

I believe that the American people want us to work together and get something done, and I think most of us want the same thing, so that's what we're going to talk about.

Bosnia

Q. President Clinton, can you give us a—[inaudible]—the way you see the situation in Bosnia right now, and what you plan to talk about?

The President. Well, I think the agreement signed in Geneva by the three parties is very, very hopeful—the Bosnian Government, the Croatian Government, the Serbian Government. I think the negotiations should continue. I'm sending Ambassador Holbrooke back there tonight. In terms of the bombing, that's really up to the Serbs. The U.N. Security Council resolution is clear, and the conditions laid out by our committee on the ground are clear, and we'll just have to see what happens there.

Q. Mr. President, Russia is comparing the bombings to genocide. Other than the traditional ties to the Serbs, what do you think is behind Yeltsin's sterner and sterner opposition to bombings?

The President. Well, I think you have to ask them that. Let's just make it clear—if you look at the facts of the bombing attacks, they are clearly not that. First of all, they were authorized by the United Nations; secondly, they came only after extreme provocation, after the killings, the shelling—resulting from the shelling of Sarajevo, the killing of innocent civilians; and thirdly, they have been very, very carefully targeted and carried out with great discipline and skill by the United States pilots and the NATO allies. There has been no genocide there. There has been an extraordinary amount of care and discipline but firmness and strength. They were appropriately done. And I want to say in the presence of these Members here how much I appreciate the comments that Senator Dole and others have made on that.

The United States, I think, is united in being opposed to resumption of the killing of innocent civilians in protected areas. They said we wouldn't do it, we wouldn't tolerate it, and we can't.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:42 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on the Commission on Immigration Reform

September 12, 1995

I reiterate my earlier congratulation to the Commission on Immigration Reform for its hard work on legal immigration reform. The Commission has provided the Congress and the Nation with an excellent framework to achieve gradual reductions in the level of legal immigration. This is a goal and objective I share.

The Commission's first report on illegal immigration endorsed many of the activities my administration has initiated. This report on legal immigration also shares many of my principles to guide reform. Our legal immigration system must be based on principles that are pro-family, pro-work, and pro-naturalization. I anticipate working with Congress in a spirit of bipartisanship to craft the specific legislation that will put these principles in practice.

Memorandum on Career Transition Assistance for Federal Employees

September 12, 1995

Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies

Subject: Career Transition Assistance for Federal Employees

Our highly trained and dedicated Federal work force is one of the Federal Government's most valuable resources. In order to help Federal employees who have dedicated their careers to public service find new job opportunities as Federal organizations undergo downsizing and restructuring, the executive branch must implement programs that provide Federal employees with career transition assistance. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Interagency Advisory Group has recommended that appropriate career transition assistance services be provided to Federal employees who either have