

endorsing what you are trying to do in Kosovo.” And he said, “You see, we know something about ethnic cleansing.” And he said, “We’d like—and here we are in the White House today, and we can’t turn away from this.”

And then this young man across the room in the circle stood up, and he said—he had this beautiful Indian jewelry around his neck. And I mean, when this guy started talking, it just took all the oxygen out of the room. He was very dignified, and he said, “Mr. President,” he said, “My two uncles—I had two uncles. One was on the beach at Normandy. The other was the first Native American fighter pilot in our history.” He said, “My great-great-grandfather was slaughtered by the American 7th Cavalry at Wounded Knee.” He said, “We’ve come a long way from Wounded Knee, to my uncles, to me standing here in the Roosevelt Room, talking to the President.” He said, “I just have one child. He means more to me than anything. But I would be honored to have him go to fight against the destruction of the people of

Kosovo, so they don’t have to go through all that we have been through.”

And I thought to myself, I just wish every American could see this. This is what I ran for President to lift up.

So remember that. If we can learn to get along together and work together and stand for our common humanity, then you and talented people like you all over this country, you’ll figure out how to solve the rest of this stuff. It’s the most important thing.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:45 p.m. in a private residence. In his remarks, he referred to dinner hosts Brian L. and Myra Greenspun, and their daughter, Amy; Nevada State Athletic Commission Chairman Elias Ghanem and his wife, Jody; Timothy McVeigh, who was convicted of bombing the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, OK; Tex Hall, chairman of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation (the Three Affiliated Tribes); and Gregg Bourland, chairman, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

Statement on the Election of Ehud Barak as Prime Minister of Israel

May 17, 1999

On behalf of the American people, I want to extend my warmest congratulations to Ehud Barak upon his election as Israel’s new Prime Minister. The people of Israel have given the new Prime Minister a strong mandate.

I have just spoken with Prime Minister Netanyahu to thank him for his dedicated service to Israel. I also spoke with Prime Minister-

elect Barak to congratulate him and reaffirm our Nation’s steadfast support for Israel and its people. I will continue to work energetically for a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace that strengthens Israel’s security. I look forward to working closely with Ehud Barak and his new government as they strive to reach that goal with their Palestinian and Arab partners.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With King Abdullah II of Jordan and an Exchange With Reporters

May 18, 1999

President Clinton. Well, let me just begin by saying how delighted I am to have His Majesty here today. The United States values our relationship with Jordan very much. We hope to have a discussion about the opportunity and the obligation we have to continue the peace proc-

ess in the Middle East. I think we’ve both talked to Prime Minister-elect Barak about that.

And we are also very much committed to Jordan’s economic renewal. And the supplemental appropriation bill now working its way through the Congress has, among other things,