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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Row</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Shelf</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Stack</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
PRESS STATEMENT WITH CHANCELLOR KOHL
POTSDAM, GERMANY
MAY 13, 1998
As I begin, let me say that this week's nuclear tests by India were unjustified and create dangerous new instability in that critical region. As a result, in accordance with U.S. law, I have decided to impose economic sanctions against India. I have long supported deepening U.S.-Indian relations, but the Indian nuclear tests require an unambiguous response. Halting the spread of nuclear weapons is one of the most important challenges facing the world today, and it is important that we make clear our categorical opposition to the steps that India has taken.
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We will be asking other countries to act in opposition to these tests, as some are already considering. I hope that the Indian Government will soon realize that it has put itself at odds with the entire international community over this action and that it will move urgently to take necessary steps, such as adhering, without conditions, to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Finally, as I mentioned to Pakistani Prime Minister Sharif, I urge India’s neighbors not to follow the dangerous path that India has taken. We must renew our determination to end the era of nuclear testing once and for all.
When I first visited Germany as President in 1994, Chancellor Kohl and I talked about our shared vision for European integration and a strong U.S.-European partnership in the 21st century. The progress we’ve made toward realizing that vision is, I think, greater than either of us imagined.

Europe is increasingly coming together around democracy, open markets and security alliances. Europe’s east is joined more closely than ever before to the west. And some of this continent’s seemingly most intractable conflicts – in Bosnia and Northern Ireland – are giving way to peace and cooperation.
Mr. Chancellor, if we have come this far in so little time, it is due in no small measure to your leadership for freedom and free markets -- and to Germany’s devotion to a undivided, democratic, peaceful Europe.

Today, the Chancellor and I discussed the next steps we must take to advance Europe’s integration and strengthen the Trans-Atlantic partnership. Let me touch on the key points of our conversation.

We focused on the Alliance’s efforts to adapt NATO to the demands and opportunities of a new era.
I am delighted that both our countries recently ratified NATO's membership invitation to Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic. We also discussed enlarging the European Union to include Europe's new democracies. Like NATO enlargement, EU enlargement will be a force for stability and reform throughout the continent. And I told the Chancellor that the United States welcomes this month's historic announcement that eleven European countries, including Germany, have decided to establish a European Monetary Union. A strong and stable Europe, with open markets and healthy growth, is good for America and for the world.
Russia and Ukraine’s integration with the West are vital to our future security and prosperity. The Chancellor and I strongly support Russian reform. We look forward to meeting with President Yeltsin in Birmingham and working with the new government he has named. To bolster economic and political reform in Ukraine, we agreed to coordinate our economic assistance -- promoting small business, taking down barriers to investment and helping Ukraine build democratic institutions.
Europe must also continue coming together around peace. In Bosnia, the Dayton process is working – over the last several months we have seen remarkable progress toward a lasting peace. But the Chancellor and I are deeply concerned about the crisis in Kosovo.

The news that President Milosevic and Dr. Rugova will meet this week to start a dialogue without pre-conditions is a sober first step toward resolving a very dangerous conflict. We expect the parties to make good on their commitment to serious dialogue.

We also reviewed the situation in Cyprus, where we have been urging the parties to actively pursue UN-sponsored settlement negotiations.
Turkey’s support is critical to this effort. One way to elicit that support is to convince Turkey that its future lies with Europe by putting E.U.-Turkish relations on a positive footing.

The Chancellor and I discussed a wide range of common security concerns, including the spread of weapons of mass destruction. The U.S. and the E.U are working together to counter Iran’s efforts to develop and acquire weapons of mass destruction – cooperation we need to strengthen in the future.

We also exchanged ideas on the principal agenda items for this week’s summit in Birmingham:
Stabilizing the international financial system...

combating international crime and global warming...

creating good jobs in a global economy... and

bringing developing countries in Africa and around

the world more fully into the community of nations.

The strong partnership between the United States and

Germany has been an engine for progress in Europe

and beyond. Strengthening our people-to-people

exchanges is one of the best ways to help that

partnership grow even wider and deeper in the 21st
century.
In this regard, I am very pleased that the American Academy in Berlin will open its doors this fall – bringing American artists and cultural leaders to Germany for study. And I am working closely with Congress to begin construction of our new embassy in Berlin as soon as possible – so that when the German government takes up its work in Germany’s new capital, it will have an American partner in place and ready for business.

Mr. Chancellor, thank you as always for the warmth of your welcome. It is good to be back in Germany.
PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
PRESS STATEMENT WITH CHANCELLOR KOHL
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MAY 13, 1998
As I begin, let me say that yesterday's nuclear tests by India were unjustified and create dangerous new instability in that critical region. As a result, in accordance with U.S. law, I have decided to impose economic sanctions against India. I have long supported deepening U.S.-Indian relations, but the Indian nuclear tests require an unambiguous response. Halting the spread of nuclear weapons is one of the most important challenges facing the world today, and it is important that we make clear our categorical opposition to the steps that India has taken.
We will be asking other countries to act in opposition to these tests, as some are already considering. I hope that the Indian Government will soon realize that it has put itself at odds with the entire international community over this action and that it will move urgently to take necessary steps, such as adhering, without conditions, to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Finally, as I mentioned to Pakistani Prime Minister Sharif, I urge India’s neighbors not to follow the dangerous path that India has taken.
Let me say that I am pleased to be in Germany with my old friend and close colleague, Chancellor Kohl.

When I first visited Germany as President in 1994, Chancellor Kohl and I talked about our shared vision for European integration and a strong U.S.-European partnership in the 21st century. The progress we've made toward realizing that vision is, I think, greater than either of us imagined.
Europe is increasingly coming together around democracy, open markets and security – through NATO and the Partnership for Peace; through the NATO-Russia and NATO-Ukraine agreements; through the EU and the EMU; and through the OSCE. Europe’s east is joined more closely than ever before to the west. And some of this continent’s seemingly most intractable conflicts – in Bosnia and Northern Ireland – are giving way to peace and cooperation.
Mr. Chancellor, if we have come this far in so short a time, it is due in no small measure to your leadership for freedom and free markets – and to Germany’s devotion to an undivided, democratic and peaceful Europe. The American people are grateful to have Germany as a friend, a partner and an ally.

Today, the Chancellor and I discussed the next steps we must take to further Europe’s integration and strengthen the Trans-Atlantic partnership. Since these will be the subject of my speech later today in Berlin, let me just touch on the key points of our conversation.
We focused on the Alliance's efforts to adapt NATO to the demands and opportunities of a new century. I am delighted that both Germany and the United States recently ratified NATO's invitation to Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic -- we are on track to welcome them into NATO at our 50th anniversary summit in Washington next year. We also discussed enlarging the European Union to include Europe's new democracies. Like NATO enlargement, EU enlargement will be a force for stability and reform throughout the continent.
And I told the Chancellor that the United States welcomes this month's historic announcement that eleven European countries, including Germany, have qualified for and decided to establish a European Monetary Union. A strong and stable Europe, with open markets and healthy growth, is good for America and for the world.

Russia and Ukraine's integration with the West are vital to our future security and prosperity. The Chancellor and I strongly support Russian reform.
We look forward to meeting with President Yeltsin in Birmingham and working with the new government he has named. To bolster economic and political reform in Ukraine, we agreed to coordinate our economic assistance -- promoting small business, taking down barriers to investment and helping Ukraine build democratic institutions.

Europe must also continue coming together around peace. In Bosnia, the Dayton process is working – over the last several months we have seen remarkable progress toward a lasting peace. But the Chancellor and I are deeply concerned about the crisis in Kosovo.
The news that President Milosevic and Dr. Rugova will meet this week to start a dialogue without preconditions is a sober first step toward resolving a very dangerous conflict. There is a great deal more to be done before the people of Kosovo enjoy peace, security and human rights. We expect the parties to make good on their commitment to serious dialogue.

We also reviewed the situation in Cyprus. We have been urging the Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots to actively pursue UN-sponsored settlement negotiations. Turkey’s support is critical to this effort.
One way to elicit that support is to convince Turkey that its future lies with Europe by putting E.U.-Turkish relations on a positive footing.

The Chancellor and I discussed a wide range of common security concerns, including the spread of weapons of mass destruction. As I stated a few moments ago, we are both deeply disturbed by India’s decision to explode three nuclear devices. The U.S. and the E.U are also working to counter Iran’s efforts to develop and acquire weapons of mass destruction – cooperation we need to strengthen in the future.
We also exchanged ideas on the principal agenda items for this week's summit in Birmingham: Stabilizing the international financial system... combating international crime and global warming... creating good jobs in a global economy... and bringing developing countries in Africa and around the world more fully into the community of nations.

The strong partnership between the United States and Germany has been an engine for progress in driving both European integration and practical cooperation between the U.S. and Europe.
The Chancellor and I are convinced that strengthening our people-to-people exchanges is one of the best ways to help that partnership grow even wider and deeper in the 21st century.

In this regard, I am very pleased that the American Academy in Berlin will open its doors this fall – bringing American artists and cultural leaders to Germany for study. And I am working closely with Congress to begin construction of our new embassy in Berlin – so that when the German government takes up its work in Germany’s new capital, it will have an American partner in place and ready for business.
Mr. Chancellor, thank you as always for the warmth of your welcome. It is good to be back in Germany.
PRESS AVAILABILITY - OPENING STATEMENT

• I'm delighted to be back in Germany. I was last in Berlin in 1994. The changes I saw there this morning were astounding -- the forest of cranes is a testament to Germany's initiative and creativity as the economic engine of Europe.

• You are building for the future of a reborn capital, reborn thanks to the powerful determination you have shown in re-uniting this nation after the fall of the wall in 1989.

• This morning we commemorated the 1948 Berlin Airlift. In a moving ceremony, we christened a new C-17 "The Spirit of Berlin." We recalled the courage of Berliners and of the Allies in standing up to tyranny together half a century ago. Our destinies have been tightly entwined ever since.

• We should never take this relationship for granted, never forget how important our relationship is and will continue to be as we move into a new century. The future of security and prosperity in the U.S. and Germany --
indeed, in Europe -- depends upon our maintaining and extending the extraordinary success of the transatlantic alliance.

- Chancellor Kohl and I just had an excellent meeting, where we talked about a full range of issues. We'd be happy to take a few questions at this time.
TOAST

AT DINNER HOSTED BY PRESIDENT HERZOG, MAY 13
AT HOTEL ADLON OR SCHLOSS BELLEVUE, IN BERLIN

• For American Presidents, coming to Berlin is always a moving experience. This city has had a special significance for us in the second half of this century.

• Berlin is so compelling for us most of all because of the Berliners, whose courage we have come to admire, and whose hospitality we have come to enjoy.

• Mr. President, you and I have this in common: We are not from Berlin, but we feel at home here. And so have other American Presidents.

• President Kennedy identified with Berlin because it was the city of the day, the scene of the great confrontations of his age.

• I identify with Berlin because it is the city of tomorrow, the stage for the great challenges and opportunities of the next century.
• Mr. President, you have contributed a great deal in defining those opportunities and challenges. Your themes have sometimes been controversial; your thoughts often provocative. You have, in short, offered intellectual and moral leadership.

• You have demonstrated foresight and generosity of spirit in many areas, including promoting reconciliation with, and supporting reform in, the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

• For my country, your special contribution lies closer to home. For us, you have shown your leadership by grasping a central truth of our day, and of the next century: the importance of transatlantic ties, for both sides of the ocean, and for the benefit of many other parts of the globe.

• Mr. President, as you wrote recently, "even a superpower needs friends." ("Auch eine Supermacht braucht Freunde.")
• Yes, you are right. We do need friends. But might I modify your insight slightly? "Especially a superpower." Without friends, we would find the world a very lonely place.

• It is our great honor to include you, Mr. President, and your country among our closest friends.

• Thank you.