

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION  
ON DEFENSE AND MILITARY RELATIONS  
BETWEEN  
THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND  
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE  
OF THE  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

9/93

Building on the declaration of cooperation between the United States of America and the Russian Federation announced by President Clinton and President Yeltsin in Vancouver April 4, 1993 underscoring their determination to broaden interaction and consultations between the United States of America and the Russian Federation in the areas of defense and security;

Recognizing that we are on the threshold of a new historical period which will transform the relationships between our two countries, including the area of defense;

Developing a partnership between our democracies, in particular through accelerated cooperation between the Department of Defense and the Ministry of Defense;

Agreeing that the well-being, prosperity, and security of the United States of America and the Russian Federation are vitally interrelated;

Seeking to forever put the years of nuclear confrontation and superpower rivalry behind us;

Determined to promote confidence and enhance understanding between our defense and military establishments;

Emphasizing the important role of cooperation between the Department of Defense of the United States of America and the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation;

Recognizing that the enhancement of relations and the arrangement of cooperation in the defense area offer an opportunity for each side to increase understanding, avoid misperceptions, and to learn about each other;

Recognizing the importance of a dialogue on maintaining international security and stability, a dialogue on peacekeeping activities, and a correct understanding of military doctrines and strategy, programs of military development and defense budgets of both countries;

The Department of Defense of the United States of America and the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation affirm their readiness to broaden and deepen cooperation in the defense area. Among the steps which may be taken, and which may generate additional proposals in this area are:

1. **Defense contacts and cooperation under the auspices of the Office of the Secretary of Defense of the United States of America and the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation.**
  - Exchange of visits between the Secretary of Defense of the United States and the Minister of Defense of the Russian Federation on an annual basis alternating between countries.
  - Biannual meetings of the Bilateral Working Group on issues of defense cooperation, alternating between the United States and the Russian Federation at which, among other things, issues of expanding relations in the defense area will be examined.
  - Regular exchanges of visits between Senior Officials of the Office of the Secretary of Defense and Senior Russian Ministry of Defense officials to deepen mutual understanding of the international security environment and to seek ways to expand reciprocal cooperation in other areas.
  - Regular exchange of visits between the Director of DIA and the Chief of the GRU.
  - Exchange of visits of defense delegations to discuss areas of interest such as housing construction, defense budgets, the environment, transition of the military personnel to civilian life and the development of the armed forces.
  - Visits of defense delegations to participate in conferences, symposia, seminars, and courses conducted by the sides to discuss national security issues.
  - Implementation of the existing International Military Education and Training (IMET) Program.
  - The conduct of cultural programs and the development of relations in the areas of orientation and athletics.
  
2. **Military contacts and cooperation under the auspices of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the United States of America and the Chief of the General Staff of the Russian Federation, with emphasis on the participation therein of mid-level officers, will be implemented along the following lines;**
  - Exchange of visits between the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Chief of the General Staff.
  - Annual Staff Talks between the Joint Staff and the General Staff, as well as between the Service staffs.
  - Regular exchange of visits between counterpart CINCs, Service Chiefs, and other key military leaders of their two countries.
  - Exchange of visits of military delegations to discuss issues of mutual interest.
  - Simulations of possible military-political cooperation in such areas as peace-keeping and humanitarian relief operations.

- Exchange of visits of delegations of mid-level officers.
- Exchange of visits between ships, aircraft, and ground units.
- Continue to develop the sister base program.
- Establish relations between military educational institutions in order to exchange faculty, students and experience in education and training.
- Regular exchanges within the framework of the Agreement on the Prevention of Incidents On and Over the High Seas and the Agreement on the Prevention of Dangerous Military Activities.
- Conduct of joint exercises and training to include Naval Passing Exercises, search and rescue exercises, and peacekeeping exercises.

3. The above areas of defense and military cooperation are not exhaustive. Both sides will strive to search for new areas of cooperation and the broadening and deepening of their relations. Specific cooperative activities and schedules are to be determined annually in plans for contacts under the auspices of the Bilateral Working Group (BWG), by an agreed date. These plans can be updated at meetings between the Secretary of Defense and the Minister of Defense and at meetings of the BWG.

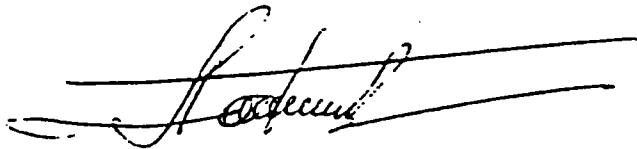
Both sides will strive to ensure the protection of information received in the course of cooperation and to observe the agreed-on level of its confidentiality. The transfer of such information to a third party will be carried out only with the knowledge and consent of the other side.

Signed at Washington D. C. the eighth day of September, 1993 in two copies, each in English and Russian, each being equally authentic.

FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FOR THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OF  
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

  
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Les Aspin  
Secretary of Defense

  
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P. Grachev  
General of the Army  
Minister of Defense

