

Case Number: 2015-0183-S

MR MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Original OA/ID Number: 2266				
Document ID: 9301653				
Row: 45	Section: 6	Shelf: 8	Position: 1	Stack: v

UNCLASSIFIED
NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 9301653
RECEIVED: 19 MAR 93 13

TO: LAKE

CHRON FILE

FROM: GROSS
ROSNER

DOC DATE: 19 MAR 93
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: RUSSIA
BALTIC STATES
DEFENSE POLICY

DEMOCRACY PROGRAM
DEFENSE CONVERSION
ANSA

PERSONS: MCCURDY, DAVE

SUBJECT: LAKE MTG W/ REP MCCURDY ON 23 MAR RE AID TO RUSSIA / BALTIC STATES /
DEFENSE CONVERSION & BASE CLOSINGS & C-17 AIRCRAFT DEVELOPMENT

ACTION: NOTED BY LAKE

DUE DATE: 23 MAR 93 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: GROSS

LOGREF:

FILES: PA

NSCP:

CODES:

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

GROSS

NSC CHRON

COMMENTS:

DISPATCHED BY _____ DATE _____ BY HAND W/ATTCH

OPENED BY: NSJEB

CLOSED BY: NSJWD

DOC 1 OF 1

UNCLASSIFIED

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

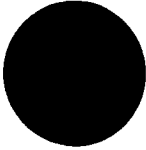
WASHINGTON D C 20506

1653

March 19, 1993

INFORMATION

Natl Sec Advisor
has seen



MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE
SANDY BERGER

THROUGH: JEREMY ROSNER

FROM: DON GROSS

SUBJECT: Meeting on Monday, March 22 with Congressman Dave
McCurdy

As you know, Congressman McCurdy has suffered several serious political blows in the last 18 months. He briefly launched a campaign to test the waters for a presidential candidacy, but then abruptly ended his effort due to insufficient support. He hoped to be nominated as Secretary of Defense, but the nomination went to Les Aspin. Finally -- and perhaps most seriously -- Speaker Foley ousted McCurdy from his chairmanship of the House Intelligence Committee in December, after a long-standing feud.

In spite of these set-backs, Congressman McCurdy remains a key leader of a bloc of moderate and conservative Democrats in the House of Representatives. McCurdy chairs the Mainstream Forum, a group of 60 to 75 Democrats, that is associated with the Democratic Leadership Council.

McCurdy spent more years on the Intelligence Committee than any other Member of the House. Given his expertise and standing on intelligence matters, you may well want to seek his advice and input on key issues affecting the intelligence community.

Based on discussions with staff, Congressman McCurdy will likely raise the following subjects with you during your meeting on Monday:

AID TO RUSSIA

McCurdy believes that U.S. relations with Russia are the most important foreign policy issue for the Administration. He has been a leading supporter of aid to the FSU and would like to get a clear sense of the shape of our impending aid package. He would also like to get your assessment of Yeltsin's political future, following the recent Congress of Peoples' Deputies.

Democracy Corps

McCurdy has two special interests in the Administration's aid package. The first, as you know, is the Democracy Corps. In an overall sense, McCurdy wants to make sure that a meaningful portion of aid is devoted to this and other democratization efforts. He would also like President Clinton to raise the issue with President Yeltsin at the upcoming Vancouver summit. (As you recall, President Clinton endorsed the concept of a Democracy Corps in his major foreign policy speeches during the campaign. Secretary Christopher also gave it his support during confirmation testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee).

Two days ago, Congressman McCurdy sent a letter to Undersecretary of State-Designee Tim Wirth with specific suggestions on implementing the Democracy Corps. (The letter is attached at Tab A). Among his suggestions for immediate steps to take are the following:

- o Reserve \$15 million of funds authorized under the Freedom Support Act for the Democracy Corps.
- o Discuss the project with President Yeltsin at the Vancouver summit.
- o Assemble a temporary staff and Board of Directors to begin shaping a new organization.
- o By November 1, open at least two pilot-projects -- "Democracy Houses" -- in Russia and one of the Republics.

McCurdy thinks the early organizational steps for the Democracy Corps can be accomplished during April, looking toward an announcement by the President of the Democracy Corps in early June.

Given several factors -- President Clinton's endorsement of the Democracy Corps in principle, the importance of the program to Congressman McCurdy and the relatively small amount of monies involved -- you may well want to offer your strong support and endorsement of the steps suggested in McCurdy's March 17 letter.

Facilitating the Removal of Russian Troops from the Baltic States

McCurdy's second major focus, with respect to Russia, is directing assistance for constructing new housing for the officers and enlisted men currently occupying the Baltics. He has already discussed this matter, in general terms, with Strobe Talbott.

The challenge is to develop a legislative proposal to build or finance housing for these military people (and thus facilitate their withdrawal from the Baltics) without arousing the ire of the homeless lobby in our own country. Unless the proposal is carefully crafted, the latter are likely to complain that the

Administration cares far more about building housing for Russian soldiers than it does for needy American citizens.

You might suggest that our office would work with McCurdy on developing this component of the Russian aid package. We could perhaps create a program of general assistance to facilitate the removal of Russian troops from the Baltics -- without focusing exclusively on the housing element.

DEFENSE CONVERSION AND BASE CLOSINGS

Congressman McCurdy recently became Chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities. After the President submits an approved report of the Commission on Base Closings on July 15, McCurdy will conduct oversight hearings to ensure compliance with the technical requirements of the law that established the Commission.

McCurdy may raise the question of what kind of review the President will undertake after he receives the list of recommended base closings on July 1. As you know, President Clinton has an opportunity to resubmit the list to the Base Closings Commission with requested changes. McCurdy's staff wonders whether the President is likely to go through the Commission report with a fine-toothed comb in order to save specific bases.

Steve Jones advises that the general wisdom is that the President will essentially go over the report to determine if the Commission followed its charter. If he starts singling out particular bases, it will tend to destroy the underlying purpose of the review process. Therefore, if President Clinton proposes changes, they will likely focus on broad methodological issues or ways of calculating the cumulative economic impact of base closings.

McCurdy may also seek to learn the final FY94 budget numbers for the Administration's defense conversion program. The final numbers are still under discussion by OMB and DoD, and therefore cannot be conveyed, in final form, to McCurdy on Monday.

C-17 Aircraft Development

McCurdy has been a strong supporter of developing U.S. strategic airlift capacity, including the C-17. As you know, the C-17, which is currently undergoing testing, is considered a primary means of U.S. strategic airlift for the future.

On Thursday, Chairman John Murtha of the House Defense Appropriations panel said the C-17 is "gone" because it is already \$1.3 billion over budget and still has serious technical problems. On Friday, GAO issued a report saying the C-17 program should be stopped until basic technical problems are resolved.

As you know, President Clinton gave strong support to the C-17 during the campaign. Moreover, funds are included in the FY94 defense budget for its further development and procurement.

Keith Hahn advises that we should continue to support the C-17 in discussions with McCurdy, noting President Clinton's prior statements and the fact that the FY94 budget includes the program. You can point out that the C-17 is currently undergoing many tests and would not go into full production until it passes all those tests.

MEMBER:
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AND
FACILITIES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND
TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE,
SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SPACE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3604

March 17, 1993

DISTRICT OFFICES:
330 WEST GRAY, SUITE 110
POST OFFICE BOX 1286
NORMAN, OK 73070
(405) 329-8600

103 FEDERAL BUILDING
LAWTON, OK 73501
(405) 367-2131

802 MAIN
DUNCAN, OK 73533
(405) 252-1434

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2344 RAYBURN HOB
(202) 225-6165

The Honorable Timothy Wirth
Undersecretary of State-designate for
Global Affairs
Department of State
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Tim:

I am writing to follow up on our recent conversation about the Democracy Corps and how it might become a part of the Administration's assistance package for Russia and the other New Independent States (NIS).

The idea behind the Democracy Corps is that U.S. assistance to the NIS should be composed of more than grants, grain credits and loan guarantees: a meaningful portion of our aid should be devoted to helping democrats in the republics overcome the bottlenecks to the development of a free and civil society. While Russia's economic plight is indeed severe, so is its lack of democratic institutions, such as functioning legislative and judicial systems, independent trade unions, the protection of human rights, respect for the rule of law, and the creation of local civic and charitable organizations. Unless these institutions take hold, I think it will exacerbate the difficulties of creating a free market economy and transforming societies scarred by decades of totalitarian rule. The Democracy Corps is one way to put Americans on the ground in the NIS to assist in these vital activities.

Tony Gambino of InterAction, Penn Kemble of Freedom House (whom you met in a recent meeting at the Progressive Policy Institute) and Mike Chapman, formerly of my staff and now a Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Legislative Affairs, have played key roles in helping me develop and promote the Democracy Corps. They have thought a great deal about how we can strengthen democratic institutions around the world. I urge you to draw upon their expertise and consult with them on this issue as the Administration assembles its aid package.

The Honorable Timothy Wirth

Page 2

We have discussed some ideas about what needs to be done for the Administration to get the Democracy Corps under way. Here are some suggestions with target dates:

1. Reserve \$15 million of funds authorized under the Freedom Support Act for the Democracy Corps. Discuss availability of these funds and other aspects of the project with President Yeltsin at Vancouver Summit. (April 1)
2. Assemble a team of temporary staff and consultants from both the USG and NGO sectors to plan and begin shaping a new organization. Draw up articles of incorporation. (April 12)
3. Team explores possibilities for selection and training of Democracy Corps members. (VISTA, Peace Corps, etc.) (April 19)
4. Members of the team begin canvassing possibilities for membership on the ten-member Board of Directors. Board members must be serious, committed people with experience in activities that the Democracy Corps will actually conduct. (April 26)

Legislation leaves considerable latitude regarding appointments, which could be drawn from the following categories:

- a) PVO leader -- from InterAction consortium
- b) PVO leader -- from environmental or health group
- c) PVO leader -- ABA or Administrative Conference
- d) AFL-CIO representative
- e) Democrat close to NDI
- f) Republican close to IRI
- g) Business figure: Chamber, NAM, Roundtable
- h) NED President
- i) Distinguished personage w/trust of President
- j) Distinguished personage w/trust of President

The Honorable Timothy Wirth
Page 3

5. Presidential announcement of establishment of Democracy Corps, meeting with NGO and ethnic leaders, new Board Members, etc. Board meets, incorporates, elects Chair, key permanent staff hired. Board becomes decision-making body. (June 1)
6. New staff consults USG and local leaders in target cities about sites for pilot projects. Target sites are chosen. (August 1)
7. Democracy Corps members recruited for at least two pilot projects -- one in Russia, one in another republic, with priority given to centers not already over-crowded with Western "consultants." Teams to include both democracy experts and language/logistics facilitators. (September 1)
8. Opening of Democracy Houses in pilot sites. Corps teams fielded. (November 1)
9. Corps teams engage U.S. and non-U.S. PVOs in grass roots assistance work at site area. Teams take applications for small grants for local projects (see legislation). (December 1)
10. Preliminary audit and review due by legislative mandate on January 31 -- Nine months after start-up.

I hope these suggestions are useful and would be happy to discuss them with you further. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



Dave McCurdy, M.C.

DM:mc