

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: allan berg <bergax@cs.jmu.edu> (allan berg <bergax@cs.jmu.edu> [UNKNOWN])

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SUBJECT: 30 September 1999 NMIA ZGram (fwd)

TO: Recipient List Hidden by JMU mail server <list@jmu.edu> (Recipient List Hidden by JMU mail server <list@jmu.edu> [UNKNOWN])

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TEXT:

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Date: Wed, 29 Sep 1999 22:16:00 -0500

From: Cyberwynd <cyberwynd@worldnet.att.net>

To: webmaster@nmia.org

Subject: 30 September 1999 NMIA ZGram

30 September 1999 ZGram?

Good Morning All,

If you get a chance, check out today's Item 29. In this article says Juan Enriquez, a former Mexican government official who is now a researcher at Harvard University's David Rockefeller Center for Latin American studies postulates that the creation of new countries in the Americas could occur in the near future as the result of globalization. Interesting.

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US?

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29. Latam Scholar Says New Nations Could Emerge in the Americas (by Eric Green, USIA, 29 Sept 1999)
30. U.S.- Ukraine Rocket Technology Safeguards Agreement (29 Sept 1999)

Take care and have a super day,

Zhi

1. Navy Tests Theater Missile Defense - Navy's First Shipboard Test Launch Yields Success (29 Sept 1999)
USS SHILOH (CG 67) conducted the AEGIS Light Exo-Atmospheric Projectile Intercept (ALI) Control Test Vehicle 1A (CTV-1A) flight test in the mid-Pacific using the range facilities of the Pacific Missile Range Facility at Kauai, Hawaii, on Sept. 24. The CTV-1A flight test demonstrated the first shipboard launch of the Standard Missile 3 (SM-3), the U.S. Navy's new exo-atmospheric missile designed to counter the theater ballistic missile threat.

The launch achieved all test objectives demonstrating airframe stability and control through the second and third stage separation event.

The ALI project, part of the Navy Theater Wide (NTW) Theater Missile Defense program, is a progressive series of flight tests which culminate in a series of intercepts of theater ballistic missile targets in the exo-atmosphere. CTV-1A is a significant milestone in the ALI flight test series.

The Ballistic Missile Defense Organization in Washington, D.C., and the Navy's Program Executive Office for Theater Surface Combatants (PEO(TSC)) are responsible for developing and fielding highly effective, AEGIS ship-based, missile defense for the joint warfighter. PEO(TSC) executes the NTW program. Lockheed Martin Government Electronic Systems develops the AEGIS weapon system installed in AEGIS cruisers. Raytheon Missile Systems Co. develops the SM-3 Missile.

2. U.S. Prepares For Natural And Man-Made Disasters (PRNewswire, 29 Sept 1999)

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. - West Virginia University in the United States and six industry groups, together with the U.S. National Guard Bureau, have announced a public/private partnership to apply information technology to help U.S. communities and those across the globe respond to natural or man-made disasters. They have formed the International Telemedicine Collaboratory(R). Through an agreement, signed in Morgantown, W.Va., USA, Thursday, Sept. 30, they announced creation of a Virtual Medical Campus (VMC)(R). The VMC will help prepare for the use of biological or chemical weapons and other man-made or natural disasters. It will use integrated online knowledge bases capable of providing quick response to emergencies such as anthrax or sarin gas attacks by terrorist organizations.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://library.northernlight.com/FB19990929670000074.html?cb=0&dx=1006&sc=0#doc>

3. President Clinton Names Avis Thayer Bohlen As Assistant Secretary In The Bureau Of Arms Control At The Department Of State (29 Sept 1999)

The President today announced his intent to nominate Avis Thayer Bohlen to be Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Arms Control at the U.S. Department of State. Ambassador Avis Thayer Bohlen, of the District of Columbia, most recently served as Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria from August 1996 to August 1999. Joining the Foreign Service in 1977, Ambassador Bohlen has held a variety of positions during her tenure. These include Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Paris, Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and Canadian Affairs, Director of the Office of European Regional and Security Affairs, Director of the Office of Western European Affairs and Chief of the Arms Control and Strategic Affairs Unit in the Office of European and Regional Security Affairs. Ambassador Bohlen also participated in the U.S. Delegation to the Negotiations on Mutual and Balanced Force Reduction in Vienna.

4. Congress leaders insist no U.S. food sales to Cuba (Reuters, 29 Sept 1999)

WASHINGTON - Republican leaders in Congress insisted on Wednesday there would be no easing of the long-standing U.S. embargo on Cuba despite farm and business demands that food and medicine sales be allowed.

ZGram Suggested URL:

http://www.abcnews.go.com/wire/World/reuters19990929_3728.html

5. U.S. Latin American forces commander visits Panama (Reuters, 29 Sept 1999)

PANAMA CITY - The commander of U.S. forces in Latin America, Gen. Charles Wilhelm, Wednesday concluded a two-day visit to Panama during which he met with President Mireya Moscoso and commanders overseeing the final stages of the American military withdrawal from the country.

ZGram Suggested URL:

http://www.abcnews.go.com/wire/World/reuters19990929_3717.html

6. Crime and punishment divide shell-shocked Brazil (Reuters, 29 Sept 1999)

RIO DE JANEIRO - Radical new plans to ease overcrowding in Brazil's prison system by freeing nonviolent criminals have divided a population that is bombarded daily with headlines of murder, kidnapping and rape. On Wednesday, Brazil's leading newspaper O Globo ran yet another harrowing tale of an executive kidnapped in Rio -- one of the common crimes that has prompted a public outcry for harsher punishments.

ZGram Suggested URL:

http://www.abcnews.go.com/wire/World/reuters19990929_3384.html

7. Serb Police Break Up Protest March, Several Injured (Reuters, 29 Sept 1999)

BELGRADE - Baton-wielding Serb riot police Wednesday dispersed up to 30,000 protesters marching toward the Belgrade area where Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic lives and works, beating some of them. A doctor at the headquarters of one opposition party told Reuters he had treated twelve people with minor injuries from being struck by nightsticks and kicked.

ZGram Suggested URL:

http://www.abcnews.go.com/wire/World/reuters19990929_3595.html

8. CIS special service heads to meet in St Petersburg Thursday (Itar Tass, 29 Sept 1999)

ST. PETERSBURG - The fight against international terrorism and cooperation in the field of economic security will be high on the agenda of the 6th session of the Council of the Heads of the CIS Security Agencies and Special Services to be held in St. Petersburg on Thursday. The session will also be attended by Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, the press service of the St. Petersburg division of the Federal Security Service told Itar-Tass on Wednesday.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://library.northernlight.com/FC19990929160000113.html?cb=0&dx=1006&sc=0#doc>

9. Russia Continues Pounding Rebel Positions in Chechnya (Xinhua News Agency, 29 Sept 1999)

MOSCOW - Russian federal planes launched bombs and missiles on rebel positions in the breakaway republic of Chechnya for the seventh day running Wednesday amid reports of a pending ground campaign in the North Caucasus province. The Defense Ministry said Wednesday air force planes carry out 50-70 missions daily in Chechnya and that they only target positions belonging to guerrillas, mainly oil refineries and oil storage facilities. The Itar-Tass news agency, quoting a military source in the headquarters of the federal troops in Daghestan, said the positions taken by federal troops on the administrative border with Chechnya indicate that a ground operation against guerrillas there can begin any time soon.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://library.northernlight.com/FC19990929530000108.html?cb=0&dx=1006&sc=0#doc>

10. Lebanese guerillas strike back after Israeli airstrikes (AP, 29 Sept 1999)

NABATIYEH, Lebanon - Lebanese guerrillas attacked a militia outpost Wednesday after three straight days of Israeli air raids, officials said. Israeli jets have been targeting suspected guerrilla bases in south Lebanon. Wednesday morning two jets swooped down on hills and valleys near the market town of Nabatiyeh and fired two missiles, Lebanese security officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

ZGram Suggested URL:

http://www.abcnews.go.com/wire/World/ap19990929_1335.html

11. King Fahd returns to Saudi Arabia from Spain (Reuters, 29 Sept 1999)

DUBAI - Saudi Arabia's ailing King Fahd returned home on Wednesday after more than two months of rest at his mansion in the Spanish resort of Marbella, witnesses and acquaintances of the royal family said. They said members of the Saudi royal family, including Crown Prince Abdullah and Defence Minister Prince Sultan, were at the airport to greet the monarch when his plane touched down at an airbase in the capital Riyadh.

ZGram Suggested URL:

http://www.abcnews.go.com/wire/World/reuters19990929_3663.html

12. Guerrillas Fire on Kashmir Building (AP, 29 Sept 1999)

NEW DELHI, India - Gunmen fired grenade launchers at a heavily-guarded state government building in Kashmir and killed a constable in a gunfight Wednesday, police said. It was the first time since 1991 that militants had gotten close enough to the government building, called the Secretariat, to fire missiles onto the lawns. Police said the gunmen were within 500 yards of the building in Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu-Kashmir state.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://library.northernlight.com/EB19990929690000070.html?cb=0&dx=1006&sc=0#doc>

13. Kazakh president denounces political terrorism (Itar Tass, 29 Sept 1999)

ASTANA - Speaking at the first international meeting of cultural personalities and scientists of Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, which is under way in Astana, Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev said: "Political terrorism, which even the strongest countries of the world have fought for decades without much success, may become one of the main threats to the national security of all the Central Asian nations." Nazarbayev said that "the threat of political extremism and terrorism is one of the lessons of the modern times ... Central Asia is not a field for terrorist experiments. It is the land, which has seen too much blood, and for this reason it cannot remain indifferent to the first indications of the coming chaos." According to the Kazakh president, "political terrorism is the most horrible thing of all that the 21st century may have in store for us ... This is why we should consider most seriously the developments in Tajikistan and the current situation in the southern part of Kirghizia."

ZGram Suggested URL:
<http://library.northernlight.com/FA19990929800000010.html?cb=0&dx=1006&sc=0#doc>

14. Malaysia says West bent on world domination (Reuters, 29 Sept 1999)
UNITED NATIONS - Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad on Wednesday accused the West of trying to impose its values on the world and said Asia faced a bleak future in the 21st century as a result. The rhetoric was strong even for Mahathir, who last year charged Western financial traders with trying to destroy his Southeast Asian nation of 21 million people.

ZGram Suggested URL:
http://www.abcnews.go.com/wire/World/reuters19990929_3444.html

15. Indonesia invites U.S. team to East Timor (Reuters, 29 Sept 1999)
UNITED NATIONS - Indonesia on Wednesday rejected U.S. charges that its military was failing to protect East Timorese refugees under its control and invited Washington to send a new fact-finding mission to the troubled region, a senior U.S. official said. During an "intense but civilised" meeting with Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright agreed to the proposal, the official said. She failed to persuade Jakarta to cooperate with a U.N. investigation into human rights abuses in East Timor, he told reporters.

ZGram Suggested URL:
http://www.abcnews.go.com/wire/World/reuters19990929_3678.html

16. UN, Indonesia, Portugal plan Timor civil services (Reuters, 29 Sept 1999)
UNITED NATIONS - The United Nations wrapped up talks with Indonesia and Portugal on Wednesday about restoring East Timor's emergency services, devastated by weeks of a scorched-earth campaign by rampaging militia. "With security improving, we will be working to get civil society functioning again," U.N. spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva said. "We will be trying to restore utilities such as water, sanitation, communications and transport."

ZGram Suggested URL:
http://www.abcnews.go.com/wire/World/reuters19990929_3726.html

17. Indonesia rejects U.S. charges on Timor (Reuters, 29 Sept 1999)
UNITED NATIONS - Indonesia Wednesday rejected U.S. charges that its military was failing to protect East Timorese refugees under its control and invited Washington to send a new fact-finding mission to the troubled region, a senior U.S. official said.

ZGram Suggested URL:

http://www.abcnews.go.com/wire/World/reuters19990929_3725.html

18.. CIA Sees Future in Silicon Valley (AP, 29 Sept 1999)
The CIA is joining with high-tech entrepreneurs to invest in companies developing technology that could be useful to the agency. The new company has been around for months, but is only now getting organized.

ZGram Suggested URL:

http://www.abcnews.go.com/sections/tech/DailyNews/cia_internet990929.html

19. When companies want swift action against hackers, they don't always call the law (MSNBC, 27 Sept 1999)
You're a bank, and you think someone is trying to hack into your computer system. Where do you turn? Law enforcement offers little help - agencies are overworked and understaffed, and you risk public embarrassment if word gets out. Apparently, there's another option. You might decide to take the law into your own hands. Which means you might call a man known as Lou Cipher. "Lou" says he's spent the last 10 years working for Fortune 500 companies, turning the tables on computer intruders, performing what some have called vigilante justice in cyberspace.

ZGram Suggested URL: <http://www.msnbc.com/news/311611.asp>

20. Cops chase drugs on the Internet (APBNEWS.COM, 23 Sept 1999)
MANY, La. - As the Internet wires together the homes of an ever-increasing number of Americans - law-abiding or not - lawmen have moved into cyberspace to hunt pedophiles, scam artists and hackers. Now, police officers are beginning to use the Net to rein in drug dealers.

ZGram Suggested URL: <http://www.msnbc.com/news/315050.asp>

21. Internet Explorer 5 chews up HTML (BugNet, 28 Sept 1999)
Here's a problem that hasn't come over the consumer horizon yet but is already a serious issue for Web developers. The problem is that Microsoft Internet Explorer 5 (IE5) and Microsoft's underlying MSHTML editing and rendering engine can corrupt some HTML tags.

ZGram Suggested URL: <http://www.msnbc.com/news/316948.asp>

22. ISPs face severe backlogs after fiber-optic cable cut puts out four lines connecting the East and West coasts (Inter@ctive Week, 29 Sept 1999)

At least four Internet service providers are experiencing severe traffic backlogs because of a massive fiber-optic cable cut that put out four OC-192 lines connecting data networks on the East and West Coasts.

ZGram Suggested URL: <http://www.msnbc.com/news/317259.asp>

23. Russia's Y2K Threat (ABCNews.com, 29Sept 1999)

The Y2K bug could crash most of the emergency military hotlines between the United States and Russia, warns a top U.S. official. And if there's a problem with Russia's nuclear weapons, its military may be unprepared to deal with it.

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.abcnews.go.com/sections/world/DailyNews/russiay2k990928.htm>

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24. "The Code Book : The Evolution of Secrecy from Mary, Queen of Scots to Quantum Cryptography" by Simon Singh

"For millennia, secret writing was the domain of spies, diplomats, and generals; with the advent of the Internet, it has become the concern of the public and businesses. One cyber-libertarian responded with the freeware encryption program Pretty Good Privacy (PGP), and Singh similarly meets a sharpening public curiosity about how codes work.[. . .] Beginning with such simple ideas as monoalphabetic substitution, which can protect the communications of a boy's treehouse club but not much more, Singh underscores with stories how codemakers and codebreakers have battled each other throughout history. A tool called frequency analysis easily defeats the monoalphabetic cipher, and encryptors over time have added the Vigenere square, cipher disks, one-time pads, and public-key cryptography that underlies PGP. But each security strategy, Singh explains, contains some vulnerability that the clever code cracker can exploit, an opaque process the author splendidly illuminates. Instances of successful decipherment, as of Egyptian hieroglyphics or the German Enigma cipher system in World War II, combine with Singh's sketches of the mathematicians who have advanced the art of secrecy, from Julius Caesar to Alan Turing to contemporary mathematicians, resulting in a wonderfully understandable survey." -- Gilbert Taylor, Booklist

ZGram Suggested URL:

<http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ISBN=0385495315/electronicprivacA>

25. "The Privacy Law Sourcebook: United States Law, International Law, and Recent Developments"

Marc Rotenberg, editor (EPIC 1999). Price: \$50. The "Physicians Desk Reference of the privacy world." An invaluable resource for students, attorneys, researchers and journalists who need an up-to-date collection of US and International privacy law, as well as a comprehensive listing of privacy resources.

ZGram Suggested URL: <http://www.epic.org/pls>

26. "Filters and Freedom - Free Speech Perspectives on Internet Content"

A collection of essays, studies, and critiques of Internet content filtering. These papers are instrumental in explaining why filtering threatens free expression.

ZGram Suggested URL: <http://www.epic.org/filters&freedom>

27. "Cryptography and Liberty: An International Survey of Cryptography Policy"

Wayne Madsen and David Banisar, editors, (EPIC 1999). Price: \$15. An

international survey of encryption policies around the world. Survey results show that in the vast majority of countries, cryptography may be freely used, manufactured, and sold without restriction, with the U.S. being a notable exception.

ZGram Suggested URL: <http://www.epic.org/cryptobook99>

28. "Privacy and Human Rights 1999: An International Survey of Privacy Laws and Developments"

David Banisar, Simon Davies, editors, (EPIC 1999). Price: \$15. An international survey of the privacy and data protection laws found in 50 countries around the globe. This report outlines the constitutional and legal conditions of privacy protection, and summarizes important issues and events relating to privacy and surveillance.

ZGram Suggested URL: <http://www.epic.org/privacy&humanrights99>

29. Latam Scholar Says New Nations Could Emerge in the Americas (by Eric Green, USIA, 29 Sept 1999)

Washington -- The creation of new countries in the Americas could occur in the near future as the result of globalization, which has energized a "secessionist impulse" that knows no geographical boundaries, says Juan Enriquez, a former Mexican government official who is now a researcher at Harvard University's David Rockefeller Center for Latin American studies.

Writing in the just-released Fall 1999 edition of "Foreign Policy," a Washington quarterly published by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Enriquez argues that "most leaders throughout the Americas rarely consider the possibility that their current borders may shrink or even disappear." But he warns that the tide of secession that is "sweeping across the world today" is not simply a product of ancient nationalist impulses and catastrophic social unrest. Rather, he said, it is being driven by globalization, "which is breaking the world down into its component parts, even as it is drawing these parts closer today."

Enriquez' argument stands on solid ground, says Miami Herald columnist Andres Oppenheimer. In a recent column, Oppenheimer noted the trend of an ever-increasing number of countries in the world. In 1914, Oppenheimer said, the world had 62 countries, 74 in 1946, and has 193 today.

Enriquez explains in his article, entitled "Too Many Flags," that the more globalized the world becomes, the less traumatic it is for nationalists to split from their states. Using the Canadian province of Quebec as an example, he said that globalization implies that borders become more porous to goods, ideas, capital, and people.

"If it is just as easy for Quebec to trade north-south, as it is east-west, Canada's market[s], not to mention its laws and rules, are no longer essential to the province's survival," Enriquez said. "In fact, small countries and national groups hoping to avoid domination by larger neighbors sometimes find open borders their best ally."

Enriquez, who was a Mexican government peace negotiator in Chiapas in the mid-1990s, said that so far, the Western Hemisphere is the one segment of the world that has seemed immune from secessionist impulses. Although the Caribbean Basin has continued generating microstates, he said, the last new border to emerge in the Americas was Panama in 1903 and before that El Salvador in 1841. With the exception of Quebec, "questioning flags, borders, and anthems typically does not form part of the discourse of even the most radical leaders in the hemisphere."

Despite that, Enriquez said, boundaries within the hemisphere are neither as simple nor as stable as they appear. The U.S.-Mexico land border, he said, changed as recently as 1963, and the current maritime border between the two countries was only approved by Congress in 1997. Newfoundland "reluctantly" left the United Kingdom to join Canada in 1949. Part of France's border, represented by St. Pierre and Miquelon, lies less than 15 miles off the Canadian coast. Quebec may separate, "perhaps leading to the dissolution of Canada." For the future, Enriquez said, certain regions within large countries "not only may be viable as separate states but also may be far more productive when unbundled from their traditional borders." Within the Americas, he said, relatively wealthy areas such as western Canada, northern Mexico, southern Brazil, and Guayaquil in Ecuador have "voices of dissent within their boundaries asking what benefit they derive from their national identities."

This development, he said, has coincided with the end of import substitution, industrialization and the opening of borders. Countries and regions now depend on global, not local, markets.

In that regard, Enriquez said a nation's success in the global economy is not determined by the quantity of its natural resources, but by the quality of its human resources. Thus, he said, "if the key to prosperity is a citizenry with a high degree of education and entrepreneurship, some regions may decide that retaining ties to areas that are underdeveloped and prone to conflict is not a good long-term strategy."

Within Latin America, Enriquez writes, "many voices" are questioning the status quo, including Mapuches in Chile, Mayans throughout Chiapas and Central America, and descendants of the Incas in Peru and Ecuador. In addition, he said, protests and demands for autonomy are growing in the Guatemalan highlands as well as among Brazil's landless. Politicians in northern Mexico and Sao Paulo, Brazil, are increasingly vocal in their demands for local autonomy and fiscal control, Enriquez said.

Each group is asking, he said, "what benefits it gets from belonging to a state that does not deliver what it promises. None of these movements begins or matures by advocating the splitting of the country or the rejection of flag and anthem. But redressing old grievances or contemporary needs, if mishandled, can eventually lead to escalating demands for autonomy and even separation."

30. U.S.- Ukraine Rocket Technology Safeguards Agreement (29 Sept 1999)
The United States and Ukraine signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) September 29 on expanding cooperation in the civil aerospace sector.

A fact sheet describing the non-binding document noted that Ukraine possesses "significant aerospace technology and expertise that could otherwise be used to develop weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems" and that the MOU recognizes the importance "of keeping this expertise in a field that complements our mutual goals of pursuing high technology and non-proliferation cooperation."

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright signed the MOU on behalf of the United States; Foreign Minister Borys Tarasyuk signed on behalf of Ukraine.

Following is the text of the fact sheet:

U.S. FACT SHEET

U.S.-UKRAINE AEROSPACE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SEPTEMBER 29, 1999

New York

At the first Gore-Kuchma Commission in May 1997, Vice President Gore initiated cooperation with Ukraine in the important and mutually beneficial civil aerospace sector. Secretary Albright's visit to Kiev in March 1998 marked the beginning of implementation of that cooperation.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Concerning Cooperation in the Aerospace Sector, signed today by Secretary Albright and Foreign Minister Tarasyuk, is a non-binding document that recognizes the mutual benefits of expanding cooperation in the aerospace sector. Ukraine possesses significant aerospace technology and expertise that could otherwise be used to develop weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their delivery systems. The MOU signed today recognizes the importance of keeping this expertise in a field that complements our mutual goals of pursuing high technology and non-proliferation cooperation.

The MOU:

- Underscores our governments' continued commitment to non-proliferation and the elimination of WMD and their delivery systems;
- Provides for up to \$3 million for continued cooperative research efforts involving the Ukrainian aerospace sector, U.S. agencies and other organizations, including collaborative research in space life sciences and life medicine related to the International Space Station;
- Expresses our mutual determination to continue to explore future cooperation in the area of trade in commercial space launch services;

and

-- Marks the beginning of discussions on elimination of Ukraine's SS-18 and SS-24 production capabilities under the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program.

The MOU also notes our joint intent to discuss extending the November 22, 1994 Agreement Between the U.S. and Ukraine on Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes.

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- SAIC - Sterling Software (US), ITD - TRW - Wang Government Services, Inc. - Wheat International Communications Corp.

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T-Shirts, Sweatshirts, Coffee Mugs, Pens, you get the idea! For a complete listing and order form for NMIA items, visit the website at <http://www.nmia.org>.

Thanks for logging on,

Zhi Hamby

Editor, The ZGram: <http://www.zgram.net>

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RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: allan berg <bergax@cs.jmu.edu> (allan berg <bergax@cs.jmu.edu> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 3-OCT-1999 19:25:10.00

SUBJECT: (ai) Panama: ENHANCED CHINESE ACTIVITIES (fwd)

TO: Recipient List Hidden by JMU mail server <list@jmu.edu> (Recipient List Hidden by JMU mail server <list@jmu.edu> [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded message -----

Date: Sat, 2 Oct 1999 15:22:51 EDT

From: WILSONGI@aol.com

To: ACCESS@g2-forward.org

Subject: (ai) Panama: ENHANCED CHINESE ACTIVITIES

China Reform Monitor No. 241, September 22, 1999
American Foreign Policy Council, Washington, DC
<http://www.afpc.org>

BEIJING STEPS UP LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, MILITARY &
INTELLIGENCE EFFORTS; PANAMA, CUBA ARE CENTERS OF ENHANCED CHINESE
ACTIVITIES

Editor: Al Santoli

June 25: China is using Cuba as a base for sophisticated electronic spying operations targeting the United States, Agence France Presse reports. Beijing is using its collaboration with Cuba in the field of electronics and radio telecommunications as a cover for the operation, according to U.S. intelligence sources and official U.S. documents. According to the Miami Nuevo Herald [Miami Herald's Spanish edition], the main Chinese listening and tracking posts in Cuba are located northeast of Santiago de Cuba and in Bejucal, in the province of Havana.

July 26: In Beijing, visiting Brazilian Army Commander Gleuber Viera met with Chinese Defense Minister Gen. Chi Haotian, the official Xinhua news agency reports. General Chi stated that the visit by the Brazilian defense military delegation will "push state-to-state and army-to-army relations between the two countries to a new stage." General Chi also thanked Brazil for adhering to its "one China policy" toward Taiwan, stating, "The Chinese People's Liberation Army, with the task of maintaining China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, is ready at any moment to smash any attempts to separate China." According to Xinhua, Gleuber Viera said, "As China plays an increasingly important role on the international stage, Brazil hopes to further enhance friendship and cooperation with China."

August 12: Panama's Vice-President-elect Arturo Vallarino made an

"unofficial" visit to China where he had audiences with high-level communist government leaders, Agence France Presse reports. Vallarino met with China's Vice-President Hu Jintao [the party's designated successor to Jiang Zemin], Dai Bingguo, head of the International Department of the Communist Party's Central Committee and Vice-Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi. [Editor: Reports out of Panama claim that since China has gained control of ports on both ends of the Panama Canal and is playing a substantial economic role in Panama, the incoming administration of President Mireya Moscoso is weighing switching diplomatic ties from Taiwan to Beijing.]

August 25: Ecuador's President Jamil Mahuad and 45 businessmen will begin a seven-day visit to China to strengthen trade ties between the two countries, the Dow Jones Newswire reports. Mahuad will also be accompanied by Trade Minister Jose Luis Icaza and Foreign Minister Benjamin Ortiz. At a press conference, Ortiz said the visit is also aimed at securing Chinese loans for public works projects in Ecuador. He said one of them was a \$40 million credit for the purchases of equipment to repair roads.

September 2: In Beijing, the Uruguay Defense Minister met with Chinese Defense Minister Chi Haotian, Xinhua news agency reports. General Chi said he was satisfied with the closer exchange and cooperation between Chinese and Uruguayan armed forces in the field of defense. He also expressed hope that military contacts will continue to develop in all direction and in all areas. Storace said Uruguay and China share common views on many important international issues. He also expressed hope the two armed forces will continue to "intensify their exchange in the training of students."

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TEXT:

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1. TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S CTBT LETTER

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2. AP: Senate May Vote on Test Ban Treaty

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3. AP: China to US: Ratify Test Ban Treaty

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5. NYT: Editorial: Fighting for the Test Ban Treaty

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8. WP: Transferring the Canal

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9. NYT: Information Superhighway Roars Outside the {Washington, D.C.}
Beltway

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1. TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S CTBT LETTER

The complete text of a letter sent by President Clinton to Senate Majority
Leader Trent Lott, requesting a postponement of voting on the Comprehensive
Test Ban Treaty.

Dear Mr. Leader,

Tomorrow, the Senate is scheduled to vote on the Comprehensive Test Ban
Treaty. I firmly believe the Treaty is in the national interest. However, I
recognize that there are a significant number of senators who have honest
disagreements. I believe that proceeding to a vote under these
circumstances

would severely harm the national security of the United States, damage our
relationship with our allies, and undermine our historic leadership over 40
years, through administrations Republican and Democratic, in reducing the
nuclear threat.

Accordingly, I request that you postpone consideration of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty on the Senate floor

Sincerely,
Bill Clinton

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2. AP: Senate May Vote on Test Ban Treaty

By Kevin Galvin

Associated Press Writer

Tuesday, Oct. 12, 1999; 10:37 a.m. EDT

WASHINGTON -- Senators today weighed whether to postpone a certain-to-fail vote on a global nuclear test-ban treaty after President Clinton bowed to Republican demands and put his request for a delay in writing.

Efforts to put off the vote, now scheduled for this evening or early Wednesday, gained support when two senior members - Republican John Warner of Virginia and Democrat Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York - joined forces

in urging a postponement.

"I find on both sides of the aisle are senators of a like mind who feel that, in the interests of national security, now is not the time, today, to vote for that treaty," Warner said in a Senate speech.

Warner, an opponent of the treaty, and Moynihan, a proponent, circulated a letter urging a delay.

Their letter also went beyond Clinton's request in recommending that the Senate not take up the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty until after next year's

presidential election.

Warner, R-Va., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, appealed to other senators to sign the letter. He suggested that if the letter gained more than a majority of 50, it would make it easier for Senate leaders to put off the vote.

Clinton on Monday sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., and Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., declaring that going ahead

with the vote would "severely harm the national security of the United States."

The president also recognized that he lacked the two-thirds vote needed for U.S. ratification.

Republicans called his letter a first step toward possibly postponing the vote but sought further assurances the issue wouldn't come up again during this 106th Congress.

And some GOP hard-liners urged that the vote proceed, despite Clinton's plea.

"We do the Senate and the nation harm if we accede to the president's diplomatic recklessness," said Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz. "The CTBT will not improve with age. ... If we do not defeat this treaty now, it will be a political issue next year."

Senate rejection of the treaty would be a major defeat for Clinton, who was the first world leader to sign the 1996 pact.

"This should be an easy call," Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware, the ranking Democrat on the Foreign Relations Committee, said in a statement. "The president has asked for a delay. Most Democrats and many Republicans support

a delay. It's clearly in our national interest to put off this vote without

any further wrangling."

By putting his request in writing, Clinton met one demand of his Republican opponents. The letter was silent on their insistence that Clinton promise not to revive it during the 2000 election season, but White House officials rejected that request.

"Even though there are campaigns under way in the United States, we have to take into account the larger national interest," said National Security Council spokesman David Leavy. "It would be irresponsible for the president to limit his tools in dealing with something as sensitive as nuclear testing."

Lott's spokesman, John Czwartacki, said the letter was "merely a first step," and noted that Lott, joined by Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., Foreign Relations Committee chairman, has asked for agreement that the treaty not come before the Senate again before 2001.

"Senator Lott will discuss this reversal by the White House with his fellow senators on Tuesday," Czwartacki said. "Now there must be agreement reached in the Senate that it not come up again."

Helms called Clinton's letter "a step in the right direction" but insufficient. "It must be made clear that this (treaty) is dead and that the

next president will not be bound by its terms," he said in a statement.

The treaty would impose a blanket international ban on all nuclear test explosions. Supporters estimate they are 15 to 20 votes short of the two-thirds majority needed for Senate ratification.

The pact has been signed by 154 nations, including the United States, but ratified by only 51. It will not go into effect if the United States fails to ratify it.

Supporters say the treaty would lock in U.S. superiority gained in over 1,000 nuclear tests during the Cold War, while failing to ratify the pact could open the door to additional nuclear tests by India and Pakistan or other nations.

Opponents say the treaty is not verifiable and would not stop the nuclear ambitions of North Korea and Iran. Further, they argue it would harm efforts

to maintain the safety and reliability of the U.S. nuclear arsenal.

Clinton sent the signed treaty to the Republican-led Senate two years ago, but leaders refused to move on it before now. The only hearing on it was held last week by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

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3. AP: China to US: Ratify Test Ban Treaty

The Associated Press

Tuesday, Oct. 12, 1999; 9:50 a.m. EDT

BEIJING -- China on Tuesday urged the United States to ratify the nuclear test ban treaty, saying the action would help persuade other countries to follow suit.

Ratification by the United States, which has carried out more tests than any

other nuclear power, is key to the future of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Zhang Qiyue said.

U.S. support would "serve as an example and promote the ratification of the treaty by other countries," Zhang said in response to a question at a media briefing.

It is up to the U.S. Senate to ratify the treaty. Rejection would be a humiliating defeat for President Clinton, the first world leader to sign the 1996 pact.

On Monday, Clinton asked the Senate to put off voting on the treaty, warning that its defeat would "severely harm the national security."

China, a nuclear power, has yet to ratify the treaty, although a senior Chinese arms control negotiator told an international conference last week that Beijing would speed up ratification.

Signed by 154 states, the treaty needs to be ratified by 44 nuclear states to enter into force. So far 41 of them have signed but only 26 have ratified.

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4. NYT: Plan in Works to Put Off Vote on Test Ban Pact

By ERIC SCHMITT

October 12, 1999

WASHINGTON -- The White House signaled on Monday that it would accept in principle a deal to delay a Senate vote on a nuclear test ban treaty until after President Clinton leaves office.

Since it became clear that treaty supporters lacked the two-thirds majority to approve the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, Senate Republicans, Democrats and the White House have been locked in a high-stakes, three-way struggle over the terms of postponing the vote.

Clinton on Monday satisfied one demand made by the Senate Republican leader,

Trent Lott, when he put in writing a request to delay action.

But so far, the president has resisted the other demand, that he agree to delay any further action until the next administration. White House officials have argued that this would weaken his ability to persuade Pakistan and India not to conduct more testing of nuclear explosives.

While Clinton refused to publicly forswear a vote while he is president, his

national security adviser, Sandy Berger, suggested that the White House could live with terms guaranteeing that the Senate would not act on the treaty until the next administration.

"That's a matter for the Senate, in terms of their schedule and preferences," Berger said in an interview. "It's not something the president

felt would be responsible for him to say."

There was no immediate indication as to whether Lott or other senators would

now agree to postpone a vote, and the brinkmanship was expected to go to the

wire. A vote could take place as early as Tuesday.

Leading senators of both parties have pushed for at least a 15-month postponement of a vote on the treaty, which was signed in September 1996, but has yet to gather the required ratifications to go into force. To implement the treaty, ratifications by 44 countries believed to have a nuclear capacity are needed. Countries that have not ratified the treaty include Russia and China, both of which have signaled that they will take

their lead from the U.S. Senate.

In their debates, the lawmakers have appeared to address the question of timing without overt involvement from the White House. Sens. John Warner, R-Va., and Daniel Patrick Moynihan, D-N.Y., were drafting a letter to Lott and his Democratic counterpart, Tom Daschle, requesting that Senate action on the treaty be delayed until the 107th Congress convenes in 2001, and after a new administration is in place.

A spokesman for Lott, John Czwartacki, suggested the seeds for a deal were in hand, but many details needed to be worked out. "Clearly, the president's

letter is a first step," he said. "Now it's up to the Senate to see if the agreement can be reached that the treaty not come up again this Congress."

In his letter to the Senate Republican and Democratic leaders requesting that action be delayed, Clinton wrote: "I believe that proceeding to a vote under these circumstances would severely harm the national security of the United States, damage our relationship with our allies, and undermine our historic leadership over 40 years, through administrations Republican and Democratic, in reducing the nuclear threat."

But Clinton, as he did on Friday, refused to concede that the pact would not

be enacted during his presidency.

"The president believes that it is inappropriate for him to say to the world

that the United States is out of the non-proliferation business during an election year," Berger said in the interview.

Clinton's top aides insisted on Monday that giving tacit approval to a Senate plan to postpone a vote until he is out of office did not foreclose the administration's ability to raise the issue.

"Delay is better than defeat," said Berger. "This is not a question of taking a U-turn, but taking a side road that I believe will get us back to the main road."

But the political reality is that Clinton does not control the Senate calendar, and if Republicans and Democrats agree not to bring up the issue, it is effectively dead for the remainder of his presidency.

Although he has the advantage in dealing with the president, Lott is tiptoeing through a political minefield on this issue. A majority of the 55 Senate Republicans are believed to support a move to delay action on the treaty to avoid dealing the United States a political and diplomatic setback.

But Lott is also under pressure from Republican hard-liners, who want to kill the treaty no matter what the political or international fallout, to extract concessions from Clinton and Senate Democrats after their demands for more than two years that Republicans bring up the pact.

"The president appears to be playing poker with the Senate, but he does not have a winning hand," said Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., who heads the Foreign Relations Committee.

Aides said Helms favors going ahead with the vote, but is open to a last-minute deal if Republican assurances are met.

Daschle's ranks are not totally united either. While most of the 45 Senate Democrats want to put off the vote, a minority sees political advantage in having the treaty defeated, only to be revived again, perhaps next year, as a campaign issue.

The effort by Warner and Moynihan, who both spoke eloquently from the Senate

floor on Friday about the perils of defeating the treaty, faces scrutiny from both sides. Top Republicans aides, for example, are insisting that the guarantees be airtight and signed by top Democrats. Sens. Joseph Biden of Delaware and Carl Levin of Michigan, the ranking Democrats on the Foreign Relations and Armed Services Committee, have both voiced reluctance to bring up the treaty again next year, but are opposed to putting that in writing. "Biden doesn't believe in putting any conditions on the delay," said the senator's spokesman, Chris Madison. Another sticking point for Democrats is whether the letter allows senators to break their vow in the event of an international crisis, such as resumption of nuclear testing by India and Pakistan. Warner said no such phrasing existed in the latest draft, but that it was implicit in the letter. The rules of the treaty debate require that all 100 senators agree before a vote on the ill-fated accord can be postponed. But four hard-line Republicans have vowed they will not give in. In that event, Daschle has said the Democrats would introduce a motion to remove the treaty from the Senate's "executive calendar," a move that requires only a majority vote. But it is unclear whether Democrats could persuade at least six Republicans, for a total of 51 senators, to join them in a procedural vote that is usually a test of party loyalty. Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb., said he might take such a step because the consequences of killing the treaty were even greater. "We've got to get this thing pulled down," he said.

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5. NYT: Editorial: Fighting for the Test Ban Treaty October 12, 1999

Despite the important contribution it would make to a safer world, the nuclear Test Ban Treaty stands virtually no chance of mustering enough support to win Senate ratification this week. Proceeding with the vote under those circumstances would deal a damaging blow to the foreign policy and military security of the United States. The wiser course is to delay Senate action for at least a few months, as President Clinton requested yesterday, giving the White House more time to overcome the arguments of treaty critics. But Republican senators are recklessly insisting on an immediate vote unless Mr. Clinton agrees to withdraw the treaty for the rest of his term. That is something that he should avoid, because it would signal to the rest of the world that the White House, not just the Senate, is edging away from the Test Ban Treaty. Mr. Clinton refuses to be bound by such conditions. Nevertheless some Senate treaty supporters, including Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York, are trying to put together a deal under which Mr. Clinton would not give up on the treaty, while Senate Democrats would refrain from pushing it in this Congress. The message that Washington sends to the world matters a lot. One audience

consists of countries like India and Pakistan, which are still trying to decide whether to sign the treaty and would be unlikely to do so if the Clinton White House gave up on eventual Senate ratification. For these countries to remain outside the test ban would encourage a dangerous nuclear arms race in South Asia that could easily draw in nearby countries like Iran and China. It could also fuel the ambitions of other intermediate powers, like Saudi Arabia and Taiwan, to join an expanding nuclear club. Another group of countries includes established nuclear nations such as China and Russia. Like Washington, Beijing and Moscow have signed the treaty but not yet ratified it, and are observing a voluntary moratorium on nuclear tests.

As long as Mr. Clinton continues to campaign for the Test Ban Treaty and there remains a reasonable chance that Washington will someday ratify it, these countries are likely to refrain from further testing. But if hopes for eventual American ratification recede, China or Russia might be tempted to test again in an effort to improve their bomb designs and narrow America's present lead in nuclear weapons technology. These considerations argue strongly for delaying the vote rather than giving up on it for this Congress. The treaty is backed by America's military leaders, public opinion and Washington's main allies. Good answers are available to the objections so far raised by Senate critics. True, the election-year political calculus is not favorable, and ultimately it may be necessary to wait until a new President and a new Senate take office early in 2001. But American interests are best protected if in the interim Washington does not disavow the treaty.

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6. NYT: A Clinton Critic Pushes for a High-Stakes Vote
By ERIC SCHMITT
October 12, 1999

WASHINGTON -- Don't get Sen. James Inhofe started on Bill Clinton. For years, the Oklahoma conservative has assailed President Clinton's policies in Bosnia and Kosovo as drains on military readiness, criticized the administration's reluctance to build a national defense against limited missile attacks, and complained that the Pentagon's budget has consistently been given short shrift.

"Clinton's unquestionably the worst commander in chief in the history of America," Inhofe, an Army veteran who sits on the Armed Services Committee, said in a recent telephone interview.

Now Inhofe's distrust of Clinton is coming to bear on the treaty that would ban underground nuclear testing.

With the Senate poised to vote as early as Tuesday on the treaty, Inhofe is leading the charge not only to defeat it, but also to block any effort to withdraw it.

The rules of the treaty debate require that all 100 senators agree before the vote can be postponed. But Inhofe and three other conservatives have

vowed they will not give in. "We don't need to be delaying and delaying this thing," Inhofe said during the Senate debate on Friday. "Certainly we have had ample time to study it and digest it."

Inhofe concedes that Senate Democrats might use a parliamentary maneuver to get around him. And he expressed fears that Trent Lott, the Senate majority leader, would strike a bargain with the White House rather than follow through with a high-stakes vote.

Inhofe, a 64-year-old former real estate developer and insurance executive, is not moved by Clinton's warning that defeating the treaty would deal the United States a damaging diplomatic blow. "Frankly, I'm not concerned about our allies," Inhofe said during the Friday debate. "I'm concerned about our adversaries."

Inhofe insists the treaty's provisions cannot be adequately verified, and would permanently bar the United States from testing while rogue nations could conduct clandestine tests that would undercut America's edge in nuclear deterrence.

The United States has not conducted a nuclear test since 1992, relying instead on sophisticated computer models and nonnuclear explosions to maintain the safety and reliability of the country's nuclear stockpile. But under a condition Clinton attached to the treaty, the United States could withdraw if top officials ever determined that the stockpile was not safe and reliable.

For Inhofe, such safeguards give cold comfort. Indeed, he said the treaty shares many of the same flaws as a treaty the Senate approved two years ago to ban the production, storage and use of poison gas. Clinton lobbied hard for the treaty, and swayed many Republicans. But not Inhofe.

"I'd use the same arguments with this treaty: a chief problem is verification. That's what Reagan said over and over again so eloquently, you've got to verify."

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7. WT: Moscow, Beijing balk at {CTBT}monitors

By Bill Gertz
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Russia and China refused to permit seismic monitoring near their nuclear weapons test sites that could have resolved some verification problems now troubling the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, according to U.S. government officials.

Clinton administration officials and congressional aides said the failure of

U.S. negotiators to win the cooperation of Moscow and Beijing was a "negotiating failure" that undermined the treaty. It also is a key reason U.S. intelligence agencies said both nations could conduct hidden nuclear tests without detection.

The officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because of sensitive intelligence issues, said the treaty's international monitoring system that includes 50 "primary" seismic stations and 120 "auxiliary" seismic stations does not include stations close to China's remote northwestern Lop Nur

testing site in Xinjiang province, or Russia's arctic Novaya Zemlya. U.S. intelligence agencies suspect the two locations were used recently for small nuclear test blasts.

China's test on June 12 may have been part of efforts by Beijing to build smaller warheads for its short-range missiles, or multiple warheads for its intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), U.S. intelligence

-- Continued from Front Page --

officials said.

Two suspected nuclear tests detected near Novaya Zemlya on Sept. 8 and Sept.

23 are believed to be part of Russia's secret nuclear testing program.

U.S. intelligence agencies reported recently to policy-makers and members of

Congress that Russia and China are the two nations are most interested and capable of conducting covert tests. "Both have locations where they could conduct secret tests that would not be detected," said one intelligence official.

The official said that during treaty negotiations from 1994 to 1996 at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, U.S. negotiators failed to press for Russian and Chinese agreement to tougher monitoring provisions in the treaty

that would satisfy the concerns of U.S. spy agencies about cheating.

According to the official, "if Russia had been convinced to have one facility at Novaya Zemlya and China agreed to have one near Lop Nur, the level of verification would have improved greatly."

Russia and China also blocked a treaty provision that would have required treaty signatories to allow small explosive tests that would have "calibrated" regional seismic stations so they accurately measure underground blasts, the officials said.

Without the calibration, the regional stations will provide misleading or confusing data that undermines more accurate data provided by primary stations, they said.

A National Intelligence Estimate, the consensus judgment of all U.S. intelligence agencies, presented a finding in 1997 that said verifying the test-ban treaty will be difficult.

That estimate is currently being revised and is expected to conclude that because of the lack of verification and the possibility that states could conduct secret tests without detection, the treaty is even more difficult to

verify, said officials close to the intelligence community.

Under the treaty, Russia will have six primary seismic stations and 13 secondary stations; China will have two primary seismic posts and four secondary facilities.

None of these stations, however, is located close enough to the main Russian and Chinese testing facilities to be able to detect tests conducted covertly

inside underground caves, or tests of very small nuclear blasts, the officials said.

By contrast, the United States has five primary seismic monitoring facilities under the treaty, including one in Nevada, where the main U.S. nuclear testing site is located. It will also have 11 secondary sites.

Michael Pillsbury, a former acting director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, said China would have agreed to better seismic

monitoring if Beijing were pushed into it.

"Chinese officials have told me that if the Clinton administration had pushed harder they would have agreed to a primary site near the test site," said Mr. Pillsbury, who also took part in a recent Defense Science Task Force study on nuclear weapons, "but the Chinese had the impression the Clinton administration didn't place as a high priority on treaty verification as they did on maintaining good trade relations."

A Senate defense specialist said Russia agreed to allow more sensitive seismic monitors to be placed near Novaya Zemlya, but only if the United States agreed to provide Moscow with advanced computers and U.S. nuclear weapons testing data. The administration refused.

On Russia, the aide said the administration faces a dilemma. "Either they accuse the Russians of violating the treaty or concede the treaty cannot be verified," the aide said.

U.S. intelligence agencies are now saying that "you can have militarily significant developments below the [seismic] detection threshold," the aide said.

Administration officials have said verification is not as important as promoting the agreement itself as a deterrent to nuclear weapons proliferation.

"The CIA has indicated that they cannot verify to a hundred percent whether or not someone has conducted a nuclear test," Defense Secretary William S. Cohen said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

"But we believe with this treaty, you're going to have at least an additional 320 sites that will help monitor testing around the world," he said. ". . . We are satisfied we can verify adequately, not a hundred percent, but satisfy ourselves that there is no testing going on that would put us at any kind of a strategic disadvantage."

Asked about the fact that the United States cannot detect nuclear blasts below a few kiloton yield, Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright said:

"We can detect what we need to."

"Those that are below a certain level, we do not think would undercut our nuclear deterrent because they would be so small that they would not affect our nuclear deterrent capacity," Mrs. Albright said on ABC's "This Week."

A Pentagon official, however, said the Clinton administration is supporting anti-nuclear-weapons activists by supporting the test ban. "They want our nuclear capability to deteriorate so they can never be used," the official said.

The treaty was signed by 154 nations, including five nuclear weapons powers.

It would ban all nuclear tests, although the treaty itself does not define what a nuclear test is and signatories disagree on the type of tests covered by it.

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8. WP: Transferring the Canal

By Robert A. Pastor

Tuesday, October 12, 1999; Page A19

Two of America's feats in this century are the technological marvel of constructing giant locks to lift and lower ships across the continental divide in Panama and the Canal Treaties of 1978, which ensured the canal's security and continued U.S. leadership by modernizing the U.S. relationship

with Panama.

It is natural that there should be some uneasiness about the transfer, but Panama has the talent and will to operate the canal, perhaps better than the

United States. The United States used a model of state socialism to run the canal; Panama is inviting private enterprise to improve the canal and use both sides for ports, hotels, sports facilities, assembly plants, industrial

parks, eco-tourism, ship repair and private housing.

The United States has an important stake in helping Panama succeed. But not only are we not helping, we are making it more difficult. Nervous voices urge the administration to negotiate an extension of U.S. military bases for

counter-narcotics. This was a good idea several years ago, but both governments handled the delicate political issue ineptly. Further discussion

at this time only destabilizes Panama when our overriding interest is to lend confidence to the transfer.

What should the United States do?

Congress should pass a resolution reaffirming U.S. adherence to the Canal Treaties and to helping Panama develop. Many in America, and even some administration officials, don't know or can't remember why we "gave away" the canal. The president should use his meeting with Panamanian President Mireya Moscoso on Oct. 19 to explain that the treaties were not only the best defense against angry nationalists; they also transformed a resentful Panama into a cooperative partner on the canal while advancing U.S. interests in Latin America.

The president should also instruct the State and Defense Departments to reach agreements with Panama on how we would support its defense of the canal. Incredibly, we have not yet done this. Some in the Pentagon have talked of plans to intervene. They should be told that the purpose of the treaty was to build a partnership with Panama, which has the primary responsibility after 2000 for defending the canal. We retain the right to defend it unilaterally under extreme circumstances, but the spirit of the treaties demands that we assist, not displace, Panama.

We should put aside for at least a couple of years the idea of using former U.S. military bases for counter-narcotics or other purposes. This is a controversial issue in Panama, and the two countries need first to get used to a more balanced relationship.

The United States should negotiate a 10-year agreement with Panama to clean up military bases and firing ranges at least as well as we do when we close them in the United States. Our behavior has been disgraceful and inconsistent with the treaties. Instead of doing as little as we can get away with, we should build a partnership by doing as much as we can to clean up the bases.

A package of investment incentives is needed to encourage U.S. companies to help Panama turn the former canal zone into the hemisphere's Singapore. Congress should also pass the legislation giving Panama and other Caribbean Basin countries access to the U.S. market comparable to Mexico's access, with the condition that these countries also take concerted steps toward reducing their trade barriers.

Finally, as a dramatic sign of our determination to work together in the next century, President Clinton should visit Panama before the turnover and

send Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and former presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford to oversee the transfer on the century's last day. Taking these six steps between now and Dec. 31 will show the world that we will continue to find new moral paths to global leadership in the future. The United States should be as proud in transferring the canal as it was in building it.

The writer, a professor of political science at Emory University, directed Latin American Affairs on the National Security Council from 1977 to 1981.

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9. NYT: Information Superhighway Roars Outside the {Washington, D.C.} Beltway

By JOEL BRINKLEY

October 12, 1999

WASHINGTON -- Anyone trying to understand who holds power in the nation's capital need only look in one place: the owner's box at Jack Kent Cooke Stadium, home of the Washington Redskins.

For as long as anyone can remember, the owner's-box guest list has been dominated by prominent Government officials and media stars.

But when the Redskins played the archrival Dallas Cowboys last month, a new figure joined the Washington elite, reflecting a cultural sea change for this city.

Seated next to the team owner, Dan Snyder, was the leader of a local business, Stephen M. Case, the billionaire chief executive of America Online, which has its headquarters in suburban Virginia.

For its entire history, Washington has been viewed by most Americans as a swampy den of political intrigue. The capital's culture, sometimes derisively called inside-the-Beltway, is seen as a narrow world of bureaucrats and politicians, lawyers and lobbyists, all feeding off the Federal Government.

But quietly over the last several years a new, outside-the-Beltway culture has grown up in and around this city -- so quietly, in fact, that even longtime residents are generally unaware of the change. Now Washington and its suburbs are home to far more entrepreneurs and other businesspeople than

Federal workers and the assorted private companies and institutions connected to the Government. In fact, by at least one measure, Washington is

now the technological capital of the United States.

Over the last several years, vast high-tech corridors with thousands of businesses and hundreds of thousands of employees have grown up in the city and its Virginia and Maryland suburbs. Now these Internet, computer services, telecommunications, aerospace and biotechnology companies employ more than 470,000 people, easily outnumbering the roughly 350,000 people employed by the Federal Government, for two centuries the base of this city's work force.

Several local and national studies have also shown that these rapidly growing high-tech companies employ more technology workers -- engineers, scientists and other technical employees -- than the companies in California's Silicon Valley or Boston's Route 128 technology corridor.

These

two areas have long been regarded as the most important technological

centers of the United States. And by other significant measures, including manufacturing and industry profits, they remain so.

Still, the Washington area, with more than 9,000 technology companies, has come to be an important and growing national player, by most measures easily

outdistancing other technology clusters including those in New York City, Austin, Tex., and Research Triangle in North Carolina.

"This area is exploding; we have some of the best talent in the industry right here," effused Lou Scanlon, chief executive of UUCom Inc., one of the small Internet engineering companies in suburban Virginia that, like hundreds of others, has experienced growth in revenue of several hundred percent a year for the last few years. Annual studies by Washington Technology magazine show that the area's 50 fastest growing high-tech companies, most of them quite small, earned \$55 million in 1993 and \$1.32 billion last year, a 24-fold increase.

The challenge, and the potential to grow rich, is tempting even some senior Government officials -- who normally would walk through the revolving door to a comfortable position as an industry lobbyist -- to become local entrepreneurs instead. In a city where the goal has always been to acquire political power, the acquisition of capital and the entrepreneurial spirit have been permeating and changing the culture.

Melissa Moss, for example, held senior positions in politics and government for 20 years. Her jobs included finance director for the Democratic National

Committee and director of the Office of Business Liaison at the Commerce Department. But when she left government three years ago, she decided to start a business.

"I wanted finally to run something of my own," Ms. Moss explained. So she started the Women's Consumer Network, which offers advice and special deals to its members, primarily through a Web site.

Her company is small, with just 12 full-time employees, but CBS recently announced it would invest \$50 million in the company. Ms. Moss says that she

often receives calls from friends still in politics and government who want to follow her path into business and that she does not miss their world a bit.

At America Online, the largest and most important technology company in the region, most members of the public relations staff, among others, are ?migr?s from politics or Government. One, Andrew Weinstein, had worked for Bob Dole and Newt Gingrich. But his new job, Weinstein noted, feels eerily familiar. "Like a campaign, it's long hours with an incredibly fast pace," he said.

The New Suburbs

Beyond Washington, a Changing Landscape

The transformation of this area has not changed downtown Washington much, if

at all. There, clearly, Government remains the dominant force.

And Washington's poor residents have benefited little, if at all.

But for anyone who takes the time to turn off the Dulles Airport toll road in suburban Virginia, or Interstate 270 just over the city line in Maryland,

the change is obvious. Unassuming low-slung office buildings line the roads for mile after mile, with telltale names like Proxicom, PSI-net and Digital

Fusion Inc. Amid the assorted cars and trucks in the parking garages is a healthy sprinkling of late-model, 500-series BMW's and similar cars, along with an occasional Corvette -- visible fruits of recent initial public offerings of stock.

Construction cranes dot the horizon. And local newspapers list page after page of help-wanted advertisements for computer programmers, systems analysts and software engineers. Personnel executives at several of these companies estimate that the area has 30,000 to 50,000 unfilled new positions for technology workers, while Government employment has remained stagnant for years. Today, Amazon.com, the Internet retailer based in Seattle, confirmed that it would build a second national data center, in suburban Virginia.

Still, many Washington denizens are not aware that the character of their city has changed. America Online, founded here 11 years ago, is now the nation's largest Internet service provider. The company, with 18 million subscribers and 12,500 employees, is continuing to grow at an astounding pace, endowing its workers with stock options that have made thousands of them quite wealthy. Local real estate agents and auto dealers say they wait and pray for an "AOL millionaire" to walk in.

And yet when George Vradenburg 3d, a senior vice president for AOL, drives downtown for meetings, quite often he is asked: "So, when did you fly in?"

The Seeds

Computer Networks Began in Government

Although most of these companies do little if any business with the Federal Government, many of them acknowledge that without the Government, a high-technology center might never have grown up here.

Many years before the term Internet was coined, the Defense Department's Advanced Research Projects Agency was creating a national computer network enabling computers at the Pentagon to communicate with others across the country. From this, the Internet evolved, meaning that many industry pioneers were here.

Meanwhile, Washington has long been home to a large concentration of defense contractors, like Lockheed Martin and the General Dynamics Corporation, as well as aerospace companies, including Comsat and the Orbital Sciences Corporation. They located here to be close to their customers, the Defense Department, the National Aeronautic and Space Administration and the National Security Agency, among other Government agencies.

At the same time, a rich concentration of biomedical research institutions grew up around the National Institutes of Health and the Food and Drug Administration laboratories in suburban Maryland. When human genome research

grew to be a cutting-edge topic in the 1980's, many of these companies took up the challenge.

As for telecommunications, MCI, now the nation's second-largest long-distance phone company, opened here in 1969 to be close to the Federal Communications Commission and other Government agencies that were managing the deregulation of the telephone industry. As MCI expanded, a cluster of smaller companies grew up around it.

All the while, the Government grew ever more dependent on computerization, and a large network of computer-service companies known as system integrators evolved to install and service the agencies' vast computer

networks.

So the seeds were here, thousands of engineers and scientists working in the

Washington area, principally on Government contract.

Then, early in this decade, events conspired to roil this mix. The cold war ended, forcing the defense and aerospace companies to scale back. Through the early 1990's, Government employment stopped growing, and the number of Government contracts began to shrink in number and size.

As a result, just as the Internet started to become a commercial phenomenon,

thousands of engineers with vast experience in related technologies began looking for new work.

From their early ventures a larger concentration of technology businesses gradually began to grow because metropolitan Washington, with nearly five million people, had the character and infrastructure to support it. As an overwhelmingly white-collar town, Washington has a higher percentage of college and graduate-school graduates than any other city, according to census figures. It has long had among the highest per capita incomes of any major metropolitan area, eight local universities and excellent public school systems in the suburbs.

Still, in the early days, sustaining a technology business here was difficult.

The Foothold

Luring Workers at First Proves Slow

Raul Fernandez was an aide to Representative Jack Kemp in the mid-1980's.

He

helped research tax legislation and got involved in debates on financing for

the rebels in Nicaragua. At the same time, he worked on the office's computers, just because he was interested, allowing him to meet workers from

some of the local system-integration companies that served the Government.

In 1988 he left Kemp for a job with a local system integrator, and in 1991

Fernandez used money he had saved for a house to open his own system-integration company, Proxima, looking for Government contracts.

Like many others, he opened his business in Virginia because rents were cheap and "it was easy to get to because it was counter-traffic. Rush hour was going the other way."

But hiring was tough. "Who wanted to move here?" he asked. For most technology workers then, Washington was not even on the map.

In the mid-1990's, Fernandez decided to change the focus of his business to Internet consulting and engineering. He renamed it Proxicom, and quickly the

company began to grow. By 1997, hundreds of other companies had opened or moved nearby. As a result, he said, echoing statements from other local executives, "there's now a critical mass. People are no longer reluctant to move here because they know they'll have flexibility in job options. They can hop around."

Proxicom had 250 employees last year but now has almost 600 in offices around the world. The company made an initial public offering of stock last spring. It opened at \$18.88 on April 20 and closed this evening at \$67.25, giving Proxicom a market capitalization in excess of \$1.5 billion.

Asked what percentage of his business now is Government contracts,

Fernandez
smiled and said, "None."

Full Circle

Banding Together for Political Clout

"Every day, five or six network camera crews are stationed in front of the Capitol and White House," noted Thomas G. Morr, managing director of the Greater Washington Initiative, an arm of the board of trade. "People here and around the country think that's what all the news from Washington is about."

But in more subtle ways, Washington is beginning to feel the change. Case's invitation to the Redskins owner's box last month is just one indication.

Meanwhile, the technology companies are beginning to throw their political weight around with the view that they, unlike their West Coast counterparts, understand politics.

"That I happen to be in Washington is lucky, because I came to this job already knowing the power of organizing constituent groups," said Ms. Moss, the former Democratic National Committee official, who recently entertained President Clinton at her Georgetown home with high-tech executives.

And Vradenburg, who worked for CBS in New York and Fox Television in Los Angeles before joining AOL in 1997, said: "Washington, as it turns out, happens to be a very good place to be. There's a very interesting mix of Government, business and media people here that produces much more interesting conversations. And the policy makers are here, the ones who need to be informed."

Busloads of members of Congress make the 40-minute trip out to AOL's campus just beyond Dulles every week or two. They are given a presentation on AOL's

political issues and then each is seated in front of a computer with a personal trainer, who explains and demonstrates the Internet. Some members had never used the Internet before.

One, Representative Thomas J. Bliley Jr., the Virginia Republican who is chairman of the Commerce Committee, is an aficionado of bow ties. When he made a trip out to AOL a few weeks ago, his trainer demonstrated the Internet and showed the Congressman several bow-tie Web sites.

Three months ago, several of the area's largest technology companies formed a political action committee, called Capnet. Vradenburg, who is co-chairman,

says Capnet has 30 members so far. All have made the maximum allowable contribution, \$5,000. That's \$150,000, hardly a menacing war chest. But

"we're picking up steam at an amazing rate," said William Lecos, a senior vice president with the Washington Board of Trade. Capnet will contribute to

national candidates who favor positions of interest to the companies on issues like Internet privacy and taxation.

The technology community is also trying to flex its political muscle in development debates, particularly on schools and roads. A consortium of the companies is working to build support for a new freeway, called the

Techway,

that would link the technology corridors in Virginia and Maryland and reduce

the traffic problems that have grown up near Dulles Airport along with all the new businesses. But the proposal has not moved far.

Even with their growing political savvy, sometimes the technology companies lose sight of the political realities surrounding them. And so it was in August, when several thousand of the Virginia companies formed a coalition called Region. It promptly called for, among other things, a sales tax increase in Northern Virginia of 1 percent to pay for new roads and schools.

The proposal crashed.

With a shake of the head, Vradenburg ruefully acknowledged, "It was not well received."