forces in making the global village of the 21st century the kind of place we would all be proud for our children to grow up in.

President's Vision for the 21st Century

Q. The year 2000 will presumably be the last year in your reelected office. And your dreams about the 21st century—short of the United States becoming world's policeman, how are you going to bring about the safer world?

The President. Well, my dream for the 21st century is that people, nations will define their greatness not in terms of their military power but in terms of the quality of life their people enjoy, their ability to preserve their—our common natural environment and our ability to give every person the right to make the most of his or her own life—that's how we'll define our greatness.

My vision includes the ability of nation states to open up their systems enough to have a global trading system but to still be strong enough to stamp out the organized forces of destruction, to stamp out those who would use terrorism and organized crime and drug trafficking to kill innocent people. That really is going to be our great challenge, to take advantage of all these forces that are pulling the world together—essentially, economics and culture—pulling the world together, and to stamp out these forces that are threatening to tear us apart—the forces of racial and religious and ethnic hatred—what we're trying to deal with now in Bosnia, hoping to bring peace there; and the forces of terrorism, organized crime, and drug trafficking. Those things are the great security challenges of the 21st century, along with the proliferation of weapons. Those people that want to proliferate weapons—we've got to do something about it. We can't—when Japan went into Cambodia to try to help make the peace, there is something like 10 million land mines there. We have to do something about that.

But if we can deal with our differences, our cultural, racial, ethnic, religious differences, and deal with the organized criminal and the terrorists, then I think the 21st century will be the greatest time in all of human history.

Q. But, Mr. President, he meant you'll be reelected next year.

The President. I hope he's right. [*Laughter.*] I let it pass, but I hope he's right.

The main thing is that in a time of change you can't predict the future. And you can't predict what will be popular next month, much less next year. The important thing is for us to say, here's what we believe in; here's the future we're trying to achieve and the work to achieve it. And the elections will take care of themselves.

Q. Finally, we are running out of time so I'd like to ask you if there's anything else that you left out to tell the Japanese public.

The President. I just want to say that I have been coming to Japan for many years, first as a Governor, then as President. I have enjoyed and been moved by every trip I have ever made there. Again, I personally regret that I cannot come now. But I'm doing the right thing for our country and for our relationships with Japan by staying here in this unprecedented moment. I will come as soon as I can.

But the important thing is that the Japanese people must know that our partnership with Japan is secure and must grow stronger. We owe it to ourselves; we owe it to the rest of the world. It is the right thing to do, and I will do everything in my power to see that we achieve it.

Q. Mr. President, we'd like to thank you very much for joining us.

The President. Thank you very much. Glad to see you.

Q. Thank you.

The President. Thank you.

NOTE: The interview began at 12:30 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House.

Statement on the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty

November 17, 1995

Today marks a milestone in our common effort to build a transatlantic community where cooperation, not confrontation, is the key to security. The parties to the CFE Treaty have achieved a goal that was thought unattainable less than a decade ago: They have destroyed more than 50,000 pieces of mili-

tary equipment to establish a stable balance of conventional forces in Europe at levels dramatically lower than existed only a few years ago. CFE's implementation—including the conduct of thousands of onsite inspections and the exchange of detailed information on military forces, in addition to the destruction of thousands of pieces of armor, artillery, combat aircraft, and attack helicopters—is tangible evidence that the era of cold war confrontation is behind us.

We owe this remarkable achievement to the determination of the 30 governments represented in the CFE Joint Consultative Group. As envisaged when the CFE Treaty was signed in 1990, this group has been the key to finding cooperative solutions to countless implementation problems, large and small. You have made the treaty work.

CFE has been a flexible instrument in promoting our common security. This has been demonstrated by our ability together in the joint statement approved today to agree on the broad outline of a solution to the issue of the flanks, which preserves the integrity of the treaty and does not diminish the security of any state. I urge all parties to this landmark treaty to work intensively to complete the task of resolving this issue as soon as possible.

There are other implementation concerns as well, relating to equipment destruction and other issues. The United States expects all parties to CFE to meet their treaty obligations. This must be done if we are to achieve the full promise of this treaty. Working through these remaining problems will be a key task for the Joint Consultative Group in the days to come. Given the record of the past, I know that our work will succeed.

Statement on House of Representatives Action on Budget Reconciliation Legislation

November 17, 1995

Today, the Republicans in the House of Representatives voted to enact the biggest Medicare and Medicaid cuts in history, unprecedented cuts in education and the environment, and steep tax increases on working families. I will veto this bill. I am determined to balance the budget, but I will not go along with a plan that cuts care for disabled children, reduces educational opportunity by cutting college scholarships, denies preschool to thousands of poor children, slashes enforcement of environmental laws, and doubles Medicare premiums for the elderly. We should balance the budget in a way that reflects our values.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

November 12

In the evening, the President and Hillary Clinton attended the Ford's Theatre Gala at the theater.

November 13

The President announced his intention to appoint Gila Joy Bronner to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council.

The President announced the appointment of Marvin F. (Bud) Moss to the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as