

Richard Perle, former Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Norman Podhoretz, former editor, Commentary Magazine.

Roger W. Robinson, Jr., former Chief Executive Economist, National Security Council.

Peter W. Rodman, former Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs and former Director of the Policy Planning Staff, Department of State.

Edward Rowny, former Advisor to the President and Secretary of State for Arms Control.

Jacqueline Tillman, former Staff member, National Security Council.

Michelle Van Cleave, former Associate Director, Office of Science and Technology.

William Van Cleave, former Senior Defense Advisor and Defense Policy Coordinator to the President.

Malcolm Wallop, former United States Senator.

Deborah L. Wince-Smith, former Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy, Department of Commerce.

Curtin Winsor, Jr., former U.S. Ambassador to Costa Rica.

Dov S. Zakheim, former Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

U.S. SENATE,

OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY LEADER,

Washington, DC, September 6, 1996.

President WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON,  
The White House,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I am writing to ask your cooperation and support for Senate efforts to obtain information and documents directly relevant to our consideration of the Chemical Weapons Convention.

As you know, the Senate is currently scheduled to consider the Convention on or before September 14, 1996 under a unanimous consent agreement reached on June 28, 1996. Immediately prior to the Senate agreement on the Convention, I stated, "With respect to the Chemical Weapons Convention, the Majority Leader and the Democratic Leader will make every effort to obtain from the administration such facts and documents as requested by the Chairman and ranking member of the Foreign Relations Committee, in order to pursue its work and hearings needed to develop a complete record for the Senate . . ."

I regret to inform you that your administration has not been fully cooperative in Senate efforts to obtain critical information. Chairman Helms wrote to you on June 21, 1996—prior to the Senate setting a date for a vote on the Convention—and asked eight specific questions. Chairman Helms also requested the provision and declassification of documents and a cable relating to critical issues of Russian compliance with existing chemical weapons arms control agreements and with the Chemical Weapons Convention.

On July 26, 1996, having received no response to his earlier letter, Chairman Helms reiterated his earlier request and asked additional questions concerning the apparent Russian decision to unilaterally end implementation of the 1990 U.S.-Russian Bilateral Destruction Agreement on chemical weapons. Chairman Helms also asked for specific information and documents concerning Russian conditions for ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention, as well as other information important to our consideration of the Convention. While Chairman Helms did receive responses to his letters on July 31 and on August 13, his request for declassification of documents was refused and the answers to many of his questions were incomplete.

During a Senate Select Committee on Intelligence hearing on June 17, 1996, Senator

Kyl asked for a specific document—a cable written in Bonn, Germany by Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA) Director Holum concerning current Russian government positions on the Bilateral Destruction Agreement, ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention and on U.S. assistance for the destruction of Russian chemical weapons. On numerous occasions, Senator Kyl was told the document did not exist. Finally, on July 26, Senator Kyl was able to see a redacted version of the document under tightly controlled circumstances but the document has not been made available to Chairman Helms or other Senators.

Mr. President, the unanimous consent agreement of June 28, 1996, was entered into in good faith, and based on our understanding that the administration could and would be fully forthcoming in the provision of information and documents to enable the Senate to fulfill its constitutional responsibilities. Numerous judgments of the United States intelligence community deserve as wide a circulation as possible—particularly since they are distinctly different than some public statements made by officials of your Administration concerning the Convention.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that you reconsider your refusal to declassify critical documents and consider the declassification of important intelligence community judgments—consistent with the need to protect intelligence sources and methods. Specifically, I request that you act immediately to declassify the May 21, 1996, cable written by ACDA Director Holum and the July 8, 1996, letter from Russian Prime Minister Chernomyrdin to Vice-President Gore, and consider immediate declassification of the paragraphs from which the attached statements are excerpted—all drawn from documents produced by the Central Intelligence Agency and the Defense Intelligence Agency on the Russian chemical weapons program, the verifiability of the Chemical Weapons Convention, the effect of the Convention on the chemical weapons arsenals of rogue states, and the relevance of the Convention to acts of terrorism committed with chemical weapons.

I make these requests to enable the Senate to fully prepare for its consideration of the Chemical Weapons Convention. I am certain you would agree it is necessary for the Senate to have complete and usable information in order to fulfill our constitutional obligations and to responsibly meet the terms of the current unanimous consent agreement. Because the unanimous consent agreement calls for the Senate to vote on the Chemical Weapons Convention by September 14, 1996, I respectfully request that you respond to my declassification requests no later than the close of business on Tuesday, September 10, 1996. With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

TRENT LOTT.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:32 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2428) to encourage the donation of food and grocery products to non-profit organizations for distribution to needy individuals by giving the Model Good Samaritan Food Donation Act the full force and effect of law.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-3919. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, two rules including a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives," (RIN2120-A64, 2120-AF36) received on September 3, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3920. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, three rules including a rule entitled "Safety Zone," (RIN2115-AA97, 2115-AE46) received on September 3, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3921. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, four rules including a rule entitled "Pilot State Highway Program," (RIN2127-AF94, 2127-AF17, 2115-AE94, 2115-AA97) received on September 5, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3922. A communication from the General Counsel of the Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, twenty-two rules including a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives," (RIN2120-AA64, 2120-AA65, 2120-AA66) received on September 5, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3923. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations" (received on September 4, 1996); to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3924. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations" (received on September 4, 1996); to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3925. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations" (received on September 4, 1996); to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3926. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations" (received on September 4, 1996); to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3927. A communication from the Managing Director of the Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of a rule under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (received on August 29, 1996); to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.