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Original OA/ID Number:

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Budapest, Hungary)

For Immediate Release

December 5, 1994

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
UPON DEPARTURE TO U.S. EMBASSY COMMUNITY

Hangar LRI-1
Ferihegi Airport
Budapest, Hungary

2:45 P.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, Ambassador Blinken, and Mrs. Blinken, ladies and gentlemen, and boys and girls, and people associated with the American Embassy, with our CSCE delegation, to the Peace Corps volunteers, the American-Hungarian Chamber of Commerce members who are here.

I am delighted to be here on this all-too-brief trip. I'd like to point out some of the people who came with me, our Ambassador to the United Nations Madeleine Albright is here -- (applause); from the United States Congress, Senator Dennis DeConcini from Arizona -- (applause); Congressman Steny Hoyer, from Maryland -- (applause); and Congressman and Mrs. Tom Lantos, from Hungary -- and California. (Applause.)

This is a very important trip for the United States because I came here to reaffirm our nation's commitment to a secure and united Europe. As the Ambassador said, we put the START I nuclear reduction treaty into effect today, and Ukraine has joined Belarus and Kazakhstan in acceding to the nonproliferation treaty. We strengthened the CSCE to help to prevent ethnic and regional conflicts. So as a result of what has happened today, this world is a safer place.

The START I treaty alone will permit us to reduce the nuclear arsenals that the United States and the former Soviet Union countries by 9,000 nuclear warheads, to destroy delivery systems with the best verification systems ever. It will permit us to now start work on START II, which will cut our arsenals by another 5,000 warheads. This means that when we finish this work, we will have reduced the nuclear arsenals of the world by more than two-thirds over there cold war height. That's good news for the children in this audience, and for the rest of us as well.

One of the things that we have got to do now is to keep

working until we achieve next year an indefinite extension of the nonproliferation treaty, so that we can continue to keep down the risks of the development of nuclear weapons, especially in an era in which the biggest problem may be the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to heretofore unusual and unconventional hands.

I'd like to say a brief word about this CSCE meeting. The United States believes the CSCE has a vital role to play in promoting democracy and diminishing conflict throughout Europe. We believe it can help nations work together to bring democracy and prosperity to their peoples, and to continue our effort of promoting European unity.

Our host, Hungary, like its democratic neighbors, is making steady and strong progress toward full integration into Europe. I believe it can, and will, complete its transformation to a free market. I believe its commitment to playing an important, responsible role in the new Europe is good news for all of us.

Last January, almost a year ago, I went to Brussels and then on to Prague and on to Russia to begin the work of building a new and united Europe. In the nearly one year since, I have come back to this continent three times to work toward that goal.

From our initiatives to open and to expand NATO, to reducing the threat of nuclear weapons, to making trade more free and fair, to building up institutions like the CSCE, to working toward preventing conflicts before they get out of hand. Through all these efforts, this European continent is becoming more secure, more prosperous and more united.

Yes, there are problems, and there always will be as long as human beings populate the globe. But we are clearly moving in the right direction, and that is good for the United States.

As I close, let me say a special word of thanks to the American missions in Hungary and to the CSCE staff. I didn't want to leave Budapest without having a chance just to tell you how much we appreciate your service, your sacrifice at a time of very great challenge. I also thank the Peace Corps volunteers for their important contributions. They represent the best of our country around the world.

I'm very proud of all of you. I thank you for the warm welcome today. I wish I had longer to stay, but this is a wonderful way to end the trip. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

2:50 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

December 5, 1994

December 5, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Executive Order No. 12900 -- Educational
Excellence for Hispanic Americans

Recognizing the importance of the educational needs of our Nation's Hispanic community, I signed Executive Order No. 12900 on February 22nd of this year. The Executive order took a strong, interagency, approach to identifying and correcting the shortcomings of our educational system in serving Hispanic youth. The Executive order created the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans ("Commission"), which advises the President and the Secretary of Education on these issues. Further, the Executive order established the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans ("White House Initiative"), which is housed in the Department of Education. Additionally, the Executive order states, in part, that:

[E]ach Executive department and each [agency designated by the Secretary of Education] shall prepare a plan for, and shall document, both that agency's effort to increase Hispanic American participation in Federal education programs where Hispanic Americans currently are underserved, and that agency's effort to improve educational outcomes for Hispanic Americans participating in Federal education programs.... Each agency's plan shall provide appropriate measurable objectives for proposed actions aimed at increasing Hispanic American participation in Federal education programs where Hispanic Americans currently are underserved.

Given the current status of Hispanics in education and the need to prepare all of our youth for productive employment and lifelong learning, we must make the education of Hispanic youth and adults a high priority in order to achieve the goals set for us by title I of the Goals 2000: Educate America Act ("Goals 2000"). This will require that each of you, as stewards of your agencies, take a more active role in ensuring that the education-related programs of your agency serve Hispanics equitably, both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Consistent with this purpose and with Executive Order No. 12900, I am directing that you identify as soon as possible a senior official who will act as liaison to the Commission and the White House Initiative to assist in this interagency initiative. The official should be at the Deputy Secretary level. Additionally, a second official in the agency -- if possible, a Hispanic senior official -- should be designated to serve as a co-liaison, who will be responsible for carrying out requests from the Commission. These two officials will work closely with the Executive Director of the White House Initiative.

I know that you will cooperate fully with both the Commission and the White House Initiative. I also ask that to the extent practicable you honor any requests for appropriate information, including available data relating to the eligibility for, and participation by, Hispanic Americans in Federal education programs and the progress of Hispanic Americans in relation to the National Education Goals, as set forth in the Goals 2000 Act.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

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- 2 -

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2:50 P.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Budapest, Hungary)

For Immediate Release

December 5, 1994

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT THE SIGNING OF DENUCLEARIZATION AGREEMENTS

Budapest Congress Center
Budapest, Hungary

11:41 A.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: President Yeltsin, President Kuchma, President Lukashenko, President Nazarbayev, Prime Minister Major. Today we herald the arrival of a new and safer era. We have witnessed many signatures. Together they amount to one great stride to reduce the nuclear threat to ourselves and to our children.

The path to this moment has been long and hard. More than a decade has passed since the first negotiations on the START I treaty. But perseverance, courage and common sense have triumphed.

Skeptics once claimed that the nuclear threat would actually grow after the Soviet Union dissolved. But because of the wisdom and statesmanship of the leaders who join me here, the skeptics have been proven wrong.

Ukraine's accession to the Nonproliferation Treaty completes a bold move away from the nuclear precipice. Ukraine has joined Belarus and Kazakhstan in ridding itself of the terrible weapons each inherited when the Soviet Union dissolved. Presidents Lukashenko, Nazarbayev and Kuchma have done a very great service for their own people, their neighbors, and indeed all the peoples of the world.

And there is no greater service that the rest of us could do for our nations, our neighbors and the peoples of the world than to follow the advice already advanced here by President Yeltsin and Prime Minister Major and agree to the indefinite extension of NPT in 1995.

Creating security in the post-Cold War era requires that we unite, not divide. The pledges on security assurances that Prime Minister Major, President Yeltsin and I have given these three nations move us further in that direction. They underscore our independence, our commitment to the independence, the

sovereignty and the territorial integrity of these states.

And today we have also reached a milestone in fulfilling the promise of this new era by putting the START I treaty into force -- the first treaty that requires nuclear powers to actually reduce their strategic arsenals. It creates the most far-reaching verification system ever agreed upon and will eliminate over 9,000 warheads from our arsenals. It lays the foundations for even deeper arms reductions.

President Yeltsin and I have vowed already to work to put the START treaty into force at our next summit in 1995. That will cut our arsenals by another 5,000 warheads. Together these treaties will leave the United States and the former Soviet Union with only a third of the warheads they possessed at the height of the Cold War. They will help us to lead the future to a direction we have all dreamed of, one in which the nuclear threat that has hung over heads for almost a half century now is dramatically reduced.

On this historic afternoon, we have shown that today's community of free nations can and will create a safer globe than did the divided world of yesterday. Together we have helped to beat back the threat of nuclear war and lighted the way to a more peaceful day when the shadow of that destruction is finally vanquished from the Earth.

I thank you all. Thank you. (Applause.)

END

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11:45 A.M. (L)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Budapest, Hungary)

For Immediate Release

December 5, 1994

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
AT PLENARY SESSION OF
1994 SUMMIT OF THE COUNCIL ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION
IN EUROPE

Budapest Congress Center
Budapest, Hungary

9:58 A.M. (L)

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you, President Klestil, President Goncz. I am delighted to be here in this great city in Central Europe at this historic meeting.

The United States is committed to building a united, free and secure Europe. We believe that goal requires a determined effort to continue to reduce the nuclear threat; a strong NATO adapting to new challenges; a strong CSCE, working among other things to lead efforts to head off future Bosnias; and a strong effort at cooperating with the United Nations; and an effort by all the nations of Europe to work together in harmony on common problems and opportunities.

In the 20th century, conflict and distrust have ruled Europe. The steps we are taking today will help to ensure that in the 21st century, peace and prosperity rein.

The forces that tore Europe apart have been defeated. But neither peace nor democracy's triumph is assured. The end of the Cold War presents us with the opportunity to fulfill the promise of democracy and freedom. And it is our responsibility working together to seize it, to build a new security framework for the era ahead. We must not allow the Iron Curtain to be replaced by a veil of indifference. We must not consign new democracies to a gray zone.

Instead we seek to increase the security of all; to erase the old lines without drawing arbitrary new ones; to bolster emerging democracies; and to integrate the nations of Europe into a continent where democracy and free markets know no borders, but where every nation's border are secure.

We are making progress on the issues that matter for the future. Today, here, five of this organization's member states -- Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine and the United States -- will bring the START I treaty into force and reduce the nuclear threat that has hung over our heads for nearly a half century.

START I will eliminate strategic bombers and missile launchers that carried over 9,000 warheads. And it opens the door to prompt ratification of START II, which will retire another 5,000 warheads. These actions will cut the arsenals of the United States and the former Soviet Union more than 60 percent from their Cold War peak. The world will be a safer place as a result.

But even as we celebrate this landmark gain for peace, the terrible conflict in Bosnia rages not 300 miles from this city. After three years of conflict, the combatants remain locked in a terrible war no one can win. Now each faces the same choice: They can perpetuate the military standoff, or they can stop spilling blood and start making peace.

The government of Bosnia-Herzegovina has made the right choice by accepting the international peace plan and agreeing to recent calls for a cease-fire. So I say again to the Bosnian Serbs: End the aggression, agree to the cease-fire and renewed negotiations on the basis of the Contact Group plan. Settle your differences at the negotiating table, not the battlefield.

We mustn't let our frustration over that war cause us to give up our efforts to end it. And the United States will not do so. If we have learned anything from the agony of Bosnia, it is clearly that we must act on its lessons. In other parts of Europe, ethnic disputes and forces of hatred and despair, demagogues who would take advantage of them threaten to reverse the new wave of freedom that has swept the continent.

So as we strive to end the war in Bosnia, we must work to prevent future Bosnias. And we must build the structures that will help newly-free nations to complete their transformation successfully to free market democracies and preserve their own freedom.

We know this is not something that will happen overnight, but over time, NATO, the CSCE, other European and transatlantic institutions, working in close cooperation with the United Nations can support and extend the democracy, stability and prosperity that Western Europe and North America have enjoyed for 50 years. That is the future we are working to build.

NATO remains the bedrock of security in Europe, but its role is changing as the continent changes. Last January NATO opened the door to new members and launched the Partnership for Peace. Since then 23 nations have joined that partnership to train together, conduct joint military exercises and forge closer political links.

Last week we took further steps to prepare for expansion by starting work on the requirements for membership. New members will join country by country gradually and openly. Each must be committed to democracy and free markets and be able to contribute to Europe's security. NATO will not automatically exclude any nation from joining. At the same time, no country outside will be allowed a veto expansion -- to veto expansion.

As NATO does expand, so will security for all European states, for it is not an aggressive, but a defensive organization. NATO's new members, old members and nonmembers alike will be more secure.

As NATO continues its mission, other institutions can and should share the security burden and take on special responsibilities. A strong and vibrant Conference on Security and Cooperate in Europe is vital.

For more than a decade the CSCE was the focal point for courageous men and women who at great personal risk confronted tyranny to win the human rights set out in the Helsinki Accords. Now, the CSCE can help to build a new an integrated continent. It has unique tools for this task.

The CSCE is the only regional forum to which nearly every nation in Europe and North America belongs. It has pioneered ways to peacefully resolve conflicts, from shuttle

MORE

diplomacy to longstanding missions in tense areas. Now that freedom has been won in Europe, the CSCE can play an expanding role in making sure it is never lost again.

Indeed, its proposed new name, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, symbolizes the new and important mission we believe it must undertake. The CSCE should be our first flexible line of defense against ethnic and regional conflicts. Its rules can guard against the assertion of hegemony or spheres of influence. It can help nations come together to build prosperity. And it can promote Europe's integration piece by piece.

By focusing on human rights, conflict prevention, dispute resolution, the CSCE can help prevent future Bognias. We are taking important steps at this meeting for that crucial goal -- by strengthening the High Commissioner for National Minorities, establishing a code of conduct to provide for democratic civilian control of the military, reinforcing principles to halt the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and preparing to send CSCE monitors and peacekeepers to potential trouble spots outside Bosnia. These actions will not make triumph and headlines, but they may help to prevent tragic ones.

The principles adopted in Rome made clear that any peacekeeping mission must aim for a freely negotiated settlement by the parties themselves, not a solution imposed from the outside. And they hold that no country can use a regional conflict, however threatening, to strengthen its security at the expense of others.

I am very encouraged that with the support and involvement of the Russian Federation we are on the verge of an agreement that the CSCE will lead a multinational peacekeeping force in Nagorno-Karabakh. The United States appreciates the willingness of many nations to contribute troops and material for this mission.

The continuing tragedy in Nagorno-Karabakh demands that we redouble our efforts to promote a lasting cease-fire and a fair settlement. The United States strongly supports this effort and calls upon all CSCE members to contribute toward it.

The CSCE also has an important role to play in promoting economic growth while protecting Europe's resources and environment. We should strengthen its efforts to increase regional and cross-border cooperation. Such efforts can bring people together to build new highways, bridges and communication networks -- the infrastructure of democracy.

Since 1975, when the countries of Europe expressed the desire to form a community founded on common values and founded the CSCE, more progress has occurred than even dreamers might have hoped. We know the change is possible. We know that former enemies can reconcile. We know the eloquent intentions about democracy and human rights can promote peace when transformed from words into actions.

Now, almost 20 years later, our challenge is to help the freedoms we secured spread and endure. The task will require energy and strength. Old regimes have crumbled, but new legacies and mistrust remain. Nations have been liberated, but ethnic hatred threatens peace and tolerance. Democracy and free markets are emerging, but change everywhere is causing fear and insecurity.

Three times before in this century, our nations have summoned the strength to defeat history's dark forces. They have left us still with a great responsibility and an extraordinary opportunity. Our mission now is to build a new world for our children -- a world more democratic, more

prosperous and more secure. The CSCE has a vital role to play.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

END 10:10 A.M. (L)

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So as we strive to end the war in Bosnia, we must work to prevent future Bosnias. And we must build the structures that will help newly-free nations to complete their transformation successfully to free market democracies and preserve their own freedom.

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Since 1975, when the countries of Europe expressed the desire to form a community founded on common values and founded the CSCE, more progress has occurred than even dreamers might have hoped. We know the change is possible. We know that former enemies can reconcile. We know the eloquent intentions about democracy and human rights can promote peace when transformed from words into actions.

Now, almost 20 years later, our challenge is to help the freedoms we secured spread and endure. The task will require energy and strength. Old regimes have crumbled, but new legacies and mistrust remain. Nations have been liberated, but ethnic hatred threatens peace and tolerance. Democracy and free markets are emerging, but change everywhere is causing fear and insecurity.

Three times before in this century, our nations have summoned the strength to defeat history's dark forces. They have left us still with a great responsibility and an extraordinary opportunity. Our mission now is to build a new world for our children -- a world more democratic, more

MORE

prosperous and more secure. The CSCE has a vital role to play.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

END 10:10 A.M. (L)