

particularly on a number of U.S. private sector energy investment projects.

Turning to the Middle East, the Presidents welcomed the historic progress in negotiations between Israel and the PLO in recent weeks and pledged to work together to promote peace in the Middle East region.

On other foreign policy issues, President Yeltsin briefed the President on his recent trip to Ukraine. President Clinton welcomed the progress achieved by President Yeltsin and President Kravchuk, particularly regarding the nuclear weapons now deployed in Ukraine. The President affirmed U.S. interest in working with both parties to assist in the resolution of outstanding issues.

The President congratulated President Yeltsin on the withdrawal of Russian forces from Lithuania last week and reaffirmed U.S. support for a rapid and complete withdrawal of forces from Latvia and Estonia. The two leaders also discussed their support for the ongoing effort to promote peace in Bosnia.

### **Statement by the Press Secretary on the President's Discussions With Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany**

*September 7, 1993*

President Clinton spoke by phone today with Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany for about 40 minutes.

The two leaders discussed a number of bilateral and foreign affairs issues. On the Generalized Agreement for Tariffs and Trade (GATT), the two leaders agreed on the need for successful conclusion of the Uruguay round by the end of 1993 and undertook to remain in contact throughout the autumn for that purpose.

President Clinton and Chancellor Kohl discussed developments in the Middle East, both indicating their deep satisfaction over the prospects for historic breakthroughs in ongoing talks. They reviewed progress in the political and economic reform process in Russia and discussed their efforts to assist that process. They also agreed on the need to cooperate on issues related to the former Yugoslavia.

### **Announcement of White House Office Appointments**

*September 7, 1993*

White House Chief of Staff Mack McLarty today announced the appointment of Joe Velasquez as Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director of Political Affairs and Keith Mason as Deputy Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs.

Mr. Velasquez is deputy to Political Affairs Director Joan Baggett, and Mr. Mason is deputy to Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Marcia Hale. The President praised the new members of his team. "Joe Velasquez understands the importance of increasing voters' involvement in the political process, and I am confident he will ensure Americans of all concerns have a voice in our Government," the President said.

"From his experiences in Georgia, Keith Mason knows firsthand the needs and concerns of State and local governments today. I know that he will work hard to forge strong bonds between Washington and our States and cities so that we can all work together in the best interest of the American people," the President said.

NOTE: Biographies of the appointees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

### **Message to the Congress Transmitting the Armenia-United States Investment Treaty**

*September 7, 1993*

*To the Senate of the United States:*

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Republic of Armenia Concerning the Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment, signed at Washington on September 23, 1992. Also transmitted for the information of the Senate