

FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an
administrative marker by the William J. Clinton
Presidential Library Staff.**

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records
Subgroup/Office of Origin: Chief of Staff
Series/Staff Member: George Stephanopoulos
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 6049
FolderID:

Folder Title:
President's Remarks/Talking Points

Stack:
S

Row:
22

Section:
2

Shelf:
4

Position:
1

REVISED

REMOVED

**President William Jefferson Clinton
Opening Statement
Joint Congressional Leadership Meeting
September 12, 1995**

Thank you all for coming. I want to welcome everyone back. I believe this can be a period in which we achieve a great deal for the American people and our future, especially on important issues such as Bosnia, welfare reform, balancing the budget, political and lobby reform and the line-item veto.

I am committed to finding common ground on these issues, and I honestly believe we will be able to get there. For the first time in a long time, many of us from both parties share the conviction that we must balance the budget. I have proposed a plan that shows how we should cut spending to balance our budget.

I know we have differences about what to cut. My plan shows we can balance the budget -- without cutting what really matters for our future. I believe if we focus on the right priorities, we can take full advantage of what should be an historic moment.

As I have said many times before, it is not in the nation's interest to throw up partisan roadblocks and force the kind of crisis that could shut down our government. Nobody wins when that happens. So I hope we can work together on a continuing resolution on the appropriations bills. That way we can do the responsible thing, and work out our differences.

We have a great deal of work to do, so I am glad you are back.

SECRET

President William Jefferson Clinton
Talking Points
Meeting with Congressional Leadership
September 12, 1995

[Following your opening statement]

BOSNIA

Negotiations

- We passed an important milestone on the road to peace in Bosnia last week in Geneva.
- All three sides for the first time agreed that Bosnia-Herzegovina would continue as a single state, with its present borders, and with ongoing international recognition.
- Consistent with the Contact Group plan, all three agreed that under the terms of a settlement, Bosnia-Herzegovina would consist of two entities: the Federation established under last year's Washington Agreements, and a Bosnian Serb republic.
- I cannot emphasize too strongly that according to the Geneva agreement, Bosnia-Herzegovina ~~remains~~ **remains a single state**, retaining its seat in international organizations and its bilateral diplomatic relations with other countries in the world, including the U.S.
- We have not partitioned Bosnia, nor do we intend to.
- As President Izetbegovic said publicly yesterday, the Serbs compromised by accepting the state of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and the Bosnians compromised by accepting a Serb republic within that state. The reason for the compromises, said Izetbegovic, was to end the war.
- The Geneva meeting is a significant achievement, but our work is far from done. I have asked Assistant Secretary Holbrooke's team to return to the region tonight for a further intensive round of diplomacy.
- We are pressing to achieve a settlement in the coming weeks. Should this be possible, the U.S. will need to continue to demonstrate the leadership that has made progress possible so far.

- We look forward to further consultations with you on the various aspects of post-settlement implementation, including possible U.S. troop deployments as part of a NATO-led force and U.S. involvement in an EU-led economic reconstruction effort.
- **Air Strikes**
- On the question of air strikes, I wanted to note that the NATO/UN campaign is continuing because of Bosnian Serb refusal to agree to conditions laid down by UN commander Janvier and the NAC.
- The use of cruise missiles Sunday was not an escalation, but reflected a tactical judgment on how best to continue the current mission while minimizing risks to NATO pilots. NATO and UN commanders will make further tactical judgments on next steps if the Serbs continue to reject the UN/NATO conditions.
- The Bosnian government has given clear, public assurances that its forces will not take advantage of the current situation to gain ground around Sarajevo.
- Ultimately, the end of the air campaign will depend on Bosnian Serb behavior.
- **Granic [IF ASKED]**
- Some of you know that Croatian Foreign Minister Granic is in Washington for meetings with various Administration officials.
- Among the subjects we intend to raise are Croatians views toward Sector East, the ongoing Croatian offensive inland from the Dalmatian coast, and of course our evidence of human rights atrocities in Krajina.

BUDGET

- I also want to discuss with you today our thinking regarding the appropriations and reconciliation bills and to hear your thoughts.
- I want to work with you, and I want you to know that I will evaluate each of the appropriations bills separately.

- I expect and hope to sign bills where we have negotiated to narrow our differences before October 1.
- I am committed to a balanced budget and to making the spending cuts needed to get there, but we have different priorities within the budget, and it will take working together to move forward.
- I believe we should begin now to find an agreement on a continuing resolution, so that we avoid the avoidable. It is not in anybody's interest, and certainly not in the nation's interest to go through the dislocation of shutting down the government.
- I would prefer that we pass a continuing resolution of limited duration. And I would expect that this resolution come to me without legislative riders attached.
- I feel the same about the debt limit. We should not get caught up in a political standoff over whether or not to extend the debt limit.
- I would recommend that we pass a debt limit extension to take us into early next year, so that we have the opportunity to resolve our differences on the budget without enormous ~~disruption and dislocation~~ disruption and dislocation for our citizens.
- I want to re-emphasize my determination to continue fighting for several legislative items that are pending right now in the Congress, which I would like sent to my desk as soon as possible:
 - Counter-terrorism
 - Lobby-gift reform
 - Line-item veto
 - Welfare
 - Chemical Weapons Treaty
 - START II Treaty

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
TALKING POINTS FOR CONFERENCE CALL WITH SUPERINTENDENTS
THE ROOSEVELT ROOM, THE WHITE HOUSE
SEPTEMBER 12, 1995**

- **Welcome.** I'm glad you are joining me today on this conference call to discuss the importance of continuing our national commitment to education.
- [Option: comments on Senate Job-Training Bill].
- **Focus on Education Cuts.** We speak today as America goes back to school. Over the last week, I have met with CEOs from major corporations such as IBM and TRW, with mayors and county executives from cities big and small, with college students yesterday from 10 different universities and five states, and today with AmeriCorps National Service participants. Every where I go...everyone I talk with... I hear the same message: It is wrong for our economy to be growing while hard working people's incomes are not. And education is the answer. We must give our children the tools to learn and all Americans a chance to build stronger lives. My balanced budget shows that we can get rid of the deficit and still afford to invest in education and training. **We must put our children first -- we cannot afford to do less.**
- **Education is an on-going commitment to our future.** It starts before our children go to school with *Head Start* to prepare our children to learn. It continues throughout primary and secondary education by setting higher standards and reforming our schools with *GOALS 2000*. It means decreasing class sizes through programs like *Title I* so that our children are afforded more individual attention. It means keeping our children, classrooms, school-halls, and neighborhoods safe through *Safe and Drug Free School* programs.
- **But let me make one point clear: these aren't bureaucratic programs we are talking about, these are the futures of our children.**

It is very easy to cut programs called GOALS 2000 and Title I here in Washington, but those who would slash education and training need to know what their cuts mean in real terms. For instance:

Four schools in Portland, Oregon, helping 9th and 10th graders reach high standards in math and science will lose their funding.

450 teaching assistants and other staff who help kids improve basic reading, writing, and math skills, will have to be laid off in Miami, Florida

And the examples go on and on, hurting children all across the country.

- **CEOs Voice Support For GOALS 2000:** Listen to what Joe Gorman, CEO of TRW said last week when he was here: "GOALS 2000 is critically important. Far more important than the dollars involved. It provides incentives to the states...to change themselves within their educational systems." Listen to what Lew Gerstner from IBM said: "GOALS 2000...is the fragile beginning of the establishment of a culture of measurement standards and accountability in our country. We must go way beyond Goals 2000. **But, if we lose GOALS 2000, it is an incredibly negative setback for this country.**"

- I would now like to call on Secretary Riley to say a few words.
 - I would now like to hear from you about your school systems and what the budget cuts mean to children, teachers, and schools in your communities.
- 1 **Octavio "O.V." Visiedo, Superintendent, Dade County, FL**
 Topic: Forced reductions in staff due to Title I Cuts
 - 2 **John "Jack" Bierwirth, Superintendent, Portland, OR**
 Topic: Impact of cuts to Head Start
 - 3 **Dr. N "Gerry" House, Superintendent, Memphis, TN**
 Topic: Safe and Drug Free School Programs and School Lunches
 - 4 **Robert C. Jasna, Superintendent, Milwaukee, WI**
 Topic: Class Size and Key Role of Voc-Ed Programs
 - 5 **David Hornbeck, Superintendent, Philadelphia, PA**
 Topic: Goals 2000 and Reforming the Schools
 - 6 **Albert Thompson, Superintendent, Buffalo, NY**
 Topic: Importance of Federal Funds to Local School Systems

REVISED

President William J. Clinton
Remarks Preceding AmeriCorps Briefing
September 12, 1995

I'm here with Senator Pell, Senator Chaffee, Representatives Reed and Patrick Kennedy, Eli Segal, members of AmeriCorps and representatives from colleges and corporations. We are here to mark AmeriCorps' first year of accomplishment, and to find ways to make it even better in its second year, when 25,000 AmeriCorps members will serve our country.

AmeriCorps members have helped children do better in school; closed crack houses; helped communities team up with police to keep streets safe; cleaned mountain trails and urban waterways; and from Oklahoma City to south Florida, from the banks of the Mississippi to the streets of Los Angeles, wherever our people faced disaster, AmeriCorps was there to help. AmeriCorps brings out the best in America.

Behind this success is a partnership that cuts across party lines and all sectors -- from the young people and others who work in the communities to the leaders in business, education, communities and public service who have given their support.

AmeriCorps members help our nation as they help themselves, earning money to help pay for college. Some colleges are helping even further. Every one of Rhode Island's colleges and universities will be matching AmeriCorps scholarships or college loan repayments. Meanwhile, CEO's like Mitt Romney of Bain Capital in Boston have urged others to follow their examples of support. Foundations like the Ford Foundation, which contributed \$3 million as a challenge pool to community foundations, have also stretched our federal dollars.

An investment in AmeriCorps goes far. A team of noted conservative economists found that every federal dollar invested returns \$1.60 to \$2.60 and maybe more in concrete benefits.

AmeriCorps is about responsibility and community. It's about giving young people positive avenues to opportunity. The majority in Congress threatens to cut college scholarships and college loans. In AmeriCorps, we have a program that lifts our values and helps send civic-minded, hard-working young people to college. That's the America we should build up, not tear down or whittle away. That is why I cannot stand by while the Republican majority threatens to cut a program that is sensible, constructive and far-sighted. I will veto a budget that does not fund AmeriCorps.

I want the Republican majority to learn what the rest of our nation knows: AmeriCorps works. If they truly want to restore responsibility, expand opportunity and rebuild communities, they should put their principles and our common future above politics. AmeriCorps should grow. It will not die. Thank you.

Talking Points:

The Senate Commerce/Justice/State Appropriations Bill

September 8, 1995

- Press reports give the wrong impression of this bill, suggesting that somehow the Senate was more moderate than the House.

- Don't be fooled:

- The bill is much worse than the House bill, which the President threatened to veto.

- This bill deeply cuts presidential priorities for science and technology and savages such other programs as the Legal Services Corp.

- Also, this bill provides a rider to prohibit the use of federal funds for all federal affirmative action programs funded by this bill; that is, it would "end" these federal affirmative action programs, not "mend" them.

7 FYI

- The bill totals about \$26 billion, \$4.5 billion below the request, about the same as FY 1995, and \$1.2 billion below the House.

- The COPS program is not funded.

- Instead, the bill provides \$1.7 billion for state and local law enforcement under a block grant.

- Commerce programs are funded at \$3.1 billion, \$1.6 billion below the request, \$.3 billion below the House, and \$.9 billion (22%) below the FY 1995.

- Many of its programs are terminated, including:

- Minority Business Development,

- Trade and Tourism,

- the Technology Administration,

- Information Infrastructure Grants, and

- the Competitiveness Council.

- The Legal Services Corporation is funded at \$210 million as a block grant, \$230 million below FY 1995, and a 47% cut below FY 1995.

TO: George
From: M.J.

Wed. 10:30

I heard during last night's Orioles game that the Pres might be there tonight. I don't know how Baltimore fans react to Presidents but, if there tends to be booing and catcalls, make sure that his entry is as unobtrusive. In any case, with the biggest tv audience maybe in history, it's good to give the impression that he's there as a fan. To watch history. The best thing he could do is to low key it during the game and then make his big moment the handshake with Ripken. Cal is golden and a good photo op with him is a great hit, *but let it be in the dugout or locker room after the game.*

Did you read the Foster article in the New Yorker. It's real sad but, I think, none too helpful. Her comments on both POTUS and HRC are ambiguous and best and cold at worst.

I'm real glad about Bosnia. The Pres is doing the right thing and it make us as a nation, and him as c-in-c, look good. As did HRC's speech. It was great.

Think about my Ollie North idea. He's always complaining about how you guys never go on the show. Doing so would help neutralize him and, from listening to him, I know that he'd be so grateful that he'd be polite during and maybe even long after the show. Once William Kunstler called in and Ollie was so grateful he just was eating out of Kunstler's hand. I'm not soft on Ollie. However, he and I share a close mutual friend and I think I know how he thinks.

George:

Richard Strauss believes it w'd be good for you to go on the Ollie North Show. Many requests have been made by the show. All have been turned down by the WH, upon Mike's recommendation.

If this were to happen, you would need to discuss it with Mike.

Let me know the next step. Thanks,
Laura

GS FYI - MW

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS TO POOL
MEETING WITH WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE DEMOCRATS
CABINET ROOM
September 26, 1995**

I am very concerned that the budget being considered by Congress will undercut the values of opportunity and family.

This budget must reflect our values as a people. It must promote opportunity and give families the chance to care for each other and to prosper. We have always believed that our parents, who work hard their entire lives, should be treated with dignity and respect in their retirement. And we believe that families who work hard should have the opportunity to work their way out of poverty. These are core American values.

The budget being considered by Congress does not promote our most basic values.

Do we really want to throw hundreds of thousands of people out of nursing homes ... eliminate quality standards for nursing home care ... raise taxes on 17 million working families, literally taxing many of them into poverty ... and give corporations a green light to deplete the pension funds on which working families depend? Do we really believe that a woman whose husband has to go into a nursing home must herself give up her house, car, life savings? That's not right. And it's not necessary to balance the budget.

We can balance the budget without hurting working families. I have proposed a balanced budget plan that will eliminate the deficit and secure the Medicare Trust Fund, without raising premiums on beneficiaries, without raising taxes on working people, and without cutting education or the environment. We don't need to cut off our elderly or cut our children's education to balance the budget. If we work together and seek common ground, we can meet our challenges together.