

## CSCE US - CLINTON LAYS OUT SECURITY VISION FOR EUROPE

BY STEVE HOLLAND

BUDAPEST, DEC 5 (REUTER) - U.S. PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON LAID OUT HIS VISION OF A UNITED, FREE AND PEACEFUL EUROPE ON MONDAY BUT CLASHED WITH RUSSIA OVER ATTEMPTS TO TIE ITS FORMER SATELLITES INTO THE WESTERN SECURITY NETWORK.

CLINTON TOLD A EUROPEAN SECURITY SUMMIT IN HUNGARY THAT THE WAR IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA SHOWED HOW URGENT WAS THE NEED TO IMPROVE REGIONAL COOPERATION TO "HEAD OFF...FUTURE BOSNIAS".

"I SAY AGAIN TO THE BOSNIAN SERBS: END THE AGGRESSION...SETTLE YOUR DIFFERENCES AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE," CLINTON TOLD A SUMMIT OF MORE THAN 50 LEADERS COVERING MOST OF THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE FROM VANCOUVER TO VLADIVOSTOK.

BUT HE IMMEDIATELY CLASHED WITH YELTSIN OVER WASHINGTON'S VISION THAT NATO SHOULD EXPAND EASTWARDS, DRAWING IN FORMER SOVIET ALLIES -- A PLAN WHICH YELTSIN SAID RISKED CREATING A "COLD PEACE".

SPEAKING AHEAD OF YELTSIN, CLINTON PREEMPTED HIM, SAYING: "NO COUNTRY OUTSIDE WILL BE ALLOWED TO VETO EXPANSION."

CLINTON SAID THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANISATION WAS THE BEDROCK OF EUROPEAN SECURITY AND COOPERATION. THAT WOULD BE REINFORCED BY STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, HE SAID.

"IN THE 20TH CENTURY, CONFLICT AND DISTRUST HAVE RULED EUROPE," HE SAID. "THE STEPS WE ARE TAKING TODAY WILL HELP TO ENSURE THAT IN THE 21ST CENTURY, PEACE AND PROSPERITY REIGN."

AIDES SAID THAT DESPITE DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS DEALING WITH A REPUBLICAN-LED SENATE, CLINTON WAS DETERMINED TO COME TO THE BUDAPEST CSCE SUMMIT TO SHOW HIS BACKING FOR THE TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY AND MARKET ECONOMIES IN EASTERN EUROPE. HE SPENT LESS THAN SEVEN HOURS IN THE GROUND IN HUNGARY.

HE SAID THE END OF THE COLD WAR GAVE EUROPE A CHANCE TO FULFIL THE PROMISE OF DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM, BUT THOSE IN TRANSITIONS HAD TO BE HELPED AND GUIDED ALONG THE WAY.

"WE MUST NOT ALLOW THE IRON CURTAIN TO BE REPLACED BY A VEIL OF INDIFFERENCE," CLINTON SAID.

NATO WOULD HELP KNIT TOGETHER THE DISPARATE STATES OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE FOR COLLECTIVE SECURITY.

"WE SEED TO INCREASE THE SECURITY OF ALL, TO ERASE THE OLD LINES WITHOUT DRAWING ARBITRARY NEW ONES, TO BOLSTER EMERGING DEMOCRACIES AND TO INTEGRATE THE NATIONS OF EUROPE INTO A CONTINENT WHERE DEMOCRACY AND FREE MARKETS KNOW NO BORDERS, BUT WHERE EVERY NATION'S BORDERS ARE SECURE," CLINTON SAID.

HE WELCOMED HISTORIC AGREEMENTS SIGNED AT BUDAPEST ON MONDAY WITH THE FORMER SOVIET STATES OF UKRAINE, BELARUS AND KAZAKHSTAN RENOUNCING NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND FINALLY BRINGING INTO FORCE LONG-DELAYED ARMS CUTS UNDER THE START 1 TREATY.

"THESE ACTIONS WILL CUT THE ARSENALS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE FORMER SOVIET UNION MORE THAN 60 PERCENT FROM THEIR COLD WAR PEAK. THE WORLD WILL BE A SAFER PLACE AS A RESULT."

BUT WHILE CELEBRATING THAT LANDMARK EUROPE HAD TO FACE THE WAR ON ITS DOORSTEP IN BOSNIA, CLINTON SAID.

"THE TERRIBLE CONFLICT IN BOSNIA RAGES NOT 300 MILES FROM THIS CITY," SAID CLINTON, IDENTIFYING THE CENTRAL ISSUE UNDERMINING A SUMMIT SUPPOSED TO SET A NEW SECURITY FRAMEWORK.

"WE MUSTN'T LET OUR FRUSTRATION OVER THAT WAR CAUSE US TO GIVE UP OUR EFFORTS TO END IT," CLINTON SAID.

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