

Mar. 20 / Administration of George Bush, 1991

Washington, the 20th day of March, 1991.

George Bush
President of
the United States
of America

Lech Walesa
President of
the Republic of
Poland

Note: The declaration was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary but was not issued as a White House press release.

Message to the Congress Transmitting the Annual Report of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency

March 20, 1991

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency annual report for 1990. This report deserves your close review.

The year 1990 witnessed the signing of the multilateral Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) Treaty, which, when satisfactorily implemented, will be a major step in reducing the numbers of deployed weapons in the area bounded by the Ural Mountains and the Atlantic Ocean. The U.S.-U.S.S.R. Chemical Weapons Destruction Agreement was also signed. Significantly, both the Treaty Between the United States and the Soviet Union on Underground Nuclear Weapon Tests (TTBT) and the Treaty on Underground Nuclear Explosions for Peaceful Purposes (PNET) entered into force. Substantial progress was made during 1990 in the Strategic Arms Reductions

Talks (START) and in our efforts to curb the worldwide proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The Arms Control and Disarmament Agency's 1990 annual report provides details of these and other developments, including the conduct of arms control negotiations, the coordination of treaty implementation procedures, and other activities conducted pursuant to the Arms Control and Disarmament Act.

As the report illustrates, the dramatic changes in Eastern Europe and in U.S.-U.S.S.R. relations have not diminished the importance of effective and verifiable arms control agreements.

GEORGE BUSH

The White House,
March 20, 1991.

Toasts at the State Dinner for President Lech Walesa of Poland

March 20, 1991

President Bush. Mr. President and Mrs. Walesa, 2 years ago Barbara and I had the privilege of dining at your home in Gdansk. And today we are simply delighted to have you and other members of the Polish delegation at the White House.

It's been said that the character of a people is embodied in its leaders. And that is certainly true of tonight's honored guest. Eight years ago you were unable to visit Norway to accept the Nobel Peace Prize.

Tonight, America salutes you as an apostle of peace throughout the world.

Some leaders reflect their time. Mr. President, you have defined your time. You have been resolute in defeat and magnanimous in victory. You have fought to preserve liberty for all: for individuals, choice; for soci-

eties, pluralism; for nations, self-determination. To a crisis of the spirit, you supplied an answer of the spirit—an answer forged upon trust in God and man.

Over the centuries Poland suffered through a winter of adversity. But you and your countrymen have delivered Poland into a springtime of thrilling possibility. You've brought us all to the verge of a new and freer world. And you helped a nation and a planet, if you will, summon lightness against the dark.

You've delivered the message of freedom everywhere. Go to Gdansk or Warsaw—they know that by rediscovering its past, Poland is uplifting the future. Mr. President, under you, sir, Poles have learned anew that the individual, not the state, is the voice of tomorrow. You've used that voice to unlock minds and boundaries, enlarging Poland's horizons and helping build a new Europe, whole and free. For that, I thank you on behalf of every American.

Let me close with a story that shows the spiritual ties that bind our lands. It happened in 1776, when America was at a turning point in its history. A great Polish patriot fought with the Colonies, then returned to Poland with a simple three-word message. Today, 200 years later, you have returned General Kosciusko's message to the country of its birth: liberty, security, property. These words inspired the Joint Declaration of Principles that we signed today.

And so, now may I invite all our guests to raise our glasses to Polish-American friendship; to the health of our dear, admired friend; and to the liberty we can and must achieve for all the children of the world. Mr. President, *sto lat*. May you live 100 years. God bless you.

President Walesa. Mr. President, ladies

and gentlemen, I'm convinced that I shall be at a loss for words to express my gratitude. It is for the second time that I'm present in the White House. It is, to me, a reason for honor, and it is moving.

It is also proof of the friendship that links the American nation with the Polish nation. This friendship was seen by the hundreds of thousands of Poles who, here, found their second motherland. They came from across the ocean because they were looking for freedom. America was freedom to them and remained a symbol of freedom.

Today, we and the country on the Vistula River also have freedom. Nobody, thank God, has to leave Poland. We have achieved new prospects through the reduction of the Polish debt. We are deeply grateful for the role which you, Mr. President, played in this magnificent act. It is a relief for millions of Poles. We shall remember this.

Two years ago, you were a guest in my home in Gdansk. Now, I am your guest in America. I am met here with undescribable sincerity. I hope that we shall meet on many more occasions. At the end, I would like to toast the most popular politician in Poland. [*Laughter*] Today it was passed on to the mass media—this politician, President George Bush. [*Laughter*] I came up third in the poll. [*Laughter*]

So, to your health and that of your wife. To the health of all present here, all the magnificent American friends, your health.

Note: President Bush spoke at 8:15 p.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to President Walesa's wife, Danuta. President Walesa spoke in Polish, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

Remarks on Police Brutality and an Exchange With Reporters March 21, 1991

The President. Marlin, have you told everybody that I will have a statement to say here?

Mr. Fitzwater. Yes, sir.

The President. Want to fire it up?

Mr. Fitzwater. I think we're ready.

The President. Well, let me simply say that I've asked the Attorney General for an