede to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, which is an historic step forward on the road toward strengthening the international nuclear weapons nonproliferation regime and global

security and stability.

The Presidents inaugurated this new framework of bilateral relations by signing an Agreement on Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes and agreed to work closely to explore additional bilateral cooperative space-related opportunities in the future. They noted that this process had begun with a U.S.-**Ukraine** discussion of **Ukraine's** interest in the commercial launch market.

Both Presidents expressed their determination to broaden bilateral cooperation in a range of new areas. During the visit, the two governments brought into force a bilateral customs cooperation agreement and announced their intention to conclude negotiations on a bilateral civil aviation agreement. The Presidents recognized the threat that organized crime and corruption pose for reform and expanded business activity in **Ukraine**, and they agreed to cooperate in combating crime and promoting the rule of law as an essential safeguard of social stability and civil and human rights. The Presidents will encourage exchanges among **Ukrainians** and Americans in the fields of science, technology and education. The Presidents, noting the valuable role of culture in bringing nations closer together, voiced support for wide-ranging cultural contacts between the United States and **Ukraine**. Both Presidents also recognized the importance of health care for the well-being of their people, and President Clinton announced that the United States would provide **Ukraine** hospital equipment, medical supplies and assistance with health programs.

The Presidents intend to maintain frequent high-level bilateral contacts to assure timely and effective implementation of activities. President Kuchma invited President Clinton to make an official return visit to **Ukraine** at the earliest convenient opportunity. President Clinton accepted this invitation with pleasure.

Economic Cooperation

The Presidents agreed that market-oriented economic reform provides the surest path to **Ukraine's** economic revival and its integration into the world economy. President Clinton reaffirmed full U.S. support for the reform policies recently adopted by President Kuchma's government and its conclusion of an IMF Systemic Transformation Facility program. President Kuchma outlined plans for accelerating the process of economic reform. These plans include intensifying structural reform efforts to encourage competition through enhanced macroeconomic stabilization and increased privatization. President Clinton commended President Kuchma for his leadership on economic reform and encouraged him to work toward early completion of negotiations with the IMF on a stand-by program. He stressed the importance of **Ukraine's** reform measures and the United States' readiness to support **Ukraine** in their implementation.

President Clinton announced that the United States would provide \$200 million in new assistance to **Ukraine** in Fiscal Year 1995. Of this amount, \$103 million will finance technical and economic assistance activities. The remaining \$97 million will provide balance of payments support, consisting of \$72 million in an energy sector grant and \$25 million in USDA concessional food credits, as provided in agreements signed by the two Governments during the State visit. When combined with \$3 million of pharmaceuticals and other commodities from Fiscal

Year 1994, the United States will provide \$100 million in balance of payments support in the next few months to reinforce **Ukraine's** IMF program.

This United States economic support is in recognition of **Ukraine's** major initiative to launch a comprehensive economic reform program. This support is in addition to the \$350 million in economic assistance committed to **Ukraine** in March 1994, the major part of which will take effect once reforms have begun. The Presidents reviewed the progress made in the implementation of economic assistance programs for **Ukraine** and agreed to work together to accelerate delivery and ensure the full disbursement of all current and previous commitments, as well as the effectiveness of these programs.

President Kuchma expressed appreciation for United States leadership in mobilizing international support for **Ukraine**, particularly the prompt United States response to the **Ukrainian** request for balance of payments support. Looking to the future, President Clinton reaffirmed United States commitments made at the Washington donor session and the Winnipeg G-7 conference in October and his intention to continue the United States' leading role in encouraging international support for **Ukrainian** reform.

The Presidents recognized the important contribution the private sector can make to **Ukraine's** economic prosperity through expanded trade and investment. President Clinton welcomed **Ukraine's** ratification of the bilateral investment treaty and noted that the Western NIS Enterprise Fund has now opened its offices in Kiev. President Kuchma expressed the hope that the U.S. Senate would ratify the treaty at an early date. The leaders emphasized the importance of privatization if expanded cooperation between American enterprises and an emerging private sector in **Ukraine** is to begin in earnest.

On November 21 President Kuchma and members of his government participated in an OPIC-sponsored business conference which reviewed investment opportunities in **Ukraine**. Both Presidents agreed that there was enormous potential for private sector cooperation in developing key sectors of the **Ukrainian** economy. They specified, in particular, agriculture and food processing; pharmaceuticals and medical equipment; energy, including fossil and environmentally sound and safe nuclear power; aerospace, consistent with international obligations; civil aviation; telecommunications; environment and defense conversion.

The two leaders noted that the first session of the Joint U.S.-**Ukrainian** Commission on Trade and Investment is meeting during the State visit to discuss ways of promoting business cooperation and removing barriers to expanded trade and increased investment in **Ukraine**. The Commission is discussing the tax, legal and regulatory changes that **Ukraine** will need to adopt to support private business activity. President Clinton recognized the special circumstances facing economies in transition, such as **Ukraine's**, which seek to expand export markets, and offered to consult with the U.S. Congress on appropriate ways of reflecting this in U.S. trade legislation. The Presidents noted that expanded trade will be critical to the success of **Ukrainian** economic reform and agreed to make the expansion of trade and investment a priority in their economic cooperation efforts.

The Presidents also agreed to work toward expanding economic

cooperation within a multilateral framework and to promote **Ukraine's** integration into the global economy. President Clinton reaffirmed the United States' support for **Ukraine's** accession to the GATT/WTO, and noted that the United States is providing assistance to the **Ukrainian** government to support this process. The United States is also chairing the working group in Geneva overseeing **Ukraine's** accession.

The Presidents noted that the resolution of **Ukraine's** energy problems would have an important and positive impact on **Ukraine's** economic recovery. President Kuchma welcomed the United States' decision to provide part of its special balance of payments assistance in the form of an energy sector grant. Both leaders reviewed the progress that has been made in implementing cooperative programs aimed at the restructuring and reforming of **Ukraine's** energy sector and improving nuclear reactor safety. President Kuchma informed President Clinton of the recent agreement **Ukraine** reached with IAEA on the application of IAEA safeguards to all nuclear materials, except those for nuclear propulsion, utilized in **Ukraine**.

The Presidents agreed to continue to work together for the full implementation of the G-7 Naples Action Plan, and recognized that this will require G-7 cooperation and assistance. President Clinton drew attention to the significant resource commitments made at Naples, Corfu and Winnipeg and to the importance of receiving early assurances that the Chornobyl reactors would be shut down in accordance with the G-7 Action Plan. President Kuchma assured President Clinton that **Ukraine** takes seriously the international community's concerns about the continued operation of the Chornobyl nuclear power plant. He expressed **Ukraine's** readiness to work with the G-7 nations in the implementation of the Naples Action Plan, noting that its successful implementation is connected with a series of measures, including preparing the closure of the nuclear reactors, minimizing the social impact on the plant's personnel, and ensuring that sufficient economically-priced electricity is available to meet **Ukraine's** domestic needs. He also stressed the importance that **Ukraine** places on improving the stability of the shelter installed over the damaged reactor. Both Presidents agreed on the need for further close work in the G-7/**Ukraine** Task Force to ensure the future closure of Chornobyl, as envisioned in the G-7 Action Plan, as an integral part of a comprehensive solution to **Ukraine's** energy problems.

Defense and Security

The Presidents expressed satisfaction with the accomplishments and pace of implementation of the January 14 Trilateral Statement signed by the Presidents of the United States, **Ukraine**, and the Russian Federation. In addition, they renewed their commitment to international efforts to reduce sharply the threat and proliferation of nuclear weapons.

President Clinton congratulated **Ukraine** on its decision to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the historic renunciation of nuclear weapons which it represents and reaffirmed the U.S. commitment to provide security assurances to **Ukraine** in connection with its accession to the NPT by signing a Memorandum on Security Assurances on the margins of the Budapest CSCE Summit.

The Presidents look forward to early entry into force of the START-I treaty and agreed that the Lisbon Protocol Signatories should exchange instruments of ratification on the margins of the Budapest CSCE Summit. Both Presidents reiterated their views that the START-I treaty would not only serve the mutual interests of both countries, but also would serve to strengthen global peace and stability.

Both Presidents agreed to work closely to ensure the timely implementation of Nunn-Lugar programs intended to facilitate the dismantlement of strategic offensive arms and the security of nuclear weapons, achieve our joint non-proliferation objectives, and help in the conversion of **Ukraine's** defense industries. The Presidents agreed on the importance of identifying as soon as possible programs of assistance under the Nunn-Lugar program, using the \$75 million allocated to **Ukraine** out of Fiscal Year 1995 Nunn-Lugar funds. Both acknowledged the progress that had been made to date, noting in particular the utility of U.S. deactivation assistance, procurement of missile fuel storage tanks and the imminent completion of a U.S.-**Ukraine** communications link. The Presidents also recognized the significant contribution of the fourteen Western countries and the European Union in providing \$234 million of dismantlement and related assistance for **Ukraine**.

The Presidents discussed the evolving European security structure. They agreed that this process should be managed in a manner that strengthens the stability and security of all nations of Europe. As a tangible example of **Ukraine's** overall importance in European security and the U.S. commitment to expanded **Ukrainian** cooperation with NATO, President Clinton announced that the United States would make funds available to **Ukraine** under the Warsaw Initiative to support **Ukrainian** participation in the Partnership for Peace. The funds will contribute to **Ukraine's** ability to promote the objectives of the Partnership.

The two leaders announced that the two countries had agreed to move forward with a \$600,000 International Military Training and Education Program to assist in the professional development of **Ukraine's** armed forces. The Presidents also pledged to continue to expand military and defense contact programs designed to assist **Ukraine** in the restructuring of its defense establishment which is now under civilian leadership for the first time. In addition, the sides announced that **Ukraine** will host a U.S.-**Ukraine** combined peacekeeping training exercise late next spring. In the area of defense industry conversion, President Clinton informed President Kuchma that the United States would continue to provide assistance to U.S.-**Ukraine** joint ventures and would seek new partners for the important work of defense conversion.

The Presidents noted the importance of proceeding with defense industry conversion priorities and the need to expand opportunities for trade and investment in high technology industries. They also underscored the importance of the bilateral U.S.-**Ukraine** Memorandum of Understanding on the

Transfer of Missile Equipment and Technology signed last May 13. The Presidents also recognized the importance of broader international cooperation in ensuring reliable control over exports of sensitive materials and technology. President Clinton expressed the hope that **Ukraine** would become a member of the MTCR at an early date and

reiterated that the U.S. would support **Ukraine** in achieving this goal. They agreed to work together toward **Ukraine's** full participation in a successor regime to COCOM. President Clinton was pleased to note that a Science and Technology Center, funded by the United States and other donors, will soon begin operations in **Ukraine** and that this would assist **Ukraine** in redirecting the work of former defense scientists and engineers to civilian purposes.

Diplomatic Endeavors

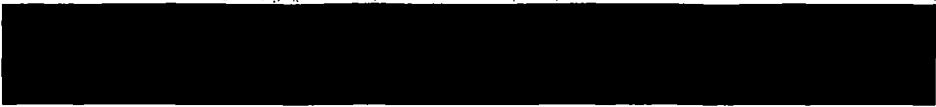
Consistent with the new stage of bilateral relations, the Presidents also underscored the importance of ensuring that the diplomatic missions of both countries be fully capable of conducting their operations without hindrance. With this in mind, the Presidents announced the exchange of diplomatic notes to lift employment restrictions on diplomatic personnel and their families. President Clinton also used this occasion to welcome **Ukraine's** newly appointed Ambassador to the United States, Yuriy Shcherbak, to Washington, D.C.

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White House Press Release

JOINT STATEMENT ON ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 4, 1994

JOINT STATEMENT ON ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION

The United States and **Ukraine** believe that expanded bilateral economic ties and commercial cooperation can make a significant contribution to strengthening their relations and developing free markets, economic growth and jobs in our two countries. Both countries are committed to making greater efforts to develop commercial projects based on trade, joint ventures and foreign direct investment, recognizing that individual commercial and investment decisions must be made by the enterprises concerned.

Trade

Both countries attach great significance to their bilateral Agreement on Trade Relations which came into force on June 22, 1992, and are committed to carrying out its full provisions, including those covering the protection of intellectual property.

The United States and **Ukraine** have agreed to establish a special Bilateral Commission on Trade and Investment, chaired on the U.S. side by the Department of Commerce and on the **Ukrainian** side by the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations. The Commission will prepare an action plan for promoting bilateral trade and investment. The two countries will set a date for the first meeting of the Commission early in 1994. The Department of Commerce also intends to organize a trade promotion mission, including U.S. company representatives, to **Ukraine**.

The two countries recognize that measures taken to reduce

tariffs and non-tariff barriers can provide an important stimulus to bilateral trade. The United States appreciates the importance of market access for economies in transition, such as **Ukraine**. In this regard, the United States, on March 3, 1994, extended to **Ukraine** the benefits of the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences. This provides **Ukraine** with duty-free access into the U.S. market for some 4,400 products. During 1994, U.S. technical experts will visit Kiev to provide **Ukrainian** exporters and officials with information on the operation of the GSP program.

The United States and **Ukraine** desire to provide liberal and reciprocal access to each other's market for goods and services. The two countries are committed to avoiding trade frictions and to facilitate access consistent with fair trade practices and their respective trade laws. They also intend to review and seek to remove technical barriers to trade related to standards, certification and testing of products.

In these efforts, both sides will be guided by the principles of the GATT. The United States is a contracting party to the GATT and supports **Ukraine's** interest in formally applying for GATT membership. The United States is prepared to provide technical assistance to help **Ukraine** implement a trade regime consistent with GATT membership and to consult with **Ukrainian** authorities concerning the process and terms of GATT accession.

The United States and **Ukraine** will also continue their ongoing discussions regarding the establishment of an effective export control regime that will allow **Ukraine** increased access to U.S. goods and high technology and allow **Ukraine** to participate fully in the COCOM Cooperation Forum. The U.S. is ready to provide technical assistance to help **Ukraine** create a national export control regime.

The two leaders noted **Ukraine's** interest in acquiring the status of a full and equal partner in the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). The United States and **Ukraine** will cooperate closely to help to achieve this goal, which will make an important contribution to international efforts to stem proliferation of ballistic missiles.

Investment

U.S. private investment in **Ukraine** can make an important contribution to **Ukraine's** transition to a market economy by providing capital, jobs, improving product quality and manufacturing efficiency and introducing management and technical know-how. Both sides agree the Avoidance of Double Taxation Treaty and Bilateral Investment Treaty, providing comprehensive protection for investors, are important steps and could stimulate private capital flows. Such agreements need to be accompanied by administrative, tax, regulatory and legislative changes in **Ukraine** to improve the overall climate for investment and to provide the necessary security and stability that investors seek. Identifying barriers to investment and exchanging information on ways to improve the investment climate in **Ukraine** will be an important objective of the Bilateral Commission on Trade and Investment.

The U.S. Overseas Private Investment Cooperation has agreed to organize a conference on investment in **Ukraine** to be held in Chicago in July 1994. This will follow up on an OPIC-organized investment mission which visited **Ukraine** in 1993.

Science and Technology Cooperation

Both sides agree to continue with exchanges of information in the area of science and technology and to cooperate in identifying opportunities for scientific and space research collaboration. They agreed to conclude a bilateral Science and Technology Agreement to formalize government-to-government cooperation and to establish a coordinating mechanism to foster bilateral science and technology cooperation. With the October 25, 1993 signing of a protocol for a Science and Technology Center in Kiev, both sides place a priority on getting this Center operational as quickly as possible. The two governments agreed to cooperate in the field of outer space and to hold early meetings of experts to consider specific issues and areas of cooperation in this field.

In addition, the leaders agreed to establish a special Joint Commission to facilitate cooperation in areas of high technology and scientific research and development.

Cooperation in Defense Conversion

The United States and **Ukraine** recognize that defense conversion is a priority task for each country and that cooperation will enable each country to meet that task more efficiently and effectively. To advance this cooperation, the two countries have established a United States - **Ukraine** Committee on the Conversion of Defense Industry, co-chaired by the U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense and the Minister of Engineering, Military-Industrial Complex and Conversion of **Ukraine**. On January 5, 1994, U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense Perry and **Ukrainian** Deputy Minister of Engineering, Military-Industrial Complex and Conversion V. Pavylukov signed a statement of principles governing the work of this Committee. According to this statement of principles, the Committee will serve as a channel of communication between the Governments of the United States and **Ukraine** on the most important questions of cooperation in defense conversion.

Support for **Ukrainian** Reform

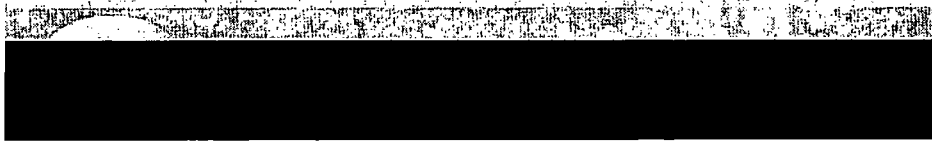
The two leaders continue to place the highest priority on the success of political and economic reform in **Ukraine**. The United States will provide up to 350 million dollars in economic assistance in Fiscal Year 1994 to support **Ukraine's** transition to a market-oriented economy and a democratic society. The United States extends this assistance with the understanding that full disbursement of this assistance will be contingent on **Ukraine's** proceeding with its process of reform, without which this assistance cannot be fully effective.

The United States and **Ukraine** also agree that international financial institutions, particularly the IMF and the IBRD, have an essential role to play in helping **Ukraine** create and implement a comprehensive reform program. The international financial institutions can provide significant financial resources to support such a program. The United States encourages **Ukraine** to work closely with the IMF and the IBRD in implementing a program of bold economic reforms. The United States, for its part, is prepared to exercise leadership within the G-7 to mobilize additional, multilateral assistance to support a comprehensive reform program.

Both sides recognize that the extent of commercial and economic cooperation currently existing between the two countries is far below its potential. They agree that the principles and objectives elaborated in this statement are the best basis upon which to expand rapidly trade and investment. The United States and **Ukraine** acknowledge, however, that before the full potential of their trade and economic cooperation can be realized, **Ukraine** must intensify adoption of a free-market system, including such elements as a dynamic private sector, the freeing of prices, and a fully convertible currency. The United States and **Ukraine** agree to work together to achieve these goals and to continue a process of reform which will provide the basis for the future prosperity of the **Ukrainian** people.

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White House Press Release

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT CLINTON AND PRESIDENT LEONID KUCHMA OF UKRAINE AT STATE ARRIVAL CEREMONY

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

November 22, 1994

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT CLINTON
AND PRESIDENT LEONID KUCHMA OF **UKRAINE**
AT STATE ARRIVAL CEREMONY

The South Lawn

11:08 A.M. EST

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Mr. President, Mrs. Kuchma, members of the **Ukrainian** delegation, representatives of the UkrainianAmerican community,

It is indeed an honor to welcome to Washington the leader of one of the world's youngest democracies and oldest nations. To have you here with us today, Mr. President, is to be reminded that live in a era of wonders, a time when people's long-denied hope or having age-old dreams fulfilled, a time when the unstoppable power of men and women who wish to be free has been demonstrated anew.

The rebirth of **Ukraine** as an independent state after centuries of rule by others is one of the most inspiring developments of our time. For ages **Ukraine** was divided by competing empires, then subjugated to tsars and commissars.

Despite efforts to create an independent **Ukraine**, dictators, terrible famines and relentless oppression all combined to deny your people the right to shape their fate. Despite these ordeals, the **Ukrainian** people have endured, preserving hope and their identity and contributing greatly to the glories of European civilization. Now, finally, **Ukraine** has reclaimed its independence and its place as a pivotal state in the new Europe.

We congratulate you, Mr. President, and all **Ukrainians** on your remarkable achievements in the almost three years since regaining your freedom. You held a historic referendum and began the hard work of reform and building democratic institutions. Above all, **Ukrainians** are weathering the immense difficulties of political and

economic transition. In the face of continuous hardship, you have shown patience, bravery and the ability to overcome all obstacles -- an ability your young athletes like Oskana Baiul showed so spectacularly in the Olympic competition.

We honor you, Mr. President, in our nation's capital as the man who is leading a **Ukrainian** renaissance. Your boldness in the face of daunting problems reminds us of one of our greatest leaders, Franklin Roosevelt, who provided leadership in a time of great hardship in the United States. Like him, you inherited a nation in the throes of economic depression. And like him, you have lighted the darkness and created hope.

You have blazed a path ahead on the two most critical issues for the future: economic reform and nuclear weapons. Thanks to your leadership, **Ukraine** is making the hard choices that will ensure the prosperity **Ukrainians** deserve.

Thanks to your vision and that of the **Ukrainian** Parliament, you are removing the threat of nuclear weapons and laying the groundwork for an era of peace with your neighbors. I salute the courage you have shown. America will stand with you to support your independence, your territorial integrity, and your reforms. We are bound together by a dedication to peace and a devotion to freedom.

The flame of that commitment to freedom was kept burning during the Cold War by nearly a million **Ukrainian** Americans, some of whom are with us here today, who never forgot **Ukraine** and who are today contributing to its reawakening. (Applause.)

Now that your country is again free, all Americans are determined that the flame of **Ukrainian** freedom will burn ever brighter. We will stand with you.

Seventy-seven years ago today, Mr. President, on November 22nd, 1917, another generation of **Ukrainian** leaders declared the independence of **Ukraine**. It was a tragedy that civil war and bolshevism doomed that new state while it was still in its infancy.

Today, we are pleased and honored to welcome you, the leader of a **Ukraine** that is conquering the challenges of independence -- poised to fulfill its hopes, a nation that will grow into one of the great nations of Europe. And we say, Vitayemo. (Applause.) Welcome. (Applause.)

PRESIDENT KUCHMA: Mr. President, Mrs. Clinton, ladies and gentlemen. It's a great honor and great responsibility to address you now at this place. And I am grateful to Mr. President and the people of the United States for this possibility.

This beautiful lawn in front of the White House has got a specific feature, the words pronounced here belong to the whole of the world history and mankind.

Understanding and taking it into account, I would like the main thing all of us present here witness a great process -- the process of changes of the whole civilizations. An epoch of the global confrontation of two political systems with enormous military risk and economic wastefulness is over.

We are lucky that an attempt of expansion of totalitarian political structures to assault against the human rights values and freedoms of civilization was a failure. It was not the West who conquered, who gained victory, but that was the victory of the model of life which appreciates, most of all, a human being, its

personality, and gives space for its self-realization.

It is a special pleasure for me to say this in the United States of America, the great country where a human being has conquered its place not only from nature, but from politics, and with set hopes to become good and reliable partners for the United States in its efforts to transform the old -- (inaudible) -- into the era of victory of democratic values, civilization and high responsibility of states for the destiny and well-being of their peoples.

Today, they say that **Ukraine** is a poor country. We are not a poor country, we are a young country and an experienced one. That is why we are ready to learn in the sphere of economics, politics, humanism, the best examples of other countries.

This is the aim of my visit to the United States. At his time, your great President Abraham Lincoln was said that he should pray so that God is on the side of his people. Mr. Lincoln replied that he would not pray for that, for sometimes happen that people can make mistakes, and only God is always right -- adding that he would pray so that his people would be with God.

I am confident that both the American and **Ukrainian** peoples, moving along that avenue which I have mentioned, will be together and with God.

Thank you. (Applause.)

END11:25 A.M. EST

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White House Press Release

REMARKS OF PRESIDENT CLINTON AND PRESIDENT JIANG ZEMIN IN EXCHANGE OF TOASTS

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 29, 1997

REMARKS OF PRESIDENT CLINTON AND PRESIDENT JIANG ZEMIN IN EXCHANGE OF TOASTS

The East Room

9:00 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Good evening. President Jiang, Mrs. Wang, members of the **Chinese** delegation, Ambassador and Mrs. Sasser, distinguished guests, friends all, Hillary and I welcome you to America's house.

Mr. President, in your lifetime you have witnessed the sweep of a remarkable century, both in **China** and abroad. And in your different occupations you have lived a rich sampling of the human enterprise. While you lead **China** toward the future, we know you also are a student of the past, with an interest in our history, from Thomas Jefferson to Mark Twain. Not many heads of state can recite the Gettysburg Address, Mr. Lincoln's powerful hymn to the sanctity of our union and our guarantee of freedom.

China has played an important role in our history. In 1784, shortly after America's independence, the first American merchant ship landed in **China**. The **Chinese** officials knew we were not European, so they simply called us the "new people." And though we were unfamiliar, the **Chinese** allowed us to trade freely with them. So one of the oldest societies on Earth, **China**, extended the hand of friendship to the world's youngest nation.

The two centuries since then are a tiny fraction of recorded **Chinese** history. Long before the United States was even born, **China** was

a stronghold of creativity, knowledge, and wealth. From the printing **China** invented to the poetry it produced, from medicine and mathematics to the magnetic compass and humanistic philosophies, many of **China's** earliest gifts still enrich our lives today.

Now the **Chinese** people are dramatically building on this legacy. Economic reform over the past 20 years has transformed **China's** landscape and its people's daily lives -- lifting millions from poverty, giving more people education, shelter, choice of work, and a chance to provide for their children, bringing the **Chinese** people closer to the rest of the world and into a greater leadership role in the community of nations.

Now on the verge of the new century, both our nations seek to continue this progress, to contribute to **China's** growing prosperity, to encourage its democratic development, to support its emergence as a responsible global power and partner.

Surely a new world is dawning on the other side of the millennium. From Shanghai to San Francisco, a community is emerging that can become "Pacific" in every sense of the word. Communication and commerce cross even the world's widest ocean in only a matter of seconds, making all of us neighbors.

Let us make the most of these new realities. Our commercial and cultural relationship is strong and growing stronger. Our people travel back and forth, teaching and learning from each other. Mr. President, we Americans are proud that your son received a part of his education at one of our universities, and we want more of our young people to study in **China**. We want to work even more closely to promote peace, to fight drugs and organized crime; to build prosperity, to protect our environment for future generations.

We must press ahead on these fronts and more. I hope some day, Mr. President, the children of both our nations will say of us that our decision gave new meaning in our time to President Lincoln's call for a new birth of freedom. The United States has benefitted already beyond measure from the contributions of **Chinese** Americans, whose unique culture and values of family, education and hard work have strengthened the fabric of our society. Already, **China** has enriched America's history. Now, Mr. President, let us work together with confidence to enhance our common destiny.

The ancient text, the I Ching, in English is called The Book of Changes. It tells us leaders plan in the beginning when they do things; leaders consider problems and prevent them. With this summit we have considered problems, taken steps to prevent some of them, and we have begun to plan together for a future not of problems, but of progress for America, for **China**, for the world.

It is in that spirit that I ask you to join me in a toast to the people and the President of the People's Republic of **China**.

(A toast is offered.) (Applause.)

PRESIDENT JIANG: Mr. President and Mrs. Clinton, ladies and gentlemen. Allow me first to extend, on behalf of my wife and my colleagues, and also in my own name our hearty thanks to you, Mr. President and Mrs. Clinton, for hosting this grand banquet tonight in our honor. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my



White House Press Release

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT IN ADDRESS ON CHINA AND THE NATIONAL INTEREST

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 24, 1997

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT IN ADDRESS ON **CHINA** AND THE NATIONAL INTEREST

Voice Of America
Washington, D.C.

2:50 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Ambassador Platt. I thank the Asia Society and the U.S.-**China** Education Foundation for bringing us together today. I thank Senator Baucus and Congressmen Dreier, Matsui, and Roemer for being here; Secretary Albright, Ambassador Barshefsky, National Security Advisor Berger, the other distinguished officials from the State Department. And I thank especially the members of the diplomatic corps who are here, and the students. And especially let me thank two of my favorite people, Joe Duffy and Evelyn Lieberman, for the work of the Voice of America and the USIA, all that they do to promote the free flow of ideas around the world.

Next week, when President Jiang Zemin comes to Washington, it will be the first state visit by a **Chinese** leader to the United States for more than a decade. The visit gives us the opportunity and the responsibility to chart a course for the future that is more positive and more stable and, hopefully, more productive than our relations have been for the last few years.

China is a great country with a rich and proud history and a strong future. It will, for good or ill, play a very large role in shaping the 21st century in which the children in this audience today, children all across our country, all across **China**, and indeed all across the world, will live.

At the dawn of the new century, **China** stands at a crossroads. The direction **China** takes toward cooperation or conflict will profoundly affect Asia, America, and the world for decades. The emergence of a **China** as a power that is stable, open, and non-aggressive, that embraces free markets, political pluralism, and the rule of law, that works with us to build a secure international order -- that kind of **China**, rather than a **China** turned inward and confrontational, is deeply in the interests of the American people.

Of course, **China** will choose its own destiny. Yet by working with **China** and expanding areas of cooperation, dealing forthrightly with our differences, we can advance fundamental American interests and values.

First, the United States has a profound interest in promoting a peaceful, prosperous, and stable world. Our task will be much easier if **China** is a part of that process -- not only playing by the rules of international behavior, but helping to write and enforce them.

China is a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. Its support was crucial for peacekeeping efforts in Cambodia and building international mandates to reverse Iraq's aggression against Kuwait and restore democracy to Haiti. As a neighbor of India and Pakistan, **China** will influence whether these great democracies move toward responsible cooperation both with each other and with **China**.

From the Persian Gulf to the Caspian Sea, **China's** need for a reliable and efficient supply of energy to fuel its growth can make it a force for stability in these strategically critical regions. Next week, President Jiang and I will discuss our visions of the future and the kind of strategic relationship we must have to promote cooperation, not conflict.

Second, the United States has a profound interest in peace and stability in Asia. Three times this century, Americans have fought and died in Asian wars -- 37,000 Americans still patrol the Cold War's last frontier, on the Korean DMZ. Territorial disputes that could flair in the crises affecting America require us to maintain a strong American security presence in Asia. We want **China** to be a powerful force for security and cooperation there.

China has helped us convince North Korea to freeze and ultimately end its dangerous nuclear program. Just imagine how much more dangerous that volatile peninsula would be today if North Korea, reeling from food shortages, with a million soldiers encamped 27 miles from Seoul, had continued this nuclear program.

China also agreed to take part in the four-party peace talks that President Kim and I proposed with North Korea, the only realistic avenue to a lasting peace. And **China** is playing an increasingly constructive role in Southeast Asia by working with us and the members of ASEAN to advance our shared interests in economic and political security.

Next week I'll discuss with President Jiang the steps we can take together to advance the peace process in Korea. We'll look at ways to strengthen our military to military contacts, decreasing the chances of miscalculation and broadening America's contacts with the next generation of **China's** military leaders. And I will reiterate to President Jiang America's continuing support for our one **China** political, which has allowed democracy to flourish in Taiwan, and Taiwan's relationship with the PRC to grow more stable and prosper. The Taiwan question can only be settled by the **Chinese** themselves peacefully.

Third, the United States has a profound interest in keeping weapons of mass destruction and other sophisticated weapons out of unstable regions and away from rogue states and terrorists. In the 21st century, many of the threats to our security will come not from great power conflict, but from states that defy the international community and violent groups seeking to undermine peace, stability and democracy. **China** is already a nuclear power with increasingly sophisticated industrial and technological capabilities. We need its help to prevent dangerous weapons from falling into the wrong hands.

For years, **China** stood outside the major international arms control regimes. Over the past decade, it has made important and welcome decisions to join the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Biological Weapons Convention, and to respect key provisions of the Missile Technology Control Regime. Last year at the United Nations, I was proud to be the first world leader to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. **China's** Foreign Minister was the second leader to do so.

China has lived up to its pledge not to assist unsafeguarded nuclear facilities in third countries, and it is developing a system of export controls to prevent the transfer or sale of technology for weapons of mass destruction.

But **China** still maintains some troubling weapons supply relationships. At the summit, I will discuss with President Jiang further steps we hope **China** will take to end or limit some of these supply relationships and to strengthen and broaden its export control system. And I will make the case to him that these steps are, first and foremost, in **China's** interest, because the spread of dangerous weapons and technology would increase instability near **China's** own borders.

Fourth, the United States has a profound interest in fighting drug-trafficking and international organized crime. Increasingly, smugglers and criminals are taking advantage of **China's** vast territory and its borders with 15 nations to move drugs and weapons, aliens and the proceeds of illegal activities from one point in Asia to another, or from Asia to Europe.

China and the United States already are cooperating closely on alien smuggling, and **China** has taken a tough line against narco-trafficking, a threat to its children, as well as our own. Next week I will propose to President Jiang that our law enforcement communities intensify their efforts together.

Fifth, the United States has a profound interest in making global trade and investment as free, fair, and open as possible. Over the past five years, trade has produced more than one-third of America's economic growth. If we are to continue generating good jobs and higher incomes in our country, when we are just 4 percent of the world's population, we must continue to sell more to the other 96 percent. One of the best ways to do that is to bring **China** more fully into the world's trading system. With a quarter of the world's population and its fastest growing economy, **China** could and should be a magnet for our goods and services.

Even though American exports to **China** now are at an all-time high, so, too, is our trade deficit. In part, this is due to the strength of the American economy, and to the fact that many products we used to buy in other Asian countries now are manufactured in **China**. But clearly, an important part of the problem remains lack of access to **China's** markets.

We strongly support **China's** admission into the World Trade Organization. But in turn, **China** must dramatically improve access for

foreign goods and services. We should be able to compete fully and fairly in **China's** marketplace, just as **China** competes in our own.

Tearing down trade barriers also is good for **China**, and for the growth of **China's** neighbors and, therefore, for the stability and future of Asia. Next week, President Jiang and I will discuss steps **China** must take to join the WTO and assume its rightful place in the world economy.

Finally, the United States has a profound interest in ensuring that today's progress does not come at tomorrow's expense. Greenhouse gas emissions are leading to climate change. **China** is the fastest growing contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, and we are the biggest greenhouse gas emitter. Soon, however, **China** will overtake the United States and become the largest contributor. Already, pollution has made respiratory disease the number one health problem for **China's** people. Last March, when he visited **China**, Vice President Gore launched a joint forum with the **Chinese** on the environment and development so that we can work with **China** to pursue growth and protect the environment at the same time.

China has taken some important steps to deal with its need for more energy and cleaner air. Next week, President Jiang and I will talk about the next steps **China** can take to combat climate change. It is a global problem that must have a global solution that cannot come without **China's** participation, as well. We also will talk about what American companies and technology can do to support **China** in its efforts to reduce air pollution and increase clean energy production.

Progress in each of these areas will draw **China** into the institutions and arrangements that are setting the ground rules for the 21st century -- the security partnerships, the open trade arrangements, the arms control regime, the multinational coalitions against terrorism, crime and drugs, the commitments to preserve the environment and to uphold human rights. This is our best hope, to secure our own interests and values and to advance **China's** in the historic transformation that began 25 years ago, when **China** reopened to the world.

As we all know, the transformation already has produced truly impressive results. Twenty-five years ago, **China** stood apart from and closed to the international community. Now, **China** is a member of more than 1,000 international organizations -- from the International Civil Aviation Organization to the International Fund for Agricultural Development. It has moved from the 22nd largest trading nation to the 11th. It is projected to become the second largest trader, after the United States, by 2020. And today, 40,000 young **Chinese** are studying here in the United States, with hundreds of thousands more living and learning in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America.

China's economic transformation has been even more radical. Market reforms have spurred more than two decades of unprecedented growth, and the decision at the recently ended 15th Party Congress to sell off most all of **China's** big, state-owned industries promises to keep **China** moving toward a market economy.

The number of people living in poverty has dropped from 250 million to 58 million, even as **China's** population has increased by nearly 350 million. Per capita income in the cities has jumped 550 percent in just the past decade.

As **China** has opened its economy, its people have enjoyed greater freedom of movement and choice of employment, better schools and housing. Today, most **Chinese** enjoy a higher standard of living than at any time in **China's** modern history. But as **China** has opened economically, political reform has lagged behind.

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source of national wealth is what resides in the human mind.

China's creative potential is truly staggering. The largest population in the world is not yet among its top 15 patent powers. In an era where these human resources are what really matters, a country that holds its people back cannot achieve its full potential.

Our belief that, over time, growing interdependence would have a liberalizing effect in **China** does not mean in the meantime we should or we can ignore abuses in **China** of human rights or religious freedom. Nor does it mean that there is nothing we can do to speed the process of liberalization.

Americans share a fundamental conviction that people everywhere have the right to be treated with dignity, to give voice to their opinion, to choose their own leaders, to worship as they please. From Poland to South Africa, from Haiti to the Philippines, the democratic saga of the last decade proves that these are not American rights or Western rights or developed world rights, they are the birthrights of every human being enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Those who fight for human rights and against religious persecution, at the risk of their jobs, their freedom, even their lives, find strength through knowledge that they are not alone, that the community of democracies stands with them. The United States, therefore, must and will continue to stand up for human rights, to speak out against their abuse in **China** or anywhere else in the world. To do otherwise would run counter to everything we stand for as Americans.
(Applause.)

Over the past year, our State Department's annual human rights report again pulled no punches on **China**. We cosponsored a resolution critical of **China's** human rights record in Geneva, even though many of our allies had abandoned the effort. We continue to speak against the arrest of dissidents, and for a resumed dialogue with the Dalai Lama, on behalf of the people and the distinct culture and unique identity of the people of Tibet -- not their political independence, but their uniqueness.

We established Radio Free Asia. We are working with Congress to expand its broadcast and to support civil society and the rule of law programs in **China**. We continue to pursue the problem of prison labor and we regularly raise human rights in all our high-level meetings with the **Chinese**.

We do this in the hope of a dialogue. And in dialogue we must also admit that we in America are not blameless in our social fabric -- our crime rate is too high, too many of our children are still killed with guns, too many of our streets are still riddled with drugs. We have things to learn from other societies as well, and problems we have to solve. And if we expect other people to listen to us about the problems they have, we must be prepared to listen to them about the problems we have.

This pragmatic policy of engagement, of expanding our areas of cooperation with **China** while confronting our differences openly and respectfully -- this is the best way to advance our fundamental interests and our values and to promote a more open and free **China**.

I know there are those who disagree. They insist that **China's** interests and America's are inexorably in conflict. They do not believe the **Chinese** system will continue to evolve in a way that elevates not only human material condition, but the human spirit. They, therefore,



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White House Press Release

PRESS CONFERENCE BY PRESIDENT CLINTON AND PRESIDENT JIANG ZEMIN

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 29, 1997

PRESS CONFERENCE BY PRESIDENT CLINTON AND PRESIDENT JIANG ZEMIN

Old Executive Office Building

3:30 P.M. EST

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Mr. President, let me again say how pleased we are to welcome the leader of a great people with a remarkable civilization, history and culture -- a people now with its focus on the future. Your visit gives us the opportunity and the responsibility to build a future that is more secure, more peaceful, more prosperous for both our people.

To that end, I am pleased that we have agreed to regular summit meetings. I look forward to visiting **China** next year. We also have agreed to high-level dialogues between our Cabinet officials on the full range of security matters, and we will connect a presidential hotline to make it easier to confer at a moment's notice.

China and the United States share a profound interest in a stable, prosperous, open Asia. We've worked well together in convincing North Korea to end its dangerous nuclear program. Today, President Jiang and I agreed we will urge Pyongyang to take part in four-party peace talks with South Korea.

We also agreed to strengthen contacts between our militaries, including through a maritime agreement to decrease the chances of miscalculation and increase America's ties to a new generation of **China's** military leaders.

A key to Asia's stability is a peaceful and prosperous relationship between the People's Republic of **China** and Taiwan. I reiterated America's longstanding commitment to a one **China** policy. It

has allowed democracy to flourish in Taiwan and provides a framework in which all three relationships can prosper -- between the United States and the PRC, the United States and Taiwan, and Taiwan and the People's Republic of **China**.

I told President Jiang that we hope the People's Republic and Taiwan would resume a constructive cross-strait dialogue and expand cross-strait exchanges. Ultimately, the relationship between the PRC and Taiwan is for the **Chinese** themselves to determine -- peacefully.

President Jiang and I agreed that the United States and **China** share a strong interest in stopping the spread of weapons of mass destruction and other sophisticated weaponry in unstable regions and rogue states -- notably, Iran. I welcome the steps **China** has taken and the clear assurances it has given today to help prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and related technology.

On the basis of these steps and assurances, I agreed to move ahead with the U.S.-China agreement for cooperation concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. It will allow our companies to apply for licenses to sell equipment to Chinese nuclear power plants, subject to U.S. monitoring. This agreement is a win-win-win. It serves America's national security, environmental and economic interests.

President Jiang and I agreed to increase the cooperations between our countries in fighting international organized crime, drug trafficking and alien smuggling. Our law enforcement officials will share information and consult regularly. And starting next year, we will station drug enforcement administration officers in Beijing.

I'm also pleased that we will expand our cooperation on rule of law programs. Through them, we'll help **China** to train judges and lawyers, increase our exchanges of legal experts and materials, strengthen commercial law and arbitration in **China**, and share ideas on issue such as legal aide and administrative reform.

In both **China** and the United States, trade has been a critical catalyst for growth. **China's** the fastest growing market in the world for our goods and services. Tomorrow, Boeing will sign a contract for the largest sale of airplanes to **China** in history -- 50 jets, valued at \$3 billion. This contract will support tens of thousands of America jobs and provide **China** with a modern fleet of passenger planes.

Still, access to **China's** market remains restricted for many America goods and services. Just as **China** can compete freely and fairly in America, so our good and services should be able to compete freely and fairly in **China**. The United States will do everything possible to bring **China** into the World Trade Organization as soon as possible, provided **China** improves access to its market. **China's** decision today to join the information technology agreement, which cuts to zero tariffs on computers, semiconductors and telecommunications equipment, is a strong step in the right direction.

As we pursue growth, we almost protect our shared environment. Already, pollution has made respiratory illness the leading health problem in **China**. Today our countries agreed to a joint initiative that will help **China** reduce air pollution and increase clean energy production, including through the use of American technology. The initiative builds upon the work begun by the Vice President in Beijing this spring.

I also discussed with President Jiang the special responsibility

our nations bear as the top two emitters of greenhouse gases to lead in finding a global solution to the global problem of climate change. This is a broad agenda in which **China** and the United States share important interests that we can best advance by working together.

But we also have fundamental differences, especially concerning human rights and religious freedom. I'm convinced the best way to address them is directly and personally, as we did yesterday and today, and as we will continue to do until this issue is no longer before us, when there is full room for debate, dissent and freedom to worship as part of the fabric of a truly free **Chinese** society.

Mr. President, I am very pleased that tomorrow you will visit Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, for it was there that our founders set forth the beliefs that define and inspire our nation to this very day. We believe all individuals, as a condition of their humanity, have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We believe liberty includes freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of association. We believe governments must protect those rights. These ideas grew out of the European Enlightenment, but today they are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, not as a birthright of Americans or Westerners, but of people everywhere.

I welcome **China's** decision to invite a delegation of distinguished American religious leaders to **China** to pursue a dialogue on religious freedom. I'm pleased we have recommitted to discuss our differences over human rights at both governmental and non-governmental levels.

Mr. President, **China** has known more millennia than America has known centuries. But for more than 220 years, we have been conducting our great experiment in democracy. We still struggle to make it work every day, and we know it requires struggle every day. The American people greatly admire **China's** extraordinary economic transformation, and we understand the importance that your own experiences and your present challenges lead you to place upon maintaining stability. We also appreciate the fact that human rights have been advanced in **China** by greater freedom from want, freedom of movement in career choice, and widely-held local elections. But we also believe that **China** will enjoy more growth and more stability as it embraces more fully the political, as well as the economic aspirations of all your people.

In the Information Age, the true wealth of nations lies in people's ability to create, to communicate, to innovate. Fully developing these resources requires people who feel free to speak, to publish, to associate, to worship without fear of reprisal. It is **China's** extraordinary human resources that will lift it to its rightful destiny of leadership and widely-held prosperity in the 21st century.

As we look ahead, the United States welcomes **China's** emergence as a full and constructive partner in the community of nations -- a great nation that joins its strength and influence to our own to advance peace and prosperity, freedom and security.

Mr. President, thank you for coming to the United States. We look forward to building on the good work of this day so that the best days for all our people are yet to come.

PRESIDENT JIANG: Ladies and gentlemen, a while ago I had an in-depth exchange of views with President Clinton on **China-U.S.** relations and on international and regional issues of mutual interest. The meeting was constructive and fruitful.

President Clinton and I have agreed on identifying the goal for the development of a **China**-U.S. relationship oriented toward the 21st century. The two sides believe that efforts to realize this goal will promote the fundamental interests of the two peoples and the noble cause of world peace and development.

We both agree that our two countries share extensive common interests in important matters bearing on the survival and development of mankind, such as peace and development, economic cooperation and trade, the prevention of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and environment protection.

Both sides are of the view that it is imperative to handle **China**-U.S. relations and promptly address our differences in accordance with the principles of mutual respect, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and seeking common ground while putting aside differences.

President Clinton and I have also reached broad agreement on the establishment of a mechanism of regular summit meetings, the opening of a hotline between the two heads of state, the establishment of a mechanism of meetings and consultations between the two foreign ministers and other officials, an increase in exchanges between the armed forces of the two countries, and exchanges and cooperation between our two countries in economic, scientific, and technological, cultural, educational and law enforcement fields.

My visit will achieve the purpose of enhancing mutual understanding, broadening common ground, developing cooperation, and building a future together, and bring **China**-U.S. relations into a new stage of development.

President Clinton and I share the view that **China** and the United States enjoy a high degree of complementarity and a huge potential for cooperation in the economic and trade fields. To step up our economic cooperation and trade not only benefits our two peoples, but also contributes to economic development and prosperity of the world.

And I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, Mr. President, for the kind reception accorded to me.

Now, questions are welcome.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Let a **Chinese** go first.

Q I have a question which I would like to ask of President Jiang. President Jiang, for the past few years you have reiterated once and again that we need to take a long-term perspective and we should view **China**-U.S. relations from the perspective of the 21st century. Therefore, Mr. President, what measures will the **Chinese** government make and how can a sound and stable relationship between **China** and the United States be brought into the 21st century.

PRESIDENT JIANG: And your question recalled of me of the first meeting that President Clinton and I had in Seattle when we agreed that we need to work to bring a world of prosperity, stability, and peace into the 21st century. The meeting that I had with President Clinton during my current trip to the United States was the fifth one that we had with one another. However, my visit is the first by a **Chinese** head of state to the United States in 12 years.

regrets about Tiananmen? And, President Clinton, are you prepared to lift any of the Tiananmen sanctions, and if not, why not?

PRESIDENT JIANG: The political disturbance that occurred at the turn of spring and summer in 1989 seriously disrupted social stability and jeopardized state security. Therefore, the **Chinese** government had to take necessary measures, according to law, to quickly resolve the matter to ensure that our country enjoys stability and that our reform and opening up proceeds smoothly.

The communist party of **China** and the **Chinese** government have long drawn the correct conclusion on this political disturbance, and facts have also proved that if a country with an over 1.2 billion population does not enjoy social and political stability, it cannot possibly have the situation of reform and opening up that we are having today.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: To answer your question, first, on the general point, I think it should be obvious to everyone that we have a very different view of the meaning events at Tiananmen Square. I believe that what happened and the aftermath and the continuing reluctance to tolerate political dissent has kept **China** from politically developing the level of support in the rest of the world that otherwise would have been developed. I also believe, as I said in my opening statement, that over the long run the societies of the 21st century that will do best will be those that are drawing their stability from their differences; that out of this whole harmony of different views, there is a coherence of loyalty to the nation because everyone has their say. It enables people to accept, for example, the results of the elections that they don't agree with. So we have a different view.

The depth of the view in the United States I think is nowhere better exemplified than in the so-called Tiananmen sanctions. We are the only nation in the world, as far as I know, that still has sanctions on the books as a result of the events of eight years ago.

Now, you asked a specific question. Our agreement on the nuclear proliferation issues allows me to lift the sanction on peaceful nuclear cooperation. It is the right thing to do for America. This is a good agreement. It furthers our national security interests. **China** is to be complimented for participating in it and the decision is the right one.

The other sanctions which cover a range of issues from OPIC loans to crime control equipment and many things in between under our law have to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. So as a result of our meeting today, the only Tiananmen Square sanction which is being lifted is the one on peaceful nuclear cooperation, and it is a good thing for America and **China**. And I applaud the **Chinese** side for the work they have done with us on this specific nuclear issue. It is a substantial step forward for us.

PRESIDENT JIANG: I would like to speak a few words in addition to this question. Our two countries have different geographical locations, and we are also thousands of miles apart geographically. We also have different historic and cultural tradition, different levels of economic development, and different values. Therefore, I believe it is just natural for our two countries to hold different views on some issues.

Now, people in the world are standing at the turn of the century when we're going to bring in the 21st century, and science and

technology have developed significantly as compared with, for instance, the period when Newton lived. And I also believe that the world we are living in is a rich and diverse one, and, therefore, the concepts on democracy and human rights and on freedoms are relative and specific ones, and they are to be determined by the specific national situation of different countries.

And I am also strongly of the view that on such issues as the human rights issue, discussions can be held on the basis of non-interference in the internal affairs of a country. And it goes without saying that as for the general rules universally abided by in the world, **China** also abides these rules.

My stay here in the United States is rather a brief one. There is the fact that since I came here I have been immersed in the atmosphere of friendship from the American people and I was also accorded a warm reception from President Clinton and Vice President Gore. However, sometimes noises came into my ears.

According to **Chinese** philosophy, Confucius say, isn't it a pleasure to have friends coming from afar. And, naturally, I am also aware that in the United States different views can be expressed and this is a reflection of democracy. And, therefore, I would like to quote a **Chinese** saying, which goes, "Seeing it once is better than hearing about it a hundred times." I've also got my real understanding about this during my current trip. However, I don't believe this will have any negative impact on our effort to approach each other.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Let me -- I just have to say one other thing. (Laughter.) First of all, the United States recognizes that on so many issues **China** is on the right side of history, and we welcome it. But on this issue we believe the policy of the government is on the wrong side of history. There is, after all, now a Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The second point I'd like to make is that I can only speak from our experience. And America has problems of its own, which I have frankly acknowledged. But in our country I think it would amaze many of our **Chinese** guests to see some of the things that have been written and said about me, my family, our government, our policies. And, yet, after all this time, I'm still standing here and our country is stronger than it was before those words were uttered six years ago. (Laughter.)

Excuse me, before those words began to be said six years ago - they're still being said every day. (Laughter.)

Q Mr. President, I have a question for both President Jiang and President Clinton. President Clinton, you stated your position with regard to Taiwan that this is a question for the **Chinese** people to resolve. But we all understand you have brokered peace in Bosnia, in the Middle East. Do you see any role for the United States to play in the securing of a permanent peaceful environment in the Taiwan Strait?

And for President Jiang, about the cross-strait dialogue. President Clinton said that he has urged President Jiang to resume the interrupted dialogue. I wonder if President Jiang will respond positively and take some measures to resume the dialogue as soon as possible.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: First of all, I think the most important thing the United States can do to facilitate a peaceful resolution of the

differences is to adhere strictly to the one **China** policy we have agreed on, to make it clear that within the context of that one **China** policy, as articulated in the communiqués and our own laws, we will maintain friendly, open relations with the people of Taiwan and **China**; but that we understand that this issue has to be resolved and resolved peacefully, and that if it is resolved in a satisfactory way, consistent with statements made in the past, then Asia will be stronger and more stable and more prosperous. That is good for the United States. And our own relations with **China** will move on to another stage of success.

I think the more we can encourage that, the better off we are. But I think in the end, since so much investment and contact has gone on in the last few years between Taiwan and **China**, I think the **Chinese** people know how to resolve this when the time is right, and we just have to keep saying we hope the time will be right as soon as possible. Sooner is better than later.

PRESIDENT JIANG: To answer your question in rather brief terms, all in all, our policy is one of peaceful reunification and one country-two systems. And as for more details, elaboration on that -- a few years ago I made my eight-point proposal along that line and at the just concluded 15th National Congress of the **Chinese** Communist Party, I also delivered a report which gave a rather comprehensive elaboration on this. Therefore, I will not repeat them here.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: I, too, will try to be briefer.

Larry, go ahead.

Q Mr. President, could you elaborate a little bit more on your decision to approve these reactor -- or to permit reactor sales? It's certainly something that has raised concerns by some members of Congress. And also, could you describe just what kind of commitments you've received from **China**? Are they actually written?

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Well, let me say, first of all, I am completely convinced that the agreements we have reached are sufficiently specific and clear that the requirements of the law will be met and that the national security of the United States will be advanced, and that we will have greater success in our global efforts to keep nuclear technology and other dangerous weapons from falling into the wrong hands as a result of the agreement we have made with **China**.

Q President Jiang, among the common ground you reached with President Clinton, what is the most important one?

PRESIDENT JIANG: I believe very importantly that I and President Clinton held full exchange of views on issues of mutual interest to us, and we also reached common ground on the major areas of our discussion. And I believe the most important thing is that both sides have expressed the desire to work in order to bring a world of peace, stability, and prosperity into the next century. I believe this is the most important common ground we have.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: John.

Q Mr. President, the United States and **China** are inevitably big powers in the Pacific. Are you comfortable with the size of America's military presence in Asia? And I'd also like to ask President Jiang if he would view a reduction of American troops in the region as a step towards improving relations.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: The question you ask of me, the answer is simple -- it's yes. I believe that our presence in the Pacific, where everyone knows we have no territorial or other destructive ambitions, is a stabilizing factor, and it will lead us to greater partnerships in meeting common security threats in the years ahead.

PRESIDENT JIANG: (Answered in **Chinese**.)

Q I have a question for both Presidents. Yesterday, Beijing announced its invitation for Russian President Boris Yeltsin to visit Beijing, and today, the heads of state of **China** and the United States have announced here in the United States to establish a constructive and strategic partnership between **China** and the United States. Therefore, I would like to have your comment -- the two Presidents -- your perception concerning the triangular relationship between **China**, the United States and Russia.

PRESIDENT JIANG: I don't see much contradiction in this aspect, for I am coming here to the United States, this time at the invitation of President Clinton for what is our fifth meeting with one another, and, therefore, we are already old friends. And so am I with President Yeltsin of Russia. And I still remember that in the spring of 1995, the three of us met in Moscow. Therefore, I don't see much contradiction in this regard. And we should all commit ourselves to building a peaceful and beautiful new century.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: During the Cold War we were all three suspicious of each other and we tried to play each other off against the other. (Laughter.) So when Russia argued with **China**, we were very happy. (Laughter.) Today, we must look to the future.

Russia has a strong democracy. Its economy is coming back. We are working with Russia in Bosnia and in other places around the world. In land mass, it is the largest country in the world. It is a rich country. It is a European country and an Asian country. And both **China** and the United States should have good relations with Russia. And then the three of us should work together on matters of common concern. This is not the Cold War; we need to be looking to the future and a different set of relations.

Q Mr. President and Mr. President, I wonder if you specifically had a chance to raise the cases of the two leading political dissidents in **China**, Wang Dan and Wei Jingsheng, with President Jiang and ask for their release. And to President Jiang, why not simply release these political prisoners? And, also, why not allow greater religious freedom in Tibet, which has become such an emotional issue here in the United States, as well? Thank you.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: First, as Mr. Berger I think has already told you, my answer to that question is, I discussed every aspect of this issue in great detail.

PRESIDENT JIANG: To be frank with you, President Clinton discussed all these relevant issues with me. I am the President of the People's Republic of **China** and not the Chief Judge of the Supreme Court of **China**. And as for the issues such as the one concerning Wei Jingsheng, this involves **China's** criminal law and will be resolved gradually according to the legal procedure by the court of **China**.

As for the issue concerning religion in Tibet, in **China** people have the freedom to exercise their different religious beliefs. However, on this question, I believe religious freedom in Tibet and the violation of criminal law are issues within different framework. And,

therefore, I hope that mutual understanding between us will be promoted.

Q My question is for President Clinton. In **China**, sometimes we are confused by American different policy to **China**. We know when you - there are factions in Congress which aren't friendly to **China**. So as President, how do you coordinate the unbalance to have a unified policy to **China**? Is there any elements to damage an effective Sino-U.S. relationship?

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Well, let me say -- make a general point first. It is very important that we understand each other so that if we have a difference, it's a real difference and not a misunderstanding. Therefore, in dealing with the United States, unless there is some clear signal to the contrary, you should assume that a statement by the President, the Vice President, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Treasury, the National Security Advisor, the Trade Ambassador, the people in our direct line of authority -- they represent our policy.

We need the support of important people in Congress, and much of the leadership does support this administration's **China** policy. But I think it would be a mistake to think that the United States has no unified **China** policy because individuals or groups in the Congress disagree with it. We do have a lot of disagreement. We have had for eight years now, ever since 1989. Until we resolve all these issues, in that sense, our relations will never be fully normal. But we have to keep pushing forward.

We have one last -- yes, this is the last one so the Americas and the **Chinese** will be even. (Laughter.)

Q For President Jiang -- sir, officials in your delegation have suggested that the protestors who have protested **Chinese** policies in Tibet are, in many cases, young people, students who have been misguided, misinformed by a Hollywood-led campaign. Sir, if that is so, and if we take to heart your old **Chinese** saying that seeing once is worth hearing a hundred times, would you be willing to invite either a delegation, a senior delegation from the United States Congress or a group of international journalists to travel to Tibet and to see for themselves? Thank you.

PRESIDENT JIANG: I do, indeed, would like to welcome more people to go to Tibet and see with their own eyes.

PRESIDENT CLINTON: Let me just, following up on that, make it clear again that the United States has no political objective in pressing the cause of Tibetans, the Tibetan Buddhists, the Dalai Lama. We have only asked for the resumption of a constructive dialogue based on a commitment that there would be no attempt to sever Tibet from **China**, but instead an attempt to reconcile the peoples so that all freedom of religious expression and unique cultures could be preserved.

Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT JIANG: Thank you.

END

4:35 P.M. EST





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