

Q NATO Expansion / NATO - Russia

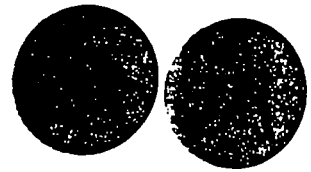
Ob

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

1883
Re-do

March 13, 1995



ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ANTHONY LAKE

FROM: COIT BLACKER *CB*

SUBJECT: Presidential Message to Russian President Boris Yeltsin

At the January 1995 Ministerial session in Geneva, Foreign Minister Kozyrev indicated to Secretary Christopher that an exchange of letters between Presidents Clinton and Yeltsin on NATO expansion and NATO-Russia relations would be helpful to his government as it seeks to prepare Russian popular and elite opinion for the reality of NATO enlargement. When Deputy Foreign Minister Mamedov was in Washington in late February he confirmed the utility of such an exchange and indicated that the draft letter that we had prepared, and that we had shared with our NATO allies, was what the Russian government had in mind.

In their meeting on March 10, Ambassador Pickering and Foreign Minister Kozyrev also discussed the President's message. Kozyrev asked for something more specific on three issues -- on the prospective NATO-Russia consultative mechanism, on the non-deployment of NATO military forces on the territory of new member states, and on Russian arms sales to the countries of Central Europe. The President's message effectively sidesteps all three issues, which we think appropriate given where we are in this process. Kozyrev will certainly return to these issues, however, when he and Secretary Christopher meet in Geneva later this month.

The attached message, from President Clinton to President Yeltsin, has been fully vetted through the interagency process and cleared by the deputies in a meeting held on Friday, March 3.

Concurrence by: Daniel *DF* Fried and Alexander Vershbow *N*

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

DECLASSIFIED
PER E.O. 13526
2016-0119-M (1.03)
3/6/2019 KBH

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

Attachments

Tab I Memorandum to the President

Tab A Message to Boris Yeltsin (including Appendix)

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~