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the maximum research funding level possible. They are not in the mode to tell me that the Federal Government has not come forward with a good level of funding. I mean, they've been quite positive about that. But if there's some place where you can put a little more money to get this problem solved, of course, we want to be sensitive to that.

Johnson's Role on AIDS Commission

Q. Mr. President, what sort of impression did Earvin's announcement have on you personally?

The President. Emotional. And of course, the Bush family are sports fans, and we've followed Magic. We've done it with great respect and admiration. But it's been not just that, not just a great athlete hit, but it's been the way he's handled it. It's been that that's had the real emotional effect. And people see this around the country. They really do. I'm not just saying it because I'm sitting next to this big guy; I'm just telling you that's the way they see it. They see it as here's a man that's got hit, and he's standing up and doing something about it and helping others. That's what this country's about.

Q. Did you have any hesitation yourself in joining this Commission?

Mr. Johnson. No. After I received President Bush's letter, I mean, first of all I felt honored, and I just wanted to learn a little bit about the Commission, what were my duties, what my responsibilities were before I accepted. Once I found out what the Commission was all about, I was ready to jump in right away. You always want to help in any way you can, and this can only help the battle that I had already taken before that, my stand to try to help people.

Q. Do you have any suggestions for what the President might do to further help to fight AIDS?

Mr. Johnson. Well, the President and I are going to sit and talk.

The President. Talk about that.

Mr. Johnson. Maybe we'll let you know later. [*Laughter*]

Presidential Campaign

Q. Mr. President, what about the New Hampshire poll that showed a closer contest than before?

The President. I'm not going to talk about polls here today. I'll take care of that when the election rolls around. This is a nonpolitical event with a nonpolitical guy who's out there doing the Lord's work. So, I'd rather defer that until some more appropriate time. But thank you for inquiring.

Note: The exchange began at 1:50 p.m. prior to a meeting in the Oval Office. In his remarks, the President referred to Anthony S. Fauci, Associate Director for AIDS Research, and Samuel Broder, Director of the National Cancer Institute, at the National Institutes of Health. Professional basketball player Earvin (Magic) Johnson was a member of the National Commission on AIDS.

Remarks on the Presentation of a Natural Gas Powered Van and an Exchange With Reporters

January 14, 1992

The President. Let me just make a couple of brief statements. Last April, as part of the national energy strategy, I signed an Executive order that established goals for greater energy efficiency in the Federal Government, and that included the use of alternative fuel vehicles in the Federal fleet.

This van, driven over here and delivered by Secretaries Lujan and Watkins and then the able head of the GSA, Mr. Austin, uses compressed natural gas. And yesterday GSA announced that this year it will purchase from U.S. automakers 3,125 alternative fuel vehicles for use in the Federal fleet. This program demonstrates our continuing com-

mitment to implementing the national energy strategy, which promotes energy conservation and environmentally sound energy initiatives.

I am also pleased to announce that in our '93 budget, fiscal '93 budget, I will include $15 million for the Department of Energy to assist other Government Agencies in purchasing alternative fuel vehicles. This should allow us to purchase over 5,000 alternative fuel vehicles next year.

These actions will put us ahead of schedule for the purchases of alternative fuel vehicles as required by the Clean Air Act. And I was so pleased to learn about the delivery of this van over to the Department of the Interior that we used a slight Presidential prerogative and invite Secretary Lujan and Secretary Watkins and Administrator Austin to drive the van here for use in the White House fleet. So, we preempted one. But natural gas is a clean burning fuel. It's got a great future in this country, and here's but one more manifestation of that.

Q. You're going to drive it, Mr. President?

The President. What?

Q. Are you going to drive it?

The President. Yes, I've got my license. [*Laughter*]

Q. You haven't driven in years.

The President. It doesn't matter, I have my license. I would like you to be witness before I get in there.

Mr. Skinner. Looks good to me.

President's Health

Q. How come you can't sleep these nights?

The President. What?

Q. Jet lag?

The President. Doing fine, Helen [Helen Thomas, United Press International]. Please don't worry about that.

Q. I'm really worried.

The President. You wake up at night. I'll tell you, it's crazy.

Q. We're all worried.

The President. All right, here we go.

[*At this point, the President took the van for a test drive.*]

Meeting With Earvin (Magic) Johnson

Q. Mr. President, was Magic Johnson critical of your performance on AIDS?

The President. What?

Q. Was Magic Johnson critical of what you've done so far?

The President. Good, constructive suggestions, but very, very constructive. We had a very positive meeting. If he was, why, he didn't tell me that. But he left me some suggestions that we'll try to work on.

Note: The exchange began at 2:35 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House.

Letter to Congressional Leaders Reporting on Iraq's Compliance With United Nations Security Council Resolutions

January 14, 1992

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

Consistent with the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution (Public Law 102–1), and as part of my continuing effort to keep the Congress fully informed, I am again reporting on the status of efforts to obtain compliance by Iraq with the resolutions adopted by the U.N. Security Council.

Since I last reported on November 15, 1991, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Special Commission created under U.N. Security Council Resolution 687 have continued to conduct inspections and other activities related to Iraqi weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles. Iraq has not impeded these efforts insofar as they concern sites and activities declared by Iraq and Iraq's participation in the destruction of identified chemical weapons. In the main, however, Iraq continues to be uncooperative and obstructive

with respect to inspection of sites identified by the Special Commission and