



United States Mission to the OSCE

**Response to the OSCE
Representative on the Latvian-
Russian Joint Commission on
Military Pensioners**

Delivered by Ambassador Stephan M. Minikes to the
Permanent Council, Vienna
May 2, 2003

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We, like the European Union before us, wish to welcome Lt. Colonel Napiontek to the Permanent Council and thank him for both his report and his work.

The issues with which the Commission deals are extremely important, and the United States attaches importance to the continuing good spirit, and results, of cooperation between the Latvian authorities and ethnic Russian pensioners. We appreciate the time and attention that you are devoting to help facilitate this good work.

Thank you again for being with us today. We, too, look forward to future reports on the results of your work.

Thank you.