
Clinton Presidential Records Mandatory Declassification Review

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1.4c, 3.5c

Vladimir Georgiyevich PANSKOV
(Phonetic: pahnSKOFF)

RUSSIA

Minister of Finance (since November 1994)

Addressed as: Mr. Minister

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PER E. O. 13526

2016-0136-M (1.68)
2/27/2017 KBH

Vladimir Pankov, a financial expert, became Russia's sixth finance minister in three years during the prolonged cabinet shuffle that followed the ruble crash in October 1994. While some Russian observers publicly voiced dismay at his appointment—Pankov had been a high-ranking Soviet official and was imprisoned in 1993 on corruption charges—market reformers generally have praised him openly as a "sound professional" and defender of a tight budget.



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1.4c, 1.4d

Pankov has repeatedly professed publicly his commitment to his profession and to public service: he explained to an interviewer in January 1995 that he had accepted his post because "I simply missed interesting work." Pankov is the financial sous-sherpa for the G-7 summit.

1.4c, 1.4d, 3.5c

1.4c, 1.4d, 3.5c

1.4c, 1.4d

Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin, who has declared openly that his ministers should be "qualified specialists" in their fields, probably welcomes Pankov's expertise and lack of overt ties to political parties.

1.4c, 1.4d

Pankov enjoys a good reputation with leaders of the Duma's budget committee, on whose staff he briefly served during early 1994. The committee's chairman and deputy chairman—both market reform economists—have supported him in his role as Minister.

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Career and Personal Data

Pankov spent most of his career in the USSR Finance Ministry. After beginning as an economist in 1965, he rose through the ranks to become a first deputy minister in 1987. In that capacity, he

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(continued)
LP 95-105181
18 May 1995

1.4c, 3.5c

The Corruption Case

Panskov was arrested in February 1993 after a seven-month probe into corruption allegations, but his case was dismissed for lack of evidence. Russian press reports say the case included charges that he had purchased a car for his son at the government rate and had inappropriately given tax information to a firm that had hired and paid his daughter to translate documents. After his release from prison in July 1993, Panskov publicly denied any wrongdoing.

1.4c, 1.4d, 3.5c

Immediately before Panskov's appointment as Finance Minister, the Russian press claimed that the head of the counterintelligence service and the acting general prosecutor recommended in a note to President Boris Yel'tsin that he not name the "dishonest" Panskov to the job. The media further alleged that the prosecutor's office was considering reopening the case.

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At his first press conference as Minister, Panskov said that the earlier investigation had "fully rehabilitated" him and that he was assuming his duties "with a clear conscience."

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relationship was "stormy." Panskov supervised the Ministry's budget department while serving as a deputy minister, according to press reports. He left the Ministry in 1990 to join the staff of then USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev. After the breakup of the Soviet Union, Panskov became a first deputy chief of the new Russian State Tax Service. He was imprisoned during the first half of 1993 on unproven corruption charges. In early 1994 he joined the staff of the budget committee of the newly elected State Duma, but he left in May of that year to become deputy head of the finance and budget department in Yel'tsin's apparatus. Panskov was named a nonvoting member of the Security Council in January 1995;

1.4c, 1.4d, 3.5c

Panskov was born on 18 August 1944. He graduated in 1965 from the Moscow Financial Institute—the country's premier school for banking and finance—and holds a doctor of economic sciences degree (roughly equivalent to a US postdoctorate). He traveled to Sweden in 1989 for a "crash course" in stock markets, He also visited Japan in 1991 as part of an advance team for a visit by Gorbachev. Panskov collects coins. He has said publicly that he reads the works of Anton Chekhov or detective stories to relax after work. Panskov was hospitalized during February 1995 for treatment of an ulcer, according to press reports. He does not speak English. Panskov has a grown son and daughter.

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served briefly as a deputy to then Minister of Finance Valentin Pavlov (one of the coup plotters in August 1991); Russian press reports claim their

Alain MADELIN
(Phonetic: mahdLAN)

FRANCE

Minister of Economics and Finance
(since 18 May 1995)

Addressed as: Mr. Minister

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PER E. O. 13526

2016-0136-M (1.51)
2/27/2017 KBH



Leading economic liberal Alain Madelin holds one of the government's most powerful posts as head of a newly reconstituted "super ministry" for economics and finance

1.4c, 1.4d

It is uncertain, however, how much leeway Madelin will have to implement the free market policies that he has steadfastly advocated over the course of his career. Chirac, according to press reporting, has not demonstrated strong or consistent economic views of his own, and many of the new President's other advisers do not share Madelin's views. Moreover, Madelin will have to balance his liberalization plans with efforts to fulfill some of Chirac's leftist campaign promises and appease a French public concerned by persistently high unemployment

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1.4c, 1.4d, 3.5c

A Thatcherite in Paris

Madelin is best known for laissez-faire capitalist proposals that reflect Anglo-American economic thinking and lie outside mainstream French thought. An admirer of Margaret Thatcher, Friedrich von Hayek, and Milton Friedman, Madelin calls for an end to state intervention in the economy. His 1994 book, *Dear Countrymen . . . Program for a President*, emphasizes the central role that competition and entrepreneurial initiative play in creating a prosperous and just society. He also uses the book to spell out ideas for a supply side economic agenda that would, he argues, boost employment and competitiveness and reform social services. During his 1993-95 tenure as Minister of

Enterprises and Economic Development. Madelin sought to increase employment with proposals to simplify administrative requirements and decrease tax and employee benefit burdens on small companies. In an earlier stint as Industry Minister under then Prime Minister Chirac (1986-88), Madelin even argued for the elimination of his own Ministry on the grounds that government

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LP 95-105618
25 May 1995

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should not be involved in business

1.4c, 1.4d, 3.5c

Committed to European Union

Madelin has long been one of the center-right's most outspoken proponents of European integration. He was elected to the European Parliament in 1989, although he declined the seat because of a French law restricting the holding of major concurrent political offices. Despite these credentials, Madelin has received lasting criticism for his recommendation during the 1992-93 currency crisis to decouple the franc from the German mark. Madelin later said that conditions have changed since that event and that price and exchange rate stability are now essential for efficient business planning. The European press reports, however, that traders remain worried that he might be less committed than his predecessors to the strong franc policy

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Career and Personal Data

The son of a skilled worker at Renault, Madelin was born on 26 March 1946 in Paris. He is a graduate of a law school in Paris, where, according

to press reporting, he first became politically active in a rightwing student organization that engaged in street fights against Vietnam war protesters. He joined former President Valery Giscard d'Estaing's National Federation of Independent Republicans—a forerunner of the Republican Party (PR)—in 1968 and rose rapidly through its ranks. In 1981 he worked as an aide to Giscard during Giscard's unsuccessful presidential bid. Madelin was a leading PR policymaker on international and East-West issues for several years. He is currently a vice president of the PR—one of the leading parties in the centrist Union for French Democracy umbrella organization, of which he is also a vice president. Madelin served as a National Assembly deputy during 1978-86 and 1988-93. He has been on the parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee. In mid-1994 Madelin founded a think tank, Ideas-Action, to promote free market economic concepts

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A voracious reader and prolific writer, Madelin published *To Free the Schools* in 1984 and *Dear Countrymen* 10 years later; he writes regularly for *Le Figaro*. Madelin enjoys skiing and playing golf. He also collects rare books and smokes Havana cigars, according to the press. His wife, Patricia, is also an attorney. The couple has two daughters and a son.

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Intelligence Report

Office of European Analysis

Halifax: Key Players at the Summit

3.5c

A Leadership Assessment

This report was prepared by analysts from the Office of European Analysis, the Office of Slavic and Eurasian Analysis, and the Office of East Asian Analysis. Comments and queries are welcome

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June 1995

2016-0136-M (1.45)
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The Halifax Summit: A Leadership Snapshot

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Halifax: Key Players at the Summit

3.5c

Introduction

Leaders arriving at the G-7 Summit in Halifax—the 21st meeting of the world's leading economic democracies since the annual gatherings began in 1975—bring with them a broad range of summit experience. It is the second G-7 meeting for both Summit host **Jean Chretien** and Japanese Prime Minister **Tomiichi Murayama**. By contrast, German Chancellor **Helmut Kohl**, the dean of the current summit players, has been attending the G-7 meetings since taking office over a decade ago, and Halifax will mark **John Major's** fifth summit appearance as British Prime Minister—he also attended the Houston Summit in 1990 as Chancellor of the Exchequer. Even French President **Jacques Chirac**, although new to his current position, is a summit veteran: as Prime Minister during 1986-88, he accompanied his predecessor, Francois Mitterrand, to Tokyo in 1986 and Venice in 1987.

- This year's gathering is likely to be the only summit appearance for Italy's **Lamberto Dini**, however. Dini, who comes to Halifax as both Prime Minister and Treasury Minister, has headed a transition government since February 1995, but he is not angling to remain in power after the next national election.
- Although he is a newcomer to the summit scene, European Commission President **Jacques Santer** is well known to the rest of Europe's G-7 contingent from his 10 years as Luxembourg's Prime Minister (1984-94), and, given his five-year term at the Commission, he will probably remain a G-7 player until the year 2000.

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This Leadership Assessment includes an overview of the election picture in the countries of the G-7 participants and the political standing of the heads of government as they depart for the summit. [REDACTED]

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Herve DE CHARETTE

(Phonetic: duh shahREHT)

Minister of Foreign Affairs (since May 1995)

Addressed as: Mr. Minister

Herve de Charette, a member of the centrist bloc Union for French Democracy (UDF), has virtually no experience in foreign affairs

1.4c, 1.4d

press reports speculate that the selection of de Charette, who first surfaced in the media as a candidate for a senior portfolio just before President Chirac's second-round victory, was a gesture to appease centrists in Chirac's center-right parliamentary coalition

1.4c, 1.4d

political commentators predict that Prime Minister Alain Juppe will continue to dominate foreign affairs. In an interview following his appointment, de Charette admitted to being "a bit intimidated" at having to succeed the highly regarded Juppe

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Although he is an advocate of European unity, de Charette manages to be a strong defender of French national prerogatives

1.4c, 1.4d

De Charette has voiced support for Chirac's proposal to hold a second referendum in France following the 1996 Intergovernmental Conference.

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On GATT talks and other trade negotiations, de Charette supported a tough line to protect French interests, particularly on agriculture. His close association with UDF chief Valery Giscard d'Estaing suggests de Charette's policy outlook will be influenced by the former President's pro-European views, according to

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press reports.

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De Charette gained his first cabinet portfolio immediately after his election to the National Assembly as a Republican Party delegate in 1986, serving as a junior Civil Service Minister under

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then Prime Minister Chirac. He returned to parliament as a UDF deputy in 1988 and again in 1993, at which time he ceded his seat to become Housing Minister (1993-May 1995) in the Balladur government. De Charette has served as the UDF's vice president for "Perspectives and Realities," a position originally created in the early 1990s to promote a Giscard presidential candidacy

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Career and Personal Data

De Charette was born on 30 July 1938 in Paris and is a graduate of the School of Advanced Commercial Studies, as well as the prestigious National School of Administration. From 1966 to 1972, he worked at the Council of State, where he was auditor, then deputy secretary general. He gained his only experience in foreign affairs when he served as the Republican Party's national delegate for foreign and security affairs in the early 1970s. From 1973 until 1977, de Charette was an adviser on the staffs of several Labor Ministers. During the late 1970s he served as head of the National Immigration Office (1977) and as chief of staff to the Education Minister (1978). He has been deputy secretary general of the Republican Party since 1979, mayor of Saint-Florent-le Vieil in western France since 1989, and a member of the Loire Regional Council since 1992.

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1.4c, 3.5c

De Charette is fluent in English; he has visited the United States several times

1.4c, 1.4d

1.4c, 1.4d He is married to Michele Delor, his second wife, with whom he has one child. He has three children from his first marriage

3.5c

Lamberto DINI
(Phonetic: DEEence)

ITALY

Prime Minister (since February 1995)

Addressed as: Mr. Prime Minister

Former Bank of Italy (BOI) official and IMF specialist Lamberto Dini is an international finance expert who first entered the cabinet under the previous government and has never served in Parliament. Once well known only to the world's bankers, Dini now has a central role in the bitter and tumultuous political drama sparked by the fall of Silvio Berlusconi's rightwing administration in December 1994. [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d

[redacted] Dini has expanded on the model of successful technocratic leadership established by fellow ex-banker and former Prime Minister Carlo Azeglio Ciampi during 1993-94. [redacted] 3.5c

Technocratic Triumph With a Political Twist

When President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro asked him to form a nonpartisan government in the wake of Berlusconi's resignation, Dini set up a technocratic cabinet and a clearly defined agenda to lead Italy out of its latest political debacle. He has carried out the bulk of his four-point program—a supplemental budget, new rules for local elections, media antitrust legislation, and pension reform—and faced down an aggressive political challenge from Berlusconi. Dini, whose government took on a more partisan alignment when he used a center-left-supported confidence vote to pass the supplemental budget in March 1995, gained a boost from the left's unexpectedly strong showing in regional elections in April. Dini says that he expects his pension reform legislation—the remaining peg of his program and the centerpiece of his administration—to be approved despite Berlusconi's likely resistance.

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Dini's persistence and the center-left victory in the regional contest have deflated Berlusconi's bid for an early election, which he had sought in June 1995 to reaffirm the mandate he says he won in March 1994. Dini told an Italian interviewer [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d that he expected the election to take place in November 1995. [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d, 3.5c

[redacted]

International Economics and Banking Specialist

Dini brings a lifetime of economic expertise, including 20 years at the IMF and more than a decade as the number-two official at the BOI, to the task of sorting out Rome's finances; his decision to keep the Treasury portfolio emphasizes his hands-on approach to economic policy. While he was Berlusconi's Treasury Minister [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d [redacted] consistently argued for tight controls on spending. At the same time, Dini publicly opposed the supply-side ideas of some of his cabinet colleagues and rejected massive tax cuts. As Treasury Minister and as premier, he has highlighted job creation and privatization as Rome's long-term economic priorities. [redacted] 3.5c

1.4c, 3.5c

Before joining the Berlusconi government, Dini had served as director general of the BOI since 1979. He also served as vice president of the Bank for International Settlements, a board member of the Italian exchange office, a member of the IMF Group of 10, a governor of the Asian Development Bank, and a member of the EC's Monetary Policy Committee. Dini spent most of his IMF career in the African Department, where he helped developing countries establish financial institutions and solve monetary problems.

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1.4c, 1.4d, 3.5c

Personal Notes

Dini was born in Florence on 1 May 1931. He earned an economics degree from the University of Florence in 1955, and, after studying in the United States, he briefly taught at the Universities of Florence and Rome before joining the IMF in 1959. He has published numerous articles on economic and fiscal policy in Italian and foreign periodicals. Dini enjoys photography and tennis, and, when in Washington, he likes to attend Redskins games.

1.4c, 1.4d

he speaks excellent English, as well as French and Spanish. Dini's second wife, Donatella Zingone, runs the Zeta industrial group in Costa Rica, according to the press. press reports say that Dini has a daughter from his first marriage and that his wife has two children from her first marriage.

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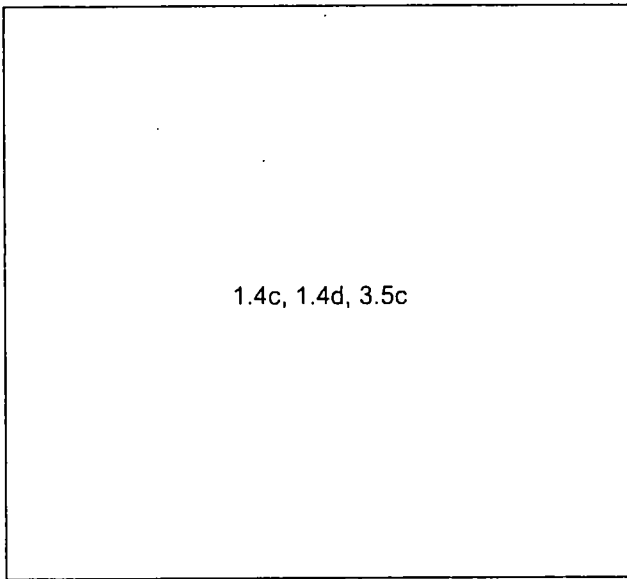
Susanna AGNELLI
(Phonetic: ahnYELLee)

Minister of Foreign Affairs
(since January 1995)

Addressed as: Madam Minister

Veteran politician and foreign policy specialist Susanna Agnelli is probably the best known figure in Prime Minister Lamberto Dini's low-profile, technocratic government. The sister of Fiat magnate Gianni Agnelli, Susanna Agnelli began her political career as mayor of an exclusive Tuscan seaside resort during the mid-1970s and went on to become one of the most prominent women in Italian public life, serving as a senator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) official, and member of the European Parliament. [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d

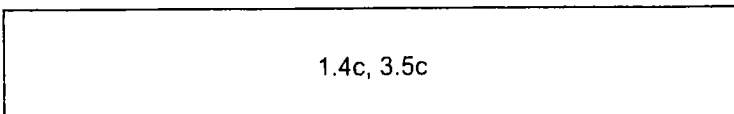
Agnelli traded political pursuits for full-time charity work in 1992. [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d until she joined the Dini government, she spent most of her time in Rome's main railway station helping the homeless [redacted] 3.5c



1.4c, 1.4d, 3.5c

Looking Across the Atlantic

Agnelli's record and comments suggest that she supports Rome's traditionally strong Atlanticist orientation [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d



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ITALY

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[redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d She lived in New York City for several years during the 1960s and early 1970s, and during the 1980s she worked on North and South American issues as an under secretary at the MFA. According to a profile published in *The New York Times* in 1983, it was the wife of a prominent US Senator, with whom Agnelli socialized when she lived in New York, who initially urged Agnelli to consider a public career. [redacted] 3.5c

Agnelli has not hesitated to voice Rome's unhappiness over Italy's exclusion from the Contact Group on the former Yugoslavia. She told Italian journalists in May 1995 that Italy's exclusion was a "terrible mistake," adding that the crisis in Bosnia "is too far removed from the United States and too close to Europe." She suggested that new European institutional mechanisms are necessary to deal with such situations. [redacted] 3.5c

Ugly Houses and Plain Talk

Agnelli says she also was prompted to begin her political career by the prolific construction of what she labeled illegal, ugly real estate in Monte Argentario, where she ran for city council member in the early 1970s and then mayor, serving until 1984. Agnelli, who was affiliated with the small, centrist Republican Party (PRI), was elected to the Chamber of Deputies in 1976 and 1979 and to the Senate in 1983 and 1989. She served in the

(continued)
LP 95-105753
5 June 1995

1.4c, 3.5c

European Parliament during 1976-78. When she left politics in 1992, she also broke with the PRI over what she perceived as its drift to the left and because of a personal conflict with its then chief, Giorgio LaMalfa. She told an interviewer at the time, "Giorgio is unique. He is the only person I know who does not like to be liked by others."

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Agnelli, who has served on the boards of the Rockefeller Foundation and the Harvard School of Education, has remained active in public service in Italy since 1992. In addition to her work with the homeless, she chairs a telethon-style organization that uses major television stations and banks to raise funds for muscular dystrophy and other disorders.

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Life and Times

Agnelli was born on 24 April 1922 in Turin. She holds a law degree, and she worked early in her career as a writer and journalist. She speaks

English and French. In 1975 she published an autobiography, *We All Wore Sailor Suits*, which describes her legendary industrialist family and was a best seller in Italy. Divorced in 1971 after 30 years of marriage, Agnelli described the experience to *The New York Times* as "very, very difficult, something you only do once in life."

1.4c, 1.4d

she has six grown children scattered around the world, including a son who heads Fiat's Argentina subsidiary, a daughter who formerly was married to Italian Senate President Carlo Scognamiglio, and another daughter who lives in New York and is married to a son of movie producer Carlo Ponti's. (Ponti's wife is actress Sophia Loren.) An Italian magazine article reported in 1994 that Scognamiglio is still close to his mother-in-law. Agnelli has several grandchildren.

1.4c, 1.4d, 3.5c

Masayoshi TAKEMURA
(Phonetic: tahkehmoorah)

JAPAN

*Minister of Finance (since June 1994);
Chairman, Harbinger Party
(since 1993)*

Addressed as: Mr. Minister

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Masayoshi Takemura [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d
[redacted]
[redacted] developed during his years as a bureaucrat, hometown mayor, and prefectural governor. Although he is only in his third-term in the lower house of the Diet, he has been a prominent political figure in two of the three governments formed since mid-1993, in part as head of the Harbinger Party. As such, Takemura can score points in Halifax by any success in addressing recent fluctuations of foreign exchange rates and their adverse effects on the global economy. According to the press, in late April he has advocated ongoing cooperation in interest rate policy and market intervention as short-term steps to help reduce the volatility of the international currency markets. [redacted] 3.5c

Foreign Policy Views

[redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d

According to the press [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d Takemura has a reputation as an effective grassroots politician. [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d he has won a considerable popular following [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d [redacted] In addition, Takemura—who is known for his signature oversized, red-rimmed glasses—has been a star of Japan's Sunday morning political television shows. [redacted] 3.5c

[redacted] In his recent book, *Japan: A Country That Is Small But Sparkling*, Takemura wrote that the Japan Self-Defense Forces should limit their involvement in regional or international disputes to UN peacekeeping operations. In addition, he noted that Tokyo should contribute money, manpower, and technology to international initiatives to protect the environment and eliminate poverty. [redacted] 3.5c

As Minister of Finance, however [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d press reports note that Takemura has encountered difficulties in exerting effective leadership over Japan's most powerful domestic ministry. He has come under attack from the press and opposition parties in recent months for supporting a controversial Ministry of Finance (MOF) plan to bail out two failed credit cooperatives at the center of a financial scandal, which involves politicians from both the ruling and opposition camps as well as senior MOF bureaucrats. [redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d

[redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d

[redacted] Takemura's reformist image was tarnished in early 1995 when the press criticized him for defending Finance Ministry

[redacted] 1.4c, 3.5c

interests at the expense of the government's pledge to streamline Japan's quasi-governmental special corporations. 3.5c

Key Coalition Figure

Takemura and his party have been at the vanguard of the political realignments that have taken place in Japan since the end of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) rule in mid-1993. After bolting the LDP with a group of 10 reform-minded Diet members, Takemura joined the anti-LDP coalition and served in the key posts of Chief Cabinet Secretary and spokesman for Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa (August 1993–April 1994). According to press

1.4c, 1.4d

Takemura left the Hosokawa coalition because of a rivalry with Ichiro Ozawa, now secretary general of the opposition New Frontier Party. As leader of the small but influential Harbinger party, Takemura played a key role in bringing together the longtime rival LDP and the Social Democratic Party to form the current three-party coalition government. 3.5c

Generally Open to Reforms

Despite Takemura's opposition earlier this year to streamlining public corporations, his support over the years for reforms in diverse fields suggests that

1.4c, 1.4d

he is 1.4c, 1.4d receptive to new approaches to doing the government's work. In 1988, as a member of the lower house, he organized the Utopia study group, a gathering of politicians from several parties who strongly argued for political realignment. Takemura later formed another study group with opposition party and union leaders that became a forerunner to the Hosokawa coalition. 1.4c, 1.4d

Takemura's credentials as an advocate of broad

political and administrative reform were particularly strong when he was in the Hosokawa administration. He was instrumental in pushing the passage of the political reform bill through the lower house in late 1993. 3.5c

Early in his career, Takemura promoted numerous proposals for reform that had grassroots appeal. As Governor of Shiga Prefecture during 1974-86, he tackled environmental issues in his district and advocated the decentralization of Tokyo's powerful bureaucracy. In recent years he has remained near the forefront of the politicians calling for moving at least some elements of the national government from Tokyo. 3.5c

Background and Personal Data

Takemura, the second son of a farmer, was born on 26 August 1934 in Yokaichi City in Shiga Prefecture. He lost his father at an early age and was separated from his brother and three sisters when he was sent to live with his uncle for a time. After spending a year at Eigenji Zen Buddhist Temple, he attended the University of Tokyo, graduating from the Education Faculty in 1958 and the Economics Faculty in 1962. That year he entered the Ministry of Home Affairs. He was elected mayor of Yokaichi in 1971 and Japan's youngest governor in 1974. In 1986 he won election to the Diet's lower house as an independent and joined the LDP. 3.5c

Takemura speaks limited English. He is an enthusiastic bicyclist—he used to campaign on bicycle when he was younger—and also enjoys swimming and practicing karate. His wife, Chizuru, is a dentist. The Takemuras have a son and a daughter. 3.5c

Jacques CHIRAC
(Phonetic: sheRAHK)

FRANCE

President (since May 1995)

Addressed as: Mr. President

Jacques Chirac achieved a lifetime dream in winning the French presidency—a post often described as offering its incumbent the most extensive range of powers enjoyed by a Western leader

[redacted] 1.4c, 1.4d

[redacted] By responding to concern about the domestic economy and joblessness, Chirac—elected with the smallest percentage of first-round ballots of any Fifth Republic president—has already seen an increase in his public standing. According to a 4 June poll, his approval rating was the highest for a new president since Charles de Gaulle started his second term in 1966.

3.5c

Despite his long public career and his role as founder in 1976 and leader until late 1994 of the neo-Gaullist Rally for the Republic, Chirac has not demonstrated a consistent ideological framework. He has stated, "Among men there are those who are ideologists and those who are pragmatists. I belong to the second category." Although Chirac portrayed himself as an outsider during the campaign, his extensive experience suggests that he will quickly master the political and bureaucratic intricacies of his position. A former presidential adviser, two-time Prime Minister, and frequent cabinet member, he is well acquainted with the workings of the presidential office. He also has garnered widespread praise for his administrative skills as mayor of Paris during 1977–May 1995.

3.5c

Domestic Priorities . . .

Since his election, Chirac has continued to voice the themes that he stressed in his campaign, particularly concern for what he depicts as France's fragile social fabric. In March 1995, one of Chirac's aides described his prescriptions for the country as

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"a synthesis between socialism and Gaullism, between the spirit of tolerance and progress and the notion of the grandeur of France." In early June, Chirac announced that employment was not just "a priority, it is the priority."

1.4c, 1.4d

[redacted] many of the early moves of the President have been largely symbolic; for instance, he has ordered his ministers to renounce privileges and set an example of austerity by cutting staffs and dispensing with motorcades. Chirac has confounded observers who believed that he would ease away from campaign promises to preserve France's extensive social net; many commentators had interpreted the appointment of free market economic proponent Alain Madelin to a "super ministry" for economics and finance as a signal that Chirac was willing to take tough measures to improve the economy. Instead, Chirac has introduced a plan to fight joblessness without fully describing how it will be funded.

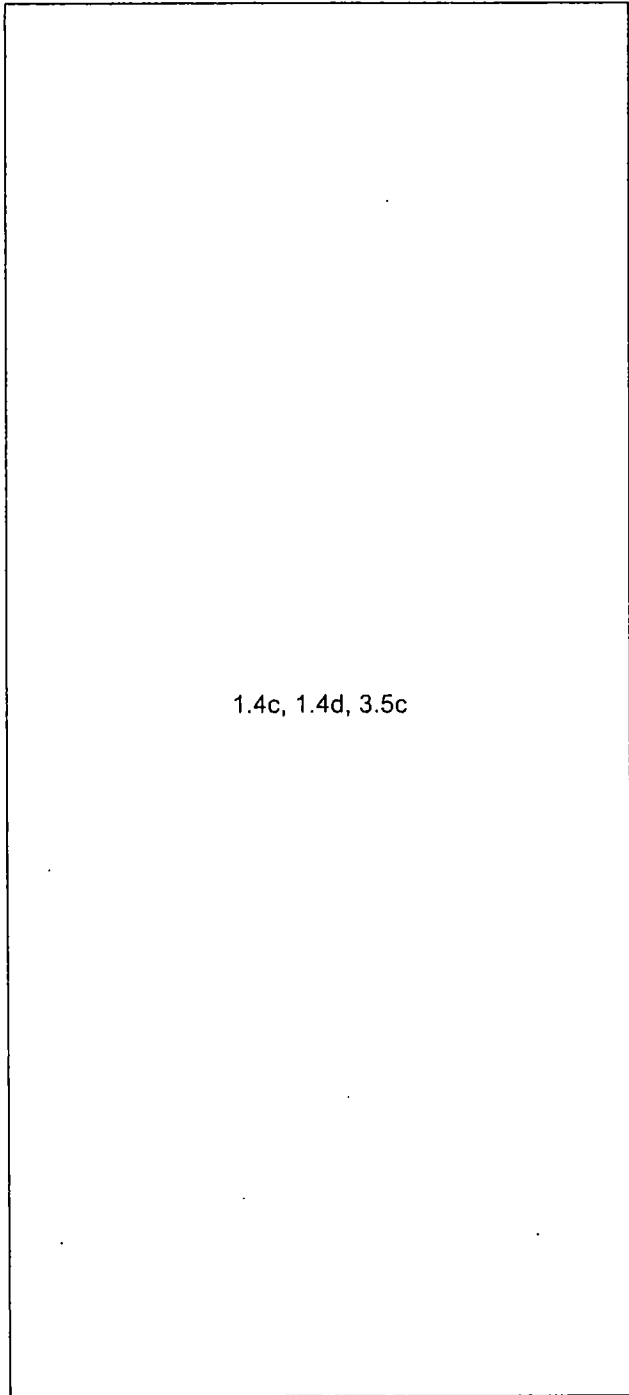
3.5c

. . . But a Prominent International Role

French political observers state that Chirac intends to take full advantage of the traditional presidential dominance over foreign and defense policy; his meeting with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl the day after his inauguration and his dinner invitation to EU heads of state for 9 June signaled his intention to take a prominent public

(continued)
LP 95-105760
6 June 1995

1.4c, 3.5c



1.4c, 1.4d, 3.5c

A Long Time Coming

Chirac succeeded in winning the presidency on his third try. His longevity attests to his acumen and determination in maneuvering through rough political waters, according to media observers. He ran in his first presidential election in 1981. After a second tour as Prime Minister (1986-88), which the media characterized as a bruising cohabitation period with President Francois Mitterrand, Chirac lost the 1988 presidential election to him.

3.5c

Chirac was born on 29 November 1932. He received a degree from the Institute of Political Studies before fulfilling his Army duty. Chirac fought in Algeria in the late 1950s. He also is a 1959 graduate of the elite National School of Administration. His first break in politics came in 1962, when then Prime Minister Georges Pompidou offered him a staff position. Chirac developed a warm rapport with Pompidou and entered his government in 1967 as under secretary of state for social affairs. Chirac subsequently held several cabinet posts, including a stint as Minister of Interior (1974). Chirac first served as Prime Minister under then President Valery Giscard d'Estaing from 1974 until 1976, when he resigned over economic and political differences with the President. His rivalry with Giscard split the conservative vote and helped keep the center-right parties in opposition during most of the 1980s.

1.4c, 1.4d

1.4c, 1.4d, 3.5c

Private Life

Chirac is the first French president to speak English with an American accent. He enjoys reading poetry and detective stories. He is known for his taste for unpretentious fare and Mexican beer. He and his wife, Bernadette, have two natural daughters, Laurence and Claude. As her father's chief media adviser during the 1995 campaign, Claude was largely responsible for transforming Chirac's image from an opportunistic and mercurial politician into a calm and self-confident statesman, according to media reports. The press revealed earlier in 1995 that the Chiracs had a third grown daughter, a Vietnamese refugee whom they adopted in 1979.

3.5c

role. Chirac in early June raised his profile on Balkans policy by making tough statements in defense of French peacekeepers there. However, Chirac, who has not been deeply involved in setting security policy in the past, probably will allow Prime Minister Alain Juppe to wield significant influence over foreign policy in the near term, according to

1.4c, 1.4d

press reporting

3.5c