

the Tribunal, only 29–36 percent—are still at large. The two highest-profile indictees, Karadzic and Mladic, are among them. Bosnians are cooperating with the ICTY, but the failure of the RS to support the ICTY is a major obstacle to progress. Bosnian Croats have cooperated with respect to the surrender of all but two public indictees, but have not cooperated fully with respect to the Tribunal's orders that they turn over documents needed for the fair trial of a number of indictees. SFOR continues to provide crucial support in the apprehension of PIFWCs and for ICTY exhumations.

In my report to the Congress dated July 28, 1998, I emphasized the important role that realistic target dates, combined with concerted use of incentives, leverage, and pressure on all parties, should play in maintaining the sense of urgency necessary to move steadily toward an enduring peace.

The December 1998 Peace Implementation Council Declaration and its annex (attached) offer target dates for accomplishment of specific tasks by authorities in BiH. The PIC decisions formed the background against which NATO Defense Ministers reviewed the future of SFOR in their December 17 meeting. Failure by Bosnian authorities to act within the prescribed timeframes would be the point of departure for more forceful action by the OHR and other elements of the international community. Priorities for 1999 will include: accelerating the transition to a sustainable market economy; increasing the momentum on the return of refugees and displaced persons, particularly to minority areas; providing a secure environment through the rule of law, including significant progress on judicial reform and further establishment of multiethnic police; developing and reinforcing the central institutions, including adoption of a permanent election law, and the development of greater confidence and cooperation among the Entity defense establishments with the goal of their eventual unification; and pressing ahead with media reform and education issues.

In accordance with the NATO Defense Ministers' guidance in June 1998, NATO is conducting a series of comprehensive reviews at no more than 6-month intervals. The first of these reviews was completed on November 16, 1998, and recently endorsed by the North Atlantic Council (NAC) Foreign and Defense Ministers. In reviewing the size and shape of SFOR against the benchmarks described above, the United States and its allies concluded that at present, there be no changes in SFOR's mission. NATO recommended, however, that steps begin immediately to streamline SFOR. The NAC Foreign and Defense Ministers endorsed this recommendation on December 8, 1998, and December 17, 1998, respectively. The Defense Ministers also endorsed a report from the NATO Military Authorities (NMAs) authorizing further adjustments in SFOR force levels—in response to the evolving security situa-

tion and support requirements—to be completed by the end of March 1999. While the specifics of these adjustments are still being worked, they could amount to reductions of as much as 10 percent from the 6,900 U.S. troops currently in SFOR. The 6,900 troop level already represents a 20 percent reduction from the 8,500 troops deployed in June 1998 and is 66 percent less than peak U.S. deployment of 20,000 troops in 1996.

The NATO Defense Ministers on December 17, 1998, further instructed NMAs to examine options for possible longer-term and more substantial adjustments to the future size and structure of SFOR. Their report is due in early 1999 and will give the United States and its Allies the necessary information on which to base decisions on SFOR's future. We will address this issue in the NAC again at that time. Decisions on future reductions will be taken in the light of progress on implementation of the Peace Agreement. Any and all reductions of U.S. forces in the short or long term will be made in accordance with my Administration's policy that such reductions will not jeopardize the safety of U.S. armed forces serving in BiH.

My Administration values the Congress' substantial support for Dayton implementation. I look forward to continuing to work with the Congress in pursuit of U.S. foreign policy goals in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 4, 1999.*

By unanimous consent, the message was referred to the Committee on International Relations and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 106–18).

¶6.8 COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK— MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. NETHERCUTT, laid before the House a communication, which was read as follows:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 8, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on February 5, 1999 at 3:50 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits a Budget Request for the District of Columbia.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHLL.

¶6.9 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS BUDGET FY 2000

The Clerk then read the message from the President, as follows:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the District of Columbia Code, as amended, I am transmitting the District of Columbia Courts' FY 2000 Budget request.

The District of Columbia Courts have submitted a FY 2000 Budget request for

\$131.6 million for its operating expenditures and \$17.4 million for courthouse renovation and improvements. My FY 2000 Budget includes recommended funding levels of \$128.4 million for operations and \$9.0 million for capital improvements for the District Courts. My transmittal of the District of Columbia Courts' budget request does not represent an endorsement of its contents.

I look forward to working with the Congress throughout the FY 2000 appropriation process.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 5, 1999.*

By unanimous consent, the message, together with the accompanying papers, was referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 106–17).

And then,

¶6.10 ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. TERRY, pursuant to the special order agreed to on Thursday, February 4, 1999, at 2 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m., the House adjourned until 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9, 1999 for "morning-hour debate."

¶6.11 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

[Filed on February 5, 1999]

Mr. BURTON: Committee on Government Reform. H.R. 391. A bill to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, for the purpose of facilitating compliance by small businesses with certain Federal paperwork requirements, to establish a task force to examine the feasibility of streamlining paperwork requirements applicable to small businesses, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106–8 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. BURTON: Committee on Government Reform. H.R. 436. A bill to reduce waste, fraud, and error in Government programs by making improvements with respect to Federal management and debt collection practices, Federal payment systems, Federal benefit programs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106–9 Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

[Filed on February 8, 1999]

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska: Committee on Resources. H.R. 193. A bill to designate a portion of the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (Rept. No. 106–10). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. TALENT: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 439. A bill to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, popularly known as the Paperwork Reduction Act, to minimize the burden of Federal paperwork demands upon small businesses, educational and nonprofit institutions, Federal contractors, State and local governments, and other persons through the sponsorship and use of alternative information technologies (Rept. No. 106–11, Pt. 1).

Mr. TALENT: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 440. A bill to make technical corrections to the Microloan Program (Rept. No. 106–12). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

¶6.12 TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED
BILL PURSUANT TO RULE X

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule X the following action was taken by the Speaker:

[The following actions occurred on February 5, 1999]

H.R. 436. Referral to the Committee on the Judiciary extended for a period ending not later than February 5, 1999.

H.R. 391. Referral to the Committee on Small Business extended for a period ending not later than February 5, 1999.

¶6.13 REPORTED BILLS SEQUENTIALLY
REFERRED

Under clause 2 of rule XII, bills and reports were delivered to the Clerk for printing, and bills referred as follows:

[Filed on February 5, 1999]

Mr. BURTON: Committee on Government Reform. H.R. 437. A bill to provide for a Chief Financial Officer in the Executive Office of the President; referred to the Committee on the Budget for a period ending not later than February 5, 1999, for consideration of such provisions of the bill as fall within their jurisdiction pursuant to clause 1(c), rule X. (Rept. No. 106-7, Pt. 1).

¶6.14 DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

[The following actions occurred on February 5, 1999]

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule X, the Committee on Small Business discharged from further consideration. H.R. 391 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule X, the following action was taken by the Speaker: the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 436 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 5 of rule X, the Committee on the Budget discharged from further consideration. H.R. 437 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

¶6.15 PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 613. A bill to amend title 9, United States Code, to allow employees the right to accept or reject the use of arbitration to resolve an employment controversy; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ARCHER (for himself, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. CRANE, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. COOKSEY, Mr. GOSS, Mr. ARMEY, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. HILLEARY, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. STUMP, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. KOLBE, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. COBURN, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. HAYWORTH, and Mr. SHADEGG):

H.R. 614. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the availability of medical savings accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CRANE:

H.R. 615. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit early distribu-

tions from employee stock ownership plans for higher education expenses and first-time homebuyer purchases; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R. 616. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit 401(k) contributions which would otherwise be limited by employer contributions to employee stock ownership plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. DEGETTE (for herself, Mr. NORWOOD, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. ENGLISH, Ms. RIVERS, and Mr. STRICKLAND):

H.R. 617. A bill to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to ensure full Federal compliance with that Act; to the Committee on Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. CRAMER):

H.R. 618. A bill to provide for the adjudication of certain claims against the Government of Iraq and to ensure priority for United States veterans filing such claims; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts:

H.R. 619. A bill to amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex in programs receiving Federal financial assistance; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, and Mrs. ROUKEMA):

H.R. 620. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to conduct a test to determine the costs and benefits of requiring jet-propelled aircraft taking off from Newark International Airport, New Jersey, to conduct ascents over the ocean, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. HILLEARY:

H.R. 621. A bill to provide that certain regulations proposed by the Comptroller of the Currency, the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation relating to practices of financial institutions shall not take effect; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

By Mr. HOUGHTON (for himself, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. FROST, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HINOJOSA, and Mr. WAXMAN):

H.R. 622. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income rewards received by reason of providing information leading to the conviction of a crime to the extent that the reward is used to compensate victims of crime; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KNOLLENBERG (for himself, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. CALLAHAN, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CANADY of Florida, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COX of California, Ms. DANNER, Mr. DELAY, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. EHRLICH, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. JOHN, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. PAUL, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SMITH of Michigan, Mr. SOUDER, Mr. STUMP, Mr. TRAFICANT, and Mr. UPTON):

H.R. 623. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to eliminate certain

regulation of plumbing supplies; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. KNOLLENBERG:

H.R. 624. A bill to amend section 101 of title 11 of the United States Code to modify the definition of single asset real estate and to make technical corrections; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NEY (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. KASICH, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. REGULA, Mr. SAWYER, and Mrs. JONES of Ohio):

H.R. 625. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to continue payment of monthly educational assistance benefits to veterans enrolled at educational institutions during periods between terms if the interval between such periods does not exceed eight weeks; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. BERRY, Mrs. THURMAN, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. STARK, Mr. OLVER, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. LUTHER, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN):

H.R. 626. A bill to require persons who undertake federally funded research and development of drugs to enter into reasonable pricing agreements with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. SANDERS:

H.R. 627. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to increase the minimum wage and to provide for an increase in such wage based on the cost of living; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. TRAFICANT (for himself, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. BILBRAY, and Mr. ROHRABACHER):

H.R. 628. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to assign members of the Armed Forces, under certain circumstances and subject to certain conditions, to assist the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the United States Customs Service in the performance of border protection functions; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. VENTO (for himself and Mrs. ROUKEMA):

H.R. 629. A bill to amend the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 to reauthorize the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund and to more efficiently and effectively promote economic revitalization, community development, and community development financial institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

By Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts:

H.J. Res. 24. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to repeal the twenty-second amendment relating to Presidential term limitations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

¶6.16 ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 104: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. CUBIN, Ms. DUNN of Washington, Mr. EHRLICH, Mr. FORBES, Mr. GOODE, Mr. GOODLING, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. HAYES, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. PACKARD, and Mr. SKEEN.

H.R. 105: Mr. COOKSEY and Mr. FORBES.

H.R. 106: Mr. COOKSEY, Mr. FORBES, Mr. HOSTETTLER, and Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 107: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COOKSEY, Mr. FORBES, Mr. HOSTETTLER, Mr.