

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 11, 1994

Dear Mr. Leader:

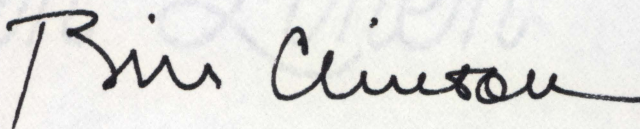
Thank you for your recent letter regarding the arms embargo on Bosnia and Herzegovina.

I have long maintained that the arms embargo against Bosnia and Herzegovina has unfairly and unintentionally penalized the victim in this conflict. The embargo runs counter to Bosnia's fundamental right to self-defense and has resulted in disproportionate gains for the aggressor, the Bosnian Serbs.

For these reasons, I instructed Ambassador Albright to circulate a resolution at the United Nations that would lift the arms embargo against Bosnia and Herzegovina. This resolution is simple and straightforward. It makes abundantly clear -- especially to the Bosnian Serbs -- our dedication to this course of action. The resolution also responds to President Izetbegovic's request to defer actual implementation of the lift for six months.

We would use these six months with our Contact Group partners to redouble our efforts to obtain a peaceful settlement not only of the Bosnian conflict but also of the broader problems in the former Yugoslavia. The peace process in the former Yugoslavia has reached a crucial stage. Contact Group negotiations have brought significant progress. Increased cooperation between the United Nations and NATO provides new opportunities to bring about a Bosnian Serb acceptance of the Contact Group's territorial proposal. The prospect of lifting the arms embargo in the spring offers additional leverage towards this end.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bill Clinton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bill" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Clinton".

The Honorable Robert Dole  
Republican Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510