THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 13, 1995

Mr. Walter Christman

Dear Walter:

Among the most important foreign policy concerns of the United States is to help Europe's new democracies complete their integration into the transatlantic world. Doing so will allow us to continue the legacy of George C. Marshall. His original vision -- what came to be known as the Marshall Plan -- was announced on June 5, 1947, and was offered to all of Europe, including the Soviet Union and many nations that would fall behind the Iron Curtain.

In the spirit of George Marshall, I believe we must support partnerships and mentoring programs with these countries to help ensure the success of democratic reform. U.S. states have become leaders with this concept, forming partnerships with many of the newly independent countries of Europe. American citizens are reaching out through the Partnership for Peace and the National Guard State Partnership Program to help shape democratic institutions where totalitarianism once ruled.

I would like to invite you to help think through ways in which we can broaden these ties with Europe. Please join other distinguished Americans and leaders from Europe for a symposium in Washington, D.C., entitled, "The Marshall Legacy: Partnerships for the Future." It will occur on January 8-12, 1996, on the occasion of the second anniversary of NATO's "Partnership for Peace" initiative. U.S. Governors and their National Guard Adjutants General, and corporate and congressional leaders are also being invited to participate.

The symposium is being presented in cooperation with The George Washington University, whose President, Stephen Trachtenberg, will send you further details soon and will discuss your potential role. Your contribution will be important.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton