

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 26, 1991

Dear Mr. President:

In view of the historic changes that have taken place in your country and the termination of the Union which bound together the republics of the former Soviet Union, I am pleased to inform you that the United States Government recognizes Kazakhstan as an independent state.

Over the past several months we have carried on an extensive and constructive dialogue concerning issues critical to the interests of both the United States and Kazakhstan, as well as the entire world. We have agreed that, during and after this period of transition, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Belarus must ensure safe, responsible, and reliable control over nuclear weapons under a single authority. We have welcomed your commitment to ensure the safety, security, and accelerated destruction of nuclear weapons on your territory, and have offered our assistance in that process. You and we have agreed that Kazakhstan must put into place a legislative and institutional regime to prevent the proliferation and export of weapons of mass destruction and other destabilizing military technologies, as well as the know-how to make them. We have welcomed the commitment of Kazakhstan to implement fully the START and CFE treaties, to join the NPT as a non-nuclear state, and to agree to full-scope IAEA safeguards.

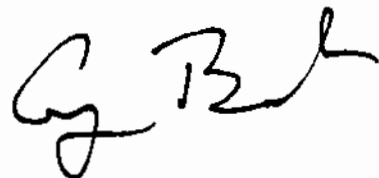
You have also expressed the firm commitment of Kazakhstan to the democratic values and specific obligations embodied in all CSCE agreements, including the Helsinki Agreement and the Charter of Paris. We have welcomed your determination to move rapidly toward the creation of a market

economy in Kazakhstan. You have further assured us of your commitment to fulfill the treaty and other obligations of the former USSR.

In view of your affirmation of all of these commitments to Secretary Baker, I am pleased to propose that our two countries conduct full diplomatic relations with permanent missions. It is my intention to name an ambassador to Kazakhstan in the near future, and I invite you to indicate your plans with respect to an ambassador to the United States. I look forward to your response agreeing to these arrangements and to the continued development of cordial and productive relations between Kazakhstan and the United States of America.

Finally, I would like to invite you to visit Washington in the first part of 1992 so that we can review together the many important issues before us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Bush". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

His Excellency
Nursultan Nazarbaev
President of Kazakhstan
Alma-Ata