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(International Organizations –
U.S.-U.S.S.R. Joint Commercial Commission)

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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
letter case (000213CS)			<i>with revision</i>
1. memo	<i>BALDRIDGE</i> from Donald Regan to Craig Fuller re: Chairmanship of US-USSR Commercial Commission and US-PRC Joint Economic Committee (3pp)	n.d.	P-5
2. copy	of item # 1 (3pp)	n.d.	P-5
3. memo	from D. Regan to the President re: Joint US-USSR Commercial Committee (2pp, partial)	4/2/81	P-5
4. memo	from Richard Allen to C. Fuller re: chairmanship of Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the Joint US-China Economic Committee (2pp)	4/16/81	P-5
5. memo	from Allen Lenz to R. Allen re. Sec. Regan's memo on the chairmanship of the Soviet and PRC Commercial and Economic Commissions (2pp)	4/14/81	P-5
6. memo	original of item # 3 (2pp, partial)	4/2/81	P-5
7. memo	copy of item # 3 (2pp, partial)	4/2/81	P-5
8. memo	Copy of item # 4 (2pp)	4/16/81	P-5
9. memo	from A. Lenz to R. Allen re: chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee (1p)	4/16/81	P-5
10. memo	copy of item # 5 (2pp)	4/14/81	P-5
COLLECTION: WHORM: Subject File			db
FILE FOLDER: IT095 United States-U.S.S.R. Commercial Commission (begin - <i>009999</i> 271823)			11/7/94

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National security classified information [(a)(1) of the PRA].
- P-2 Relating to appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA].
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA].
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA].
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA].
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA].

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- F-2 Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA].
- F-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA].
- F-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA].
- F-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA].
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
11. memo	from Tim Deal to R. Allen re: chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US- China Joint Economic Committee (1p)	4/13/81	P-5
12. memo	from D. Regan to the President re: U.S. chairmanship of the US-China Joint Economic Committee (2pp)	4/2/81	P-5
13. memo	Page 1 of item # 3 (1p, partial)	4/2/81	P-5
<hr/>			
letter case (018862CA)			
14. memo	from D. Regan to C. Fuller re: Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission (1p)	11/12/82	P-5
15. memo	from Becky Norton-Dunlop to C. Fuller re: US-USSR Commercial Commission (1p)	9/28/82	P-5
16. memo	from D. Regan to Ed Meese re: US-USSR Joint Commercial Commission (1p, partial)	11/12/81	P-5
17. memo	from David Chew to C. Fuller re: Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission (1p)	10/2/81	P-5
18. note	from Janet to RVA re: C. Fuller memo (1p, partial)	n.d.	P-5
19. memo	original of item # 17 (1p)	10/2/81	P-5
20. memo (101969CA)	from B.N. Dunlop to C. Fuller re: US-USSR Commercial Commission (1p)	9/29/82	P-5
COLLECTION: WHORM: Subject File			db
FILE FOLDER: IT095 United States-U.S.S.R. Commercial Commission (begin - 271823 009899)			11/7/94

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P-1 National security classified information [(a)(1) of the PRA].
- P-2 Relating to appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA].
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA].
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA].
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA].
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- F-2 Release could disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA].
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- F-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA].
- F-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA].
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

EF

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

213CS

PY IT095

CABINET ADMINISTRATION STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 1, 1981 NUMBER: 212CA & 213CA^{CS} DUE BY: --
SUBJECT: Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anderson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Garrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darman (For WH Staffing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Counsellor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Remarks: We ought to discuss and resolve since both Don Regan and Mac Baldrige have developed arguments for being designated chairman of both the US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-PRC Joint Economic Committee.

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per Meese, ChF,
Regan discussion.
810717.

RETURN TO: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director,
Office of Cabinet Administration
456-2823



MEMORANDUM FOR: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director, Office of Cabinet Administration
The White House

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Secretary Regan's April 2 request that he be designated chairman of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Commercial Commission and the U.S.-PRC Joint Economic Committee. I believe that the intent of the trade reorganization and the changing focus of the commissions' work on trade matters argue strongly for transfer of the chairmanship of these commissions to the Secretary of Commerce. The transfer would also consolidate the chairmanships of all communist country commercial/economic commissions handling trade matters in one department, lending consistency to our commercial dealings with foreign governments and bringing the Commissions into line with the trade reorganization.

There now exist five commercial and economic commissions with the communist countries. The Joint American-Polish Trade Commission, the Joint Romanian-American Economic Commission, and the U.S.-Hungarian Joint Economic and Commercial Committee have, since their inception, been chaired by Commerce. The U.S.-U.S.S.R. Joint Commercial Commission at its inception in 1972, and during its most active period, was chaired by Commerce. The single meeting of the recently-formed U.S.-PRC Joint Economic Committee was chaired by Treasury. Although some of these commissions are termed commercial while others are identified as economic, in fact the functions they perform are essentially identical, and the matters dealt with are dominantly in the trade area. The continued split of the chairmanships is confusing to foreign governments, inconsistent with the trade reorganization, and puzzling to some members of Congress, who wonder why Treasury continues to retain some trade responsibilities after the trade reorganization focused them in the USTR and Commerce.

The trade reorganization consolidated responsibility for trade matters with the U.S. Trade Representative and the Department of Commerce. Chairmanship of the policy-coordinating East-West Foreign Trade Board was removed from Treasury and the function vested in the Trade Policy Committee chaired by the USTR. Commerce acquired the authority for import administration and the representation of U.S. commercial interests overseas with the newly created Foreign Commercial Service. Commerce also retained its responsibilities in key areas of concern in the commissions, such as business facilitation, trade development, export controls, textile matters, science and technology cooperation, and maritime affairs.

While the U.S.-PRC Joint Economic Committee at its initial meeting dealt with a wide range of economic matters, today it is increasingly concerned with the practical problems confronting American firms and other specific trade issues. The Joint U.S.-U.S.S.R. Commercial Commission has always had a commercial, not economic, focus, as its name indicates. Its mandate is to "monitor the spectrum of U.S.-Soviet commercial relations." There are a dozen or more cabinet and sub-cabinet level joint U.S.-Soviet commissions and committees which deal with questions with some economic content, including: Science and Technology, Energy, Agricultural Cooperation, and Maritime Relations. The majority of the issues considered by both the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Joint Commercial Commission and the U.S.-PRC Economic Committee are of a commercial nature and, therefore, clearly within Commerce's area of responsibility. As the counterpart in discussion of these issues would be the ministries of foreign trade in each country, it is appropriate that the lead on our side be taken by the agency having the primary operational responsibility for implementing trade policy.

We would like to use the commissions more extensively for active discussion of major projects of interest to U.S. firms, to resolve individual company problems, and to create opportunities for U.S. industry to meet with the visiting foreign trade officials. These are functions which we can most effectively perform when the Secretary of Commerce chairs the commissions. The business community, particularly the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Trade and Economic Council and the National Council for U.S.-China Trade, fully supports the transfer of the chairmanships of the two commissions from Treasury to Commerce.

I cannot accept the argument that a shift in the U.S.-PRC Joint Economic Committee's chairmanship would be viewed by the Chinese government as a downgrading measure. The scope of the Department of Commerce's responsibilities and programs are such that it has more bilateral relationships with the Chinese government than any other U.S. government agency. Of the 38 ministries in the Chinese government, the U.S. Department of Commerce deals with 14, whereas only one Chinese ministry finds its opposite number in Treasury. The Chinese themselves transferred leadership of their side of the Committee prior to its first session, from Vice Premier Yu Quili, who ranks second on their protocol list of Vice Premiers, to Bo Yibo, who ranks ninth. Just as we did not perceive the change as diminishing the importance of the Committee, so I believe the Chinese would see a shift in U.S. leadership as reflecting recognition of Commerce's new and broader responsibilities since the trade reorganization, and as an indication of our intention to deal seriously with them on trade problems of primary concern to them, especially business facilitation matters, export controls, and import regulation.

Further, I believe that the transfer of the commission chairmanships would be consistent with the structure of domestic interagency coordination of bilateral commercial and trade issues emerging in this Administration. The Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade, and the Trade Policy Committee under USTR's leadership share responsibility for interagency coordination of the majority of outstanding bilateral trade policy issues with China and the U.S.S.R. Economic issues for both China and the U.S.S.R. are being considered initially in State-chaired Interagency Groups. Discussion of any unresolved broad bilateral economic issue that might arise could be considered under Commerce chairmanship of the commissions, in the same way these issues are discussed in the case of the other East-West country commissions chaired by Commerce.

Commerce is also better equipped in terms of available professional resources and experience to support these commissions. This is reflected for example, by Commerce having provided the secretariat services and a large share of substantive staff support for the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Joint Commercial Commission, chaired by Treasury.

In my judgment, the arguments clearly favor transferring the chairmanships of both commissions to Commerce to reflect the realities of the main problems these commissions are dealing with. In both cases, Treasury would continue to chair the financial working groups of the commission, which would provide ample scope to deal with those areas which are rightfully Treasury responsibilities.



Secretary of Commerce

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

213CS
WS 1120
IT095

CABINET ADMINISTRATION STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 1, 1981 NUMBER: 212CA & 213CA^{CS} DUE BY: --

SUBJECT: Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anderson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Garrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darman (For WH Staffing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Counsellor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Remarks: We ought to discuss and resolve since both Don Regan and Mac Baldrige have developed arguments for being designated chairman of both the US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-PRC Joint Economic Committee.

Same memo from Baldrige pertains to ID 000 212CS

RETURN TO: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director,
Office of Cabinet Administration
456-2823



MEMORANDUM FOR: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director, Office of Cabinet Administration
The White House

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Secretary Regan's April 2 request that he be designated chairman of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Commercial Commission and the U.S.-PRC Joint Economic Committee. I believe that the intent of the trade reorganization and the changing focus of the commissions' work on trade matters argue strongly for transfer of the chairmanship of these commissions to the Secretary of Commerce. The transfer would also consolidate the chairmanships of all communist country commercial/economic commissions handling trade matters in one department, lending consistency to our commercial dealings with foreign governments and bringing the Commissions into line with the trade reorganization.

There now exist five commercial and economic commissions with the communist countries. The Joint American-Polish Trade Commission, the Joint Romanian-American Economic Commission, and the U.S.-Hungarian Joint Economic and Commercial Committee have, since their inception, been chaired by Commerce. The U.S.-U.S.S.R. Joint Commercial Commission at its inception in 1972, and during its most active period, was chaired by Commerce. The single meeting of the recently-formed U.S.-PRC Joint Economic Committee was chaired by Treasury. Although some of these commissions are termed commercial while others are identified as economic, in fact the functions they perform are essentially identical, and the matters dealt with are dominantly in the trade area. The continued split of the chairmanships is confusing to foreign governments, inconsistent with the trade reorganization, and puzzling to some members of Congress, who wonder why Treasury continues to retain some trade responsibilities after the trade reorganization focused them in the USTR and Commerce.

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We would like to use the commissions more extensively for active discussion of major projects of interest to U.S. firms, to resolve individual company problems, and to create opportunities for U.S. industry to meet with the visiting foreign trade officials. These are functions which we can most effectively perform when the Secretary of Commerce chairs the commissions. The business community, particularly the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Trade and Economic Council and the National Council for U.S.-China Trade, fully supports the transfer of the chairmanships of the two commissions from Treasury to Commerce.

I cannot accept the argument that a shift in the U.S.-PRC Joint Economic Committee's chairmanship would be viewed by the Chinese government as a downgrading measure. The scope of the Department of Commerce's responsibilities and programs are such that it has more bilateral relationships with the Chinese government than any other U.S. government agency. Of the 38 ministries in the Chinese government, the U.S. Department of Commerce deals with 14, whereas only one Chinese ministry finds its opposite number in Treasury. The Chinese themselves transferred leadership of their side of the Committee prior to its first session, from Vice Premier Yu Quili, who ranks second on their protocol list of Vice Premiers, to Bo Yibo, who ranks ninth. Just as we did not perceive the change as diminishing the importance of the Committee, so I believe the Chinese would see a shift in U.S. leadership as reflecting recognition of Commerce's new and broader responsibilities since the trade reorganization, and as an indication of our intention to deal seriously with them on trade problems of primary concern to them, especially business facilitation matters, export controls, and import regulation.

Further, I believe that the transfer of the commission chairmanships would be consistent with the structure of domestic interagency coordination of bilateral commercial and trade issues emerging in this Administration. The Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade, and the Trade Policy Committee under USTR's leadership share responsibility for interagency coordination of the majority of outstanding bilateral trade policy issues with China and the U.S.S.R. Economic issues for both China and the U.S.S.R. are being considered initially in State-chaired Interagency Groups. Discussion of any unresolved broad bilateral economic issue that might arise could be considered under Commerce chairmanship of the commissions, in the same way these issues are discussed in the case of the other East-West country commissions chaired by Commerce.

Commerce is also better equipped in terms of available professional resources and experience to support these commissions. This is reflected for example, by Commerce having provided the secretariat services and a large share of substantive staff support for the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Joint Commercial Commission, chaired by Treasury.

In my judgment, the arguments clearly favor transferring the chairmanships of both commissions to Commerce to reflect the realities of the main problems these commissions are dealing with. In both cases, Treasury would continue to chair the financial working groups of the commission, which would provide ample scope to deal with those areas which are rightfully Treasury responsibilities.



Secretary of Commerce

See page 2

CABINET ADMINISTRATION STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 20, 1981 NUMBER: 212CA & 213CA DUE BY: April 25, 1981

SUBJECT: Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	* Allen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	* Anderson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Garrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	* Darman (<i>For WH Staffing</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
* Counsellor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Remarks:

We are in the process of determining how best to resolve the issue of who chairs these commissions. Your views would be appreciated.

* Sent to previously.

*Orig. to Darman
cc to Biff*

*Baldrige
back late Sat.
Tish = 377-2112
Muhar
Mon's OK*

RETURN TO: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director,
Office of Cabinet Administration
456-2823

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

CABINET ADMINISTRATION STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 8, 1981 NUMBER: 213CA DUE BY: COB, 4/10/81

SUBJECT: U.S. Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Allen (4/16)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Garrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darman (For WH Staffing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	✓ Gray no comment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Counsellor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Remarks: Please provide any views you have on this matter by Friday, April 10, 1981.

*orig to Dorman
copy to Biff*

RETURN TO: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director,
Office of Cabinet Administration
456-2823



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

April 2, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: U.S. Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR
Commercial Commission

I request that you continue the designation of the Secretary of the Treasury as U.S. Chairman of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission. My predecessors, Secretaries Shultz, Simon, Blumenthal and Miller, have chaired this Commission since its inception, but a specific designation by the President has traditionally been required to continue this pattern.

The Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission was created during President Nixon's visit to Moscow in 1972 in an effort to develop commercial and economic relations between our two countries. The last scheduled meeting of this body was cancelled by President Carter because of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Since then the Commission's work has been halted and will remain inactive until our relations improve. Before the Commission is reactivated, there would, of course, have to be interagency discussion of its future role.

Even though the Commission is dormant, I feel it is useful to maintain this forum for economic dialogue and to have an American chairman in place. There is no reason to publicize the designation of a new U.S. chairman which has occurred routinely with the change of Administrations and Treasury leadership.

There has been a suggestion to have the American chairmanship of the body transferred to another department. I believe, however, that the structure permits the active participation of other departments and agencies, and I see no reason to change it. If a leadership transfer is to be made, this should first be considered in the Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs.

RECOMMENDATION: That you designate me in my capacity as Secretary of the Treasury to be the U.S. Chairman of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission.



Donald T. Regan

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1882
1883

April 16, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR CRAIG FULLER

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN *RVA*

SUBJECT: Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee

You asked for my comments on Secretary Regan's memoranda of April 2, proposing that he be designated the US Chairman of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee, respectively.

While it is true that the Secretary of the Treasury has held these posts in recent Administrations, there is no particular reason, aside from historical precedent or accident, why this pattern should continue. Indeed, the Secretary of Commerce is already the US Chairman of two other joint commissions with non-market economies (Joint American-Polish Trade Commission and Joint American-Romanian Economic Commission), which is entirely appropriate given their primary role in promoting trade.

In the case of China, it may have made sense to have the Secretary of the Treasury act as US Chairman of the Committee when the two sides were initiating the process of economic normalization since many of the pending issues were financial in nature, e.g., property claims, frozen assets, etc. That is no longer the case, and we can expect that the US-China Committee will now carry on work similar to other joint commissions which embraces not only trade promotion, but also problems stemming from US export controls and the administration of import restraints, the organizational responsibility for which rests in the Department of Commerce.

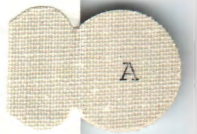
Indeed, it is my understanding that of the 38 ministries in China's government, 15 have their counterpart function in the U.S. Department of Commerce, with only one counterpart function in our Treasury Department. As a result, Commerce has developed a broad range of working relationships with PRC officials at high levels, making it unlikely that they would see Commerce Chairmanship as a downgrading.

RECEIVED BY MAIL 1981

REC'D. CA APR 15 1981

Commerce also has, of course, a broad range of economic and commercial contacts with Soviet officials.

For these reasons, the President should not decide Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee without carefully considering the rationale for consolidating all of the Chairmanships in the Department of Commerce. You may wish to invite both the Secretaries of Commerce and Treasury to present their respective cases on this matter, or to make a recommendation to the President that draws on available information, without further reference to either department.



MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

April 14, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD V. ALLEN

FROM: ALLEN J. LENZ

SUBJECT: Treasury Secretary Regan's Play for
Chairmanship of the Soviet and PRC
Commercial and Economic Commissions

7AB A I participated and concurred in the drafting of the attached proposed letter to Craig Fuller which recommends that the views of Commerce, State, and USTR be sought before making a decision on chairmanship of the Soviet and PRC Commercial and Economic Commissions. However, several thoughts have since occurred to me.

I understand that Secretary Baldrige called you on this matter the night of your departure for Florida and that you did not have an opportunity to talk with him. I also understand that he called Jim Baker the same night and that they did have a conversation. Given Baker's familiarity with the trade scenario (he was Under Secretary of Commerce in the Ford Administration), my hunch is that he will come down for assigning the Chairmanships to Commerce.

Allen -
I did speak
w/ him about
this matter
last week
m.

Indeed, the case of giving all the Economic/Commercial Commissions to Commerce is so overwhelming that I am not certain that it is desirable to solicit opinions on the issue from USTR and State as we have suggested in the draft letter to Fuller. For example: The PRC government is organized into 38 ministries. The opposite number of 14 of these is the Department of Commerce. Commerce interface with PRC involves a very broad range of trade, economic, and other related issues, including: trade promotion and business facilitation, export controls, import administration, textiles trade policy, maritime and fishing matters, telecommunications, management of science and technology, metrology and standards, statistical and information exchange (Census Bureau), travel and tourism, atmospheric sciences and technology (NOAA) etc. Further, there is no significant historical precedent for giving the China Commission to Treasury, since only one meeting has so far been held and Commerce provided the Secretariat services and the major portion of the support for that meeting.

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CABINET ADMINISTRATION STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 20, 1981 NUMBER: ~~212CA~~ & ~~213CA~~^S DUE BY: April 25, 1981

SUBJECT: Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	* Allen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	* Anderson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Garrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	* Darman (For WH Staffing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
* Counsellor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
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_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Remarks: We are in the process of determining how best to resolve the issue of who chairs these commissions. Your views would be appreciated.

* Sent to previously.

RETURN TO: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director,
Office of Cabinet Administration
456-2823

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

CABINET ADMINISTRATION STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 20, 1981 NUMBER: 212CA & 213CA DUE BY: April 25, 1981

SUBJECT: Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	* Anderson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Garrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	* Darman (For WH Staffing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* Counsellor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Remarks: We are in the process of determining how best to resolve the issue of who chairs these commissions. Your views would be appreciated.

* Sent to previously.

RETURN TO: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director,
Office of Cabinet Administration
456-2823

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

OBE

STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 9, 1981 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: --

SUBJECT: U.S. Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JAMES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NOFZIGER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WEIDENBAUM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CANZERI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ALLEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FULLER (<i>For Cabinet</i>)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANDERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HODSOLL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DOLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MC COY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WILLIAMSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FRIEDERSDORF	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GARRICK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERGEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HARPER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Remarks:

Richard G. Darman
Deputy Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
(x-2702)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

CABINET ADMINISTRATION STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 8, 1981 NUMBER: 213CA DUE BY: COB, 4/10/81

SUBJECT: U.S. Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Garrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darman (For WH Staffing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Counsellor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
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_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Remarks: Please provide any views you have on this matter by Friday, April 10, 1981.

RETURN TO: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director,
Office of Cabinet Administration
456-2823

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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CABINET ADMINISTRATION STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 8, 1981 NUMBER: 213CA DUE BY: COB, 4/10/81
SUBJECT: U.S. Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
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USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
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Remarks: Please provide any views you have on this matter by Friday, April 10, 1981.

RETURN TO: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director,
Office of Cabinet Administration
456-2823



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

April 2, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: U.S. Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR
Commercial Commission

I request that you continue the designation of the Secretary of the Treasury as U.S. Chairman of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission. My predecessors, Secretaries Shultz, Simon, Blumenthal and Miller, have chaired this Commission since its inception, but a specific designation by the President has traditionally been required to continue this pattern.

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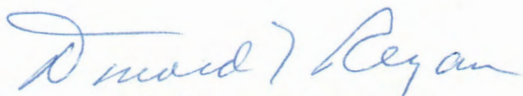
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RECOMMENDATION: That you designate me in my capacity as Secretary of the Treasury to be the U.S. Chairman of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission.


Donald T. Regan

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

APR 08 REC'D

CABINET ADMINISTRATION STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 8, 1981 NUMBER: 213CA DUE BY: COB, 4/10/81

SUBJECT: U.S. Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Garrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darman (For WH Staffing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Counsellor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Remarks: Please provide any views you have on this matter by Friday, April 10, 1981.

RETURN TO: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director,
Office of Cabinet Administration
456-2823

REC'D. CA APR 14 1981



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

April 2, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: U.S. Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR
Commercial Commission

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RECOMMENDATION: That you designate me in my capacity as Secretary of the Treasury to be the U.S. Chairman of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission.

Donald T. Regan
Donald T. Regan

Approve _____



Disapprove _____

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

4/13/81

TO: Craig Fuller

FROM: Ed Gray

OPD comment on U.S.

Chairmanship of the Joint US-USER

Commercial Commission is noted

below.

To: Craig Fuller

copy sent to [unclear] 4-8-81

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

CABINET ADMINISTRATION STAFFING MEMORANDUM

APR 8 1981

DATE: April 8, 1981 NUMBER: 213CA DUE BY: COB, 4/10/81

SUBJECT: U.S. Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Allen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Garrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darman (For WH Staffing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→ Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Counsellor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
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_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Remarks: Please provide any views you have on this matter by Friday, April 10, 1981.

OPD - No Comment - Post is traditional
EJC

RETURN TO: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director,
Office of Cabinet Administration
456-2823

REC'D. CA APR 13 1981

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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FG012

April 16, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR CRAIG FULLER

FROM: RICHARD V. ALLEN

SUBJECT: Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee

You asked for my comments on Secretary Regan's memoranda of April 2, proposing that he be designated the US Chairman of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee, respectively.

While it is true that the Secretary of the Treasury has held these posts in recent Administrations, there is no particular reason, aside from historical precedent or accident, why this pattern should continue. Indeed, the Secretary of Commerce is already the US Chairman of two other joint commissions with non-market economies (Joint American-Polish Trade Commission and Joint American-Romanian Economic Commission), which is entirely appropriate given their primary role in promoting trade.

In the case of China, it may have made sense to have the Secretary of the Treasury act as US Chairman of the Committee when the two sides were initiating the process of economic normalization since many of the pending issues were financial in nature, e.g., property claims, frozen assets, etc. That is no longer the case, and we can expect that the US-China Committee will now carry on work similar to other joint commissions which embraces not only trade promotion, but also problems stemming from US export controls and the administration of import restraints, the organizational responsibility for which rests in the Department of Commerce.

Indeed, it is my understanding that of the 38 ministries in China's government, 15 have their counterpart function in the U.S. Department of Commerce, with only one counterpart function in our Treasury Department. As a result, Commerce has developed a broad range of working relationships with PRC officials at high levels, making it unlikely that they would see Commerce Chairmanship as a downgrading.

NSC #8101883

Commerce also has, of course, a broad range of economic and commercial contacts with Soviet officials.

For these reasons, the President should not decide Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee without carefully considering the rationale for consolidating all of the Chairmanships in the Department of Commerce. You may wish to invite both the Secretaries of Commerce and Treasury to present their respective cases on this matter, or to make a recommendation to the President that draws on available information, without further reference to either department.

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

1882
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ACTION

April 16, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD V. ALLEN

FROM: ALLEN J. LENZ *Allen*

SUBJECT: Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee

In a previous memo three options were suggested for recommendations to Craig Fuller re Treasury's request for chairmanships of the PRC and Soviet Commercial and Economic Commissions:

- ask for further inputs from Treasury, Commerce, State and STR.
- narrow the request for further information to Treasury and Commerce.
- Discuss with Baker and recommend to Fuller that the decision be made without further reference to cabinet heads.

You elected to suggest soliciting views from only Commerce and Treasury, but also indicated that you would talk with Baker about the possibility of making a decision without soliciting further inputs (Tab A).

The redrafted letter to Fuller now makes a strong case for Commerce Chairmanship, but does not make a direct recommendation to that effect. It suggests that Fuller may wish to obtain the respective views of Treasury and Commerce on this matter, or that it may be possible to make a recommendation to the President based on available information, without further reference to either department.

RECOMMENDATION:

That you sign the memo to Craig Fuller at Tab I.

*Tab I
Handcarried to
Fuller 4/16 pm*

CONFIDENTIAL

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AF

MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

April 14, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD V. ALLEN

FROM: ALLEN J. LENZ

SUBJECT: Treasury Secretary Regan's Play for
Chairmanship of the Soviet and PRC
Commercial and Economic Commissions

I participated and concurred in the drafting of the attached proposed letter to Craig Fuller which recommends that the views of Commerce, State, and USTR be sought before making a decision on chairmanship of the Soviet and PRC Commercial and Economic Commissions. However, several thoughts have since occurred to me.

I understand that Secretary Baldrige called you on this matter the night of your departure for Florida and that you did not have an opportunity to talk with him. I also understand that he called Jim Baker the same night and that they did have a conversation. Given Baker's familiarity with the trade scenario (he was Under Secretary of Commerce in the Ford Administration), my hunch is that he will come down for assigning the Chairmanships to Commerce.

*Allen -
I did speak
w/ him about
this matter
last week -
AJL*

Indeed, the case of giving all the Economic/Commercial Commissions to Commerce is so overwhelming that I am not certain that it is desirable to solicit opinions on the issue from USTR and State as we have suggested in the draft letter to Fuller. For example: The PRC government is organized into 38 ministries. The opposite number of 14 of these is the Department of Commerce. Commerce interface with PRC involves a very broad range of trade, economic, and other related issues, including: trade promotion and business facilitation, export controls, import administration, textiles trade policy, maritime and fishing matters, telecommunications, management of science and technology, metrology and standards, statistical and information exchange (Census Bureau), travel and tourism, atmospheric sciences and technology (NOAA) etc. Further, there is no significant historical precedent for giving the China Commission to Treasury, since only one meeting has so far been held and Commerce provided the Secretariat services and the major portion of the support for that meeting.

Given what appears to be a clear choice, in this instance it may be that the major problem is to minimize the perceptions of Treasury having lost a power struggle, even though it is a relatively minor one. If so, dropping the idea of asking for recommendations from USTR and State gives the issue a lower profile and avoids both those agencies having to take a position of record (both have previously indicated a preference for Commerce, but no one knows what horse trading might be prompted and how they will come down if forced to take a position in writing).

RECOMMENDATION:

That you select from the following alternative ways of handling this potential teapot tempest:

- o Proceed with the attached letter to Craig Fuller (JAB A) suggesting that he obtain the views of Treasury, Commerce, State, and USTR before a Presidential decision on Chairmanship of the Soviet and PRC Commissions.

Yes _____ No _____

- o Narrow the discussants on the issue by redrafting the letter to suggest only solicitation of Commerce's views, at the same time offering Treasury an opportunity to expand its arguments supporting Chairmanship (if it can do so), but dropping State and USTR as suggested commentators.

Yes, redraft the letter to Fuller *Yes is best* No _____

- o Discuss with Baker and recommend to Fuller that the decision be made without further reference to cabinet heads on the basis of the desire to centralize trade functions to the extent possible and Commerce's overwhelming interest in, and allocation of resources to, the items the Commissions will deal with over the next few years.

Yes, redraft the letter to Fuller No _____

I'll talk w/ Baker about this


MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

1882
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April 13, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD V. ALLEN

FROM: TIM DEAL 


SUBJECT: Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee

Secretary Regan has proposed (Tabs B and C) that the President designate him as US Chairman of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission and the US-China Joint Economic Committee, respectively. This is an end-run play which does not have the concurrence of the other key players (Commerce, State, and USTR). Regan has not made a convincing case, aside from historical precedent, for his designation as Chairman of the two bodies. On the contrary, the Secretary of Commerce would seemingly have a natural claim on the position, given the trade promotion role of such commissions. In the past, the appointment of the Secretary of the Treasury as Chairman of some joint commissions and the Secretary of Commerce as Chairman of others has led to pointless bureaucratic rivalry which was not helpful to the export community and only complicated the development of coordinated positions on East-West trade matters.

Under the circumstances, the President should not decide who will be Chairman of these two bodies until he has the views of all interested parties. The memo for your signature at Tab A makes these points and suggests that the Office of Cabinet Administration obtain the views of the Secretaries of Commerce and State and the United States Trade Representative before sending the issue to the President.

Recommendation:

That you sign the memorandum to Craig Fuller at Tab A.

Concurrences: Allen Lenz
Jim Lilley
Richard Pipes } 



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

April 2, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

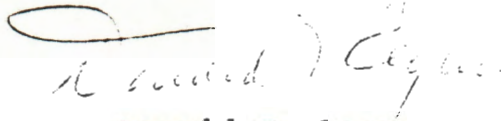
Subject: U.S. Chairmanship of the US-China
Joint Economic Committee

In order to maintain continuity in the coordination of US-China economic policy, I request that you continue the designation of the Secretary of the Treasury as U.S. Chairman of the US-China Joint Economic Committee. My predecessors, Secretaries Blumenthal and Miller, have chaired this Committee since its inception, but a specific designation by the President has traditionally been required to continue this pattern.

The US-China Joint Economic Committee was established by President Carter and Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping in January 1979 to serve as the focal point for the coordination of US-China economic relations and to begin the task of economic normalization. This mechanism has successfully coordinated and executed U.S. economic policy towards China since the establishment of diplomatic relations on January 1, 1979. The Chinese attach great importance to the Joint Economic Committee whose work continues to be very active.

Suggestions have been made to transfer the American chairmanship of this Committee. I feel, however, that the structure of this body on the U.S. side encourages active participation by other departments and agencies so that the Committee can deal effectively with a wide range of economic issues. The Chinese co-chairman is a Vice Premier with broad economic policy responsibilities and would view a shift in U.S. leadership as a downgrading measure. If there are reasons for a change of leadership, the issue should first be considered by the Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs.

RECOMMENDATION: That you designate me in my capacity as Secretary of the Treasury to be the U.S. Chairman of the US-China Joint Economic Committee.



Donald T. Regan

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

CABINET ADMINISTRATION STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 8, 1981 NUMBER: 213CA DUE BY: COB, 4/10/81

SUBJECT: U.S. Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
ALL CABINET MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	→ Allen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Garrick	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darman (For WH Staffing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Counsellor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
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Remarks: Please provide any views you have on this matter by Friday, April 10, 1981.

RETURN TO: Craig L. Fuller
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director,
Office of Cabinet Administration
456-2823



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

WASHINGTON

April 2, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: U.S. Chairmanship of the Joint US-USSR
Commercial Commission

I request that you continue the designation of the Secretary of the Treasury as U.S. Chairman of the Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission. My predecessors, Secretaries Shultz, Simon, Blumenthal and Miller, have chaired this Commission since its inception, but a specific designation by the President has traditionally been required to continue this pattern.

The Joint US-USSR Commercial Commission was created during President Nixon's visit to Moscow in 1972 in an effort to develop commercial and economic relations between our two countries. The last scheduled meeting of this body was cancelled by President Carter because of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Since then the Commission's work has been halted and will remain inactive until our relations improve. Before the Commission is reactivated, there would, of course, have to be interagency discussion of its future role.

Even though the Commission is dormant, I feel it is useful to maintain this forum for economic dialogue and to have an American chairman in place. There is no reason to publicize the designation of a new U.S. chairman which has occurred routinely with the change of Administrations and Treasury leadership.

There has been a suggestion to have the American chairmanship of the body transferred to another department. I believe, however, that the structure permits the active participation of other departments and agencies, and I see no reason to change it. If a leadership transfer is to be made, this should first be considered in the Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs.

RECEIVED 09 APR 81 13

TO PRES

FROM REGAN, D

DOCDATE 02 APR 81

FULLER, C

08 APR 81

DEAL

13 APR 81

KEYWORDS: ECONOMICS

USSR

SUBJECT: SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY RECOMMENDS HIMSELF AS CHAIRMAN OF
JOINT US / USSR COMMERCIAL COMMIS

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO ALLEN TO FULLER DUE: 16 APR 81 STATUS C FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR COMMENT

FOR INFO

DEAL

PIPES

COMMENTS

REF#

LOG 8101882

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(D / D)

ACTION OFFICER (S)

ASSIGNED

ACTION REQUIRED

DUE

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*did he follow
up
memo to
Fuller?*

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W/ATTCH FILE

(C)

RECEIVED 09 APR 81 13

TO PRES

FROM REGAN, D

DOCDATE 02 APR 81

FULLER, C

08 APR 81

DEAL

13 APR 81

KEYWORDS: ECONOMICS

USSR

SUBJECT: SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY RECOMMENDS HIMMSELF AS CHAIRMAN OF
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ACTION: PREPARE MEMO ALLEN TO FULLER DUE: 16 APR 81 STATUS C FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR COMMENT

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PIPES

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DISPATCH

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Name	Date
SUZY LUCY	8/18/82

THE FOLLOWING FOLDER OR CASE FILE HAS BEEN PROCESSED IN
RESPONSE TO A FOIA REQUEST (now filed at spot reviewed
material location).

FOLDER TITLE OR SF CASE #: IT 095

DATE 9/21/94 ARCHIVIST dlb