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We all remember Bob's gift for a colorful image and the fragrant phrase. But we remember the advice, too, because there was wisdom in it. He spoke with experience and with conviction and authority. In 1994 people warned me about him before I even got to Austin. We were men of different backgrounds and of different political parties, both elected to high offices in our State. He was the one who had been around. I recognized that early. He had the kind of influence you don't get with a title. And no Governor, and certainly no new Governor, had anything to teach him about getting anything done.

We know how it turned out. We know there was a record of shared accomplishment and a record of shared credit, as well. Yet, it all could have worked out differently. It could have been much different. Had he chosen to, Bob—and for that matter, Pete Laney—could have prevented tax reform or legal reform or education reform. In the Constitution, I could stop legislation with a veto. In the capital, Bob Bullock could stop it with a phone call.

But when he exercised power, it was on principle. He was a Democrat and a loyal one. He was a politician and a skilled one. He was a competitor and a tough one. When I met Bob Bullock, he was set in his ways. Bob Bullock had decided on his priorities. He was an American, a Texan, and a Democrat, in that order. He decided things on merits. He took his responsibilities as seriously as his power, and that's what made him an essential ally, a great public servant, and a towering figure to all who knew him.

In Texas, we have a tradition of straight talk and fair dealing, and Bob Bullock embodied that. In the last 97 days I've done my best to take the values I learned here in Texas to the debates in Washington. And there's a way yet to go, but I think we're making some progress. The tone is more civil; the respect is more widespread. I think Bob Bullock would be pleased.

Something about politics in this State—in every generation, a figure comes along who just seems larger than life, and I'm sure they'll keep coming. But he was ours, Bob Bullock, and we'll always remember him. He's been called the last of a breed, and it's true that politics has changed. Let's just hope it doesn't change too much. We'll always need his kind of strength and toughness and shrewd wisdom. These were the outward qualities of a man who had more kindness and gentleness than he would ever admit. And that's why we miss him so much, not just because he was a character but because he was a charming, loving, and loyal friend.

Twenty-two months ago, we stood in the rain and said goodbye to Bob Bullock. Today, under a warm, Texas sky, we're all here again, to point with pride to a new building and the fine name upon it. It's a happy moment for us who knew him, a day to reunite, a day to offer thanks, and a day to smile for the cameras.

God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:25 p.m. outside the museum. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Rick Perry and former Governors Dolph Briscoe, Preston Smith, and William P. Clements, Jr., of Texas; Jan Bullock, widow of Bob Bullock; Lucy Baines Johnson, daughter of President Lyndon B. Johnson; Lt. Gov. Bill Ratliff of Texas; State Speaker of the House of Representatives James E. "Pete" Laney and his wife, Nelda; and Clay Johnson, Dealey Herndon, and John Nau, members, Museum Advisory Committee. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address

April 28, 2001

Good morning. You have probably seen the newspaper and television stories anticipating the 100th day of my administration. Ever since Franklin Roosevelt's time, the 100th day has been a media marker. But what we are marking is not 100 days of my Presidency; it is 100 days of Congress and the President working together for the American people.

What have we accomplished so far? I think we're making progress toward changing the tone in Washington. There's less name-calling and finger-pointing. We're sharing credit. We are learning we can make our points without making enemies. Bitterness and divisiveness in Washington poison the mood of the whole country. On the other hand, a culture of respect and results in

Washington can change the mood of the country for the better.

We're also moving ahead with an important legislative agenda. There were some last summer who said there's no way anyone could possibly get a tax relief plan through the Congress. Yet the House and the Senate have now both endorsed significant tax relief and are headed toward a final vote. Tax relief is an important principle.

The Federal Government is taking more money than it needs out of the pockets of the people, and we need to return some. Yet tax relief is also an important part of our economic strategy. It will accelerate our economic growth and create more jobs and more opportunity. This has nothing to do with me or my political party. It has everything to do with what is right for the country.

The Senate committee responsible for education voted 20 to nothing in favor of a solid education reform bill. And we'll see results, too, from our initiative to welcoming charities and faith-based organizations into the work of helping Americans in need. We're at work on a plan to increase America's energy supply in the long term. At the same time, we are acting in a commonsense way to defend our environment. We are adopting new, scientifically sensible rules to discourage emissions of lead, to protect wetlands, to reduce the amount of arsenic in drinking water, to curb dangerous pesticides, and to clean the air of pollution from onroad diesel engines.

Internationally, we are building a more peaceful and open world. Our relationship with China is maturing. There will be areas where we can agree, like trade, and areas where we won't agree—Taiwan, human rights, religious liberty. And where we disagree, I will speak frankly.

But it's just as important for us to listen as it is to speak. A week ago, I attended the Summit of the Americas in Quebec City, where I met with the democratically elected leaders of Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. We talked about how we can handle common challenges—everything from education and the environment to drugs, energy, and trade. I said my piece, and I listened, as well. That's how good neighbors behave.

In nearly 100 days, we have made a good start. But it's only a start. On a number of important issues, we have laid the foundation for progress. Now we need to turn a good start and good spirit into good laws. And I urge the Congress to join me in seizing the opportunities of the next 100 days and beyond.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 10 a.m. on April 27 at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on April 28. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on April 27 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast.

Remarks at the White House Correspondents' Association Dinner

April 28, 2001

Thank you, Arlene. Laura and I are delighted to be here with all the major leaguers. [*Laughter*] Tonight I've decided to do something a little different. See, my mother, over the years, has put together at least 70 scrapbooks about our life as a family. What I've done is pull out some of the actual, never-before-seen photos from these scrapbooks and create a little slide show. [*Laughter*] And so, Gordon, if everybody's cell phones are turned off—[*laughter*]—you can hit the lights.

Tonight I present a Bush family album. What you may not realize is that I grew up at a time in Texas history when it was still a rough and tumble frontier. [*Laughter*] We were ranchers back then. [*Laughter*] This was my favorite horse. He was sure-footed, steady. I trusted that horse totally. And here's the really weird part: His name was Dick Cheney. [*Laughter*]

But times were hard back then. [*Laughter*] This, of course, was during the great drought of 1953. [*Laughter*] Dad, Neil, Doro, Marvin, and Jeb—in my family, with all those kids in the tub, it's not arsenic in the water I'd be worried about. [*Laughter*] Personally, I've always preferred a private bath. [*Laughter*]

This is my actual first-grade report card. Up top, it says, "George W. Bush." And then notice the final grades on the right: Writing, A; Reading, A; Spelling, A; Arithmetic, A;