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THE CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY

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Washington, DC
February 22, 1993

The White Oak Statement

We Ministers of Environment and environmental officials from twenty-one new democracies (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan)

- wishing to strengthen and widen the process of cooperation among ourselves at the ministerial level on environmental issues begun at earlier meetings between 1990 and 1992 at Bergen, Helsinki, Dublin, Dobris, and High Tartras;
- anxious to sustain and extend in our practical efforts the spirit and substance of the recent United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro;
- recognizing, as the Rio meeting acknowledged, that environmental factors must be integrated into the fabric of economic decision making at all levels in support of a program of sustainable development
- reviewing the draft "Action Plan" got the April 1993 ministerial conference on "Environment in Europe" to be held in Switzerland.

have come to the United States to meet together for the first time to share our common concerns and to plan in common our strategies. These are outlined in the documents which follow.

We have come to develop concrete steps to address the overwhelming ecological crisis of our region, a crisis created by the cruel indifference toward environmental responsibility of the previous totalitarian governments. Now, through both effective self help and cooperation with our friends in the older democracies, through deeds and not words alone, we take up our common challenge, as friends in our new democracies even in the midst of regional strife.

We call upon the organizers of the pan-European conference in Lucerne to address the following proposals and to consider the importance of involving all the nations represented at White Oak.

We call upon environmentally-concerned international funding groups to provide timely support for these proposals, and we urge additional assistance from non-governmental organizations throughout the democratic world.

We note, finally, a crucial fact validated by our presence here today: that by addressing our environmental problems seriously and cooperatively, we also address in a constructive manner the existing political conflicts of our region.

Documents Adopted at the White Oak Meeting

We, the Ministers for the Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources and other related officials of Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, gathered at the invitation of the Center for Democracy and the Howard Gilman Foundation at the White Oak Conservation Center (USA) and guided by the interests of environmental security for the countries we represent, after three days of discussions have agreed on the following specific measures:

Document No. 1

On Establishing an Effective Environmental Information Exchange System (Setting up National Communication Points)

We have agreed to take measures for establishing an effective system of information transfer linking official environmental bodies and interested non-governmental environmental organizations throughout the above-mentioned countries in a timely manner. The system will use E-mail, telephone, faxes and other technologies.

To this end, each country will designate communication points and report to all other countries their main -- and any additional -- addresses and telephone, fax, telex and E-mail numbers. The names of the persons responsible for receiving and transmitting this information (and their substitutes) will also be given. In the course of work, the method for transmitting, receiving, and distributing information will be developed. [See two examples of National Communication Point design in Supplement 1 at the end of this statement.]

Document No. 2

On the Principal Directions of Environmental Information Exchange

Guided by the urgent necessity of developing a system for receiving the most complete and objective information possible on the environmental conditions and tendencies of change in each of the countries, we have agreed:

1. to prepare and distribute information on names, addresses, and telephone and fax numbers for ministries and other agencies involved in environmental issues in the participating countries;
2. if possible, to establish an early warning system, including a "green" telephone "hot line," among designated official organizations involved to respond to environmental incidents with possible transboundary effects;
3. to collect and distribute information to prevent the illegal transboundary transfer of toxic and other hazardous wastes, developing a method of collecting, transmitting and receiving this information;
4. to distribute among one another, by means including a depository library, relevant public documents: specifically, national reports on the state of the environment upon their publication and action plans after they are officially adopted, including official decisions on specific directions for protecting the environment.
5. to designate a point of contact for each country to work with the organizers of this meeting to implement points 2, 3, and 4.

The materials designated in paragraphs 1-4 will be distributed through the national communication points established by special agreement (see Document No. 1).

Document No. 3

On Harmonizing Environmental Legislation, Standards and Norms of Different Countries

Guided by the urgent necessity of bringing together and, if necessary, harmonizing the national environmental legislation, standards and norms of different countries and using the legislative experience of different countries in the area of environmental and natural resource protection, we have agreed to exchange the following during 1993:

1. complete sets of the texts of national laws now in force in this area in an official language;
2. plans for developing new national legislation, standards and norms;
3. information on special bilateral, regional and global conventions or agreements on environmental protection (or the corresponding articles from more general agreements) which have been concluded by each country;

and to continue this exchange on a regular basis in the future.

The designated materials should be distributed through the national communication points specified in Document No. 1.

Document No. 4

On the Priority Problems for Inter-State Cooperation on Protecting the Environment

Guided by the urgent necessity of improving the environmental situation in our region, we have agreed to join efforts aimed at expeditiously addressing the following problems:

1. development of principles concerning liability for environmental damage caused by transboundary effects;
2. harmonization of national environmental monitoring systems by introducing the most safe methodology;
3. development of a compendium of appropriate and clean environmental technologies (specifying their characteristics and the organizations/companies possessing them) and implementation of international projects for developing and introducing such environmental technologies (including those relating to military conversion);
4. elaboration of new economic mechanisms for improving environmental protection and enhancing the efficiency of using natural resources (including training programs and the preparation of analytical reports on the international experience of using such economic mechanisms and new trends);
5. identification of and support for resolving urgent, emerging regional and global environmental problems;
6. identification also of environmental conventions and protocols which have been signed, ratified or will be applied by each country, and the exchange of information concerning implementation of these legal documents;
7. development of an oversight system on compliance with the adopted international agreements on environmental protection (including reporting procedures on implementation of the agreements, evaluation of data reliability and completeness, a set of measures in case of non-compliance, and other assistance).

Document No. 5

On Support of Regional Environmental Agreements

Guided by our urgent interest in the most expedient, efficient resolution of regional and transboundary problems, we support in every way possible the implementation (and, where absent, the development and conclusion) of special regional agreements by interested countries. These agreements would include, but not be limited to, the following critical transboundary problems requiring the most urgent attention: Chernobyl and Semipalatinsk; the Aral Sea basin and Lake Sevan; the Black Sea (especially the Danube and Dnieper basins), Baltic Sea, Caspian Sea and their basins.

Note: Nothing in any documents herein adopted should be seen as conflicting with existing bilateral or multi-lateral agreements entered into by the signatory countries.

Supplement 1

Example of Information on a National Communication Point

Russian Federation

Mr. G. Chegasov and Mr. S. Burtsev

Ministry for the Protection of Ecology and Natural Resources

Bolshaya Gruzinskaya, 4/6

Moscow 123812, Russian Federation

Tel: (095) 229-7320

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Appendix 1 to Working Document 1

THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

Ministry of Environment

Sofia 1000, 67, Wil. Gladstone Str.

1. Branimir Natov - Deputy Minister
tel. 881 440 fax 521 634

2. Jordan Uzunov - Deputy Minister
tel. 543 084

3. Christo Dalchev - Deputy Minister
tel. 832 389 fax 810 509

Department Civil Protection

1. Nichola Nicholov - Head of Department
tel. 629 084 fax 629 084

**Committee for utilisation of nuclear energy
for peaceful purposes**

Sofia 1000, 55A, Shipchenski prohod Str.

1. Janko Janev - Chairman
tel. 720 217 fax 702 143



FACT SHEET

PROMOTING THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

The Center for Democracy is a unique non-partisan, non-profit organization which works across the boundaries of political party and doctrine to promote and strengthen the democratic process all over the globe. Based in Washington, D.C., the Center also has offices and staff in Moscow, Strasbourg (France), and San Jose (Costa Rica). The goals of Center programs are to help establish and strengthen democratic institutions, encourage dialogue in conflict situations, and facilitate and support the accomplishment of long-range objectives in democracies at various stages of development. Through its own informal brand of quiet diplomacy, the Center has developed close working relationships with members of the U.S. Congress and Administration; a host of international leaders—especially in Latin America, Eastern/Central Europe and the Republics of the former Soviet Union; political party chiefs; and private sector principals in dozens of democratic or democratizing societies.

The Board of Directors represents a link between the leadership of the two major American political parties, with members from both sides of the aisle in the Senate and House of Representatives, the National Chairmen of the Democratic and Republican parties (the only Board on which both serve), two former National Chairmen, and prominent private sector figures from across the political spectrum.

Much of what the Center does on a daily basis can be described as the communication of ideas and information among a continually-growing group of friends and associates who work in the business of democracy. Each day the Center's offices receive many more requests for assistance than can be undertaken with existing resources. Its activities over the past seven years have earned respect and recognition from scores of world leaders in government, education, business, labor and the media.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Legislative Development

The Center leads the Consortium for Latin America/Caribbean Legislative Development, perhaps the most important such initiative in the hemisphere, providing much-needed assistance to the national legislature—the one mediating institution in both developed and emerging democracies that normally encompasses all major political forces. The Consortium, which includes The State University of New York/Albany and Florida International University, has conducted thorough on-ground diagnostic studies of the legislative development needs of the new, democratically-elected national legislatures of Bolivia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Haiti, Nicaragua, Panama, and Paraguay. The Center for Democracy, from 1987 to 1991, conducted a bilateral legislative support project with the National Congress of Guatemala and maintained a field office in that country. The development and implementation of a Management Information System for legislators and staff was one of the important outcomes of this project.

Since its founding, the Center has maintained a collaborative relationship with the Council of Europe. It has sponsored the participation of parliamentarians from emerging democracies in the Strasbourg Conferences on Parliamentary Democracy and works with the International Institute of Democracy to establish a data base on assistance by Western parliaments to democratic institutions in Eastern Europe. In 1991 the Center co-sponsored an international meeting which brought together for the first time the clerks and secretaries from democratically-elected national legislatures in Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The Center organized the donation of urgently-needed computers and other equipment to the Senate of Poland in 1990, and advised the U.S. Congress concerning its "Gift of Democracy" technical assistance program to the Polish Parliament.

Election Monitoring

Beginning in 1984, Center-sponsored international delegations have monitored local and national elections in the Bahamas, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, the Philippines and Poland. The Center has usually been invited to observe the electoral process by the government in power and major opposition forces. In carrying out this work, the Center strives to maintain contact with all participating political groups and to work constructively with the local election tribunals.

Conferences

A series of international conferences, "East-West Democratic Dialogues," co-sponsored by the Center, has brought together parliamentarians, government officials and scholars from all of Europe, North America and the Republics of the former Soviet Union in the capital cities of Warsaw, Budapest, Sofia and Moscow. Topics include Transition to Democracy; Constitution-Writing; Democratic Federalism and Environmental Crisis in the Republics of the Former Soviet Union; and The Proper Role of an Intelligence Agency in a Democracy.

Special Events and Projects

The Center's Moscow Office. The office is centrally located in the *Mezhdunarodnaya Zhizn* (International Affairs) Building. Programs in the CIS include those in education—working with the Russian Ministry of Education to develop an American University and civic education reform; and co-sponsoring a project to teach business skills to Russian students; humanitarian aid—in early 1992, the Center coordinated shipments of 12 tons of dairy products and 100 tons of dried potatoes to schools, hospitals and orphanages in Moscow; environmental issues; the transition to a market economy; and legal reform.

Library of Democracy. The Center and the International Institute for Democracy in Strasbourg have developed a body of literature on democracy, democratic institutions, and the democratic experience for distribution throughout Eastern Europe and the Republics of the former Soviet Union. In 1991 the first Library of Democracy gifts were delivered to 30 city and university libraries, civic organizations and high schools in Bulgaria, including the American University of Bulgaria in Blagoevgrad and the National Library in Sofia. Another donation was made to the University of Budapest in Hungary in March 1992.

Immediately following the election of the first democratically-elected President of the Russian Federation in June 1991, the Center hosted a dinner honoring Boris Yeltsin at The Kennedy Center in Washington and awarded him its International Democracy Prize.

At the invitation of the Center and the Virginia Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, President Arpad Goncz of Hungary launched the 1990-1991 celebration of the Bicentennial of the U.S. Bill of Rights at ceremonies in Virginia and Washington.

FUNDING

The many and varied activities of the Center are funded by the private-sector Members of the Board of Directors, individual donations, corporate contributions, foundation grants, and—for the legislative development work in Latin America—by the U.S. Agency for International Development. The Center received generous financial support from Boston University between 1985 and 1988.

PUBLICATIONS

The Proper Role of an Intelligence Agency in a Democracy (1992)

Democratic Federalism and Environmental Crisis in the Republics of the Former Soviet Union (1992)

Democracy and Constitution-Making in Central Europe (1991)

The Transition to Democracy in Contemporary Europe (1990)

The Status of Human Rights Under the Helsinki Accords: An Agenda for the Future (1990)

Reaching the American Voter: Party Conventions and the Television Electorate (1990)



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THE HOWARD GILMAN FOUNDATION

BACKGROUND

The Howard Gilman Foundation is a private foundation established in 1981 by Howard Gilman, Chairman of the Board of the Gilman Paper Company. Founded in 1884, the Gilman Paper Company is the largest solely-owned paper company in the United States. Its northern headquarters are in New York and its southern operations are based in Florida and Georgia.

The Foundation is dedicated to the preservation of natural and cultural resources, concentrating both on environmental conservation and on the preservation of important human artifacts. Mr. Gilman has initiated a major program for animal conservation, the White Oak Conservation Center, located on his 7000-acre Florida property. A staff of twenty zoologists, veterinarians, and animal conservationists operates a program for the conservation and propagation of threatened and endangered wildlife. Some sixty species are now sheltered there. The Foundation works in close collaboration with the White Oak Conservation Center while supporting other environmental projects. In 1992 it embarked on a project to explore the environmental crisis in Eastern Europe. With the collaboration of the Center for Democracy, it convened a meeting in Bulgaria of environmental officials from 18 nations in the region and will provide a continuing forum for discussion of their common problems. The foundation will also sponsor a Brookings Institution conference on the role of foundations in studying and redressing environmental problems.

The Foundation's cultural program has not only sought to preserve creative works, it has also given impetus to new artistic endeavors by supporting projects of the New York City Opera, American Ballet Theatre, and the Brooklyn Academy of Music, among others. It has fostered the collaborative work of Mikhail Baryshnikov and Mark Morris through the White Oak Dance Project and it helped the Donetsk Ballet when its American tour faltered. Next summer the foundation will be sponsoring a seminar in Orvieto, Italy on the history of landscape photography and perceptions of the natural environment.

Over the years the Howard Gilman Foundation has also supported two well defined areas of medical research that reflect Mr. Gilman's concern for the conservation of human life. The Foundation has devoted resources to promising areas of cardiovascular research. And since 1982 it has supported medical researchers who are working to understand HIV/AIDS. Recently it has turned its attention to the HIV/AIDS crisis in developing countries by supporting a project of the Center for Strategic International Studies. CSIS has convened a working group to explore the possible US responses to AIDS in Africa, Asia and Latin America.



FACT SHEET

12/1/92

THE CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY MOSCOW OFFICE AND PROGRAMS

The Center for Democracy works closely with leaders of the Russian Federation and other Republics of the former Soviet Union on a range of projects and issues--legal, environmental, educational, intelligence reform, humanitarian aid--designed to assist in the transition to democracy and a free market economy. The Center's Moscow office is located in the *Mezhdunarodnaya Zhizn* (International Affairs) Building at 14 Gorokhovski Pereulok. *Mezhdunarodnaya Zhizn* is a respected foreign policy journal published by Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

With the support of the Russian Ministry of Justice, the Center co-founded the "International Commission for Promoting Legal Reform in Russia" with leading jurists, scholars and political figures. The purpose of the commission is to address major problems of judicial reform in Russia, to promote the integration of Russia into the international legal community, and to reform the system of Russian legal education. In July 1992, the Center and the Commission hosted a visit in Moscow and Alma Ata by a delegation of the U.S. Federal Bar Association [FBA] led by U.S. Solicitor General Kenneth Starr. The FBA and the Center are now developing a comprehensive legal assistance program for the former Soviet Union. The Center, the Ministry of Justice, and the Commission will also co-sponsor an international conference on "Legal Reform, Court Protection of Entrepreneurship, and the Development of a Russian Commercial Code" to be held in Moscow in March 1993.

The International Intellectual Property Task Force, co-organized and coordinated by the Center, brought together U.S. corporate, industry and government representatives and Russian officials concerned with copyright issues. The Task Force met in Moscow on November 9-13 to discuss, negotiate and make recommendations concerning bringing Russia into the Western legal framework for copyright issues.

With funding from the Gilman Foundation, the Center is organizing an international conference on "The Environmental Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union: Strategies and Solutions," in cooperation with Professor Alexei Yablokov, Russian Presidential Counsellor for Ecology and Public Health. Environmental ministers, other government officials and experts from the region, Western Europe, and the United States will participate. A planning meeting for the conference was held in Sofia in mid-October, involving representatives of 16 environmental ministries, and the conference itself will be held at the White Oak Conservation Center in Florida in February 1993. This conference follows an international meeting on "Democratic Federalism and Environmental Crisis in the Republics of the Former Soviet Union: Facts and Strategies," co-sponsored by the Government of the Russian Federation and the Center, held in Moscow one week before the August 1991 coup attempt.

The Center has helped to mobilize U.S. private sector emergency assistance to Russia. In January and May of 1992, the Center coordinated shipments of 112 tons of food products from U.S. farmers to orphanages, hospitals, schools and other institutions in the Moscow area. Related to this effort, the Center has been asked by several major American farm organizations to assist in coordinating new technical assistance and training programs for Russian farmers and farm groups.

Representatives of the Russian Ministry for National Security [KGB] and Foreign Intelligence Service, the heads of the Byeloruss and Kazak national security services, and the deputy head of the Ukrainian National Security Service participated in the international conference on "The Proper Role of an Intelligence Agency in a Democracy," held April 8-10, 1992 in Sofia, Bulgaria and co-sponsored by Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev and the Center. The Center plans a follow-up meeting to be held in Moscow in 1993. General Vadim Kirpichenko and other officials of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Agency will visit Washington and New York in January 1993, under Center auspices, for a series of lectures and seminars with U.S. groups interested in reform of the Russian intelligence community under the Yeltsin government.

The Center has signed an agreement with the Russian Ministry of Education to advise the Ministry on promoting the establishment of an American University in the Russian Federation, to provide information and counsel to the Ministry regarding student and faculty exchanges and other educational matters, and to assist in the preparation of curriculum materials and textbooks related to civic education on democracy. One project resulting from the agreement is a cooperative venture among the Center, Discovery Communications, Inc. and the Russian Education Ministry to develop televised programming to teach subjects such as basic principles of democracy and free market economics.

The Center is working with the National Governors Association (NGA) to create a business clearinghouse in Moscow. The clearinghouse, expected to open early in 1993, will assist U.S. and Russian entrepreneurs and companies in developing trade and joint ventures.

The Center began its relationship with the Russian Federation's government in December 1990, when a Yeltsin government advisor began working out of its Washington office. At the request of President Yeltsin, the Center was instrumental in the planning of his successful U.S. visit in June 1991, highlighted by a Center-hosted Kennedy Center Dinner honoring the Russian leader. President Yeltsin received the Center's 1991 International Democracy Prize for his "extraordinary efforts to promote political democracy and economic reform in the Russian Republic and throughout the Soviet Union."

During the dramatic days of the August 1991 coup attempt, the Center served as a major U.S. communications headquarters for faxes and telephone calls, including President Yeltsin's decrees and other first-hand information from the embattled Russian "White House." Center staff quickly translated the faxes and then forwarded them to leaders in the Bush Administration and the U.S. Congress, the media, and to the Voice of America for rebroadcast into the Soviet Union. The Center received worldwide attention for its actions in support of President Yeltsin and others who opposed the coup attempt.



FACT SHEET

EUROPEAN PROGRAMS

The Center for Democracy has undertaken a number of programs to assist the emerging democracies of Central and Eastern Europe. With foundation support and sponsorship--primarily, the Furth Foundation--the Center has organized a series of informal conferences and dialogues designed to encourage exchange among parliamentarians and other leaders from Central, Eastern and Western Europe, the Republics of the former Soviet Union, the United States, and Canada on key issues related to the democratization process. The "East-West Democratic Dialogues" program is based in Strasbourg, France, where for the past five years the Center has maintained a close, cooperative relationship with the Council of Europe/Strasbourg Conferences on Parliamentary Democracy and the European Parliament.

1991-1992 Highlights

Planning Meeting for International Conference: "The Environmental Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union: Strategies and Solutions," Sofia, Bulgaria. Environmental ministers, deputy ministers and department heads, representing 12 former Soviet republics, Bulgaria, the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Hungary, Poland and Romania, met in mid-October 1992 to establish an agenda for a conference to be held in the USA in February 1993, as well as to begin substantive discussion of the issues. Officials from the Council of Europe and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also took part. This meeting and the full conference are funded by the Howard Gilman Foundation.

International Conference: "The Role of Women and the Transition to Democracy in Central and Eastern Europe," Strasbourg, France. On October 3-4, 1992, delegates from more than 20 European countries, including prominent legislators, government officials and scholars, came together to examine strategies for bolstering the political influence and full participation of women in the new or re-emerging democracies of the region. Representatives of the Office of Women in Development and the Bureau for Europe, USAID, which funded the event, were in attendance, as was a bipartisan delegation of U.S. women elected officials. The conference was held under the auspices of the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

International Conference: "The Proper Role of an Intelligence Agency in a Democracy," Sofia, Bulgaria. Held on April 8-10, 1992, this conference was co-sponsored by the Center, Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev, the E.L. Wiegand Foundation, and the Furth Foundation. Intelligence agency heads, interior ministers and other government officials and experts representing 23 countries (Eastern, Central and Western Europe, Republics of the former Soviet Union, and North America) and the Council of Europe participated. Topics of discussion included: Status Report: Reforming Intelligence Agencies, from Dictatorship to Democracy; Intelligence Agencies and Human Rights; Procedures for Oversight of Intelligence Agencies; The New Mission of Intelligence Agencies in a Democracy; and Opportunities for Cooperation among the Security Agencies and Institutions of the New Democracies.

(continued)

Library of Democracy. The Center and the International Institute for Democracy in Strasbourg, France have developed a Library of Democracy -- a body of literature on democracy, democratic institutions, and the democratic experience -- for distribution throughout Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. In November 1991, the first Library of Democracy gifts were delivered to 30 city and university libraries, civic organizations, and high schools in Bulgaria. Recipients include the new American University of Bulgaria in Blagoevgrad and the National Library in Sofia. A second donation was made in March 1992 to the University of Budapest in Hungary.

International Commission to Investigate 1981 Papal Assassination Attempt. Center President Allen Weinstein has organized an International Commission to examine the 1981 attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II. Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev has given his full support to an investigation of the alleged "Bulgarian Connection" and has made accessible all previously unavailable Bulgarian Interior Ministry files related to the case. The Commission has also received the cooperation of the Polish Interior Ministry and the KGB in its investigation.

International Meeting of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries, Strasbourg, France. The Center co-sponsored this meeting with the Council of Europe and the International Institute for Democracy. The meeting, held in September 1991, brought together for the first time clerks and secretaries from the democratically-elected national parliaments of Europe, Africa, Asia, and Latin America to discuss "International Assistance to Legislatures: The Perspectives of Parliamentary Clerks."

Furth Foundation "East-West Democratic Dialogues"

Moscow, August 1991: "Democratic Federalism and Environmental Crisis in the Republics of the Former Soviet Union." Representatives from six Soviet Republics, Western Europe and the United States attended this conference, co-sponsored by the Center and the Government of the Russian Republic, to discuss strategies for dealing with existing environmental damage and planning for environmental protection in a context of changing economic and political institutions.

Budapest, October 1990: "Democracy and Constitution-Making in Central and Eastern Europe." This conference, held at the Hungarian Parliament Building, was co-sponsored by the National Assembly of Hungary and The Virginia Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. Participants included the key drafters of new constitutions from Central/Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, and constitutional scholars and government officials from the United States and Western Europe.

Warsaw, May 1990: "Transition to Democracy in Contemporary Europe." The Senate of Poland co-sponsored this conference, which convened in the Senate chambers. Over sixty political leaders, parliamentarians, scholars, and media experts from Eastern and Central Europe, Western Europe, the Soviet Union, Canada and the United States (including a U.S. Congressional delegation) participated.

Strasbourg, February 1990: Meeting of U.S. and Western European Parliamentary Officials on Legislative Assistance to the Polish Parliament. At the request of the United States Congress, the Center organized this meeting to help coordinate the technical aid provided to the Polish Parliament by the U.S. Congress and Western European legislatures.

Strasbourg, January 1990: Working Group on "The Status of Human Rights under the Helsinki Accords: an Agenda for the Future." The Working Group included over thirty government officials, parliamentarians, human rights experts, and opposition movement leaders from Eastern and Western Europe, the United States, and the Soviet Union.



FACT SHEET

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PROMOTING LEGAL REFORM IN RUSSIA

The Center for Democracy in January 1992 co-founded the *International Commission for Promoting Legal Reform in Russia* at the request of leading Russian jurists, scholars and political figures. The Russian Ministry of Justice has enthusiastically supported the creation of the Commission, which is a non-governmental association, and has appointed a representative to serve as a liaison.

The purpose of the Commission is to address the problems of judicial development and genuine reform in Russia, to promote the integration of Russia into the international legal community, and to assist in reshaping the Russian legal education system.

The Commission is undertaking a series of programs to realize these objectives. It has begun drafting proposed legislation involving legal reform for submission to the appropriate government institutions. The first draft legislation is on the reform of the Russian bailiff system. The Commission will also organize exchange programs of U.S. and Russian legal experts and officials and will help establish internships for Russian lawyers in U.S. law schools and law firms. Publications on the ideas of legal reform are also planned.

The Center proposes to organize the Commission's first international conference on "Legal Reform and Protection of Entrepreneurship in Russia," to be held in either Washington or Moscow in late 1992. Participants will include Commission members, Russian Federation officials, and U.S. government officials, legal scholars, jurists, and lawyers.

Several U.S. legal public interest groups and leading private sector attorneys have offered their support for the International Commission, and the Center plans to cooperate with a cross-section of private and public agencies to support the Commission's goals.



FACT SHEET

ALLEN WEINSTEIN: BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Historian Allen Weinstein is founder and President of The Center for Democracy, a non-profit foundation created in 1984 to promote and strengthen the democratic process, based in Washington, DC with offices and staff in Moscow, Strasbourg (France) and San Jose (Costa Rica). His international awards include the United Nations Peace Medal (1986) for "efforts to promote peace, dialogue and free elections in several critical parts of the world"; The Council of Europe's Silver Medal (1990), presented by the President of its Parliamentary Assembly, for "outstanding assistance and guidance over many years"; and a 1991 award from the government of President Violeta Chamorro for his efforts on behalf of democratization in Nicaragua. Among his other awards and fellowships are two Senior Fulbright Lectureships, an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, the Commonwealth Fund Lectureship in U.S. history at the University of London, and a Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (Smithsonian) Fellowship. In 1987 he delivered the Bicentennial Fourth of July Oration at Boston's historic Faneuil Hall.

During the Spring 1993 term, Weinstein is Distinguished Visiting Professor at Florida International University in Miami. He was University Professor and Professor of History at Boston University from 1985-89, University Professor at Georgetown University from 1981-1984 and, until 1983, Executive Editor of *The Washington Quarterly* at Georgetown's Center for Strategic and International Studies. He served as a member of *The Washington Post* Editorial Board in 1981 and, from 1966-81 as Professor of History at Smith College and chairman of its American Studies Program. In 1984 he served as President of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions (Santa Barbara) and as editor of *The Center Magazine*. From 1982-84 he directed the research study which led to the incorporation of the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and was Acting President of the Endowment.

He is a member of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Education and Training Committee of the congressionally-chartered United States Institute of Peace, a founding officer of the International Institute of Democracy in Strasbourg, a founding Director and Secretary of the Oscar Arias Foundation of North America established by the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize winner, and was a member of the Foreign Policy Association Editorial Advisory Board from 1982-1992. Weinstein also serves as a member of the National Advisory Committee of The Fund for Democracy and Development and on the Advisory Board of *The Journal of Soviet Democratization*.

His international public service activities include chairing The Center for Democracy's election observation delegations in El Salvador (1991), Nicaragua (1989-90), Panama (1988-89), and The Philippines (1985-6). Weinstein organized a bipartisan group, at the request of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which reported on the preparations for The Philippines' presidential election; later he was a member of the U.S. Observer Delegation appointed by President Reagan, special advisor to the Delegation's co-chairmen, and co-author of its final report. The election in Panama was also monitored at the request of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, until the Center delegation was expelled by General Noriega. In 1983 Weinstein served as Vice-Chairman of the U.S. delegation to the UNESCO-sponsored International Program for the Development of Communication meeting in Tashkent. He was also Coordinator and Vice-Chairman of the U.S. delegation to the 1982 UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies.

Professor Weinstein's books include *Perjury: The Hiss-Chambers Case* (Knopf; Vintage paperback; Hutchinsons Ltd.) which received several citations including an American Book Award nomination; *Freedom and Crisis: An American History* (Random House, 3 eds.); *Between the Wars: American Foreign Policy from Versailles to Pearl Harbor* (Berkley paperback); *Prelude to Populism: Origins of the Silver Issue* (Yale University Press); and among other edited collections, *Conflict in America* (Voice of America); *American Negro Slavery* (4th ed., Oxford University Press); *American Themes: Essays in Historiography* (Oxford); and *Truman and the Founding of Israel: The 30th Anniversary Conference* (Hebrew University/Magnes Press).

Professor Weinstein's articles and essays have appeared in a wide range of scholarly and popular publications: *The American Scholar*, *The American Historical Review*, *The Business History Review*, *Commentary*, *Encounter*, *Esquire*, *The Journal of American History*, *The Journal of American Studies*, *The New Republic*, *The New York Review of Books*, *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *Time*, *U.S. News and World Report*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, and *New York* magazine.

His television credits include the 1988-89 PBS series *Face-to-Face: Conversations on the U.S.-Soviet Summitry* (Co-Host, Executive Editor and Writer), *The Salvadoran Debate* (Moderator and Executive Producer, 1984), and *Inside Washington* (Host and Writer), the 1981 PBS public affairs series. He appears frequently on television news and public affairs programs.

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"The Environmental Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union: Strategies and Solutions"

Participants List

Eastern Europe/Former Soviet Union:

Mr. Lirim Selfo
Chairman, Committee of Environmental
Protection and Preservation
Albania

Ms. Karine S. Danielyan
Minister of Nature and Environmental
Protection
Armenia

Mr. Rafik I. Ismaelov
State Advisor for Humanitarian Issues
Azerbaijan

Dr. Anatoly M. Dorafeev
Chairman, State Committee of Ecology
Belarus

Mr. Valentin Mirchev Bossevisky
Minister of the Environment
Bulgaria

Dr. Simeon Bozhanov Advisor to the
President of Bulgaria
Bulgaria

Dr. Svatomir Mlcoch
Deputy Minister of the Environment
Czech Republic

Mr. Andres Tarand (Washington portion)
Minister of Environmental Protection
Estonia

Mr. Tonis Kaasik
Former Minister of Environment
Representative of the Ministry of
Environment
Estonia

Mr. Shota A. Adame
Minister of Environmental Protection
Georgia

Mr. Istvan Tokes
Head of the Department of International
Cooperation
Ministry of Environment and Regional
Policy
Hungary

Mr. Svyatoslav A. Medvedev
Minister of Ecology and Bioresources
Kazakhstan

Mr. Olegs Batarevskis
Chairman, Supreme Council Commission
on Environmental Protection
Latvia

Mr. Evaldas Vebra
General Director, Department of
Environmental Protection
Lithuania

Dr. Ivan I. Dedju
Director, State Department of Environment
and Natural Resources
Moldova

Mr. Jacek Purat
Special Advisor to the Minister
Ministry of Environmental Protection,
Natural Resources and Forestry
Poland

Mr. Aurel Constantin Ilie
Minister of Water, Forest Management,
and Protection of the Environment
Romania

Dr. Victor I. Danilov-Daniljan
Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources
Russian Federation

Dr. Alexei Yablokov
State Counsellor on Ecology and Public
Health
Russian Federation

Mr. Josef Zlocha
Minister of Environmental Protection
Slovakia

Mr. Nematullo Safarov
Deputy Minister of Environmental
Protection
Tajikistan

Mr. Nurmukhamed A. Ashirov
Minister, State Committee of Environment
Protection
Turkmenistan

Mr. Yuri G. Ruban
First Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environmental Protection
Ukraine

Mr. Askhad S. Khabibulaev
Minister of Environmental Protection
Uzbekistan

Inter-European Organizations

Mr. Fladio Cotti (Washington portion)
Federal Counselor, Ministry of the Interior
Switzerland
and
Chairman, "Environment for Europe"
(Pan-European Ministerial Conference on
the Environment, April 1993)

Mrs. Hanne Severinsen
Member, Committee on the Environment
of the Parliamentary Assembly
Council of Europe

Mr. Antonio Menvina
Minister-Counselor
Delegation of the Commission of
European Communities, Washington, DC

United States Observers

Ms. Alexi Panehal
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Bureau for Europe
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Central European Program Manager
Office of International Activities
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Ms. Kelly Knight
International Trade Specialist
Business Information Service for the
Newly Independent States
U.S. Department of Commerce

Dr. Murray Feshbach
Georgetown University

World Bank

Mr. Richard Ackerman
Senior Policy Analyst
Environmental Division

Mr. Michael Rathnam
Senior Country Officer for Kazakhstan

Howard Gilman Foundation

Mr. Howard Gilman
Chairman

Dr. James A. Smith
Executive Director

Ambassador Marcello Guidi
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Mr. Michael Gary
Program Associate

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President and CEO

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For Immediate Release
February 16, 1993

Contacts: Paul Nathanson
Jennifer Arangio
202/429-9141

******MEDIA ADVISORY******

TO: ALL WASHINGTON-BASED NEWS MEDIA
FROM: THE CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY
**RE: PRESS CONFERENCE: Environmental Ministers from Eastern Europe/
Former Soviet Union Unveil Proposals to Address their Region's
Environmental Crises**

DATE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1993
TIME: 10:30AM
PLACE: NATIONAL PRESS CLUB -- Burke and White Rooms, 13th fl.

WHO: Alexei Yablokov, Counsellor for Ecology and Public Health, Russian Federation
Allen Weinstein, President, The Center for Democracy; and
Twenty-two Ministers of Environment from Central and Eastern Europe and
the Former Soviet Union

FOCUS: Ministers of Environment representing 22 countries in Central and Eastern Europe, the
Baltic States, and the Commonwealth of Independent States will announce proposals to
address the region's environmental crises resulting from their February 19-21 meeting
on "The Environmental Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet
Union: Strategies and Solutions." The visit is co-sponsored by The Center for
Democracy and the Howard Gilman Foundation.

The ministers are meeting privately at the Howard Gilman Foundation's White Oak Conservation Center on the Florida-Georgia border where they will sign a series of working documents to promote better cooperation and address environmental problems in the region. They will be in Washington on February 22-23 to meet with Clinton Administration officials (including Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol Browner and other cabinet members), Members of Congress, and leaders of U.S. environmental non-governmental organizations.

A list of participating ministers is attached. For information on the ministers' schedule or the press conference, please contact Paul Nathanson or Jennifer Arangio at 202/429-9141.

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE AND THE FORMER SOVIET UNION: STRATEGIES AND SOLUTIONS

February 19-21, The White Oak Conservation Center
February 22-23, Washington, DC

Organized by The Center for Democracy and the Howard Gilman Foundation

Schedule

Thursday, February 18

Evening: **Participants arrive at White Oak**

8:00pm **Buffet Dinner**
Location: Lake Lodge

Friday, February 19

8:00am **Breakfast**
Location: Lake Lodge

9:00am **Tour of White Oak and Briefing by White Oak Staff**

11:00am **Opening Session**
Location (all sessions): Big Game Building Conference Room

Welcome:
Mr. Howard Gilman, The Howard Gilman Foundation

Opening Remarks:
Prof. Allen Weinstein, President, The Center for Democracy
Prof. Alexei Yablokov, Russian State Counsellor for Ecology and
Public Health

- Noon: **Session One: Opening Statements**
Each participating minister will be invited to make brief remarks.
- 1:00pm **Lunch**
Location: Lake Lodge
- 2:30pm **Discussion of Working Documents**

"Establishing an Effective Information Exchange System"
(Working Document 1), and "The Principal Directions of Environmental
Information Exchange" (Working Document 2)

"Harmonizing Environmental Legislation from Different Countries" (Working
Document 3)
- 8:00pm **Buffett Dinner**
Location: Lake Lodge
- 9:30pm **Big Game Building open for recreation**
Screening of "The Last Show on Earth"

Saturday, February 20

- 8:00am **Breakfast**
Location: Lake Lodge
- 9:00am **Continuation of Discussion of Working Documents**

"Priority Problems of Cooperation Among Participating Countries in
Environmental Protection" (Working Document 4)

"Support for Regional Environmental Agreements" (Working Document 5)
- 10:45am **Break**
- 11:00am **Working Session**

Topic: "Participation of the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic
States and the Republics of the former Soviet Union in the Resolution of
Environmental and Related Global Problems"

1:00pm **Barbeque Lunch**
Location: Roseland

2:30pm **Working Session**

Topic: "Environmental Assistance from the United States, Canada and Western Europe: Communication and Cooperation"

8:00 **Reception and Dinner**
Location: Old Lodge

Sunday, February 21

8:00am **Breakfast**
Location: Lake Lodge

9:00am **Closing Session**

Discussion of the pan-European Ministerial Conference (April 1993)

Concluding remarks

11:30am **Memorial tree planting ceremony**

12:00pm **Lunch**
Location: Lake Lodge
Participants should have their luggage ready by 1:15pm

1:30pm **Depart for St. Marys Paper Mill**

2:00 **Tour of St. Marys Paper Mill**

3:30pm **Departure for Airport**

5:00pm **Departure to Washington**

8:35pm **Arrival in Washington**

Monday, February 22

(NOTE: Preliminary Schedule - times subject to change)

9:00am **Breakfast hosted by the Hon. Flavio Cotti, Federal Counselor, Ministry of Interior, Switzerland**

Location: Embassy of Switzerland, 2900 Cathedral Ave., NW

Mr. Cotti is the Chairman of the Pan-European Ministerial conference, to be held in Lucerne, Switzerland on April 28-30, 1993

10:30am **Press Conference by the Ministers**

Location: National Press Club, The Edward Burke and Lisagor White Rooms

12:15pm **Lunch hosted by World Bank Vice President Wilfried Thalwitz**

Location: World Bank, 701 19th Street NW

2:00pm **Briefing at the Environmental Protection Agency**

3:00pm **EPA Briefing**

Panel Discussions:

Panel One: Economic Instruments

Panel Two: Privatization/Liability

Panel Three: Pollution Prevention

Panel Four: Clean Air Act

Panel Five: Innovative Technologies

Panel Six: Water Management

7:00pm **Dinner in honor of the Ministers and Screening of *Blue Planet* hosted by The Center for Democracy and the Smithsonian Institution**

Location: National Air and Space Museum

Invited guests will include House and Senate environmental leaders, Administration environmental leaders, ambassadors, heads of environmental non-governmental organizations.

Tuesday, February 23

10:00am **Meetings on Capitol Hill with the U.S. Congress**

Host: Senator John F. Kerry (D-Massachusetts)

Noon **Lunch hosted by Ambassador James Michel, Acting Administrator, United States Agency for International Development**

Location: Benjamin Franklin Room, Eighth Floor, U.S. Department of State

1:30pm **Meeting with The Hon. Tim Wirth, Counselor, Department of State
(pending his confirmation)**

3:30pm **Meeting with U.S. Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations**
co-sponsored with the World Resources Institute
Location: ANA Hotel, 2401 M Street, NW
(reception to follow)

Evening: **Dinner**

Wednesday, February 24

Departure for home countries

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The Board of Directors of the Center for Democracy expresses the deepest appreciation to the Directors and Staff of

The Howard Gilman Foundation

for co-sponsorship and primary funding of this program.

The Center would also like to thank the following for financial support given to the Washington portion of this program:

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Washington, DC
February 22, 1993

The White Oak Statement

We Ministers of Environment and environmental officials from twenty-one new democracies (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan)

- wishing to strengthen and widen the process of cooperation among ourselves at the ministerial level on environmental issues begun at earlier meetings between 1990 and 1992 at Bergen, Helsinki, Dublin, Dobris, and High Tartras;
- anxious to sustain and extend in our practical efforts the spirit and substance of the recent United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro;
- recognizing, as the Rio meeting acknowledged, that environmental factors must be integrated into the fabric of economic decision making at all levels in support of a program of sustainable development
- reviewing the draft "Action Plan" got the April 1993 ministerial conference on "Environment in Europe" to be held in Switzerland.

have come to the United States to meet together for the first time to share our common concerns and to plan in common our strategies. These are outlined in the documents which follow.

We have come to develop concrete steps to address the overwhelming ecological crisis of our region, a crisis created by the cruel indifference toward environmental responsibility of the previous totalitarian governments. Now, through both effective self help and cooperation with our friends in the older democracies, through deeds and not words alone, we take up our common challenge, as friends in our new democracies even in the midst of regional strife.

We call upon the organizers of the pan-European conference in Lucerne to address the following proposals and to consider the importance of involving all the nations represented at White Oak.

We call upon environmentally-concerned international funding groups to provide timely support for these proposals, and we urge additional assistance from non-governmental organizations throughout the democratic world.

We note, finally, a crucial fact validated by our presence here today: that by addressing our environmental problems seriously and cooperatively, we also address in a constructive manner the existing political conflicts of our region.

Documents Adopted at the White Oak Meeting

We, the Ministers for the Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources and other related officials of Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, gathered at the invitation of the Center for Democracy and the Howard Gilman Foundation at the White Oak Conservation Center (USA) and guided by the interests of environmental security for the countries we represent, after three days of discussions have agreed on the following specific measures:

Document No. 1

On Establishing an Effective Environmental Information Exchange System (Setting up National Communication Points)

We have agreed to take measures for establishing an effective system of information transfer linking official environmental bodies and interested non-governmental environmental organizations throughout the above-mentioned countries in a timely manner. The system will use E-mail, telephone, faxes and other technologies.

To this end, each country will designate communication points and report to all other countries their main -- and any additional -- addresses and telephone, fax, telex and E-mail numbers. The names of the persons responsible for receiving and transmitting this information (and their substitutes) will also be given. In the course of work, the method for transmitting, receiving, and distributing information will be developed. [See two examples of National Communication Point design in Supplement 1 at the end of this statement.]

Document No. 2

On the Principal Directions of Environmental Information Exchange

Guided by the urgent necessity of developing a system for receiving the most complete and objective information possible on the environmental conditions and tendencies of change in each of the countries, we have agreed:

1. to prepare and distribute information on names, addresses, and telephone and fax numbers for ministries and other agencies involved in environmental issues in the participating countries;
2. if possible, to establish an early warning system, including a "green" telephone "hot line," among designated official organizations involved to respond to environmental incidents with possible transboundary effects;
3. to collect and distribute information to prevent the illegal transboundary transfer of toxic and other hazardous wastes, developing a method of collecting, transmitting and receiving this information;
4. to distribute among one another, by means including a depository library, relevant public documents: specifically, national reports on the state of the environment upon their publication and action plans after they are officially adopted, including official decisions on specific directions for protecting the environment.
5. to designate a point of contact for each country to work with the organizers of this meeting to implement points 2, 3, and 4.

The materials designated in paragraphs 1-4 will be distributed through the national communication points established by special agreement (see Document No. 1).

Document No. 3

On Harmonizing Environmental Legislation, Standards and Norms of Different Countries

Guided by the urgent necessity of bringing together and, if necessary, harmonizing the national environmental legislation, standards and norms of different countries and using the legislative experience of different countries in the area of environmental and natural resource protection, we have agreed to exchange the following during 1993:

1. complete sets of the texts of national laws now in force in this area in an official language;
2. plans for developing new national legislation, standards and norms;
3. information on special bilateral, regional and global conventions or agreements on environmental protection (or the corresponding articles from more general agreements) which have been concluded by each country;

and to continue this exchange on a regular basis in the future.

The designated materials should be distributed through the national communication points specified in Document No. 1.

Document No. 4

On the Priority Problems for Inter-State Cooperation on Protecting the Environment

Guided by the urgent necessity of improving the environmental situation in our region, we have agreed to join efforts aimed at expeditiously addressing the following problems:

1. development of principles concerning liability for environmental damage caused by transboundary effects;
2. harmonization of national environmental monitoring systems by introducing the most safe methodology;
3. development of a compendium of appropriate and clean environmental technologies (specifying their characteristics and the organizations/companies possessing them) and implementation of international projects for developing and introducing such environmental technologies (including those relating to military conversion);
4. elaboration of new economic mechanisms for improving environmental protection and enhancing the efficiency of using natural resources (including training programs and the preparation of analytical reports on the international experience of using such economic mechanisms and new trends);
5. identification of and support for resolving urgent, emerging regional and global environmental problems;
6. identification also of environmental conventions and protocols which have been signed, ratified or will be applied by each country, and the exchange of information concerning implementation of these legal documents;
7. development of an oversight system on compliance with the adopted international agreements on environmental protection (including reporting procedures on implementation of the agreements, evaluation of data reliability and completeness, a set of measures in case of non-compliance, and other assistance).

Document No. 5

On Support of Regional Environmental Agreements

Guided by our urgent interest in the most expedient, efficient resolution of regional and transboundary problems, we support in every way possible the implementation (and, where absent, the development and conclusion) of special regional agreements by interested countries. These agreements would include, but not be limited to, the following critical transboundary problems requiring the most urgent attention: Chernobyl and Semipalatinsk; the Aral Sea basin and Lake Sevan; the Black Sea (especially the Danube and Dnieper basins), Baltic Sea, Caspian Sea and their basins.

Note: Nothing in any documents herein adopted should be seen as conflicting with existing bilateral or multi-lateral agreements entered into by the signatory countries.

Supplement 1

Example of Information on a National Communication Point

Russian Federation

Mr. G. Chegasov and Mr. S. Burtsev

Ministry for the Protection of Ecology and Natural Resources

Bolshaya Gruzinskaya, 4/6

Moscow 123812, Russian Federation

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Appendix 1 to Working Document 1

THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

Ministry of Environment

Sofia 1000, 67, Wil. Gladstone Str.

1. Branimir Natov - Deputy Minister
tel. 881 440 fax 521 634
2. Jordan Uzunov - Deputy Minister
tel. 543 084
3. Christo Dalchev - Deputy Minister
tel. 832 389 fax 810 509

Department Civil Protection

1. Nichola Nicholov - Head of Department
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Committee for utilisation of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes

Sofia 1000, 55A, Shipchenski prohod Str.

1. Janko Janev - Chairman
tel. 720 217 fax 702 143



FACT SHEET

PROMOTING THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

The Center for Democracy is a unique non-partisan, non-profit organization which works across the boundaries of political party and doctrine to promote and strengthen the democratic process all over the globe. Based in Washington, D.C., the Center also has offices and staff in Moscow, Strasbourg (France), and San Jose (Costa Rica). The goals of Center programs are to help establish and strengthen democratic institutions, encourage dialogue in conflict situations, and facilitate and support the accomplishment of long-range objectives in democracies at various stages of development. Through its own informal brand of quiet diplomacy, the Center has developed close working relationships with members of the U.S. Congress and Administration; a host of international leaders—especially in Latin America, Eastern/Central Europe and the Republics of the former Soviet Union; political party chiefs; and private sector principals in dozens of democratic or democratizing societies.

The Board of Directors represents a link between the leadership of the two major American political parties, with members from both sides of the aisle in the Senate and House of Representatives, the National Chairmen of the Democratic and Republican parties (the only Board on which both serve), two former National Chairmen, and prominent private sector figures from across the political spectrum.

Much of what the Center does on a daily basis can be described as the communication of ideas and information among a continually-growing group of friends and associates who work in the business of democracy. Each day the Center's offices receive many more requests for assistance than can be undertaken with existing resources. Its activities over the past seven years have earned respect and recognition from scores of world leaders in government, education, business, labor and the media.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Legislative Development

The Center leads the Consortium for Latin America/Caribbean Legislative Development, perhaps the most important such initiative in the hemisphere, providing much-needed assistance to the national legislature—the one mediating institution in both developed and emerging democracies that normally encompasses all major political forces. The Consortium, which includes The State University of New York/Albany and Florida International University, has conducted thorough on-ground diagnostic studies of the legislative development needs of the new, democratically-elected national legislatures of Bolivia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Haiti, Nicaragua, Panama, and Paraguay. The Center for Democracy, from 1987 to 1991, conducted a bilateral legislative support project with the National Congress of Guatemala and maintained a field office in that country. The development and implementation of a Management Information System for legislators and staff was one of the important outcomes of this project.

Since its founding, the Center has maintained a collaborative relationship with the Council of Europe. It has sponsored the participation of parliamentarians from emerging democracies in the Strasbourg Conferences on Parliamentary Democracy and works with the International Institute of Democracy to establish a data base on assistance by Western parliaments to democratic institutions in Eastern Europe. In 1991 the Center co-sponsored an international meeting which brought together for the first time the clerks and secretaries from democratically-elected national legislatures in Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The Center organized the donation of urgently-needed computers and other equipment to the Senate of Poland in 1990, and advised the U.S. Congress concerning its "Gift of Democracy" technical assistance program to the Polish Parliament.

Election Monitoring

Beginning in 1984, Center-sponsored international delegations have monitored local and national elections in the Bahamas, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, the Philippines and Poland. The Center has usually been invited to observe the electoral process by the government in power and major opposition forces. In carrying out this work, the Center strives to maintain contact with all participating political groups and to work constructively with the local election tribunals.

Conferences

A series of international conferences, "East-West Democratic Dialogues," co-sponsored by the Center, has brought together parliamentarians, government officials and scholars from all of Europe, North America and the Republics of the former Soviet Union in the capital cities of Warsaw, Budapest, Sofia and Moscow. Topics include Transition to Democracy; Constitution-Writing; Democratic Federalism and Environmental Crisis in the Republics of the Former Soviet Union; and The Proper Role of an Intelligence Agency in a Democracy.

Special Events and Projects

The Center's Moscow Office. The office is centrally located in the *Mezhdunarodnaya Zhizn* (International Affairs) Building. Programs in the CIS include those in education—working with the Russian Ministry of Education to develop an American University and civic education reform, and co-sponsoring a project to teach business skills to Russian students; humanitarian aid—in early 1992, the Center coordinated shipments of 12 tons of dairy products and 100 tons of dried potatoes to schools, hospitals and orphanages in Moscow; environmental issues; the transition to a market economy; and legal reform.

Library of Democracy. The Center and the International Institute for Democracy in Strasbourg have developed a body of literature on democracy, democratic institutions, and the democratic experience for distribution throughout Eastern Europe and the Republics of the former Soviet Union. In 1991 the first Library of Democracy gifts were delivered to 30 city and university libraries, civic organizations and high schools in Bulgaria, including the American University of Bulgaria in Blagoevgrad and the National Library in Sofia. Another donation was made to the University of Budapest in Hungary in March 1992.

Immediately following the election of the first democratically-elected President of the Russian Federation in June 1991, the Center hosted a dinner honoring Boris Yeltsin at The Kennedy Center in Washington and awarded him its International Democracy Prize.

At the invitation of the Center and the Virginia Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, President Arpad Goncz of Hungary launched the 1990-1991 celebration of the Bicentennial of the U.S. Bill of Rights at ceremonies in Virginia and Washington.

FUNDING

The many and varied activities of the Center are funded by the private-sector Members of the Board of Directors, individual donations, corporate contributions, foundation grants, and—for the legislative development work in Latin America—by the U.S. Agency for International Development. The Center received generous financial support from Boston University between 1985 and 1988.

PUBLICATIONS

The Proper Role of an Intelligence Agency in a Democracy (1992)

Democratic Federalism and Environmental Crisis in the Republics of the Former Soviet Union (1992)

Democracy and Constitution-Making in Central Europe (1991)

The Transition to Democracy in Contemporary Europe (1990)

The Status of Human Rights Under the Helsinki Accords: An Agenda for the Future (1990)

Reaching the American Voter: Party Conventions and the Television Electorate (1990)



FACT SHEET

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THE HOWARD GILMAN FOUNDATION

BACKGROUND

The Howard Gilman Foundation is a private foundation established in 1981 by Howard Gilman, Chairman of the Board of the Gilman Paper Company. Founded in 1884, the Gilman Paper Company is the largest solely-owned paper company in the United States. Its northern headquarters are in New York and its southern operations are based in Florida and Georgia.

The Foundation is dedicated to the preservation of natural and cultural resources, concentrating both on environmental conservation and on the preservation of important human artifacts. Mr. Gilman has initiated a major program for animal conservation, the White Oak Conservation Center, located on his 7000-acre Florida property. A staff of twenty zoologists, veterinarians, and animal conservationists operates a program for the conservation and propagation of threatened and endangered wildlife. Some sixty species are now sheltered there. The Foundation works in close collaboration with the White Oak Conservation Center while supporting other environmental projects. In 1992 it embarked on a project to explore the environmental crisis in Eastern Europe. With the collaboration of the Center for Democracy, it convened a meeting in Bulgaria of environmental officials from 18 nations in the region and will provide a continuing forum for discussion of their common problems. The foundation will also sponsor a Brookings Institution conference on the role of foundations in studying and redressing environmental problems.

The Foundation's cultural program has not only sought to preserve creative works, it has also given impetus to new artistic endeavors by supporting projects of the New York City Opera, American Ballet Theatre, and the Brooklyn Academy of Music, among others. It has fostered the collaborative work of Mikhail Baryshnikov and Mark Morris through the White Oak Dance Project and it helped the Donetsk Ballet when its American tour faltered. Next summer the foundation will be sponsoring a seminar in Orvieto, Italy on the history of landscape photography and perceptions of the natural environment.

Over the years the Howard Gilman Foundation has also supported two well defined areas of medical research that reflect Mr. Gilman's concern for the conservation of human life. The Foundation has devoted resources to promising areas of cardiovascular research. And since 1982 it has supported medical researchers who are working to understand HIV/AIDS. Recently it has turned its attention to the HIV/AIDS crisis in developing countries by supporting a project of the Center for Strategic International Studies. CSIS has convened a working group to explore the possible US responses to AIDS in Africa, Asia and Latin America.



FACT SHEET

12/1/92

THE CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY MOSCOW OFFICE AND PROGRAMS

The Center for Democracy works closely with leaders of the Russian Federation and other Republics of the former Soviet Union on a range of projects and issues—legal, environmental, educational, intelligence reform, humanitarian aid—designed to assist in the transition to democracy and a free market economy. The Center's Moscow office is located in the *Mezhdunarodnaya Zhizn* (International Affairs) Building at 14 Gorokhovski Pereulok. *Mezhdunarodnaya Zhizn* is a respected foreign policy journal published by Russia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

With the support of the Russian Ministry of Justice, the Center co-founded the "International Commission for Promoting Legal Reform in Russia" with leading jurists, scholars and political figures. The purpose of the commission is to address major problems of judicial reform in Russia, to promote the integration of Russia into the international legal community, and to reform the system of Russian legal education. In July 1992, the Center and the Commission hosted a visit in Moscow and Alma Ata by a delegation of the U.S. Federal Bar Association [FBA] led by U.S. Solicitor General Kenneth Starr. The FBA and the Center are now developing a comprehensive legal assistance program for the former Soviet Union. The Center, the Ministry of Justice, and the Commission will also co-sponsor an international conference on "Legal Reform, Court Protection of Entrepreneurship, and the Development of a Russian Commercial Code" to be held in Moscow in March 1993.

The International Intellectual Property Task Force, co-organized and coordinated by the Center, brought together U.S. corporate, industry and government representatives and Russian officials concerned with copyright issues. The Task Force met in Moscow on November 9-13 to discuss, negotiate and make recommendations concerning bringing Russia into the Western legal framework for copyright issues.

With funding from the Gilman Foundation, the Center is organizing an international conference on "The Environmental Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union: Strategies and Solutions," in cooperation with Professor Alexei Yablokov, Russian Presidential Counsellor for Ecology and Public Health. Environmental ministers, other government officials and experts from the region, Western Europe, and the United States will participate. A planning meeting for the conference was held in Sofia in mid-October, involving representatives of 16 environmental ministries, and the conference itself will be held at the White Oak Conservation Center in Florida in February 1993. This conference follows an international meeting on "Democratic Federalism and Environmental Crisis in the Republics of the Former Soviet Union: Facts and Strategies," co-sponsored by the Government of the Russian Federation and the Center, held in Moscow one week before the August 1991 coup attempt.

The Center has helped to mobilize U.S. private sector emergency assistance to Russia. In January and May of 1992, the Center coordinated shipments of 112 tons of food products from U.S. farmers to orphanages, hospitals, schools and other institutions in the Moscow area. Related to this effort, the Center has been asked by several major American farm organizations to assist in coordinating new technical assistance and training programs for Russian farmers and farm groups.

Representatives of the Russian Ministry for National Security [KGB] and Foreign Intelligence Service, the heads of the Byeloruss and Kazak national security services, and the deputy head of the Ukrainian National Security Service participated in the international conference on "The Proper Role of an Intelligence Agency in a Democracy," held April 8-10, 1992 in Sofia, Bulgaria and co-sponsored by Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev and the Center. The Center plans a follow-up meeting to be held in Moscow in 1993. General Vadim Kirpichenko and other officials of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Agency will visit Washington and New York in January 1993, under Center auspices, for a series of lectures and seminars with U.S. groups interested in reform of the Russian intelligence community under the Yeltsin government.

The Center has signed an agreement with the Russian Ministry of Education to advise the Ministry on promoting the establishment of an American University in the Russian Federation, to provide information and counsel to the Ministry regarding student and faculty exchanges and other educational matters, and to assist in the preparation of curriculum materials and textbooks related to civic education on democracy. One project resulting from the agreement is a cooperative venture among the Center, Discovery Communications, Inc. and the Russian Education Ministry to develop televised programming to teach subjects such as basic principles of democracy and free market economics.

The Center is working with the National Governors Association (NGA) to create a business clearinghouse in Moscow. The clearinghouse, expected to open early in 1993, will assist U.S. and Russian entrepreneurs and companies in developing trade and joint ventures.

The Center began its relationship with the Russian Federation's government in December 1990, when a Yeltsin government advisor began working out of its Washington office. At the request of President Yeltsin, the Center was instrumental in the planning of his successful U.S. visit in June 1991, highlighted by a Center-hosted Kennedy Center Dinner honoring the Russian leader. President Yeltsin received the Center's 1991 International Democracy Prize for his "extraordinary efforts to promote political democracy and economic reform in the Russian Republic and throughout the Soviet Union."

During the dramatic days of the August 1991 coup attempt, the Center served as a major U.S. communications headquarters for faxes and telephone calls, including President Yeltsin's decrees and other first-hand information from the embattled Russian "White House." Center staff quickly translated the faxes and then forwarded them to leaders in the Bush Administration and the U.S. Congress, the media, and to the Voice of America for rebroadcast into the Soviet Union. The Center received worldwide attention for its actions in support of President Yeltsin and others who opposed the coup attempt.



FACT SHEET

EUROPEAN PROGRAMS

The Center for Democracy has undertaken a number of programs to assist the emerging democracies of Central and Eastern Europe. With foundation support and sponsorship--primarily, the Furth Foundation--the Center has organized a series of informal conferences and dialogues designed to encourage exchange among parliamentarians and other leaders from Central, Eastern and Western Europe, the Republics of the former Soviet Union, the United States, and Canada on key issues related to the democratization process. The "East-West Democratic Dialogues" program is based in Strasbourg, France, where for the past five years the Center has maintained a close, cooperative relationship with the Council of Europe/Strasbourg Conferences on Parliamentary Democracy and the European Parliament.

1991-1992 Highlights

Planning Meeting for International Conference: *"The Environmental Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union: Strategies and Solutions," Sofia, Bulgaria.* Environmental ministers, deputy ministers and department heads, representing 12 former Soviet republics, Bulgaria, the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Hungary, Poland and Romania, met in mid-October 1992 to establish an agenda for a conference to be held in the USA in February 1993, as well as to begin substantive discussion of the issues. Officials from the Council of Europe and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also took part. This meeting and the full conference are funded by the Howard Gilman Foundation.

International Conference: *"The Role of Women and the Transition to Democracy in Central and Eastern Europe," Strasbourg, France.* On October 3-4, 1992, delegates from more than 20 European countries, including prominent legislators, government officials and scholars, came together to examine strategies for bolstering the political influence and full participation of women in the new or re-emerging democracies of the region. Representatives of the Office of Women in Development and the Bureau for Europe, USAID, which funded the event, were in attendance, as was a bipartisan delegation of U.S. women elected officials. The conference was held under the auspices of the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

International Conference: *"The Proper Role of an Intelligence Agency in a Democracy," Sofia, Bulgaria.* Held on April 8-10, 1992, this conference was co-sponsored by the Center, Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev, the E.L. Wiegand Foundation, and the Furth Foundation. Intelligence agency heads, interior ministers and other government officials and experts representing 23 countries (Eastern, Central and Western Europe, Republics of the former Soviet Union, and North America) and the Council of Europe participated. Topics of discussion included: Status Report: Reforming Intelligence Agencies, from Dictatorship to Democracy; Intelligence Agencies and Human Rights; Procedures for Oversight of Intelligence Agencies; The New Mission of Intelligence Agencies in a Democracy; and Opportunities for Cooperation among the Security Agencies and Institutions of the New Democracies.

(continued)

Library of Democracy. The Center and the International Institute for Democracy in Strasbourg, France have developed a Library of Democracy -- a body of literature on democracy, democratic institutions, and the democratic experience -- for distribution throughout Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. In November 1991, the first Library of Democracy gifts were delivered to 30 city and university libraries, civic organizations, and high schools in Bulgaria. Recipients include the new American University of Bulgaria in Blagoevgrad and the National Library in Sofia. A second donation was made in March 1992 to the University of Budapest in Hungary.

International Commission to Investigate 1981 Papal Assassination Attempt. Center President Allen Weinstein has organized an International Commission to examine the 1981 attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II. Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev has given his full support to an investigation of the alleged "Bulgarian Connection" and has made accessible all previously unavailable Bulgarian Interior Ministry files related to the case. The Commission has also received the cooperation of the Polish Interior Ministry and the KGB in its investigation.

International Meeting of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries, Strasbourg, France. The Center co-sponsored this meeting with the Council of Europe and the International Institute for Democracy. The meeting, held in September 1991, brought together for the first time clerks and secretaries from the democratically-elected national parliaments of Europe, Africa, Asia, and Latin America to discuss "International Assistance to Legislatures: The Perspectives of Parliamentary Clerks."

Furth Foundation "East-West Democratic Dialogues"

Moscow, August 1991: "Democratic Federalism and Environmental Crisis in the Republics of the Former Soviet Union." Representatives from six Soviet Republics, Western Europe and the United States attended this conference, co-sponsored by the Center and the Government of the Russian Republic, to discuss strategies for dealing with existing environmental damage and planning for environmental protection in a context of changing economic and political institutions.

Budapest, October 1990: "Democracy and Constitution-Making in Central and Eastern Europe." This conference, held at the Hungarian Parliament Building, was co-sponsored by the National Assembly of Hungary and The Virginia Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. Participants included the key drafters of new constitutions from Central/Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, and constitutional scholars and government officials from the United States and Western Europe.

Warsaw, May 1990: "Transition to Democracy in Contemporary Europe." The Senate of Poland co-sponsored this conference, which convened in the Senate chambers. Over sixty political leaders, parliamentarians, scholars, and media experts from Eastern and Central Europe, Western Europe, the Soviet Union, Canada and the United States (including a U.S. Congressional delegation) participated.

Strasbourg, February 1990: Meeting of U.S. and Western European Parliamentary Officials on Legislative Assistance to the Polish Parliament. At the request of the United States Congress, the Center organized this meeting to help coordinate the technical aid provided to the Polish Parliament by the U.S. Congress and Western European legislatures.

Strasbourg, January 1990: Working Group on "The Status of Human Rights under the Helsinki Accords: an Agenda for the Future." The Working Group included over thirty government officials, parliamentarians, human rights experts, and opposition movement leaders from Eastern and Western Europe, the United States, and the Soviet Union.



FACT SHEET

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR PROMOTING LEGAL REFORM IN RUSSIA

The Center for Democracy in January 1992 co-founded the *International Commission for Promoting Legal Reform in Russia* at the request of leading Russian jurists, scholars and political figures. The Russian Ministry of Justice has enthusiastically supported the creation of the Commission, which is a non-governmental association, and has appointed a representative to serve as a liaison.

The purpose of the Commission is to address the problems of judicial development and genuine reform in Russia, to promote the integration of Russia into the international legal community, and to assist in reshaping the Russian legal education system.

The Commission is undertaking a series of programs to realize these objectives. It has begun drafting proposed legislation involving legal reform for submission to the appropriate government institutions. The first draft legislation is on the reform of the Russian bailiff system. The Commission will also organize exchange programs of U.S. and Russian legal experts and officials and will help establish internships for Russian lawyers in U.S. law schools and law firms. Publications on the ideas of legal reform are also planned.

The Center proposes to organize the Commission's first international conference on "Legal Reform and Protection of Entrepreneurship in Russia," to be held in either Washington or Moscow in late 1992. Participants will include Commission members, Russian Federation officials, and U.S. government officials, legal scholars, jurists, and lawyers.

Several U.S. legal public interest groups and leading private sector attorneys have offered their support for the International Commission, and the Center plans to cooperate with a cross-section of private and public agencies to support the Commission's goals.



FACT SHEET

ALLEN WEINSTEIN: BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Historian Allen Weinstein is founder and President of The Center for Democracy, a non-profit foundation created in 1984 to promote and strengthen the democratic process, based in Washington, DC with offices and staff in Moscow, Strasbourg (France) and San Jose (Costa Rica). His international awards include the United Nations Peace Medal (1986) for "efforts to promote peace, dialogue and free elections in several critical parts of the world"; The Council of Europe's Silver Medal (1990), presented by the President of its Parliamentary Assembly, for "outstanding assistance and guidance over many years"; and a 1991 award from the government of President Violeta Chamorro for his efforts on behalf of democratization in Nicaragua. Among his other awards and fellowships are two Senior Fulbright Lectureships, an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, the Commonwealth Fund Lectureship in U.S. history at the University of London, and a Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (Smithsonian) Fellowship. In 1987 he delivered the Bicentennial Fourth of July Oration at Boston's historic Faneuil Hall.

During the Spring 1993 term, Weinstein is Distinguished Visiting Professor at Florida International University in Miami. He was University Professor and Professor of History at Boston University from 1985-89, University Professor at Georgetown University from 1981-1984 and, until 1983, Executive Editor of *The Washington Quarterly* at Georgetown's Center for Strategic and International Studies. He served as a member of *The Washington Post* Editorial Board in 1981 and, from 1966-81 as Professor of History at Smith College and chairman of its American Studies Program. In 1984 he served as President of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions (Santa Barbara) and as editor of *The Center Magazine*. From 1982-84 he directed the research study which led to the incorporation of the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and was Acting President of the Endowment.

He is a member of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Education and Training Committee of the congressionally-chartered United States Institute of Peace, a founding officer of the International Institute of Democracy in Strasbourg, a founding Director and Secretary of the Oscar Arias Foundation of North America established by the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize winner, and was a member of the Foreign Policy Association Editorial Advisory Board from 1982-1992. Weinstein also serves as a member of the National Advisory Committee of The Fund for Democracy and Development and on the Advisory Board of *The Journal of Soviet Democratization*.

His international public service activities include chairing The Center for Democracy's election observation delegations in El Salvador (1991), Nicaragua (1989-90), Panama (1988-89), and The Philippines (1985-6). Weinstein organized a bipartisan group, at the request of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which reported on the preparations for The Philippines' presidential election; later he was a member of the U.S. Observer Delegation appointed by President Reagan, special advisor to the Delegation's co-chairmen, and co-author of its final report. The election in Panama was also monitored at the request of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, until the Center delegation was expelled by General Noriega. In 1983 Weinstein served as Vice-Chairman of the U.S. delegation to the UNESCO-sponsored International Program for the Development of Communication meeting in Tashkent. He was also Coordinator and Vice-Chairman of the U.S. delegation to the 1982 UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies.

Professor Weinstein's books include *Perjury: The Hiss-Chambers Case* (Knopf; Vintage paperback; Hutchinsons Ltd.) which received several citations including an American Book Award nomination; *Freedom and Crisis: An American History* (Random House, 3 eds.); *Between the Wars: American Foreign Policy from Versailles to Pearl Harbor* (Berkley paperback); *Prelude to Populism: Origins of the Silver Issue* (Yale University Press); and among other edited collections, *Conflict in America* (Voice of America); *American Negro Slavery* (4th ed., Oxford University Press); *American Themes: Essays in Historiography* (Oxford); and *Truman and the Founding of Israel: The 30th Anniversary Conference* (Hebrew University/Magnes Press).

Professor Weinstein's articles and essays have appeared in a wide range of scholarly and popular publications: *The American Scholar*, *The American Historical Review*, *The Business History Review*, *Commentary*, *Encounter*, *Esquire*, *The Journal of American History*, *The Journal of American Studies*, *The New Republic*, *The New York Review of Books*, *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *Time*, *U.S. News and World Report*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, and *New York* magazine.

His television credits include the 1988-89 PBS series *Face-to-Face: Conversations on the U.S.-Soviet Summitry* (Co-Host, Executive Editor and Writer), *The Salvadoran Debate* (Moderator and Executive Producer, 1984), and *Inside Washington* (Host and Writer), the 1981 PBS public affairs series. He appears frequently on television news and public affairs programs.

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Washington, DC
February 22, 1993

The White Oak Statement

We Ministers of Environment and environmental officials from twenty-one new democracies (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan)

- wishing to strengthen and widen the process of cooperation among ourselves at the ministerial level on environmental issues begun at earlier meetings between 1990 and 1992 at Bergen, Helsinki, Dublin, Dobris, and High Tartras;
- anxious to sustain and extend in our practical efforts the spirit and substance of the recent United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro;
- recognizing, as the Rio meeting acknowledged, that environmental factors must be integrated into the fabric of economic decision making at all levels in support of a program of sustainable development
- reviewing the draft "Action Plan" got the April 1993 ministerial conference on "Environment in Europe" to be held in Switzerland.

have come to the United States to meet together for the first time to share our common concerns and to plan in common our strategies. These are outlined in the documents which follow.

We have come to develop concrete steps to address the overwhelming ecological crisis of our region, a crisis created by the cruel indifference toward environmental responsibility of the previous totalitarian governments. Now, through both effective self help and cooperation with our friends in the older democracies, through deeds and not words alone, we take up our common challenge, as friends in our new democracies even in the midst of regional strife.

We call upon the organizers of the pan-European conference in Lucerne to address the following proposals and to consider the importance of involving all the nations represented at White Oak.

We call upon environmentally-concerned international funding groups to provide timely support for these proposals, and we urge additional assistance from non-governmental organizations throughout the democratic world.

We note, finally, a crucial fact validated by our presence here today: that by addressing our environmental problems seriously and cooperatively, we also address in a constructive manner the existing political conflicts of our region.

Documents Adopted at the White Oak Meeting

We, the Ministers for the Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources and other related officials of Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, gathered at the invitation of the Center for Democracy and the Howard Gilman Foundation at the White Oak Conservation Center (USA) and guided by the interests of environmental security for the countries we represent, after three days of discussions have agreed on the following specific measures:

Document No. 1

On Establishing an Effective Environmental Information Exchange System (Setting up National Communication Points)

We have agreed to take measures for establishing an effective system of information transfer linking official environmental bodies and interested non-governmental environmental organizations throughout the above-mentioned countries in a timely manner. The system will use E-mail, telephone, faxes and other technologies.

To this end, each country will designate communication points and report to all other countries their main -- and any additional -- addresses and telephone, fax, telex and E-mail numbers. The names of the persons responsible for receiving and transmitting this information (and their substitutes) will also be given. In the course of work, the method for transmitting, receiving, and distributing information will be developed. [See two examples of National Communication Point design in Supplement 1 at the end of this statement.]

Document No. 2

On the Principal Directions of Environmental Information Exchange

Guided by the urgent necessity of developing a system for receiving the most complete and objective information possible on the environmental conditions and tendencies of change in each of the countries, we have agreed:

1. to prepare and distribute information on names, addresses, and telephone and fax numbers for ministries and other agencies involved in environmental issues in the participating countries;
2. if possible, to establish an early warning system, including a "green" telephone "hot line," among designated official organizations involved to respond to environmental incidents with possible transboundary effects;
3. to collect and distribute information to prevent the illegal transboundary transfer of toxic and other hazardous wastes, developing a method of collecting, transmitting and receiving this information;
4. to distribute among one another, by means including a depository library, relevant public documents: specifically, national reports on the state of the environment upon their publication and action plans after they are officially adopted, including official decisions on specific directions for protecting the environment.
5. to designate a point of contact for each country to work with the organizers of this meeting to implement points 2, 3, and 4.

The materials designated in paragraphs 1-4 will be distributed through the national communication points established by special agreement (see Document No. 1).

Document No. 3

On Harmonizing Environmental Legislation, Standards and Norms of Different Countries

Guided by the urgent necessity of bringing together and, if necessary, harmonizing the national environmental legislation, standards and norms of different countries and using the legislative experience of different countries in the area of environmental and natural resource protection, we have agreed to exchange the following during 1993:

1. complete sets of the texts of national laws now in force in this area in an official language;
2. plans for developing new national legislation, standards and norms;
3. information on special bilateral, regional and global conventions or agreements on environmental protection (or the corresponding articles from more general agreements) which have been concluded by each country;

and to continue this exchange on a regular basis in the future.

The designated materials should be distributed through the national communication points specified in Document No. 1.

Document No. 4

On the Priority Problems for Inter-State Cooperation on Protecting the Environment

Guided by the urgent necessity of improving the environmental situation in our region, we have agreed to join efforts aimed at expeditiously addressing the following problems:

1. development of principles concerning liability for environmental damage caused by transboundary effects;
2. harmonization of national environmental monitoring systems by introducing the most safe methodology;
3. development of a compendium of appropriate and clean environmental technologies (specifying their characteristics and the organizations/companies possessing them) and implementation of international projects for developing and introducing such environmental technologies (including those relating to military conversion);
4. elaboration of new economic mechanisms for improving environmental protection and enhancing the efficiency of using natural resources (including training programs and the preparation of analytical reports on the international experience of using such economic mechanisms and new trends);
5. identification of and support for resolving urgent, emerging regional and global environmental problems;
6. identification also of environmental conventions and protocols which have been signed, ratified or will be applied by each country, and the exchange of information concerning implementation of these legal documents;
7. development of an oversight system on compliance with the adopted international agreements on environmental protection (including reporting procedures on implementation of the agreements, evaluation of data reliability and completeness, a set of measures in case of non-compliance, and other assistance).

Document No. 5

On Support of Regional Environmental Agreements

Guided by our urgent interest in the most expedient, efficient resolution of regional and transboundary problems, we support in every way possible the implementation (and, where absent, the development and conclusion) of special regional agreements by interested countries. These agreements would include, but not be limited to, the following critical transboundary problems requiring the most urgent attention: Chernobyl and Semipalatinsk; the Aral Sea basin and Lake Sevan; the Black Sea (especially the Danube and Dnieper basins), Baltic Sea, Caspian Sea and their basins.

Note: Nothing in any documents herein adopted should be seen as conflicting with existing bilateral or multi-lateral agreements entered into by the signatory countries.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Decades of centrally planned economics in Central and Eastern European countries have created disastrous environmental situations. The reliance in the past 45 years on production targets, overemphasis on development of heavy industry, and lack of investment in pollution prevention and control are major contributing factors to the pervasive environmental problems in the region. Acute air, water, and soil pollution are evident throughout the region. In Poland, for example, only four percent of rivers can be used as drinking water sources and over 60 percent of the population suffers from pollution-related illnesses. In Central and Eastern Europe's industrialized regions, life expectancy is as much as eight years less than in non-industrialized areas.

USAID is acting to improve the capacities of Central and Eastern European governments, businesses, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to address environmental problems and use natural resources more efficiently. USAID has achieved considerable progress, obligating over \$60 million for environment programs. USAID, in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other organizations, has developed and begun implementation of country programs in Poland, Hungary, the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic (CSFR), Bulgaria, Romania, and the Baltics.

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

USAID's Environmental Initiatives Project aims to improve the capacity of countries in the region to address environmental and energy management problems and to plan for future environmental improvements. The project is specifically directed at promoting policy and price reform, encouraging privatization and adoption by the private sector of efficient and environmentally sound technology.

Under this project, a five-year cooperative agreement was established with the World Environment Center (WEC) to promote private sector approaches to environmental management. WEC provides equipment and technical assistance and training for environmental economic policy reform, industrial health and safety, pollution prevention, and industrial environmental efficiency audits. Through this program, a partnership has been established that allows WEC to obtain *pro bono* services from U.S. industry for industrial health, safety, and pollution prevention.

The governments of Bulgaria, the CSFR, and Romania, together with USAID, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the World Bank, have jointly developed Environmental Action Plans for the three countries. These efforts have served to identify key policy reforms that are needed to support economic development and improve environmental conditions, set priorities, and

increase public awareness of environmental problems. In the CSFR and Bulgaria, this assistance influenced critical decisions to make the governments, instead of the investor, liable for past environmental damages in formerly state-owned property. This policy reform will reduce one more barrier for investors and speed up privatization. Similar Environmental Action Plans are currently underway in the Baltic States.

Through a sub-grant from the World Environment Center to the Harvard Institute for International Development, additional technical assistance and long-term policy advisors will be provided to Eastern European countries. These advisors are helping countries to identify and undertake policy reforms and change prices so that environmental investments can be made on an economically sound basis. Policy advisors will be provided in Poland, the CSFR, and Hungary.

Through an interagency agreement with the EPA, a Regional Environmental Center (REC) was established in Budapest, Hungary. This independent, non-governmental organization promotes ecologically sustainable development and public awareness throughout the region. The REC has been active in working to strengthen NGOs and has issued over 72 grants to a wide variety of environmental organizations working in Central and Eastern Europe for a total value of over \$1.3 million. Regional outreach offices have been set up in Bulgaria, the CSFR, Poland, and Romania. The EPA has also been very active in Poland, where major environmental initiatives are underway. Currently the EPA is overseeing the third and final year of a \$5 million program of air monitoring and water quality enhancement initiatives in Krakow. The air monitoring network has been installed and is being integrated with the World Bank air quality improvement project for Upper Silesia.

IMPROVED PUBLIC SECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

This project provides technical assistance and training to improve the environmental quality in Central and Eastern Europe and to strengthen governments' capacity to provide public sector environmental services in the region.

Through its Danube River Program, USAID has supported activities aimed at reducing transboundary pollution between neighboring countries in Central and Eastern Europe. The United States was one of the first bilateral donors to join the Danube Task Force and is a key member of the steering committee. USAID is also the lead donor in the Danube River Investment Program, a program collaboration with the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the European Community's environmental program, to identify priority investments to clean up

the Danube and its tributaries. As of April 1992, \$1 million of U.S. Government funds had generated \$30 million in additional assistance from other donor countries.

Through an interagency agreement with the EPA, training has been quickly mobilized for ministries of environment in environmental policy, planning, and management. EPA assistance addresses legislation, regulatory reform, standard setting, risk assessment, and environmental impact assessment. A regional program to improve air quality and environmental management in the northern CSFR and southern Poland is also being undertaken with the World Bank.

A \$1 million, two-year grant was awarded to the U.S. Center for Clean Air Policy to assist local governments in environmental management. Under the grant a long-term advisor has been based in Prague, and a Czech delegation has reviewed the plant operations and financing of wastewater treatment facilities in the United States. A \$5.2 million, three-year contract was signed with Research Triangle Institute in North Carolina to provide similar assistance to Poland and Hungary.

Funds have been provided to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the National Park Service (NPS) for training and technical assistance in national park development. USAID, with the World Bank, developed a \$6 million Global Environment Facility (GEF) Project in the CSFR. WWF and the NPS will be coordinating NGO activities within the Bieszczady Tri-National Park (Poland, the CSFR, and Ukraine). In Bulgaria, WWF and the NPS are providing technical assistance to the newly established nature protection agency, including sponsorship of a National Nature Conservation Strategy Workshop. The NPS is also sponsoring a study tour to the U.S. for Bulgarian park rangers and officials from the Ministry of Environment and Committee of Forests to learn new approaches to park administration and management.

ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING

This project will improve the long-term capabilities of Central and East European countries to improve environmental conditions and promote the efficient use of natural resources while balancing economic growth with environmental concerns. The training under this project is not simply a transfer of knowledge through traditional classroom settings or seminars, but rather, provides participants with "hands on" experience to strengthen the effectiveness of environmental managers throughout the region. The majority of the training will be conducted in-country and will meet the specific country's needs. The training will be conducted in the local language, and will contain site-specific case studies.

The University of Minnesota Consortium (including the University of Minnesota, The Institute for Sustainable Communities at the University of Vermont Law School, and the Center for Hazardous Materials Research at the University of Pittsburgh) has received a USAID grant for training in environmental policy and planning, business management, and public outreach. Training programs will be underway by late summer 1992.

Through a grant to a Duke University-led Consortium, USAID is undertaking economics and finance training in Hungary and the CSFR. For example, in Hungary, environmental economists are being trained in environmental policy, economic instruments, and financing related to water quality improvements. Training in the CSFR is linked to other priority economic issues that affect environmental quality and public health.

For more information, contact:
Agency for International Development
Ron Greenberg (202) 647-8263.

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"The Environmental Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union: Strategies and Solutions"

Participants List

Eastern Europe/Former Soviet Union:

Mr. Lirim Selfo
Chairman, Committee of Environmental
Protection and Preservation
Albania

Ms. Karine S. Danielyan
Minister of Nature and Environmental
Protection
Armenia

Mr. Rafik I. Ismaelov
State Advisor for Humanitarian Issues
Azerbaijan

Dr. Anatoly M. Dorafeev
Chairman, State Committee of Ecology
Belarus

Mr. Valentin Mirchev Bossevisky
Minister of the Environment
Bulgaria

Dr. Simeon Bozhanov Advisor to the
President of Bulgaria
Bulgaria

Dr. Svatomir Mlcoch
Deputy Minister of the Environment
Czech Republic

Mr. Andres Tarand (Washington portion)
Minister of Environmental Protection
Estonia

Mr. Tonis Kaasik
Former Minister of Environment
Representative of the Ministry of
Environment
Estonia

Mr. Shota A. Adame
Minister of Environmental Protection
Georgia

Mr. Istvan Tokes
Head of the Department of International
Cooperation
Ministry of Environment and Regional
Policy
Hungary

Mr. Svyatoslav A. Medvedev
Minister of Ecology and Bioresources
Kazakhstan

Mr. Olegs Batarevskis
Chairman, Supreme Council Commission
on Environmental Protection
Latvia

Mr. Evaldas Vebra
General Director, Department of
Environmental Protection
Lithuania

Dr. Ivan I. Dedju
Director, State Department of Environment
and Natural Resources
Moldova

Mr. Jacek Purat
Special Advisor to the Minister
Ministry of Environmental Protection,
Natural Resources and Forestry
Poland

Mr. Aurel Constantin Ilie
Minister of Water, Forest Management,
and Protection of the Environment
Romania

Dr. Victor I. Danilov-Daniljan
Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources
Russian Federation

Dr. Alexei Yablokov
State Counsellor on Ecology and Public
Health
Russian Federation

Mr. Josef Zlocha
Minister of Environmental Protection
Slovakia

Mr. Nematulo Safarov
Deputy Minister of Environmental
Protection
Tajikistan

Mr. Nurmukhamed A. Ashirov
Minister, State Committee of Environment
Protection
Turkmenistan

Mr. Yuri G. Ruban
First Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environmental Protection
Ukraine

Mr. Askhad S. Khabibulaev
Minister of Environmental Protection
Uzbekistan

Inter-European Organizations

Mr. Fladio Cotti (Washington portion)
Federal Counselor, Ministry of the Interior
Switzerland
and
Chairman, "Environment for Europe"
(Pan-European Ministerial Conference on
the Environment, April 1993)

Mrs. Hanne Severinsen
Member, Committee on the Environment
of the Parliamentary Assembly
Council of Europe

Mr. Antonio Menvina
Minister-Counselor
Delegation of the Commission of
European Communities, Washington, DC

United States Observers

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Deputy Chief
Environmental/Natural Resources Division
Bureau for Europe
U.S. Agency for International
Development

Ms. Anna Phillips
Central European Program Manager
Office of International Activities
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Ms. Kelly Knight
International Trade Specialist
Business Information Service for the
Newly Independent States
U.S. Department of Commerce

Dr. Murray Feshbach
Georgetown University

FEB 22 '93 14:56 CENTER DEMOCRACY

World Bank

Mr. Richard Ackerman
Senior Policy Analyst
Environmental Division

Mr. Michael Rathnam
Senior Country Officer for Kazakhstan

Howard Gilman Foundation

Mr. Howard Gilman
Chairman

Dr. James A. Smith
Executive Director

Ambassador Marcello Guidi
Trustee

Mr. Michael Gary
Program Associate

The Center for Democracy

Professor Allen Weinstein
President and CEO

Mr. James H. Scheuer
Member of the Board of Directors
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Peter G. Kelly, Esq. (Washington portion)
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Center for Democracy Staff:

Mr. Paul Nathanson
Program Director

Ms. Susan Orttung
Assistant Program Director

Mr. Thomas Reems
Program Assistant

Mr. Alexander Kravtsov
Moscow Representative

TO: The Vice President
FROM: Katie McGinty
DATE: February 23, 1993
RE: Meeting with Environmental Ministers of Eastern Europe

I. PURPOSE OF THEIR VISIT

You are meeting today with the Environmental Ministers from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, who are in Washington, D.C. to develop concrete steps to address the overwhelming ecological crisis of Eastern Europe through both effective self help and cooperation with older democracies. The ministers issued The White Oak Statement in Washington, D.C. on February 22 calling for an Environmental Information Exchange System, including a "green" telephone "hotline", collaboration on national environmental legislation and standards, as well as on interstate and transboundary problems, and support of Regional Environmental Agreements. See attached list of participants.

II. DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN EASTERN EUROPE

- * The reliance in the past 45 years on production targets, overemphasis on development of heavy industry, and lack of investment in pollution prevention and control are the major contributing factors to the pervasive environmental problems in the region.

III. CURRENT U.S. EFFORTS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

- * USAID's Environmental Initiatives Program promotes policy and price reform, encourages privatization and adoption by the private sector of efficient and environmentally sound technology.
- * Improved Public Sector Environmental Services provides technical assistance and training to improve the environmental quality in Central and Eastern Europe and to strengthen government's capacity to provide public sector environment services in the region.

IV. INVITATION TO LUCERNE

- * You should be aware that you have been invited to a pan-European conference to be held in Lucerne in the near future. Participants of the conference will be the European Environmental Ministers. They will be discussing cooperative environmental efforts between East and West. We have declined the invitation, but we are trying to schedule for Carol Browner.

TALKING POINTS:

- * Discuss generally the priority of the environment.
- * Discuss Eastern European environmental problems.
- * Mention our ongoing efforts.
- * Look forward to further cooperation.
- * Ask their ideas and suggestions.

Who is to
Eileen's right?
Dana Marshall -- a detainee
from State or Lear's
staff.

Documents Adopted at the White Oak Meeting

We, the Ministers for the Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources and other related officials of Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, gathered at the invitation of the Center for Democracy and the Howard Gilman Foundation at the White Oak Conservation Center (USA) and guided by the interests of environmental security for the countries we represent, after three days of discussions have agreed on the following specific measures:

Document No. 1

On Establishing an Effective Environmental Information Exchange System (Setting up National Communication Points)

We have agreed to take measures for establishing an effective system of information transfer linking official environmental bodies and interested non-governmental environmental organizations throughout the above-mentioned countries in a timely manner. The system will use E-mail, telephone, faxes and other technologies.

To this end, each country will designate communication points and report to all other countries their main -- and any additional -- addresses and telephone, fax, telex and E-mail numbers. The names of the persons responsible for receiving and transmitting this information (and their substitutes) will also be given. In the course of work, the method for transmitting, receiving, and distributing information will be developed. [See two examples of National Communication Point design in Supplement 1 at the end of this statement.]

- Clean water
- Forest initiatives
- ~~end~~ end of some nuclear reactor research for
- energy efficiency - green light

But the experimenters have
understand how domestically is what
they face -- environmentally sound
econ. growth.
→ our econ plan takes important steps
- clean

~~any other in your business in gathering~~
~~knows business~~
~~same group~~
~~business~~
~~I'll say to gather them but will be~~
~~very different at the of the latter~~
~~active~~

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"The Environmental Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union: Strategies and Solutions"

Participants List

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Minister, State Committee of Environment
Protection
Turkmenistan

Mr. Yuri G. Ruban
First Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environmental Protection
Ukraine

Mr. Askhad S. Khabibulaev
Minister of Environmental Protection
Uzbekistan

Inter-European Organizations

Mr. Fladio Cotti (Washington portion)
Federal Counselor, Ministry of the Interior
Switzerland
and
Chairman, "Environment for Europe"
(Pan-European Ministerial Conference on
the Environment, April 1993)

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Member, Committee on the Environment
of the Parliamentary Assembly
Council of Europe

Mr. Antonio Menvina
Minister-Counselor
Delegation of the Commission of
European Communities, Washington, DC

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Environmental/Natural Resources Division
Bureau for Europe
U.S. Agency for International
Development

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Office of International Activities
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Ms. Kelly Knight
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Business Information Service for the
Newly Independent States
U.S. Department of Commerce

Dr. Murray Feshbach
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World Bank

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Environmental Division

Mr. Michael Rathnam
Senior Country Officer for Kazakhstan

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For Immediate Release
February 16, 1993

Contacts: Paul Nathanson
Jennifer Arangio
202/429-9141

******MEDIA ADVISORY******

TO: ALL WASHINGTON-BASED NEWS MEDIA
FROM: THE CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY
**RE: PRESS CONFERENCE: Environmental Ministers from Eastern Europe/
Former Soviet Union Unveil Proposals to Address their Region's
Environmental Crises**

DATE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1993
TIME: 10:30AM
PLACE: NATIONAL PRESS CLUB -- Burke and White Rooms, 13th fl.

WHO: Alexei Yablokov, Counsellor for Ecology and Public Health, Russian Federation
Allen Weinstein, President, The Center for Democracy; and
Twenty-two Ministers of Environment from Central and Eastern Europe and
the Former Soviet Union

FOCUS: Ministers of Environment representing 22 countries in Central and Eastern Europe, the
Baltic States, and the Commonwealth of Independent States will announce proposals to
address the region's environmental crises resulting from their February 19-21 meeting
on "The Environmental Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet
Union: Strategies and Solutions." The visit is co-sponsored by The Center for
Democracy and the Howard Gilman Foundation.

The ministers are meeting privately at the Howard Gilman Foundation's White Oak Conservation Center on the Florida-Georgia border where they will sign a series of working documents to promote better cooperation and address environmental problems in the region. They will be in Washington on February 22-23 to meet with Clinton Administration officials (including Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Carol Browner and other cabinet members), Members of Congress, and leaders of U.S. environmental non-governmental organizations.

A list of participating ministers is attached. For information on the ministers' schedule or the press conference, please contact Paul Nathanson or Jennifer Arangio at 202/429-9141.

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE AND THE FORMER SOVIET UNION: STRATEGIES AND SOLUTIONS

February 19-21, The White Oak Conservation Center
February 22-23, Washington, DC

Organized by The Center for Democracy and the Howard Gilman Foundation

Schedule

Thursday, February 18

Evening: **Participants arrive at White Oak**

8:00pm **Buffet Dinner**
Location: Lake Lodge

Friday, February 19

8:00am **Breakfast**
Location: Lake Lodge

9:00am **Tour of White Oak and Briefing by White Oak Staff**

11:00am **Opening Session**
Location (all sessions): Big Game Building Conference Room

Welcome:

Mr. Howard Gilman, The Howard Gilman Foundation

Opening Remarks:

Prof. Allen Weinstein, President, The Center for Democracy

Prof. Alexei Yablokov, Russian State Counsellor for Ecology and
Public Health

Noon: **Session One: Opening Statements**

Each participating minister will be invited to make brief remarks.

1:00pm **Lunch**

Location: Lake Lodge

2:30pm **Discussion of Working Documents**

"Establishing an Effective Information Exchange System"

(Working Document 1), and "The Principal Directions of Environmental Information Exchange" (Working Document 2)

"Harmonizing Environmental Legislation from Different Countries" (Working Document 3)

8:00pm **Buffett Dinner**

Location: Lake Lodge

9:30pm **Big Game Building open for recreation**

Screening of "The Last Show on Earth"

Saturday, February 20

8:00am **Breakfast**

Location: Lake Lodge

9:00am **Continuation of Discussion of Working Documents**

"Priority Problems of Cooperation Among Participating Countries in Environmental Protection" (Working Document 4)

"Support for Regional Environmental Agreements" (Working Document 5)

10:45am **Break**

11:00am **Working Session**

Topic: "Participation of the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Baltic States and the Republics of the former Soviet Union in the Resolution of Environmental and Related Global Problems"

1:00pm **Barbeque Lunch**
Location: Roseland

2:30pm **Working Session**

Topic: "Environmental Assistance from the United States, Canada and Western Europe: Communication and Cooperation"

8:00 **Reception and Dinner**
Location: Old Lodge

Sunday, February 21

8:00am **Breakfast**
Location: Lake Lodge

9:00am **Closing Session**

Discussion of the pan-European Ministerial Conference (April 1993)

Concluding remarks

11:30am **Memorial tree planting ceremony**

12:00pm **Lunch**
Location: Lake Lodge
Participants should have their luggage ready by 1:15pm

1:30pm **Depart for St. Marys Paper Mill**

2:00 **Tour of St. Marys Paper Mill**

3:30pm **Departure for Airport**

5:00pm **Departure to Washington**

8:35pm **Arrival in Washington**

Monday, February 22

(NOTE: Preliminary Schedule - times subject to change)

9:00am **Breakfast hosted by the Hon. Flavio Cotti, Federal Counselor, Ministry of Interior, Switzerland**

Location: Embassy of Switzerland, 2900 Cathedral Ave., NW

Mr. Cotti is the Chairman of the Pan-European Ministerial conference, to be held in Lucerne, Switzerland on April 28-30, 1993

10:30am **Press Conference by the Ministers**

Location: National Press Club, The Edward Burke and Lisagor White Rooms

12:15pm **Lunch hosted by World Bank Vice President Wilfried Thalwitz**

Location: World Bank, 701 19th Street NW

2:00pm **Briefing at the Environmental Protection Agency**

3:00pm **EPA Briefing**

Panel Discussions:

Panel One: Economic Instruments

Panel Two: Privatization/Liability

Panel Three: Pollution Prevention

Panel Four: Clean Air Act

Panel Five: Innovative Technologies

Panel Six: Water Management

7:00pm **Dinner in honor of the Ministers and Screening of *Blue Planet* hosted by The Center for Democracy and the Smithsonian Institution**

Location: National Air and Space Museum

Invited guests will include House and Senate environmental leaders, Administration environmental leaders, ambassadors, heads of environmental non-governmental organizations.

Tuesday, February 23

10:00am **Meetings on Capitol Hill with the U.S. Congress**

Host: Senator John F. Kerry (D-Massachusetts)

Noon **Lunch hosted by Ambassador James Michel, Acting Administrator, United States Agency for International Development**

Location: Benjamin Franklin Room, Eighth Floor, U.S. Department of State

1:30pm **Meeting with The Hon. Tim Wirth, Counselor, Department of State
(pending his confirmation)**

3:30pm **Meeting with U.S. Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations**
co-sponsored with the World Resources Institute
Location: ANA Hotel, 2401 M Street, NW
(reception to follow)

Evening: **Dinner**

Wednesday, February 24

Departure for home countries

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The Board of Directors of the Center for Democracy expresses the deepest appreciation to the Directors and Staff of

The Howard Gilman Foundation

for co-sponsorship and primary funding of this program.

The Center would also like to thank the following for financial support given to the Washington portion of this program:

Trust for Mutual Understanding

Bechtel Group Incorporated

Blue Planet Technologies

Castle Group, Ltd.

Ciba-Geigy Corporation

Xenometrix Incorporated

• Budget Center
• US AID / State Dept } several ministries

* experiment here $\rightarrow$ env't/economy.

[clear signals $\rightarrow$ think long term & be clear.

$\rightarrow$ integrate environmental policy w/ all other policy objectives.

policy choice but $\rightarrow$ clear signal
partnership

$\rightarrow$ searching
first strategy

• FET

Document No. 3

On Harmonizing Environmental Legislation, Standards and Norms of Different Countries

Guided by the urgent necessity of bringing together and, if necessary, harmonizing the national environmental legislation, standards and norms of different countries and using the legislative experience of different countries in the area of environmental and natural resource protection, we have agreed to exchange the following during 1993:

1. complete sets of the texts of national laws now in force in this area in an official language;
2. plans for developing new national legislation, standards and norms;
3. information on special bilateral, regional and global conventions or agreements on environmental protection (or the corresponding articles from more general agreements) which have been concluded by each country;

and to continue this exchange on a regular basis in the future.

The designated materials should be distributed through the national communication points specified in Document No. 1.

Director of International
Environmental Issues, NSC

The Center for Democracy

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Washington, DC
February 22, 1993

The White Oak Statement

We Ministers of Environment and environmental officials from twenty-one new democracies (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan)

- wishing to strengthen and widen the process of cooperation among ourselves at the ministerial level on environmental issues begun at earlier meetings between 1990 and 1992 at Bergen, Helsinki, Dublin, Dobris, and High Tartras;
- anxious to sustain and extend in our practical efforts the spirit and substance of the recent United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro;
- recognizing, as the Rio meeting acknowledged, that environmental factors must be integrated into the fabric of economic decision making at all levels in support of a program of sustainable development
- reviewing the draft "Action Plan" got the April 1993 ministerial conference on "Environment in Europe" to be held in Switzerland.

have come to the United States to meet together for the first time to share our common concerns and to plan in common our strategies. These are outlined in the documents which follow.

We have come to develop concrete steps to address the overwhelming ecological crisis of our region, a crisis created by the cruel indifference toward environmental responsibility of the previous totalitarian governments. Now, through both effective self help and cooperation with our friends in the older democracies, through deeds and not words alone, we take up our common challenge, as friends in our new democracies even in the midst of regional strife.

We call upon the organizers of the pan-European conference in Lucerne to address the following proposals and to consider the importance of involving all the nations represented at White Oak.

We call upon environmentally-concerned international funding groups to provide timely support for these proposals, and we urge additional assistance from non-governmental organizations throughout the democratic world.

We note, finally, a crucial fact validated by our presence here today: that by addressing our environmental problems seriously and cooperatively, we also address in a constructive manner the existing political conflicts of our region.

Document No. 2

On the Principal Directions of Environmental Information Exchange

Guided by the urgent necessity of developing a system for receiving the most complete and objective information possible on the environmental conditions and tendencies of change in each of the countries, we have agreed:

1. to prepare and distribute information on names, addresses, and telephone and fax numbers for ministries and other agencies involved in environmental issues in the participating countries;
2. if possible, to establish an early warning system, including a "green" telephone "hot line," among designated official organizations involved to respond to environmental incidents with possible transboundary effects;
3. to collect and distribute information to prevent the illegal transboundary transfer of toxic and other hazardous wastes, developing a method of collecting, transmitting and receiving this information;
4. to distribute among one another, by means including a depository library, relevant public documents: specifically, national reports on the state of the environment upon their publication and action plans after they are officially adopted, including official decisions on specific directions for protecting the environment.
5. to designate a point of contact for each country to work with the organizers of this meeting to implement points 2, 3, and 4.

The materials designated in paragraphs 1-4 will be distributed through the national communication points established by special agreement (see Document No. 1).

Before you take off, I need to
talk to you re meeting Tony tells
~~me~~ me you want to have w/
Laverne tomorrow.

We can put it off until
later tomorrow. Can I call
you at home tonight?

It's about specific suggestion
for inclusion in the Nat'l Service
Program.

Document No. 4**On the Priority Problems for Inter-State Cooperation on Protecting the Environment**

Guided by the urgent necessity of improving the environmental situation in our region, we have agreed to join efforts aimed at expeditiously addressing the following problems:

1. development of principles concerning liability for environmental damage caused by transboundary effects;
2. harmonization of national environmental monitoring systems by introducing the most safe methodology;
3. development of a compendium of appropriate and clean environmental technologies (specifying their characteristics and the organizations/companies possessing them) and implementation of international projects for developing and introducing such environmental technologies (including those relating to military conversion);
4. elaboration of new economic mechanisms for improving environmental protection and enhancing the efficiency of using natural resources (including training programs and the preparation of analytical reports on the international experience of using such economic mechanisms and new trends);
5. identification of and support for resolving urgent, emerging regional and global environmental problems;
6. identification also of environmental conventions and protocols which have been signed, ratified or will be applied by each country, and the exchange of information concerning implementation of these legal documents;
7. development of an oversight system on compliance with the adopted international agreements on environmental protection (including reporting procedures on implementation of the agreements, evaluation of data reliability and completeness, a set of measures in case of non-compliance, and other assistance).

Document No. 5**On Support of Regional Environmental Agreements**

Guided by our urgent interest in the most expedient, efficient resolution of regional and transboundary problems, we support in every way possible the implementation (and, where absent, the development and conclusion) of special regional agreements by interested countries. These agreements would include, but not be limited to, the following critical transboundary problems requiring the most urgent attention: Chernobyl and Semipalatinsk; the Aral Sea basin and Lake Sevan; the Black Sea (especially the Danube and Dnieper basins), Baltic Sea, Caspian Sea and their basins.

Note: Nothing in any documents herein adopted should be seen as conflicting with existing bilateral or multi-lateral agreements entered into by the signatory countries.

Talking Points - Environmental Ministers of Eastern Europe
February 23, 1993

- o After greeting the ministers, talk generally about the Administration's support of improving environmental problems in Eastern European Democracies.
- o Open the floor to their thoughts on how we can assist their cause.
- o Background - The ministers issued The White Oak Statement in Washington calling for an Environmental Information Exchange System, including a "green" telephone "hotline", collaboration on national environmental legislation and standards, as well as on interstate and transboundary problems, and support of Regional Environmental Agreements.

VP
Katie
Leon
Lileen
Bob Hutchings
Strobe Talbott
East. Eur.
will be Amb designate
@ Large
Special Advisor
to Sec of State
to newly formed
republics
Lucern

TO: The Vice President
FROM: Katie McGinty
DATE: February 23, 1993
RE: Meeting with Environmental Ministers of Eastern Europe

I. PURPOSE OF THEIR VISIT

You are meeting today with the Environmental Ministers from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, who are in Washington, D.C. to develop concrete steps to address the overwhelming ecological crisis of Eastern Europe through both effective self help and cooperation with older democracies. The ministers issued The White Oak Statement in Washington, D.C. on February 22 calling for an Environmental Information Exchange System, including a "green" telephone "hotline", collaboration on national environmental legislation and standards, as well as on interstate and transboundary problems, and support of Regional Environmental Agreements.

II. DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN EASTERN EUROPE

- * The reliance in the past 45 years on production targets, overemphasis on development of heavy industry, and lack of investment in pollution prevention and control are the major contributing factors to the pervasive environmental problems in the region.

III. CURRENT U.S. EFFORTS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

- * USAID's Environmental Initiatives Program promotes policy and price reform, encourages privatization and adoption by the private sector of efficient and environmentally sound technology.
- * Improved Public Sector Environmental Services provides technical assistance and training to improve the environmental quality in Central and Eastern Europe and to strengthen government's capacity to provide public sector environment services in the region.

IV. INVITATION TO LUCERNE

- * You should be aware that you have been invited to a pan-European conference to be held in Lucerne in the near future. Participants of the conference will be the European Environmental Ministers. They will be discussing cooperative environmental efforts between East and West. We have declined the invitation, but we are trying to schedule for Carol Browner.

TALKING POINTS:

- * Discuss generally the priority of the environment.
- * Discuss Eastern European environmental problems.
- * Mention our ongoing efforts.
- * Look forward to further cooperation.
- * Ask their ideas and suggestions.

The Center for Democracy

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Washington, D.C. 20005
202/429-9141
FAX: 202/293-1768



**"The Environmental Crisis in Central and Eastern Europe
and the Former Soviet Union: Strategies and Solutions"**

Participants List

Eastern Europe/Former Soviet Union:

Mr. Lirim Selfo
Chairman, Committee of Environmental
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Ms. Karine S. Danielyan
Minister of Nature and Environmental
Protection
Armenia

Mr. Rafik I. Ismaelov
State Advisor for Humanitarian Issues
Azerbaijan

Dr. Anatoly M. Dorafeev
Chairman, State Committee of Ecology
Belarus

Mr. Valentin Mirchev Bossevsky
Minister of the Environment
Bulgaria

Dr. Simeon Bozhanov Advisor to the
President of Bulgaria
Bulgaria

Dr. Svatomir Mlcoch
Deputy Minister of the Environment
Czech Republic

Mr. Andres Tarand (Washington portion)
Minister of Environmental Protection
Estonia

Mr. Tonis Kaasik
Former Minister of Environment
Representative of the Ministry of
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Mr. Shota A. Adame
Minister of Environmental Protection
Georgia

Mr. Istvan Tokes
Head of the Department of International
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Ministry of Environment and Regional
Policy
Hungary

Mr. Svyatoslav A. Medvedev
Minister of Ecology and Bioresources
Kazakhstan

Mr. Olegs Batarevskis
Chairman, Supreme Council Commission
on Environmental Protection
Latvia

Mr. Evaldas Vebra
General Director, Department of
Environmental Protection
Lithuania

Dr. Ivan I. Dedju
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Mr. Jacek Purat
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Ministry of Environmental Protection,
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Mr. Aurel Constantin Ilie
Minister of Water, Forest Management,
and Protection of the Environment
Romania

Dr. Victor I. Danilov-Daniljan
Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources
Russian Federation

Dr. Alexei Yablokov
State Counsellor on Ecology and Public
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Russian Federation

Mr. Josef Zlocha
Minister of Environmental Protection
Slovakia

Mr. Nematulo Safarov
Deputy Minister of Environmental
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Tajikistan

Mr. Nurmukhamed A. Ashirov
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Protection
Turkmenistan

Mr. Yuri G. Ruban
First Deputy Minister
Ministry of Environmental Protection
Ukraine

Mr. Askhad S. Khabibulaev
Minister of Environmental Protection
Uzbekistan

Inter-European Organizations

Mr. Fladio Cotti (Washington portion)
Federal Counselor, Ministry of the Interior
Switzerland
and
Chairman, "Environment for Europe"
(Pan-European Ministerial Conference on
the Environment, April 1993)

Mrs. Hanne Severinsen
Member, Committee on the Environment
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Council of Europe

Mr. Antonio Menvina
Minister-Counselor
Delegation of the Commission of
European Communities, Washington, DC

United States Observers

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Ms. Kelly Knight
International Trade Specialist
Business Information Service for the
Newly Independent States
U.S. Department of Commerce

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Georgetown University

World Bank

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Howard Gilman Foundation

Mr. Howard Gilman
Chairman

Dr. James A. Smith
Executive Director

Ambassador Marcello Guidi
Trustee

Mr. Michael Gary
Program Associate

The Center for Democracy

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Peter G. Kelly, Esq. (Washington portion)
Chairman of the Board of Directors

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Mr. Thomas Reems
Program Assistant

Mr. Alexander Kravtsov
Moscow Representative

Decades of centrally planned economics in Central and Eastern European countries have created disastrous environmental situations. The reliance in the past 45 years on production targets, overemphasis on development of heavy industry, and lack of investment in pollution prevention and control are major contributing factors to the pervasive environmental problems in the region. Acute air, water, and soil pollution are evident throughout the region. In Poland, for example, only four percent of rivers can be used as drinking water sources and over 60 percent of the population suffers from pollution-related illnesses. In Central and Eastern Europe's industrialized regions, life expectancy is as much as eight years less than in non-industrialized areas.

USAID is acting to improve the capacities of Central and Eastern European governments, businesses, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to address environmental problems and use natural resources more efficiently. USAID has achieved considerable progress, obligating over \$60 million for environment programs. USAID, in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other organizations, has developed and begun implementation of country programs in Poland, Hungary, the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic (CSFR), Bulgaria, Romania, and the Baltics.

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

USAID's Environmental Initiatives Project aims to improve the capacity of countries in the region to address environmental and energy management problems and to plan for future environmental improvements. The project is specifically directed at promoting policy and price reform, encouraging privatization and adoption by the private sector of efficient and environmentally sound technology.

Under this project, a five-year cooperative agreement was established with the World Environment Center (WEC) to promote private sector approaches to environmental management. WEC provides equipment and technical assistance and training for environmental economic policy reform, industrial health and safety, pollution prevention, and industrial environmental efficiency audits. Through this program, a partnership has been established that allows WEC to obtain *pro bono* services from U.S. industry for industrial health, safety, and pollution prevention.

The governments of Bulgaria, the CSFR, and Romania, together with USAID, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the World Bank, have jointly developed Environmental Action Plans for the three countries. These efforts have served to identify key policy reforms that are needed to support economic development and improve environmental conditions, set priorities, and

increase public awareness of environmental problems. In the CSFR and Bulgaria, this assistance influenced critical decisions to make the governments, instead of the investor, liable for past environmental damages in formerly state-owned property. This policy reform will reduce one more barrier for investors and speed up privatization. Similar Environmental Action Plans are currently underway in the Baltic States.

Through a sub-grant from the World Environment Center to the Harvard Institute for International Development, additional technical assistance and long-term policy advisors will be provided to Eastern European countries. These advisors are helping countries to identify and undertake policy reforms and change prices so that environmental investments can be made on an economically sound basis. Policy advisors will be provided in Poland, the CSFR, and Hungary.

Through an interagency agreement with the EPA, a Regional Environmental Center (REC) was established in Budapest, Hungary. This independent, non-governmental organization promotes ecologically sustainable development and public awareness throughout the region. The REC has been active in working to strengthen NGOs and has issued over 72 grants to a wide variety of environmental organizations working in Central and Eastern Europe for a total value of over \$1.3 million. Regional outreach offices have been set up in Bulgaria, the CSFR, Poland, and Romania. The EPA has also been very active in Poland, where major environmental initiatives are underway. Currently the EPA is overseeing the third and final year of a \$5 million program of air monitoring and water quality enhancement initiatives in Krakow. The air monitoring network has been installed and is being integrated with the World Bank air quality improvement project for Upper Silesia.

IMPROVED PUBLIC SECTOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

This project provides technical assistance and training to improve the environmental quality in Central and Eastern Europe and to strengthen governments' capacity to provide public sector environmental services in the region.

Through its Danube River Program, USAID has supported activities aimed at reducing transboundary pollution between neighboring countries in Central and Eastern Europe. The United States was one of the first bilateral donors to join the Danube Task Force and is a key member of the steering committee. USAID is also the lead donor in the Danube River Investment Program, a program collaboration with the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the European Community's environmental program, to identify priority investments to clean up

the Danube and its tributaries. As of April 1992, \$1 million of U.S. Government funds had generated \$30 million in additional assistance from other donor countries.

Through an interagency agreement with the EPA, training has been quickly mobilized for ministries of environment in environmental policy, planning, and management. EPA assistance addresses legislation, regulatory reform, standard setting, risk assessment, and environmental impact assessment. A regional program to improve air quality and environmental management in the northern CSFR and southern Poland is also being undertaken with the World Bank.

A \$1 million, two-year grant was awarded to the U.S. Center for Clean Air Policy to assist local governments in environmental management. Under the grant a long-term advisor has been based in Prague, and a Czech delegation has reviewed the plant operations and financing of wastewater treatment facilities in the United States. A \$5.2 million, three-year contract was signed with Research Triangle Institute in North Carolina to provide similar assistance to Poland and Hungary.

Funds have been provided to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the National Park Service (NPS) for training and technical assistance in national park development. USAID, with the World Bank, developed a \$6 million Global Environment Facility (GEF) Project in the CSFR. WWF and the NPS will be coordinating NGO activities within the Bieszczady Tri-National Park (Poland, the CSFR, and Ukraine). In Bulgaria, WWF and the NPS are providing technical assistance to the newly established nature protection agency, including sponsorship of a National Nature Conservation Strategy Workshop. The NPS is also sponsoring a study tour to the U.S. for Bulgarian park rangers and officials from the Ministry of Environment and Committee of Forests to learn new approaches to park administration and management.

ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING

This project will improve the long-term capabilities of Central and East European countries to improve environmental conditions and promote the efficient use of natural resources while balancing economic growth with environmental concerns. The training under this project is not simply a transfer of knowledge through traditional classroom settings or seminars, but rather, provides participants with "hands on" experience to strengthen the effectiveness of environmental managers throughout the region. The majority of the training will be conducted in-country and will meet the specific country's needs. The training will be conducted in the local language, and will contain site-specific case studies.

The University of Minnesota Consortium (including the University of Minnesota, The Institute for Sustainable Communities at the University of Vermont Law School, and the Center for Hazardous Materials Research at the University of Pittsburgh) has received a USAID grant for training in environmental policy and planning, business management, and public outreach. Training programs will be underway by late summer 1992.

Through a grant to a Duke University-led Consortium, USAID is undertaking economics and finance training in Hungary and the CSFR. For example, in Hungary, environmental economists are being trained in environmental policy, economic instruments, and financing related to water quality improvements. Training in the CSFR is linked to other priority economic issues that affect environmental quality and public health.

For more information, contact:

Agency for International Development
Ron Greenberg (202) 647-8263.

The Center for Democracy

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Washington, D.C. 20005
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Telecopier Cover SheetDATE: Feb. 22, 1993

FAX No.

395-6042

TO:

Dana Marshall
Office of the Vice-President

FROM:

Allen Weinstein

() FYI

(X) URGENT

() CONFIDENTIAL

Number of pages, including this page:

10

MESSAGE:

identifying information (DOB, passport no.)
to follow, as well as total no. of visitors
for the Feb. 23 meeting with
Vice-President Gore.

Thank you.

4:45 - 5:15 to brief him on this
do you need Zornick?

*is this
going to be
open or
closed?
any
impetus
in Admin
to help
them?*

play up w/press



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

Facsimile Transmission

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Date: 2/22/93

of Pages: (Including Cover) 3

FROM: Peter F. Mulrean
Special Assistant
East European Assistance

TEL: 202-647-0695

FAX: 202-647-0414

TO: Da Marshall
OVP
395-6042

As per conversation with Bob
Hutchings, here is the info
on environment programs
in central and eastern Europe

C. Mulrean

02/23/93

08:52

202 647 0753

*file Enviro Ministers
eastern Europe*



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

FAX COVER SHEET

TO:

NAME: Dana Marshall
Office of the Vice President

PHONE NUMBER: 395-6042

FAX NUMBER: 395-6042

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FROM:

NAME: Christina M. Rufenacht

OFFICE: S/NIS, U.S. Department of State

PHONE NUMBER: 202-647 3099

FAX NUMBER: 202-647-2636

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: 3

Per your request, attached is a fact sheet on the USG program on environmental assistance to the new independent states (NIS) of the former Soviet Union. Please do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions regarding this information.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND TECHNOLOGY

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

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Strategic Objectives

- Policy and Institution Building: support to foster sound environmental policy, strengthen important government environmental institutions, and develop comprehensive environmental laws and regulations that support the shift from command to free market economies and democratic societies.
- Private Sector Technology Support: promoting the growth of an indigenous private sector in environmental management, and developing a market for U.S. environmental technology, to generate improvements in environmental quality.
- Public Awareness and Environmental Accountability: enhancing public awareness of environmental issues and encouraging participation in addressing them, through support to non-governmental organizations and the media.

Budget Data

U.S. Assistance (\$ Thous.)	1990	1991	1992	1993 Est.
New Independent States Fund	0	0	0	7,000
Economic Support Fund	0	0	0	5,000
TOTAL	0	0	0	12,000

CURRENT STATUS

A.I.D.'s environmental project begins in December 1992, and will build on existing U.S. - NIS ties. Some initial activities have already been undertaken with financing available through the NIS Special Initiatives Project.

A disastrous Soviet legacy of widespread contamination, natural resource mismanagement, and other environmental problems impose costly health and financial burdens on the Newly Independent States as they make the transition to democratic governments and free market economies. A.I.D. is contributing to both immediate and long-term environmental quality improvements, working with the three key groups who share responsibility for sound environmental

and EPA are

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION

management: government, the private sector, and responsible citizen organizations. Action is undertaken at both the national policy level and in carefully selected demonstration regions. Major attention will be given to Russia, given the size and importance of the environmental problems there. A.I.D. cannot fund major clean-up activities, given the major costs involved, but will cooperate with the World Bank and other institutions with investment capital to identify the highest priority environmental investments. This is expected to result in significant leveraging of limited U.S. resources to achieve major investment impact.

HIGHLIGHTS OF RESULTS

Although the project is just beginning, some initial actions have started using other quick-start NIS funding mechanisms:

- Russian Environmental Liabilities Task Force: Advisors are assisting the Russian Committee for State Property to address environmental policies and liability issues which constrain privatization and U.S. investment.
- Russian Forest Policy Conference/Workshop: A.I.D. sponsored a gathering of key NIS decision-makers, U.S. company representatives such as Weyerhaeuser, the World Bank and other donors to review current restructuring problems and set priorities for forestry sector policy and institutional reforms. (October 1992)
- Magazine Supplement in *Business and the Ex-USSR*: Funded an article summarizing U.S. environmental management experience and the role of American business in the publication with the largest circulation in the NIS (October 1992 issue).
- Environmental Non-Governmental Organization Communication: A.I.D. is supporting environmental NGOs in the NIS to strengthen their communication networks and ability to share information and experience.

TO: The Vice President
FROM: Katie McGinty
DATE: February 23, 1993
RE: Meeting with Environmental Ministers of Eastern Europe

I. PURPOSE OF THEIR VISIT

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She has accepted

TALKING POINTS:

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