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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with Russian
President Boris Yeltsin (C)

PARTICIPANTS: The President
President Boris Yeltsin

Interpreter: Dimitry Zarechnak
Notetakers: Tom Crowell, Nick Dowling,
Bonnie Glick, Joel Schrader, James Smith,
Andrew Weiss

DATE, TIME June 16, 1998, 10:50 a.m - 10:58 a.m. EDT,
AND PLACE: Oval Office

PRESIDENT YELTSIN: Hello, Bill. (U)

THE PRESIDENT: Hello, Boris. It's nice to hear your voice. (U)

PRESIDENT YELTSIN: Bill, I've done a lot of things today. We had a very difficult and, I would say, harsh talk with Milosevic. We have worked out a document, a bilateral statement, where Milosevic confirmed practically all of the points contained in the Contact Group document. So we will send you the bilateral statement. He has supported all the main points; that is to say, holding talks and trying to find a settlement through political means. So you may congratulate me. (C)

THE PRESIDENT: Well, I do congratulate you. I want to see the statement - I can't wait to see it. I think the real questions I have are if he said when will he withdraw his security forces and will he engage in political talks with the Kosovars immediately. What is the timetable there? (C)

PRESIDENT YELTSIN: You will find all this in the statement. You shall see everything in the statement. I believe this is a good document. We have managed to do a lot of things there,

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although I believe we could have gone a bit further on some points. But he is a very difficult person to talk to. (C)

THE PRESIDENT: You've obviously done a good day's work, and you've moved the ball forward quite a lot. Thanks very much. (C)

PRESIDENT YELTSIN: Well, it is part of our joint effort with you. The next important thing to do here is to find a peaceful settlement. (C)

THE PRESIDENT: Yes. I think it would be helpful if now, when we look at the next steps, if Primakov could follow up with a phone call to Madeleine, since Strobe Talbott will meet him in Copenhagen on Monday. (C)

PRESIDENT YELTSIN: Okay, I'll tell Primakov. (U)

THE PRESIDENT: Good. Thanks, Boris. (U)

PRESIDENT YELTSIN: Okay, goodbye. (U)

-- End of Conversation --