

Russia, U.S. talk disarmament Victims' families chastise Dahmer

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guarantees for the grain sales. He said Russia had kept up its payments in accordance with the provisions of U.S. law.

Baker and Yeltsin agreed on a series of measures to help Russia dismantle its nuclear weapons and provide work for the scientists who built the nuclear weapons of the Cold War. The measures would use the \$400 million appropriated by Congress last year to help destroy the former Soviet nuclear might.

The center for scientific projects, in which Germany would also take part, would serve as a clearinghouse for civilian projects for the scientists, Baker announced.

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The United States will encourage the U.S. private sector and other countries to provide money, he added.

The United States has agreed, in principle, to provide money for building a storage depot for the plutonium removed from the dismantled weapons, a senior administration official said. Baker and Yeltsin agreed to set up a joint working group to discuss details of such a facility, including its site, the official said.

Yeltsin said the United States also agreed to provide money to build a facility for the destruction of the former Soviet chemical weapons arsenal.

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"... If I could give my life right now to bring their loved ones back, I would do it."

"Jeffrey Dahmer has erased a million future memories for me of my brother," J.W. Smith, brother of victim Eddie Smith, said as he read brief statements from each of Eddie's 12 brothers and sisters.

"Jeffrey Dahmer, you have become a hero for a few, but you have become a nightmare for so

many more," said Stanley Miller, uncle of victim Ernest Miller. "Did you ever think this was someone's son?"

Dahmer's three-week sanity trial included testimony from police and psychiatrists who described how the serial killer's urges to have sex with the dead led him to drug, kill and dismember.

Witnesses told how Dahmer cooked and ate a heart, bicep and thigh; how he slit corpses from sternum to toe and cut the flesh

into fist-sized pieces; and how he soaked torsos in acid and kept skulls and other parts as mementos.

Dahmer said he would not contest civil lawsuits some victims' families have filed against him, seeking any profits he might make by selling his life story.

"If there is ever any money, I want it to go to the victims' families," he said.

Adoption agencies cite positive results from new methods

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they have today, Brieg said the ordeal would have been much easier to deal with.

"For all I knew, they never found a home for my baby," she said. "I absolutely believe the services DePelchin offers now would have helped me, and that the open adoptions of today are much healthier.

"I just wanted to know if I made the right choice," Brieg said. "The not knowing is what's unbearable."

Other agencies in Texas have embraced the concept of openness more vigorously.

Dorothy Baker, executive director of the Texas Cradle Society in San Antonio, said her agency made the move toward openness in 1985, and has had very positive results.

No preset level of contact between the birth mother and the adoptive parents is mandated by the agency, Baker said. Each party is free to negotiate and determine the amount of contact and information exchange to their own satisfaction, although the agency provides a counselor to serve

as intermediary.

"All information exchanged is by mutual agreement," Barkley said. "The birth mother can choose among several prospective parents, and get to know them pretty well.

"Some people are initially hesitant about sharing information at first, but most will agree openness and honesty is the best way to go," she said. "People find they can deal with the known. It's the unknown that causes trouble."

Pam Perkins of Methodist Mission Home of San Antonio, a birth mother her-

self, strongly supports the growing openness in the adoption, especially the practice of allowing the birth mother to get to know the couple who will raise her child as their own.


"Would you place your child with a babysitter you didn't know?" she said.

A decision having such a far-reaching effect on a baby's future must be considered carefully, and the more information available, the better, Perkins said.


"The potential parents are placed in 'The Book' with biographical information, along with all the other applicants, and

the birth mother is able to select who she wants the baby to live with," Perkins said. "The birth mother even makes the call to the parents, so they can begin developing a relationship immediately.

"There's a strong bond that develops between the birth mother and the adoptive parents—it's almost mystical," she said. "Many times the adoptive parents are at the birth, with the adoptive mother even going so far as to coach the birth mother through labor. Bonding between the baby and the adoptive parents begins immediately at birth."



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