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Folder Title:
President Clinton's Trip to Bonn & Berlin, Germany - July 1994 [2]

Staff Office-Individual:
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GREET U.S. EMBASSY PERSONNEL

CONTEXT OF EVENT

This is your opportunity to make contact with the U.S. Embassy staff in Bonn, who will gather on the lawn of the Petersburg Guest House just prior to your departure from Bonn. Departing Ambassador Richard Holbrooke will introduce you.

YOUR OBJECTIVES

- Acknowledge the Americans (and their families) who represent the U.S. in Bonn and the Foreign Service National employees who support them.
- Highlight your Administration’s priorities.

A text of your remarks will be provided separately.

BACKGROUND

The Embassy in Bonn has 835 employees, 402 Americans and 433 (mostly German) Foreign Service Nationals and houses representatives of many U.S. Government agencies. With unification, the former U.S. Mission in Berlin and our Embassy to the GDR in Berlin were closed and amalgamated into the Embassy Office Berlin, a subordinate post of the Embassy in Bonn. The move of the Bonn government’s functions to united Berlin, the once and future capital, is anticipated to begin in the second half of the nineties. Our Embassy will move there as well, to a new chancery to be built on the site of our pre-war Embassy on Pariser Platz next to the Brandenburg Gate.
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PRESS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

RUSSIA AND THE NIS

Q: Why isn't the European Union doing more on Russian aid? After all, it's their backyard.

A. - The EU and its members account for over 70% of the $80 billion-plus in total G-7 commitments to the NIS (as of January).

- G-7 members agree that no one country or institution should shoulder the burden alone on aid to Russia and the NIS.

- Only through joint and concerted effort can we help these countries establish democratic institutions and a market economy.

CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Q: What are the U.S. and European Union (EU) doing to cooperate on assistance to Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and the New Independent States (NIS)?

A. - For CEE, the EU chairs the Group-of-24 which coordinates assistance from all Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) states.

- The U.S. and the EU have taken the lead on coordinating OECD democracy-building programs in the CEE countries.

- Our cooperation on CEE and NIS aid includes regular exchanges with EU officials in Brussels. Increasingly, our assistance providers are consulting with each other in the field.

- In addition, we cooperate with individual EU member states on Russian assistance through the Support Implementation Group in Moscow.
Q: What about burdensharing in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE)? Is the U.S. doing its fair share? After all, the EU has borne the brunt of increased CEE exports.

A. The EU is benefiting from increased trade with CEE. While EU imports from CEE are up 50 percent from 1990, its exports to the CEE more than doubled, and the EU had a $3 billion trade surplus with the CEE in 1993 (in 1990, the EU had a trade deficit with CEE states). This underscores the need to open Western markets further to CEE exports.

The U.S. is heavily involved in CEE. Through June 1993, the U.S. committed over $8 billion in assistance. This assistance is now primarily through the United States program of Support for East European Democracy (SEED). The U.S. is the second largest bilateral donor after Germany, which committed over $10 billion.

The U.S. is the top donor of grant assistance with $4.7 billion -- 65 percent of our total aid. Most other donors' assistance has been in the form of credits and guarantees that increase CEE indebtedness.

Q: Did you discuss with Chancellor Kohl and President Delors European Union restrictions on exports from Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries? Isn't the EU hypocritical and predatory in flooding CEE markets with subsidized farm goods?

A. We did discuss market access for the Central and East European countries. We agree that helping remove barriers is a critical part of the reform process.

The EU has made market opening commitments in its association agreements with the CEE.

It is unfortunate that subsidized EU agricultural exports to the CEE and to the New Independent States are denying both U.S. and CEE farmers markets; as during the GATT negotiations, we urge the EU and others to cut such subsidized exports.
Q: What is the U.S. doing to increase market access to the Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries?

A. Although assistance for CEE is vitally important, we recognize the importance of increased trade to the transformation process.

- We have extended Most Favored Nation (MFN) status to all of the countries of the region except Serbia/Montenegro.

- These MFN countries also enjoy the benefits of our Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program, which permits the duty-free entry of a wide range of products into the United States.

- We have taken steps to reduce those few barriers which remain to sensitive exports from Central and East European countries.

- We have, for example, negotiated generous textile agreements with most CEEs.

- With the Uruguay Round, we are eliminating additional barriers to Central and East European exports, and we continue to look for other steps we may be able to take to increase their access.

BOSNIA/FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

Q: What is the status of the cease-fire? Is the contact group scheduled to meet again? Will the U.S. join with the EU to pressure Bosnia to accept the 51/49 split?

A. One-month ceasefire that took effect June 10 never perfectly observed but generally holding. Would like it renewed so negotiations can continue, but must not simply freeze Serb gains.

- Contact group [near agreement/agreed] on territorial proposal, package of incentives and consequences to encourage both parties to reach agreement.

- I urge them to do so. Neither can achieve all aims in the battlefield.
Q: With some European countries talking of withdrawing their peacekeeping forces if negotiations bog down, is the U.S. prepared to deploy its own troops?

A. The United States is prepared to participate in NATO implementation of a viable Bosnian settlement provided certain conditions are met.

- We would welcome Congressional support for U.S. participation.

- We continue to believe peace can only be achieved at the negotiating table, not on the battlefield.

Q: What is the possibility of lifting the arms embargo?

A. Our administration has long maintained that the UN-imposed arms embargo as it applies to Bosnia unfairly penalizes the victim of the conflict. When the time comes to lift the embargo, we would like to see it lifted multilaterally.

Q: Will the U.S. push for a tightening of sanctions against Serbia if it rejects the Contact Group's proposal? Will the U.S. push for settlement in Kosovo and Krajina as a condition for lifting sanctions?

A. We have repeatedly called for strengthening of sanctions through additional monitors to keep pressure on the Serbs to settle. We would push for further tightening of sanctions if they reject the Contact Group plan.

- Serbia has nearly exhausted its hard-currency reserves in an effort to prop up its economy.

- While we are prepared to ease sanctions if the Serbs implement a settlement, total sanction relief should be linked to a settlement in Krajina. UN Security Council Resolution 871 recognized this linkage.
MIDDLE EAST

Q: Did you discuss the Middle East Peace Process?

A. The EU is a key supporter of the Middle East peace process, and U.S.-EU dialogue and coordination is tremendously important.

- We had a good discussion of the current situation, and I believe our thinking is in sync on how best to support the process.

- We will continue to coordinate, both bilaterally and through established mechanisms, such as the Ad Hoc Liaison Group and the Regional Economic Development Working Group, which the EU chairs.

Q: Will the U.S. and EU cooperate on Algeria and the Maghreb problem?

A. The EU shares our concerns about the potential for instability and violence in the region, and both we and the EU are looking for ways in which we can cooperate on the strengthening of democratic, free-market forces there.

Q: Do the U.S. and EU continue to have differences over Iran?

A. We share common objectives, but sometimes differ on how to achieve them.

Q: What are the U.S. and the EU doing to address Iran’s unacceptable behavior?

A. To bring international pressure on Iran with the support of our Allies, in 1993 we established the U.S.-EU-Canada Working Group on Iran, a forum in which experts and senior policy officials meet periodically to exchange information and forge common understanding about their policies on Iran.
MECHANISMS FOR ENHANCING THE U.S.-EU DIALOGUE

Q: Can you discuss in more detail your agreement to establish study groups on Central and Eastern Europe and U.S.-EU discussions?

A. We and the EU agree on the need to bolster support for reform in CEE.

- Given our common objectives in CEE, we wanted to reexamine what each of us is doing and whether there are areas of overlap and duplication, or whether there are gaps that neither of us are filling.

- In the ad hoc study group our experts and policymakers can consult, exchange information, and examine options for possible cooperation or rationalization of U.S. and EU efforts.

- Similarly, the ad hoc study group on U.S.-EU consultations will look at how consultations should be streamlined or enhanced, as well as how we can establish formal consultative links to the EU's new "Third Pillar" of intergovernmental coordination on home/justice affairs.

- Both study groups will make specific recommendations, to be considered at the next U.S.-EU Summit under the presidency of France. After reporting, the study groups will be dissolved.

Q: Does the establishment of a U.S.-EU study group on the consultative process indicate problems in the relationship?

A. To the contrary, the establishment of the study group demonstrates the vitality of our transatlantic ties and our commitment to work together.

- The study group will look for ways to move beyond information exchange to practical cooperation.

Q: You have said you support deeper European integration. Have EU economic problems and its failures in Bosnia caused you to reconsider the value of the EU as a partner?

A. No. If anything, Bosnia demonstrates the need for a cohesive Europe that can act decisively. Only a united, confident Europe can be the partner America needs on a range of European and global issues.
Q: What is your reaction to the European Parliament elections held June 9 and 12? Does the strengthening of far right representation in some EU countries bother you?

A. The European Parliament is perhaps the clearest and most direct means of expression by the electorate of the European Union. As such, it deserves our respect and support.

My European colleagues can speak more authoritatively to the various causes and factors in the results of the EP elections.

Q: Given the outcome of the Austrian referendum, what is the U.S. position on broadening European integration?

A. Because we support European integration, I was glad to see an affirmative vote on EU membership by the Austrian people in their June 12 referendum.

While we support European integration, EU membership and expansion are internal matters for individual nations and the EU to decide.

Q: How will the departure of Jacques Delors affect U.S.-EU relations?

A. I have been truly impressed by President Delors' energy and intellect. He has never lost sight of the practical concerns of the working man and woman. I have benefitted from our discussion of many issues of common concern, such as health care, unemployment and competitiveness. I was pleased he was able to participate in the Detroit Jobs Conference last spring.

The extent of U.S.-EU relations, however, is so broad and deep as to transcend any one person, no matter how influential. We will welcome President Delors' successor.
ENERGY CHARTER TREATY
(To be revised: negotiations ongoing)

Q: What are the differences in the positions of the U.S. and the EU on the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT)? Will these differences prevent the U.S. from signing the treaty?

A. We have differences with the EU over 3 major issues:

   - **Sub-Federal**: The U.S. needs an exception for certain non-conforming state laws. Essentially, we want to give the same treatment the U.S. gave in the NAFTA and GATS agreements.

   - **Exceptions to National Treatment post-establishment**: We need limited exceptions for programs such as OPIC grants, affirmative action and minority assistance and set aside programs and energy R&D grants to have any realistic chance of getting the treaty ratified.

   - **REIO/EIA exception**: The "Regional Economic Integration Organization" or "Economic Integration Agreement" exception is a very vaguely worded exception for benefits of belonging to organizations such as the EU.

   - We do not believe any REIO exception is necessary in the first ECT and only a more limited one in the second ECT.

Q: What environmental issues came up during your talks?

A. We agreed to continue the positive momentum following the 1992 Earth Summit: meeting our commitments to return greenhouse gas emissions to their 1990 levels by the year 2000; ratifying the biodiversity convention and pressing for its effective implementation; and focusing on the conservation and sustainable management of forests.
SPEECH AT BRANDENBURG GATE

CONTEXT OF EVENT

Your speech in Berlin follows a memorable tradition set by President Kennedy in 1963 and carried on by President Reagan in 1987. In a now undivided city, which you will dramatize by walking through the gate, your remarks will be directed eastward physically and rhetorically. The occasion will be one of the dramatic highs of your July trip to Europe. Berlin Mayor Diepgen and Chancellor Kohl will speak briefly before you.

YOUR OBJECTIVES

- Assure Germans and Berliners that our partnership -- symbolized by the postwar defense of freedom in Berlin -- continues strong.

- Tell all Europeans that the U.S. is committed to working with them to integrate Europe's new democracies into an expanding, peaceful, prosperous trans-Atlantic community.

- Explain for Americans why this matters.

Your remarks will be provided separately.

BACKGROUND

Originally a toll gate, the neo-classical Brandenburg Gate crowned by a four-horse chariot sculpture was completed in 1791 for King Frederick William II. It has seen the triumphs and defeats of German history. Napoleon's troops marched through the gate in 1806 after defeating the defending Prussians. Prussian troops reversed roles in 1815 after the battle of Waterloo. The gate and the stately Pariser Platz to its east were also at the center of the post-World War I political developments following the Kaiser's abdication and the triumphal march of Hitler's storm troopers when he assumed power in 1933.

The gate and buildings surrounding it -- including the U.S. Embassy -- were heavily damaged at the end of World War II. During the postwar occupation, the gate was a major crossing point between the Soviet-occupied east and the western sectors. Construction of the Berlin Wall in August 1961 closed the gate which stood in East Berlin, making it the most evocative symbol of divided Berlin. The gate regained its status at the center of Berlin on November 9, 1989, when joyous crowds celebrated the opening of the wall. Brandenburg Gate and Pariser Platz will continue their important roles in unified Germany as part of central Berlin, the once and future capital. Pariser Platz is likely to be the site of a new U.S. Embassy, to be occupied when the major offices in Bonn move to Berlin by 2000.
VISIT TO THE NEW SYNAGOGUE

CONTEXT OF EVENT

Your visit to the reconstructed Oranienburg Synagogue will be the first of its kind in the former East Berlin. With the other Berlin events -- the U.S.-EU Summit, the walk through and speech at the Brandenburg Gate and the ceremony for the Berlin Brigade -- the synagogue visit will help symbolize the full sweep of the changes occurring in Europe. Chancellor and Mrs. Kohl and members of the Berlin Jewish community will greet you.

YOUR OBJECTIVES

- Remember and commemorate the Holocaust.
- Condemn racism, extremist violence and intolerance wherever they occur.

BACKGROUND

Built in the 19th century in Berlin's traditional Jewish quarter, the Oranienburg Synagogue was a symbol of liberalism and center of the city's Jewish life and culture. It was the first synagogue to include an organ. The city declared its facade an historic monument based on the quality of the architecture. Because of the good relationship between the Jewish community and its German neighbors, a district police commissioner was able to save the synagogue from major damage during "Kristallnacht" (Crystal Night) in 1938, when officially-organized violence against Jews and property occurred. This synagogue was one of two that were not burned on that night. The building was heavily damaged during a 1943 night bombing raid.

In the 1980s the GDR government, trying to underline its denial of responsibility for Nazism and the Holocaust, decided to rebuild the synagogue and set up a DM 80 million fund to do so. Reconstruction began in 1988 and still continues, with a target date for completion in mid-1995. The building is no longer used as a synagogue but rather as an educational and community center for Jewish Berliners. The building houses the archives of the Jewish community of former East Germany and a Jewish adult education center. The completely renovated building will include a small place of worship. There are no plans to reconstruct the sanctuary which originally seated 3500 people. The Jewish community in Berlin numbers approximately 10,000. Some 3,000 of them are Germans, the remainder immigrants from the former Soviet Union.
SIGNING OF THE GOLDEN BOOK

CONTEXT OF EVENT

Berlin's Golden Book, like those of other German cities, is a ceremonial record of prominent visitors. Every U.S. President who has visited Berlin since WWII has signed, though you will be the first to do so in the Rotes Rathaus (Red City Hall) -- the red-brick building in the former eastern sector to which Mayor Diepgen moved his administration after unification. Diepgen and you will both make brief remarks.

YOUR OBJECTIVE

- To demonstrate continuing significance of Berlin to Americans.

Your remarks will be provided separately.

BACKGROUND

Built in the 1860s on the site of the original, 13th century Berlin town hall, the Rotes Rathaus houses the offices and meeting rooms of the Governing Mayor, federal chancellery officials and the city administration. Its style is Northern Italian Renaissance, with a 74-meter tower. Destroyed by bombardment during WWII, the building was reconstructed by 1958 and served as the seat of East Berlin municipal government until German unification. The first all-Berlin government since 1948 met in the Red Rathaus in January 1991.
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