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THE SECRETARY OF STATE
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October 5, 1990

Dear Claiborne:

In the context of your consideration of the Treaty on the Final Settlement with Respect to Germany, I understand that questions have arisen concerning the relationship between German unification and self-determination for Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania and concerning the steadfastness of our policy of refusing to recognize the forceful incorporation of these states by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

I would like to reaffirm personally what I said in Moscow when I signed this treaty and what Counselor Zoellick said in his testimony before the Committee on September 28:

The position of the United States, of course, is different [from the Soviet position], and that is no secret between us. The United States does not recognize the incorporation of the Baltic states into the Soviet Union, and in fact, we still fly the Baltic flags in the auditorium of our State Department. With respect to the question insofar as it pertains to this treaty, this treaty of course deals only with Germany and does not pretend to deal with any thing else.

In this connection I also want to call your attention to the following statement by President Bush in his German-American Day Proclamation, made on October 3, the day of German unity:

The achievement of German unity will also give hope to others, particularly the Baltic peoples, that a peaceful but determined struggle for national self-determination can succeed even over seemingly insurmountable obstacles. The United States remains true to its policy of nonrecognition of the annexation of the Baltic states, just as we never wavered in our support for German unity even through the darkest hours of the Cold War.

The Honorable
Claiborne Pell,
Chairman,
Senate Foreign Relations Committee,
United States Senate.

X

I hope this information is of assistance to you in your consideration of this Treaty.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

James A. Baker, III

Drafted: EUR/CE:CB Skinner
10/3/90 7-2005