

Forces. The Executive order changing the definition of “Field Duty” to ensure parity of pay among deployed troops is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks on Receiving the Mubarak Medal in Kuwait City, Kuwait *October 28, 1994*

First, let me thank you, Royal Highness, and the people of Kuwait for this high honor. Mubarak the Great, your grandfather and the modern-day founder of this proud nation, symbolizes the determination to defend your independence against all aggression.

I accept your honor on behalf of all the American people and especially the men and women of our Armed Forces. They are the strength behind our commitment to Kuwait and to peace and security in the entire Gulf region. They are the steel in our determination never again to allow Iraq to threaten its neighbors. They have stood shoulder to shoulder with your men in arms and once again have said no to aggression and yes to peace.

As the men and women of our Armed Forces work to make peace in the Gulf, far-sighted leaders are making peace elsewhere in the Middle East. I am encouraged by the effort of Arabs and Israelis to live together in peace. As Jordan and Israel have demonstrated, a peace for the generations is now before us.

I want to thank Kuwait especially for the important contribution you have made to the peace process. By helping lead the way to end the boycott of Israel, Kuwait is saying, let us close the door on the past and open a new page to the future, a future of peaceful coexistence and prosperous commerce for all the people in this region.

Your Royal Highness, the United States stands with those who seek to ensure the triumph of hope over fear. It was just a few years ago that President Bush sent our troops here to defend your very existence. Since that time our friendship has grown and our military cooperation has increased.

Our determination is clear: Kuwait shall remain free. And the United States and Kuwait will remain partners into the future.

I thank you again.

NOTE: The President spoke at approximately 7 p.m. in Bayan Palace. In his remarks, he referred to Amir Jabir Sabah of Kuwait.

Remarks on the Economy and an Exchange With Reporters in Kuwait City *October 28, 1994*

The President. As I think you know, we had good news from the home front today: Economic growth in the third quarter was at 3.4 percent and inflation a very low 1.6 percent. This sustained economic expansion is producing jobs—this year, more high-wage jobs than not, more high-wage jobs this year than in the previous 5 years combined.

This is the result of a remarkable partnership between the private sector and our policies: the efforts of all of our companies and people to be competitive in the global economy, coupled with our determination to lower the deficit, increase investment in critical areas, expand trade,

and aggressively promote United States economic interests all around the world.

I'm very, very encouraged by this. We have growth, better jobs, low inflation. That's the right path to be on. That's the path we need to continue.

U.S. Troops in the Persian Gulf

Q. Mr. President, when do you think you'll make a decision on bringing the troops home by Christmas, and how many?

Mr. President. Well, I will make a decision on that essentially based on the facts as they exist. If our military people tell me that their