

nies have agreed not to advertise their products on television and radio for the simple reason that it was the right thing to do. This week, however, the liquor industry announced it would break its ban and put liquor ads on the air, exposing our children to such ads before they know how to handle alcohol or are legally allowed to do so. That is simply irresponsible.

I commend the four major broadcast networks for saying they'll continue to honor the ban and keep liquor ads off the air. I urge all other broadcasters to follow that example. Parents have a hard enough time raising good kids these days, and all of us have a responsibility to help them to make those jobs easier, not harder.

To tobacco companies we should all say, "Sell your products to adults, but draw the line on

kids." And to liquor companies we should say, "You were right for the last 50 years when you didn't advertise on television. You're wrong to change your policy now. This is no time to turn back. Get back on the ban." That's the best way to protect all our families.

Our goal must be to help parents pass on their values to their children, help our children act responsibly, and teach them to take charge of their own lives. If we do this, America's days—best days are still ahead.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 5:30 p.m. on November 8 in the Oval Office at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on November 9.

## Remarks at a Veterans Day Ceremony in Arlington, Virginia November 11, 1996

Thank you. Thank you very much, Secretary Brown, for your introduction and for the service that you, Deputy Secretary Gober, and all of the men and women of the Department of Veterans Affairs render to our Nation every day. I thank Commander Zweiman for his remarkable address this morning, and I congratulate him on the 100th anniversary of the Jewish War Veterans of America. Thank you, sir.

To the distinguished leaders of our veterans' organizations; all the veterans who are here; the Gold Star mothers; the Gold Star wives; Major General Foley; all the members of the Cabinet who are here; the Joint Chiefs; the men and women in uniform, their families, and my fellow Americans.

Today on this hallowed hillside and all across our great land, we pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of our veterans, all those who followed our flag in war and peace, those who gave their lives, and those who came home. Each of us owes to all of them a debt we can never fully repay. The inscription on the Korean war memorial says, "Freedom is not free." For more than two centuries, our armed services have defended our freedom and made our Nation a beacon of hope for the world.

I'd like to take a moment in this special time for Americans to recognize the special contribu-

tion that one American veteran in particular has made to our Nation. Bob Dole was a 21-year-old 2d lieutenant serving in the Po Valley of Italy when a German shell struck him down in battle. He would bear the burden of his severe injury from that day forward for the rest of his life. But he refused to withdraw from the world and instead dedicated his life to serving the American people. I ask all of you here now to join me in applauding his remarkable record of achievement and patriotism to America. [*Applause*]

Today we thank God that America is at peace, but our freedom still comes at a cost. It depends upon the untiring efforts of the one and a half million men and women in our Armed Forces who defend our Nation, protect our interests, advance our ideals: keeping the peace in Bosnia, enforcing the no-fly zone in Iraq, standing watch over the DMZ on the Korean Peninsula, promoting stability and peace in Haiti. And beyond the headlines and hot spots, our service men and women are working every day, from Diego Garcia to Guam, to keep our forces strong and our readiness razor-sharp. Standing tall with them are the Guard and the Reserves, whose citizen soldiers proudly trace their lineage all the way back to the colonial Minutemen.

All those who serve our Nation deserve our strongest support. They must have the best training, the finest equipment, access to the newest technologies. And those who do go into battle for our Nation must never be left behind. And so we continue to pursue the fullest possible accounting for those Americans who are still missing.

Those who serve in uniform deserve every chance to build good lives as private citizens. And so we must offer our veterans and their families every opportunity to live their dreams, helping them to improve their educations, find good jobs, buy homes, protect their health.

This commitment extends to pursuing answers and providing relief for Gulf war veterans with unexplained illnesses. This issue was first brought to my attention by the First Lady as she traveled across America and veterans and their family members came up and talked to her of their personal experiences. Last year I appointed an independent Presidential advisory commission to address the health concerns of Persian Gulf veterans, their spouses and children. This commission will report its findings by year's end.

I want to assure all of you that we will leave no stone unturned in our efforts to investigate these cases and to provide our Gulf war veterans with the medical care they need. Tens of thousands of examinations have been performed; 26,000 determinations of disability have been made. There are many research projects now underway. There are mysteries still unanswered, and we must do more. But the United States will not forget the people who have served us, and we will discharge our obligations to those who served in the Persian Gulf.

Today we remember and honor the past service of America's veterans. And today we renew our commitment to meet the challenges of America's future for which they gave so much. Almost two centuries ago, Daniel Webster said in his dedication of the monument at Bunker Hill, "There remains to us a great duty of defense and preservation. And there is open to us, also, a noble pursuit to which the spirit of the times strongly invites us."

My fellow Americans, on the brink of a new century, we stand before broad new vistas of hope and progress. But if we are to realize our hopes for that future, we must ensure that America remains the world's strongest force for peace and freedom, for security and prosperity.

We must strengthen and expand the alliances that have brought us thus far. We must continue to reduce the threat posed by weapons of mass destruction. We must confront the violent conflicts rooted in ethnic, religious, and racial hatreds that so bedevil the world today. We must stop the global scourges of organized crime, drug trafficking, and especially terrorism. We must build an open trading system for the 21st century, and we must stand with all those who stand for democracy and universal human rights.

I cannot help but note on this day that in our time, for the first time in the entire history of humanity on this planet, more than half the world's people live in democratically elected governments because of the example and the force and the power of the ideas of America and the sacrifice of America's veterans.

Let me also say that, as we meet the challenges of the next century, our unity as a people will be, as it has ever been, our greatest strength. The silent white rows of crosses that surround us mark the final resting place of men and women of all services, all ranks, all races, all religions. They stand as stunning evidence that our Founders were right: We are all equal in the eyes of God. That is something we must continue to practice until we get it right. It is something we must teach our children, and it is something we must continue to teach to those troubled areas of the rest of the world where people still insist on killing over their differences.

Our American veterans buried here came from different walks of life. They served our Nation in different places and in different ways. Yet all were united by love of country, belief in freedom and opportunity and responsibility, and their faith in America's future. As we commemorate this day of reverence and respect, let us also remember this unity of spirit that has guided our Nation forward from its beginnings. No words can repay the debt of gratitude we owe to the men and women who have stood up for our freedom, but we can honor the memory of our veterans best by remaining the best kind of Americans we can be and keeping our Nation strong and secure, one Nation under God, to fulfill the vision of a better world that so many of them, our veterans, gave so much to create.

Thank you, and God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:30 a.m. at the Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery. In his remarks, he referred to Robert Zweiman, national commander, Jewish War Veterans of the

USA, and Maj. Gen. Robert F. Foley, USA, Commanding General, U.S. Army Military District of Washington.

## Remarks on Signing the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 and an Exchange With Reporters November 12, 1996

*The President.* Thank you very much. Thank you, Mr. Vice President, and to the members of the administration and especially to the large delegation of Members of Congress who are here from both parties. I thank you all for coming and for creating this legislation which will protect and expand the treasure of our national parks.

This legislation affirms our solemn commitment to say, from one end of our Nation to the other, we will be good stewards of the land that God has given us. This bill will create or improve almost 120 parks, trails, rivers, historical sites in 41 of our 50 States.

It turns the Presidio, a former military post in San Francisco, into a sanctuary of nature and history by establishing a nonprofit trust to manage the Presidio's property. It gives us a blueprint for national parks that one day will be able to sustain themselves without Government funds. I thank Senators Boxer and Feinstein and Representative Pelosi for their work on this.

The legislation preserves the Sterling Forest on the New York-New Jersey border. This new park, just 40 miles from New York City, will put nature within reach of millions of families of all backgrounds. It will safeguard a watershed that provides clean drinking water for the people of New Jersey. It will show that a forest that was left for dead a century ago can be brought back to life and protected today. I thank Senator Bradley and Senator-elect Torricelli and Representative Hinchey especially for their work on this.

The legislation will establish the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve in Kansas. Four hundred thousand square miles of this prairie covered our continent when Lewis and Clark made their great journey. Today, only a tiny fraction of it remains. This bill will help to restore 11,000 acres of this uniquely American land-

scape with its 9-foot-tall grass and rich plant and animal life. I'm pleased to say that it will also give the State of Kansas its very first national park. I thank Senator Kassebaum especially for her work on this, as well as Secretary Glickman, who supported this project when he was a Member of Congress.

The legislation does much more. It establishes the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail in Alabama, the 54-mile stretch of road that Dr. Martin Luther King walked in 1965 to remind Americans of how far we had to travel to live up to our ideals of equality and justice for all. And I thank, especially, the man who walked a lot of those miles with Dr. King, Congressman John Lewis, for his leadership in that regard.

This bill also gives us the resources to upgrade housing for Park Service employees. Many of these dedicated public servants have been spending their winters living in 30-year-old trailers that were supposed to last only one summer. That's going to change. I must say that one of the more rewarding aspects of being President has been visiting our national parks and getting to know the people who get up every day and put on the National Park Service uniform. It is amazing, the level of talent, training, and commitment those people bring to this job and the sacrifices, financial and other, that they're willing to accept to do the work that they love. But they deserve a better deal. And for the service they do to us, I thank the Congress for providing decent housing to them.

I'm also proud of what this bill does not do. It no longer contains provisions that would have taken land away from Virginia's Shenandoah and Richmond Battlefield parks. It does not open the Sequoia National Park in California or the Red Rock region of Utah to development that I believe would be destructive.