

eration Joint Endeavor, each of you will receive America's newest military honor.

As you move around the world—excuse me, as you move ahead with your mission, I ask you, too, to keep this in mind: Around the world people look to America not just because of our size and strength but because of what we stand for and what we're willing to stand against. And though it imposes extra burdens on us, people trust us to help them share in the blessings of peace. We can't be everywhere, and even you can't do everything. But where we can make a difference, where our values and our interests are at stake, we must act. Here, where our values and interests so clearly are at stake, you are acting on America's behalf.

All the people of Bosnia are looking to America, and so we look to you, the men and women of our Armed Forces. Here our Nation, through you, can make a difference between a war that starts again and a peace that takes hold. From the highest commander to the newest recruit, that difference lies in your hands. You give America power and strength. And you are giving Bosnia a new day of peace. Always be proud of what you are doing here. Your country and your Commander in Chief are immensely proud of you.

God bless you all, and God bless the United States of America. Thank you.

As part of our family outreach, I'd like to ask Colonel Neal Patton to come up here. Colonel Patton, where are you?

I flew into Aviano, Italy, this morning at 6 o'clock, and there were a huge number of young children there and a lot of family members. Colonel Patton's wife gave me a hug and said, "You sent my husband to Tuzla. So I expect you, Mr. President, to personally deliver his birthday present." Here it is, Colonel. Happy birthday.

Col. Neal Patton. Sir, thank you very much. That's really something. Thank you.

The President. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:18 p.m. In his remarks, he referred to Maj. Gen. William L. Nash, USA, Commanding General, 1st Armored Division; Sgt. Maj. Jack Tilley, USA, 1st Armored Division; and Adm. Leighton Smith, USN, Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe. The Executive order of January 11 establishing the Armed Forces Service Medal is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With President Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia-Herzegovina at Tuzla Airfield January 13, 1996

President's Visit

Q. Mr. Izetbegovic, can you tell us what it means for the President of the United States to be here in Bosnia?

President Izetbegovic. In President Clinton we see a great friend to Bosnia-Herzegovina. We wish him here a warm welcome. And of course, we see the opportunity that we have discussions on several important issues, issues relating to IFOR forces and especially the United States of America in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Q. Mr. President, was it worth all the effort to make the logistical nightmare of making this visit?

President Clinton. Absolutely. First of all, the most important thing for me was to come and see our troops and to tell them that I support

them, the American people support them, and we appreciate what they're doing here, and to get a briefing about what's going well and what still needs work.

And the opportunity to meet with President Izetbegovic and the other members of his government I think is quite important because we still have a lot of work to do. And quite over and above the IFOR obligation, we've got a lot of work to do to rebuild Bosnia economically. And I want to do what I can to aid that.

And of course, I've got Mr. Bob Gallucci, one of our most able diplomats; he helped to unravel our problem, our North Korea problem. So I figured if he did that, he could certainly figure out how we're going to help Bosnia get