

bishop of Newark; Archbishop Agostino Cacciavillan, Apostolic Pronuncio to the United States; William Cardinal Keeler, president, National Conference of Bishops; Father Paul Theroux, national coordinator for the Papal visit; Gov. Christine T. Whitman of New Jersey; and Mayor Sharpe James of Newark.

Proclamation 6830—Energy Awareness Month, 1995

October 4, 1995

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Although we tend to focus on energy issues only in times of crisis, Americans should not underestimate the daily impact of a clean, safe, affordable energy supply on maintaining our standard of living, protecting the environment, and ensuring our national defense. In the past 3 decades alone, disruptions in global oil markets and dramatic price shocks have caused international strife and economic recession. Energy choices affect air and water pollution; nuclear, toxic, and other waste disposal present potential hazards; and energy use can influence our precious wilderness and natural ecosystems.

As we observe Energy Awareness Month, 1995, this year's theme, "Energy Fuels Our Future," is a powerful reminder of the need to build a strong foundation of sustainable energy policies that will benefit the generations to come. We can be proud of the United States' efforts toward this end. In every critical sector of society—commercial and residential development, transportation, industry, utility management, and government—we have improved efficiency and reduced the environmental impact of energy production and consumption.

Our challenge today is to continue this work, and my Administration remains committed to the responsible use of existing resources and the progress of innovative technology. We have many objectives—enhancing the competitiveness of our Nation's oil producers, expanding the role of domestically produced natural gas, encouraging the development of renewable energy resources, minimizing the environmental impact of coal use,

and supervising the safe contribution of nuclear energy. As we seek to strengthen our economy and ease the burden of energy use on the global environment, let us work together toward these vital goals.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 1995 as "Energy Awareness Month." I call upon government officials, educators, and all the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate activities recognizing the central importance of energy use in our lives and to the future of our world.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

William J. Clinton

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NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on October 6.

Statement on Hurricane Opal

October 4, 1995

As Hurricane Opal hits the coast of the Southern United States, our hearts and prayers go out to all whose lives have been disrupted by the devastation. The people of Florida and Alabama have shown great courage and strength in dealing with the damage that has already been done, and I know they will continue to show courage as the hours progress.

I want the States affected by this terrible storm to know that the rest of America is with them. One of the basic values of America is the responsibility to stand with each other in times of need. I will do all I can to ensure you the Federal support you need for successful recovery efforts. Tonight I have signed emergency declarations to supplement State and local recovery efforts in both Florida and Alabama. James Lee Witt, the Director of the Federal Emergency Man-

agement Agency, will be on the ground coordinating efforts in the South to save lives and protect the health, safety, and property of those affected by Hurricane Opal.

The action I am taking tonight will now enable us to immediately send rescue teams into the affected areas. Please be assured that the Federal Emergency Management Agency will mobilize all necessary resources to help these States recover from the damage. And be assured that the prayers of our entire Nation are with you.

Remarks Announcing Agreement on a Cease-Fire in Bosnia-Herzegovina and an Exchange With Reporters

October 5, 1995

The President. Good morning. Today we take another solid step on the hard but hopeful road to peace in Bosnia. I'm pleased to announce that the parties in Bosnia have agreed to a cease-fire to terminate all hostile military activities throughout the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina to become effective on October the 10th, if certain conditions are met.

At the same time, the Governments of Bosnia, Croatia, and Serbia have agreed to proximity peace talks in the United States, beginning about October the 25th, aimed at bringing them closer to a peace agreement. Those negotiations will take place with the assistance of our able negotiating team, led by Assistant Secretary Holbrooke, together with our Contact Group partners.

The talks will continue, then, at an international peace conference in Paris that can help to achieve an enduring end to the struggle. This is an important moment in the painful history in Bosnia, for today the parties have agreed to put down their arms and roll up their sleeves and work for peace.

We need to be clear-eyed about this. What matters is what the parties do, not simply what they say. There remain deep divisions to overcome. We are now on the right road, but we have by no means reached our destination, which is a serious and lasting peace in Bosnia. This cease-fire, however, greatly increases our chances to end the war and to achieve a peace. The United States, together with our European and our Russian partners,

intends to use all of our influence and every ounce of our energy to seize this historic opportunity for peace.

Q. Do you think—this statement, and do you wish you had done it sooner? If you had moved more aggressively—

The President. All I know is that we're on the verge of a cease-fire. We're going to do our best to get the cease-fire. We have 5 days of hard work to do on that.

Q. Will NATO police this cease-fire? How will this be enforced?

The President. We're going to brief you on all the details of the cease-fire. We intend to go forward with the cease-fire, then go forward with the talks here in Washington. We hope we can start the talks in Washington by October the 25th, and we feel very strongly that that will increase the chances of peace.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11 a.m. in the Briefing Room at the White House.

Remarks on Presenting the Arts and Humanities Awards

October 5, 1995

The President. Thank you very much. It's an eerie feeling being introduced by your wife. [Laughter] You never know what's going to be said. [Laughter] You're steeling yourself for the discipline not to show any adverse reaction. [Laughter] We're having a good time today, Hillary and I are. We love this day; we look forward to it. And we thank all of you for coming. We thank especially Senator Pell and Senator Simpson. Thank you for coming. We're glad to see you.

We thank the members of the administration who are here. I see Secretary Riley, and Deputy Secretary Kunin of Education; and Roger Johnson, the Director of the General Services Administration. There may be others here. I thank all of you for being here. I want to say a special word of thanks for the service of Jane Alexander and Sheldon Hackney for the great job that they have done. I thank my good friend John Brademas, the Chairman of the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities, and Diane Frankel, the Director of the Institute for Museum Services. And I thank all the members of the Arts and the Humanities