

Malter L. Christman

for exceptionally meritorious service as Assistant for Defense Programs, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy from November 1991 to June 1993.

Mr. Christman has been the driving force in the Office of the Secretary of Defense behind the establishment of the Marshall Center in Garmisch, Germany. Established by order of the Secretary of Defense in November 1992, the Marshall Center is of major significance in addressing the historic challenges posed by the transition to democracy and free market economy in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. In the space of 18 months, Mr. Christman conceived the need for such a Center, established the mechanisms and secured the authority for its implementation, named the institution, led the effort to secure international support, and established its inauguration. In helping to lay the foundations of an institution devoted to the cause of strengthened democratic civil-military relations, Mr. Christman's work will help successive generations to participate in the renewal of democracy and freedom, both from America and throughout the European continent.

For these and his many other contributions, I take great pleasure in presenting Walter L. Christman the Secretary of Defense Medal for Meritorious Civilian Service.

Secretary of Defense

August 1993