

Weekly Compilation of  
**Presidential  
Documents**



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## WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

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## Week Ending Friday, March 4, 1994

### **Nomination for Ambassador to Egypt** *February 25, 1994*

The President today announced his intention to nominate Edward S. Walker of Maryland as Ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

“Ambassador Walker’s broad experience in the Middle East and his dedicated service to the United States in the Foreign Service will be a valuable asset to our Embassy in Egypt,” said the President. “I am delighted to nominate him to this position.”

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

### **The President’s Radio Address** *February 26, 1994*

Good morning. Today I’m speaking to you from the First Police District in Washington, DC, the base for hundreds of police officers under the command of Inspector Robert Gales. The men and women who are with me here today and the other police officers throughout our Nation are a lot like you; they’re our neighbors and friends, they’re mothers and fathers, brothers, sisters, daughters, and sons. The difference, though, is that it’s their job to keep our streets, our workplaces, and our schools safe, and it’s a dangerous job. In the last year alone, about 150 police officers were killed in the line of duty. Today I want to talk about two officers, one who died this week in Los Angeles, and the other, killed a few weeks ago just blocks from where I’m sitting now. Both followed in the footsteps of their fathers who also wore a badge. They served with idealism, dedication, and honor, and they died in the line of duty.

For Officer Christy Lynne Hamilton, becoming a policewoman was the beginning of

a new life and the fulfillment of a dream, one she put off until after she raised her two children. She was 45 years old when she earned her badge in Los Angeles just last week. She said, then, the only thing she was afraid of was not doing a good job. No one else thought that was a possibility. She was voted the most inspirational person in her policy academy class. Then, in her first week on the job, she was murdered with a single round from an assault rifle, aimed by a 17-year-old boy who had just killed his father.

Officer Jason White was just 25 years old. He had a new wife, Joie, a new home, a job he loved. The officers here at the First Police District knew him well. He was on the force for 3 years, and every day he made a difference. He worked with young people at risk, he helped citizens set up community patrols, he took on the drug dealers on his beat. And then one night, 2 months ago, he was killed, shot six times with a handgun at point-blank range when he tried to question a suspect.

These brave officers and their other fallen comrades across our Nation left behind people who loved them, respected them, and looked up to them. For them, their relatives, their friends, their coworkers, for all the people in this country who deserve protection, Congress must move to make our streets, our schools, and our workplaces safer.

Last year Congress passed and I signed the Brady law after 7 years of hard struggle. And on Monday it will take effect. It will require background checks of anyone buying a gun. And that will help to keep guns out of the hands of people with prior criminal records and the mentally unfit. The law will prevent thousands of handgun murders.

Consider these figures on firearm crimes that are being released today by the Justice Department. Between 1987 and 1992 about 858,000 armed attacks took place every year. In 1991 and 1992, the annual rate of murder with firearms was 16,000 in each year. This

is where the Brady law will help. Among criminals who used a firearm and had a prior record, 23 percent, nearly one-fourth, said they bought their guns retail. Among murderers, about 5,000 had prior records and were still able to buy a gun in a retail store. Among those who killed police officers, 53 percent had a prior conviction record and still were able to do that.

If the Brady law had been in effect, none of these guns could have been purchased at a retail store. So it's a good start. But we need more, much more. We need a new crime bill that is both tough and smart. Our crime bill punishes serious criminals. It sends this message: Kill a police officer and you face the death penalty. It tells violent felons: Three violent crimes, three strikes, and you're out.

Our crime bill also works to prevent crime. It will give us a stronger police presence, 100,000 more police officers in our communities in the next 5 years. It will help stop young criminals from being better armed than the police by banning assault weapons. And while we take these steps, we encourage all our people to work with officers in their communities to reclaim our streets.

Here at the first district, a high premium is put on community policing. We know this works to reduce crime when officers know their neighbors, know the kids on the streets, when they do things like are being done here, where the officers organize citizen patrols and look after the children. Two officers here, Limatine Johnson and Joyce Leonard, run a safe house for kids where they can play games, watch movies, and learn away from the mean streets. I hear that the kids called Officer Johnson "Officer Lima Bean." And they smile when they do.

Police officers, it has been said, are the soldiers who act alone. But we can't let them be alone. The community must honor their service, respect their example, obey the laws they uphold, and walk beside them. If we do that, we can replace fear with confidence and help to make our country whole again.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:06 a.m. from the First District Police Headquarters.

## **Statement on the Church Bombing in Lebanon**

*February 27, 1994*

The killing of people at prayer is an outrage against faith and humanity. On behalf of the American people, I condemn in the strongest possible terms this latest incident in which innocent Lebanese at communion on Sunday morning were killed by bombs planted in a church. I extend my deepest sympathy to the bereaved.

Just as Friday's massacre in a Hebron mosque was aimed at the peace process, this bomb attack seems clearly aimed at Lebanon's reconciliation process. The extremists have a common purpose, to promote division, strife, and war. They must and will not be allowed to succeed.

I call on men and women of all faiths to unite in opposition to the forces of dark hatred. The people of the Middle East deserve a peaceful future. They deserve the right to pray in peace, as we join them in praying for it.

## **Exchange With Reporters Prior to Departure for Chicago, Illinois**

*February 28, 1994*

### **Bosnia**

**Q.** Can you give us any sense of what is going on in Bosnia and what has happened—

**The President.** Well, you know the essential facts, that last evening after midnight our time, United States aircraft, flying under NATO authority, warned some fixed-wing Serbian aircraft, Bosnian Serbian aircraft, to land, and when they didn't, they were shot down. There were two warnings. Every attempt was made, to the best of our information, to avoid this encounter.

We have had responsibility for enforcing the no-fly zone since last April. It has been since last fall that there were any fixed-wing aircraft that we knew of violating the no-fly zone, and we're attempting to get more facts now. We're also trying to brief everyone involved in this effort to bring peace to Bosnia about the facts, and if we find out any more

information, of course, we'll be glad to give it to you. But it seems to——

**Q.** Why now? Why now? Is this a new get-tough policy?

**The President.** No, no. The violations—the principal violations of the no-fly zone have been by helicopters, which could easily land. We've not had a fixed-wing violation reported of any kind, much less one we were in a position to do something about, to the best of my information, since last fall, since September. Those are much more serious because of the capacity they have to engage in military conduct from the air. Our mandate under the United Nations was to enforce the no-fly zone to eliminate the prospect that the war could be carried into the air.

**Q.** How were you informed, President Clinton? How did you learn of this, sir?

**The President.** Early, early this morning I was notified.

NOTE: The exchange began at 8:05 a.m. on the South Lawn at the White House.

### Remarks in a Roundtable Discussion at Wilbur Wright College in Chicago February 28, 1994

**The President.** I'm glad to see all of you. I'm glad to also be back at Wright Community College where I first came in December of 1992, although, Congressmen and mayors, you will remember, it was in a different facility. This is much nicer and newer. It's good to be back here.

We're here to talk about two things that relate to one another, crime and health care. It's appropriate that we're having this discussion today because today the Brady bill becomes law. It requires background checks on anyone who buys a handgun or gun and will help to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and people who are mentally unfit. It will prevent now, we know based on research, thousands of handgun murders all across our country. Here in Illinois, where you already have a tough law similar to the Brady law, it will prevent people who should not have guns from buying guns in other States, using them here to commit crimes.

Before we begin, I'd like to talk with Jim Brady who made history with his heroic efforts, along with his wonderful wife, Sarah, to pass this bill. They worked for 7 long years to pass it. I want to say Congressman Rostenkowski has supported the bill all along the way, but there was surprisingly continuing opposition in Congress. It all melted away last year. I hope that our campaign and election had something to do with it. But for whatever reason, we had a good, good, strong bipartisan measure of support for the Brady bill. It's now the law as of today.

And I just wanted—I've got Jim Brady on the phone, I think. And I wanted to congratulate him and thank him for his efforts. Jim, are you on the phone?

**James Brady.** Good morning, Mr. President.

**The President.** Is Sarah there?

**Sarah Brady.** I'm right here, sir.

**The President.** Well, it's nice to hear you both.

**Mrs. Brady.** Well, it's good to hear from you.

**The President.** As you know, I'm here in Chicago with a lot of people who understand the importance of what you've done. I'm here with doctors and other health care professionals who treat gunshot victims and people who are recovering from wounds. So I'm sure they're all very grateful to you, just as I am today.

**Mrs. Brady.** Well, we thank you for your leadership and for their support. It took a real team effort to get this passed, and we thank you very much for it.

**The President.** Well, I know that you believe this is just the beginning in our fight, and I know that you've got a lot of other objectives you want to try to achieve. I want you to know that we're going to be in there pulling for you and working with you.

**Mrs. Brady.** Well, thank you. We appreciate it.

**Mr. Brady.** We can't lose then.

**The President.** You know, today, Secretary Bentsen is announcing that the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms is taking an assault weapon called the "street sweeper" off the free market.

**Mr. Brady.** Yeah.

**Mrs. Brady.** That's a wonderful move, and we applaud that highly.

**The President.** The weapon was originally developed for crowd control in South Africa. Several years ago, the U.S. Government banned it from being imported, but it's still made and sold here. So today, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms is reclassifying the "street sweeper" and another assault weapon, the USAS-12, as destructive devices, increasing the taxes on manufacturers and dealers and requiring the buyers to take extraordinary measures. Starting tomorrow, if you want to buy one, you have to appear in person, provide a photo ID with fingerprints, and have a local law enforcement officer verify that the buyer can own it in his home State. And that, I think, will make a big difference.

So we're going to keep working on these things; we're going to try to pass this crime bill, including the assault weapons ban in it. I know you're going to help us. And I just want to say on behalf of Chairman Rostenkowski and Mayor Daley and myself and all these fine health professionals that are here, we appreciate you and we're grateful to you, and I hope you have a great celebration today.

**Mr. Brady.** Thank you, Mr. President.

**Mrs. Brady.** Thank you.

**The President.** Thanks, Sarah. Bye, Jim.

**Mr. Brady.** Bye now.

**The President.** Take care.

[At this point, the telephone conversation ended.]

Well, I'm glad we could take a little time to talk to them. You know, Jim Brady has paid a terrific price for the fact that we didn't have the Brady bill when he was wounded. I think it's remarkable that he and his wife are continuing to work on these matters and are continuing to get out there.

Chairman Rostenkowski, I'm glad to see you here today. Glad to have a chance to talk about this crime issue, which you've been interested in for a long time and how it relates to the health care bill that we're working on in Congress now. Mayor Daley, I'm glad you're here. I know that you were the State's attorney before you were mayor, and I know you've worked very hard on the

community policing. And every time I've ever talked with you, we've started our conversation with a discussion of crime. So I'm glad that you joined us here today.

I'd like to talk a little bit about the crime bill that's before the Congress and then introduce the people here around the table and then invite the rest of you who are here, if we have time, to make some comments, because I think it's very important that we see that this crime problem is being manifested as a public health problem, too, and that many of you who deal with the cost and the human tragedy of this can speak very dramatically to why we need to change our laws and our policies.

Our crime bill does a number of things. It contains a "three strikes and you're out" provision written properly to really cover people who commit three consecutive violent crimes. It gives us 100,000 more police officers so that we can do more community policing. We know that that lowers the crime rate, if you have properly trained police officers on the streets, in the communities, who know the neighbors and know the kids. It bans assault weapons, and it provides funds for things like drug treatment and alternative treatment for first-time young offenders, like community boot camps.

Today, I'm hoping that your presence here will help not only people in Chicago and Illinois but people all across America learn more about how the crisis in crime and violence is linked to the health care crisis in America.

Last week, physicians from Chicago area trauma centers had a news conference with the Cook County medical examiner, Dr. Edmund Donahue. They reported that largely because of the proliferation of rapid-fire automatic and semi-automatic and assault weapons, gun violence has become one of the leading health problems in the Chicago area. More than 2,500 people every year are treated for gunshot wounds in Chicago area emergency rooms, and caring for them in the emergency rooms costs \$37 million in this one community. In 1987, at Cook County Hospital, gunshot wounds accounted for 15 percent of the total funds used for the care of trauma patients. By 1992, this number had increased from 15 percent to 35 percent.

At the Cook County Hospital trauma unit, from 1987 to 1992, the number of admissions for gunshot wounds increased from 449 to 1,220 and accounted for 70 percent of the overall increase in admissions. That is a stunning fact. And all across Illinois, 1992 was the first year in this State where more people were killed by guns than by auto accidents.

According to an article in the Journal of the American Medical Association, gunshot wounds are expected to become the Nation's leading cause of traumatic death this year. From 1987 through 1992, 858,000 armed attacks took place every year, and in 1991 and 1992, 16,000 people were murdered with firearms each year. This adds about \$4 billion a year to hospital costs, and too often, of course, when one of us is struck with a bullet, the rest of us are stuck with the bill. About 80 percent of the patients who suffer firearm injuries aren't adequately insured or eligible for Government medical programs like Medicaid. So public hospitals cover the costs of the uninsured. Private hospitals charge higher rates for those who can pay, so the rest of us pay higher hospital bills, higher insurance premiums, and higher taxes.

This morning I want to talk with you and let you basically talk to me and tell me whatever's on your mind about what we need to do and what you have experienced. The Mayor and Chairman Rostenkowski and I have decided we'd like to hear from you first, and then we may want to ask you some questions. And I know there are some other very distinguished people here, too, in the audience who may want to say some things. But let's start with the Chicago Police Superintendent, Matt Rodriguez, a strong advocate of community policing. And I want to thank you, sir, for working with our national service program to implement our summer-of-safety where we're going to have several thousand young people working with police forces all across America to try to reduce the crime rate and relate better to the neighborhoods of this country this year. I thank you for that, and I want to give you the microphone for whatever you might like to say.

*[At this point, Mr. Rodriguez discussed the Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS) and explained that while the homi-*

*cide rate is down in Chicago, the public's fear of crime has increased.]*

**The President.** I think one of the reasons that's happening is the numbers I just read off. While the overall crime rate is going down, even the murder rate is dropping in many of our cities, especially where community policing strategies have been implemented, the violence among young people seems to be on the rise. And among young people who are shot with these semi-automatic weapons, a gunshot wound is more likely to end in death than it was just 5 or 10 years ago because you're likely to have more bullets in your body. I mean, there's a lot of evidence now to that effect.

So I think that the law enforcement folks in this country are not getting the credit they deserve in many cities, being able to bring the crime rate down through community strategies. But a lot of it is the sheer violence of certain particular things, and I think the widespread use of these assault weapons in gang settings.

**Mr. Rodriguez.** The fastest growing segment of our criminal population are the young people. They're increasingly becoming the offenders. We find it again here in Chicago and across the country. That is the same indication I'm getting from other chiefs throughout the country.

**The President.** Dr. Statter, Dr. Mindy Statter is the director of pediatric trauma at the University of Chicago Medical Center. Her unit is Level I, which means she gets the most intense and vulnerable trauma cases. Would you like to make a few comments?

*[At this point, Dr. Statter discussed the increasing number of injuries being caused by adolescent violence and addressed the high cost of helping these victims, physically and psychologically.]*

**The President.** Do you have any—how long have you been doing this work?

**Dr. Statter.** I've been at Wyler for 2 years.

**The President.** Let me just say this. One of the most controversial parts of the crime bill, as you know, Mr. Chairman, in the House will be whether we can get the assault weapons ban that passed in the Senate, passed in the House. I just sort of wanted

to ask your opinion as a medical professional. We have a lot of police officers tell us that this is very important, not only because it winds—without doing something on assault weapons you wind up often with the police in effect outgunned by people who have these weapons but that it actually has increased the level of mortality from gunshot wounds because of the transfer from handguns, regular handguns, to assault weapons. Have you seen that?

*[Dr. Statter explained that children die more often than adults from gunshot wounds, regardless of the kind of gun being used.]*

**The President.** Barbara Schwaegerman is a trauma nurse at Cook County Hospital who works in an emergency room and cares for hundreds of victims of violence every year. Would you like to make a few comments about your experience and what you—*[inaudible]*

*[Ms. Schwaegerman explained how the availability of semiautomatic weapons has created a 350 percent increase in deaths from gunshot wounds. She then stated that young people are using violence rather than communication to solve their problems and disagreements.]*

**The President.** Thank you.

Perhaps the most important person sitting around this table today on this subject is Carol Ridley, who is an anticrime activist because her 22-year-old son was killed by gunfire in 1992. She is an active member of the Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence and the Coalition to Stop Handgun Violence. Carol.

*[Mrs. Ridley explained that her son was killed by his best friend during an argument. She then discussed the need for community programs and social activities that are structured and will keep children off the streets after school. She also addressed the continuous fear children feel because of violence in their neighborhoods.]*

**The President.** First of all, let me thank you for being here and thank you for having the courage to keep fighting this.

One of the things that I have seen some success with around the country, that unfor-

tunately is just being done kind of on a case-by-case basis with no consistency, is an effort in our schools to literally teach young people, who may not learn it at home or other community settings, how to resolve their differences, to really try to work through and force kids to come to grips with their aggressions, their angers, and how they deal with this.

You know, I don't know how many encounters I've had in the last 3 years with people talking about shootings occurring in schools that mostly are just impulse things. And it's something I think maybe we ought to give some thought to and make sure that in the crime bill that comes out that some of this money for alternatives includes the ability—these things aren't very expensive—to have these courses in the schools where these kids are actually taught how people, sensible people, resolve their differences, because I think it's a real problem.

*[At this point, a participant agreed that conflict resolution needs to be addressed and discussed how important it is that people have a feeling of hope that something can be done to combat violence and crime.]*

**The President.** Congressman.

*[Representative Rostenkowski discussed the importance of restricting weapons, reducing violence in the media, and involving the community in combating crime. He then stressed the President's role in anti-assault weapon legislation.]*

**The President.** Well, I don't think there's any question that, as you said, this has been one of those issues where the people were ahead of those elected officials or at least elected officials as a whole. They've been out there for a long time wanting us to do something.

Mayor.

*[Mayor Daley thanked the President for his leadership in efforts to control violence and crime. He then discussed the effect that violence has on the community as a whole.]*

**The President.** Thank you.

Anybody else want to say something? Would you stand up and just identify yourself.

[At this point, eight doctors participating in the program discussed their experiences in treating gunshot victims and suggested ways to prevent violence and crime in the community.]

**The President.** Thank you. Is Dr. John May here?

**Dr. May.** Yes.

**The President.** You're the senior physician at the Cook County Jail, is that right?

**Dr. May.** Correct.

**The President.** I understand that you have done some violence prevention workshops with your people in the prison, in the jail. Would you talk a little about that?

[Dr. May discussed the violence prevention workshops in the prison and stressed the need for violence prevention methods such as conflict resolution and stricter gun laws.]

**The President.** Is Reverend Roosevelt McGee here? Reverend McGee is the executive director of the Chicago chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. What are your observations about what you've heard today, and what can we do to prevent some of these things from happening in the first place? What can I do? What can the rest of us do?

[Reverend McGee explained community efforts to provide alternatives for people who are turning to a life of crime and violence.]

**The President.** Thank you.

[At this point, Dr. Bruce Gewertz, chairman of surgery at the University of Chicago, thanked the President for his leadership in fighting violence and crime.]

**The President.** Thank you. I guess this would be an appropriate time to make an observation that all the medical professionals here will immediately identify with. You know, one of the big debates we're having in Washington over the health care plan now is that Americans spend about 14.5 percent of our total income on health care. The next most health-care-expensive country is Canada where they spend 10 percent; Germany and Japan are slightly under 9 percent of their income, even though their health outcomes, their indicators, are as good or better than ours in almost every major area. And

they cover everybody, unlike the United States, which doesn't cover everybody.

And in the health care debate, we're examining, you know, how much of that is due to the way we finance health care, how much of that is due to the enormous administrative burden on hospitals and doctors' clinics and in insurance offices. But if we're going to be perfectly candid, we have to admit that some of the difference is what you all deal with every day. As long as we have more people who are cut up and shot and victims of violence, we're going to have a more expensive health care system than our competitors. And it has enormous economic consequences for the country. The human consequences are by far the most important; I don't want to minimize them. But I think it's important that we acknowledge here that no matter how successful Chairman Rostenkowski and I might be working on this health care thing when we go back, and even if we can get everybody in the world to agree on it, which seems somewhat less than likely, we will still have a system that costs more than all our major competitors as long as we are a more violent society than all our major competitors. Because no matter how you cut it, you will have to be there doing what you do, and that's expensive.

I want to call on just a couple of other people, first, one of your officers. Is Officer Charles Ramsey here?

**Officer Charles Ramsey.** Here, sir.

**The President.** Officer Ramsey heads up—he's the deputy chief of police, and he's the head of the community policing program here. Could you say a little bit about what you think is the potential of the community policing program to actually reduce the crime rate and help maybe to begin to change patterns of behavior that we're talking about today?

[Officer Ramsey stated that law enforcement officials and health care professionals must work together to find methods to prevent violence. He then discussed violence on television and its effect on children.]

**The President.** Is Gina Benavides here? Gina was in her car with a girlfriend when she was the victim of random gunfire. And since that time, she's spoken out publicly

against gun violence, and I thought I would give her a chance to say something here today.

[*Ms. Benavides stated that many teachers and police officers do not live in the communities where they work, so their influence is limited.*]

**The President.** It's a very interesting thing—several weeks ago in Washington, DC, there was a national meeting on violence in which Jesse Jackson and a number of other people were involved. And one of the principal ideas that came out of that, interestingly enough, was that local and State governments should consider giving special tax incentives or low-cost mortgages or something else to encourage police officers and teachers to actually live in the communities in which they work. That's very perceptive that you would say that.

Steven Estrada, are you here? Steven was a former mid-level management professional who was shot in the back and robbed for \$9. And I appreciate your coming here, and I was wondering if you'd like to say anything?

**Mr. Estrada.** It's kind of hard to talk about sometimes, so I don't know what to say. [*Inaudible*]—when you're in a situation like that, you don't know what the answer is. All I know is that I've got to move on. I can't sit here and feel sorry for myself. I've got to move on and pick up where I left off and go on. And so, I don't know, Mr. President, I'm not an expert in handguns like all these other people here today—[*inaudible*]. All I know is one thing, that I do have a family. I have two little girls that I almost lost them, and I'm just grateful to be alive and to be here. So, I'm just going to move on.

**The President.** Thank you.  
Yes sir, Chief.

[*Officer Rodriguez explained that Mr. Estrada, like many victims of violence, is having a difficult time recovering both mentally and physically from his experience.*]

**The President.** Anything else? Anyone else want to be heard? Young man. Tell us your name.

[*William Waller, a gunshot victim, called for a ban on all weapons and stiffer penalties for criminals.*]

**The President.** Yes, sir. Thank you, young man.

[*Commander Ronnie Watson discussed the effect of violent television programs and video games on society. He then urged families and community members to become involved in programs that help control violence and crime.*]

**The President.** Thank you.  
Mayor.

[*Mayor Daley stated that many foreign companies are selling drugs and weapons to the United States because they are unable to sell them in their own countries.*]

**The President.** Thank you. Take one more, and then I think we better wrap up. Then, Congressman, I would like to hear from you at the end.

[*Dr. Leslie Zun, chairman of emergency medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital, explained that the emergency room takes care of many victims of violence at tremendous cost. She then thanked the President for his initiative on health care reform.*]

**The President.** We also need to remember that every one of these hospitals with a big trauma bill also treats lots of other patients for lots of other things, and it imposes an enormous financial burden on the hospitals, which is one reason this health care reform thing is so important to big city hospitals with large trauma units is that it will help to even out the flow of payments so you will be able to continue to treat these other folks and not risk bankruptcy, which I think is very important. A lot of people have overlooked that connection, that all these other people that are going to these hospitals.

Mr. Chairman, you want to wrap up?

[*Representative Rostenkowski thanked the President for his involvement in this issue and stated that many trauma centers have closed in Chicago due to the high cost of health care. He agreed with the idea that many police officers and teachers should live in the communities where they work. He then*

*thanked the President for becoming involved in tough issues.]*

**The President.** It is a tough one, but I want to thank you, Carol, and thank you, Barbara, and thank you, Mindy Statter, and thank you, Chief Rodriguez, and thank all of you for the work you do every day. And I particularly want to thank those of you who have been victimized in some way or another for having the courage to come up here and do this and to continue your interest in this.

I think the American people are ready to move on this. I believe they are. And I think maybe the rest—those of us who can help are getting the message. And your presence here today will certainly help.

Thank you very much. We're adjourned.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:45 a.m. at Wilbur Wright College. In his remarks, he referred to civil rights leader Jesse L. Jackson.

### **Remarks to Students at Wilbur Wright College in Chicago** *February 28, 1994*

Thank you. Thank you very much, Chairman Rostenkowski, for that fine introduction. Thank you, Mayor Daley. Thank you, President Le Fevour. It's nice to be back here at Wright Community College. I was here in December of 1992, and I asked the president, I said, "Now, how many of these people were here back in '92 when I was here?" And he said, "Not many. We were in the old place, and we only had 200 people in the room." So, I congratulate you on your beautiful new digs here. I like being here in this place.

You know, the city of Chicago and this State have been very good to me, personally, and to our administration. The best thing that Chicago ever did for me was Hillary, who's from here. And yesterday we celebrated our daughter's 14th birthday, the three of us, and we had a wonderful time. I was thinking back over her whole life and looking ahead to what her life might become and to what your life might become and trying to resolve again on that special day to spend every day that I have been given to be your President working on those issues, on the big things that really affect people's lives and their future,

not be diverted by the little things that so often swallow up our politics, make us less than we ought to be, and keep us from facing our responsibilities to the future. And that's really what I want to talk to you about today.

I'm honored to be here because I think these community colleges all across our country represent our responsibilities to the future, the chance of people to learn for a lifetime, without regard to their racial or ethnic or income backgrounds, the chance for people to make the most of their lives. I'm glad to be here because I think your mayor is an extraordinary leader who has taken on the tough issues here and tried to do these things.

And I'm glad to be here in Dan Rostenkowski's congressional district because had it not been for his leadership last year, we would not have done the things which were done which have got this economy on the right course and are moving into the future, and we would not be able to do the things that we have to do to meet our obligations to the future in this coming year in health care, welfare reform, and many other areas. So, I am honored to be here, here in this congressional district and here to tell you what you already know: that last year, when I became President, we had a deficit that had quadrupled the national debt, that had quadrupled in 12 years; we had 4 years of very slow job growth; we had very low economic growth; we had low investment. And I determined that we were going to have to make some tough decisions that would not be popular in the short run, decisions for which we would be attacked and decisions which would be misrepresented to the American people, to get an economic implant in place that would reverse the track we were on, that would begin to bring down the deficit, that would bring down interest rates, keep inflation down, and get investment and jobs and growth up. And I proposed that economic plan to the Congress, and in spite of the fact that there were billions of dollars of spending cuts in it and the taxes all went to reduce the deficit and only the top 1.2 percent of the American people paid higher income taxes—16.5 percent of the people, as they'll find out on April 15th, got a tax cut, lower income working people who deserve it be-

cause they are doing their best to raise their kids and educate them—in spite of that fact, many Members of Congress were quaking in their boots to vote for the bill. They were afraid to vote for it. They knew it was the right thing for America, because they were so terrified of the rhetoric of the last decade.

We were going to be paralyzed with the thought that the American people would not even support us raising taxes on the top 1.2 percent of our people and putting all of the money into deficit reduction to pay our obligations to the future. And that bill passed the United States Congress by one vote in both Houses. And I am telling you, if it hadn't been for the leadership of the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, it would not have happened, and this economy today would not be on the right path it's on if we had not done it. That is a fact. It is not up to me to know or to make judgments about all the things that are of concern to the people of Chicago, the people of this neighborhood. But I can tell you, as your President, I know that for a fact.

I also know that we have a lot of challenges before us. We have just begun to do what we need to do. Even though our economy last year produced nearly 2 million jobs—more than in the previous 4 years, even though most of those jobs were private sector jobs; whereas for the last 10 years or more, more and more of our jobs have been Government jobs, and the private sector has not been producing those new jobs—you know we have a long way to go. There are still too many people in Chicago who want a good job, who don't have it or can't find one. There are still too many people who work harder and harder every year without an increase in their incomes. There are still too many people who get out of high school without the education and training and skills they need. There are still too many people who ought to be at least in a community college, who aren't there.

Let me tell you, we have just done a study of this, and I released it last week. You may have seen it in the news when we were talking about our education program. But here is what we know: We know that in 1992, high school dropouts had an unemployment rate over 11 percent. High school graduates had

an unemployment rate of just over 7 percent. People with 2 years of community college had an unemployment rate of 5 percent. People who had 4-year college degrees had an unemployment rate of 3.5 percent. We live in a world where what you earn depends on what you can learn. And until we fulfill our responsibilities to make those opportunities available to all Americans, not just when they're young but for a lifetime—the average age at this community college is 31 years of age—until we do that, we will not have done our job for the future of this country.

We know that the earnings of high school graduates are, on average, more than \$4,000 higher than the earnings of high school dropouts; that the earnings of people who have at least 2 years of post-high-school education are, on average, more than \$4,000 higher than the earnings of people who graduate from high school. We know these things, and we still have a lot to do.

We know that we cannot restore order and harmony to our cities until we can free our young people of the scourge of crime and the fear of violence. When 160,000 young people stay home from school every day because they are afraid they are going to be shot or cut up or beat up, when even in cities where the crime rate is going down, often the death rate among young people from gunshot wounds is going up, we know that. And we know, as those fine medical professionals that the Mayor and Chairman Rostenkowski and I met with just a few moments ago told us, and they are here in the crowd today with the law enforcement officers and the community leaders, that unless we do something to reclaim our young people and to free them of the scourge of crime and violence, that the explosion in costs of our health care system will continue to drive up the cost of all Americans' health care and make it more and more difficult for people here in the city of Chicago and other places around the country even to keep their trauma units open because of the exploding costs of health care.

And so I say to you, my fellow Americans, we are moving this country in the right direction. You can see it from the passage of the economic program and the results of it. You can see it from the passage of NAFTA and

the opening of trade. You can see it from our making high-tech goods available for international trade. You can see it from the passage of the Brady bill, which becomes law today. Today. You can see it in these actions. We are moving in the right direction. I also want to just announce in connection with that, you know, what the Brady bill does is to make nationwide the requirement of a 5-day waiting period during which time a background check will be done. We now know from actual studies that this will save thousands of lives a year.

Today the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in Washington is also taking an assault weapon called the "street sweeper" off the open market. This weapon was developed for crowd control in South Africa, not for hunting or sporting purposes. Several years ago we banned its import, but we allowed it to be made in this country. Today the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms is reclassifying the "street sweeper" and another assault weapon as destructive devices, increasing the taxes on manufacturers and dealers, and requiring extraordinary measures before those weapons can be sold. We will make it a safer America if we keep doing these things.

But as we begin a new week of work in the Congress, even though we are pleased by those measures and others that I haven't mentioned, the family and medical leave law, the motor voter bill, which makes it easier for young people to vote, a lot of other good things which were done last year to rebuild a sense of common purpose and community in our country. We know we have a lot still to do. And there are four major pieces of legislation in the Congress today I want to mention to you, because each of them, in a different way, affects you.

The first two which are being considered right now are the crime bill and the education bill. The crime bill will put 100,000 more police officers on the street to help make the mayor's community-policing initiative work, so that people will know their neighbors, know the kids. Police officers will walk the streets, and they won't just catch criminals, they'll work to keep crime from happening in the first place. We know this brings crime down. It is already beginning

to work. In Chicago it will work dramatically if we can give the men and women who are working on our streets the support they need. The crime bill will do that—100,000 more police officers on the street—and we need to pass it as soon as possible.

The crime bill will do some other things. It will ban assault weapons, 28 different kinds, if it passes in the form it passed the Senate. It will have a very clearly worded "three strikes and you're out" provision, which basically says if you commit three violent crimes which are seriously damaging to people, you are not eligible for parole anymore. A small percentage of the people commit a high percentage of the crime, and it will give many, many more young people and people who are already incarcerated, who have a chance to put their lives right, something to say "yes" to. There is more in there for drug treatment; there is more in there for community recreational activities; there is more in there for boot camps for first-time nonviolent offenders.

We need to recognize that a lot of the kids that are getting in trouble have grown up in neighborhoods where there is no longer a strong sense of community, where their own families are not able to support them, and where there is not very much work. And when you have neighborhoods in which you lose family, community, and work, you're in a world of hurt. And we have to give those kids something to say "yes" to, and that is also something we're trying to do in the crime bill.

The second legislation now pending in the Congress that is important to all of you, particularly the students here, for your future, are the education bills. Our Goals 2000 bill, which will help mostly our elementary and secondary students because it establishes world-class standards for our schools, encourages grassroots reforms and changes to meet those standards, and gives the support we need to State and to local school districts to do that, including all kinds of experimentation that the Federal Government has never before clearly embraced.

The second bill is called the school-to-work bill, which attempts to create more students like you. It recognizes that the United States is the only major country that does

not have a system for taking all the high school graduates who aren't going on to 4-year colleges and at least getting them 2 years of further training. It recognizes that there's an artificial distinction between what is vocational and practical on the one hand and what is academic on the other hand. The average 18-year-old will change work eight times in a lifetime. There is no clear dividing line between learning and work, between the academic and the practical; they are one and the same. And we have to set up a system so that all high school graduates are given the chance to get further education, even as they work, so that eventually all Americans who need it will be flooding into institutions like this, not just once but as many as three and four and five times in a lifetime, so they will always be employable, always eligible to get better and better and better jobs.

And finally, on the education package, we have to change the unemployment system. I don't know how many people are here who have ever been on unemployment, but employers pay a tax, an unemployment tax, and then when you're on unemployment, you get a check that comes out of the fund where the tax receipts go. And the check is always for less than you were making and hopefully enough for you to just squeak by on. That used to be a system that worked when people were temporarily unemployed and then brought back to their old job. That's what unemployment used to be. But today unemployment is very different. Today unemployment normally means that job is gone forever and you have to go find another job. So we need to scrap the unemployment system and create a reemployment system so that from day one when somebody is unemployed, they can immediately begin, while they're drawing that unemployment check, to undergo retraining, to develop new skills, to look for new jobs, and not wait and not delay.

The next two great challenges we hope to embrace this year are welfare reform and health care reform. Let me say a word about welfare reform. I am sure I have spent more time with people on welfare than anybody who's ever been the President of the United States. I am sure of that, because when I was Governor I made it my business to find out as much as I could about the welfare

system. Why do people stay on welfare generation after generation? Why do they do it? I'll tell you one thing: For the overwhelming majority, it's not because they like welfare very much. The people who hate this system the worst are the people who are trapped in it. Why do people stay on welfare? Is it because the checks are generous? No, it's because overwhelmingly the people on welfare are younger women with little children and little education and little employability. And if they take a job, it's a low-wage job. They lose Medicaid for their kids. They have to figure out how to pay for the child care, so it becomes an economic loser.

What we have to do is to end welfare as we know it, to make it a second chance not a way of life, to give people education and training and support for their kids and medical coverage and then say, after 2 years of this, there will be a job there, and you must take it. You must go to work, but there will be a job there.

Finally, and most importantly, let me tell you that none of the long-term problems of this country can be adequately addressed until we have the courage to reform our health care system. We are the only advanced nation in the world spending 14.5 percent of our income, every dollar, on health care. No other country spends more than 10, that's Canada. Japan and Germany, our major competitors for the future, spend just under 9 cents of every dollar on health care. And yet all of these other countries provide health care to everyone. And yet every year, of our 255 million Americans—every year at some point during the year, 58 million Americans have no health insurance. At any given time, 37 to 39 million will have no health insurance. Small businesses and self-employed people pay 35 to 40 percent more for their health insurance coverage and have less coverage than those of us who work for Government or who are in bigger businesses.

The cost of health care has gone up at 2 and 3 times the rate of inflation. Most Americans have lifetime limits on their health insurance policies, so if anybody in their family really gets sick, they can run out of the limit and not have any insurance at all. An enormous number of Americans, over 80 million, have someone in their family who has what

is called a preexisting condition. They've been sick before, which means that either they can't get insurance or their premiums are higher than they ought to be or they're stuck in their job they're in because if they ever try to change jobs, their new employer won't insure them. All this is because—not because we have bad health care providers, we have the best doctors, nurses, health care facilities in the world, it is because of the way we finance health care. It is wrong and we ought to change it.

These trauma units are in hospitals that have to take care of a lot of other people. They have to recover the costs of all these people coming in with gunshot wounds and other wounds into the trauma unit and pass the cost on to somebody else. And if they can't do it, they run the risk of going broke. This is not a good system. It is the financing that is messed up. It is the unfairness of it. It is the fact that as older people stay in the work force, their insurance premiums get higher, even though older people are the fastest growing group of Americans. It isn't fair for them, just because of their age, to have to pay higher insurance premiums. This system does not work. We have to have the courage to change it. If we don't, let me tell you what's going to happen. By the end of the decade, we'll be spending 19 or 20 percent of our income on health care. None of our competitors will be over 12. How are we going to compete with them? If we don't, by the end of the decade all the new money you pay in taxes will go to health care, and it will go to pay more for the same health care.

This budget I have presented, I've heard all—people have talked for years and years and years about cutting the deficit and cutting spending. Let me tell you something. The budget I have given to Congress cuts defense and cuts discretionary domestic spending, that is, non-Social Security, non-health care payments. We cut that by billions of dollars, not adjusted for inflation, I mean real money for the first time since 1969.

So I don't want to hear people talk to me about cutting spending. But you know what's going up: health care costs, in this budget, at 2 and 3 times the rate of inflation. And it's more money for the same health care.

If you don't fix the health care system by the end of the decade, when you come to the Federal Government and you say, "We need another expressway in Chicago, like Congressman Rostenkowski used to get us money for," we'll say, "I'm sorry, there's no money for the expressway. We're spending it all on health care." You'll come and say, "We need money for another environmental technology program, like Congressman Rostenkowski used to get us money for," and we'll say, "Oh, I'm sorry, there's no money for this. It's all going to the same health care."

I'm telling you, we're going to choke this budget off if we don't do something about health care. It is complicated. People have different ideas. If this were easy, it would have been done years ago. For 60 years the National Government has tried to come to grips with the fact that we do not provide health care coverage to all Americans. But I'm telling you something, my fellow Americans, if you want me to be able to be an effective President so that we can compete in the global economy, so that we can have enough tax money to invest in education and training and new technologies, so that we can bring this deficit down, and so that we can deal with the health care problems of the country, we have got to address this problem, and we must do it now.

Just as I said before, just as it was true that last year, if it hadn't been for the Ways and Means Committee and the leadership of the chairman, there would have been no economic plan and no North American Free Trade Agreement. Remember this: Welfare reform and health care have to come through the Ways and Means Committee and have to go through the kind of terrible rhetorical divide you have been seeing filling your airways with all kinds of misinformation, trying to scare people off of dealing with health care. If we're going to cool down our rhetoric and stiffen our spines and open our minds and heart, we have got to have leadership in the Congress from people who are willing to take the tough stands, make the tough decisions, and make the right kind of future. This whole business is about getting people together and getting things done.

Five years, 10 years, 20 years from now, do you realize that 90 percent of what we are so obsessed with in the moment, no one will ever be able to remember? What this is about is getting people together and getting things done. And this is a city that understands that. That's the kind of mayor you have. That's what this community college is all about, getting things done. And if you want me to get things done, you have to say to the Members of Congress, "act." The one person you don't have to say it to is Dan Rostenkowski. It's in his bones, and he will do it, too. Thank you.

Let me just say one thing in closing. Sometimes I think Chicago works better than some other cities because you are instinctively, I think, maybe better organized. You understand community roots and deep ties and binds. I look around here and I see these health care professionals, I see these fine police officers in their uniforms. You know, there are a lot of things we have to face in this country that the President and the Congress can't fix alone. Teachers still teach kids in classrooms a long way from Washington. Police officers walk beats on streets a long way from Washington. There is nothing I can do except to try to help you have the opportunity, those of you who are students here, to have a better education and the opportunity to have the jobs if you get the education. You still have to seize it.

So the last thing I wish to say to you is, if we are going to meet our obligations to the future, every one of us has got to ask ourselves, what do we have to do as citizens to keep these kids alive, to give them a better future, to make sure that the education is there, to invest in the areas that we have run off and left, to build a better future? We have serious obligations. We are coming to the end of a century; we are coming to the end of a millennium; we are going into a whole new era in world history. And we, we have to meet our obligations if we're going to keep the American dream alive in that era. I'm going to do my best, and I hope you will too.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:16 a.m. in the gymnasium. In his remarks, he referred to Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and Raymond Le Feavour, president, Wilbur Wright College.

### **Remarks and a Question-and-Answer Session at Hillcrest High School in Country Club Hills, Illinois**

*February 28, 1994*

**The President.** Thank you very much. It's wonderful to be here. I thank you for your warm reception, and I do mean warm reception. I'm sorry it's so warm, but they had to put the lights up so that the cameras will put you all on the news tonight. So see, it's not so bad now, is it, what do you think about that? *[Laughter]*

I want to thank my good friend Congressman Mel Reynolds for arranging for me to come here and to be with you today and for the leadership that he is already displaying in his career in Congress. He is a great credit to all of you here, and I think you would be very proud of the work that he does in Washington. I want to thank your principal, Gwendolyn Lee, for inviting me here and for the comments she made. She told me that her mother made dinner for Martin Luther King, when she was 11 years old. And she said her mother sent me a plate that he had dinner off of, so she sent me into a little room out here to have a snack off the same plate. So you see, even when you grow up you've got to try to do what your mama wants. *[Laughter]* I've spent most of my life doing that myself. I want to thank Starr Nelson for being here with us. I thought she was very well spoken. We knew exactly what she had to say, and she was brief. That makes you very popular if you're a speaker. *[Laughter]*

Also I want to say I've heard good things about your music program here, so I hope before I leave I get to hear the band play. You guys have got to play a little for me. I also want to thank anybody in this whole student body who was responsible for putting together that statement up there, that letter for me. If every one of you believes that and lives by it, then I don't need to be here, I need to be somewhere else today. It's a very impressive statement and a real credit to your school.

I came here today, as I think all of you know, to talk about the problem of crime and violence in our land and especially as it affects our young people. As the Congress comes back to work this week, it will be con-

sidering some very important education bills and some very important crime legislation. We know as a practical matter that we can never really be what we ought to be as a people until we are not only free of the scourge of violent crime but free of the fear of it. For the very fear of crime keeps 160,000 young people just like you home from school every day. Every day that's how many people we estimate don't go to school because they're afraid that if they do go, either at school or going to school or coming from school, they'll be shot or knifed or beat up or hurt in some way.

I know that you understand that because last November two teens were shot and wounded within a week right outside your school. This kind of thing is happening all across the country, and we have got to do what we can to stop it—you and I together.

The number of teens murdered by guns has doubled just since 1985. You think of that. We've been a country for over 200 years, and the number of our teenagers murdered by guns has doubled in less than 10 years. One in 20 high school students carries a gun to school each day somewhere in America. I hope not here. But it happens. Some do it for protection. Some do it for the wrong reasons.

More and more of our young people find themselves caught up in a cycle of violence. I just left the Wright Community College here in Chicago where I met a woman whose 22-year-old son was murdered by his best friend in just a fight over nothing; over nothing they were fighting. And she said when the young man was arraigned in court he said he missed his friend every day. I had another medical professional tell me that she looked into the face of a woman who had just lost her husband because his younger brother went in another room and got a gun and shot him down because they were fighting over which channel they were going to watch on television. And the guy had two little children—people dying over nothing.

I was in California a few months ago, and I did a town meeting—I'm going to that in a minute here, get rid of this microphone and just let you ask me questions—and I was in Sacramento, California, but we were hooked into three or four other towns and

people all over the State could ask me questions. And this young man stood up and told a story of how he and his brother didn't want to be in a gang, didn't want to have any guns, didn't want to cause any trouble. And their school was unsafe, so they went to another school they thought was safer. And while they were standing in line to register at this safer school, some half-crazy person came into school and shot his brother standing right there in front of him in the line.

These things are happening all over the country. Today, the Brady bill becomes law. It's a bill that will save some lives. It's a bill that will require that no place in America can anybody buy a gun until they've been checked for criminal background or mental health history. And we know that it will keep thousands and thousands of people from getting guns who would otherwise get them, commit crimes, and maybe even kill with them.

We have done our best to deal with the problems, the special problems of assault weapons. We have a lot of evidence now that more and more people are hurt more grievously by guns when semiautomatics or assault weapons are involved because they're likely to have more bullets in their body. Today we banned an assault weapon called the "street sweeper" that was developed for crowd control in South Africa. To enforce apartheid in South Africa, to repress blacks in South Africa, that's what this gun was developed for—now not used anywhere, but manufactured in America so that people can get it and repress each other with it—no sporting purpose, no hunting purpose in this country.

But we have more to do. Congress is also considering, as I said, the crime bill. Let me tell you a little bit about what it does, and then I'll open the floor and you can tell me what else you think we can do. The crime bill now before Congress would permit us to train and hire, working with cities, another 100,000 police officers to work not just to catch criminals but to walk the streets, to know the neighborhoods, to go into the schools, to meet and become friends and neighbors with the young people in the schools. Last month, as Mayor Welch reminded me, Country Club Hills received a

grant for three new police officers from our Justice Department to do this kind of thing. We have seen evidence all across America, even in tough neighborhoods and big cities, that if there are enough police that are really walking the streets, knowing the families, knowing the young people, working with them, that a crime rate can go down by just creating an environment in which people don't commit crimes and feel that there is somebody secure and supportive there.

So that's the first thing that this bill does. The second thing the bill does is to ban about 28 kinds of assault weapons. The third thing it does is to have a safe-schools provision which provides money to help provide security measures in schools but also to try to help young people resolve their differences in different ways. We forget—at least I say, “we,” not you but me, those of us who are older, who grew up in a different time, and who stayed busy all day doing other things—we forget that there are a lot of people who see people resolve their differences hours and hours and hours a day on television programs where the differences are always resolved with a fight or a shooting, and where there may not be someone else saying there's another way to do this. And so we're doing our best through this crime bill to give the schools and the communities of our country the means to bring good gifted people in to work with young people about how to resolve their differences, how to deal with anger, how to deal with frustration.

Let me tell you something: We all feel anger. We all feel frustration. We all feel like we're being thwarted. There are always things that happen to all of us that we wish wouldn't happen and where we want to double up our fist or pick up a stick or something. But we learn not to do that. You have to learn not to do that in a society where you're really going to be civilized and recognize one another's rights. That's what we're struggling for in Bosnia today. That's what we hope for the people of all those countries in Africa which are embroiled in civil wars. And that's what we have to hope for our own people, that we can decide that we can do that. And in the end, that's what the people of the troubled Middle East are going to have

to decide: if they can resolve their differences without killing each other.

So this is a big deal. And this is what is in the crime bill. The crime bill has tougher punishment. It recognizes that most of the really serious crimes are committed by a small number of people, so if you commit three serious violent crimes that hurt people, sequentially, you won't be eligible for parole anymore. But most people who are in prison are going to get out. And most people can be helped before they commit crimes. So we try to find ways to deal with all these other issues.

I can't help saying one thing about drugs that I think is important, and that is that we see some evidence now that drug use, after going down among young people for several years, may now be on the rise again. And I just have to tell you that one of the things that I learn every day as President is to be a little humble about what I can do. That is, I get up every day and I try to do what I can to make the future better for you. My job really is about guaranteeing the future for America, preparing America for the 21st century, trying to keep the American dream alive for you. I've lived most of my life, and I hope more than I can say that none of you have lived most of your lives. I hope the vast majority of your life is still out there ahead of you. But I know that there is a limit to what even the President can do. The President can't keep anybody off drugs. The President can't keep anybody from getting in trouble with the law. The President can't keep anybody from resorting to violence. These are decisions you have to make.

And so I came here to this school today on the first day the Brady bill is effective—a bill for which people fought for 7 years to give you a better chance to be free of violence—to tell you that we're going to keep on fighting against violence. We're going to fight for more police. We're going to fight to have them be friends of the community. We're going to fight for tougher penalties, but we're going to fight for better chances, for young people to have things to say “yes” to.

But in the end, what matters more than all of that is whether you believe what's up there on that wall. And if I do my part and

the Congressman does his, and the teachers and the administrators do theirs, and all these parents and others who are here today do theirs, in the end what still counts is whether you believe what's on that wall. But if we, your parents and your grandparents, will assume our responsibility to deal with these tough problems now, and you will believe what's on that wall, then I believe that you will grow up in the most exciting time this country has ever known. And if we don't, if we don't do our part and you don't do yours, then what you saw here when those people were shot outside this school a few months ago is the beginning of just how bad it can be. The choice is yours. The choice is ours. I'm going to make my choice for your future. And that's the choice I want you to make, too. Thank you very much.

Now, where are the microphones out here? One, two, three. Okay wave them. Just make sure everybody can see. One, two, three. So if you have a question or a comment, get it to the microphone. Tell us your name and what class you're in.

### **Health Care Reform**

**Q.** I'm a sophomore here at Hillcrest High School. I was just wondering, if I were a graduating senior who planned to work full-time next year, what should I expect to pay in general medical expenses under your health care reform program?

**The President.** Good question. Good question. You should expect to pay, again, depending on how much you make, you should expect to pay about 2 percent of your payroll out of your pocket if you work for someone else. And your employer would pay somewhere between just under 4 percent and just under 8 percent of your payroll, depending on how big your workplace is and what the average payroll of the people working there is.

Now, having said that, let me get in a little plug. I just had some statistics given to me that I'll give back to you that relate not so much to health care but to your decision to go to work after you get out of high school. In 1992, the unemployment rate among high school dropouts nationwide was over 11 percent, and that included people 40 and 50 years old. For younger people it was much,

much higher. Okay? The unemployment rate for high school graduates was 7.2 percent. The unemployment rate for people that had had at least 2 years of a community college or further training was 5.2 percent. And the unemployment rate for college graduates was 3.5 percent. In 1992, the average high school graduate made \$4,000 a year more than the average high school dropout; and the average person who had a high school diploma and at least 2 years of further training made another \$4,000 more.

So my answer is, if you go to work when you get out of high school, enroll in a community college at night or something else and get further education and training so you can get your income up. Then you won't mind paying for health care. [Laughter]

And the good news is that right now, under the system we have now, you might or might not get health care, it just depends on the accident of whether your employer provides it. Under our plan, everybody will get it for the first time in the history of the country, and no one will lose it, even if somebody in their family has been sick. That's the biggest problem now: almost everybody in America is at risk of losing their health insurance if something happens to somebody in their family.

### **Law Enforcement Careers**

**Q.** I'm a junior. And I'd like to know if I was interested in becoming a CIA or FBI or national security agent, what would I have to do as far as education? What would I still have to do to get there?

**The President.** That's a good question. I think one of my Secret Service agents should talk to you when this is over. You come down here when this is over. I'll introduce you to one of the Secret Service agents and they can tell you about it, okay? What do you think? [Applause]

But wait, wait, I'm going to answer the question. The answer to your first question is, though, as an absolute minimum you have to go to college and finish a 4-year college degree. And a lot of the—particularly in the FBI, depending on what they're doing, have further education over that. And a lot of people in Secret Service were once in other kinds of law enforcement. But it's not nec-

essary for you to have a particular degree in law enforcement. A lot of them have done different things. But what I would suggest you do is to literally talk to one of my agents after it's over. But what I suggest you do: go to college, get the best education you can, do well, and keep up with what the requirements for joining these various Federal law enforcement agencies are, so that as you move toward the end of your college career, you can do what it takes to qualify. And if you have to do something else for a year or two before you get in, then that's all right as well.

But it's important that you keep up because, for example, suppose you decide to go do some other kind of law enforcement work first—under our national service proposal, you might be able to start when you're a junior in college working with law enforcement in the summertime, so you get a little leg up on that.

#### **Funding for Education**

**Q.** I'm a junior here at Hillcrest High School. And I would like to know, Mr. President, why is the Government cutting the cost for a college education?

**The President.** Wait a minute. Why are we—why aren't we cutting the cost, or why are we—

**Q.** Why are you cutting the funding?

**The President.** Well, we're not. You may be doing it in Illinois, and at the national level—I don't know that you are. I'm not accusing anybody or anything. [Laughter] But let me tell you this: For several years student aid levels were frozen at the national level, so that, in effect, they were being cut because inflation meant that the money didn't go as far anymore.

This year I have asked the Congress to put more money into the Pell Grant program, which is the college scholarship program for low-income kids that comes out of the Federal Government and also—did you give up on your question? And also, also, we have reorganized the college loan program. This is very important. I want you all to listen to this. We have reorganized the college loan program so that now you can borrow money at lower interest rates, and you can pay it back, no matter how much you borrow, as

a percentage of what you earn after you go to work. Now, a lot of people quit, drop out of school because they worry about the cost of it and they worry about the burden of paying the loans back. So now we are giving everybody who wants it an option. You can pay your loan back basically on a regular loan repayment schedule. But suppose you want to do something that doesn't pay a lot of money, at least when you begin. Suppose you want to become a schoolteacher in the beginning, and you know you're not going to be a millionaire. You could pay your loans back, but you can't pay a whole lot at once. Under our new proposal, you can borrow the money at lower interest rates and you can pay it back over a longer period of time, a smaller amount every year based on your income.

So there will never be a reason not to go to college. In addition to that, this year 20,000 young Americans, and 3 years from now, 100,000 young Americans will be able to earn several thousand dollars in scholarship money by participating in our community service program. So I am trying to make it easier for people to go to college, because it makes a huge difference, as I just quoted to you the numbers, in your employability and your income.

Go ahead.

#### **Public Housing**

**Q.** Hi, I'm a senior here at Hillcrest. My question is, besides giving money to the city of Country Club Hills, in the future do you foresee giving money to the less fortunate communities in the city of Chicago, such as Cabrini Green, so that they as well can fight against drugs and gang activities?

**The President.** Yes—

**Q.** And if so, how do you go about completing—

**The President.** Yes—

**Q.** —so that we as people can work together instead of working against one another?

**The President.** Give her a hand. [Applause] First of all, in this last round of grants for law enforcement, where this small community got \$238,000, Chicago got \$4 million to hire more police officers.

But let me just tell you, there are two or three things that are quite important here.

If our crime bill passes, then a lot more money will come to Chicago not only for police officers but also for drug treatment and for alternative activities for young people. And in addition to that, the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Henry Cisneros, which has jurisdiction over the big public housing projects, has a major new initiative to try to work with the homeless, especially homeless young people, to try to deal with that on a more permanent basis and to try to improve security and reduce drugs in public housing projects.

You know, you've had some remarkable success in Chicago, actually, cleaning out public housing projects and making them safe and providing jobs for people who live in the projects to work to help to keep them drug free and free of violence. And the truth is that we've not provided enough money nationwide to do in every housing project in the country what has been done in some housing projects here in Chicago.

So in this new round of our budget, through those two areas, through the crime bill, and through the Housing and Urban Development Department, we're going to try to give the people of Chicago and in cities like that all across America the tools they need to do the job. And that was a good question, great question.

### **Somalia**

**Q.** Mr. President, before I begin with the question, I'd like to thank you for sending my brother, who was in Somalia, home. I'd like to thank you from my family.

**The President.** Well, I'd like to thank him, and through him, through your family, for the work they did over there. We can't stay forever and solve all the problems of Somalia. We can't run the country. But what we did do was to save hundreds of thousands of people from starvation, to organize life again, and to give them at least a chance to work out their own problems. If they don't do it, they'll have to take responsibility for it. But at least we've given that country a chance to survive. And your brother can be proud of the service he rendered, and I appreciate that.

### **Education**

**Q.** Welcome, President Clinton. I would like to know—I'm a senior—I would like to know how do you plan to improve the public educational system so that it's equal throughout Illinois and throughout the States?

**The President.** I'm going to tell you what I'm going to do and then I'm going to be honest with you on the front-end and tell you it's not enough, okay? Because let me say, most public education in America, over 90 percent of it, is funded from State taxes and local taxes, so that the President and the Congress provide a very small percentage of the money that comes to this school district. That's the way it's always been.

I don't know what the numbers are for Illinois, but if I were guessing, I would guess that probably 55 percent of the total cost of public education probably is paid for at the local level. Is that about right? Most of it comes from the State? No, most of it—well anyway, take my word for it—over 90 percent comes from the State and the local level in some relationship.

Some States pay a big percentage of it. Hawaii, for example, pays almost all; there's almost no local taxes in Hawaii. Some States pay almost nothing, and it's all local property taxes. New Hampshire is the most extreme. All the other States—Illinois, New York, everybody else is somewhere in between.

Whenever you use local property taxes to fund schools there will be unequal funding. Why? Because some school districts have more valuable property than others, right? So at any given tax rate—I mean, if you've got—you're going to have that. That is the fundamental problem with inequality in America.

Now, at the national level, we have certain programs designed to help low-income districts and low-income kids or kids from disadvantaged backgrounds, like special education programs or Chapter I programs. What we are doing with our money this year is to put some more money into programs directed toward low-income children, like the Head Start program, and to change—I'm asking the Congress to change the way we give the money out to give more money to the poorer school districts so that we can equalize the funding.

But the reason I tell you it's not enough is, if you put up 90 cents and I put up a dime, I can redistribute my dime, but it still may not overcome your 90 cents. You see what I mean? So what that means is that, in Illinois, if you think it's a real problem and you think a lot of your schools are not being properly funded and it's unequal, you have to solve a lot of this problem at the State level with the State legislature in Springfield. We'll do as much as we can, and I have asked the Congress to do more, but there's a limit to how much we can do.

### **Spending Priorities**

**Q.** Hello. I'm a sophomore, and I was wondering, how do you justify millions of dollars being spent on space exploration when there are millions of homeless people in our country?

**The President.** Well for me, it's not a hard justification, but it's a very good question. The way I justify it is this: I think it's important for us to continue our lead in space because I think it helps our national security to be out there first and to always be in a position to shape developments in space, because space has given us a way to cooperate after the cold war with the Russians, the Japanese, the Europeans, and the Canadians. We're all working on the space station together because it creates new high-tech jobs for scientists and for engineers, and they create a lot of wealth for the rest of us, and because in space technology, a lot of things are found out that may have a lot of benefits for us right here on Earth.

I'll just give you just one example. I was down at the headquarters for the American space program in Houston, Texas, the other day, and I saw a motor that was used to pump water in space where it's gravity-free, so the motor obviously has to be very powerful to pump water and make it move where there's no gravity. And they discovered that the exact same technology could be used as a heart pump here on Earth to keep people alive, and it's lighter and better and cheaper to produce than what had been the case here. I also saw cancer cultures growing in space in gravity-free environments where the cells will grow differently, in ways that will enable all kinds of medical research to be done that

may keep a lot of us alive when they get cancer here on Earth.

So I think a nation like ours has to take some of its money and invest it in the future, even though you know it may not work out, even though you can't justify every penny based on immediate benefit. It's like investing in education, in a way. If I invest in your education, I think you're going to come out better. It may be 7 or 8 years down the road, and yet every dollar I spend on education is a dollar we don't spend on the homeless or feeding the hungry or some other problem.

So, I don't believe we're spending enough on the homeless, by the way. And under my budget we're going to spend more. So I can't defend that. But I think that if you were in my position, every one of you, one of the hardest decisions you would have to make is how much money am I going to spend taking care of problems today, and how much money am I going to spend investing in the future so we'll have fewer problems, more jobs, higher incomes, better opportunities? It's one of the hardest decisions I have to make. And like I said, I—by the way, a lot of people in Congress don't agree with me, a lot of people in Congress every year vote to cut the space program and put more money into problems just like you said. And if you were there, you might make the same decision. But as President, I always have to keep one eye on the future and one eye on the present and try to balance the needs in a proper way.

That was a great question. Give him a hand. It was a good question. [Applause]

**Q.** Hello. I'm a junior at Hillcrest High School. Mr. President, I would like to know why is it that the U.S. gives and helps other countries while we have our own people starving, nowhere to live, crime, no jobs, people on welfare, and gangs? Why don't we start helping our own country and not others? And how is it that you're going to change this around, where we'll become a more industrial country and not where Taiwan and Korea and Japan are beating us in industrial ways?

**The President.** Good question. Good question. First of all—that's a real good question, don't you think? Good question. First

of all, that's exactly what I ran for President to do, to get us to take care of our problems at home first, because my belief is, if you're not strong at home you can't be strong abroad. So I believe that, okay?

Now, I believe that. And as a result of that, in the last year, we have changed the economic course of the country, we're bringing our deficit down; we're seeing more investment and more jobs coming into this economy; we're opening up opportunities to sell American products around the world so we can compete with these other countries.

But you need to know that last year, our economy grew more rapidly than the economy of Europe and the economy of Japan, and that we are starting to come back. We are creating more jobs than they are, and we are beginning to really compete again. And that is my first and most important job and the overwhelming priority that we have.

Now, let me say also, though, we spend a smaller percentage of our income on foreign aid than the Europeans or the Japanese do, the Japanese give more money in foreign aid than we do now. The foreign aid is not a big problem; indeed, even though we're the strongest country in the world, we haven't even—I haven't been able to persuade Congress yet to appropriate the money we owe just to pay our past-due bills to the United Nations.

And we have to spend—it's like the question this young man asked me about the space program. It's hard to—there is no easy dividing line here between at home and abroad in the sense that now a big percentage of our income depends on our ability to sell products and services overseas because we live in a global economy.

The next time you go in a store, just pay attention to everything you buy. The next time you buy some clothes, for example, just see where all it's made, and you just see what a global economy we live in.

So if the United States wants to be able to lead the world and preserve the peace and avoid a war and not have a lot of people like the lady with the microphone's brother going all over the world getting—to fight major wars, we have to maintain some leadership in the world. And that requires us to invest some money. And I think we should invest

some money. But the overwhelming priority should be on the problems here at home, and that's what I'm trying to do. But we can't run away from our responsibilities abroad. We just have to put the folks at home first.

And I totally agree with you that we have not invested enough in education and jobs and curing the problems of the homeless, especially in the distressed inner city areas. If we had the same policy on getting foreign investment into inner city America that we have in getting American investment overseas, we could cure a lot of these problems. And that's what I'm trying to do as President.

I'll take—we've got to quit. They're trying to get me to quit. Two more.

**Q.** I'm a junior here at Hillcrest. I was informed that the money that was granted to us was to use for gun control. Now, if we could use that money for education, to educate the people to give them a choice, not to go into gun control, why can't we do that? Not to go to gangs or to drugs.

**The President.** You mean the money that you got—that the city got to hire the police officers?

**Q.** Yes, the money that was granted to the city—

**The President.** You used that to hire police officers didn't you? That money was used just to hire police officers. But the money in the crime bill—you know, I talked about the bill that's now pending in the Congress—there will be money in that bill that can be used in this community and in this school to do just what you said. In other words, I don't want to mix apples and oranges. I think it's important to hire more law enforcement officers, too, because I know if they're in the community and tied to the folks in the community, they can reduce crime. But I agree that there also has to be money spent to do the things you said.

If this crime bill passes in anything like the form we're talking about, there will be money for that purpose. And I perfectly agree with you.

That was a good question. Give her a hand. [Applause]

### **Homelessness**

**Q.** I'm a junior here at Hillcrest. I was wondering, as we see, in the United States

there's an increasing amount of homelessness. And I was wondering why have there been cuts in welfare?

**The President.** Well, to the best of my knowledge, unless you've done something here in Illinois I don't know about, I don't know that there have been cuts in welfare unless there was a State program that got cut. At the national level, there's been no cut in welfare, but the welfare check has not kept up with inflation. However, that's not the primary problem with homelessness. One of the things that we find is, increasingly, you've got families that are out of work that are homeless as well as people who have some terrible problem in their lives. And what I think we've got to do is not only improve the welfare system, which I want to do—that is, I want to spend—people on welfare I believe should be required to work but only after they've had education and training and until their children are supported with health care. Then I think you can require them to work.

So I think that is very important. But the homeless problem is a different one. One of the things that I'm most proud of about my Government now is that the person in charge of this, Henry Cisneros, who used to be the mayor of San Antonio, has really spent an enormous amount of time trying to figure out all the different reasons people are homeless and why getting homeless people off the street involves a lot more than just building shelters where people come in and spend a night or two, and then they're homeless again.

And what we're trying to do this year is take an approach to the homeless problem which will really give us a chance to go in and, family by family, person by person, examine why are these people homeless, what would it take to put them in control of their own lives again, and what do we have to do to do it. And I believe that within a year or so, you will be able to see some real results from our efforts with the homeless.

I keep telling our Cabinet, if we could just do one thing, just one thing that would make America feel better about itself, it would be to get these folks off the street and into a constructive life. People in our country want that, I think. I think all kinds of Americans

want that. I think it breaks America's heart to see all these folks trapped in a life that they can't really seriously want to live forever. And we're going to do our best to do better. I'm glad all of you care so much about that. Thank you.

They say we've got to go. I'm on my way to Pittsburgh. It's an interesting story. You talked about the rest of the world—I'm supposed to meet with the Prime Minister of Britain tonight, Great Britain. His grandfather worked in a steel mill in Pittsburgh. And his father was a circus performer in the United States. Just shows you what a small world it is.

I really have loved being here. I wish I could stay all day and answer your questions. You asked great questions, those of you who asked questions, and I wish we could have taken some more.

Please remember what I said. If you have other questions like this, you ought to bring these concerns to your Congressman. That's what he's here for, to bring them to me in Washington. I feel a lot better about the young people of the country just being here with you and listening to you ask these questions and knowing how much you care. And I will say again, I'll try to do the best I can on the issues we've talked about today. And you do the best you can to stick with what's on the wall. And we're going to do fine.

Thank you. Good luck. God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:15 p.m. in the gymnasium. In his remarks, he referred to Starr Nelson, vice president of the senior class, Mayor Dwight Welch of Country Club Hills, and to a sign the students addressed to him which pledged their commitment to fighting domestic and world problems.

### **Remarks Welcoming Prime Minister John Major of the United Kingdom in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

*February 28, 1994*

Thank you very much, Senator Wofford, Congressman Coyne, Mayor Murphy, Commissioners Foerster and Flaherty, and my friends. I'm glad to be back in Pittsburgh. I want to thank the band for their wonderful music and the Scouts for your fine salute and

your fine work, thank you. And I want you to join me in welcoming Prime Minister John Major back to the United States of America.

It's funny how this trip came about. Last July in Tokyo of all places, John Major and I were sitting around at night talking, and he said, "You know, my grandfather worked in the steel mills in Pittsburgh, and my father lived and worked here a while in the late 1800's before moving back to England." So I thought the next time John Major came to the United States, he ought to see America and come to Pittsburgh.

I want to emphasize to all of you here in the heartland of America how important the relationship between the United States and Great Britain is. We worked together to support reform in the aftermath of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the cold war, in Russia and in all those other former Communist states, to try to give democracy a chance. We worked together for a new world trade agreement to bring down trade barriers and open world markets to the products that American workers make. We worked together to make NATO stronger and more adaptable, to reach out to all those nations in the former Communist world and give them a chance to work with us to unify Europe in peace and democracy, in ways that will make America a safer and more prosperous place for decades to come. We're working together today to respond to the terrible tragedy in Bosnia, to try to bring an end to the killing and to bring peace and to keep that conflict from spreading in ways that could threaten the interests of the United States and Great Britain as well as the conscience of the civilized world.

And we do have a great partnership, as Senator Wofford noted, right here in Pittsburgh between British Air and USAir. It's been a good thing for the people of this town. Tomorrow we'll have a chance to talk about that and talk about some of the other tough issues that we face—the state of reform in Russia. The Prime Minister and I have both been in Moscow in the last couple of months. A struggle over the future of reform in Russia is underway. We have a vital stake in the outcome. We have to continue to encourage democracy, respect for neighbors, and real eco-

nomie reform in that country. It's in your interest and mine.

We also hope we can continue to press for peace in Bosnia. Britain is the second largest contributor to the United Nations troop effort in Bosnia, and over the last year, I want to say to all of you that the British have saved thousands of innocent civilians' lives there by their presence. We intend to continue working with them until we get a just and fair peace in Bosnia.

We're going to discuss what we want to do with NATO. We're going to discuss the political courage and the vision shown by Prime Minister Major and Prime Minister Reynolds of Ireland in working toward peace in Northern Ireland together. Their historic joint declaration offers new hope for that goal of peace. And as the President of this country, a country full of Americans of British descent and full of Americans of Irish descent, I again urge an end to the use of violence as a means of solving political problems and achieving political aims. It has no place in that effort.

The next time I see John Major after this trip, I'll be visiting Britain in June to commemorate the 50th anniversary of D-day and to affirm for a new generation of Britons and Americans the importance of our enduring partnership. We must continue to build on it, economically, politically, strategically. We have benefited immensely from our ties to Britain, and they have benefited from their ties to us. We are working together in ways that I think will benefit the children in this audience. The agreement on world trade concluded at the end of last year is perhaps the most concrete recent example of what we are trying to do for future generations.

In the months and years ahead, we'll have to continue to work on our issues of common concern. Not very long from now, we're going to have a jobs conference with Great Britain and other European powers in Detroit to discuss the difficulties that the United States and all the powers of Europe and Japan are all having creating new jobs in this difficult global environment and what things we can learn from each other to create more opportunities for all of our people.

Well, now I'm going to introduce the Prime Minister and say, after he speaks, we're going to look around Pittsburgh.

When John Major's grandfather and father were here, this city was the heart of America's industrial might. Today it's the center of its high technology and economic innovation. It's a city of the future as well as a city with a past. And so in the spirit of renewal that is the story of Pittsburgh today, I ask you to join me in reaffirming the bonds between the American and the British people in welcoming to the microphone the Prime Minister of Great Britain, John Major.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:44 p.m. at the Air Force Reserve base at Pittsburgh International Airport. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Tom Murphy of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County Commissioners Tom Foerster and Pete Flaherty.

### Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister John Major in Pittsburgh

February 28, 1994

#### Northern Ireland

**Q.** Mr. President, do you think granting a visa to Gerry Adams paid off in terms of progress toward peace in Northern Ireland?

**The President.** It's too soon to say. I'm supporting, very strongly supporting the initiative that Prime Minister Major and Prime Minister Reynolds have undertaken in the joint declaration. I hope it will; it's too soon to say. I'm pulling for them.

**Q.** Mr. Prime Minister, you obviously saw it differently, or your government did, as far as Adams—[*inaudible*—this weekend, Sinn Fein has not indicated any willingness to call for an end to the arms struggle. What is your reaction to that, and what is the President's reaction?

**Prime Minister Major.** Well, we both want the violence to cease. That's what the joint declaration is about. It provides an opportunity for the violence to cease and for Sinn Fein to legitimately enter the constitutional talks. Now, I think that is a sensible way ahead. It's a highway ahead that wasn't there before. It is there now. And I think when you look at the opinion expressed by Irishmen right across the whole island of Ire-

land, by an overwhelming majority, they believe that that option should be taken. You have to wait and see whether it is.

Thank you.

[At this point, one group of reporters left the room, and another group entered.]

**Q.** Do you like that [microphone], Mr. President?

**The President.** I wish there were a hunting season on these. [*Laughter*]

**Prime Minister Major.** I'm going to wake up one morning, and there will be one of those things on the pillow. [*Laughter*]

**Q.** And what will you say?

**The President.** Whatever it is, it will be known to all of England. I told the press once that there had been this raging debate for 12 years in America over the constitutional right to privacy and what it meant, whether we should keep it and what it should extend to, and all while, the boom mike had been abolishing it with no one noticing. [*Laughter*]

NOTE: The exchange began at 8:05 p.m. in the Tin Angel Restaurant. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

### Nomination for the Deputy United States Representative to the United Nations

February 28, 1994

The President today announced his intent to nominate Edward William Gnehm, Jr., a career member of the Senior Foreign Service to be the Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations with the rank and status of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary. He would succeed Edward S. Walker, Jr.

"I am confident Mr. Gnehm's extensive foreign affairs background and foreign service experience will provide a valuable contribution to our representation abroad," the President said, adding, "I am delighted to nominate him to the post of Deputy Representative to the United Nations."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

**Nomination for an Assistant Administrator at the Agency for International Development**

*February 28, 1994*

The President today announced his intent to nominate Sally Shelton-Colby as the Assistant Administrator of the Bureau for Global Programs, Field Support and Research at the Agency for International Development, U.S. International Development Cooperation Agency.

"I am pleased to nominate Sally Shelton-Colby to the position," the President said, adding, "Her foreign affairs experience and educational background will be a great asset to the Agency for International Development."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

**Nomination for Research and Special Programs Administrator at the Transportation Department**

*February 28, 1994*

The President today announced his intent to nominate Dharmendra K. "Dave" Sharma as the Administrator of the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) at the Department of Transportation.

"Dr. Sharma's broad experience in the areas of science and technology will be a great asset to the Administration," the President said, adding, "I look forward to his appointment."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

**The President's News Conference With Prime Minister John Major**

*March 1, 1994*

**The President.** We'd like to just make a couple of brief remarks, and then we'll answer some questions.

First of all, I want to again say how pleased I was at this visit the Prime Minister made. We had a wonderful time yesterday in Pittsburgh, and it turned out to be a pretty good

idea that just sort of grew out of a conversation we had last summer in Tokyo. And I'm glad that he came, and I'm glad that we had a chance to go there and to do what was done there.

We've had an opportunity to discuss, as you might imagine, a lot of issues. I might just mention a few. First of all, with regard to Bosnia, we are committed to continuing to work for a resolution of the crisis. We're encouraged by both the ongoing negotiations between the Government, the Bosnian Government, and the Croats and the willingness of the Russians to work with us and others trying to bring the Serbs into a final peace agreement. And so we're quite hopeful about that.

Secondly, I wanted to particularly emphasize the commitment that we share to strengthening and broadening NATO through the Partnership For Peace and to having tangible evidence of that Partnership coming forward this summer.

Thirdly, with regard to Northern Ireland, I want to reaffirm the support of the United States for the joint declaration, for the process it envisions, and for an end to the violence. I wish the Prime Minister and Prime Minister Reynolds well as they seek to carry this out.

And let me just mention a couple of other things. You knew yesterday, I think, that we sent a joint message to Mr. Mandela and Chief Buthelezi, and we are looking forward to their meeting today. We hope it will be successful. And we want to strongly encourage all the parties in South Africa to responsibly participate in the election.

The last thing I'd like to say is we join the United Kingdom in their position with regard to Hong Kong, in supporting Governor Patten's efforts to have a genuine, long-term strategy for economic and political success in Hong Kong. And I have been very admiring of what he's done and what the Prime Minister has done there.

Those are some of the things that we discussed. And I'll now turn it over to Prime Minister Major to make a few remarks, and we'll answer some questions.

**Q.** Are all your differences wiped out?

**The President.** Well, let me give the Prime Minister a chance to make some remarks first.

**Prime Minister Major.** Can I firstly say how enjoyable this visit has been and thank the President for his hospitality and also the people of Pittsburgh. It was a memorable day and a memorable evening yesterday, and I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of it.

I don't want to add a great deal to what the President has had to say, perhaps a word or two about Bosnia, in general, and Sarajevo, in particular.

One of the things we've agreed over the last couple of days is to send a joint civil planning mission to Sarajevo, the cease-fire there holding. That's been a very successful operation. I think it has been universally recognized as such. But the circumstances that exist within Sarajevo are still very serious. The utilities aren't working, the electricity, the water. So we've agreed to send a joint civil planning mission there to have a look at what needs to be done and then to see to what extent we can contribute and can encourage other people to contribute to deal with the civil difficulties that are actually faced there in Sarajevo.

The President mentioned the message we sent yesterday to Nelson Mandela and Chief Buthelezi. They meet today at Ulundi, and clearly, that's an extremely important meeting. It's our wish that everyone participates in the South African elections. It's a remarkable event, the first multiracial elections across South Africa, and we wish to see everyone take part. We very much hope, as a result of the message and, more relevantly perhaps, the meeting between Mr. Mandela and Chief Buthelezi today, that that will certainly happen.

We spent some time discussing trade matters as well as foreign affairs. I think there are two areas of that that I would just briefly touch upon. We agreed that it would be desirable to see if we could bring forward the start date for implementation of the GATT agreement to the first of January 1995. We'll need to consult with other people to see if that's practicable, but if it is practical, clearly an agreement has been reached and the sooner that agreement can be implemented, the better it will be.

We spent some time also discussing open markets. We both share a wish to support the growing measure of opinion that exists in Japan, for example, for the further opening of Japanese markets. This is a matter of concern to the United States; it's a matter of concern throughout the European Union as well. And we spent some time discussing that particular issue.

There were one or two rather more technical issues we discussed, a replacement of COCOM, that old relic of the cold war. That needs to be replaced. There are official discussions to do that, and we spent some time just looking at that.

Beyond that, I think I'd simply wish to endorse the points that the President made, those about Bosnia and about Russia. I think there's no doubt that we see the problems of Bosnia very much in the same light. Our policy is heading exactly in the same direction, and I think we've had a very useful discussion on that particular issue. I don't think for the moment I wish to add any more.

#### **United Kingdom-U.S. Relations**

**Q.** Can I ask you what in the new world order does the Anglo-American relationship mean to both of you?

**Prime Minister Major.** Shall I start, or will you?

I think it's a partnership of shared interests and shared instincts. If one looks at problems around the world, overwhelmingly, we are likely to take the same view of those. That has been the case in the past and is the case now. And I think it's those shared instincts and interests that actually underpin the long-term relationship between the United Kingdom and the United States.

**The President.** I agree with that. I think it's a great mistake to overstate the occasional disagreement and understate the incredible depth and breadth of our shared interests and our shared values. It's still a profoundly important relationship, I think, to both countries and, I also believe, to the future of the world.

#### **Balanced Budget Amendment**

**Q.** Could you tell us a little bit—in this country today, the Senate is beginning to take up the balanced budget amendment—what

your view is on that, where you think it's going?

**The President.** I don't know where it's going, but I hope that it won't be passed because if it is passed, it runs the risk of endangering our economic recovery by requiring excessive tax increases or very damaging cuts in defense or in investments in technology and job training or Medicare and Social Security. If it is disregarded—there's a provision in there to disregard it if 60 percent of both Houses want to do it—it amounts to turning the whole future of America over to 40 percent plus one of each House of the Congress. In an intensely partisan atmosphere that's a recipe for total paralysis. Also, unlike all these State and local balanced budget amendments, this one makes utterly no distinction between the long-term investment and annual consumption. So for those reasons, I hope it won't be adopted.

Finally, we're proving you can bring the deficit down. The deficit is now going to be about half the percentage of our annual income that it was when I took office if this new budget is adopted. So we're going to keep bringing it down.

I think the administration has credibility on cutting spending. We presented the first cuts in discretionary spending since 1969 in this budget. So I think we've got a record; I think we're on the right track. And I think this remedy, while it's a very serious problem—what's happened to the deficit—this remedy is the wrong one. I hope the Congress will reject it.

### **Bosnia**

**Q.** Mr. President, on Bosnia, you've agreed to send some civilians. Does that—[inaudible]—that you might prefer to see other civilians help monitor the cease-fire, and are you still adamant you won't send troops in at all at the present?

**The President.** Well, our position has always been that we would be prepared to help enforce an agreement if we could work out a peace agreement, that in the absence of the peace agreement we would confine our involvement to the support we're giving through NATO in our air power and to, essentially, the technical personnel who are

there now and others that might be able to do that kind of work. That is still our position.

But let me say that I think we have a terrific opportunity here to try to build on what happened in the situation involving Sarajevo, to try to keep the Russians involved in a very constructive leadership way, and to try to work on these talks now underway here in Washington between the Bosnian Government and the Croatians, to move to that kind of settlement. If we can get that, then I think all the responsible countries of the world have got to try to help make it work.

A question for the Prime Minister?

### **Northern Ireland**

**Q.** Could I ask the Prime Minister, then, has the President given you a promise about future conditions for the readmission of Gerry Adams? Will he have to renounce violence to get another visa to get into the United States?

**Prime Minister Major.** I think everyone has seen what has happened with regard to this. I think the important issue is to look forward and see how we produce a solution to the Northern Ireland problem. I'm not interested in looking back. And I think as one looks forward, one only has to look at the very remarkable expression of opinion that we've seen over the last few days of support for the joint declaration. Now that joint declaration is there. It is now a living fact. It is a series of principles upon which we hope to base a solution to the problems that have bedeviled Northern Ireland for too long. Now, that is the main issue that I want to address, and those are the issues we've been discussing.

### **Bosnia**

**Q.** Mr. President, to follow—you're talking about following on the progress that you've made in Bosnia. Did you talk about any steps to end the fighting in other places beyond Sarajevo, perhaps extending the ultimatum to Tuzla or Srebrenica or other areas?

**The President.** Well, we feel pretty good about where things are in Srebrenica now. We think that the troop exchange will be able to occur between the Canadians and the Dutch, and we're working on Tuzla. We do believe that we should keep working to fulfill

the commitment that NATO made at its last meeting in January to try to see what can be done to open the Tuzla airport. But there are ongoing negotiations there now.

Again, we have sought the involvement of the Russians in this regard, and we think that there's a chance that we'll be able to have some success in Tuzla. We've discussed what our options are, and I think you'll see more about that in the days ahead.

**Q.** Are you concerned about the recent NATO air strikes that resulted in increased bombing of the Tuzla area? I mean, your message is that you're not going to tolerate violation of the no-flight zone, but how do you reinforce that to prevent the increased activity?

**The President.** Well, right now our authority beyond what's going on in Sarajevo is confined to enforcing the no-fly zone. And we did that. But I want to say again what I said yesterday: It was based on the authority vested through the United Nations last April. It was something done in the course of business to do what we are required to do. It should not be read in any way as a departure of strategy or tactics because of what's going on now generally. And I think it should only serve to make people want to resolve this more quickly, to go on with the negotiations now. That's what I'm hopeful of.

**Q.** To follow up, if I may, sir, though—if there were indeed other bombing missions and the attacks step up on these other areas outside of Sarajevo, what can NATO do to prevent the spread of this violence?

**The President.** Well, right now, I'll say again, the authority we had with regard to artillery, that is, on the ground attacks, is the authority to remove artillery from around the Sarajevo area to create the safe zone. All other authority is related to stopping the war from spreading into the air. And we're talking about what we can do in Tuzla now. That's what you'll see, I hope, unfolding in a very positive way over the next few days.

**Prime Minister Major.** I have something to add. I think what people have to realize is that what is developing is developing on a twin track. There is the track of seeking a political settlement. And some progress has been made between the Muslims and the Croats here in Washington over the last cou-

ple of days. And then of course, there's the second track of what is actually happening on the ground. And I think one saw in Sarajevo a classic illustration of how an agreement can be reached on the ground that leads in due course to the corralling of weapons. So I think both those tracks will continue.

But as far as the no-fly zone is concerned, the incident that occurred yesterday, where I think it was entirely justifiable to shoot down the planes that were intruding in the no-fly zone, could have happened at any stage in the last year. It certainly isn't a departure from accepted policy. At any time in the last 12 months that could have occurred.

**The President.** Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President's 50th news conference began at 9:20 a.m. in the Diplomatic Entrance of the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Mangosuthu Buthelezi, leader of the South African Inkatha Freedom Party; Nelson Mandela, president of the African National Congress; and Governor Chris Patten of Hong Kong. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this news conference.

### **Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With Members of the House Budget Committee**

*March 1, 1994*

#### **The Economy**

**Q.** How do you like the economy, Mr. President?

**The President.** Well, I'm encouraged by the growth figures and by the fact that all the indicators are that there's no significant increase in inflation. So it's good to have that information.

I think it's plain—if you look at what happened in the fourth quarter of last year, we had the normal increase in consumer spending because of the holidays, and the accumulated impact of low interest rates bringing more and more investment. And so what we've got to try to do is to keep working to bring the deficit down, to keep interest rates down, to make targeted investments with public money where our country needs it the most, and to try to keep this climate down.

We have more investments coming in so we've created more jobs. It's very encouraging. It's a good sign.

### **Northern Ireland**

**Q.** Have you given any second thoughts about having Gerry Adams come to this country since what he has said, since he has made his comments, since—

**The President.** No, I don't know yet, I don't think we can draw a conclusion yet that it will in the long run be a positive thing for the peace process, but I don't think we can say it's negative, either. I think that we made a judgment call that we ought to try to encourage them to move towards the joint declaration and to try to make peace. I think it was a good judgment call. I think it was well-founded, and I still believe that.

### **Health Care Reform**

**Q.** Are you beginning to have a sense of where Congress is going now on the health care plan? And do you have any ideas about where some of the major compromises are coming right now?

**The President.** No, because they're still in the subcommittees. I don't, but I will be before long.

### **Balanced Budget Amendment**

**Q.** Have you got the votes to beat the balanced budget?

**The President.** I don't know. We've got a record that ought to defeat it. I mean, the problem with the amendment if you read it is, on its terms, if it's carried out, it will require either a large tax increase or big cuts in defense and domestic programs critical to our job growth or both. And if it's ignored, it will—by ignoring it, that is if you say, "Well, we can't do this; we're going to suspend it," then you put the whole future of the country in the hands of the 40 percent plus one vote in both Houses of Congress. And I don't think that's a very good thing.

Under the plan we're now following, if the Congress adopts this budget with its spending limits, we'll have the first 3 years since the Truman Presidency a declining deficit. We're moving in the right direction. I think that's very important. So I hope that the Sen-

ate will not adopt it. I know it's politically popular, but I don't think it's good policy.

And I'd like to point out for the point of view of the American people who say, "Well, State and local governments do it," all State and local governments make sharp distinctions between long-term capital investments and current expenditures. And this balanced budget amendment makes absolutely no distinction. So it would be far more severe than State and local balanced budget laws and with a very uncertain economic impact. So I'm hoping the Senate will reject it.

NOTE: The exchange began at 11:21 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

### **Remarks Welcoming the Super Bowl Champion Dallas Cowboys**

*March 1, 1994*

I'm glad to be here with the people who are negotiating my next year's salary. [*Laughter*]

Ladies and gentlemen, it's a great honor for all of us at the White House to have the Dallas Cowboys back here for a second year in a row. Coach Johnson, your team has a knack for coming to the White House.

I said they were negotiating my next year's salary. I really—until you hired Bernie Kosar, I sort of wanted to be the backup quarterback. [*Laughter*] I'm the right height.

I want to congratulate Troy Aikman and Emmitt Smith and Russell Maryland and Michael Irvin for being selected to the Pro Bowl and for their brilliant play.

I also want to say that I really identify with the season the Cowboys had this year. They lost their first two games; they were even behind in the Super Bowl, but they kept coming back. Now the decade is not even half over, and they've already won two Super Bowls. There's no telling what this team can do. It's young. It's aggressive. It has a good attitude. It has great leadership.

And I have to say, a little bit of parochial pride on behalf of my State, that I'm really proud of the work that Jerry Jones has done with the Cowboys in such a few years and proud of the remarkable achievements this

team has already seen. I think that it is just the beginning of what will doubtless be years and years and years of stunning achievement if they can just keep their goals high and keep working for them.

It's a great honor to have them here and I'd like to invite them to say a few words. Who's going first? Jerry?

Let's give them a hand.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:53 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Dallas Cowboys coach Jimmy Johnson and owner Jerry Jones.

### **Proclamation 6651—National Poison Prevention Week, 1994**

*March 1, 1994*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

Keeping families healthy is an integral part of strengthening our Nation's future. It is the cornerstone in America's efforts to provide security for every one of our citizens. Yet, in this great Nation of wisdom and unparalleled potential, the American Association of Poison Control Centers estimates that almost one million American children are exposed to potentially poisonous medicines and household chemicals each year. This single statistic is appalling, but it is also correctable, for we are certain in the knowledge that accidental poisonings are preventable. This week, we recognize that it is one of our duties as a society to do everything in our power to prevent injuries and deaths caused by poisoning.

As the United States observes the 33rd National Poison Prevention Week, we are able to celebrate some small, but significant, triumphs. That the number of childhood deaths from poisoning annually has declined from 450 to 49 over the past thirty years is a testament to the dedicated efforts of countless citizens actively involved with poison control programs across the country. National requirements of child-resistant packaging for medicines have helped to limit dangerous exposure. Poison control centers, pharmacies, and public health centers have worked to-

gether to distribute vital information regarding poison prevention to our families and communities, and these measures have, indeed, saved lives.

If we are to end the tragedy of childhood poisonings once and for all, we must continually remind ourselves to take the basic steps necessary to prevent this occurrence in our own homes. Safety measures, such as using child-resistant packaging correctly and keeping potentially harmful substances out of children's reach, can mean the difference between health and injury, between life and death. During this week, we must seek to educate ourselves and others about all the ways we can work to avoid this kind of senseless loss. America's parents must take primary responsibility for this effort. Our Nation's children deserve no less.

To encourage the American people to learn more about the dangers of accidental poisonings and to take more preventive measures, the Congress, by joint resolution approved September 26, 1961 (75 Stat. 681), has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the third week of March of each year as "National Poison Prevention Week."

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning March 20, 1994, as National Poison Prevention Week. I call upon all Americans to observe this week by participating in appropriate ceremonies and activities and by learning how to prevent accidental poisonings among children.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this first day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 4:17 p.m., March 1, 1994]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on March 3.

**Message to the Senate on the  
Chemical Weapons Convention**

*March 1, 1994*

*To the Senate of the United States:*

On November 23, 1993, I transmitted the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (the "Chemical Weapons Convention" or CWC) to the Senate for its advice and consent to ratification. As stated in the transmittal message, I now submit herewith an Environmental Impact Review (EIR) of the Chemical Weapons Convention for the information of the Senate. This EIR summarizes the documented environmental effects that could result from the entry into force of the CWC for the United States. Considerable study has already been devoted under related Federal programs to examining and describing the environmental impacts of activities that are similar or identical to what the CWC will entail when it enters into force. This EIR is a review of published information and, as such, should not be considered an analysis of data or a verification of published conclusions.

United States ratification of the CWC will result in a national commitment to the CWC requirements that will modify the existing chemical weapons stockpile demilitarization and non-stockpile programs, as well as create additional declaration, destruction, and verification requirements. The CWC ratification and entry into force will have both environmental and health benefits and adverse effects for the United States because of the actions the United States and other parties will need to take to meet the Convention's requirements.

The report consists of six sections. Section 1 is the introduction. Section 2 provides an overview of the current U.S. chemical weapons destruction program, which can be thought of as the environmental baseline against which the potential environmental consequences of the CWC must be measured. It includes discussions of the Chemical Stockpile Disposal Program (CSDP), the Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Program (NSCMP), the environmental consequences of these programs, and the environmental

monitoring program currently in place. Section 3 contains documentation on the possible environmental consequences of each component of the existing chemical weapons program—all of which would occur regardless of whether the United States ratifies the CWC. Section 4 is a discussion of environmental consequences that could result from U.S. ratification of the CWC, including both the benefits and potential adverse consequences for the physical and human environment. Section 5 contains a discussion of three options that could be selected by the United States instead of prompt ratification of the CWC and a discussion of the possible environmental consequences of each option. Finally, Section 6 contains the endnotes.

I believe that the Chemical Weapons Convention is in the best interests of the United States. Its provisions will significantly strengthen U.S., allied and international security, environmental security, and enhance global and regional stability. I continue to urge the Senate to give early and favorable consideration to the Chemical Weapons Convention and to give advice and consent to its ratification as soon as possible in 1994.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
March 1, 1994.

**Nomination for a Regional  
Administrator of the Small Business  
Administration**

*March 1, 1994*

The President today nominated Helen Dixon as the Regional Director for Region V at the Small Business Administration.

"I am pleased to nominate Helen to the position of Regional Director," the President said, "Her firsthand experience with small business will be a great asset to our SBA programs in the Midwest."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders  
Reporting on NATO Action in Bosnia  
March 1, 1994**

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

In my report to the Congress of February 17, 1994, I provided further information on the deployment of U.S. combat-equipped aircraft to support NATO's enforcement of the no-fly zone in Bosnia-Herzegovina, as authorized by the U.N. Security Council. The United States has conducted air operations along with other participating nations for these purposes since April 12, 1993. I am providing this supplementary report, consistent with the War Powers Resolution, on the NATO military action conducted by U.S. aircraft in the airspace over Bosnia-Herzegovina on February 28, 1994.

During enforcement operations in the early morning hours of February 28, U.S. F-16 aircraft on air patrol for NATO shot down four Galeb fixed-wing aircraft that were violating the no-fly zone near Banja Luka, Bosnia-Herzegovina. After NATO airborne early-warning aircraft detected the unauthorized aircraft, two U.S. F-16s proceeded to the area and reported visual contact with a total of six Galeb aircraft. In accordance with approved procedures, the NATO airborne early-warning aircraft issued warnings to the violators that they would be engaged if they did not land or leave the no-fly zone airspace immediately. After several minutes passed with no response from the Galebs, the U.S. fighter aircraft again warned them in accordance with approved procedures and, once again, noted no response from the violators to heed the warnings. Soon thereafter, the U.S. F-16s received permission from the NATO Combined Air Operations Center to engage the violators. Just prior to the engagement, the flight leader of the U.S. fighter aircraft saw the Galebs make a bombing maneuver, and then he saw explosions on the ground. We have since received reports confirming that facilities in this area were hit by bombs during this time frame.

Having received permission to engage the violators, the lead U.S. F-16 fired air-to-air missiles and destroyed three Galeb aircraft. One of two other U.S. F-16 aircraft, which had been sent to the area to provide support,

fired a missile and downed the fourth Galeb. The two remaining violators left the area.

This action, part of the NATO effort to enforce the no-fly zone, was conducted under the authority of U.N. Security Council resolutions and in full compliance with NATO procedures. Responding to the bombing of villages and other violations of the ban on unauthorized flights established by the Security Council in late 1992, the Security Council acted in Resolution 816 (March 31, 1993) to authorize Member States, acting nationally or through regional organizations, to take all necessary measures to ensure compliance with the no-fly zone. NATO undertook to monitor the no-fly zone to ensure that the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina does not spread to the air.

Since the commencement of no-fly zone operations last April, nearly 12,000 fighter, tanker, and NATO airborne early-warning sorties have been flown. Military personnel from 12 NATO member nations have participated in this effort, which has been highly successful in preventing significant air threats by the parties to the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Although we have no reason to believe that there will be further violations requiring the use of force, U.S. aircraft will continue to serve as part of this important NATO enforcement effort. As always, our forces remain prepared to defend themselves if necessary. U.S. Armed Forces participate in these operations pursuant to my constitutional authority to conduct U.S. foreign relations and as Commander in Chief.

I remain committed to ensuring that the Congress is fully informed about significant activities of U.S. Armed Forces in the region. I appreciate the continued support of the Congress for U.S. contributions to the important multilateral effort in the former Yugoslavia.

Sincerely,

**Bill Clinton**

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Robert C. Byrd, President pro tempore of the Senate. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 2.

## Teleconference on Health Care With Family Caregivers

March 2, 1994

**The President.** I want to thank you all for joining me today and for setting aside some time so that we can speak together and that together we can speak to the country about the long-term care problems in America. As we just heard, we have people from California to New York on the line, people for whom long-term care is not just a health reform issue but a real job.

One of the most important things that our health care plan is attempting to do is to make your job easier by creating a new home- and community-based long-term care program that gives people in need of assistance new choices and gives more options for long-term care, doesn't automatically push people into nursing homes to get some public assistance, and encourages people who are trying to take care of their family members to do it by giving them some help to do it. If this portion of the plan passes, for the first time we'll have a nationwide program that will give Americans, regardless of their income, some long-term care services tailored to their needs and provided in the place that they want to be most, in their own homes.

But the main purpose of this conversation today is not for me to talk but to hear from you, the people who are real experts, to understand how the approach we're taking here in Washington will affect homes and communities like yours around the country. I think it's very important that people in the Congress and the decisionmakers understand just how many Americans there are who are in the situation that you're in.

And so, let's start with Eve Lefkowitz in Langhorne, Pennsylvania. Eve is a visiting nurse who provides care for both her parents. Eve, why don't you talk to us a little bit about——

[At this point, Ms. Lefkowitz discussed her parents' health problems, her desire to keep them at home, and the cost for both in-home care and ongoing medical treatment.]

**The President.** Thanks, Eve. Before I respond, let me say, can all of you still hear me?

**Q.** Yes.

**The President.** One of you has been talking to somebody else while Eve was talking. You may not be able to hear her talk, but we can hear you. So if you talk while someone else is talking, then we won't be able to hear the person who is talking. So please be careful about that.

Let me say, the situation that you have outlined is one that a lot of American families are struggling with. They want to keep their parents in the home. They want to keep them around the grandkids. But they have huge out-of-pocket costs. They know if the parents go to a nursing home, especially if they just spend their resources and go to a nursing home, they can get some help.

Now, under our plan, your parents would be able to stay in your home and get many of the services that they now have to pay for themselves, including adult daycare, some help with home health services, and medications. People would have to make a contribution, all right, based on their ability to pay. So it's not free for everybody regardless of their income, but there would be a support program. In almost every case, this would be cheaper for the Government than providing nursing home care. But it will give people who have certain health problems and disabilities much greater choices about how and where they get the care. And it would enable families like you, yours, that are really close-knit, where you've tried to keep your family together, to be able to do that and succeed.

So we are going to do our best to help you. And I must say, I really admire you for doing this.

**Ms. Lefkowitz.** Thanks.

**The President.** Beth and James Crampton, are you all there from Omaha?

**Beth Crampton.** Yes, we're here.

**The President.** Beth is a 23-year-old recent college graduate who, along with her father, takes care of her mother. Why don't you talk a little about your situation?

[Ms. Crampton explained that her mother has Alzheimer's disease and discussed the family's efforts to care for her at home.]

**The President.** Let me ask you something. You said your father was able to attend

your graduation. Did someone come in and care for your mother during that time?

**Ms. Crampton.** We did. The senior companion program here in Omaha has allowed us to have a volunteer who comes in and is familiar with my mother and can help care for her. So she made special plans and came in that morning so that he could come; otherwise there would have been no way he would have seen that graduation.

**The President.** I really identify with this. I've had an uncle and an aunt with Alzheimer's, and I've seen what it can do to a family. And I admire you so much for staying committed, you and your father, to taking care of your mother.

One of the things that I think is important to point out, that you have just illustrated with the story that you had, particularly for families where maybe there's only one person who is caring for an Alzheimer's victim, is that there needs to be some respite care for family caregivers, so people like you and your father can at least take a break and know that you can have a lot of confidence in people who are with your mother. And our plan would provide some help to do that, would make it possible for people who are caring for family members with Alzheimer's to have people come in on a regular basis, like the person who came in for you, all across the country to provide respite care so that you would never have to fear at least having some basic normalcy in your life, that you were hurting your mother.

There are people, as you know, all across the country who are doing this now, and Alzheimer's is an issue we have to confront head-on in other ways. We also, in our health care plan, invest more than \$20 billion more into preventing and combating diseases that disable older Americans, including Alzheimer's along with breast cancer and heart disease.

So I hope that all these things will be helpful to you. And again, I want to thank you for the example you've set. I really appreciate it.

Is Goldia Kendall there?

**Goldia Kendall.** Yes, I'm here.

**The President.** From Jonesboro?

**Ms. Kendall.** Yes.

**The President.** My home State. Well, it's nice to hear your voice.

**Ms. Kendall.** It's good to hear you, too.

**The President.** Are you really 85 years old?

**Ms. Kendall.** I'm 85. I'll soon be 86. My husband is 89.

**The President.** And she's worked all her life as a cook and a nurse, and her husband is a retired factory worker and a carpenter. And he had a stroke a few years ago.

Why don't you tell us about your situation, Ms. Kendall?

[Ms. Kendall explained that her husband also has Alzheimer's disease and described her efforts to care for him by herself.]

**The President.** Yes, what we want to do is to basically reward people like you who have the courage to do what you're doing. I mean, to take your husband out of a nursing home and start caring for him all by yourself at your age is an astonishing thing. And when I was Governor of our State, I worked to try to help give people more choices in long-term care. But with the way the Federal programs work today, there is a limit on what you can do. So our plan would give people like you a chance to get some help from nurses and other assistants who could give personal care to your husband in your home while you go out and run errands and get a little break from time to time. And again, it would be helping you, but it's also less expensive for us than if your husband were in a nursing home.

**Ms. Kendall.** Well, yes.

**The President.** So, I sure admire you. I hope that I'm in half the shape that you are if I get to be 85. I really think it's very impressive that you're doing this, and it's a real tribute to your commitment to your husband. I appreciate you so much.

**Ms. Kendall.** Well, I'm proud of you, too. He's helpless, completely. He has a feeding tube in his stomach. I have to take care of him. He has a motor to keep air in his mattress; the doctor wanted him on an air mattress. And he's been taken care of real good. The nurse comes every week, and the aide comes 5 days a week, and Doctor Owens watches over him very close. And they all

are very pleased of me and my work, the way I take care of him.

**The President.** The hospital has good out-patient services there. I know about that, and that's good.

**Ms. Kendall.** Yes.

**The President.** Well, thank you very much, ma'am.

**Ms. Kendall.** Well, it's good to talk to you.

**The President.** Thank you.

**Ms. Kendall.** Thank you. I voted for you.

**The President.** Well, thank you, I appreciate it.

**Ms. Kendall.** I watched you on the television, every program I can.

**The President.** Thank you so much. It's nice to hear your voice, and good luck to you.

**Ms. Kendall.** May God bless you in your work.

**The President.** Thank you.

Is Gene Hayes there, from Fresno?

**Gene Hayes.** Good morning, Mr. President.

**The President.** Good morning, Gene. Gene is a victim of Parkinson's disease who's caring for his wife who suffered a heart attack. And I think you also are caring for your father.

**Mr. Hayes.** That's right.

**The President.** Why don't you tell us a little about that? How old is your father?

**Mr. Hayes.** He's 93. He'll be 94 come May.

**The President.** Well, tell us a little about your situation.

Wait a minute. Ms. Kendall, hold on one moment. We hear somebody talking on the line here. Everybody, please be quiet.

Okay, Gene, go ahead.

No, we can hear you talking, Ms. Kendall. Be real quiet, so I can hear Mr. Hayes.

**Ms. Kendall.** Oh, I see. Oh, thank you.

**The President.** Bless you, that's all right. Go ahead, Gene.

[Mr. Hayes described efforts to care for his wife after a stroke that left her comatose.]

**The President.** Do you have out-of-pocket expenses for help that you have to pay?

**Mr. Hayes.** Yes, I sure do. I have to have help around the clock, and there's 10 hours that we take care of her solely by ourself.

But other than that, I have a day person and a night person, and then I have a relief person that kind of helps.

**The President.** And you have to pay for them out of your own pocket?

**Mr. Hayes.** Yes, I do.

**The President.** You don't have any health insurance that covers that?

**Mr. Hayes.** No. When this happened, she was 61, and we didn't have no Medicare. We wasn't eligible for it; we was too young. And insurance, I just dropped it 6 months before; we had no insurance. So we kind of sifted right through the cracks at that point. And we've been having our retirement savings put up, and we've been using that, but it's begun to kind of dwindle away. And we had to sell several things, like our motor home and things like that. But we just take it one day at a time and just trust this will be the day that she'll get better.

**The President.** And you've got your father there with you too, right?

**Mr. Hayes.** Yes. Dad's 93, and he has heart problems. We have to give him medicine a couple times a day, and we help him with his bath. I've got to help him with his bath, and at times we help him with his clothing. But Dad's a big help, too. He sits in his wheelchair, and he watches her all the time. He never lets us forget when it's time for her medicine or it's time to turn her. He's always there to say, hey, it's a certain time. And I don't know what we would do without Dad, because he helps us, too. But the three of us just make out fine because we have a lot of help, and it seems like things have been going real well.

**The President.** Good for you.

**Mr. Hayes.** I'm thinking about a little later on, it might come to mortgaging; but we're going to take that one day at a time.

**The President.** I wish you would. I wish you'd come see us. Take care of yourself, sir. And thank you for your example.

**Mr. Hayes.** Thank you.

**The President.** Is Mary Hammer there from Blacksburg, Virginia?

[Ms. Hammer, who lost both her legs in an accident 20 years ago, explained that following a recent stroke she was placed in a nursing home which she did not like, and that assistance from church members and social

*service agencies has enabled her instead to be cared for at home.]*

**The President.** Thank you. You know, we wanted you to be on this call today because the local department of social services where you live has done a good job in providing the kind of personal care and companion services that you have. And I appreciate you saying such good things about them.

**Mary Hammer.** They're wonderful.

**The President.** Because what we're trying to do is to make sure all the people in the country, especially elderly people or people with children with disabilities, have access to that kind of help. We don't propose to create a whole new program or a whole new system but to build on the good things that are out there, these adult daycare services, the senior center program, the home health services, the personal care services, all these things that are working out there in the country. What we're going to try to do is to make sure that each person who needs the help can have whichever of these services they need and that they know they will be able to get the help if they need it. And you're an example of how someone can live independently, even with some significant difficulties, if that kind of help is there. And I think the kind of thing you've described ought to be available to every American citizen.

**Ms. Hammer.** I sure do agree with that. I've been listening to all these calls, and I'm telling you, I agree with what you're trying to do. And I just pray that this funding will keep on coming so we can keep getting this kind of help.

**The President.** Thank you. Well, we're going to do our best, and thanks for talking to us today. You really made a great statement, and we appreciate you.

**Ms. Hammer.** It's been a real pleasure. I feel honored for you to call me, Mr. President.

**The President.** Thank you. Well, the honor was ours today. Thanks.

Is Donna Lyttle there?

**Donna Lyttle.** Yes, I'm here.

**The President.** From South Ozone Park, New York?

**Ms. Lyttle.** Yes, that's correct.

**The President.** Thank you. Bye, Mary.

Donna, tell us a little about your situation. I think you care for your mother, who has Alzheimer's, and you work at Harlem Hospital. Is that right?

*[Ms. Lyttle explained that she is the primary caretaker for her dependent mother because she can only afford limited in-home assistance and respite care.]*

**The President.** So you have a lot of personal expenses that you just have to pay for to keep her there?

**Ms. Lyttle.** Yes, because the transportation back and forth to the center is a cab service that I pay for for her to go twice a week. And you have to pay for her to be taken and to be picked up.

**The President.** Anything else?

**Ms. Lyttle.** Well, I'm paying for the home attendants to come in to take care of my mother, and any other expenses that she needs are definitely coming out of pocket. Her medical expenses are definitely coming out of pocket also. But it's only through the Alzheimer's Association that I found out about the respite center. They've really been a Godsend for me.

**The President.** And how much do they come in and help you? Because otherwise you just put your life on hold, I guess.

**Ms. Lyttle.** Yes, well, my life is completely on hold. The Alzheimer's Association has been a resource for me in terms of finding channels that I need for assistance. It was through them that I found the lady that takes care of my mother during the day and about the daycare center for her. But they are—

**The President.** But you're paying for that.

**Ms. Lyttle.** Yes, I'm paying for all of it.

**The President.** Well, under our program, you'd have access to this kind of respite care, and you'd have a chance to at least have more of a life while keeping your mother, and the Government would provide some help based on your income. I just think that we have so many people—you've heard these other people's stories—we have so many people out here in this country who are doing their best to take care of their family members with Alzheimer's. And I think it's—clearly, with the fastest growing group of Americans being people over 80, the number of problems that elderly people have is just going

to explode in this country. And we, I don't think, can afford to have everybody institutionalized. And when people want to support their families and keep them together, I think we ought to be providing some help for it.

**Ms. Lyttle.** Yes, I agree. It's also pretty frightening for me because I have two additional family members that have Alzheimer's. My mother's sister was diagnosed in Barbados with Alzheimer's, but she has been placed in a nursing home. And my mother's uncle just passed in March after being home for, I believe, it's been about 15 years with his wife taking care of him and paying out-of-pocket expenses for all of his care.

**The President.** And you're a nurse at Harlem Hospital?

**Ms. Lyttle.** No, I'm executive assistant.

**The President.** Is that where you work, there?

**Ms. Lyttle.** Yes, I work at Harlem hospital.

**The President.** I've been there.

**Ms. Lyttle.** Oh, yes, I've seen the picture.

**The President.** I enjoyed my trip there.

**Ms. Lyttle.** Oh, I hope you come back.

**The President.** If we pass this health care plan, we're also going to make your life simpler there, less paperwork, more care.

**Ms. Lyttle.** That's great.

**The President.** Thank you very much.

**Ms. Lyttle.** You're quite welcome.

**The President.** Vera Teske, from Wheaton, Kansas, are you there?

**Vera Teske.** Yes, I'm here, Mr. President.

**The President.** And you care for your husband, and I think he has Alzheimer's also.

**Ms. Teske.** That's right.

**The President.** And you live on your family farm?

**Ms. Teske.** Yes, we do.

**The President.** Tell us a little about your situation.

[Ms. Teske discussed the problems of coping with a potentially violent Alzheimer's patient and the prohibitive expense of in-home care for someone with a long-term illness.]

**The President.** I appreciate your statement. I don't think I can add much to it except to point out that it's an even bigger issue for people like you, a farm family in a rural area. We have really worked hard in design-

ing this approach to make sure we're taking care of providing care in rural areas as well as more urban ones, because you've made a statement about why we need it as eloquently as anyone could.

I think—I'd just like to emphasize one more time—at a time in America when we're so worried about our young people and we say we've got to rebuild the American family and strengthen the American family, you've got all these dedicated family members who are out there who could have walked away from their family members and didn't. And it seems to me that given the fact that we're going to have more of these kind of problems as we all live longer, that we ought to be out here supporting family members and helping them to succeed and have a life not have to give up their whole life while they take care of the folks that they love. I really respect what you've done, and we're going to do our best to provide some help in this health care plan.

**Ms. Teske.** I appreciate my family members. They help a lot.

**The President.** Yes, I know you've got kids and grandkids, and that must help some. But it's still—if you're out on the farm, you need somebody to come in and give you some consistent help, too.

And you made a great statement. I wish you'd been giving it to a congressional committee. It was terrific. Send us a copy of it, will you? We took a copy of it. I'm going to send it up to the Hill. It's great.

**Ms. Teske.** Thank you.

**The President.** Is Marge Garrison there from Houston?

**Marge Garrison.** I'm here, Mr. President.

**The President.** You and your husband, I think, are caring for your daughter. Is that right?

**Ms. Garrison.** Yes, we are.

**The President.** Why don't you tell us a little about that.

[Ms. Garrison discussed the problems of raising an autistic child.]

**The President.** Well, I appreciate your just sharing your circumstances with us. And I appreciate the fact you've kept your child. And what you've done, I know it's been an enormous burden. You shouldn't feel bad

about saying you need help. And we shouldn't have an all-or-nothing situation. I mean, it seems to me that the people this country ought to be rewarding are people that are willing to take this level of responsibility, willing to pay something according to their ability to pay, but just shouldn't be asked to bankrupt themselves on the one hand or on the other hand just give up their entire lives. I really, really appreciate what you said. And more importantly, I appreciate what you've done.

**Ms. Garrison.** It may be difficult for you—you need to come spend a couple days in our home, Mr. President, and you can really see what it's like living in the house with the type disabilities that our child has.

**The President.** I wish I could.

**Ms. Garrison.** I wish you could, too. Thanks for having us today.

**The President.** Thank you. I want to thank all of you, Eve and Beth and James and Goldia and Gene and Mary Hammer and Donna Lyttle and Vera Teske and you, Marge. I thank you all.

In a lot of ways you're truly heroic people because you've lived by your values of hard work and commitment to your families. And I hope that your stories as they go out across the country will help us to pass a health care reform bill that will build on a lot of the good services you talked about today, those of you who have them, but make sure there aren't the waiting lists that Marge talked about and make sure that we can actually give some help to people who are trying to help themselves and their loved ones.

We can begin to do this. It will take some time to get it exactly right in America, but we've got to begin now. And that's what our plan does. And you have inspired me to keep fighting for it. I'll guarantee you, this has been a wonderful day. I thank you very much. I wish you well. And we're all in your debt.

Thank you, and goodbye.

NOTE: The teleconference began at 10:36 a.m. The President spoke from the Oval Office at the White House.

## Exchange With Reporters Following the Health Care Teleconference

March 2, 1994

### Health Care Reform

**Q.** Mr. President, what do you think of the polls that show that your health care—going down the drain—you may not be—

**The President.** That's not what they show. One of the polls shows the serious concern level going up. How could it be otherwise? Look at the millions and millions and millions of dollars that have been spent by interest groups to trash the plan, people that don't want to assume any responsibility for their employees, people that don't want to assume any responsibility for providing basic health care, and people that think they can get just a little better deal.

It's no accident—I will say this: We've tried for 60 years to join the ranks of the rest of the world and give everybody good health care in this country, and it's no accident that it hasn't happened. It's because change is difficult and the people who are doing well in the present system devote a lot of money and time to stopping the change.

But I'm still actually pretty optimistic about this because what happened is, every time I get a chance to speak to the American people about it, support goes back up, like it did at the State of the Union. Then we go through a long period of where nothing is happening in the Congress and everybody is kind of maneuvering for position legislatively and we're being attacked. And we don't have as much money to spend as those who are spending money against us on the ads and all that sort of stuff. So these things will happen.

The thing that encourages me is I talk to more and more Members of Congress that seem to have a very practical attitude about this and want to find a way to give everybody health security, some system of guaranteed insurance on health care without taking away the good things that we have now. And that's what we're going to do. And I actually feel, based on my conversations with Members of Congress and the impact that we still get whenever we go out and talk about this specifically, like when we went to Connecticut

and talked about the medicine, a good feeling about it.

There is nothing I can do in the short run to overtake the fact that I don't have as much money to run television ads as the health insurance industry.

**Q.** So you are going to get a plan—you think you will get—

**The President.** Oh, absolutely. I think that Congress will do this. They know it's important. They know it's the responsible thing to do, and I believe we'll get a good plan out of the Congress. But it's going to be—you know, this is a long and painstaking process. The legislative process is just about to begin, and a lot of people get frustrated, and they want results now, and they hear all this stuff in the air. So you're going to see the polls go up and down, but in the end, it's clearly a major concern of the American people, and they want us to do something, and they want to provide health security. And I think we'll get it done.

#### **Japan-U.S. Trade**

**Q.** Mr. President, is the reauthorization of Super 301 a warning shot to the Japanese?

**The President.** First of all, we haven't made a final decision about how exactly to proceed on that. But what we are trying to do is to—since the framework agreement may well not be carried out, we have to figure out what our options are to proceed now. But let's wait and see what we do on that specifically. I wouldn't—warning shot—I don't want to characterize those things. We're trying to move the markets. We're trying to open the market to American products, but to the rest of the world's products and services as well.

#### **Ames Spy Case**

**Q.** Mr. President, all these revelations in the Ames spy case seem to suggest a much more massive penetration of the U.S. intelligence community than earlier had been suggested. How deep did this go? How widespread is the investigation? And how concerned are you about ongoing covert operations that could endanger the lives of U.S. agents and those who work with them?

**The President.** Well, I think what I should say now is that we put a very high priority

on this over the last several months, and we're doing our best to get to the bottom of it. And we will proceed to do that. In the meantime, we're going to do our best to secure Americans who are working to represent their country. But I can't say any more than that now. I think that you can be confident that we are doing what we should be doing to find out everything we need to know.

#### **Middle East Peace Process**

**Q.** Are you somewhat resigned to the fact that it doesn't look like you're going to be able to get Mideast peace talks going anytime soon?

**The President.** No. Mr. Arafat said that he would join the talks here in Washington, but I know he's under a lot of pressure at home, and I understand that. The only thing that I would say to the Palestinians who are pressuring Arafat not to resume talks is that that is the surest way to hand a victory to the madman who killed all the Palestinians in the mosque. Why should they do something that would hand a victory to the extremists on both sides?

But he is under pressure. We are working on it. I talked firstly to Prime Minister Rabin. We've been in touch with Mr. Arafat. I'm hoping to have a conversation with King Hussein today, and I've talked to President Mubarak, and we're all working on this hard. But I think that they want to come back. And I am not resigned to the fact that it won't happen.

**Q.** Do the pressures realistically mean you've got to wait a while? I mean, you had hoped to resume—or to start the talks this week.

**The President.** Well, we'll see. We'll see what the timing is. But I think we can get them back on track. I think Prime Minister Rabin's speech and the steps he's taken were a good beginning, a really good beginning on his part, and we'll just have to see what happens. But again I say, if the peace talks don't get back on track, then we are rewarding the damage and the death wreaked by the extremists. We don't want to do that. We want to keep going. And you know, these ethnic and religious difficulties are very deep and profound, but you just have to keep

working at them. And we got some good news yesterday on Bosnia, and we just keep working at these things and do our best to try to bring them to a successful conclusion.

**Hugh Rodham**

**Q.** Are you supporting Hugh Rodham?

**The President.** What? No, what did you say? I couldn't hear you.

**Q.** Oh, I'm sorry. Are you supporting Hugh Rodham in his campaign?

**The President.** Well, I don't—first, he hasn't filed. And secondly, we don't know if he's got any opposition in the Democratic primary. I'll be out there in the fall helping all the Democrats. But that's a decision for him to make. He's got to make that decision. I can't make it.

**Herschel Friday**

**Q.** Did you want to say something about Herschel Friday, your old staff member?

**The President.** Well, he was a friend of mine, you know, for 30 years. He did remarkable work in my State. I used to make fun of him for flying just back and forth from— to Little Rock. And he lived a very full life, was a good man and a great citizen. And Hillary and I talked about it this morning and our thoughts and our prayers are with Beth and his family.

**Q.** Are you going back there, sir?

**The President.** I don't know. I don't know what the facts are yet. I just heard about it this morning. I actually—right before I went to work early this morning I heard about it.

NOTE: The exchange began at 11:20 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House.

**Proclamation 6652—Save Your Vision Week, 1994**

*March 2, 1994*

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

Vision is a gift to be treasured. We often take our sight for granted and must be reminded that our eyes require adequate care and attention. At a time when new technologies are revolutionizing medicine, eye

care continues to make dramatic progress. Many diseases or accidents that would have caused permanent blindness just a few decades ago can now be treated, with excellent prospects for full recovery. Eye care professionals learn more about proper eye care every year, discovering new ways to prevent disease and to minimize potential damage to our precious eyesight.

Despite our ever-increasing medical knowledge, however, thousands of Americans still suffer preventable vision loss each year. Proper eye care can significantly reduce the incidence of such needless tragedies, and I encourage all Americans to learn ways to minimize the risks of disease and injury to their eyes.

Having periodic eye examinations is an excellent way to invest in one's long-term health. Preventive eye care is always more efficient, more effective, and less expensive than dealing with an existing disease. A comprehensive eye examination allows an eye care professional the ability to identify a disease in its earliest stages and prescribe the treatment with the best chances for success.

Glaucoma, one of the leading causes of blindness in the United States, if diagnosed early, can be treated quite successfully. Though there are often no early warning symptoms of the disease, an eye care professional can detect the affliction during a regular examination and prescribe eye drops or other simple treatments to control the disease and save the patient's sight. I urge all people at high risk for glaucoma—African Americans over the age of 40 and everyone over the age of 60—to receive an eye examination through dilated pupils at least every two years.

People with diabetes are also at particularly high risk for preventable eye disorders. Such eye disease as diabetic retinopathy, which still blinds many people with diabetes in our Nation, can be stopped if it is diagnosed in time. By receiving an eye examination at least once a year, diabetics can do much to protect their vision.

Children, of course, should receive periodic eye examinations, starting when they are very young. Regular eye care at a tender age can identify otherwise hidden disorders, thus

sparing the child a lifetime of visual impairment.

I encourage all Americans to take precautions to safeguard their vision throughout their lives. We must teach our children proper eye safety by example—wearing masks or goggles when we play in contact sports and using safety glasses when working with volatile chemicals or dangerous machinery.

To encourage everyone to make a concerted effort to protect the cherished gift of sight, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved December 30, 1963 (77 Stat. 629; 36 U.S.C. 169a), has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the first week in March of each year as “Save Your Vision Week.”

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning March 6, 1994, as Save Your Vision Week. I urge all Americans to participate in this observance by making eye care and eye safety a priority in their lives. I invite eye care professionals, members of the media, and all public and private organizations committed to the important goal of sight protection to join in activities that will make Americans more aware of the steps they can take to protect their vision.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this second day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 3:35 p.m., March 2, 1994]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on March 4.

**Proclamation 6653—American Red Cross Month, 1994**

*March 2, 1994*

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

Over a century ago, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross to provide hope, compassion, and care to victims of catastrophe and destruction. Today over 150 countries uphold the idea of neutral and impartial assistance to all people in times of great pain, disaster, or war. In 2,600 chapters across the United States, and on 200 U.S. military installations around the world, over 1.4 million American Red Cross volunteers and more than 23,000 paid staff work diligently to save lives and to assist those in crisis.

It is fitting that in this month, which celebrates the coming of spring and the rebirth of nature, we take the time to acknowledge the many outstanding accomplishments of the American Red Cross. As the Honorary Chairman of this praiseworthy organization, I am proud to commend everyone who is associated with its life-saving efforts. The dedicated members of this organization have enabled thousands of people who thought hope had abandoned them to experience new and bright beginnings. Since 1881 the American Red Cross has helped millions who have entered its doors seeking shelter, food, financial assistance, training, and most important, compassion.

The last 12 months will go down in history as a litany of disasters of every description, from the Midwest floods to the California fires and earthquakes to the winter storms that gripped a large part of the country. The American Red Cross rose to each challenge in its usual timely and efficient manner, restoring hope for so many in need. The Red Cross is in the business of responding to disasters, large and small, 365 days a year. It also provides blood to hospital patients, who otherwise might not survive.

For many, the Great Flood of 1993 did not become a frightening headline until well into the summer. For the American Red Cross, however, the floodwaters had been a serious concern since early spring. Nine months after the flooding started, over 20,000 Red Cross workers had participated in the relief operation, more than 2.8 million meals had been served, and approximately 35,000 families had received assistance from Red Cross caseworkers.

While thousands of Red Cross workers helped victims recover from the floodwaters in the Midwest, Red Cross personnel in California faced a different challenge—fire. Hundreds of families fleeing the raging California fires found haven in Red Cross shelters. Fire victims were provided comfort and strength as they tried to rebuild their lives out of the ashes.

As 1993 came to a close and many of us began preparing for holiday meals, the Red Cross also was preparing meals—for cold and hungry people, victims of the winter storms that lashed out across the Nation. Once again, feeding vans were busily dispensing hot coffee and sandwiches, comfort and hope. The Red Cross set up over 100 shelters in 6 states, bringing security and warmth to those in need.

The year 1994 began with nature's awesome display of power, tearing southern California asunder in the Northridge earthquakes. Again the Red Cross was there to help those left homeless and hungry.

Thanks to the American Red Cross blood program, thousands receive life-giving donations and are able to enjoy one more birthday, one more anniversary, one more day of sunshine. The American Red Cross collects, processes, and distributes more than half the Nation's blood supply—all while ensuring that it is the safest in the world. Over 6 million times last year, donors came to the Red Cross to give the gift of life to others.

Through the network of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, families around our globe were able to locate and communicate with loved ones with whom they had lost contact due to wars or refugee movements. Prisoners of war saw hope come into their cells in the form of a Red Cross emblem. American Red Cross del-

egates called such places as Armenia, Croatia, and Cambodia home last year as they brought medical care, skilled relief workers, food, and reassurance to countries suffering from the ravages of disaster, disease, and war.

The Red Cross has earned our abiding respect, and we look forward to seeing its symbol of hope continue to shine brightly across this great land. A very grateful Nation thanks the American Red Cross for a job extremely well done.

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim the month of March 1994, as "American Red Cross Month." I urge all Americans to continue their generous support of the Red Cross and its chapters nationwide through contributions of time, funds, and blood donations.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this second day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 12:28 p.m., March 4, 1994]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on March 8.

### **Proclamation 6654—Women's History Month, 1994**

*March 2, 1994*

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

When author Zora Neale Hurston was growing up in Eatonville, Florida, at the beginning of the century, her mother encouraged her to "jump at the sun"—to set lofty goals—even if she were not certain to reach them. In many ways, Zora did "jump at the sun," writing books, articles, and plays that have earned her a place among America's finest writers and anthropologists. Her mother's words became a powerful metaphor for her

life, and Zora's brilliant works reflect the vibrant history of the many women whose lives she studied.

Zora Neale Hurston might never have imagined that women would one day have the opportunity to take her mother's teaching literally. But from Sally Ride to Mae Jemison to Kathryn Sullivan, astronauts have soared closer to the sun than most humans ever dreamed. As we celebrate Women's History Month, 1994, Americans take special pride in the scope of women's achievements, exemplified by the daring spirit of these pioneering individuals. We watched in awe recently as astronaut Sullivan performed complex repairs on the Hubble space telescope by the light of the rising sun. And we shared her happiness as she basked in the love of her family at the end of a successful mission. From author to astronaut to able parent, women have embraced a myriad of challenging roles throughout our Nation's history.

But America has not yet fulfilled its promise of equality for all people. While more women than ever now hold public office in our country, more women than ever must also bear sole responsibility for caring for their families. We rely on women's knowledge and expertise in every aspect of life, and yet we as a society fail to provide many of our families the care and support they so desperately need. We take satisfaction in knowing that women have gained equality under the law, but we must also recognize the ways in which true equality is still only a dream. Zora's "sun" eludes our grasp. This month, we rededicate ourselves to reaching it.

On this occasion, we celebrate the lives of women too long missing from our history books. We listen to the voices of women too long absent from our national memory. Most important, we look forward to a day when society need not remind itself to note the extraordinary accomplishments of women. We dream of a time when, in passing the lessons of this generation from teacher to student, from parent to child, we tell a story of women and men working side by side. We will say that it took all people, striving together, to build a just and compassionate world of liberty, charity, and peace.

The Congress, by Public Law 103-22, has designated March 1994 as "Women's History Month" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this occasion.

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim March 1994 as Women's History Month. I invite all Americans to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities, and to remember throughout the year the rich and varied contributions that women make to our world.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this second day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 12:29 p.m., March 4, 1994]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on March 8.

**Message to the Congress  
Transmitting the Report of the  
Department of Transportation**  
*March 2, 1994*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with section 308 of Public Law 97-449 (49 U.S.C. 308(a)), I transmit herewith the Twenty-sixth Annual Report of the Department of Transportation, which covers fiscal year 1992.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
March 2, 1994.

**Message to the Congress  
Transmitting the Report of the  
Interagency Arctic Research Policy  
Committee**  
*March 2, 1994*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Pursuant to the provisions of section 108(b) of Public Law 98-373 (15 U.S.C.

4107(b)), I transmit herewith the Fifth Biennial Report of the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (February 1, 1992, to January 31, 1994).

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
March 2, 1994.

**Statement on the Attack on Jewish Students in Brooklyn, New York**

*March 2, 1994*

This afternoon, I spoke with the family of Aaron Halberstam, the Lubavitcher student who was critically wounded by gunfire in Brooklyn yesterday. My prayers are with them, with their son, and with all of those affected by this spasm of brutal violence. It is an outrage that this crime, which has overtones of a hate crime, could occur in our American community. And it is a tragedy that such a tender, intelligent boy could be the victim of such brutality and immutable violence.

For American Jewry, as for all of us, our country's unique tradition of tolerance and religious freedom makes us a refuge from the hatred and inhumanity that divides so many other cultures in this world. We respect the humanity we find in each other, and anything which attacks the bonds of community which unite us is an attack on us all.

I commend the New York City Police Department for its swift and apparently successful investigation of this crime, and I would appeal to all men and women of good will—shocked as we are by this violence—to be calm and respectful of our system of justice. Those of us fighting for the safety and security of our neighborhoods, and for America's religious and cultural freedoms, will prevail.

**Nomination for Ambassador to Bahrain**

*March 2, 1994*

The President today named David M. Ransom as the United States Ambassador to the State of Bahrain.

"David Ransom's extensive background in foreign affairs and dedicated service to the

United States will be a great asset to this Nation," the President said. "I am pleased to announce his nomination, and I look forward to his appointment."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

**Nomination for Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission**

*March 2, 1994*

The President today announced his intention to nominate Rachelle B. Chong as a member of the Federal Communications Commission.

"I am confident that Rachelle Chong's experience and commitment in the area of telecommunications will prove invaluable to this most important committee," the President said. "I am happy to nominate her to the position."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

**Appointment of Chair and Vice Chairs of the President's Committee on the Employment of People With Disabilities**

*March 2, 1994*

The President today announced the appointment of the Chair and Vice Chairs of the President's Committee on the Employment of People with Disabilities. Appointments include Tony Coelho as Chair of the Committee, Neil Jacobson as Vice Chair, and Karen Meyer as Vice Chair.

"I am pleased to announce these appointments," the President said. "I believe the designation of such a dedicated and experienced group of people will provide valuable perspective to the administration and emphasize our strong commitment to the community of people with disabilities."

NOTE: Biographies of the appointees were made available by the Office of the Press Secretary

**Appointment of a Member of the Permanent Committee for the Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise**

*March 2, 1994*

The President today announced the appointment of Laura Kalman as a member of the Permanent Committee for the Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise. The Committee was established to prepare a history of the Supreme Court of the United States, to finance an annual lecture or series of lectures, and to prepare and publish a memorial volume containing the writings of Justice Holmes.

"Laura Kalman's extensive background in law and American history will be a great asset to the Committee," the President said. "I am delighted to announce her appointment."

NOTE: A biography of the appointee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

**Remarks on the National Performance Review and an Exchange With Reporters**

*March 3, 1994*

**The President.** Good morning everybody. Please sit down. I'm sorry we're starting late, but I had to have a conversation with Prime Minister Hosokawa of Japan, and it was getting very late there, and I couldn't put it off until after this meeting. And we'll have more to say about that later in the day. I apologize, but it was unavoidable. We had to make the call.

One year ago today, I asked the Vice President to conduct a review of our entire Government, to find out how we could do more and do better with less. Six months ago, he presented his report to me and to the American people. Today, we tell the American people that we are keeping our commitment. This report is not gathering dust in a warehouse. It is still our blueprint for building a Government that gives the taxpayers real value for their hard-earned dollars.

Here's the most important reason why this report is different from earlier ones on Government reform. When Herbert Hoover finished the Hoover Commission, he went back to Stanford. When Peter Grace finished the

Grace Commission, he went back to New York City. But when the Vice President finished his report, he had to go back to his office—[laughter]—20 feet from mine—and go back to working to turn the recommendations into reality.

Throughout the Government, agencies are talking to their employees, involving their unions and improving services and cutting costs. Eighty percent of the recommendations in the Vice President's report have already been started on the way to implementation. And almost every dollar of the savings this report recommends has been built into the 1995 budget to help us make the tough budget reduction targets. I'm pleased that throughout the Government people are asking themselves how they can meet the challenges in the report: put customers first, cut redtape, empower employees to provide better services at lower cost.

Yesterday I signed performance agreements with Secretary Cisneros, Secretary Reich, Secretary Babbitt, and Ambassador Bowles of the Small Business Administration, Ambassador Roger Johnson of the General Services Administration—Administrator Roger Johnson of the General Services Administration. All these agreements set specific goals for their Departments to improve the quality and efficiency of service.

I'm pleased that Congress is also answering this challenge. Legislation to offer the early retirement incentives to Government employees whose jobs are no longer necessary has now passed the House and the Senate. As private industry has learned, buyouts are the best way to streamline a work force while keeping it both productive and diverse.

And when Congress passes the crime bill, we'll take the savings from reducing the Federal bureaucracy by a quarter million and use it to put 100,000 more police officers on our streets. I'm also pleased by our progress in getting more value for taxpayers' money in the goods and services Government buys. Americans have a right to be angry when they hear their Government is spending too much for a hammer or a toilet seat. They have a right to demand that tax dollars be spent with discipline and judgment. From now on, Government's going to do what ordinary citizens

do, comparison shop for goods and services we buy and get the best value for every dollar. That's common sense, and it needs to be more common in Government.

You know, just last night, there was a story on the evening news about some defense contractors billing the Government for Caribbean travel junkets and season boxes for baseball seats, even after all the cutbacks in defense. That story underscores the need for reform of our procurement system. The procurement reform bills being considered in Congress make it a violation of Federal law to bill the Government for entertainment expenses and knowingly submit unallowable costs. Government contractors are entitled to a vacation just like anybody else but not at taxpayer expense.

Finally, we're working to reform the civil service, to create a modern, flexible work force. As the first step, the Office of Personnel Management has already gotten rid of the hide-bound and hated 10,000-page personnel manual. Step by step, we're cutting the redtape and removing the reams of paper from the forklifts the Vice President and I stood in front of just 6 months ago. We're finding new ways to make Government serve the taxpayers better and less expensively.

And now I'd like to introduce him in the way that he often introduces me, "the person who made this all possible"—[laughter]—the Vice President of the United States.

[At this point, the Vice President discussed progress made by the National Performance Review. He introduced Roger Patterson, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior, and Joan Hyatt, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, who described streamlining efforts in their agencies.]

**The President.** Thank you. First let me say, I think that the Vice President has done a terrific job. I want to thank Elaine and all the people who have worked on this. I want to thank Leon Panetta and the folks at OMB and Roger Johnson and the people at General Services Administration, and Jim King and the folks at the Office of Personnel Management for the progress that they have made and the work that they have done to make this possible.

And most importantly, I'd like to thank the people who work for the Federal Government. These two employees who stood up here today, I think, reflect what most people who work for this Government are like. They want to do a good job. They want the taxpayers to be proud of the work they do. And they don't want to spend all their time wading around in paperwork and unnecessary rules and regulations. They represent our Government at its best. And I thank both of you, and I thank all of you for coming. Thank you.

You all relax now, we've got to do a few questions. [Laughter]

Go ahead Andrea [Andrea Mitchell, NBC News].

### **Whitewater Investigation**

**Q.** Mr. President, are you concerned about the appearance of impropriety of these meetings between Treasury officials and the White House?

**The President.** Yes.

**Q.** Have you been able to find out if there have been any other meetings other than the one that was reported? And what will be done about it?

**The President.** Well, first of all, the answer is, yes, I'm concerned about that. Nearly as I can determine, no one has actually done anything wrong or attempted to improperly influence any Government action. But I think it would be better if the meetings and conversations hadn't occurred.

I think now that there is an actual formal process underway, everyone will be much more sensitive. But I have directed Mack McLarty to prepare a memorandum about how we should handle and respond to any such contacts coming our way in this office so that we will bend over backwards to avoid not only the fact but any appearance of impropriety. It is very, very important to me.

I was a Governor for a long time, and there was never a hint of impropriety or scandal in my administration. And to the best of my knowledge the people who come here to work every day in this administration, there has been no suggestion of abuse of power or anyone pursuing some personal advantage. And I want the American people to feel that. So I have told Mr. McLarty that we have

to—we've already talked to people here in the office to make it clear that they understand that I—first of all, I feel that this—all these investigations, they should go forward, unimpeded and as quickly as possible. And I have every confidence in what the facts will reveal. So I think that it's very, very important that while all this is going on, that the activity around it should be handled in such a way as to avoid even the appearance of a conflict.

Later today, I think, we will have the memorandum for you, and we'll be glad to answer any questions surrounding that.

**Q.** Well, shouldn't your lawyer be more sensitive to this—

**The President.** I think there was a difference—what we have to do—let me say, we are also researching exactly what the actual rules are for what kinds of meetings can occur when. And I don't want to get into all the hypotheticals, but for example, if the press asks questions one place that are known in another place—the answers might be known in the White House but someone's asked in the agency, can they talk or not, I mean, that was one of the meetings that was discussed in the morning paper.

I want to make exactly—I want to make it clear that we know what the rules are, but as I said—and so I can't answer all those questions, in fact, right now. But in addition to what the rules are, what I want the people here to understand is, never mind what the rules are, bend over backwards to avoid the appearance of it. Let's let this thing go forward. There is an investigative process. The records are in hand, as far as I know, for the investigators to do their work. Let it go forward. We don't need to have any implication that we are in any way trying to manage or affect this process. We are not. We must not. And I don't want the American people to give it a second thought.

So the memorandum today should make that clear. And I don't think there will be further problems on this.

### **Japan-U.S. Trade**

**Q.** Mr. President, can you elaborate for us on your conversation with Prime Minister Hosokawa?

**The President.** Well, I called him to discuss the trade issue. And the Trade Ambassador will have an announcement on that later today, and then we'll be glad to answer questions about it. But I think I should let him make the announcement first.

**Q.** —was it a friendly conversation—

**The President.** It was a friendly, a forthright conversation. It's consistent with the tone that we've established in our relationship. But it was one that I had to have today.

**Q.** Are we ready to reimpose Super 301?

**The President.** We'll have an announcement about that later today.

**Q.** Actually, can I just ask on this subject—

**The President.** Yes.

**The Vice President.** How refreshing! [Laughter]

**The President.** Wow—[laughter]—I was beginning to think that we were the only two policy wonks in the world that love—[laughter]. There they go again.

### **Reinventing Government**

**Q.** When this report was released 6 months ago, you were predicting, I think it was \$108 billion in savings—

**The Vice President.** \$106 billion. Be careful not to inflate that number. [Laughter]

**Q.** —and over 5 years—I mean, are you confident that the targets can be met?

**The Vice President.** Absolutely. There was a fundamental misunderstanding about the difference between savings and CBO scoring. If you have savings and the caps are not adjusted, then the CBO says that's zero, but the savings are real. And that is the case for every single one of the savings in the report.

I'll give you a quick example. We recommended the closing of a uniformed military medical school. The savings involved each year in closing that are about, what, \$200, \$300 million per year. Under the arcane rules of scoring, that's called zero, because the caps aren't changed. But in the real world where the money is spent, that is a real savings.

And when this all plays out, you'll see that they're real. For example, in the '94 budget year, which was only—we only caught part of that because we were well into it when

the report was released—but in that part of the '94 budget year and in the '95 budget year, we called in the report for the portion of the \$106 billion in savings reflected there for \$12.6 billion. Out of that amount, \$12.5 billion will be gained. Those savings are in the budget, so give us time. We'll demonstrate how and where the savings occur, and they will be real.

**The President.** Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Elaine Kamarck, Senior Policy Adviser to the Vice President.

### **Statement on the National Performance Review**

*March 3, 1994*

We are changing the way Government works. We're cutting redtape. We're empowering employees to get results, and we're treating each and every citizen as if they were our most valued customer. It's an ongoing commitment that this Government has made to its citizens, and it starts at the top.

The National Performance Review is not another boring Government reform report that sits gathering dust on the shelves of the White House. It is the blueprint for change that's taking place right now.

NOTE: This statement was part of a White House press release on reinventing Government.

### **Executive Order 12891— Identification of Trade Expansion Priorities**

*March 3, 1994*

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including sections 141 and 301–310 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "Act") (19 U.S.C. 2171, 2411–2420), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, and to ensure that the trade policies of the United States advance, to the greatest extent possible, the export of the products and services of the United States and that trade policy resources are used efficiently, it is hereby ordered as follows:

**Section 1. Identification.** (a) Within 6 months of the submission of the National Trade Estimate Report (required by section 181(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2241)) for 1994 and 1995, the United States Trade Representative ("Trade Representative") shall review United States trade expansion priorities and identify priority foreign country practices, the elimination of which is likely to have the most significant potential to increase United States exports, either directly or through the establishment of a beneficial precedent. The Trade Representative shall submit to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives, and shall publish in the *Federal Register*, a report on the priority foreign country practices identified.

(b) In identifying priority foreign country practices under paragraph (a) of this section, the Trade Representative shall take into account all relevant factors, including:

- (1) the major barriers and trade distorting practices described in the National Trade Estimate Report;
- (2) the trade agreements to which a foreign country is a party and its compliance with those agreements;
- (3) the medium-term and long-term implications of foreign government procurement plans; and
- (4) the international competitive position and export potential of United States products and services.

(c) The Trade Representative may include in the report, if appropriate, a description of the foreign country practices that may in the future warrant identification as priority foreign country practices. The Trade Representative also may include a statement about other foreign country practices that were not identified because they are already being addressed by provisions of United States trade law, existing bilateral trade agreements, or in trade negotiations with other countries and progress is being made toward their elimination.

**Sec. 2. Initiation of Investigation.** Within 21 days of the submission of the report required by paragraph (a) of section 1, the

Trade Representative shall initiate under section 302(b)(1) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2412(b)(1)) investigations under title III, chapter 1, of the Act with respect to all of the priority foreign country practices identified.

**Sec. 3. Agreements for the Elimination of Barriers.** In the consultations with a foreign country that the Trade Representative is required to request under section 303(a) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2413(a)) with respect to an investigation initiated by reason of section 2 of this order, the Trade Representative shall seek to negotiate an agreement that provides for the elimination of the practices that are the subject of the investigation as quickly as possible or, if that is not feasible, provides for compensatory trade benefits. The Trade Representative shall monitor any agreement entered into under this section pursuant to the provisions of section 306 of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2416).

**Sec. 4. Reports.** The Trade Representative shall include in the semiannual report required by section 309 of the Act (19 U.S.C. 2419) a report on the status of any investigation initiated pursuant to section 2 of this order and, where appropriate, the extent to which such investigations have led to increased opportunities for the export of products and services of the United States.

**Sec. 5. Presidential Direction.** The authorities delegated pursuant to this order shall be exercised subject to any subsequent direction by the President in a particular matter.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
March 3, 1994.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register,  
1:24 p.m., March 4, 1994]

NOTE: This Executive order will be published in the *Federal Register* on March 8.

### **Statement on the Executive Order on Identification of Trade Expansion Priorities**

*March 3, 1994*

This administration is committed to opening markets for high-quality goods and services produced by competitive American workers. That was the goal of NAFTA, the

GATT negotiations, the APEC conference, the U.S.-Japan framework talks, and a number of other steps my administration has taken. Today, I have signed an Executive order reinstating Super 301. This action will help us reach our objective: open markets that will create better jobs and increase wages at home and abroad.

### **Message to the Congress on Iraq** *March 3, 1994*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I hereby report to the Congress on the developments since my last report of August 2, 1993, concerning the national emergency with respect to Iraq that was declared in Executive Order No. 12722 of August 2, 1990. This report is submitted pursuant to section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c).

Executive Order No. 12722 ordered the immediate blocking of all property and interests in property of the Government of Iraq (including the Central Bank of Iraq), then or thereafter located in the United States or within the possession or control of a U.S. person. That order also prohibited the importation into the United States of goods and services of Iraqi origin, as well as the exportation of goods, services, and technology from the United States to Iraq. The order prohibited travel-related transactions to or from Iraq and the performance of any contract in support of any industrial, commercial, or governmental project in Iraq. U.S. persons were also prohibited from granting or extending credit or loans to the Government of Iraq.

The foregoing prohibitions (as well as the blocking of Government of Iraq property) were continued and augmented on August 9, 1990, by Executive Order No. 12724, which was issued in order to align the sanctions imposed by the United States with United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 661 of August 6, 1990.

Executive Order No. 12817 was issued on October 21, 1992, to implement in the United States measures adopted in United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 778 of

October 2, 1992. Resolution 778 requires U.N. member states temporarily to transfer to a U.N. escrow account up to \$200 million apiece in Iraqi oil sale proceeds paid by purchasers after the imposition of U.N. sanctions on Iraq. These funds finance Iraq's obligations for U.N. activities with respect to Iraq, such as expenses to verify Iraqi weapons destruction and to provide humanitarian assistance in Iraq on a nonpartisan basis. A portion of the escrowed funds will also fund the activities of the U.N. Compensation Commission in Geneva, which will handle claims from victims of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. The funds placed in the escrow account are to be returned, with interest, to the member states that transferred them to the United Nations, as funds are received from future sales of Iraqi oil authorized by the U.N. Security Council. No member state is required to fund more than half of the total contributions to the escrow account.

This report discusses only matters concerning the national emergency with respect to Iraq that was declared in Executive Order No. 12722 and matters relating to Executive Orders Nos. 12724 and 12817. The report covers events from August 2, 1993, through February 1, 1994.

1. During the reporting period, there were technical amendments to the Iraqi Sanctions Regulations relating to notification of transfers into blocked accounts and registration of persons holding blocked property, 58 *Fed. Reg.* 47643 (September 10, 1993). A copy of the amendments is attached for reference.

2. Investigations of possible violations of the Iraqi sanctions continue to be pursued and appropriate enforcement actions taken. These are intended to deter future activities in violation of the sanctions. Additional civil penalty notices were prepared during the reporting period for violations of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act and Iraqi Sanctions Regulations with respect to transactions involving Iraq. Three penalties totaling nearly \$54,000 were collected from three banks for violation of the prohibitions against funds transfers to Iraq, and non-compliance with reporting requirements and an Office of Foreign Assets Control directive license.

3. Investigation also continues into the roles played by various individuals and firms outside Iraq in the Iraqi government procurement network. These investigations may lead to additions to the Office of Foreign Assets Control's listing of individuals and organizations determined to be Specially Designated Nationals of the Government of Iraq.

4. Pursuant to Executive Order No. 12817 implementing United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 778, on October 26, 1992, the Office of Foreign Assets Control directed the Federal Reserve Bank of New York to establish a blocked account for receipt of certain post-August 6, 1990, Iraqi oil sales proceeds, and to hold, invest, and transfer these funds as required by the order. On July 20, 1993, following payments by the Governments of Saudi Arabia and Denmark of, respectively \$40,589,419.00 and \$674,360.00, to the special United Nations-controlled account, entitled United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 778 Escrow Account, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York was directed to transfer a corresponding amount of \$41,263,779.00 from the blocked account it holds to the United Nations-controlled account. Similarly, on August 2, 1993, following the payment of \$1,765,138.33 by the Government of the United Kingdom, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York was directed to transfer a corresponding amount of \$1,765,138.33 to the United Nations-controlled account; on September 11, 1993, following payments of \$1,547,054.35 by the Government of Canada, \$276,000.00 by the Government of Greece, \$3,196,897.72 from the Commission of the European Community, and \$1,006,614.89 from the Government of Denmark, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York was directed to transfer a corresponding amount of \$6,026,566.96 to the United Nations-controlled account; and on December 15, 1993, following payments of \$5,223,880.60 by the Government of the United Kingdom, \$621,426.80 by the Government of Germany, and \$1,219,941.98 from the Government of the Netherlands, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York was directed to transfer a corresponding amount of \$7,065,249.38 to the United Nations-controlled account. Total transfers from the blocked Federal Reserve Bank of New York

account since issuance of Executive Order No. 12817 have amounted to \$107,613,270.99 of the \$200 million for which the United States is potentially obligated, on a matching basis, pursuant to United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 778.

5. Since the last report, there have been developments in one case. In *Campia et al. v. Newcomb et al.*, a settlement was entered into by the parties addressing payment of back rent to the landlord and return to the landlord of premises leased by the Matrix Churchill Corporation. To implement the settlement, certain blocked property owned by Matrix Churchill was sold, with the proceeds placed in a blocked account. Matrix Churchill's remaining property and records were placed in secure storage.

6. The Office of Foreign Assets Control has issued a total of 444 specific licenses regarding transactions pertaining to Iraq or Iraqi assets since August 1990. Since my last report, 53 specific licenses have been issued. Licenses were issued for transactions such as the filing of legal actions against Iraqi governmental entities, for legal representation of Iraq, and the exportation to Iraq of donated medicine, medical supplies, and food intended for humanitarian relief purposes, the execution of powers of attorney relating to the administration of personal assets and decedents' estates in Iraq, and the protection of pre-existent intellectual property rights in Iraq.

7. The expenses incurred by the Federal Government in the 6 month period from August 2, 1993, through February 1, 1994, that are directly attributable to the exercise of powers and authorities conferred by the declaration of a national emergency with respect to Iraq are reported at about \$3.1 million, most of which represents wage and salary costs for Federal personnel. Personnel costs were largely centered in the Department of the Treasury (particularly in the Office of Foreign Assets Control, the U.S. Customs Service, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Enforcement, and the Office of the General Counsel), the Department of State (particularly the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs, the Bureau of Near East and South Asian Affairs, the Bureau of Inter-

national Organizations, and the Office of the Legal Adviser), and the Department of Transportation (particularly the U.S. Coast Guard).

8. The United States imposed economic sanctions on Iraq in response to Iraq's invasion and illegal occupation of Kuwait, a clear act of brutal aggression. The United States, together with the international community, is maintaining economic sanctions against Iraq because the Iraqi regime, despite international will, has failed to comply fully with United Nations Security Council resolutions. Security Council resolutions on Iraq call for the elimination of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction, the inviolability of the Iraq-Kuwait boundary, the release of Kuwaiti and other third-country nationals, compensation for victims of Iraqi aggression, long-term monitoring of weapons of mass destruction capabilities, the return of Kuwaiti assets stolen during Iraq's illegal occupation of Kuwait, renunciation of terrorism, an end to internal Iraqi repression of its own civilian population, and the facilitation of access of international relief organizations to all those in need in all parts of Iraq. Nonetheless, we see a pattern of defiance: repeated public claims to Kuwait, sponsorship of terrorism, incomplete declarations to weapons inspectors, and ongoing widespread human rights violations, among other things. The U.N. sanctions remain in place; the United States will continue to enforce those sanctions under domestic authority.

The Baghdad government continued to violate basic human rights by repressing the Iraqi civilian population and depriving it of humanitarian assistance. For more than 2 years, Baghdad has maintained a complete blockade of food, fuel, and medicine on northern Iraq. The Iraqi military routinely harasses residents of the north, and has attempted to "Arabize" Kurdish, Turcoman, and Assyrian areas in the north. Iraq continues to launch artillery attacks against civilian population centers in the south, and its efforts to drain the southern marshes have forced thousands to flee to neighboring States.

In 1991, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolutions 706 and 712 that permit Iraq to sell up to \$1.6 billion of

oil under U.N. auspices to fund the provision of food, medicine, and other humanitarian supplies to the people of Iraq. Under the U.N. resolutions, the equitable distribution within Iraq of this assistance would be supervised and monitored by the United Nations. The Iraqi regime so far has refused to accept these resolutions and has thereby chosen to perpetuate the suffering of its civilian population. In October 1993, the Iraqi government informed the United Nations that it would not implement Resolutions 706 and 712.

The policies and actions of the Saddam Hussein regime continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States, as well as to regional peace and security. Because of Iraq's failure to comply fully with United Nations Security Council resolutions, the United States will continue to apply economic sanctions to deter Iraq from threatening peace and stability in the region, and I will continue to report periodically to the Congress on significant developments, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(c).

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
March 3, 1994.

**Statement on Presentation of the Presidential Medal of Freedom to William H. Natcher**

*March 4, 1994*

Congressman Natcher has served the people of Kentucky and this Nation with distinction since 1941. He is revered by friends and opponents alike, and I can think of no person who deserves our recognition more. He represents the model of leadership to which we should all strive.

NOTE: The President traveled to Bethesda Naval Hospital, Bethesda, MD, where he presented Representative Natcher with the medal. This statement was part of a White House press release announcing the award.

**Statement on Disaster Assistance to Alabama**

*March 3, 1994*

My heart goes out to the people of the South who have suffered from these recent storms. I know how difficult this winter has been, and I am confident that FEMA Director James Lee Witt will do all he can to assist the people of Alabama, and those throughout the rest of the South, to recover from these damaging storms.

NOTE: This statement was part of a White House press release on announcing disaster assistance to Alabama for winter storms beginning on January 14 and continuing through February 14.

**Nomination for Ambassador to Cambodia**

*March 3, 1994*

The President today nominated Charles H. Twining of Maryland as the Ambassador to Cambodia with the rank of Minister-Counselor.

"Charles Twining is a talented professional who has focused a good part of his career on efforts in Cambodia," the President said. "I am confident that he will represent our interests well in that country."

NOTE: A biography by the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

**Proclamation 6655—To Amend the Generalized System of Preferences**

*March 3, 1994*

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

1. Pursuant to sections 501 and 502 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended ("Trade Act") (19 U.S.C. 2461 and 2462), and having due regard for the eligibility criteria set forth therein, I have determined that it is appropriate to designate Ukraine as a beneficiary developing country for purposes of the Generalized System of Preferences ("GSP").

2. Section 604 of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2483) authorizes the President to embody in

the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (“HTS”) the substance of the provisions of that Act, and of other acts affecting import treatment, and actions thereunder.

**Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton,** President of the United States of America, acting under the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including but not limited to sections 501 and 604 of the Trade Act, do proclaim that:

(1) General note 4(a) to the HTS, listing those countries whose products are eligible for benefits of the GSP, is modified by inserting “Ukraine” in alphabetical order in the enumeration of independent countries.

(2) Any provisions of previous proclamations and Executive orders inconsistent with the provisions of this proclamation are hereby superseded to the extent of such inconsistency.

(3) The modifications to the HTS made by paragraph (1) of this proclamation shall be effective with respect to articles that are: (i) imported on or after January 1, 1976, and (ii) entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after 15 days after the date of publication of this proclamation in the *Federal Register*.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this third day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eighteenth.

**William J. Clinton**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 2:15 p.m., March 4, 1993]

NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 4, and it will be published in the *Federal Register* on March 8.

### **Message to the Congress on Trade With Ukraine**

*March 3, 1994*

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I am writing to inform you of my intent to add Ukraine to the list of beneficiary developing countries under the Generalized

System of Preferences (GSP). The GSP program offers duty-free access to the U.S. market and is authorized by the Trade Act of 1974.

I have carefully considered the criteria identified in sections 501 and 502 of the Trade Act of 1974. In light of these criteria, and particularly Ukraine’s level of development and initiation of economic reforms, I have determined that it is appropriate to extend GSP benefits to Ukraine.

This notice is submitted in accordance with section 502(a)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974.

**William J. Clinton**

The White House,  
March 3, 1994.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on March 4.

### **Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With President Leonid Kravchuk of Ukraine**

*March 4, 1994*

**Q.** Mr. President, do you think Mr. Nussbaum should resign?

**The President.** I’m here with President Kravchuk to discuss a lot of very important issues. I have nothing to add to what I said yesterday. If I have anything else to say, it will be later today. I have nothing to say.

**Q.** —they’ll follow through on the dismantling of the nuclear warheads?

**The President.** Yes, I think they will do exactly what they said they’d do. President Kravchuk has had a good deal of success working with his Rada to secure approval of a continued denuclearization of Ukraine, and we will have some things to discuss about that today and some further announcements at our public statement in a couple of hours—we’ll have some more to say about it.

**Q.** —sign the nonproliferation treaty, Mr. President?

**The President.** I hope they will, and I think they’re working toward that.

[At this point, one group of reporters left the room, and another group entered.]

**The President.** This is the Ukraine press. [At this point, a question was asked in Ukrainian and no translation was provided.]

**President Kravchuk.** We're just recalling our meetings, but we haven't started talks yet. But we recalled our Kiev meetings.

**Q.** What is the opinion of this meeting, Mr. Clinton?

**The President.** I thought they were very good meetings. We made, as you know, a very important agreement which we then signed in Moscow the next day. And I also very much enjoyed being in your country a brief time. We also had a wonderful meal. And we'll have a good meal today, but there won't be so many courses as there were when we were in—[laughter]

**President Kravchuk.** And the newspapers were covering it for a long time.

**The President.** Yes.

NOTE: The exchange began at 11:42 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. President Kravchuk spoke in Ukrainian, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

### **The President's News Conference With President Leonid Kravchuk of Ukraine**

*March 4, 1994*

**President Clinton.** Good afternoon. It's a great pleasure for me to welcome President Kravchuk and his entire delegation from Ukraine to the White House today. Before I go forward, I think I should acknowledge the presence in the Ukrainian delegation of two of the Ukraine's Olympic athletes, Victor Petrenko and the Olympic gold medalist in skating, Oksana Baiul. Welcome to the United States. Please stand up. [Applause] Thank you. I'm pleased that President Kravchuk brought them with him today. We all enjoyed meeting them, and we're looking forward to the entire American Olympic team being here in just a couple of weeks.

When I first met President Kravchuk in Kiev on January 12th, the hour was late, and the weather was icy. But at that brief meeting we marked the dawn of a new and warm era

in relations between the United States and Ukraine. Two days after that meeting, we signed an historic accord with President Yeltsin to eliminate some 1,800 Soviet nuclear warheads left in Ukraine. Since then, Ukraine's Parliament has approved the trilateral agreement and unconditionally ratified the START Treaty and the Lisbon Protocol. And last month, Ukraine joined the NATO Partnership For Peace. These steps represent a tribute to the statesmanship and leadership of President Kravchuk and to the vision of the Ukrainian people, who understand that integration into a broader, peaceful, and democratic Europe is Ukraine's best path to lasting security and prosperity.

In our meeting today, I strongly reaffirmed American support for Ukraine's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. I urged President Kravchuk to continue to work to achieve Ukraine's accession to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. We shared views on developments in Russia and their impact on Ukraine. We discussed ways to expand cooperation between our two nations. At the core of our agenda is developing a closer economic relationship.

While Ukraine is going through a difficult period of transition, it remains a nation with enormous economic potential, endowed with abundant natural resources and human talent. To develop the full measure of these resources, Ukraine's most promising future clearly lies with market reform. That's why I was pleased that President Kravchuk today expressed his determination to move forward toward comprehensive market reform.

As Ukraine proceeds with reform, the United States is prepared to mobilize support from the G-7 nations and from international financial institutions. We're also prepared to increase our bilateral economic assistance to \$350 million this year for privatization, small business creation, and other priorities. And to help Ukraine dismantle nuclear weapons, we've committed \$350 million in Nunn-Lugar funds. Total U.S. assistance available to Ukraine this year will, therefore, be \$700 million. This represents a major increased commitment to an important friend in the region.

Ultimately, the best way to bolster Ukraine's reforms is to facilitate private trade

and investment. I told President Kravchuk today that the United States will support Ukraine's membership in GATT and will lower tariffs on a number of Ukrainian products.

We've also signed treaties to promote investment and prevent double taxation. And we established a joint commission on trade and investment that will strengthen further our commercial ties. These ties are part of a richly woven fabric that binds our two nations.

From the time of our own revolution, Ukrainian immigrants have helped to shape the United States. Now America and Ukraine are dedicated to building a new relationship, to shaping a better future for all our people and for all the world. I look forward to working with President Kravchuk in that endeavor.

Let me again thank the President for coming here with the entire delegation, including his Olympians, and to say to all the Ukrainians, and to you especially, Mr. President, thank you for giving us the opportunity to work together and to make a better future for our peoples.

**President Kravchuk.** Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, we have just signed a number of important bilateral documents which lay down the legal foundation for cooperation in the areas of economy, trade, and other areas. That—what happened several minutes ago before your eyes could be, without exaggeration, called a historic moment in relationship between our two states.

Today we, in fact, turned the page of a still brief history of our bilateral relations which seem to have linked us forever with colossal and complicated problem of nuclear weapons, which Ukraine inherited from the former Soviet Union. Although the problem remains to be as complicated today, we managed to get closer to a successful resolution of this problem today.

The new balance of forces on the political map of the world clearly indicates the need to create a global security system which would be based on entirely new principles. We understand that the complicated processes of international security and peace are intertwined and cannot permit gaps and vacuum to exist in this or that part of the world,

especially on the European Continent. Therefore, President Bill Clinton and I agreed that the political and economic security of Ukraine, which is playing an important stabilizing role in its area—and this idea is shared by many others—has an exceptional significance for both the people of Ukraine and for the people of the United States of America. Proceeding from this basic idea, we believe that relations between Ukraine and the United States should develop as relationships of friendly states which have much more common interests than controversies.

During our talks with President Clinton we became confident that the American side understands the problems that we have and is concerned over the serious economic situation in Ukraine. We saw that the administration in the United States does not only welcome steps of the Ukrainian Government to overcome the economic crisis but also expresses readiness to provide necessary assistance to Ukraine in the main areas of economic transformation, which the President indicated.

Today we signed a package of economic accords and agreements which I hope will help Ukraine considerably facilitate and speed up its progress towards the market and ease the tension in the economy and also the daily life of the people. We are convinced that we found the right friend at the right time in America. Today Ukraine is a friend in need, but it is a friend, indeed, as your saying goes. I believe that the day will come when we will be remembering these days as the era of the birth and formation of a true friendship between the two nations and states, Ukraine and the United States of America.

Thank you very much for attention.

**President Clinton.** Thank you, Mr. President.

Now, we'll attempt to alternate between the American press and the Ukrainian press on questions. So we'll start with Helen [Helen Thomas, United Press International].

### **Whitewater Investigation**

**Q.** Mr. President, is Mr. Nussbaum leaving your staff, and have you decided how you're going to approach these daily spate of stories concerning Whitewater—been likened in

Post cartoons to torture, Chinese torture, and so forth?

**President Clinton.** Well, I think that's a decision more for you than for me, whether there will be a daily spate of stories. Most of the newspapers in the country asked me to have a special counsel appointed. That's what I have done; I did it so that I could go on with my work. It's been an interesting thing since no one has still accused me, as far as I know, of doing anything wrong in this whole encounter. So we have a special counsel, and I intend to let the process unfold.

Yesterday, I said what I had to say about the meetings that had occurred or the conversations that had occurred. I think we have constructed a clear and appropriate fire wall between the White House and any Federal regulatory agency that might have anything to do with this, as I think it is absolutely imperative to do. And I have told again everybody on my staff to just bend over backwards to be as cooperative as possible. I want a full investigation. I want this thing to be done fully, clearly, and to be over with. That is my only interest, and I intend to pursue it with great vigor.

**Q.** How about Mr. Nussbaum?

**President Clinton.** I have nothing more to add to what I said yesterday.

### **Ukraine**

**Q.** The voice of Ukraine, the parliamentary newspaper of Ukraine. It was said that the moment is historic in the history of Ukraine. Is this historic moment different from any other historic moment in the history of Ukraine?

**President Kravchuk.** I do understand your question. Every country lived through a historic period of—the time that we are living through is very complicated. It's a period of transformation, of transfer from one system to another. Ukraine is in a very bad, very difficult situation. And friendly relationship with the United States of America, the good neighborly relations in all areas of political and economic life, is really the true historic moment. And the fact that United States of America and Ukraine signed documents which open up the way to market reforms and stronger democracy, which still

have to take place on the territory of the former republics of the former Soviet Union, this is truly a historic moment.

Yes, the word has its own history, but it cannot be interpreted as an archaic word. This is the word of a very high, lofty sounding.

**Q.** President Kravchuk, the Ukrainian Parliament has failed to ratify the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Are you confident that it will ratify this treaty? And will the \$700 million of aid that you talked about today go forward if the Parliament fails to take that step?

**President Clinton.** First, I am confident it will ratify the treaty. Perhaps I should let President Kravchuk speak for himself on this. I believe that because the Parliament has supported the trilateral agreement, the START Treaty, the Lisbon Protocol, which is the first step toward becoming a non-nuclear—I mean, agreeing to the Non-Proliferation Treaty. I'm also confident because this country has already begun to implement its commitment to reduce the nuclear presence. And the Nunn-Lugar funds, in particular, as you know, are tied to making sure that countries can afford to do it and can reduce their nuclear capacity in a technically competent and safe way. So I feel a high level of confidence in this.

President Kravchuk again assured me today that he thought the NPT would be acceded to by the Rada and that the real problem, the reason it hasn't happened just before his coming here, is because so many people are out campaigning, something that we all understand in this country. But I think it would be good to let him make a comment about this.

**President Kravchuk.** The thing is that having ratified START I and removing the reservations as to Article V of the Lisbon Protocol, the Ukraine has committed itself, the political commitment, to accede to the NPT as a nonnuclear power. This question is now open as a committing task for Ukraine. So you shouldn't have doubts about the ratification or nonratification of the NPT. As to the money which is allocated to Ukraine, that money is allocated for dismantling the weapons. And we have already started dismantling the nuclear weapons in Ukraine.

**Q.** This is a question to President Clinton. You have already landed in Ukraine, and that was a very short stopover. Are you planning an official state visit to Ukraine?

**President Clinton.** I would very much like to come back. This year I have a full schedule of travel, perhaps as much as I can accommodate this year. But I certainly wouldn't rule it out. I had such a good time on my brief stay, I wanted to do more and to see more.

Trude [Trude Feldman, Trans Features].

**Q.** Mr. President, I have a question for both Presidents. Are you satisfied with the progress on removing nuclear missiles from the Ukraine under the January Moscow agreement?

**President Clinton.** I personally am. I think they're making good progress and proceeding just as they agreed to do. Obviously, there are always technical details to be worked out. And this is a delicate matter that has to be handled with great care. But I'm personally well satisfied.

Mr. President, do you want to answer that question?

**President Kravchuk.** As I've already said, answering to the part of that question, the Ukraine has already begun the practical implementation of that issue. But speaking more definitely, a whole trainload of nuclear warheads is on the way to Russia. The treaty has been signed between Russia and Ukraine because this is a joint issue of removing the weapons to Russia. And Ukraine will fulfill its commitment. I also believe that other sides, other parties, would fulfill their obligations. And Ukraine would certainly stick to its commitments.

**President Clinton.** If I might just add one other thing, too. I think that it's important for us here in the United States to note that one of the big issues when I went to Ukraine and to Russia in January has been resolved, and that is the question of how Ukraine will be compensated for the highly enriched uranium in its nuclear arsenal.

**Q.** [Inaudible]—your recent statement about the resurrection of the Russian imperialism, would they bring damage to Ukraine?

**President Clinton.** Well, the United States supports the territorial integrity of

Ukraine. And I personally have been very impressed that all the parties involved in the Crimean issue seem to be very responsible in their comments and their policies recently. So I think you're asking me a hypothetical which doesn't seem too probable in light of the policies and the statements which have been made.

Ann [Ann Compton, ABC News].

### **Terrorism**

**Q.** Mr. President, the defendants in the World Trade Center bombing were all convicted today. Do you think Americans have any reason to feel any more secure against terrorism now than they did one year ago?

**President Clinton.** Well, I think the authorities did a terrific job in cracking the case. And I'm glad to see that it has been handled in this way. I think that the signal should go out across the world that anyone who seeks to come to this country to practice terrorism will have the full weight of the law enforcement authorities against them, and we will do our best to crack the cases and to bring them to justice, just as they have today. This will send a very important signal around the world. And I am very gratified by the work that was done.

### **Ukraine**

**President Kravchuk.** I didn't answer the question which was raised previously. I believe that our integration within the limits of the CIS does not contradict the integration in the political and economic area with the countries that make up the New Independent States. This has been foreseen by many documents in the CIS.

Ukraine does not make a task of leaving the CIS or curtailing relationship with the countries that have been created on the territory of the former Soviet Union. We believe that the joint efforts of the CIS countries and their cooperation with the Western states will give an opportunity to avoid the burdensome and heavy processes which are now taking place in Russia and in many other countries.

We cannot limit the process towards the process in Russia or Ukraine. These are universal processes, and we have to interact on them. But there is a tendency of creating difficult processes including the extremist or ex-

pansionist character. There are such tendencies, but if we act together we would be able to avoid such developments.

**Q.** Mr. President, this is the Ukrainian wire service. Did you discuss today with the President of Ukraine a question of providing additional material assistance to Ukraine except for the provision of assistance for the denuclearization?

**President Clinton.** Yes, we did. And the United States agreed to do two things. One is, we are increasing the assistance that we had previously pledged not only in the denuclearization area but in economic assistance as well, so that we will have about \$350 million in each category.

Now, over and above that, we agreed to send an economic team to Ukraine as quickly as President Kravchuk says you are ready to receive them to discuss what we might do to get more countries involved in assisting Ukraine, and to speed up the timetable by which Ukraine can receive assistance from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Andrea [Andrea Mitchell, NBC News].

### **Whitewater Investigation**

**Q.** Mr. President, in Annapolis today, Republicans were calling upon Speaker Foley to hold hearings on some of these latest meetings. Would you object to such hearings? Do you think they're necessary? And secondly, do you think a stronger signal needs to be sent from the White House that you are, indeed, so sensitive to these ethical distinctions? Do you need to make other changes beyond the memo that was issued yesterday?

**President Clinton.** Let me say, first of all, it's up to the House to do whatever they think is appropriate to do, not for me to tell them what to do. I think that it is clear that the Republicans have behaved in a fairly blatant, bald, and totally political way in this regard. And since there is no evidence of abuse of authority on my part as President, or any of the kinds of things for which their parties and administrations were accused, and since they have often complained in the past of political motivation, I think that they would show a little more restraint and judgment in this case.

All I can tell you is, even the editorial writers, you know, they say, "Well, there is no evidence Bill Clinton did anything wrong; we're spending millions of dollars to dig around in all of this, but no one has ever accused him of doing anything wrong. We're just going to do it anyway. Now, they better not mess up the process." So I sent the message to the people who work here, "Don't mess up the process. Nobody thinks we've done anything wrong, but we, because I'm President, have had to launch this massive, hugely expensive, unusual inquiry, while everybody says, 'I really don't think anything happened wrong, but let's have this massive inquiry. Now, let's make sure they don't mess it up, and if they do, let's find them.'" So I said, "Let's don't mess it up."

I mean, I've made it as clear as I can: Bend over backwards to avoid any appearance of conflict; set up a fire wall between the White House and any of the appropriate agencies; have a central point of contact if anyone calls us. You know, one of these disputed meetings arose out of press questions, for example. We have to be careful.

I think I have sent a very clear and unambiguous signal that there is no point in letting a process mess this White House up when we have not yet been accused of any wrongdoing. Since there was no wrongdoing on my part, I want a full, complete, thorough investigation. And I want it to go forward unimpeded and then to be over. I think that is in the national interest. And I'm going to do my best to make it abundantly clear that that is precisely what happens.

Yes, sir?

### **Ukraine**

**Q.** Mr. Clinton, the newspaper Kiev Herald. Has there been a change in the last 5 years of your understanding of the Ukrainian situation in Europe? And if there has been a change, please present your arguments.

**President Clinton.** Well, I'll attempt to answer the question as I understand it. I certainly, over the last half year, have come to have higher hopes for the prospect of a full Ukrainian partnership in a democratic Europe where all the countries respect each other's territorial integrity and work together

in an atmosphere of free markets, and respect for democracy and human rights.

I think that is due in no small measure to the leadership of President Kravchuk in concluding the nuclear agreement with the United States and Russia and in the efforts in Ukraine to support the START Treaty and Lisbon Protocol. I also know what a very difficult economic time Ukraine is going through. And I see the beginnings of a real effort to restructure the economy. And I believe the United States should support that.

Finally, let me say one point which has not been made yet: I was very pleased that Ukraine so quickly accepted the invitation from NATO to join the Partnership For Peace. This is just what we conceived could happen, that we could literally build a united Europe where the parties respect each other's borders and integrity and commit to work with one another to promote the peace and to protect the people of all the countries involved.

Yes, sir.

### **China**

**Q.** Mr. President, Secretary of State Christopher is heading to China soon. Isn't the Chinese Government basically thumbing its nose at the U.S. by rounding up dissidents on the eve of his visit and, of course, with Congress getting ready to kick around the most-favored-nation status?

**President Clinton.** I wouldn't presume to know what motivated the Chinese Government. All I can tell you is that we have sent a very stern statement. We strongly disapprove of what was done, and it obviously is not helpful to our relations. I have done what I could to make it clear that the United States does not seek to isolate China economically or politically and that we want a constructive and strong relationship with them, but that the observance of basic human rights is an important thing to us, along with nonproliferation, along with fair trade rules. And that was certainly not a helpful action.

### **Ukraine**

**Q.** Mr. President, this is Ukrainian Television. I have a question to both President Kravchuk and President Clinton.

Mr. Kravchuk, the Ukraine is living through a very difficult period of time. We are very active in the denuclearization policy, and Ukraine is called at the same time the stabilizing factor. What is your opinion on that? What would be the development of that issue?

**President Kravchuk.** We should take a look at Ukraine, not only from the position of today but also take into consideration its great economic, spiritual, human, and natural resources. The relations which are now developing between the United States and the Ukraine and the understanding which President Clinton showed and the administration of the United States demonstrated, show that they take into account exactly that perspective view, not the view of today but the view of tomorrow.

From that point of view, Ukraine can play a great stabilizing role in the future; that is one thing. Secondly, Ukraine can, with the help of rapid economic and political reforms, can introduce such principles of coexistence which are in the limits of highest standards. For instance, we do not have any problems with human rights or ethnic or interethnic or international conflicts in the Ukraine. We preserved the political calm and stability in the conditions when we are getting ready for the elections.

The most important is the economic situation. If Ukraine, by itself, and with the help of the United States and other states, will manage this economic crisis, it would be ready to use the economic potential that it has and will be able to perform its role in Europe.

**President Clinton.** I agree with what President Kravchuk said. I might just add one point. The United States recognizes that it is very important to be supportive as Ukraine tries to reform and get through this period of economic transition. One of the things that we've been able to do in the last year or so is to take a broad view of the need for defense conversion measures as the denuclearization occurs.

So, for example, tomorrow the President and the Ukrainian delegation will go and meet with the Secretary of Defense, Secretary Perry, to talk about what kinds of defense conversion things, that will help the

long-term Ukrainian economy, can be done as part of the process of denuclearization. And that, I think, is some evidence that the United States believes that the potential of Ukraine is enormous and that we have to have a long-term view of our partnership.

Yes, sir.

### **Singapore**

**Q.** Mr. President, I'd like to ask you a question about a human rights case. An American young man living in Singapore has been convicted of petty vandalism there and sentenced to a caning, a punishment that is said to leave permanent scars. This would seem to outweigh the crime. And since Singapore is an ally of ours, is there anything the United States can do about this?

**The President.** This is the first I've heard of it. I'll look into it.

Rita [Rita Braver, CBS News].

Thank you for bringing it to my attention.

### **Middle East Peace Process**

**Q.** President Clinton, just a little while ago, Nabil Shaat, the envoy from the PLO, said that the United Nations is close to agreement, with U.S. backing, on some kind of international security force in the occupied territories. Can you tell us a little bit about that and what the U.S. participation in that would be?

**President Clinton.** I can't because we haven't made the agreement yet. I can say that there is—I believe we have some more movement in the Middle East. There is still some—I am encouraged in a way by what he said, but I wouldn't overstate it. We are continuing to inch ahead, but I don't want to jump ahead of actual developments. And I think I'd better wait and see what actually is agreed to before I can comment.

### **Ukraine**

**Q.** Mr. Kravchuk, supplies of Russian gas are supposed to be cut off today because of Ukraine's inability to pay. Did you discuss this issue today with Mr. Clinton? And, Mr. Clinton, did you have any suggestions; were there any moves to help Ukraine in this instance?

**President Kravchuk.** Yes, I informed President Clinton about this case. We dis-

cussed this matter together, but it's hard to tell you any definite steps. But I believe that we would find a joint resolution of that process because it is related not only to the economic issues but also related to a number of treaties, including matters related to the production in the Ukraine. So far, it is very hard to answer your question.

**President Clinton.** Yes, we discussed it and we discussed it in some detail. I said that I would have the United States explore two or three options to see if we could find some way to avert an even worse crisis. It's a serious problem. We didn't achieve a total resolution today.

Thank you very much.

### **George Mitchell**

**Q.** Mr. President, have you heard about George Mitchell?

**Q.** Do you think you can work without him, sir?

**President Clinton.** I have. I would like to make a statement about Senator Mitchell, if I might.

We had a long talk about this last night. He came over for dinner and asked if he could stay afterward, and asked if I would not tell anybody. So I didn't, and it didn't leak.

I didn't know George Mitchell very well when I became President, and therefore, I didn't know what to expect. After the last 14 months, I can tell you that I think he is one of the finest, ablest people I have ever known in any kind of work. There is no doubt in my mind that we would not have had the success we had last year had it not been for his incredible persistence and patience and strength. And he will be very difficult to replace. But he made this decision, I am convinced, for exactly the reasons that he will say, as he goes home to Maine to make this statement. And I think I should let him speak for himself.

He is a wonderful man. He has made a very personal decision. I will miss him a lot, and America is deeply in his debt.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President's 51st news conference began at 2:10 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. President Kravchuk spoke in Ukrainian, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter.

## **Joint Statement on Development of U.S.-Ukrainian Friendship and Partnership**

*March 4, 1994*

On the occasion of their March 4, 1994 meeting in Washington, D.C., the President of the United States of America, William J. Clinton, and the President of Ukraine, Leonid M. Kravchuk, agree to open a new era in relations between their two nations.

In doing so, they agree to undertake to broaden the context of bilateral relations on the basis of partnership and mutual trust and respect; shared commitment to democracy, human rights and the rule of law; common goals in preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; and, in the joint interest of promoting free trade, investment, and economic cooperation between the two countries.

By embracing these principles, the United States and Ukraine agree to work in friendship in the interests of the mutual well-being of their peoples and in pursuit of an enduring global peace. Embarking on this new era, the two leaders agree to work actively to implement the following comprehensive program of cooperation:

### ***I. Security Assurances***

President Clinton and President Kravchuk discussed security assurances for Ukraine and agreed on the importance of such assurances. The sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Ukraine are of key importance to the United States. In this regard, as agreed in the January 14 Trilateral Statement, the United States and other nations are prepared to extend in the form of a multilateral document security assurances to Ukraine once the START I Treaty enters into force and Ukraine becomes a non-nuclear-weapon state party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

### ***II. Nuclear Arms Reduction Assistance ("Nunn-Lugar")***

Under the framework of the Agreement Between the United States of America and Ukraine on the Elimination of Strategic Nuclear Arms, and the Prevention of Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction of Oc-

tober 25, 1993, the United States of America has committed 177 million dollars in assistance to Ukraine. The United States intends to provide an additional 175 million dollars in Fiscal Year 1994 and Fiscal Year 1995. Of this, 100 million dollars will be made available in Fiscal Year 1994 for projects in the following areas:

- the conversion of the defense industry of Ukraine to civilian activities;
- the elimination of strategic nuclear arms;
- the establishment of a system of export control for the prevention of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; and,
- the development of state systems of control, accounting, and physical protection of nuclear materials.

The United States will also seek an additional 75 million dollars in "Nunn-Lugar" assistance for Ukraine in Fiscal Year 1995.

The Government of the United States of America, in consultation with the Government of Ukraine, shall expeditiously decide on the appropriate allocation of proposed assistance among these four areas. Once this decision has been made, the two sides shall expeditiously seek to conclude an agreement and three amendments specifying this proposed increase in assistance.

For defense conversion assistance, the two sides shall work to conclude a new implementing agreement between the Department of Defense of the United States of America and the Ministry of Engineering, Military-Industrial Complex and Conversion of Ukraine.

For additional strategic nuclear weapon elimination assistance, including assistance for the elimination of SS-19 and SS-24 missiles and silos, for additional export control assistance, and for additional assistance relating to control, accounting, and physical protection of nuclear materials, the two sides shall work to amend the respective implementing agreements concluded in December 1993.

### ***III. Economic and Commercial Cooperation***

The two leaders agree that expanded bilateral economic ties and commercial coopera-

tion can make a significant contribution to strengthening U.S.-Ukrainian relations and developing free markets, economic growth and jobs in the two countries. In this regard, both countries attach great significance to their bilateral Agreement on Trade Relations which came into force on June 22, 1992, and are committed to carrying out its full provisions. The United States and Ukraine also agree to establish a special Bilateral Commission on Trade and Investment to expand commercial relations.

Both countries will work to reduce barriers to trade and investment in order to expand access to each other's market. The United States appreciates the importance of market access for economies in transition, such as Ukraine. The United States has already extended to Ukraine the benefits of the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences. In their efforts to expand trade, both sides will be guided by the principles of the GATT. The United States supports Ukraine's interest in formally applying for GATT membership and is prepared to provide technical assistance to help Ukraine implement a trade regime consistent with GATT rules.

U.S. private investment in Ukraine can make an important contribution to Ukraine's transition to a market economy. Both sides agree that the signing of an Avoidance of Double Taxation Treaty and a Bilateral Investment Treaty, providing comprehensive protection for investors, are important steps to stimulate private capital flows, but that they need to be accompanied by Ukrainian actions to improve its overall investment climate if the full potential for foreign direct investment is to be achieved.

Both sides agree on the importance of cooperation and information exchange in the area of science and technology. The conclusion of a bilateral Science and Technology Agreement will help formalize government-to-government cooperation in this area. In addition, the U.S. and Ukrainian governments agree to establish a special Joint Commission to facilitate cooperation in high technology and scientific research and development. The two governments agree to cooperate in the field of outer space and to hold early meetings of experts to consider specific issues and areas of cooperation in this field.

The two leaders continue to place the highest priority on the success of political and economic reform in Ukraine. The United States will provide up to 350 million dollars in bilateral economic assistance in Fiscal Year 1994 to support Ukraine's transition to a market-oriented economy and a democratic society. The United States and Ukraine also agree that international financial institutions, particularly the IMF and the IBRD, have an essential role to play in providing financial resources to facilitate Ukraine's transition to a market economy. The United States encourages Ukraine to work closely with the IMF and the IBRD in implementing a program of bold economic reforms. The United States, for its part, is prepared to exercise leadership within the G-7 to mobilize additional, multilateral assistance to support a comprehensive reform program.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

### **Joint Statement on Economic and Commercial Cooperation**

*March 4, 1994*

The United States and Ukraine believe that expanded bilateral economic ties and commercial cooperation can make a significant contribution to strengthening their relations and developing free markets, economic growth and jobs in our two countries. Both countries are committed to making greater efforts to develop commercial projects based on trade, joint ventures and foreign direct investment, recognizing that individual commercial and investment decisions must be made by the enterprises concerned.

#### **Trade**

Both countries attach great significance to their bilateral Agreement on Trade Relations which came into force on June 22, 1992, and are committed to carrying out its full provisions, including those covering the protection of intellectual property.

The United States and Ukraine have agreed to establish a special Bilateral Commission on Trade and Investment, chaired on the U.S. side by the Department of Commerce and on the Ukrainian side by the Min-

istry of Foreign Economic Relations. The Commission will prepare an action plan for promoting bilateral trade and investment. The two countries will set a date for the first meeting of the Commission early in 1994. The Department of Commerce also intends to organize a trade promotion mission, including U.S. company representatives, to Ukraine.

The two countries recognize that measures taken to reduce tariffs and non-tariff barriers can provide an important stimulus to bilateral trade. The United States appreciates the importance of market access for economies in transition, such as Ukraine. In this regard, the United States, on March 3, 1994, extended to Ukraine the benefits of the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences. This provides Ukraine with duty-free access into the U.S. market for some 4,400 products. During 1994, U.S. technical experts will visit Kiev to provide Ukrainian exporters and officials with information on the operation of the GSP program.

The United States and Ukraine desire to provide liberal and reciprocal access to each other's market for goods and services. The two countries are committed to avoiding trade frictions and to facilitate access consistent with fair trade practices and their respective trade laws. They also intend to review and seek to remove technical barriers to trade related to standards, certification and testing of products.

In these efforts, both sides will be guided by the principles of the GATT. The United States is a contracting party to the GATT and supports Ukraine's interest in formally applying for GATT membership. The United States is prepared to provide technical assistance to help Ukraine implement a trade regime consistent with GATT membership and to consult with Ukrainian authorities concerning the process and terms of GATT accession.

The United States and Ukraine will also continue their ongoing discussions regarding the establishment of an effective export control regime that will allow Ukraine increased access to U.S. goods and high technology and allow Ukraine to participate fully in the COCOM Cooperation Forum. The U.S. is ready to provide technical assistance to help

Ukraine create a national export control regime.

The two leaders noted Ukraine's interest in acquiring the status of a full and equal partner in the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). The United States and Ukraine will cooperate closely to help to achieve this goal, which will make an important contribution to international efforts to stem proliferation of ballistic missiles.

### **Investment**

U.S. private investment in Ukraine can make an important contribution to Ukraine's transition to a market economy by providing capital, jobs, improving product quality and manufacturing efficiency and introducing management and technical know-how. Both sides agree the Avoidance of Double Taxation Treaty and Bilateral Investment Treaty, providing comprehensive protection for investors, are important steps and could stimulate private capital flows. Such agreements need to be accompanied by administrative, tax, regulatory and legislative changes in Ukraine to improve the overall climate for investment and to provide the necessary security and stability that investors seek. Identifying barriers to investment and exchanging information on ways to improve the investment climate in Ukraine will be an important objective of the Bilateral Commission on Trade and Investment.

The U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation has agreed to organize a conference on investment in Ukraine to be held in Chicago in July 1994. This will follow up on an OPIC-organized investment mission which visited Ukraine in 1993.

### **Science and Technology Cooperation**

Both sides agree to continue with exchanges of information in the area of science and technology and to cooperate in identifying opportunities for scientific and space research collaboration. They agreed to conclude a bilateral Science and Technology Agreement to formalize government-to-government cooperation and to establish a coordinating mechanism to foster bilateral science and technology cooperation. With the October 25, 1993 signing of a protocol for a Science and Technology Center in Kiev,

both sides place a priority on getting this Center operational as quickly as possible. The two governments agreed to cooperate in the field of outer space and to hold early meetings of experts to consider specific issues and areas of cooperation in this field.

In addition, the leaders agreed to establish a special Joint Commission to facilitate cooperation in areas of high technology and scientific research and development.

#### ***Cooperation in Defense Conversion***

The United States and Ukraine recognize that defense conversion is a priority task for each country and that cooperation will enable each country to meet that task more efficiently and effectively. To advance this cooperation, the two countries have established a United States-Ukraine Committee on the Conversion of Defense Industry, co-chaired by the U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense and the Minister of Engineering, Military-Industrial Complex and Conversion of Ukraine. On January 5, 1994, U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense Perry and Ukrainian Deputy Minister of Engineering, Military-Industrial Complex and Conversion V. Pavlyukov signed a statement of principles governing the work of this Committee. According to this statement of principles, the Committee will serve as a channel of communication between the Governments of the United States and Ukraine on the most important questions of cooperation in defense conversion.

#### ***Support for Ukrainian Reform***

The two leaders continue to place the highest priority on the success of political and economic reform in Ukraine. The United States will provide up to 350 million dollars in economic assistance in Fiscal Year 1994 to support Ukraine's transition to a market-oriented economy and a democratic society. The United States extends this assistance with the understanding that full disbursement of this assistance will be contingent on Ukraine's proceeding with its process of reform, without which this assistance cannot be fully effective.

The United States and Ukraine also agree that international financial institutions, particularly the IMF and the IBRD, have an essential role to play in helping Ukraine create and implement a comprehensive reform

program. The international financial institutions can provide significant financial resources to support such a program. The United States encourages Ukraine to work closely with the IMF and the IBRD in implementing a program of bold economic reforms. The United States, for its part, is prepared to exercise leadership within the G-7 to mobilize additional, multilateral assistance to support a comprehensive reform program.

Both sides recognize that the extent of commercial and economic cooperation currently existing between the two countries is far below its potential. They agree that the principles and objectives elaborated in this statement are the best basis upon which to expand rapidly trade and investment. The United States and Ukraine acknowledge, however, that before the full potential of their trade and economic cooperation can be realized, Ukraine must intensify adoption of a free-market system, including such elements as a dynamic private sector, the freeing of prices, and a fully convertible currency. The United States and Ukraine agree to work together to achieve these goals and to continue a process of reform which will provide the basis for the future prosperity of the Ukrainian people.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

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### **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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#### ***February 28***

In the morning, the President traveled to Chicago, IL. In the late morning, he spoke by telephone with Nancy Kerrigan, Olympic silver medal figure skater.

In the afternoon, he traveled to Pittsburgh, PA, where he met with Prime Minister John Major of the United Kingdom.

In the evening, the President and Prime Minister John Major returned to the White House.

The President declared that major disasters exist in the States of Tennessee, Louisiana, and Arkansas and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in areas struck by severe winter ice storms and flash flooding from February 9 to 12.

**March 1**

In the morning, the President had breakfast with Prime Minister John Major.

**March 2**

In the evening, the President taped interviews with "CBS This Morning" and "ABC World News".

**March 3**

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa of Japan.

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**Nominations  
Submitted to the Senate**

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The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

**Submitted February 28**

David M. Ransom,  
of the District of Columbia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the State of Bahrain.

**Submitted March 2**

Ralph R. Johnson,  
of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Coordinator of the Support for East European Democracy (SEED) Program.

Charles H. Twining,  
of Maryland, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor,

to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Cambodia.

Marion M. Dawson,  
of Connecticut, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation for a term expiring September 22, 1999, vice John Train, term expired.

Jere Walton Glover,  
of Maryland, to be Chief Counsel for Advocacy, Small Business Administration, vice Thomas P. Kerester, resigned.

Maria Elena Torano,  
of Florida, to be a member of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 1994, vice Richard B. Stone, term expired.

Maria Elena Torano,  
of Florida, to be a member of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 1997 (reappointment).

**Submitted March 3**

Joe Scroggins, Jr.,  
of Florida, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 1995, vice Christopher L. Koch, resigned.

**Submitted March 4**

Jamie S. Gorelick,  
of Maryland, to be Deputy Attorney General, vice Philip Benjamin Heymann, resigned.

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**Checklist  
of White House Press Releases**

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The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

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**Released March 1**

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers

Transcript of a press briefing by Vice President Albert Gore and Attorney General Janet

Reno on the President's anti-violent-crime initiative

Announcement on Attorney General Janet Reno's teleconference with law enforcement officials on the President's anti-violent-crime initiative

List of Democratic members of the House Budget Committee meeting with the President

Announcement of a Department of Health and Human Services study showing significant savings to States and taxpayers under the "Health Security Act"

***Released March 2***

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers

Transcript of a press briefing by U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor on identification of trade priorities (Super 301)

Fact sheet on the Partnership For Peace

Announcement of the semiconductor initiative

***Released March 3***

Transcript of a press briefing by Director of the Office of Management and Budget Leon Panetta and Senior Policy Adviser to the Vice President Elaine Kamarck

***Released March 4***

Transcript of a press briefing by Assistant to the President for Economic Policy Robert E. Rubin, Council of Economic Advisers Chair Laura D'Andrea Tyson, and Labor Secretary Robert Reich on the national economy

Statement by Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers on the President's invitation to Prime Minister Albert Reynolds of Ireland to visit the White House on March 17

Fact sheet on the Bilateral Investment Treaty

Fact sheet on the Bilateral Tax Treaty

Fact sheet on the U.S. Assistance Package

Fact sheet on Joint Principles on Nuclear Reactor Safety

Fact sheet on the Agreement on Preservation of Cultural Heritage

Fact sheet on the Science and Technology Agreement

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**Acts Approved  
by the President**

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NOTE: No acts approved by the President were received by the Office of the Federal Register during the period covered by this issue.