

officer, Kathryn G. Thompson Development Co.; and Lodwick M. Cook, chairman and chief executive officer, ARCO.

**Statement Announcing Airdrops Providing Humanitarian Aid to Bosnia-Herzegovina**

*February 25, 1993*

The war that has raged in Bosnia-Herzegovina over the past year has taken a staggering toll: Thousands have been killed or imprisoned, thousands more are at risk due to hunger and exposure, and over 2 million people have been forced from their homes. The humanitarian need is particularly great in eastern Bosnia, where areas have been denied basic food and medicines.

In view of the emergency humanitarian need, I am announcing today that in coordination with the United Nations and UNHCR, the United States will conduct humanitarian airdrops over Bosnia. The airdrops are an extension of the airlift currently underway into Sarajevo. Their purpose is to supplement land convoys. This is a temporary measure designed to address the immediate needs of isolated areas that cannot be reached at this time by ground. Regular overland deliveries are the best means to ensure that the long-term needs of the Bosnian population are met, and the United States calls on the parties to guarantee the safe passage of the humanitarian convoys throughout Bosnia.

The priority for air deliveries will be determined without regard to ethnic or religious affiliation. These airdrops are being carried out strictly for humanitarian purposes; no combat aircraft will be used in this operation. The Department of Defense will be working with the UNHCR to determine the timing and locations for the airdrops.

I am grateful for the considerable international support given to this initiative.

**Exchange With Reporters During a Meeting With Close-Up Foundation Students From Arkansas**

*February 25, 1993*

***Aid to Bosnia-Herzegovina***

**Q.** Mr. President, do you care to say any more about the operational details of the airlift?

**The President.** No.

**Q.** How about explaining to the American people why it's an important issue for the United States to undertake?

**The President.** What?

**Q.** Why is it an important mission for us to put people at risk for that?

**The President.** Well, I'll say again, General Powell believes the risk is quite limited and not appreciably more than many training flights that our airmen do every year. It's important because we believe if—number one, there are a lot of people over there who need the food and can't get it by road, so it's a humanitarian gesture. And secondly, we think if we do it, we will be able to create a somewhat better climate for negotiations, and we're pushing to try to have good-faith negotiations. So we're hoping it works out.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:01 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House.

**Proclamation 6531—National FFA Organization Awareness Week, 1993**

*February 25, 1993*

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

America's roots run deep in agriculture. We have long prospered through the twin blessings of our natural resources and the productivity of the American farmer. Agriculture has contributed heavily to the economic and social progress of the United States, making our Nation the world's largest

exporter of food products and a generous provider of food aid around the world.

For more than two centuries, our food, agricultural, and natural resource system has been nurtured and sustained by dedicated people committed to providing safe and abundant food and fiber products. About 20 percent of the Nation's work force is engaged in jobs related to agriculture, and annual employment openings in this industry are expected to outpace the supply of trained workers.

The education and training of agricultural workers have, therefore, long been a national priority, leading to the development of a comprehensive system of agricultural education in our public schools. The National Future Farmers of America was founded in 1928 to serve the needs of secondary students preparing for leadership roles in the science, business, and technology of agriculture. Chartered by Congress in 1950, the FFA is an integral part of public instruction in agriculture and today provides premier leadership, personal growth, and career development to its 401,574 members. Local, State, and national activities as well as award programs provide opportunities for students to apply knowledge and skills acquired through agricultural education. FFA members strive to develop agricultural leadership, cooperation, and citizenship.

The National FFA Foundation, which raises funds in support of FFA programs, represents an exemplary partnership between business and education. The National FFA Alumni Association provides support to these young men and women on local, State, and national levels.

The strategic importance of our food, agricultural, and natural resource system will grow during the coming decade. This will require even stronger leaders, more creative scientists, greater international business understanding, and increased sensitivity for consumers and the environment. These skilled professionals will chart the course of U.S. food, agricultural, and natural resources in the 1990s and beyond. The National FFA Organization, by attracting young people to agriculture and preparing them for future careers, contributes greatly to an important sector of the national economy. It is proper

that we should honor the accomplishments and achievements of this fine organization.

The Congress, by House Joint Resolution 101, has designated the week of February 21 through February 27, 1993, as "National FFA Organization Awareness Week" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of February 21 through February 27, 1993, as National FFA Organization Awareness Week. I encourage all Americans in rural, urban, and suburban communities to join in recognizing the achievements and contributions of the young men and women of the National FFA Organization and to observe National FFA Organization Awareness Week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 3:17 p.m., February 26, 1993]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the Federal Register on March 2.

### **Remarks on the Global Economy at American University**

*February 26, 1993*

Thank you very much, President Duffey, distinguished members of the board of trustees, and faculty and patrons of American University, and Members of Congress, members of the diplomatic corps, and my fellow citizens, and especially to the students here today. I am very honored to be here today at this wonderful school on the occasion of your centennial, at the dawn of a new era for our Nation and for our world, and deeply honored to receive this honorary degree, al-