

healing for their families and for Jonesboro. And, indeed, we should pray for the families of the two young suspects, for their suffering, too, must be grievous.

Saint Paul reminds us that we all see things in this life through a dark glass, that we only partly understand what is happening to us. But one day, face to face with God, we will see all things, even as He sees us.

For four fine young girls and an outstanding teacher, that day has come. May God bless them, their families, and all of you.

NOTE: These remarks were videotaped in the afternoon on March 28 in Johannesburg, South Africa, for the memorial service held on March 31 in Jonesboro, AR. They were released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 29. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Exchange With Reporters in Kasane, Botswana

March 30, 1998

Botswana National Parks

The President. I learned today that 17 percent of this country is in national parks and national preserves. They've done a great job of protecting their wildlife.

Future Russian Elections

Q. TASS is quoting Yeltsin as saying he's not going to be part of the 2000 campaign and he's going to support Chernomyrdin.

The President. Chernomyrdin?

Q. Yes.

The President. That's interesting.

President's Safari

Q. What have you seen today, sir?

The President. Well, we've seen probably 20 or 30 different kinds of birds, fascinating ones, including some eagles I had never seen before and some storks I had never seen before and obviously the vultures and then a lot of the smaller, very beautiful birds, like these rollers. There you've got a baboon, right there, and is that an impala with it? An impala, a baboon, and three elephants right here where we're standing.

We saw a water buffalo—I think you saw it also—that had been wounded, apparently, by a lion. We saw the horns of a kudu and the skull, all that remained of what apparently was a lion kill up the road here, and the vultures were still kind of hanging around it.

It's amazing. It's been an amazing day.

Q. Any warthogs? We saw some.

The President. No.

Hillary Clinton. We saw hippos.

The President. We saw a lot of hippos.

Mrs. Clinton. Crocodiles.

Q. Did you check out the stars last night?

The President. It was amazing, wasn't it? The stars were amazing.

Mrs. Clinton. We saw the lions, too.

Q. Oh, you didn't see the lions.

Mrs. Clinton. We did, Sam [Sam Donaldson, ABC News]. We did.

Q. You saw a lion?

Mrs. Clinton. Yes, we saw a mother lion and four cubs.

The President. Oh, yes. They were up underneath a tree.

Mrs. Clinton. One of the lions was in the tree.

The President. You could barely see them, and the mother lion was on her back, playing with the kids.

Q. I would have killed for that. [Laughter]

The President. It was great. At one point, she even had one of her—one of the cubs' tail in her mouth. They were playing with it, back and forth.

Q. Can a Democratic President admire an elephant?

The President. Yes, and I like to see them concentrated here. [Laughter]

Q. I set you up there.

The President. Actually, I was kind of jealous that the Republicans had appropriated such a nice animal as their symbol. [Laughter] I think they're fascinating, these elephants are.

Q. At the restaurant last night, did you check out any of the zebra or crocodile?

The President. I tried it all.

Q. Those elephants produce more dung than any other animals. [Laughter]

The President. If you write that, make sure you say he did it, not me.

Q. But make sure you say the President was smiling.

Q. Mrs. Clinton, have you enjoyed it?

Mrs. Clinton. Oh, very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:55 a.m. at Chobe National Game Park. In his remarks, he referred to former Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin of Russia. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Statement on Legislation To Establish a Uniform Blood Alcohol Content Standard To Combat Drunk Driving March 30, 1998

Although my trip to Africa precludes me from joining Congresswoman Nita Lowey, Congressman Charles Canady, and others gathered in the Roosevelt Room, I want to state once more my strong support for legislation to put the brakes on drunk driving.

Setting a uniform limit for impaired driving at .08 blood alcohol content (BAC) will help us crack down on drunk driving nationwide. At a time when crime all across America is going down, we still lose an American to drunk driving every 30 minutes—every half hour a family is shattered, a child, a parent, a neighbor is lost forever.

By establishing a strong but sensible limit on blood alcohol content, we could save as many as 600 lives a year. And a uniform drunk driving

standard would still allow adults to drink responsibly and moderately—since the .08 BAC standard is not reached until a 170-pound man has had more than four drinks in an hour, and three for a typical woman.

This should not be a partisan issue. Indeed, the bipartisan work of Congresswoman Lowey and Congressman Canady and Senators Lautenberg and DeWine, proves that when leaders from both parties come together, we can set aside political differences to save lives and serve America. It is my fervent hope that the majority of the House will join the large bipartisan majority in the Senate and send me legislation that will make our streets safe, our drivers sober, and our laws more sensible.

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on Campaign Finance Reform Legislation March 30, 1998

Dear Mr. Speaker:

The Congress has an obligation and an opportunity to strengthen our democracy by passing comprehensive campaign finance reform. Instead, the Congressional leadership is attempting to derail serious, bipartisan campaign finance reform through procedural means.

The bipartisan plan proposed by Representatives Christopher Shays and Martin Meehan is genuine, tough reform, supported by a large number of lawmakers of both parties. It would address serious flaws in the campaign finance system, by banning unregulated “soft money”

raised by both parties, addressing backdoor campaign spending by outside organizations, and strengthening disclosure. This bipartisan measure is the best chance in years to reduce the role of special interests, give voters a louder voice, and treat fairly incumbents and challengers of both parties. This measure has the support of a majority of the Senate, and I believe that if it were allowed to come for a vote, it would have the support of a majority of the House as well.

Instead, the House leadership has determined to thwart serious reform. It has refused to allow