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**Folder Title:**
Op-Ed - Lake/Rubin 7/94 - 6-7/94 Trip

**Staff Office-Individual:**
Speechwriting-Boorstin, Robert

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When President Clinton visited the cemeteries and beaches of D-Day last month, he spoke of the need to link the sacrifices of the past to the new and nuanced challenges of today. Fifty years ago, the United States fought to destroy tyranny and build a democratic, secure and prosperous future for Europe and the world. After World War II, we achieved success only in half of the continent. We are now able to continue and perhaps complete that great mission.

Last week, on his third trip to Europe this year, the President matched his words from Normandy with concrete deeds. From Latvia to Poland, from the G-7 summit in Naples to Germany, the President carried a broad package of initiatives to foster the economic vitality of America and its friends and allies around the world, to create a Europe undivided and free, and to win support for a number of key American foreign policy goals.

In Naples, each of the major elements of the President's foreign policy agenda won the support of his counterparts in the G-7:

-- On North Korea, the leaders, including President Yeltsin, supported a US-led diplomatic approach which seeks to freeze North Korea's nuclear program and maintain international safeguards while high-level talks continue to resolve the nuclear issue.

-- On Bosnia, the President earned the strong endorsement of the G-7 leaders for the measures put forward by the Contact Group to convince all parties, especially the Bosnian Serbs, that there is no future left in continued fighting.

-- On Haiti, the G-7 repeated the central thrust of US policy -- calling for pressure on the de facto regime to meet their obligations to step down and make way for a return to democracy.

Though forging this broad consensus was a strong reaffirmation of the continued leadership of the United States in world affairs, the legacy of the President's work at the G-7 summit and his meetings with leaders in Germany, Latvia and Poland will likely be measured in more enduring terms.

With the support of the G-7 leaders, the President emphasized throughout his four-nation tour the need for a future-oriented, coherent and consistent foreign policy -- a policy prepared wholeheartedly to promote economic growth and jobs, putting
people first in order to enhance our ability to meet the challenges of change with confidence; a policy rooted in the importance of integrating the democratizing nations of the East into the security and economic structures of the West; a policy committed to renewing and revitalizing the world's international economic institutions to prepare them more effectively to race the opportunities of the 21st century;

Each of these three strands of the President's policy found innovative expression in specific actions:

1. PROMOTING JOBS AND GROWTH

-- Building on his messages at the Detroit Jobs Summit of (Date), the President successfully urged the G-7 leaders to agree on a set of principles to guide international efforts to create employment, stressing the importance of job training, skills and education.

-- On trade, the President sought and gained clear agreement from his counterparts to ratify the pivotal Uruguay Round this year. Though the President decided to take one of his trade initiatives -- the so-called Trade (Open Markets?) 2000 program -- off the G-7 table until Uruguay Round ratification has been achieved, its basic premise of promoting expanded and free trade will form the agenda of the next round of GATT negotiations.

-- On the World Trade Organization, the President worked for a pledge from the G-7 leaders to establish the new trade organization by the end of the year.

-- On the international information superhighway, the President gave strong support to international efforts to develop common information and communications infrastructure, (beginning with the creation of a network to allow public access to the collective knowledge of the G-7 national libraries) -- IS THIS TRUE?

2. INTEGRATING EAST AND WEST

-- For the first time in the history of G-7 summits, Russia participated as a full partner in the summit's political discussions. The President reaffirmed his commitment to support Russia's transformation into a robust market democracy.

-- On Ukraine, the President forged a broad consensus, undergirded by a commitment of some $4 billion, to foster the emergence of a thriving market economy if the government in Kiev adopts long-awaited reforms. the G-7 leaders also agreed on a program to promote nuclear safety at Chernobyl and elsewhere.

-- On the Baltics, in the first-ever Presidential visit to a Baltic country, the President reaffirmed his strong support for the political and economic transformation of these new democratic nations and their reintegration with the West, and his commitment to provide leadership to bring about the departure of Russian troops from their soil by August 31.
On Poland, the President announced a set of initiatives to secure technical assistance and resources in support of employment, investment, housing, privatization and related programs. The President also pledged to work closely with Poland and other new democracies within the Partnership for Peace in order one day to embrace Poland and others as full members of NATO. The President underscored that no country had the right to veto or threaten Poland or any other Central or East European democracy's integration into Western institutions.

3. BUILDING A NEW INSTITUTIONAL ARCHITECTURE FOR A NEW ERA

In a significant development, and at the President's urging, the G-7 leaders began the process of reforming existing international institutions -- including the G-7 -- and developing new ones, so that our people are better able to master the rapidly changing world economy. As a first step, they directed their resources more effectively to address the challenges facing countries emerging from economic and political disruption.

At the US-European Union Summit in Berlin, the President, German Chancellor Kohl, and EU Commissioner Delors agreed on steps to strengthen the US-EU partnership in supporting reform in Eastern Europe, in fighting international organized crime and drug trafficking, and in forging common solutions to international crises.

This catalogue of successes was borne not of circumstance but of firm Presidential leadership. Throughout his trip, the President's essential message was voiced with clarity and authority: as the people of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union have the courage to build a new world, so too must the industrialized world have the courage to renew their societies and economies, and to extend freedom and prosperity eastward. It was an active, engaged, and engaging President who brought to his message -- and to his important meetings with world leaders in Europe -- bottom-line results. America's interests were well-served.