

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 14, 1998

The Honorable and Mrs. Donald Blinken
435 East 52nd Street
New York, New York 10022

Dear Vera and Donald:

I was glad to receive the materials on your proudest accomplishments during your time in Hungary. You both represented our country well.

Hillary and I send our best wishes and welcome you home.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton

DCM, POL, ECON,
AID, VSIS, ADMIN.
GSO, DAO

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 4, 1996

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I enjoyed your letter describing your visit to our forces in Taszar, Hungary and wanted to thank you and Vera for all you have done in the past year to fulfill your mission as Ambassador.

In just a few short weeks, our security cooperation with Hungary has taken a great stride forward. Hungary is making a major contribution to peace in Bosnia and security in Europe, a contribution that would have seemed inconceivable a few years ago. I know how hard you and your Embassy worked to make this happen, and I hope you take pride in this achievement.

I also appreciate your efforts to encourage the Hungarian government to maintain its bold and challenging economic stabilization program and to advance its free-market reforms. Thanks in part to your efforts, Hungary's economy seems pointed in the right direction, and its efforts to rejoin the Western democratic community have advanced.

Congratulations on a very good year. Hillary joins me in sending best wishes to you and Vera for the year to come.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Donald Blinken
American Ambassador
Budapest



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

25 MAR 1997

The Honorable Donald Blinken
American Ambassador to Hungary
American Embassy Budapest
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20521-5270

Dear Don:

Thank you for the recent letter regarding my visit to Tuzla. It was a pleasure to meet with you.

I also want to thank you for your words of support as I undertake my new responsibilities. Clearly, I face a daunting task but I look forward to the challenges ahead.

Again, thank you. I appreciate your taking the time to write. I hope our paths will cross again soon in either Washington or Hungary.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature, likely of Bill Clinton, is written in black ink. The signature is stylized, with a large, looped "B" and "C" and a trailing "l".

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 4, 1997

The Honorable Donald Blinken
American Ambassador
Budapest

Dear Donald:

I have received your letter of September 29, 1997, and it is with regret that I accept your resignation as Ambassador to Hungary. America has been well represented during your tenure, and I thank you for all you've accomplished.

By advocating the democratic values and free market principles that have always made our nation strong, you have played a key role in promoting our economic and foreign policy objectives in Hungary. Your unwavering commitment both to advancing our interests and to assisting the government and people of Hungary has helped make that country the leading Central European destination for American investment. You have also played a pivotal role in securing and developing Hungary's support for our peacekeeping efforts in Bosnia, and in so doing helped create the framework for a more peaceful, more stable Europe. I salute you for the important role you have played in strengthening U.S. ties in the region and advancing Hungary's integration into the transatlantic community.

Along with my gratitude, I send my best wishes to you and Vera for every future success and happiness.

Sincerely,

Bill Clinton