

Q. —part of these negotiations, sir, or are you trying to cut them out of it?

The President. No, I didn't say that. As a matter of fact, I think the Secretary-General is going to the region just in the next couple of days, which I would welcome. So that's up to him to decide. I wouldn't say that at all. But all the nations that are there on the humanitarian mission have supported in varying degrees the idea that we didn't want to go there for nothing. We didn't want to go there, pull out, and have chaos, anarchy, starvation return.

But I think it's clear to all of us who have been involved in this that the greatest likelihood of a successful political resolution of this would be if the African leaders of the adjoining states took the initiative and they tried to work out a solution which reflected what is possible and what is desirable as they define it. And I don't think we ought to be defining it for them. I have never been for——

Q. —your instructions been to Oakley?

The President. My instructions to Oakley were to go first to meet with President Meles, decide whether there are any other presidents of other countries in the region he needs to meet with, discuss what the role for the OAU or some other African role might be, and see what can best be done to start, really generate a lot of energy behind the political process. We think that ultimately whatever peace would be brokered, if it's brokered from forces outside Somalia, should come from the Africans. And we would hope the U.N. would be able to bless——

Q. —prospects for the release of Chief Warrant Officer Durant? Is there any report there?

The President. Well, we're obviously encouraged by the fact that he seems to be in reasonably good shape. And we expect that he will be released. I can't give you any other specific comments now. I am very hopeful that there will be no Americans in captivity anytime soon.

Q. —make a deal for his release?

The President. —and I expect that that's what the rules will be. But there has been no negotiations over that at all, none.

Q. —can't say anything now—is there some sort of sensitive process ongoing now—the process——

The President. No, I wouldn't characterize it in that way. It's just that I believe that I think that any Americans who are held captive must be released. I think they know the United States has no intention of leaving Somalia until that is done. We're going to have all of our people present and accounted for before we go home. And that's just going to be a part of whatever happens from now on in. It is the priority that we have to pursue and for our own people.

But I'm encouraged that Mr. Oakley was welcomed there by President Meles. And I'm encouraged by President—I mean, by the Secretary-General wanting to go to the region. So I think that the peace process sort of got derailed over the last several months. I think it's going to get back in gear. And I think that's a good thing for everybody.

NOTE: The exchange began at 4:30 p.m. at the Rotunda in Woolsey Hall. In his remarks, the President referred to Ambassador Robert B. Oakley, special envoy to Somalia; President Zenawi Meles of Ethiopia; U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali; and captured U.S. Army pilot Michael Durant. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Proclamation 6610—General Pulaski Memorial Day, 1993

October 9, 1993

*By the President of the United States
of America*

A Proclamation

Each October 11, on the anniversary of his death in battle, America honors General Casimir Pulaski, a hero of two nations.

A patriot to the core, Pulaski loved his native Poland dearly. In unequal battle against far stronger enemies, he fought for his country's freedom.

But Pulaski's love of liberty transcended national boundaries, and when the American War of Independence began, he took the colonists' struggle as his own. He came to the United States, put his battlefield experi-

ence at the service of the Continental Army, and commanded a cavalry unit. On this day in 1779, during the siege of Savannah, General Pulaski gave his life for the cause of American freedom.

Pulaski's spirit and example have inspired Americans for more than two centuries. Across this country, you will find counties, towns, schools, parks and highways named after that patriot; in my own home state of Arkansas, Pulaski County is the seat of the capital, Little Rock.

But eager as we are to claim General Pulaski as our own, we are also proud to share him with Poland. What Pulaski fought for in the latter part of the 18th century, his compatriots have achieved at the end of the 20th: a free Poland, welcome and respected in the community of independent nations. And the courage General Pulaski displayed in battle is matched by that of his present-day countrymen, who have carried out Poland's history-making revolution without bloodshed.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 11, 1993, as General Pulaski Memorial Day, and I encourage the people of the United States to commemorate this occasion appropriately throughout the land.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of October, 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 eighteenth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 4:10 p.m., October 12, 1993]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on October 14.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Departure for Chapel Hill, North Carolina

October 12, 1993

Haiti

Q. Do you have a message for the military leaders in Haiti who have——

The President. Yes.

Q. ——so far thwarted our mission?

The President. First of all, the objective of the United States is to restore democracy and President Aristide to Haiti. The instrument of that was the sanctions. It was the sanctions. We never intended, and we have no intention now, of interfering in the internal affairs of the Haitians, except to say that we want democracy and the will of two-thirds of the Haitian people to be honored.

Now, the Governors Island Agreement, which all the parties signed off on, invited the international community to come to Haiti: French speaking forces; advisers to come in and help to train the police; the Canadians and the Americans to come and help to train the army, particularly for civilian purposes. One of the reasons we have so many Seabees going in, for example, is to help the military people change their mission so they can rebuild their own country.

This is different from the other missions we have been discussing. This is not peacekeeping. This is not peacemaking. This is an agreement that has been made, that if honored, would enable our people to come in and simply serve as trainers, 600 of them. So I have no intention of sending our people there until the agreement is honored.

What I intend to do now is to press to reimpose the sanctions. I will not have our forces deposited on Haiti when they cannot serve as advisers, when they can't do what they were asked to do. So we're going to press for the reimposition of sanctions. Mr. Cédras is supposed to resign his post as soon as the parliament can pass a bill separating the military from the police. Mr. François is supposed to leave his post. And they're going to have to go through with this if they expect to have a normal existence. And otherwise the United States is going to press to reimpose the sanctions.

Q. And what else can you do to try to get Aristide back in power? Isn't this whole thing coming unraveled, sir?

The President. No, I think that what happened is they agreed to the Governors Island Agreement. They invited all these nations to come help train the police and train the military and move them away from the kind of