

I know that all of you will support that. What I ask you to do is to do all you can to make sure that everyone with whom you work and anyone with whom you have contact back in the United States understands what we're doing and why.

In 1811, as Chile struggled for its independence, it chose to dedicate its national flag on July 4, which is our Independence Day, at a celebration held by United States citizens in Santiago, long, long ago. On that day, the American flag and the new Chilean banner were raised together in many public places, entwined with one another. At last, our partnership can fulfill the potential of those two entwined flags, for our goals and our dreams are clearly intertwined. We can make them real for tomorrow's generation; we can make the Americas a model of hope and unity for the world. We can do it if we follow the lead that I have seen set by this great President and this great nation. And we're glad to be here.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:50 p.m. in the Teatro Municipal. In his remarks, he referred to Alex Fernandez, president, Chilean-American Chamber of Commerce; Walter Riesco, president, Confederation of Production and Commerce; and Mayor Jaime Ravinet of Santiago.

Exchange With Reporters in Santiago

April 16, 1998

President's Visit to Chile

Q. Do you like Chile?

The President. Very much.

Q. Did you eat something special inside? Did you eat something special?

The President. No, no. I just had lunch, so I just had a Coke. And I was visiting with the people. It was very nice.

Q. Are you tired from all this week, these 2 days here in our country? Are you tired?

The President. Tired?

Q. Yes.

The President. A little, but I'm going to go back and get a little nap, and then I'll be fine tonight.

Independent Counsel's Investigation

Q. [*Inaudible*—Kenneth Starr's going to keep investigating you, and Paula Jones says she's going to appeal—

The President. [*Inaudible*—I've had a great time.

Q. What do you think about Paula Jones appealing, Mr. President? Are you disappointed that she's appealing?

The President. Oh, I don't have an opinion about it. You know, I don't have any comment about it. My comment is, I spent my day today with people who are interested in human problems and human promise and not so interested in politics. And I don't think I ought to be commenting on politics while I'm here. I feel good about what happened before, and I feel good about where we are, and mostly I feel good about the job I'm doing here for the American people in Chile. And that's what I'm interested in. I don't really have any comment on anything that they do.

Q. Will things dragging on hamper that, sir?

The President. No. No. I'm going to—you know, I'm going to do my job. And I'm not—it's an unusual political environment, but I'm just not going to let the politics get into my way. I haven't done it for 4 years; I'm not going to start now.

Q. Do you think Ken Starr should wrap things up?

The President. I don't have any comment on that, either. I just don't—I shouldn't be commenting on domestic politics while I'm overseas. I'm here doing my job, and I'm thrilled by the people I've met and what I've seen, the reception I've received on behalf of the United States. And we're here to do important work, and that's what I'm going to do.

NOTE: The exchange began at 4:22 p.m. outside the Teatro Municipal. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Statement on Tornado Damage in Arkansas and Tennessee

April 16, 1998

I was deeply saddened to learn this morning of the tragic deaths of two small children