

a diplomatic solution; this won't in any way affect that?

The President. No, I hope it will intensify it. The men who gave their lives—these were immensely talented, patriotic Americans who were profoundly concerned with what the war in Bosnia has done to the people there and what it means for the values of decency and freedom and peace. And I would think that the thing that they would want us most to do is to press ahead, and that is what we intend to do.

Q. You're convinced there was no foul play involved?

The President. Based on everything we know from the—I have now—I talked to Secretary Holbrooke and General Clark, who were virtual eye witnesses, and they say there's no evidence of that.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:10 a.m. at the Teton Pine Golf Club. In his remarks, he referred to American diplomats Robert Frasure, Joseph J. Kruzel, and Samuel Nelson Drew, who died when their military vehicle crashed en route to Sarajevo; Richard Holbrooke, Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs; and Lt. Gen. Wesley K. Clark, USA, Director, Strategic Plans and Policy, Joint Staff.

Statement on the Death of American Diplomats in Bosnia-Herzegovina August 19, 1995

I am deeply saddened by the deaths today of three dedicated Americans serving the cause of peace, near Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina. We have confirmed reports that Ambassador Robert Frasure, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs; Dr. Joseph J. Kruzel, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for European and NATO Policy; and Air Force Colonel Samuel Nelson Drew, a member of the National Security Council staff, were killed this morning in a crash of their military vehicle on the way to Sarajevo. Two other members of the delegation were injured. These men were part of an American team searching for an end to the conflict there. That effort will continue.

In addition, one French soldier was killed and two were injured; the three were part of the team escorting the delegation.

I also want to thank the Government of France and the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) for their extraordinary efforts to care for the casualties.

My heartfelt sympathy is extended to the Frasure, Kruzel, and Drew families. In honor of their sacrifice, I have directed that our Nation's flags be lowered. Their loved ones were engaged in the greatest cause of all—the search for peace. As the Scripture tells us, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.”

NOTE: The related proclamation is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks at a Memorial Service in Arlington, Virginia, for the American Diplomats Who Died in Bosnia-Herzegovina August 23, 1995

My fellow Americans, distinguished members of the diplomatic corps; most importantly, to the family, the friends, the colleagues, the loved ones of Robert Frasure, Joseph Kruzel, and Nelson Drew: Today we gather to honor three

peacemakers who gave their lives seeking for others the blessings we Americans hold dear and too often take for granted, the opportunity to work and to dream, to raise our children to live and to love in a land of peace.