

TO scheduling
cc: NH

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(W)
12-23-00

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Action: one more

- Vike - Freibergs & President Clinton
Norland August 7, 2000 by Martin Bondars.
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(W)
8-25-00

Mārtiņš Bondars
Head of the Office of the President of Latvia

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E-mail: bondars@president.lv

8/7/2000

12-19-00
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Please enter into the system.
Action: OK. NORDLAND

Letter to President Vike-Freiberga & President Clinton
passed to Dick Nordland August 7, 2000 by Martin Bondars.
↓

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TALK TO NSC



Latvijas Valsts prezidents

Riga, July 31, 2000

William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States of America

Dear Mr. President,

Five years ago, Latvia's capital city was graced and honored by your presence. Your visit to our country in 1994 marked the first time a US President had set foot on Latvian soil while serving as head of state, and occurred during a decisive period in Latvia's history. The last Russian troops were preparing for their final withdrawal, and crucial social and economic reforms were being implemented.

The people of Latvia still remember your visit with fondness and with gratitude. Your speech, which was listened to by thousands of Latvians at one of the most sacred places in the country - the Monument of Freedom in Riga - will always remain a landmark event in US-Latvian relations. Your public show of support for Baltic independence and freedom was akin to the helping hand of a friend and ally, at a time when such support was most needed. It assured us of the irreversibility of major changes that had taken place in Eastern and Central Europe, and invited us to contribute to building a free and undivided Europe for the 21st century.

Since then, with the continued and consistent support of the US Government, Latvia has firmly re-established itself as a country of advanced democratic traditions, and is working towards full integration into the European and Transatlantic community of nations. I sincerely hope that there will be an opportunity for you to appreciate in person the development of our country over the past few years, and to see the results of our mutual efforts.

The city of Riga is proudly preparing for its 800th anniversary next year. For centuries, Latvia's capital has epitomized a spirit of cooperation, intellectual exchange and economic development in the north of Europe. This also holds true today, with Riga once again becoming a major center of regional development in the Baltic Sea region. I should be highly honored to see you, Mr. President, as my guest during the planned celebrations in August 2001.

Wishing you success in your noble endeavors,

Sincerely,

Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga

Vaira Vīķe-Freiberga
President of the Republic of Latvia

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

8-11-00

NANCY-

POST-JAN '01 INVITATION,
FOR BOB BARNETT REPLY.

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE US
TO HANDLE THESE? I EXPECT
THE #S WILL NOW START
INCREASING. ROUTE BACK TO
YOU TO FORWARD TO BOB?
PLS. LET ME KNOW. THANKS.

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AB