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

Folder Title:
Kosovo Radio, March 22, 1999

Staff Office-Individual:
Speechwriting-Widmer, Edward

Original OA/ID Number:
2190

Row: 48
Section: 6
Shelf: 7
Position: 3
Stack: V
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE</th>
<th>SUBJECT/TITLE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>RESTRICTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**COLLECTION:**

- Clinton Presidential Records
- National Security Council
- Ted Widmer (Speechwriting)

**OA/Box Number:** 2190

**FOLDER TITLE:**

Kosovo Radio, 3/22/99

**RESTRICION CODES**

- Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]
- Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]
- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(5) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(5) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.
- PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201.(3).
- RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE</th>
<th>SUBJECT/TITLE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>RESTRICTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**COLLECTION:**
- Clinton Presidential Records
- National Security Council
- Ted Widmer (Speechwriting)
- OA/Box Number: 2190

**FOLDER TITLE:**
Kosovo Radio, 3/22/99

**RESTRICTION CODES**

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Restriction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P1</td>
<td>National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2</td>
<td>Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P3</td>
<td>Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P4</td>
<td>Release would disclose trade secrets or commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P5</td>
<td>Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P6</td>
<td>Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Restriction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b(1)</td>
<td>National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b(2)</td>
<td>Release would disclose personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b(3)</td>
<td>Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b(4)</td>
<td>Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b(5)</td>
<td>Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(5) of the FOIA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b(7)</td>
<td>Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b(8)</td>
<td>Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b(9)</td>
<td>Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This week I made the hardest decision of my career. I sent our men and women in uniform into combat, alongside the N. allies, to bring peace to Kosovo. As President, any decision to deploy troops is never easy. But after long and careful reflection, I agree with the UN Security Council that this was the only way left to salvage peace in a war torn corner of Europe.

Not returning safely.

Some argue that the K crises has its origin deep in history, for the current problems began a decade ago, when SFR Yugoslavia broke up in 1999, and the Serbs were eagerly fighting freedom for the first time. The Serbs went in the opposite direction. Under the govt of Slobodan Milosevic, who took away the rights of 1 million people in Kosovo - a province of Serbia that is over 90% ethnically populated by ethnic Albanians. Eight years later, Milosevic is still there, running a brutal, systematic delivery of terror across a half of a war torn country.

The Serbian army massacred 15K during B/C war, and there is only been slight improvement in recent months. The pattern is the same. Serb troops have brutally attacked new Serbs, including in Kosovo, provoking instability, and continuing to support refugees and to protect the interests of all K within Kosovo, and to pursue...
the rights of all people there. Eventually, the UN agreed to sign, made 51 requests, and worse, he permitted US attacks on defended, men, women & children. We had no choice but to act.

A horrible blow

Not only was humanity’s progress, little boys of Yugoslavia displaced from their home, and many streaming towards unstable neighboring democracies. But we also acted out of self-interest. We knew that leaves the best way that Europe affords us. First, in this century. Through 2 Wars & a long Cold War, we saw that the step was a short step from a nuclear fire to an inferno (holocaust). The Atlantic is that we would be involved whether we wanted to or not. The last time to another a fire is when you still can. Before it burns you close down. By acting today, we avoided deep involvement down the line. And we took another step toward a federation (very much in EU’s interest): a EU that is united, democratic, and at peace. That is very much in Asia’s interest.

In the short term, our goal is to bring the 2 Milko back to the long-standing talks for peace, and finally to do. To seriously degrade the Serbian capacity to make war. On long term, the goal is a comprehensive peace between Serbs & K, and help all three people of the Balkans. The first hour much peace together. The next steps are talking about a game plan for peace in the K. Now it’s Serbia’s turn. It can join the rest of Europe and more towards democracy and prosperity. Or it can continue its downward slide toward isolation and poverty.

For all the challenges of the 1990s. The 1990s have been the most peaceful decade since the 1920s. Around the world, people are living better, more, and often it faith in the future. There is almost no large scale, but if it was anywhere that there is no reason for complacency. One success of the past 10 yes is why the more reason to be vigilant when it comes to storing down new threats.
I have devoted a great deal of time to peace-making. War is abhorrent to me, as it is to all God-fearing men. But sometimes you have to fight in order to end the fighting. Sometimes you have to stand up and wage peace.

This the next century can be the greatest time for deliver the world has ever seen. But only if the great religious strife and animosity out of politics and out of the hearts of people who should know better. God gave us a natural distrust of people who look too different — but he also gave us the resources and character to get over this distrust.

[Our thoughts ...]
"E-MAILS FROM KOSOVO": PART III (LETTER DATED MARCH 14, 1999)
YOUTH RADIO
FOR MORNING EDITION
MARCH 22, 1999

Today was a very sad day etc. (tease). there were tears, too. etc.

With the collapse of the peace agreement, and the mass movement of Serbian troops into Kosovo, I’ve been trying to keep in closer touch with Adona. I came home from school at lunchtime on Monday to check my e-mail.

DEAR FINNIE,
AT THE MOMENT I AM WRITING TO YOU, JUST FROM MY BALCONY, I CAN SEE PEOPLE RUNNING WITH SUITCASES AND I CAN HEAR SOME GUNSHOTS. A VILLAGE JUST A FEW HUNDRED METERS FROM MY HOME IS ALL SURROUNDED.

I HAVE PREPARED MY BAG WITH NECESSARY THINGS: CLOTHES. DOCUMENTS. AND MONEY... IN CASE OF EMERGENCY. ONLY THE PAST FEW DAYS, THERE HAVE BEEN SO MANY NEW FORCES, TANKS, AND SOLDIERS COMING INSIDE KOSOVA. YESTERDAY, A PART OF MY TOWN WAS SURROUNDED AND THERE WERE SHOOTINGS HAPPENING... I AM WAITING WITH NO PATIENCE FOR THE NEWS.

TAKE CARE. ADONA
I felt relieved to know Adona was okay—and wrote her back immediately. Shortly after school there was another e-mail waiting for me. I feel very emotional imagining that I might never meet Adona face-to-face... also to think of the fear that she must be going through.

DEAREST FINNIE,
AS LONG AS I HAVE ELECTRICITY, I WILL CONTINUE WRITING TO YOU. RIGHT NOW, I AM TRYING TO KEEP MYSELF AS CALM AS POSSIBLE. MY YOUNGER BROTHER, WHO IS NINE, IS SLEEPING NOW. I WISH I WILL NOT HAVE TO STOP HIS DREAMS. HE IS JUST A CHILD. I REALLY HAVE TO GO NOW. THERE IS MORE NEWS COMING IN. THANK YOU FOR YOUR MORAL SUPPORT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I HOPE TO HEAR AGAIN FROM YOU.

ADONA. KOSOVO.

"E-mail from Kosovo" is produced by Youth Radio. The reporter is Finnegan Hamill with narration by BELLy-ah My-en-OH Choy.
FOCUS - 2 OF 6 STORIES

Copyright 1999 National Public Radio (R). All rights reserved. No quotes from the materials contained herein may be used in any media without attribution to National Public Radio. This transcript may not be reproduced in whole or in part without prior written permission. For further information, please contact NPR's Permissions Coordinator at (202) 414-2000. National Public Radio (NPR)

SHOW: MORNING EDITION (11:00 AM on ET)

March 19, 1999, Friday

LENGTH: 684 words

HEADLINE: E-MAILS EXCHANGED BETWEEN 16-YEAR-OLD GIRL IN KOSOVO AND 16-YEAR-OLD CALIFORNIA BOY

ANCHORS: BOB EDWARDS

BODY:

BOB EDWARDS, host:

This is NPR's MORNING EDITION. I'm Bob Edwards.

The United States has warned that NATO may begin air strikes against Serbs if they do not sign an interim peace plan that grants autonomy to ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. Yesterday Albanian leaders signed on to the self-rule plan, but Serbs say they will never allow a NATO-led force into Kosovo to monitor the agreement.

Earlier this year a teen-age girl who lives in Kosovo began correspondence by e-mail with a high school student who lives in California. Last month MORNING EDITION carried an excerpt from that exchange, and the two students continue to write. Because this Kosovo teen-ager is living in such a dangerous place, she's using a pseudonym, Adona(ph), and her letters are being read aloud by someone else. The California student she's writing to is Finigan Hambo(ph), who heard about Adona at a church meeting. She's exactly his age, 16, and cares about some of the things he does: rock music, dating, what to do after high school. But, says Finigan, Adona's concerns are far more serious these days.

FINIGAN HAMBO' (16): With the threat of NATO bombing and the reality of increasing violence on the part of the Serbs, my friend's safety is more at risk than ever. And in between e-mails there's nothing I can do but wait. At one point I waited for several days for a response. As it turned out, her computer had crashed, but for those several days, I had no way of knowing if she had been...
taken in by the police, fled for safety in the mountains or if she had been killed.

Ms. BELIA MAEANO TROY (As Adona): You mentioned the independence of Kosovo. I don't really give such an importance to the status. I don't see this as a war for getting divided, Albanians and Serbs, neither do I think the war has started because of nationalistic reasons or to bring new borders. While Europe is trying to take the borders off and trying to bring globalization on, we do not need to bring new ones. We just need the rights that others have. On the schoolbag of my friend, I can read, Peace is the time between wars. At first it looked silly, but when I think deeper, it could be a logical thought as well to say that history...

Hello, Fini. Yes, the violence is still going on. Some mysterious killings are happening. A few days ago a man in Pristina was killed, and many people are getting killed in unknown circumstances in other towns or at least they're unknown for me and my friends. Just a few days before, a friend of mine had her birthday. We didn't celebrate because we thought it was not right, at least a way of solidarity for so many victims. Just a few best friends gathered in her house, and we discussed about different things, starting from the situation here to school, music, boys.

HAMBO: From the beginning of my correspondence with Adona, I've wanted to somehow make a difference in her life. One of her biggest fears is that she is slipping behind in her education, and if the war is ever over, it will be too late for her to have a career in journalism or whatever field she chooses.

Ms. TROY: Dear Fini, thank you that you offered to help me find a scholarship. I've been trying to do that for weeks now. I'm looking at the Web sites through Yahoo! of different high schools and colleges, but I haven't found anything yet. I know I cannot go forward if I stay here, which is towards a disaster. People aren't thinking much about school and ambitions, but I am trying to keep my head somehow in a distance from this catastrophe and trying to...

I'll tell you more about my life and me. I love having fun and doing crazy things. I used to hang out with my friends until 11:00 in the evening. We were never safe in the street, but now we're not safe in our homes. I never take my ID card with me when I go out, because if I'm stopped by the police or somebody similar to them, I just start talking in Serbian and avoid troubles. It always works out. Tell me, what do you think about aliens? Write to me soon.

HAMBO: While the conflict in Kosovo has all but shut down Adona's life and her hopes for the immediate future in her own country, she has a surprisingly positive outlook. Her attitude is similar to how I imagine many young people in America felt during the Vietnam War; that those older generations responsible for the conflict should be the ones to suffer the consequences, not the young and the innocent victims who have nothing to gain.

Ms. TROY: You may think that every single cell of my brain is affected by horror movies or something, but you are wrong. My brain, my whole life, is just affected by reality. In just one picture of a dead, head-cut body or a three-year-old child massacred, which I certainly haven't imagined, or the news.
from the BBC, you would be affected, too. If you were the ones to taste this
bitter and cruel part of the world, you would understand me and my imagination.
You would also understand the luckiness I feel for just being alive. Adona,
Kosovo.

EDWARDS: Letters from Kosovo produced by Youth Radio. The reporter is
Finigan Hambo. Adona's e-mails are read by Belyia Maeano Troy(ph).

LANGUAGE: English
LOAD-DATE: March 19, 1999
LEVEL 1 - 2 OF 2 STORIES

Copyright 1999 National Public Radio (R). All rights reserved. No quotes from the materials contained herein may be used in any media without attribution to National Public Radio. This transcript may not be reproduced in whole or in part without prior written permission. For further information, please contact NPR's Permissions Coordinator at (202) 414-2000.

National Public Radio (NPR)

SHOW: MORNING EDITION (10:00 AM on ET)

February 5, 1999, Friday

LENGTH: 570 words

HEADLINE: HOUR 1; EXCERPTS OF E-MAILS FROM A TEEN-AGE GIRL IN KOSOVO ARE READ

ANCHORS: BOB EDWARDS

REPORTERS: FINNEGAN HAMMIL

BODY:

BOB EDWARDS, host:

Just days after a massacre last month in Kosovo, a teen-age girl began e-mailing her experiences of living in the middle of a war zone to a pen pal in Berkeley, California. Excerpts of her messages, under a pseudonym, are presented through a dramatic reading in this report from Youth Radio's Finnegan Hammil.

FINNEGAN HAMMIL reporting:

It all started because I had the week off from hockey practice. I went to a meeting of my church youth group. We had a visitor, a peace worker recently back from Kosovo. He brought with him the e-mail address of an Albanian girl my age, 16-year-old Adona. She had access to a computer and wanted to use it to correspond with other teens here in the US. I decided to write her a letter when I got back from the meeting. The next day, I received the first of what was to be a series of letters from Adona that would change the way I look at the world.

BELIA MAYENO CHOY (Narrator): Hello, Finnegan. I'm glad that you wrote to me so soon. About my English, I have learned it through the movies, school, special classes, etc., but mostly from TV. I can speak Serbian as well, Spanish and understand a bit of Turkish. I love learning languages. But I don't have much time to learn them. You never know what'll happen to you. One night, last week I think, we were all surrounded by police and armed forces. And if it wasn't for the OSCE observers, God knows how many victims would there be. And my flat was surrounded, too. I cannot describe you the fear. Some day before,
there was a bomb explosion...

Hello, Finne. I guess you're OK. Did I tell you that I'm not a practicing Muslim, and do you know why? Because if the Turks didn't force my grand-grandparents to change their religion, I might now have been a Catholic or an Orthodox. And I think religion is a good, clean and pure thing that in a way supports people in their life. Thanks to religion, I think many people are afraid of God, or believe that there is another world after we die, so they don't commit any crimes. Personally, I agree with DesCartes when he says that God is imagined by the human mind.'

HAMMIL: Adona may not think much of organized religion, but she is very political. She's part of an organized youth movement that blames adults for keeping the war going. She says as young people, they're looking beyond this war to the future and an end to the killing and hatred that has become the only thing most teens in Kosovo know.

CHOY: Dear Finnegan, how did you pass on your exams? I hope good. About the music, I love listening to Rolling Stones, Sade, Jewel and R.E.M., my favorite. You don't know how I'm longing to go to a party, on a trip or anywhere. I must tell you, it's scary sometimes when the situation here gets really tensed and the whole family comes together and we talk about how and where will we be going in case of emergency, where we can find money. What do we do? Who do we call for help? Where do we keep our passports and other documents? We have also brought warm clothes in case we have to flee our homes and go to the mountains or elsewhere. And we are all prepared for the worst and taught that life goes on, no matter what.'

HAMMIL: Adona has refused to give up her ambition. She continues her education with great enthusiasm, though her classes take place in someone's home, since the Serbs shut down the Albanian schools.

CHOY: About the NATO thing, you know, I feel they should come here and protect us. I wish somebody could. I don't even know how many people get killed anymore. You just see them in the memoriam pages of newspapers. I really don't want to end up raped, with no parts of body like the massacred ones. I wish nobody in the world, in the whole universe would have to go through what we are. You don't know how lucky you are to have a normal life. We all want to be free and living like you do. Finnegar, I'm telling you how I feel about this war and my friends feel the same. Bye, Adona, Kosovo. P.S., send me some photos of you. I'll be sending some of mine as soon as the scanner gets fixed.'

EDWARDS: Adona's e-mail letters are narrated by Belia Mayeno Choy. The reporter is Finnegar Hammil. E-mail from Kosovo was produced by Youth Radio.

The time is 29 minutes past the hour.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: February 5, 1999
Good morning. Three days ago, I decided the US should join our NATO allies in military air strikes, to bring peace to Kosovo.

In my address to the nation last Wednesday, I explained why we have taken this step. To save the lives of innocent civilians in Kosovo from a brutal military offensive. To defuse a powder keg at the heart of Europe that has exploded twice before in this century with catastrophic results. To prevent a wider war we would have to confront later, only at far greater risk and cost. To stand with our allies for peace.

Our military operation has been underway for several nights. In this time, Serb troops have continued attacks on unarmed men, women and children. That is all the more reason for us to stay the course. We must and we will continue until Serbia’s leader, Slobodan Milosevic, accepts peace ... or we have seriously damaged his capacity to make war.

As always, America’s military men and women are performing with courage and skill. Their strength comes from rigorous training, state of the art weaponry, and hard-won experience in this part of the world. This is the same brave and tested force that brought stability to Bosnia after four years of vicious war. I am confident they will once again rise to the task.

Some of them are fighter pilots. Some are mechanics, technicians, air traffic controllers and base personnel. Every time I visit our troops around the world, I am struck by their professionalism ... their quiet, unassuming determination. They will say, “this is the job I was trained to do.” They don’t see themselves as heroes; but we surely do.

I have also been deeply impressed by the solidarity of NATO’s purpose. All 19 NATO nations are providing support – from Norway to Turkey, from England to Italy, including our three new allies from central Europe.

And we should remember the courage of the Kosovar people today, still exposed to violence and brutality. Many Americans have heard the story of a young Kosovar girl trying to stay in touch with a friend in America by email, as a Serb attack began in her village. A few days ago, she wrote, “at the moment, just from my balcony, I can see people running with suitcases and I can hear some gunshots. A village just a few hundred meters from my home is all surrounded. As long as I have electricity, I will continue writing to you ... I am trying to keep myself as calm as possible. My younger brother, who is nine, is sleeping now. I wish I will not have to stop his dreams.”

We asked the people of Kosovo to accept peace, and they did. We promised we would stick by them if they did the right thing, and they did. We cannot let them down now.
Americans have learned the hard way that our home is not that far from Europe. Through two world wars and a long cold war, we saw that it was a short step from a small brush fire to an inferno — especially in the tinderbox of the Balkans. The time to put out a fire is before it spreads and burns down the neighborhood. By acting now, we are taking a strong step toward a goal that has always been in America’s national interest: a peaceful, united and democratic Europe.

For America, I believe there is no greater calling than being a peacemaker. But sometimes you have to fight in order to end the fighting. Sometimes you have to stand up to wage peace.

Let me end by repeating how proud all Americans are of the men and women risking their lives to protect peace in the Balkans. Our prayers are with our brave men and women in uniform. And our prayers are with all the people of the Balkans, searching for the strength to put centuries of division to rest, and to join us in building a better future.

Thanks for listening.

###
Today was a very sad day etc. (tease). there were tears, too etc.

With the collapse of the peace agreement, and the mass movement of Serbian troops into Kosovo, I’ve been trying to keep in closer touch with Adona. I came home from school at lunchtime on Monday to check my e-mail.

DEAR FINNIE,

AT THE MOMENT I AM WRITING TO YOU, JUST FROM MY BALCONY, I CAN SEE PEOPLE RUNNING WITH SUITCASES AND I CAN HEAR SOME GUNSHOTS. A VILLAGE JUST A FEW HUNDRED METERS FROM MY HOME IS ALL SURROUNDED.

I HAVE PREPARED MY BAG WITH NECESSARY THINGS: CLOTHES, DOCUMENTS, AND MONEY...IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.

ONLY THE PAST FEW DAYS, THERE HAVE BEEN SO MANY NEW FORCES, TANKS, AND SOLDIERS COMING INSIDE KOSOVA.

YESTERDAY, A PART OF MY TOWN WAS SURROUNDED AND THERE WERE SHOOTINGS HAPPENING... I AM WAITING WITH NO PATIENCE FOR THE NEWS.

TAKE CARE. ADONA

I felt relieved to know Adona was okay—and wrote her back immediately. Shortly after school there was another e-mail waiting for me. I feel very emotional imagining that I might never meet Adona face-to-face... also to think of the fear that she must be going through.

DEAREST FINNIE,

AS LONG AS I HAVE ELECTRICITY, I WILL CONTINUE WRITING TO YOU. RIGHT NOW. I AM TRYING TO KEEP MYSELF AS CALM AS POSSIBLE. MY YOUNGER BROTHER, WHO IS NINE, IS SLEEPING NOW. I WISH I WILL NOT HAVE TO STOP HIS DREAMS, HE IS JUST A CHILD. I REALLY HAVE TO GO NOW. THERE IS MORE NEWS COMING IN. THANK YOU FOR YOUR MORAL SUPPORT. THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I HOPE TO HEAR AGAIN FROM YOU.

ADONA. KOSOVO.

“E-mail from Kosovo” is produced by Youth Radio. The reporter is Finnegan Hamill with narration by BELLy-ah My-en-OH Choy.

Producer - Eelin O'Leary 570 841 - 5123
Good morning. Three days ago, I decided the US should join our NATO allies in military air strikes, to bring peace to Kosovo.

In my address to the nation last Wednesday, I explained why we have taken this step. To save the lives of innocent civilians in Kosovo from a brutal military offensive. To defuse a powder keg at the heart of Europe that has exploded twice before in this century with catastrophic results. To prevent a wider war we would have to confront later, only at far greater risk and cost. To stand with our allies for peace.

Our military operation has been underway for several nights. In this time, Serb troops have continued attacks on unarmed men, women and children. That is all the more reason for us to stay the course. We must and we will continue until Serbia's leader, Slobodan Milosevic, accepts peace ... or we have seriously damaged his capacity to make war.

As always, America's military men and women are performing with courage and skill. Their strength comes from rigorous training, state of the art weaponry, and hard-won experience in this part of the world. This is the same brave and tested force that brought stability to Bosnia after four years of vicious war. I am confident they will once again rise to the task.
Some of them are fighter pilots. Some are mechanics, technicians, air traffic controllers and base personnel. Every time I visit our troops around the world, I am struck by their professionalism ... their quiet, unassuming determination. They will say, “this is the job I was trained to do.” They don’t see themselves as heroes, but we surely do.

I have also been deeply impressed by the solidarity of NATO’s purpose. All 19 NATO nations are providing support – from Norway to Turkey, from England to Italy, including our three new allies from central Europe.

And we should remember the courage of the Kosovar people today, still exposed to violence and brutality. Many Americans have heard the story of a young Kosovar girl trying to stay in touch with a friend in America by email, as a Serb attack began in her village. A few days ago, she wrote, “at the moment, just from my balcony, I can see people running with suitcases and I can hear some gunshots. A village just a few hundred meters from my home is all surrounded. As long as I have electricity, I will continue writing to you ... I am trying to keep myself as calm as possible. My younger brother, who is nine, is sleeping now. I wish I will not have to stop his dreams.”

We asked the people of Kosovo to accept peace, and they did. We promised we would stick by them if they did the right thing, and they did. We cannot let them down now.

Americans have learned the hard way that our home is not that far from Europe. Through two world wars and a long cold war, we saw that it was a short step from a small brush fire to an
inferno -- especially in the tinderbox of the Balkans. The time to put out a fire is before it spreads and burns down the neighborhood. By acting now, we are taking a strong step toward a goal that has always been in America’s national interest: a peaceful, united and democratic Europe.

For America, I believe there is no greater calling than being a peacemaker. But sometimes you have to fight in order to end the fighting. Sometimes you have to stand up to wage peace. I ask other nations to join us in this endeavor. And to those who disagree -- and hear, let me speak directly to the Russian people -- let me emphasize my commitment to manage our differences and to continue to work together on our common interests -- from Russia’s economic recovery to reducing our nuclear arsenals. These common interests and, in the end, our common commitment to peace should continue to draw us together.

Let me end by repeating how proud all Americans are of the men and women risking their lives to protect peace in the Balkans. Our prayers are with our brave men and women in uniform. And our prayers are with all the people of the Balkans, searching for the strength to put centuries of division to rest, and to join us in building a better future.

Thanks for listening.

###
WASHINGTON (NNS) - NATO forces began "Operation Allied Force" on Wednesday with a series of air strikes against Serbian military targets at approximately 2 p.m. (EST).

Cruise missiles from NATO aircraft and ships at sea were launched to attack Serbian air defenses to reduce the potential for civilian casualties or other collateral damage. NATO and U.S. defense officials declined Wednesday night to confirm operational details of the strikes, but news media embarked in USS Philippine Sea (CG 58) reported seeing missiles being fired earlier in the day from Philippine Sea and USS Gonzales (CG 66). NATO manned aircraft -- fighters, bombers, tankers and surveillance aircraft -- are also participating in these operations.

"The men and women in the U.S. military participating in this NATO operation are well trained and dedicated professionals," said Joint Chief of Staff Chairman Gen. Henry H. Shelton during a news conference at the Pentagon. "I'm confident that they will continue to carry out their assigned mission with the skill and courage that are the hallmark of U.S. armed forces."

More than 6,500 Sailors and Marines are aboard U.S. Navy ships currently operating in the 6th Fleet area: USS Philippine Sea (CG 58), USS Thorn (DD 988), USS Gonzales (DDG 66), USS Nicholson (DD 982), USS Norfolk (SSN 714), USS Miami (SSN 755), USS La Salle (AGF 3), USS Monongahela (AO 178), USS Grapple (ARS 53), USS Nassau (LHA 4) with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) embarked, USS Nashville (LPD 13) and USS Pensacola (LSD 38).
U.S. naval forces participating in Kosovo operations:

Navy:
USS GONZALEZ (DDG 65) [guided missile destroyer]
USS MIAMI (SSN 755) [attack submarine]
USS PHILIPPINE SEA (CG 52) [guided missile cruiser]
USS NORFOLK (SSN 714) [attack submarine]

NOTE: Recommend not mentioning the attack subs unless DOD or Navy already has (their ops normally classified).

Amphibious Ready Group (ARG):
USS NASSAU
USS NASHVILLE
USS PENSACOLA

Marine Corps:
24 MEU(SOC) embarked in USS NASSAU ARG

Joe Bouchard

-----Original Message-----
From: Widmer, Edward L. (Ted)
Sent: Friday, March 26, 1999 10:36 AM
To: @DEFENSE - Defense Policy
Subject: URGENT -- radio draft [UNCLASSIFIED]

<< File: Kosovoradiomarch.doc >> Not yet done (waiting for Waldman), but I wanted you to see what I've got. Please check for errors. Thanks.
Sutphen, Mona K.

From: Widmer, Edward L. (Ted)
Sent: Friday, March 26, 1999 1:03 PM
To: @NSA - Natl Security Advisor
Cc: @SPEECH - NSC Speechwriters
Subject: radio [UNCLASSIFIED]

radio text, with SRB and Malinowski edits.
3/26/99 1 pm.

PRESIDENT WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON
RADIO ADDRESS ON KOSOVO
THE WHITE HOUSE
MARCH 26, 1999

Good morning. Three days ago, I decided the US should join our NATO allies in military air strikes, to bring peace to Kosovo.

In my address to the nation last Wednesday, I explained why we have taken this step. To save the lives of innocent civilians in Kosovo from a brutal military offensive. To defuse a powder keg at the heart of Europe that has exploded twice before in this century with catastrophic results. To prevent a wider war we would have to confront later, only at far greater risk and cost.

To stand with our allies for peace.

Our military operation has been underway for several nights. In this time, Serb troops have continued intensified attacks on unarmed men, women and children. That is all the more reason for us to stay the course. We must and we will continue until Serbia's leader, Slobodan Milosevic, accepts peace ... or we have seriously damaged his capacity to make war.

As always, America's military men and women are performing with courage and skill. Their strength comes from rigorous training, state of the art weaponry, and hard-won experience in this part of the world. This is the same brave and tested force that brought stability to Bosnia after four years of vicious war. I am confident they will once again rise to the task.
Some of them are fighter pilots. Some are mechanics, technicians, air traffic controllers and base personnel. Every time I visit our troops around the world, I am struck by their professionalism ... their quiet, unassuming determination. They will say, "this is the job I was trained to do."

They don't see themselves as heroes, but we surely do.

I have also been deeply impressed by the solidarity of NATO's purpose. All 19 NATO nations are providing support – from Norway to Turkey, from England to Italy, including our three new allies from central Europe.

And we should remember the courage of the Kosovar people today, still exposed to violence and brutality. Many Americans have heard the story of a young Kosovar girl trying to stay in touch with a friend in America by email, as a Serb attack began in her village. A few days ago, she wrote, "at the moment, just from my balcony, I can see people running with suitcases and I can hear some gunshots. A village just a few hundred meters from my home is all surrounded. As long as I have electricity, I will continue writing to you ... I am trying to keep myself as calm as possible. My younger brother, who is nine, is sleeping now. I wish I will not have to stop his dreams."

We asked the people of Kosovo to accept peace, and they did. We promised we would stick by them if they did the right thing, and they did. We cannot let them down now.

Americans have learned the hard way that our home is not that far from Europe. Through two world wars and a long cold war, we saw that it was a short step from a small brush fire to an
inferno — especially in the tinderbox of the Balkans. The time to put out a fire is before it spreads and burns down the neighborhood. By acting now, we are taking a strong step toward a national goal that has always been in America's interest: a peaceful, united and democratic Europe.

For America, I believe there is no greater calling than peacemaker. As President, I have been proud to help other peoples find peace together. But sometimes you have to fight in order to end the fighting. Sometimes you have to stand up to wage peace.

Let me end by repeating how proud all Americans are of the men and women risking their lives to protect peace in the Balkans. Our prayers are with our brave men and women in uniform. And our prayers are with all the people of the Balkans, searching for the strength to put centuries of division to rest, and to join us in building a better future.

Thanks for listening.
Radio draft, awaiting a Waldman insert.
Good morning. Three days ago, I made the hardest decision a President can make. I ordered US armed forces into combat, alongside our NATO allies, to bring peace to Kosovo. After long and careful reflection, I agreed that this was the only way left to salvage peace in a war-torn corner of a humanitarian catastrophe in this war-torn corner of Europe and prevent a wider and more dangerous war.

In my address to the nation last Wednesday, I explained why NATO airstrikes are essential to protect peace in the Balkans – not only to save lives in the short run, but to prevent a wider war from igniting. For ten years, Slobodan Milosevic brought Southeastern Europe closer to the precipice of unchecked violence. In recent months, his troops have slaughtered innocent Kosovar civilians, and now that we have struck back, he has intensified his attacks on unarmed men, women and children. I said on the first day of our action that there would be risks involved. The earliest days of a military action are the hardest, and the risks are still heavy. But as always, America’s military men and women are performing with bravery and skill.

Like all Americans, I have been deeply moved by the courage and skill of our NATO forces. I’d like to talk for a minute about the NATO team conducting Operation Allied Force. All 19
NATO nations are providing support. Twelve are providing aircraft. Drawn from across Europe and North America, working under difficult conditions, these men and women in uniform have performed superbly. They have executed every mission we asked them to, and most importantly, they have all returned safe and sound.

Not all of them are fighter pilots, though I should point out that a Dutch pilot, along with American pilots, shot down Serbian aircraft on the first day of Allied Force. They are mechanics on the ground, technicians, air traffic controllers, and base personnel from around the continent. They come from places ranging from Iceland to Turkey, from the Atlantic shore to the eastern Europe. They represent a remarkable constellation of people from all walks of life, but united by their love of freedom and their refusal to be intimidated by the forces of ethnic hatred.

The US is proud to participate in this international operation. Over 7000 US personnel are providing direct support.

[Waldman about to provide paragraph on how moved President is when he sees our troops around the world]

I would also like to praise the remarkable courage of the Kosovar people, exposed as never before to Serb retaliation. As one attack was beginning, with the sound of gunfire in the background, a young girl in Kosovo sent an e-mail to her American friend that she was afraid to wake her brother because she didn’t want to stop his dreams. That is why NATO is acting in Kosovo today -- to save an entire people’s dreams.
We Americans have learned the hard way that our home is not that far from Europe. Through two world wars and a long cold war, we saw that it was a short step from a small brush fire to an inferno -- especially in the tinderbox of the Balkans. The time to put out a fire is before it burns your house down. By acting now, we are taking a strong step toward a goal that has always been in America’s interest: a peaceful, united and democratic Europe.

The 1990s have been the most peaceful decade since the 1920s. Most of us have never known a more peaceful time. Around the world, people are burying hate and distrust and replacing it with faith and confidence. But that is no reason for complacency. Our success over the past ten years is all the more reason to be vigilant when it comes to facing down new threats. A new century is upon us. We cannot repeat the mistakes of the past. We must build a world where no one is singled out for their race, religion, or ethnicity.

As President, I have been proud to help other peoples find peace together. War is abhorrent to me, as it is to all Americans. But sometimes you have to fight in order to end the fighting. Sometimes you have to stand up to wage peace.

Let me end by repeating how proud all Americans are of the men and women risking their lives to protect peace in the Balkans. Our thoughts and prayers are with our brave men and women in uniform. And our thoughts and prayers are with all the people of the Balkans, searching for the strength to put centuries of hate to rest and join us in creating a new century of tolerance and respect.
Thanks for listening.

###

An enormity to lay down.

We want it to work.

We think it will.

We accept peace or the war.

We have enough.

Definite.

Dreadful war.
Good morning. Three days ago I made the hardest decision a President can make. I ordered United States armed forces into combat, alongside our NATO allies, to bring peace to Kosovo. After long and careful reflection, I agreed that this was the only way left to save lives and salvage peace in a war-torn corner of Europe.

I have spoken to you several times about why we have taken this step. To save the lives of innocent Kosovo civilians, who are facing an accelerating offensive by brutal Serb forces. To stop the spread of a wider war to neighboring nations. And to make it possible for

This was a difficult decision. But the one thing I knew was that this mission would be carried out well. America’s fighting forces are the best in the world. Indeed, they may be the best in the history of the world. Their strength and skill is the product of rigorous training, state of the art weaponry, and hard-won experience in this part of the world. This is the same brave and tested force that helped bring peace and stability to Bosnia after four years of vicious war. I am confident that if anybody can make a difference, to punish aggression and save lives, these are the men and women who can do it.

Every time I visit our troops around the world, I am struck by their professionalism and lack of pretense -- their quiet, unassuming focus. They will say, “This is the job I was trained to do.” They don’t see themselves as heroes -- but we surely do.

This is a sacrifice that we are sharing with others. Our forces are joined by those of 18 other nations -- from Great Britain to Germany, from France to Italy -- linking arms in the NATO alliance that kept Europe free for 50 years of the Cold War.

We should never forget -- as they never forget -- why we fight today.

We act to prevent a humanitarian tragedy. If we had failed to act -- if we retreat or delay or shrink from our responsibility -- that humanitarian tragedy could easily engulf neighboring nations, with their own deeply rooted ethnic animosities, turning tragedy into catastrophe. In Bosnia, we saw that unchecked Serb aggression took the lives of 250,000 people. In recent months, we have seen the same venom turned toward the villagers of Kosovo. We

Many Americans have heard the aching story of a young Kosovar girl. She was online, sending a message to an American friend, as the ominous sound of Serb gunfire grew closer and closer. She didn’t want to wake her brother, she wrote, because she didn’t want to stop his dreams.

We don’t know what happened to that girl and her brother. But we must do our best to end the nightmare that has befallen that region, and to degrade the ability of Serbian aggressors to massacre innocent civilians across Kosovo. We know that the attacks have stepped up in recent days -- but that is all the more reason we must stay the course.

Tomorrow morning, in chapel services at military bases across America and Europe, the
families of our fighting men and women will ask God to watch over their loved ones. Let us join our prayers to theirs. Let us do so with pride in what they do, and a confidence born in the knowledge that their mission is right. In the difficult days and weeks ahead, let’s remember who we are and what’s at stake. Thank you for listening.