FOIA MARKER

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

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records
Subgroup/Office of Origin: Communications
Series/Staff Member: Don Baer
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 10140
FolderID:

Folder Title: Misc. G-7

Stack: Row: Section: Shelf: Position:
S 90 2 8 1
SPEECHES FOR THE G-7 TRIP

WASHINGTON D.C.

Departure Statement

RIGA

Arrival Ceremony
Signing Ceremony
Cultural/Political Leaders
Freedom Plaza
Embassy Staff
Departure Ceremony

WARSZAWA

Arrival Ceremony
Walesa Bilateral
Walesa Toast
Polish Parliament
Children of the Warsaw Uprising
Embassy Staff
Departure Ceremony

NAPLES

Arrival Ceremony
Pre G-7 Press Statement
Yeltsin Bilateral
Post G-7 Press Statement
Embassy/Military Greeting

BONN

Arrival Statement
Kohl Bilateral
Kohl Lunch (Dec of Ind)
Ramstein

BERLIN

Arrival Statement
EU Summit Statement
Brandenburg Gate
Inactivation Ceremony
Departure Ceremony
President William Jefferson Clinton  
Remarks to the Berlin Brigade  
McNair Barracks, Berlin, Germany  
July 12, 1994

Chancellor and Mrs. Kohl, Governing Mayor and Mrs. Diepgen, Secretary Perry, General Shalikashvili, General Maddox, General Yates, Ambassador Holbrooke, members of the Berlin Brigade, my fellow Americans:

Today we close a circle begun nearly a half century ago, ending where we began, at democracy's most forward outpost. We have come to Berlin.

In 1945, President Truman came to Berlin, and atop the American headquarters he raised high the Stars and Stripes. He had a simple wish: that one day, Berlin would be part of "a better world, a peaceful world, a world in which all the people will have an opportunity to enjoy the good things in life."

Then as now, the colors rippled mightily in the winds of Berlin. And the winds could not be contained by a Wall, but by the years. They gusted from here, lifting a continent, finally, out of the cold and toward the warmth of freedom.

To the men and women of the Berlin Brigade, and for all who have served across this age, I say: It was you who fanned those winds, with your courage, with your steadfastness, with your patriotism, with your very presence.

Few moments in the life of a nation are as fulfilling as when its sons and daughters in uniform can be thanked for a job well done. Today we share such a moment. Members of the Berlin Brigade: America salutes you. Your long campaign has been successful. Berlin is free. Berlin is united. Berlin is part of a better world.

No force of this size has ever accomplished more for peace and stability. No force has better symbolized America's commitment to the defense of human liberty. No force has better embodied America's solidarity with peoples around the world who are committed to democracy.

The Berlin Brigade knew the dangers of the world better than anyone. You stood tall at the flashpoint of superpower disputes. At the edge of nuclear confrontation, you did not flinch. You preserved and fortified this island of freedom. You did it without firing a single shot in anger. The example of your courage strengthened liberty's resolve.

From Doughboy City to Templehof Airport to Checkpoint Charlie and other sites east of the Elbe river -- in all, more
than 100,000 American men and women served in Berlin. People like the Colonel Gale Halvorsen, who tossed small, candy-filled parachutes to the children of Berlin during the Airlift of 1948.

People like Sid Shachnow. He survived the Holocaust in a concentration camp in Lithuania. Then he became an American and a soldier for freedom. He was better known here in the 1980’s as Brigadier General Shachnow, Brigade Commander.

People like Private Hans Puhl. In September 1964, he was a military policeman on duty when a young East Berliner tried to dash to freedom. East German guards fired their guns, but he kept going. He was hit by more than five bullets when he fell, short of the Wall. A dream would surely have died right there, except for Private Puhl. He jumped over the Wall, and carried the East Berliner to freedom.

People like the men who for 16 tense hours stood eyeball to eyeball with Soviet tanks at Checkpoint Charlie in 1961. These soldiers were the tripwire. They knew that if there would be war, it would start there, and they would be the first to take a fall for freedom. And they didn’t blink.

It’s that kind of commitment that told the people of Berlin that we would always be here, as long as we were needed.

Next month, the last of the troops sent here by Moscow will pull out from Berlin. Soon thereafter, our last units here at McNair Barracks will go home. Today, we say to the good and brave people of Berlin: This is not a farewell, but a new beginning. We have been and will always be friends and partners. Our departure marks the end of an era, but not an end to our commitment.

Throughout western Germany and Europe, our men and women in uniform will continue to be a presence. Let me be clear: America’s military will remain engaged in Europe. The entire transatlantic alliance benefits when Europe and America are both strong and engaged, and for that reason, I want to maintain about 100,000 American troops on this continent.

I am not the first American President to come to Berlin. And to the citizens of this city and to all who cherish freedom as a birthright, America pledges that I will not be the last.

I have come to Berlin, as President Truman did, as President Kennedy did, as Presidents Nixon and Reagan did, each to stand at democracy’s door in East Europe. But now we have crossed that threshold to a new world of opportunities.

In 1994, we face new challenges. To Berlin’s east, a new struggle is taking place: people trying to establish democracy and a market economy. Together with our allies, we are obligated
to help them succeed. And if we stand shoulder to shoulder with our allies and friends, as we have in Berlin, no task is unsurmountable.

Not long after Berlin was divided, millions of Americans pitched in to send the city a symbol of our friendship. It's a copy of the Liberty Bell that hangs in Philadelphia. When that bell rang here for the first time, in 1950, no one knew when freedom would come. When the first cargo planes landed in 1948 as part of Operation Vittles, as the Airlift was called, no one knew how long it would last or even if it could succeed. When the Wall went up in 1961, no one knew when the city and its severed families would be whole again.

When the Quadripartite Agreement on Berlin was signed in 1971, no one knew whether it would improve the lives of Berliners.

But we knew, in our hearts. We believed, and history proved us right. It proved that freedom’s will is stronger than tyranny’s wall.

That’s why we came to Berlin. That’s why Americans from all walks of life will continue to come to Berlin, to work and to study, strengthening our economic and cultural bonds. Many more will come, because now, because of you, Berlin faces perhaps its brightest future in 750 years of existence.

Since the beginning, the people of Berlin have made us welcome, and more. In the most personal and heartfelt ways, Berliners have been saying thank you. But it is we who are grateful. They gave us a precious gift: the chance to see freedom reborn.

This goodbye is not cause for sadness. We do not mourn, we have not one regret. Today we have come to Berlin to celebrate. Because of you, we can say now, finally: All is quiet, on freedom’s front.

Members of the Berlin Brigade, I salute you: Mission accomplished.
Remarks Upon Arrival in Warsaw
July 6, 1994

Foreign Minister Olechowski (oh-leh-HOFF-ski), ladies and gentlemen. Hillary and I are delighted to visit Poland for our first time. I look forward to two days of serious and productive discussions with the leaders of this country.

The rebirth of Poland as a free and democratic part of the West is one of the most compelling stories of our time. For centuries, the Poles have resisted tyranny and oppression. Daring to resist tyranny, the Polish people peacefully removed an undemocratic regime and in freeing themselves helped free half a continent.

As we recall the tragedies and triumphs of the Second World War in this year of commemoration, we must not forget that our own era has witnessed inspiring and compelling tales of courage and vindication -- the shipyard in Gdansk and the election of the first non-Communist Prime Minister in more than 40 years.

But the Poles have not rested on their laurels. Fresh from the struggle to open the door to democracy, they turned to building a new, more prosperous society. In the five years since Poland’s revolution, your people have weathered significant hardships to create a free market democracy that now enjoys the fastest growth rates in Europe. The course you have chosen has not always been an easy one and some have yet to taste the rewards of the new system. I promise you that you will.

I can assure you that the United States will remain with you on your journey as you continue to bring the advantages of freedom to all Poles.

I look forward to my meetings with President Walesa (va-WEN-sa) and Prime Minister Pawlak (PAHV-lahk) as a chance to reaffirm America’s support for a secure, prosperous Poland. I hope to learn how the United States can best help Poland build on its progress so far to achieve Poland’s full integration into the economic, political, and security institutions of the West.

Poland is in many ways the birthplace of the new Europe. I am proud and honored to be here today to salute your achievements and reaffirm a long friendship between our two nations.
I have just concluded a productive and enjoyable meeting with President Lech Walesa (lekh va-WHEN-sa). The theme of our exchanges was the integration of Central Europe's new democracies -- including Poland -- into a growing transatlantic community. Poland and America are bound by over two centuries of friendship. Since 1989, our relations have been extraordinarily close because we share a common purpose: the success of democracy, market economics and security in a renewed and undivided Europe.

President Walesa and I discussed specifics; first, security in Central and Eastern Europe. We expressed our pleasure that the Partnership for Peace is off to a fast start and I welcomed Poland's decision to host the first Partnership exercise held on the territory of the former Warsaw Pact. We also discussed NATO's future role in Europe, and I affirmed NATO's decision of last January to expand to Europe's new democracies. A Poland which shares the values of the democratic world should share in the security of that world, and I told President Walesa that the United States will never accept foreign hegemony over Poland or other free peoples of Central and Eastern Europe.

We discussed Poland's historic market economic transformation, the only sure path to renewal and prosperity. I told President Walesa that the world remains impressed with Poland's progress and the resourcefulness of the Polish people in building a modern economy. There is more to be done still. This is the time to complete the transformation and a time for Poland's friends to keep helping. We shall and President Walesa and I shared ideas on promoting trade and investment and supporting privatization.

President Walesa and I considered ways to address the human and social stresses caused by the collapse of the old Soviet trading system. Our governments have been in close contact in the past months, and have agreed to work together to stimulate housing construction, provide jobs, fight organized and white collar crime and modernize Poland's social services.

I look forward to continuing my conversations with President Walesa this evening, to seeing Prime Minister Pawlak (PAHV-lak) and addressing the Sejm (SAME) tomorrow, and to see something of Warsaw, one of Europe's fastest changing and most dynamic cities.
My visit to Poland has been a stimulating, enlightening experience. I am glad that I have been able to see first hand the accomplishments of a people who blazed the trail of freedom for the region and who have since led the way in economic reform. No one can leave Poland unimpressed by the effort and commitment to change that this tremendous transformation. The United States -- and all Americans -- are proud of the role we have played in assisting Poland’s efforts in the past. As I have told President Walesa, we will continue to stand with you in the future. Poland’s success -- and Poland’s security -- is of direct material interest to the American people.

Our ties go back centuries. Poles and Americans have fought together for freedom from the swamps of Savannah, Georgia during our revolution, to the beaches of Normandy in World War II. Now, fortunately, we fight together in a different way as we seek to bring its benefits to the peoples of Central and Eastern Europe. Poland is a leader in this fight:

Your commitment to economic reform serves as a guide to others in the region.

Your active participation in Partnership for Peace leads the way in bringing the newly freed nations of the region closer to NATO.

Given your unwavering contributions to peacekeeping around the world, you have established yourselves as a model citizen in the post-Cold War world.

The United States greatly values our enduring close relationship with Poland. I believe that my visit here has reinforced that friendship.

I would like to thank President Walesa (va-WEN-sa), Prime Minister Pawlak (PAHV-lahk) and the people of Poland for their generous hospitality.
Hillary and I are delighted to be back in Italy so soon after our extraordinary visit last month to Rome. We have heard such wonderful things about Naples that we have high expectations for the city's beauty and history.

This city has a rich cultural legacy. It is the home of many great artists and cultural figures throughout history - from the poet Vergil to opera great Enrico Caruso. Naples has contributed to the world's culinary history as well - as the birthplace of the pizza.

It is appropriate that the G-7 conference is being held in Naples -- named for the Greek phrase "New City." We are faced with a time when the nations of this world need to work together for our common good. As Vergil said "We can't all do everything." And that is why the countries of the G-7 are coming together this weekend. These discussions are critical as our industrial democracies look to stimulate global economic growth and spur job creation. By building on a successful GATT and expanding trade, we can boast world economic well-being.

These talks alone cannot spur our collective economies. Back home in the United States, we are investing in our people. We are expanding our education system so it better prepares our young people for the ever-changing job market; we're providing new opportunities for young people who want to give something back to their communities; and we're retraining our workers so they're ready for the challenges of the 21st century.

By investing in the American people, we are investing in the people of the world. And by doing this, we give people the courage to take advantage of the new opportunities that will be provided to them.

I am looking forward to the next few days of meetings to spread this message to the leaders of the G-7 countries. I also look forward to meeting with Prime Minister Berlusconi, to continue the progress we made last month toward further strengthening the bonds between our two nations.
President William Jefferson Clinton
Arrival Statement in Bonn
July 11, 1994

President Herzog, Chancellor Kohl, and friends throughout Germany. It is a great pleasure to arrive in Germany today. I extend to you the heartfelt greetings of all Americans.

For many Americans, arriving in Germany is a homecoming of sorts -- nearly one in four of us can trace our ancestry to this land. Our intertwined roots date back more than 300 years to the first German settlers in Pennsylvania. In fact, by the start of our revolution, so many Americans were sons and daughters of Germany and the German language was so widely used that the drafters of the Declaration of Independence published copies in German. And later today, I will present one of the two remaining copies of our Declaration of Independence written in German to Chancellor Kohl.

Bound by our shared heritage, our peoples have labored together in behalf of freedom and prosperity. For decades Germany has stood as a model of democracy for the whole world and a reliable friend and partner for the United States in advancing the cause of freedom. Our countries worked hand in hand to rebuild Europe from the shambles left after the Second World War. During the Cold War we stood shoulder to shoulder in defending the West against totalitarianism.

When President Kennedy came here 31 years ago, at the height of that precarious era, he asked the German people to lift their eyes beyond the dangers of today to the hopes of tomorrow. Thanks to the courage and resolve of the German people, and thanks to the fortitude of our alliance, tomorrow is here. But our work is not yet done. Now we face new challenges. Today we must be leaders in the great crusade of the post-cold-war era to foster liberty, democracy, human rights, and free market economics throughout the world.

Chancellor Kohl and I have just come from a meeting with the leaders of the other G-7 industrial nations and with President Yeltsin. Working in concert, we are making great strides in addressing the challenges of this new global economy -- we are working on ways to create high-wage jobs, and prepare our people to fill them.

If the world is to progress and prosper, the United States and Germany must continue to work closely together. We must build on the solid relationship that has framed the cause of freedom and prosperity in Europe for nearly half a century.

I look forward to spending time with Chancellor Kohl and to meeting President Herzog. I look forward to the important work in the days ahead and in the years to come. And I look forward to a peaceful and prosperous future together. Thank you.
Remarks Upon Departure from Berlin
July 12, 1994

Mayor Diepgen, Ladies and Gentlemen, let me thank you for the tremendous welcome you have given to Hillary, Chelsea, and me. Our stay here has been all too short.

We leave this city more aware than ever of the strong bonds of friendship linking Berlin, Germany, and the United States with the world community of free nations. Our sendoff for the Berlin Brigade highlighted that our military mission in Berlin was accomplished: the preservation of freedom.

Looking toward the future, we participated in a summit with the European Union. We look forward to and endorse German and French leadership over the coming year in moving this continent toward greater peace, prosperity, and unity.

We are now heading East, for a state visit in Poland. The United States will do all it can to ensure that the new democracies in the East prosper in a more secure and more integrated Europe. Germany is a vital partner in that endeavor.

We have experienced in Berlin an outpouring of friendship and understanding that convinces me more than ever of the enduring bonds between our countries. America is in Germany to stay, and Germany is in America to stay. We are allies facing a common future.

I thank you all for your warm welcome.