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first time both to increase wealth and to reduce energy use and global warming, ensuring a longer future on this planet for the great-grandchildren of the youngest people in this audience today. You will be able to, you young people, travel farther and faster through outer space and cyberspace even than people can today. The world will be so different for you.

Now, I think the children of Northern Ireland deserve their fair chance to be a full part of that future. I believe the people of Northern Ireland want that for their children, and that means the leaders of Northern Ireland must find a way to do what is necessary to give that future to your children.

You know, this is the last chance I will have as President to speak to the people of Northern Ireland. Let me say to all of you that I have tried to be pretty straightforward today in my remarks and not nearly as emotional as I feel. I think you know that I have loved this land and love the work I have tried to do for peace. But the issue is not how I feel; it's how your kids are going to live.

I say to all of you, it has been a great honor for me; it has been an honor for the United States to be involved in the cause of peace in a land that produced the forbearers of so many of present-day America's citizens. I believe that the United States will be with you in the future. I know I will be with you in the future in whatever way I can.

But in the end, I will say again, what really matters is not what America does, and what really matters is not even all the encouragement you give to people around the world. What really matters is what you do and whether you decide to give your children not your own yesterdays but their own tomorrows.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:06 p.m. at the Odyssey Arena. In his remarks, he referred to Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom, and his wife, Cherie; First Minister David Trimble of Northern Ireland and his wife, Daphne; John Hume, member, Social Democratic and Labor Party; former Senator George J. Mitchell, who chaired the multiparty talks in Northern Ireland; Chris Gibson, chairperson, Civic Forum; Prime Minister Bertie Ahern of Ireland; Deputy First Minister Seamus Mallon of Northern Ireland; and Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of Prime Minister Blair, First Minister Trimble, and Deputy First Minister Mallon. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on the Faith Leaders Initiative of the National Conference for Community and Justice

December 13, 2000

Today I want to commend the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) on its innovative efforts to further engage the faith community in racial reconciliation. NCCJ's Faith Leaders Initiative builds on my Initiative on Race and the March 9 White House meeting where leaders of institutions of faith announced important new steps as they rededicated themselves to fight racism.

Today's Joint Statement on Racism, drafted and endorsed by a broad group of faith leaders, recognizes the important role of people of faith in fighting racism. It states: "Racism is a problem of the heart and an evil that must be eradicated from the institutional structures that shape our daily lives, including our houses of worship." Those who affirm this statement and make its seven pledges will indeed be part of transforming our society to eradicate racism.

In addition, the directory of promising practices, guidelines for interreligious forums, and list of 10 actions every individual can take to fight racism are significant contributions toward fulfilling our vision of one America.

Many groups and individuals have worked long and hard to develop the initiatives announced today. It will take many more groups and many more individuals to put these initiatives into action. When the National Conference for Community and Justice chose to continue the work of the race initiative within the faith community, I trusted this unique organization to bring new vision and extra vigor to that call. Today's announcement again attests to both its creativity and your commitment. It is only through work such as this that our Nation

will truly come to know both racial justice and racial reconciliation—truly be one America.

Statement on Guidelines for Environmental Review of Trade Agreements

December 13, 2000

I am pleased to announce the completion of a strong set of guidelines for environmental review of major new trade agreements. These detailed guidelines, required by an Executive order I issued last year, will ensure that we fully integrate environmental considerations into our negotiation of new trade agreements and will provide unparalleled opportunities for public involvement in trade policy. America's experience has proven that a strong economy and a healthy environment go hand in hand, and these new guidelines will help protect the global environment as we work with other nations to build prosperity worldwide. Bringing environmental issues into the mainstream of our trade policy has been a top priority for my administration. The guidelines issued by the United States Trade Representative and the Council on Environmental Quality are another major milestone in this effort.

Remarks on the Resolution of the 2000 Presidential Election and an Exchange With Reporters in North Aylesbury, United Kingdom

December 14, 2000

The President. Good morning. Last night President-elect Bush and Vice President Gore showed what is best about America. In this election, the American people were closely divided. The outcome was decided by a Supreme Court that was closely divided. But the essential unity of our Nation was reflected in the words and values of those who fought this great contest. I was proud of both men.

I pledged to President-elect Bush my efforts and the best efforts of every member of our administration for a smooth and successful transition.

I want to say I am profoundly grateful to Vice President Gore for 8 extraordinary years of partnership. Without his leadership, we could not have made the progress or reached the prosperity we now enjoy and pass on to the next administration.

I am also profoundly grateful to him for putting into words last night the feelings of all of us who disagreed with the Supreme Court's decision, but accepted it. And as he said, all of us have a responsibility to support President-elect Bush and to unite our country in the search for common ground.

I wish President-elect Bush well. Like him, I came to Washington as a Governor, eager to work with both Republicans and Democrats. And when we reached across party lines to forge a vital center, America was stronger at home and abroad.

The American people, however divided they were in this election, overwhelmingly want us to build on that vital center without rancor or personal attack.

I thank the Members of Congress from both parties who have pledged to work with the President-elect. They have also pledged to elect commonsense bipartisan election reforms so that the votes of all citizens can be easily cast and easily counted in future elections.

Finally, I want to thank the American people for their patience, passion, and patriotism throughout this extended election season. In the days of service left to me, I will do all I can to finish our remaining work with Congress and to help President-elect Bush get off to a good start.

As I've said so many times over the last year, our country has never before enjoyed so much peace and prosperity with so few internal crises and so little external threat. We have the opportunity to build the future of our dreams for our children, and every one of us has an obligation to work together to achieve it.

Thank you very much.

Q. Mr. President, what do say to Democrats who want to run on the election issue in 2 years? Do you think that's a way to take back the House?

The President. Well, I think, first of all, the election 2 years from now is difficult to predict, and it will take whatever shape it