

## Clinton stars in a sequel to sell his plans



President  
Bill Clinton  
Scott Maurer/DN

**NEWS ANALYSIS**  
SOUTHFIELD, Mich. — When a movie cashes in at the box office, the producers are usually quick to plan a sequel. Now Bill Clinton is relying upon the same studios that helped him become a campaign star in hopes of selling his economic plan.

"Shared sacrifice," was Clinton's message Wednesday as he held the first televised town hall since his inauguration to talk about the economy and the deficit.

It's a tough sell with more at stake than how well Clinton does in market-

ing his economic ideas. Clinton was also trying to reassure voters about his entire agenda.

As a candidate, Clinton relied on televised town halls, MTV appearances, even "Donahue" and the "Arsenio Hall Show" to take his message directly into America's living rooms.

It's a strategy political advisers say is now critical to the success of Clinton's presidency.

The economy was his campaign compass, but most of the media attention in Clinton's first three weeks has been on the likelihood of higher taxes to battle the deficit, his efforts to end the military's ban on homosexuals and a search for an attorney general

that has twice gone awry.

When he needed to reassure voters and shift the debate back to favorable turf, Candidate Clinton deftly used televised town halls to mix policy and politics in the comfortable surroundings of "real people." President Clinton shows no inclination to veer from that approach.

"He wanted to give the American people a chance to talk and ask about things that are on their mind, which is often very different from what is on the media's mind," said White House press secretary Dee Dee Myers.

The choice of sites for Clinton's first foray outside Washington as president was no accident, either. Clinton's success in the Midwest and California

won him the election, and as Clinton wrapped up his hour-long forum in suburban Detroit Wednesday night, Vice President Al Gore was beginning a similar program in California.

"It's part of an ongoing political campaign to go to places that matter," said a White House official involved in planning the events.

Clinton aides say the town hall forum and other technological advances will be used in the coming weeks again to allow Clinton to communicate directly to the American public like no president before him. They are convinced Clinton can drum up the public support he needs as a lever with Congress.

### WORLD WIRE

#### Mysterious AIDS-like illness not new virus

BOSTON — A mysterious outbreak of AIDS-like illness that created an uproar last summer probably has many different causes and almost certainly doesn't result from a single new virus, several studies

conclude. The studies suggest that the disease is actually a mishmash of similar-looking ailments that have been around a long time and are not contagious.

#### Pope: African Christians must be protected

KHARTOUM, Sudan — Pope John Paul II told Sudan's military leader on Wednesday that his Muslim fundamentalist government had a duty to protect Christians struggling for the freedom to practice their faith.

A human rights group insisted

the Sudanese government violated the rights of Christians and ethnic and religious minorities.

A village official said Sudan's president "does not give a damn whether the pope is around," and has bombed their area.

## Clinton offers troops to enforce Bosnian peace

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration said Wednesday U.S. troops could be sent to enforce peace in the former Yugoslavia if warring factions can negotiate a settlement. "Our conscience revolts" at unending accounts of murder and rape, said Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher.

Christopher announced the possibility of using American troops as part of an international force to deal with what he called "a cauldron of ethnic hatreds."

Other key provisions of a six-point administration plan included the appointment of Reginald Bartholomew, the U.S. ambassador to NATO, to assist international mediators forge agreement, and a pledge to tighten the U.N. trade embargo against the federation of Serbia and Montenegro.

Christopher, at a news conference, denounced the Serbs, accusing them of a wide range of atrocities in Bosnia-

Herzegovina, but he said President Clinton had ruled out providing the Muslims with U.S. weapons or using U.S. air power to silence Serbian mortar fire.

He said those options were weighed during the three-week review conducted by the new administration but were discarded out of concern that British, French and Canadian peacekeepers in the stricken country might be "gravely endangered."

He said the United States could not ignore what is going on in Bosnia-Herzegovina and said Clinton wanted to "bring the full weight of American diplomacy to bear."

On the potential use of U.S. troops, Christopher said they would be sent to the Balkans only in the event of a negotiated settlement and only as part of a multinational U.N. or NATO force.

"We are prepared to use our mili-

tary power to enforce the agreement," he said. "It is premature to try to analyze what kind of military power is necessary."

Other senior U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said there was no decision yet on whether ground troops would act as peacekeepers.

Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., a senior member of the Foreign Relations Committee, said Christopher called him and said that as many as 5,000 to 10,000 American troops could join a 40,000-member NATO force that might go to Bosnia under U.N. auspices once a new peace accord is concluded.

Christopher, describing the situation in the Balkans as deteriorating, said: "By acting now we can prove that every crisis does not mean a choice between inaction and unilateral American action."

## Clinton begins cutting government jobs

### Second batch of cuts to cost 100,000 positions

WASHINGTON — With the stroke of a pen, President Clinton on Wednesday began the process of eliminating 100,000 government jobs, dismantling scores of commissions and stripping executives of many fringe benefits.

It was the second installment in Clinton's campaign to show that fiscal belt-tightening starts at home.

The era of high living on the taxpayers by government officials "has come to an end," Clinton said as he signed a series of orders. The reductions are in addition to program cuts to

be included in the president's upcoming economic program and budget.

On Tuesday, Clinton announced a cut in the White House staff of about 25 percent.

Americans "don't want a government that wastes money, a government that costs more and does less," he told his Cabinet. "Now, you and I must deliver." The new orders will:

—Reduce through attrition the 2.1 million fulltime civilian federal work force by 100,000 by the end of 1995, with 10 percent of the cuts from management. Some 200,000 workers retire or quit each year.

—Require cuts in administrative costs totalling 14 percent by 1997. This includes travel, consulting fees, printing and supplies.

—Eliminate a third of the 700 presi-

dential advisory boards and commissions.

—Eliminate home-to-work use of chauffeur-driven limousines for top Cabinet deputies, except for national security reasons. Cabinet secretaries will continue to have full limo service.

—Require all federal executive dining rooms to either cover their own costs or shut down.

—Further restrict use of federal aircraft for non-government purposes. Cabinet officials will need White House permission for such trips.

Clinton's cuts cover neither the legislative nor judicial branches of government. The military is also not covered, nor the independent Postal Service.

## Powell says he'd prefer leaving post early

WASHINGTON — Gen. Colin Powell said Wednesday he will complete his term as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff if asked by President Clinton, but would prefer to leave a bit early.

In a day of appearances on TV interview shows, Powell strongly disputed a New York Times report that his desire to retire early was reinforced by disagreements with Clinton over the new president's policies on

homosexuals and budget cuts.

Powell, 55, is the nation's highest ranking military officer as well as the chief military adviser to the president. He has held the job since Oct. 1, 1989.

"I am not unhappy, I am not disappointed, I am not crosswise with the administration," he told CNN.

Powell said he had wanted to quit "a month or so" before his term as Joint Chiefs chairman ends on Sept.

30 "in order to get my family resettled." He said he had made his wish known privately before Clinton took office, and Powell's spokesman said it was reiterated to Les Aspin, the new defense secretary.

In a later CNN interview, when told that White House spokesmen had said Clinton wants him to serve out his full term, Powell indicated he would stay on the job if asked.



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