

Set 1: social, secur, trust, surplus, fund, promis, benefit, retir

Set 2: administr, action, vice, discrimin, upon, subject, feel, strong

Set 3: russian, putin, russia, nato, democraci, old, clear, cold

Set 4: militari, world, nation, forc, peac, mission, around, troop

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MODERATOR New subject, new question. Vice President Gore, if President Milosevic of Yugoslavia refuses to accept the election results and leave office, what action, if any, should the United States take to get him out of there?

AL GORE Well, Milosevic has lost the election. His opponent, Kostunica, has won the election. Its overwhelming. Milosevics government refuses to release the vote count. Theres now a general strike going on. Theyre demonstrating. I think we should support the people of Serbia and Yugoslavia, as they call the Serbia plus Montenegro, and put pressure in every way possible to recognize the lawful outcome of the election. The people of Serbia have acted very bravely in kicking this guy out of office. Now he is trying to not release the votes and then go straight to a so- called runoff election without even announcing the results of the first vote. Now, weve made it clear, along with our allies, that when Milosevic leaves, then Serbia will be able to have a more normal relationship with the rest of the world. That is a very strong incentive that weve given them to do the right thing. Bear in mind also, Milosevic has been indicted as a war criminal and he should be held accountable for his actions. Now, we have to take measured steps because the sentiment within Serbia is, for understandable reasons, against the United States because their nationalism — even if they dont like Milosevic, they still have some feelings lingering from the NATO action there. So we have to be intelligent in the way we go about it. But make no mistake about it, we should do everything we can to see that the will of the Serbian people expressed in this extraordinary election is done. And I hope that hell be out of office very shortly.

MODERATOR Governor Bush, one minute.

GEORGE W. BUSH Well, Im pleased with the results of the election. As the vice president is. Its time for the man to go. It means that the United States must have a strong diplomatic hand with our friends in NATO. Thats why its important to make sure our alliances are as strong as they possibly can be to keep the pressure on Mr. Milosevic. But this will be an interesting moment for the Russians to step up and lead as well. Be a wonderful time for the Russians to step into the Balkans and convince Mr. Milosevic that its in his best interest and his countrys best interest to leave office. The Russians have a lot of sway in that part of the world. We would like to see the Russians use that sway to encourage democracy to take hold. Its an encouraging election. Its time for the man to leave.

MODERATOR What if he doesnt leave? What if all the diplomatic efforts, all the pressure from all over the world and he still doesnt go? Is this the kind of thing, to be specific, that you as president would consider the use of U. S. military force to get him gone?

AL GORE In this particular situation, no. Bear in mind that we have a lot of sanctions in force against Serbia right now. And the people of Serbia know that they can escape all those sanctions if this guy is turned out of power. Now, I understand what the governor has said about asking the Russians to be involved, and under some circumstances that might

be a good idea. But being as they have not yet been willing to recognize Kostunica as the lawful winner of the election, I'm not sure it's right for us to invite the president of Russia to mediate this — this dispute there because we might not like the results that comes out of that. They currently favor going forward with a runoff election. I think that's the wrong thing. I think the governor's instinct is not necessarily bad because we have worked with the Russians in a constructive way in Kosovo, for example, to end the conflict there. But I think we need to be very careful in the present situation before we invite the Russians to play the lead role in mediating.

GEORGE W. BUSH Well obviously we wouldn't use the Russians if they didn't agree with our answer, Mr. Vice President.

AL GORE They don't.

GEORGE W. BUSH Let me say this to you, I wouldn't use force. I wouldn't use force.

MODERATOR You wouldn't use force?

GEORGE W. BUSH No.

MODERATOR Why not?

GEORGE W. BUSH It's not in our national interest to use force in this case. I would use pressure and diplomacy. There is a difference with what the president did in Kosovo which I supported and this. It's up to the people in this region to take control of their country.

MODERATOR New question. How would you go about as president deciding when it was in the national interest to use U. S. force, generally?

GEORGE W. BUSH Well, if it's in our vital national interests, and that means whether our territory is threatened or people could be harmed, whether or not the alliances are — our defense alliances are threatened, whether or not our friends in the Middle East are threatened. That would be a time to seriously consider the use of force. Secondly, whether or not the mission was clear. Whether or not it was a clear understanding as to what the mission would be. Thirdly, whether or not we were prepared and trained to win. Whether or not our forces were of high morale and high standing and well- equipped. And finally, whether or not there was an exit strategy. I would take the use of force very seriously. I would be guarded in my approach. I don't think we can be all things to all people in the world. I think we've got to be very careful when we commit our troops. The vice president and I have a disagreement about the use of troops. He believes in nation building. I would be very careful about using our troops as nation builders. I believe the role of the military is to fight and win war and therefore prevent war from happening in the first place. So I would take my responsibility seriously. And it starts with making sure we rebuild our military power. Morale in today's military is too low. We're having trouble meeting recruiting goals. We met the goals this year, but in the previous years we have not met recruiting goals. Some of our troops are not well- equipped. I believe we're overextended in too many places. And therefore I want to rebuild the military power. It starts with a billion dollar pay raise for the men and women who wear the uniform. A billion dollars more than the president recently signed into law. It's to make sure our troops are well- housed and well- equipped. Bonus plans to keep some of our high- skilled folks in the services and a commander in chief who clearly sets the mission. The mission is to fight and win war and therefore prevent war from

happening in the first place.

MODERATOR Vice President Gore, one minute.

AL GORE Let me tell you what Iâ€™ll do. First of all Â I want to make it clear, our military is the strongest, best- trained, best- equipped, best- led fighting force in the world and in the history of the world. Nobody should have any doubt about that, least of all our adversaries or potential adversaries. If you entrust me with the presidency, I will do whatever is necessary in order to make sure our forces stay the strongest in the world. In fact, in my ten- year budget proposal Ive set aside more than twice as much for this purpose as Governor Bush has in his proposal. Now, I think we should be reluctant to get involved in someplace in a foreign country. But if our national security is at stake, if we have allies, if weve tried every other course, if we are sure military action will succeed, and if the costs are proportionate to the benefits, we should get involved. Now, just because we dont want to get involved everywhere doesnt mean we should back off anywhere it comes up. I disagree with the proposal that maybe only when oil supplies are at stake that our national security is at risk. I think that there are situations like in Bosnia or Kosovo where theres a genocide, where our national security is at stake there.

GEORGE W. BUSH I agree our military is the strongest in the world today, thats not the question. The question is will it be the strongest in the years to come? The warning signs are real. Everywhere I go on the campaign trail I see moms and dads whose son or daughter may wear the uniform and they tell me about how discouraged their son or daughter may be. A recent poll was taken among 1, 000 enlisted personnel, as well as officers, over half of whom will leave the service when their time of enlistment is up. The captains are leaving the service. There is a problem. And its going to require a new commander in chief to rebuild the military power. The other day I was honored to be flanked by Colin Powell and General Norman Schwarzkopf recently stood by me side and agreed with me. They said even if we are the strongest if we donâ€™t do something if we dont have a clear vision of the military, if we dont stop extending our troops all around the world and nation building missions, then were going to have a serious problem coming down the road, and Im going to prevent that. Im going to rebuild our military power. Its one of the major priorities of my administration.

MODERATOR Vice President Gore, how should the voters go about deciding which one of you is better suited to make the kinds of decisions, whether its Milosevic or whatever, in the military and foreign policy area?

AL GORE Well, they should look at our proposals and look at us as people and make up their own minds. When I was a young man, I volunteered for the Army. I served my country in Vietnam. My father was a senator who strongly opposed the Vietnam War. I went to college in this great city, and most of my peers felt against the war as I did. But I went anyway because I knew if I didnt, somebody else in the small town of Carthage, Tennessee, would have to go in my place. I served for eight years in the House of Representatives and I served on the Intelligence Committee, specialized in looking at arms control. I served for eight years in the United States Senate and served on the Armed Services Committee. For the last eight years Ive served on the National Security Council, and when the conflict came up in Bosnia, I saw a genocide in the heart of Europe with the most violent war on the continent of Europe since World War II. Look, thats where World War I started in the Balkans. My uncle was a victim of poisonous gas there. Millions of Americans saw the

results of that conflict. We have to be willing to make good, sound judgments. Incidentally, I know the value of making sure our troops have the latest technology. The governor has proposed skipping the next generation of weapons. I think thats a big mistake, because I think we have to stay at the cutting edge.

MODERATOR Governor, how would you advise the voters to make the decision on this issue?