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We are now closer to a settlement because of the initiatives we've taken than at any time in the last 4 years because of the combined impacts of the NATO air strikes, the United States diplomatic initiative, and the changes that have occurred on the ground. If and when there is a peace agreement, as I have said since early 1993, I believe America must be a part of helping to implement that agreement, because NATO will have to do it in order for it to work, and we are the leaders of NATO.

I have consistently opposed the involvement of our troops in any combat and in this United Nations mission, but this is a very different thing, and I believe it's very, very important that we play a part of it.

I just received an update from our team and the work they're doing, and I can tell you that we are now seeing some serious discussion of the possibility of a cease-fire, which I hope can be successfully concluded as a prelude to getting into the other details of the agreement.

But I'm looking forward to this meeting. I thank Senator Dole, the Speaker, for being here, and Senator Daschle, Congressman Bonior, and all of the others who are here. And we're looking forward to the meeting.

And I thank you for the continuing resolution. If, as expected, it passes today, I expect to sign it as soon as it hits my desk. And as I said, that's a good omen for our efforts to successfully conclude an effort to balance the budget.

1996 Election

Q. Can I ask Senator Dole to comment on Pete Wilson's decision to drop out of the—[*laughter*]—Presidential race? Is this going to help your prospects of challenging the President next November?

Q. That's a fast jump from Bosnia.

Senator Bob Dole. No, I haven't had a chance to talk to the President about it, so—[*laughter*].

Q. Does this mean there's no room in the Republican Party for moderate Republicans?

Senator Strom Thurmond. This is not a political meeting.

Senator Dole. Yes—I don't like to answer questions at the President's meeting. I'll be happy to do it later.

Bosnia

Q. Excuse me. Can you tell us more about this possible cease-fire?

The President. No. I mean—and I literally can't tell you more about it. I can tell you that it's being seriously discussed and the parties are talking about how they feel about it and what the obstacles to it are at the present moment. And that's all I can tell you at the present time.

Q. Do you think it's—[*inaudible*].

The President. No, I didn't say that. I don't know that. I don't know that it's not. I don't know. The answer to that is, I don't know.

Q. Will it happen today or——

The President. I don't know. I think that's highly unlikely.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:20 p.m. in the Truman Conference Center in the New Executive Office Building.

Statement on the Bipartisan Commitment to Our Children

September 29, 1995

All Americans agree that we must protect the lives and future health of our children. The bipartisan "Commitment to Our Children"—in support of this administration's efforts to reduce children's smoking or use of smokeless tobacco products—shows just how deep that sentiment runs through our country. The Representatives and Senators who stood up today for our children deserve the Nation's thanks. These Democrats and Republicans showed that this is not about partisan politics; it is about doing the right thing for our children and families. Public health leaders, children and family advocates, and elected State and local officials from across the Nation have also pledged to support our efforts.

Each day, 3,000 young people become regular smokers. Nearly 1,000 of them will die early from smoking-related diseases. We must reduce children's access to tobacco products and limit the advertising and promotions that tell our children it is cool or glamorous to smoke but do not tell them about the disease and death that also come

with smoking. The stakes are too high not to act.

Executive Order 12974—Continuance of Certain Federal Advisory Committees

September 29, 1995

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Each advisory committee listed below is continued until September 30, 1997.

(a) Committee for the Preservation of the White House; Executive Order No. 11145, as amended (Department of the Interior).

(b) Federal Advisory Council on Occupational Safety and Health; Executive Order No. 12196, as amended (Department of Labor).

(c) National Partnership Council; Executive Order No. 12871 (Office of Personnel Management).

(d) President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans; Executive Order No. 12900 (Department of Education).

(e) President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities; Executive Order No. 12876 (Department of Education).

(f) President's Commission on White House Fellowships; Executive Order No. 11183, as amended (Office of Personnel Management).

(g) President's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology; Executive Order No. 12882, as amended (Office of Science and Technology Policy).

(h) President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities; Executive Order No. 12367, as amended (National Endowment for the Arts).

(i) President's Committee on the International Labor Organization; Executive Order No. 12216, as amended (Department of Labor).

(j) President's Committee on Mental Retardation; Executive Order No. 11776, as amended (Department of Health and Human Services).

(k) President's Committee on the National Medal of Science; Executive Order No. 11287, as amended (National Science Foundation).

(l) President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports; Executive Order No. 12345, as amended (Department of Health and Human Services).

(m) President's Export Council; Executive Order No. 12131, as amended (Department of Commerce).

(n) President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee; Executive Order No. 12382, as amended (Department of Defense).

(o) Trade and Environment Policy Advisory Committee; Executive Order No. 12905 (Office of the United States Trade Representative).

Sec. 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other Executive order, the functions of the President under the Federal Advisory Committee Act that are applicable to the committees listed in section 1 of this order, except that of reporting annually to the Congress, shall be performed by the head of the department or agency designated after each committee, in accordance with the guidelines and procedures established by the Administrator of General Services.

Sec. 3. The following Executive orders or sections thereof, which established committees that have terminated or whose work is completed, are revoked:

(a) Executive Order No. 12878, as amended by Executive Order Nos. 12887 and 12912, establishing the Bipartisan Commission on Entitlement Reform; and

(b) That portion of section 2 of Executive Order No. 12844 that established the Federal Fleet Conversion Task Force.

Sec. 4. Executive Order No. 12869 is superseded.

Sec. 5. This order shall be effective September 30, 1995.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 29, 1995.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:17 a.m., October 2, 1995]