

tough enough and wise enough and compassionate enough to do what we know in our heart is right. You help, we'll do it.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:20 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom at the Washington Hilton Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Bob Georgine, president, Building and Construction Trades Department of the AFL-CIO.

### Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt

April 5, 1995

**President Clinton.** Good morning, everybody. Good afternoon.

**Q.** Good morning. What's on the agenda today?

**President Clinton.** A lot of things. But we're going to have a press briefing afterwards, so you'll get to ask all the questions.

**Q.** That's what you said yesterday, Mr. President. [Laughter]

**President Clinton.** And we did it, didn't we?

### Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

**Q.** President Mubarak, will you support the extension of the Non-Proliferation Treaty?

**President Mubarak.** We were one of the founders who participated in the drafting of the NPT since 1968. So we support the NPT 100 percent. We have no problem with the United States, anyway, concerning the NPT.

**Q.** Do you have a problem with Israel?

**President Mubarak.** No, we would like to find a solution so as to keep our area free of all mass destructive weapons. That's all.

**Q.** It sounds like you're going to sign.

**President Mubarak.** I'm not going to tell you now anything.

**Q.** Was President Clinton persuasive?

**President Clinton.** We just met 2 seconds ago. We're going to have a press briefing soon.

**Q.** Thank you.

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

**President Clinton.** Good afternoon.

### Egypt-U.S. Relations

**Q.** How would you describe the Egyptian-American relations?

**President Clinton.** I think it's very good. I've enjoyed working with President Mubarak, and I'm looking forward to this discussion. And of course, afterward, we'll have an opportunity to take your questions.

**Q.** President Clinton, will you ask Israel to fulfill its obligation and to deploy its forces from the West Bank and Gaza?

**President Clinton.** I'll answer the questions in the press briefing after I visit with President Mubarak.

NOTE: The exchange began at 12:07 p.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

### Remarks to the United States-Egypt Presidents' Council

April 5, 1995

**President Clinton.** Let me begin by welcoming you all to the White House and here to the Roosevelt Room and thanking you for your willingness to participate in this council.

I think all of you know that the United States and Egypt have had and continue to have a very close relationship, and we believe that our future interests are very much bound up together. We believe we have to do more in the economic area. We need more partnerships and more success stories. And for my part, I am very, very committed to trying to further the work of increased economic interaction, bringing about more prosperity, more opportunity.

So I want to thank both the Americans who are here and the Egyptians who are here for your willingness to serve and commit the resources and the efforts of this Government to the success of this endeavor. And I know I speak for the Vice President, the Secretary of State, and of course, our Trade Ambassador and Secretary of Commerce. We are convinced that this is an important part of our common future.

Mr. President.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. A tape was not