

# Clinton to face global agenda

By Neil Feldman  
Staff Reporter

Although President-elect Bill Clinton continues to focus on his promises regarding domestic issues, many experts believe he soon will face a torrent of problems abroad.

Foreign policy experts say the Bush administration's neglect of many problems overseas during the height of the presidential campaign will result in a heavy global agenda for Clinton.

Edward Hewett, a specialist on the Russian economy, points to the need for immediate concentration on the former Soviet Union.

"It's impossible to simply ignore the crises that are currently inflamed within the former Soviet republics," Hewett said. "It is absolutely critical for President-elect Clinton to establish an outline for a coherent foreign policy toward each republic within his first 100 days in office."

The most pressing conflicts in the former Soviet Union, Hewett said, lie in Azerbaijan, Georgia, Ukraine, Tajikistan and the three Baltic states: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Territorial disputes and ethnic differences are the principal reasons for the widespread hostility throughout the former superpower. Many of these dilemmas are decades old, though they were suppressed by the Kremlin. Communism's disintegration has

opened the door for the quarrels to balloon, and Hewett said it was the United States' responsibility to help the republics deal with them.

Don Peretz, a Middle East expert and author of several books and journal articles on the Palestinian uprising, said the Middle East also needed immediate attention.

"The Bush administration has basically left the Middle East peace process hanging by a thin line," Peretz said. "Just when Secretary (of State James) Baker was displaying progress toward reaching an agreement over the Palestinian question of autonomy in the occupied territories, President Bush pulled him from the State Department and moved him into the White House. That damaged the flow of the peace process."

A stalemate between the Arab and Israeli negotiators has been the result of peace talks without a sufficient mediator.

Baker, who was appointed chief of staff by Bush in mid-August, had promised that he would continue to mediate negotiations while simultaneously running the campaign, but a settlement was not achieved.

Peretz said both the Arabs and Israelis were looking forward to working with a new set of faces.

"A new administration with a new approach might be the needed spark to ignite some kind of peace settlement," he said.

With regard to Bosnia, Clinton has said he was ready to use force, in conjunction with the United Nations, to get aid to that warring nation this



President-elect Bill Clinton

Brian Shellito/DN

winter. He also has said that he wanted to tighten the embargo on Serbia.

Robert Lieber, a professor of foreign policy at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., said he supported Clinton's plans for the Balkans, but he said action must be taken within Clinton's first three months in office.

"What Clinton says he will do is what President Bush should have done many months ago," Lieber said.

Clinton has emphasized the importance of using multinational institutions, not only with Bosnia, but also with Somalia, Iraq and other areas faced with troubling situations.

"By acting quickly and aggressively toward these problems abroad," Lieber said, "there is a good chance he could tone down the critics who say he will fail the test of foreign policy."

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## UNL helping Albania better itself

By Corey Russman  
Staff Reporter

As Albania undergoes economic reform, professors from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are helping Albanian officials decide what is best for their country.

Fred Luthans, a management professor at UNL, said professors were offering Albanians the "tools and techniques of how to make the transfer" to a free enterprise economy.

The U.S. Agency for International Development is sponsoring the UNL project, he said.

Luthans said the project was aimed at educating Albanian entrepreneurs, government officials and university faculty about the workings of a free enterprise economy. The project also will provide management training.

The project includes four phases, Luthans said. In the first two phases, he said, 10 UNL professors visited Albania in May and September to provide training on the principles of a new market economy, he said.

In the third phase, 16 Albanian officials are visiting Lincoln this month, Luthans said. During this phase, he said, the Albanians are gaining experience by attending economics and management classes at UNL and visiting local and state businesses and government offices.

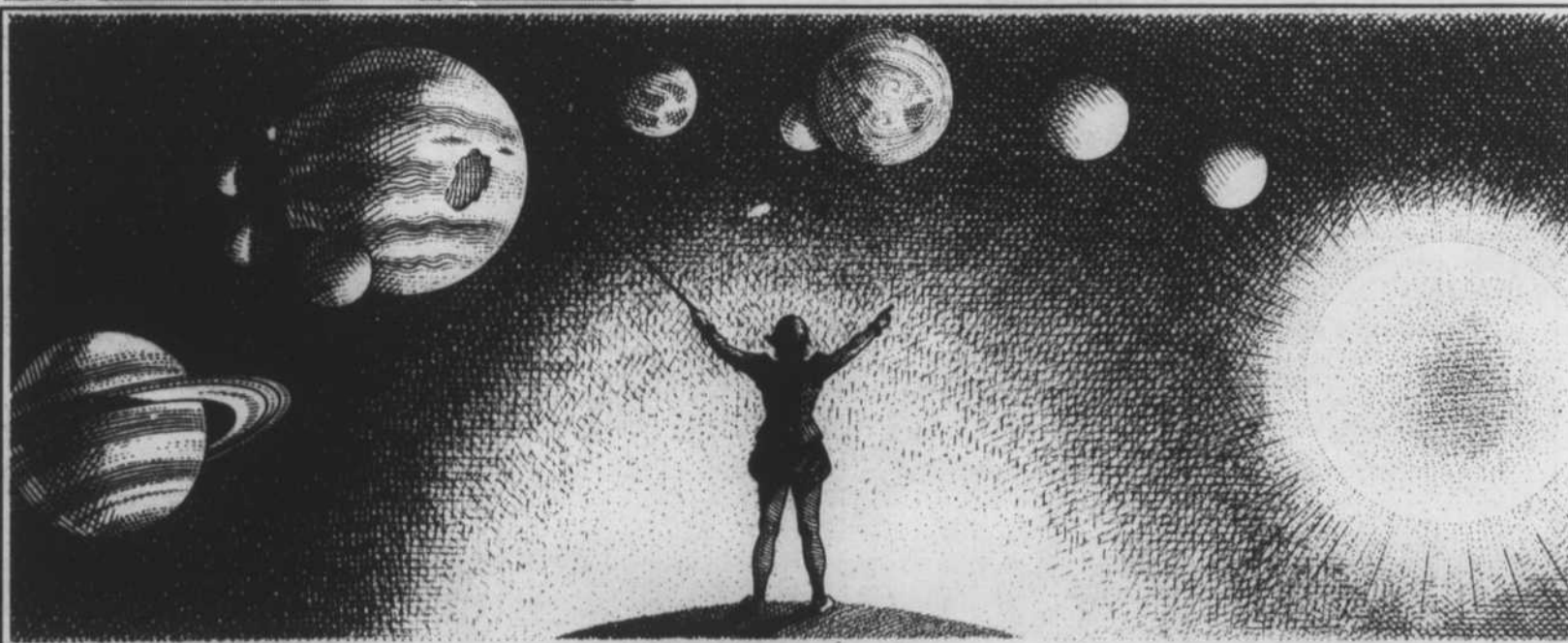
The Albanians are getting a chance to visit many of the "world-class companies here in Lincoln," such as Kawasaki and ISCO, Luthans said.

The final phase of the project probably will take place in May, Luthans said, and will require four or five UNL professors to travel back to Albania to answer any final questions the Albanians may have about making the transfer to a free enterprise economy.

"We feel we can make a difference," he said. "We are learning as much from them as they are from us."

UNL students also are benefiting from the project, Luthans said, because the visiting Albanians are getting involved by lecturing at classes.

Luthans said the Albanians' expectations had been surpassed during their trip to Lincoln, and they were thrilled by what they saw.



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