

on a new path. So I still believe that in the end we will achieve an agreement which will convince them or which they will be convinced will be in their interest.

The advertising issue is the more important one from a legal point of view, but I think we'll get there because they have now—with this evidence continuing to mount up about the deliberate strategy which was followed, they have a big interest in pursuing it.

Independent Counsel's Investigation

On the other matter, you know, I'm not going to comment on that. I'm going to try to do what the Supreme Court said I should do, which is not to be in any way deterred by this, and I'm going on with my business; others will comment on that.

Japan

Q. Mr. President, Moody's debt rating service earlier today issued a warning about Japan's sovereign debt. The United States has repeatedly urged Japan, with little apparent success, to try to jump start its domestic economy. Do you see any signs that the Japanese Government is now ready to take actions that would help bring it into recovery?

The President. Well, the Prime Minister keeps moving forward in ways that the market seems to believe are insufficient. And we have obviously urged aggressive action, because we want the Japanese economy to grow. We think the Japanese economy is the key to stability and growth in Asia, and we have always wanted a strong, healthy Japanese partner.

Japan is a great democracy; they've been a great partner for us; they've been a great engine of economic growth for many years until the last few years. There may be some momentary disruption because now you have some business leaders speaking out in Japan, but it appears to us on the outside of this that there is an ongoing struggle between what is now the articulated view, not only of the United States and others but of the business community in Japan, about the direction that country should take and the entrenched resistance to that in the permanent government bureaucracy that followed a different strategy with great success in previous

years. And I think we need to be both respectful but firm in urging the Japanese to take a bold course.

Prime Minister Hashimoto is an able man, and he understands the economy, and I believe he wants to take such a course. What has to be done is that the people within the permanent government there, which have always enjoyed great power, have to realize that the strategies that worked in the past are not appropriate to the present. They have to make a break now in some ways that's not so different from the break that we made in 1993. You simply can't stay with a strategy that is clearly not appropriate to the times and expect it to get the results that are needed for the country.

But Japan is a very great country full of brilliant people who have a great understanding of economics. And as I said, I think the Prime Minister understands this and is willing to take risks and wants to do it. And he's got this raging battle going on, and I have to hope that the forces of the future will prevail.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:08 a.m. in the Rose Garden at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto of Japan. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

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.

March 28

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled from Cape Town to Johannesburg, South Africa.

In the afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to the township of Soweto and later returned to Johannesburg.

March 29

In the afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Gaborone, Botswana. Later, the President met with President Ketumile Masire of Botswana at the State House.

Later in the afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Kasane, Botswana.

March 30

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton took a safari tour of the Chobe National Game Park in Kasane.

March 31

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton returned to Gaborone.

In the afternoon, the President participated in a roundtable discussion on environmental issues with African environmentalists in the Education Center Pavilion at the Mokolodi Nature Preserve. Later, he greeted the U.S. Embassy community in Gaborone.

In the evening, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Dakar, Senegal. While en route aboard Air Force One, the President had a telephone conversation concerning his visit to Africa with President Jacques Chirac of France.

The President announced his intention to appoint Robert M. Berdahl as a member of the Advisory Committee to the President's Commission on Critical Infrastructure Protection.

April 1

In the afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Thies, Senegal. Later, they toured Dal Diam Village. In the evening, they returned to Dakar.

The White House announced that the President declared a major disaster in Minnesota and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and tornadoes on March 29.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Kansas City, MO, and Chicago, IL, on April 7.

April 2

In the afternoon, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled by boat to Goree Island, Senegal, where they toured the historic Slave

House and the Women's Museum. In the evening, they returned to Dakar.

Later, the President and Hillary Clinton returned to Washington, DC, arriving after midnight.

The President announced his intention to nominate Eric S. Edelman to be Ambassador to Finland.

The President announced his intention to nominate Richard Nelson Swett to be Ambassador to Denmark.

The President announced his intention to nominate Edward L. Romero to be Ambassador to Spain.

The President announced his intention to nominate Nancy Halliday Ely-Raphel to be Ambassador to Slovenia.

The President announced his intention to nominate Bernard Rostker to be Assistant Secretary for Force Management Policy at the Department of Defense.

The President announced his intention to nominate Ida L. Castro to serve as Chair and Commissioner of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate Frank E. Loy to be Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs at the State Department.

The President announced his intention to nominate Rosina M. Bierbaum to serve as Associate Director for Environment in the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

**Nominations
Submitted to the Senate**

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 March 31

Nora M. Manella, of California, to be U.S. District Judge for the Central District of California, vice Mariana R. Pfaelzer, retired.