13-57

RELEASE IN FULL

Statement Regarding
Agreement between the United States and Estonia
Regarding Grants Under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961,
as Amended, and the Furnishing of Defense Articles, Related
Training and Other Defense Services from the United States
to Estonia. Effected by exchange of notes at
Tallinn February 11 and 12, 1993.

Explanation of Agreement

This agreement provides the assurances required under U.S. law before any grant U.S.-origin military assistance may be provided to the Government of Estonia. The United States has concluded this type of agreement with numerous countries which have thus been able to receive U.S.-origin defense articles, related training, and other defense services under various foreign assistance provisions of U.S. law. Since Estonia may be eligible for transfers of grant non-lethal military assistance (under section 519 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (FAA), and Section 906 of the Freedom Support Act of 1992), and to facilitate any future transfers of U.S.-origin assistance to Estonia, this agreement was proposed in order to provide assurances binding on the Government of Estonia to cover all such assistance.

Background Information on Negotiations

Section 505 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (FAA), sets as a prior condition for any grant assistance under that act that the receiving country agree to certain conditions regarding the end-use, retransfer, and security of such assistance. In order to proceed with plans for any such assistance being contemplated under applicable provisions of U.S. law, the United States Government proposed that the Government of Estonia provide the necessary assurances according to a text that would meet the requirements of U.S. law and would apply prospectively to future transfers as well. The Government of Estonia responded positively, and the exchange of notes was concluded.

Effect of Agreement

Under this agreement, the Government of Estonia provides certain necessary assurances to the United States with respect to the use, safeguarding and disposition of defense articles, related training and defense services that may be provided by the United States on a grant basis to the Government of Estonia. The agreement also covers any such assistance that may have been furnished previously and that may be furnished in the future under other authority.

Legal Authority

Section 505 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.