

service, which has been so good to me and which I have found so richly rewarding. So I'll be around quite a bit.

I want to say, too, when I came in from the airport, we passed two of Chelsea's schools, Mann and the Booker Arts Magnet School. And I'd like to thank, since she came home with me, all the people here in Little Rock and throughout the State who were so good to her during her growing up, and her teachers and all the others. It means a lot to me.

I've got a daughter about to graduate from college and a wife going into the Senate. It seems to me that one of the things I'll have to do is go to work—[laughter]—which won't do me any harm. But between my larger public service and doing what I can to support my Senator and my daughter, I will be here a lot, and we'll have a chance to do a lot of things together, to reminisce over old times.

But the main thing I want to say to all of you is, I want you to be proud that we proved that national politics and National Government and the direction of this Nation is not the private province of some elite somewhere in some big, distant place; that people with common sense, with basic American roots anywhere in the country, who have the right vision and the right ideas and are willing to work in good faith with all different kinds of people, can move this country forward.

And I want you to know, too, for all the storms and all the sunshine—I said this to the legislature, and I want to say it again because it's absolutely true—there has never been a day—and tonight will be the same way when I get home—that I haven't landed on that helicopter on the back of the White House lawn and not felt a thrill, not felt like a 17-year-old boy looking at the White House for the first time.

And when I walk out of the White House for the last time and I sit at the inauguration of my successor and I leave this office, I will leave more idealistic and more hopeful about my country than the day I took the oath of office 8 years ago. And that's the way you ought to feel. That's the way you ought to feel. And none of it would have been possible

without you. I love you. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 5:28 p.m. in hanger 1 at Adams Field Airport. In his remarks, he referred to Mayor Jim Dailey of Little Rock; former Senator David H. Pryor; Arkansas Secretary of State Sharon Priest; State Treasurer Jimmie Lou Fisher; Commissioner of State Lands Charlie Daniels; Auditor of State Gus Wingfield; and State Attorney General Mark Pryor.

### **Statement on Efforts To Ensure Safe, Clean Drinking Water**

*January 17, 2001*

When we turn on our taps, Americans expect the water that comes out to be clean and safe. Access to clean, safe water is fundamental to our quality of life. That is why my administration has made providing clean, safe tap water to all communities a top priority. As a result, since 1993, the number of Americans receiving tap water that meets tough Federal health standards has increased by 23 million.

Today I am pleased that this administration is taking further action to improve the quality of our drinking water by strengthening the drinking water standard for arsenic. This new drinking water standard will provide additional public health protections for 13 million Americans, including protections from cancer, cardiovascular disease, and other health problems.

My administration has worked hard to ensure that Americans enjoy the safest drinking water in the world. I proposed and, in 1996, signed amendments to significantly strengthen the Safe Drinking Water Act. In implementing this new law, my administration has already provided added protections for consumers from dangerous, disease-causing microbes such as *Cryptosporidium*, preventing as many as 460,000 cases of illness a year. We have ensured that Americans have the information they need to make important public health decisions for themselves and their families by requiring that 55,000 water systems provide new annual reports to their customers on the quality of their drinking water. And recognizing that good water quality comes at a cost, we have established the

first-ever fund for drinking water system improvements, providing States with \$3.6 billion, to date, in low interest loans for treatment system construction and upgrades.

Together with the new action we are taking today, these steps will ensure that our families continue to enjoy safe, clean drinking water.

### **Statement on Efforts To Toughen Child Support Enforcement**

*January 17, 2001*

Today the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) released new data showing that our administration's tough child support enforcement efforts have been effective and are paying off for our children. Child support collections broke new records in 2000, collecting \$18 billion, an increase of \$10 billion since 1992. The new data today also shows that in 2000 alone, nearly 700,000 delinquent noncustodial parents were matched to more than one million financial records and that through withholding tax refunds, a record \$1.4 billion in overdue child support was collected, twice the amount collected when I took office.

Our administration's commitment to work with States to efficiently and effectively hold noncustodial parents accountable for their child support obligations has demonstrated significant improvement over the last 8 years. Today, parents who owe child support have their wages garnished, their Federal loans and passports denied, their bank accounts seized, and their tax refunds withheld. Last year alone, nearly 3.5 million delinquent noncustodial parents were located through the National Directory of New Hires posting.

In addition, Welfare to Work grants have helped States, tribes, and communities nationwide have created programs that help low income, noncustodial fathers get and keep jobs that will allow them to pay child support and provide their children emotional support. Congress just enacted my proposal to extend these grants for an additional 2 years.

Despite these tremendous gains, there is still more to do. In my FY 2001 budget, I proposed the fathers work/families win initia-

tive to help low income fathers and families work and support their children, along with needed reforms to the child support system. I urge the next administration and the 107th Congress to take action this year to promote responsible fatherhood and ensure that more child support goes directly to families.

### **Proclamation 7400—To Designate Swaziland as a Beneficiary Sub-Saharan African Country and for Other Purposes**

*January 17, 2001*

*By the President of the United States  
Of America*

#### **A Proclamation**

1. Section 506A(a)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (the "1974 Act") (19 U.S.C. 2466a(a)(1)), as added by section 111(a) of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (Title I of Public Law 106-200) (AGOA), authorizes the President to designate countries listed in section 107 of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3706) as "beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries."

2. Section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3721(b)(3)(B)) provides special rules for certain apparel articles imported from "lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries."

3. Proclamation 7350 of October 2, 2000, designated certain countries listed in section 107 of the AGOA as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries and identified which designated beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries would be considered lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries under section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA.

4. Pursuant to section 506A(a)(1) of the 1974 Act, and having due regard for the eligibility criteria set forth therein, I have determined that it is appropriate to designate the Kingdom of Swaziland as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country.

5. The Kingdom of Swaziland satisfies the criteria for treatment as a lesser developed beneficiary sub-Saharan African country under section 112(b)(3)(B) of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3721(b)(3)(B)).