FOIA MARKER

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

Folder Title:
NATO [North Atlantic Treaty Organization] [2]

Staff Office-Individual:
Speechwriting-Widmer, Edward

Original OA/ID Number:
2190

Row: 48  
Section: 6  
Shelf: 7  
Position: 3  
Stack: V
50th Anniversary
NATO
NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION DU TRAITE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD
OTAN
SAFEGUARDING FREEDOM
1949-1999
This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a publication.

Publications have not been scanned in their entirety for the purpose of digitization. To see the full publication please search online or visit the Clinton Presidential Library's Research Room.
For SRB/JJS Review. Input from @NATO and @Speech. Comments to Widmer.
PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
REMARKS TO NATO HOST COMMITTEE
WASHINGTON D.C.
MARCH 22, 1999

[acknowledgments: Secretary Albright, Secretary Cohen, General Shelton, Ambassador Blinken (Committee Chair), members of the NATO Host Committee]

Spring is newly in the air, and this spring promises to be memorable. Next month, the Washington NATO Summit will bring together the largest gathering of world leaders ever seen here. I am honored to host the Summit – and I know that its success depends on a lot of help from people like you who care about America and the alliance.

Based every ceremonial event involving large numbers of world leaders, there is a tremendous amount of logistical work behind the scenes. Foreign leaders must be accommodated. Complicated rules of protocol must be deciphered and observed. And make no mistake – NATO may need a new "strategic concept" just to figure out how to get 44 motorcades to run on time.

The people in this room have already put in some long hours. Those hours will increase as we approach the Summit. We have an ambitious program. The Summit will do two things at once. It will honor fifty years of the most successful military alliance of all time. It will also redefine NATO for the future. NATO's success has always depended on its ability to evolve. Many of you work for companies whose interests span the globe. You know how quickly the world is changing.
NATO must change along with it. We should think of Washington not as the last NATO summit of the 20th century, but as the first of the 21st. Along with our allies, we are developing new ideas in the face of new challenges, including the problem of regional conflict so evident in Kosovo, and the threat of weapons of mass destruction. We are taking steps to enhance NATO's defense capability ... reaffirm its openness to new members ... and deepen its cooperation with emerging democracies across Europe.

One of the reasons NATO has prevailed is that it has helped create the conditions for prosperity and democracy alongside security. This alliance has always been about more than military strength. It is about safeguarding the values that allow people in all our nations to thrive. It is about protecting the rights and freedoms that have transformed Europe and the world. I know I'm preaching to the converted, but we all know that the thriving economies of western Europe could not have emerged from World War Two, or survived the Cold War, if not for the confidence NATO provided. And America's alliance with Europe could not have survived without a true partnership between the public and private sectors, embodied by your Host Committee. The confidence provided by NATO and this partnership will be crucial for the next fifty years, this time for all Europe.

The summit is now a little over a month away. Every warm day brings it a little closer. I know how much work you have already done – and how much more remains. I have no doubt it will be a ringing success. Thank you for your commitment to an alliance whose greatness has lifted all of our lives.

###
Officials of Nearly 100 Lands in U.S.—They Will Meet Johnson

By MAX FRANKEL
WASHINGTON Nov. 21
An emperor, a king, a queen, princes, presidents, premiers and prime ministers from every continent converged on Washington this evening to pay final tribute to President Kennedy and to make the acquaintance of President Johnson.

Representing nearly 100 nations, the foreign dignitaries will include the largest assembly of living statesmen ever gathered in the United States for any event.

Their arrival here, through the nation's capital, virtually overwhelmed an already tense and overcrowded capital. Nonetheless, each visitor received the proper welcome and the honor of protection of more normal officials. Officials who had worked hard to discourage such a gathering finally worked even harder to accommodate it. They accepted it as a demonstration of respect from friends and admirers alike, as a symbolic measure of Mr. Kennedy's far-flung activities and of the responsibilities that await his successor.

President de Gaulle of France, the proud ally whose search for independence greatly troubled Mr. Kennedy in the last year, was among the first to arrive here this evening.

Among the last tomorrow morning will be Anastas I. Miko
dryan, the first deputy chairman of the Soviet Union, whose last mission here was to close out the Cuba missile crisis and to set the stage for a year-long effort to reach a Soviet-American accommodation.

Also coming back to Wash
ington were Emperor Haile Be
rab of Ethiopia, King Baud
ouin I of Belgium, Queen
Frederika of Greece and nine
other chiefs of state or government.

With Prince Philip from
Britain came Sir Alec Douglas-
Home, the Prime Minister. With
President Heinrich Lübke of
West Germany came Ludwig
Richard, the Chancellor. Like the United States, these two major allies have new governments and must prepare for difficult
elections and possibly further changes in the next two years.

Half Hour Intervals

Leaders who by themselves could have spared this capital a
journey, and excursion to an ordinary day's posting at half-hour intervals, at different points around the capital.

For the most part, they arrived on the official occasion and declined any statement. They chatted amiably with the Washingtonites as they passed through the Executive Office Building, the Treasury, the Supreme Court, the Library of Congress, the State Department, the Adjutant General's Office.

Nearly all wished to pay their respects to Mrs. John F. Ken
dedy. It was highly needed to notice that she would receive foreign dignitaries at the White House after the funeral tomorrow afternoon.

President Johnson will meet with the visitors from abroad at the State Department between 5:30 and 7:30 Sunday night.

The president must separate, with some of the chiefs of government of the world, the formal schedule activities of all, to arrange fixed appoint
ments.

Mr. Johnson may wish to plan special invitation's on some of the visiting European statesmen.

Mr. Johnson, who had assigned special delegations to the funeral at Arlington, still to indicate how they would be represented. Only a few hundred of the early arrivals were at the State Department that representa
for the ambassadors for Washington. It was still not fully appropriate.

Among the prominent en
trants will be at least 27 heads of state, 88 heads of government at 50 foreign ministers, 13 cabinet ministers of other nations and judges.

In Washington, the gathering will surpass the government of 21 chiefs of state and govern
ments at the United Nations in 1960, though it will not include the colorful Benjamin Chaim Peres, President Johnson's aide-con
tra and Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, who had been the greatest Assembly of ambassadors since the funeral of King Edward VIII in London 20 years ago.

Security Problem

For both the State Depart
ment and police authorities, the gathering poses the greatest secu
rity and protocol problems ever encountered in this capital.

And it comes at a moment of greatest strain, when we already overestimated with the demands of the 1960 election and with preparations for the safety of the New President just before the new con
gressors will throng the spacious hall here.

Security, thus is responsible for their own lodging and arrangements.

But each will have the secu
rity guard of a special visit
plainclothesmen at his side and residence and motortruck events an trip through the capital.

From the planning standpoint, the State Department had an even more difficult time with the protocol arrangements.

It worked through the night from its operations center, normally employed for foreign crises, authoring the movements of dignitaries and making provisions for them.

It was especially difficult to work out an official order of procedure in which the foreign
mourners will march from the White House to St. Mal
tzoe and the Cathedral, the order in which they will sit for the services.

The members of international politics were greatly相似ed to the world community for the

There are an expectation of
about 20,000 mosques with the United States, and diplomatic relations. Com

Among them are China, the East Ger
to North Korea, North Viet
man and Japan. The govern
ment of South Africa, Haiti, Panama, and some others with whom Kennedy's Administra
or that stand for the world's major rank
ings of representatives.

But there was no discern
in the delegations of many Communist and non-com
mitment republics, or, in those from Israel and from Arab nations, represented states, of Morocco and Egypt, whose border war with Kennedy's Israel had brought the land and won the hearts of leaders of the

The countries without special recognitions will be represented by their ambassadors in Wash
ington or by their United Na
tions.
List of Dignitaries Expected at Kennedy's Funeral

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21. Following is the latest available list of dignitaries expected to attend President Kennedy's funeral.

International Organizations

UNITED NATIONS

I. Thant, Secretary General.

Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, Under Secretary for Political Affairs.

Paul Hoffman, managing director, United Nations Special Fund.

Maurice Dru, executive director, United Nations Children's Fund.

David R. Vaughn, director of general services.

Carlos Sosa Rodriguez, President of the General Assembly, and his wife.

Sir Patrick Dean, president of the Security Council.

Dr. Luis A. Ferreira, International Labor Organization.

David Hamberg, International Labor Organization.

EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY

Albert Coope, vice president.

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Jen Ren, member.


Europe

AUSTRIA

Alban Gerkach, Chancellor.

BELGIUM

Lambert L. King of the Belgians.

Paul-Henri Spaak, Foreign Minister.

PHILIPINES

Napoleon Garcia, Deputy Prime Minister.

HUNGARY

Peter M. First Deputy Foreign Minister.

IRELAND

Gladys Mulholland, Foreign Minister, and his wife.

IRELAND

Dr. Eamon de Valera, President.

Frank Allen, Minister for External Affairs.

Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister.

ITALY

Attilio Piccoli, foreign minister.

Pier Venci, foreign minister. Chef de Cabinet.

Giovanni Roberti, assistant chief of protocol.

Gen. Umberto Scalfi, military connection to the President.

LUXEMBOURG

Prince Jean, hereditary Grand Duke.

Eugene Schaus, foreign minister.

THE NETHERLANDS

Prince Bernhard, husband of the Queen.

Crown Princess Beatrix.

J. A. H. van Loon, foreign minister.

NEW ZEALAND

Crown Prince Harald.

Oliver Gerhard, Premier.

POLAND

Prof. Stanislaw Kuczyński, deputy chairman of the Council of State.

Jaroslaw M. Deputy Prime Minister.

PORTUGAL

Luis Sampaio Pinto, President of the Corporate Chamber.

ROMANIA

M. Mihal, Deputy Foreign Minister.

ALEXANDER DOLPH, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS.

HONG KONG

Phillip H. Van, President of the National Assembly.

Campbell Allsop, Minister Delegate, Foreign Affairs.

LIBERIA

William A. Tobert, Vice President.

About 800 guests, Secretary of State.

SOUTH AFRICA

Walsh P. F. Harries, representative in the United States.

MEXICO

Emiliano Cuauhtemoc, Ambassador to the United States.

EL SALVADOR

Francisca Ilubal, Ambassador to the United States.

AHMEDABAD, MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

Ali Haji, Ambassador to the United States.

Ahmad Tadi, President, Supreme Court of the United States.

Hajj Nasser, minister of foreign affairs.

Mohammed Ghanem, minister of the royal armed forces.

Col. Mohammad Harf, director general of royal palace.

Dr. Ithar Karboue, minister of foreign affairs.

ISRAEL

Moshe Abravanel, Deputy Prime Minister.

SOMALIA

Mohammed, Ali, Deen, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

SOUTH AFRICA

About 800 guests, Secretary of State.

Australias

Sir Alexander McMillan, President of the Senate.

Western Hemisphere

ARGENTINA

Carlos Herrera Perette, Vice President.

Dr. Miguel Angel Zavala Ortiz, Foreign Minister.

BRAZIL

Rodrigo de Oliveira Campos, Ambassador to the United States.

BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY

Raymond Denny, majority leader.

CUBA

Carlos Antunes, representative at the United Nations.

Ecuador

Alberto Lerma-Camargo, former President.

THAILAND

Thong Khun, Foreign Minister.

VIETNAM

Tran Quang Thanh, Ambassador to the United States.

AUSTRALIA

Sir Alexander McMillan, President of the Senate.

PAKISTAN

Shri S. N. Sachdev, President.

BOHOLI

Ishbullah Isakbi, charge d'affaires in Washington.

BOHOLI

About 800 guests, Secretary of State.

BOLIVIA

Enrique Sanchez, Ambassador to the United States.

BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY

Raymond Denny, majority leader.

CANADA

Leslie B. Pearson, Prime Minister.

Paul Martin, External Affairs Minister.

CHILE

Carlos Martinez, representative at the United Nations.
BULGARIA
Mihailo Popovich, Deputy Foreign Minister.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA
Dr. Jan Hajek, permanent representative at the United Nations.

DENMARK
Crown Prince George, King, Premier.

FINLAND
Valli Merikoski, Foreign Minister.

FRANCE
President de Gaulle, Maurice Couve de Murville, Foreign Minister.
Gen. Charles de Gaulle, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.
Elie Brenn De Rosnay, Secretary General of the Presidency.

WEST GERMANY
Dr. Heinrich Liibeck, President.
Dr. Ludwig Erhard, Chancellor.
Dr. Gerhard Schröder, Foreign Minister.
Karl-Uwe von Hassel, Defense Minister.
Willy Brandt, Mayor of West Berlin.

IRELAND
Sir Alfred Duggan-Hoare, Prime Minister, and Lord Home, Leader of the Government.
Harold Wilson, Labor Party leader.

GREECE
Frederika, Queen of the Hellenes.

SPAIN
Gen. Augusto Moged Grandes, Vice Premier.

SWEDEN
Prince Bertil.
Prince Gustaf, Premier.
Olaf Palme, Minister without Portfolio.

SWITZERLAND
Dr. Friedrich T. Wahlen, Chief of the Federal Political Department.
Pierre Micheli, Secretary General of the Federal Political Department.

TURKEY
Nehid-Inonu, Premier.
President Comal Ergin, Foreign Minister.

USSR
Abdulla I. Milovan, First Deputy Premier.

YUGOSLAVIA
Vladan Popovic, Foreign Minister.
Vladimir Stambolic, president of the Federal Executive Council.

VATICAN
The Most Rev. Eugenio Vaghi, Apostolic Delegate.

AFRICA
ALGERIA
Abdelkadir Chambas, representative at the United Nations.
Hay Ben Ali, President of the National Assembly.
Anouar Djarane, Minister of State.
Cheif Ghiatul, Ambassador to the United States.

BELGIUM
Abdellaziz Bouteflika, Foreign Minister.

CAMEROON
Eugene Bila-Ombaye, Foreign Minister.

CONGO (BRAZZAVILLE)
E. D. Nguema, Ambassador to the United States.

CONGO (KINSHASA)
James Masangala, Deputy Premier.

ETHIOPIA
Haile Selassie I, Emperor.

HAITI
René parnasse, Minister of State.

GHANA
Miguel A. Jimenez, Na Chang-Agu, Ambassador to the United States.
K. Arnan, High Commissioner in London.
Alex Quaison-Sackey, representative at the United Nations.

GUINEA
Nassarouye Diallo, Minister of State.

LIBERIA
Leon Maka, President of the National Assembly.

LYBIA
Faouzi A. M. Mangyenda, representative at the United Nations.

MALAYSIA
Haji Daud, Under-Secretary of State for the Presidency.

MEXICO
Humberto Rojo, Foreign Minister.

MOZAMBIQUE
Mário M. Carneiro, representative at the United Nations.

MOROCCO
Hicham Darwich, representative at the United Nations.

NIGERIA
Abdul Aziz, President.

PAKISTAN
Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, Foreign Minister.

PHILIPPINES
Diosdado Macapagal, President.

PORTUGAL
Dr. Nelson, Prince Miranda, Foreign Minister.

RUSSIA
Dr. Necer, Prince Komara, Foreign Minister.

SALVADOR
Dr. Hector Escobar Serrano, Foreign Minister.

GERMANY
Dr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Foreign Minister.

CENTRAL AMERICAN STATES
Tomas Regalado, Ambassador to the United States.

Ecuador
Dr. Norberto, Prince Miranda, Foreign Minister.

EL SALVADOR
Dr. Hector Escobar Serrano, Foreign Minister.

GUATEMALA
Alberto Honein, Foreign Minister.

HUNGARY
Andrei Gyorgy, Foreign Minister.

JAPAN
Morita Yoshitaro, Foreign Minister.

KOREA
Chang Hee Park, President.

LATVIA
Raimonds Zenovs, Foreign Minister.

LIBERIA
Leon Maka, President.

LUXEMBURG
Dr. Alexander Brotsman, Prime Minister.

MALAYSIA
Tan Hock Chuan, Foreign Minister.

NETHERLANDS
Mr. Aas, President.

NEW ZEALAND
Dr. Alfred Lynch, Foreign Minister.

NI Báo, Foreign Minister.

PAKISTAN
Adlul Aziz, President.

PORTUGAL
Dr. Nelson, Prince Miranda, Foreign Minister.

RUSSIA
Andrei Gyorgy, Foreign Minister.

SPAIN
Nuria, Foreign Minister.

SWITZERLAND
Ferdinand Ramseier, Ambassador to the United States.

TUNISIA
Hadi Labbakh, Secretary of State for the Presidency.

UGANDA
Mr. Amin, President.

UGANDA
Abdel COL, Ambassador to the United Nations.

VATICAN
The Most Rev. Atilio Vaghi, Apostolic Delegate.

VIETNAM
Mr. Pham Van Hieu, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

WEST GERMANY
Dr. Walter Scheel, President.

WORLD STATESMANSHIP
Mr. Amin, President.

YUGOSLAVIA
Vladan Popovic, Foreign Minister.
Vladimir Stambolic, president of the Federal Executive Council.

AFRICA
ALGERIA
Abdelkadir Chambas, representative at the United Nations.

JOSEFIGUERAS
José Figueres, former President.

ECUADOR
Dr. Néstor, Prince Miranda, Foreign Minister.

EL SALVADOR
Dr. Hector Escobar Serrano, Foreign Minister.

GUATEMALA
Alberto Honein, Foreign Minister.

LIBERIA
Leon Maka, President.

NETHERLANDS
Dr. Aas, President.

NEW ZEALAND
Dr. Alfred Lynch, Foreign Minister.

YUGOSLAVIA
Vladan Popovic, Foreign Minister.
Vladimir Stambolic, president of the Federal Executive Council.
## Additional List of Dignitaries at President Kennedy's Funeral

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Dignitary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KOREA</td>
<td>Yong Shik Kim, Foreign Min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chung Hoy Kim, Ambassador to the United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M. F. Kolala, Ambassador to the United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>George R. Lakey, Ambassador to the United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHILIPPINES</td>
<td>Dr. William Sanders, Assistant Secretary General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THAILAND</td>
<td>Sukh Nima, Minister, Ambassador designate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Jan Plate, Ambassador to the United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TRINIDAD and TOBAGO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sir Ellis E. I. Clarke, Ambassador to the United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Jose A. Mora, Secretary of Foreign Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Roscio A. Velasquez, Representative of Cuba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alfredo Jacintheo Carreras, Representative of Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Josi Bonilla, Attache, Representative of El Salvador</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vicente Sanchez Higuito, Representative of Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Andres Pena, Alternate Representative of Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Juan Bautista de la Cuadra, Representative of Peru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ward P. Allen, Alternate Representative of the United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Emilio H. Oribe, Alternate Representative of Uruguay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Algeria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elashi Vaker, Director of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Amidu Diaw, Assistant Secretary-General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yemen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Ali Babula, Minister of Animal Industries, Game and Fisheries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Ahmed El-Mahdi, Director of Economic Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alfonso Jaquez Carrera, Representative of Peru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Honduras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Alfonso Jaquez Carrera, Representative of Peru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. T. N. Ito, Alternate Minister of Foreign Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>United Arab Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mustafa Kamel, Ambassador to the United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Ali Babula, Minister of Animal Industries, Game and Fisheries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yemen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Ali Babula, Minister of Animal Industries, Game and Fisheries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notices:**
- President Kennedy was a great leader who leaves a lasting impact on the world. His vision and dedication to peace and cooperation continue to inspire us today. 
- His life and legacy will always be remembered with respect and admiration.
- We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family and the nation of the United States.
Building Peaceful and Undivided Europe

VISION: For first time in history, build undivided, democratic and peaceful Europe by locking in democratic and market reforms in Eastern Europe; building partnerships with Russia and Ukraine; strengthening ability of US and Europe to work together on evolving security challenges. NATO a key vehicle for achieving goals.

THE LAUNCH

- January, 1994. President Clinton leads NATO Summit in Brussels to launch Partnership for Peace; adopt NATO enlargement, prepare Alliance structures for 21st century. Visits Prague, Kiev and Moscow to outline vision of an integrated Europe.

- July, 1994. In Warsaw, President Clinton calls on NATO to begin concrete steps to prepare new partners for membership. President visits Riga and affirms support for Baltic integration.

BUILDING THE FRAMEWORK

- September, 1994. President Clinton explains rationale for and implications of NATO enlargement at summit with President Yeltsin.

- October, 1996. President Clinton calls for NATO Summit in 1997 to name first new NATO members; calls for NATO-Russia partnership, including formalized mechanisms for consultations and, when appropriate, joint action; affirms that enlargement will continue beyond the first new members; outlines goal of 1999 for entry of first NATO members. Major Speech on NATO enlargement in Detroit.


ACHIEVING THE GOAL


- July 1997. Madrid Summit naming first three invitees; establish partnership with Ukraine; Presidential visit to Romania and Poland reinforces NATO’s Open Door.

NEXT STEPS:

December: Protocols of accession signed by MKA in Brussels.

January:
2. POTUS will submit Protocols to Senate for Ratification.
Tomorrow, with the simple stroke of a pen, the history of Europe will change. Secretary Albright and her NATO counterparts will formalize our intent to welcome Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic as NATO’s newest Allies.

This is a key milestone in the enterprise we launched four years ago to adapt our Alliance to meet the challenges of a new century and bring Europe’s new democracies into NATO. The entry of Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic into the Alliance will make America safer, NATO stronger, and Europe more stable and united.

The decision to add new members to NATO must be ratified by all 16 Allies. I’m gratified that our Senate has already taken an active, bipartisan role – through the NATO Observer Group that joined us at the Madrid Summit and the extensive hearings this fall. When Congress returns in January, I will seek the Senate’s advice and consent without delay. The United States has led the way in transforming our Alliance for the future. Now, we should be the first to vote yes for NATO’s historic enlargement.

We are well on our way to the goal I set last year of welcoming the first new members by NATO’s 50th anniversary. It seems only fitting that today, in the Dean Acheson auditorium, I am inviting the Alliance to come to Washington for that special summit in April 1999. Together, we
will strengthen NATO for another 50 years, and – I hope and expect – officially welcome its newest members.

NATO is just one part of the ambitious foreign policy agenda I set out one year ago to preserve American leadership for the 21st century. We’ve made real progress on many of our objectives – progress on which we’ll keep building.

We’ve worked to create, for the very first time, an undivided, democratic Europe at peace – not only through NATO’s adaptation, but by supporting all of Central Europe’s democratic progress and integration… and building new, unprecedented partnerships between NATO and Russia and NATO and Ukraine.

To help shape a new Asia Pacific community, we’ve renewed the consensus for engagement with China – working with China to advance our mutual interests and dealing directly with our differences. We’ve proved that our community is for challenging times as well as good – forging an action plan to help meet the region’s financial challenges and restore economic confidence and growth.

And in our own hemisphere, we’ve worked closely with our neighbors to bring the Americas together around common values and goals – strengthening democracy… opening markets… fighting crime, corruption and drugs… and protecting our shared environment.
We’ve continued to tear down barriers to American goods and services so we can expand our exports and create good jobs in the new economy. I was disappointed that we had to postpone the House vote on renewing fast track authority – but we will revisit the issue early next year. In the meantime, we’re moving forward with our trade agenda. At a time when Asia’s financial difficulties could have prompted the region to turn inward, we agreed at our APEC Summit last month to open trade in nine new areas totaling $1.5 trillion in goods and services. And the “Africa Growth and Opportunity Act” now before Congress will help bring African nations into the mainstream of the 21st century economy – and help create strong partners for America.

In this holiday season, we should all be proud of America’s leadership for peace. For the first Christmas in years, the people of Northern Ireland enjoy both a cease-fire and the possibility of a lasting peace, thanks to their inclusive talks – as I discussed with Irish Prime Minister Ahern today. On the Korean Peninsula, we have just begun the first talks on a permanent peace since the end of the Korean War. In the Middle East, we are more determined than ever to realize the full promise of peace – inspired by its remarkable gains, sobered by its setbacks. In Haiti, despite the many challenges that remain, its people and the international community are turning from security to development, from peacekeeping to road building.

And after the worst war in Europe since World War II, Bosnia is moving forward on the long road to lasting stability. I will visit Bosnia on December 23 to thank our troops for their remarkable work in securing the blessings of peace... and to talk to the Bosnian people about what we expect of them, because ultimately Bosnia’s future is in their hands.
We've also moved strongly against new threats to our security — weapons of mass destruction, terrorists, drugs and organized crime. Working closely with the Senate, we secured the Chemical Weapons Convention that will make our troops and people safer from poison gas. In Helsinki, we reached agreement with Russia to seek further reductions in nuclear forces. We agreed to work closely with our hemispheric partners to stem the illegal flow of guns in the Americas. And we're doing more than ever to fight drugs before they reach our shores. This year, the Coast Guard and its partners have increased trafficker arrests by 1,000 percent and cocaine seizures by 300 percent.

The key to our successful international leadership is strong American diplomacy backed by force. We saw proof of that in Saddam Hussein’s latest challenge to the international community. I'm very pleased that we reversed, this year, the downward spiral in foreign affairs spending and continued to provide for the strongest military in the world. But I'm equally disturbed that we missed an opportunity to pay our debts to the United Nations. A sensible proposal with broad bipartisan support fell victim to the sword of single-issue budgeting at the very time brave UN weapons inspectors were reminding the world how important the United Nations can be to our common security. America cannot lead the world if we run away from our obligations.

In the weeks ahead, I'll have much more to say about our plans to move forward on our foreign policy agenda. For now, I'd be happy to take your questions....

###
THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much, Mr. Vice President, Madam Secretary, Senator Roth, Senator Biden, Senator Lieberman, Senator Mikulski, Senator DeWine, Congressman Solomon, Congressman Gejdenson, Deputy Secretary of Defense Hamre, NSA Adviser Berger, and the other distinguished military and diplomatic and citizen guests who are here. I especially thank the retired members of the Joint Chiefs who have endorsed NATO expansion. And thank you, Secretary Haig and Mr. Brzezinski and Mr. Sweeney for being here. To all the diplomatic corps and especially to Minister Kovacs, Minister Geremek, and Minister Sedivy, we are pleased that all of you are here today.

This building has seen many negotiations and the signing of many pacts to end bloodshed. Now we come together not to sign another agreement to end a war, but instead to begin a new era of security and stability for America and for Europe. In just a moment I will transmit to the Senate for its advice and consent the documents that will add Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic to NATO. Their addition to the alliance is not only a pivotal event in the quest for freedom and security by their own people; it is also a major stride forward for America, for the alliance, and for the stability and unity of all Europe -- a big part of our dream that we can in the 21st century create for the first time in all history a Europe that is free, at peace, and undivided.

As the Senate takes up consideration of these agreements, the question the members of the Senate must answer is, how does
adding these states to NATO advance America's national security. I believe there are three compelling reasons. First, the alliance will make NATO stronger. The Cold War has passed, but dangers remain. Conflicts like the one in Bosnia, weapons of mass destruction, threats we cannot even predict today, require a NATO that is strong. A NATO that embraces Europe's new democracies will be more capable of carrying out the core mission of defending the territory of its members, as well as addressing new kinds of conflicts that threaten our common peace.

These three states will add some 200,000 troops to the alliance. A larger NATO will be a better deterrent against aggressors of the future. It will deepen the ranks of those who stand with us should deterrents fail. I am pleased that just last week 60 of America's top retired military leaders, including five former Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, underscored that message when they said these three states will make NATO stronger. They are right and we have already seen the proof.

As we speak, Czech, Hungarian, and Polish troops are participating in NATO's peacekeeping effort in Bosnia. They served beside us in the Gulf War, where they made a significant contribution to our success. And they recognize the threat to the world posed today by Saddam Hussein and by his efforts to develop weapons of mass destruction. I am pleased that all three countries have announced that they are prepared to serve and support with us as appropriate should military action prove necessary.

We all hope we can avoid the use of force. But let's face it, in the end that is up to Saddam Hussein. He must let the weapons inspectors back with full and free access to all suspect sites. If he will not act, we must be prepared to do so.

The second reason NATO must grow is that it will make Europe more stable. NATO can do for Europe's east what it did for Europe's west after the Second World War: provide a secure climate in which democracy and prosperity can grow. Enlarging NATO will encourage prospective members to resolve their difference peacefully. We already see evidence of that. Already, the prospect of NATO membership has helped to convince countries in central Europe to improve ties with their neighbors, to settle border and ethnic disputes, any one of which could have led to a conflict. Enlargement, therefore, will make all of Europe more stable.
Finally, NATO's growth will erase the artificial line in Europe drawn by Joseph Stalin. Behind me is a picture of the wall that for so long represented the false and forced division of the European continent. It has been nearly 10 years since that wall was torn down by brave people on both sides. Countries once confined by it now are truly free, with strong democracies, vibrant market economies, a proven-track record of standing up for peace and security beyond their own borders. NATO cannot maintain the old Iron Curtain as its permanent eastern frontier. It must and can bring Europe together in security, not keep it apart in instability.

In the 20th Century, we have learned the hard way here in America just how vital Europe's security is to our own. Enlarging NATO will make us safer.

Our goal is and remains the creation of an undivided democratic and peaceful Europe for the first time in history. Bringing the three nations into the alliance will advance it; so will NATO's new Founding Act with Russia and the broad new relationship we are building with Moscow, helping us to move forward on arms control, building the peace in Bosnia, achieving progress on a wide range of issues; so will the Partnership for Peace, the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, the Charter with Ukraine and the Charter of Partnership I signed just last month with the presidents of the three Baltic states, and our Southeast Europe Action Plan, which I announced yesterday with President Stoyanov of Bulgaria.

Our effort to build a new Europe also depends upon keeping NATO's door open to other qualified European democracies. History teaches us that the realm of freedom in Europe has no fixed boundaries. The United States is determined that the visions of the past not circumscribe the boundaries of the future.

As the Senate begins its deliberations, I want to salute the indispensable role that leading members of both parties and both houses of Congress have already played in bringing us to this day. The two Senators from Delaware have already been acknowledged; and, Mr. Vice President, I'm prepared to vote to move NATO headquarters to Wilmington. I thank the senators and the members of the House who are here today. And there are others, who know who they are -- and we know who they are -- who have played a very constructive role in this process.
I was especially pleased that a bipartisan group of members joined me last summer at the NATO Summit in Madrid. The wide-ranging debate on this issue within Congress and across our nation is indeed a model of the kind of thoughtful, nonpartisan discussion we must have, and I commend Congress for helping to lead it.

Now the decision rests in the hands of the Senate, and I believe it's in good hands.

This room is named for Benjamin Franklin, one of America's first envoys to Europe after independence. I'm reminded of the comment he made at the close of our Constitutional Convention. He noted that on the chair of the convention's president, George Washington, was a painted figure of the sun, a symbol he thought of our new republic. Mr. Franklin said, I have the happiness to know it is a rising and not a setting sun. In the wake of the Cold War, some wondered whether our alliance faced a rising or a setting sun, whether it had just a brilliant past, or perhaps an even brighter future. With the step we take today, and the decision I am confident the Senate will take in the near future, I know that our historic partnership of nations is a rising sun, and that its ascendance will bring a more stable, more democratic, more peaceful, more unified future for all of us who live on both sides of the Atlantic.

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

1:15 P.M. EST
5 Lett Annie Helen Paul H. Roth

each & counter signed

reservation following last trip thru

 Giuliett proceed effort to clean SNOW
 routing then SNOW

chain of SNOW

Corp:

1. report thoroughly
2. exam q time very thorough
during lecture
3. week of detailed plan details

burl meeting w res branch in
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

developing that, they will continue to be

substance: see Germany

with isolation

trigger goal

reaffirm of A's commitment
to NATO, but to engagement

worldwide

An is US/Polish into Europe

our commitment to world

cannot be called into question

we must have solid goals
THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release March 20, 1998

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
ON THE NATIONAL INTEREST FOR ENLARGING NATO

The East Room

12:46 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you. Thank you very much, Secretary Albright, General Shelton, General Sandler, Mr. Berger, Senator Roth, to the members and representatives of the Joint Chiefs, members of the diplomatic corps, and other interested citizens, many of whom have held high positions in the national security apparatus of this country and the military of our country. We're grateful for everyone's presence here today.

I especially want to thank the members of the Senate who are here. I thank Senator Roth, the chairman of the NATO observer group, Senator Moynihan, Senator Smith, Senator Levin, Senator Lugar, Senator Robb, and Senator Thurmond. Your leadership and that of Senators Lott, Daschle, Helms and Biden and others in this chamber has truly, as the Secretary of State said, made this debate a model of bipartisan dialogue and action.

The Senate has held more than a dozen hearings on this matter. We have worked very closely with the Senate NATO observer group. And I must say, I was essentially gratified when the Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted 16 to 2 in support of enlargement.

Now, in the coming days the full Senate will act on this matter of critical importance to our national security. The admission of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic to NATO will be a very important milestone in building the kind of world we want in the 21st century.
As has been said, I first proposed NATO enlargement four years ago, when General Joulwan was our commander in Brussels. Many times since, I've had the opportunity to speak on this issue. Now a final decision is at hand, and now it is important that all the American people focus on this matter closely. For this is one of those rare moments when we have within our grasp the opportunity to actually shape the future, to make the new century safer and more secure and less unstable than the one we are leaving.

We can truly be present at a new creation. When President Truman signed the North Atlantic Treaty 49 years ago next month, he expressed the goal of its founders in typically simple and straightforward language: to preserve their present peaceful situation and to protect it in the future. The dream of the generation that founded NATO was of a Europe whole and free. But the Europe of their time was lamentably divided by the Iron Curtain. Our generation can realize their dream. It is our opportunity and responsibility to do so, to create a new Europe undivided, democratic, and at peace for the very first time in all history.

Forging a new NATO in the 21st century will help to fulfill the commitment and the struggle that many of you in this room engaged in over the last 50 years. NATO can do for Europe's east what it did for Europe's west -- protect new democracies against aggression, prevent a return to local rivalries, create the conditions in which prosperity can flourish.

In January of 1994, on my first trip to Europe for the NATO summit, we did take the lead in proposing a new NATO for a new era. First, by strengthening our Alliance to preserve its core mission of self-defense, while preparing it to take on the new challenges to our security and to Europe's stability. Second, by reaching out to new partners and taking in new members from among Europe's emerging democracies. And third, by forging a strong and cooperative relationship between NATO and Russia.

Over the past four years, persistently and pragmatically, we have put this strategy into place. NATO has shifted to smaller, more flexible forces better prepared to provide for our defense in this new era, but also trained and equipped for other contingencies. Its military power remains so unquestioned that it was the only force capable of stopping the fighting in Bosnia. NATO signed the Founding Act with Moscow, joining Russia and history's most successful alliance in common cause for a peaceful, democratic, undivided Europe. We signed a
charter to build cooperation between NATO and Ukraine. We created the Partnership for Peace as a path to full NATO membership for some, and a strong and lasting link to the Alliance for others.

Today, the Partnership for Peace has exceeded its mission beyond the wildest dreams of those of us who started it. It has more than three dozen members.

Now we're on the threshold of bringing new members into NATO. The Alliance's enlargement will make America safer by making NATO stronger, adding new forces and new allies that can share our security burdens. Let me be very clear: NATO's core mission will remain the same -- the defense of the territory of its members. The addition of new members will strengthen and enhance that mission. In pursuing enlargement, we have made sure not to alter NATO's core function or its ability to defend America and Europe's security.

Now I urge this Senate to do the same, and in particular to impose new constraints on NATO's freedom of action, its military decision-making, or its ability to respond quickly and effectively to whatever challenges may arise. NATO's existing treaty and the way it makes defense and security decisions have served our nation's security well for half a century.

In the same way, the addition of these new members will help NATO meet new challenges to our security. In Bosnia, for example, Polish, Czech, and Hungarian soldiers serve alongside our own with skill and professionalism. Remember, this was one of the largest, single operational deployments of American troops in Europe since World War II. It was staged from a base in Taszar, Hungary. It simply would not have happened as swiftly, smoothly, or safely without the active help and support of Hungary.

As we look toward the 21st century, we're looking at other new security challenges as well -- the spread of weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile technology, terrorism and the potential for hi-tech attacks on our information systems. NATO must be prepared to meet and defeat this new generation of threats, to act flexibly and decisively under American leadership. With three new members in our ranks, NATO will be better able to meet those goals as well.

Enlargement also will help to make Europe more stable. Already, the very prospect of membership has encouraged nations
throughout the region to accelerate reforms, resolve disputes, and improve cooperation.

Now, let me emphasize what I've said many times before and what all NATO allies have committed to: NATO's first new members should not be its last. Keeping the doors open to all of Europe's new democracies will help to ensure that enlargement benefits the security of the entire region, not just the first three new members.

At last summer's summit in Madrid, NATO agreed to examine the process of enlargement at our next summit in 1999. Neither NATO nor my administration has made any decisions or any commitments about when the next invitations for membership should be extended, or to whom. I have consulted broadly with Congress on decisions about the admissions of the first three members. I pledge to do the same before any future decisions are made. And of course any new members would also require the advice and the consent of the United States Senate.

For these reasons, I urge in the strongest terms the Senate to reject any effort to impose an artificial pause on the process of enlargement. Such a mandate is unnecessary and, I believe, unwise. If NATO is to remain strong, America's freedom to lead it must be unfettered and our freedom to cooperate with our other partners in NATO must remain unfettered. A unilateral freeze on enlargement would reduce our own country's flexibility and, perhaps even more important, our leverage, our ability to influence our partners. It would fracture NATO's open-door consensus, it would undermine further reforms in Europe's democracies, it would draw a new and potentially destabilizing line, at least temporarily, in Europe.

There are other steps we must take to prevent that division from re-emerging. We must continue to strengthen the partnership for peace with our many friends in Europe. We need to give even more practical expression to the agreements between NATO and Russia, and NATO and Ukraine, turning words into deeds. With Russia and other countries, we must continue to reduce our nuclear stockpiles -- and we thank you, Senator Lugar, for your leadership on that -- to combat the dangers of proliferation, to lower conventional arms ceilings all across Europe. And all of us together must help the Bosnian people to finish the job of bringing a lasting peace to their country. If you think about where we were just a year ago in Bosnia, not to mention two years ago, not to mention 1995, no one could have believed we would be here today.
It would not have happened had it not been for NATO, the Partnership for Peace allies, the Russians, all of those who have come together and joined hands to end the bloodiest conflict in Europe since the second world war.

Now we have to finish what America started four years ago, welcoming Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic into our Alliance. If you look around at who is in the room today, you can see that they are more than willing to be a good partner. They will make NATO stronger; they will make Europe safer; and in so doing, they will make America and our young people more secure. They will make it less likely that the men and women in uniform who serve under General Shelton and the other generals here, and their successors in the 21st century, will have to fight and die because of problems in Europe.

A new NATO can extend the blessings of freedom and security in a new century. With the help of our allies, the support of the Senate, the strength of our continued commitment, we can bring Europe together -- not by force of arms, but by possibilities of peace. That is the promise of this moment. And we must seize it.

Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

12:58 P.M. EST
2/8/98 9:45 P.M.

PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
TRANSMITTAL OF PROTOCOLS OF ACCESSION TO NATO FOR
POLAND, HUNGARY, AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC
STATE DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON, DC
FEBRUARY 11, 1998

Acknowledgments: Vice President Gore; Senator Roth; Senator Biden, [Sens. Bingaman, Thurmond, Lieberman, Mikulski; Reps. Gejdensorr and Solomon] Secretary Albright; Deputy Secretary Hamre; General Shelton; Minister Kovacs [KO-vach]; Minister Geremek [geh-REH-mek]; Minister Sedivy [SHEH-dih-vee]; Distinguished Guests [John Sweeney, Alexander Haig, Zbigniew Brezinski]

Today we gather in a building that has seen many negotiations and the signing of many pacts to end bloodshed. This time, we have come together not to sign another agreement to end a war but to begin a new era of security and stability for America and Europe.

In a moment, I will transmit to the Senate for its advice and consent the documents that will add Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic to NATO. Their addition to the Alliance is not only a pivotal event in the quest of their peoples for freedom and security. The enlargement of NATO is also a major stride forward for America, the Alliance, and the stability and unity of all of Europe.

As the Senate takes up consideration of these agreements in the coming weeks, the question it must answer is: How does adding these states to NATO advance America's national security?

There are three compelling reasons. First: Enlarging the Alliance will make NATO stronger. The Cold War is past, but dangers remain – conflicts like the one in Bosnia, weapons of mass destruction, threats that we cannot predict today A NATO that embraces Europe's new democracies will be more capable of carrying out its core mission of defending the territory of its members as well as addressing conflicts that threaten our common peace.

These three states will add some 200,000 troops to the Alliance. A larger NATO will be a better deterrent against the aggressors of the future and deepen the ranks of those who will stand with us should deterrence ever fail. I am pleased that just last week, 60 of America's top retired military leaders – including five former Chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff – underscored that message when they said that these three states will make NATO stronger. They are right, and we have already seen the proof. As we speak, Czech, Hungarian and Polish troops are participating in NATO's peacekeeping effort in Bosnia. They served beside us in the Gulf War, where they made a significant contribution to our success. And they recognize the threat to the world posed by Saddam Hussein's efforts to develop weapons of mass destruction. I am pleased that all three countries have announced they are prepared to support us, as appropriate, should military action prove necessary. We all hope we can avoid the use of force. That's up to Saddam – he must let the weapons instructors back on the job with full and free access to all suspect sites. But if Saddam won't act, let there be no doubt – and let me be perfectly clear – we will.
The second reason why NATO must grow is that it will make Europe more stable. NATO can do for Europe's east what it did for Europe's west after World War II -- provide a secure climate in which democracy and prosperity can grow. Enlarging NATO will encourage prospective members to resolve their differences peacefully. Already, the prospect of NATO membership has helped convince countries in Central Europe to improve ties with their neighbors, settle border and ethnic disputes -- any one of which could have led to a future conflict. Enlargement will make all of Europe more stable.

Finally, NATO's growth will erase the artificial line in Europe that Stalin drew. Behind me is a picture of the wall that for so long represented the false and forced division of that continent. It has been nearly ten years since that wall was torn down by brave people on both sides. Countries once confined by it are now truly free, with strong democracies, vibrant market economies, and a proven track record of standing up for peace and security beyond their own borders. NATO cannot maintain the old Iron Curtain as its permanent eastern frontier. It must and can bring Europe together in security, not keep it apart in instability.

In the 20th century, we have learned the hard way just how vital Europe's security is for our own. Enlarging NATO will make America safer.

Our goal is and remains the creation of an undivided, democratic peaceful Europe for the first time in history. Bringing these three nations into the Alliance will advance this effort. So will the NATO's new Founding Act with Russia and the broad new relationship we are building with Moscow -- which is helping us move forward on arms control...build peace in Bosnia...and achieve progress on a wide range of security challenges. So will the Partnership for Peace ... the EuroAtlantic Partnership Council...the Charter with Ukraine and the Charter of Partnership I signed last month with the Presidents of the three Baltic states and our Southeast Europe Action Plan, which I announced yesterday with President Stoyanov of Bulgaria. Our effort to build a new Europe also depends on keeping NATO's door open to other qualified European democracies. History teaches us that the realm of freedom in Europe has no fixed frontiers. The United States is determined that the divisions of the past not circumscribe the boundaries of the future.

As the Senate begins its deliberations, I want to salute the indispensable role that members of both parties in both chambers in Congress have already played in bringing us to this day. I was especially pleased that a bipartisan group of members joined me at last summer's NATO summit in Madrid as part of America's delegation. The wide-ranging debate on this issue within Congress and across our nation is a model of the kind of thoughtful, non-partisan discussion we need -- and I commend Congress for helping to lead it. Now the decision rests with the United States Senate. I know it is in good hands.

In this room named for Benjamin Franklin -- one of America's first envoys in Europe after independence -- I am reminded of the comment he made at the close of the Constitutional Convention. He noted that on the chair of the Convention's president, George Washington, was painted a figure of the sun -- a symbol, he thought, of our new republic. He said "I have the happiness to know it is a rising and not a setting sun."

In the wake of the Cold War, some wondered whether the Alliance had a future. With the step
we take today – and the decision I am confident the Senate will take in the days ahead – I know that our historic partnership of nations also is a rising sun and that its ascendance will bring a more stable, more democratic, more peaceful future for all who live on both sides of the Atlantic.

###