

money over the long run, but only if you will fight. And I hope you will. I thank you for being here.

Yes.

Whitewater Development Corp.

Q. Mr. President, for the last couple of days, you've been talking about how hard the health care fight is going to be. At the same time, yesterday the Special Counsel in the Whitewater case said that his investigation he thinks is going to take a year and half. Is that going to be distracting for you, and why do you think it's going to take so long?

The President. Because most of it has nothing to do with me. I mean, this decision which many called for is going to cost the taxpayers millions of dollars, because what they did was to shut down the investigation that was ongoing of the S&L issues down there, which I have nothing to do with, and submerged it all in there. So it may take a good while because they have to go over all that ground. But I have really nothing to do with it, and they'll have to do whatever they're going to do in whatever time they're going to do it. The reason I thought it was a good idea to do the Special Counsel was so I wouldn't have to fool with it anymore, and I'm not spending any time on it.

Q. We see your lawyer coming in and out of here quite frequently. Are you meeting with him about this?

The President. I talked to him yesterday. But he basically just gives us a regular update, oh, every few weeks.

Welfare Reform

Q. Mr. President, are you contemplating taxing food stamps and the poor people to support your welfare plan?

The President. No.

Bosnia

Q. Mr. President, have you prepared the American people psychologically for the possibility of military conflict Monday?

The President. Well, I have done my best to talk about this, and we'll continue to talk about it as we get closer. I think the most important thing now is that the Serbs and others in Bosnia understand that the NATO allies are dead serious about carrying this out but that if the Serbs will move their weapons or put them under United Nations control, there will be no air strikes, and that we want to do what we can to get a permanent long-term peace agreement. That's what we're really working for.

The American people, I think, understand what is at stake here and understand our interest in not permitting Sarajevo to be shelled and hundreds of thousands of people's lives to be destroyed and in working for a peaceful agreement.

I have not committed ground troops to this conflict. I have said that we would participate in NATO air strikes, and I think it is the right thing to do. But I hope the air strikes will not be necessary, and they will not occur if the Serbs will comply.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11 a.m. in the Old Family Dining Room at the White House.

Announcement on the White House Conference on Aging February 17, 1994

The President announced today that he is formally calling for a White House Conference on Aging to be convened in May of 1995.

"I am pleased to resume the proud traditions of White House Conference on Aging begun by President John F. Kennedy in 1961," said the President, noting that there has not been a White House Conference on Aging since 1981. "The fact that this will be the last White House

Conference on Aging of the 20th century makes this one even more significant."

Under the terms of the Older Americans Act, which authorizes that such a Conference be held, a 25-member policy committee chosen jointly by the President and the Congress will be selected to work out the specifics of the Conference, including its agenda and the number of participants. Earlier in the fall, President

Clinton announced his selection of Robert B. Blancato, formerly of the National Italian-American Foundation and the former House Select Committee on Aging, to be the Executive Director of the White House Conference on Aging.

"An older America must soon face a new century," concluded the President. "A 1995 White House Conference on Aging allows us to plan for this challenge by working together to develop policy recommendations for the 21st century. We owe this to future generations."

Memorandum on Research Involving Human Subjects *February 17, 1994*

Memorandum for the Vice President and the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies

Subject: Review of Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects

Federally funded biomedical and behavioral research has resulted in major advances in health care and improved the quality of life for all Americans. The pursuit of new knowledge in these fields of research often requires experiments that involve human subjects. Although human subjects research is an essential element of biomedical and behavioral research, bioethical considerations must influence the design and conduct of such research.

Since 1947, when guidelines for research with human subjects were promulgated, there has been increasingly widespread recognition of the need for voluntary and informed consent and a scientifically valid design of experiments involving human subjects.

Over time, this recognition has evolved into a rigorous and formalized system of regulations and guidelines, which were codified in governmental policies on human subject research, and were included in the former Department of

Health, Education and Welfare's regulations in 1974, 45 C.F.R. 46. In 1991, 16 agencies formally adopted the core of these regulations in a common Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects. This Policy requires that all research protocols involving human subjects be reviewed by an Institutional Review Board. This review ensures that (1) risks are minimized and reasonable in relation to anticipated benefits; (2) there is informed consent; and (3) the rights and welfare of the subjects are maintained (56 Fed. Reg. 28003 (June 18, 1991)).

Although these regulations provide the framework for protecting human subjects in research, we must exercise constant care and ensure that these regulations are strictly enforced by departments and agencies. Therefore, I direct each department and agency of Government to review present practices to assure compliance with the Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects and to cease immediately sponsoring or conducting any experiments involving humans that do not fully comply with the Federal Policy.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Letter to Congressional Leaders Reporting on the Conflict in the Former Yugoslavia *February 17, 1994*

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

On October 13, 1993, I provided a further report to the Congress on the deployment of U.S. combat-equipped aircraft to support efforts of the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to achieve peace

and stability in Bosnia-Herzegovina. As part of my continuing efforts to ensure that Congress is fully informed, I am again writing to you, consistent with the War Powers Resolution, to inform you that the United States has expanded its participation in this important effort to reach