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Folder Title:
NATO Signing Ceremony 5/21/998

Staff Office-Individual:
Speechwriting-Blinken

Original OA/ID Number:
3380

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**COLLECTION:**
- Clinton Presidential Records
- National Security Council
- Anthony Blinken (Speechwriting)
- OA/Box Number: 3380

**FOLDER TITLE:**
NATO Signing Ceremony, 5/21/98

**RESTRICTION CODES**

**Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]**

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

**C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor’s deed of gift.**

**PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).**

**RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.**

**Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]**

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- b(7) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]
PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
NATO SIGNING CEREMONY
THE WHITE HOUSE
MAY 21, 1998
Vice President Gore; Senator Roth; Senator Biden; Secretary Albright; Secretary Cohen; General Ralston; Mr. Berger; Ambassadors Banlaki, Kozminski and Vondra; members of the diplomatic corps; members of the executive branch past and present; members of Congress; ladies and gentlemen:

Let me first say that I welcome President Suharto’s wise decision. Now, the Indonesian people have a chance to come together and build a stable democracy for the 21st century. I hope that Indonesia’s leaders will move forward promptly with an open and peaceful transition that enjoys broad public support.
Indonesia is a great nation with a great future -- and the United States stands ready -- as we have with other countries in the past -- to support Indonesia's leaders and people as they pursue democratic reform.

We gather to celebrate a historic step: the enlargement of the NATO alliance. I deeply appreciate the hard work of all those who supported this effort, including the members of Congress, present and former national security officials, and representatives of America's veterans, businesses, unions, religious groups, and ethnic communities.
And I would like to thank in particular the tireless efforts of my advisor on NATO enlargement, Jeremy Rosner, who did a remarkable job managing the ratification process.

The great story of the 20th century is the triumph of freedom. It was a century in which we learned, at great cost, that to defend America’s security at home, we must stand for America’s interests and ideals abroad.
Because of the strength of the American people and the alliances we have built, we close this century at a remarkable pinnacle -- our country is at peace, our prosperity greater than it has ever been, and a majority of the world's people live under governments of their own choosing.

In the struggle for freedom, we stood with enduring allies in the most successful alliance in history: the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
And now that the twilight struggle has at last given way to a springtime of liberty, we welcome three of Europe’s newest democracies -- Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic -- to an alliance that can keep the peace and preserve our security into the 21st century.

I hope the American people will reflect on what has been accomplished. Fifty years ago, in the wake of Europe’s devastation, Americans and Europeans imagined and then created the institutions that helped rebuild Europe -- and put in place a strong foundation for peace and prosperity. The Marshall Plan. The World Bank, the IMF and GATT.
And the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Their vision embraced all of Europe. But the reality of their time did not. Now, as we erase the line that artificially divided Europe for fifty years, we are completing what that generation began.

For the 16 countries already in NATO, enlarging our alliance will create three new allies, ready to contribute troops, technology and ingenuity to protecting our territory and defending our security. For the American people, there are now three more reasons we can face the future with unlimited confidence.
And the 60 million people who live in Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic will know that what they build in peace, they will keep in security.

We come to this day thanks to the numberless acts of courage that toppled the Berlin Wall and ended the Cold War. The sacrifices made by those who raised freedom's banner in Budapest in 1956, in Prague in 1968, and in Gdansk in 1980. The rebellion of conscience begun by such heroes as Lech Walesa, Vaclav Havel and Arpad Goncz [Goon-ce].
And the selfless investment of blood and treasure that the American people made in European freedom over the course of the 20th century.

For the 21st century, we are building a Europe without dividing lines but with democracy, peace and security for all its people. A Europe in which Russia, Ukraine and the other states of the former Soviet Union join with us to make common cause of our common concerns. In this new Europe, the American people can expect to find dynamic partners for commerce and cooperation.
And we can imagine a future in which our children will be much less likely to cross the Atlantic to fight and die in a war.

I want to acknowledge the indispensable efforts of the many leaders from both parties who brought us to this milestone -- especially Senate Majority Leader Lott and Minority Leader Daschle; the Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Helms and its Ranking Democrat Senator Biden; and the Chairman of the Senate NATO Observer Group, Senator Roth.
The overwhelming Senate vote for NATO enlargement stands in the tradition of Harry Truman, George Marshall, and Arthur Vandenberg and the other giants who picked up the pieces after World War II and were present at NATO's creation. Their lesson then is our lesson today -- that strength lies in a foreign policy that is guided by the interests and values that unite us as Americans.

This a day for celebration -- but our work for transatlantic security must continue.
We must pursue our efforts to strengthen NATO... to build closer ties with the members of the Partnership for Peace... to reinforce the practical cooperation between NATO and Russia and NATO and Ukraine... to see through our efforts to secure a lasting peace in the Balkans... to achieve deeper reductions in nuclear forces and lower the limits on conventional arms across the European continent. We have work to do. But for today, we remind the people of Europe that, in the efforts that lie ahead, they can continue to count on America. And we remind the world that, tomorrow as yesterday, America will defend its values, protect its interests and stand by its allies.
Now, it falls to us to be the guardians of the freedom we inherited. By strengthening the ties that bind free peoples, by committing ourselves anew to the values on which our Nation was founded and to which the world aspires, we ensure that, years from now, another generation may gather in this place, bask in the warm glow of liberty's light, and say that, in our time, we helped make their century -- the 21st century -- one of peace and freedom.

###
Nearly fifty years ago, Harry Truman signed the original NATO Charter. It provided a structure for our alliance and helped shape the world in the aftermath of World War Two. Today, in the aftermath of the Cold War, we again need NATO for stability and peace. It is the rock on which the New Europe has been built; an alliance so successful it has never been challenged; a foundation strong enough to support the aspirations of a continent that has never been freer.

Today is a great day for the friends of freedom. For the roughly 60 million who live in Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic. For the 13 countries already in NATO. And for the people of the United States, who can face the future with unlimited confidence. There is no surer way to protect our progress in the next century than to give new strength to the most successful alliance of all time. And from that alliance, to build a Europe that is prosperous, peaceful and free.

There are many people I would like to thank. In the best sense, this was a bipartisan effort from start to finish. Senator Lott was an early and consistent advocate. Senator Daschle never wavered in his support. Senator Helms brought his expertise and influence to bear as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Senator Biden, the ranking Democrat on that committee, did a brilliant job leading the effort. And Senator Roth made this an important commitment; co-chairing the Senate NATO Observers’ Group. Thank you, Senators, for your leadership.

I would also like to thank the other members of Congress. The thorough hearings and debates were conclusive that this measure would benefit the people of the United States. The final vote of the Senate expressed strong conviction. As we begin the work of enlargement, we will continue to consult closely with Congress. Since the beginning of NATO, Democrats and Republicans have put aside partisan differences for the higher purpose of building a safer world.

I am grateful to the people of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic. They and their relatives in the United States will help us to build a peace for the new century, in partnership with Russia, Ukraine and our friends around the globe. The work we have done together in places from Iraq to Bosnia has shown that cooperation works much, much better than conflict. Like Northern Ireland, the Balkans have a lot of history to work out, but we will keep working to bring the parties to the table and promote dialogue. Even with all of us on the job together, peace will be a challenge. Without us, it will be a fantasy.

It’s fairly clear how dangerous the world still is, even in a time of relative peace. We relearned that lesson last week. That is why this is such an important day for America. The documents I
am signing are more than a specific treaty. They are an affirmation of our commitment to Europe and our engagement around the globe. Some have said the United States should relax its vigilance. That is penny-wise and pound-foolish. We live in an increasingly small world where all our problems ultimately affect each other.

Next year and the years to come will be very important years for Europe. Our summits last week in Birmingham and London have put us on the right road. But we must not waver in our determination. A long race has been run, but it is not over yet. Near the end of a hard century, we must never stop searching for new pathways to peace. And we must consolidate the peace we forged in the past. Today, by welcoming three new friends into NATO, we are doing just that.

###
PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
NATO SIGNING CEREMONY
THE WHITE HOUSE
MAY 21, 1998

[Acknowledgments:] Vice President Gore; Senator Roth; Senator Biden; Secretary Albright; Secretary Cohen; General Ralston; Mr. Berger; Ambassadors Banlaki, Kozinski and Vondra; members of the diplomatic corps; members of the executive branch past and present; members of Congress; ladies and gentlemen:

Before I begin, let me say that I welcome President Suharto’s wise decision to step down. As a result, the Indonesian people have a chance to come together and build a stable democracy for the future. Now, I hope that Indonesia’s leaders will move forward promptly with an open and peaceful transition that enjoys broad public support. Indonesia is a great nation whose best days are still to come -- and the United States stands ready to support its leaders and people as they pursue democratic reform.

We gather to celebrate a historic step: the enlargement of the NATO alliance. I deeply appreciate the good and hard work of all those who supported this effort, including the members of Congress, present and former national security officials, and representatives of America's veterans, businesses, unions, religious groups, and ethnic communities. And I would like to thank in particular the tireless efforts of my advisor on NATO enlargement, Jeremy Rosner, who did a remarkable job managing the ratification process.
The great story of the 20th century is the triumph of freedom. It was a century in which we learned, at great cost, that to defend America’s security at home, we must stand for America’s interests and ideals abroad. Because of the strength of the American people and the alliances we have built, we close this century at a remarkable pinnacle -- our country is at peace, our prosperity greater than it has ever been, and a majority of the world’s people live under governments of their own choosing.

In the struggle for freedom, we stood with enduring allies in the most successful alliance in history: the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. And now that the twilight struggle has at last given way to a springtime of liberty, we welcome three of Europe’s newest democracies -- Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic -- to an alliance that can keep the peace and preserve our security into the 21st century.

I hope the American people will reflect on what has been accomplished. Fifty years ago, in the wake of Europe’s devastation, Americans and Europeans imagined and then created the institutions that helped rebuild Europe -- and put in place a strong foundation for peace and prosperity. The Marshall Plan. The World Bank, the IMF and GATT. And the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Their vision embraced all of Europe. But the reality of their time did not. Now, as we erase the line that artificially divided Europe for fifty years, we are completing what that generation began.

For the 16 countries already in NATO, enlarging our alliance will create three new allies, ready to contribute troops, technology and ingenuity to protecting our territory and defending our
security. For the American people, there are now three more reasons we can face the future with unlimited confidence. And the 60 million people who live in Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic will know that what they build in peace, they will keep in security.

We come to this day thanks to the numberless acts of courage that toppled the Berlin Wall and ended the Cold War. The sacrifices made by those who raised freedom's banner in Budapest in 1956, in Prague in 1968, and in Gdansk in 1980. The rebellion of conscience begun by such heroes as Lech Walesa, Vaclav Havel and Arpad Goncz [Goon-ce]. And the selfless investment of blood and treasure that the American people made in European freedom over the course of the 20th century.

For the 21st century, we are building a Europe without dividing lines but with democracy, peace and security for all its people. A Europe in which Russia, Ukraine and the other states of the former Soviet Union join with us to make common cause of our common concerns. In this new Europe, the American people can expect to find dynamic partners for commerce and cooperation. And we can imagine a future in which our children will be much less likely to cross the Atlantic to fight and die in a war.

I want to acknowledge the indispensable efforts of the many leaders from both parties who brought us to this milestone -- especially Senate Majority Leader Lott and Minority Leader Daschle; the Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Helms and its Ranking Democrat Senator Biden; and the Chairman of the Senate NATO Observer Group, Senator Roth.
The overwhelming Senate vote for NATO enlargement stands in the tradition of Harry Truman, George Marshall, and Arthur Vandenberg and the other giants who picked up the pieces after World War II and were present at NATO's creation. Their lesson then is our lesson today -- that strength lies in a foreign policy that is guided by the interests and values that unite us as Americans.

This a day for celebration -- but our work for transatlantic security must continue. We must pursue our efforts to strengthen NATO... to build closer ties with the members of the Partnership for Peace... to reinforce the practical cooperation between NATO and Russia and NATO and Ukraine... to see through our efforts to secure a lasting peace in the Balkans... to achieve deeper reductions in nuclear forces and lower the limits on conventional arms across the European continent. We have work to do. But for today, we remind the people of Europe that, in the efforts that lie ahead, they can continue to count on America. And we remind the world that, tomorrow as yesterday, America will defend its values, protect its interests and stand by its allies.

Now, it falls to us to be the guardians of the freedom we inherited. By strengthening the ties that bind free peoples, by committing ourselves anew to the values on which our Nation was founded and to which the world aspires, we ensure that, years from now, another generation may gather in this place, bask in the warm glow of liberty's light, and say that, in our time, we helped make their century -- the 21st century -- one of peace and freedom.
For SRB/JS -- this had been cleared by Jim, with one addition. In the interim, the VW boys (Rahm, Begala, Waldman) asked me to ratchet up dramatically the start and finish, and suggested the approach now in the draft. I think it works but you will want to review again. Thanks.
5/20/98  5 p.m.

PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
NATO SIGNING CEREMONY
THE WHITE HOUSE
MAY 21, 1998

[Acknowledgments:] Vice President Gore; Senator Roth; Senator Biden; Secretary Albright; Secretary Cohen; General Shelton; Mr. Berger; members of the executive branch past and present; members of Congress; ladies and gentlemen:

First let me say that I deeply appreciate all those who made this case for this initiative across the country, including the members of Congress, former national security officials, and representatives of America's veterans, businesses, unions, religious groups, and ethnic communities. And I would like to thank the members of my national security team, past and present—those who began this effort with me more than four years ago and those who now see it through. Finally, I must note the tireless efforts of my advisor on NATO enlargement, Jeremy Rosner, who did a remarkable job managing the ratification process.

The great story of the 20th century is the triumph of freedom. It was a century in which we learned, at great cost, that to defend America's security at home, we must stand for America's interests and ideals abroad. Because of the strength of the American people and the alliances we have built, we close this century at a remarkable pinnacle—our country is at peace, our prosperity greater than it has ever been, and a majority of the world's people live under governments of their own choosing.
In the long twilight struggle for freedom, we did not struggle alone. We stood with enduring allies and former adversaries in the most successful alliance in history: the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. And now that the twilight struggle has at last given way to a springtime of liberty, we welcome three of Europe's newest democracies -- Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic -- to an alliance that can keep the peace and preserve our security into the 21st century.

I hope the American people will reflect on what has been accomplished. Fifty years ago, in the wake of Europe's devastation, a remarkable generation of Americans and Europeans imagined and then created the institutions that helped rebuild Europe -- and put in place a strong foundation for peace and prosperity. The Marshall Plan. The World Bank, the IMF and GATT. And the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Their vision embraced all of Europe. But the reality of their time did not. Now, as we erase the line that artificially divided Europe for fifty years, we are completing what that generation began.

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For the 21st century, we are building a Europe without dividing lines but with democracy, peace and security for all its people. A Europe in which Russia, Ukraine and the other states of the former Soviet Union join with us to make common cause of our common concerns. In this new Europe, the American people can expect to find dynamic partners for commerce and cooperation. And we can imagine a future in which our children will be much less likely to cross the Atlantic to fight and die in a war.

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This a day for celebration -- but our work for transatlantic security does not end today. We must pursue our efforts to strengthen NATO, maintaining its core mission of self-defense while preparing as well for new security challenges. We must continue to build closer ties with the members of the Partnership for Peace. We must strengthen the practical cooperation between NATO and Russia and NATO and Ukraine, as part of our ongoing support for democratic reform and the integration of both countries into the West. We must see through our effort to help secure a lasting peace in the Balkans. We must achieve deeper reductions in nuclear forces and lower the limits on conventional arms levels across the European continent. We have work to do. But for today, we remind the people of Europe that, in the efforts that lie ahead, they can continue to count on America. And we remind the world that, tomorrow as yesterday, America will defend its values, protect its interests and stand by its allies.

Now, it falls to us to be the guardians of the freedom we inherited. By strengthening the ties that bind free peoples, by committing ourselves anew to the values on which our Nation was founded and to which the world aspires, we ensure that, years from now, another generation may gather in this place, bask in the warm glow of liberty's light, and say that, in our time, we helped make their century -- the 21st century -- one of peace and freedom.
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PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL TIMES ARE TENTATIVE

SCENARIO FOR SIGNING OF THE
NATO INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION
Oval Office/Rose Garden
May 21, 1998

(-45 minutes) Guests begin arriving at the East Visitors Entrance and are escorted to their seats in the Rose Garden.

-10 minutes Members of Congress will arrive at the West and be escorted to the Cabinet Room.

-15 minutes Pre-brief participants gather in the Oval Office: President
Vice President
Madeleine Albright
Erskine Bowles
Sandy Berger
Don Kerrick
Jim Steinberg
Leon Fuerth
Don Bandler
Others TBD

0 minutes Pre-brief ends. The President and Vice President remain in the Oval Office while the Pre-brief participants proceed to the Rose Garden and are escorted to their seats. (Or, depending on number of Congressional members attending, the pre-brief participants may remain in Oval to greet.)

+2 minutes The President and Vice President are joined by members of Congress (included among them will be two Senators (TBD) who will speak at the event). Greetings are extended/photos are taken.

+10 minutes The President, the Vice President and other two speakers remain in the Oval; all others exit the Oval and are escorted to their positions in the Rose Garden.

+12 minutes Upon being announced, The President, the Vice President and other two speakers exit the Oval Office and proceed to their positions on stage.

+14 minutes The Vice President welcomes the group with brief remarks, then introduces FIRST SENATOR.

+17 minutes FIRST SENATOR makes remarks (3 minutes), then introduces SECOND SENATOR.

+20 minutes SECOND SENATOR makes remarks (3 minutes), then introduces the President.
+23 minutes The President welcomes everyone, recognizes select guests, then continues with remarks.

+29 minutes Remarks concluded, the President, along with the Vice President and the two Senators, proceed to the signing table. The President is seated and signs document (offstage announcement is made stating the type of document while the President is signing the Instrument of Ratification).

+30 minutes The President stands up, shakes hands with those behind him, then walks off stage, proceeds to shake hands with select individuals seated in the front rows.

+40 minutes The President exits the Rose Garden and returns to the Oval Office.

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- National Security Council
- Anthony Blinken (Speechwriting)
- OA/Box Number: 3380

**FOLDER TITLE:**
NATO Signing Ceremony, 5/21/98

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PROPOSED INVITATION LIST
NATO RATIFICATION EVENT
MAY 21, 1998

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS (20)

TO BE PROVIDED BY LEG AFFAIRS

EOP (8)

Erskine Bowles
John Podesta
Sandy Berger
Jim Steinberg
Leon Fuerth
Major General Don Kerrick
Glyn Davies
Donald Bandler

EXECUTIVE BRANCH (14)

The Hon. Madeline Albright
Secretary of State
(202) 647-4910

The Hon. William S. Cohen
Secretary of Defense
(703) 695-5261

The Hon. Strobe Talbot
Deputy Secretary of State
(202) 647-9640

The Hon. John Hamre
Deputy Secretary of Defense
(703) 695-6352

The Hon. Thomas Pickering
Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs
(202) 647-2741

The Hon. Walter B. Slocombe
Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
(703) 697-7200

The Hon. Jan D. Lodal
Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy
(703) 697-3834

The Hon. Franklin D. Kramer
Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Affairs
(703) 695-4351

The Hon. Edward Warner, II
Assistant Secretary of Defense, Strategy and Threat Reduction
(703) 697-7728

The Hon. Marc Grossman
Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs
(202) 647-9626

Mr. Ron Asmus
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs
(202) 647-1622

Mr. John Berry
Director, European Affairs, OSD
(703) 695-6538

Ms. Lisa Bronson
Director, NATO Affairs, OSD
(703) 697-2847

Mr. Robert Simmons
Director, European Political Military Affairs
(202) 647-1358
FLAG AND GENERAL OFFICERS (14)

General Henry H. Shelton, USA, CJCS
(703) 697-9121

General Wesley K. Clark, SACEUR
(703) 697-8420

ADM Harold Gehman, USN, SACLANT
(804) 445-5911

General Joseph Ralston, USAF, VCJCS
703 614-8948

General Dennis Reimer, USA, CSA
(703) 695-2077

General Charles Krulak, USMC, CMC
(703) 614-2500

Admiral Charles Johnson, USN, CNO
(703) 695-5664

General Michael Ryan, USAF, CSAF
(703) 697-9225

Lieutenant General Edward D. Baca, Chief, National Guard Bureau
(703) 695-6987

Lieutenant General, Dan Christman, USA, Superintendent, USMA
(former US Rep to NATO Military Committee)
(914) 938-2610

VADM Donald Pilling, USN, Director, Joint Staff
(703) 614-5223

VADM Scott Redd, USN, Director, Plans and Policy
(703) 697-1887

Major General David Weisman, USA, Vice Dir, Plans and Policy
(703) 697-1887

Brigadier General George C. Casey, USA, Dir Political-Military
Affairs, Joint Staff
(703) 697-8591
LTG Edward L. Rowny, USA (Ret)
202-234-1248
FAX 202-986-4752

Thomas Donilon
O'Melvey & Myers
202-383-5302
FAX 202-736-4495

Steven Larabee
The RAND Corporation
202-296-5000
FAX 202-296-7960

BGen Robert T. Osterthaler, USAF (Ret)
(former Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for European Affairs)
SAIC, Inc.
703-821-4300

Stan Sloan
Congressional Research Service
202-707-1011
FAX 202-707-7639

David Acheson
Atlantic Council
202-463-7226
FAX 202-463-7241

Gayden Thompson
The Atlantic Council
202-778-4992

David T. Chase
Chase Enterprises
860-293-4209
FAX 860-293-4297

ETHNIC GROUPS (46)

Col. Ylo Anson
President
Estonian World Council, Inc.
138 Boston Hill Road
Andover, CT 06232
(860) 742-7868

Mrs. Anne C. Bader
Hungarian American Coalition
4016 48th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016
703-506-1790
FAX 202-966-1871

Reverend Imre A. Bertaian
Chairman, Board of Directors
Hungarian American Coalition
1041 Grosvenor Place
Number 1521
Rockville, MD 20852
202-3282630
FAX 202-328-7984

Dr. Karl Bonutti
Honorary Consul
Consulate of the Republic of Slovenia
29399 Shaker Boulevard
Cleveland, Ohio 44124
216-589-9220
FAX 216-589-9210

Mr. Rimas Chesonis
World Lithuanian Community
8282 Fawnsbrook Drive
Fishers, IN 46038
317-587-4184
FAX 317-578-3437

Mr. Volodymir Chomodolsky
Ukrainian Congress Committee of
America, Inc.
214 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E.
Suite 225
Washington, D.C. 20002
202-547-0018
FAX 202-543-5502

Mr. Dale Denda
VP, National Federation of Polish Americans
1311 Dolly Madison Boulevard, #2B
McLean, Virginia 22101
David C. Gompert  
Professor, U.S. Naval Academy  
Former Senior Director for European and  
Eurasian Affairs  
National Security Council  
(703) 549-7244

Samuel Huntington  
Weatherhead University Professor  
Harvard University  
(617) 495-0539

Dr. Charles Knapp  
CEO, The Aspen Institute  
(202) 736-5800

Zalmay M. Khalilzad  
Director, Strategy and Doctrine Program  
RAND Corporation

Melvin Laird  
Former Secretary of Defense

Mr. John Edwin Mroz  
Director  
Institute for East-West Studies  
700 Broadway, 2nd Floor  
New York, New York 10003  
212-824-4110  
FAX 212-824-4149

Dr. Charles Gati  
Ms. Tobi Trister Gati

Mr. Peter S. Rashish  
The European Institute  
5225 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 200  
Washington, D.C. 20015-2014  
202-95-1670

Mr. Paul Wolfowitz  
Dean, Nitze School of
Advanced International Studies
Washington, D.C.
202-663-5624

Mr. John Fox
Director, Washington Office
Open Society Institute
Suite 950
900 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
202-296-5380
FAX 202-296-5381

Mr. Edward Crane
CEO, CATO Institute
(202) 842-0200

Dr. Jeffrey Simon
National Defense University
Washington, D.C.
202-685-2367

Mr. Edward Streator
The New Atlantic Initiative, Chairman
1150 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Mr. Peter Rodman
Nixon Institute for Peace and Freedom
Eye Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
202-887-1000

FOREIGN POLICY EXPERTS (10)

Michael Nacht
School of Public Affairs
University of Maryland
301-405-6332
FAX 301-403-8107

Richard Perle
American Enterprise Institute
202-862-5800
FAX 202-862-7177
(703) 761-1682

Ms. Uliana Diachuk
President, Ukrainian National Association
30 Montgomery Street,
Third Floor
Jersey City, NJ 07303
1-800-253-9862
FAX 201-451-2093

Mr. Robert W. Doubek
President, American Friends of the Czech Republic
4712 Alton Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016
202-463-8999
FAX 202-429-3301

Mr. George Dozsa
President, Hungarian Reformed Federation of America
2001 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-1011
202-328-2630
FAX 202-328-7984

Mr. Dennis Eckart
Former Congressman:

Mr. Vello Ederma
Chairman, Joint Baltic American National Committee
7109 Loisdale Road
Springfield, VA 22150
703-971-9243
FAX 703-971-3564

Mr. Aram Hamparian
Executive Director, Armenian National Committee of America
888 17th Street, N.W.
Suite 904
Washington, D.C. 20006
202-775-1918
FAX 202-775-5648
Mr. Eugene Iwanciw  
Ukrainian National Association  
6138 North 12th Street  
Arlington, Virginia 22205-1719  
703-536-0725  
FAX 703-536-0738

Mr. Tim Jemal  
Dir of Congressional Relations, Armenian Assembly of America  
122 C Street, N.W.  
Suite 350  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
(202) 393-3434

Mr. Frank Kapitan  
American Hungarian Federation, Inc.  
14629 Governor Sprigg Place  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
301-627-8703

Dr. John J. Karch  
Executive Vice President, Slovak League of America  
2626 Pioneer Lane  
Falls Church, VA 22043  
703-573-5118  
FAX 216-687-9280

Mr. Mati Koiva  
President, Estonian American National Council, Inc.  
693 Dill Road  
Severna Park, MD 21146-4119  
410-321-2353  
FAX 410-544-7429

Mr. Linas Kojelis  
President, U.S. Baltic Foundation  
1211 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 506  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
202-986-0380  
FAX 202-986-0306

Mr. Frank Koszorus  
Boardmember, Hungarian American Coalition  
818 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 850  
Washington, D.C. 20006
Ms. Edith K. Lauer  
President, Hungarian American Coalition  
18501 North Park Boulevard  
Shaker Heights, Ohio 44118  
216-371-1353  
FAX 216-447-7806

Mr. Mark Lazar  
President, National Federation of Polish Americans  
6340 North 48th Street, #4  
Milwaukee, WI 53225  
414-760-9353  
FAX 414-774-2141

Ms. Myra Lenard  
Executive Director, Polish American Congress  
1625 K Street, N.W.  
Suite 505  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
202-296-6955  
FAX 202-835-1565

Mr. Casimir Lenard  
National Director, Polish American Congress  
1625 K Street, N.W.  
Suite 505  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
202-296-6955  
FAX 202-835-1565

Ms. Ingrida Lusis  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
Joint Baltic American National Committee, Inc.  
446 Windover Avenue, N.W.  
Vienna, VA 22180  
703-706-8547  
301-309-1406

Mr. Robert Miller  
American Czech and Slovak Association  
1511 K Street, N.W.  
Suite 1030  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-638-5505
Ms. Sophia Miskiewicz
Polish American Congress
1625 K Street, N.W.
Suite 205
Washington, D.C. 20006
202-296-6955
FAX 202-835-1565

Mr. Edward J. Moskal
President, Polish American Congress
President, Polish National Alliance
5711 North Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago, IL 60646
312-286-7123
FAX 312-286-4836

Mrs. Regina Narusis
President, Lithuanian American Community, Inc.
213 West Lake Shore Drive
Cary, IL 60013
847-639-3630
FAX 847-639-5649

Mr. Jeff Nelson
U.S. Baltic Foundation
1211 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 506
Washington, D.C. 20036
202-986-0380
FAX 202-234-8130

Mr. Jan Nowak
The Honorable Laszlo Papp
President, American Council of the World Federation of Hungary
1197 Valley Road
New Canaan, CT 06840
914-949-1851
FAX 914-949-5376
Mr. Laszio Pasztor
National President, National Federation of American Hungarians
717 Second Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002
202-546-3003
FAX 202-547-0392

Mr. John Pikarski
Boardmember, National Advocate’s Society
25 East Washington Street
Suite 1000
Chicago, IL 60602
312-782-9351
FAX 312-782-6690

Ms. Marilyn Piurek
Vice President, Conn. Division Federation of Polish Americans
999 Forest Road
New Haven, CT 06515
203-389-0105
FAX 203-389-0180

Mr. Michael Sawkiw, Jr.
Director-Washington Office
Ukrainian Congress Committee of America
214 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 225
Washington, D.C. 20002
202-547-0018
FAX 202-543-5502

Mr. Armand A Scala
President, Congress of Romanian Americans, Inc.
1000 Gelston Circle
McLean, VA 22101
703-448-3372
703-448-9361

Ms. Ann Victoria Smith
Baltic American Freedom League
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20006-4759
202-955-6868
FAX 202-331-1024
Mr. Paul T. Sosnowski
President; Polish American Congress, Metropolitan Division
National Credit Union Administration
1775 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3428
703-518-6555
FAX 703-518-6569

Ms. Ajia Staumanis
Dir of Public Information
Joint Baltic American National Committee, Inc
(301) 340-1954

Ms. Annie Totah
Chairman, Board of Directors, Armenian Assembly of America
11500 Highland Farm Road
Potomac, MD 20854

The Honorable Peter S. Ujvagi
E&C Manufacturing Company, Inc.
225 Miami Street
Toledo, OH 43605
419-693-478x106
FAX 419-693-4035

Mr. Ross Vartian
Executive Director, Armenian Assembly of America
122 C Street, N.W.
Suite 350
Washington, D.C. 2001
202-393-3434
FAX 202-638-4904

Mr. Thomas Wojslawowicz
President, Polish American Congress, New Jersey-Bayonne
Chairman, New York Pulaski Day parade
93 JFK Boulevard
Bayonne, NJ 07002-5224
201-858-5977
FAX 201 858-5977

Ms. Elizabeth Zaldastani Napier
President, Georgian Association in the United States of America,
35 Wallis Road
Chestnut Hill, MA 02167-3110
617-325-3470
FAX 617-325-0593
Mr. Russell Zavistovich
President
Belarusian Congress Committee of America
724 West Tantallon Drive
Fort Washington, MD 20744
301-292-2610
FAX 301-292-8140

DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY (27)

H.E. Mr. Andre Adam
Embassy of Belgium
3330 Garfield Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008
202-333-6900

H.E. Mr. Gyorgy Banlaki
Embassy of the Republic of Hungary
3910 Shoemaker, Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
202-362-6730

Mr. Sveinn Bjornsson
Embassy of the Republic of Iceland
1156 15th Street, N.W.
Suite 1200
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-265-6653

H.E. Mr. Juergen Chrobog
Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
4645 Reservoir Road, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007
202-298-4000

H.E. Mr. Baki Ilkin
Embassy of the Republic of Turkey
1714 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
202-659-8200

H.E. Mr. Fernando Andresen Guimaraes
Embassy of Portugal
2125 Kalorama Road, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008
202-328-8610

H.E. Mr. Alphonse Berns
Embassy of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
2200 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008
202-265-4171

H.E. Mr. Raymond A.J. Chretien
Embassy of Canada
501 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
202-682-7700

H.E. Mr. Jerzy Kozminski
Embassy of the Republic of Poland
2640 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009
202-234-0626

H.E. Mr. Joris M. Vos
Royal Netherlands Embassy
4200 Lennean Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008
202-244-2501

H.E. Mr. Ferdinando Salleo
Embassy of Italy
1601 Fuller Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009
202-328-5570

H.E. Mr. Loucas Tsilas
Embassy of Greece
2221 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008
202-939-5811

H.E. Mr. Erik Tygesen
Embassy of Denmark
3200 Whitehaven Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008
202-234-4300
H.E. Mr. Alexander Vondra  
Embassy of the Czech Republic  
3900 Spring of Freedom Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-274-9101

H.E. Mr. Christopher Meyer  
British Embassy  
3100 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-588-6513

H.E. Mr. Antonio Oyarzabal  
Embassy of Spain  
2375 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037

H.E. Mr. Francois V. Bujon  
Embassy of France  
4101 Reservoir Road, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20007  
202-944-6112

H.E. Mr. Eric Vraalsen  
Royal Norwegian Embassy  
2720 34th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-944-8957

H.E. Dr. Snejana Botoucharova  
Embassy of Bulgaria  
1621 22nd Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-387-7969

H.E. Mr. Branislav Lichardus  
Embassy of Slovakia  
2201 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 250  
Washington, D.C. 20007  
202-965-5161

H.E. Mr. Mircea Geoana  
Embassy of Romania  
1607 23rd Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-332-4829
H.E. Mr. Dimitrij Rupel  
Embassy of Slovenia  
1525 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
202-667-5363

H.E. Ms. Lubica Acevska  
Embassy of Macedonia  
3030 K Street, N.W.  
Suite 210  
Washington, D.C. 20007  
202-337-3063

H.E. Mr. Petrit Bushati  
Embassy of Albania  
2100 S Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008  
202-223-8187

H.E. Mr. Grigore Kalev Stoicescu  
Embassy of Estonia  
2131 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
202-319-1991

H.E. Mr. Ojars Eriks Kalnins  
Embassy of Latvia  
4325 17th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20011  
202-726-8213

H.E. Mr. Stasys Sakalauskas  
Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania  
2622 16th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
(202) 234-5860

VETERANS GROUPS (25)

William Corley or designee  
Marine Corp League  
(703)207-9588

Kenneth Steadman or designee  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
(202)543-2239
John Sommer or designee  
The American Legion  
(202) 861-2711

Herb Rosenbleeth or designee  
Jewish War Veterans  
(202) 265-6280

Bob Carbonneau or designee  
AMVETS  
(301) 459-9600

Bill Rolen or designee  
American Ex-POW’s  
(202) 418-4258

Roger Sandler or designee  
Reserve Officers Association  
(202) 646-7701

General Gordon Sullivan, USA ret  
Association of the US Army  
(703) 841-3400

Alma Esparza or designee  
American GI Forum  
(703) 241-0835

Jeanne Penfold or designee  
Gold Star Mothers  
(202) 265-0991

Rose Lee or designee  
Gold Star Wives  
(703) 527-7706

Tom Miller or designee  
Blinded Veterans Association  
(202) 371-8880

Dave Gorman or designee  
Disabled American Veterans  
(202) 544-3501

John Chmielewski or designee  
Fleet Reserve  
(703) 683-1400
John Kirby or designee
Military Order of Purple Heart
(703) 642-5360

Richard Johnson or designee
NCOA
(703) 549-0311

Gordon Mansfield or designee
PVA
(202) 872-1300

Eugene Pawlikowski or designee
Polish Legion of American Veterans
(301) 270-0711

Mark Olanoff or designee
TREA
(800) 544-TREA

Kelli Willard West or designee
VVA
(202) 628-2700 ext 127

Paul Arcari or designee
TROA
(703) 549-2311

Ken Goss or designee
Air Force Assn.
(703) 247-5800

James Staton or designee
Air Force Sergeants. Assoc
(301) 899-8136

Charles Partridge or designee
National Assoc. Of Uniformed Services
(703) 750-1342
President's List

NATO RATIFICATION CEREMONY - Thursday MAY 21 1998 - 1:00 PM  White House - Business - East Visitors Entrance

THE PRESIDENT
Accepts and No Responses

A H.E. Ljubica Acevska
Embassy of Macedonia
Washington, DC

A Hon. Madeline Albright
Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State
Washington, DC

A Mr. John C. Aquilino
Aid to Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Navy

A Col. Robert F. Norton (Substitute for: Paul Arcari)
Deputy Director, Government Relations

A Dr. Ronald Asmus
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs

A Ms. Anne C Bader
Hungarian American Coalition
Washington, DC

A Hon. (Mr.) Donald Bandler
Special Asst. to President and Senior Director for European Affairs, National Security Council
Washington, DC

A H.E. (Amb.) Gyorgy Banlaki
Ambassador of the Republic of Hungary, Embassy of the Republic of Hungary
Washington, DC
Guest: Dr. Ferenc Somogyi

A Ms. Mira Baratta

A Mr. Fred Beauchamp
Deputy for NATO Policy

A Hon. Sandy Berger
NSC

A H.E. (Amb.) Alphonse Berns
Ambassador of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Embassy of Luxembourg
Washington, DC

A Reverend Imre Bertaian
Chairman, Board of Directors, Hungarian American Coalition
Rockville, MD

A Mr. Coit D. Blacker
Center for International Studies

A Mr. Snejana Bogougharova
Bulgaria

A Ms. Paula Boriasky
Director, Council of Foreign Relations

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HE Snejana Botoucharova
Ambassador of the Republic of Bulgaria
Washington, DC

Honorable Erskine B. Bowles
Chief of Staff to the President, The White House
Washington, DC

Hon. Zbigniew Brzezinski
Center for Strategic and International Studies
Washington, DC

Ambassador Petrit Bushati
Embassy of Albania
Washington, DC

Mr. Landon V. Butler
Investment Consult., Landon Butler & Company
Washington, DC

Mr. Bob Carbonneau
National Executive Director, AMVETS
Lanham, MD

Hon. (Dr.) Ashton B. Carter
Assistant Secretary for International Security Policy, Department of Defense

Mr. Lenard Casimira

Mr. David T. Chase
Chase Enterprises
Hartford, CT

Mr. John J. Chmielewski
Fleet Reserve Association

Mr. Volodymir Chomodolsky
Ukrainian Congress Committee of America
Washington, DC

Mr. Jon Allen (Substitute for: Raymond Chretien)
Minister Counsellor, Canadian Embassy

His Excellency Juergen Chrobog
Ambassador, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
Washington, DC

General Wesley K. Clark
Commander in Chief, US Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Hon. William S. Cohen
Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense
Washington, DC

Mr. William "Brooks" Corley
National Executive Director, Marine Corps League
Merrifield, VA

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A Hon. (Mr.) Glyn T. Davies
Executive Secretary (designate--03/19/97), National Security Council

A Mr. Darius Degudis
Council of Political Affairs, Embassy of Lithuania

A Mr. Dale Denda
National Federation of Polish Americans
Guest: Dr. Jolanta Jessica Cholon

Ms. Uliana Diachuk
Jersey City, NJ

A Hon. Paula Dobriansky
Council on Foreign Relations
Washington, DC

Mr. Robert Dole

Mr. Russell Dougherty
McLean, VA

A Mr. George Dozsa
President, Hungarian Reformed Federation of America
Washington, DC

Hon. Lawrence Eagleburger
Baker, Worthington, Crossley, Standberry, and Wolf
Washington, DC

A Honorable Dennis Eckart
Arter & Hadden
Washington, DC

A Mr. Vello Ederma
Vice President, Estonian World Council
Springfield, VA

Mr. Robert Ellsworth

Ms. Alma Riojas Esparza
American G. I. Forum

A Mrs. Julie Finley
Washington, DC

Hon. Leon Fuerth

A Dr. Charles Gati
Washington, DC

A HE Mircea Geoana
Ambassador of Romania
Washington, DC

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A Mr. David C. Gompert
Professor, U.S. Naval Academy

A Mr. David W. Gorman
National Director, Disabled American Veterans
Washington, DC

A His Excellency Fernando Andrensen Guimaraes
Embassy of Portugal
Washington, DC

A Hon. Steven Hadley
partner, Shea & Gardner

A Mr. Jon Baldwin Hamibalssin
Ambassador, Icelandic Consulate General

A Mr. Lazlo Hamos
President of Hungarian Human Rights Foundation

A Mr. Aram Hamparian
Exec. Director, American National Comm. of America
Alexandria, VA

A Mr. Bruce Harder
National Security Director, Veterans of Foreign Wars

A Mr. David Harris
Washington Director, American Jewish Congress
Washington, DC

Adm. James R. Hogg
President, National Security Industrial Association
Washington, DC

A Honorable Robert Hunter
Washington, DC

A Mr. Eugene Iwanciw
Ukranian National Association
Arlington, VA

Mr. Bruce Jackson

A Adm. Donald L. Pilling (Substitute for: Jay Johnson)

General George A. Joulwan
Commander in Chief & Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, U. S. European Command

A H.E. (Ambassador) Ojars Kalnins
Embassy of Latvia
Washington, DC

Mr. Arnold Kanter
Former Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs

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Accepts and No Responses

A Mr. Frank Kapitan  
American Hungarian Federation Inc.  
Upper Marlboro, MD

A Dr. John J. Karch  
Executive Vice President, Slovak League of America  
Falls Church, VA

A Mr. Maito Kari  
Estonian American National Council  
Gaithersburg, MD

A Mr. Allen "Gunner" F. Kent  
Special Assistant to the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs  
Washington, DC

A Major General (MG) Donald Kerrick  
Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, Office of the President  
Washington, DC

Mr. Zalmay M. Khalilzad  
Director, Strategy and Doctrine Program, Rand Organization

A Mr. John B. Kirby  
Adjutant General, Military Order of Purple Heart  
Springfield, VA

A Ms. Jeane J. Kirkpatrick  
Washington, DC

A Dr. Charles B. Knapp  
President, University of Georgia  
Athens, GA  
Guest: Ms. Mina Houghton

A Mr. Mati Koiva  
Vice President, Estonian American National Council, Inc.  
Severna Park, MD

A Mr. Frank Koszorus  
Boardmember, Hungarian American Coalition  
Washington, DC

A HE (Amb.) Jerzy Kozminski  
Ambassador of the Republic of Poland, Embassy of the Republic of Poland  
Washington, DC

Hon. Franklin D. Kramer

Mr. Steven Larabee  
RAND Corporation

Mr. Richard L. Lawson  
President, National Mining Association  
Washington, DC

For Official Government Use Only
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Mr. Mark Lazar
National Federation Of Polish Americans, President
Milwaukee, WI

Ms. Rose E. Lee
National President, Gold Star Wives Of America
Arlington, VA

Mr. Casimir Lenard
National Director, Polish American Congress
Washington, DC

Ms. Casimira S. Lenard
Washington, DC

HE (Amb.) Branislav Lichardus
Ambassador of the Slovak Republic, Embassy of the Slovak Republic
Washington, DC

The Honorable Jan Lodal
Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Foreign Policy, Department of Defense

Ms. Ingrida Lusis
Member, Board of Directors for the Joint Baltic American National Committee, Inc. (JBANC)
Vienna, VA

Mr. Gordon Mansfield
Executive Director, Paralyzed Veterans of America
Washington, DC

Mr. Stephen Wright (Substitute for: Christopher Meyer)
Retired Vice President College Entrance Examination Board
Hampton, VA

Mr. Robert Miller
American Czech and Slovak Association
Washington, DC

Mr. Thomas Miller
Executive Director, Blinded Veterans Association
Washington, DC

Ms. Sophia Miskiewicz
Polish American Congress
Washington, DC

MG Thomas Montgomery
USA Ret

Mr. Edward J. Moskal
President, Polish American Congress
Chicago, IL

Mr. Cameron Munter

Mr. Michael Nacht

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Accepts and No Responses

A Mr. Jeff Nelson
Representative, U.S. - Baltic Foundation
Washington, DC

A Mr. Jan Nowak
National Director, Polish American Congress

A Hon. Meyera E. Oberndorf
Mayor of Virginia Beach
Virginia Beach, VA

A Brig. Gen Robert T. Osterthaler
Gen. Glenn K. Otis
USA Ret

Lt. Gen Charles Otstott
USA Ret

A H.E. Mr. Antonio Oyzarzabal
Embassy of Spain
Washington, DC

A Ms. Sally Painter
Mr. Laszio Pasztor
National President, National Federation of American Hungarians
Washington, DC

A Mr. Eugene J. Pawlikowski
Polish Legion of American Veterans
Takoma Park, MD

Mrs. Jeanné K. Penfold
American Gold Star Mothers
Washington, DC

A Mr. Tibor Pflum
Hungarian American Coalition

Hon. Thomas Pickering

A Ms. Marilyn Piurek
Vice President, Federation of Polish Americans
New Haven, CT

A Honorable John Podesta
Assistant to the President, Deputy Chief of Staff, The White House
Washington, DC

A General Joseph W. Ralston
Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
Washington, DC

A Mr. Peter Rashish
The European Institute
Washington DC

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Accepts and No Responses

A Hon. Paige Reffe
Attorney, Cutler & Stanfield
Washington, DC

Honorable Nicholas Andrew Rey
Larchmont, NY

Ms. Rozanne L Ridgway
State, Department of

A Mr. Peter W. Rodman

A Col. Milton Herbert Rosenbleeth
Jewish War Veterans

Hon. Jeremy Rosner
Special Assistant to the President, NSC

A H.E. Mr. Dimitrij Rupel
Embassy of Slovenia

A HE (Amb.) Ferdinado Salleo
Ambassador of Italy, Embassy of Italy
Washington, DC

A Mr. Michael Sawkiw
Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

A Mr. Armand A. Scala
President, Congress of Romanian Americans, Inc.
Mc Lean, VA

A Mr. George Michael Schlee
Director of National, American Legion

General John A. Shaub
Executive Director, Air Force Association
Arlington, VA

General John J. Sheehan
Commander in Chief & Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, US Atlantic Command
Norfolk, VA

Dr. Jeffrey Simon
National Defense University
Washington, DC

A Mr. Stanely Sloan

A Hon. Walter B. Slocombe

Ms. Ann Victoria Smith
Baltic American Freedom League
Washington, DC
Accepts and No Responses

A Adm. Leighton Smith

A Mr. Helmut Sonnenfeldt
The Brookings Institution
Washington, DC

A Mr. Paul T. Sosnowski
President, Polish American Congress; Metropolitan Division National Credit Union Administration
Alexandria, VA

A Mr. Kenneth A. Steadman
National Director, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States
Washington, DC

A Hon. James Steinberg
Deputy National Security Advisor & Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, White House
Washington, DC

A The Hono Paula Stern
Senior Fellow, Progressive Policy Group
Washington, DC

A H.E. Kalev Stoicescu
Ambassador to the United States, Canada and Mexico, The Republic of Estonia
Washington, DC

A Ms. Aija Straumanis
Director of Public Information, JBANC
Rockville, MD

Mr. Edward Streator
Chairman, The New Atlantic Initiative
Washington D.C.

General Gordon R. Sullivan
Former Chief of Staff, United States Army
Washington, DC

A Mr. William Taft

Colonel Gayden E. Thompson
Oakton, VA

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Potomac, MD

A His Excellancy Loucas Tsilas
Ambassador of Greece, Embassy of Greece
Washington, DC

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Deputy to the Counselor, Department of State

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Embassy of Denmark
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Toledo, OH

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New York, NY

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Armenian Assembly of America

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President, Center for Strategic and International Studies
Washington, DC

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President, The Atlantic Council of the U.S.
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Ambassador of Belgium, Embassy of Belgium
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The Retired Officers Association
Alexandria, VA

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Chief, National Guard Bureau - US Dept of Defense

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Baker & Botts
Washington, DC

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Charge D’Affaires, Embassy of Iceland
Washington, DC

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JFK School of Government Harvard University

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American Enterprise Institute
Washington, DC

R Mr. Rimas Chesonis
World Lithuanian Community
Fishers, IN

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West Point, NY

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    Embassy of the Republic of Turkey
    Washington, DC

R  Mr. Tim Jemal
    Director of Congressional Relations, Armenian Assembly of America
    Washington D.C.

R  Mr. Jay L. Johnson

R  Mr. Richard W. Johnson
    Executive Director, Government Affairs; Non-Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA)
    Alexandria, VA

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    New York, NY

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Washington, DC

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Georgetown University
Washington, DC

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Washington, DC

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Dorsey and Whitney
Minneapolis, MN

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Director, Institute for East-West Studies
New York, NY

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President, Georgian Association in the United States of America
Chesnuta Hills, MA

R Mrs. Regina Narusis
President, Lithuanian-American Community, Inc.
Cary, IL

R Dr. Joseph S. Nye
Dean, John F. Kennedy School of Government
Cambridge, MA

R Mr. Mark Olanoff
Retired Enlisted Association
Alexandria, VA

R Mr. Laszlo Papp
Member, New Canan Council and President, American Council of the World Federation of Hungarians
New Canaan, CT

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Chicago, IL

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Mc Lean, VA

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Washington, DC

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Senior Partner, Rogers and Wells
Washington, DC

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Washington, DC

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Washington, DC

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Executive Director, Reserve Officers Association
Washington, DC

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Hoover Institute Stanford University.
Stanford, CA

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President, Forum for International Policy
Washington, DC
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Garrison, MN
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Washington, DC
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Dean, Nitze School of Advanced International Studies
Washington, DC
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President
Vancouver, B
R Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr.
Admiral Zumwalt & Consultants, Inc.
Arlington, VA

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