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

Documents from this Mandatory Declassification Review were released in full or released in part.

Those documents released with redactions have been restricted under Sections 1.4 (c) and 3.5 (c) of E.O. 13526.
Trend in Bosnian Serb Shelling of Sarajevo

Our chart is based on UN reporting of daily shell impacts on Sarajevo. These data, however, are not complete; in periods of light military activity, the UN frequently reports only that the city was "relatively quiet" rather than providing specific shell counts.
Bronislaw GEREMEK
(Phonetic: gehREHmek)

Minister of Foreign Affairs (since October 1997)
Addressed as: Mr. Minister

Anyone who is either unwilling or incapable of accepting the principle of optimism should leave politics as soon as possible. I, however, have decided to stay.

Bronislaw Geremek

Prominent dissident and historian Bronislaw Geremek has long played an important role in the formation of Polish foreign policy as chair of the Sejm Foreign Relations Committee (since 1989) and deputy chief of the centrist Freedom Union (UW) party.

Activist Foreign Policy

Poland's foreign policy goals include achieving NATO and EU membership and playing the role of regional exporter of stability and reform. With the latter goal in mind, Geremek made his first trip abroad to Lithuania and Ukraine. He has also traveled to the Czech Republic, Hungary, Moldova, as well as to Italy, Belgium, and Denmark.

Geremek has declared that joining NATO and EU "as partners and not as poor clients" is Poland's national foreign policy priority. A longtime advocate of NATO and EU accession, he acknowledges that joining the Alliance "demands intelligent, imaginative, and effective policies from Poland." Recognizing the delicacy of regional relations, Geremek has said that Poland "has good ties with Russia and is interested in... a good Russia-NATO relationship." He has voiced concern, however, that the NATO-Russia agreement risks giving Moscow greater influence over the future of NATO than those countries ready to join the Alliance. Geremek has said, "Our partners should clearly realize what we expect:"
full participation under the principle of collective defense.

Career and Personal Data

Geremek was born on 6 March 1932 in Warsaw. He received a doctorate in history from University of Warsaw in 1960, specializing in medieval France, as well as a doctor habilitatus degree in 1972. During the early 1960s he lectured at the Sorbonne and directed the Center of Polish Culture in Paris. After returning to Poland in the mid-1960s, Geremek worked at the History Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences (PAN), where he became director of the Department of Medieval Cultural History. He resigned his membership in the Polish United Workers' Party, to which he had belonged since 1950, in protest of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968.

During the 1970s Geremek became increasingly involved in opposition activities. In 1976 he helped establish the Workers' Defense Committee, which organized funds to aid workers who had been persecuted for participating in labor protests. Four years later in Gdansk, he became an adviser to the Interfactory Strike Committee and its chairman, Lech Walesa; Geremek's specialty was foreign relations. In February 1981 he established Solidarity's contacts with the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in Brussels. He was detained when martial law was imposed in December 1981 and led a four-week hunger strike while in prison. Geremek was released after a year but was jailed again for four months in 1983. After being fired from the PAN in 1985 because of his opposition activities, he was employed officially by the Jesuits in Warsaw as a history researcher. Geremek served as cochair of the group tasked with outlining political reform during the 1989 Roundtable Talks between the Communist regime and the opposition that led to the demise of Communist rule.

Geremek served as chairman of the Sejm's Constitution Commission from 1989 until the October 1991 parliamentary election. Then President Walesa nominated Geremek for the prime-ministership following the October 1991 parliamentary election; however, Geremek gave up efforts to form a government after just five days, citing the reluctance of center-right parties to cooperate with his Democratic Union (UD) party ally, former Prime Minister Jan Krzysztof Bielecki's Congress of Liberal Democrats (KLD). (The UD and the KLD joined in May 1994 to form the UW.)

Geremek speaks excellent English, French, German and Italian. His wife, Hanna, is a historian at PAN. They have two sons.