

lifetime ambition from the time I was 10 years old.

Q. Did you always want to be Vice President? [Laughter]

The Vice President. Yes. You know, to children all around this country—I've always wanted to be Vice President. [Laughter]

The President. It's not a bad job. [Laughter]

General Norman Schwarzkopf. We're really getting into some very dangerous ground here, so I think we better—[laughter]—better terminate this thing. Let me just say—

Q. Mr. President—

General Schwarzkopf. —you've just seen the power of Starbright—

Q. Mr. President—[laughter]—

The Vice President. We always have trouble ending press conferences. [Laughter]

The President. Yes, I know.

General Schwarzkopf. But you've just seen the power of this system—

Q. What's your favorite sport to watch or play?

General Schwarzkopf. We'll take one more from Fort Worth.

The President. What's my favorite sport?

Q. Okay, what's your favorite sport you like to watch or play?

The President. My favorite sport to watch is probably basketball. My favorite sport to play is golf. I'm too slow to play basketball very well. [Laughter]

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:37 p.m. at the Children's Hospital National Medical Center. In his remarks, he referred to Ricky Adams, Mikey Butler, Lauren Alexanderson, and Vanessa Gonzalez, Starbright Pioneer Children; motion picture director Steven Spielberg, chairman, and Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, USA (Ret.), capital campaign chairman, STARBRIGHT Foundation; and Edwin K. Zechman, Jr., president and chief executive officer, Children's National Medical Center. The Starbright World on-line computer network enables seriously ill children to meet, play, and communicate with one another. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on Signing Legislation Conferring Honorary Veteran Status on Bob Hope

October 30, 1997

Today I signed into law H.J. Res. 75, which confers upon Bob Hope the status of honorary veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces and extends to him the gratitude of the American people for his lifetime of accomplishments and service on behalf of our men and women in uniform.

Bob Hope is a great American whose life has defined patriotism and service. In times of war and peace, good times and bad, he entertained our troops and brought to them a familiar and comforting sense of home while they defended our nation's interests around the world. Bob Hope richly deserves this unique honor, and I am proud to be able to sign this measure into law.

NOTE: H.J. Res. 75, approved October 30, was assigned Public Law No. 105-67.

Statement on Campaign Finance Reform

October 30, 1997

I am very pleased that the Senate has agreed to schedule a vote on campaign finance reform. This will pave the way for the first up-or-down vote ever on the McCain-Feingold bill. At long last, we have an opportunity to give the American people the kind of elections they deserve. I want to commend the entire Democratic caucus and a few brave Republicans, whose steadfastness has now produced the first real opportunity to enact campaign finance reform.

Statement on House of Representatives Action on Fast-Track Trade Legislation

October 30, 1997

I applaud Speaker Gingrich for scheduling a vote in the House of Representatives for next Friday, November 7, on the renewal of traditional trade negotiating authority. I am