

Remarks – Ambassador Victor Ashe On Signing of the Protocols of Exchange of Instruments of Ratification of the U.S.-Poland MLAT and Extradition Agreement

Warsaw, Poland June 1, 2009

- It is a great pleasure to be here today with Minister Kremer and all of you on the occasion of the Exchange of Instruments of Ratification for the U.S.-Poland Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty and the U.S.-Poland Extradition Agreement.
- These two agreements will allow police and prosecutors in both the United States and Poland to use state-of-the-art law enforcement tools to cooperate more effectively in bringing criminals to justice on both sides of the Atlantic.
- They are yet one more example of the strong relationship between the United States and Poland, and the efforts of both of our countries to make the world a safer place for our citizens.
- We expect these agreements to enter into force shortly, after related Agreements between the United States and the European Union take effect. Once in force, these 2006 agreements will form part of an important network of similar agreements that the United States is reaching with all the countries of the European Union in order to strengthen practical cooperation in the law enforcement and counter-terrorism areas on a widespread basis.

- Today's exchange is the fourteenth of twenty-seven that the United States will be undertaking in the next few weeks with all of the EU's membership.
- This law enforcement cooperation is part of our two countries' longstanding work together on global security priorities. We are particularly grateful for Poland's continued commitment to the NATO mission in Afghanistan.
- The United States and Poland remain key allies and partners on many matters of mutual interest. Today's signing of these two agreements represents another facet of our close and valuable relationship.
- Thank you very much, Mr. Minister.