

July 1 / Administration of William J. Clinton, 1999

the last several years. And as I said, the relationship we've had has been one of mutual respect and independence, and I respect his—he knows what we're doing. He knows that we're determined to be fiscally responsible, and he knows—actually, we haven't talked about some of the things that are in this article, but I'm sure he'll read it, and he'll get a feel for what my theory is for how we can achieve long-term growth without inflation.

But he also knows there are these underlying things that he monitors every week for the Fed, and he'll make the best judgment he can. And whatever he does is his decision to make.

Mr. Dunham. Do you think he might for 5 more years?

The President. Oh, I don't even know if he wants to do it. I haven't talked to him. I don't even know if he's interested.

Mr. Dunham. Well, thank you very much. *The President.* Thank you.

NOTE: The interview began at 4:25 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House on June 29 but was embargoed for release until 10 p.m. on July 1. In his remarks, the President referred to Sanford I. Weill, chairman and chief executive officer, The Travelers Group, Inc.; Hugh L. McColl, Jr., chairman and chief executive officer, Bank of America; Richard L. Huber, chairman and chief executive officer, Aetna, Inc.; civil rights leader Jesse Jackson; Al From, president, Democratic Leadership Council; Richard Grasso, chairman and chief executive officer, New York Stock Exchange; former Gov. Charles (Buddy) Roemer of Louisiana; and former Gov. Ray Mabus of Mississippi. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

Radio Remarks on the Observance of Independence Day, 1999

June 29, 1999

This weekend, as we celebrate the 223d anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and the birthday of our great Nation, let us reflect on what it means to be an American.

Let us remember the visionaries, the patriots, and the soldiers who were inspired by a single ideal, that we are all created equal; and let us strive to honor that ideal today and every day by building a world where every individual can make the most of his or her talents and know what it truly means to live and breathe free.

On this, the last Independence Day of the 20th century, Hillary and I wish you a happy and memorable Fourth of July.

NOTE: The President's remarks were recorded at approximately 1 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast on July 4. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on July 2. These remarks were also made available on the White House Press Office Radio Actuality Line.

Interview With Susan Page of USA Today Aboard Air Force One

June 30, 1999

President's Medicare Modernization Plan

Ms. Page. We want to talk to you first about Medicare and then about new markets. You've got your long-awaited plan out on Medicare. What do you think the prospects are, especially looking at the early initial reaction that you got yesterday? What do you make of that?

The President. Well, first, I think it's a good sign that we have the Republican leadership with the door open. That's what having Senator Roth and having Congressman Thomas and the other two Republican congressmen there—McCrery from Louisiana, in particular, is a guy I know and have a regard for. He believes in getting things done. McCrery would like to